

**AWM4**

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/65/34

**Title:** No 1 Australian General Hospital

January 1919



AWM4-26/65/34



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ORIGINAL.  
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~~TRIPLICATE.~~

363

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR

JANUARY

1919

Signature of Officer compiling

*J. A. Dick. Col.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*J. A. Dick. Col.*



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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1919

Original

on 1-10-19

January 1919

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROUEN	1/1/1919	6.30 p	Weather much finer, but some rain. Still no information re date of sailing of our boat. O.R. sent one for same march in line of employment.	
	2/1/1919	6.30 p	Bright sunshiny day. Still waiting orders.	
	3/1/1919	6.30	Raining. Still waiting orders.	
	4/1/1919	6.30	Raining. Still waiting orders.	
	5/1/1919	6.20	Sunny & cloudy. Orders received today that boat may be available for next Tuesday. Arrangements to be made later.	
	6/1/1919	6.30	Raining. No work done.	
	7/1/1919	6.30	Cold & wet. Visited the "Karnac" with the D.N.T.O. Commander. Other made arrangements for accommodation of all ranks on board. Loading to start tomorrow.	
	8/1/1919	6.30	Fine day. Loading commenced this morning. Camp inspected by Captain Bransley. No. 1 London Bantary Nelson & Certificate obtained. Officers had mess at No. 10. General. Orders to embark all ranks at 8.30 p.m. All equipment has been taken to the boat, & packed in No. 2 Hold.	
	9/1/1919	6.30	All ranks on board ship by 11 p.m. last night. Accommodation for all ranks fixed up satisfactorily. Left Rouen 7 A.M. this morning. Good trip down the River to Le Havre.	
	10/1/1919	6.30 p	Arrived Southampton this morning at 4 A.M. Left to wharf at 2 p.m. Disembarked. Left Assistant Q.M. & party to supervise unloading of baggage on. Left Southampton 4.35 p.m. for Sutton Veng. via Warrington.	
	11/1/1919	6.30 p	Arrived Sutton Veng. about 9.30 p.m. - handed over to C.O. Col Dick CMG.	

S.S. KARNAR  
ROUEN  
SOUTHAMPTON  
SUTTON-VENG.

Mr. Wilson  
a/c  
11/1/1919



1st Australian General Hospital

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January, 1919

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Sutton-Veny-Wilts (Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUTTON- - VENY, WILTS	JANU. 10 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>pm</sup>	The main body of the Unit arrived from Rouen at Sutton-Veny-Wilts. 9 <sup>pm</sup> consisting of 9 Officers. & 78 D.R.s. in Charge of Lt. Col. T. G. WILSON - Mr. WITHELL, A.I.F. Engineers & Capt. SCOTT - visited Hop. from A.Q.M.G. A.I.F. Spt. G.O.C. A.I.F. letter to A.I.F. troops concerning Demobilisation was issued to the Unit.	
Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup>		Col. B.M. Rogers - C.O. Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny and Col. J.A. Dick visited MELKSHAM Auxiliary Red Cross Hospital -	
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>		Col. Rogers, & Col. J.A. Dick visited Maiden-Brookley Auxiliary Hopl (Bucks of Somerset's) D.D.M.S. Southern Command and called	
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>		Col. McWhae, A.D.M.S., A.I.F. Depots U.K. Called (from TIDWORTH).	
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>		The "Rear-guard" of the Unit arrived with the baggage and small quantity of Australian Equipment from Southampton - Equipment much damaged en route, and pillaged.	
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	noon	The Military Hospital SUTTON-VENY - was taken over by Col. J.A. Dick - C.O. 1st A.G.H. Orders published for prevention & extinguishing of Fires -	
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>		Col. BEWLEY, R.A.M.C., A.D.M.S. 5th District (TIDWORTH) - Southern Command - called.	
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>		Some slight difficulties occurred in obtaining Rations & meals for patients - since remedied.	
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>		The Q.M. sent to A.I.F. H.Q. Gns. to see A.Q.M.G. re Rations for Patients &c.	
			J.A. Dick, Col C.O. 1st A.G.H.	



1st. Australian General Hospl.

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JANy. 1919.

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SUTTON - VENY. WITS

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUTTON - VENY	January			
Sunday.	19 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Raining - owing to non arrival of necessary papers for patients the Enacuations are being held up. & we have over 200 A.I.F. During Hall patients with abnormal appetites - which renders the feeding of them a delicate problem -	
	20 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Raining - Lt. Col. T. G. Wilson proceeded on 14 days leave. Col. McWHAE, A.D.M.S. A.I.F. Depot - visited the Hospital -	
	21 <sup>st</sup>	9am	Fine - Lt. Col. E. J. Brown, Specialist - visited the Hospl re Eye Ear Nose & Throat patients -	
			Lieut. Healy visited concerning duties of a Messing Officer - Mr. R. B. NORTH, reported for Duty -	
Wed.	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9am	Fine. Clear. - Mr. C. H. TERRY, S.O.D.S. A.I.F. [TIDWORTH] - visited re Dental matters -	
			Lieut. Longville to act as temporary Messing Officer in addition to other duties -	
Thurs.	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9am	Fine. Calm. Sunshine. HEAVY. FROST. Some water pipes burst. Col. Sir A. Mayo ROBSON	
			Consulting Surgeon visited & saw several cases - Tp. 24° F. at 7am on Grass.	
Fridy.	24 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Fine. Calm. Sunshine. Heavy Frost. Tp 26° F. - Several patients up before Ordeal Room for breaches of Discipline - Difficulty is experienced in dealing with Drunks & A. W. L. cases.	
Sat.	25 <sup>th</sup>	9am.	Light Frost - & afterwards slight rain - Col. McWHAE, A.D.M.S., TIDWORTH. called concerning fixing up a DIET-SCALE for the Hospl - Miss CONYERS, Matron-in-Chief A.I.F. visited the Hospl -	

J. A. Dick. Col.  
C. O. 1st A.G. H.



First Australian

# WAR DIARY

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General Hospital

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

January 1919

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUTTON- - VENEY Sunday.	26 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Raining - Several water-pipes burst during the recent Hard Frosts & now are manifest because of Thawing - Hospital filling up - Beds in Hospital = 1112 . Occupied = 919 . Vacant beds 193	
	27 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Heavy Frost - to 26° on grass - MRS FITZROY, Secretary G. S. Sect. V. A. D. Seniors' House, London, inspect the G. S. V. A. D. Quarters on Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	
	28	9am	Frost & slight snow - Lt. Col. E. Browne, Eye Specialist arrived to stay till tomorrow to attend Eye Ear Nose & Throat patients - Hospital very full - Notified that Weymouth Hospitals are full	
Wed.	29.	9am	Frost & Thaw - Position as regards accommodating patients who are having fits becoming critical. Suitable cases are to be evacuated to: No 1 Command Depot and to The Group Clearing Hospital -	Other?
	30	9am	Thaw - 1003 patients in hospital. A.I.F. 646 - Germans, 331 - Canadians, 1, V.A.Ds, 6 - British, 19. Lt Col. MILES, R.A.M.C. Mental Specialist, Southern Command - visited & reported upon a patient -	
	31	9am	Sleet - 1033 patients in hospital. Some are being evacuated to No 1. Command Depot, & Group Clearing Hosp. Capt. J. R. Porter, Medical Offr. and Capt. C. MORCOM, Dental Offr. reported for duty - Deaths during period Jan 15 - 31 were 8. There is an outbreak of virulent Influenza with Broncho - Pneumonia similar to the epidemic of October 1918 which was world-wide -	

J. A. Dick. Col  
C.O. 1st A. G. H.



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Page 1. Racecourse Camp Rouen

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January	1st.		Personnel. 9 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures Nil.	gas
January	2nd.		Personnel. 9 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. 1 Med. Off. (Mjr. Douglas) leave to U.K.	gas
January	3rd.		Personnel. 8 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. Nil.	gas
January	4th.		Personnel. 8 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. Nil.	gas
January	5th.		Personnel. 8 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. 1 O/Rank ret from Escort Duty. Departures. 1 Med. Off. (Capt H.A.S. Newton.) leave to U.K.	gas
January	6th.		Personnel. 7 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains. 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 90 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. Nil.	gas
January	7th.		Personnel. 7 Med. Offrs 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 90 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. 1 Med. Off. (Capt E.J. McDougall) 1 Chaplain (Rev. P.A. Smith) 1 O/Rank to A.G.B.D. Havre	gas
January	8th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks Arrivals. 2 O/Ranks ret from leave to Paris. Departures. 2 O/Ranks to Australian Section 3rd. Echelon Rouen .	gas



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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Page 2. Place Sutton Veny, ENGLAND

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January	9th,		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. <del>Nil</del> . All above personnel left Rouen per H.M.T.S. KARNAK (via Havre and Southampton) for Sutton Veny.	<i>gas</i>
January	10th		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off. 1 Q.M. 89, O/Ranks Arrivals. Above personnel arrived at Sutton Veny from Rouen. Departures. Nil.	<i>gas</i>
January	11th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 89 O/Ranks. Arrivals. <del>Nil</del> . 1 O/Rank ret from leave in U.K. Departures. Nil.	<i>gas</i>
January	12th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 90 O/Ranks Arrivals. 2 O/Ranks. ret from leave in U.K. Departures. Nil.	<i>gas</i>
January	13th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 92 O/Ranks Arrivals. Nil. Departures. Nil .	<i>gas</i>
January	14th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 92 O/Ranks. Arrivals. 1 O/Rank ret from leave in U.K. Departures. Nil.	<i>gas</i>
January	15th.		Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 93 O/Ranks. Arrivals. Nil. Departures. Nil.	<i>gas</i>



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Page 3. Place Sutton Veny England

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January	16th.		<p>Personnel. 6 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 1 Q.M. 93 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. Nil.</p> <p>Departures. 1 O/Rank on leave to U.K.</p> <p>Sutton Veny Military Hospital taken over from the 20th. Coy. R.A.M.C. Now known as No. 1. A.G.H.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions. 135 No. of patients transferred 625.</p> <p>Transfers and Discharges. Nil.</p> <p>Patients remaining - 760. Vacant Beds 352.</p>	MD
January	17th		<p>Personnel. 11 Med Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser. 1 Den Off. 2 Q.M. 66 N/Staff <sup>141</sup><del>131</del> O/Ranks 12 V.A.D.s</p> <p>Arrivals. Nil.</p> <p>Departures. 1 V.A.D. to leave</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions. 54.</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers. 4 Deaths 1. Total 5.</p> <p>Patients remaining 810.</p> <p>Vacant Beds 302.</p>	MD
January	18th.		<p>Personnel. 11 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 2 Q.Ms. 66 N/Staff 11 V.A.D. <sup>141</sup><del>131</del> O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. Nil.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions 39.</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers. 4</p> <p>Patients remaining 845</p> <p>Vacant Beds. 267.</p>	MD
January	19th.		<p>Personnel. 11 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain. 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 2 Q.Ms. 66 N/Staff 11 V.A.Ds, <sup>141</sup><del>131</del> O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals 1 N/Staff ret from leave in U.K. 4 O/Ranks ret from leave in U.K.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions. 10</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 3.</p> <p>Patients remaining 852</p> <p>Vacant Beds 260</p>	MD



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Page 4. Place Sutton Veny England

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January	20th.		<p>Personnel. 11 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off. 2 Q. Ms. 67 N/Staff 11 V.A. Ds. 145 O/Rks.</p> <p>Arrivals. 1 N/Staff ret from leave in France. 2 N/Staff ret from leave in U.K.</p> <p>Departures. 1 Med. Off. (Lt Col. T. G. Wilson) leave to U.K. 1 Med. Off. (Mjr. W. A. Hailes) to A. I. F. H'qrs London</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions 40</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers. 14</p> <p>Patients remaining 878</p> <p>Vacant Beds 234.</p>	MS
January	21st.		<p>Personnel. 9 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 2 Q. Ms. 70 N/Staff 11 V.A. Ds. 145 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. Nil. 1 Med. Offr. (Mjr. R. B. North.) from A. I. F. H'qrs. London.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions 51.</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers. 24</p> <p>Patients remaining 905</p> <p>Vacant Beds 207</p>	MS
January	22nd.		<p>Personnel. 10 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser. 1 Den. Off. 2 Q. Ms. 70 N/Staff 11 V.A. Ds 145 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. Nil. 1 O/rank from Army Pay Corps.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112. Admissions 77</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 53</p> <p>Patients remaining 929</p> <p>Vacant Beds 183</p>	MS
January	23rd.		<p>Personnel. 10 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 2 Q. Ms. 70 N/Staff 11 V.A. Ds 146 O/Ranks.</p> <p>Arrivals. 1 Med. Off. (Capt. H. South) from No. 3 A.A.H. Dartford 1 Med. Off. (Capt. A. J. Reye) from No. 2 A.A.H.</p> <p>5 N/Staff from No. 1 A.A.H. Harefield. 1 V.A. D. ret from leave U.K.</p> <p>Departures. 2 N/Staff leave in England.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 70</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 69</p> <p>Patients remaining 930</p> <p>Vacant Beds 182</p>	MS
January	24th.		<p>Personnel. 12 Med. Offrs. 1 Chaplain 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off. 2 Q. Ms. 73 N/Staff 12 V.A. Ds 146 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. 1 Chaplain (Rev. P. A. Smith) ret from leave in U.K.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p>	MS



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Page 5. Place Sutton Veny England

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January 24th cont.			
	5-45 a.m.		Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 45 Discharges and Transfers 30. Deaths 1 (63246 Pte. H.R. Bakes 12th. Aust. Inf. Broncho Pneumonia)	Jas
	Midnight.		Patients remaining 944 Vacant Beds 168.	
	January 25th.		Personnel. 12 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off. 2 Q. Ms. 73 N/Staff 12 V.A. Ds 146 O/Ranks Arrivals. Nil. Departures. 5 V.A. Ds. to Military Hospital Fargo. Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 25.	Jas
	Midnight		Discharges and Transfers 3 Patients remaining 966 Vacant Beds. 146.	
	January 26th.		Personnel. 12 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off. 2 Q. Ms. 73 N/Staff 7 V.A. Ds 146 O/Ranks Arrivals. Nil Departures. 1 N/Staff on leave to U.K. Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 17.	Jas
	Midnight		Discharges and Transfers. 2. Patients remaining. 981 Vacant Beds 131	
	January 27th.		Personnel. 12 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser 1 Den. Off. 2 Q. Ms. 72 N/Staff 7 V.A. Ds 146 O/Ranks Arrivals. 2 Med. Offrs. (Capt. A.J. Bryden Capt C. Maxwell) 40 O/Ranks from No 1A.A.H. Harefield Departures. 1 Med. Off. (Capt. H.A.S. Newton ) to A.I.F.H'qrs London 1 O/Rank to leave U.K. Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 30.	Jas
	10-0 a.m.		Discharges and Transfers 30. Deaths. 1 63316 Pte. W.S. Oliver 12th. Aust. Inf. -- Broncho Pneumonia.	
	Midnight		Patients remaining, 980 Vacant Beds. 132	



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X ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Page 6. Place Sutton Vemy England

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January	28th.		<p>Personnel. 13 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser 1 Den Off, 2 Q.Ms. 72 N/Staff 7 V.A.Ds. 186 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. 6 N/Staff from No.1.A.A.H. Harefield.</p> <p>Departures. 2 O/Ranks to leave in England.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 66</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 104</p> <p>Deaths. 426 Dr. Quihampton.W. 23rd. Aust.M.G.Btn. Broncho Pneumonia.</p> <p>327816 Spr. Brittain W.G. R.E.Tyne Elec. Engrs. " "</p> <p>63369 Pte. Drake K.G. 1st.T.B.Group H.Q. " "</p> <p>Patients remaining 939</p> <p>Vacant Beds 173</p>	<p>Jan 8</p>
January	29th.		<p>Personnel. 13 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser. 1 Den Off, 2 Q.Ms. 78 N/Staff 7 V.A.Ds. 183 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. 1 N/Staff from No.1.A.A.H. 2 Masseuses (Civilian) 2 O/Ranks ret from leave in U.K.</p> <p>Departures Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 106</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 12</p> <p>Death 63313 Pte. C.G. Matthews. 12th. Aust. Inf. Broncho Pneumonia.</p> <p>Patients remaining 1032</p> <p>Vacant Beds. 80</p>	<p>Jan 8</p>
January	30th.		<p>Personnel. 13 Med. Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispenser. 1 Den Off. 2 Q.M. 72 N/Staff. 2 M'SS 7 V.A.Ds. 185 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. 2 V.A.Ds for duty.</p> <p>Departures. Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 40</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 30</p> <p>Death. 63346 Pte. J.D. Vincent. 12th; Aust. Inf. Broncho Pneumonia.</p> <p>Patients remaining 1041</p> <p>Vacant Beds. 71</p>	<p>Jan 8</p>
		11-30 a.m.		
		6-15 p.m.		
		7-30 p.m.		
		Midnight		
		6-30 a.m.		
		Midnight		
		1-0 a.m.		
		Midnight		



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Page 6 Place Sutton Veny England

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
January 31st.1919.			<p>Personnel.13 Med.Offrs. 2 Chaplains 1 Dispr. 1 Den Off. 2 Q.Ms. 79 N/Staff 2 Mass'rs.9 VADs.185 O/Ranks</p> <p>Arrivals. 1 Med Offr.(Capt.J.R.Porter) from No.1C.D. 2 O/Ranks ret from leave in UK</p> <p>Departures Nil.</p> <p>Bed Strength 1112 Admissions 83</p> <p>Discharges and Transfers 26</p> <p>Death 284 Gnr.D.A.Bryant Aust Arty. 1st Sge.Bty. Acute Nephritis</p> <p>Patients remaining 1097</p> <p>Vacant Beds 15.</p>	<p>O/Ranks</p> <p><i>La. sick.</i></p>
4-20 p.m.				
Midnight				
<p><i>La. sick.</i></p> <p>Col.A.A.M.C.</p> <p>Commanding No.1.Australian General Hospital.</p> <p>3-3-19.Sutton Veny.</p>				



# WAR DIARY

OF

FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR

JANUARY 1919

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. Copy of C.O.'s report for month of DECEMBER 1918



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FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL  
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SUTTON-VENY,  
WILTS.  
ENGLAND.

15th. January 1919.

To:

The D.M.S., A.I.F.,  
A.I.F. Headquarters,  
L O N D O N.  
-----

Ref. D.M.S., A.I.F. M.1513/4/2 of 15.10.17.

Herewith please

REPORT FROM C.O.  
FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL.  
-----  
FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1918.  
-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

The transfer of the Unit from Rouen to Sutton-Veny constitutes the principal work of the month of December 1918. And on January 15th. 1919 the Hospital commenced at Sutton-Veny.

The monthly report for November indicated the nature and amount of the work done by the Unit up till December 12th. 1918.

No further convoys of patients were admitted to Hospital after November 30th. The patients who were already in Hospital were disposed of gradually to the usual various places suitable for their condition, e.g. Convalescent Depot Medical Board, Duty, Trouville or the United Kingdom.

There were a few remaining patients who were transferred to No. XI British Stationary Hospital, Rouen.

After the evacuation of the patients the Medical and Ordnance Equipment of the Hospital were disposed of according to instructions received. The Medical and Surgical Equipment was handed over to the Officer in Charge of the Base Depot Medical Stores, Rouen and Boulogne. The Ordnance Equipment was handed over to the Chief Ordnance Officer, R Rouen Base. The Engineer Services were handed over to the D.Q.R.E., Bruyeres Camps, Rouen.

A small amount of Australian Equipment which could not be replaced from Army Sources was retained for transfer with the Unit to Sutton-Veny, Wiltshire, England.

The instructions as regards the disposal of Personnel indicates that

- (1) An Advance Party consisting of the C.O., Registrar, Quartermaster, Matron, 20 Sisters and 20 Other Ranks were to proceed to England via Southampton and take over the Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny, as the 1st. Australian General Hospital. The remaining Sisters were to follow in groups of 20 every second day.
- (2) The "Mainbody" consisting of the Medical Officers and Other Ranks under charge of Lieut-Colonel T.G. Wilson was to embark at Rouen on December 28th together with baggage and the abovementioned small quantity of Australian Equipment.
- (3) A Rearguard or Cleaning Up Party was to be left



behind in charge of the Assistant Quartermaster (Lieut. H.W. Powell) who was to complete the handing over of all Equipment and clean up the Camp.

Orders for carrying out the foregoing were somewhat delayed. It was not till 8 p.m. December 16th. that orders were received for the Advance Party. This Party left Rouen next day 17th. for Havre. On the 18th. the officers and other ranks of this Party embarked at Havre on the U.S.A. Transport "Yale" for Southampton. The Sisters of this party embarked upon the Havre - Southampton Packet Boat. Arriving at Southampton on the 19th. the whole party travelled by rail to Warminster. Thence by Motor Transport to the Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny a distance of 2½ to 3 miles. The remainder of the Sisters arrived at Sutton-Veny according to time-table.

The Main-body expected to embark at Rouen on December 28th. but their departure was delayed until January 9th. 1919 when they embarked at Rouen upon S.S. "Karnak". The Rearguard or Clearing-up Party with baggage and equipment embarked with the Main-body. Arriving at Southampton the Main-body proceeded to Warminster by train and arrived at Sutton-Veny on January 10th. The Rearguard remained at Southampton to collect the baggage etc. and follow on later, arriving at Sutton-Veny on January 14th. The Equipment was considerably damaged in transit from Rouen to Sutton-Veny.

On January 15th. the Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny, was handed over by the O.C., Lt-Colonel B.M. Rogers, R.A.M.C. (T.F.) to Colonel J.A. Dick, C.O., 1st. Australian General Hospital.

Owing to differences in Administration the taking-over has been more complicated than is usually the case of one C.O. of a Service handing over to another C.O. of the same Service. Also it was necessary for portion of the R.A.M.C. personnel to remain while A.A.M.C., A.I.F. personnel gradually arrived and took over the various duties. Some considerable financial adjustments may be necessary as between British and Australian Authorities to cover the period of interregnum. This appears to be unavoidable.

On taking over the Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny the numbers of the Officers and Other Ranks of 1st. A.G.H. had been greatly reduced as compared with the numbers on the parade state when the Hospital was in full working order at Rouen. The number of Sisters, however, was not greatly altered. The reduction in Officers and Other Ranks was due to the Demobilisation and to the transfer under instructions received of several Officers and Other Ranks to A.I.F. Units in France.

The Hospital when taken over contained a number of patients viz British, Australian and other troops, some A.I.F. Officers, some V.A.D. General Service Women and a number of German Prisoners of War, sick and wounded. To attend these and carry out the duties of the Hospital it was necessary to continue to employ for a short time several of the personnel both men and women who had been employed by the R.A.M.C. These employees were gradually reduced according to the arrival of reinforcements, and it is expected that when the 1st. A.A.H., Harefield Park closes a number of the personnel, both Officers and Other Ranks also women employees of the V.A.D. General Service of that Hospital will be transferred to 1st. A.G.H.

It is also hoped that the A.I.F. Motor Transport attached to the 1st. A.A.H., Harefield will be transferred to the 1st. A.G.H. The R.A.S.C. Ambulance and other transport at present has been unreliable and inefficient and has been a frequent source of trouble to the former R.A.M.C. staff of this Hospital.

The D.M.S., L. of C. (Major General H. Carr) inspected the Hospital at Rouen on December 8th. and met all the Officers. The D.M.S. heartily thanked the C.O. for the work the Hospital had done in Rouen and expressed regret at the Unit leaving France.



The D.D.M.S., Rouen (Colonel J. Meek, C.B., A.M.S.) continued his weekly inspections of the Hospital to the last and took the opportunity of expressing his high appreciation of the work done by the Unit during its period at Rouen.

The Base Commandant of Rouen Area came to the Railway Station, Rouen to see the Advance Party off, he was accompanied by the D.D.M.S., Rouen. The Base Commandant expressed his appreciation of the Unit's work and regretted its departure.

DIARY OF EVENTS FROM CLOSING OF 1st. A.G.H.,  
ROUEN, FRANCE TO REOPENING AT SUTTON-VEY,  
WILTSHIRE, ENGLAND.

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ROUEN.  
1918

- Nov. 30. Intimation received from D.D.M.S., Rouen that no more convoys of patients were coming to 1st. A.G.H.
- Dec. 1. Began to collect Equipment etc. so as to be ready for an early transfer to U.K.
2. Medical Officers arrived for Post-Graduate Refresher Course.
3. Orders received for all underage boys to go to Havre for Australia; all boys who have attained age of 19 years to go to Havre for their Battalions; all A.A.M.C. "Attached" to go to A.I.F. Divisions; and all "B" and "C" Class men to go to Havre for Australia. The Unit will be greatly reduced in personnel by these orders.
4. The D.D.O.S., South (Colonel Langhorne) and the C.O.O., Rouen (Lt-Colonel Blackburn) called.
5. The M.Os who came for Post-Graduate Refresher Course went to Nos. 2 and 3 Aust. General Hospitals.
6. Equipment being handed over to Ordnance and Depot of Medical Stores.
7. Miss Conyers, Matron-in-Chief, A.I.F. visited.
8. Major General Carr, D.M.S., L. of C. inspected the Hospital along with D.D.M.S., Rouen and met the Officers.
9. All patients have been evacuated.
10. Orders received for men enlisted in January and February 1915 to go to Australia.
11. Q.M.G., B.E.F. made enquiries regarding personnel and equipment for transport to U.K.
12. Underaged boys who had attained the age of 19 years left for 2nd. A.G.H.
13. Waiting for Orders.
14. British Parliamentary Election began in France to continue till 28th.
15. Q.M.G. enquires for tonnage of equipment going to U.K.



1918  
1919

- Dec. 16. 8 p.m. Orders received for Advance Party consist-  
of C.O., Registrar, Q.M., Matron, 20 Sisters and  
20 Other Ranks to proceed via Havre to Sutton-Veny.
17. Advance Party left Rouen 2 p.m. train for Havre  
and arrived at No. 2 British General Hospital, Havre.
18. Advance Party embarked at Havre for Southampton.
- SUTTON-  
VENY.  
Dec. 19. Advance Party disembarked at Southampton and en-  
trained at Warminster and arrived at the Military  
Hospital, Sutton-Veny.
20. C.O. inspected the Military Hospital, Sutton-  
Veny with Lt-Colonel B.M. Rogers, R.A.M.C.(T) the  
Officer Commanding. The Matron and 20 Sisters  
went on duty.
21. 20 Sisters arrived according to time-table and  
went on duty next day. C.O. called upon the Com-  
mander, A.I.F. Troops, Sutton-Veny.
22. C.O. called upon A.D.M.S., A.I.F., Tidworth, also  
A.D.M.S., British, Tidworth.
23. 20 Sisters arrived. All British Sisters left.  
Sisters Messing taken over by Matron Cornwell.
25. The remaining 15 Sisters arrived. Christmas Day.
26. Colonel W.W.R. Watson, Commanding Australian Troops,  
Sutton-Veny called.
27. Expecting telegram announcing embarkation of mainn  
body from Rouen.
28. Q.M. took over the Rationing of Patients. Our  
Main-body in charge of Lt-Colonel T.G. Wilson was to  
have left Rouen to-day according to time-table but  
no orders were transmitted from G.H.Q.
29. Colonel R.J. Millard, A.D.M.S., A.I.F. called along  
with Lt-Colonel Page, A.Q.M.G., Lt-Colonel Moon,  
A.D.S.&T., Captain Berryman, A.S.C., Warminster and  
inspected the Hospital.
30. The Duke of Somerset visited the Hospital and  
distributed presents among the patients.
- 31.) We had wished to take over the Hospital on January  
1919 1st. but found it impossible to carry this out owing  
Jany. 1.) to delayed departure of Main-body from Rouen.
6. Registrar and Matron of No. 1 A.A. Hospital visited  
by direction of D.M.S. and explained the work of  
V.A.D. General Service Members at 1st. A.A.H. a  
number of whom are to come to 1st. A.G.H.
7. Registrar, Q.M., Matron and W.O. visited No. 1  
A.A.H., Harefield to see the work of V.A.D. General  
Service Members.
9. Main-body and Rearguard embarked at Rouen upon  
S.S. "Karnak" for Southampton.



363  
1919

- Jany. 10. Main-body and Rearguard disembarked. The Main-body proceeded by train to Warminster, and arrived at Military Hospital, Sutton-Veny. The rearguard was left at Southampton with equipment and baggage.
11. Major Withall, Engineer Officer, A.I.F., H.Q., London and Captain Scott, A.Q.M.G. Department, H.Q., A.I.F. London inspected the Hospital. Our Medical Officers detailed to their duties. C.O. and Lt-Colonel Rogers visited Melksham Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital.
12. C.O. and Lt-Colonel Rogers visited Maiden Bradley, Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital. The D.D.M.S., S Southern Command (Major General Sir Wm. Macpherson) visited the Hospital.
13. C.O. and Registrar attended a Conference of S.M.Os and M.Os at A.I.F. Group Clearing Hospital under presidency of Colonel McWhae, A.D.M.S., A.I.F., Tidworth.
14. Rearguard in charge of Lieut. Powell, Assistant Quartermaster arrived with Equipment and baggage at Heytesbury and wagons came on to camp by camp line.
15. The Military Hospital, Sutton Veny (C.O. Lt-Colonel B.M. Rogers, R.A.M.C.(T)) was taken over by 1st. Australian General Hospital, A.I.F. (C.O., Colonel J.A. Dick, A.A.M.C.) according to Paras 196 and 197 of Regulations for the Army Medical Service (1906). On the same day the A/D.M.S., A.I.F. was notified that the Hospital had been taken over.
- The Hospital began by being nearly half full off patients left over by the preceding staff. The patients included Australians, British and others, also German Sick and Wounded Prisoners of War.

SUTTON-VENY.  
15.1.19.

*J.A. Dick.* Colonel, A.A.M.C.,  
Commanding,  
First Australian General Hospital.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL

Nominal Roll of Officers on strength of 1st. A.G.H.  
on taking over Sutton-Veny Military Hospital on 15.1.19.

MEDICAL OFFICERS

Colonel	Dick, J.A.	
Lt-Col.	Wilson, T.G.	
Major	Hailes, W.A.	
"	Brenan, A.J.	
"	Johnston, W.W.S.	
"	Allester, E.M.	
"	Douglas, R.O.	(On leave)
"	Doig, K.McK.	
"	Bell, G.	
Captain	Newton, H.A.S.	(Onleave)
"	Brown, A.E.	
"	McCutcheon, A.B.	
"	Huxtable, C.R.R.	

CHAPLAINS

Captain	McKeon, T.	
"	Smith, P.A.	(On leave)

QUARTERMASTERS

Captain	Maughan, H.M.
Lieut.	Powell, H.W.

DISPENSER

Lieut.	Longville, T.W.
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DENTAL OFFICER

Captain	McDougall, E.J.	(On leave)
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MATRON.

Miss	Cornwell, E.	A.A.N.S.
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*Michael*