

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/45/40

**Title:** 2nd Australian Field Ambulance

January 1919



AWM4-26/45/40

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

JANUARY

1919

2<sup>ND</sup> AUST. FIELD AMB.  
No.

Signature of Officer compiling

*Clayton Moore*

Lt.Col.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Clayton Moore*

Lt.Col.

C.O. 2nd Aus. Field Amb.





# WAR DIARY

OF

46

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

---

FOR

J A N U A R Y

191<sup>9</sup>


---

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
VI.	Report of Commanding Officer
I.	" Quartermaster
II.	" Transport Officer(Horse)
III.	" " (Motor)
IV.	" Officer in charge Hospital
VI-I.	" Educational Officer
V.	Graphs.

WAR DIARY  
JANUARY 46  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

APPENDIX VI.

REPORT OF  
COMMANDING OFFICER

The month of January has been a most uneventful one as regards operations.

The unit has been in billets at LOUVERVAL throughout, and all ranks have been patiently awaiting the commencement of Demobilization. This period of waiting has been a very trying one. The enforced inactivity coincided to wretched weather, and the uncertainty which has existed as to how each man's case would be dealt with by the Department of Demobilization and Repatriation, naturally giving rise to much restlessness.

All ranks have behaved splendidly, and have not given the slightest trouble, in spite of trying circumstances.

It is to be hoped now that the Demobilization machinery is in working order, that there will be a minimum of hitches and difficulties, which must prove infinitely trying to men who have waited their turn with such patience and good feeling.

*Claverhill*  
.....Lt. Col.  
C.O. 2nd Aus. Field Ambulance.

46  
WAR DIARY  
JANUARY  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.  
Report of  
Q U A R T E R M A S T E R

APPENDIX NO. I

On the First of this month orders were received from A.D.M.S. to return to Ordnance all the Mobilization Stores, Surgical and Medical Equipment for "C" Section. These stores were returned on 5th Jan. and receipts for them obtained.

On the 2nd Jan. Corps Headquarters issued a circular to all units instructing them to indent for stores under four different categories. These were rendered on 14th Jan. with a certificate stating that the stores had been inspected and indents for shortages had been submitted to complete stores as laid down in Mobilization Store Table.

The rations for this month have been good, on the whole, the supplies for the latter part of the month showing an improvement on the former.

The Australian Comforts Fund supplied the Unit in their usual generous manner with cocoa, sugar, milk, oxo, puddings, fruit, tobacco, cigarettes, custard powder, and playing cards, which were much appreciated by the personnel of the unit.

We have drawn from the Aus. Red Cross Society, pyjamas, jam, biscuits, cigarettes, Bengers Food, and reading matter for the patients.

No difficulty has been experienced in obtaining stores, etc., from Ordnance and clean clothing from the Divisional Baths Officer.

WAR DIARY.

(Sgd.) D.C. BUTTERWORTH,  
Q.M. & Hon Lieut.

WAR DIARY  
JANUARY  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.  
REPORT OF  
TRANSPORT OFFICER

APPENDIX NO. II

HORSE TRANSPORT

The Unit remained, during the whole of the month, at TRY D'HAIES. The ~~XXXX~~ horses were at first distributed among nine stables in the village, but later, owing to reduced numbers, were concentrated in four stables.

During the month the Ambulance was reduced to two sections and one ambulance wagon, one limbered wagon, one water cart, and six sets of harness were returned to Ordnance Stores. Four heavy draught and one light draught horse were evacuated suffering from mange on 7.1.19. Three horses were missing from the stables on 8th inst. A Board has since been held to investigate this loss. Two light draught horses were handed over to 1st Coy. Div. Engineers on 22nd inst. There ~~was~~ thus, at the end of the month, a shortage of one heavy draught <sup>horse</sup> *HP*

The condition of the horses has, on the whole, been good. The food supply, though light, has, owing to the fact that the horses were in warm stables, been sufficient. Vehicles have required no major repairs. The harness has been in good condition.

A field cooker has been attached from 5th Battalion during the past two months. This has been of very great use to the unit. It would improve the efficiency and increase the mobility of a Field Ambulance if a Field Cooker ~~were~~ made part of the establishment. *HP*

The horses have been classified by a Board during the month with a view to their disposal on demobilization. By this classification they are branded as follows:- X - 9 horses; Y - 7 horses; Z - 19 horses.

The work of the transport has been light owing to the fact that the unit remained in the one place. A certain amount of work was done, such as collecting refuse from the area occupied and drawing additional supplies by the Unit for its own use and for the use of the hospital.

*J. J. Jones*  
.....Major  
Transport Officer



46  
WAR DIARY  
JANUARY  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.  
REPORT OF TRANSPORT OFFICER.  
MOTOR TRANSPORT

APPENDIX NO. III.

The Unit has remained, for the whole of the month, in the village of TRY D'HAIES. The following cars have been sent to Workshops for repairs during the month:- Sunbeams No. 24068, No. 24071, No. 24063 and Ford No. 9396. Of these Sunbeam No. 24068 was evacuated. At the end of the month two Sunbeams and two Fords were with the Unit, two Sunbeams were in Workshops and one Sunbeam had been evacuated.

The principal work of the motor transport during the month has been the collecting of sick from the Brigade and evacuating cases from the unit hospital to the C.C.S., Charleroi. In addition Medical Stores and Red Cross Stores have been collected and trips incidental to the work of the unit have been made. Considering the actual amount of work done, the difficulties in keeping the cars running have been very great, due to the bad condition of the cars and the poor quality of the work turned out by the workshops.

(Sgd) J.T.JONES, Major  
Transport Officer.

46  
WAR DIARY  
JANUARY  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

APPENDIX NO. IV

REPORT OF

OFFICER IN CHARGE OF HOSPITAL.

The Brigade Rest Station has been maintained during the month and has continued to justify its existence in so far as out of a total of 93 patients admitted, 43 (or nearly 50%) were discharged to duty without having to go beyond the Divisional area. The attached graph shows clearly the number of cases admitted, discharged to duty, and evacuated to C.C.S. in the station during the month.

The incidence of influenza in the Brigade Group was, at the beginning of the month, almost nil., and continued to be so until the last week when the number of cases increased, doubtless on account of the change of the weather, for the worse, and its accompanying cold.

Up till the 23rd of the month there were 12 cases of influenza admitted, six of whom were discharged to duty and six evacuated to C.C.S., while during the last eight days there were 17 admittances six discharged to duty and three evacuated to C.C.S.

However, the cases have not been so severe as during previous months, most of the cases being uncomplicated and showing only the usual malaise, headache, backache, and slight catarrhal symptoms and becoming fit for discharge to their units within a week. The type of cases evacuated to C.C.S. have been those with high temperature or showing signs of broncho pneumonia.

Of the 64 other patients many have been admitted while undergoing treatment for pyorrhoea or gingivitis by the Dental Officer, Capt. Gatehouse. A few with gonorrhoea, primary syphilis, otitis, and similar conditions incurable within 10 days to a fortnight, in such a station, were merely passed on to C.C.S., while the remainder, comprising such cases as furunculosis, tonsillitis, gastritis, etc., were treated successfully within the station.

..(Sgd) M. G. SUTTON, Major  
Officer in charge of Hospital

46  
WAR DIARY  
JANUARY  
1919

2ND AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.  
REPORT OF  
EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

APPENDIX VII

During the month of Jan. 1919, classes have been held in the following subjects:-

Arithmetic, Algebra, Book-keeping, Building Construction, Carpentry and Cabinet Making, French (Elementary and Advanced), English, Motor Mechanics, and Shorthand.

Further classes in General Farming and First Aid (St. Johns Ambulance Course) are on the eve of commencement.

The highest weekly enrolment for the month was 67, but has dropped to 36, attendance 32, owing to the fact that Building construction had been disbanded, whilst Book-keeping, French and English have been temporarily disbanded. The instructors in these subjects having left the unit, either for duty elsewhere or ~~xxx~~ to be returned as University Students. Moreover attendance of classes was affected by necessary guard duty, ~~xxxxxx~~ resultant of horse-stealing in the neighbourhood. New instructors, ~~xxxxx~~ however, are being appointed to these classes temporarily disbanded, and an increase in enrolment and attendance is expected immediately.

Provision is being made for members of the unit to visit local industries in Charleroi and the ~~nigh~~ neighbouring districts, and about 35 have made application for non-military employment (Educational, Technical Commercial, Professional and Agricultural) in England. These applications are at present under consideration.

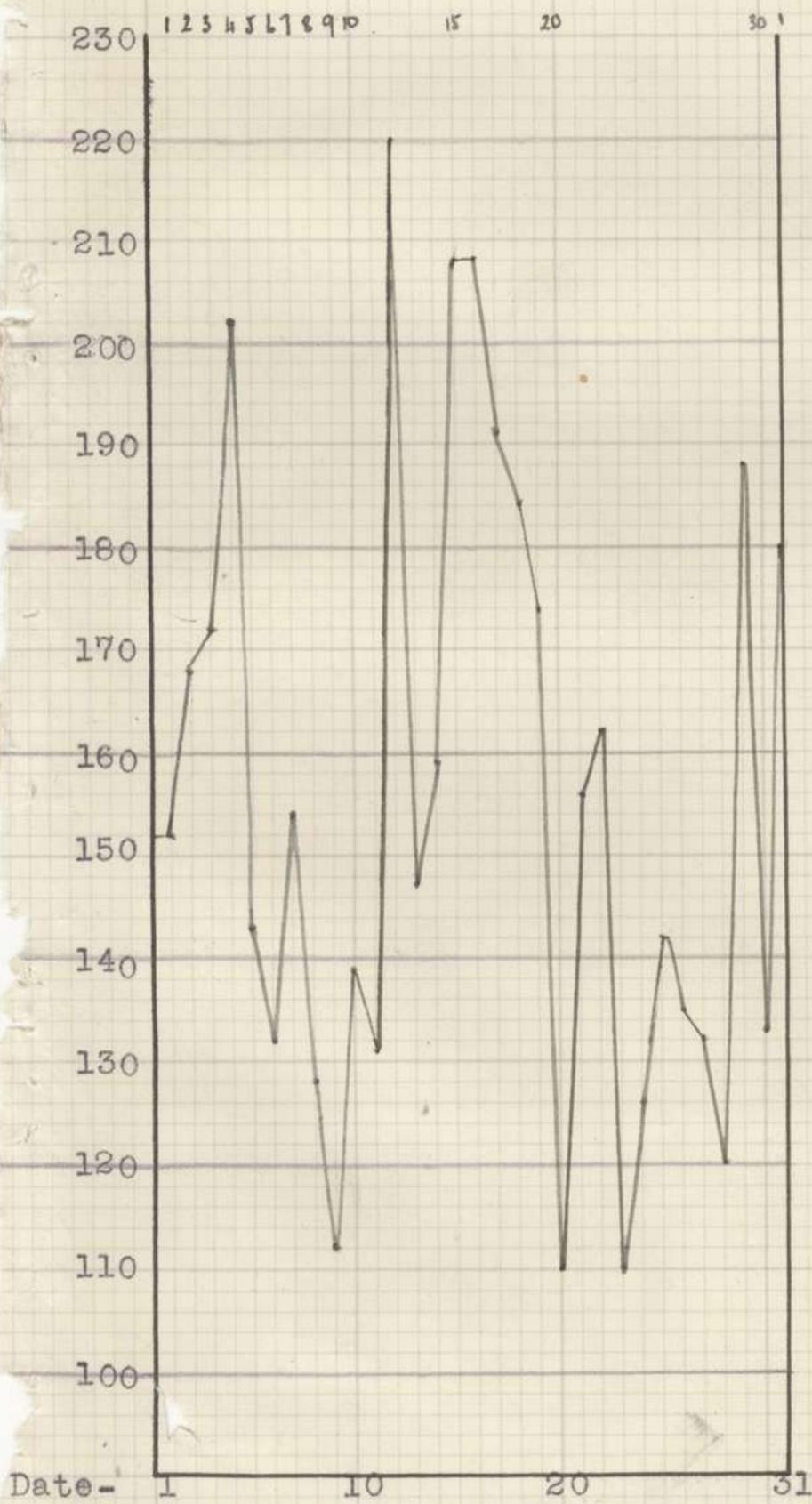
The following members have left the Unit during the month for Educational purposes:-

1. Dvr. Ashworth H.W. now attached to the London Office of Messrs Michaelis & Hallenstein for experience. He was previously employed by this firm in Australia.
2. Pte. Dougharty D.H. to Halifax Technical College for the purpose of studying wool-classing.
3. To Corps Central School, Rue:-  
Ptes. Payne, P.J., Hayward E.C., Good C.H.S., Cole, W.R., and Jacobsen L.
4. To Australia:-  
S/Sgts. Narik A, Williams R, and Pte. Barber A.  
(University Students)

(Sgd.) F.W.A. Lowe, Lieut.  
E.O. 1st Aus. Div. AAMC.

46

GRAPH SHOWING  
NUMBER RECEIVED  
PROPHYLACTIC TREATMENT  
IN CHARLEROI



BRIGADE REST STATION

ADMITTED

DISCHARGED TO DUTY

EVACD. TO C.C.S.

