

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/43/6 Part 2

Title: 5th Australian Light Horse Field
Ambulance

January 1919 Duplicate



AWM4-26/43/6PART2

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ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th. Australian L. H. Field Ambulance

(Mobile Section)

FOR

January 191*9*

Signature of Officer compiling

Charles Clarke Lt Col

Signature of Officer Commanding

Charles Clarke Lt Col



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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Baalbek (Syria)			<p>Notification of Post Office appointment to B.A. and B. General. Literature goods obtained from the British Consulate distributed on New Year Day and helped to improve the morale for the day. Games & entertainment in the New Year Day sports were postponed. Patients admitted & discharged, remaining 6.</p> <p>Admitted 3 and discharged 2 evacuated, remaining 6.</p> <p>Inspection by Gen. C. in evening. All sports were held in P.M. there being a good attendance of both military and civilians. One O.P. admitted to hospital as duty. Casualty struck off strength. Patients remaining 6.</p> <p>Jan 4 2nd New Brunswick Brigade commander admitted to hospital.</p> <p>Jan 5 One O.P. and 2 admitted to hospital. Total 10 O.P. 7 Ranks.</p> <p>Jan 6 Evacuated 2 remaining 10 O.P. 5 Ranks.</p> <p>Jan 7 No change in number of patients.</p> <p>Jan 8 Cases returned from B.A. & granting leave. All cases to men of good character.</p> <p>Jan 9 Admitted 2 discharged 1 remaining 10 O.P. 6 Ranks.</p> <p>Jan 10 One O.P. evacuated to hospital.</p> <p>Jan 11 Admitted 2 evacuated 1 remaining 10 O.P. 7 Ranks.</p> <p>Jan 12 Admitted 2 discharged 1 evacuated 1 remaining 10 O.P. 7 Ranks.</p> <p>Notification from B.A. forbidding the giving or selling to inhabitants of army issues clothing etc.</p> <p>Admitted 1 discharged 2 evacuated 2 remaining 10 O.P. 4 Ranks.</p> <p>Notification from B.A. to have the natives engaged on sanitation duties provided with a white armband. O.P. Bowman 2, Corporal Corporal evacuated 2 remaining 10 O.P. 2 Ranks.</p> <p>Jan 12 Mr Clarke and one other rank, joined at 3 P.M. Mr Clarke assumed command of ambulance unit Mr Callaghan temporary in command.</p> <p>Admitted 1 remaining 10 O.P. 3 Ranks.</p>	

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Baalbek (Syria)	Jan 13		Major G. Luther Clarke promoted to Temp. Lieut. Col. whilst commanding the Unit. Scale of forfeitures for Venereal disease promulgated.	
			Capt. H. Dolman, R.M.O. 15 th L.H. X left for Port Said with leave party.	
			Arrangements made for medical officer to attend at 15 th L.H. daily to take sick parades. Saddlery of Transport Section inspected and found to be in poor condition owing to lack of dubbin. Discharged 1 u.R. Remaining 1 off 2 o.R.	
		14	L/Cpl. Gittas of Unit admitted to hospital with Pneumonia. Remaining 1 off 3 o.R.	
		15	A/Cpl. Mullinger, Orderly Room Clerk, left for attachment to Staff Paymaster, Cairo, for instruction in pay duties. Admitted 2 o.R. Remaining 1 off 5 o.R.	
		16	In view of approaching sale of donkeys special precautions taken to prevent theft of same. Adm. 1 off 1 o.R. Evac. 1 off 2 o.R. Remaining 1 off 4 o.R.	
		17	Regimental censorship of letters discontinued. Admitted 2 o.R. Evac. 1 o.R. Remaining 1 off 5 o.R.	
		18	Heats of Brigade Sports held in morning in drizzling rain. Afternoon meeting postponed on account of rain. Remaining 1 off 5 o.R.	
		19	Precautions taken against contraction of Anthrax by men grooming horses. L/Cpl. Gittas dangerously ill. Broke eight windows during violent delirium. 2 o.R. sent to Port Said. Adm. 2 o.R. Disch. 1 o.R. Remaining 1 off 6 o.R.	

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Clarke Lt Col

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Baalbek (Syria)	JAN 20		Brigade Sports in afternoon. Fine weather. No accidents. C.O. left by night train for HOMIS to inspect Immobile Section.	
	21		Admitted 7 O.R. Disch 1 O.R. Evac. 3 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 9 O.R.	Cbl
	22		Admitted 1. Disch. 3. Remaining 1 Off 7 O.R.	Cbl
	23		Notification received of outbreak of Typhus fever in Damascus. Lieut Fitzhardinge, A.D.C. to Brigade Commander concurred with Pyrosia in 16 th inst, reported from Beirut as "Typhus" concert by "Whizz Bang" party at B.H.Q. Admitted 1 O.R. Evac. 1 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 7 O.R.	Cbl
24		Capt T.S. Campbell proceeded to CAIRO to await embarkation to Australia. 1 O.R. accompanied him. Capt D.L. Howell + 1 O.R. sent to RAYAK to relieve him. Inspection of animals by B.V.O. Lt Col Cave ^{ARMC} arrived representing Medical Section of Australian Records. "Whizz Bang" party gave a second concert. C.O. returned from HOMIS late in evening. Adm. 1 Off 1 O.R. Evac. 1 Off 2 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 6 O.R.	Cbl	
			1 O.R. sent to Base for return to Australia - being a student. Return of Sanitary equipment in Brigade obtained. The units are practically all without latrine seats or buckets. Report obtained from all units re numbers requiring delousing. Very little evidence of lice. Urgent wire sent to A.D.M.S. asking for reinforcement Medical Officers. Concert by "Palm Trees" Party in evening. Adm. 1 Off 3 O.R. Disch 3 O.R. Evac. 1 Off 4 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 2 O.R.	Cbl

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Shewther Clarke Lt. Col.

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Baalbek (Syria)	JAN 25		C.O. visited Rayak to inspect Relay Station for patients at Kila 1 on broad gauge. Found the arrangements satisfactory, except that trains arrive at irregular hours - often in the early hours of the morning. Squadron of 15 th L.H. at RAYAK require delousing.	
			Capt Shipway, accompanied by 1 O.R., sent to HOMS to replace Major C.M. O'Halloran as O.C. Immobilised Section. 97 Dental Unit ordered to Baalbek. Three men appointed drivers under AIF Order 785 to complete establishment. 1 admitted 1 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 3 O.R.	
	26		1 O.R. - Dr. McKeen - of unit admitted to hospital with periostitis of left tibia following kick by mule. Suitable billet of four rooms secured for 97 th Dental Unit. Capt. Howell instructed to act as M.O. for whole RAYAK post. About 2230 Ambulance sent to Baalbek for body of Major T.E. GOODEVE, R.E. who had been run over.	
	27		Examined body and removed personal effects. Body was terribly mutilated. Adm. 3 O.R. 1 Off 1 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 5 O.R. C.O. during 26 th + 27 th was the only M.O. in Baalbek taking sick parades at A-Batt. H.A.C. + 15 th L.H. lines in addition to other work. Attended Court of Enquiry on death of Major Goodeve and gave personal effects to Major Jackson of Light Railways.	
			Major C.M. O'Halloran + 1 O.R. reported from HOMS. No 97 Dental Unit arrived from HOMS. 2 O.R. who had left unit on leave some weeks before was struck off strength. Evac 2 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 3 O.R.	Shuttle Clark Lt Col.

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Baalbek (Syria)	JAN 28		Billet not yet available for Dental Unit. Brig. Gen. ONSLOW diagnosed as "Typhoid fever" by agglutination tests. He is making satisfactory progress.	
	29		ADMS. Anstrew. arrived on visit to Brigade. Concert by "Palm Trees" at night. Adm. 3 O.R. Remaining 1 Off. 6 O.R.	All
	30		In response to request from Divisional committee four men were selected to go to TRIPOLI to represent the Ambulance in the Divisional Sports. Adm. 2 O.R. Evac 3 O.R. Remaining 1 Off 5 O.R.	All
	31		Y.M.C.A. rooms opened in Baalbek. Three temporary corporals confirmed in their rank on the authority of A.D.M.S. Adm 2 O.R. Evac. 3 O.R. Remaining 1 Off. 4 O.R.	All
			Dental Unit commenced work in Billet near B.H.A.	
			Capts J. J. Kelly and F. Wilcox joined unit from No 14 A.G.H.	
			Capt Wilcox despatched straight to Immobile Section at HOMS.	
			Capt H. Dolman (R.M.C. 15 th L.H.) returned from leave.	
			Major C.H. Anderson A.A.M.C. arrived on visit to General Onslow.	
			Snowing in the evening.	
			Admitted 1 O.R. Evac. 1 O.R. Remaining 1 Off. 4 O.R.	All

Charles Barber
Lt. Col.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Baalbek			<p>General Remarks for January 1919.</p> <p>The work of the Ambulance has been light during the month - the health of the Brigade being good.</p> <p>The Immobile Section at Homs has been acting as a sort of Receiving Station for Descope's troops, Indian Pioneer Battalions, and E.L.S. units at HOMS. The working of this Section was not found to be satisfactory when visited in the middle of the month and unfavourable comments had been passed by inspecting officers. Defects in administration have now been remedied and things are working satisfactorily.</p> <p>Seeing that only one Regiment of this Brigade is stationed at Homs + not more than 5 or 6 patients per week are being admitted to the Immobile Section from this Brigade, it is thought that it would be greatly to the interest of the Ambulance as a Unit, to be joined up again at Baalbek. This Unit has provided the medical service for HOMS for 3 months now, and should now be given an opportunity to reorganise and get into a smart + well disciplined condition in view of the approaching return to Australia.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">31/1/19 B. Howther Clarke Lt Col</p>	

WAR DIARY

OF

5th. Australian L. H. Field Ambulance

(Mobile)

FOR

January 191*9*

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- 1 War Diary Immobile Section
- 2 Letter to A.D.M. specifying the methods of transport of patients to Rayak and suggesting improvements
- 3 Diseases for the month Mobile Section.

Volume No. 1/19

Appendices 1-2

3^d duplicate

**AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE
EGYPT.**

WAR DIARY.

Unit *5th C.S.H. Coy (Immobile)*

From *1-7-19* To *31-1-19*

Pages 1-4

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AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES.

WAR DIARY.

of
Immobile Section 5 LHF Amb.

For

January 1919.

WAR DIARY

APPENDICES

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Signature of officer-compiler, G. Shipway Capt.

Signature of Officer-in-Charge, G. Shipway Capt.

A.P. & S.D., Alex./³⁴²¹/₁₂₂₅/4: 18/IM. W. M. & Co.

WAR DIARY

OF

FOR

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LIST OF APPENDICES.

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Subject.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Homs	7/1/19		<p>Strength: - 15th Lt. Col. (Immediate) 1 officer (Major C M O'Flaherty) 40 38 ranks 1 E.L.C. Native 3 ASC HT Native 10 R Troop 16 Mules 3 Donkeys 2 Motor Ambul. 1 Lorry 23 wagons 2 23 wagon 1 water cart. Attached: - 11th 2 Maltese Doguey plato. 1 officer (Capt C.C. Chesterman R.A.M.C.) 11 9 Rm 1 ASC HT Native 5 horses 1 mule 1 23 wagon Rear 7th Co. Genl. Unit. - 1 officer (Capt W. G. H. Tregear A.D.C.) 2 7 Rm. 97th Dental Unit. 1 officer (Lieut P. A. Ryan) 4 9 Ranks. 35th M.A.C. 4 9 Ranks 4 Heavy Motor Ambulances. D.D.M.S. Despatch. 4 horses.</p>	<p>C.M.O.H. C.M.O.H. C.M.O.H. C.M.O.H.</p>
	2/1/19		<p>Census of all animals taken in acc. with Genl. instructions.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	2/1/19		<p>Wire rec'd from ASMS head. British starting camp M.O. Cairo Hospital 12th Jan.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	4/1/19		<p>Canteen stores rec'd from Mobile Sect. for 5 Amb. personnel.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	5/1/19		<p>1 of R repaired at Hospital. 1 of R to Mobile Sect. Bialbe. 1 of R detached as Medical Orderly Administrative Comdr. from Amb. B.O.S. Group.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	6/1/19		<p>Admission: - Sick rates W.E. Admission A.H.F. 17 Imberil 20. Indians 38 Native 4 Poles 1 Total 70 Prevaling diseases: - Dysentery 7 Malaria 17 VD V Diarrhoea 5 Typhoid 1 Scabies 3 Pneumonia 1</p>	C.M.O.H.
	6/1/19		<p>2 of R's M.T. Asc 2 M.T. Ambul. detached to 7107 P.O. (Amb. B.O.S. Group) to act as conveyance between Loms and Loms.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	7/1/19		<p>nil</p>	C.M.O.H.
	8/1/19		<p>Copy of B.O.S. memo 3/906 7/1/19 advise ASMS +th Cms. 'Asky for Indian Medical Orderly to be attached to the ambulance.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	9/1/19		<p>Memo from ASMS head re: 'Diagnosis & Treatment of Malaria'. Color patches noticed thro' B.O.S. 20's.</p>	C.M.O.H.
	10/1/19		<p>Wire B.O.S. dated 10/1/19 ASMS head. Major C. Fowler, Canteen Officer to B.O.S. for to command with Local M.T. Ambul. overseen.</p>	C.M.O.H.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	17/1/19		Provisional - various...	CMWH
	18/1/19		nil	CMWH
	19/1/19		Admissions 11. Patients 3. Total 38. Prevalent diseases -	CMWH
	20/1/19		Phalacia BT 6 VD 5. Discharges 5. Patients 3.	CMWH
	21/1/19		2 9/2s. MIT 150. 2 11/2s. an am. patient. X 9/107/100.	CMWH
	22/1/19		2 9/2s. proceeded leave. Prop. said. 2 9/2s. not due discharge. 10/100.	CMWH
	23/1/19		Wine 9/105 5 1/2. Army number decreasing gradually. Exits and all. subject.	CMWH
	24/1/19		nil	CMWH
	25/1/19		nil	CMWH
	26/1/19		10/2s. seen to hospital.	CMWH
	27/1/19		nil	CMWH
	28/1/19		nil	CMWH
	29/1/19		Admissions 7 AIF. 13. Imposed. 14/100.	CMWH
	30/1/19		18. Discharges 9. Patients 1. P.O.D. Prevalent diseases -	CMWH
	31/1/19		6. Patients 5. jaundice 4. Malaria 1. Phalacia BT 3. MIT nil.	CMWH
	1/2/19		Wine 13/105. 10/2s. 10/2s. - all cases of am. 10/2s. ship 6 to 10/2s. the day.	CMWH
	2/2/19		May. C. 10/2s. Charles CO. 10/2s. 10/2s. arrived in 3 10/2s. 10/2s. to	CMWH
	3/2/19		include this patient. 1 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH
	4/2/19		attached. 26. Packages. Red Cross stores arrived from Trilled.	CMWH
	5/2/19		included were 6 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH
	6/2/19		Photograph of am. 10/2s. by 10/2s. 10/2s. all attached with	CMWH
	7/2/19		10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH
	8/2/19		10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH
	9/2/19		10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH
	10/2/19		10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s. 10/2s.	CMWH

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Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Remarks and references to Appendices
Homs	24/19		
		<p>from D.D.M.S. Deserets 1st Lt. Jones attached to R. B. S. Deserets. 3rd Lt. to be detailed for duties at Homs. D.D.M.S. Deserets inspected hospital.</p>	<p>CHIT #</p>
		<p>G.O.C. R.I.F. contact. Hospital. B.B.S. Deserets visited hospital to inspect.</p>	<p>CHIT #</p>
		<p>2 Lt. Jones attached to R.I.F. Deserets. Hospital in Homs NE in admission. 9.15 9 minutes 23</p>	<p>CHIT #</p>
		<p>Carabinieri 17, N. 1, Indians at Helwan 12 Post W. at Admonition 2. Total 89 admission.</p>	
		<p>Prevalent diseases: V.O. 28 Pyrexia 11.11 Deserets 6 Relapsing fever in Madani 2. 2 MT 1. Deserets 2. Jaundice 1</p>	
		<p>Case of S. Shikmy A.L.C. assumed command with 17410 C.M. O'HALLORAN posted to Mobile Section 5242 F.L.</p>	
		<p>1st Lt. marched to Mobile Section.</p>	<p>CH</p>
		<p>1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. (Lt. P. 200) marched to Baalbek to join the 2nd Lt. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1.</p>	
		<p>1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. to "Horned" Rankine for den. biligation. 1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1.</p>	
		<p>1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 2nd Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1.</p>	
		<p>Announcement made to Chaurat drill. water. obtained for 1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1.</p>	
		<p>1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. has had been previously carried out by D.I.E.M.S. Deserets. CHIT #</p>	<p>CHIT #</p>
		<p>to Indian attached for duties 17410 C.F. 1. to act as Medical Officer 1st Lt. 97. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1. 3rd Lt. 1.</p>	
		<p>D.D.M.S. Deserets.</p>	<p>CH</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tomb	31-1-19		<p>2 of 212 returned at Port Said Rest Camp. with 3389 from A.S.M.S. Cavalry:- Capt. C.C. Chesterman etc No. 5 Malvern Division Station to proceed to 74 C.C.S. Trehohi. with 3389 of A.S.M.S. Cavalry:- "Send all cases line. Station with to 74 C.C.S. to-day". Capt. C.C. Chesterman R.A.C. proceeded to 74 C.C.S. Trehohi via Beni-H. (A.S.M.S. via 20/12/19) 1 of 212 (Patrol) proceeded to 74 C.C.S. casualties, animals, wounded landed in the Sect. 5 by etc 7:5 A.M.S. 7-15339 Dr. Amin Moustapha DARRAN ASC HT in Hygiene admitted 26-1-19 suffering "Pleurisy" 1 pneumonia: died at 13:30. 3 of 212 - 15- L.H.F. Amb (Immobilized Section) 1 officer etc (Capt. G.S. Shipway) 39 of 212 1 SFC Native 3 ASC HT Natives 10 Riding Horses 16 Mules 3 Donkeys 2 Motor Ambul 1 Lint G.S. 2 S. wagons, 1 Water Cart. Attached:- No. 5 M.A.S. 3 of 212 5 Stages 1 G.S. wagon. Desert M.C. Cpts of Unit:- 1 officer (Capt. L.G.H. Tregear) etc 3 of 212 35 M.A.C. 5 of 212 4 Heavy Mule ambulances H.A.G. A.I.F. Egypt. 1 of 212 2 Riding Horses. (Groom) 130 C.F.A. 6 Indians</p>	<p>SH SH</p>

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SH Shipway
 etc. Immobilized Sect. 5 L.H.F.A.

Copies

A. D. M. S.

Aust M¹⁰ Div.

I wish to call your attention to the Conditions under which patients are being evacuated by train through the area occupied by this Brigade

I speak only of the evacuations from the Immobile Section of this unit at Homs, and not of those from Aleppo, though my remarks must apply in even greater force to the latter. Having travelled from Homs to Basra with patients I can speak with personal knowledge, and I consider that patients are suffering real hardships. Patients are placed in a box truck at Homs and remain in the same until they reach Kilo 1 on the broad gauge near Rayak. This journey is a very long and cold one, and I have known it to take 13 hrs. Only the cot cases can have stretchers, the sitting cases having to lie or sit on the floor of the truck. The relay station at Rayak seems to be quite satisfactory but patients have to be transhipped generally between 10 P.M. and midnight or later. I respectfully suggest that proper hospital cars be improvised with hessian lining and fitted with

- (a) stretchers on which all cases can rest.
- (b) a stove and fuel supply (most important)
- (c) a commode

also that an orderly be permanently detailed to each car to prepare food and look after patients. Evacuations could then be carried out on definite pre-arranged days.

2-2-19

Sgt L Lowther Clarke
C.O. 5th N B Amb

Diseases for the Month of
January 1919

Mobile Section

General Medical	9
Malaria	11
Diarrhoea	3
Influenza	6
Pyrexia & U.D.	2
General Surgical	7
V.D.	14
Leukaemia	4



Charles Cashe

Medical Officer
Commanding Bn. A. L. H. F. A.