

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/55/16

Title: 12th Australian Field Ambulance

September 1917



AWM4-26/55/16

Confidential

WAR DIARY

Month of September 1917

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.

Brigade

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

12th Aust. Field Ambulance

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ravelsburg	Sept 12 th 1917		Unit located (less 'B' Section) at Ravelsburg and running 4 th Div. Post Station. 'B' Sect near by House attached to 12 th Aust. Inf. Bde. 2 O.R. evacuated Sick.	
	2 nd	9 am	Advanced party of 44 th Field Dist took over D.R.S. Ravelsburg - Relief complete at 4 pm.	
	3 rd	9 am	Unit marched out from Ravelsburg and proceeded via Baillat - but Horstmann - Vicenz Berguin to Le Motte area camping at Claudes-cure. March 12 miles. 'B Sect' moved with Inf Bde to Erny-St-Julien.	
	4 th	6 am	Unit moved from Claudes-cure - via St. Vincent, Molvinghem, Mazinghem, Linghem Longham and Erquin-le-Muis to Erny-St-Julien (23 miles) A. halt of 3 hrs made at Aibois; arrived in billets 5.30 pm. Horses + men did the trip very well.	
	5 th		Opened Brigade Post Station. All arrangements made for evacuation of sick etc.	
	6 th		Special syllabus of training made out for the unit + started on today. Syllabus comprises a summary of A.M.C. training etc + extends over 12 days at the end of which time it is re-commenced.	
	7 th		1 O.R. rejoined from hospital.	

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II

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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12th Ambulance Field Ambulance

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Camp - 1st - Gales	Sept 8 th 1917		Majr BROWNE + 1 O.R. rejoined from temp. duty with 48 th Ant. Inf. Bn. 4 H.D. Horses drawn for Remount depot 3 for 12 th + 1 for 4 th F. Amb.	
	9 th		1 O.R. excused sick. Capt TRUE T.E. posted to 46 th Bn as R.M.O. via Capt Smallpage excused sick. + is truck off strength.	
	10 th		1 O.R. posted to Super. Strength as R.M.O. detail via 1 O.R. excused sick. Capt P. B. SEWELL taken on strength from Refresher to depot of 13 th F. Amb. + remains temp. staff as R.M.O. 52 nd A.I. Bn.	
	11 th		1 O.R. excused sick. 1 O.R. transferred to No 3 A.G.H.	
	12 th	3pm	Unit inspected by D.M.S. 1 st Army with excellent results. "Best seen on tour of inspection"	
		5pm	Lectures by D.A.A.G. + Asst D.A.A.G. to Officers on (A) Legal procedure (B) Boards of Enquiry (C) Disciplinary powers of C.O.	
	13 th	6pm	Lecture to Officers + N.C.O.s + drivers by A.D.V.S. on the ^{business} management etc.	
			From 9 am. day devoted to a Unit Sports Meeting + Concert in the evening. 520 Francs devoted towards the day's program by Trust Account + subscription.	
	14 th	5pm	1 O.R. returned joined on transfer for No. 3. A.G.H. Lecture to Officers + N.C.O.s on Map reading. 1 O.R. excused sick. Lt's Small + Banford returned from 1 st Ayer school + are taken on Super. Strength.	

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WAR DIARY

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III

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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12th Aust. Field Ambulance

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Eruegt-Julen	Sept. 15 th		12 th Inf. Bde Sports held. Unit participated + gave a very good account of itself.	
	16 th		1 O.R. posted as R.M.C. detail + sent off strength. 1 Sgt + 2 Pte Clerks proceeded to 1 st Angee Central Bureau at D.R.S. Room, siding for temp. duty.	
	17 th		1 O.R. evacuated sick. Advance billeting party proceeded to Watten Coppell area (west)	
	18 th		6 O.R. rejoined from duty at Officers Club House La Motte.	
	19 th		10 O.R. rejoined from hospital. Unit moved to BAVINHOVE (N. 30.0. + 6. Chut 27). Liaison omitted personnel moved by bus from Bouvy to Le Nieppe. Transport moved direct. Billets very crowded. 3 Motor Ambulances with 9 O.R. detached to 20 MAC. at H. 27. c. 2. p.	
	20 th		Motor Cyclist detached to 1 st Aust. Div. 1 O.R. evacuated sick.	
	21 st		1 R.M.C. detail evacuated. The unit moved with 12 th A.I. Bde from Bavichove to Steenvorde area. J. 29. c. 9. 1. (Sheet 27).	
	22 nd		Capt SEWELL rejoined from temp. duty with 52 nd Btn. 1 O.R. Motor driver evacuated wounded. Capt F. MELDRUM A.A.D.C. reported for duty with 27 th Aust. unit from 26 th Div. Interpreter M. Simon temp. attached from 4 th A.F. Amb. 2 Motor Amb. with 5 O.R. rejoined from 20 th MAC. 1 O.R. detailed to 12 th A.F.A. Bde as R.M.C. detail + transf. to Supr. Strength.	

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IV

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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12th Austrian Field Ambulance

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Steenwerde	Sept 23 rd 1917		Unit moved forward at 9.30 am. disinformed personnel proceeded by bus - Bearon subdivision to Belg. Belgian Bty Corner H. 24. c. 5. 8. where they came under control of 4 th A.F. Amb. Tent subdivisions proceeded to Van Schier Farm G. 21. c. 5. 8. to take over + join 4 th Div. Rest. Station. Transport moved independently. 3 Home-amb wagons 1 G.S. wagon + 1 motor cart with 10 H.D. Horses. reported to CO. 4 th A.F. Amb Belgian Bty Corner at 6 pm. Total personnel detached with 4 th F. Post 6/1.3 Q.R. 113. Capt HAYLEY C.W. left to report to A.I.F. Hd Qrs London on transfer from 27 th to 26 th A. Dental Unit. D.R.S. being cleaned + prepared for reception of 120 patients. Capt G.A. BLUMER with 1 O.R. proceeded to 4 th Post. Div. Wing Corps Reinf. Cpt. Coester for duty on M.O. 1 H.D. evacuated. 2 Panhard + 1 Ford Motor Amb proceeded for duty with 14 th A.F. Amb. 1 O.R. Wounded + admitted to D.R.S. 1 O.R. Wounded + evacuated. CO. visited Corps Reinf. Cpt. to report on Medical arrangements. These were found unsatisfactory + reported on. 1 O.R. proceeded to Reinf. Cpt. in A.M.C. detail. Sgt BAMFORD J.W. proceeded to England for posting to a Cadet Bty. Sgt C.H. READE reported for duty from Officers Post House La Motte. Patients beginning to arrive in D.R.S. from Corps distributing Centre.	
	24 th			
	25 th			
	26 th			
	27 th			

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WAR DIARY
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12th Australian Field Ambulance

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Van Schier Farm (N. of Rouinghelst)	28 th		<p>'C' Sect Tent Subdivision reported for duty to No. 2. Canadian C.C.S. at Remy Liding to relieve a tent subdivision of VI A.F. Amb. - Officers 2 O.R. 15. Major JOHNSON transf. detached for duty with No. 2 Canadian C.C.S. 50 patients admitted yesterday & today. Major R.B. North reported</p>	
	29 th		<p>Back from 4th F. Amb. 40 R. Wounded & evacuated. 12374 Pte HOWEATE A.E.W. died of wounds, 12253 Pte AGNEW J.W.A. Killed in action. Bearer Subdivision + 9 O.R. with 10 H.D. Horses 2 Haulbars. 1 G.S. + 1 Water cart returned from 4 A.F. Amb. 1 Horn Amb. Wagon destroyed by shell fire. 2 Motor Amb. returned from 20th M.A.C. 14 F.F. Amb. 1 Motor Amb. returned from 20 M.A.C. Spt Beale proceeded to 4 F.A.B. as Spt Steward.</p>	
	30 th		<p>Total joined { Capt MELDRUM M.F. Total gone Capt TRUE T.E. Off. 2. { Capt SEWELL P.B. Officers 2 Capt HAYLEY C.W. O.R. 4. O.R. 22</p>	
			<p>No of Patients Admitted 307 No treated & returned to duty without admission 92</p>	

Charles Wassell
 Lt. Col.
 Co. 12th Aust. Fld Amb.

