

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/53/6

**Title:** 10th Australian Field Ambulance

February 1917



AWM4-26/53/6

Volume 3  
26

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

10th. Field Amb.  
A.I.F.  
*Mundy*

Army Form C. 2118.

298

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARMENTIÈRES.	1.2.17	2200	61 cases admitted to the MDS up to midnight yesterday. Attended conference of O. Co 7th Amb at Office of ADMS this afternoon. Capt Douglas R.O. taken on the strength of the 10th Aust 7th Amb.	
	2.2.17	2200.	43 cases admitted to the MDS up to midnight yesterday. 2nd Army Medical Meeting held at Northumbria CCS. Paper on French Foot by Col Seltan. Surg General Porter, D.M.S., stated there had been great reduction in the number of cases as the result of disciplinary measures. General opinion of RMOs was that MOS were adverse to labelling cases as French Foot owing to the amount of enquiry made about cases & the tendency was to send them in as Chills, French Bite or I.C.T. D.M.S. stated that if a man's professional opinion was that a case was one of French Foot he should say so. The divergence between Chills, French Bite & French Foot was one of degree. Exercise was considered essential for prevention. The 2nd A.C.C.S demonstrated the treatment by High Frequency Current.	
	3.2.17	2200	43 cases admitted up to midnight yesterday. The Exmouth Batts were broken into last night. Asked the armoured guards to permit that the ADMS, the SAOMS at the Batts this afternoon. Attended a Band to report on the robbery of clothes.	

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27

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10th. Field Amb.

A.I.F.

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1298

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTI ERES	4.2.17	2200	37 cases admitted to MDS up to midnight yesterday. Capt WEBSTER returned from duty with Artillery Bde & I arranged for Capt McMAHON to attend Sanitation School whilst Capt DOUGLAS attended as M.O. at the Baths.	
	5.2.17	2200	44 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Hard frost still continues. During the past three weeks of heavy frost there has been a considerable reduction in sickness rate. The Australian troops are standing the extreme cold remarkably well.	
	6.2.17	2200	28 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Lieut AUSTIN returned to duty yesterday after five weeks absence sick with Mumps.	
	7.2.17	2200	37 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. A French Customs official walked into bombing practice trench to night & was accidentally wounded. This man MOREL GERMAIN was brought to our MDS. ABMS visited the Transport Lines to day. Inspected the Enquiry Baths to day & arranged for night picket to do duty as an armed guard could not be provided.	
	8.2.17	2200	36 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. At Conference of O.C.s 7th Amb Co-day decided not necessary to give biphtheria Antitoxin to contacts unless symptoms suggest biphtheria.	

28

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10th. Field Amb.

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A.I.F.

*Murray 2000*

1298

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTIERES.	9.2.17	2200	40 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Attended medical meeting 3 Canadian C.C.S. Papers by Major Gardner on Treatment of Injuries of Joints.	
	10.2.17	2200	41 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Attended special demonstration in cookery by cooks from Cookery School at Pioneer Bunkers to-day demonstrating various methods of utilizing biscuits & Bully Beef & showing how fare of men can be improved.	
	11.2.17	2200	23 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. The total admissions to the MDS since the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec 1916 are 3380 composed of Officers 50, Australian ORs 3175, N Zealanders 104, Canadians 1, British 49 Prisoners of War 1.	
	12.2.17	2200	39 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Commenced first of three lectures on Sanitation to Sanitary Detachments of Artillery Bde.	
	13.2.17	2200	27 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. B Section relieved at ADS by C Section. A Section took over MDS from C Section.	
	14.2.17	2200	16 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Finished course of lectures on Sanitation to Sanitary Detachments at Ecole Professionnelle.	

*J.M.P.*

29.

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## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10th. Field Amb.

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A.I.F.

... [Signature] ...

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTI ERES	15.2.17	2100	19 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Visited RAPS in connection with arrangements for Ambulance Section Officers messing with AMC details attached to Battalion.	
	16.2.17	2200	27 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Capt Ellis Canadian MC at Medical Meeting at Baillieux today stated that there were two types of Cerebral Spinal Meningitis now recognized. Morphologically,	
	17.2.17	2200	36 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. B <sup>2</sup> General McNICHOL visited MDS & stated that he was anxious that the 10 <sup>th</sup> Amb 7th Amb should remain at this MDS until after the next raid. Orders had been received to prepare for a move to Estrées.	
	18.2.17	2200	30 cases admitted to MDS yesterday.	
	19.2.17	2200	20 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Had interview with B <sup>2</sup> General McNICHOL with regard to preparations for raid.	
	20.2.17	2200	36 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Arranged with SABMS re movement of wounded on occasion of raid.	
	21.2.17	2200	37 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. After inspection of subiding line formed the opinion that being static there were important owing to lack of accommodation.	
	22.2.17	2200	28 cases admitted to MDS yesterday. Drafted orders for dispersal of personnel at MDS, ADS & RAPS for forthcoming raid.	

30

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A.I.F.

W. Hardy 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTIERES	23.2.17	2200	25 cases admitted to MDS yesterday MDS cleared of all cases to-day to make ready for special enterprise of D Battalion on 2 day. ADMS + DAOMS visited MDS + had final interview before issuing special order for medical arrangements for raid. Appendix Had interview with Bde General McNichol + submitted draft of orders for medical arrangements for raid.	Special Enterprise "D" Battalion Orders for Evacuation of Wounded.
	24.2.17	2200	15 cases admitted yesterday. Visited RAPS to make final arrangements for evacuation of wounded in raid.	
	25.2.17	2200	20 cases admitted yesterday. A raid was carried out by the 33 <sup>rd</sup> Batta starting at 10.00 PM last night. There were 23 casualties which were evacuated through Frijoles RAP where Capt. Rowland RMO 33 <sup>rd</sup> Batta was assisted by Capt. Webster of the 10 <sup>th</sup> Fld Amb. The C.O. 35 <sup>th</sup> Batta in his report on the raid wired through 9 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde HQ that on record "Very valuable assistance was rendered by the 10 <sup>th</sup> Fld Amb in evacuating the wounded. This unit has given us most valued assistance at all times."	
	26.2.17	2200	26 cases admitted up to midnight yesterday.	
	27.2.17	2200	100 wounded of D Batta (37 <sup>th</sup> + 38 <sup>th</sup> Batta) were admitted to MDS as result of raid. 7 German Prisoners. 23 casualties in other units.	

31

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

10th. Field Amb.

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A.I.F.

..... J. M. Hardy 25/1/17

1298

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTIERES	27.2.17	2200	<p>12394 Pte Vichery James S S &amp; 12395 Pte Shaw Leonard J. of the 10th Amb Fld Amb were killed in action during the retaliation bombardment by the Germans just before midnight on the 26th. They had occupied a new concrete dug out that had just been finished. A H.E. Shell exploded in the dug out, Pte G. Allen was slightly wounded. Of the raiding party there were 29 severely wounded and nine dead, 45 moderately wounded 27 slightly wounded.</p>	
	28.2.17	2200	<p>141 cases admitted to MDS up to midnight yesterday. Major BURSTON Capt MAILER and <del>DR</del> JOUETT with 30 ORs of the 11th Fld Amb. reported for duty at MDS to-day. Major KENNY, Capt CHAPLIN and MCPHEE with 30 ORs reported for duty at the DRS of the 11th Fld Amb L'Estreuil to-day.</p> <p>Special Order read on Parade 10th Amb. 30 Officer Commanding 10th Amb. Will you please convey to the Officers, NCOs and Men of your Unit my appreciation of the good work done by them during their period in the line, which culminated in their work on the night of 26/27th Feb 1917. The smooth working noticeable in all departments could only be attained by careful preparation, intelligent co-operation of all ranks and good discipline. The result was particularly satisfactory.</p> <p>Sgt Arthur J White Colonel ADMS.</p>	

32  
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A.I.F.

*J. Murray L. Col.*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
ARMEN TIERES	25.11.17	2200	<p>During the night of Febury the casualties admitted to the MDS have been 8 Officers and 262 O.R.S making the total casualties since we took over on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 21 Officers and 386 O.R.S - a total of 807 wounded.</p> <p>The complete return of admissions is</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>3<sup>rd</sup> Aust Div Officers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" O.R.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3971</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Zealand</td> <td style="text-align: right;">105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Imperial</td> <td style="text-align: right;">52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Canadian</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prisoners of War (German)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">4201</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 3px double black;">4201</td> </tr> </table> <p>Casualties of 10<sup>th</sup> Aust Field Amb.          2 killed &amp; 3 wounded.          Pte Vickers &amp; Pte Shaw 6 killed.          Ptes Allen, S. Stevens &amp; North E.A. wounded.</p>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust Div Officers	64	" O.R.	3971	New Zealand	105	Imperial	52	Canadian	1	Prisoners of War (German)	8		4201		4201	
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*J. Murray L. Col.*  
 Lt-Col  
 O.O. 10th Field Amb. A.I.F.



1298

APPENDIX

NO. 10 AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

10th. Field Amb.

A.I.F.

Medical arrangements for evacuation of wounded in special enterprise of "D" Battalion 10th Infantry Brigade.

- Regimental Stretcher Bearers.** The R.M.O. "D" Battalion will arrange for regimental Stretcher Bearers to clear wounded from front line along overland special routes to Subsidiary line. The Regimental Stretcher Bearers will each be provided with two blankets drawn on passing the A.D.S. Cars will be taken to ensure that every stretcher case has a blanket underneath as well as over him.
- Dressing & Directing Posts.** Major J.P. Kenny will establish a Dressing Post at the junction of Gloucester Avenue with the Subsidiary line and will post a Medical Officer together with Sgt. Wilson who will act as guide in directing stretcher parties to the R.A.P. at TISSAGE.
- Gloucester Avenue.** Ptes. Dow, G. and Thompson, C., will assist Medical Officer Ten (10) A.A.M.C. Stretcher Bearers in charge of Cpl. Coldwell-Smith with five stretchers will be posted in the subsidiary line to the left of this dressing post. Twenty (20) stretcher Bearers with L/Cpl. Baker as guide will be held in reserve at TISSAGE, where Major Kenny will take up his position at the R.A.P. and will be notified by Runner as soon as the Reserve Stretcher bearers are required to go up to the subsidiary line. Ptes. Groat and Wood will act as runners, taking messages between TISSAGE and the GLOUCESTER Dressing Post. Each Dressing Post will be provided with a Surgical Haversack three hot food boxes, and fifty (50) blankets. The cocoa to be prepared at TISSAGE and LITTLE MARY R.A.P.'s and sent forward with the Medical officers together with the first stretcher parties and equipment.
- WESSEX AV.** Capt. McCusker will establish a Dressing Post at the junction of WESSEX AVENUE with the Subsidiary Line, where he will be assisted by the N.C.O. of his A.M.C. Details Ptes. Owen and Luke will also assist Capt. McCusker. Ten (10) Stretcher Bearers in charge of L/Cpl. Gandy with Five stretchers will be posted in the subsidiary line to the right of this dressing post. Twenty (20) stretcher bearers will held in reserve under Sgt. Holgate at DURHAM CASTLE. The following:- L/Cpl. Baker, Ptes. Johnstone, Morey, Inglis, Pratt and Penny, will be distributed to act as guides to the stretcher parties.
- INSTRUCTIONS TO MEDICAL OFFICERS IN THE SUBSIDIARY LINE.** Cases are not to be delayed in the subsidiary line where they will merely be examined with a view to adjustment of dressings or tourniquets and passed as quickly as possible on to the R.A.P.'s after receiving an extra blanket or if advisable and time allows, a hot drink. Any case that will stand direct carriage to the R.A.P. must not be touched. In the event of a successful counter attack by the enemy the Medical Officers will retire to the R.A.Ps. On no account must the junction of the line of evacuation with the subsidiary line be allowed to become congested.

1298

(2)

- R. A. Ps.** Regimental Aid Posts for Stretcher cases are established at TISSAGE and LITTLE MARY DUMPS, at each of which two Medical Officers will be working, each with four orderlies. Cases will be loaded into Motor Ambulances and cleared direct from these R.A.Ps. to Main Dressing Station, RUE DE MESSINES.
- R.A.P. for WALKING CASES.** Walking cases will proceed to Regimental Aid Post, where two Medical Officers will be working at ECOLE COMMUNALE near outlet of DURHAM AVENUE and thence to Advanced Dressing Station where they will be cleared to M.D.S. by Motor Lorry and Horse Ambulance.
- GUIDES FOR WALKING CASES.** Ptes. Ford and Curnick will be stationed at PORT ARTHUR Dump Corner to direct stretcher cases to TISSAGE AND walking cases to ECOLE COMMUNALE. Ptes. Pearce and Mitchell will be stationed at outlet of WESSEX AVENUE to direct stretcher cases to LITTLE MARY and walking cases to ECOLE COMMUNALE.
- WHEELED STRETCHERS.** Four stretchers on wheels will be placed at PORT ARTHUR Dump Corner with Ten stretcher bearers under L/Cpl. Kelso for passing cases on to TISSAGE. Four stretchers on wheels will be placed at outlet of WESSEX Avenue with ten stretcher bearers under L/Cpl. Werner for passing cases on to LITTLE MARY.
- DRESSING ORDERLIES.** Sgt. J.O. Thompson, Ptes. Woff, Wde. and Angwin will report for duty with Medical Officer in charge R.A.P. LITTLE MARY. S.Sgt. Hill, Ptes. Brent, Seivwright and A. Webster will report for duty with Medical Officer in charge R.A.P. TISSAGE. Ptes. Samson, Fraser, and Howitt will report for duty with medical Officer in charge R.A.P. ECOLE COMMUNALE.
- HORSE AMBULANCES.** Sgt. Fishwick will take charge of the six horse ambulances which will be parked under the direction of Capt. Glassford at convenient places near the A.D.S. to be used for walking.
- MOTOR LORRY.** The Sanitary Section Motor Lorry will also be held in readiness in a side street near the A.D.S. Pte. Hawking will act as Wagon Orderly.
- A.D.S.** The Advanced Dressing Station where walking cases will be seen before evacuation to M.D.S. will be in charge of Capt. Glassford assisted by another Medical Officer. As far as possible A.T.S. will be given at A.D.S. to all walking cases.
- MOTOR DESPATCH RIDER.** Dvr. Parkinson with Motor Cycle will carry messages between the A.D.S. and M.D.S.
- GAS MASKS.** All Stretcher Bearers will carry the Box Respirator at the "ALERT".
- MAIN DRESSING STATION.** Motor Ambulances will return from R.A.Ps. and unload at the door of the M.D.S. opposite Reception Room. Cases will be evacuated by M.A.C. cars through the door opposite Surgical Ward. The duties of personnel at the M.D.S. are allotted as per attached schedule.

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*Purdy* Lt-Col  
 10th Field Amb. A.I.F.

## APPENDIX

10th. Field Amb.

A.I.F.

C.O. 10th Aust. Field Ambulance.

Extract from report of O.C. 33rd Battn. A.I.F., on enterprise  
carried out on the night of 24/25th February 1917.

"Very valuable assistance was recorded by the 10th Field  
Ambulance in evacuating the wounded and this Unit has given  
us most valuable assistance at all times".

(signed) L. J. MORSEHEAD. Lt. Col.  
C.O. 33rd Battn. A.I.F.

25.2.1917.

1298

MAIN DRESSING STATION APPENDIX. 11

APPENDIX

10th Aust 7th Amb. on night 26-27 Feb 1917.

ROSTER.

on occasion when 101 wounded found they between 1.30 & 8 a.m.

RECEPTION ROOM.

Capt. McPhee in charge.  
 Sgt. Hodder in charge A. & D. Book. (Clerks.  
 Cpl. Hilton at A. & D. Table. (Clerks.  
 Pte. Anson for walking cases. (Clerks.  
 " Davies H.M lists for Bgde. H.Q. (Clerks.



Cpl. Moonie Pack Store.  
 Cpl. Dick Door entrance to Reception Room.

L/Cpl. Godfrey, ( To direct walking cases and carry  
 Ptes. Edwards, Campbell, I.T. ( out other orders from Capt. McPhee.

Ptes. Ware and McIntyre. Bearers carrying into Surgical Ward.  
 Pte. Cahill - Hot Drinks. - For walking cases.  
 Pte. O'Hara - Sox and Slippers for Walking Cases.  
 Pte. Shea - Orderly in Dental Room.

1 Off. 14 O.R.

OUTSIDE.

Ptes. Farnsworth and Peckerleg: Stretcher Squad.  
 " Ticehurst and Ticehurst: Stretcher Squad carrying from cars to reception room.

4 O.R.

CASUALTY ROOM.

A. Table.	Major Williams.	L/Cpl. Young and Pte. Renny.
B. Table.	Capt. McMahon.	Pte. Strong and Pte. Patience.
C. Table.	Capt. Webster.	Pte. Cleal and Pte. Power.
D. Table	Capt. Chaplin.	Pte. Digby and Pte. Wootten.
A.T.S.	Lieut. Austin.	S. Stg. Stahle.

Basins and Sterilizers. Pte. Waxman.  
 Hot Bottles and Blankets. Pte. Minns.  
 Clerks: C. & D. Tables: Sgt. Rohan.  
 A. & B. Tables: Pte. Bennett.

N.C.O. in charge: Sgt. O'Keeffe.

Total 5 Off. 14 O.R.

SURGICAL WARD.

W.O. Porter in charge.  
Orderlies. L/Cpl. Perry. Ptes. Davies, A.C. and Jewkes.  
 Hot Drinks. Pte. MacQueen.  
 Despatch Clerk. Sgt. Robinson.

Ptes. Krause and Annett: Bearers from Casualty Room to Surgical Ward.

OUTSIDE.

Bearers to Car. Ptes. Dawson and Dawson.  
 Hot water and Coppers: Pte. Furneaux.  
 Water Carriers: Ptes. Campbell and Reeves.  
 Lights: Pte. Hawkins.  
EVACUATING. Lieut. Maughan. Cpl. Willman.

Traffic. Pte. McInnes.

Total - 1 Off. 16 O.R.

1298

## ROSTER -- (2).

UPSTAIRS WARDS:-

S. Sgt. Reid in charge.

Orderlies: "A" Ward. Ptes. Ward, A.H. and Jones.  
 "B" Ward. Ptes. Purcell and Campbell, M.M.  
 "C" Ward. Ptes. Lloyd and Ellis.  
 "Canteen. Pte. Webster, T.A.

Picquet. ~~L/Cpl. Wood in charge.~~  
 Ptes. Williams, G.O., Yields., Alexander., Matthews.,  
 Frappett.,  
 (1 at each Front Gate. 1 on Men's quarters.)

Cpoks:- L/Cpl. Ferguson. Ptes. Dott, Regan, Wilson, Reid.  
 and Broad.

Office:- Pte. Nunn.

Runners:- Ptes. Davison and Hyde.

Motor Orderlies:- Ptes., Mitchell, Coghlan, Helen, Rule, Lee,  
 and Ptes. Prentice and Carman.

Horse Transport Orderlies:-

Fire Picquet in Bathroom. Pte. Clarke.

Dispensary. S.Sgt. Crimmins.

Motor Drivers:-

*J. Purdy* Lt-Col  
 A.D. 70th Field Amb. A.I.F.

COPY.

NO. 10 AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

From C.O. No. 10 Aust. Field Ambulance.

To A.D.M.S. 3rd Aust. Division.

The Casualties of "F" Battalion admitted to our M.D.B. on the night 26/27th inst. were 4 Officers and 97 O.Ranks. Of the Wounded, 29 cases were severe, 45 moderate and 27 cases slight.

Major J.P. Kenny in charge of the medical arrangements ahead of the A.D.S. and Capt. E. G. Glassford, stationed at a Dressing Post in the Subsidiary Line both did good work in the expeditious evacuation of the wounded and state that No. 12436 Sgt. Alexander Mark Wilson, A.A.M.C. of the 10th Aust. Field Ambulance. was conspicuous for his devotion to the wounded under fire and rendered valuable assistance by his energy and capacity in directing the stretcher bearers.

February 27th 1917.

*J. Purdy* Lt. Col.  
C.O. No. 10 Australian Field Ambulance.

APPENDIX

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.  
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Headquarters.  
27th February 1917.

To Officer Commanding,  
10th Australian Field Ambulance.

Will you please convey to the Officers, N.C.O's and Men of your Unit my appreciation of the good work done by them during their period in the line, which culminated in their work on the night of 26/27th February 1917.

The smooth working noticeable in all departments could only be attained by careful preparation, intelligent co-operation of all ranks and good discipline. The result was particularly satisfactory.

(Signed) ARTHUR T. WHITE.  
COLONEL.  
A.D.M.S.