

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/62/7 Part 2

**Title:** No 1 Australian Casualty Clearing  
Station

August 1915



AWM4-26/62/7PART2



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aryac	August 1		<p><del>No. 126 Pt. H. Miner wounded by rifle bullet while attending sick on the transport from beach to hospital ship. Retained on ship. Rifle bullet wound in shoulder. Asked by Ad &amp; Staff Army Army Corps to act as Embarkation Officer for Aryac. Received secret order from Dams to mark all cases evacuated likely to be well in 28 days as 'buddies' &amp; others as 'Base'. Evacuated 253 cases.</del></p>	
	2		<p><del>No. 126 Pt. H. Christie evacuated to buddies with Plemy.</del>            Visited by Surgeon General Burrell, who spent about 10 minutes at Comanche, Chany, Station Dams, which he planned round at the accommodation but did not inspect. Instructed me that I should act as Intubation Officer, that medical officers were being sent to fill the vacancies on my staff, that the Dams was going to land &amp; that we would be under his orders. Surg Gen Burrell told me he considered excessive bathing was accountable for most of the sickness occurring among the troops.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	Aug	2	Evacuated 155 cases.	6
"	3		Capt. Leonard RSMC. O. M. J. C. Advanced <del>Base</del> Depot, Medical Stores informed that he had received orders from Lt Kettle DDMS to act as embarkation officer Anzac. <del>No 1415 Pt J. Christie to hospital suffering from pleurisy.</del> <del>No 1425 Pt J. Ryan returned to duty.</del>	
			Evacuated 194 cases Captain Hurley ordered to rejoin his unit.	
	4		Evacuated 163 cases	
	5		Lt. Kettle DDMS came ashore. He called at Aust. C. C. Station & informed me that this unit would evacuate all cases from Anzac Beach but that other clearing stations would be found on the left flank.	
			Received notice from Army Corps Hdqrs. that Aust. C. C. Station ceases to be attached to the 15 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Division for administrative purposes.	
			<del>No 1278 Pt J. Wilson to hospital with gastroenteritis</del>	Two cases of gastroenteritis in unit were evacuated.
			<del>No 1404 Pt J. Davis to hospital</del> Evacuated 319 cases.	8



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aragoa	Aug 6		<p><del>No. 1 Pt. M. Thomas to Hospital with compound wound of leg.</del>                      No 2 Field Ambulance took over the <del>ambulance</del> station on beach lately occupied by No 4 Field Amb.                      Lieutenants CAMPBELL PW. MACKAY C.G. SYKES HW. DAVY GM of RAMC. Temporarily attached to unit for duty.                      Lieutenants THOMPSON &amp; SLAICK <sup>WALKER</sup> also allotted for assisting evacuation. Lutes attached Fusiliers Coy in morning and our attack began at 5 p.m.                      Evacuated 580 cases.                      The facilities provided for the conveyance of wounded from the shore to the Hospital ships are very inadequate. The two cutters &amp; horseboat <del>used</del> fitted with awnings which were set aside for use of sick have been taken to use for the landing of troops &amp; are not available. The steam tug boat to be used solely for evacuating sick which I had heard from the Naval Base Officer was being sent here as a result of my request to Surg. General Babin, has not arrived. Consequently we have to wait till such time as tugs are not being used for troops &amp; have to get wounded evacuated.</p>	7



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aryone	6/21		<p>The boats used consist of (a) large lighters holding about 50 stretchers + 75 walking cases or 250 walking cases very easy to load &amp; unload but with no mowing. (b) Horse boats holding 15 stretchers or 70 walking cases + (c) ship cutters holding six stretchers + 20 walking or 50 walking cases not very suitable for stretchers. These are towed by Naval Piquet Boats which are then used to carry about 30 walking cases. The Naval Hospital take over the cases at the jetty &amp; handle the stretchers carefully.</p> <p>Today we were unable to get any tow off before 12.15 p.m. As a result the stretchers we have to keep the wounded in were greatly inconvenienced, &amp; we were obliged to keep wounded men waiting on the beach which is unfortunately shelled each day. I think the Naval officers on the beach do their best to provide towage but the number of piquet boats at their disposal is small.</p> <p>The Hosp. Ship Lucia which came in today was rapidly filled to overflowing &amp; reported she would take no more cases approx. no other hospital ship is at present in sight.</p>	8



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Amoy	Aug 7		<p>As a result of our attack which began at 5 pm. last night this has been the heaviest day for casualties we have had. Evacuated 1937 cases.</p> <p>Lieut. Col. Major Corbin, who was on duty as communications officer, finding he could get no information from the Naval Officer assuming him that Hospital ship accommodation would be available soon, interviewed General Cunningham &amp; asked to see General Burdwood. Major Corbin pointed out the gravity of the situation, viz. that we had about 400 wounded men on the beach where our shelter were inadequate for such numbers that more were coming in and that there was no hospital ship here into which we could evacuate even the most serious cases. Urgent messages were sent to G.H.Q. but the N.T.O. to the Admiral to request the early arrival of hospital ships.</p> <p>Three hospital ships arrived soon after daylight one the Seang-Tung for Indrag and Fids.</p>	9



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bryce	Aug 7		<del>No 1426 Pt. Ph. Linn returned to duty.</del>	10
"	8		<p>Another heavy day. Sent a large tow away to the Hospital Ship about 6 am. At 8 am a tow consisting of three cutters full of wounded came in to our party. They had been wounded from clearing station near New Zealand Post &amp; had been repaired by one of the Hospital ships. The Turks buttoning from the South thinking they were troops landing opened fire with several rounds of shrapnel, wounding one man.</p> <p>No hospital ship available except hanging bay which only takes Indians &amp; Turks. Evacuated walking cases by flat-scraper to Dubro.</p>	
"	9	4 1/2 pm	<p>Evacuated all our walking cases by "Redbreast" to Dubro. Sent Lieutenant Blackwell in medical charge.</p> <p>Evacuated 946 cases.</p> <p><del>Pt. Cameron &amp; Co. Re-empire</del> One reinforcement arrived. I had been expecting to receive at least eight reinforcements and several returning convalescents but they have been detained in Caird working at hospital here. My unit</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Angas	Aug 9		<p>is very much under strength &amp; I feel it is scandalous that re-impregnate should be diverted from their intended use to the detriment of units at the front.</p> <p>The number of cases coming in from 1<sup>st</sup> Division has fallen off but we are getting a number of walking cases for the left flank who are being sent for us to evacuate owing to the difficulties of transport from there.</p> <p>Evacuated 1020 cases.</p>	11
			<p>Captain (Hon Major) J. Corbin to be Major vice Major Richards deceased. Dated 21<sup>st</sup> July 1915</p>	<p>Div. Order 1<sup>st</sup> Aust 20 304 8.8.15</p>
			<p>Great diminution in number of cases to evacuate.</p> <p>Evacuated 362 cases</p>	
			<p><del>No 1408 P. W. P. Duggan to wounds suffering from debility.</del></p> <p><del>No 1419 P. W. J. Hughes to wounds suffering from dysentery</del></p> <p>Have had great difficulty in getting tugs from Angas Beach owing to all available tugs being used by stations further north. About 50 wounded Turks awaiting evacuation to Imbros but cannot get transfer from N70.</p> <p>Evacuated 333 cases.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	Aug 11		116 cases + 107 boxes of Red Cross Stores arrived at Anzac for C.C. Station.	12
	12		Col. Young is now in charge of L of C units at Anzac. Detailed Major Corbin Lieke, Sykes & Davy to go to No 2 Outpost + assist the No 13 C.C.S. Col. Kibbe informed me that great difficulty was experienced in evacuating from the station. Lieke, Sykes & Davy returned in afternoon. Evacuated 262 cases.	
	13		Major Corbin returned this morning at 6 am. He reported that the No 16 C.C.S. have taken over from No 13 C.C.S. at No 2 Outpost that the work was proceeding more satisfactorily. That the state of affairs under the No 13 C.C.S. had been a hopeless muddle very little attempt being made to provide either a nourishment for the wounded who had to wait considerable time before being evacuated. Col Kibbe informed me that he is returning to G.H.Q. tomorrow and that he has recommended that I be appointed A.D. Maj. L of C Anzac. N70 sent message that owing to losses of packet-boats and men he would not be able to evacuate wounded.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aryon	13th		<p>by day. If this is carried out it will seriously embarrass the work of evacuation. All troops, guns + most of the stores are landed at night. Consequently the boats are working at a high pressure. These boats are only available for transport of wounded when not wanted for other purposes. If wounded + sick are forced to wait all day for evacuation, our limited accommodation will not provide sufficient shelter + some will be exposed to the dark, shell fire.</p> <p><del>By 1300 Lt. Cooper + Co. to land on + suffering from pyrexia evacuated 210 cases.</del></p> <p>Saw the N. 70 + explained difficulties to him; got a tow away at 1.20 p.m.</p> <p>Col Kelle has given me instruction to act at ADMS. He leaves for Suibay this afternoon.</p> <p><del>1456 Lt. Young D. to land on with pyrexia.</del></p> <p><del>1429 Lt. McKee to land on with pyrexia.</del></p> <p>She continued work for 16 weeks under very trying circumstances is killing on the health of the unit. The number of <del>W.C.S.</del> <sup>N.C.S.</sup> and men left is 45. They have kept up very well during the heavy strain of work last week and all of them</p>	13
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bryce	Aug 14		worked splendidly but now many are working ill & will soon know up. I have applied for reinforcements without much result.	14
	15		Evacuated 224 cases. Inspected No 13 C.C.S. at Walker's Beach. Lt Col. McKnight told me he was not well. The work of the station is at present easy. They are not under fire, there is plenty of towage available but the ground is not easy to come out into shelter without using the wire beds which will soon be unsuitable. Shelters can now be carried about 200 yards to prevent jitter. A better pit is being erected. Inspected No 16 C.C.S. at No 2 Outpost. There Lt Col. is getting the ground tenaced & shelled frequently but shelter is still difficult at the station is that the pier is under rifle fire at present. It is therefore necessary to carry all shelter cases through the sea to No 13 C.C.S. a distance of about one mile. The O.C. is asking for 100 white men to be attached to his unit for the duty. On returning to Bryce I arranged for a water cart to be sent out to No 16 C.C.S.	15

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Angai	Aug 15		<p>Received letter from WMS. Sgt Gen BIRRELL giving me instructions to carry out all the duties of ADMS Angai. In a post script he stated that at present there was no ADMS Angai. In reply I asked to be relieved of these duties unless appointed to the position which Lt. Kable had informed me I was to hold. It would be impossible for me to control the evacuations of the three stations while holding an anomalous position.</p> <p>The Sanitary Officer, Angai, reported to me. The Commandant, Angai (Capt C.) instructed me to take into consideration the necessity of removing S. H. of C.S. from the beach in view of a prolonged occupation &amp; bad weather. I inspected possible sites with Major Corbin.</p> <p>Received order from DMS re relocation of S. H. cases by Field ambulances in view of the congestion at the Base. I passed on the order to ADMS Division affected.</p> <p>Capt Wray R.A.M.C. 13 C.C.S reported that Lt Col M. Stewart had been sent to Base &amp; that he had been left in charge.</p> <p>Reported to DMS</p> <p><del>No more Capt at the Westwood returned from duty. The following reinforcements arrived. Number 17. Sgt. Perkins, No 215</del></p> <p>Three reinforcements arrived.</p>	<p>15</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	Aug. 16.	6	<p>Camp Commandant, Col YOUNG went to Mudros.</p> <p>No. 1508 <sup>One man of</sup> Pt. J. Bear 3rd Reinforcements reported for duty.</p> <p><del>No. 1459 Pt. S.M. McKenzie transferred from Aust. C.C. Station to Clerical Staff of Commandant, Advanced Base, Anzac.</del></p> <p><del>No. 887. Pt. A Chaytors Anson Battalion, Naval Div, vice McKenzie.</del></p> <p>Evacuated 148 cases.</p>	
	17.		<p>Received cable from D.M.S. instructing me to arrange to forward one man and stores of No. 14 C.C.S. from Anzac to Suvla.</p> <p>They left Anzac at 2 p.m.</p> <p><del>No. 1444 Pte. P.H. Thomas to Mudros with Pyrexia.</del></p> <p><del>No. 1452 Pte. C. Woods to Mudros with Pyrexia.</del></p> <p><del>No. 1435 Pte. J. Ryan to Base shrapnel wound of thigh.</del></p> <p>Evacuated 182 cases.</p>	
"	18.		<p>Lieut. Blackwell A.S. R.A.M.C. to Mudros with Dysentery.</p> <p><del>No. 1418 Pte. Hindle R. to Mudros with Pyrexia.</del></p> <p>Evacuated 195 cases.</p>	
"	19.		<p>Furnished report to D.M.S. on the necessary steps to be taken to prepare this area for retention of sick and wounded for such periods as it might be impossible to evacuate owing to stress of weather.</p> <p>Sent copy to Col. YOUNG, Commanding Advanced Base with suggestion that preliminary steps should now be taken to prepare <sup>Sites for necessary shelters.</sup> <del>this area for retention of sick and wounded for such periods as it might be possible to evacuate, owing to stress of weather.</del></p>	12



In sent

NO I A.C.C.S.

The following casualties have occurred in ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~unit~~ <sup>up</sup> to and including August 20<sup>th</sup>, with details.

Attached  
Sick Officers (1) (Dysentery) Unit Officer (1) (Pyresia). Total 2.

Other Ranks (12) (Pleurisy (2), gastro-enteritis (2), debility (1), dysentery (1), pyresia (6)). Total 12.

Wounded Other Ranks, 3 (Rifle bullet (shoulder), shrapnel wound (leg), shrapnel wound (thigh))



To each Member of the A.I.F.

The Australian Government has decided to commemorate Australia's share in the present war by the formation, after the war, of Museums, in which will be collections of war trophies, photographs, sketches, trench papers, &c. The task of collecting these is now in progress, and is being carried out by the Australian War Records Section, which already has received a large number of fine trophies.

It is desired to make these Museums at least as fine as any in the world, and thus a memorial worthy of the A.I.F. This can be done, but only with the co-operation of all ranks, and I now ask that each member of the A.I.F. should contribute at least one trophy to his unit's collection in the Museums. This would provide sufficient material for splendid Museums.

Some units are already taking steps to have this done. Unless the other units wish their collections to be overshadowed by these, it will be necessary for each member to do his bit to make his own unit's collection the best possible, and I am confident this will be done.

Trophies for the War Museums should be handed to C.O.s, who will arrange to send them to the Museums Collecting Depôt.

W. S. Bridwood.

14 December, 1917.



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17.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	Aug. 19 (Contd).		<p>Received letter from D.M.S. in reply to mine of 15th inst. in which he 'trusted I would control the evacuation from the three C.C.S. here.'</p> <p>My official title is Medical Control Officer, Anzac.</p> <p><del>No. 1429. Pte. A. McRae returned to duty.</del></p> <p>Evacuated 235 cases.</p>	
"	20.		<p>Handed over command of Aust. C.C. Station to Major Gordon according to instructions from D.M.S. for period while I am acting as Medical Control Officer.</p> <p>Inspected No.16 C.C.S. Great improvement in preparation of shelters which are suitable for fine weather only.</p> <p>A new pier had been built about 300 yards North of the Station and is suitable for small boats.</p> <p>On return to Anzac arranged with N.T.O. for using this new pier in event of many cases being evacuated from No.16. C.C.S. thereby saving a mile of stretcher bearing.</p>	
"	21.		<p><i>insert</i> → Major J. Corbin evacuated to Mudros pyrexia. <del>casualties to No. 14 C.C.S. handed to date for August 1915.</del></p> <p>Evacuations No.1 C.C.S. 277 No.13 40 No.16 233.</p> <p>Received information from G.S.O. A.&amp;.N.Z.A.C.. that operations would begin on left flank at 3 p.m. about 500 cases then anticipated. Notified O.C. No.16 C.C.S. to make necessary arrangements preparations.</p> <p>Evacuations No.1 C.C.S. 243. No.13 72. No.16. 234. Total 549.</p>	<p><del>Sick O. 7</del></p> <p><del>ER 12</del></p> <p><del>Wounded O. 1</del></p> <p><del>Wounded O. R. 3</del></p>

(Sgd) W.W.G.



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	Aug. 22. 23.  24.	—	<p>Evacuated A.C.C.S. 274 No.13 38, No.16.736 Total 1048.</p> <p>Inspected No.13 C.C.S. The shelters they have erected are only suitable for fine weather and will not keep out rain. Their Dressing Station is in bed of a small dry stream.</p> <p>Discussed the question of putting up more accommodation on ground not so exposed to <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del> inundation.</p> <p>Cases from No.16 C.C.S. are being hand-carried along the sap during the day, to rest shelter of No.13 and left there. These are then carried by bearers of No13 to jetty for evacuation.</p> <p>Evacuated A.C.C.S. 190 No.13. 68 No.16 ? Total. ?</p> <p>There has been a strong Northerly wind blowing. The weather shows signs of breaking up,</p> <p>Notified to Col. YOUNG, Commandant L.of C. Anzac the area required for C.C.Station in allotment of new ground N of Queensland Point, viz 120" x 15" and for shelters of areas of 56" x 8".</p> <p>Drew attention of D.D.M.S. Mudros to the depleted state of A.C.C.S., as to personnel there being only 45 N.C.O. and men a shortage of 32.</p> <p>Asked to be rested owing to poor health of the men several having to be off duty daily. Also asking for necessary reinforcements.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	24.		<p>Received cable from D.M.S. to enquire into alleged incompetence of acting O.C. No.13 C.C.S. and replace him if necessary. Wired for further particulars of charge. Evacuated A.C.C.S. 218 No.13 170. No.16 155 Total 543. Still blowing N. wind and threatening rain.</p>	
	25.		<p>Weather finer, calm. Wired to D.D.M.S. Mudros for 20 marquee tents and 20 bell tents to be used if possible in event of stress of weather preventing evacuation.</p>	
		2.15	<p>Lt. Col. Shanhan R.A.M.C. from G.H.Q. Imbros inspected Aust. C.C.S. He made inquiries and notes re hospital accommodation, shelters, transport, water supply and sanitation. He instructed that the Admission and Discharge Books of all Clearing Stations and Field Ambulances, which had cleared from Anzac, should be sent in to G.H.Q. up to August 28th for the purpose of allowing their Clerks to write up their books. He afterwards inspected No.13 &amp; No.16 C.C.Stations. I inspected the Anzac Area with O.C. 21st Sanitary Section and found that many units were failing to keep their areas free from refuse. Instructed O.C., S.S. to report them to Camp Commandant. Furnished report on Anzac to Camp Commandant. Evacuated A.C.C.S. 244 No.13. 41 No.16. 138 Total 423 cases.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	Aug. 26		<p>Lt.-Col. Shanahan inspected Sanitary section and enquired on the A.S.C. Supply of medical comforts. These were found to be very deficient and an urgent cable was sent to D.M.S. as to the state of affairs.</p> <p>The weather was very threatening in evening. Thunderstorm in distance. No heavy rain or wind.</p> <p>Evacuated A.C.C.S. 208 No.13. 101 No.16. 88. Total 397.</p>	
	27.		<p>Some rain during night strong N. wind.</p> <p>Cabled to D.M.S. that 30 reinforcements are urgently required by A.C.C.S. Present personnel 8 officers 40 others.</p> <p>Cabled to D.D.M.S. Mudros to advise me whether tents for C.C. Station had left for Anzac, Received notification from G.S.O. that action would take place on left at 4 p.m. Estimated casualties 500. Notified O.C. No.16 to take necessary action.</p> <p>Cabled D.M.S. asking that fresh meat supply <del>to</del> troops be renewed. Last supplied on Aug. 1st. Received answer that supply was stopped at request of G.O.C.</p>	
	28.		<p>Evacuated Aust. C.C.S. 229. No.13. 71. No.16. 97. Total 401.</p> <p>Inspected No.16. C.C.S. The O.C. reported that they had dealt with over 600 casualties without any hitch, the evacuating taking place from No.2 Pier. I arranged for transport by mule carts of 200 stretchers from No.13 to No.16. C.C.S.</p> <p>Interviewed Col. Knox re fresh meat supply. Informed the difficulty arose from shortage of labour to unload steamers from Imbros. He promised to try and renew the supply and issue of fresh meat.</p>	



# War Diary

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Angon Aug 28

Evacuated A.C.C.S. 215, No 13, 112, No 16, 732 Total 1059

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Furnished estimate to D.M.S. of supply of Medical Comptrol which will be necessary per week for the three C.C. Stations during the coming winter.

Received memo from D.M.S. as follows - Would you please consult with the G.O.C. Army Corps relative to your requirements for winter campaign. When you have arranged sites, accommodation etc. for sick & wounded, you should draw up a scheme and submit it without delay through the G.O.C. Army Corps to the office. Signed W.G. Russell S.C. D.M.S.

30

Evacuated A.C.C.S. 160 No 13, 137 No 16, 233 Total 530  
Furnished D.A.G. (Gen. Carruthers) with copies of my scheme of accommodation of sick.

Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> for accommodation of sick.  
Lt. Col. Abridge arrived from C.H.Q. Dubbo to meet the sanitary commissioners reported at Angon.

Consulted with Gen. Carruthers re scheme for accommodation.

Evacuated A.C.C.S. 200 No 13, 123 No 16, 186 Total 509

31

Lt. Col. Balfour & Lt. Col. Buchanan arrived by Hoop Ship <sup>Maheeno</sup> ~~Maheeno~~.  
I met them & introduced them to Gen. Birdwood & Gen. Carruthers & Col. Young (Camp Commandant). They made full inquiries into the health of the troops, particularly with regard to the measures for prevention of diarrhoea & typhus. One case of the latter is reported.



War Diary

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—

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Aug 31  
(cont)

to have occurred amongst the cases evacuated from here from the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion. On passing through our hands feverishness was the only symptom he presented. Spent great part of day in showing these specimens round to the doctor.

I have been suffering from great weakness lately the result of repeated attacks of diarrhoea. Today my symptoms were more acute & Col Howe strongly urged me to return to base for rest. Major Gordon examined my heart & said that a complete rest was necessary. I will therefore be evacuated tomorrow.

~~W. H. ...~~

W. H.

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