



50 U RQ N A L
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

From : 0001 28 June 1944
To : 2400 4 July 1944
Place: England

28 June 1944.

This section is now ready to be operational, all excess files, equipment and records have been disposed of and suitable containers for all other property have been constructed. With the medical supplies, litters and blankets it will be possible to supply emergency treatment to casualties in the administrative center. Colonel Abrams visited some of the unit medical detachments.

29 June 1944.

Captain Blum of the 489th AAA Bn paid a personal call to this office. Aspects of field operations and medical department records were discussed. Colonel Abrams spent the day in the inspection of medical detachments in the tank battalions. Major Frank and Major Mericle continued with their routine duties of inspection and examination. All record and supply boxes have been appropriately marked and painted. A detachable tarpaulin for the 3/4 ton weapon carrier has been made and painted with a Geneva Cross, this will permit transformation of this vehicle into an ambulance in case of emergency.

30 June 1944.

Loading of personnel was revised by unforeseen changes in transportation facilities. This section will have only one 1/4 ton truck instead of two thereby making it necessary for the neuro-psychiatrist to ride with the Surgeon of Forward Echelon and the medical inspector to ride with another staff section of rear echelon. The Division Surgeon and Dental Surgeon with a non-com from this office acting as driver will move with forward echelon. The Office Executive and the remainder of the enlisted personnel will ride in the 3/4 ton weapon carrier. The office equipment and supplies will be packed in the trailer and the 3/4 ton weapon carrier.

1 July 1944.

Month statistical report 86c, 51 MD, Monthly Venereal and Monthly Sanitary reports were submitted by all unit surgeons. The 51 MD and monthly Venereal reports were checked and sent out by this office. Weekly Statistical Report 86ab was also received, consolidated and forwarded. All reports received were satisfactory. Major Ralph E. Mahowald departed this headquarters for the 436th Medical Battalion by order of Third Army.

2 July 1944.

Work on monthly reports was carried on. Other routine work was also carried on. Official mail received and necessary action carried out.

3 July 1944.

Monthly Statistical Report 86c and Monthly Sanitary Reports were completed and forwarded to higher headquarters. The section vehicles were marked and painted according to division directives. A final check on the files was carried thru and other details were carried on.

4 July 1944.

Major Frank and Major Mericle visited the 130th Station Hospital to view casualties arriving from the battle area. Many important ideas and much information was derived from studying and talking to these casualties. It is our belief that by these contacts we can be wary of any problems we might have missed. Routine office work was carried on, the Monthly Dental Report was consolidated and forwarded. Distribution was made on blank forms and publications that were received. Captain Sweeney was assigned to the 51st Armd Infantry Bn. Captain Eisner was transferred to Division Artillery.

For the Surgeon:

Daniel R. Kifner
DANIEL R. KIFNER
Captain, MAC
OFFICE EXECUTIVE

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4 July 1944 - Tuesday.

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For the Surgeon:

DANIEL R. KIFNER
Captain, MAC
Office Executive





JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

From : 0001 5 July 1944
To : 2400 11 July 1944
Place: England

4th Armored Division Office of Surgeon Journal, February
24-August 1, 1944

5 July 1944 - Wednesday.

The office made final preparations for movement to the Marshalling Area, unnecessary equipment was turned into supply and all supplies of forms, directives, and office supplies were cut to the minimum. All hospitals evacuating our division were contacted and every man possible was returned to duty. Major Mericle completed the remainder of examinations on neuropsychiatric cases.

6 July 1944 - Thursday.

Colonel Abrams held a final conference with the Artillery Surgeon, Combat Command Surgeons, the Commanding Officer of the Medical Battalion and his staff, and the Division Surgeon's staff. Major Frank discussed the orientation lecture to be given in the Marshalling Area. The dental and medical situations were also discussed and the system of medical department reporting was emphasized.

7 July 1944 - Friday.

The Division Surgeon, Dental Surgeon, and Neuropsychiatrist left the office for the marshalling area. These officers moved with the forward echelon as previously planned. The Medical Inspector and Office Executive with the enlisted staff will move with the rear echelon. Transportation for this part of the section and the office impedimenta consists of a 3/4 ton Weapons Carrier and a 1 ton trailer.

8 July 1944 - Saturday.

The weekly statistical report 86ab was consolidated and rendered as a final report since units of the division were in or moving to the marshalling area. Telephone communication with Third Army and XV Corps was cut off. Our medical department T/O is short one medical corps officer. We are awaiting his arrival from the 102nd Evacuation Hospital. Efforts were made to contact the 102nd, however, communication by telephone has been cut off.

9 July 1944 - Sunday.

The office was loaded into its transportation and the building it had occupied was completely policed. All office furniture was arranged in one corner, all rubbish was burned, floors were swept and the grounds also policed. Personnel were restricted to their individual quarters.

10 July 1944 - Monday.

This section left the Hardenhoush encampment at Chippenham at 0730, joined Division Trains, took its place in the march order and proceeded to the marshalling area. Our destination was Area D-4 and we arrived at 1600 hours, we were now in the vicinity of Weymouth.

11 July 1944 - Tuesday.

Major Frank delivered the orientation lecture on disease, food, and water control on the continent of Europe to all officers and enlisted men of the Administrative Center. Motion sickness preventative was issued and explained. Halazone tablets and vomitus bags were also issued. Major Frank conducted sick call for the Administrative Center.

For the Surgeon:

DANIEL R. KILNER, Capt, MAC, Off Exec

JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

From : 0001 12 July 1944
To : 2400 18 July 1944
Place: England & France.

4th Armored Division Office of Surgeon Journal, February
24-August 1, 1944

12 July 1944 - Wednesday.

No activity. This section in the Administrative Center was waiting for orders to move and load for cross channel trip.

13 July 1944 - Thursday.

This section moved with the Administrative Center to Weymouth and loaded aboard LST 16. Our vehicle was secured on the top deck. Personnel were quartered and fed.

14 July 1944 - Friday.

Approached Utah Beach, (vicinity of St. Martin, Cherbourg Peninsula), at 1700 after a very smooth crossing. We waited for the tide to go out and disembarked at 2230. We proceeded to the collecting point designated for us.

15 July 1944 - Saturday.

Our section moved with the Administrative Center to bivouac area in the vicinity of Barneville, (Normandy), France. We were joined there by the Division Surgeon, Dental Surgeon, and Neuropsychiatrist who had preceded us. The office was established and the existing situation conferred upon.

16 July 1944 - Sunday.

The day was spent in contacting our unit surgeons and disseminating information to them.

17 July 1944 - Monday.

The VIII Corps Surgeon visited our office and spoke to us for two hours orienting us on the situation and advising us on the problems that may arise. His assistant gave us the latest information on 1st Army and VIII Corps medical policies and reports. We are now assigned to the 1st Army, VIII Corps. Information has been received that our division will take up a position west of Raids, relieving the sector held by the 4th Infantry Division.

18 July 1944 - Tuesday.

The division took its place in the line committing some infantry and cavalry elements. This was to be a holding action, no tanks were engaged. Some Field Artillery units were given targets. Major Mericle, Division Psychiatrist, established an auxillary treatment station with Company C, 46th Medical Battalion, Armored. Here he will render medical treatment to lightly wounded capable of returning to duty within 48 hours and battle exhaustion cases.

An advance collecting point was established two miles from the MLR. The collecting point was under control of Lieutenant Conway. A clearing station was set up by Company B, 46th Medical Battalion, Armored four miles from the MLR.

For the Surgeon:

DANIEL R. KIFNER
Captain, MAC
Office Executive



JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

From : 0001 19 July 1944
To : 2400 25 July 1944
Place: France

19 July 1944 - Wednesday.

Combat Statistical Report 323 was received from Companies B & C, 46th Medical Battalion for 18 July 1944. The division's first casualties in combat were 2 Officers KIA, one officer wounded - 4 enlisted men KIA, and 28 enlisted men wounded. Total battle casualties reported were 35. Form 324A's were received from the unit surgeons. The Division Surgeon has spent his time at the front with the Combat Command Surgeon of CC B. He has kept up with the situation at the aid stations, clearing station, and collecting point. Major Frank has established an aid station in the Administrative Center and is acting as the surgeon for approximately 450 officers and enlisted men, this is in addition to his duties as Medical Inspector. The Surgeon's Office moved with the Administrative Center to bivouac at Cantapis, France.

20 July 1944 - Thursday.

The office was dug in for protection against possible shelling and air activity. Captain Kifner and Sergeant Hiatt went to Valognes to First U. S. Army Headquarters. Information was received on medical department reporting in the First Army. Several changes had to be made and it is difficult to get these changes to the unit surgeons engaged. The Medical Group supporting us is the 64th, code name "Millwheel." They act as transmitting agency for our medical reports. We also have been assigned ten Army ambulances and they are evacuating our casualties 23 miles to an evacuation hospital. Casualties reported today were 86 wounded, 57 evacuated to Army hospital, and 4 to duty. There were 21 exhaustion cases admitted.

21 July 1944 - Friday.

The VIII Corps Surgeon's Office was contacted by Captain Kifner. They have requested daily telephone report of lines 2 and 3 of Combat Statistical Report 323 by 0730 daily. The Message Center of the 64th Medical Group was visited and arrangements made for transmitting our reports to Army Surgeon through them. The evening's action by the enemy brought in 117 wounded and 41 exhaustion cases. Of all these admissions 2 went to duty and 134 were evacuated to Army hospital. Major Huginin has been placed with Forward Echelon Medical Detachment to act as the Surgeon's representative.

22 July 1944 - Saturday.

Colonel Abrams brought back reports from some of the units. He reported very little activity at the front. Our casualties for the day were 20 wounded and 38 exhaustions. Our clearing stations returned 12 wounded to duty and evacuated 19. 15 exhaustions were sent back to duty and 30 were sent to hospitals. It has been noted that the Red Cross must be notified as to the location of clearing stations so that comfort items will be supplied to casualties that have need of them. G-4 requests information for his report as to the number of casualties admitted, returned to duty, evacuated and remaining by 1200 each Saturday.

23 July 1944 - Sunday.

4th Armored Division Sector quiet today. We received 8 wounded and 27 exhaustions. We returned 1 wounded and 7 exhaustions to duty. 7 wounded and 20 exhaustions were transferred to hospital. The Corps Medical Inspector visited our office and talked with Major Frank on sanitation, water purification, food

inspection, etc. Two enemy aircraft came over the area but were driven off by AA fire. The NSR 86ab was forwarded to higher headquarters.

24 July 1944 - Mon. ev.

Enemy artillery caused casualties early this morning at CC B Co mand Post. Captain Allen, Dental Officer for Combat Command B was wounded. Sergeant Sturm, Records Clerk, was seriously wounded and the medical driver was killed. Captain Allen carried on with the treatment of wounded even though wounded himself. The days casualties in wounded were 17. 12 exhaustion cases were admitted. We returned to duty 3 wounded and 9 exhaustion cases, also, we transferred 13 wounded and 13 exhaustion cases to Army hospital.

25 July 1944 - Tuesday.

G-2 reports indicated a heavy artillery counter barrage was to be expected. Personnel dug in and roofed slit trenches for protection against tree bursts. Artillery fire however did not fall on our bivouac area. The sector was very quiet. We received 2 wounded and 12 exhaustion cases during the day. We returned 2 wounded and 11 exhaustion cases to duty. We transferred to hospitals 1 wounded and 9 exhaustion cases. Our exhaustions have been going to 622nd NF hospital where further disposition is made. Fortunately we have had ~~no~~ medical department personnel casualties as yet. The battalion medical detachments have been doing a marvelous job constantly exposing themselves to heavy enemy fire in order to give first aid to the wounded.

For the Surgeon:

DANIEL R. KIFNER
Captain, MAC
Office Executive





JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

From : 0001 26 July 1944
To : 2400 1 August 1944
Place: France

4th Armored Division Office of Surgeon Journal, February
24-August 1, 1944

26 July 1944 - Wednesday.

No change in the tactical situation. We are still in defensive position north of Raids. To date we have had one medical department soldier killed and three wounded. Captain Allen, Dental Corps, only officer wounded. Major Frank has made arrangement for burial of dead cattle and animals - one cow was mined resulting in some casualties to civilian labor. Major Frank also inspected water points. Today's casualties showed seven wounded and nine exhaustion cases being admitted. We returned four wounded and seven exhaustion cases to duty. We transferred to hospitals six wounded and eleven exhaustion cases. We received Lieutenants Krueger and Kornblau from the 60th Field Hospital and Captain Leventhal from the 66th Medical Group on TD from the Third Army Surgeon.

27 July 1944 - Thursday.

Combat Command B reports enemy has withdrawn to a line south of Periers. We are now in Corps reserve awaiting further orders. Our casualty list shows 3 wounded and 10 exhaustion cases admitted. We returned to duty 1 wounded man and 4 exhaustion cases. We transferred 6 wounded and 12 exhaustion cases to Army Hospitals. Major Mericle is being assisted by Company C, 46th Medical Battalion, Armored in his work with the exhaustion cases. Arrangements have been made to supply clothing to men going back to duty from the Auxillary Treatment Station. In many cases these men had lost parts of their uniform when under shellfire or when wounded.

28 July 1944 - Friday.

Our Infantry and Cavalry elements report resistance in Coutances by machine guns, mortars, and small arms fire. Roads from Periers to Coutances are heavily mined. Some casualties were received from enemy road mines in the vicinity of Coutances. Company A, 46th Medical Battalion is now supporting Combat Command B with medical service. Company B, 46th Medical Battalion is now closed and awaiting movement orders. Company C, 46th Medical Battalion is still located 1.5 miles east of Canteple on Carentan road. 7 wounded and 3 exhaustion cases admitted. We returned 16 exhaustion cases to duty and transferred 8 wounded and 13 exhaustion to hospitals.

29 July 1944 - Saturday.

The division is now pushing the enemy south of Coutances through St. Sauver Lendelin. We had 29 wounded and 27 exhaustion cases today, 18 wounded and 17 exhaustion cases were transferred to Army hospitals. The WSR 86ab has not been completed. The units are now becoming far spaced and it is difficult to get all the reports in by the required time. Our action is to go after the reports if they do not come to us. Captain Allen received the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his work under shellfire, even though wounded he carried on with his work of first aid. Captain Pohowsky, 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion Medical Detachment, was wounded by shell fragments. We also had one more aid man killed and four other aid men wounded.

30 July 1944 - Sunday.

The division is now fighting in the vicinity of Sartilly and moving rapidly along. Both Combat Commands are now in action. Company A and B, 46th Medical

Battalion are the supporting medical companies. Liaison Officer of the 46th Medical Battalion was captured by the enemy with the monthly medical reports of the units engaged. He later escaped with some of the reports intact. Our casualty report shows 40 wounded and 10 exhaustions were admitted. We returned 1 wounded man and 3 exhaustions to duty and transferred 33 wounded and 8 exhaustion cases to hospitals.

31 July 1944 - Monday.

The division is now fighting at several points. Both Combat Commands are pushing through Pontoubault and Ducey. Enemy has left Avranches and retreating south and east. Captain Kifner moved forward to contact Colonel Abrams. Situation was discussed and he was dispatched to VIII Corps to procure closer hospital support. We are evacuating wounded 93 miles causing patients to arrive in hospitals in a state of shock and bleeding. Corps has promised closer support. Replacements for the medical detachments have also been promised. Two more aid men have been wounded. This brings our casualties in the medical department to eleven. Due to heavy enemy resistance our casualty report shows 107 wounded today and 30 exhaustions. We returned to duty 4 wounded and sent 101 wounded and 26 exhaustion cases to the hospital.

1 August 1944 - Tuesday.

Today the division was reassigned to the Third U. S. Army under VIII Corps. This will necessitate informing all medical detachments of changes in reporting. A request was made to Corps and Army to move an evacuation hospital to Avranches since our present distance is over 100 miles. Replacements arrived today and Captain Kifner checked service records for eyeglasses prescriptions, immunizations, etc. The records were all in good order. We still have no medical department replacements only Corps aid men on TD. Our casualty reports today listed 59 wounded and 7 exhaustions admitted. 10 wounded and 10 exhaustions were returned to duty. We transferred 55 wounded and 3 exhaustions to hospitals. Two aid men were killed in action today, one from the 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion and one from the 66th Armored Field Artillery Battalion.

For the Surgeon:

DANIEL R. KIFNER
Captain, MAC
Office Executive

