

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

Chaplains

Item number: 6/4/1 Part 2

Title: Senior Chaplain, Other Protestant
Denominations, Headquarters AIF,
London

August 1914 - October 1917



AWM4-6/4/1PART2

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

SENIOR CHAPLAIN, O.P.D.,
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

FOR

5th August, 1914, to 31st October, 1917,
after which monthly diaries were submitted.

Signature of Officer compiling

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Signature of Officer Commanding

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SENIOR CHAPLAIN, O.P.D.,
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

"O.P.D." Chaplains'

WAR DIARY

by J. J. Miles,
SENIOR CHAPLAIN, O.P.D.,
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>INTRODUCTORY-</u>			<p>When war led to the formation of the First Division of the Australian Imperial Force, there were in the Commonwealth Military Forces a number of chaplains of the Baptist Church, several belonging to the Congregational Churches & a few representing the Churches of Christ. Under new Chaplaincy Regulations these three had been grouped for administrative purposes under the title of "O.P.D." i.e. "Other Protestant Denominations" (Main Church of England, Presbyterian or Methodist). For the A.I.F. chaplains were appointed on a percentage basis, the denominations being called upon to supply chaplains in proportion to their percentage of the population as shown by census. In this way the "O.P.D.'s" came to be represented.</p>	
<u>"O.P.D.'s"</u>			<p>The S. Army had "stood out" of the above-mentioned "Combine". (It was decided to send a Salvation Army representative with the A.I.F., and in practical work in this Force it was found advisable to include the Salvation Army Chaplains under the term "O.P.D." The arrangement has worked satisfactorily. (Later it was considered wise to add the Hebrew Chaplain to the department for statistical & record purposes, tho' it is obvious that the Senior Chaplain of the Dept cannot, & does not desire to, exercise any control over the ^{Spiritual} work of the Jewish representative.)</p>	
<u>Salvation Army.</u>			<p>While</p>	

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<p>UNOFFICIAL USE OF "O.P.D." in the U.K.</p> <p>AUSTRALIA</p> <p>3rd Military District - Broadmeadows Camp</p>	<p>1914</p> <p>August & September</p> <p>Sept 14.</p>		<p>While there is general cooperation between the five chaplaincy departments, there is naturally a much closer bond between the Presbyterian, Methodist & O.P.D. branches. They generally arrange the posting of their chaplains in conjunction so as to secure the greatest advantage & the minimum of overlapping. In the A.I.F. Depots in the United Kingdom, as a result of actual experience & close association, ^{there has evolved} an unofficial use of the term by which all the Protestants in a camp or group, other than those of the Church of England, are gathered up for chaplaincy purposes under this term. While for practical purposes this practice may be useful & profitable, it should be clearly noted that it has no official sanction. It did not originate with us nor is it used by this Department.</p> <p>The first "O.P.D." Chaplain appointed to the Australian Imperial Force was the Rev. F. J. Miles of the Baptist Church. Previous experience included service with British & Australian troops from 1885, Chaplaincy in Commonwealth Military Forces from 14/11/07, Senior Baptist Chaplaincy in Victoria for five years, 6 1/2 years service with regular army in United Kingdom, India & Ceylon. He went into Broadmeadows Camp when it was opened. No chaplains were appointed but he deemed the work so important that he did it without charge to the Government until officially appointed on Sept 14th 1914. (Commission actually dated 5/8/14.) He resigned with the unit that he had lived with.</p>	<p>posting of</p>

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Melbourne	1914 - cont Sept 25 th		<p>with from the opening of Broadmeadows Camp, the 6th Battalion (2nd Inf Bgde) He was engaged in Sports, Social + Spiritual service in the Camp. Before the 1st Division sailed he organised a farewell service in the camp for all denominations except the R.C. + C.P.E., for special communion service to follow, & for the Ministers of all the Churches in + around Melbourne from which the troops came to be present at this farewell to their members. Similar gatherings were managed by him for the Victorian Christian Endeavour Union + other kindred organisations. He compiled the necessary lists + worked with the Committee for the presentation of a wristlet watch to each of over 200 North + West Melbourne men who joined the 1st Division, the State Governor actually making the presentations at the North Melbourne Town Hall.</p>	
			<p>Wm McKenzie was appointed Chaplain - the Salvation Army's first representative with the A.I.F. He had had no previous military experience, but he thoroughly knew + understood men.</p>	
	Sept 19 th		<p>He sailed from Sydney on the "Euripides", the 1st Inf Bgde Head Quarters, 3rd + 4th Inf Battalions, the 1st Field Ambulance on board. Was the head + heart of all good work for the troops on board.</p>	
	Sept 21 st		<p>Rev F. J. Miles sailed from Melbourne on the "Hororata", the 6th + 7th Battalions being on board. Served the troops on board in varied ways + at ports en route served troops on other vessels in the convoy carrying no chaplain.</p>	
	Oct 23 rd		<p>Rev. Thompson Gordon Robertson, Congregationalist, appointed Chaplain, 2nd Light Horse Bgde.</p>	
EGYPT	Dec 3 rd		<p>Chaplain McKenzie arrives Alexandria + proceeded to Mena Camp. } after troops had settled</p>	
	Dec 5 th		<p>Chaplain McKenzie lives with the 4th Bn; Rev F. J. Miles was posted to the 2nd Brigade + continued to live with the 6th Battalion.</p>	

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MENA CAMP

1914, December; to 1915 April 4th.

Battalion.
 Chaplains Wm McKewzie + Rev J. Miles served their own units particularly + the 1st Division generally throughout the period from Dec. 30, 1914, to Easter Sunday 1915, when the Division moved off to the main for Alexandria en route to Gallipoli. They also served other Australian troops who arrived from Australia during the period, notably the 4th Infantry Brigade + first regiments of Light Horse. In addition to Church Parade Services, they each regularly conducted a Voluntary Service on Sunday nights, a number of week evening meetings + Bible classes; while Mr Miles also organised a Christian Endeavour Society for the Endeavourers in all units at Mena. Sports were arranged + a continuous round of lectures + concerts managed. Chaplain McKewzie was indispensable in his service. Mr Miles had studied Archaeology + so was able to get into touch with Dr Riseney of the Harvard University Excavation Dept + was given a special permit to conduct expeditions of officers + the Messing Staff of the A.I.F. over the excavations at joining the pyramids. The chaplains in conference drew up a roster for hospital visitation as this work developed, each chaplain taking the sections of numerous hospitals in turn. By common consent Mr Miles was asked to undertake the special work at the Dermatological Hospital. He conducted all services, etc, there, + the other chaplains stayed away, so that when men returned cured to their units they did not feel that their chaplain would look down upon them because he knew of the disease they had contracted. It was considered that this experiment was fully justified in practice. Messrs McKewzie + Miles went everywhere with their units, they accompanied them on all day marches in the desert, on long route marches, shared with them the night attacks and bivouacs + so laid the foundation of comradeship + intimate knowledge that stood them in greater stead than any other factor in later days.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>ANZAC GALLIPOLI</p>	<p>1915 April 4th April 25th to Dec^r 17th 1915.</p>	<p>days. Neither of these Chaplains took leave or was off duty during the whole currency of the main camp up till the date of leaving for the Dardanelles. During that period they served throughout the whole 1st Division, more generally, their own Brigades more particularly, except when any of the troops were away, a half of the 1st Brigade (the 2nd) were for a few days at the time of the Turkish attack on the canal at Kutara.</p> <p>On April 4th 1915, they both embarked with their units at Cairo for Alexandria en route to the Dardanelles. They arrived at Mudros Bay Lemnos & spent the hairy time with their units there until Saturday April 24th, when they sailed; arriving at Gallipoli in the early morning of April 25th. All chaplains were specially warned not to land with their ships, so they did not land there. They were engaged in tending the wounded as they were brought from the shore. Mr Miles took charge of the organisation of the improvised operating room on the "Galathea" & worked alone there for three days & two nights without a break. They subsequently landed & worked with their own units in particular, but because of the great needs & the shortage of cadres, with all troops in the Anzac Section right on till the evacuation in December, except as specifically stated below, & apart from the fact that the 2nd Inf Brigade, to which Mr Miles belongs, was sent to participate in the advance on Krithia from Cape Helles (May 8th), necessitating Mr Miles' going there for a brief period. It is not easy to place on record what the cadres did at Anzac & one is hardly handicapped because one knows one's own work so much better than it is possible to know the work of others. Yet the writer saw a great deal of the work of the others & would place on record that anything he may write here of his own work could be just as freely written of most of the others, & more emphatically of Chaplain Wm McKenzie. During the middle months of the period we worked on an average sixteen hours per day. There were periods when we could not busy during the day times bodies were collected in the roadway in Monach's fully during the day & brought down from there after 10 pm & buried in the</p>		

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ANZAC
GALLIPOLI

April 25th to Nov 17th 1915. (Continued)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>The Stranraer Gully Cemetery between 10 pm & dawn. Burials in this and the other cemeteries were frequently interrupted & burial parties were withdrawn by the chaplains until the firing of the enemy ceased. During the period May to August the work was carried on without abate. Voluntary Services on Sunday evenings & July Songs on week-evenings were carried on after dark, as the Turks did not send shells over after night had closed in. There were most successful & excellent results were realised. Chaplain Miles conducted a Holy Communion service in a gully off Stranraer Gully every Sunday morning for ten Sundays, attended by an average of 50 Communicants. To reach the "quiet" place where the service was held a small hogs back in full view of the Turkish Chessboard had to be crossed. The Turkish snipers were always busy & almost every day men were hit while crossing this spot, yet not once was a man wounded when going to this service. The front line trenches were visited every day by these padres; most of the daylight hours were spent in visiting various units; censoring & correspondence occupied a good deal of time. Together with all others at Anzac the padres who lived with their units were constantly under fire & had many remarkable escapes. Mr Miles was wounded, being struck on the head by a 5 lb piece of a 6" shell, the force being broken by its having to carve its way through the overhead camouflage of his dugout, on June 28th; but at his own request was not evacuated. In the month of July Mr McKenzie took his turn of seven days visitation of the hospitals at Lemnos. Mr Miles should have gone in June but as he was ministering to a large number of reinforcements in a camp, a New Zealand Chaplain went instead. Mr Miles spent 7 days each in turn visiting the sick & wounded there. In July when the intense heat & other bad conditions brought a plague of flies & an epidemic of diarrhoea & dysentery, Mr McKenzie suffered from the latter very badly; he was so weak that he could scarcely walk, yet he persisted in "carrying on". The present writer cannot adequately praise the fine spirit that was manifested by this chaplain & his special grit at this time. In September, when the 5th Brigade left the Peninsula for a rest at Sarpi Camp,</p>	

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April 25 to Dec 17, 1915

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p> In McKenzie went also from Lemnos he was from four weeks leave to proceed to Egypt. Apart from this one break, this chaplain had no rest or change throughout the occupation of Anzac. On August 2nd his unit was ordered to proceed to Lemnos for the week's hospital work. On the 5th the Senior Chaplain, Rev J. Mother, sent word that as there would be heavy casualties he must see his judgment as to returning at the end of the 7 days. No relief came - none could come - the wounded poured in (The "Aquitania" was converted into a temporary ambulance carrier. 3,000 wounded were placed on board) many of them with feet and hands. There was no Chaplain, so arrangements were made by wire with Orfo Head, quarters + the miles was sent on board. He travelled to Southampton stacks, reforming his unit, which was resting at Lemnos + with it returning to Anzac. Troops at Anzac were in one shift early in August only to be scarce of water. Mr Miles was asked by the Staff of the G.O.C., L of C, to undertake to collect + despatch water to Anzac. A motorboat was placed at his disposal + on Aug 5th he scoured the Bay visiting many ships of the mercantile marine. From some he procured empty petrol tins, from one he obtained 300 fantases, a working party of Artillery men and another made plugs for these, the first water for filling these receptacles was obtained from yachts + other vessels. At 5 pm the "Claxton" sailed to Anzac Cove with a load of water, as the result of the day's work. The Chaplain was heartily thanked by the G.O.C., L of C + by Genl de Labrousse, Director of works, for this piece of special service. </p> <p> The Rev. J. from Robertson, Congregationalist, arrived at Anzac on May 15th. He worked with his own unit, the 2nd L. H. Brigade, when the Rev. J. C. Mother was Senior Chaplain + subsequently when he was away ill, he did duty in addition with the 3rd Infantry Brigade. He covered a wide sweep of work never sparing himself, rendering exceptionally fine service. For a couple of months he lived with the 3rd Inf Brigade reforming his own unit on Sept 23rd. (He was evacuated to the 1st A.G.H. with P.U.S. on Oct 6th, sent to Australia for three months on Dec 4th. He wore himself out with unvaried + devoted work. The boys spoke of him as the historical preacher because he so constantly linked up past history. </p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC Gallipoli Continued	Oct Dec 1915		<p>(A people's places to which present circumstances linked our troops) It is greatly to be regretted that so fine a chaplain should have been lost to our service during those war-torn and distressing months at Gallipoli, when we were unavoidably short-handed. (App't terminated in Anshala - 3/4/16)</p> <p>Chaplain G.T. Wabbeney (Church of Christ) was appointed chaplain to this Force in March 17/3/15. He had previous experience as a chaplain with the C.M.F. from 15/9/13. Left Sydney with the 18th & 19th Battalions on the "Ceramic", 25/6/15; arrived Alexandria 2/7/15 & Gallipoli - 19/8/15. (Unfortunately his health failed) & he was evacuated on 7/9/15. While Oct 12th he was in the P.S. Hospital, Malta, when he was sent to Italy to recuperate till 11/XI/15. (He was then sent to Alexandria & spent 4 weeks in hospital work 1/XII/15)</p> <p>Rev. F. J. Miles left Gallipoli for Sargi Camp, Lemnos, with his unit on Dec 15; Mr. McKenzie following to the same place with his unit 2 days later. Both served the units coming there for the evacuation process until the close of the year.</p>	
EGYPT	Dec 14. Dec 19th		<p>(Rev. Ronald McKenzie (Baptist) was appointed chaplain to this Force, 16/X/15. He has been a chaplain with the C.M.F. from the previous January & had been a Scripture Reader in the Royal War. He reached Egypt with the 8th Infantry Brigade on Dec 11/15 & went into camp at Tel El Khar on the Canal.</p> <p>Rev. A.H. Teece (Congregationalist) was appointed Chaplain to the A.I.F. 16/X/15. He had previous experience with the C.M.F. from January of that year. He reached Egypt with his unit camp with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade (his app't was kept on Dec 19th 1915.)</p>	
EGYPT & ANZAC	Dec 9th 13th		<p>The Rev. R.J. Freedman (Jehew) was appointed Jewish Chaplain to the A.I.F. 1/X/15. Previous experience in the C.M.F. from 11/3/11. Left Anshala 2/XI/15, arrived Egypt 23/XI/15. Arrived at Gallipoli 9/XII/15 when evacuation had been decided upon. Left again on 13/XII/15, being</p>	

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EGYPT	1916		<p>being sent to Mudros, Lemnos.</p> <p>Rev. F. J. Miles left Lemnos with 2nd Inf Bde on Jan 4th, 1916, arrived Alexandria on the 6th and Tel El Kebir on the 7th. Carried on usual Chaplaincy work at this Camp till the 24th & on that date went with unit to Serapeum East for Canal defence. On Jan. 27th marched out into desert between 6 & 8 miles. While the night of March 22nd stayed out in the desert, camped on the track covered by the Turks when they attacked Kantara, serving the 5th & 6th Battalions of Infantry, the 2nd Field Company of Ausⁿ Engineers, etc; covering several camps over a breadth of front of about 8 miles & linking up with the work carried on by Chaplain Mackenzie & others at Setel Habeta on the left. All chaplaincy work for this half Brigade was continuously maintained until the departure for Alexandria en route to France on Mar 22nd; when he & the other padre of the Brigade travelled with the Bde Hqrs, & on board the transport "Linda" with the 4th Bn. (Miles was appointed Senior Chaplain, O.P.D., on Mar 1st & during that month was reported to 18th Div Hqrs & the Principal Chaplain, Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, at Ferry Port, Jemina, & after conferring concerning the appointment of Chaplains to the newly organized Division (4th & 5th), proceeded to Tel El Kebir & Cairo to arrange the transfer of Chaplains, etc. (This Senior Chaplaincy in the A.I.F. added somewhat to the miles' work as Senior Chaplain in the Brigade & Division, but not sufficiently to seriously cause his own unit's work to suffer.) During this visit to Ferry Port & Tel El Kebir ^{Chaplain} Rev. D. Mc Nicol (Baptist) was transferred from the 8th Brigade, where there were five padres to the 2nd Division & posted to the 5th Brigade attached to the 18th Battalion. He left Egypt with the Battalion for France on Mar. 18th.</p> <p>Chaplain W. M. McKenzie (S. Army) served with his own unit, the 4th Bn, at Tel El Kebir & on the Sinai Peninsula during the first three months of the year. He rendered complete and continuous chaplaincy service during this period. For his splendid services rendered on Gallipoli he was awarded the Military Cross (A.I.F. List 62, London Gazette 29608, 3/6/16) & mentioned in despatches (London Gazette, 29604, 12/7/16); his recommendations being sent in during this period in Egypt on the Canal Defence.</p>	
	Jan 4 th			
	6 th			
	24 th			
	27 th			
	to			
	Mar			
	22 nd			
	23 rd			
	Mar 1 st			
	Mar 7			
	18			
	Jan			
	Mar 23 rd			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EGYPT Cairo	1916	January March Feb. 10 th	<p>(He sailed from Alexandria for France on the "Sirena" with the 4th Div) the padre of the 2nd Div Bde (on leave 28th, 1916.)</p> <p>The Rev. D. J. Freedman, B.A. (Hebrew) was appointed Jewish Rabbi to all men of the Hebrew faith in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force on 10/2/16. As a matter of fact he Freedman had served others than members of the A.I.F. before this. During the month of Dec 1915, e.g., he was the only Jewish padre on the Island of Lemnos. He worked with our 1st Division at Sarpi, held regular services with the 2nd Division near Salamander, visited the N. 3 & 4 Division at East Madros, the hospitals on Turkey Head, & served the British Regiments & the Zion Corps, the latter being made up from young Jewish refugees from Palestine.</p> <p>The Freedman visited all our units in Egypt in turn. During this period he arranged with Major Broyles of the Ordnance Dept for the manufacture of emblems for Jewish Soldiers which were made in the form of the Shield of David. During the latter part of March the Freedman arranged Passover leaf for soldiers & hospitality was obtained for them - Jewish homes in Cairo, Port Said & Alexandria. Parcels from Australia & literature from England were distributed to Jewish troops during the month.</p> <p>It will be convenient to compile the record of the Freedman's service here up to his sailing for France. In April Passover Services were conducted for the troops various units were visited. During May various units were visited, more particularly in the Canal Zone. Hospitals were regularly visited - there were 1277 Jewish Soldiers of the A.I.F. in hospital during that month.</p>	
March to April				

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Place	Date Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EGYPT Comd	January to June	Leave for the Pentecostal Festival was arranged for men of the Jewish faith. (These Padre continued his work among all units of all M.E.F. until he sailed for France by the "Caledonia" from Alexandria on June 21 st) See Padre's Report Appendix I.	
	Jan 28	Rev. A.H. Teece, B.A., Congregationalist, was officially posted to the 2 nd L. H. Bde from reinforcements List no 20 - 28/1/16.	
	Mar 1 st	Chaplain J.P. Guthrie, Church of Christ, after a year's previous experience in the A.I.F. (in the S.A. was Chaplain 4 th class Chaplain - the A.I.F. 1/3/16) left Australia (Adelaide) - the "Afric" with the 4 th Bn + other units 9/6/16, arrived in U.K. (Southampton) 23/8/16 - (served the 3 rd Division + general + the 4 th Bn - particular)	
	Mar 1 st	Rev. G. Simson, B.A., Congregationalist, after 12 months previous experience - the A.I.F. (was appointed Chaplain 4 th class in A.I.F. 1/3/16) left Australia (Melbourne) on the "Runic" - 19/6/16, with the 38 th Bn + other units, joined the 3 rd Division + particular of the 38 th Bn in U.K.	
	Mar 7 th	Mr. B. Crault, S. Army, after previous hospital + camp work + a year's experience - the A.I.F. (was appointed Chaplain 4 th class, in the A.I.F. 7/3/16) left Melbourne on the "Wiltshire" with reinforcements 7/3/16: arrived Egypt 10/4/16 (was posted to the 5 th Pioneer Bn + 5 th Div's troops) left Alexandria - the "Canada" (arrived at Marseilles, France, 25/5/16).	
	Feb 29 th	Mr. G.T. Boarden, M.A., Church of Christ, served at Gezzeleh Palace H.Q. till 29/11/16) then at 7 th Training Bn till 15/4/16 when he was transferred to the 13 th Inf Bde + the 50 th Bn, leaving Alexandria with them on the "Ascania" 6/6/16 (reaching Marseilles, France on 12/6/16, continuing to serve the same unit)	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE	1916	March June	<p>Unit Senior Chaplain (J. Miles) served at the Canal Zone till March 22nd then proceeded to Alexandria (embarked on the "Sirena") with the other 3 Chaplains of the Inf. Bde. & the 14th Bn (disembarked at Marseilles on 30/III/16) Travelled with the 4th Bn & remained with them at Staple near Hazebrouck until the 2nd Bde arrived on April 6th & joined the 6th Bn. At Esquingham assisted in preparing the Brigade for going into the line under the new conditions, & during Holy Week conducted special "Company" services for each small unit in hand, with splendid results. Held special gatherings on Angae Day. Brigade inspected by the C in Chief on April 27th. Sir Douglas Haig, after the parade rode after the chaplain in order to congratulate him upon his work. (Moved up into Fleurbaix area (Bois de la Sabote) & went into front line at night) joined with 6th Bn on April 30th at the end of 14 days the 8th Bn relieved the 6th. The 8th Bn padre having broken down Mr Miles remained - in line for 14 days with Mal unit then the 6th returned to the line & the padre thus completed 42 days without a break in the front line besides: a record. During this time the 5th & 7th Bns occupied the headless on the right of the 6th & 8th. Those on the left were occupied by units of the 1st Division, chiefly the 8th Bn, whose padre was back running a canteen. Thus Mr Miles had 3 Bn fronts to attend to. He mostly made no hours of every day each day & went through no heavy attacks and raids by the enemy. As a consequence (Sir Haig arranged special leave & Priests for the padre on June 6th) during which period he visited a number of bereaved relatives in England. The Arch Bishop of Canterbury held a most helpful conference for Chaplains at Popperidge on May 17-19, when Messrs Dexter & Miles represented the 1st Division, A.I.F.</p>	

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SENIOR CHAPLAIN, O.P.D., AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE	1916	A.M.	<p>July to Dec (R. 3 miles) Senior Chaplain, O.P.D. A.I.F., lived with the 6th Bn, sent the 2nd Bn Brigade (in July) served in area opposite Messines (among other work carried out burials at Bards & Gledon La Plus Bonave Farm Cemetery. Had several narrow escapes during the period. In the Soullens & Vignacourt area later: reached Albert Buechfields in preparation for Pozieres on July 30th. Final preparatory services for the 2nd Bn held on Saturday, 22nd (Served in the most advanced aid post, 200 yards from Pozieres) for 3 days organised all service for wounded on top, while two M.I.D.s, Captain's mess & H.Q., dealt with cases he sent down into deep furrows dug out, buried dead - the locality. Under heavy shell fire during the whole period. Released by the 22nd Bn at 1 am, 27th. Thanked by General's truck & forward on the 28th. (After a term in the Vaden court area, returned to Pozieres (Lumber Road) on Aug 14th) opened a new cemetery in Soubert valley. (Moved back to Albert on the 21st. During these two periods Chaplain's miles was the only padre in the front line) all others being ordered to stay with reserve of officers, though several of them visited the trenches by day. (Served in the Ypres Salient from end of August through September, & on Sept 3rd crossed to England in order to visit chaplains in Camps & hospitals in the U.K.) on completion of this inspection duty (returned to France, Oct. 17th) rejoining the 2nd Bn at Eperlecques. Appointed 3rd Class Chaplain while holding the position of Senior Chaplain on Sept 2nd. The 2nd Bn moved to the Somme again via Albert & Peronnin Reims (The 6th Bn went into the line at Guedecourt on Oct 29th) returned to Bernafay Woods on Nov. 2nd. Drained without ceasing & water was up to hips & hands - the trenches during the whole period (The padre went round the trenches daily) cheering the men who of course could not see the front during the period. They behaved magnificently. Their chief conquering main condition was, - the chaplain's judgment was the greatest achievement of the war that of the movements had to be made over the top: there were either no communication</p>	

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Page 1H

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE	July 15	3:00	Communication trenches as they were so badly broken as to be unusable. The 6th P.O. marched back to the gun position, arriving there on Nov 18th. While there (Mr Miles) issued instructions to proceed to England & open an office at administrative HQ in London, on Dec 1st. This was done: Mr Miles returning to France with the Rev. J. Mackay for a brief inspection on Dec 29th. In Dec Mr Miles was mentioned in despatches for previous work. (16/XII/16). He was awarded the D.S.O. for conspicuous service, gallantry & devotion to duty - 29 - XII - 16. Copy of orders appointing Chaplain to HQ of London attached as Appendix II	
	Sept 25		Chaplain was Mackenzie S. Army, rendered consistent & unswerving service of every kind, physical, social, mental & spiritual during this half year. He ran the Pipe Band of his Battalion (the 4th), he managed the 1st Bde's Canteens: in every thing he was a tower of strength to his officers & a comfort & help to the men of his Bde. He never spared himself in any way. He was promoted to 3rd Class in A.I.F. Order 677, 25/9/16.	
	Nov 26		Rev W. H. Gussong, Bde Chapl, & Chaplain J. P. Cutthies, Church of Christ, continued to serve their units & the 3rd Division on Salisbury Plains until they crossed with their Battalions to France - 26/XI/16. (As a result of defence ruling regarding either a Methodist or Presbyterian Chaplain being with each div Bde Mr Cutthies was transferred to the 3rd Pioneers, 24/XII/16 & Mr Gussong to the 5th A.D.B.D. on 26/XII/16	
	Dec 24			
	26			

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 AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>FRANCE</u>	July-Dec	N/A	<p><u>Mr B. Orames</u>, S. Army, continued to render splendid service to 5th Div (troops) - general & especially to the 5th Pioneer Bn. He managed the Pioneer's Canteen, their P.O. funds & their sports organisations with conspicuous ability.</p>	
			<p><u>Wm. T. Waddell</u>, Church of Christ, served the 13th Bde during this period seeking to provide for the all round needs of the troops. He was so markedly successful in managing the Bde Canteen, securing the canteen to provide his men with food & comforts, that during this time he earned the sobriquet - "The Canteen King".</p>	
			<p>During July & August the health of the O.P.D. padre with the 18th Bn (referred to as <u>McNeil</u>, Baptist) began to fail. The S/Chaplain visited him regularly & finally recommended his return to Australia (at his own request). He crossed to U.K. 26/9/16, embarked on the Karoola, (16/11/16, reached Australia, 2/12/16 & was discharged). His ill health greatly and unfortunately impaired his work during this period.</p>	
	Sept 26		<p><u>Rev H. A. Pyke</u>, Baptist, was appointed vice <u>McNeil</u>. He had had a year's prev. experience - as curate of Liverpool Camp N.S.W. He was appointed 4/11/16, left Sydney on the "Murrumbidgee" with R.F.C. on 4/11/16 & arrived in France 2/12/16 & was posted to the (2nd Div troops - 4th A.I.F. Bde)</p>	Egypt
	Dec 2			

O.P.D. Chapman's

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

EGP

1916

Rev. A. H. Teece, Compt. served the 2nd A.I. H. Bde with great devotion. He displayed great courage & skill. He rescued a wounded man under heavy fire. With great gallantry (was awarded the Military Cross - 13/X/16) (He left for Australia for termination of app't, at his own request - 21/XI/16) He

Rev. J. Dempsey, Compt. was app'd to succeed him 14/XII/16. He had had 2 years experience in the A.I.F. Left Australia in the "Aeneas" with reinforcements on 20/X/16. Reached England 20/XI/16 served on Salisbury Plains & on Hospital

VOYAGE ONLY CHAPLAINS IN ENGLAND

(visitation under the direction of the S/Chaplain while awaiting transport) The following gentlemen were appointed chaplains for "Voyage only" & sent as under

app'd 4/9/16 app'd 30/9/16

Mr J. C. F. Pittman, Church of Christ, left Aus on the "Aeneas" with Rfts 30/X/16, arrived in UK 29/XI/16 & served in Camps & depots in UK, while waiting return

Rev. A. H. Austin, Compt. left Aus on the "Aeneas" with Rfts 30/X/16, and UK, 20/XI/16, & served Camps & depots, UK, & doing Hptl visiting while waiting return.

Rev. E. S. Moulton, Baptist, app'd 7/XI/16, left Aus 9/XI/16 "Benalla" with Rfts, arrived UK 9/XI/16 & served in C&D while waiting return.

Rev. B. C. Weiland, Compt. app'd 20/XI/16, sailed 29/XII/16 on "Persia". For remarks see Page 19.

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Rev. D. I. Freeman, 12th Jewish Chaplain to the A.I.F. during this period see Page 19

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jan - June	1917.		"Pursic" - page 19	
AUSTRALIA			(Rev. D. McNeil (Baptist)) app ^d terminated in Australia - 18/1/17.	
			(in A.F. Teece (Congl)) - do - 14/1/17.	
			(in A.F. Teece (Congl)) Voyage Only served units on Salisbury Plains and visited hospitals until he embarked for Australia on the "Bellona" - 17/3/17.	
U.K.			(Chaplain J.C.F. Pittman (Anglican)) Voyage Only served units in Camps + Depots until port to "Pursic" for return to Australia 10/5/17.	
			(Rev. H.S. Perkins, Congl) was appointed Chaplain 4th Class - the AIF, 20/1/17, after a year's previous service - the Congl. He left Australia on the "Milbrades" with Rpts on 24/1/17 (and UK (Plymouth) 27/3/17 + served in Camps + Depots in the U.K. (Dover))	
			(Rev. C. Walsh (Baptist), Voyage Only) was app ^d 6/2/17. Left Adelaide on the "Teagan" with Rpts on 10/2/17: arrived England (Plymouth) 21/5/17 + proceeded to Camps + Depots - UK for service while awaiting return, 23/5/17.	
			(Rev. E.S. Moulton (Baptist) Voyage Only) arrived Plymouth 9/1/17 + sent at War Comm's report + Admin. Training Report. Has app ^d for "Continuous Service (C/S 4306-51/6) but was unable to accept the app ^d (family reasons). Left for Australia on the "Karrala" 22/2/17.	
			(Rev. B.C. W. Ireland (Congl) - Voyage Only) joined the AIF 20/1/16, left Australia on the	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
U.K. Contd	Jan - June		The "Persic" with Rpts. Arr'd Plymouth 3/3/17. from leave without pay in order to serve the Colonial Missionary Society. Discharged in U.K. at own request 17/9/17. was permitted to wear Chaplain's uniform while voluntarily visiting hospitals, 14/5/18, until after the Armistice.	
			(Rev. S.S. Rowland (Rector) after 2 years C.M.F. experience, was (app'd Chaplain, 4th class, - A.I.F. 18/2/17.) Left Australia on the "Clan Macgregor" with Rpts 2/5/17.	
			(Chaplain H.A. Procter M.A. (Church of Christ) was app'd Chaplain, 4th class, - the A.I.F. - 1/5/17.) Left Melbourne on the "Sunshine" with Rpts 11/5/17.	
U.K. & EGYPT			(Rev. J. Dempsey (Congl) app'd Vice Tace, arrived - England enroute for Egypt 18/2/17 + was engaged in 14th visitation until he proceeded to Egypt on the "Arcadian" 28/3/17. Unfortunately the ship was torpedoed & his company was in the sea for 6 hours. He subsequently developed Septic Pneumonia from which he died - 13/6/17. He did excellent work + his early death was deeply regretted by all ranks.)	
			(Chaplain W. Mackenzie (St Ann's) served the 1st Bde + especially the 1st Bn during the whole of that period) + earned the good will + thanks of all ranks by his combined contribution to the physical, social + spiritual wellbeing of the troops.	
<u>FRANCE</u>			(Chaplain J. T. WALDEN, M.A. (Church of Christ) served the 1st Bde during that period) + particularly added to his reputation as the "Lancaster King". He was promoted "Third class" under A.I.F. order 677 - 17/2/17. He served to	

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Place Date Hour

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FRANCE
(Contd.)

FRANCE & UNITED KINGDOM

1917

Jan

He has covered the whole country, on foot, long hopping, etc. - his search for comforts for his troops.

Rev. W. N. Finson, B.A. (Congl.) rendered satisfactory service at the 5th A.D.B.D., Le Havre; Chaplain J. P. Cutbush (Church of Christ) continued his activities in the interests of the 3rd Pioneer Battalion - particularly the 3rd Division - general. Chaplain P. Oramus (St Ann's) served the 5th Pioneer Bn with ever increasing efficiency. Rev. H. A. Pyke (Baptist) satisfactorily served the 2nd Div. Troops, more especially the Field artillery units.

Rev. S. Freeman, B.A., Jewish Chaplain, rendered excellent service during last period. A full report of same being attached to this diary as Appendix III

Rev. J. Miles, D.D., S/Chap. O.P.D. completed his visit to all units in France, with Rev. J. Mackay, returned to London during the 3rd week in January. He settled down to the reorganisation of his department & the arrangements for hospital visitation, etc. He was invited with the D.D. by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace on Feb 2nd (all chaplains serving in France were again visited during April & May). During the latter part of June the Northern & Scottish Commands were visited. During the six months all chaplains were communicated with & advised, a regular system of reports (scheduled) was instituted. All papers arriving at or passing thro' London were reviewed personally (during the six months 7891 Australian patients were visited in 86 hospitals & their auxiliaries in all parts of the United Kingdom). Some idea of the work & travelling involved may be gathered from the fact that some large hospitals had scores of auxiliaries spread over an area of approximately 50 miles. The men

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FRANCE & U.K. (C.D.)	1917 Jan - June	Jue	<p>men were not merely visited as by a professional padre: (there were Chaplains at all hospitals - the visitor satisfied himself that these were attending to their duties) - but as by a friendly officer representing all departments of the A.F. The men's complaints were listened to - many grievances they had were redressed. The working of many depots was greatly helped - this way - the lot of the wounded made more comfortable & pleasant. It will be convenient to continue this statement of the Senior Chaplain's work up to the end of Oct/1917, when the monthly war diary was commenced, at this stage (69 hospitals with their auxiliary housing arrangements were visited called for and during this latter period of 2840 men were seen) Services were conducted - lectures & addresses given wherever possible, esp. lectures at Horsferry Road & in Camps & depots - at Bristol on each visit since was taken at Bristol & Hull. Appl. for post purposes will be served by detailing all these.</p> <p>Chaplain Mackenzie (S. Army) continued to serve the 11th Battalion during this period, however family affairs & matters within the religious organisation which he represented began to call urgently for his return home (at the end of this period a cable was received from Auss. asking for his return & nominating for his relief Mr. R. C. Henry (S. Army) who gentleman was a S. Army Secretary with the A.F. He travelled from Australia on the "Vector", leaving Melbourne, 2/11/16, served the A.F. in U.K., at Base Depots - Etaples & Le Havre & had control of S. Army Funds for erecting huts & serving outposts (He was appointed Chaplain, 4th Class, 16/9/17) (but for pay allowances the appl. date 12/10/17 - see at folio 245), subsequently relieving Mr. Mackenzie.</p> <p>Chaplain J. T. Warden, M.A. (Church of Christ) continued to serve remarkably fine service to the 13th Brigade during this period.</p> <p>Chaplain J. P. Curtis (Church of Christ) satisfactorily served the 3rd Pioneer Batty.</p> <p>Chaplain J. P. Curtis (S. Army) gave splendid service to the 5th Pioneer Batty, & Rev. W. H. Gurnsey (Congl) served the 5th A. B. D. during this period.</p>	

Rev

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FRANCE & UNITED KINGDOM (Cont'd)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	July to Oct 31/17		<p>Rev H.A. Pyke (Baptist) cont'd to serve 2nd Div. Artillery until he was hit by a shell in the Bichenbach area, was evacuated & admitted to the 3rd L.S. Hospital - 5/11/17. The Rev H.L. Perkins (Congl) was sent to 2nd Div. Troops (4th A.F.A. Bde) vice Pyke, 5/11/17.</p> <p>Rev E.C. Walsh (Baptist) <u>Voyage Only</u>, departed UK & sailed for Aus - 26/9/17.</p> <p>Rev B.C. Wieland (Congl) <u>Voyage Only</u> was discharged - UK, at his own request, 17/9/17.</p> <p>Rev S.E. Dorman (Baptist) arrived at Plymouth (see page 20) 27/7/17 & immediately went to work at Camps & depots on Salisbury Plain, where he rendered excellent service.</p> <p>Chaplain H.A. Proder, M.C. (Church of Christ) reached Plymouth (see page 20) 25/7/17 (proceeded to Verne Citadel, Portland, rendering satisfactory service till he was sent overseas to the A.D.B. 5/11/17).</p> <p>Rev F.V. Bowling, B.A. (Congl) after previous experience - Camps, was appointed Chaplain, 4th Class, - the A.F. 1/7/17, left Port Melbourne on the "Sydney" with Rfts 16/7/17, arrived England (Liverpool) 16/9/17 & was posted to Verne Citadel, Portland, 28/9/17, in order to release Proder to go overseas.</p> <p>Rev J. Robertson, (Baptist) after 4 years C.M.F. Experience (was app'd Chaplain, 4th Class, - the A.F. 1/7/17) left Melbourne - the "Themistocles" with Rfts 4/8/17, arrived England (Glasgow) 2/11/17 & was posted to Camps & depots on Salisbury Plains, 11/11/17.</p> <p>Chaplain A.E. Forbes, D.C.M. (Church of Christ) had previous experience in the S.A.F. was app'd Chaplain 4th Class, A.F. 1/8/17, left Sydney - the "Anchises" with Rfts 7/8/17, arrived Liverpool 7/11/17 (Posted to Camps & depots - UK).</p> <p>Rev R. Turney (Congl) had 5 years C.M.F. experience when he was appointed to the A.F. as</p>	

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Place

Date

Hour

Summary of Events and Information

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FRANCE & UKINGDOM
(Cont 3)

1917

(A.I.F. as Chaplain, 4th Class, vice Blaupray (deceased)) He arrived at Suez 19/1/17 (having left Melbourne - by Keppara with Lt. Rpts on 7/1/17) (transferred to the 2nd Aus. Star. & left 26/1/17)

(The Rev. D. J. Freedman, B.A., Jewish Chaplain, continued his work for all units during this period (see report attached) (He was promoted 1/3/17) (Senior Chaplain A.I.F. Order 677 (1/1/17) during this period he was the Senior Chaplain, O.P.D. conferred. It was thought advisable for the Jewish Chaplain to concentrate on work in France, the Aus. J. M. C. A. had appointed a Jewish Secretary, Mr Harold Boas, he was resident working at Camps & reports on Salisbury Plains (Mr Freedman agreeing with the Senior Chaplain. He later recommended that Mr Harold Boas be appointed 'deputy accredited representative of the Jewish Chaplain to the A.I.F. - Camps & reports - the U.K. Kingdom'. This was approved & the arrangement worked well) During this same period Mr Freedman's people were pressing him to return to Australia. The matter was delayed for some months as he was greatly needed - the A.I.F. & eventually arrangements were made for his return & a relief was called for)

The Monthly War Diary was called for at this stage - & commencing with November 1917, a monthly war diary was submitted.

[Signature]

SENIOR CHAPLAIN, O.P.D., AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.