

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/95/6

Title: Staff Officer, Australian Dental
Services, Egypt

August 1918



AWM4-26/95/6

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

A. A. M. C., DENTAL SERVICES

FOR

AUGUST 1918



Signature of Officer compiling

A. Robertson Capt

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. Robertson Capt

AUG 1918

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WAR DIARY

OF

A.A.M.C. DENTAL SERVICES IN EGYPT.

FOR

AUGUST 1918

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NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS - AUG 1918

A.A.M.C. DENTAL SERVICES

31ST AUGUST, 1918.

MAJOR	DOUGLASS	G.	A.I.F. HEADQUARTERS
CAPT.	BULL	R.A.	25TH D.U.
"	CUNNINGHAM	J.H.	73RD D.U.
"	LAMBERT	H.A.	104TH D.U.
"	PASCOE	F.T.	IN HOSPITAL
"	ROBERTSON	A.T.	109TH D.U.
"	COMINS	F.A.	71ST D.U.
LIFUT.	DONNELLY	J.B.	97TH D.U.
"	JOHNSTON	A.C.	31ST D.U.
"	KILNER	W.H.	103RD D.U.
"	MITCHELL	J.F.	107TH D.U.
"	BARHAM	C.S.	7TH D.U.
"	McLACHLAN	J.	108TH D.U.
"	ADAMSON	E.B.	105TH D.U.
"	RYAN	P.A.	IN HOSPITAL
"	ROSS	W.H.	106TH D.U.
"	BRYCE-THOMPSON	J.	6TH D.U.
"	SMITH	A.	"I" D.U.

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STATISTICAL REPORTF O R RA U G U S T, 1918

DATE

NUMBER OF

REMARKS

6,634	Attendance		
3,269	Cases Treated		
935	Teeth Extracted		
508	Local	Anæsthetics	
3	General		
2,017	Amalgam.	Fillings	
325	Cement		
475	Root		
690	Temporary		
144	Scaling Cases		
1,085	Dressings		
398	Minor Operations		
235	Ulcerative Gingivitis		
85	Pyorrhœa		
9	Crowns		
2	Fractured Jaw Cases		
44	Full Upper	Dentures	
12	Full Lower		
220	Partial Upper		
161	Partial Lower		
441	Repairs		
	Approx. Number waiting for Dentures		
		Pin.	Teeth Used
		Diatomic	

To Staff Officer, Dental Services,

Administrative Headquarters, A. I. F.,

Egypt.

A.P. & S.D., Alex./ $\frac{2750}{1225}$ /2:18/500. W. M. & Co.

Dental Officer in Charge.

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A. A. M. C. DENTAL SERVICES

E G Y P T

WAR DIARY - GENERAL REPORT

- AUG 1918

A. U G U S T, 1918.

The monthly Unit diaries from the field still contain the same tale of difficulty in transport and packing.

Packing difficulties are gradually being overcome by the provision of panniers which are obtained from Australia, two per transport.

To obtain them ~~immediately~~, as they should be (on payment from Imperial Ordnance) would probably take longer time and waste considerable paper.

Transport difficulties still mean delayed work and broken kit (two lathes being broken during this month)

A reply was received from Defence Dept. Melbourne, in response to a request for cars from Australia that "There are no Dental Operating cars in Australia, and the question of designing such cars has never been given effect to".

The point that cars were presented for use by dental services by the Walter & Eliza Hall Trust fund is never mentioned except by inference, for it was the original intention to fit these cars as dental operating cars.

They are at present in use in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane by the Senior Dental Officers in those states.

The diary from 31st Dental Unit shews that men are proceeding to the field from Moascar in a dangerous condition.

This state of affairs will always exist until a thorough system of examination and retention of unfits is adopted.

In this connection the correspondence file 640/4/46, Australian Headquarters, Cairo, would prove interesting.

To one closely acquainted with the methods of dental supervision adopted in Training depots in United Kingdom, the difficulty of adjusting this matter is disappointing - no, disgusting.

In all probability a deal of the difficulty is due to the lack of energy and dash on the part of the Senior Dental Officers; but when opportunity permits this will be rectified.

*George Langford Major.
L. O. Dental Officer.*

Continued

unit without a dentist. I think it would be far more satisfactory than having the kit dumped as in the past.

C. B. Johnston H

O.C. 31st Dental Unit
Att. 1st L.A. 7A.



Monday Morning Report
of 31st Dental Unit.

The Brigade was retreating at the beginning of the month, consequently we were kept very busy. On the 16th we received orders to move with brigade on the following morning. We arrived in our present position on the 23rd. Resumed work the following day. The surgical work is normal up to date. But we have had a considerable decrease in mechanical work. Several patients have attended here from Myoscar with arseorial dressings in teeth that had been in fourteen days. We also have a case of Gingivitis sent from Myoscar in a bad state. After three weeks treatment his mouth was considerably improved. Owing to movement of brigade his mouth returned to its former condition. He is now in our Field Hospital receiving treatment three times daily. We have also remade a number of dentures made at Myoscar. In the advent of a stunt likely to take any time I would suggest that the 1st unit be attached to come

Aug 1918

£ 8/6/-

- AUG 1918

Monthly War Report: August 1918.

No 7 Dental Unit, 'Attached 2nd A.L.H.F. H^{ms}

Dental Officer. Lieut. C. S. Parham.
Staff: Spgt Procter, Spgt. Southgate.
Sgt. Derling.

Salat-ed Dumm, From the 1st to 4th of this month I took the dental parades in the open for we were awaiting instructions to make another move. However on the 4th day word was received that we would be remaining at present site a further five days, so we erected a P.T. tent and carried on work until Thursday 8th, when unit moved out, proceeding to Salomon Pools.

On Aug 22nd I was granted leave. On same date Trooper Derling, also proceeded on leave, at the termination of which he was instructed to report at Moascar for duty. At 10 Am. Aug 22nd, the Brigade moved out to Bethney & at 3 Am. the following morning moved back to Salat-ed Dumm arriving at 6 Am. At 3 pm. the same afternoon the unit again moved off, arriving in the Jordan Valley same evening.

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and remained with the
Divisional Train until Saturday
31st when the final move was
made, to present Piki, Wadi Aija.

Chas. Barham
Lieut.

31st August 1918, Attached 2nd A.I.F. H.F. F. F.



Monthly Report for August 1918. E 86 76
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Joined this unit with the mobile section of the 3rd L.B. Co. in the Jordan Valley on the evening of the 12th inst. & took over from Ludd (Hon. Capt) Mitchell on the morning of the 13th, he departing the same morning. Had full day parades from the 14th till 19th when we received orders to pack up & be prepared to leave at 8 a.m. on the 20th. Had quite a number of Imperial Troops to attend & their mouths were, for the most part, in a very bad state. As regards mouth conditions was surprised at the almost entire absence of Gingivitis amongst the men in the Jordan Valley as compared to men in cloascar. Quite a number of repairs were received with broken penknives & in every case patients reported due to eating issue biscuits. On the night of the 12th, shortly after my arrival, a heavy bombardment commenced to the N.W. of our position & the flashes of the guns were plainly visible so, soon realized the unit was in the war zone. Afterwards ascertained it was a highly successful raid in which 17 officers, 230 men & 15 machine guns were captured. Nearly every morning a Hun plane appeared directly over the ambulances & received a warm reception from the anti-aircraft guns. On the 20th desultory shelling took place all day but towards evening increased & two shells landed on the other side of the hill, a bit too close for our peace of mind. On the morning of the 21st two lots of our planes, eight & seven respectively, flew across our position disappearing over the Turkish lines towards Amman. In the afternoon two shrapnel shells burst high above our gully & then a couple of heavy shells screamed overhead & fell towards Jericho. The personnel & equipment of the unit except myself left at 9.30 a.m. on this date & eventually arrived at Ludd on the 26th.

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The equipment was transported in two G. S. waggons by the Divisional Train. The officer in charge promised me to do his best to avoid dumping en route. The staff report that every care was taken but it was compulsory to dump the equipment twice, result being legs broken off tables & off primus stoves. These have since been repaired by the staff. Sgt. Kane panniers would be better for transporting kit as the wooden boxes are quickly damaged when dumping. Work was commenced again on the 28th but handicapped till repaired dental engine arrived & also lathe which was broken in the last shipping (through dumping). I left with the mounted personnel of the Ambulance on Thursday night 22nd inst. having four nights in the saddle before we reached our destination. Carried with me sufficient kit to relieve pain but was only called upon to put in one dressing. Lack of our own dental transport entails loss of working time as we had to leave a day & a half before the Ambulance transport & if we had our own, it would avoid dumping en route & consequent breaking of kit.

Bryce Thompson Luns

O. C.

No 6 Dental Unit
att. 3rd L. H. L. D.

1/9/18.



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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

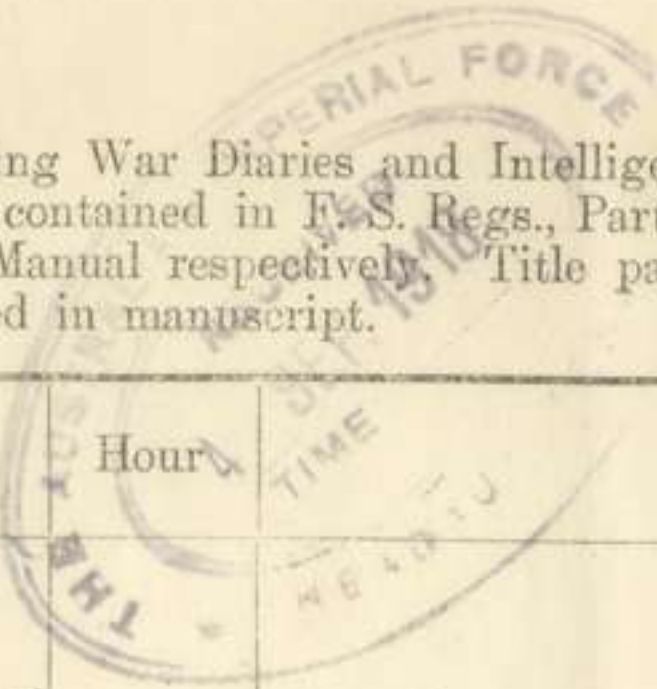
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jordan Valley.	1-8-18		Operating with the 4 th L.H.F.A. to which this Unit is attached.	
do.	8-8-18	16.00	Commenced to pack dental gear	
do.	9-8-18	06-30	Left for D.R.S. Jerico using 4 th L.H.F.A. transport.	
		10.00	Arrived D.R.S. Jerico.	
Jerico.	11-8-18	14.00	Departed for Jerusalem - Transport - Motor lorry	
		19.30	Arrived Jerusalem Railway Station, unloaded gear & left a guard of 1 NCO & 1 man over same. The remainder of staff then proceeded to Reinforcement Camp Jerusalem as ordered by A.D.M.S.	
Jerusalem.	14-8-18	23.00	Departed for Ludd. (No difficulty was experienced in obtaining truck room.)	
	15-8-18	04.30	Arrived at Ludd.	
		14.00	Unloaded gear from truck.	
		15.30	Loaded gear onto 4 th L.H.F.A. transport.	
		17.00	Arrived at 4 th L.H.F.A. Camp Ludd. No gear was broken in transit.	
Ludd.	16-8-18		Busked tent & did some dental work.	
	31-8-18.		Nothing of interest to report.	

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Ludd.

Thunnamham bapt.
73rd Aust Dental Unit
4th L.H.F.A. Amr

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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.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jerusalem	20.8.18		Took over charge of the 104 th Dental unit. which was found to be 1 Sg. Sgt. below strength, and polishing lathe missing. This last item has held up most of the mechanical work presenting, with the exception of small repairs.	
"	31.8.18		Received lathe from 14 th A.G.H. Nothing of further interest to report.	

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A. A. Larnach Capt

War Diary for Month of August 1918. ⁸⁸⁶
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71st & 109th Dental Units att 14th Aust. F. Hosp.

The work was carried on as usual during the month

Attendances were 950. from these 716 were treated as follows

Extractions	188.	(2 General Anesthetics)
Amalgam Fillings	212.	
Cement	128.	
Root	51	
Temporary	137.	
Dressings	113.	

Several cases of Gingivitis were treated with Lug. Camicals & cleared up successfully. A point worth noticing is the very small percentage of Pyorrhoea cases presenting among the A.I.F. as compared with the Imperial view. Is this a result of the continued Dental Treatment which the A.I.F. have received.

A large amount of Crown & Bridge work was done being as follows

5 Bridges & 19 crowns 19th July, & 3 fillings

In the mechanical dept the figures were as follows:-

6. Full Upper	1 Full Lower
37. Partial Upper	29. Partial Lower
145. Repairs	

Lieut Kilner was attached from A.I.F. H.Q. on the 9/8/18.

Pte Beck was detached to A.I.F. H.Q. on 5/8/18.

Several models were received from Dental Units in the field, to have gold plates made.

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— Lieut Cowan was promoted to Captain
on the 7/8/18 a promotion which was
thoroughly earned.

We have the same difficulty in
obtaining certain supplies noticeably
bure & alloy.

A. K. Kington

Capt.

71st & 109th Dental Units

Att 14th A.S.H.

1/9/18.

Port Said



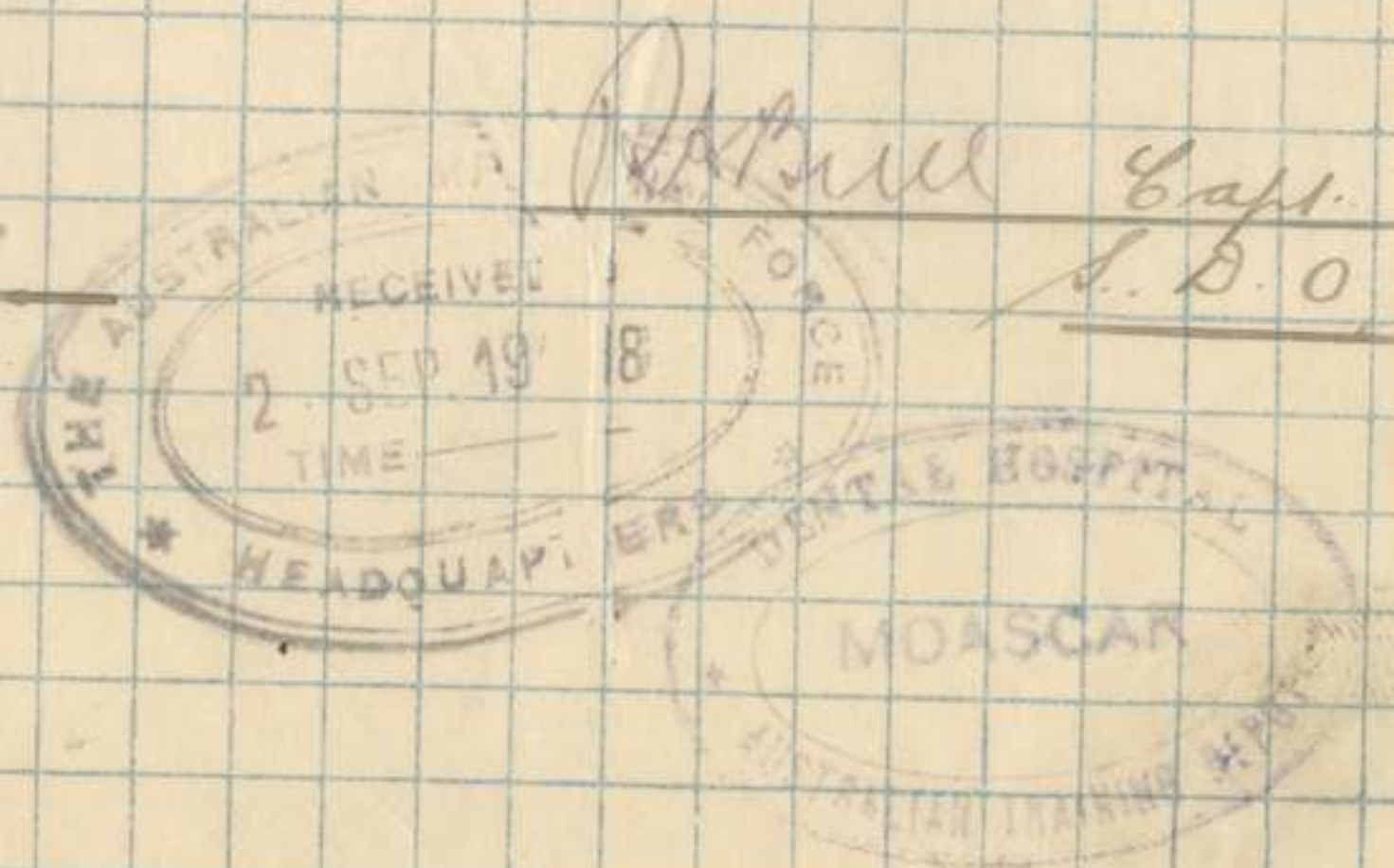
for treatment. As a patient is treated, treatment rendered is entered on chart and, if further treatment is required, he is given a fresh appointment.

It has not been possible to treat all cases, owing to the short period men are in this depot, but the majority have been treated.

As men are required for draft to the front, they are examined & any men who are requiring urgent treatment are held over from the draft.

We are treating Gingivitis cases with Saline a mouth wash followed by application of Liq. Arsenicæ.

1/9/18



To S.O.A.P.S.
a 17 to Cairo
Cairo

Monthly Return War Diary
Cairo August 1918

There are (5) five units attached to Dental Hospital viz. Nos 25, 106, 107, 108 & "I" Dental units.

1512 men marched into Moascar Eng. Centre during the month & were examined within 24 hours of their arrival.

Men marching in are paraded at Dental Hospital, their names being entered on nominal rolls prepared by R.O.H.s, one copy of which is returned to respective R.O.H., while the other is held by us for future reference.

Details of condition of mouths are entered on nominal rolls.

The urgent cases of treatment required are given appointments at an early date.

Charts are made up, from nominal rolls of men requiring treatment, these are placed on operators brackets when men parade

- AUG 1918

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