

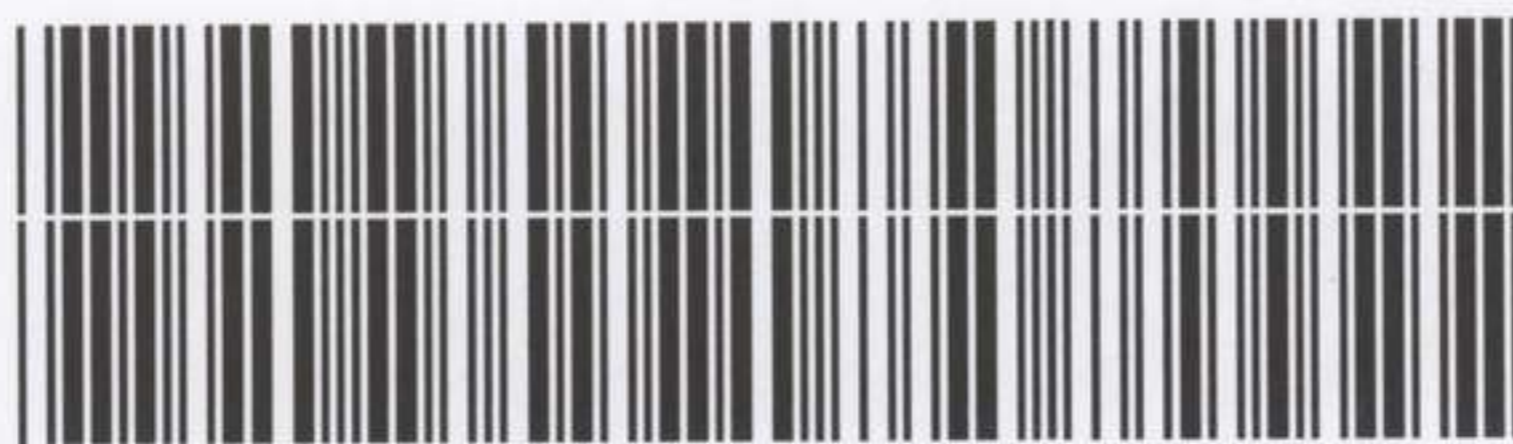
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Chaplains

Item number: 6/3/17

Title: Senior Chaplain, Presbyterian,
Headquarters AIF, London

May 1919



AWM4-6/3/17

Senior Presbyterian Chaplain's WAR DIARY

Rev W Floyd Shannon

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.

(Australian)

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Aust. HQ

London

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>May, 1919</p> <p>Chaplain Rev. F. J. Paton (9th Batt) has been working as hard as usual. He is a man possessed of indomitable energy, and never seems to rest. He has as many as ten meetings in a week and how he manages to get them worked in is a marvel. His bible class and frequent lectures are well attended and much appreciated by the men. The Batt. was expected to leave France about the end of the month.</p> <p>Chaplain Rev. R. C. Racklyeft (Base, Havre) had a busy month. He not only did his own work, but gave some time to initiating two new Methodist Chaplains who only stayed a very short time with the unit. There were considerable numbers of men passing through the Base on their way to England, and he met each quota and distributed comforts to the men. He has also held regular parade services, which were sometimes very large, and he speaks highly of the excellent arrangements made by the Com. Officer, Col. O'Donnell, and the Regimental Serjt. Majors Moore and Bath.</p> <p>On Sunday May 25, Quota 56 marched out to a park where Church Parade was conducted, and a "Fun Stunt" carried out by the YMCA representative; and the C.O. of the quota, Col. Keligan, expressed his appreciation. Voluntary Sunday evening services have been carried on, the attendance being very large, twice the large hall being crowded out. The Wednesday evening services also were wonderfully well attended. And there has been an excellent spirit among the men whose conduct has been excellent. He says the Depot has been an exceedingly happy one, and his period of service there has been more than pleasant, while the harmony of the whole staff, with Col. O'Donnell leading, has been all that could be desired.</p>	

Senior Presbyterian Chaplains
(Australian)

WAR DIARY Rev. W. F. Shannon
or
Aust. H.Q.s.
London

Army Form C. 2118.

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	May 1919		<p>Chaplain J. H. MacGowan (14th A.S.H. Egypt) has visited Port Said as frequently as possible, as well as attending to the A.S.H. He also visits daily the Smallpox military patients in the Garrison Area, and there are about 600 men (V.D. and other patients) in the Hospital at present. The Red Cross gives Cinema Shows three times a week; and Concerts are arranged frequently, and there are outings twice weekly. The Chaplain meets the men daily in a room set apart, holds lectures, and visits the men in the wards. He takes his turn on Sunday mornings at service with other padres, and has always himself a service on Sunday evenings, and also a service in the afternoon at the Govt Infections Hospital. So he is generally kept busy enough.</p> <p>Chaplain Rev. P. A. Smith (1st A.S.H. Sutton Army) reports that there are still about 350 patients at the Hospital. He conducts services regularly in the Hospital and at the No. 4 Ymca Sutton Army - at the latter place the attendance runs into about 300, but the services at the Hospital are poorly attended. He visits the wards regularly, and has 15 visits to dangerously-ill patients, + patients are given books + writing material when needed. One funeral occurred during the month. For several weeks he acted as Pay Officer at the request of the Registrar, while there was no officer for general duties attached to the Hospital. The work at the hospital is getting less, as the patients gradually decrease in numbers. Chaplain Smith goes on an Education course on 1st June, and his place will be filled by Chaplain Baird.</p>	

Senior Presbyterian Chaplain's WAR DIARY Rev. W. Floyd Shannon
 (Australian) or Aust. Head Qrs.
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>May 1919.</p> <p>Chaplain Rev. J. T. Lawton (Grays 3 Cottford) has been only part of the month at this Centre. Two parades (united) are held each Sunday, with good attendances generally. In the evening an open air Band Service is held & the attendance excellent.</p> <p>Hospitals are visited regularly, also the V. D. wards - with hopeful results, - and the "Clink" also. The Chaplain takes part in the distribution of comforts. Papers are supplied to the hospital patients. Chaplain Lawton an expert in Educational work and a certificated teacher has thrown himself into this branch of service whole heartedly and lectures three or four times per week, and conducting classes for students in different subjects.</p> <p>Chaplain Rev. G. M. Baird (2 Com. Dep. Weymouth) only arrived at this camp late in the month and has not much to report.</p> <p>Senior Chaplain Rev. W. F. Shannon (Aust. H.Q. London) in addition to the usual administrative work visited the Detention Barracks at Lewes, and Hospitals in the following Centres: - London (1), Manchester (2), Warrington, Liverpool (4), & Birkenhead. During the month Chaplains Crawford, McVittie, & Merrington sailed for Australia. and Rev. Mrs. Harvey who was with the 5th A.S. was appointed a Chaplain, and sent to duty at the 14th A.S.H.</p>	