

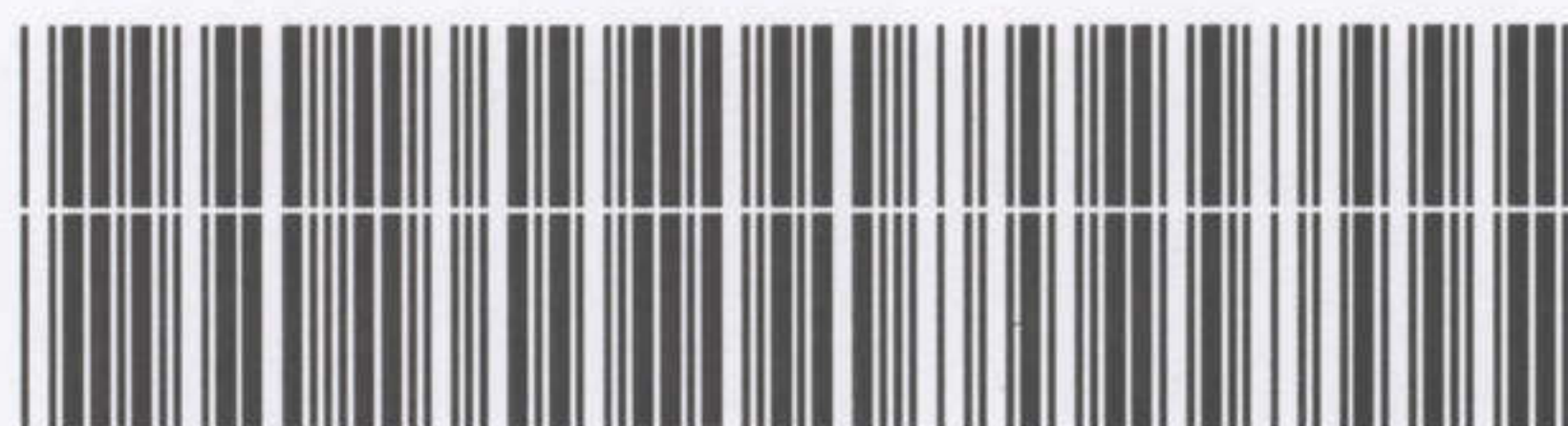
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/18/8

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

July 1915



AWM4-26/18/8

758

A.D.M.S. 1st Aust. Div.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1 ² / ₁₅	Anyon	<p>From # 73. Submarine 1000 yds. away 1000 yds. + Personnel of 1st Australian volume of transport - he accounted at some point what they would be involved when required. Memo to 1000 yds. in case requiring further action.</p>	<p>9 AUG. 1915 CENTRAL REGISTRY No MFC/</p>
2 ² / ₁₅	"	<p>Copy marked D attached</p> <p>From 89. Message to Hospital Ship saying from submarine taking them over duty on 22 ²/₁₅. They say message to Col. Stone with in 1000 yds, message taken in with 1000 yds on 22 ²/₁₅ + sent away by Hospital Ship from report by person who has been seen to be in report in a line of communication.</p>	<p>Copy marked D attached.</p>

C.11056.

23
CR
80

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
3 2/15	Amn	Sms 87.	
4 2/15	"	" 175.	
5 2/15	"	" 130. Further work in Treatment-Drill room.	
6 2/15	"	" 116. Further work to Airplane flying storage.	
		Optim.	
7 2/15	"	132 hr. Memo from DMS re distribution.	
8 2/15	L1	160 " Memo to Army Storage Distribution.	
9 2/15	"	1967	
10 2/15	"	141 } Same	
11 2/15	"	174 }	
12 1/15	"	186 hr. Drive against chlorine weapons.	
13 1/15	C	188	
14 1/15		170	J. R. O. T.

C.11056.

758

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
14. 2/15.	Angon		Arrived for Mm (20) Dte returned for Sunday Day to min Mm of AAME was one my name
	"		169.
	"		166
15. 2/15	"		191
16. 2/15	"		191
17. 2/15	"		202
18. 2/15	"		182
19. 2/15	"		187
20. 2/15	"		
21. 2/15	"		
22. 2/15	"		

Same

4 AAME Capt. arrived from 4th
 Hospital for duty with 1st Battalion

J.R.H.

C.11056.

2
3

858

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
22 ³ / ₁₅	Angon	Presence Aug 15th. See page 204.	
23 ² / ₁₅	"	So was. Pres from 02 CCC-Allen Murray E.	Murray E. in H.
24 ² / ₁₅	"	170 was. Allen to A. H. Murray E. attached	Murray E
25 ² / ₁₅	"	198 was. Appointed to A. H. for presence + drive	
		of not this conclusion. Memo to Murray	
		re appointment of Secretary Officer Mans	Mans J.
		How soon with DA DMS + Capt Smith DPH	
		Pmo 4 Bln was appointed to act.	
26 ¹ / ₁₅	"	Page 205.	
27 ¹ / ₁₅	"	Page 224	
28 ¹ / ₁₅	"	Page 224.	
29 ¹ / ₁₅	"	Page 247. Present with party from DMS MEJ	
		Haber did not consider that it was required to immediately	DPH

C.11050.

4

1758

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
29 $\frac{2}{15}$	Angue	sent urgent Confidential Memo to AC 14/11/14 was informed it had been sent to AC. I also asked for an interview. This Memo concerned	H.
30 $\frac{2}{15}$	"	Applied for a formal statement. also applied for Mark I carriage Ammunition which was at Morden at 10.15 A.M.	
31 $\frac{2}{15}$	"	Serial 212. Also applied again for 4 Medical Officers Memo Mark I sent on 29 $\frac{2}{15}$ →	I
		Serial 254. Have inspected all lines + Trenches of 15th Division during the last 3 days. Have made small plans of the front for J.P.D. Also AMR my hand signed receipt of some things as were sent to me by P.D. + P.D. as it was making a clearing story of the situation of the front	

C.11056.



Head quarters, 1st Aust'n Division.

29th June, 1915.

From A.D.M.S.

To A.A. & Q.M.G.

Acting on instructions of Major-General J.G. Legge, ^{C.M.G.} C.O.C., 1st Australian Division, and Surgeon-General W. Babbie, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., Principal Director of Medical Services for the M.E.F. Egypt & Malta, I beg to submit my suggestions for treatment of a number of troops of 1st Australian Division who require dental attention.

A number of troops have become inefficient owing to broken dentures and a still greater number will require dental treatment within a very short period. It is, therefore, essential that some steps be immediately taken to render these men fit for service.

The Regimental Medical Officers report that many men suffering from a severe degree of dental trouble are complaining of persistent Dyspepsia & Diarrhoea and if they are kept in the lines they recover quickly when on invalid diet, but on return to ordinary rations are again placed on sick list; consequently it has become necessary to clear all these cases from Anzac.

About 50 cases have been cleared on account of broken dentures and after an absence of 4 or 5 weeks in Mudros or Alexandria some of these have been returned to duty without having received any dental treatment. They have been much improved by dietary but on return to ordinary rations have again become unfit for duty and once more cleared from Anzac.

758
(1). A number of Dental Surgeons and Mechanical Assistants should be appointed and supplied with a complete outfit for dental work but should only be permitted to undertake, at present, the urgent work which is absolutely essential. This would at first consist almost entirely of making and repairing plates.

(2). The Dental Surgeons should be given honorary commissioned rank and granted pay of that rank.

(3). They should be attached to a Hospital and be placed under the command of the O.C. Hospital who would be responsible for Dental Corps, the discipline and care of the troops whilst under treatment.

(4). The place selected for Dental Corps should, as far as exigencies of the service permit, be chosen with due regard to difficulties of transport to and from Madras and Alexandria.

I have reported to D.M.S., M.E.F., that 1 Officer and two other ranks who are serving with Australian troops at Anzac are dentists registered in Australia. I believe New Zealand has 6 or more Dentists who have substantive commissioned rank and were appointed by the Dominion as Dentists and sailed with the New Zealand Force in October, '14.

A R House

Colonel,

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

Head Quarters,

1st Australian Division,

24th July, 1915.

To A.A. & Q.M.G.

A ruling is desired as to the principles which should govern recommendations for the promotion of A.A. M.C. Officers of the 1st Australian Division.

It is suggested -

(1). That all promotions shall be within the Division.

(2). That C'wealth Military Standing Orders be followed, viz. that promotion to the rank of Major and upwards be by selection.

Colonel,

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

758

Appendix No. "F"

9

Head Quarters,

1st Australian Division,

24th July, 1915.

To A.A. & Q.M.G.

I find that it is absolutely impossible for the A.D.M.S. to carry out the necessary sanitary work under the exceptional conditions which exist at Anzac.

I am of opinion that a Divisional Sanitary Officer should be immediately appointed. His duties will be to superintend the work of the sanitary squads, and personally supervise the area which is now under the control of the A.D.M.S., 1st Australian Division. He would be responsible to A.D.M.S. for the sanitary arrangements.

It has been found necessary to make the Divisional Appointment in France.

I beg to recommend that Captain L.W. Dunlop, No. 1 Field Ambulance, be appointed Divisional Sanitary Officer for 1st Australian Division, and that he be granted the Temporary rank of Major.

Colonel,

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

Appendix No.

"G"

To A.D.M.S.,

1st Australian Division.

I again urgently bring to your notice the depleted state of my medical staff. Without further help it will be impossible for me to carry on the work in the event of active operations, leading to a heavy casualty increase.

At present I have the services of Captain Hurley of the 2nd Field Ambulance, but should an advance be made it is possible he may be required by his own unit.

(sgd) J.M.Giblin, Lt.-Colonel,

27.7.1915

O.C. A.C.C. Station.

To A.D.M.S.

I beg to apply for two medical officers to fill vacancies in my staff.

My losses are as follows :-

Major Richards	Died pneumonia
Capt. J.O'Brien	Invalided Pleurisy
Capt. R.D.Campbell	" "
Capt. N. Atkins,	" (Sent to Australia on ship with invalids)

(sgd) J.M.Giblin, Lt.-Colonel,

O.C. A.C.C.Stn.

Anzac, 23rd July, 1915.

29th July, 1915

To A.A.&Q.M.G.

I respectfully request that the following suggestions may be submitted to Corps Headquarters for consideration with the object of preventing a recurrence of the avoidable suffering and losses which led to serious accusations being made in the London and Australian press against the organization responsible for the evacuation of wounded from the Peninsula early in the campaign.

1. My responsibility should be defined as being divisional, as it is clearly impossible to carry out efficiently the duties of A.D.M.S. in conjunction with those beyond H.W. mark.

Before landing in April I was informed that I should be given stretcher bearers to remove and embark casualties from Casualty Clearing Station. None were supplied and I was compelled to reallocate men of the Bearer Sub Divisions of Field Ambulances from divisional duty.

2. The 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station, now attached to the Australian Division, carried out the clearing duties for the Army Corps and proved to be inadequate to deal with the number of wounded. The staff of this unit is so depleted at present that it cannot possibly clear the casualties expected in the Army Corps even at the present strength of the latter.

(Copy of report by O.C. Clearing Station attached.)

3. A senior officer with not less than 100 bearers and 500 stretchers should be detailed to take over entire control from H.W. mark. and the numbers given are, in my opinion the irreducible minimum for the division. The 1st Australian ^{Casualty} Clearing Station and any other units used as clearing stations would naturally come under the control of the above officer.

- 2 -

4. On the 26th July, 1915, I requested that the personnel of the 1st Field Ambulance be sent to Anzac without delay so that the tent sub-division might be used as a bearer sub division during an advance since it would be impossible to deal with casualties up to H.W. mark with the bearers now at Anzac. After 3 days I received a message from D.M.S. M.E.F. conveying the bald statement 'the arrangements laid down in Tables (which I have not received) are adequate, and that it is intended to use the 3rd L.H.Fd. Ambulance as a Casualty Clearing Station'. Even when this latter step eventuates it will be of no assistance in moving wounded from the firing line to the beach.

5. At the present time I am obliged to use officers of the 2nd and 3rd Fd. Ambulances for duty with regiments and the Casualty Clearing Station owing to casualties, and I again urge that 4 junior officers should be despatched at once from Egypt where I am aware that officers are available from reinforcements.

Whilst clearly recognising that I have no right to review or ask for information as to the arrangements made or contemplated by the D.M.S. M.E.F. yet I submit, with all due deference, that as the senior medical officer present with the Australian Imperial Force here I shall be called upon by the Commonwealth to state what steps I took to avoid a repetition of the painful inadequacy in the provision made for the care of Australian troops in April.

With the information at my disposal at present I am forced to state that in my opinion the preparations are not adequate to deal with the situation expected, and I desire to place on record the above suggestions so as to show clearly that no effort was spared on behalf of the division.

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

A.A. & Q.M.G.,

For the information of G.O.C., 1st Australian Division.

It is with regret that I am compelled to report that the officers and men of your Division are suffering a great deal from a type of Diarrhoea which is producing Anaemia and considering the food and environment under which they are living I shall expect a general deterioration of their Physique and would urgently request that a daily issue of milk and rice be made, so as to mitigate the condition as far as possible.

In view of an early advance being made by your troops, I should suggest that a medicinal issue of rum be made to all for at least four consecutive days before they are called upon to carry out any arduous work. This small quantity would act as a tonic and assist men to assimilate their food. I also wish to inform you that in my opinion the constant strain, the small quantity of water, the cramped and climatic conditions under which they have lived for over three months, have to a large extent undermined the vitality of your men and I estimate that whilst your strength is about 14600, you really have not more than ^{men who are} 10000/fit, though certainly not fresh, and any prolonged strain will certainly tell upon them. It might be advisable if possible to issue a medicinal ration of rum every night whilst great strain is being maintained.

Colonel,

29-7-15

A.D.M.S., 1st Aust. Division.