

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/74/7

Title: No 3 Australian Auxiliary Hospital,
Dartford

December 1917



AWM4-26/74/7

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.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DARTFORD	1-12-17		No 705-D ² Boyd ES. AMTS reported for duty.	MT. 6539/145
	4-12-17		As authority for the use of bed linen by the staff is withdrawn all linen on charge to the staff was called in and handed to the Barrack Warden.	RO. 421: 4.
			The Consultants visited the Hospital to receive Boarded Cases.	
			5526 D ² Smith AMTS reported to H.Q. AIF LONDON for and for to AUST. AVIATION CORPS	
			1366 D ² Boyle. AMTS reported for duty.	
	5-12-17		Till today Dining Halls had been receiving their supply of food in individual rations apportioned in the Kitchen. As the food thus divided arrived at the Dining Halls only warm and as this method entailed unnecessary work the system has been altered so that in future the food will be divided in the Kitchen forwarded in bulk and portioned in the Dining Halls. This will entail care in distribution by the orderlies.	RO 422: 3.
	6-12-17		The BRAKE provided at the expense of the Aust. Y.M.C.A. for transit of helpless patient to and from DARTFORD has not been fully taken advantage of. Attention of all Sisters and Orderlies was drawn to the fact and they were requested to see that tickets were issued to suitable patients in sufficient number to take advantage of this convenience.	RO 423: 3.
	7-12-17		Capt. C. N. CAMERON, A.A.M.C. reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for duty OVERSEAS. Lieut. HOGG, O.S.B. PAADC reported for duty.	DMS AIF.
	8-12-17		S. Nurse GAFFNEY, M. reported for duty from No 4 Sea Transport.	Blue Sutherland Lt Col 7-12-17
	9-12-17		In future all cases TRACHOMA will be transferred to No 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital.	DMS AIF. 86864: 6-12-17
			Attention was again drawn to the practice existing in some wards of patients lighting cigarettes - spills etc at the gas mantles. In addition to breaking the mantles this is responsible for cracking a large number of glasses. It is very difficult to catch any patient disobeying the regulations and to make him responsible for the damage. It is also impossible to keep pace with the demand for mantles and glasses, so that in future mantles and glasses will be replaced much less frequently. Men wishing to write letters or read after dark should make use of the RECREATION ROOMS.	RO. 426: 1.
	11-12-17		On account of the bursting of water pipes orders were issued that all water taps should be allowed to run slowly at night during the winter months.	RO. 426: 2.
			VOTING for REFERENDUM was held from 800 till 1800. Each person was provided with a copy of the PRIME MINISTERS PROCLAMATION. The majority of soldiers voted.	
			Sister U.C. HAYNES, A.A.N.S. having resigned was struck off the strength from 8-12-17.	
	12-12-17		S. Nurse R. REUBEN reported for duty 5-12-17. S. Nurse M.I. CRAVEN reported for duty.	
13-12-17		ORDERLIES. 3. (Three) reported NO 2 C.D. for duty OVERSEAS.	DMS AIF. M. 86163. 5-12-17.	
15-12-17		In future ALL RANKS will attend early morning PARADE. ALL previous exceptions except those in the Q.M. Department are cancelled.		
		All patients requiring ARTIFICIAL EYES will be in future transferred to No 1 Aust. AUX. HOSP.		
		In future no cases of UNUNITED FRACTURE will be transferred to a COMMAND DEPOT.		
		1164 S/Sgt (A/WO) RAMSEY, A.M. received promotion to HON. LIEUTENANT as from Dec 1st 1917.		
		Capt. FORBES, A.D. A.A.M.C. reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for duty OVERSEAS.		
16-12-17		1339 Pte TAYLOR, J. reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for duty, in exchange for 63 Pte WILD, A.M.S. who reported for duty.	Blue Sutherland Lt Col 16-12-17	
		It was notified for the information of ALL RANKS that members of the AIF returning to AUSTRALIA are not permitted to take with them Government property, such as arms, ammunition, binoculars, compasses, wire cutters etc. Frequent but inspections will be made between ENGLAND and AUSTRALIA and should anyone be found in possession of such property or in excess of post cards, literature etc. disciplinary action will be taken against such person.	RO. 433: 2.	
18-12-17		Instructions were given that gas jets should be kept alight (turned low) in lavatories etc as a precaution against the freezing of water in the pipes.	RO 435: 6	
		Sisters (1 one), S. NURSES 7. (seven) reported for duty and were taken on the effective strength as from 16-12-17.		
		AIR RAID WARNING. 1830. Several German Aeroplanes passed over the Hospital. ALL CLEAR given 2140.		
		Social Evening was given for the W.A.R.E. PATIENTS and STAFF.		
16-12-17		Sister WILLIAMS, E.K. reported NO 2. AUST. AUX. HOSP for TRANSPORT DUTY.		
		80 PATIENTS. (40 Cot cases 40 Double Tier) were transferred to HOSPITAL TRAIN for embarkation to AUSTRALIA. The entraining of the patients and equipment was accomplished in the short period of 20 minutes. The train pulled into the platform 18 minutes late.	DMS AIF	
19-12-17		14529 Art. PHILLIPS, E.M. AMTS reported for duty.		
		MAJOR J.H. DOWNING reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for duty (transport) to AUSTRALIA. This officer has been a very efficient officer and I am sorry to lose his services through being boarded to AUSTRALIA.	DMS AIF.	
		Lieut. COOPER, R.A. ADC reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for TRANSPORT duty to AUSTRALIA.		
20-12-17		S. NURSE TURNER, H.J. reported for duty.		
23-12-17		S. NURSES 5 (five) reported H.Q. AIF LONDON for duty OVERSEAS. S. Nurse O.L. BROWN, A.A.N.S. reported for duty.		
24-12-17		In consequence of the shortage of MARGARINE only 5 (five) ozs per man per week will be available till further notice and DRIPPING will be issued in lieu for consumption at the BREAKFAST and TEA MEALS.	RO 441: 2.	
		All CONVELESCENT PATIENTS were presented with the RED CROSS CHRISTMAS BOXES by Mrs KENNEDY Red Cross Representative assisted by ARMY CHAPLAINS. Major BEVERIDGE and Capt. BRUCE.		
		Capt. HAS NEWTON, D. D. & L., London, E.C. reported for duty as Surgical Specialist.	DMS. AIF	

(A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

Blue Sutherland Lt Col
24-12-17

Appendix 27

HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

FRANCE 25th DECEMBER 1917.

On the occasion of our fourth Christmas on active service, I send my heartiest greeting to all members of the A.I.F. Another strenuous year is drawing to a close—a year in which the magnificent traditions of the A.I.F. have been fully upheld by the loyal and gallant service of one and all. During this period, Bapaume—Bullecourt, Messines and Ypres have been added to the splendid list of honours, which begins with the landing at Gallipoli—Lone Pine—and later Pozieres—names which are indelibly recorded in the History of Australia, and which will never be forgotten.

At this season of the year, our thoughts go out especially to those who have fallen, and those now in hospital as a result of sickness and wounds. The memory of our gallant comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice can but strengthen our determination to achieve complete victory over our enemies in this struggle for the preservation of right, and the establishment of a peace under conditions which will permanently safeguard the freedom of the world.

I know that all in France will join with me in sending best wishes to our comrades in hospital for their rapid and complete recovery.

W. R. BIRDWOOD.

A.I.F. P.S.---389---M---12-17