

JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

FROM: 0001 1 March 1944.
TO : 1600 7 March 1944.
Place: England.

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

1 March 1944.

The inspection and inventory of narcotics was continued by Captain Kifner, units in the Devizes Area were inspected. Locks for the MD Chest #2 have been obtained and will be issued to each unit. Major Abrams held the weekly surgeons meeting at Trowbridge. Monthly statistical reports are in the process of consolidation.

2 March 1944.

The reports of Sick and Wounded from all units were received, checked and forwarded. The reports were all in good order and the unit medical detachments are showing the results of previous administrative training. We were visited again by the Surgeon's Section of the 5th Armored Division and turned over to them all our extra copies of directives concerning their section. Another large shipment of spectacles arrived and it is expected to have the rest of them soon.

3 March 1944.

To-day the division was given stimulating shots of Tetanus Toxoid and Triple-Typhoid Vaccine, and re-immunized with Smallpox Vaccine.

4 March 1944.

Captains McLeod, Pittinos, Silverman and Platz returned from Medical Field Service School.

Arrangements have been made to immunize those patients at 130th Station Hospital on Tuesday 7 March 1944.

Weekly statistical report was received from all unit medical detachments and consolidated, no unusual conditions were noted. The section was represented at the aircraft recognition course at Hullavington field.

5 March 1944.

Sunday - Official mail received and proper action instituted.

6 March 1944.

The remainder of the division was immunized and it is expected that the result should be a hundred per cent. Personnel in hospitals will be immunized at the hospital by hospital personnel.

7 March 1944.

The division surgeon's plan for battle casualty reporting is being discussed and the plan as used by the 3rd Armored Division has been thought too lengthy and ponderous. Division narcotic inspections have been completed except for two units, the inspection was quite satisfactory. Certain modifications to unit narcotic registers were suggested and a further check will be made.

During the seven (7) day period 1-7 March, the combat command surgeons checked training of all medical detachments. Their reports were very favorable.



M. Abrams
M. ABRAMS
Major, Med Corps
Division Surgeon

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FROM: 0001 8 March 1944.
TO : 1600 14 March 1944.
Place: England.

8 March 1944.

Routine business was the order of the day, the hospital locator file is put to good use. It is quite easy to give reports on the status of hospitalized personnel with this file. Major A brams visited the 130th Station Hospital contacting the registrar and the Chiefs of Services. He expressed his appreciation at the fine cooperation they are giving us.

9 March 1944.

The plan for the Administrative Center was discussed again in the section and a tentative division of the staff section was formulated. Later in the day we attended the meeting held by Division Trains and a few of the points in question were clarified by the AG.

10 March 1944.

Routine business was carried on.

11 March 1944.

Weekly Statistical Report 86ab was submitted and consolidated. Unit dispensaries were inspected by Captain Kifner and various recommendations were made.

12 March 1944.

Sunday - no activity.

13 March 1944.

Plans were formulated for participation in the exercises to be held in the field on Tuesday and Wednesday. It is planned to make the section function in two parts. Captain Kifner with two enlisted men was installed as a part of the Administrative Center. Captain Frank and two men are to be installed in Rear Echelon. Office Equipment was loaded at 1800 and the office CP tent was set up for familiarization. A meeting was held by Major Abrams which included the Combat Command surgeons.

14 March 1944.

The section moved as part of the AG section, it is believed that is best since we work so closely with them. The bivouac area was reached without incident and the office set up.

M. Abrams
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Major, Med Corps
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FROM: 0001 15 March 1944.
TO : 1600 21 March 1944.
Place: England.

15 March 1944.

The section returned from the field and unloaded the office equipment at 1700. Some idea of the set-up was formulated. Some knowledge of the problems that may appear was obtained. A medical evacuation problem was worked into the Combat Command B problem on 14-15 March. The principles of our S. O. P. were followed and appear sound. With the introduction of the administrative center the routing of casualty reports through Adjutant General of Combat Command was tried with a fair amount of success. We contemplate "playing" this administrative center in future problems.

16 March 1944.

Major Abrams was in the field and also visiting the 130th Station Hospital with Colonel Bigby.

17 March 1944.

130th Station Hospital has been converted into a General hospital. The new plan of evacuation is to the 160th Station Hospital in Bath. The weekly unit surgeons meeting was held today at the 46th Med Bn. A visit was paid to the Surgeon's Office of XX Corps by Captain Kifner and Sergeant Hiatt.

18 March 1944.

Routine weekly reports were prepared, consolidated and dispatched to higher headquarters. Sanitary survey was conducted by Captain Frank of Greenways, Little George Hotel and billets in Chippenham. A delay of ten days or two weeks will be occasioned in evacuation to the 160th Station Hospital due to delay of conversion of the 130th Station Hospital.

19 March 1944.

Sunday - No activity outside of perusal of official mail.

20 March 1944.

Routine business was conducted. A meeting of Combat Command Surgeons was held by the Division Surgeon. The coming problem was discussed and the medical plan set forth. The Division Surgeon's Office will not move into the field.

21 March 1944.

Arrangements are being made by Major Hugunin to set up a temporary dental clinic at Division Headquarters. Emergency treatment will be given only. Routine business was carried on. The Division Surgeon went into the field to maintain liason with unit medical detachments.

M. Abrams
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Major, Med Corps
Division Surgeon



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From : 0001 22 March 1944
To : 1600 28 March 1944
Place: England.

22 March 1944.

This section did not participate in the problem because the Administrative Center was not set up. Major Abrams went into the field and remained in contact with the situation. The problem in medical evacuation was completed successfully. Major Mericle is maintaining contact with all units and has almost completed his tour of lectures.

23 March 1944.

Major Palston of the Corps Surgeons Office visited us and is spending a day with medical installations of the division. He will stay the night with the 46th Medical Battalion. Routine business was carried out.

24 March 1944.

The Corps representative returned to our office and the various aspects of evacuation, administration, supply, and sanitation were discussed. Major Palston was satisfied with our methods. The Division Surgeon went to the 217th General Hospital at Swindon.

25 March 1944.

Weekly reports were received from the units and consolidated in this office. Message Center will be employed rather than the mail and results will be noted.

26 March 1944

Sunday--Official mail read and necessary distribution carried out.

27 March 1944.

Major Husunin has completed the setting up of his Dental Clinic for Headquarter's personnel. It is believed this will alleviate the pressure on the local units Dental Surgeons. Major Abrams went to XX Corps headquarters to confer with Col. Shelton. Captain Kifner made contact with the 298th General Hospital and checked on our personnel in the hospital.

28 March 1944.

This section moved into the field with the Administrative Center. Several of the things noted were:

1. Telephone communication was quickly established.
2. A 3/4 ton W/C is adequate for 1 Officer and 3 EM and the office equipment. To move the rest of the personnel it will be necessary to have another vehicle preferable a 3/4 ton C/R and a jeep.
3. Medical Administrative personnel in the Surgeon's section could be armed and contribute to the armed guard. This would mean an increase of five weapons in fire power, otherwise Medical Department EM should not be used for the armed guard but could carry other M.C.O. duties. The Medical Administrative Officer could also be armed and command his EM as a composite group in outpost duty or in sentry duty.

M. Abrams
M. ABRAMS,
Major, Medical Corps,
Division Surgeon.



JOURNAL
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From: 0001 29 Mar 1944.
To : 1600 4 Apr 1944.
Place: England.

29 March 1944.

This section returned from the field and set up the office. A corps request for a quota of two officers to attend CWS school and 1 to MFSS was received and filled. The Division Surgeon returned from observation of firing at an artillery range.

30 March 1944.

Routine business was the order of the day and special attention was paid to checking office files. Two more officers were asked to attend a school in Plaster Technique.

31 March 1944.

The weekly meeting of unit surgeons was held by the Division Surgeon. Colonel Rumpf, Surgeon of the XIX Corps, was a guest. Contact was made with the Administrative Staff of the 217th General Hospital and our requests and views were presented to them.

1 April 1944.

The deadline for the submission of the Report of Sick and Wounded, Monthly Venereal Report, Statistical Report 86ab and 86c was reached. All unit reports were in good order. A report of death, incurred accidentally, was received from the 24th Armored Engineer Battalion. Major Abrams attended the post mortem at the 217th General Hospital.

2 April 1944.

A telephonic request from Corps was received for a quota of three (3) officers to attend Combat Neurosis School.- One (1) enlisted man to Sanitary Technician School.

3 April 1944.

All medical department reports for the month of March were checked, consolidated and forwarded. Work was started on a new report for XX Corps Surgeon, this entailed the average Daily Admission Rate, Average Number of Days of Hospitalization of each Admission and the Admission Rate per 1000 per Annum. The results were satisfactory and indicating that the average daily admission rate was well below one-half of one per cent of the command.

4 April 1944.

Several letters were received from higher headquarters pertinent to previous reports, these letters are sent through 1st Army in error. Notation of this error has been made and action will be instituted to correct these incorrect channels. These incorrect channels are resultant in confusion and unnecessary correspondence.

M. Abrams

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