

AWM4

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/58/35

Title: 15th Australian Field Ambulance

March 1919



AWM4-26/58/35

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~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

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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

M A R C H, 1919.

Musthale

Signature of Officer compiling

Musthale

Signature of Officer Commanding

1--4--1919.

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	March, 1919.			
AVESNES	1.		Major J.V.H. Guest rejoined Unit from leave to Paris and Nice. Summer time became operative from today and all clocks have been advanced one hour. <i>RN</i>	
	2.		Instructions from A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division received vide A.A.M.C. Order NO. 5 dated 28-2-1919, state that this Unit will combine with the 8th Australian Field Ambulance at SARS POTERIES and JEUMONT on the 6th inst. The Unit will be known as the 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance and Lieut. Colonel R. Whiston Walsh D.S.O. will assume temporary command. This Ambulance will move to billets allotted in SARS POTERIES on the 3rd inst. the move to be completed by 1400. <i>RN</i>	
	3.		In accordance with the instructions mentioned above the Ambulance moved by route march from AVESNES to SARS POTERIES in accordance with the Movement Order appended hereto. Captain D.G. May and 3 other ranks remained in AVESNES to attend to local sick parade and administer Blue Light Depot. A party of 1 W.C.O. and 5 other ranks were also retained to mount guard over stores and equipment stored in AVESNES. <i>RN</i>	
SARS POTERIES	4.		The Ambulance is now comfortably billeted and have taken over the administration of the Hospital as from 800 today. <i>RN</i>	
	5.		No entry necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	6.		In accordance with instructions A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division A.A.M.C. Order No. 5. the 8th and 15th Australian Field Ambulances merged into a combined Unit called the 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance, today. This combined unit will operate as one Ambulance but records, funds and War diary will remain separate and be conducted by Cadre "B" in the case of the 8th Australian Field Ambulance. The Administrative details of consequent upon this Order are shewn in the appended Special Order of the Day by Lieut. Colonel R. Whiston Walsh dated today. C.S.M. Jolly and ten other ranks proceeded to 5th Australian Divisional Reinforcement Wing today for Repatriation with Embarkation Quota No. 14. <i>RN</i>	
	7.		No entry necessary. <i>RN</i>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 2.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>March, 1919.</u>				
SARS POTERIES.	8.		Lieut. Colonel A.R. Clayton D.S.O. rejoined Unit today from leave to COLOGNE. <i>RN</i>	
	9/10		No entry necessary. <i>RN</i>	
	11.		The combined Ambulance moved from SARS POTERIES to WALCOURT in three stages in accordance with Movement Order appended hereto. The march was carried out in accordance with programme in every particular and was completed without hitch, the only incident was the falling sick of two horses during the first day which had to be replaced by spares. The weather was cool and showery and the rain did not make the march pleasant, <i>RN</i>	
	12/13.		No entries necessary - Unit on the march. <i>RN</i>	
	14.		The day was spent in arranging the hospital, in the site already prepared by the Advanced party and the necessary arrangements made in connection with the establishment of Orderly Room, Quartermaster Store etc. Arrangements were also made for the handing over command of the Unit by Lieut. Colonel R. Whiston Walsh to Lieut. Colonel Clayton D.S.O. Captain G.O. Robertson reported back to the Ambulance from 32nd A.I. Battalion today. <i>RN</i>	
	15.		The command of the Unit was today handed over by Lieut. Colonel R. Whiston Walsh D.S.O. to Lieut. Colonel A.R. Clayton D.S.O. Regimental Fund Account, Regimental Reserve Account and Canteen Funds were handed over to Lieut. W.H. Summerfield Quartermaster 15th Australian Field Ambulance, as Officer in charge of Cadre "B" 15th Australian Field Ambulance, for his Administration. <i>RN</i>	

			<i>R. Whiston Walsh</i> Lieut. Colonel. C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A. I. F.	

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Herewith I hand over horses, vehicles, stores and equipment of
"A" and "B" Sections of 15th Australian Field Ambulance, checked
with Mobilization store table for a Field Ambulance A.F. G1098-
120 corrected up to January 1919.

These with indents marked "not to be fulfilled" found
correct.

Received. *A R Mayton* Lieut. Colonel.

Handed over *Musthals* Lieut. Colonel.

WALCOURT.
14th March 1919.

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8/15th AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, A.I.F.

MOVEMENT ORDER

BY

LIEUT-COLONEL R. WHISTON WALSH D.S.O. TEMPORARILY
COMMANDING.

In accordance with instructions, A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division (A.A.M.C. Order No. 6) the 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance and attached details will move from SARS POTERIES to WALCOURT, commencing on the 11th instant.

1. MOVE. The 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance, and attached details less:
 - Advance Party consisting of - 2 Officers, 5 other ranks, 2 Sunbeam Motor Ambulance Cars complete with MT personnel.
 - Rear Party consisting of 1 Officer, 5 other ranks of 8/15th Aust. Field Ambulance; No. 23 Dental Unit and 4 Sunbeam Motor Ambulance Cars complete with MT personnel.
 - Detail of 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance at JEUMONT.
 - Detail of 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance at AVESNES.
 will move from SARS POTERIES to SIVRY on 11th inst. marching in rear of 15th Australian Infantry Brigade First Group.

On the 12th instant march will continue to BOUSSU-WALCOURT.

On the 13th instant march will continue to final location at WALCOURT.

BILLETS. Billets as allotted will be occupied as follows:-

Night	11/12-3-19	-	SIVRY.
"	12/13-3-19	-	BOUSSU - WALCOURT.
"	13-3-19 and thereafter	-	WALCOURT.

2. ROUTINE. Reveille 0600.
Breakfast 0700.
3. DRESS. Full marching order less blankets. Water bottles will be carried freshly filled and haversacks contain small kit.
4. ADVANCE PARTY. Advance party consisting of 2 Officers and 5 other ranks and 2 Motor Ambulance complete with MT personnel - to be detailed - with Medical equipment, will proceed to WALCOURT moving off from SARS POTERIES at 0800 and prepare Chateau as a Hospital for the reception of patients and arrange billets for Unit.
5. DETAIL of 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance at JEUMONT will remain as at present.
6. DETAIL of 1 Officer and 4 other ranks of 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance at present located at AVESNES will on the 14th instant be transferred by Motor Ambulance Cars to SOLRE-le-CHATEAU under the order of the Officer i/c Rear party.
7. REAR PARTY. of 1 Officer and 5 other ranks No 23 Dental Unit and 2 Motor Ambulance Cars complete with MT personnel will remain at SARS POTERIES until the 14th instant. On 14th inst. Officer I/C No. 23 Dental Unit with complete personnel and equipment will move by Ambulance Cars under the orders of Officer i/c Rear party to BARBENCON and be attached to 15th Australian Infantry Brigade H.Q. On the 15th instant and after completion of transfer of party to SOLRE-le-CHATEAU and No. 23 Dental Unit the Rear party with Ambulance cars will move and join up with H.Q. 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance at WALCOURT.
8. NO. 2 AUST DENTAL UNIT will accompany 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance.
9. BLANKETS. Blankets of personnel of Main body will be handed in to Q.M. Store for transport, rolled in bundles of nine by 0800 on the morning of 11th, 12th and 13th instant.
10. BAGGAGE - EQUIPMENT - STORES. All baggage, equipment and stores MUST be loaded on transport by 0800 on 11th instant.

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11. BILLETING CERTIFICATES. The Q.M., 8/15 Australian Field Ambulance will complete all billeting certificates for SARS POTERIES area and hand same in to Orderly Room by 1800, 10th instant.
Officer in charge of main body will obtain certificates from the Area Commandant or local authorities in regard to the state in which billets are left en route to WALCOURT.
 12. BILLETS. All billets occupied will be ready for inspection by C.O. by 0800 on 11th, 12th and 13th inst.
 13. MECHANICAL TRANSPORT. The M. T. will move independently under the order of Major J.V.H. Guest (Officer in charge M.T.)
 14. RATIONS. The Q.M. 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance will arrange for the drawing and issuing of rations for the Ambulance and attached personnel, for Advance and Rear parties. He will arrange for cooks with sufficient utensils and rations to proceed each day to the final halt for the day in advance and prepare a hot meal to be ready on arrival of the main body. He will also arrange for a hot meal to be served at the mid-day halt on the 12th instant in the vicinity of VERGNIES.
 15. MARCH DISCIPLINE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL. Fourth Army Routine Order No. 2039 and Fourth Army No. G.S. 128 will be strictly observed.
 16. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. Evacuations of sick will be in accordance with attached table under the discretion of Major Guest (Officer in charge M.T.)

Route of evacuation until 13th inst. will be via 14th Australian Field Ambulance to SARS POTERIES to C.C.S. CHARLEROI.

On and after 14th inst. 14th Australian Field Ambulance will collect sick of 14th and 15th Infantry Brigades, 5th M.G. Battalion, 5th Pioneer Battalion, 5th Aust. Divisional Reinforcement Wing, 5th Div. Train and 14th A.F.A. Brigade.

8/15th Australian Field Ambulance will collect from 8th Australian Infantry Brigade, 5th Div. Engineers, 5th Aust. D.A.C. 13th A.F.A. Brigade and 5th Aust. Divisional Headquarters and will also transport all cases for evacuation from 14th Australian Field Ambulance.

Officer in charge JEUMONT station will arrange to clear patients from SOLRE-le-CHATEAU as required.

(Authority - A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.)



Mustn't
..... Lieut. Colonel.
Temp. C.O., 8/15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.I.F.

Copies to

- Officer I/c Advance Party.
- Officer i/c Main Body.
- Officer i/c Rear Guard.
- Officer i/c Mechanical Transport.
- Officer i/c Horse Transport.
- Quartermaster 8/15th Aust. Field Ambulance.
- Officer i/c Details JEUMONT.
- A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.
- War Diary (3).
- File.



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

MOVEMENT

ORDER

BY

LIEUT-COLONEL R. WHISTON WALSH, D.S.O., COMMANDING.

In accordance with instructions, 5th Australian Division A.A.M.C. Order No. 4 dated 28th February, 1919, the 15th Australian Field Ambulance will move from AVESNES to billets in SARS POTERIES on 3rd March, 1919, by shortest route. Movement to be completed by 2 p.m.

1. MOVE. The 15th Australian Field Ambulance less :-

Advance Party consisting of C. O.

Dental Officer.

Orderly Room Staff - 2 O.Rs.

Rear Guard consisting of Captain D. G. May.

10 Other Ranks.

Staff Sergeant Murray.

Mechanical Transport.

will move out at 1000, 3rd instant.

Cooks Party consisting of 4 Other Ranks with rations and cooking utensils will move out by Ambulance Car at 0830, 3rd instant.

2. ROUTINE.

Reveille 0630

Breakfast 0730

Fall in 0945

Move off 1000

3. DRESS. Full marching order less packs and blankets. Water Bottles will be carried freshly filled and haversacks contain small kit.

4. BLANKETS. ALL blankets will be handed in to Quartermaster's Store, rolled in bundles of 10, by 0730, 3rd instant.

5. PACKS. Packs will be handed in to Quartermaster's Store by 0800, 3rd instant, for transport to ~~AVESNES~~ SARS POTERIES.

6. BAGGAGE - EQUIPMENT - STORES. All Baggage, Equipment and Stores, except hospital stores being left behind under guard, MUST be loaded on transport by 0900, 3rd instant.

7. MEDICAL INDENTS. Staff Sergeant MURRAY will remain at AVESNES till further orders for the purpose of fulfilling and completing medical indents to Battalions.

8. BILLETING CERTIFICATES. The Quartermaster will complete all Billeting Certificates and hand same in to Orderly Room by 0800, 4th instant.

9. BILLETS. All billets will be ready for inspection by C.O. at 0800, 3-3-1919.

10. MECHANICAL TRANSPORT. The Mechanical Transport will move independently under the orders of Captain D. G. May.

11. RATIONS. The Quartermaster will arrange for the drawing and issuing of rations for the Ambulance and attached personnel; for the Cooks in the Advance Party to take forward sufficient cooking utensils and rations for a mid-day meal to be ready at SARS POTERIES, and for the rationing for 3 days of the Rear Guard (after which period the Rear Guard will be rationed by the Town Major, AVESNES, in accordance with arrangements).

12. No. 23 DENTAL UNIT. The No. 23 Dental Unit will move with the 15th Australian Field Ambulance.

13. MARCH DISCIPLINE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL. Fourth Army Routine Order No.2039 and Fourth Army No. G.S. 128 will be strictly observed.

2-3-1919.

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

Issued To :- Major J. V. Guest.
 Captain D. G. May.
 Officer i/c Horse Transport.
 Quartermaster.
 O. i/c. No. 23 Dental Unit.
 W. O. Mara.



Copies to :- A.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division.
 C.O., 8th Australian Field Ambulance.

Order No. 4 dated 28th February, 1919, the 15th Australian Field Ambulance will move from AVESNES to billets in SARRS POTRIES on 3rd March, 1919, by shortest route. Movement to be completed by 2 p.m.

The 15th Australian Field Ambulance less :-
 Advance Party consisting of ... G. O.

Dental Officer.
 Orderly Room Staff - 2 G. O.
 Captain D. G. May.
 10 Other Rank.
 Staff Sergeant Murray.

Mechanical Transport.
 Will move out at 1000, 3rd instant.

Cook's Party consisting of 4 Other Rank with rations and cooking utensils will move out by Ambulance Car at 0830, 3rd instant.

Reveille 0630
 Breakfast 0730
 Roll in 0845
 Move off 1000

Will be carrying order less packs and blankets. Water Bottles will be carried freely filled and have-rucksacks contain small kit.

Blankets and blankets will be handed in to Quartermaster's Store, rolled in bundles of 10, by 0730, 3rd instant.

Packs will be handed in to Quartermaster's Store by 0800, 3rd instant, for transport to SARRS POTRIES.

EXCEPT MEDICAL STORES BEING LEFT BEHIND UNDER GUARD, MUST BE LOADED ON TRANSPORT BY 0800, 3rd instant. All baggage, equipment and stores.

Staff Sergeant MURRAY will remain at AVESNES till further orders for the purpose of fulfilling and completing medical orders to Battalions.

The Quartermaster will complete all Billets and Certificates and hand same in to Orderly Room by 0800, 4th instant.

All billets will be ready for inspection by C.O. at 0800, 3-3-1919.

THE MECHANICAL TRANSPORT. The Mechanical Transport will move independently under the orders of Captain D. G. May.

THE RATIONING. The Quartermaster will arrange for the drawing and issuing of rations for the Ambulance and attached personnel; for the Cooks in the Advance Party to take forward sufficient cooking utensils and rations for a mid-day meal to be ready at SARRS POTRIES, and for the rationing for 3 days of the Rear Guard (after which period the Rear Guard will be rationed by the Town Major, AVESNES, in accordance with arrangements).

THE NO. 23 DENTAL UNIT. The No. 23 Dental Unit will move with the 15th Australian Field Ambulance.

THE MARCH DISCIPLINE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL. Fourth Army Routine Order No. 2032 and Fourth Army No. 6.2.123 will be strictly observed.

C.O., 15th Australian Field Ambulance, A.D.M.S.