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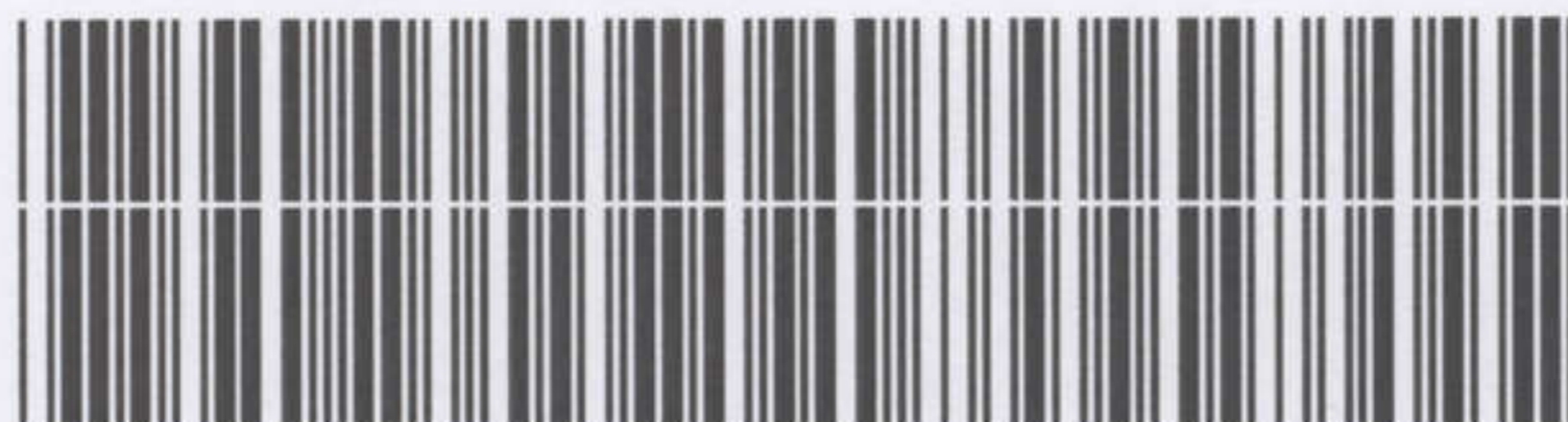
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/14/2

Title: Deputy Director of Medical Services,
ANZAC Corps

October 1915



AWM4-26/14/2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2

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.)

Sent.

ADMS ANZAC

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	1 ¹⁰ / ₁₅		<p>Spec 282. Attempted to forward to Mads to carry out instructions of L. G. C. ANZAC to cover Sq. Banti at Mads after enemy land in the Bay was made to forward on to 277.</p>	
"	2 ¹⁰ / ₁₅		<p>Spec. Forwarded to Mads at 1500 and General Banti at 1400 after which pointed out the absolute necessity of coordination between M E & Egypt, showing how the very great difficulties which existed under present conditions in ANZAC of operations by Britain in Egypt and actually given commands were without any authority from Anzac, and without any information by sent to Anzac that such commands had been given in Egypt to officers who clearly belonged to M E &. I also asked the informant especially if Egypt had authority from him to make these appointments from M E &. Examples were given him from Major Bannerman R. D. O. of No 1 Australian Div. Bannerman had been away from his command in Iraq but for about six weeks when I was informed that he had been appointed 2nd in command of No 2 A Coy, and later that he had been reported to have been appointed D. C. No 2 A Coy. This officer, yet no information has been sent to ADMS of 1st Aus Div and No 1 A Coy. But has been without the sent officer for several months in fact the officer has not yet landed at ANZAC. Another instance is that of Capt. Bannerman of No 3 A Coy who left Anzac only in Aug and I am sure was informed he was given an appointment in Egypt.</p>	

DRH

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2

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Sheet II

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Also points out that ATMC A Co + others who had been sent from ANZAC suffering from enteric fever or summer, had on their return been detailed for other duties in Egypt. Also the importance of getting M of for Bala. Suggest that some orders might be taken in Egypt of requests for ATMC reinforcements and also that Officers + Men might be given written orders when to report for duty to whom. Suggest that Minutes for Defence Committee might be prepared of matters requiring attention in the morning of ATMC with the Officer of the day. The summary containing message sent by day and previous should immediately be made that ATMC Officer should be relieved for protection they had during the day, giving as an example that ATMC Officer had been selected for surgical work, when previous training had not shown them the competence for such duty, whilst other Doctor who had surgical appointments in the staff of the hospital had been left doing work that the one selected would be much better to fill.</p>	
Angon	2	10/15	Since 224 Capt Minto for Angon.	
"	3	10/15	Since 172	
"	4	10/15	Since 233 Recd message saying PMS ME 2 would visit ANZAC on 5 ¹⁰ / ₁₅ .	
"	5	10/15	Since 257 PMS ME 2 visits ANZAC + inspected HQ ACCBT and Tent sub command of HQ 3rd Div which is open on Beach near A.C. HQ. The General agreed with me	

DRH

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: right;">Sheet 3</p> <p>That the suggestion originally made that accommodation for only 1000 to be made at ANZAC in event of hold up of evacuation of sick through stress of matter was not sufficient & practically agreed with staff I had taken without delay orders in providing accommodation for at least 2000 and also stated that it was my duty to make arrangements as complete as possible for forthcoming winter weather conditions I had taken the proposed proposed site of 201 A.S.H. which in proposed to send from Mudon complete outfit for 400 patients. The difficulty of getting any ground which is even moderately safe for invalids is getting very great & I am still of opinion that sick & wounded should not be kept longer than possible under 20 canvas or CC tents owing to the fact that the constant damp which even though they are subject to come in the tent house sites, then damp in my opinion greatly retards the recovery of troops whose immune system has been made less readily by wounds or illness. My other expressed opinion that the best treatment for invalids to get them for further service is to place them in a place of safety, whilst they are exposed even to a chance shot, more particularly when they are seriously & severely wounded in their tent or in an adjoining, this worry will be greatly reduced & this I pointed out to MS in explanation of early evacuation from ANZAC & further mention would permit. Another factor is the question of men suffering from</p> <p style="text-align: right;">D.P.H.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 23

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information <i>Sheet 4</i>	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	6/10/15.		<p>so-called Egyptian bandits & their activities are a big source of danger owing to the absolute impossibility of carrying out the ordinary precautions necessary to prevent spread of disease. It is my opinion that HQC needs an inspection of Troops being to 1+2 - 20000 of 20000 men who are currently at Muder & instructions to carry it out during March on 15th 1915.</p> <p>From 223. 10 AM Officer reported for duty. Army HQ supplies absolutely impeded for some work required by Bahr MD at ANZAC, against medical strength to DMSME & upon system of supply from the front by Egypt - has advised that the young healthy soldier - he advised to leave the DMSME of Egypt - for ANZAC. That the unit could hardly continue calling for volunteers to proceed, by the extending my command to Egypt you would certainly get some where "least was in the right place" but probably not enough for hill climbing. Also advised DMSME & that within instructions might begin all alarm of front & other when leaving Egypt, instead of relying on the happy go lucky method which has been in force since May 1915, requiring verbal order to anyone in an extremely vague way such as report to DMS Alexandria for the purpose of proceeding to the front, & then being very surprised that they have not arrived at ANZAC where the officer giving the order had promised they should proceed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>HRH</i></p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2

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Serial 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	14 ¹⁰ / ₁₅		<p>Serial 253. Col Sir Victor Horley inspected ANZAC & gave a short report lecture on Wounded, referring in general way to loss of time & why conditions that wounded men in at Egypt & Malta. The staff of Hospital Ships were referred to in particular & I reported that many of these ships had not completed even with sufficient surgical experience. I mentioned the case of Major Daniels what in my opinion was a very bad example of ability shown by Staff of Hospital Ships. I reported Col Horley had same of opinion that such Hospital Ships should carry one man competent to do ordinary Surgery. Search done & M reports reported Serial 5.</p>	
"	15 ¹⁰ / ₁₅	1	<p>Serial 186. Same old cry about M.C's & Disinfectants</p>	
"	16 ¹⁰ / ₁₅		<p>Serial 224</p>	
"	17 ¹⁰ / ₁₅		<p>" 109. Col Duthart arrived at ANZAC reporting me that he was sent by Ministry of Defence Commandant to report upon general conditions connected with Australian Troops, his report was principally with Egypt but he was also to report upon conditions at Malta, M. U. & England. I asked him that in reporting upon ANZAC I should be glad if he would send me reference reports daily with Egypt & M.E. & that Egypt was completely under control of R.A.N.C. M.E. & at least ANZAC portion was my command under control of M.E. & that I accepted responsibility for all matters connected with arrangements for maintenance & transport at ANZAC. I asked particularly that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">D.P.A.</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2

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Sheet 7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>That a responsible officer would be appointed to M.S. A.T. & as admin to P.D. M.S. after was proposed to take over complete control. That this admin should be sent to M.S. Egypt as well as P.D. M.S. The Officer would have Rank of Sergeant & must have experience of communication with British in Egypt, either Australian Intelligence Base or G.O.C. Egypt.</p>	
	18	10/15	Spec 345. 1944	
	19	10/15	" 163	
	20	10/15	" 376.	
	21	10/15	" 196.	
	22	10/15	" 57.	
	23	10/15	" 373	
	24	10/15	93	
	25	10/15	" 334. Signal proposed M.S. around 1130 evening a complete inspection of 201 ACCST-13 ACCST- 20 3 10 Am to 6 30 Am. and arrangements for examination of files + records. Reported tonight extremely pleased with the work of the units.	
	26	10/15	Spec's Air Base matter.	
	27	10/15	Spec 470 30/10/15 Spec 532. 31-10-15 Spec Air. Base matter.	
	29	10/15		

A.P.H.

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1ST. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Anzac,
4th. October, 1915.

TO-
Major General H. B. Walker, D.S.O.,
Commanding 1st. Australian Division.

Sir -

The following remarks are necessarily informal as my scope is confined to the Division. As certain factors, however, have a bearing upon the condition of the troops, I give my impressions.

The "X" and "Y" figures in my report are based on the assumption that the food and covering will be good. This, however, though a great deal of work has been done has not been perfect. A regular supply of fresh meat and vegetables is much to be desired, also an increase in the tentage so as to permit of an allotment of not more than 20 men to each EP tent, each man also needs 2 blankets: most men have them, but there are still a few who appear to be short.

The bread has been bad, but has improved considerably since the 1-lb. loaf was adopted, there is still room for improvement.

I have the honor to be,

.....Lt. Col.

a/ A.D.M.S.,

1st. Australian Division.

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 RRR REPORT OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

of the troops of the 1st. Australian Division
 resting in SARPI CAMP - MUDROS.

 TO -
 Major General H.B. Walker, D.S.O.,
 Commanding 1st. Australian Division.

Sir -

I have to report that on 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. Sept. 1915, I held a medical inspection of the troops of the 1st. Australian Division now resting in Camp SARPI - Mudros West, viz., 1st. and 2nd. Infy. Bdes. 1st. and 2nd. Field Artillery Bdes. 1st. and 2nd. Field Companies Engineers: 1st. Divsl. Train: 1st. and 2nd. Field Ambulances.

The men on the whole show definite evidence of improvement in their general condition, but many are still very weak and listless and many also have very bad teeth and would soon become casualties from sickness due to their condition as soon as placed upon a biscuit diet.

With a view to giving some indication of the varying state of the men's health I have classified them under the headings "X", "Y", and "Z" in the attached list. The "X" class should be fit to return after a rest of four (4) weeks, the "Y" class are not likely to be fit with less than eight (8) weeks, while the "Z" class are likely to be more or less permanently unfit for the front owing to their suffering from definite pathological lesions. I have included in the "Y" class many men whose teeth are in a very bad state requiring work which could not be completed in less than eight (8) weeks, if, however, dental attention can be provided at Anzac as well as increased at Mudros, the number of the "Y" class could be considerably reduced.

It is of course impossible to forecast the state of health of troops even a few weeks ahead and my report has been accordingly guarded.

I have the honor to be,

4/10/15.

a. D. M. S. , 1st. Aus. n. Division. Lt. Col

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TABLE SHEWING THE RELATIVE NUMBER OF TROOPS
 LIKELY TO BE FIT FOR THE FRONT IN -

"X" after 4 weeks rest: "Y" after 8 weeks rest
 and "Z" unfit more or less permanently.

U n i t	X	Y	Z	Total.
1st. Bttn.	288	108	3	399
2nd. "	125	127	2	254
3rd. "	48	169	12	229
4th. "	105	134	6	245
5th. "	199	159	6	364
6th. "	186	178	2	366
7th. "	97	177	4	278
8th. "	303	291	8	602
F.A. Details 1st.) and 2nd. Bgde.)	81	0	Nil	142
Field Co. Engrs.	34	90	5	129
1st. Div. Train	31	30	2	63
1st. Fld. Amb.	48	56	-	104
2nd. " "	64	24	-	88
T o t a l.	1609	1604	50	3263

Out of the 3263 troops examined there should be -
 Ready for the front after 4 weeks rest 1609 An optimistic
 " " " " " " 8 " " 1604 estimate.
 Unlikely to be gain fit for the front 50

-----000-----

TABLE shewing the Extensive Dental attention needed in the
 troops of the 1st. Australian Division resting at Sarpi Camp,
 Mudros, 30/9/15.

U n i t.	Total requiring attention.	Bad Cases included in foregoing total.
1st. Battn.	84	51
2nd. "	45	21
3rd. "	167	129
4th. "	31	3
5th. "	89	73
6th. "	40	32
7th. "	43	25
8th. "	14	14
F.A. Details (1&2 Bgdes).	16	11
Fd. Engrs. 1&2 Cos.	46	27
1st. Divisional Train	7	3
1st. Field Ambulance	14	14
2nd. " "	11	8
T o t a l	607	409

These figures indicate only the minimum that urgently need
 attention, and are likely to break down unless attended to.
 Many of the "Bad Cases" require extractions and plates which
 take time to complete. The need for early attention is there-
 fore evident.

..... Lt. Col. a/A.D.M.S.
 1st. Australian Division.

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A2

D.A. & C.M.G.

Anzac.

Condition of troops who have been at Anzac many months.

I have the honour to report for the information of the Lieut-General Commanding that:-

1. The physical condition of the troops at Anzac is very serious. Many of them, who have been here for some months, are extremely feeble, suffering from rapid pulse, shortness of breath on slight exertion, great loss of weight, anaemia, and "dysenteric diarrhoea".

Capt Purves Stewart, who lately carefully examined many of the men on duty in the trenches, reported very unfavourably on their condition of health, and I understand forwarded a full report to the C-in-C.

Condition of troops who have been at Anzac for a comparatively short period.

2. The condition of the troops who have only been at Anzac for a comparatively short period, shows that a very large percentage are suffering from "dysenteric diarrhoea". The A.D.M.S. of the 54th Division (strength of the Division under 6000) asked for invalid diet for 1200 men on 2-

Of these 350 are being treated under canvas, the remainder are men either off duty or on light duty, who are being treated in the lines by R.M.O's.

"Dysenteric Diarrhoea"

3. In view of the statement made to me by Surgeon General Babbie V.C. that it is now proved that about 60% of the so called cases of "Dysenteric diarrhoea" are really cases of Amoebic Dysentery. It is unlikely that many of these cases will be fit for duty under a period of at least two or three months under favourable conditions, and one cannot expect any decrease of this disease with the onset of cold weather. At present efforts are being made to patch up hundreds of men, who are being treated by the R.M.O's in the lines. This is possible under present climatic conditions, but nearly all these cases will have to be evacuated on the onset of bad weather.

-8-

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weather. Another serious difficulty in treating such a number of cases is the supply of medical comforts. I have this day asked for 5000 invalid diets daily.

I would again request that the provision of huttage for serious cases be treated as a very urgent matter, as it will be absolutely imperative during severe weather to provide adequate protection for them.

Even under the most favourable conditions, I view with great apprehension the approaching winter owing to the weakened state of the men. I may state that I have been repeatedly accused by Senior Combatant Officers of exercising undue pressure on the officers of the A.A.M.C. to prevent men being evacuated; whilst admitting that a far greater number of men should certainly have been evacuated the exigencies of the service appeared to me to warrant the steps which I took to curtail in every possible way men being sent from ANZAC, who might possibly be able to render assistance in case of emergency.

A N Z A C.
6th October 1915.

Colonel,
A/D. D. M. S.