

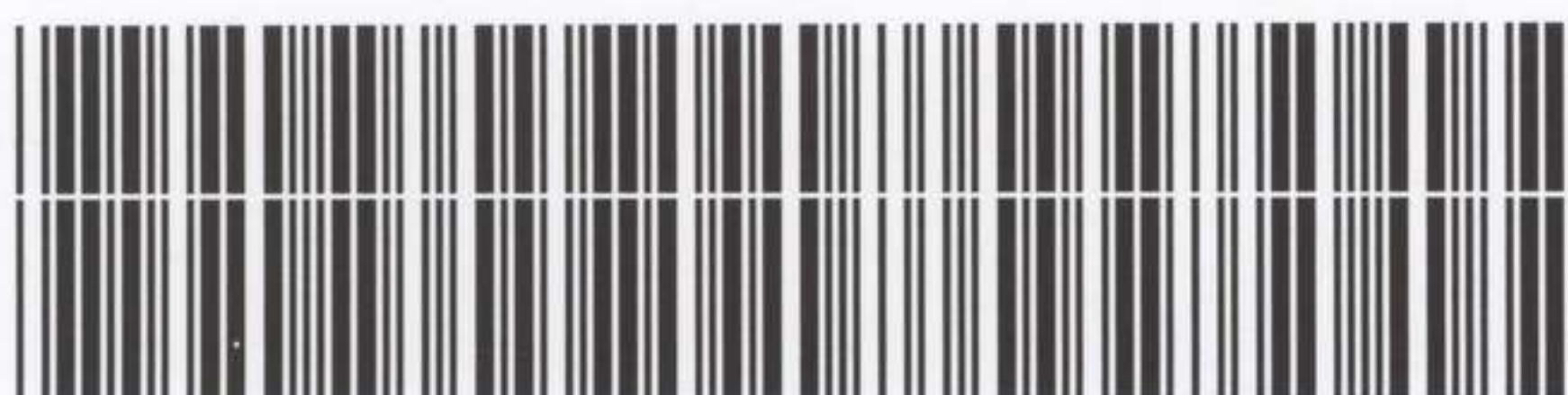
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/47/36

Title: 4th Australian Field Ambulance

September 1918



AWM4-26/47/36

CONFIDENTIAL.

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~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

4TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.
No.
Date

Complete

218

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

Fourth Aust. Field Ambce.

FOR

September 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

Alfred Macdonald Major

Signature of Officer Commanding

Alfred Macdonald Major



Army Form C. 2118.

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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.)

Place	Date	Hour	MONTH of SEPTEMBER, 1918.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COISY.	1st.			Under instructions received from A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division, Captain G.W. Parramore was detailed as M.O. for AUST. Corps Reinforcement Camp, CORBIE, vice Major Alcorn proceeding to U.K. on leave.	
Sheet: 62D.	2nd.	11 a.m.		The G.O.C., 4th. Aust. Division, accompanied by the A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division, inspected the 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance at 11 a.m. Parade State: 4 Officers, 106 Other Ranks; 2 Ambulance Wagons, 5 G.S. Wagons, 3 G.S. Limbers, 2 Water Carts, 17 L.D. Horses, 16 H.D., 3 Riding. Captain G.W. Parramore recalled from Corps Reinforcement Camp by order of A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division.	
	3rd.			Major A.J. MacDonald returned from leave to U.K. and proceeded to AUST. Corps Reinforcement Camp vice Captain G.W. Parramore.	
	4th.			Lieut. and Q.M. H.W. Powell proceeded to 1st. Aust. General Hospital for duty vice Lieut. and Q.M. J. Stubbs to 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance.	
	5th.			Hon. Lieut. and Q.M. J. Stubbs reported for duty from 1st. Aust. Gen. Hospital. Major A.W. Holmes a'Court proceeded on leave to U.K. Captain G.W. Parramore proceeded to 13th. Aust. Inf. Battalion for temporary duty as R.M.O. vice Capt. S.M. O'Riordan evacuated sick to C.C.S. A letter is written by C.O. to A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division on the shortage of Medical Officers with unit. (Appendix No. 1.)	
	6th.	2 a.m.		A wire B.R. 726 received from A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division which read: "13th., 12th., and 4th. Brigade Groups move on 6th., 7th., and 8th. respectively to BIACHES Area, near PERONNE." Captain J.P. Farrell reported for temporary duty to 15th. Aust. Inf. Battalion vice Capt. L.J. Hunter on leave to U.K. Captain T.G. Allen reported for temporary duty from 10th. Aust. Field Artillery Brigade under instructions from A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division. A wire received from 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade - "Horse Transport will move to-morrow to vicinity of MORCOURT." C.O. attended a conference of Commanding Officers at Bde. H.Q. at 8.30 p.m.	
	7th.	9 a.m.		Horse Transport moved off at 9 a.m. Instructions re Move received from 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade Enbussing to take place at 9.30 a.m., 8th. Instant, at cross roads between ALLONVILLE and POULAINVILLE, (G.11.b. Sh: 62D.) Destination, BIACHES Area. Debussing Point, H30.d.5.6. (Sh: 62C.)	

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4TH
AUSTRALIAN
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>MONTH of SEPTEMBER, 1918.</u>	
COISY.	8th.	9 a.m.	The 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance, less Horse Transport, accompanied by No. 19 Dental Unit, marched out at 9 a.m. to Embussing Point. Destination reached at 4 p.m. Location of Personnel: I. 25. c. 7. 4. (Sh: 62C.) Horse Transport rejoined unit at 4.15 p.m. and camped along side of Ambulance Headquarters.	
I. 25. c. 7. 4. Sheet 62C.	9th.		The C.O. saw Ambulance sites of 8th. and 15th. Aust. Field Ambulances and submitted report to A.D.M.S. as to Blankets, Stretchers and Dressings in 5th. Aust. Div. Area. (Vide Appendix No. 2.) 4th. Aust. Div. A.A.M.C. Order No. 108 recd. at 7.15 p.m.	
MONS-en- CHAUSSEE, Sheet 62C. P26. c. 9. 4.	10th.		In accordance with A.A.M.C. Order, No. 108, the 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance and No. 19 Dental Unit moved off at 9 a.m. and proceeded by march route to MONS-en-CHAUSSEE, (Sh: 62C., P26. c. 9. 4.) and took over Field Ambulance site from 8th. Aust. Field Ambulance. M.D.S. is established by midnight. Captain E. Field (12th. Aust. Field Ambulance) and Major L.B. Elwell, M.C., (13th. Aust. Field Ambulance) reported for temporary duty in accordance with instructions from A.D.M.S., 4th. A. Division.	
	11th.		Captain T.G. Allen proceeded to 4th. Aust. Div. Reinforcement Wing as R.M.O. and is struck off Attached List. Captain G.W. Parramore rejoined unit from 13th. Aust. Infantry Battalion. A.A.M.C. Order, No. 109 received from A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division at 7.15 p.m.	
	12th.		In response to a memo. from C.O., 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance, received at 7 a.m., "C" Section Bearer Subdivision (30 Other Ranks.) marched out at 9.30 a.m. to report to 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance (A.D.S.) and 50 Stretchers, 100 Blankets and a quantity of Medical Comforts were forwarded by Motor Lorry to A.D.S. Captain S.V. O'Regan, M.C. proceeded on leave to U.K.	
	13th.		In response to a letter received from C.O., 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance, one Bearer Subdivision (37 Other Ranks) and two Sunbeam Ambulance cars with 8 O.R. reported to Advanced Dressing Station for temporary duty. Captain H.H. Holland rejoined unit from temporary duty with 4th. Aust. D.A.C. as R.M.O.	
	14th.		Six Other Ranks proceeded on leave to AUSTRALIA. No. 984 W.O. H.J. Baber, M.M. is promoted to the rank of Hon. Lieut. and Q.M. to date from 12-9-18 and is posted to 14th. Aust. Field Ambulance for duty and proceeded there this day. No. 13 W.O. R.L. Kennedy reported for duty (vice W.O. H.J. Baber, M.M.) from 14th. Aust. Field Ambulance and is taken on strength to complete Establishment. Capt. H.H. Holland is appointed R.M.O., 12th. Aust. Army Field Artillery Brigade vice Captain G.A. Blumer, M.C. transferred to 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance. This exchange was given effect to this day.	

(A10266) Wt W3300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C21:18/10.

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MONS-en-CHAUSSEE.	15th.			Major H.B.Lewers, O.B.E. proceeded to 11th. Aust. Field Ambulance to take over command from Lieut-Colonel Chambers. Remaining available bearers (12 Other Ranks) proceeded to 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance (A.D.S.) for temporary duty.	
I25.c.7.4., Sheet 62C.	16th.			A.A.M.C. Order No. 110 received from A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division, timed 6 p.m., 15-9-18, -received at 11 a.m. C.O., 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance to establish a M.D.S. and W.W.D.S. at Q.8.d. central by 10 a.m., 17th. instant. Detachable huts, blankets, stretchers and other stores were moved to new site and the M.D.S. prepared and the huts erected by a party of bearers from 13th. Aust. Field Ambulance.	
Q.8.d central.	17th.			The Tent Division and No. 19 Dental Unit, with attached Ambulance Cars, moved to new site, Q.8.d. central during the course of the morning. M.D.S. was ready to receive patients at 10 a.m. and the A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division was advised accordingly. Three clerks from 13th. Aust. Field Ambulance and 25 Other Ranks from 13th. Aust. Inf. Brigade reported for temporary duty. The latter party's duties were loading and unloading stretchers during the forthcoming operations. Major A.J. MacDonald rejoined unit from temporary duty as R.M.O., AUSTRALIAN Corps Reinforcement Camp. Three Horse Ambulance Wagons with 10 Other Ranks, (each Wagon with 4-horse team) and remaining Ambulance Cars with 7 Other Ranks reported to C.O., 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance between 5 and 7 p.m.	
	18th.			The 4th. Australian Division attacked at 5.20 a.m. For four-hourly casualty Wires see Appendix No. 3. Casualties were comparatively light and there was no hitch in the evacuation of cases throughout the day.	
	20th.			Major A.S. Curtin reported for duty from No. 1 A.A.H. and is taken on strength.	
	21st.			4th. Aust. Div. A.A.M.C. Order No. 112 dated 20-9-18 received at 7 p.m. Major A.W. Holmes a Court returned from leave to U.K. Captain G.W. Parramore reported for temporary duty as R.M.O. to C.O., 4th. Aust. Div. Train. Captain E. Field, 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance rejoined unit. 21 Other Ranks proceeded to entrain for leave to AUSTRALIA. 52 Other Ranks (Bearer Division) and 15 Other Ranks with four large and one Ford Ambulance car rejoined unit from 12th. Aust. Field Ambulance. Embussing Strength (7 Officers and 120 Other Ranks) wired to A.D.M.S., 4th. Aust. Division.	
	23rd.			4th. Aust. Div. A.A.M.C. Order No. 113 dated 22-9-18 received. The 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance less 8 Other Ranks remaining with 15th. Aust. Inf. Battalion (in the line) and No. 19 Dental Unit attached, moved to HERBECOURT Area and bivouaced for the night at Sheet 62C, H17.b.9.0.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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4TH
AUSTRALIAN
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Army Form C. 2118.

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H17.b.9.0., Sheet 62C. ST. PIERRE-a- GOUY. (Sheet: AMIENS, 17.)	24th.		Personnel marched out to Embussing Point, H33.b.8.5. at 6 a.m. Destination reached at 2 p.m. Billets allotted to 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance are located at ST. PIERRE-a-GOUY (Sheet, AMIENS, 17, 100:000.) The Horse Transport was brigaded and moved out at 9 a.m., 24th. from H17.b.9.0, bivouacing for the night, 24-25th. in DAOURS Area.	
	25th.		Horse Transport rejoined unit at 4 p.m. after an uneventful trip.	
	26th.		Captain G.W. Parramore rejoined unit from temporary duty with 4th. Aust. Div. Train.	
	27th.		Captain J.P. Farrell and 8 Other Ranks rejoined unit from 15th. Aust. Inf. Bttn.	
	28th.		Major A.W. Holmes a'Court (in charge), Captain G.W. Parramore and 5 Other Ranks comprising Resuscitation Team, proceeded to M.D.S., LONGA'ENES for temporary duty under orders received from A.D.M.S., 4th. Australian Division. Two Sunbeam Cars with four Other Ranks reported for temporary duty to O.C., 3rd. M.A.C.	
	30th.		Lieutenant-Colonel R.S.M. Gregor, D.S.O. proceeded on leave to MARSEILLES, and Major A.J. MacDonald assumed command of unit.	
			<i>A.J. MacDonald</i> Major, Acting C. O., 4th. Australian Field Ambulance.	

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

4TH
AUSTRALIAN
FIELD AMBULANCE.

To:

A.D.M.S.

APPENDIX NO.1.

4th. Australian Division.

I wish to draw your attention to the small number of Officers I now have with the 4th. Australian Field Ambulance. I now have only Major Lewers, Captain Farrell and Captain O'Regan. Captain Farrell is to go to the 15th. Aust. Inf. Battn. vice Captain Hunter on leave on 6-9-18, and Captain O'Regan goes on leave on 11-9-18, I understand.

I have sent Captain Parramore today to 13th. Aust. Inf. Battn. to replace Captain O'Riordan evacuated to C.C.S. today suffering from Dysentery. The shortage of Officers makes it almost impossible for me to have any Officer with the men of my own unit in their training, etc.

(Sgd.) Roy S. McGregor, Lieut-Colonel.

5-9-18.

C.O. 4th. Australian Field Ambulance.

APPENDIX NO. 2.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE.

To: A. D. M. S.,

4th. Australian Division.

4TH
AUSTRALIAN
FIELD AMBULANCEI have seen the 8th. and 15th. Australian Field Ambce.
Medical Posts.

8th. Aust. Field Ambulance site is good but will need cleaning up and putting on a different organisation of course for a Main Dressing Station. There ample Surgical and Medical requirements, also a fair supply of Medical Comforts at 8th. Aust. Field Ambulance. At present at 8th. Aust. Field Ambulance there are 150 blankets and 50 stretchers but C.O., 15th. Aust. Field Ambulance is sending more up today. There should be approximately 300 Stretchers and 400 blankets to be taken over by 4th. Australian Division according to C.O., 15th. Aust. Field Ambulance.

(Signed) Roy S. McGREGOR, Lieut-Colonel,
C. O., 4th. Australian Field Ambulance.

9-9-18.

4th Aust. Field Ambulance

Appendix No 3.

4TH
AUSTRALIAN
FIELD AMBULANCE

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Progressive Totals of Wounded admitted for 96 hours commencing 18. 9. 18									
Sketch Cases	18. 9. 18	18. 9. 18	18. 9. 18	19. 9. 18	19. 9. 18	19. 9. 18	20. 9. 18	21. 9. 18	22. 9. 18
	to Noon off. ops.	to 4pm off. ops.	to midnight off. ops.	to 6am off. ops.	to Noon off. ops.	to 4pm off. ops.	to 6am off. ops.	to 6am off. ops.	to 6am off. ops.
4 th Aust. Div	4 48	6 99	7 137	7 157	8 163	8 165	9 183	9 198	9 201
1 st do	1 3	1 3	1 4	1 4	1 4	1 4	2 4	2 4	2 4
5 th do		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Corps Army Hosp		1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Imperial Troops	1 7	1 10	1 12	1 12	1 14	2 14	2 14	2 14	2 15
Prisoners of War	1	1 16	1 66	1 74	1 79	2 84	2 86	2 86	2 86
Total	7 59	9 130	10 221	10 250	11 263	12 270	16 292	16 306	17 311
Mailing Cases	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.	off. ops.
4 th Aust. Div	131	2 212	2 261	4 280	5 287	6 295	7 318	8 339	8 344
1 st do	6	7	12	13	13	14	15	19	19
5 th do	6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Corps Army Hosp	1 0	1 1	1 2	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3
Imperial Troops	11	13	14	14	15	16	18	18	18
Prisoners of War	15	29	55	61	69	72	72	72	72
Total	1 169	3 269	3 352	5 387	6 395	8 408	9 424	10 439	10 450

APPENDIX

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WAR DIARY

07

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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			<u>Statement of Casualties, Reinforcements etc.</u>						
			<u>— during September, 1918. —</u>						

Ration Store.

Since taking over this Department there ^{have} been no complaints as regards inferior rations issued to personnel ^{or} has there been any shortage of same. In my opinion the supply of fresh vegetables has not been adequate, but the scarcity of same may be accounted for owing to the Unit being in the Forward Area, as the supply is now increasing.

During the move from Forward Area at the latter part of the month the supply of fodder both in quantity and quality has been inferior. The necessary action has been taken to have this matter adjusted.

Clothing and Equipment etc.

The demands on Ordnance Department as regards clothing and equipment have been readily supplied. Overalls for cooks and mechanics have now been obtained which will mean considerable economy in S.D. Clothing.

Paints and Oils have been requisitioned for and the renovation of transport, Horse and Mechanical, is now in completion. The repairing of Boots and Clothing also the repairing of harness is being very successfully carried out in the Unit.

Our Quarterly Returns of unserviceable clothing etc. to D.A.D.O.S. have been far below our demands. This matter is now in hand and receiving special attention.

The Fat Return for the month has fallen off owing to the moving of the Unit.

Several consignments of Medical Comforts have been distributed to the personnel including Socks, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Provisions, Sporting Material etc. which the men have heartily appreciated.

Our demands on Australian Red Cross have been promptly and expeditiously supplied.

1st. October, 1918.

Signed. J. Stubbs. Lieut. & Q.M.
4th. Australian Field Ambulance.

