

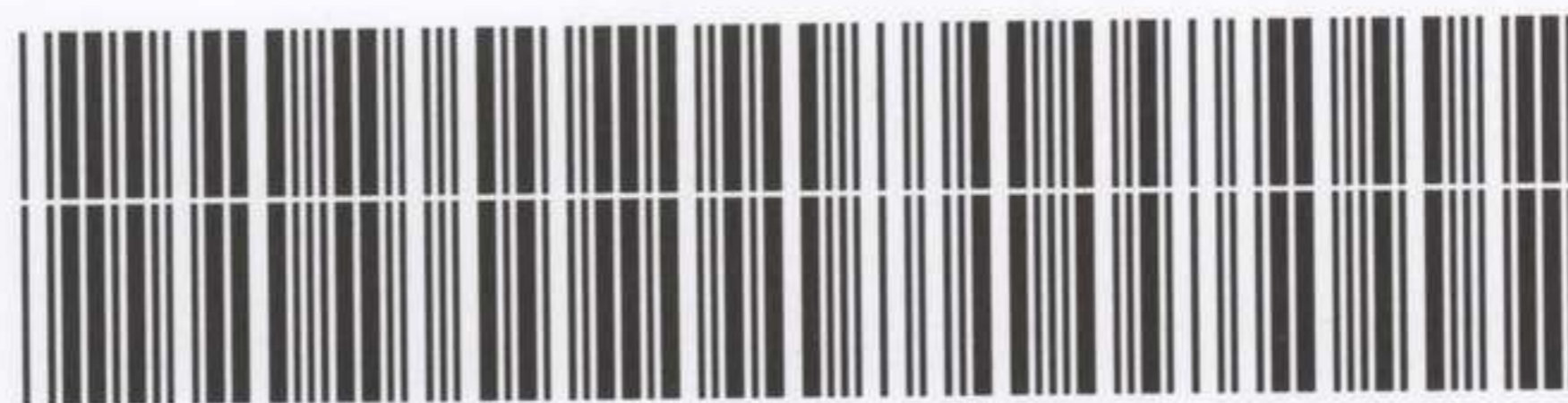
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/62/35

Title: No 1 Australian Casualty Clearing
Station

December 1917



AWM4-26/62/35

1st ACCS

Original Copy

368

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Par. 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
FIELD	DECR 1917 1st		Erection of huts hung up most of day on account of engineers not yet having authority to erect. Staff hut for CO. commenced and continuance of erection of palisade finished 2716 nissen. Large number of huts built all day. In evening sudden rain storm.	
	2nd		Day cold and stormy. In evening advance for D.D.M.S. second army to send Capt Davis and 5 medical officers to No 6 Stationary Hosp. Capt Champion, Leatoby and Barton were sent. Detachment of 730 pm. Capt Dalglish took over care of Capt Davis's cases.	
	3rd		Severe frost during night. One half hut and part of another erected in officers lines. Working of dump at lower end of camp systematised. Spaces levelled for erection of a mess hut.	
	4th		Evening temp down to 30°F. Ground frozen till 11 am. Then light rain day. At midday the engineers said that they had refused to sanction erection of huts for Capt Barton's station so work was stopped. Later in afternoon work came through to continue and expedite. All new latrines of other general duties and places for huts excavated so as to get the best effect of the wetting against bomb. Two areas ready for huts. Another officers hut erected today. Duckboards to sisters' offices were duplicated. Exposed water pipe at pond deeply earthed by filling one end of pond. All general pipes covered with another layer of straw.	
	5th		This evening at 8 pm ground temp was 23°F. Just continuous. Today the English engineers exchanged with an Australian company. A start was made on the erection of the fur raised small nissen, and the ground marked out for the erection of tents in the neighbourhood of fresh.	
	6th		Visit by General Bidwood. Says the place is not to hold more than 500. Work in field stopped. Australian engineers not at work today. Work still continues. In afternoon visit by D.D.M.S. to see arrangements necessary for new scheme of Gen. Bidwood's to only take 500. Will probably not be necessary to take many further land. Today eleven sisters left two in lower part of house the rest being transferred to base. At present only 4 sisters here. One of the sisters huts struck in recreation in the officers lines, thus forming another hut for the hospital.	
	7th		Show this morning but no rain. Tents of D.D.M.S. struck and ground levelled at cookhouse for mess hut. Nothing definite yet obtainable about number of huts. 53 men of the labour company reported for duty but are utilised as billeted. Last of surgical cases evacuated. Guard cleaned up + equipment returned. F2 ward finished ready for reception of officers on Sunday (19th).	

Kops bank 1st

1st ACCS.

368

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FIELD	DECR 8 th	1917	visit by engineer staff who decided what huts were to be erected and how 2 parties of 50 men each from the 4 th & 7 th Co ambulances repaired for duty and were attached under the engineer sergeant. 7 th Co ambulances were worked well to 2nd day persistently tried to evade work. Only small quantity of excavating done. Uninspected unit. in respect.	
	9 th		Today 50 of our own men added to the parties and handed over to the engineer sergeant. A great deal of work was done dismantling things ready for huts but owing to mistakes in instructions somewhere revelling and other structures were pulled down that should have been left. Work stopped by Col Mansfield pending further instructions from the engineers. Rained steadily all day. In evening a concert was given in the new recreation hut by the Amalgamated Corps a show very highly appreciated. Six officers were received yesterday and the in ward is filling up. In pit there are 13 in. The sixth field ambulance working party is still doing unsatisfactory. Several references to them and for disciplinary purposes. Seems definitely settled at last that two combined messes huts are going to be erected. The paddocks used as hut of the English engineers on site 4 was removed and the foundry dug out to try to obtain something like a tent floor again.	
	10 th		Day fine but cold. Work proceeding more satisfactorily. About 8 of the 6 th field ambulance returned for disciplinary purposes. Work working well. Re-erecting road side 3 replaced and improved and began attempts erected. Engineer party did not make so much progress as the wrong size of timber had been sent for floor plates. Col Mansfield inspected during afternoon and said that we were to take 150 2 cabins and 50 1/2 cases. Election (Referendum) held during the morning. All votes but those of one "deliberate" taken.	
	11 th		Planned an outbreak of scabies and neuralgia. Since to be place enclosure to erect a 1/2 block for mess now on treatment. Received about 5 dozen patients for the 1/2 block during the day. Put them in C1 + E2 Pitches D1 tent again and search to clean the place up for C2. Engineer party on making good progress. Disfectant scabies RE who would be necessary for the tents but not natural was very scarce. Dashed to see what he can do. Order to take vaccine disease cancelled and so was all the 1/2 and stopped. C1 + E2 was now full. Put them in D1 through the foundry in still very damp. Natural of the bath house being taken.	
	12 th		made good progress during day. D1 party filled with patients. C2 pitches are partly cleared. Engineers are going to put in a good concrete floor. Her assurance that it will be successful.	
	13 th		made good progress during day. D1 party filled with patients. C2 pitches are partly cleared. Engineers are going to put in a good concrete floor. Her assurance that it will be successful.	
	14 th		made good progress during day. D1 party filled with patients. C2 pitches are partly cleared. Engineers are going to put in a good concrete floor. Her assurance that it will be successful.	

Keep track of

107 Accs

368

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Iceland	15.12.17		Day fine. Very good progress made with hutments. The raised mallet row messen will probably make a new line hut. about 210 patients in tonight. The engineers are under construction and brick laying ward @ 2 today and sent to be or a very excellent job. Major Graham of the 5th Canadian mobile laboratory has commenced some research work on the viscosity of the blood in trench fever. In the evening the first unit concert was given and was highly successful.	
	16 th		229 patients in at 6 tonight. Day cold and better now. Day progress being made with centering floor of @ 2. Pace store progressing well. Water supply still unsatisfactory. The canvas sent (the engineers to replace the low one is too small. Coy manufra DDMS inspected this evening.	
	17		Snow fell this morning and melted considerably with the working parties. Colonel Gask visited during afternoon. Extra progress made during afternoon with building water supply being fixed up. Tonight 280 patients are in hospital and only 1 of the available accommodation is taken up. A large number of P.W. cases are being dealt with.	
	18 th		Snow just during day. Poor progress made during day with building on account of drawing out the fuel ambulance men to work on the line. Tonight 289 patients in hospital.	
	19 th		Work continues. Ward where ambulance men sleep converted into a P.W. ward. The lack of sisters is being very severely felt. Good progress with building in spite of absence of assistance. Major Capt Barlow and Chapman reported back from detachment.	
	20 th		25 new fuel ambulance reported their party was complete. They shifted into AI into new hut though latter is far from complete. In order to let contractor parts get started. Completion of @ 2 now finished. Major Capt Barlow reported back from detachment very severe frost.	
	21		No snow but sign of thaw for a while this afternoon. 324 patients in this morning. Good progress continues to be made with building. They shifted from AI into new hut. Start made to complete AI.	
	22		Day progress with building. Start reception of cases in afternoon. 368 patients in hospital. Large number are P.W. cases.	
	23		No snow. Very severe. 380 Patients now in hospital. No boiler repaired for bathhouse. Ward of sisters in skilled nursing is being very greatly felt.	
	24		Thaw has taken place. Very muddy. Slow progress with intro Christmas day celebrations. Special dinners arranged and evening passed off very pleasantly.	
	25		Snow comes in the evening. Snowing at intervals. Hospital full tonight. The unit concert party gave	
	26 th		to 3rd biweekly concert tonight.	

Keep diary up to date

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1 st ACCS in the field.	27		Snow fell during night. Day clear. Ward 101 was transferred to new hut to make room for the under concrete of the floors of D1. Cement lost repair replaced plus success. This morning 450 cases in hospital. D1 has given instructions not to receive mail until members come below 100.	
	28		not receiving loads. Cementing of A1 is finished. Excavation for new hq. of 1st AF Block is proceeding. Boiler repair arrived in batch.	
	29		Hospital still full. Two bad pneumonias. Progress slow in engineering work. The cement parts have a show down for the evening at the 9 th piece and 10 th pieces.	
	30		nothing much doing. Hara for raising excavating and setting very difficult.	
	31		A case of pneumonia died tonight in A1. Hospital full. Show message from D.D.M.S. saying we have to be able to take 600 in 300 times. Tonight 433 in hospital. A stall was made with equipping A1, although the concrete had not thawed.	

Left hospital