

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/58/3

Title: 15th Australian Field Ambulance

July 1916



AWM4-26/58/3

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

15th FIELD AMBULANCE
No. _____
Date _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STENBEQUE	1.7.16		<p>Billet Order issued at 0900. (15th Fld Amb Order No 3.) The morning was spent in cleaning up the billets which had been left in a dirty and insanitary conditions - latrine pits not filled in or covered, etc. Difficulty was experienced in digging suitable latrines of the deep pattern owing to the large flow of subsoil water. This water is found at levels varying from 18 inches to 4 ft. from the surface; the matter is deserving of attention owing to the fact that a large amount of well water seems to be drawn from this flow. During the afternoon a route march was carried out. A dressing station was opened at an estaminet and notification of its locality sent to A.D.M.S. and 15th Bde. Hqrs. Major Mosely reported for duty.</p>	Appendix 14
"	2.7.16		<p>General duties arranged by Section Commanders owing to the wide distribution of the billets - Route march. Major Mosely transferred to 14 F.A.M.B. Major Newton attached.</p>	
	3.7.16		<p>Gas helmet practice - Route march.</p>	
	4.7.16		<p>Gas helmet practice. Service Gas helmets issued to all ranks.</p>	
	5.7.16		<p>Visited Divisional Rest Station at BAILLEUL BAILLEUL. 15th Bde Order re Gas attack test received. 1</p>	Appendix 15
	6.7.16		<p>15th Field Amb Order No 4 issued. Test successfully carried out</p>	Appendix 15 A.

9/17/16

WAR DIARY

or

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Army Form C. 2118.



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STENBECQUE	8-7-16	8.4.0 a.m.	<p>15th Aust. Inf. Bde. Order No 12 received</p> <p>15th Aust. Field Ambulance Order No 5 issued. The unit moved out on time and a rear party of 1 quin 20 other ranks was left at billets to complete evacuations of patients which was slow owing to scarcity of ambulance wagons. Soon after the time at which the Group was to march stragglers began to come into the Ambulance - many of these were drunk many were suffering from the after effects of alcohol, three or four were sick; this influx of patients delayed the departure of the rear party until 2 o'clock. The difficulty of dealing with these cases was increased by the fact that all military police had been withdrawn. The greater part of the technical baggage had been left behind until the arrival of the <u>Transport Division</u> which reported at 1140. Two lumbered and two O.S. wagons had been obtained from the 29th A.S.C. and 2 G.S. wagons from the 10th A.S.C. It would have been possible to get all the baggage on the regular transport plus 4 G.S. and 1 lumbered wagon. Practically no excess baggage was carried, so that the additional wagons required represent the extent to which the available transport falls short of the practical requirements.</p> <p>One motor lorry would be able to do the whole baggage transport in less time</p>	<p>Appendix 16</p> <p>Appendix 16 A.</p>

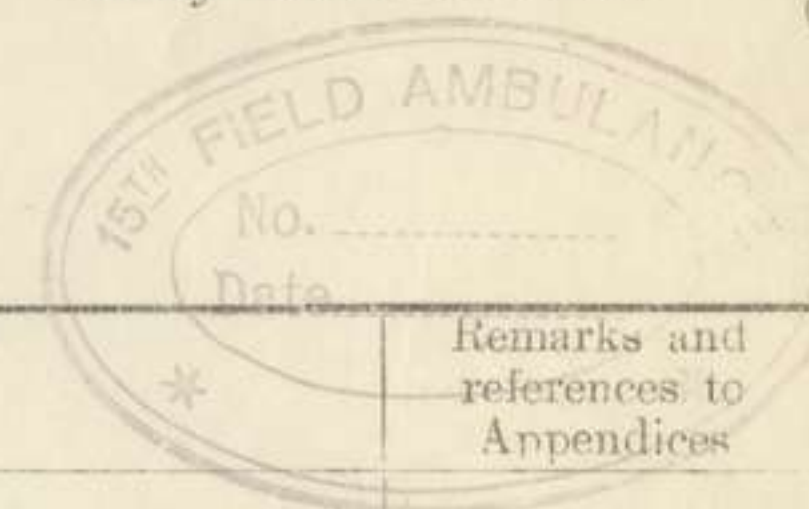
2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D. D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

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WAR DIARY
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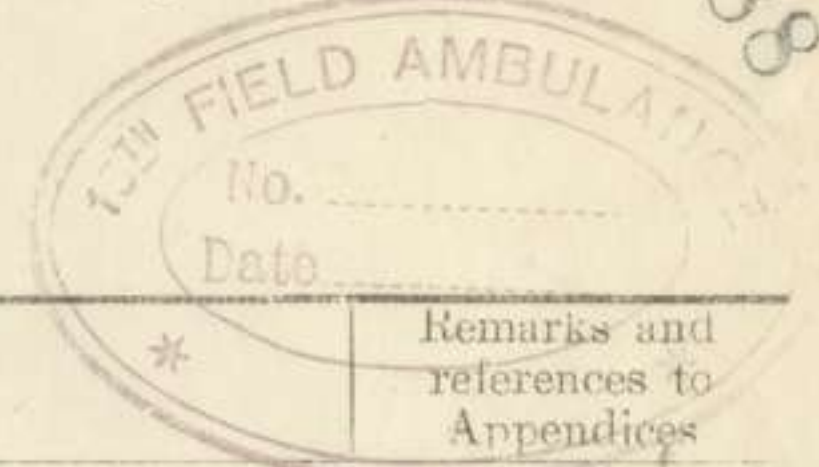
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ESTAIRES	8.7.16		<p>NOTES on MARCH.</p> <p>Route as per Appendix No. About 6000 yards of the road was cobbled and very rough on the men, who were not in the best of conditions - At one stage the main body marched for $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours without a halt. Halts were irregular and inadequate. In consequence of these things the discipline of the march suffered as well as the efficiency of the men and the column did not arrive at ESTAIRES until 7.20 p.m. All the men were greatly fatigued and hundreds fell out on the route; there did not seem to be any adequate provisions of Officers and N.C.O.'s to look after these men. Total distance 15 miles Average rate of march 2.4 m. per hour excluding one $\frac{1}{2}$ hour for lunch.</p> <p>In contrast to this the march of the rear party of this unit over the same route occupied from 2 pm to 7.30 p.m. the men arriving in good conditions. The soft portions of the road were occupied as much as possible and regular hourly halts of 5 minutes called. Two $\frac{1}{2}$ hours were allowed at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and the men provided with coffee and food. Drinking of alcohol was forbidden. Average rate of march $3\frac{1}{3}$ m. per hour excluding one hour halt for tea.</p> <p>The billets at ESTAIRES were badly arranged but otherwise satisfactory. A distance of two miles separated A Section from the remainder of the unit.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ESTAIRES.	9.7.16	8 a.m. 9 a.m.	<p>Billing parties moved off at 7.15 a.m. 15th Infantry Bde Order No 13 received 15th Aust. Fld. Amb Order No 6 issued. Sections mustered at 2.30 pm. but owing to a block on the line of march the unit could not move off until 3.40 pm. The line of march lay to the NORTH of RIVER LYS and involved a march of 3 1/2 miles whereas the direct route SOUTH of the RIVER was only 1 mile from ESTAIRES to the billet at LE NOUVEAU MONDE. There seems to be no justification for thus increasing the strain on the men unnecessarily. Arrived SAILLY at 5.15 pm. at LE NOUVEAU MONDE at 6.0 pm. Satisfactory billets were provided for the night. The 13th Aust. Field Amb. being in occupation of the permanent billets.</p>	Appendix 17 Appendix 17A
	10.7.16		<p>The following posts taken over from the 13th Aust. Fld. amb. during the day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) LE NOUVEAU MONDE { main dressing stations & Officers Rest Stations. (2) ETON HALL } Advance Dressing Stations RIFLE VILLA } (3) SAILLY dressing Stations (4) LA CROIX LESCORVEX motor post. (5) DOULIEU Divisional Rest Stations. <p>Distributions. LE NOUVEAU MONDE A + B sections (less 1 Officer 29 other ranks ETON HALL + RIFLE VILLA. 1 Officer 29 other ranks (Capt Copperson 1/c) DOULIEU B sections.</p>	

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7

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

1088

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

15th FIELD AMB
No. _____
Date _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LE NOUVEAU MONDE	10.7.16 (cont)		Owing to the fact that only 2 cars were attached to the unit it was impossible to carry on the work which required 2 cars continually collecting patients so applications was made for extra cars.	
	11.7.16		The conditions at le NOUVEAU MONDE were very good - and presented great facilities for treating and accommodating patients. The Sanitary conditions of the area was only fair - a large open sullage pit without grease trap, an open urine pit and a single paw latrine system (the urine having first fall to be drained off into the urine pit & the faeces thus burnt) were all noted as defective methods. Steps were at once taken to institute a two paw system and old sullage and urine pits were covered over and replaced by properly constructed apparatus - a double box grease trap was constructed. At 9.30 a.m. the 13th Field ambulance moved out. During the day 5 motor ambulances from the 14th M.A.C. reported.	
	12.7.16		1st half relief of 14 other ranks sent to Advance Dressing Stations. Half the strength at this post to be relieved every Monday and Thursday morning. M.O. 1/c relieved every Monday. Dentist opened at SAILLY Dressing Station.	
	15.7.16		Heavy Bombardment along our front during the evening - Preparations made for receiving increased number of casualties. At about 12. p.m. the first car load arrived and from that time onwards the cases came in in large numbers - See graph attached of daily sick and wounded.	99B appendix 18

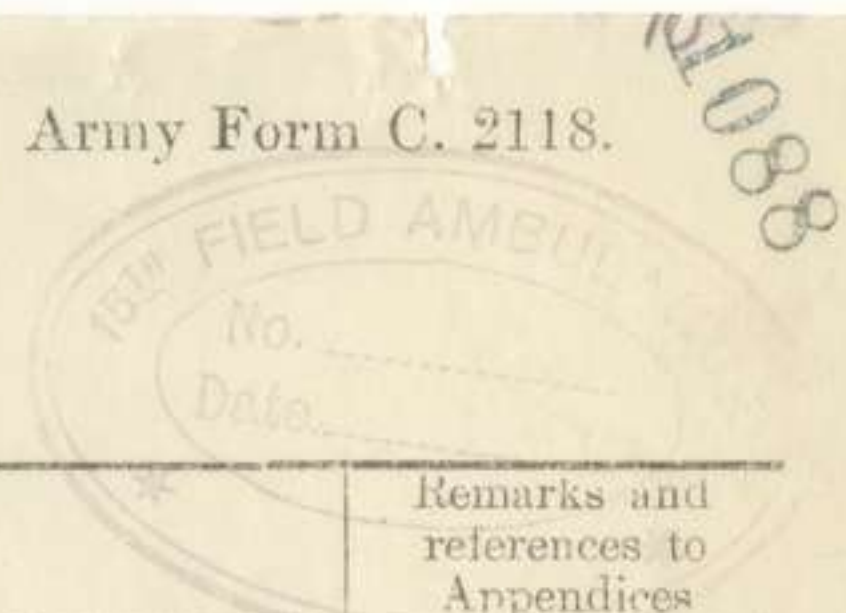
2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D.D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

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Army Form C. 2118.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LE NOUVEAU MONDE	16.7.16		All cases admitted during the night were evacuated at once, 5 cars being lent by 14 th M.A.C. for the purpose.	
		7.30 a.m.	Order received from A.D.M.S. to establish a main dressing station at BAC ST MAUR Ref. map. 36A G.18.c.69. at 9 o'clock -	appendix 19
		8 a.m.	Order issued to Major NEWTON to proceed with C Section to place indicated and establish a main Dressing station at once.	
		2 p.m.	Main dressing station at BAC ST MAUR reported ready to receive patients	
		6 p.m.	5 th Aust Divisional Medical order ^{No 1} received	appendix 20
	17.7.16	8 a.m.	15 th Aust. Field Ambulance Order No 7 issued.	appendix 21
			All posts visited during the day and new Ambulance route as laid down, inspected, spot for Soup Kitchen selected.	
			Conference of O.C. Ambulances held at A.D.M.S. office -	
			Captain MINTY sent to Advance Dressing Station to assist Capt. COPPLESON.	
	18.7.16		Conference of O.C. Ambulances held at A.D.M.S. office - many important matters adjusted	
			Large number of stretchers obtained - also dressings - Soyuz Stoves (12) for provisions of hot soup etc for patients.	
			Ambulance Headquarters removed to SAILLY at 9 a.m.	
			Soup Depot established at La CROIX LESCORNEX	
	19.7.16 20.7.16 21.7.16		See report on work of ambulance during the action	appendix 22

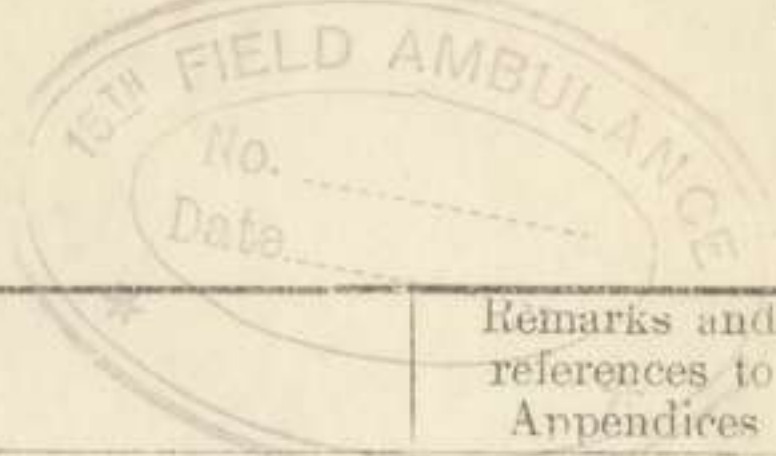
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY	22.7.16.		Capt Close detailed to relieve Capt Minty at A.D.S.	
	23.7.16		Strength of personnel at CROIX BLANCHE and EATON HALL reduced to 1 plus 30 other ranks - Main Dressing Stations returned to LE NOUVEAU MONDE.	
	24.7.16		Capt Mandrosh relieved Capt Beard at the A.D.S.	
	28.7.16		Instructions received to remove buildings from D.R.S. at MORBECQUE to LE NOUVEAU MONDE. Party of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men sent out at once to carry out demolitions at MORBECQUE. Lient Bayly and Dental unit reported.	
	30.7.16		Lient PONS FORD & Dental Unit reported.	
	30.7.16.		Several buildings from MORBECQUE D.R.S. arrived at LE NOUVEAU MONDE	
			attached (1) Graph showing daily total of cases treated in Hospital at LE NOUVEAU MONDE and at BAE ST MAUR.	appendix 17
			(2) Graph showing anatomical distribution of wounds in action of 19/20th July	Appendix 23
			(3) Graph showing comparison of sketches to total cases in action of 19/20th July	appendix 24

Ally Horn Lt Col.
CO. 15th Field Ambulance
A.I.F.

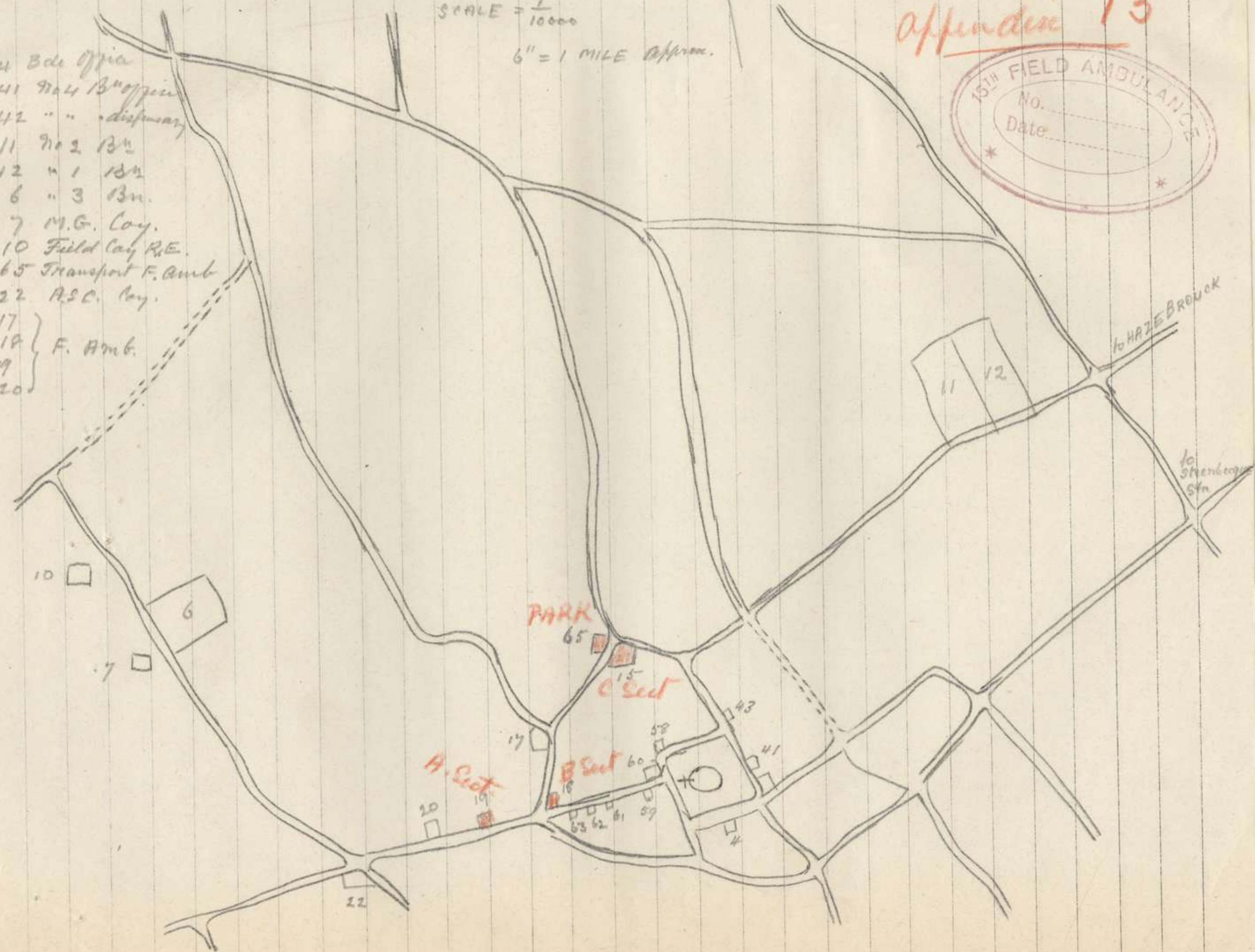
War Diary

Appendix 13

SCALE = $\frac{1}{10000}$
6" = 1 MILE approx.



- 4 Bde Office
- 41 9th Bn
- 42 " " Dispensary
- 11 9th 2 Bn
- 12 " 1 Bn
- 6 " 3 Bn
- 7 M.G. Coy.
- 10 Field Coy R.E.
- 65 Transport F. Amb
- 22 A.S.C. Coy.
- 17 } F. Amb.
- 18 }
- 19 }
- 20 }



Appendix No. 13.



War Diary
Appendix No 14
2/7/16.

THE 15TH FIELD AMBULANCE ORDER NO 3.

DISCIPLINE IN BILLOTS.

The highest standard of behaviour in billets will be exacted from all ranks at all times. Punishment for such offences in this connection will be of a severe nature.

PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Private property such as buildings, fencing, trees, fruit, vegetables, forage etc must on no account be interfered with. Cultivated lands or meadows are not to be trespassed on. Horses are not to be tethered or picketed to trees, fences etc.

SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

The sale of spirits, such as brandy, whisky, rum etc to troops is prohibited, as is also the consumption of same by troops. The hours for sale of liquor are: 1100 to 1200 and 1800 to 2000.

BOUNDS

Troops are not to leave their respective billeting areas unless on special duty, and provided with passes issued by O.C. area.

CLEARANCE OF VILLAGES ETC.

All troops must be in their billets not later than 2100 daily. This order will be strictly enforced.

FIRE.

Every precaution must be taken against fire: smoking or the use of naked lights in barns outbuildings etc., is absolutely prohibited.

WATER.

No water is fit for human consumption or for cleaning utensils until boiled or chlorinated.
Water is reserved for use as under:
Wells and springs drinking and cooking.
Ponds washing and horses only.
Canal " " " "
Washing at wells or springs is prohibited.

LATRINES.

Latrines belonging to billets must not be used. They are reserved solely for the use of civilian camp followers pending other arrangements, deep pit latrines and incinerators will be always be provided, these must however be kept at a minimum.

URINE PITS.

Urine pits must be provided, tin troughs leading into pits are the best substitute at present.

REFUSE.

All kitchen refuse is to be incinerated, under no circumstances is such refuse to be buried.

MANURE

Manure from Govt animals is to be incinerated.

INCINERATORS.

Incinerators must be always constructed.

FUEL.

The utmost economy must be exercised in the use of fuel. Private property must on no account be used as fuel.

RESTAURANTS ETC.

During the period troops are allowed to be in villages, Unit police will pay frequent visits to such places as restaurants.

*H. J. Bullen Capt
adj. 15th Aust Hd. Amb.*

1088

War Diary
Appendix 15 Appendix No. 15

15th Amb 10



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

OPERATION ORDER

Reference Map - Belquin Hazebrouck 5A.

1
IUCUCU

All Units of the Brigade Area are to be subjected to a Gas Attack Test. The Brigade with attached Units will move, in order as per margin, to a point $\frac{1}{2}$ mile due N. of C. in MORBECQUE.

FIRST FLIGHT

B.H.Q. & Sig. Sections
57th Battalion.
58th Battalion.
15th Field Ambulance.
15th A.L.T.M. Battery.

STARTING POINT - On HAZEBROUCK ROAD opposite E. edge of 57th Battalion Transport Field.

ROUTE - By Main HAZEBROUCK ROAD through MORBECQUE VILLAGE to cross roads marked by CHATEAU, thence to point $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N. of C. in MORBECQUE.

First Flight time of passing starting point 0915.

SECOND FLIGHT

59th Battalion.
60th Battalion.
15th M.G. Company.
15th Field Coy. R.E.
29th Coy. A.A.S.C.

Second Flight time of passing starting point 1045.

The 57th Battalion will arrange for four cyclists to return to relieve guards being supplied by the duty battalion, until that battalion has returned.

R.G. LEGGE Captain,
Staff Captain 15th Australian Inf. Brigade

War Diary Appendix 15A

15th Field Ambulance Order No 4

Ref. Map. BELGIUM-HAZEBROUCK 5A. $\frac{1}{100000}$



- Information 1. The Unit will be subjected to a gas attack test during the morning of Friday 9th inst.
- Intention 2. To march with the 15th Inf. Bde Group, First Flight Bde HQ + Sig Sect. in order as per margin to a point 1 mile N of E in
- 5th Batta. MORBECQUE
- 8th Batta.
- 5th Fld. Amb.
- 4th A.L.T.M. Bty
- Starting Point Starting point is on HAZEBROUCK ROAD opposite EAST end of 5th Batta Transport Park.
- Route By main HAZEBROUCK Rd. through MORBECQUE VILLAGE to Cross Roads marked by Chateau, thence to point $\frac{1}{4}$ mile NORTH of E in MORBECQUE.
- Parade Sections will fall in on alarm Post at 0900 and unit will move off at 0910.
- Fatigue In order that every available man may undergo the test, fatigue and other duties remaining in Billets will be reduced to a minimum.
- Parade State A Parade State showing in addition the number of men absent from parade will be handed to the adjutant at 0900 for each Section.
- Dress Drill order with service gas helmets.

Copy to: filed
 2 CO
 3 OC B Sect
 4 OC C Sect
 5 War Diary

H. J. Bullen Capt
 adj. 15th Aust Field Amb.

War Diary

Appendix 16

Trin Recd. 0840



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 16

JULY 8th 1916.

Reference - Map 5A HAZE BROUCK

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|----------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|--|----------------------|--|----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| INFORMATION | 1. | The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group is ordered to march to ESTAIRES. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| INTENTION. | 2. | The Brigade Group will march to ESTAIRES via CROIX, MARNAISEE, and NEUVILLE - keeping on the NORTH side of the CANAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARCH | 3. | The Main Body will pass the starting point - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Advance Guard
O.C.
1 Coy. 57th Bn. | | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">H.Q. 15th Aus. Inf. Bde.</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">the 57th Battalion quarter</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">57th Battalion (less 1 Coy)</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Guard at 1100.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">58th Battalion</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">59th Battalion</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">60th Battalion (less 1 Coy)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">15th Bde. H.Q. Company.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">15th A.L.T.M. Battery</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">15th Field Coy. Engineers</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">15th Field Ambulance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">5th Sanitary Section</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">29th Coy. A.A.S.C.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | H.Q. 15th Aus. Inf. Bde. | the 57th Battalion quarter | 57th Battalion (less 1 Coy) | Guard at 1100. | 58th Battalion | | 59th Battalion | | 60th Battalion (less 1 Coy) | | 15th Bde. H.Q. Company. | | 15th A.L.T.M. Battery | | 15th Field Coy. Engineers | | 15th Field Ambulance | | 5th Sanitary Section | | 29th Coy. A.A.S.C. | |
| H.Q. 15th Aus. Inf. Bde. | the 57th Battalion quarter | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 57th Battalion (less 1 Coy) | Guard at 1100. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 58th Battalion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 59th Battalion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60th Battalion (less 1 Coy) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15th Bde. H.Q. Company. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15th A.L.T.M. Battery | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15th Field Coy. Engineers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15th Field Ambulance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5th Sanitary Section | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29th Coy. A.A.S.C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HALT | 4. | The column will halt for 10 minutes at 1120 and thereafter for 10 minutes each clock hour. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| REPORTS | 5. | Reports will be sent to the head of the Main Body. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES. | 6. | Supplies will be issued at ESTAIRES. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

GEO. F. WIECK

Major,

Brigade Major 15th Aus. Infantry Brigade.

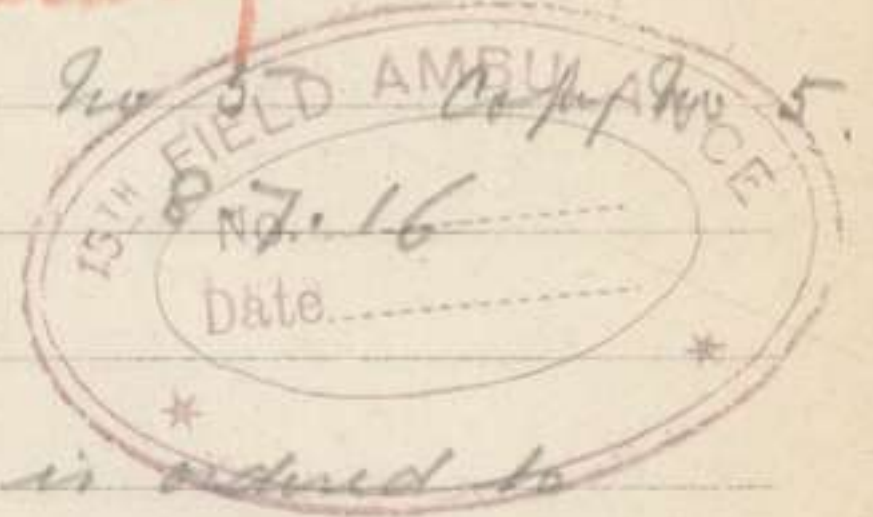
Filed	Copy No. 1
5th Aus. Division	2
H.Q. 15th Aus Inf Bde.	3
57th Battalion	4
58th Battalion	5
59th Battalion	6
60th Battalion	7
15th Bde. H.Q. Coy.	8
15th A.L.T.M.B.	9
15th F. Coy. Engrs.	10
15th Field Ambulance	11 ✓
5th Sanitary Sec.	12
29th Coy. A.A.S.C.	13

Note - The 15th Inf Bde takes about 1/2 hour to pass a point.

15th Aust Field Ambulance Order No. 5
 Ref Map HAZEBROUCK S.A.

War Diary

Offensive 16 A



Information The 15th Aust. Inf. Bde Group is ordered to march to ESTAIRES.

Intention To march with the Bde Group to ESTAIRES via CROIX MARRAISSE and MERVILLE keeping on the NORTH side of the canal

MARCH. The unit will move off from B Section Billet at 11.25 am; Order of march as per margins, moving in rear of 15th Fld. Company Engrs. to reach 5th Bde M.G. Coy at 11.35.

7th Bde M.G. Coy
 7th Bde M.G. Coy (1 Coy)
 8th Bde M.G. Coy
 9th Bde M.G. Coy
 10th Bde M.G. Coy (1 Coy)
 5th Bde M.G. Coy
 5th ALTM Bty
 5th Fld Coy Eng
 1st Fld Amb
 2nd Sanit. Sect.
 7th Coy A.S.C.

Halts. The columns will halt for 10 minutes at 11.20 and thereafter for 10 minutes at each clock hour

Reports Reports will be sent to head of main body.

Supplies Supplies will be issued at ESTAIRES.

Rations The remainder of to-day's rations will be carried on the man

Copy to 1 filed
 2 CO
 3 OC B Sect
 4 OC C Sect
 5 War Diary

M.G. Bullen Capt
 Ody: 15th Aust. Fld. Amb.

15 Aust Infantry Brigade Order No 13. Copy No 10

Reference: HAZEBROUCK.

9th July 1916

INTENTION.

1. The Brigade Group will move to SAILLY today and billet in that vicinity.

MARCH.

2. The route will be that NORTH of the River LYS Troops will march in successive columns each with a company, and at 500m intervals. Units will pass the starting point the cathedral (the building with a clock tower) as shown



- 1230. 60th Bn (6 cols)
- 1300 29 AASC (6 cols)
- 1310 59 BN (6 cols)
- 1340 58 BN (6 cols)
- 1410 57 BN. (5 cols) (1st Coy)
- 1435. (15 MIG Coy) (1 col)
- (15 ALTMB)
- 1440 15 FIELD Coy (2 cols)
- 1450 15 FIELD AMB (2 cols)
- 1500 15 BDE HQ (1 col)
- 1505 1 Coy 57 BN. (1 col)

War Diary
Appendix 17

3. As there is every possibility of enemy interference with the march unit will take advantage of natural screens.

In and about SAILLY there is a great danger of drawing shell fire, therefore troops will be cautioned as to the procedure in billets.

HALTS.

4. Halts for 10 mts will be made at the end of the first 20 mts and thereafter each clock hour.

REPORTS.

5. Unit and marches reports will be sent to Bde HQ ESTAIRS afterwards to the SAILLY command copy No 1. 5th Aust Div.

- 2. ~~John~~ WARDIARY
- 3. F. I. B. M. H.
- 4. 57th
- 5. 58th
- 6. 59th
- 7. 60th
- 8. 15 MIG Coy
- 9. 15 F Coy
- 10. 15 F. A. M. B.
- 11. 29 AASC
- 12. 15 ALTMB.

C. A. D. W. R. H. G.
Bde Lt Col 15th Div Bde

1088

15th Aust Field Ambulance Order No 6 Copy to 5.



Ref Map. HAZEBROUCK 5A.

Intentions The unit will march to Stalbe with the 15th Inf Bde Group today and will billet in that vicinity.

March The route will be NORTH of the river LYS. The Unit will

60 Bn. 6 cols march in 2 columns. Order as per margin.

29 ASC. 2 cols (1) Bearer Divisions

59 Bn. 6 " (2) Transport.

58 Bn. 6 "

57 Bn. 5 "

(-1 Coy)

15 M.G. Coy 1 Col

15 B.L.T. Coy 5

15 F. Coy 2 "

15 F. Amb. 2 "

15 Bde. Hq. 1 "

1 Coy 57 Bn. 1 Col.

An interval of 500 yards will be maintained between columns

Starting point Cathedral with clock tower

Head of Bearer Divisions will pass starting point at 2.50 pm.

Section will muster in main square at 2.30 pm.

War Diary appendice 17A

Transport A baggage guard of 10 men will be detailed by A Sect

at MacDulshoffe. Vehicles when unloaded will be retained by unit.

Cover Every advantage will be taken of natural screens on the route in order to avoid interference by the enemy.

On arrival in billets all men will be confined at once to buildings allotted and a picket placed at all exits. No smoking will be allowed after dark and rooms in which lights are burning must be carefully screened.

Halt. Halts of 10 minutes will be made at end of first 20 minutes and thereafter each clock hour

at all halts care must be taken that men do

Copy to 1 field not sit or lie in crops.

2 CO

3 O.C.B. Sect

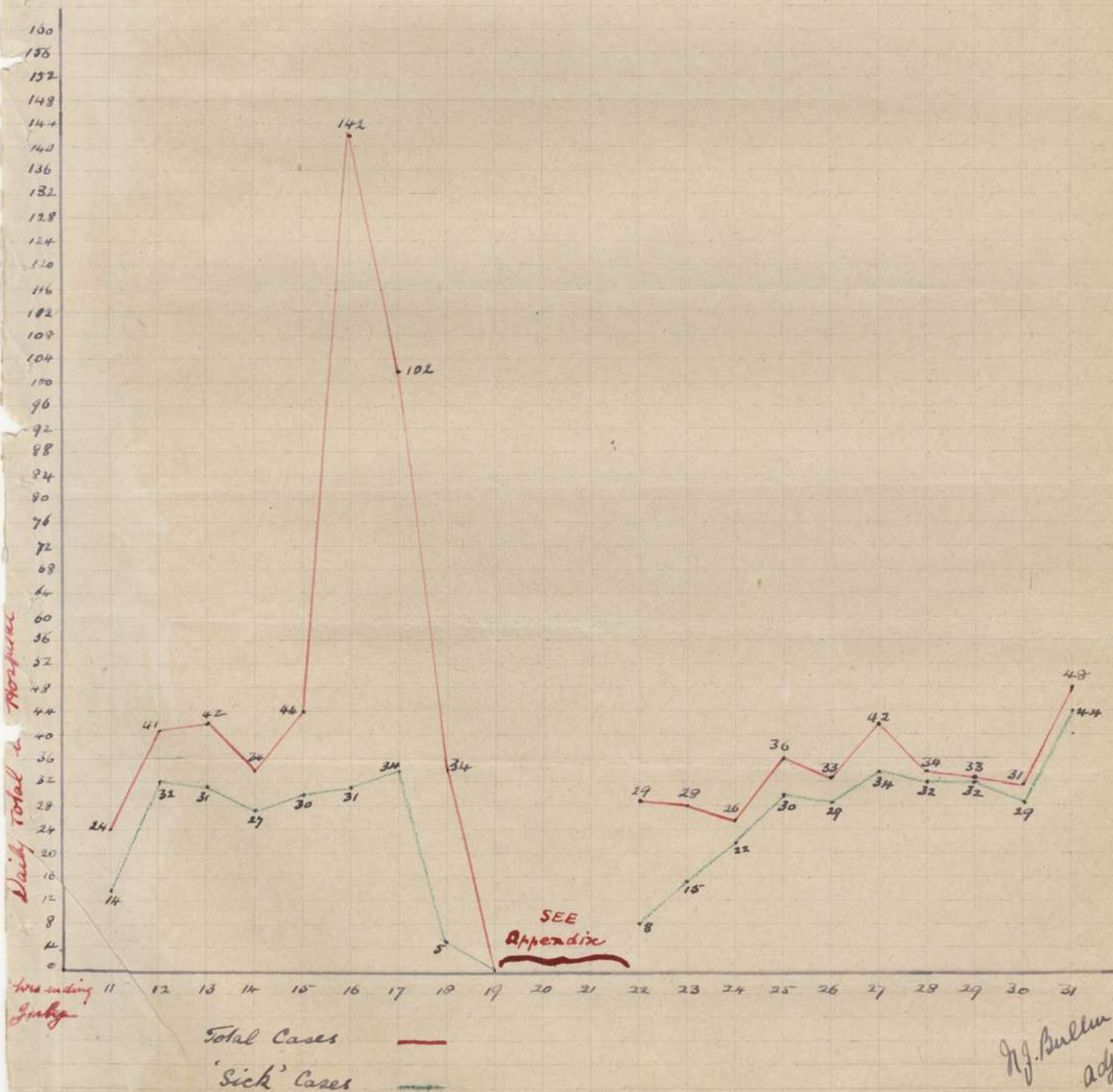
4 O.C.C. Sect

5 War Diary

J. J. Bullen Capt
adj. 15th Aust. Fld. Amb.

Graph showing daily totals of cases treated at main Dressing Station from 11th to 31st July 1916

War Diary
Appendix 18



War Diary

16 July 1916

OC. 15 Field Ambulance

Appendix 19

You will ^{establish} ~~open~~ a Man brassing station above at G 18 c 6.9 at 0900 on 16 July 1916. Water carts will be needed filled. A water cart will report at G 18 c 6.9 this morning. This spot is just over the second bridge & you will share its occupancy. Send a cleaning party in advance.



A. W. Sturdy

Col
adms 5th Ambul60

Reference Map Sheet 36 1:40.000

D.H. 9. 16/7/16

SECRET

1. Arrangements are being made for an attack on the enemy's front line system.
2. The 8th Field Ambulance will withdraw from the Motor Post and Advanced Dressing Station at H 30 b 4.10 and Regimental Aid Posts at I 31 a 4.7 and I 26 a 4.7 at midnight on 15/16th July and hand over to the 3rd Field Ambulance, New Zealand Division.
3. The 15th Field Ambulance will withdraw from R.A.P. N 2 d 6.9 on the morning of the 16th July and will hand over to the 14th Field Ambulance.
4. The 14th Field Ambulance will establish an advance Dressing Station and Motor Post at G 36 b 6.3
5. The ^{14 &}15th Field Ambulances will establish a Main Dressing Station at G 18 b 8.5 at 9 a.m. on 16th July.
6. The 14th Field Ambulance will withdraw its personnel, less 1 N.C.O. 5 O.R. and transport, from H 5 a 5.8 on the night of -date to be fixed- Water Cart will report at G 18 b 8.5 on the morning of 16th July.
7. Stretcher Parties will be maintained at:-
H 26 d 1.1
H 21 a 7.5
G 36 b 6.3
for work in the immediate vicinity of these posts and touch established with Units.
8. R.M.O. 11th Group Artillery has dressing station at H 21 d 9.4
R.M.O. 25th Field Arty Bde has dressing station at H 34 a 7.3
9. Motor Ambulances from G 36 b 6.3 will take the undermentioned route
(1) to G 29 d 7.9
thence N.E. to H 13 b 1.0
thence S.W. to G 18 b 8.5
Motor Ambulances from H 26 d 1.1 will take road
N.E. to H 21 d 5.5
thence N.W. to H 21 a 6.5
(2) thence N.W. to H 8 c 0.4
thence S.W. to H 13 c 9.0
thence N. to G 18 b 8.5
Motor Ambulances from H 34 a 7.9 will take road
N.E. to H 28 d 7.6
(3) thence N.W. to H 21 d 9.5
thence N.W. to H 21 a 6.5
thence as in (2)
10. Walking Cases are to be directed to G 18 b 8.5 along routes above mentioned and arrangements made for line of direction posts.
11. In the absence of bicycles or motor cycles communications will be maintained by relays of personnel
12. Evacuations from Main Dressing Stations will be under the orders of the D.D.M.S. 2nd Anzac.
13. Preparations are to be made for heavy casualties.
14. Reports to A.D.M.S. Office Saily.

Ed Wainwright
Colonel
A.D.M.S. 5th. Australian Division

1088

War Diary

Appendix 21

SECRET

COPY No 1

15th FIELD AMBULANCE ORDER No 7



Reference Map. Sheet 36a ¹/₄₀₀₀₀

17/7/16.

INFORMATION.

An attack on an extensive scale is to be delivered on the enemy's front. A Main Dressing Station was established by C. Section of this Unit, at BAC-St MAUR (G.18.6.8.5.) this morning. The Advance Dressing Station at N.2. D. 6.9. was withdrawn on morning of 16th July. An Advance Dressing Station was established at same time at H.33.A.3.3.

INTENTION.

To prepare for collection, treatment, and evacuation of large number of casualties.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. Advance Dressing Station at CROIX BLANCHE H.33.A.3.3. Personnel: Capt Coppleson i/c, 2 Officers, 29 Other Ranks

2. Motor Post and Soup Depot. At la CROIX LESCORNEX H.26.6.9.0. situated one hundred yards WEST of Cross Roads.

3. Car Relay. (1) at FLEURBAIX at west end of Rue du QUESNE. (2) Alternative relay at Motor Post (see IX 2.)

4. Transport of wounded. All cases will be taken to BAC-St-MAUR via FLEURBAIX and FORT ROMPU.

5. Main Dressing Station. at BAC -St- MAUR. Major Newton o/c

Motor Route. from H.26.D.1.1.
N.E. to H.21.D.5.5.
N.W. to H.21.A.6.5.
N.W. to H.H.C.0.4.
S.W. to H.13.C.9.0.
N. to G.18.B.8.5.

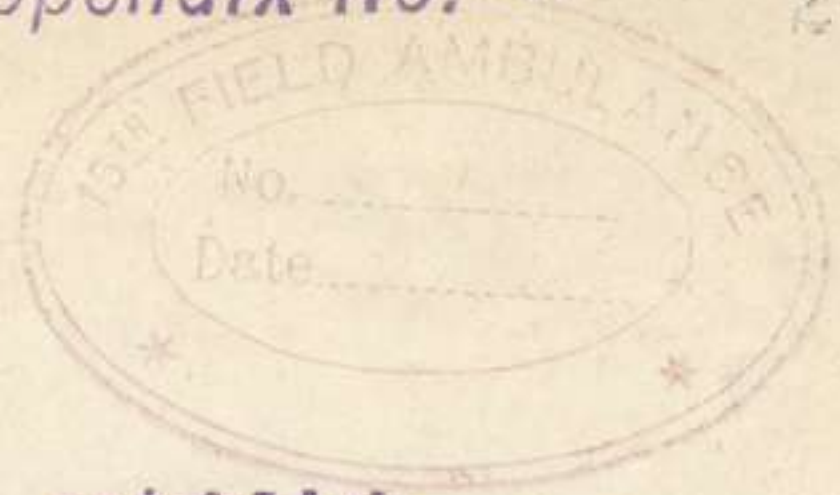
Walking cases will be directed to Soup Depot at La CROIX LESCORNEX and thence by above Route to Main Dressing Station.

Communications. (i) by Cycle from Main Dressing Station to Ambulance Head Quarters, and to Soup Depot at H.26.B.9.0. by above Route. (ii) by relays of personnel from

from H.26.B.9.0.
N.W. to H.19.A.3.0.
N.E. to H.13.D.1.0.
N.W. to H.13.C.4.9.
S.W. to H.13.C.9.0.
N. to G.18.B.8.5.

1088

(2)



DISTRIBUTION (Contd).

Supplies. The Quarter Master will establish and supervise a depot at G.13. 6, 8, 5, and distribute rations and supplies to the various detachments.

Evacuations. Evacuations from Main Dressing Station will be under the orders of D.D.M.S. 2nd Anzac.

Reports. To Main Dressing Station.

HEAD QUARTERS.

at SAILLY (Rue du BOURG. Mons. Henri Candeille.)

W. H. H. H.

Lt Col.,

C.O. 15th FIELD AMBULANCE A.I.F

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 - 8 }

Report on Work done by Ambulance during actions
of 19th 20th 21st July. (5 pages)

19.7.16.

War Diary Appendix 22



Conference of O's C. Ambulances with A.D.M.S. 5th Aust. Division - Final instructions issued
Zero time notified as 11 a.m.

After the conference all the posts were inspected by the C.O. and a few minor alterations made.

A much shorter motor route was arranged for with the additional advantage of passing along unfrequented roads - this greatly facilitated the subsequent work of collecting.

Under instruction from the A.D.M.S. a party of 1 NCO and 20 bearers was posted near LE CROIX LES CORNEX, with instruction to pick up wounded on the road in case casualties occurred to the men moving down to the trenches.

During the afternoon of the 19th and night 19th/20th July the work of treating and evacuating patients at the main Dressing Station went on smoothly - the number of patients treated being shown on accompanying 2 hourly chart. Every case was dressed & given anti-tetanic serum and all necessary operations performed. In spite of the rapid arrival of wounded there was never any congestion either in the dressing room or
(in)

in the ward.

Whilst in the dressing room or in the ward awaiting evacuation every patient was given hot soup or cocoa with most beneficial effects.

~~Except~~ Five dressing tables were continually in use for stretcher cases.

The Medical Staff actually engaged at the Main Dressing Station comprised 5 Officers of the 15th F. Amb.

Capt. Pennick

Major Black

Capt Carter R.A.M.C.

The last mentioned Officer was R.M.O. of the Heavy Battery killed at the Main Dressing Station, and did most valuable work with the walking cases.

20.7.16.

By 7 a.m. on the 20th instant the dressing station was practically clear; but between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. a large number of walking cases arrived so that no relaxation was possible until about 1 p.m.

Valuable assistance was given by the men of the Heavy Battery in unloading wagons and generally assisting our bearers.

ADVANCED DRESSING STATION

Soon after the commencement of the action it was found possible to transfer the greater part of the equipment and personnel of this Station to EATON HALL the Headquarters of the OXFORD BUCKS.

This enabled us to relay the cars at CROIX BLANCHE (whence)



when they were sent on to EATON HALL as ³ required, thus reducing the work of the stretcher bearers to a minimum. The Soup Kitchen was then moved from le CROIX LESCORNEX to CROIX BLANCHE and proved invaluable to all cases - all walking cases were stopped and given hot soup or cocoa at this place. The ease with which the Loyer Stoves can be moved and their economy in fuel render them invaluable for this purpose.

The evacuations from the A.D.S. was carried out with ease owing to the excellent car service provided and dressed cases were always removed with promptness.

The work was exceedingly heavy until about 5 a.m. on the 20th. During this period much valuable aid was given by the Officers and men of the OXFORD BUCKS. Captain Mather and 12 other ranks of the 5th Sanitary Section reported at about 5.30 a.m. and Capt Rennick R.M.O. of 5th Divisional Train at 7 a.m. Two Officers and 40 other ranks of the N.Z. A.M.C. reported at about 10 a.m. and relieved our men of much collecting. Some of the men had been bearing incessantly since mid-day on 19th inst and were completely knocked out. The work would have been impossible without the aid of wheeled stretcher trucks of which 20 were in use at this Station.
(The)



The distribution of the details at ADS was as follows:-

	Officers.	N.C.O.'s.	men.
<u>CROIX BLANCHE</u>	-	2	7
<u>EATON HALL</u>			
15 th Aust Fld Amb.	2	3	48
2 nd NZ Fld Amb.	2	3	40
5 th Sanitary Sect.	1	4	8
8 th Field Amb.	1	2	20
OXFORD and BUCKS	1	2	20
5 th Divisional Train	1	-	-
TOTAL	8.	16.	143.



Up to 5.30 a.m. on the 20th inst, by which time about 800 cases had been evacuated the whole of the work had been done by 2 Officers, 5 N.C.O.'s, 55 men of the 15th Field Ambulance, and 1 Officer & 20 men of the Oxford Bucks. Their work was rendered more difficult by the fact that the Regimental Service proved quite inadequate and soon broke down completely. The fact that plenty of work was found for the large number eventually engaged at this one Station shows the advisability of providing for such a rush of cases either by:-

- (1) Increase of strength of Beamer Subdivision of Ambulances
- (2) Increase in strength of A.M.C. details of Fighting Units
- (3) Obtaining details in advance from Reserve fighting units to stand by until required.

Walking Cases -

These present a difficult problem for satisfactory handling in that though if two slightly wounded (there).

5
there is usually a certain amount of shock and many collapse at the A.D.S. Provisions of hot soup or coffee does much to counteract this, but it would be well to establish depots on all main lines of evacuation - say about 2000 yards behind the trenches - where these cases could be collected and conveyed to the main Dressing Stations in vehicles; either country lines or supply wagons could be used for this purpose.

With regard to the actual carrying of stretchers in the trenches it may be noted that these are often so narrow that bearers suffer considerably from abrasions on the backs of the hands; this could be avoided by the provision of leather backed mittens for bearers.

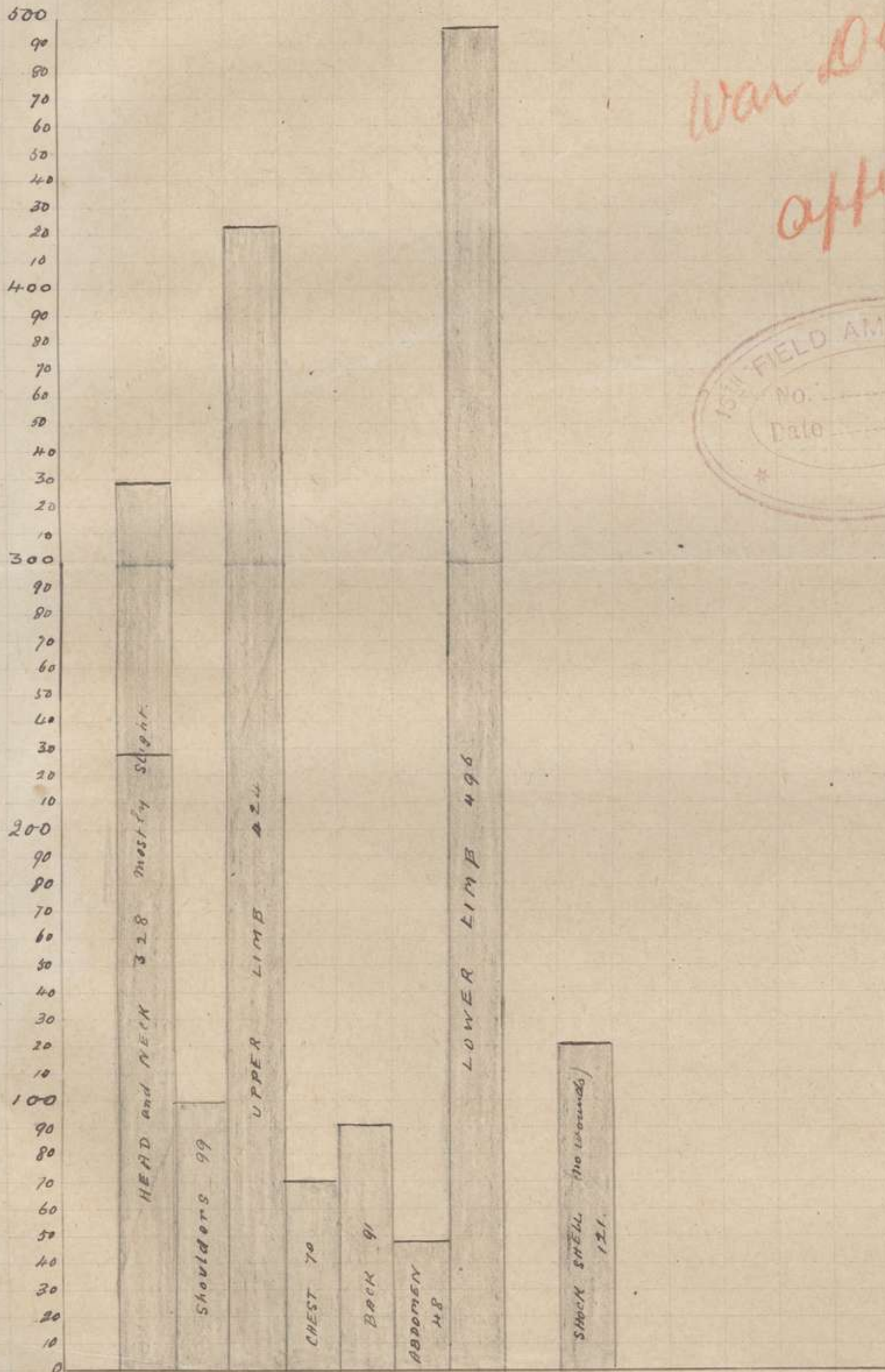
H. J. Bullen Capt

Adj. 15th Field Ambulance



Graph Showing Anatomical Distribution of wounds in 1677 cases admitted from 12 a.m. 19.7.16 to 12 pm. 20.7.16

The apparent preponderance of slight head, and of limb wounds is probably due to the trunk and severe head cases being either killed outright or by the subsequent raking with fire of the area between the lines.



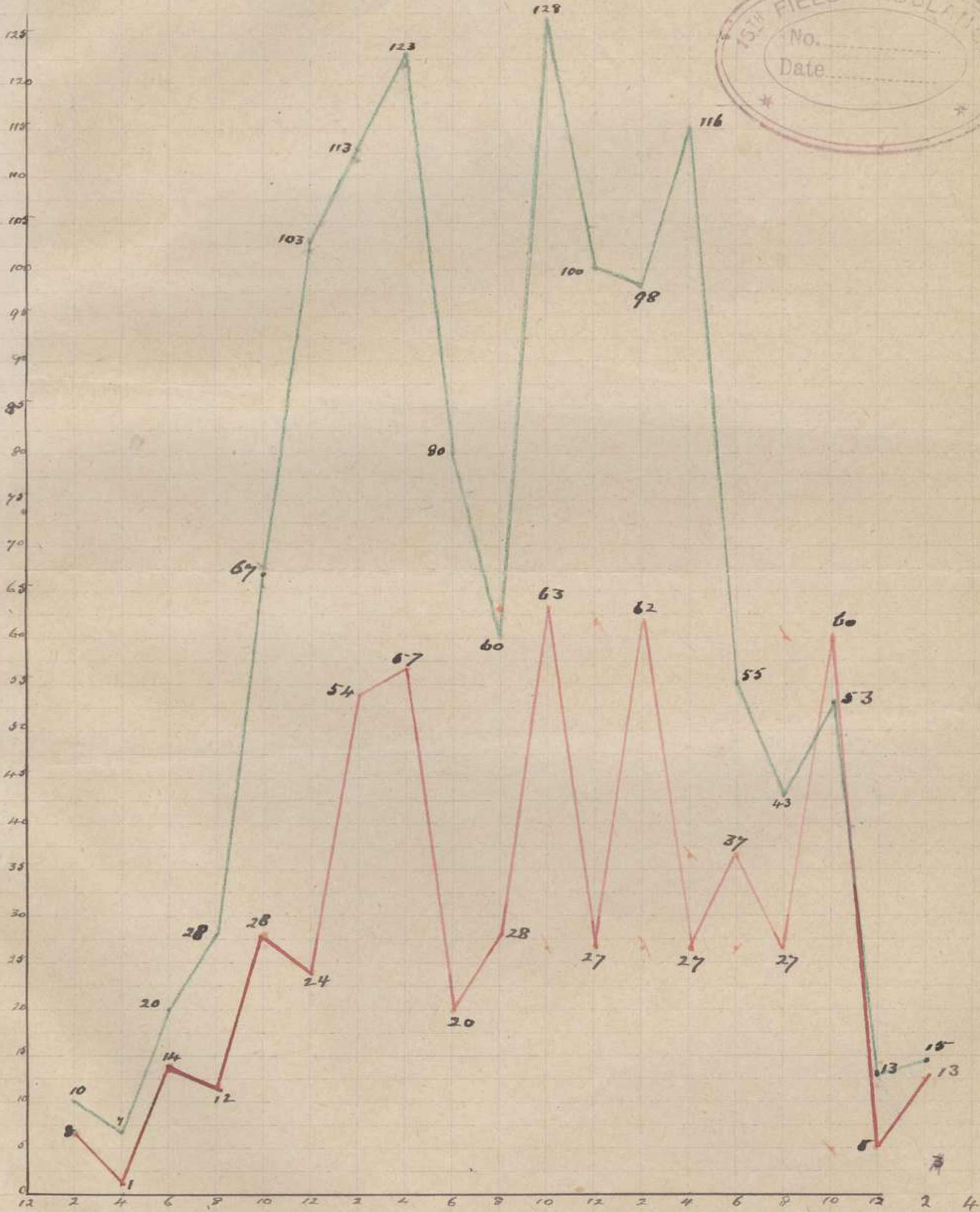
War Diary
Appendix 23



9/13

Graph Showing proportion of Stretcher Cases to Total Cases evacuated from BAC ST MAUR between 12 am 19.7.16 and 12 pm. 20.7.16

Appendix 24



Stretcher Cases
TOTAL CASES

1916