

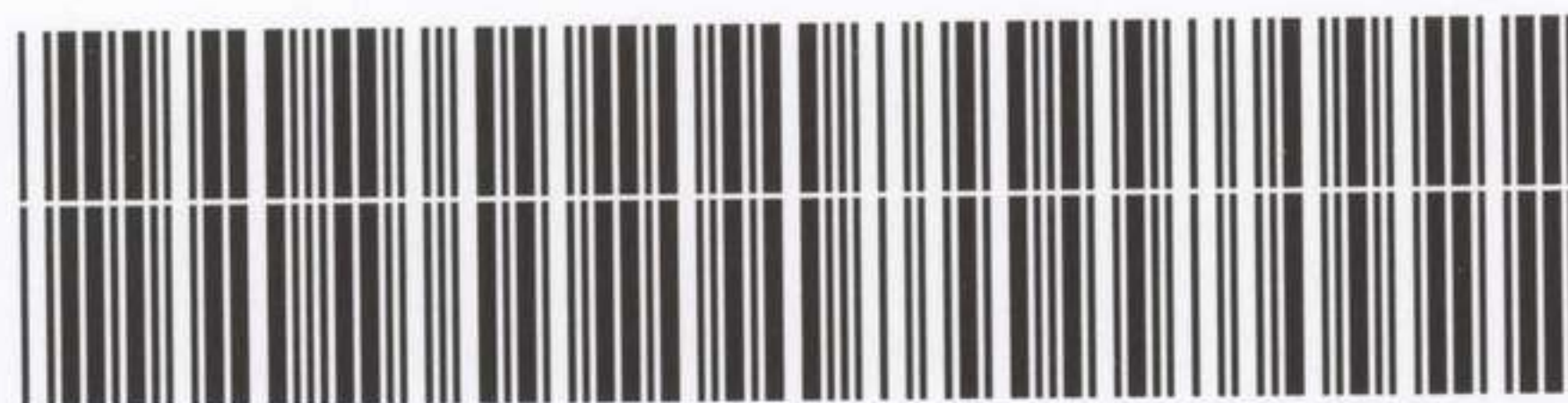
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/58/27

Title: 15th Australian Field Ambulance

July 1918



AWM4-26/58/27

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

FOR

July 191*8*

Signature of Officer compiling

Arthur Walsh *Lieut Colonel*

Signature of Officer Commanding

Arthur Walsh *Lieut Colonel*

Complete

623

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.)

Page 1

273

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
M.D.S. QUERRIEU SHEET 62 ^D H. 10. a. 9. 4.	1-7-18		CAPTAIN J. L. DIGGLE and No 3005 SGT. W. R. B. JOHNSON temporarily detached for course of instruction at AUST. CORPS GAS SCHOOL. No 6422 LCE/SGT. A. A. COLE temporarily detached as A. A. M. C. Waler Detail, 5 th AUST. PIONEER BATTALION in place of No 122 LCE/SGT. J. H. SPENCE proceeding on leave to AUSTRALIA and struck off strength. <i>JD</i>	
	2/ 4-7-18		No entries necessary. <i>JD</i>	
	5-7-18		LIEUT. COLONEL H. SMITH, C.M.G. appointed ACTING A.D.M.S., 4 th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION, is struck off strength dated 5-7-1918. Major J. D. NORRIS assumes temporary command from this date. (Authority - D.A.G. A.I.F. 148/01/150 dated 2-7-1918) <i>JD</i>	
	6-7-18		No 852, PTE. G. H. DUGARD is taken on strength from Hospital as A.G.B.D. CAPTAIN J. L. DIGGLE and No 3005, SGT. W. R. B. JOHNSON ceased to be detached to AUST. CORPS GAS SCHOOL and rejoining Unit. <i>JD</i>	
	7-7-18		No entries necessary. <i>JD</i>	
	8-7-18		No 14657 PTE. H. P. JONES is posted to "Supernumerary to Establishment" and detached for duty to A.D.M.S., 4 th AUST. DIVISION. (Authority - A.D.M.S., 5 th AUST. DIVISION E.20/78 dated 8-7-18) <i>JD</i>	
	9/ 10-7-18		No entries necessary. <i>JD</i>	
	11-7-18		No 3006 (DVR) LCE/CAF R. E. GREENWOOD and No 17539 PTE. S. G. MONRO taken on strength from	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
M.D.S. QUERRIEU SHEET 62 ^D H. 10. a. 9. H.	11-7-18		Hospital, etc A.G.B.D. No 3006, Pte. R.W. BARCLAY is posted to "Superannumerary to Establishment" and detached for duty as A.A.M.C. Water Detail, 5 th Aust. MACHINE GUN BATTALION (Authority - A.D.M.S., 5 th Aust. Div. E. 6/80 dated 10-7-1918.) JH	
	12-7-18		LIEUT. COLONEL R.W. WHISTON WALSH, D.S.O. reported for duty and assumes command as at this date. CAPTAIN S.T. APPLEFORD is temporarily detached for duty as R.M.O. 5 th Aust. Divisional Train dated 12-7-1918. JH	
	13-7-18		CAPTAIN J.S. WILSON is temporarily detached for duty as R.M.O. 5 th Aust. M.G. BATTALION during the absence on leave of CAPTAIN G.C. INELLISCH, dated 13-7-1918. No 4741, Private L.J. LELEU taken on strength from Hospital etc A.G.B.D. RN	
	14/19-7-18		No Entries necessary RN	
	20-7-18		CAPTAIN B.M.N. BEITH is temporarily detached for duty as R.M.O. 13 th A.F.A. BRIGADE during the absence on leave of MAJOR WILKINSON - (Authority - A.D.M.S., 5 th Aust. Division - J. 25/84 d. 20-7-18) RN	
	21/23-7-18		No Entries necessary RN.	
	24-7-18		A Section Tent and Transport Sub Divisions, 129 th Provisional Field Ambulance, 33 rd AMERICAN DIVISION U.S.A. attached vide D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS. instructions. RN	
	25/26-7-18		No Entries necessary RN	

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
M.D.S., QUERRIEU SHEET 62 ^D	27-7-18.		CAPTAIN J.L. DIGGLE and No 9888, LCE/CPL P.J. HORAN temporarily detached for course of instructions at AUST. CORPS GAS SCHOOL RN	
H. 10. w. q. 4	28-7-18		No 19110, Private M. KERR proceeding to 5 th AUST. DIVISION BASE DEPOT is struck off strength. (Authority - A.D.M.S. 5 th AUST. Div. K. 18/88 dt. 27-7-18) RN	
	29-7-18		No 19647 Private H.G. SHIMMINS evacuated to C.E.S (sick) is struck off strength. RN	
	30-7-18		A Section Tent and Transport Sub. Division, 129 th PROVISIONAL FIELD AMBULANCE, 33 rd AMERICAN DIVISION, U.S.A. ceased to be detached on joining 3 rd AUST. DIVISION. CAPTAIN R.S. SCOTT is taken on strength from No. 2 A.G.H. RN	
MONTIERES.	31-7-18		CAPTAIN J.S. WILSON ceased to be detached to 5 th AUST. MACHINE GUN BATTALION on rejoining Unit. RN	
			<div> <p>Lieut. Colonel. CO. 15th Australian Field Ambulance. A.I.F.</p> </div>	

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2

WAR DIARY

OF

15TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.

FOR

J U L Y, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

Appendix (C.O's. report) to accompany War Diary with following attached to the Original Copy of War Diary :-

Sketches (2) of Dry Air Fumigator and Drying Room.

Standing Orders for treatment of Gassed Cases.

Copy of report by Major J.V.Pearce on gassed cases admitted from 19-7-18 to 23-7-18.

Copy of report by Major J.V.Pearce in regard to a blood transfusion case.

Quartermaster's report for month of July, 1918.

Transport Officer's report on Horse Transport for month of July, 1918.

Report of Officer i/c Mechanical Transport for month of July, 1918.

Report by Officer i/c No. 23 Dental Unit.

Copy of Movement Order No. 1 issued at 2 p.m. 29-7-1918.

Copy of letter to Officer i/c "B" Section, 15th Aust. Field Ambulance - Medical arrangements of 15th Aust. Field Ambulance while the 5th Aust. Division is in Corps Reserve (attached to original copy of War Diary only).

Graph showing total number of sick, wounded, gassed, influenza and P.U.O. cases passing through the 5th Aust. Division M.D.S. for the month of July, 1918.

Graph showing principal causes of sickness passing through the 5th Aust. Division M.D.S. for month of July, 1918.

Graph showing total mileage covered, total gallons petrol consumed, total patients carried and cars of duty of 5th Australian Motor Transport Company attached to 15th Australian Field Ambulance during month of July, 1918.



Appendix to accompany War Diary for month of July, 1918.1-7-1918.

Delousing Chamber now completed. Needs firing for two or three days in order to thoroughly dry out.

Information received at 8 p.m. of intended operations on Divisional Front to co-operate with attack by Division on Right. One Bearer Sub-Division to be detached to forward Ambulance and all cars to be at the disposal of Officer i/c A.D.S.

2-7-1918.

Visited No. 5 Australian M. T. Workshops in order to expedite repair of Ford and Sunbeam Ambulance Cars. The Officer i/c promised to have them finished by Wednesday evening.

3-7-1918.

At 12 noon, C.O., 14th Australian Field Ambulance interviewed me in regard to Bearer personnel. Arranged to send up two Squads to complete "A" Section Bearer Sub-Division (7 squads being already with him) early in the afternoon. This was done, the Bearer Captain going up to arrange the proper allocation to Stretcher Squads.

Two Fords and one Sunbeam Ambulance Cars reported from Workshops at 7 p.m.

At 3 p.m. information as to date and hour of proposed operation was received - 4th instant at 3-10 a.m.

The following arrangements were made :-

One Ford Ambulance and one Sunbeam Ambulance (extra) was sent at 8 p.m. to A.D.S.

Major J.D. Norris was placed in charge of all Dressing Rooms with Major Craig and Major Pearce and Captain Beith to assist.

Captain S.T. Appleford was placed in charge of Gas Centre which was well supplied with Liq. Paraffin, Olive Oil, 1% and 5% Solutions of Sod. Bicarb and Oxygen. A sufficient supply of pyjamas was arranged and necessary steps taken to enable all cases to be bathed if necessary.

Captain Wilson was placed in charge of all evacuations and transport.

Walking Wounded were to be conveyed to the Barn on the QUERRIEU-AMIENS Road by Horse Ambulance and there loaded into returning Motor Lorries.

4-7-1918.

The first wounded arrived at 7-30 a.m. and from then to 12 p.m. 118 passed through, including six wounded prisoners - of these 54 were walking cases.

Two Motor Lorries were placed at my disposal by the C.O., 135 Heavy Battery and proved very useful for Walking Wounded. Most of the cases were not seriously wounded.

All arrangements proved sufficient. No gas cases passed through.

The D.D.M.S. visited the Station at 12 noon and the Corps Commander called in to enquire as to the number passing through.

5-7-1918.

Last evening and early this morning QUERRIEU was heavily bombed. No bombs fell in the immediate vicinity of the Dressing Station but fragments started a couple of slates of the Scabies Station. There was a heavy bombardment all through the night and 52 casualties passed through the Station between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

6-7-1918.

Lieut-Colonel K. Smith, C.M.G. left this morning to take up the duties of A.D.M.S., 4th Australian Division.

7-7-1918.

Very quiet - special - nil.

8-7-1918.

Under instructions from A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division a party of One Sergeant One Cook and 28 Stretcher Bearers were sent forward to report to the C.O., 14th Australian Field Ambulance (A.D.S., "C" Division) for the purpose of excavating Dug-Outs. Special arrangements were made to supplement the rations for this party out of Regimental "Trust" Account.

8-7-1918.

An Audit Board was assembled in accordance with K.R. 104 constituted as follows :-

Major R. F. Craig, President.
" J. V. Pearce)
Captain S. T. Appleford) Members.

In the evening an entertainment was given by the Cabaret Concert Party, 108th United States Engineers. Invitations were issued to and accepted by the 15th Aust. Infantry Battalion and other neighbouring Units. There was a large attendance and the performance was of a most novel and entertaining character and greatly appreciated by all.

The Band of the 59th Aust. Infantry Battalion played selections during the evening.

All performers were afterwards entertained to refreshments - the cost being borne by the Unit "Trust" account.

9-7-1918.

The Main Dressing Station was visited by the D.D.M.S., Australian Corps. He inspected the Dressing Rooms and laid stress on the necessity for making provision for emergency operative work to be efficiently carried out at this Station.

10-7-1918.

A quantity of X Ray and other medical stores salvaged by the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade, mainly the 57th Australian Infantry Battalion, from the C.C.S., EDGEHILL (now in No Man's Land) was received from the Quartermaster, 15th Australian Infantry Brigade, and notification of it's receipt sent to A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.

11-7-1918.

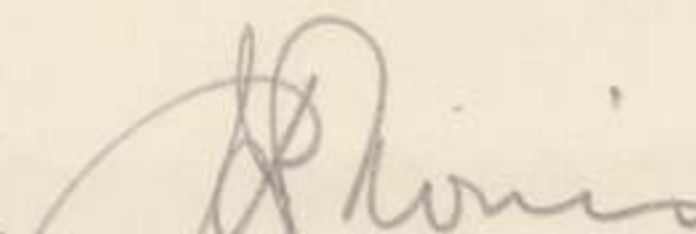
Made an inspection of A.M.C. Dug-out at H.15.b.2.7. - Sheet 62D - and posted daily patrol on this site. Notices reserving the dug-out for A.M.C. were posted up at both entrances.

12-7-1918.

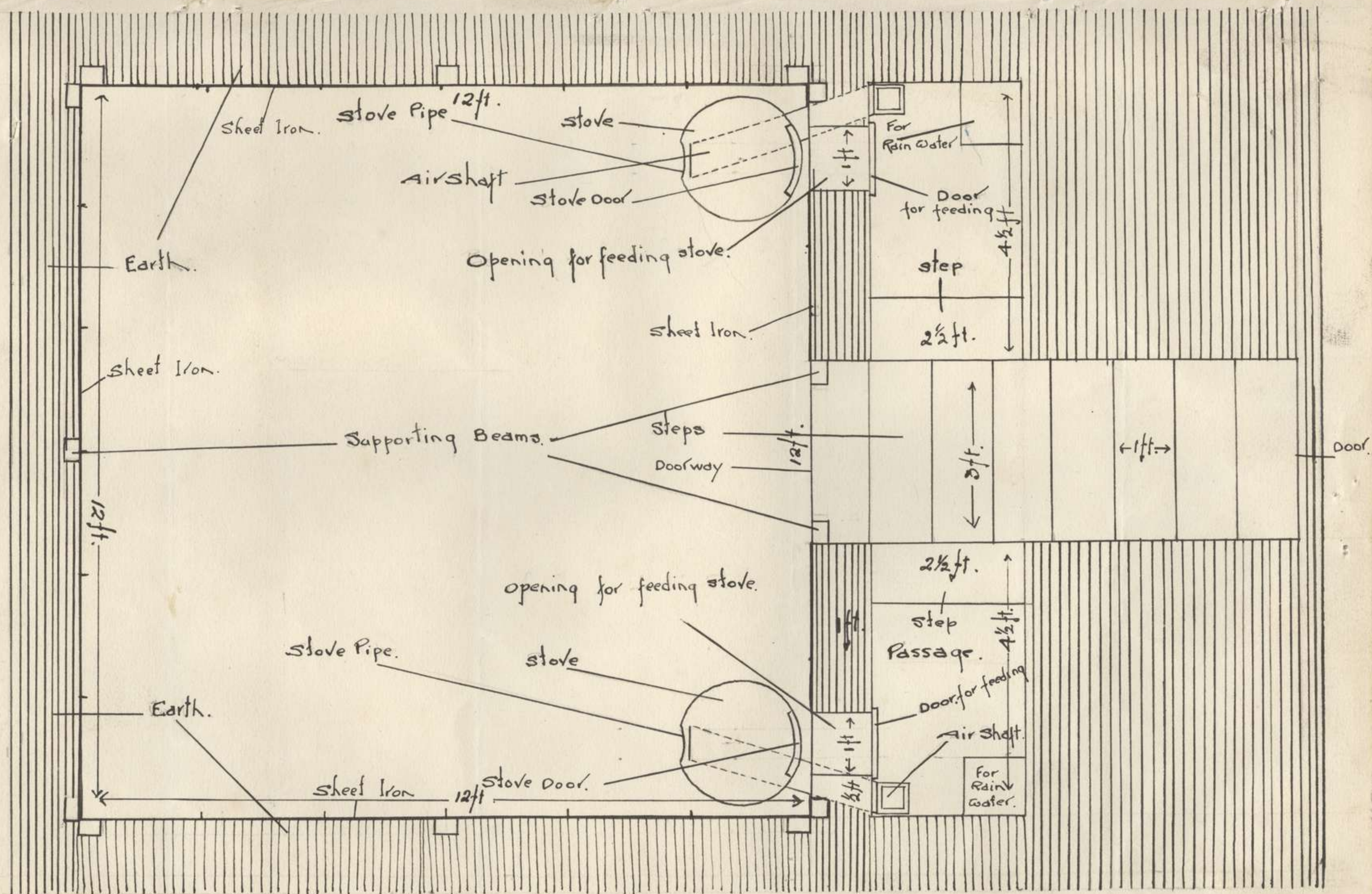
The N.C.O. i/c Russian Type Delousing Plant (No. 64, Lce/Cpl. F.G. Bull, 15th Australian Field Ambulance) submitted a suggested improvement in the method of fuel feed. Sketches of the proposed plant attached as appendix.

The method suggested obviates the necessity of feeding coal down a long flue and has a further advantage of visual control over the combustion process in the stoves.

Lieut-Colonel R. W. Whiston Walsh, D.S.O. reported to the Unit for duty as Commanding Officer and assumed command.

 Major.

For C. O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

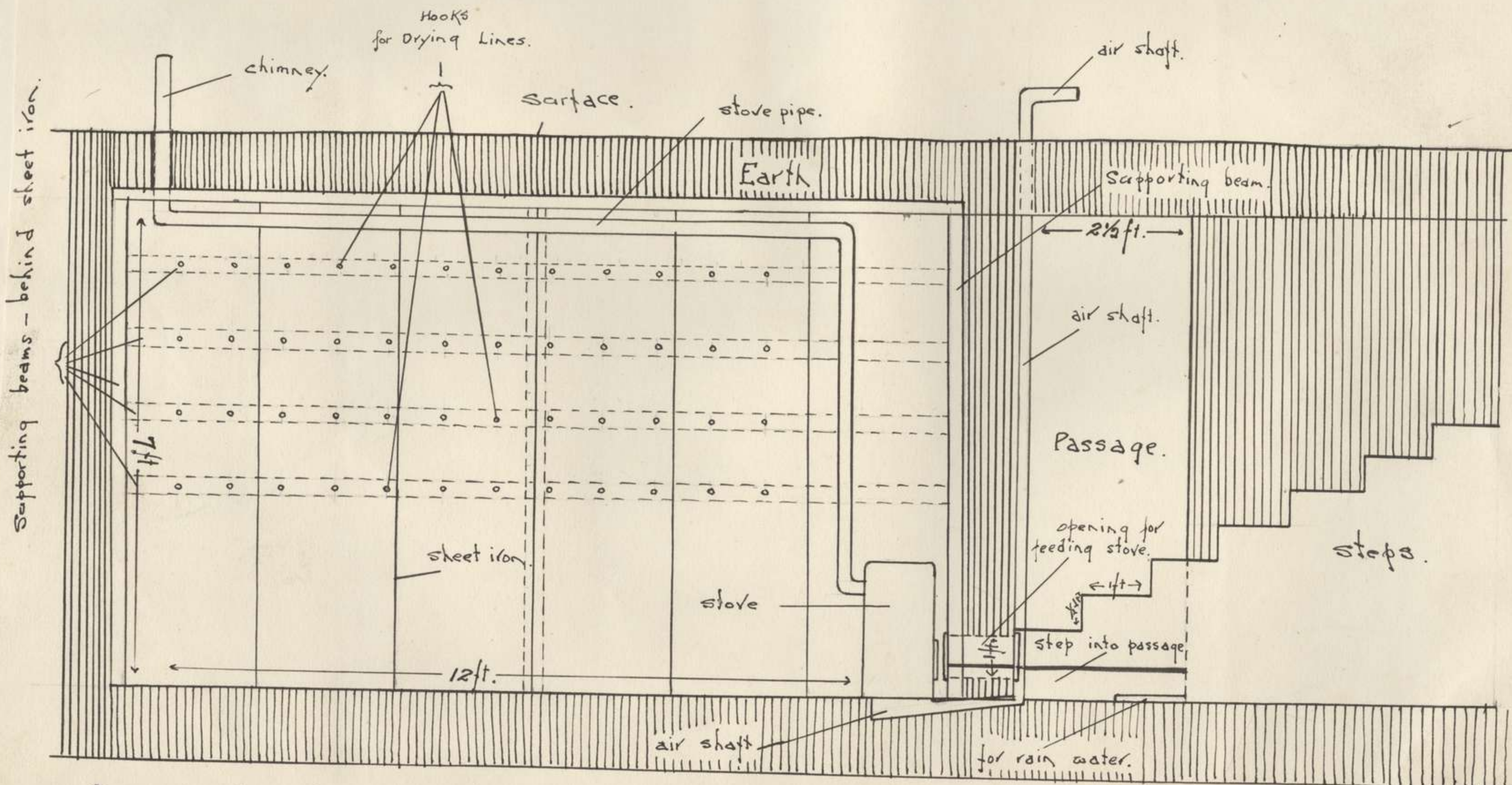


Dry Air Fumigator and Drying Room.

249

APPENDIX

7



Dry Air Fumigator and Drying Room.

15TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.

Appendix (continued) to accompany War Diar for month of July, 1918.

On assuming command of the 15th Australian Field Ambulance on 12-7-1918, the Unit was established at the Main Dressing Station, "C" Divisional Sector, QUERRIEU. The station was specially adapted for M.D.S. work. There was a large A and D Room, with good entrance and exit, capable of holding 30 Stretcher cases and about fifty walking cases. At the end of this room there were six large rooms which were used as follows :-

- (1) Blanket and Stretcher Store.
- (2) A and D Clerical Staff.
- (3) Buffet.
- (4) Medical Inspection Room.
- (5 and 6) Sleeping apartments for M.A.C. Drivers.

Near the exit of the A and D Room there were two large dressing rooms where five stretcher cases could be dealt with at once.

In a detached house we had an Operating Centre with four rooms :-

- (1) An Operating Room specially prepared to cope with an emergency operation.
- (2) A Rechauffement room capable of holding five cases.
- (3) A small room with two beds for the retention of cases operated on.
- (4) A Mortuary.

In another detached house with two rooms the Gas Centre was located.

There was a large reception room where cases were prepared, clothes removed, patients washed and treated in accordance with routine attached (original copy only).

The second room with Haldane Oxygen apparatus installed was for very bad cases which required oxygen treatment.

About fifty slightly sick were held in the Station accommodated in tents and lofts.

During the month 3227 cases were evacuated to C.C.S. - this total included 701 wounded and 132 Gassed.

The majority of these cases passed through the Station on the 4th, 29th and 30th when the Division was taking part in minor operations.

The Influenza epidemic gradually died out and had practically disappeared by the middle of the month, but the Divisional sick wastage did not come down on account of the Diarrhoeal diseases which became evident.

The Gassed cases were most prominent during minor operations.

Between the 19-7-1918 and 23-7-1918 a series of cases were admitted caused by British Phosgene Gas from Projectors. These cases were all very bad vide attached report (original copy only)

On 29-7-1918 the Unit was warned to be prepared to evacuate 600 cases (stretcher) as a Div. Minor operation was in preparation. The establishment of M.A.C. Cars was increased from six to twenty Cars.

The first cases arrived at 6 a.m., five hours after the attack commenced and from then onwards about five car loads of stretcher cases arrived every hour. The cases were all well dressed at the A.D.S. and only in a few cases were they redressed at the M.D.S.

Several cases were treated in operating centre - report on one notable case attached (original copy only), where transfusion of blood from suitable donor was resorted to with dramatic effects.

About 180 stretcher cases passed through for the operation.

The 129th Provisional Field Ambulance, 33rd American Division, was attached for instruction on 24-7-1918 and were detached on 30-7-1918 for duty with 3rd Australian Division.

The Unit handed over M.D.S., QUERRIEU, to 56th Field Ambulance, B.E.F. about 10 a.m. 31-7-1918 and marched out for MONTIERES at 10 a.m. where the Unit formed a Station for evacuation of Brigade sick while in Corps Reserve.

Alfred Threlkeld

..... Lieut-Colonel,

C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

STANDING ORDERS for treatment of "Gassed" cases.

- (1) All cases to be treated as serious stretcher cases. Walking cases on admission will be made stretcher cases. No smoking will be permitted on any account. Oxygen will not be administered without authority from a Medical Officer.
- (2) Orderly must advise M.O. as soon as Gas case is admitted.
- (3) All cases to have clothes removed - the clothing to be immediately put outside the room - body sponged with 5% solution sodi bicarb. Then patients to be put in pyjamas on stretchers and kept warm.
- (4) In case of Mustard Gas, Yellow X :-
 - (a) The eyes will be thoroughly bathed with 1% Solution Sodi Bicarb.
 - (b) A few drops of 1% Solution Sodi Bicarb will be instilled into the eyes.
 - (c) A few drops of Liquid Parrafin will be dropped into the eyes.
 - (d) Protecting shade applied to the eyes.
 - (e) The mouth, pharynx and nose will be washed out with 5% solution sodi bicarb.
 - (f) A drink of Solution sodi bicarb **10%** 1-2z.
 - (g) Orderlies to wash hands with sodi bicarb solution after handling clothes contaminated with Yellow X.



Musthahl

.....Lieut-Colonel,
C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

10

In the Field,
24th July, 1918.

From Major J. V. Pearce.

To/
C. O.,
15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.Return of Gassed Cases admitted from 19-7-1918 to 23-7-1918.

37 Cases were admitted, all the one type of gas (Phosgene).

On questioning the men, most of them said that the wind blew our own gas back on them. The majority did not put on their masks until they smelt gas and thus were exposed for some time before getting mask fitted. Others, including one Officer, were so heavily engaged bombing the enemy that they had no time to put on their masks. Others did not know they were suffering from effects of gas until they began muscular exertion when they felt "knocked out". All cases shewed signs of exposure to a lung irritant; headache, catching of the breath followed by coughing with sternal pain and a feeling of chest constriction was complained of. Most of the cases had some initial nausea and vomiting. Of the 37 after a sponging and small warm drink, all were fit for evacuation as stretcher cases except nine. Nine cases showed every sign of exposure to a strong concentration of the gas. They were all deeply cyanosed, respirations rapid and shallow, violent spasms of coughing followed by expectoration of frothing yellowish white fluid, and in two cases streaks of blood. All complained of tightness in the chest, two cases asking that front of chest might be looked at to see if anything was burning them - no blisters on any cases. Pulse rate 80 to 120 with fair volume. All these cases were immediately put on continuous oxygen and watched. Soon all shewed evident signs of relief and expressed the view that the oxygen was doing them good. Six cases recovered sufficiently in within 3 to 6 hours to allow the cessation of further oxygen - pulse 80, good volume, occasional fits of coughing, respirations only slightly increased, cyanosis disappeared. These cases were evacuated to C.C.S. Of remaining 3 one patient began to develop violent spasms of coughing accompanied by very copious expectoration of frothy mucus - this was distressing to such an extent that it became more and more difficult to administer oxygen - pulse became weak and running, respirations increased in frequency and patient began to show pallor rather than cyanosis, coughing spasms continued and became so distressing that general collapse resulted, with absence of pulse at wrist, heart beats rising from 150 per minute.

At least two pints of frothy fluid with streaks of blood were expectorated and though every attempt was made to administer oxygen and prevent muscular exertion patient gradually became more restless and expired six hours after admission.

Of two remaining patients both improved immensely under almost continuous oxygen - any attempt to remove mask was followed by patient becoming more cyanosed and restless and patients asked for more oxygen to be supplied. Owing to shortage of supply one case was without oxygen for about an hour - during that time he became steadily worse, respiration and cyanosis increasing, pulse losing in volume and gaining in rapidity. The other case showed such cyanosis while pulse remained fair volume that it was decided to venesect - blood was taken from the arm with what appeared to be good effect and patient was put on oxygen practically continuously - brandy was given in small quantities with small amounts of nourishing fluids. In both these cases frothy expectoration was not very severe. Both cases showed such marked improvement that oxygen was only administered when cyanosis was present. Both cases, however, would put out their hands for masks when they felt distressing symptoms coming on. Both these cases were considered too bad for evacuation and were retained in hospital. They were kept warm, given small drinks of nourishing fluids and oxygen continued. A saline purgative was given in each case. One patient on being assured that his condition was not necessarily fatal settled down quietly and allowed oxygen to be administered. This case after 36 hours almost continuous oxygen showed marked signs of improvement, then oxygen was gradually decreased in amount; (the relief of the cyanosis being the main deciding factor in its administration.

Pop Bromide gr. 15 with Brandy $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was given with view of aiding sleep - patient dozed at times for short periods and through the night, in all had about 3 hours sleep. This patient continued to improve and was finally well enough to require no further oxygen. After further 12 hours observation he was considered fit to be removed to C.C.S. and 12 hours later he was evacuated reaching C.C.S. in an excellent condition. The Venesection Case - though every attempt was made to reassure patient and administer oxygen continuously became restless, pot. brom. gr. 15 with Brandy was given with no evident result. As cyanosis was not relieved entirely by oxygen about 12 oz. of blood was drawn off from arm. This appeared to relieve patient considerably - pulse improved and with oxygen cyanosis almost disappeared. Patient dozed off to sleep for short periods but further coughing attack prevented further rest - from this stage patient became steadily more restless and was found difficult to administer oxygen - camphor in oil was used as stimulant with no evident beneficial result - the restlessness increased; this cycle restlessness to cyanosis to more restlessness increased and patient finally developed pallor rather than cyanosis. He died 25 hours after admission.

Admitted 37 - Evacuated (considered out of danger) 35 - Died 2

J. Plance
.....Major.

A.A.M.C.

"2"

A. D. M. S.,
5th Australian Division.

Forwarded for your information please.

John Baker
.....Lieut-Colonel,
C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.



15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.
30th July, 1918.

To/

C. O.,

15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

I have to report the following particulars in regard to a case admitted to the Main Dressing Station under the administration of this Ambulance.

The patient was admitted at 12-15 p.m. 29th instant suffering from G.S.W. Leg (Right) with fracture. He stated he had been lying in the bottom of a trench for about 7 hours before being moved to back area; no tourniquet was applied and that he had bled a lot.

On admission the patient looked absolutely blanched; restless; profuse perspiration; pulse scarcely perceptible at wrist (130); leg on back splint was still oozing; wound through and through - entrance middle of calf of leg - exit junction of upper and middle third of leg, with extensive muscle damage and fracture with comminution of the fibula. The wound was redressed and no further oozing occurred.

Immediately on admission, the patient was put into the warming room, but any attempt at further warming produced profuse perspiration and patient became more restless. The patient was obviously in a very grave condition. One pint of sodi bicarb, 5% solution, was given intravenously at 1-30 p.m. - Morphia $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. administered hypodermically, when patient slept for 2 hours and appeared much better. Pulse slower; better volume and patient was taking warm drinks freely. He was still, however, not fit for transport. At 4 p.m. it was obvious that patient was becoming worse.

As Major Taylor had generously offered per letter to come out and do a transfusion should a suitable case occur, an attempt was made to reach him on the phone, but it was not until 6-30 p.m. that a message was got through to the 5th C.C.S. Meantime the patient was becoming worse. It was decided to give sodi bicarb 5% intravenously as no cannulae were available for transfusion. At 8 p.m. patient after intravenous (1 pint) improved somewhat, warm oxygen ether was given as an anaesthetic, and an examination of the leg showed the limb to be in a very badly damaged condition; posterior tibial severed and wound filled with fould blood clot. The limb was removed in upper third of leg, flaps left open and dressed with B.I.P. early Gas Gangrene having commenced between muscles. Patient was put in bed with bottles, etc. and every attempt made to tide him over resulting shock. Pituitrin in half cc doses was given for two doses. Patient regained consciousness and condition did not materially seem to be altered by amputation. A running pulse of 120 was ~~perceptible~~ perceptible at wrist. Patient looked fearfully blanched though no blood was lost during the operation.

At 1-30 a.m. 30-7-18, Major Taylor arrived and decided to transfuse with blood. He brought a suitable donor along with him. Major Taylor and Captain Kemp operated. The patient received in all about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints of blood. The result was dramatic. Patient's respiration became deeper and regular and dozed off to sleep towards the end of transfusion. Alteration in color was glaringly perceptible. Pulse good, volume between 80 and 90. Systolic blood pressure rose from commencement of transfusion to termination from 75 ~~mmx~~ m.m. Hg. to 110 m.m.Hg.

To such an extent did the patient's condition improve, that it was considered advisable to transport him to C.C.S. An hour later the patient was evacuated to the C.C.S.

..... J. V. Pearce Major.
A.A.M.C.

Forwarded to you please.

John W. Baker

Lieut-Colonel.

C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.



15

Quartermaster's Report for month of July 1918 - Appendix to
War Diary.

It gives me pleasure in submitting the following report, which indicates that a satisfactory state of affairs exists with regard to demands and supplies. With few exceptions, articles indented for, came to hand without delay and generally speaking are of good quality.

RATIONS.

On the 30th instant a quantity of Bacon was condemned as being unfit for consumption, but otherwise all rations issued have been first class.

COOKING.

The Unit cooks have excelled all previous efforts during the last few weeks and have provided a splendid variety of well cooked meals. In addition to frequent roasts, corned beef prepared by themselves in the front area, has been issued both hot and cold every five or six days, being greatly enjoyed and bringing from the personnel well merited praise and thanks. The fat returned to A. S. C. was all of first class quality.

LOCATION.

The Unit has been situated outside QUERRIEU working as a Main Dressing Station for the whole month. On the 31st we moved to the Rest Area at MONTIERES.

EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING.

The Equipment of the Unit is in fairly good order and practically complete. About half a dozen tents, dixies etc., have to be replaced while we are resting. A few articles of part worn clothing supplied from Ordnance were not rushed by men requiring a change.

SALVAGE.

During the month a great deal of salvage obtained from patients at Main Dressing Station was returned to Salvage Dump. In addition a great deal of salvage was obtained from EDGEHILL Casualty Clearing Station per 57th Australian Infantry Battalion and was returned to Depots as per A. D. M. S's instructions.

GENERAL.

The Buffet was well patronised by Walking Cases. About 2702 patients were supplied with Cocoa and Milk, Beef tea, Lime Juice, Soda Water, Biscuits, sandwiches and cigarettes etc. Medicine, drugs and Medical Comforts have been supplied to Units in this Area. A Motor carrier is an urgent necessity as Medical Stores Red Cross Stores and Medical Comforts store are situated so far away from the Forward Area.



J. T. Schofield
.....Hon. Lieut. and Q. M.
15th Australian Field Ambulance, A. I. F.

15TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.Transport Officer's report on Horse Transport for the month of July, 1918.Appendix to War Diary.

Over the whole month the Ambulance was acting as M.D.S. for the 5th Australian Division. As several of the Motor Ambulances were detached for work with the Advanced Dressing Station, the Horse Transport was called upon to do more work than usual.

Cases were collected daily from surrounding areas by Ambulance Wagons, this sometimes necessitating three separate trips for each wagon.

The water supply was brought to the Camp by Water Carts.

One G.S.Wagon was detailed daily to do work for the Sanitary Section and other frequent outside calls were made for transport - all these demands were satisfactorily met.

During the latter part of the month an American Section was stationed alongside of the Ambulance. Every attempt was made by the men and N.C.Os. to show the transport difficulties peculiar to the country to the Americans and so well did both Sections get along that the parting was as one of true friendship.

One move was executed by the Ambulance, i.e. on the 31st July, 1918. The move was performed during the middle of the day. Unfortunately the day was an extremely hot muggy one - the worst for the season. With full loads up this entailed a big proposition for the horses but they all managed the journey with ease.

HORSES. One case was evacuated to the Mobile ~~Veter~~ Veterinary Section - the animal becoming completely blind from pan-opthalmia though the animal was otherwise fit and well, the rough state of some of the forward tracks caused the animal to stumble and fall about. Another Light Draught was issued a few days later. One Riding Horse was drawn during the month thus completing our establishment.

No other cases of illness occurred.

Horses feet are constantly examined for cases of "P.U.N."

SHELTERS. Horses were placed inside earth walls and thus were protected from bomb splinters; these were repaired from time to time.

Manure was used as additional support to revetment protection, and after manure spread on walls it was covered with fresh earth thus preventing it being a source of fly breeding.

WAGGONS. As waggons were constantly in use it was with difficulty that the painting was finished. However the G.S.Waggons and Limbers at the present time have not only been recently painted but have also been varnished; varnish secured partly through Ordnance and partly through local purchase.

The arrival of a further supply of paint will enable the painting of the Ambulance Wagons to be completed.

The wagons were all examined by Wheeler and one defective wheel repaired.

HARNESS. All harness was cleaned daily, one and a half hours each afternoon being set aside for harness cleaning. This kept the leather and steel work in good serviceable condition. Small repairs were done in the Unit.

MEN. During later part of the month several cases of Diarrhoea occurred - swabs taken showed no true dysentery ~~facillies~~, and it was not quite evident what the cause of infection was.

I consider everything to be in a very satisfactory condition.

.....*J. Pearce*.....Major.

A. A. M. C.

15TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.

Report by Officer i/c Mechanical Transport for the month of July, 1918.

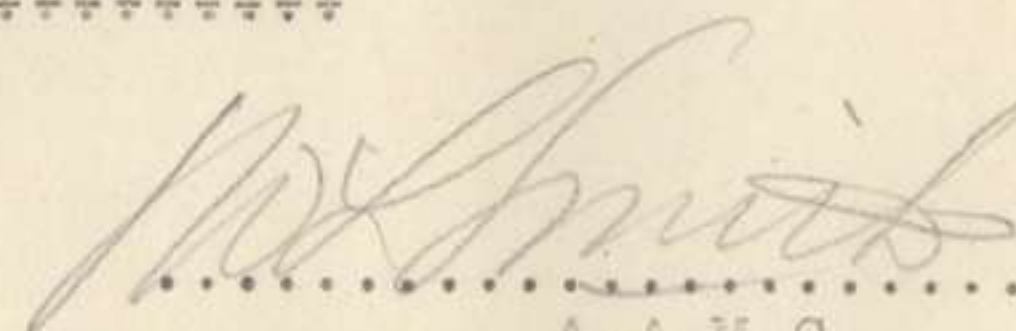
Appendix to War Diary.

During the month All Ambulance Cars have had the wheels converted into Disc Wheels.

The Engines are all in excellent running order.

All the work for the month has been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Appended is graph showing the full work of the cars for the month.



.....Captain.
A.A.M.C.

APPENDIX

15TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.

Report by Officer i/c No. 23 Dental Unit attached 15th Australian Field Ambul-
ance, A.I.F. to accompany War Diary for July, 1918.

Owing to the isolated position occupied by the Ambulance for the month of May, 1918, men did not parade in great numbers.
ULCERATIVE GINGIVITIS. A smaller number of cases reported during this month.

From the 2nd to 14th June, 1918, work was carried out in ALLONVILLE WOOD. Both surgical and mechanical operations were effected in an Operating Tent.

Whilst at this Camp the Unit was inspected by both General Howse and General Featherstone, who expressed their satisfaction upon the actual field work being carried out.

During this period work was confined to the 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, 5th Aust. Machine Gun Battalion, 29th A.A.S.C. and 5th Aust. Division Headquarters.

15-6-1918. Moved with the Ambulance to the M.D.S., QUERRIEU.

16-6-1918 to 30-7-1918. During the whole of this period work was carried out at the M.D.S., QUERRIEU.

English troops reported in overwhelming numbers and in consequence many had to be evacuated to C.C.S. in order to allow time for operations to troops of the A.I.F.

It was noticed that Imperial "B" Class men have no knowledge whatsoever of Oral Hygiene.

After investigation I found that these men are not entitled to adequate dental treatment. Such a state of affairs is, in my opinion, inimical to the health of the troops and against the interests of the service.

A slight increase in "Ulcerative Gingivitis" - condition appears to be greatly aggravated.

On 24-7-1918 I reported for temporary duty at Australian Corps Headquarters as A/S.O., A.D.S., during the absence of Major Day.

alutton
.....Captain.

O.i/c No. 23 Dental Unit attached 15th Australian
Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

2-8-1918.

MOVEMENT ORDER No. 1 by Lieut-Colonel R. Whiston Walsh, D.S.O. Commanding
issued at 2 p.m. 29-7-1918.

Reference Sheets - 62D and 62E.

In accordance with A.F.A.M.C. Order No. 18 the 15th Australian Field Ambulance will be relieved at the Main Dressing Station, QUERRIEU, (H.10.a.9.4.) by the 56th Field Ambulance at 10 a.m. 31-7-1918.

- (1) Major R.F. Craig with 12 Other Ranks plus 2 Sunbeam Motor Ambulance Cars with Drivers and Orderlies complete, will proceed as an Advance Party and report to the Town Major, MONTIERES (L.32) at 5 p.m. 29-7-18 and take over the allotted billets.
On arrival he ^{will} make the necessary arrangements to clear the sick of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade and evacuate them to No. 2 Corps Relay Post at K. 30.d.0.4.
- (2) Sergeant Hutton will proceed to MONTIERES and report to Officer i/c Advance Party in charge of 2 Private Cooks, "A" Section Limber Wagon with cooking utensils, moving off from the Main Dressing Station at 3 p.m. 30-7-1918.
- (3) Lieut. Schofield and 14 Other Ranks will remain at the M.D.S. as a Rear Party and hand over all Stores in excess of Mobilisation Table to 56th Field Ambulance, obtaining receipts in triplicate - such receipts to be handed into Orderly Room on rejoining Unit.
On completion of handing over, party will proceed to rejoin the Ambulance at MONTIERES, moving off from the M.D.S. at 3 p.m. 31-7-18.
- (4) On relief the 15th Australian Field Ambulance less Advance, Cooks and Rear Parties and Mechanical Transport will move off by march route to MONTIERES, moving off at 10-15 a.m. 31-7-1918.
- (5) Routine for 31-7-1918.

Reveille	6 a.m.
Breakfast	7 "
Parade	7-45 a.m.
C.O.'s. Inspection	9 a.m.
Parade - full marching order	10 "
- (6) Dress. All ranks will march out correctly dressed with packs, haversacks and water bottles freshly filled. Steel helmet, one blanket, and unexpended portion of the day's ration will be carried.
- (7) Mechanical Transport. The Mechanical Transport, less Ambulance Cars and personnel engaged on special duty, will move off at 10-15 a.m. in charge of the Sergeant M.T.
- (8) The Quartermaster will make all arrangements in connection with the rationing of the Unit - hot meals to be provided before leaving the M.D.S. and on arrival at destination.
- (9) The Warrant Officer will detail all necessary fatigues on the 7-45 a.m. (31-7-1918) Parade.
- (10) The Quartermaster will arrange for the tents to be struck, and all equipment and mobilisation stores to be loaded by 9-30 a.m. 31-7-1918. Mobilisation Stores ONLY will be carried.
- (11) The No. 23 Dental Unit will move with the Ambulance.
- (12) March Discipline and Traffic Control. The attention of Officers in charge of parties is drawn to Fourth Army Routine Order No. 2039 dated 15th May, 1918.

R. Whiston Walsh

.....Lieut-Colonel.

C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

P.T.O.

206

Copies to :-

A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.
Transport Officer.
O. i/c Advance Party.
O. " Rear Party.
O. " Mechanical Transport.
Orderly Officer.
Quartermaster.
O. i/c No. 23 Dental Unit.
Warrant Officer.
War Diary (3)
File (1).

$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{5}$ $\frac{1}{6}$ $\frac{1}{7}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{9}$ $\frac{1}{10}$

Lab. 10/10/10

15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.
31st July, 1918.

To/
O. C.,
"B" Section, 15th Australian Field Ambulance.

Medical arrangements of 15th Australian Field Ambulance
while ~~xxxxxx~~ the 5th Australian Division is in Corps Reserve.

- (1) The Hospital will be administered by "B" Section.
- (2) "A" Section Nursing Duties have been placed ~~xxxxxx~~ at your disposal for night duty.
- (3) You will clear the sick of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade. Slightly sick will be held at this Hospital in accordance with Section 2 para. 8 of A.A.M.C. (Australian Corps) Standing Orders.
- (4) You will make arrangements for the prophylactic treatment of V.D. while the Division is in Corps Reserve.
- (5) Cases for evacuation to C.C.S. to be taken by Ambulance Cars to No. 2 Corps Relay Post - K.30.d.O.4. - Sheet 62E - whence they will be taken by 3rd M.A.C. Cars to C.C.S., CROUY.
- (6) Records will be kept and returns rendered of all cases passing through this Hospital.
- (7) You will arrange for the treatment of Scabies for this Brigade.
- (8) When the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery move to the ST.SAVEUR area on or about 2nd August, 1918, you will make the necessary arrangements to clear their sick whilst in this area.
- (9) Ophthalmic cases will be dealt with as in Medical Arrangements - Fourth Army Medical Operations No. 21.
All cases suitable for examination at Fourth Army Ophthalmic Centre will be sent to the 14th Australian Field Ambulance, RIVERY.

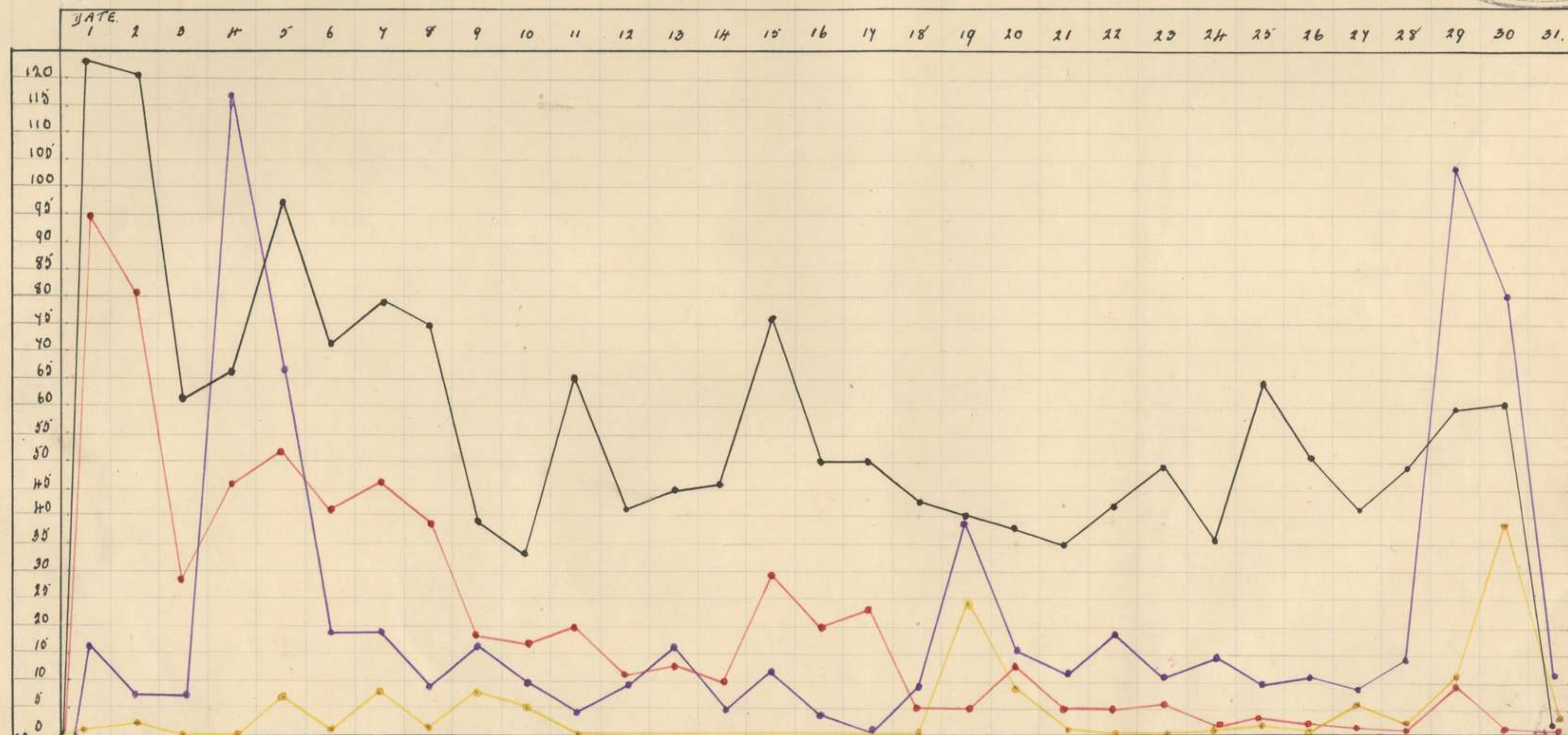
Arthur Drake

.....Lieut-Colonel,

C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.



GRAPH showing TOTAL NUMBER OF SICK, TOTAL WOUNDED, GASSES CASES, and INFLUENZA AND P.U.O. PATIENTS, passing through 5th Australian Division MAIN DRESSING STATION, for the month of JULY 1918.



SICK PATIENTS SHOWN		
WOUNDED	✓	✓
GASSES	✓	✓
INFLUENZA AND P.U.O.	✓	✓

Mustin
 C.O. 15th Australian Field Ambulance.
 1-8-18.

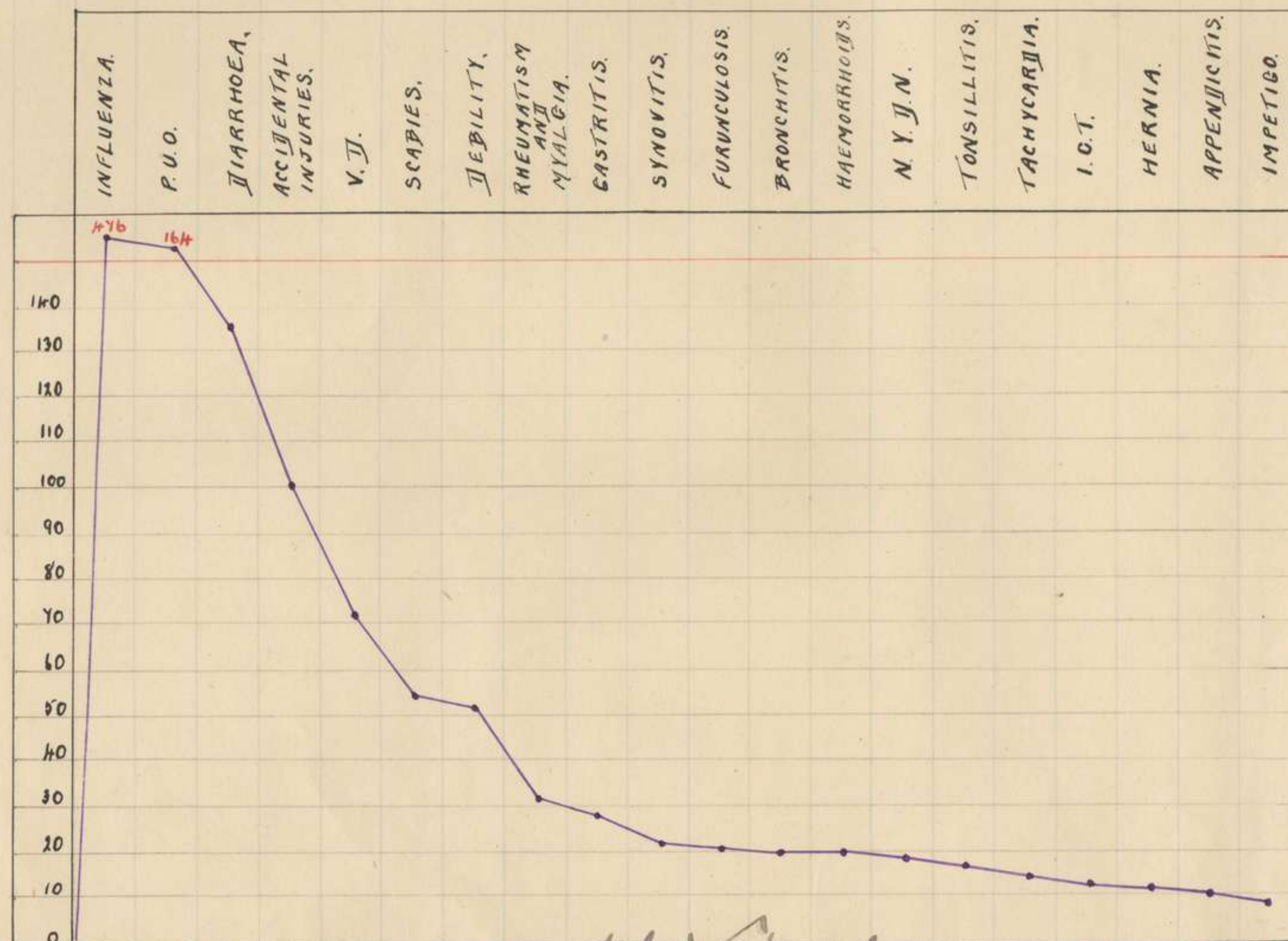
Lt Col

TOTAL SICK PATIENTS		1918
✓	WOUNDED	✓ 701
✓	GASSES	✓ 132
✓	INFLUENZA AND P.U.O.	✓ 640

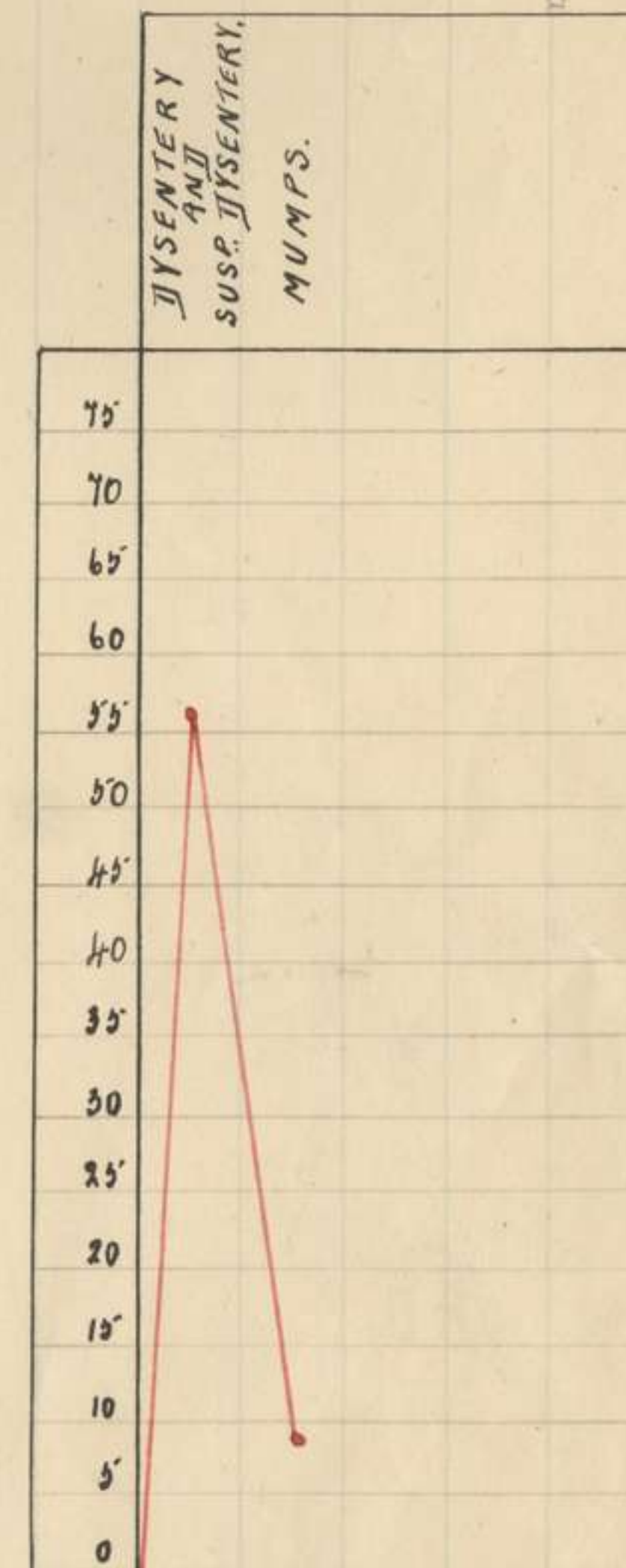
APPENDIX 20

22

GRAPH showing PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF SICKNESS, passing through 5th Australian Division MAIN DRESSING STATION, for month of JULY 1918.



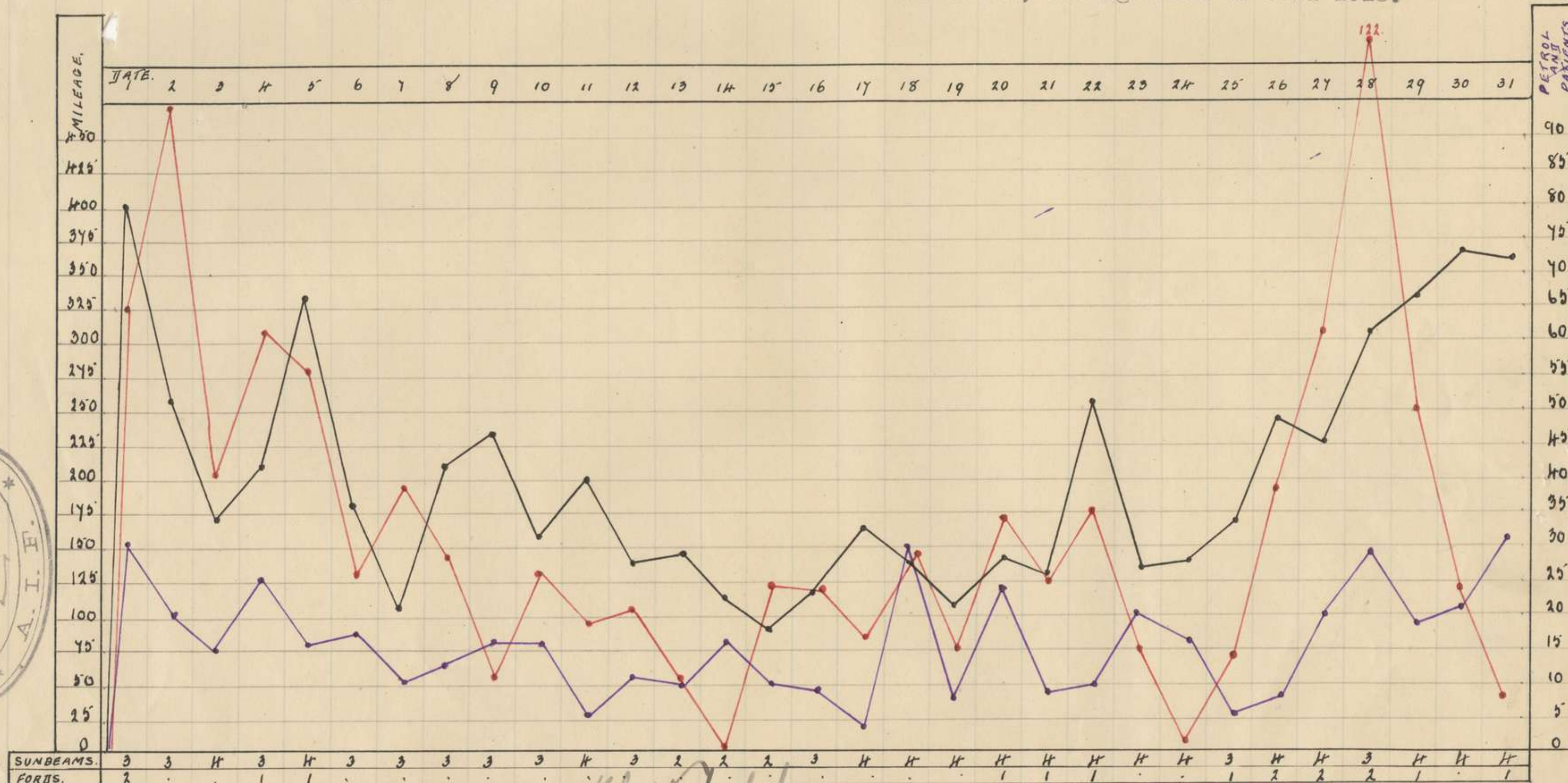
INFECTION CASES



Mustnahl
Lt Col
C.O. 15th Australian Field Ambulance.

APPENDIX 21

GRAPH showing TOTAL MILEAGE COVERED, TOTAL GALLONS PETROL CONSUMED, TOTAL PATIENTS CARRIED, and CARS ON DUTY, of
M. T. COMPANY
5th Aust Divisional Supply Column, attached to 15th Aust Field Ambulance, during month of JULY 1918.



MILEAGE COVERED SHOWN _____
PETROL CONSUMED ✓ _____
PATIENTS CARRIED ✓ _____

W. H. H. H. H.
O.O. 15th Aust Field Ambulance
1-8-18
Lt Col

TOTAL MILEAGE COVERED 6413
✓ GALLS PETROL CONSUMED 524
✓ PATIENTS CARRIED 949

APPENDIX 24