

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/18/24

**Title:** Assistant Director of Medical  
Services, 1st Australian Division

November 1916



AWM4-26/18/24

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.)

1st Aust Div.

Sheet 122

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																												
ALBERT	1.11.16		<p>Two tent subdivisions from 1st Aust. 7. Amb reported for duty at Corps Rest Station.</p> <p>The unmentioned officers are posted for duty as shown:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Captain</th> <th>From</th> <th>To</th> <th>Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SAWERS W.E.</td> <td>3rd 7. Amb.</td> <td>11th Battr.</td> <td>19.10.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FISHER E.M.</td> <td>11th Battr.</td> <td>3rd 7. Amb.</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NORTH H.M.</td> <td>1st A.F. Amb.</td> <td>2nd 7. Amb.</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCOTT M.L.</td> <td>1st A.G.H.</td> <td>3rd 7. Amb.</td> <td>25.10.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BRENNAN A.J.</td> <td>2nd A.F. Amb.</td> <td>1st A.G.H.</td> <td>19.10.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MAYO J.C.</td> <td>2nd A.F. Amb.</td> <td>2nd A.G.H.</td> <td>18.10.16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Q.M. Hon Major MORLEY C. invalided per H.S. KARDOOLA to Australia on 16.10.16 for change.</p> <p>4.11.16 "A" Section (less bearers) 1st A.F. Amb. reported for duty at C.R.S.</p> <p>5.11.16 Minor operations on our front.</p> <p>Captain LITTLE S.P. R.M.O. 7th Battr reported wounded.</p> <p>6.11.16 Major BEAN transferred to 1st A.G.H.</p> <p>10.11.16 Lieut. Col. SHAW transferred to 1st A.C.C.S.</p> <p>" " WILLIAMS from 5th A.F. Amb to 1st A.F. Amb to command.</p> <p>Letter sent to D.H.Q. re condition of men in trenches</p> <p>14.11.16 H.Q. closed at E.H. Central at 11 am. &amp; reopened at RIBEMONT</p> <p>16.11.16 H.Q. closed at RIBEMONT at 12 NOON and reopened at VIGNECOURT.</p>	Captain	From	To	Date	SAWERS W.E.	3rd 7. Amb.	11th Battr.	19.10.16	FISHER E.M.	11th Battr.	3rd 7. Amb.	"	NORTH H.M.	1st A.F. Amb.	2nd 7. Amb.	"	SCOTT M.L.	1st A.G.H.	3rd 7. Amb.	25.10.16	BRENNAN A.J.	2nd A.F. Amb.	1st A.G.H.	19.10.16	MAYO J.C.	2nd A.F. Amb.	2nd A.G.H.	18.10.16	<p>app. 'A'</p>
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*M. S. S. S. S.*

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

915

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

A.D.M.S. 12<sup>th</sup> Australian Division -

Sheet 124

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIGNACOURT	22/11/16	6 pm.	Colonel R. B. Huxtable reported for duty as A.D.M.S. 12 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. (re Col. STURDEE) from 7 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Field Ambce 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aust Div.	
"	23/11/16	10 am.	Proceeded with A.D.M.S. (Major Dods) to inspect the T Area for the purpose of locating a suitable place for a D.R.S. or Brigade Rest Station. Inspected OLINCOURT, LA CHAUSSEE, TIRANCOURT, MONTVILLIERS, FLESSELLES - No suitable places found.	
"	24/11/16	10 am.	Proceeded again on same inspection. Visited WARGNIES, NAOURS, HAVERNAS, + VIGNACOURT SHOOTING BOX. No suitable places found. Telephoned negative result to D.D.M.S.	
"	26/11/16		2 <sup>nd</sup> A.F. Amb. vacated premises at LA CHAUSSEE to make room for a 4 <sup>th</sup> A. Div. School. Patients were evacuated to AMIENS. Note D.D.M.S. advising that OLINCOURT CHATEAU was the only available place for a D.R.S. + that necessary provision of NISSEN HUTS or other HUTS were necessary. He has promised 6 NISSEN HUTS immediately.	
"	27/11/16		Wired 8 <sup>th</sup> A. F. Amb. to collect sick of 11 <sup>th</sup> F.A. Bde at NAOURS. Inspected OLINCOURT CHATEAU again with ref to erection of huts.	
"	28/11/16	11 am.	attended conference with D.D.M.S. at HEILLY. wired 2 <sup>nd</sup> A.F. Amb. they are attached to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bde Group for move to T Area. Memo from D.D.M.S. that no extra fuel for patients in F. Ambes can be arranged for, except from normal allowance of the Division.	
"	29/11/16		wired 2 <sup>nd</sup> A.F. Amb. to move to FREYPORT on 30 <sup>th</sup> billeting there for the night + entraining with 12 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde group at FLESSELLES station on 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec.	
"		1.4 pm.	Proceeded to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Inf Bde HQ at RAINNEVILLE at request of G.O.C. 12 <sup>th</sup> Div. to enquire into reason for dumping (proposed) of 3/400 men who are sick + cannot march. Interviewed the G.O.C. of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Inf Bde (B. G. MACHAGAN).	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

R.P.H.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Adms 121 Aust Div:

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIGNACOURT	30/11/16	10.30 am.	<p>Proceeded to 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde HQ at RAINNEVILLE (with DADM.S) + inspected men of 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde who had been left behind - Found 300 niches of 200 as reported yesterday - 96 of these with sore feet were sent to DRL at OLINCOURT. + the remainder (about 200) to N.Z. Stationary Hosp: AMIENS. - Most of sickness due to Coughs, Influenza, Rheumatism + diseases incidental to exposure to the inclemency of the weather -</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">R.B.H.</p>

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS,

9th November, 1916.

1st Australian Division.

I have heard that it is suggested that our division should prolong their stay in the Trenches. As A.D.M.S. I feel it my duty to express my opinion that to keep the men longer in the line is to brook disaster from a medical point of view.

A big majority of the men have never been dry since the 27th of last month and while in the trenches are standing in mud and water, sleep being out of the question. Owing to the fact that they were hurried down from the North and then conveyed by bus to the front, they have - many of them at least - been without hot food for the same period and longer.

It is generally admitted, I think, that our men have worked hard in all areas they have occupied but this has only been done by sapping their strength, and it has been done without what one might term a rest.

In addition to the above reasons I know that the men do not think they are having what they term a "fair deal" and to keep them in the line longer than Imperial Divisions will merely accentuate this idea and will end by breaking their spirit and thus rendering them more liable to disease and sickness.

When it is considered that many of the Australians have not experienced a winter for three years and are not accustomed to this climate I do not think they should be dealt with carefully at the present time.

(Signed) A. H. Sturdee,

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S.  
1st Australian Division.

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S E C R E T.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,  
12th November, 1916.

A.A.M.C. ORDER No. 116

BY

Colonel A.H. STURDEE, C.M.G., V.D. - A.D.M.S. 1st Australian Division.

1. The Second Australian Field Ambulance will be relieved by the Fourth Australian Field Ambulance in the front line. Relief to be completed by 8 a.m. on 14th instant, under arrangements to be made between respective O. C's.
2. The bearer division of the 3rd Aust. Field Ambulance which moved to POMMIER Camp today will move to D.12 D. on the morning of 15th instant and will come under the orders of O.C. 3rd Aust. Field Ambulance.
3. The bearer division of the 1st Aust. Field Ambulance will move to the Corps main dressing Station on 13th instant and on 14th instant proceed to D.12 B. where it will come under the orders of the O.C. 1st Aust. Field Ambulance.
4. The 2nd Aust. Field Ambulance with all transport and ambulances remaining with them, will move on the 14th instant at 1 p.m. to Corps main dressing Station BECORDEL and will move at 8 a.m. on 15th instant to BOIRE where it will join 1st Aust. Infantry Brigade group.

*[Signature]*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S.  
1st Australian Division.

D.D.M.S.	1st ANZAO.
A.D.M.S.	2nd Aust. Div.
"	4th " "
"	5th " "
G. Branch	1st Aust. Div.
Q. "	1st " "
	1st Aust. Inf. Brigade.
	1st Aust. Field Ambulance
	2nd " " "
	3rd " " "
	O.C. Corps Main Dressing Station.