

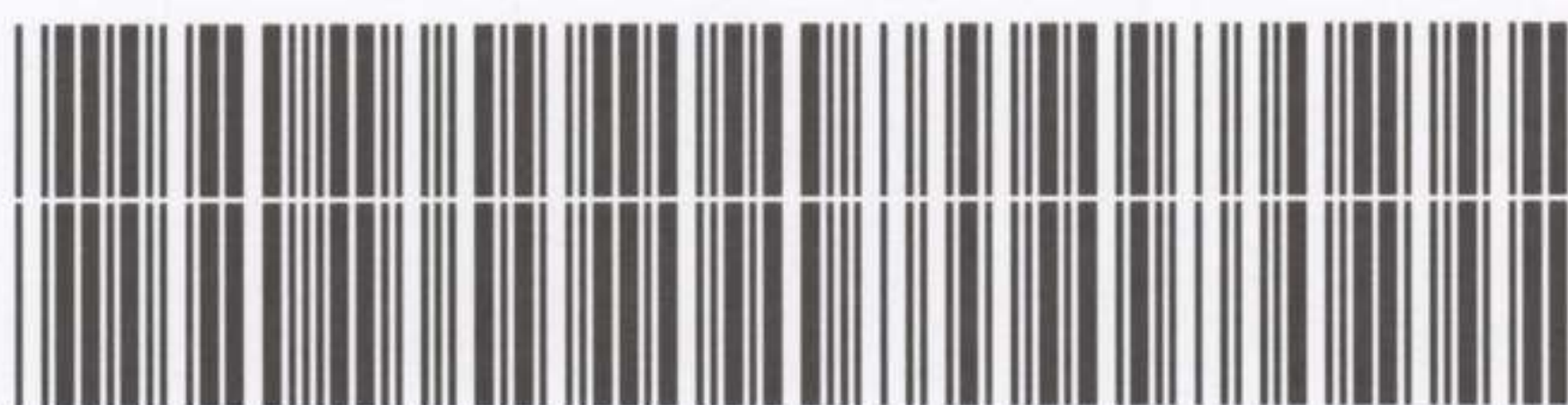
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/19/21

Title: Assistant Director of Medical
Services, 2nd Australian Division

September 1917



AWM4-26/19/21

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RENESCURE	1/9/17		A.D.M.S. and D.A.D.M.S. and all medical Officers of Division attended a lecture on preventive Treatment of gassed cases given by consulting Physician 2nd Army at Cinema Hall HAZEBROUCK.	
			Wire sent 8th Aust Field Amb instructing them to send M.O. to 2nd Aust C.C.S. to relieve Major E.A.H.RUSSELL who will assume duties as O.C. 1st Aust Sanitary Section vice Major MATTEI.	
A. D. M. S., 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	2nd		G.O.C.Division and A.D.M.S. attended church parade held at 7th Aust Field Amb RENESCURE.	
	4th		A.D.M.S. and A./D.A.D.M.S. visited M.D.S. 25th Division at sheet 28. H.27.d.2.2.	
	7th		A.D.M.S. attended conference of A.D'S.M.S. at 1st ANZAC- plans discussed for the evacuation of wounded in new area. Later visited A.D.M.S. 25th Division and arranged to take over D.R.S. in new area from 75th Field Amb as per D.D.M.S. Medical Instructions No 27.A.A.M.C. Order No 93 issued reference relief of 75th Field Amb by 7th Aust Field Amb.	A.
RENINGHELST	12th		A.D.M.S. Office closed at RENESCURE reopened at RENINGHELST.	
			Detailed scheme of Medical Arrangements submitted D.H.Q.	B.
	14th		A.A.M.C. Order No 94 issued re relief of 47th Division by 2nd Aust Divn.	C.
	16th		Medical arrangements issued.	D,
G.28.@ 9-1-	18th		A.D.M.S. office closed at RENINGHELST at 10x.am and opened same hour at G.28.a.9.1. (sheet 28)	
	20th		Capt J.M.Alcorn reinforcement officer reported for duty and posted 7th Aust Field Amb.	
			Liet Col	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M11160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.

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(Erase heading not required.)

A. D. M. S.	
2nd AUSTRALIAN	
DIVISION.	
No.	

SECRET

COPY NO. _____

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
*****Headquarters,
September 7th, '17.A.A.M.C. ORDER NO. 95 BY COLONEL ALFRED SUTTON, C. .G.
*****Map Reference (Belgium & France Sheet 28
(Hazebrouck 5A.

1. In accordance with D.D.M.S. 1st A.M.C Medical Instructions No. 27 dated 7th September, one Section of the 7th Australian Field Ambulance complete with transport will relieve the 75th British Field Ambulance on 9th September at the Divisional Rest Station WARATAH CAMP G.15.c.O.8.
2. Four motor lorries for the transport of personnel will report to the O.C. 7th Australian Field Ambulance on the morning of the 9th September and the Section will leave at 8 a.m. on the 9th Sept. Relief to be complete by Noon.
3. Sgt. Hood, A.D.M.S. Office and two clerks, one detailed by O.C. 5th Australian Field Ambulance and one detailed by O.C. 3th Australian Field Ambulance will report to O.C. 7th Australian Field Ambulance on the evening of the 8th September and proceed to the new area with the Section of the 7th Australian Field Ambulance. On arrival at Divisional Rest Station, WARATAH CAMP, they will proceed to the Main Dressing Station DICKERBUSCH, H 27.c.9.9 and report to the O.C. for duty in the Central Bureau.
4. A C K N O W L E D G E.

*Alfred Sutton*COLONEL,
A. D. M. S.

2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

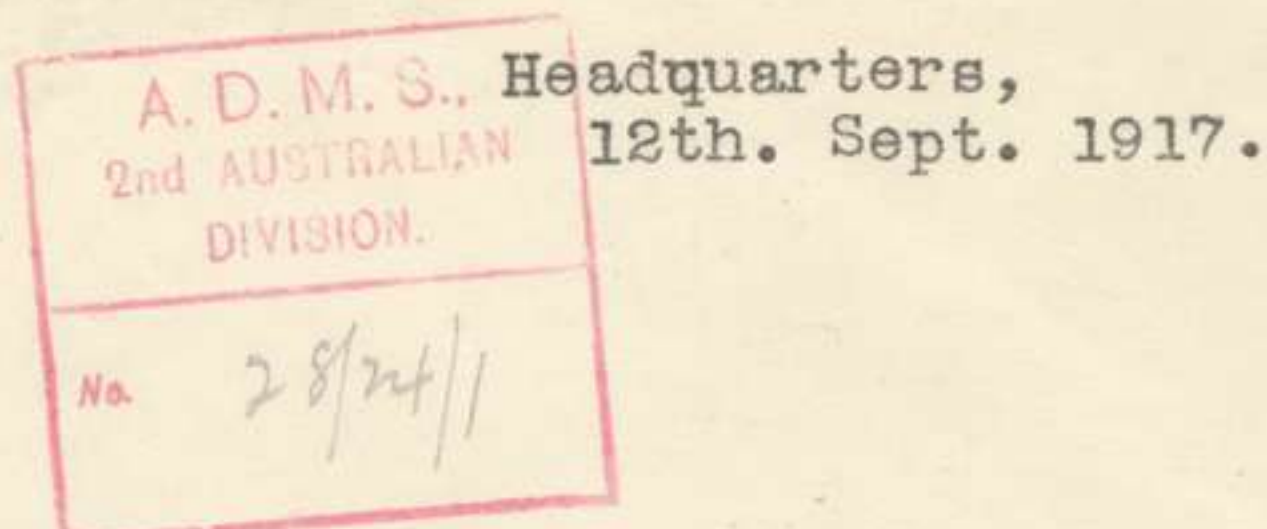
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- 2 Headquarters "G"
 - 3 Headquarters "AQ"
 - 4 D.M.S. 2nd Army
 - 5 D.D.M.S. 1st Anzac
 - 6 5th Aust. Field Amb.
 - 7 3th " " "
 - 8 7th " " "
 - 9 1st Aust. San. Section.
 - 10 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade
 - 11 3th " " "
 - 12 7th " " "
 - 13 A.D.M.S. 1st Aust. Divn.
 - 14 " 5th " "
 - 15 " 25th British Divn.
 - 16 " 47th " "
 - 17 A.P. 2nd Aust. Divn.
 - 18 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
 - 19 (Filo.
 - 20 (

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

B

Headquarters,
2nd. Aust. Divn.



With reference to this office No. 28/24 d/11-9-17 the following more detailed scheme of Medical Arrangements is submitted :-

MEDICAL DISPOSITION.

<u>Post.</u>	<u>Site.</u>	<u>Proposed posting of Fld. Amb. Personnel.</u>
Left R. A. P.	J.7.b.8.8.or near by	Bearers 24 other ranks.
Right R. A. P.	WEST HOECK RIDGE	Bearers 24 other ranks.
Adv. Collecting Post.	Nr. Battn. H.Q. J.7.a.4.3.	Bearers 2 Off. 36 O/R's.
SIMON'S Relay Post.	I.12.c.6.7.	Bearers 28 other ranks.
CHATEAU WOOD Relay Post.	I.18.b.3.8.	Bearers 8 other ranks.
CULVERT Amb. Loading Post.	I.18.a.2.8.	Bearers 1 Off. 8 O/R's.
BIRR CROSS ROADS Loading Post.	I.17.b.2.8.	Bearers 8 other ranks. 2 Off. 40 O/R's in reserve
A.D.S., MENIN ROAD for walking wounded	I. 9.c.8.6.	One Tent Division.
BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER	H.24.a.5.9.	Reserve Bearer Division.

CONSTRUCTION WORK RECOMMENDED:1. Essential work :-

- (a) Completion of two R.A.P.'s on WEST HOECK RIDGE near respective Battalion Headquarters, and of trench near by to give some shelter to Amb. bearers posted there.
- (b) Improving track from R.A.P.'s to Adv. Collecting Post.
- (c) Alteration of A.D.S. in accordance with attached rough plans.

2. Important work :-

- (a) Two dug-outs each to hold 12 stretcher cases on racks at Adv. Collecting Posts, J.7.a.4.3.
- (b) Extra accommodation at THE CULVERT by building racks for stretchers in present cupolas, and adding three additional cupolas with racks.
- (c) Providing protected kitchen at A.D.S. for a buffet.
- (d) If an Infantry track could be constructed along the North side of the MENIN ROAD from BIRR CROSS ROADS to the buildings near A.D.S., movement of wheeled traffic including Amb. wagons and of walking troops including walking wounded would be greatly facilitated.

Copy to :-

D.D.M.S., 1st. ANZAC For information.

afed Sutton COLONEL,
A.D.M.S.
2ND. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.Copy No......Headquarters,
Sept. 14th. 1917.A.A.H.C. ORDER NO. 94 BY COLONEL ALFRED SUTTON, C.M.G.Map reference Sheet 28, 1 in 40,000.

1. In accordance with 2nd. Aust. Divn. Order No. 136 d/14-9-17 and D.D.H.S., 1st. ANZAC Medical Instructions No. 31 d/13-9-17. A.A.H.C., 2nd. Aust. Divn will relieve R.A.H.C., 47th. Division.

2. Divisional boundaries will ^{be} as follows :-

On South: J.8.c.5.5.- J.7.d.9.2.- North of HOOGE CRATER - I.17.c.1.8.- North of HALFWAY HOUSE - I.16.d.3.2.- SOUTH WARRINGTON ROAD - I.20.b.0.9. - SHRAPNEL CORNER - I.19.d.3.3. I.19.c.6.0.- I.19.c.0.0.- I.19.a.0.0.- H.23.a.0.0.- H.21.a.0.0.- H.26.a.0.8.-

On North: J.2.c.2.7.- J.1.c.3.0.- I.12.a.0.0.

3. The 5th. Aust. Field Ambulance will relieve the 6th. LONDON Field Ambulance at Advanced Posts BELLEWAARDE RIDGE, J.7.a.4.3.; SIMON'S POST I.12.c.6.7., CHATEAU WOOD POST, I.18.b.3.8., BIRR CROSS ROADS I.17.b.2.8., Advanced Dressing Station for walking wounded MENIN ROAD I.9.c.8.6. and Headquarters CHATEAU HENDRIK Details to be arranged by Field Ambulance Commanders. Movement to be complete by 8 a.m. on 17th. inst.

4. 7th. Aust. Field Ambulance complete will move to WARATAH Rest Camp, G.15.c.2.9. Movement to be complete on 14th. inst.

5. A.D.H.S. Office will close at RENINGHELST at 10 a.m. on 18th. inst. and open at HORSE SHOE CAMP G.28.a.9.1. at the same hour at which time administration of Medical arrangements of Forward Area will be taken over from A.D.H.S., 47th. Division.

DISTRIBUTION :-

Copy No. 1.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2.) War Diary. | A.D.H.S., 2ND. AUSTRALIAN DIVN. |
| 3.) | |
| 4. D.H.S., 2nd. Army. | |
| 5. D.D.H.S., 1st. ANZAC. | |
| 6. 'G' 2nd. Aust. Divn. | |
| 7. 'AQ' Do. | |
| 8. 5th. Aust. Field Amb. | |
| 9. 6th. Do. | |
| 10. 7th. Do. | |
| 11. 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde. | |
| 12. 6th. Do. | |
| 13. 7th. Do. | |
| 14. 22nd. Mach. Gun. Coy. | No. 22. 2nd. Aus. Div. Signal Coy. |
| 15. A.D.H.S. 47th. Divn. | 23. 2nd. Aus. Div. Train. |
| 16. A.D.H.S. 1st. Aus. Div. | 24. A.P.M., 2nd. Aus. Divn. |
| 17. A.D.H.S. 4th. " " | 25. Area Commdt., CANAL Area. |
| 18. A.D.H.S. 5th. " " | 26. Filo. |
| 19. C.R.A., 2nd. Aus. Divn. | |
| 20. C.R.E., Do. | |
| 21. 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Bn. | |

Alfred Sutton COLONEL,

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Headquarters,
2nd.Aust.Div.

Headquarters,
17th.September 1917.

No. 28149.

The following scheme of Medical Arrangements is submitted for your approval please:-

In accordance with D.D.M.S. 1st.Anzac No.5. Medical Arrangements (Operations d/15-9-17 and amendments.

1. The O.C. 5th.Aust.Field Amb. will be responsible for :-
 - (1) Evacuation of all casualties from the Divisional Front to Amb. loading post on MENIN ROAD, at BIRR X Roads or the CULVERT.
 - (2) Evacuation of all walking wounded from the Corps Front from MENIN ROAD POSTS to C.C.S.
2. O.C. 5th.Aust.Field Amb. will have at his disposal from this date :-
 - (a) 5th.Aust.Field Amb. complete.
 - (b) 1 tent sub-division, bearer division, and 3 horse ambulance wagons of 6th.Aust.Field Amb.
 - (c) Bearer division and 3 horse ambulance wagons of 7th.Aust.Fld.Am Ambulance.
 - (d) 12 additional horse ambulance wagons under arrangements to be made by D.D.M.S. 1st.Anzac.

3. Disposition of Medical Posts will be as follows :-

A. FORWARD DIVISIONAL POSTS :

R.A.P. Left Brigade	J.7.b.6.9.
R.A.P. Right "	J.7.d.9.9.
Advanced Collecting Post	J.7.a.4.3.
SIMON'S. Rely Post.	I.12.c.6.7.
BIRR CROSS ROADS Amb.Loading Post.	I.17.b.2.8.
CHATEAU WOOD Post.	I.18.b.3.8.
CULVERT Amb.Loading Post. (Staffed by A.A.M.C. 1st.Aust.Div.)	I.18.a.2.8.

B. WALKING WOUNDED POSTS

A.D.S. MENIN ROAD	I.9.c.8.6.
Ambulance Post, THE BUND	I.21.b.2.5.
Ambulance Post, SHRAPNEL CORNER	I.20.a.6.7.

C. Headquarters, 5th.Australian Field Ambulance H.24.a.5.9.
(BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER)

4. The evacuation of stretcher cases will be by hand carriage from R.A.P's. to Amb.Loading Posts at BIRR CROSS ROADS, or THE CULVERT.

If circumstances warrant the O.C. 5th.Aust.Field Amb. may use horse Ambulance wagons on the Artillery Road round Lake BELLEWAARDE.

Stretcher cases will be evacuated to the A.D.S. MENIN ROAD I.9.c.9.6. by motor ambulance car by O.C. 3rd.Aust.Field Amb. with whom O.C. 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance will confer in regard to 2nd.Aust.Div. casualties.

The evacuation of stretcher cases from A.D.S. to C.C.S. or Corps Main Dressing Station will be under Corps arrangements.

- 2 -

5. Main Route for walking wounded will be as follows :-

From BIRR CROSS ROADS and THE CULVERT via track to GORDON JUNCTION, and on to meet "C" track about I.15.b.1.7. thence by "C" track to A.D.S. MENIN ROAD I.9.c.8.6.

Walking wounded will be evacuated from A.D.S. by train as far as possible. Trains will run hourly from the A.D.S. AND EACH should carry 150 cases. An A.A.M.C. orderly will accompany each train.

If the train fails to clear all cases, these will be evacuated to C.C.S. by motor lorry. 40 of these will be made available with initial stations as follows:-

At A.D.S.	2
In YPRES I.7.c.6.7.	12
At BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER	6
At 'K' Supply Column	20

lorries will be so regulated that 2 are kept at A.D.S..

LORRY ROUTE

YPRES via POPPERINGHE ROAD to G.4.d.5.4. to Cross Roads G.20.a.4.5. to C.C.S. Groups in Sheet 27, L.23.a. returning via cross roads ~~XXXXXX~~ L.34.a. - RENINGHELST - cross roads G.30.c.5.9. to DICKEBUSCH to BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER, proceeding to YPRES via cross roads H.12.c.2.7. as required.

6. Alternative routes for walking wounded will be as follows :-

(a) From BIRR Cross Roads via I.16.b.1.4. by WARRINGTON ROAD or via ~~XXXXXX~~ ZILLEBEKE ROAD to THE BUND I.21.b.2.5. Horse ambulance wagons will be used on these routes if necessary.

(b) From I.15.b.1.7. overland to the BUND. From the BUND cases will be cleared to train at I.21.b.2.5. or by motor lorry from road angle at I.21.a.5.5.

(c) From I.15.b.1.7. via "C" track and LILLE ROAD, or via WARRINGTON ROAD to Amb.Post SHRAPNEL CORNER I.20.a.6.7. where cases will be evacuated by lorry or Ambulance car if necessary.

7. Bearer reserves will be held at :-

(a) BIRR CROSS ROADS	I.17.b.2.8.
(b) CANAL dug-outs	I.13.c.
(c) BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER	H.24.a.5.9.

8. Gassed cases will be evacuated by Ambulance car to Gas Centre Corps Main Dressing Station H.27.c.2.9.

9. Recording of cases will be made at Corps Bureau at C.C.S. No official record will be ~~kept~~ made at A.D.S. or other Ambulance Station except :-

- (1) Cases returned to duty.
- (2) Cases admitted to D.R.S.

Records of these cases will be forwarded to Corps Bureau. Field Medical Cards will be made out at A.D.S. or other Ambulance Post if possible but, evacuation will not be delayed for the purpose.

10. Tent Divisions of 6th. and 7th.Aust.Field Ambs. will be located as follows :-

6th.Aust.Field Amb.

Headquarters and one tent sub-division Corps Bureau, 5th.Aust.D.R.S. REMY SIDING Sheet 27 L.23.c.5.4.

One tent sub-division attached 2nd.Canadian C.C.S. REMY SIDING

One tent sub-division attached 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance.

7th.Aust.Field Amb.

Headquarters and two Tent Sub-Division ~~xxxxx~~ 2nd.Aust.Div.
R.S. WARATAH CAMP G.15.c.2.9.

One tent sub-division attached Corps MainDressing Station
H27.c.2.9.

11. Attention of Field Ambulance Commanders is directed to the provisions of Medical Arrangements (operations) No.5. by D.D.M.S. 1st.Anzac. copies of which have been forwarded.
12. One ~~Tent~~ sub-division 7th.Aust.Field Amb. at D.R.S. will be prepared with equipment packed on wagons to move at short notice.

Colonel,
A.D.M.S.
2nd.Australian Division.

E
SECRET.

Copy No.....

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.Headquarters,
22nd.Sept. 1917.A.A.M.C. ORDER NO. 95 BY COLONEL ALFRED SUTTON, C.M.G.Map reference Sheet 28, 1 in 40,000.

1. In accordance with 2nd.Aust.Divn.Order No. 140 d/22-9-17, and D.D.M.S., 1st.ANZAC Medical Instructions No.34 d/21-9-17. The A.A.M.C., 2nd.Aust.Divn will be relieved by A.A.M.C., 4th. Aust.Divn. Movement to be completed by 10 a.m. on 24th.inst.
2. 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance and attached details will be relieved in Forward Area by 4th.Aust.Field Ambulance. Movement to be completed by 10 a.m. on 24th.inst.. Details of relief will be arranged by Field Ambulance Commanders.
3. On relief 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance complete will move to THE SCHOOL HOUSE, RENINGHELST, G.34.b.1.1., and Bearer Division 7th.Aust.Field Ambulance will rejoin that Unit at WARATAH CAMP. The Tent Sub-division and Bearer Division 6th.Aust.Field Ambulance will move under instructions to be issued later.
4. Headquarters and one Tent Sub-division 6th.Aust.Field Ambulance will remain in charge of Corps Central Record Bureau, One Tent Sub-division 6th.Aust.Field Ambulance will remain attached 2nd.Can.C.C.S. and one Tent Sub-division 7th.Aust. Field Ambulance will remain attached Corps Main Dressing Stn.
5. Bearer Divisions 6th. & 7th.Aust.Field Ambulances will be held in readiness to move at short notice to reinforce A.A.M.C., 4th.Aust.Divn. if required.
6. 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance will arrange to collect sick of Division daily.
7. 5th.Aust.Field Ambulance will move out of Forward Area with Ambulance equipment only. Receipts for stores handed over will be forwarded in duplicate to this office, and Red Cross Stores will be clearly differentiated on these receipts.
8. A.D.M.S. office will close at HORSE SHOE CAMP and open at RENINGHELST at 10 a.m. on 24th.inst. at which time A.D.M.S., 4th.Aust.Divn. will take over administration of Medical Arrangements of Forward Area.
9. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Alfred Sutton

COLONEL,

A.D.M.S., 2ND. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

P. T. O.

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2.) War Diary.
3.)
4. Headquarters 'G'.
5. " 'AQ', Advanced.
6. " 'AQ' Rear.
7. D.H.S., 2nd. Army.
8. D.D.M.S., 1st. ANZAC.
9. 5th. Aust. Field Ambulance.
10. 6th. Do.
11. 7th. Do.
12. 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
13. 6th. Do.
14. 7th. Do.
15. C.R.A., 2nd. Aust. Divn.
16. C.R.E., 2nd. Aust. Divn.
17. 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battn.
18. 2nd. Aust. Divn. Train.
19. A.D.M.S., 1st. Aust. Divn.
20. A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Divn.
21. A.D.M.S., 5th. Aust. Divn.
22. A.D.M.S., 23rd. Division.
23. 2nd. Aust. Div. Signal Coy.
24. A.P.H., 2nd. Aust. Divn.
25. File.

MEDICAL OPERATIONS - SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

16th. Sept. 1917 - 24th. Sept. 1917

The 5th. Aust. Field Amb. successfully relieved the 6th. London Field Amb. of 47th. Division in the left sector of the Corps Front Forward Area on the night 16/17th. September.

The succeeding days 17th., 18th., and 19th. were devoted to improving accommodation with assistance of Engineers at BELLEWAARDE Ridge Post, constructing a post at SHRAPNEL Corner, and in carrying forward to R.A.P.'s. and Field Ambulance Posts large supplies of stretchers, blankets, dressings and medical supplies.

At 5 p.m. on 19th. inst. information was received from D.H.Q. of attack to be made at 5.40 a.m. on 20th. inst.. The O.C. 5th. Aust. Field Amb. was immediately notified, and dispositions of A.A.M.C. personnel were made accordingly.

Bearer Divisions of 5th., 6th. and 7th. Aust. Field Ambulances Tent Division of 5th. Aust. Field Amb. and one Tent sub-division of 6th. Aust. Field Amb. were at the disposal of the O.C. 5th. Aust. Field Amb.

Under Corps arrangements O.C. 5th. Aust. Field Amb. was responsible for the evacuation of all wounded of the 2nd. Aust. Div. to MENIN ROAD Posts at or in front of BIRR Cross Roads and for the clearance of all walking wounded from the Corps Front from A.D.S. MENIN ROAD or from alternative Walking Wounded Posts at the BUND and SHRAPNEL Corner, to the Casualty Clearing Station.

For this purpose Decauville Trains from A.D.S. MENIN ROAD were made available by Army, and 40 motor lorries were placed at his disposal by 1st. Anzac Corps. Trains were to run at hourly intervals direct from A.D.S. to C.C.S.'s. at REMY SIDING 20 lorries reported on evening of 19th. inst., 20 more were held in readiness at 'K' Corps Supply Column. Two A.S.C. Officers of 'K' Supply Column reported at the same time to supervise the work of the lorries.

During the night of the 19th. inst. the following dispositions were made:

6 bearer squads were posted at each Brigade R.A.P. in WESTHOEK Ridge.
15 " " under command of Major CHAPMAN) Adv. Coll. Stat.
5th. Aust. Fld. Amb. and Capt. COUTTS 6th. Aust. Fld. Amb.) BELLEWAARDE Ridge.

From BELLEWAARDE RIDGE alternative routes of evacuation were available:

- (a) By north side of BELLEWAARDE Lake via SIMON'S POST to MENIN ROAD at BIRR X Roads.
- (b) By south side of the lake via CHATEAU WOOD POST to MENIN ROAD at the CULVERT.

The latter being the shorter way, it was expected to evacuate chiefly by that route.

6 bearer squads were posted at SIMON'S POST

8 " " " " " CHATEAU WOOD POST under command of Capt. FRANCIS 5th. Aust. Field Amb.

2 bearer squads were posted at BIRR X ROADS loading post under command of Capt. STEVENS 5th. Aust. Field Amb.

The CULVERT Loading Post was staffed by A.A.M.C. 1st. Aust. Div.

Two tent sub-divisions under command of Major BUCHANAN 5th. Aust. Field Amb. staffed the A.D.S. for walking wounded, one tent sub-division 5th. Aust. Field Amb. ~~5th. Aust. Field Amb.~~ was distributed at various posts. One tent sub-division under command of Major DUNLOP staffed the walking wounded post at SHRAPNEL CORNER, and a detail was posted at the BUND.

The above disposition accounted for all available tent sub-divisions and for two divisions of bearers.

The remaining Bearer Division was held in reserve to reinforce if necessary, or to carry out reliefs.

One section of the Reserve Bearer Division was held at BIRR Cross Roads, two sections in the CANAL DUGOUTS just south of YPRES.

Two lorries were posted at A.D.S. MENIN ROAD and the remainder in reserve parks in YPRES and at BELGIAN BATTERY CORNER.

Evacuation of wounded before the attack on morning of 20th. inst. was carried out without incident of importance.

- 2 -

After the attack on 20th. inst. walking wounded came through quickly, commencing to arrive in numbers at A.D.S. about 7 a.m.. The train service was insufficient to cope with evacuation until 10 a.m. The lorries however cleared the wounded satisfactorily, 12 additional lorries being called up from 'K' Supply Column. After 10 a.m. the train service was more satisfactory and the evacuation by lorry relatively small.

Small numbers of walking wounded came in to SHRAPNEL CORNER Post, chiefly wounded prisoners of war. These were cleared by horse ambulance wagon.

About 9 a.m. Lt.-Col. NICHOLAS was killed by a shell at the A.D.S. MENIN ROAD and Major A.L. BUCHANAN 5th. Aust. Field Amb. assumed command of the 5th. Aust. Field Amb. and the allotted duties.

At 10 a.m. a message was received from Major CHAPMAN stating that the Right R.A.P. had moved forward and 30 additional bearers were required.

Reserve bearers from BIRR X ROADS and CANAL DUGOUTS were sent forward. In addition 7 squads were ~~drawn~~ withdrawn from CHATEAU WOOD Post, as the shelling on that route made it relatively unsafe as a line of evacuation. These bearers were also employed in the more advanced posts.

At the same time D.D.M.S. 1st. Anzac was asked to send up 100 bearers at once from Corps Reserve to Divisional Reserve.

Some temporary congestion of cases occurred from this time, but at no time was there any serious delay in sending cases through.

At midday Major CHAPMAN requested 30 more bearers.

The 100 Corps Reserve Bearers reported about 2 p.m. at MENIN ROAD A.D.S..

In the meantime the 1st. Aust. Div. required reinforcements. By arrangement with D.A.D.M.S. 1st. Anzac 70 of these bearers were sent to 1st. Aust. Div. and the remaining 30 sent forward to Major CHAPMAN.

Arrangements were made for 100 Bearers from Corps Reserve to be available for a relief on the following morning.

Between 3 and 4 p.m. the line of evacuation was practically clear, but some congestion occurred again after this time. By 12 midnight the line of evacuation was reported clear.

No record of numbers of wounded handled was kept. Cases were largely evacuated straight to C.C.S. without holding them for the purpose of making records.

About 300 bearers were now working on forward routes.

At 5.30 a.m. on 21st. inst. 100 fresh bearers from Corps Reserve Relieved 250 of these, 50 being kept in cases of emergency. These bearers carried forward 100 additional stretchers in response to a request received from 5th. Brigade during the night. This number was surplus to a continual supply of stretchers sent forward during the engagement.

In the early morning of the 21st. inst. stretcher cases came in in large numbers once more but after a short rush, the work of the bearers became limited to occasional carries, and was without further incident.

The Corps Reserve Bearers were relieved by rested Divisional Bearers at dawn on 22nd. inst.

A.A.M.C. 2nd. Aust. Div. was relieved in forward area by A.A.M.C. 4th. Aust. Div. on the night 23/24th. September.

COMMENTS

1. The Direct evacuation of wounded from A.D.S. to C.C.S. was a most satisfactory arrangement. Cases were ~~saved~~ saved from ~~delay~~ delay and unnecessary redressing which must always occur when wounded pass from Advanced Dressing Station, to Main Dressing Station and on to C.C.S..

2. The train service for evacuation of wounded on this occasion worked more satisfactorily than in any previous operation, but did not work up to time table at the commencement of the rush of wounded.

The lorry convoy rendered most valuable service, particularly in the early hours after the attack when they cleared the majority of the wounded.

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3. The abolition of record keeping in advanced stations was most valuable. Cases were not held unnecessarily in advanced positions where any accumulation would be liable to result in further casualties. The returns ~~has~~ received from the Corps Central Bureau were satisfactory after some readjustments had been effected.

Ayud Sutton Colonel
A.M.S.





Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "J. H. D. Smith".

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APPENDIX

LIST SHOWING NUMBER SICK EVACUATIONS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1917.

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>NUMBER.</u>
1	9
2	12
3	17
4	21
5	22
6	17
7	20
8	31
9	43
10	55
11	42
12	77
13	22
14	2
15	5
16	4
17	-
18	12
19	84
20	13
21	19
22	2
23	42
24	21
25	22
26	34
27	30
28	35
29	39
30	28