

AWM4

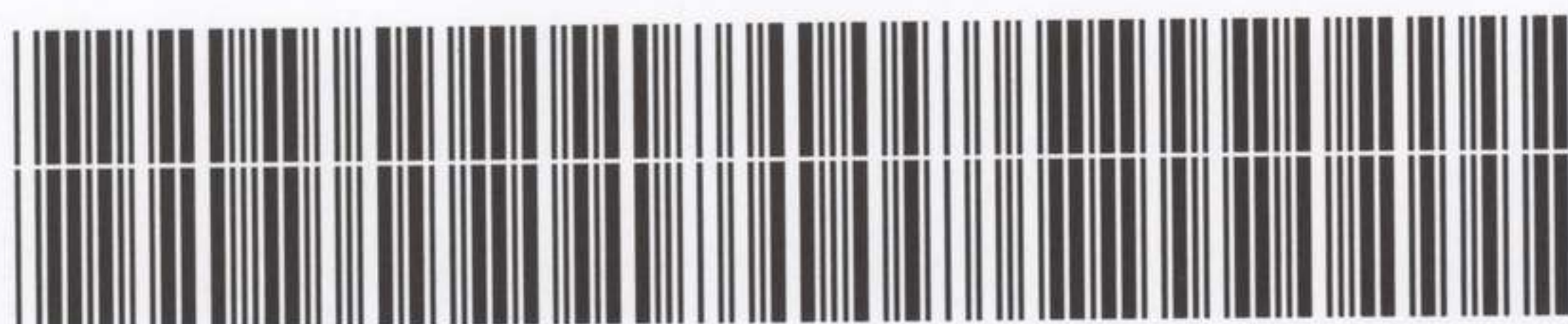
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/62/7 Part 1

Title: No 1 Australian Casualty Clearing
Station

August 1915



AWM4-26/62/7PART1

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.)

1st Aust (Casualty Clearing Station)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anyae	August 1		<p>No 1426 Pt. F.L. Muir wounded by rifle bullet while attending sick on their transport from beach to hospital ship. Retained on Hoop. Rifle bullet wound in shoulder. Asked by A.A. & Staff, Army Army Corps to act as Embarkation Officer for Anyae. Received secret order from Dons to mark all cases evacuated likely to be well in 28 days as 'Kandos' + others as 'Base'. Evacuated 253 cases.</p>	
	2		<p>No. 1201 Pt. J.E. Christie evacuated to Kandos with Plenary. Visited by Surgeon General Burrell, who spent about 10 minutes at Campsite, Channing Station during which he glanced round at the accommodation but did not inspect. Instructed me that I should act as Embarkation Officer, that medical officers were being sent to fill the vacancies in my staff, that the Dons was going to land, that we would be under his orders. Surg Gen. Burrell told me he considered excessive bathing was accountable for most of the sickness occurring among the troops.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	Aug 2		Evacuated 155 cases. Capt. Leonard R.A.M.C. O.M.P.C. Advanced Base Depot Medical Stores informed me he had received orders from Lt Kettle D.D.M.S to act as Embarkation Officer Anzac. No 1415 Pte J.E. Christie to Semmes suffering from pleurisy. No 1435 Pte J. Ryan returned to duty.	6
	3		Evacuated 194 cases Captaine Hurley ordered to rejoin his unit.	
	4		Evacuated 163 cases Lt. Kettle D.D.M.S came ashore. He called at Aust. C. C. Station & informed me that this unit would evacuate all cases from Anzac Beach but that other clearing stations would be found on the left flank.	
	5		Received notice from Army Corps Hdqrs. that Aust. C. C. Station ceases to be attached to the 1 st Aust. Division for administrative purposes. No 1278 Pte. H. Wilson to Semmes with gastroenteritis. No 1404 Pte L. Davis to Semmes Evacuated 319 cases.	

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aragoa	Aug 6		<p>No 1445 Pt. M. Thomas to Hosp. ship with shrapnel wound of leg. No 2 Field Ambulance took over the work station on beach lately occupied by No 4 Field Amb. Lieutenants CAMPBELL P.W. MACKAY C.G. SYKES H.W. DAVY G.H. of RAMC. Temporarily attached to unit for duty. Lieutenants THOMPSON & BLACK^{WALKER} also allotted for assisting evacuation. Links attached Tasmanian Port in morning and our attack began at 5 p.m. Evacuated 550 cases. The facilities provided for the conveyance of wounded from the shore to the Hospital ship are very inadequate. The two cutters & horseboat sent fitted with awnings which were set aside for use of sick have been taken to use for the landing of troops & are not available. The steam pigst boat to be used solely for evacuating sick which I had heard from the Naval Beach Officer was being sent here as a result of my request to Surg. General Babbie, has not arrived. Consequently we have to wait till such time as tugs are not being used for troops & tugs to get wounded evacuated.</p>	7

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anyone	6/2/11		<p>The boats used consist of (a) large lighters holding about 50 stretchers + 75 walking cases or 250 walking cases. very easy to load & unload but with no mowing (b) Horse boats holding 15 stretchers or 70 walking cases + (c) ship cutters holding six stretchers + 20 walking or 50 walking cases. not very suitable for stretchers. These are towed by Naval Piquet Boats. which are themselves used to carry about 30 walking cases. The Naval they take over the cases at the jetty & handle the stretchers carefully.</p> <p>Today we were unable to get any tow off before 12:15 p.m. As a result the shelters we have to keep the wounded in were greatly overcrowded, we were obliged to keep wounded men waiting on the bank which is unfortunately shelled each day. I think the Naval officers on the bank do their best to provide towage but the number of piquet boats at their disposal is small.</p> <p>The Hosp. Ship Sicilia which came in today was rapidly filled to overflowing & reported she would take no more cases until no other hospital ship is at present in sight.</p>	8.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Amoy	Aug 7		<p>As a result of our attack which began at 5 pm. last night there has been the heaviest day for casualties we have had. Evacuated 1937 cases.</p> <p>Last night Major Corbin, who was on duty as evacuating officer, finding he could get no information from the Naval Officer assuring him that Hospital ship accommodation would be available soon, interviewed General Cunningham & asked to see General Burdwood. Major Corbin pointed out the gravity of the situation, viz. that we had about 400 wounded men on the beach where our shelters were inadequate for such numbers that more were coming in and that there was no hospital ship here into which we could evacuate even the most serious cases. Urgent messages were sent to G.H.Q. & the N.T.O. to the Admiral to ensure the early arrival of hospital ships.</p> <p>Three hospital ships arrived soon after daybreak one the Seang Jung for Luoyan & Fuhs.</p>	9

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Angkor	Aug 7		No 1426 Pk Fl. having returned to duty.	
"	8		Another heavy day. Sent a large tow away to the Hospital Ship about 6 am. At 8 am a tow consisting of three cutters full of wounded came in to our petty. They had been evacuated from clearing station near New Zealand Port & had been repaired by one of the Hospital ships. The Turks putting from the South thinking they were troops landing opened fire with several rounds of shrapnel, wounding one man. No hospital ship available except Langdon which only takes Indians & Turks. Evacuated walking cases by flack-sweep to Jambou. Evacuated all our walking cases by S.S. Redheart to Pandora sent Lieutenant Blackmore medical charges. Evacuated 946 cases.	10
"	9	4 1/2 pm	Pk Carlsen & J.W. re-impounded & reported for duty. I had been expecting to receive at least eight re-impoundments and several returning convalescents but they have been detained in Cairo working at hospital there. My unit	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Angae	Aug 9		<p>is very much under strength & I feel it is scandalous that re-embarkments should be deserted from their intended use to the detriment of men at the front.</p> <p>The number of cases coming in from 1st Division has fallen off but we are getting a number of walking cases for the left flank who are being sent for us to evacuate owing to the difficulties of transport from there.</p> <p>Evacuated 1020 cases.</p> <p>Captain (Hon Major) J. Corbin to be Major vice Major Richard deceased. Dated 21st July 1915</p>	<p>11.</p> <p>Dy. Order 1st Aust. D. 304 8.8.15.</p>
"	10		<p>Great diminution in number of cases to evacuate.</p> <p>Evacuated 362 cases</p>	
"	11.		<p>No 1408 Pt. W.P. Duggan to Ambros suffering from Debility.</p> <p>No 1419 Pt. W.P. Hughes to Ambros suffering from dysentery</p> <p>Have had great difficulty in getting tugs from Angae Beach owing to all available tugs being used by stations further north. About 50 wounded Turks awaiting evacuation to Ambros but cannot get transfer from N.70.</p> <p>Evacuated 333 cases.</p>	<p>MJ</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	Aug. 11		116 cases + 107 bales of Red Cross Stores arrived at Anzac for C.C. Station.	12
	12		Col. Young is now in charge of L. of C. units at Anzac. Detained Major Corbin Lieut. Sykes & Davy to go to No 2 Outpost & assist the No 13 C.C.S. Col. Kable informed me that great difficulty was experienced in evacuating from the station. Lieut Sykes & Davy returned in afternoon. Evacuated 262 cases.	
	13		Major Corbin returned this morning at 6 am. He reported that the No 16 C.C.S. have taken over from No 13 C.C.S. at No 2 Outpost that the work was proceeding more satisfactorily. That the state of affairs under the No 13 C.C.S. had been a hopeless muddle very little attempt being made to provide shelter or ministrations for the wounded who had to wait considerable time before being evacuated. Col Kable informed me that he is returning to G.H.Q. tomorrow and that he has recommended that I be appointed A.D. Maj. L. of C. Anzac. N.T.O. sent message that owing to losses of piguet-boats and men he would not be able to evacuate wounded.	msl.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aryuan	Aug 13 (cont)		<p>by day. If this is carried out it will seriously embarrass the work of evacuation. All troops, guns + most of the stores are landed at night. Consequently the boats are working at high pressure. These boats are only available for transport of wounded when not wanted for other purposes. If wounded + sick are forced to wait all day for evacuation, our limited accommodation will not provide sufficient shelter + some will be exposed to the daily shell fire.</p> <p>By 1349 P. Cooper & Co. to bandages suffering from pyrexia evacuated 210 cases.</p> <p>Saw the N. 70. + explained difficulties to him; got a tow away at 1.20 p.m.</p> <p>Col Kelle has given me instruction to act at A.D. 415. He leaves for Suva this afternoon.</p> <p>No 1454 P. Young D. to bandages with pyrexia.</p> <p>No 1429 P. McRae to bandages with pyrexia.</p> <p>She continued work for 16 weeks under very trying circumstances is killing on the health of the unit. The number of men ^{W.C.S.} and men left is 45. They have kept up very well during the heavy strain of work last week and all of them</p>	13
	14			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aryue	Aug 14		worked splendidly but now many are working ill + will soon know up. I have applied for reinforcements without much result.	14
"	15		Evacuated 224 cases. Inspected No 13 C.C.S. at Walker's Beach. Lt Col. in charge told me he was not well. The work of the station is at present easy. They are not under fire, there is plenty of towage available but the ground is not easy to come out into shelter without using the cover beds which will soon be unsuitable. Shelter cases have to be carried about 200 yards to present jetty. A better jetty is being erected. Inspected No 16 C.C.S. at No 2 Outpost. Here Lt Col is getting the ground tenaced + bulldozed preparatory to the erection of shelter. The chief difficulty at the station is that the pier is under rifle fire at present. It is therefore necessary to carry all shelter cases through the sap to No 13 C.C.S. a distance of about one mile. The O.C. is asking for 100 extra men to be attached to his unit for the duty. On returning to Aryue I arranged for a water cart to be sent out to No 16 C.C.S.	

MJ

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Angau	Aug 15		<p>Received letter from D.M.S. Sgt Gen BIRRELL giving me instructions to carry out all the duties of A.D.M.S. Angau. In a post script he stated that at present there was no A.D.M.S. Angau. In replying I asked to be relieved of these duties unless appointed to the position which Col. Noble had informed me I was to hold. It would be impossible for me to control the vacant operation of the three stations which is holding an anomalous position.</p> <p>The Sanitary Officer, Angau, reported to me. The Commandant, Angau (Capt. C.) instructed me to take into consideration the necessity of removing site of C.C.S. from the beach in view of a prolonged occupation & bad weather. I inspected possible sites with Major Corbin.</p> <p>Received order from D.M.S. re retention of slight cases by Field Ambulances in view of the congestion at the Base. I passed on the order to A.D.M.S. Division as directed.</p> <p>Capt. Wray R.A.M.C. 13th C.C.S. reported that RA Col M. Stimpert had been sent to Base & that he had been left in charge.</p> <p>Reported to D.M.S.</p> <p>No. 1449 Corporal Al Westwood returned to duty by P.M.S. No 1362 P. J. Perkins, No 215</p>	<p>15</p>

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Anzac	Aug 16	<p>Camp Commandant, Col Young went to Madras. No 1508 Pt J Bean 3rd Reinforcements reported for duty. No 1459 Pt. SM Mc Kenzie transferred from Aust. C.C. Station to General Staff of Commandant, Advanced Base, Anzac. No 887 Pt. A Chaytors Anson Battalion, Naval Div, vice Mc Kenzie. Evacuated 148 cases</p>	16
	17	<p>Received cable from D.M.S. instructing me to arrange to forward one man + stores of NO 14 C.C.S. from Anzac to Sewla. They left Anzac at 2 p.m. No 1444 Pt P.H. Thomas to Madras with Pyrexia. No 1452 Pt C Wood to Madras with Pyrexia. No 1435 Pt J. Piquet to Base shrapnel wound of thigh</p>	
	18	<p>Lieutenant Blackwell U.S. R.A.M.C. to Madras with Dysentery. No 1418 Pt Hindle R. to Madras with Pyrexia. Evacuated 195 cases</p>	
	19	<p>Forwarded report to D.M.S. on the necessary steps to be taken to prepare this area for retention of sick + wounded for such periods as it might be impossible to evacuate owing to stress of weather. Sent copy to Col Young, Commandant Advanced Base with suggestion that preliminary steps should now be taken to prepare sites for necessary shelters.</p>	12

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Angau Aug
19 (cont)

Received letter from D.M.S. in reply to mine of 15th inst in which he trusted I would control the evacuation from the three C.C.S. here. My official title is Medical Control Officer, Angau.
No 1429 Pt. A. McRae Returned to duty.

17

20

Evacuated 235 cases.
Handed over command of Aust. C.C. Station to Major Gordon according to instructions from D.M.S. for period while I am acting as Medical Control Officer.

Inspected No 16 C.C.S. Great improvement in preparation of shelters which are suitable for fine weather only.

A new pier has been built about 300 yards north of the station & is suitable for small boats.

On return to Angau arranged with N.T.O. for raising the new pier in event of many cases being evacuated from No 16 C.C.S. thereby saving a mile of shelter bearing.
Evacuations No 1 C.C.S. 277 No 13 40 No 16 233

21

Received information from Lt. SO. A.M.Z.A.C. that operations would begin on left flank at 3 pm, about 500 casualties anticipated. Notified OC No 16 C.C.S. to make necessary preparations.

Evacuations No 1 C.C.S. ~~243~~ 243 No 13 72 No 16 234 Total ~~539~~ 549

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Anzac	Aug. 22	Evacuated A.C.C.S. 274 No 13 38 No 16 736 Total 1048	18
	23	Inspected No 13 C.C.S. The shelters they have erected are only suitable for fine weather & will not keep out rain. The dressing station is in bed of a small dry stream. Discussed the question of putting up more accommodation on ground not so exposed to inundation. Cases from No 16 C.C.S. are being hand carried along the sap during the day to rest shelter of No 13 & left there. These are then carried by bearers of No 13 to pits for evacuation.	
	24	Evacuated A.C.C.S. 190 No 13 68 No 16 Total. There has been a strong westerly wind blowing. The weather shows signs of breaking up. Noted to Col Young, Commandant of C. Anzac the area required for C.C. Station in allotment of new ground N of Queensland Point. viz 120" x 15" & for shelter 7 areas of 56" x 8". Draw attention of D.D.M.S. members to the depleted state of A.C.C.S. as 10 personnel there being only 45 NCO men a shortage of 32 asked to be rested owing to poor health of the men several having to be off duty daily. Also asking for necessary reinforcements.	

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Angau 24

Received cable from D.M.S. to inquire into alleged incompetence of ~~the~~ acting O.C. No 13 C.C.S. & replace him if necessary. Wired for further particulars of charges.
Evacuated A.C.C.S. 218 No 13 ¹⁶⁵/₁₇₀ No 16 155 Total 543
Still blowing N. wind & threatening rain.

19

25

Weather finer, calm.
Wired to D.M.S. enquiring for 20 mannye tents & 20 bell tents to be used if possible in event of ~~evacuation~~ stress of weather preventing evacuation.

2:15

Lt Col Shankham R.A.M.C from G.H.Q. Imbros inspected Aust C.C.S. He made enquiries & notes re hospital accommodation, shelter, transport, water supply & sanitation. He instructed that the Admission & Discharge Books of all Clearing Stations & Field Ambulances which had cleared from Angau, should be sent in to G.H.Q. up to August 28th for the purpose of allowing their ~~clerk~~ clerks to write up their books. ^{The latter number inspected Nos No 13 & No 16}

I inspected the Angau Area with O.C. 21st Sanitary Section & found that many units were failing to keep their areas free from refuse. Instructed O.C. S.S. to report them to Camp Commandant. Furnished report on Angau to Camp Commandant.

Evacuated A.C.C.S. 244 No 13 441 No 16 138 Total 423 cases

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Angae

Aug 26

Lt. Col Shanahan inspected sanitary section and enquired on the A.S.C. Supply of Medical Comports. These were found to be very deficient and an urgent cable was sent to DMS, asking the state of affairs. The weather was very threatening in evening. Thunderstorm in distance. No heavy rain or wind.

20

Evacuated A.C.C.S. 208 No 13 101 No 16 88 Total 397.

27

Some rain during night strong N wind.

Cabled to DMS that 30 reinforcements are urgently required here by A.C.C.S. Present personnel 8 officers 40 others.

Called to DMS in order to advise on whether tents for C.C.S. station had left for Angae.

Received notification from G.S.O. that action would take place on 27/1 at 4 p.m. estimated casualties 500. Identified O.C. No 16 to take necessary action.

Cabled DMS asking for fresh meat supply to troops to be renewed last supplied on Aug 12. Received answer that supply was stopped at request of G.O.C.I.

28

Evacuated Aust C.C.S. ~~229~~ No 13 71 No 16 97 Total 401 Inspected No 16 C.C.S. The O.C. reported that they had dealt with over 600 casualties without any hitch, the evacuating taking place from No 2 pier. I arranged for transport by motor carts of 200 stretchers from No 13 to No 16 C.C.S.

Interviewed Col Knox re fresh meat supply. Informed the difficulty arose from shortage of labour to unload steamers from Suva. He promised to try and renew the supply reserve of fresh meat.

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Angon Aug 28

Evacuated Anstl. C.S. 215, No 13. 112, No 16. 732 Total 1059

21

29

Furnished estimate to D.M.S. of supply of medical comforts which will be necessary per week for the three C.C. Stations during the coming winter.

Received memo from D.M.S. as follows: - Would you please consult with the G.O.C. Army Corps relative to your requirements for winter campaign. When you have arranged sites, accommodation etc. for sick & wounded, you should draw up a scheme and submit it without delay through the G.O.C. Army Corps to this office. Signed W.G. Russell S.G. D.M.S.

30

Evacuated A.C.C.S 160 No 13 137 No 16 233 Total 530
Finished Day (Gen. Carruthers) with copies of my scheme of

Aug. 19: for accommodation of sick.
Lt. Col. Albridge arrived from C.H.Q. Dubno to meet the sanitary commissioners expected at Angon.

Consulted with Gen. Carruthers re scheme for accommodation.

31

Evacuated A.C.C.S 200 No 13 123 No 16 186 Total 509

Lt Col Balfour + Lt Col Buchanan arrived by Hoop Ship Matens I met them + introduced them to Gen Birdwood Gen Carruthers + Col Young (Camp Commandant). They made full enquiries into the health of the troops particularly with regard the incidence + prevention of diarrhoea + typhus. One case of the latter is reported.

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War Diary.

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Aug 22
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(cont)

to have occurred amongst the cases evacuated from here
from the 6th Battalion. On passing through our hands
feverishness was the only symptom he presented.
Spent great part of day in showing these officers round
the area.

I have been suffering from great weakness lately the result
of repeated attacks of diarrhoea. Today my symptoms
were more acute & Col Howe strongly urged me to
return to base for rest. Major Gordon examined my
heart & said that a complete rest was necessary.

I will therefore be evacuated tomorrow.

M. Gordon 11/11/18

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