

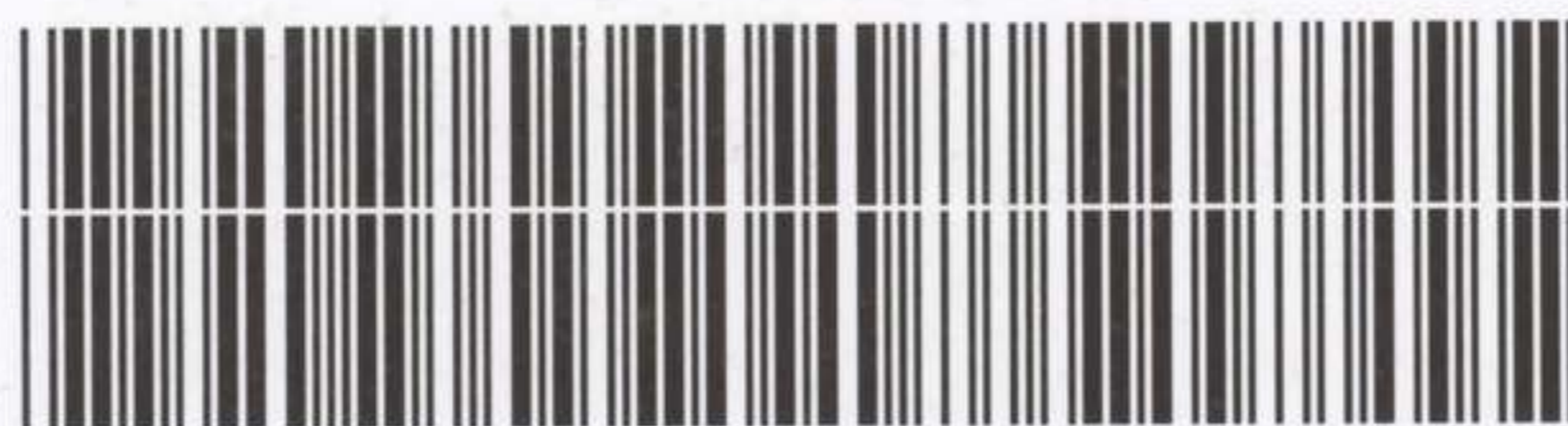
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/79/9

Title: 4th Australian Sanitary Section

June 1917



AWM4-26/79/9

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

4th
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY SECTION
June 1917

Army Form C. 2118.

VOL 131339

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEHWERCK	1917		<p>Section still billeted at 12th Field Amb Rest Station - attached operations, discipline and duty by courtesy of Lt Col. 4th Division Aust. being at disposal of Lt Col. 4th Aust L.I.</p>	
		2	<p>Major W.R. Kelly, O.C. 3rd Aust San Sect, instructed by Genl. 2nd Army Corps to assume temporary command of 4th Aust San Sect pending arrival of O.C.</p>	
OX 3 ERQUIN		5	<p>Section moved from Starweck to Vieux Berquin billeted at La Boquerone Farm (Plot 36) and took over sanitary area being portion of Second Army Area thus causing section to become Second Army Corps. Area boundaries being Hazebrouck - Bone - Strazelle, as western boundary, Strazelle - Outrestage, Northern boundary. Fence along Metieren, Biagne to Vieux Berquin (included) as eastern boundary. Fence across to Hazebrouck as Southern boundary. Hazebrouck town not included in this section's area.</p>	
		6	<p>Reported 3rd Aust San Sect relieved.</p>	
		9	<p>General condition of the area good but lacking in permanent sanitary conveniences. La Motte au Bois being the best equipped village in this respect - having one public latrine and public urinal.</p>	

W.R. Kelly
Major

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No. *1917*
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EUX BERGUIN	9 June		Senior N.C.O. interviewed O.C. Forward Control and explained his position and needs for improving the sanitary conditions of the area, resulting in the supply of a small quantity of timber, suitable for latrine construction.	
	10		Section workshops established and the construction of box pattern fly proof latrine slabs commenced. As finished seats became available they were issued and distributed throughout the area for public latrine purposes.	
	11		Interviewed Lt. Col. 32nd Imperial Div. Arrangements made for erection of temporary incinerator Vieux Berguin - site selected near of Church as being most convenient.	
	11		Interviewed Area Comdt Berguin area, reference to P.B. men for sanitary duties in village of Vieux Berguin, under the supervision of the inspectors stationed there. This arrangement resulted in the village drainage system being cleaned out - main portions of the village streets being swept and generally improved the sanitary conditions of the village calling forth commendation of the Town Major.	
	14		Similar arrangements to those of the 11th inst made for the village of Vieux Berguin - two P.B. men being attached from area Comdt.	W.R. Kelly Major

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VIEUX BERQUIE	1917 June 14 th 15 18		<p>La Dms. 32nd Imp Lio. rendered every assistance 16th Imp Lio at Meris. Senior NCO interviewed a Dms. with reference to the sanitation of this village resulting a lumber wagon and a fatigue party of 20 men being detailed for sanitary duties under the supervision of the inspectors stationed there. Four public latrines and two incinerators installed in Meris. Daily collection of street and billet refuse organised. Public latrine seats supplied from section workshop and installed at Strazelle, supervised by inspectors stationed there.</p> <p>This section experienced difficulty in obtaining timber for latrine seat construction. This unit had to make application to Engineer parks for seats - type supplied being 5 seater - Indian pattern - flat, placed over trenches - ground level. The construction of these seats is such that fouling of seat is unavoidable. One Divisional a Dms. condemned same - Two of these Indian pattern seats brought into this section workshop - taken to pieces and converted into four seater box pattern fly proof seats. Personally consider more timber is wasted than needed in these seats and a less comfortable seat provided.</p>	

W. R. M. M. M.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIEUX BERQUIN	1917 June 18 19		<p>One case of Measles one case of Scarlatina reported - investigation made - disinfection carried out.</p> <p>4th Aust Division moved into this area. Divisional Hdqrs. Vieux Berquin. Sanitary Condition and needs of area explained to adms. 4th Aust Div. Hdqrs. Sanitary personnel and a lumber wagon placed at the disposal of this section for sanitary duties.</p> <p>Special report on Measles baths submitted by inspector which had been left by outgoing unit in an unsanitary condition - report submitted to acting O.C. with the request that it be forwarded to higher formation.</p> <p>Vieux Berquin - Two public latrines erected in this village and pot-holes also erected.</p> <p>Carpenter & Plumber detailed for duty at Officers Rest House, La Motte au Bois - improving latrines and erecting water tanks, work completed in one day.</p> <p>Workshops supplied 7-4 aperture latrine seats to 5-2 aperture seats to various units in the area.</p> <p>From time to time various units move into this area and are uncertain for their length of stay resulting in open trench latrines being dug - shortage of timber prevents seats being supplied in all cases.</p> <p>Latrines covered daily - filled in when unit moves.</p>	

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W. P. Kelly
Major

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIEUX BERQUIN	<i>June 28</i> <i>June 30</i>		<p>An inspector trained in water testing duties has made 98 water tests of different wells and water sources throughout area. Notices erected in every case and water requiring more than three measures bleaching powder has been marked " unfit for use by troops", sample of notice erected attached.</p> <p>Distribution of section - The area divided into 7 sub-districts - two or more inspectors - one an NCO in charge each area - submitting reports twice weekly to Hdqrs - Vieux Berquin. Workshops established at Hdqrs carpenters & tin smiths - one man water testing and travelling from one sub-district to another.</p>	

W. R. Kelly
Major