

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/56/17

Title: 13th Australian Field Ambulance

August 1917



AWM4-26/56/17

Confidential
Original

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 220

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

31st. August 1917. (Erase heading not required.) No. 13 Australian Field Ambulance.

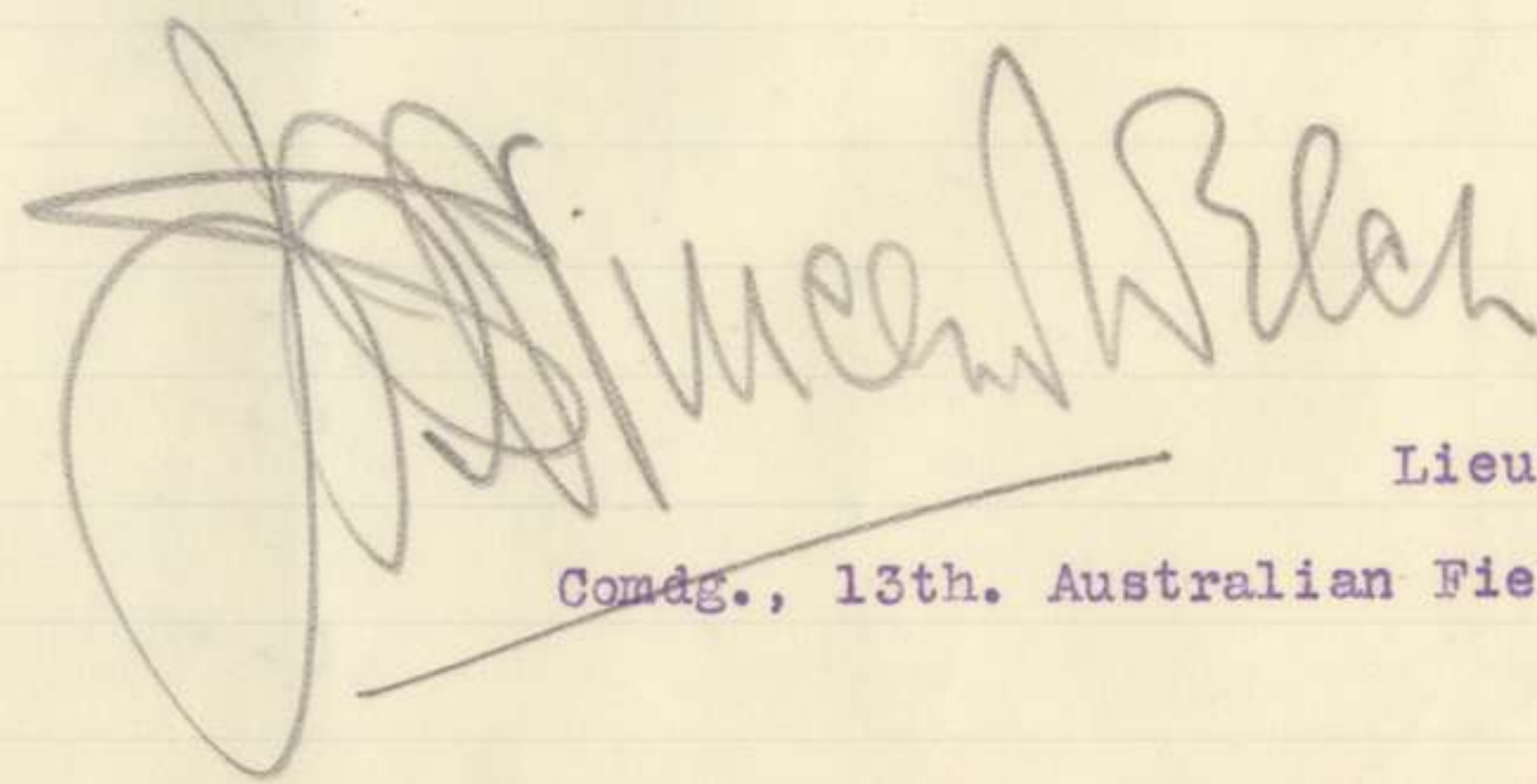
Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36A. K.6.b.7.5. do.	31st. 31st. August 3rd.		No. Entry. Unit moved from this location and took over 4th. Aus. Divisional Rest Station STEENWERCK from 4th. Aus. Field Ambulance. Operation Order No. 37 attached.	
STEENWERCK	4th.		Capt. D.M. Steele, MC. returned from temp. duty at II ANZAC CORPS SCHOOL.	
do.	3rd.		Major C.C. Corlis, MC. returned from temp. duty at 51st. Aus. Inf. Battalion.	
do.	8th.		Unit moved from Steenwerck to Sheet 28 S.9.d.8.2. KEERSEBROM and took over D.R.S. from 48th. Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. Operation Order No. 38 attached. All patients equipment, etc., from Steenwerck D.R.S. has to be moved to the new 4th. Aus. Divisional Rest Station. For this purpose two lorries are to report daily until the moving is completed.	
S.9.d.8.2.	6th.		Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC. returned from temp. duty with No. 2 Aus. C.C.S.	
do.	9th.		Lorries did not turn up to convey equipment from STEENWERCK to KEERSEBROM. Unit's own transport has to turn-out and assist in moving equipment.	
do.	10th.		Capt. K.M. Whiting reported for duty from reinforcements.	
do.	10th.		Capt. D.M. Steele, MC. detailed for temporary duty with 52nd. Aus. Inf. Battalion vice Capt. Tassie evacuated to LA MOTTE Officers' Rest House, sick.	
do.	12th.		"B" Section, having closed was the Steenwerck D.R.S. joined Headquarters at KEERSEBROM.	
do.	12th.		"B" Section Bearer Subdivision, less the officer, and two motor Ambulances detailed for duty with 12th. Aus. Field Ambulance. Bearer Division only to be used for improving A.D.S.	
do.	14th.		Major J. Sprent, MC. left to report to Headquarters, A.I.F. London, for return to Australia.	
do.	14th.		Capt. K.M. Whiting taken on the strength from Supernumerary to establishment vice Major Sprent.	
do.	14th.		one N.C.O. selected to attend preliminary Course of training at II ANZAC CORPS SCHOOL prior to proceeding to Cadet Battalion.	
do.	15th.		Major D. D. Cade detailed for temporary duty as R.M.O., 4th. Aus. Pioneer Battalion vice Capt. Tilling on Leave.	
do.	19th.		Capt. H.W.F. Mitchell, MC. detailed for temporary duty with 50th. Aus. Inf. Bn. as R.M.O. vice Capt. Powell, evacuated sick.	
do.	22nd.		Unit to make arrangements to take over evacuation from line held by 4th. Aus. Division.	
do.	23rd.		Responsibility for evacuation from line held by 4th. Aus. Division passed from C.O., 12th. Aus. Field Ambulance to C.O., 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance as from 6 30. a.m. Operation Order No. 39 attached. Headquarters of the Unit moved from Sheet 28 S.9.d.8.2. to KANDAHAR FARM, A.D.S. Sheet 28 T.10.b.7.7.	

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~~

31st. August 1917. (Erase heading not required.) No. 13 Australian Field Ambulance.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Aug. 1917			
T.10.b.	22		Capt. K.C. Purnell reported for duty from 12th. Aus. Field Ambulance and is taken on the strength supernumerary to establishment.	
7.7.				
do.	23rd.		Capt. A.J. Fargie reported for duty from 4th. Aus. Field Ambulance and is taken on the strength supernumerary to establishment.	
do.	28th.		Capt. P. B. Sewell, reported for duty from reinforcements and is taken on the strength supernumerary to establishment.	
do.	29th.		Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC. transferred to No. 2 Australian Casualty Clearing Station.	
do.	29th.		Capt. K.C. Purnell, is transferred to 4th. Aus. Divisional Engineers as R.M.O.	
do.	29th.		Capt. A.J. Fargie absorbed into Unit vice Capt. Elwell,	
do.	30th.		Bearers relieved in the forward area by English Troops at 7 a.m. Unit less details at UNDERHILL FARM moved to Billets at WESTHOF M.D.S. under instructions from A.D.M.S., 4th. Australian Division.	
WESTHOF	31st.		No. entry.	



Lieut. Colonel.

Comdg., 13th. Australian Field Ambulance.

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4th. Australian Division:

OPERATION ORDER NO: 37

by

Lieut. Colonel J. B. ST. VINCENT WELCH., D. S. O.,

Comdg., 13th. Australian Field Ambulance.

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In the Field, 3rd. August 1917

1. The 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will relieve the 4th. Australian Field Ambulance at Divisional Rest Station STEENWERCK on 4/8/1917, and will keep one Section in readiness to take over Divisional Rest Station at KERSEBROM.
2. "A" & "B" Section Bearer Subdivisions and all motor and horsed Ambulance Transport of 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will be held in reserve, and be ready to reinforce bearers and transport of the 12th. Australian Field Ambulance.
3. Arrangements will be made by the 13th. Australian Field Ambulance for the evacuation of the sick from the 4th. Australian Infantry Brigade. Two Ambulance cars will be detached to the 4th. Australian Infantry Brigade for this purpose.
4. An Advance Party under the command of Major D. D. Cade, O.C., "B" Section, will proceed by cars to arrive at Divisional Rest Station STEENWERCK in sufficient time to take over the Station by 9. 30. a.m. on the 4th. August 1917. This party will be selected by Major D.D. Cade, who will make all necessary arrangements.
5. Duplicate receipts for stores taken over will be forwarded to the Office of the A.D.M.S., 4th. Australian Division:
6. Two Clerks and one packstore corporal proceeded to the Divisional Rest Station STEENWERCK at 6 p.m. for the purpose of copying necessary data from records of the 4th. Australian Field Ambulance into the books of the 13th. Australian Field Ambulance.
7. The remainder of the Unit will move to Divisional Rest Station STEENWERCK on the 4th. August 1917. The following Routine will be observed:-
 Reveille.....6.--. a.m.
 Breakfast.....7.30. a.m.
 Fall In.....9.20. a.m.
 March Out.....9.30. a.m.

[Handwritten Signature]

Lieut. Colonel.

Comdg., 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance.

Issued at 7. p.m.

D I S T R I B U T I O N :

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Copy No..1...Orders. | 3...War Diary (3) |
| 2...A.D.M.S. | 4...4th. Aus. Inf. B.H.Q. |
| 5...O.C., "B" Section., 13th.A.F.Amb. | |

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OPERATION ORDER NO: 38

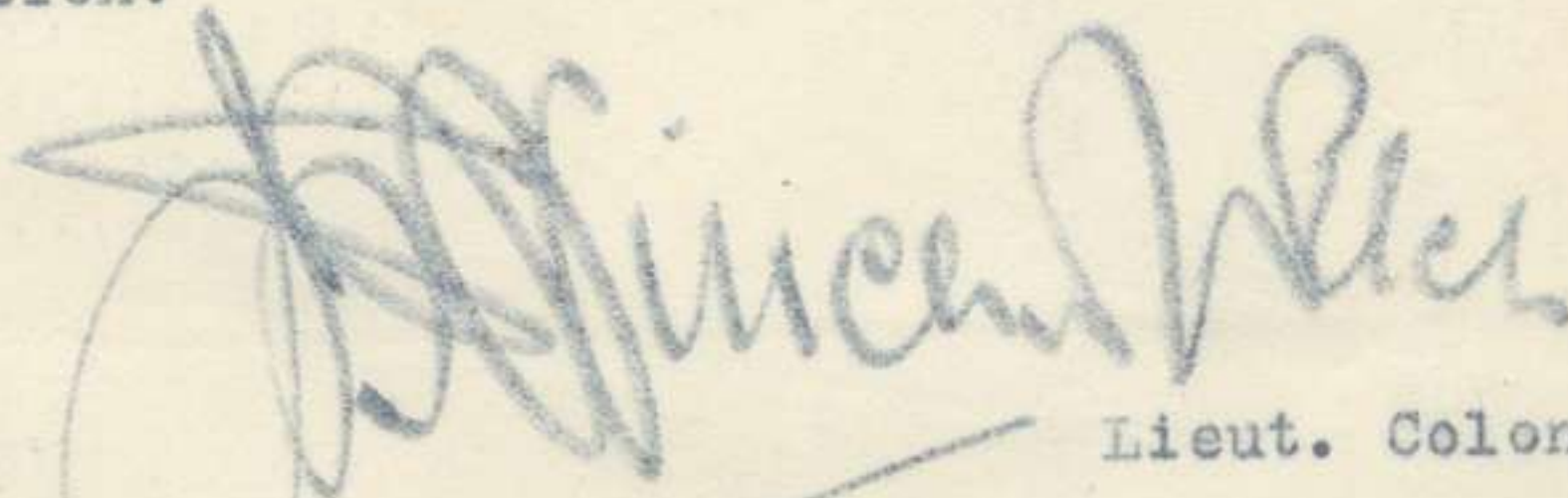
by

Lieut. Colonel J. B. ST. VINCENT WELCH., D. S. O.,
Comdg., 13th. Australian Field Ambulance.

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In the Field, 7th. August 1917.

1. 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will relieve a Unit of the 37th. Division at Main Dressing Station (S.9.d.8.2.) and Divisional Rest Station KEERSEBROM on 7/8/17, and administer both as 4th. Aus. Divisional Rest Station.
One Section ("B" Section") will remain at D.R.S. STEENWERCK.
2. at 10 a.m. 8/8/17 STEENWERCK D.R.S. will be closed down, the patients gradually evacuated, and all equipment and stores transferred to Divisional Rest Station KEERSEBROM.
3. Details of relief will be arranged between the Commanding Officers concerned.
4. Duplicate receipts for stores taken over will be forwarded to the office of the A.D.M.S., 4th. Aus. Division:
5. Quartermaster, 13th. Australian Field Ambulance arrived at D.R.S. KEERSEBROM with Advance Party at 10 a.m. this day, for the purpose of checking and taking charge of stores etc.
6. O.C., "C" Section with the tent subdivision will arrive at the D.R.S. KEERSEBROM at 8. a.m. He will also make all necessary arrangements for the official taking over of this D.R.S. Taking over to be completed before 10 a.m. 8/8/1917.
7. Capt. D.M. Steele, MC. with the remainder of "C" Section, will make move from D.R.S. STEENWERCK in sufficient time to reach D.R.S. KEERSEBROM by 8. 30. a.m. 8/8/1917.
8. "A" Section Bearer and Tent Subdivisions will march out from D.R.S. STEENWERCK at 9. 30. a.m. 8/8/1917, under Command of Major J. Sprent, MC.
9. Transport Subdivisions will move out at 10 a.m. under the Command of Major T.C.C. Evans.
10. Rest Station at STEENWERCK will be administered by Major D.D. Cade, O.C. "B" Section.



Lieut. Colonel.

Comdg., 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance.

Issued at 8. p.m.

D I S T R I B U T I O N :

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|----|-------------------|
| Copy No. 1. | Orders. | 4. | WarDiary (3) |
| 2. | A.D.M.S. | 5. | O.C. "B" Section. |
| 3. | 13th. Aus. Inf. Bge. | 6. | O.C. "C" Section. |
| | 7. | | Office File. |

OPERATION ORDER NO: 39

by

Lieut. Colonel J. B. ST. VINCENT WELCH., D. S. O.,
Comdg., No. 13 Australian Field Ambulance.

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In the Field, 22nd. August 1917.

1. The Field Ambulance Bearers in the Sector held by the 4th. Aus. Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance on August 22/23rd. 1917. Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC., will arrange the posting of the necessary bearers to commence carrying from R.A.P. (U.4.d.4.5.) by 6.30.a.m. on the 23rd. instant.
2. On relief the two ambulance cars of 13th. Aus. Field Amb. will return to their Unit.
3. The 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will be relieved at D.R.S. KEERSEBROM, by the 12th. Australian Field Ambulance on 22nd. August 1917.
4. "B" Section, Tent Subdivision, under the command of Major C.C. Corlis, MC. will relieve details of a Medical Unit of the New Zealand Division at Underhill Farm, A.D.S. on 22nd. August 1917 - time to be notified later.
5. Details will be posted by Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC. at Boyles' Farm, Fort Osborne, and Wulvenghem, and at Goosberry Farm Collecting Post in connection with the line of evacuation on the night of August 22/23rd. 1917. These details will be supplied by "A" Section.
6. "C" Section, Tent Subdivision, plus 6 Bearers from "C" Section, will relieve 4th. Australian Field Ambulance at KANDAHAR FARM, A.D.S. on 22nd. August 1917. Time will be notified later. These details will proceed by Car to Kandahar Farm, A.D.S. when relieved by the 12th. Australian Field Ambulance at D.R.S. KEERSEBROM at 2 p.m. on 22nd. August 1917.
7. The 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will be responsible for the evacuation from the whole of the line held by the 4th. Australian Division to the M.D.S. WESTHOF FARM, as from 6.30. a.m., on the 23rd. August 1917.
8. One N.C.O. and 2 men will report to the BAILLEUL D.R.S. to hold same for the 12th. Aus. Field Ambulance, until 5 p.m. on 22nd. instant.
9. One Sergeant Steward, one cook, one clerk, and two Nursing Duties privates will report at the RAVELSBERG, D.R.S. to care for the 50 patients therein, and hold same until the 12th. Aus. Field Ambulance take the Station over at 5 p.m. 22nd. inst. Major T.C.C. Evans will sign receipts for stores after they have been checked by the sergeant steward. The stores will be guarded by a detail to be warned for this purpose.
10. All reliefs to be completed by 10 a.m. 23rd. August 1917 details of relief to be arranged mutually between commanders.
11. Duplicate receipts for stores and equipment handed over or taken over will be forwarded to the Office of the A.D.M.S., 4th. Australian Division.

St Vincent Welch
Lieut. Col.
Comdg., 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance

Issued at 5 a.m.

Copy No.

- 1. Orders
- 2. A.D.M.S.
- 3. 13th. Aus. Inf. Bge.
- 4. War Diary (3)

- 5. Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC.
- 6. O.C., "C" Sec. 13th. A.F.A
- 7. Major C.C. Corlis, MC.
- 8. Office File.

Lieut. Colonel J. B. ST. VINCENT W.A.M.C., D. S. O.

Comdg., No. 13 Australian Field Ambulance.

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In the Field, 22nd. August 1917.

1. The Field Ambulance Bearer in the Sector held by the 4th. Aus. Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance on August 22/23rd. 1917. Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC., will arrange the posting of the necessary bearers to commence carrying from R.A.P. (U.A.B.S.) by 6.30 a.m. on the 23rd. instant.

2. On relief the two ambulance cars of 13th. Aus. Field Amb. will return to their Unit.

3. The 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will be relieved at D.R.S. KERSEBROM, by the 13th. Australian Field Ambulance on 22nd. August 1917.

4. "B" Section, Tent Subdivision, under the command of Major C.C. Corlis, MC. will relieve details of a Medical Unit of the New Zealand Division at Underhill Farm, A.D.S. on 22nd. August 1917 - time to be notified later.

5. Details will be posted by Capt. L.B. Elwell, MC. at Boyles' Farm, Fort Osborne, and Wivenham, and at Gooseberry Farm Collecting Post in connection with the line of evacuation on the night of August 22/23rd. 1917. These details will be supplied by "A" Section.

6. "C" Section, Tent Subdivision, plus 6 Bearer from "G" Section, will relieve 4th. Australian Field Ambulance at KANDAHAR FARM, A.D.S. on 22nd. August 1917. Time will be notified later. These details will proceed by car to Kandahar Farm, A.D.S. when relieved by the 13th. Australian Field Ambulance at D.R.S. KERSEBROM at 2 p.m. on 22nd. August 1917.

7. The 13th. Australian Field Ambulance will be responsible for the evacuation from the whole of the line held by the 4th. Australian Division to the M.D.S. WESTHOF FARM, as from 6.30 a.m., on the 23rd. August 1917.

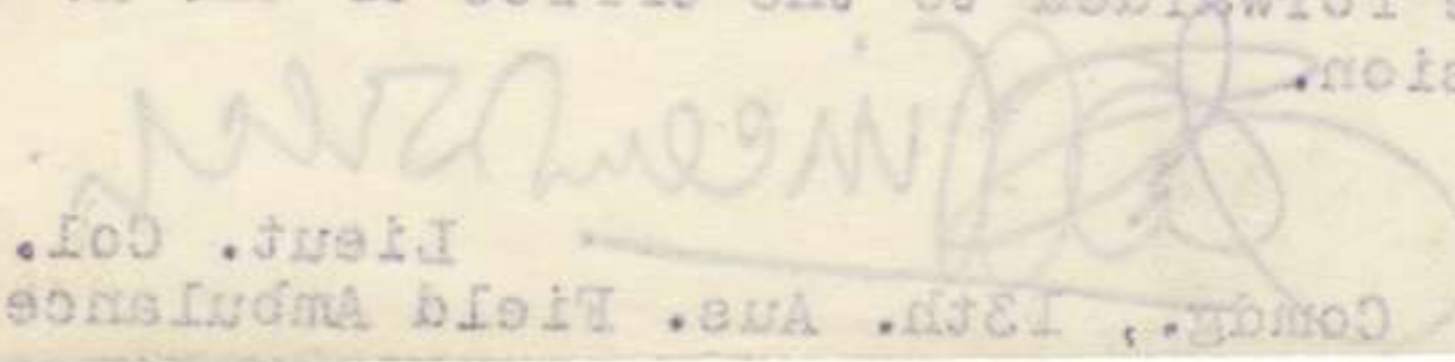
8. One M.C.O. and 2 men will report to the BAILLIU D.R.S. to hold same for the 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance, until 5 p.m. on 22nd. instant.

9. One Sergeant Steward, one cook, one clerk, and two Nursing Duties privates will report at the RAVENSBURG, D.R.S. to care for the 80 patients therein, and hold same until the 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance take the Station over at 5 p.m. 22nd. inst. Major T.C.G. Evans will sign receipts for stores after they have been checked by the sergeant steward. The stores will be guarded by a detail to be warned for this purpose.

10. All reliefs to be completed by 10 a.m. 23rd. August 1917 details of relief to be arranged mutually between commanders.

11. Duplicate receipts for stores and equipment handed over or taken over will be forwarded to the Office of the A.D.M.S., 4th. Australian Division.

Lieut. Col.
Comdg., 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance



Issued at 5 a.m.

52/8/1917

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	R. A. P's.	Squads:	Relay, Bearer & Motor Posts.	Squads: Advanced Dressing Station.	Evacuation.
LEFT	13th. Aus. Bn. (A) O.34.e.2.0.2 Support Bn. (C) (Swain's Post) O.32.c.9.9.	one. two.	Fanny's Post (B) (O.33.b.4.4.) Artillery Post (D) (Motor Farm Post) one Also R.A.P. N.36.d.8.3.	two.	Casualties from the Left Sector by hand carriage to (A) and thence to (B), thence by decauville to (C) and onwards to (D), thence by hand carriage to (E) thence by Motor to (F) In the event of heavy shelling near (E) continue by rail to WULVERGHEM and thence by Ambulances to Kandahar.
CENTRE	Boyles Farm (E) U.1.a.4.0. Bristol Castle. (G) T.6.d.8.3.	one	Also used as Relay Post.	Kandahar Farm (F) T.10.b.7.7.	Casualties by hand carriage from (G) to (E) Bearers obtained from (E)
RIGHT:	52nd. Aus. Bn. (H) U.4.d.4.5. 50th. Aus. Bn. (M) U.14.d.9.9. (Prowse Point) Reserves: 51st. Aus. Bn. La Plus Douve (K) T.12.a.5.1. 49th. Aus. Bn. Red Lodge. (L) T.18.d.8.4.	six men Nil. Nil. Nil.	Gooseberry Farm. (J) U.7.b.4.8. 1 M.O. 1 N.C.O. 6 men at Gooseberry Farm.	Balance of personnel plus Capt. Vargie at Kandahar Farm.	Casualties from (H) by hand carriage to U.4.c.4.6. (I) Tramway head, (no relay post here) thence by rail to (J) and thence by motor to (F) From (K) telephone to (F) for motor. From (L) to (N) by hand carriage. From (M) by New Zealand Bearers to (N) <i>50th Bn Regimental Bearer employed if available.</i>
				Underhill Farm (N) T.18.d.5.3. <i>(2 Motor Tentsub 6 Bearer)</i>	All cases by Motor to Westhof. T.19.b.4.5.

Kandahar

Telephones at Kandahar Farm, Underhill Farm, Boyle's Farm, Gooseberry Farm, and La Plus Douve reinforcements or cars can be called from these points.
Motors park at Kandahar Farm and Underhill Farm for safety- proceeding forward as required.
Lt. Col. C.O. 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance

Richard Bear
Lt. Col.
C.O. 13th. Aus. Field Ambulance