

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/54/12

Title: 11th Australian Field Ambulance

January 1918



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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

11th AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

JANUARY 1918.



Signature of Officer compiling

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Signature of Officer Commanding

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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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Steenwerck	Dec. 1		Handed over D.R.S. Steenwerck to 3/2 Wessex Field Ambulance (RAMC) and returned to join rest of Ambulance at D.R.S. Bailleul. 382 Cases passed through A+D. Books at this station.	Ref.
Bailleul	Jan 7		Capt. McDONNELL S.A. rejoined Unit from A/R.M.O. 3rd Pioneer Batten.	Ref.
	Jan 26		Capt. MILLER F.J. detailed with R.M.O. 7th F.A.B. for training in duties of R.M.O.	Ref.
	" 11		Major BRUMMITT. A.E. on leave to England to 25-1-18.	Ref.
	" 11		Capt LOVE J. returned from leave to England.	Ref.
	" 17		Capt MONTGOMERY detailed as A/R.M.O. to 3rd Div. Engineers.	Ref.
	" 24		Lieut. Col. CHAMBERS. R.W. acting A.D.M.S. 2nd Aust. Divn. to 7-2-18	Ref.
	" 26		Capt MILLER ^{F.J.} detailed as A/R.M.O. 8th S.A.B.	Ref.
	" 27		" LEWIS R.H. " " 36th Batten.	Ref.
	" 31		Handed over D.R.S. Bailleul to 2nd Aust. Field Ambulance. 110.6 Cases passed through A+D Books. 287 cases were evacuated to C.C.S. & 76 were transferred to C.R.S. 20 duty 365. The prevalent diseases were:- P.U.O. 95 Debility 115 Y.D. 47	Capp. No 1 Notes of Ref Special Interest.
Neppe	" 31		Took over M.D.S. Neppe from 5th Aust. Field Ambulance and all forward posts in Ploegstreet and Le Bizet Sectors.	Ref.

W. Thacker



WAR DIARY

OF

11th Australian Field Ambulance

FOR

January 1918**LIST OF APPENDICES.**

No.

Subject.

1. Notes of special interest for the month.
2. Operations Order No. 19.



NOTES OF SPECIAL INTEREST DURING THE MONTH OF
JANUARY 1918.

During the time the D.R.S. BAILLEUL was occupied by this Unit the following improvements were carried out:-
3 huts accomodating 30 patients, 2 huts accomodating 16 patients and 1 Dining hut were lined with malthoid and canvas thus making them much warmer and more comfortable.

The cook-house was enlarged and two new ^{oven} huts built.

The huts were revetted for protection against hostile air craft bombs.

The recreation room floor was covered with cocoanut matting, timber was obtained from Engineers and a small stage erected.

ENTERTAINMENTS. A perriot troupe consisting of the following members of the Unit under the guidance of Major WILEY has given several excellent entertainments to the other members of the Unit and to the patients in the D.R.S.. This Party has also given a number of entertainments outside the Unit. The number of requests for it to appear could not be met. List of number of entertainments ^{at} places it has appeared ^{is} as follows:-

- 3 at D.R.S. BAILLEUL.
- 1 at 96th Field Amb. (R.A.M.C.) BAILLEUL.
- 1 at 1st Aust. C.C.S. OUTERSTEENE.
- 1 at Y.M.C.A. LOCRE.
- 1 at Y.M.C.A. METEREN.
- 1 at Y.M.C.A. BAILLEUL.
- 1 at 4th Div. Artillery, Le CLITE.
- 1 at 7th Aust. Field Amb. PONT d'ACHELLES.
- 1 at 6th " " " WESTHOF.
- 1 at 11th Aust. Engineers, WESTHOF.

The following other parties gave entertainments at D.R.S.:-
2 from 1st Aust. C.C.S.
1 from 4th Aust. D.S.C. Orchestra.
1 from 10th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

The following is a list of the members of the Periot Troupe:-

- R.Q.M.S. Lorrain F.B.
- S/Sgt. Coombe E.I.
- Sgt. McPhetson J.U.
- 4/Cpl. Pirie W.W.
- Cpl. Green C.E.
- Cpl. McGrath A.
- L/Cpl. Harrison G.
- Pte. Evans J.H.
- " Starkey W.S.
- " Cook E.T.
- " O'Meara W.
- " Flieshmann H.V.
- " Thomas W.H.

These entertainments have done much to relieve the monotony of the winter evenings.



During the time the Unit was at the P. S. S. BAILLEUL the 3rd Divisional Eoden Lorry was stationed there. Besides putting through the blankets of the Division, the blankets of the D. R. S. were also done. When a patient was discharged his blankets were taken to store by the Orderly and a clean disinfected ones obtained in their place, so that every patient who was admitted had clean blankets to sleep in. The total number disinfected was 12776 for the period from 1/1/18 to 21/1/18.

The discipline and the general health of the Unit has been good.

 Quartermasters Report for the month of January 1918.

Satisfactory progress is reported from the various branches of this department during the past month. No complaints received as to the general, rationing, clothing and equipping of the Unit; although severe frosty during the month the general comfort of the unit has been maintained.

FOOD SUPPLIES. In spite of reported shortages, supplies have been well maintained in this unit. The average number catered for daily, inclusive of personnel, patients and attached being 500 per diem. The average percentage *obtained* of the principle articles of food used throughout the unit are as follows:-

Meat (fresh)	55%	Meat (preserved)	20%
Bacon	100%	Cheese	35%
Bread	60%	Jam	90%
Sugar	100%	Tea	100%
Milk	75%	Vegetables	70%
Oatmeal	Nil.		

The food supplied to patients has been augmented with extras drawn from No2 Field Supply Depot, CAESTRE, and the Red Cross Depot, HAZEBROUCK, including full and light diets.

PERSONNEL. Meals supplied to the staff has been of ample quantity, varied menu and well cooked. When vegetables have been short, the A.S.C. supplies to replace same have been purchased out of Regimental Funds, so that a daily supply of vegetables of one kind and another has been available. As the tea hour for both staff and patients is at 4.30 p.m. coffee or cocoa and biscuits are provided for both staff and patients at 8 p.m., the coffee and milk, or cocoa and milk being supplied from Red Cross and other sources.

RUM. Rum has been issued to night picquets and special working parties in small quantities under the C.O's or M.O's directions.

LIGHTING. Extra lighting facilities have been placed throughout the various wards and recreation room by oil lamp and ~~xxx~~ acetylene provided by Red Cross Depot. The supply of oil and carbide has also proved ample.

FUEL. In addition to the daily ration allowed, a further supply of 3 tons of coal per week was arranged for and granted by the S.S.O. This has provided sufficient fuel for the stoves in wards and recreation room. This has proved sufficient for requirements under careful supervision, a member of this staff being in charge of same, regulating the issue.



RED CROSS STORES. This most useful institution has been well up to the mark in meeting demands made on them for the comfort of patients, and during the month a number of articles such as matting, chairs, tables, oil lamps, games and beds have been supplied to this station and has added materially to the comfort of patients. Underclothing, towels etc. for the patients have also been provided.

MATCH & CIGARETTE ISSUE. The average amount issued during the month to both patients and staff was 1 packet of tobacco and 4 packets of cigarettes per man per week. In the case of patients when extra supplies were required these were drawn from Supply Depot, CAESTRE.

D.A.D.O.S. No difficulty has been found in obtaining supplies through this source and practically all indents have been supplied

RETURN OF WASTE.

FAT: $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per man -- total due at railhead, 407 lbs.,
total sent 800.
surplus, 393 lbs. due to care of

~~sucking~~ cooking staff.

WASTE PAPER AND CARDBOARD: Orders were given at the beginning of the month for the saving of all waste paper and cardboard, in consequence of which collecting bags were placed throughout the Hospital, and the following has been returned:-

Waste paper: 464 lbs.
Cardboard: 119 "

Vouchers are received for above, which are cashed and placed to the credit of the Regimental Funds, thus providing extras in the form of food and amusements for personnel.

DINING ROOM.

The same dining room has served the purpose for both walking patients and personnel.

PACK-STORE.

This store is under the charge of Cpl. Green, assisted by Cpl. Bartlett. Records were kept up to date, kits in special receptacles and rifles kept thoroughly clean. No complaints were received of any missing. 765 packs and 683 rifles passed through this Store during the Month.

This unit handed over to the 2nd Australian Field Ambulance on 31.1.1918.

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Robert A. H.



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SECRET

OPERATION ORDER. No. 19.

Map Reference, Sheets 27, 28, 36 and 36a.

1. INTENTION.

The 3rd Australian Division will relieve 2nd Australian Division in the Right (A) Sector of the Corps Front between 27th and 29th January 1918.
The 11th Australian Field Ambulance will relieve the 5th Australian Field Ambulance at NIEPPE and in the forward area and be responsible for the clearance of that Area. Relief to take place on 30th and 31st January 1918.
The 2nd Australian Field Ambulance will relieve the 11th Australian Field Ambulance at D.R.S. BAILLEUL on 30th and 31st January 1918.

2. MOVES.

In connection with the above relief the following moves will take place:-

1. Advance party consisting of Captain LOVE, Captain SWEENEY and 71 O.R. will move to NIEPPE on 30th January 1918. This party will arrive there by 10 a.m. and will then take over the A.D.S.'s at UNDERHILL FARM and the BREWERY and all the forward posts.
Captain LOVE and 36 O.R. will take over the Left A.D.S. and forward posts.
Captain SWEENEY and 35 O.R. will take over the Right A.D.S. and the forward posts.
2. 2 Talbot Ambulance Cars and 1 Ford Car with equipment for A.D.S. will also move on 30th to relieve cars of 5th Australian Field Ambulance by noon.
3. Bearers packs will be left at Q.M. store at NIEPPE before Advance party moves to forward posts.
4. On 31st January Major WILEY and 5 O.R. will proceed to Ambulance Headquarters at NIEPPE arriving there by 9.30 a.m. and take over station, giving certificate as to condition station was left in.
5. Remainder of personnel of Unit will form rear party and proceed to NIEPPE under charge of W.O. after D.R.S. BAILLEUL has been handed over to incoming unit in a satisfactory condition.
6. Transport will move independently under command of Transport Officer on 31st leaving D.R.S. BAILLEUL by 10 a.m.
7. Foden Lorry will report to 10th Australian Field Ambulance at PONT-d'ACHELLES on 29th inst by 11 a.m.
8. Q.M. will arrange for rations for advance party.
9. BLANKETS:-
 - (a) ADVANCE PARTY will be stacked, rolled at Q.M. store on 30th inst by 7.45 a.m.
 - (b) REMAINDER OF UNIT will be stacked, rolled at Q.M. store on 31st by 9 a.m.
10. All salvage will be returned to Q.M. store at Ambulance Headquarters at NIEPPE from A.D.S.'s

J. W. Lawrence
.....Lt. Col.

C.O. 11th Aust. Field Ambulance.

DISTRIBUTION.

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| Copy No. 1. A.D.M.S. | Copy No. 2. O.C. "B" Section. |
| 3. Q.M. | 4. O.C. "C" " |
| 5. Transport Off. | 6. Transport Off. (Motor) |
| 7. File. | 8. War Diary. |

