

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/58/32

**Title:** 15th Australian Field Ambulance

December 1918



AWM4-26/58/32

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A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

W A R

D I A R Y

O F

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

F O R

D E C E M B E R, 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling .....

*Musthahel*  
Lieut-Colonel.

Signature of Officer Commanding .....

*Musthahel*  
Lieut-Colonel.



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~~

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Page 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>DECEMBER</u>			
FAVRIL	1		Captain J. GRAY ceased to be detached to 59th A.I. Battalion as R.M.O. on rejoining Unit. Captain J.R. Robertson is temporarily detached to 59th A.I. Battalion vice Captain J. Gray. Captain J. Gray is temporarily detached for Refresher Course to No. 3 A.G.H. Captain R. L. Park is taken on strength from No. 1 A.G.H. <i>RN</i>	
	2		Captain J. L. Diggle is taken on strength from 5th D.A.C. ex leave and temporarily detached for Refresher Course at 3rd Australian General Hospital. <i>RN</i>	
	3		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	4		Captain R. L. Park transferred to 5th Australian Field Ambulance is struck off strength. Major J. D. Norris proceeded on leave to United Kingdom (6-20-12-1918). <i>RN</i>	
	5		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	6		Orders received from 15th Australian Infantry Brigade that the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade would move from FAVRIL area commencing on 7th instant. Arrangements for vacating this area got under way. <i>RN</i>	
	7		Orders received from 15th Australian Infantry Brigade that the 15th Australian Field Ambulance would move to LES BODELEX, marching in rear of 58th Australian Infantry Battalion on 8th inst. leaving FAVRIL at 8-30 a.m. Wagons were loaded and everything made ready to move off at time	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>DECEMBER.</u>			
	7		specified. Night fine but very cold. <i>RN</i>	
LES BODELEX	8		<p>The day was fine and Unit marched to LES BODELEX leaving FAVRIL at 8-30 a.m. and arriving at this Village at 3-15 p.m. Dinner was served at 12 noon on the road, the cooks and gear having been sent forward in advance to prepare this meal. On arrival in this Village it was found that the Imperial Troops were still in occupation of the Village; comfortable though scattered billets were obtained and Unit billeted without delay. Instructions received from A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division, to open a Hospital of 50 beds for the care of Brigade sick. Until the Village is evacuated by the Imperial Troops accommodation for this purpose is not available. A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division, and Brigade Major, 15th Australian Infantry Brigade, advised accordingly. <i>RN</i></p>	
	9		<p>Instructions received from A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division that the following Officers are to be struck off strength of this Ambulance as from the dates of their detachments to Units shewn :- Captain W.G.Oakeley transferred to 31st A.I.Battalion as R.M.O. dated 1-11-1918. Captain H.W.B.Cairns transferred to 5th D.A.C. as R.M.O. dated 6-11-1918. <i>RN</i></p>	
	9		<p>2/Lieut. J. Creswell, Educational Officer, A.A.M.C., 5th Australian Division, visited this Unit reference the A.I.F. Education Scheme. An Education Clerk was appointed and Education</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>DECEMBER.</u>				
LES BODELEX	10		<del>Starkxxxxxx</del> Committee reformed. An Education Syllabus is being prepared and arrangements to open up Educational Classes, also for the forming of a Unit Library. A Billet has been secured but cannot be taken over until the Imperial Troops vacate the Village. <i>RN</i>	
	11		Captain A.W.LeSouef rejoined Unit from leave to Paris. <i>RN</i>	
	12/13		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	14		2/lieut. J. Creswell reported to this Unit and has completed arrangements for the opening up of Educational classes. Teachers from members of the Unit have been obtained in practically every subject <del>max</del> that has been suggested. <i>RN</i>	
	15		A Church of England Church Service was held during the morning. In the afternoon a Soccer Match was played against the 50th Divisional Train (Imperial) and was won by the latter by one goal. <i>RN</i>	
	16		The billet allotted for Educational purposes were vacated by the Imperial Troops today and arrangements for the fitting up of the rooms completed. The rooms are very comfortable and it is expected that the classes will be well attended. The Library also should be well patronised. <i>RN</i>	
	17		The Imperial Troops vacated the Village this morning and men were allotted billets previously	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>DECEMBER</u>			
LES BODELEX	17		occupied by these troops. A Hospital was opened in the village capable of holding 50 patients although accommodation for 30 patients has only been arranged for. Educational classes were opened and were well attended. Orders received from A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division, for one Section with 2 Medical Officers to proceed to BEAUMONT and open a Hospital of 50 beds. <i>RN</i>	
	18		Major J. V. Pearce with Captain W.A. James and "C" Section, 15th Australian Field Ambulance, proceeded to BEAUMONT to open up Hospital. Telegram received from Major Pearce at 7 p.m. that Hospital was established and ready to receive patients. <i>RN</i>	
	19		Captain A.W. LeSouef temporarily detached for duty to D.D.M.S., Australian Corps, in accordance with instructions, A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division. <i>RN</i>	
	20		Private Henry, 15th Aust. Field Ambulance, gave a lecture this evening entitled "CRIMINOLOGY" the lecture was well attended and much appreciated. <i>RN</i>	
	21/22		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	23		New Establishment of a Field Ambulance received from A.D.M.S., 5th Aust. Division with instructions that the re-organisation of this Ambulance was to proceed forthwith. This matter was put in hand without delay. A debate "That the Australian Soldier has gained by his Enlistment in the A.I.F." was held by members of this Unit in the Educational Room this evening. Much	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>DECEMBER</u>			
LES BODELEX	23		enthusiasm among the members resulted and the debate proved a big success. <i>RN</i>	
	24		Captain F. R. Meagher, A.A.M.C. reported for duty from A.A.M.C. Details, England, and taken on strength. A small supply of provisions for Christmas dinner was obtained from the Divisional Canteen, but not sufficient for the requirements of the Unit. <i>RN</i>	
	25		Snow fell during last evening and the day was very cold. A very medium dinner of Turkey and Mutton was provided for both patients and personnel at 4-30 p.m. A piano was borrowed for the evening and an enjoyable evening was spent. Parcels were received from the Australian Comforts Fund and each man was issued with one. <i>RN</i>	
	26		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	27		Captain J. R. Robertson ceased to be detached to 59th A. I. Battalion on rejoining Unit. <i>RN</i>	
	28		No. 2957, Tempy. W.O. N.C.D. Burgess "M.M." and 11 Other Ranks concentrating at Corps <del>Rixi</del> Reinforcement Wing for return to Australia and struck off strength.	
	29		No entries necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	30		Major J.V.H. Guest reported for duty from 8th Aust. Field Ambulance and is taken on the strength of this Ambulance in accordance with instructions A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.	
			The re-organisation of the Ambulance vide D.A.G., A.I.F. 51/70 dated 11-12-18 became effective	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DECEMBER				
LES BODELEX	30		as from today. The Quartermaster has arrangements for the return of all surplus stores and equipment under way. <i>RW</i>	
	31		No entries necessary. <i>RW</i>	
*****				
			<i>Alister Habel</i>	
			C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A. I. F.	



# WAR DIARY

OF

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15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Field Ambulance A.I.F.

FOR

December 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

N/A

