

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

Bases & Depots

Item number: 33/19/19

Title: No 4 Australian Command Depot

January 1919



AWM4-33/19/19

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.)



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
			<p><u>Summary War Diary January 1919. No. 4 Command Depot Hurdcott.</u></p> <p><u>INFECTIOUS DISEASE.</u> There have been no cases of infectious disease during the month.</p> <p><u>HEALTH.</u> The daily average on morning sick parade for the month was 16. The number of admissions to Hospital for the month exclusive of V.D. and Scabies was 150.</p> <p><u>EARLY TREATMENT.</u> Results for month.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Gonorrhoea cases treated in lines</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" " evacuated to Bulford</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" " cured in lines</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Venereal Sores evacuated to Bulford</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>DENTAL STAFF.</u> Consists of 1 S.D.O. and 5 Officer's.</p> <p><u>MEDICAL STAFF.</u> Consists of 1 S.M.O. and 3 Officer's.</p> <p><u>MARCHED IN.</u> During the month 3095 men marched into the Depot, the majority being men from France for return to Australia.</p> <p><u>MARCHED OUT.</u> During the month 1797 men were evacuated from this Command the greater part of whom were evacuated direct to Transports for return to Australia.</p> <p><u>GENERAL.</u> The functions of this Camp as a Command Depot have now practically ceased, and the old style of classification has been abolished. Drafts of men are now received from France and a pro forma Board is completed for each man prior to his return to Australia.</p>	Gonorrhoea cases treated in lines	44	" " evacuated to Bulford	8	" " cured in lines	29	Venereal Sores evacuated to Bulford	15	
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1818
154-4

10th Sept 1919
S.M.O.

----- W A R D I A R Y. -----

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MEDICAL SECTION, HURDCOTT AREA

- from -

1st January, 1918.

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The Units under the control of the S.M.O., Hurdcott area, are No. 3 Command Depot, No. 4 Command Depot and the 2nd Training Brigade. On the 1st January, 1918, the 2nd Training Brigade consisted of 4334 men. These are of reinforcements from Australia undergoing training preparatory to proceeding to France. They are divided into four Training Battalions, viz., 5th, 6th, 9th and 10th, each under the medical charge of one Captain with an A.M.C. staff consisting of one corporal and four men. The 10th Training Battalion is situated at Sutton Mandeville, and the remainder of the Training Battalions at Fovant. Each Medical Officer is in charge of the health and sanitation of his Battalion. He inspects all drafts marching in and certifies to the medical fitness of men proceeding overseas.

NO. 3 COMMAND DEPOT: This Depot has an accommodation for 4,000 men, all recovering from sickness or from wounds received in France. These convalescents arrived from British or Australian Auxiliary Hospitals in England, and on arriving at the Depot are classified according to their fitness to undergo graduated training, and their general physical condition.

Cases which have unhealed wounds are dressed. Men with stiff limbs are given massage gymnastic exercises. Medical cases are given the appropriated treatment, and any case which is considered to be likely unfit for service for more than six months is boarded and drafted to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth.

No. 3 Command Depot consists of about 1,000 men classified "Blb" (unfit for graduated training and temporarily unfit for active service for less than six months), and about 3,000 men of higher grades "Blal" to "Bla4" (men fit for graduated training and temporarily unfit for active service for less than six months).

No. 3 Command Depot is under the medical charge of one Senior Medical Officer assisted by six to eight Medical Officers.

Attached to this Depot is the Group Clearing Hospital containing 100 beds for men of No. 3 and 4 Command Depots and the 2nd Training Brigade, who are suffering from minor maladies which will incapacitate them for less than fourteen days, and for men suffering from mumps and measles.

NO. 4 COMMAND DEPOT: This Depot has an accommodation for 3,800 men of the higher categories, viz., "Blal" to "Bla4". It is situated at Hurdcott, in camps No. 9 and 12, and is under the medical charge of one Senior Medical Officer assisted by five Medical Officers. It receives men from British or Australian Auxiliary Hospitals, who have reported to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., London, after the men have been granted furlough.

It discharges them when physically fit to the Overseas Training Brigade, Longbridge, Deverill, to be hardened and drafted overseas.

Attached to this Depot is the Advance Depot Medical Stores, which supplies medical instruments and drugs to the Hurdcott Area.

Dental arrangements throughout the Area are under the charge of two Senior Dental Officers, one supervising No. 4 Command Depot, and the other in dental charge of No. 3 Command Depot and the 2nd Training Brigade.

All men are dentally examined on arrival, and are treated while in their Units and certified dentally fit before marching out.

(Continued on overleaf).



EVACUATION OF THE SICK: Throughout the Area slight cases are evacuated to the Group Clearing Hospital in No. 3 Command Depot. Serious cases are sent to the Military Hospital, Fovant, which is under the control of the R.A.M.C.

INFECTIOUS CASES: Measles and mumps are treated at the Group Clearing Hospital. Cerebro spinal meningitis and Diphtheria are evacuated to the Civil Isolation Hospital, Salisbury. All contacts are isolated and if necessary swabbed by a Bacteriologist from Sutton Veney.

VENEREAL CASES: Cases of gonorrhoea are treated in their lines by the Early Treatment method. If they do not respond to treatment they are evacuated to the First Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford. Cases of suspected or of undoubted syphilis are evacuated to the same place.

SPECIALISTS EXAMINATIONS: Cases requiring examination by the Ophthalmologist, Aurist or Radiographer are examined at the Military Hospital Fovant.

The Chief Objects to be attained by the medical administration of this Command are:--

- (1). To make men medically and dentally fit to proceed overseas.
- (2). To treat convalescents in the Command Depots so that they may be fit for General Service as soon as possible.
- (3). To board men who will be unfit for General Service for six months, so that they may be transported to Australia.

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