

**AWM4**

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/90/2

**Title:** Australian Army Medical Corps  
Detachment, Suez Government  
Hospital

April 1918



AWM4-26/90/2

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**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

A. G. M. C. Detachment Suez Hospital.

FOR

April 1918.



Signature of Officer compiling William Wood  
Cpt R.A.M.C.

Signature of Officer Commanding William Wood  
Cpt R.A.M.C.

(1)

# War Diary

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## A. A. M. C. Detachment Suez Government Hospital. Month of April 1918.

April 1<sup>st</sup> Dr. Creswell P.M.O. resumed duties in Hospital today.

2<sup>nd</sup> Nil of importance.

3<sup>rd</sup> Nil of importance.

4<sup>th</sup> Transport Ormonde arrived today with a total on board of 1753 made up of Officers 103, Nurses 10, W.Os 3 and O.R. 1637. Most of the troops belonged to Australians in Transit. But the number included members of the E.E.F. both from Australia and New Zealand. The total admitted to Hospital was 89 a proportion of 5%, the infections cases amounting to 42 in all—Treasles 40: Mumps 1 and Chicken Pox 1. The Venereal cases totalled 14.

The Australians in Transit for the U.K. were 78 Off. and 1001 O.R. a total of 1079. Of these 56 were admitted to Hospital, and analysis of the cases being.

Treasles	26
Mumps	1
Chicken Pox	1
Surgical	6
Medical	14
V. Ds.	8
	<hr/> 56.

Later on in the day one of the new arrivals was admitted from Camp making the number up to 57 admissions for the day.

In Appendix XII I have given the Daily Total of Australians in Transit in Hospital during the month of April. In Appendix No XIII  
WS

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I have given an analysis of the diseases from which the Australians in Transit suffered during the month showing that the admissions totalled 245 comprising 110 medical cases: 21 Surgical: 99 Infections and 15 Venereal.

April 5<sup>th</sup> - All members of the E.E.F. to be evacuated at once to Marseilles, except infectious cases.

6<sup>th</sup> - Matron Mooney left today on holiday. Sister Burns left in charge.

7<sup>th</sup> Nil of importance.

8<sup>th</sup> Sister Cobcroft and S/nurse Ashworth arrived from No 14 A.G.H. They replaced Sister McGillivray & S/nurse Daniels, the latter of whom left on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Cpl Brown left for Cairo with specimen of blood for Wasserman Reaction, and returned following night.

The Transport Tofua arrived with two Zealanders en route for the U.K. totalling 914 made up of 36 off. 11 WOs and 867 O.R. Only one patient was admitted to Hospital. In Appendix No 14 I have shown how rapidly the admissions rose during the stay of these troops in camp, the figures reaching 56, a proportion of over 6%. In Appendix No 15 I have shown the diseases from which the two Zealanders suffered.

9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Nil of importance.

15<sup>th</sup> Pte F.A. Spencer went to Cairo with specimen of blood, returning the following night.

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Nil of importance.

20<sup>th</sup> Pte Bader C.H.W. rejoined the unit & carry on the X Ray work in accordance with a request of the P.M.O. that he be returned from

- War Diary - Suez Government Hospital (Contd.) <sup>148</sup>

the Field.

April 21<sup>st</sup> Pte Spencer admitted to Hospital suffering from  
Dysentery.

22<sup>nd</sup> Two of the orderlies belonging to the Detachment  
at the Hospital - Ptes T. Hynes and W. V. Jullian  
were transferred to A.A.M.C. Detach. Dushatun  
Camp Suez. They were also dealt with there in  
a disciplinary way for being absent without leave  
from the Hospital the previous night and for being  
absent at 0600 parade. At this time the position of  
Capt Wood as Military Officer in charge had not  
been established, but this was defined later by  
the P.M.O. in a Hospital Order.

23<sup>rd</sup> + 24<sup>th</sup> Nil of importance

25<sup>th</sup> The following S/nurses left today for No 14 Coy  
at Port Said - Allen, Bennett, Chadwick +  
Graham, and their places were taken by S/nurses  
Perrin, Sharpe, Jeffrey and Bentley. This was  
in accordance with an arrangement whereby the  
nursing staff was to be changed at intervals of  
three months, but which period had been exceeded.

27<sup>th</sup> Pte Spencer discharged from Hospital today and  
resumed duties. He has forwarded a request for a  
Chaplaincy in the Field, and this has been  
handed on by the P.M.O. to Headquarters in Cairo.

Col. Dawson, R.D.M.S. Headquarters Cairo  
visited Hospital today accompanied by Capt Joyce  
A.A.M.C. He discussed matters generally on the  
spot, and expressed himself as satisfied with the  
way things were being carried on.

28<sup>th</sup> Sister Burns off duty today - ill. Pyrexia.

29<sup>th</sup> Pte Spencer again admitted to Hospital with  
Dysentery. Evacuated following day to No 2  
Stationary Hospital Dushatun. S. J. Inwascor  
WJ

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War Diary - Suez Government Hospital (contd).

Details after convalescence.

Telephoned in forenoon to Major Vernon at Mascara for the four men required to complete our personnel. They arrived at the Hospital in the afternoon, their names being Sers. Albion, Benson, Melville and The Knight. These men had all seen a good deal of service in the Field, and had been evacuated for health reasons. The policy to be pursued in future at the Hospital is to replace those members of the Unit who have not seen active service but others who have had to be evacuated from the Field on the score of health, and these men arrived in pursuance of that policy.

Instructions received today to evacuate at once all the Islanders in Transit who were in a fit condition to travel.

30<sup>th</sup> Drove up today a complete time table elaborating the duties of the various members of the personnel. The Knight one of the new arrivals who has had a good deal of clinical experience has been added to the clinical staff, as the work in this particular department promising returns to various authorities is particularly heavy.

In Appendix No XVI I have shown in concrete form the Personnel attached to the Hospital during the month of April.

In Appendix No XVII I show the number of cases of Venereal Disease contracted in Suez - a negligible quantity considering the number of troops actually in Camp.

As I indicated before there were 245 Australians in Transit in Hospital during the month of April.

The total was as follows.

WJ

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	Off.	O.R.
Remaining in Hospital 1/4/18		3.
Admissions April	5	237
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	240
Discharged <sup>4</sup> <sup>OR</sup> Died 1	4	150
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Remaining in Hospital 30/4/18	1	90

The death that occurred was due to poisoning.  
The patient was admitted in a moribund condition.  
An enquiry was held subsequently at the Australian  
Camp Luz.

Wood  
Capt R.A.M.C.

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# WAR DIARY

OF

A. G. M. C. Detachment - Suez Government Hospital

FOR

April 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.  |
|-----|---|
| 12  | Daily Total of Australians in Transit<br>to Hospital - month of April.  |
| 13  | Diseases for which Australians in Transit<br>were admitted to Suez Government Hospital, April 1918.                     |
| 14  | Daily Total of New Zealanders in Transit to<br>Hospital 27/4/18 to 30/4/18  |
| 15  | Diseases for which New Zealanders in Transit<br>were admitted to Suez Government Hospital April 1918.                   |
| 16  | Return of Australian Personnel attached G.H.<br>Hospital Suez - month of April 1918.                                    |
| 17  | General Roll of Australians in Transit - admitted<br>with Venereal Disease contracted in Suez - month<br>of April 1918. |



Appendix XII

Government Hospital  
Sulz

1/5/18

Daily Total of Australians in Transit in Hospital  
from 1/4/18 to 30/4/18 (Both dates inclusive).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>
1918		
April 1		3
2		3
3		2
4		59
5		63
6		67
7		76
8		83
9		97
10		102
11		107
12		118
13		116
14		116
15	1	117
16	2	117
17	2	100
18	2	103
19	2	102
20	2	105
21	2	107
22	4	107
23	4	108
24	5	110
25	5	110
26	5	109
27	5	109
28	5	102
29	3	98
30	1	90
<u>Total</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>2706</u>

Diseases for which Australians in Transit  
were admitted to Suez Government Hospital 9

Month of April 1918

Appendix N<sup>o</sup> XIII

Adenoids 1	V. & H 1
Boils 1	S A H 1
Bronchitis 8	Influenza 40
Conjunctivitis 1	Malaria 1
Chicken Pox 1	Measles 72
Clavicle Fracture 1	Mumps 25
Cephalalgia 1	Nail Ingrowth 1
Colic 3	Orthocea 3
Cramps 1	Plomaine Poisoning 1
Chronic Cough 3	Poisoning 1
Deafness 1	Pleurisy 3
Diarrhoea 12	Pneumonia unspecified 1
Dyspepsia 2	Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1
Dysentery 1	Pricked Hand 1
Enteric 1	Painful Scar 1
Eczema 1	Photophobia 1
Epilepsy 1	Rheumatism 3
Fistula in Groin 1	Sore Throat 1
Foot Sprain 1	Scabies 2
Hernia 3	Syphilis 4
Glands - Septic 1	Small pox 1
Gastritis 7	Tonsillitis 4
Gastro Enteritis 5	Septic Leg 1
Heat Stroke 1	V. & G. Gonorrhoea 14
Herpes 1	V. & G. Gleet 1

Summary of Cases.

245-

Medical 110	<u>Infections</u>	<u>Veneral</u>
Surgical 21	Chicken Pox 1	Gonorrhoea 14
	measles 72	Gleet 1
	mumps 25	T. Nat 15
	Small Pox 1	
	T. Nat 99	

Appendix XIV

Government Hospital Suez.  
1<sup>st</sup> May 1918. 10Daily Total of New Zealanders in Transit in Hospital  
from 8/4/18 to 30/4/18 (Both dates inclusive)

Date	Officers	Other Ranks.
1918		
April 8		1
9		1
10		2
11		4
12		7
13		9
14		12
15		22
16		28
17		33
18		39
19		42
20		45
21		47
22		53
23	1 YMCA Secretary	56
24	1 "	56
25	1 "	55
26	1 "	56
27	1 "	50
28	1 "	49
29		39
30		39
Total	6	745

lmw

Diseases for which New Zealanders in France  
were admitted to Suez Government Hospital

Month of April 1918

Apoplexy	1
Appendicitis	1
Branchitis	1
Bursitis	1
Diarrhoea	7
Dysentery	5
Eczema	1
Gastritis	1
Gastro Enteritis	5
German measles	16
Influenza	4
Lumbago	1
measles	16
measles Observed	1
mumps	1
Orbitis media	1
Phlebitis	1
Phellogenian Fever	1
Pleurisy	2
Rheumatism	4
Syphilis	2
Tonsillitis	2
V. D. Gonorrhoea	1
Wear Leg	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1

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Appendix XV

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Appendix XVII  
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Australia

Nominal Roll of Patients admitted with Venereal Disease (contracted in Suez) from April 1<sup>st</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup> 1918 (inclusive.)

No	Rank	Name	Unit	Disease	Date	Prophylactic treatment
2696	Sgt	Morgan A.	10/58 Battr	V.D.G.	9.4.18	No.
7328	"	Munn W.C.	22/28 "	V.D.G.	25.4.18	No.
3294	"	Campbell W.C.	" "	V.D.G.	23.4.18	No.

RETURN OF AUSTRALIAN PERSONNEL ATTACHED GOVERNMENT

*Appendix  
No. 11  
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HOSPITAL SUEZ FOR MONTH OF APRIL 1918.

Rank.	Name.	Remarks.
Capt.	Wood	W.
"	Taylor	A.E.
Sister	Burns	G.H.
"	Cobcroft	M.S. Transferred <del>from</del> No. 14 A.G.H. 8-4-18.
"	Smithers	B. <del>X</del> <del>to</del> " " " "
S/Nurse	Allen	E. " to " " 25-4-18.
"	Bennett	R.O. " to " " " " "
"	Chadwick	E. " to " " " " "
"	Dare-Lund	M.
"	Fleming	D.L.
"	Graham	I.M. " to " " " " "
"	Stephens	E.
"	White	S.
"	Ashworth	U.M. " from " " 7-4-18.
"	Perrier	M.A. " from " " 25-4-18
"	Sharpe	G.M. " " " " "
"	Jeffrey	O.E. " " " " "
"	Bentley	L. " " " " "
"	DANIELS	S. " to " " 8-4-18 as a Patient
Sgt	Garbutt	A.
Cpl	Leslie	A.H.
Cpl	Uren	H.G.
Pte	Maundrell	F.
"	Couchman	K.A.
"	Spencer	F.A. Trans. to No. 2 A.S.H. 30-4-18 (Conval.)
"	Conly	C.W.
"	Hynes	T. Trans. to A.A.M.C. Dtls Aus. Camp 22-4-81
"	Hagger	R.L.
"	Muller	R.G.
"	Lord	D.P.
"	Ellis	J.
"	Robertson	C.K.
"	Jullyan	W.V. Admitted to Hosp. 29-3-18 Disc. 2-4-18. Trans. to A.A.M.C. Dtls Aus. Camp 22-4-18
"	Bader	C.H. Rejoined 20-4-18.
Dvr	Albion	H. Trans. from Tng Cadre Moascar 29-4-18.
"	Benson	H. " " " "
"	Melville	A.W. " " " "
Tpr	Knight	C.R. " " " "