

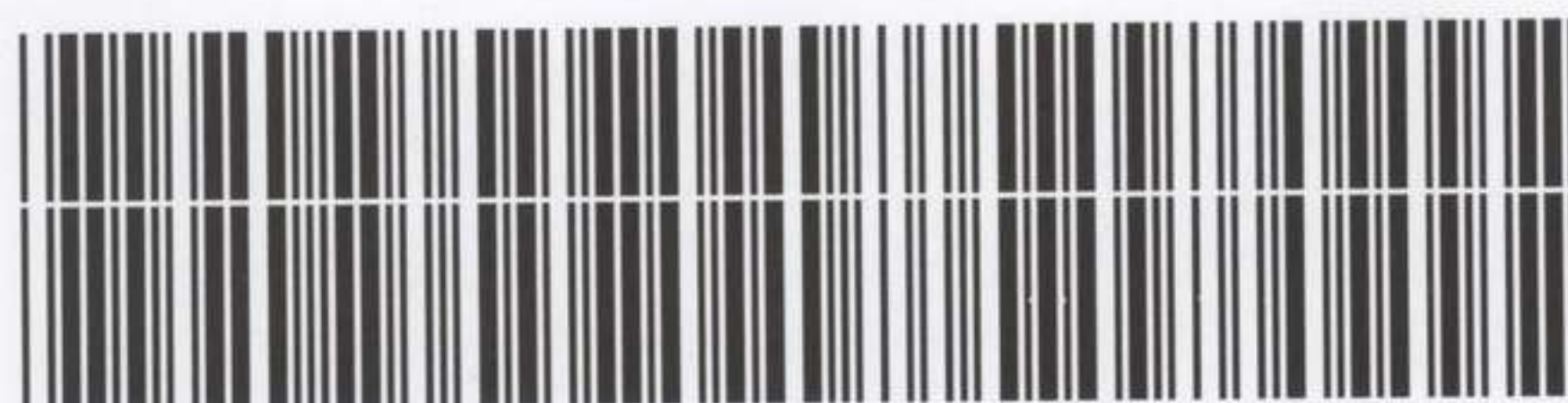
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/49/29

**Title:** 6th Australian Field Ambulance

May 1918



AWM4-26/49/29



# CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
TRIPLICATE.

# Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

6th AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

MAY

1918

Signature of Officer compiling.

N. C.  
Signature of Officer compiling W. Simpson Sgt.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Signature of Officer Commanding *H. H. Munn* Lt Colonel



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.

6<sup>th</sup> 7d Amb  
may 62d

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62d B.12.a.5.0	30.4.18		No 6314 Pte DURANT.W.P.promoted temporary Corporal Cook as from 5.2.18 vice Corpl ATKINSON.F.M. evacuated to Base 5.2.18.	
	2.5.18		In accordance with A.D.M.S.2nd Aust.Div.Medical Instructions No 1 the Ambulance was relieved at BEAUCOURT-MONTIGNY by 1/5 London Field Ambulance and came under the orders of G.O.C.6th.A.I.Bde	
			In accordance with 6th A.I.Bde Order No 139 the Ambulance moved from BEAUCOURT-MONTIGNY to QUERRIEU via BEHENCOURT-PONT NOYELLES-QUERRIEU (Sheet 62d H.17 a.5.2.)	Movement Order.7
Sheet 62d H.17 a.5.2.	3.5.18		Captain W.L.MILLETT temporarily attached as R.M.O.to 2nd Aust.D.A.C.	
	5.5.18		Captain B.D.FETHERS proceeded to A.I.F. H'qrs (authority D.A.G./A.I.F. 148/01/95 d/1.4.18) Captain J.H.R.McCUTCHEON temp.attached for duty taken on strength 5.5.18 vice Capt B.D.FETHERS	
	8.5.18		Major F.L.BIGNELL temporarily attached for duty pending absorption.	
	10.5.18		Major C.C.ROSS transferred as R.M.O. 2nd Aust.D.A.C. Major F.L.BIGNELL temp.attached taken on strength 10.5.18 vice Major C.C.ROSS transferred.	
			No 3702 Sgt A.L.READ proceeded to AGBD for disposal (DAG/AIF 85/61 d/5.5.18) 4194 L/Sgt NUNAN P.C. promoted temp.Sergeant 10.5.18 vice Sgt READ proceeded to Base.	
	11.5.18		Captain W.L.MILLETT rejoined from temp.duty as R.M.O.to 2nd D.A.C.	
			In accordance with AAMC Order No 19 2nd Aust.Div.the 6th Aust.Field Ambulance relieved the 10th Aust.Field Ambulance at Adv.Dressing Stn. 62d/I.4.b.8.0 and all forward posts.	Movement
			The following Bearers/ Sub-divisions were attached for duty to 6th Aust.Fld.Amb.: 5th Aust.Fld.Ambulance.2 (Two) 7th Aust.Fld.Ambulance 1 (One)	Order 8
			Three large motor ambulances were attached from 5th.& Two large motor ambulances from 7th.Aust Field Ambulances for duty.	
			No 4 Dental Unit were attached to 5th Aust.Fld.Amb.at M.D.S.62d/H.10.a.9.4.(temporary duty) Capt.H.W.POTTINGER proceeded to No 2 A.G.H. for duty.	
Sheet 62d I.4.b.8.0	18.5.18		One Bearer Sub-division & three Horsed Ambulances complete from 7th Aust.Fld.Amb.reported for temp.duty in readiness for 6th A.I.Bde attack on VILLE-sur-ANCRE (6th A.I.Bde Order-143) Captain A.P.LAWRENCE admitted to hospital sick.	



(Erase heading not required.)

RCDIG1015611



## WAR DIARY

OF

6th AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE

FOR

MAY

1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- ✓ A Movement Order No 7
- ✓ B Movement Order No 8
- ✓ C Scheme of evacuation from Left Brigade Sector of 2nd.Aust.Divisional Front, prepared for, and prior to, 2nd Aust.Division (5th & 6th A.I.Bdes) attack on VILLE-sur-ANCRE 18/19.5.18.
- ✓ D Report on evacuation of wounded from Right Bde Sector (SAILLY-le-SEC VAUX-sur-SOMME) during very active operations.
- ✓ E Map shewing routes of evacuation of sick and wounded from 2nd.Aust.Divisional Front.
- ✓ F Quartermaster's report.
- ✓ G Horsed Transport report.
- ✓ H Mechanical Transport report.
- ✓ I Unit's statistics for month.
- ✓ J Disposition of Unit's & attached personnel & transport daily at Ambulance H'qrs and forward posts. This state is prepared daily.
- X K Report under Medical Memo No 4, para 11, will be forwarded as soon as possible, which please attach.



MOVEMENT ORDER No. 7

1.5.18

Map Reference Sheet  
62 D.N.W. 1/20000

Lieut. Colonel H.L. StV WELCH D.S.O. C.O. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance.

RELIEF. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance will be relieved on 2.5.18 by a Field Ambulance of 47th Division. Relief to be complete by 12 noon 2.5.18

CLOSING OF A. & D. BOOKS A. & D. Books of 6th Aust. Fld. Amb. will be closed and those of relieving Field Amb. opened at 10 a.m. 2.5.18.

EQUIPMENT Medical Equipment of relieving Field Ambulance will come into use at 10 a.m. 2.5.18

ADVANCE RELIEVING PARTY. A party consisting of one Tent-Subdivision of relieving Field Amb. will begin to take over on afternoon of 1.5.18

MOVE. On relief the 6th Aust. Field Ambulance will move to new billets in QUERRIEU.

ROUTINE Dinner 11.30 a.m.  
Fall in 12 noon - at Orchard Billet 16.  
March off 12.20 p.m. -

ROUTE BEAUCOURT-MONTIGNY-BEHENCOURT-PONT NOVELLES-QUERRIEU. Distance 5 miles approx.

BRIGADE GROUP STARTING POINT. Head of Ambulance Column to pass at Church MONTIGNY (C.18.c.6.9.) at 12.45 p.m.

DRESS. Full marching order - Greatcoats in packs - Steel Helmets looped under left shoulder strap.

ORDER OF MARCH Half Sections at 50 yards distance. Transport in groups of six vehicles - 50 yards between each sixth and its succeeding wagon - 200 yards between head of Transport and rear half sections

CARE OF FEET. Every N.C.O. and man will thoroughly soap his feet and the inside of his socks before marching off. On completion of march Cooks will provide hot water and all N.C.O.'s and men will wash their feet and put on clean socks which will be issued on arrival at QUERRIEU.

ADVANCE BILLETING PARTY. An advance billeting party consisting of Captain Lawrence, 1 N.C.O. and two men, will proceed by car to QUERRIEU leaving Beaucourt at 9 a.m. 2.5.18. Captain McCutcheon will also accompany this party and will act as Medical Officer to receive and dispose of sick of 6th A.I. Brigade Group arriving by car at QUERRIEU.

CLEARANCE OF SICK. One Daimler Motor Ambulance will report at Church WARLOY at 11 a.m. 2.5.18 to pick up sick dumped there by Units of 6th A.I. Brigade Group. It will first convey any C.C.S. cases (if marked as such by R.M.O.'s) to M.D.S. MONTIGNY Chateau. It will then return to Church WARLOY and convey any sick which are not C.C.S. cases to QUERRIEU, where they will be seen by Captain McCutcheon and either retained as D.C.S. cases or sent back to their Units according to circumstances. Two or more trips will be made if necessary. One Ford Car will report to Captain Lawrence at Mairie BEAUCOURT at 8.50 a.m. 2.5.18 conveying Sergeant Nursing Duties "B" Sect. and two nursing orderlies, sick parade Medical Equipment, Primus Stove and small quantity of Medical Comforts to QUERRIEU for care of sick of 6th A.I. Brigade Group arriving by car from WARLOY at approx 12.30 p.m.

COOKS. One Daimler Motor Ambulance will report to Sht. Burke at the Cook-house BEAUCOURT at 12 noon and will convey sufficient Cooks and cook's gear to QUERRIEU to provide a hot meal on arrival of Unit there at 3 p.m. approx. This car will convey W.O. Clark D.C.M. who will report to Capt. Lawrence on arrival.



108

OFFICERS' MESS. One Daimler will report at Officers' Mess at 1 p.m. for instructions.

OFFICERS' KITS. Officers' Kits will be ready for collection by wagon at the various billets at 10.30 a.m.

BLANKETS. One blanket will be carried by each man. All blankets in excess of one will be handed in to section Sergeants at the 8.45 a.m. parade. Section Sergeants will then hand these in to Q.M. Store before 10 a.m.

HORSED TRANSPORT. One wagon will call at Officers' billets at 10.30 a.m. to collect Officers' Kits. The remaining wagons and limbers necessary will proceed to Cook house and Q.M.'s Store according to arrangements of Q.M.

MOTOR TRANSPORT. One Daimler reports to Captain Lawrence at Mairie at 8.50 a.m. then returns and reports to Cook house at 12 noon. One Daimler reports at Church WARLOY at 11 am. One Daimler reports at Officers' Mess at 1 pm. " Ford reports to Captain Lawrence at Mairie at 8.50 am.

MARCH DISCIPLINE. There will be no smoking on the march except at clock halts.

(Signed) H.L. StV WELCH Lieut. Colonel  
C.O. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance.

1.5.18

DISTRIBUTION.

- 1 C.O.
- 2 Orderly Officer
3. W.O. Hepworth
4. W.O. Clark D.C.M.
5. File





MOVEMENT ORDER No.8 by Lieut.Colonel H.L.StV.Welch D.S.O.

C.O. 6th Aust.Field Ambulance.

Ref.Map Sheet 62D 1/40000

RELIEF. The 6th Aust.Field Ambulance will relieve 10th Aust.Field Amb. at I.4.b.8.0. and all forward posts -relief to be complete by 12 noon 11.5.18. On completion of relief C.O. 6th Aust.Fld.Amb. will be responsible for the evacuation to M.D.S. at H.10.a.9.4 of all casualties from the Divisional Sector.

ADVANCE PARTIES. Major E.L. Hutchinson D.S.O. with "C" Section Bearer sub-division, two O.R's nursing duties, two Cooks, and four bearers of "A" Section, one Limber and necessary equipment will march out from QUERRIEU at 8 am this day via LAHOUSOYE AND BONNAY and will take over from 10th Aust.Fld.Amb. dugouts in railway cutting at I.23.d.6.5. and will remain there during the night of 10/11.5.18. This party will carry 48 hours rations and unexpended portion of the day's ration.

Captain Davis, 5th Aust.Fld.Amb. with one Bearer sub-division of 5th Aust.Fld.Amb. will report to C.O. 6th Aust.Field Amb. at QUERRIEU at 9 am 10.5.18 and will report forthwith to Major Hutchinson at I.23.d.6.5. marching via LAHOUSOYE and BONNAY and remaining at I.23.d.6.5. for the night of 10/11.5.18. This party will carry 24 hours rations plus the unexpended portion of the day's ration.

At 7.30 am 11.5.18 Major Hutchinson's party, less four men left behind at I.23.d.6.5. to hold the dugouts will march to I.30.c.6.5. and will relieve personnel of 10th Aust.Fld.Amb. there and at R.A.P's and relays forward of this.

At 7.30 am 11.5.18 Captain Davis's party will likewise march out from I.23.d.6.5. to J.9.a.9.6. and will relieve personnel of 10th Aust.Fld. Amb. there at R.A.P's and posts forward of this.

SUPPORT BEARERS FOR "Z" SECTOR. On the morning of 11.5.18 one bearer sub-division of 7th Aust.Fld.Amb. will march independently via QUERRIEU-LAHOUSOYE-BONNAY to I.23.d.6.5. where it will take over the dugouts there from the four men left on guard by Major Hutchinson, will come under the control of C.O. 6th A.Fld.Amb. and will remain there in support at the disposal of Major Hutchinson for relief of "Z" Sector should the necessity arise. Major Hutchinson's four men left behind at I.23.d.6.5. will then report back to him at I.30.c.6.5.

RELIEF OF "X" SECTOR. Major Simmons, Captain Wood, Captain Poulton, "B" Section Bearer sub-division, five "A" Section Bearers, and "B" Section Tent Sub-division will march out from QUERRIEU at 8 am 11.5.18 and will relieve 10th Aust.Fld.Amb. personnel at I.6.b.6.7. and posts at RIBEMONT and BUIRE.

RELIEF OF "Y" A.D.S. at I.4.b.8.0. One bearer sub-division of 5th Aust. Fld Amb. reporting to C.O. 6th Aust.Fld.Amb. at QUERRIEU at 9.30 am 11.5.18 and balance of "A" Section with the necessary transport will march out from QUERRIEU at 10 am. 11.5.18 and will relieve personnel of 10th Aust.Fld.Amb. at A.D.S. at I.4.b.8.0.

ROUTINE. Fall in 9.30 am.

DRESS. Full marching order less packs. Steel Helmets will be worn, one blanket per man will be carried.



-2-

PACKS. All packs will be dumped at QUERRIEU before departure under section arrangements. One N.C.O. and three men will be left behind to act as guard on the packs.

HORSED TRANSPORT. The horsed transport of 6th Aust.Fld.Amb. less vehicles specially detailed, will remain in QUERRIEU under W.O. Hepworth and will take over billets and stables evacuated by 10th Aust.Fld.Amb.

HORSED TRANSPORT SPECIALLY DETAILED. One Horsed Ambulance, three G.S. Wagons and Cook's Limber will report to Q.M. for loading on morning of 11.5.18 at an hour to be arranged by Q.M. These vehicles will march out with column from QUERRIEU at 10 a.m., will unload at A.D.S. at I.4.b.8.0. and will then park at LAHOUSOYE with exception of Two water carts will march out with this column, full, and both will remain at A.D.S. I.4.b.8.0. until further orders.

MOTOR TRANSPORT. One Daimler will be stationed at "Z" Post I.30.c.6.5. One Daimler and one Ford at J.9.a.9.6., two Daimlers at I.6.b.6.7 One Daimler at D.27.c.2.5., three Daimlers and one Ford at A.D.S. I.4.b.8.0.

ORDER OF MARCH. Half sections at 50 yards distance, 100 yards between head of transport and rear half section.

10.5.18

(Sgd.) H.L. StV.Welch Lieut.Colonel  
C.O. 6th Aust.Field Ambulance.



Scheme of EVACUATION Map Reference 1/20000 62 D N.E.

(See appendix E)

A. Battle R.A.P. J.5.d.7.5.

16 Stretchers  
32 Blankets  
16 Stretcher Bearers

The Carry is to cross junction of roads at J.5.d.6.6. then along the road for about 150 yards then branch off to right below the bank, following the bank round to left to relay, at ~~at~~ J.11.a.4.5. ~~and~~

B. a distance of 500 yards. Wheelers then carry to road at J.11.c.4.7. and proceed along road to second cross road J.10.c.9.0. where a small RED lamp will be placed. Here they turn sharp to the right and carry to a bank a distance of 500 yards from the turn off. The total distance per wheelers is 1900 yards - Map reference of bank J.10.a.3.1... At the relay at J.11.a.4.7. there will be

16 Stretchers  
32 Blankets  
16 Stretcher Bearers  
4 Wheelers

C. At this bank(J.10.a.3.1.)there will be:-

16 Stretchers  
32 Blankets  
20 Bearers

The cases will carry straight across parallel to the bank to road at (J.9.c.9.6.) and along the road to left for a distance of 100 yards to Motor collecting point at J.9.c.7.6. Total carry 700 yards.

D. At Motor Loading Point there will be:-

48 Stretchers  
96 Blankets  
4 Bearers  
1 Med. Officer

From here the cars or wagons will proceed to cross roads at J.15.a.5.3. then to the right to junction of roads at J.14.a.2.8. then to left to cross roads at J.13.b.7.6. to right pass HALT across railway via HEILLY to A.D.S. at PEARL BAY.

Note. 1 Should there be any excessive shelling along the road leading from cross roads at J.15.a.4.3. to HALT the cars will go across side track from J.9.c.6.0. to J.14.b.8.5. or lower if necessary.

2. Should for any reason there be a blockage of cars through HALT & HEILLY cars will proceed along road to I.24.c.2.3. - turn to the right across railway line through BONNAY to "X" A.D.S. at I.4.b.8.2.

3. WALKING WOUNDED, may proceed by this above route or over the hill from J.11.a.4.7. straight across past the first cross road to second cross road to the above bank at J.10.a.3.1., This route will be indicated by boards and tape if necessary.

E. At MERICOURT there will be at old L.P. at J.9.a.9.6. ~~and~~

4 Stretchers  
8 Blankets  
4 Bearers

and they will carry either straight across or by road to Loading Point at J.9.c.7.6...

F. At WINDY R.A.P. J.17.b.3.8. 16 Stretchers

32 Blankets  
8 Bearers

carry across to road at J.11.c.1.6. where a wheeler will be in readiness and they will proceed along road to cross roads at J.10.c.9.0. and on as usual to bank at J.10.a.3.1. Distance 2000 yards.



G. At HILLSIDE R.A.P. at J.17.a.4.2. 8 Stretchers  
16 Blankets  
4 Bearers

carry straight across to X roads at J.10.c.9.0. where a wheeler will be in readiness and thence as above, distance 1500 yards. If there be any heavy shelling on any of these routes the Medical Officer i/c will alter the above routes taking care that such alteration is made known to all bearers concerned and that reason for alteration and time and amount of shelling be noticed. There will be 4 cars one each at the following places:- L.P. at J.9.c.7.6.

HALT

HEILLY

PEARL BAY (A.D.S.).

these cars move forward automatically.  
One reserve wheeler will be at J.10.c.9.0.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE OF EVACUATION.

A. Battle R.A.P. J.5.d.7.5. to relay at J.11.a.4.5. from this point carry to relay at J.10.b.6.6. where there will be in post:-  
16 Stretchers  
32 Blankets  
16 Bearers

B. Relay here and carry to J.10.a.3.1. and so on as in other scheme to LOADING POINT at J.9.c.8.6.  
Total carry from BATTLE R.A.P. to 1st Relay - 650 yards.  
Total carry from 1st Relay to LOADING POINT - 1200 yards.



*108*  
SECRET.

(See appendix F Map)

From C.O. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance,

To A.D.M.S. 2nd Aust. Division.

Ref. Map Sheet 62 D N.E. & N.W. 1/20,000

Reference to evacuation of wounded from SAILLY-le-sec-VAUX-sur-SOMME Sector during very active operations.

The general configuration of the ground is as follows:-

2 steep gullies each entering a river valley from the North side at a right angle. A single road running along the bed of the valley, confined on one side by a canal and on the other by a steep range of hills. At one end of this road the enemy line - at the other a hairpin bend under direct enemy observation at two points and already accurately registered by him.

The problem then is:-

How to deal with casualties when :-

- (1) The road at the hairpin bend is cut and made impassable for motor ambulances by shell fire.
- (2) The road along the valley is flooded with gas.
- (3) The only at all practicable route over the range of hills not under close and direct enemy observation lies through a wood which would certainly be swept by shell fire, and leads at the top on to a road which follows the sky line.
- (4) The tow path along the canal is more severely gassed than any other part of the valley.

Having looked at the matter from each of these points of view I am convinced that the only practicable solution is to store cases until the worst of the gas and shell fire is over and communications restored either along the valley road past I.30.c. central and I.29.b. or else up through the wood at J.19.c. during darkness. To do this it would be necessary to construct deep dug-outs similar to that in progress of construction at the A.D.S. - I.4.b.8.O., gas proof, at the following locations and with the following capacities:-

<u>Location</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Dimensions</u>
@ J.19.c.6.3.	) 52 Stretcher cases	{ 1 Gallery 60' x 9' x 7' &
	) 30 Personnel	{ 2 bays each 12' x 9' x 7'
		1 Gallery 60' x 9' x 7'
		without bay.
		(3 entrances)
J. 21.c.3.4.	)	{ At each Location
J. 22.d.2.4.	) each 42 Stretcher	{ 1 Gallery 60' x 9' x 7' &
J. 24.a.0.0.	) cases and 10 Personnel	{ 2 bays each 12' x 9' x 7'
		(2 Entrances)
J. 19.c.5.8.	20 Personnel	1 Gallery 30' x 9' x 7' &
(Relay)		1 bay 12' x 9' x 7'
		(2 Entrances)

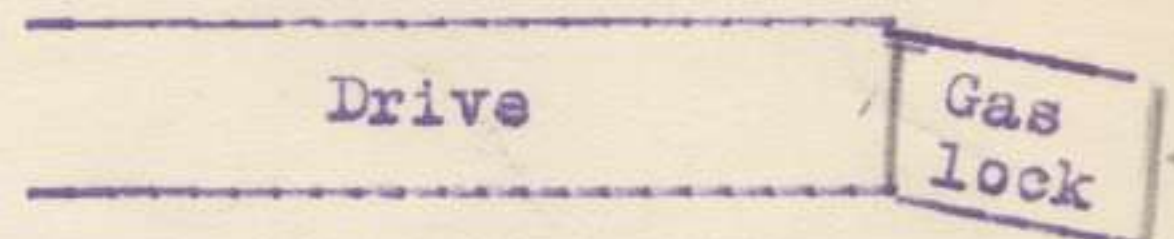
@ Note. This dug-out should be in the lower fringe of the Wood as Map location given, and not in nor around Quarry at J.19.c.3.7.



-2-

I have had made a working plan of dug-out and stretcher arrangement as put in at I.4.b.8.0. This is at present in the hands of the 2nd Aust. Pioneers who are doing the work - it should be finished within a day or so and will then be forwarded to you for use in conjunction with this report, with the exception that wherever possible the drives for these dug-outs should go straight in from the face and should not take a downward slope which invariably encourages a collection of gas in the dug-out. There should be a 9' gas-lock at each entrance and a slight downward slope outwards from the inner to the outer gas door thus:-

The type of country on the Sector in question gives such excellent cover almost from the first yard of drive into the face, that no downward slope of the drive is necessary to obtain cover.



I have conferred with C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance on the whole matter in accordance with your l/24 of 28.5.18, and also with Major Walsh D.S.O. 8th A.F. Amb. and Major Hutchinson D.S.O. of this Unit, who are in charge of their respective evacuations in the Sector under consideration and they all agree with me that the scheme set out above is the only one which can possibly meet the case.

The question of stored wounded being captured by the enemy in the event of a withdrawal has been considered and it seems that it would be better for them to run this risk than to become gas or H.E. casualties during an evacuation, which at the best could not guarantee that they would ultimately reach a zone of safety.

30.5.18

(Sgd.) H.L. St. Vincent Welch Lt. Col.  
C.O. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance.



12 E  
108

E

# LOCATION MAP of the BUIRE-RIBEMONT-MERICOURT SECTOR.

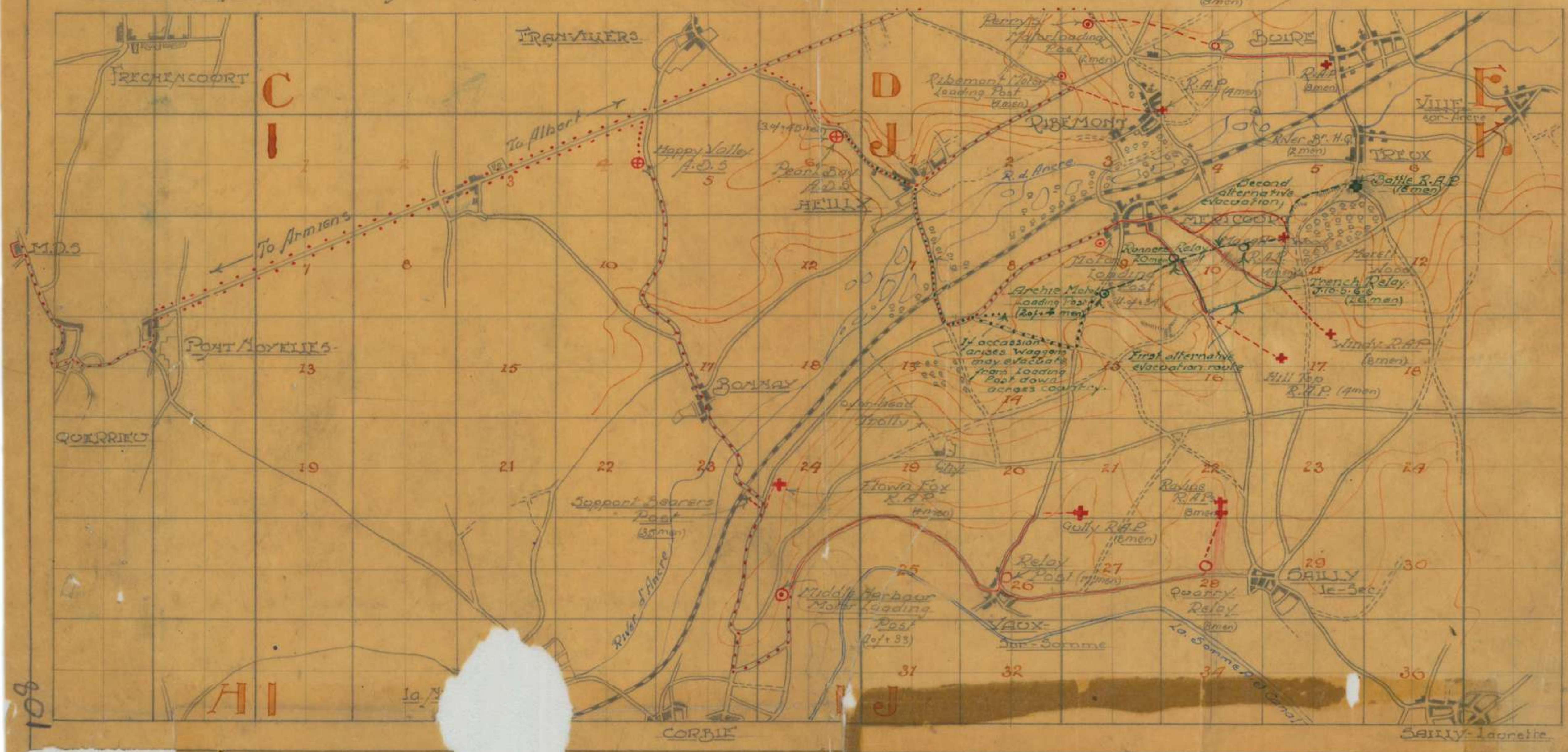
SHOWING:-

R.A.P.s - Relay Posts - Motor Collecting Posts - A.D.S. - M.D.S. —

Scale 1-40000.

and Bearers (Carry & Wheel) & Car Evacuation Routes — Existing Routes etc in Red.  
Alternative " " " Green

R.A.P. : + Relays ○ Motor Collecting Post ○ A.D.S. : + Stretchers Carried : --- Stretchers Wheeled : — Motor Routes ..... Superior Relay Post (8 men)



Avum 4 [26/4/29]

APPENDIX IV

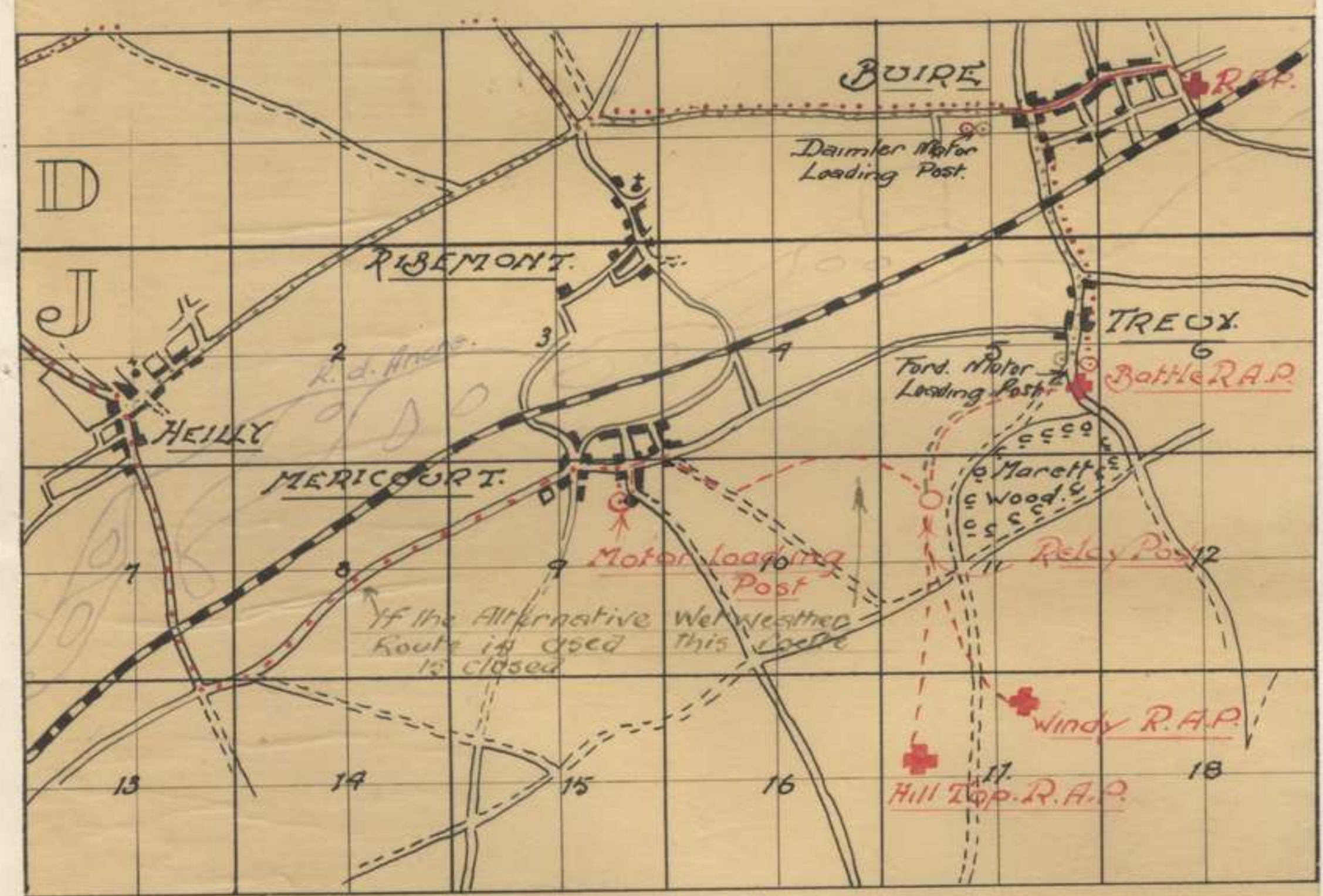
2 of 2 Postings 579 F 1116



# ONT-MERICOURT SECTOR.

Posts - A.D.S. - M.D.S. —

Routes —



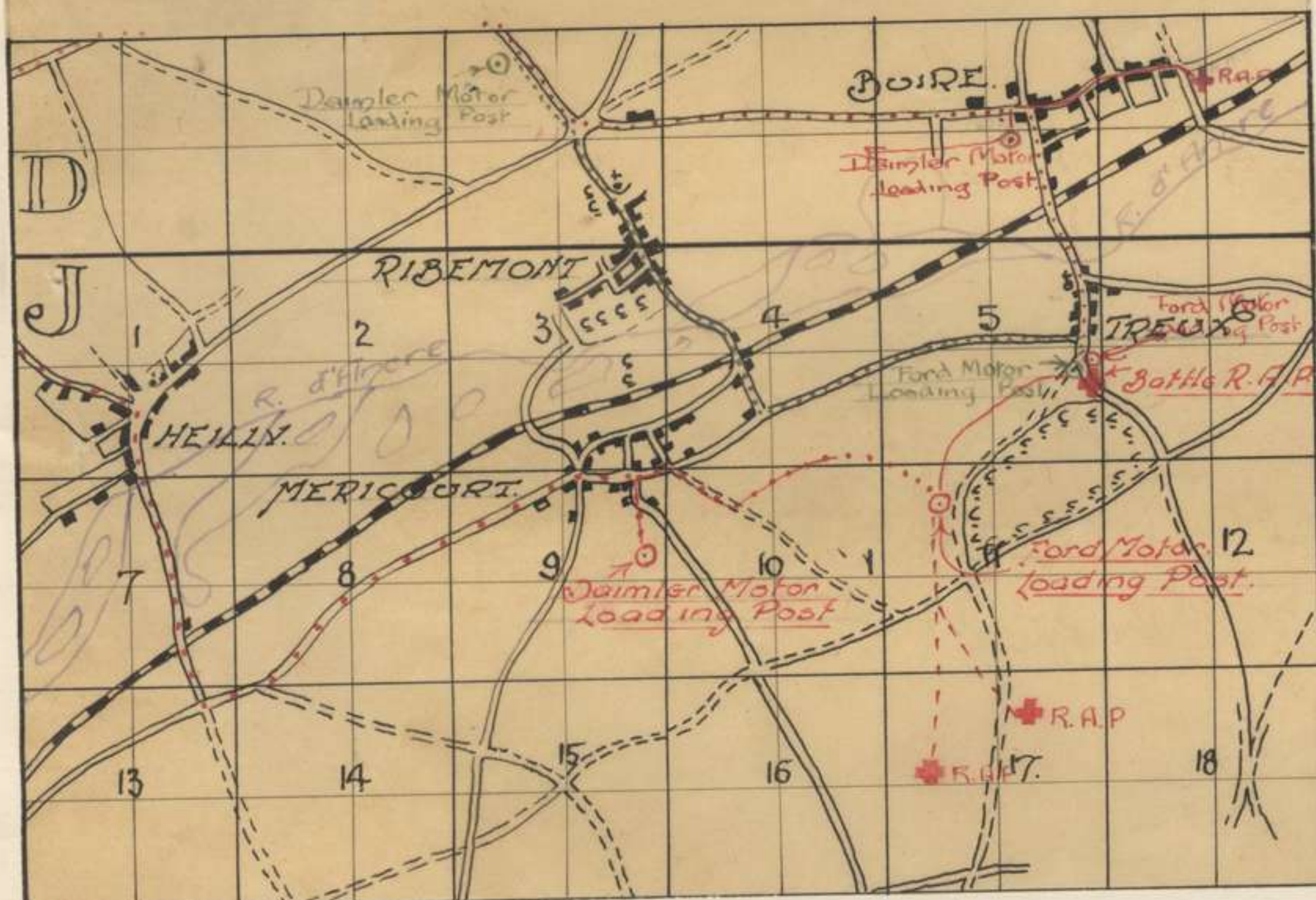
Existing Route Shown in Red  
Alternative " " " Green.

WET WEATHER  
EVACUATION.



# 108 14 DRY WEATHER EVACUATION

Red shows existing Route  
Green " Alternative "





QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT FOR MONTH.

RATIONS & SUPPLIES:- The procedure adopted for the rationing of posts was the same as in previous months diary. The sector under this Ambulance's control proved the necessity of a Q.M. representative at the forward posts, for the posts were numerous and far apart, 20 being rationed from Ambulance H'qrs varying from 4 to 40 at each. Bearers from 5th 7th & 8th Aust. Field Ambulances were attached and rationed by this Unit.

An outstanding feature for the month was the quantity of green vegetables issued by A.A.S.C. consisting of letteces, cabbages, radishes and leeks. These were a very welcome change, especially in the hot weather experienced this month.

Rations were bagged separately at H'qrs for each post, and cars bringing patients from forward motor posts took back rations on return journey. From motor posts bearers carried forward through bearer relays to R.A.P.'s.

Rations were drawn and kept at A.D.S. and motor posts for patients who were able to have a hot meal.

During hot weather jam drawn in cardboard cartons was at times very unsatisfactory. It was found necessary to send it separately from other rations to the posts, owing to the bottoms becoming detached, this was more noticeable in jam that had been packed any length of time, very often a fair amount of jam was lost in this way

HORSE RATION. The ration of oats and hay was the same as in previous month and supplemented by a clover patch allotted to the Unit, allowing approximately half a ton per day. This green ration was a great benefit to the horses.

WATER. Both A.D.S.'s (HAPPY VALLEY AND PEARL BAY) up till now have drawn their supply by water cart from Water Point at PONT-NOYELLES distant 5 kilos. A new Water Point has been opened at FRANVILLERS distant 400 yards. Water Point consists of two stand pipes with hoses each capable of filling a 118 gallon water cart in 8 minutes. The standards are teed off a 4" main which has been pushed up from PONT-NOYELLES. Horse troughs are also provided at the Water Point. Motor Post at MIDDLE HARBOUR and majority of R.A.P.'s drew their supply from local wells, which have been tested and found fit for drinking purposes after chlorination 1 to 2 scoops B.P. At Motor Post MERICOURT 52 gallons of drinking water in petrol tins were kept for Forward Posts if required.

ORDNANCE. The system of <sup>bringing</sup> ~~drinking~~ stores in a motor lorry to a central point near the Unit's supplied is very satisfactory. All indents for the month were promptly supplied.

STRETCHERS AND BLANKETS. Stretchers and Blankets sent down with patients from A.D.S.'s to M.D.S. were replaced by equal number in the usual way. Two blankets were held for each stretcher at the post. During ordinary times 16 stretchers were kept at each line R.A.P. 8 at each support or reserve R.A.P. and a reserve of 100 at A.D.S.'s. The system of fumigating all blankets brought from front line by P.U.O. and gassed patients was carried out by Foden Lorry stationed at M.D.S. St. GRATIEN ROAD near QUERRIEU.

SALVAGE. Every effort was made to collect as much salvage as possible, the result obtained was very satisfactory. In addition to clothing and equipment a great number of cartridge cases were forwarded to 2nd Aust. Division Salvage Depot. During the month visits were made to the town of CORBIE and a great number of valuable drugs were



-2- (Continued)

salvaged from chemist's shops and forwarded to Advanced Depot Medical Stores.

COMFORTS FOR PATIENTS. At the two A.D.S's and Motor Posts a good supply of comforts were always on hand, hot drinks were always available. The following Medical comforts were drawn during the month:-

Tea	2 C/s	Biscuits	2 C/s	Cigarettes	1 C/s
Tinned Fruit	3 "	Jam	2 "	Oatmeal	2 Bgs
Custard Pdr	1 "	Milk	4 "	Sugar	3 "
Butter	3 "	Coffee & Milk	10 "	Flour	2 "
Jellies	2 "	Cocoa & Milk	3 "	Sago	2 "
Coffee	3 "	Tongue	4 "	Matches	5 gr.

COMFORTS FOR PERSONNEL. The Australian Comforts Fund provided cigarettes, tobacco, coffee and milk and sweet biscuits which allowed an allotment to each of the personnel as follows:-

Cigarettes	3 Pkts	Biscuits	1 Pkt
Tobacco	1 Plug or Tin	Coffee & Milk	1 Tin

These gifts were much appreciated by all.

RED CROSS GOODS. 3 journeys were made to Red Cross Depot at PERNOIS and each requisition was fully supplied, the following goods having been drawn during the month:-

Socks	300 prs.	Pyjamas	300 prs	Cigarettes	10,000
Tobacco	5 lbs	Biscuits	15 tins	Mazena	1 C/s
Coffee & Milk	4 C/s	Towels	50	Chocolate	Qty
Reading Matter	Qty	Beef Extract	1 C/s	Limejuice	1 C/s
		Benger's Food	1 "		

MEDICAL STORES. The distribution of Medical Stores is at present carried out by 3 Staff Sergeants. 1 Staff Sergeant is attached to A.D.S. PEARL BAY to look after all supplies required by that post and supply any urgent demand made by Units in the vicinity. 2 Dispensers are at Ambulance H'qrs to keep up the stock of Medical Stores and Dressings necessary to supply all Units requisitioning on them for such. To facilitate this work a "Wants Book" is kept in which items are entered daily to be placed on order from Medical Stores. R.M.O's send their weekly requisitions to Ambulance H'qrs on Mondays. This gives a fair idea of the quantities of stores necessary for the ensuing week. This requisition is sent in on Tuesday of each week to A.D.M.S. for counter signature and is collected by the Ambulance stationed at M.D.S. The supplies are then drawn by that Field Ambulance from Advanced Depot Medical Stores and finally forwarded on to this Unit. This is a new system of collecting Medical Stores and works very satisfactorily. The Ambulance collecting stores returns all empties such as ointment pots, bottles, cartons, bales, tins etc. also U.S. articles for exchange. These are forwarded to them by this Unit on the day previous. Drugs and dressings arrive from Medical Stores in a very satisfactory condition. Urgent requisitions from R.M.O's are supplied at all hours, once Staff Sergeant always



-3- (Continued)

being on duty at the Dispensary. All requisitions for Forward Posts pass through the Orderly Room and if approved by the C.O. handed to the Q.M. for supply. Units camping in close proximity collect their requisition on Thursdays. For those in the Forward Area stores are packed carefully in sand bags distinctly labelled, and forwarded through the various advanced posts. During the past three weeks 160 requisitions have been supplied to the various R.M.O's, these include a large variety of medical stores such as, Tablets, Drugs, Dressings, Instruments (either rendered U.S. or destroyed by shell fire) anti Gas Ampoules ( i.e. N H 3) Tourniquets and Splints. An approximate estimate of the amount of stores required during that period will be obtained from the following articles distributed:-  
Cotton Wool 260 lbs. Shell Dressings 2,500, Bandages 3,000, Bandages triangular 300.  
TABLETS. Acid Acetyl Sal 8,000, Sodi Salicyl 8,000 also large quantities of other tablets. Excessive demands on tablets such as Acid Acetyl Sal. and Quinine resulted from an epidemic of P.U.O. among the troops. Being the forward Ambulance we have been supplying requisitions for Medical Stores to all Units in the battle area which includes not only the 2nd Aust. Division but all British Units attached and stationed in the vicinity.  
SICK PARADE. Medicine is supplied daily as ordered by the M.O. to all men reporting on sick parade.

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REPORT ON HORSE TRANSPORT FOR MONTHMap Reference Sheets 62D N.E. &  
N.W. 1/20,000VEHICLESREPLACEMENTS:- 1 Water Cart to replace one condemned by I.O.M. drawn from Ordnance 14.5.18.CASUALTIES:- Nil.REPAIRS:- 1 G.S. Wagon repaired by 16th A.A.S.C. (brake bar)AMBULANCE WAGONS:- "B" Section Wagon painted two coats of G.S. paint.  
"C" Section Wagon is at present half done.G.S. WAGONS:- 1 Wagon of each "A", "B" and "C" Sections painted two coats of G.S. paint.LIMBERS:- Both "A" Section Limbers painted two coats of G.S. paint. All Wagons painted were dismantled and thoroughly cleaned before painting. They were also overhauled and all bolts tested.HORSES.REPLACEMENTS:- 1 H.D. Horse in place of 1 H.D. evacuated with Cellulitis on 13.4.18.EVACUATIONS:- Nil

During the last month the Horses have shown a marked improvement in condition over the month previous, and all Horses have lost their old coats and are in very good condition. Clover has been issued by A.A.S.C. and the horse rations have been full issue.

ROUTINE:- Same as previous month.GENERAL

On May 2nd the Transport accompanied the Unit on the move from BEAU-COURT to QUERRIEU. On arrival at destination the horses were stabled in a barn and wagons were parked some 200 yards away in a paddock. During the stay in these stables all harness was thoroughly washed and overhauled. On the morning of 11th instant the Unit moved forward to the A.D.S. I.4.b.8.0. 1 Ambulance Wagon, 2 G.S. Wagons 1 Limber and 2 Water Carts moved to the A.D.S. with the Unit, carrying equipment. After unloading equipment the wagons returned to LAHOUSOYE and occupied the wagon lines vacated by previous Ambulance, except Water Carts, 1 of which went to PEARL BAY A.D.S. I.6.b.7.6., the other remained at Ambulance H'qrs. The remainder of the Transport remained at QUERRIEU and took over stables and wagon shed vacated by the outgoing Ambulance (10th Aust. Field Ambulance) While in wagon shed the wagons were painted.

On the evening of the 18th instant the 2 remaining Ambulance Wagons with 14 additional horses moved to wagon lines at LAHOUSOYE to be in readiness to move forward to evacuate wounded during impending operations by 2nd Aust. Division (6th and 5th A.I. Bdes) against VILLE-sur-ANCRE. At 1 a.m. on 19th instant 3 Ambulance Wagons with 4 horses to each, left wagon lines to proceed to post at Station (HALTE), South of HEILLY, and to work forward to post at MERICOURT as



-2- (Continued)

required. At 7 a.m. a relief of 12 horses and 6 drivers went forward to relieve the horses and drivers which had left at 1 a.m. 3 Ambulance Wagons with 8 horses and 4 horses from the 7th Aust. Field Ambulance and 5th Aust. Field Ambulance respectively reported back to wagon lines at LAHOUSOYE at 5 a.m. At 7 a.m. 3 Ambulance Wagons of 7th Aust. Field Ambulance left LAHOUSOYE wagon lines to report to PEARL BAY A.D.S. where some congestion of walking wounded was reported. These, with ~~three~~ 3 ton motor lorries commandeered from a Brigade S.A.A. Park, dealt with the situation promptly. At 3.30 p.m. all wagons and horses reported back to LAHOUSOYE wagon lines. There had been no casualties to men or horses during the operations. At 8.15 a.m. on 20th instant the enemy started to shell the village of LAHOUSOYE heavily. The men and horses were all moved out of the village to the open fields beyond. 2 horses were slightly wounded before they were out of the village. At 11.30 a.m. 2 Ambulance Wagons of 6th and 3 of 7th Aust. Field Ambulances respectively and all horses, except those that were originally at LAHOUSOYE wagon lines returned to QUERRIEU. On 21.5.18 the horses and wagons from LAHOUSOYE were moved up to the HAPPY VALLEY A.D.S., where the horses were dug into a bank, a parapet 4' high running at the rear and a 4' parapet between each 2 horses. On 25th instant the rear Transport lines were moved out of QUERRIEU to a small valley some three quarters of a mile S.W. of the village, on account of shelling of the village in the area near the stables. In the new position the horses were dug into a bank and a 4' high parapet built at the rear, and between each two horses from the earth excavated from the bank. The personnel, also dug into the banks and erected shelters for themselves. The horses are now very sheltered from wind and also from the sun during portion of the day. 1 half-Limber is stationed at MIDDLE HARBOUR Motor Loading Post doing road repairing work. On 29th instant an extra Limber and a half reported to MIDDLE HARBOUR M.L.P. for road repairing work, making two in all.

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MECHANICAL TRANSPORT REPORT FOR MONTH. H

Ref. Sheet 62 d 1/2000

The cars accompanied the Ambulance on move from BEAUCOURT to QUERRIEU on 2.5.18. While at this village the opportunity was availed of to paint 1 Daimler & 1 Ford car, minor repairs being effected prior to painting.

On 10th inst. 1 Daimler was sent to workshops for repairs - front axle bent & play in front hubs. Car turned out ready for the road the following day.

On 11th inst. all cars (less 1 Daimler attached to A.D.M.S.) moved to HAPPY VALLEY A.D.S. (Amb. H'qrs) 62d/I.4.b.8.0 and the following cars were attached for duty:- 5th Aust. Fld. Amb. 3 large cars

7th Aust. Fld. Amb. 2 large cars.

DISTRIBUTION OF CARS IN FORWARD AREA 11.5.18

HAPPY VALLEY (H'qrs) I.4.b.8.0 Large cars 3 Ford Car 1  
PEARL BAY A.D.S. I.6.b.7.6. Large cars 3  
MIDDLE HARBOUR MOTOR POST I.30 c.8.3. Large car 1  
MERICOURT MOTOR POST J.9.a.9.6. Large cars 1  
RIBEMONT MOTOR POST D.27c.6.1. Large car 1

On 12th inst. 1 large car was stationed at new loading post established at J.27.a.5.8.

1 Ford car replaced large car at RIBEMONT MOTOR LOADING POST.

On 15th inst. 1 large car was put out of action owing to rear spring breaking, and was replaced making the car fit for the road the following day.

On 19th inst. the 2nd Aust. Division carried out an attack on VILLE-sur-ANCRE. At 3a.m. the first load of wounded arrived by horse ambulance at HELLY STATION. All available cars were kept on forward running until rush was over or well in hand. Three large cars were withdrawn from the forward running to clear a congestion of patients at PEARL BAY A.D.S. to M.D.S.

All patients cleared by 3p.m. & three extra cars attached for temporary duty were returned to their Unit. At 4p.m. the running had resumed its normal condition.

On 25th. inst. 1 large car out of action owing to broken front spring which was replaced during day & car again ready for the road.

On 28th. inst. 1 large car out of action owing to ball race breaking - shearing axle housing and breaking drive shaft. This car reported from workshops ready for the road on 31.5.18.

On 29th. inst. Ford car stationed at VAUX out of action left axle shaft broken - diff. pinion casing broken. Repairs being effected.

There is difficulty in obtaining suitable oil. The best oil for present season is:-

DAIMLERS Gargoyle (Zeta)  
FORDS Vacuum (light)  
Extra heavy oil for gear boxes.

temporarily attached



9.08

OFFICERS

MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR MONTH

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Temporarily detached for duty.			1																												
Off Strength:- Evac.Wounded Transferred					1					1												1									
Taken on Strength Admitted Hospital (S) Rejoined from detached duty										1																		1		1	
											1																				
																				</											

OFFICERS

Strength as on 30.4.18      11  
Strength as on 31.5.18      10

OTHER RANKS

Strength as on 30.4.18      223  
Strength as on 31.5.18      208

APPENDIX. I



HORSE AND MECHANICAL TRANSPORT

VEHICLES

War Est. With Unit

Ambulance Wagons

3

3

G.S. Wagons

6

6

G.S. Limbers

8

8

Water Carts

3

3

Maltese Cart

1

1

Evacuations

1 Water Cart (Condemned by I.O.M.)

Replacements

1 Water Cart

Deficiencies

Nil

HORSES

Strength as on 31.4.18

R.

L.D.

H.D.

8

17

19

Evacuations

Nil

Replacements

-H.D. 1

Deficiencies

Nil

MECHANICAL

Evacuations

Nil

Deficiencies

Nil

Strength as on 30.4.18

DAIMLER Ambulance Cars

5

FORD do do

2

DOUGLAS Motor Cycle

2

"



DAILY DISPOSITION RETURN 31st MAY 1918									
Forward Posts		Bearer Sub-div. Tent Sub-division				Cars &		Ration	
		Off. N.C.Os	Men	N.C.Os	Men	Sundries	H. Amb	Strength	
Motor Post MIDDLE HARBOUR	6th	1	-	-	2 N.Ds	2 MT Dvr	1 Lmbr		
					1 Clerk	1 Ordly	1 Daim		
					1 Q M	1 Batman	1 Ford		9
	7th	1	1	8	1 Cpl Cook	1 Cook	1 Batman		13
	8th	-	1	-	-	1 MT Dvr	1 Sbeam		
						1 Ordly			3
VAUX	6th					2 T/Dvrs	2 Lmbrs	4 LD	2
	7th		1	8					9
	8th			4					4
GULLY R.A.P.	7th		1	7					8
QUARRY R.A.P.	7th			4					4
	8th			4					4
RAVINE R.A.P.	7th			4					4
	8th		1	3					4
VAIRE R.A.P.	8th		1	7					8
TOTAL		2	6	49	1	5	9	2 L.Cars	4 LD 72
A.D.S. PEARL BAY		3	2 Sgts	12	1 S/Sgt Disp	6 N.Ds.	3 Batmen	2 Daim	
					1 Sgt N.Ds	2 Clerks	2 MT Dvrs		
					1 Sgt Stwd	2 Cooks	2 Ordlys		
					1 Cpl Cook	1 San Dty			
					1 L/Cpl N.D				40
						Attached			
						1 Chaplain			
						1 Batman			
						2 San Sect.			
						15 Patients			19
Cycle Post HEILLY				1					1
Motor Post RIBEMONT				2					2
RIBEMONT R.A.P.			1 L/Cpl	3					4
TOTAL		3	3	18	5	11	26	2 L.Cars	66
MARRATT WOOD M.L.Post		1	1	2			1 Batman	1 Ford	
							1 MT Dvr		
							1 Ordly		7
BATTLE R.A.P.				4					4
WINDY R.A.P.				8					8
HILLTOP R.A.P.				4					4
CHALK PIT M.L.Post			1	1			1 Ordly	1 Daim	4
							1 MT Dvr		4
TOTAL		1	2	19		5		1 L.Car	27
								1 Ford	



# DAILY DISPOSITION RETURN (2) 31st MAY 1918

DAILY DISPOSITION AIRCRAFT (27) 31st MAR 1918									
Forward Posts	Bearer Sub-div.		Tent Sub-division		Sundries		Cars &	Ration	
	Off.N.C.Os	Men	N.C.Os	Men			H.Amb	Strength	
BONNAY Railway Cuttg.	1	5	24	1 Cpl Cook	1 Cook	1 Batman			34
						1 San.Sect			4
FLOWN FOX R.A.P.			4						38
TOTAL	1	5	28	1	1	2			2
River Battn.H'qrs			2						6
BUIRE R.A.P.			6						
6th Fld Amb.H'qrs	5	3	34	1 Sgt.Mjr.	10 N.Ds.	21 O.Duties	3 Daim		
				1 Q M S	2 Cooks	1 Sgt M T	1 H.Amb		
				2 Clerks	1 Clerk	9 M.T.Dvrs			
				2 Disps		Transport			
				1 Cook		1 N.C.O.		8 H.D.	
				2 N.Ds.		8 Dvrs		7 L.D.	104
TOTAL	5	3	34	9	13	40	3 L.Cars	8 H.D.	104
								7 L.D.	
5th Fld Amb. attd.	2	2	46			2			52
						1 W.O.	2 H.Amb	12 H.D.	
						2 N.C.Os		14 L.D.	
						19 Drivers			
						3 Wgn Ordlys			
						1 Pack Store	N.C.O.		
						3 O.Duties			29
TOTAL						29	2 H.Amb	12 H.D.	29
								14 L.D.	
GRAND TOTAL	14	21	202	16	30	113	8 L.Cars	20 H.D.	396
							2 Fords	25 L.D.	
							3 H.Amb.		

## Other Information:-

Amb.H'qrs	HAPPY VALLEY	A.D.S.	I. 4.b.8.0.			Water Supply
Motor Post	MIDDLE HARBOUR		I.30.c.8.3.			Water Cart
VAUX Relay			J.26.b.8.0.			
GULLY	R.A.P.	17th Bn.	J.21.c.4.1.			
QUARRY	Relay	29th Bn.	J.28.c.8.7.	WINDY	R.A.P.	J.17.b.3.8.
RAVINE	R.A.P.	20/30 Bn.	J.22.c.8.0.	HILLTOP	R.A.P.	J.17.a.4.2.
VAIRE	R.A.P.	31st Bn.	J.31.b.6.9.	CHALK PIT	R.A.P.	J. 9.b.9.2.
A.D.S.	PEARL BAY		I. 6.b.7.6.	BUIRE	R.A.P.	D.29.d.3.8.
Motor Post	RIBEMONT		D.27.c.6.1.	River Bn.H'qrs		D.28.d.9.0.
MARRATT WOOD	R.A.P.		J.11.a.6.5.	BONNAY Railway Cutting		I.23.d.6.3.
BATTLE	R.A.P.		J. 5.d.7.6.	FLOWN FOX	R.A.P.	I.23.c.3.8.

Map Ref. 62D N.W. & N.E. 1/20,000