

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F.
C.2119. If this is not available, and for
Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be
prepared in manuscript.

Month and Year.....JANUARY, 1945.

Sheet 1.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. CREAIS, R.A.M.C.

Summary of Events and Information

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Shrivenham, Berks.	1	0930.	No. 66 Home Ambulance Train is stabled at Air Evacuation Railhead, Shrivenham, G.W. Ry. No. 56 H.A.T. is stabled on an adjacent siding.	Re.
	5	20.50.	Entraining of 181 patients for Worcester commenced and took 85 minutes to complete. Detail :- Officers 42, O.Rs. 160. Allied O.Rs. 9. Of these 41 had fractures. Six patients will receive Penicillin treatment on the journey. A B.R.C.S. mobile canteen unit is always present during entraining operations to provide dainty snacks, hot and cold drinks, cigarettes, chocolates and stationery for the patients. This is much appreciated by all ranks and is excellent for the morale of the troops. The Train departed from its siding at 22.59 hours.	Re.
Worcester.	6	0155.	The Train, having arrived at its destination, detraining commenced 5 minutes later and was completed in 4 ³ / ₄ hours. Nothing of incident occurred. The Train left homeward bound at 04.05 hours.	Re.
Shrivenham.	6	07.45.	The Train has returned to its Headquarters.	
Shrivenham.	7	20.50.	Entraining of 151 patients for Nottingham commenced and was completed in one hour. Detail :- Officers 6, O.Rs. 145. This includes two Nursing Officers. Three patients are due to receive injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen present to dispense refreshments. The Train left Air Vac Railhead at 22.30 hours. This is the one hundredth loaded operational journey since "D" Day performed by No. 66 H.A. Train. The following patients have been carried :- Officers Male 1104 : Female 9. : Other Ranks Male 15,407, Female 5 : Prisoners of War Officers 3 : Other Ranks 39. Grand Total 16,567. The majority were patients airborne from the B.L.A. and entrained at Shrivenham. A very creditable performance, carried out without a hitch, of which the unit with justification is proud. The Train left the siding at 22.30 hours,	Re.
Nottingham.	8	0255.	Having arrived at destination, detraining was completed without incident in 1 hour and 50 minutes. The Train left Nottingham at 05.00 hours.	

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 212

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Major E.J. CREAST, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer

Month and Year JANUARY, 1945.

Summary of Events and Information			References to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour	
Shrivenham.	8	1045.	After a long journey and much shunting the Train returned to its H.Q.
Shrivenham.	10	1500.	Telephone message from War Office (through Air Evacuation Headquarters) received concerning certain post-diphtheritic convalescents evacuated on night of 7/8 January. Nottingham EMS Laboratory reports that some of them were harbouring diphtheria bacilli. Whether these were virulent or non-virulent not stated. Matter referred to D.A.D.M., South Midland District. Daily inspection of personell's throats for ten days inaugurated. Captain L.A. GOLDING, R.A.M.C. posted to Military Psychiatric Hospital, Northfields, for training and struck off strength today.
Shrivenham.	12	1500.	Audit of P.R.I. accounts carried out by a board of three officers.
Shrivenham.	13	0930.	Flying conditions have been appalling during the past week. No patients have been airborne from the B.L.A.
Shrivenham.	14	20.45	Entraing of 148 patients for Wombourn commenced. It was completed in 65 minutes. Detail :- Officers 12, Other Ranks 122, A.T.S. 4. Allied Officers 2, Other Ranks 8, of these 41 with fractures. Three received maintenance doses of Penicillin. All in good fettle. B.R.C.S. present with mobile canteen unit. Train left its siding at 22.30 hours.
Wombourn.	15	0230.	The Train is now at its destination. Unloading of patients took one hour 45 minutes to complete. Nothing special to report. The Train departed homeward bound at 04.25 hours.
Shrivenham.	15.	0915.	The Train is back on its siding at Railhead, and is in a "Reversed Position". This has always been rectified in the past by the G.W.Railway. Recently orders have been issued to the effect that requests for H.A.Trains to be "turned round" must not be made to the Railway Authorities. This causes unnecessary vexations to the crews of the Trains. The men now have to walk 250 yards to attend a call of nature, or to wash in the ablution sheds. An urgent telephone message sent through the R.T.O's telephone will entail a minimum of 15 minutes delay. The Boiler House which passes steam through the two stationary trains has insufficient pressure.

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Month and Year.....JANUARY, 1945.

Sheet 3.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2

Unit.....No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, RAMC

Commanding Officer.....Major E.J. CHEAIS, R.A.M.C.

References to Appendices

Month and Year			Summary of Events and Information
Place	Date	Hour	
Shrivenham.	15	0915.	In consequence steam heat does not reach Coaches 6601 and 6602 which are the living quarters. Matters represented to higher authorities.
Shrivenham.	18	1400.	Violent storm with thunder, lightening, hail and heavy rain.
Shrivenham.	18	2050.	Entraing of 75 patients for Morriston commenced and was completed in 90 minutes. Loading of patients took place in a violent snow storm.
			Detail :- Officers 7, Other Ranks 66. Allied Other Ranks 2. Of these 4 patients came from the R.A.F. C.C.S. at Wroughton, one from the E.M.S. Hospital in Stratton St. Margaret (Swindon) and 70 had arrived in planes at the Casualty Air Evacuation Centre, Down ADNEY R.A.F. Station. Several of the latter had been air sick on the journey from Belgium, others had been alarmed by the bumpy flight. I was unable to see the necessity for bringing patients in aeroplanes from the B.L.A. under weather conditions such as existed today. Further, these patients are being sent on long journey to Swansea whilst the storm continues. The 1,000-bed C.C.S. (RAF) at Wroughton and the 450-bed E.M.S. Hospital near Swindon could have accomodated this small number until weather conditions were more favourable. The decision to evacuate 70 patients from a C.A.E.C., 4 from a great R.A.F. C.C.S. and 1 from a comfortable E.M.S. Hospital resulted in some 200 ambulance drivers, loaders, C.D. personnel, voluntary workers, etc. etc. being turned out in a blizzard to deal with 75 patients.
Shrivenham.	18	2235.	The Train is 35 minutes late in leaving its siding. Railway "points" were clogged with hail and snow which had to be scooped out before the "points" would lock.
Morriston.	19.	0340.	The Train has arrived at its destination, two hours late. It is snowing. Patients were detrained expeditiously in 45 minutes and the Train proceeded homeward bound at 04.40 hours.
Shrivenham.	19	0920.	The Train is back on its siding at Railhead.
Shrivenham.	22	2125.	Entraing of 161 patients for Selly Oak commenced. It was completed in 80 minutes. Detail :- Officers 11. O.Rs. 147. Allied O.Rs. 3.

/Continued Sheet 4.

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Sheet 4. (and last)
WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form 6

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train. R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. CREAIS, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year. **JANUARY, 1945.**

Intelligence prepared in manuscript. **JANUARY, 1945.**
 (Delete heading not required)

Month and Year			Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour		
Shrivenham.	22	2125.	There were 47 with fractures and six with amputated limbs. 16 need maintenance doses of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. mobile canteen present to provide refreshments for patients. The Train proceeded on its journey at 23.25 hours.	Se
Selly Oak.	23.	0330.	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining smartly completed in 75 minutes. Nothing special to report. The Train left Birmingham at 05.10 hours.	Se
Shrivenham.	23.	0930.	The Train has returned to its H.Q. En route the Train was "turned round" into its correct marshalling position.	Se
Shrivenham.	27	0930.	Very severe weather conditions have prevailed since Christmas Eve. Flying conditions have apparently been poor, and no Dakota planes have arrived with patients during the past few days.	Se
Shrivenham.	31.	0930.	A month of severe wintery weather, with few operational journeys in consequence. Health of personnel satisfactory.. Rations good and varied. Recreational amenities have improved with the opening of recreational huts at Avac Railhead. Bathing facilities failed last week, owing to freezing of water pipes.. This however, is only a temporary state of affairs.	Se Major Creais CC No 66 Home Ambulance Train

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Sheet. No. 1.

Army Form G.

WAR DIARY

Unit No. 66. Home Ambulance Train.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARYCommanding Officer Major. E.J. Creais.
R.A.M.C.

(Delete heading not required).

References to Appendices

Month and Year February, 1945.

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour		
Shrivenham.	1st.	09.30	The train is standing on a siding of the G.W. Railway at Air Evacuation Railhead.	Ac
Berks.		10.00	A staff officer from War Office (A.M.D.12) and another from A.D.H.S. AMD.8. visited the train. W.D. equipment held on charge was discussed. Notes were made concerning certain items considered to be redundant, in excess, or necessary for inclusion on A.F.G.1098.	Ac
"		15.00	D.A.D.H. South Midland District, inspected Air Evacuation Railhead.	Ac
"	4th	20.30	After a long spell of bad flying weather, 234 patients were entrained for evacuation to Epsom. Detail: Officers 13, O. Ranks 221. Approximately half of these were Canadians. Loading was completed in 2 hours. A, B.R.C.S. mobile canteen unit provided the patients with dainty snacks, hot drinks, sweets, fruit, cigarettes and stationery. Train left at 23.20 hours.	Ac
Tattenham Corner.	5th	03.10	The train has arrived at destination. Detraining of patients was accomplished in 2 1/4 hours, a slow and tedious affair. Ambulance vehicles cannot come alongside the ward coaches. Patients have to be carried, or wheeled on trolleys the whole length of the train. Unblanketed steel stretchers were handed in. Patients had to be wrapped in blankets stripped from the cots, and placed on the stretchers. This slowed up detraining and is irksome to the patients. The train left Epsom at 09.30 hours, 4 hours after the last patient was off the train.	Ac
Shrivenham Berks.		14.20	The train is back on its siding.	
"	6th	19.15	Entraining of 130 patients for Cardiff commenced and was completed in one hour. Detail: Officers, 4, O. Ranks, 123, A.T.S. 2, Allied O. Rank, one. Of these two need Penicillin treatment. B.R.C.S. canteen present to provide refreshments. The train steamed out at 21.00 hours.	Ac
Whitchurch. Glam.	7th	00.10	The train has arrived at its destination. Patients were detrained	

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Sheet No. 2.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C.

Unit No. 66. Home Ambulance Train.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. Creais.
R.A.M.C.

Month and Year.. February.. 1945.

Summary of Events and Information

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	
Whitchurch.	7th	00.10	in under the hour. Nothing special to report. The train commenced its
Glen.			homeward journey at 01.11 hours.
Shrivenham.		04.20	The train is back at Avac Railhead.
Berks.	8th	19.30	Entrainment of 78 patients for Woking commenced and was completed in 45 minutes. Detail: Officers, male, 1, female, 1, O. Ranks 75, A.T.S.1. all in good fettle. B.R.C.S. canteen present to dispense refreshments. The train left at 21.15 hours.
Woking.		23.55	The train has arrived at its destination. Detraining accomplished without a hitch in 55 minutes. Nothing special to report. Train departed homeward bound at 01.40 hours.
Shrivenham.	9th	04.35	The train is back at its headquarters.
"	10th	21.45	Entraining of 83 casualties for Leicester commenced. It was completed in 75 minutes. Detail: Officer, 1, O. Ranks 80. Allied O. Ranks, 2. Of these four patients are due to receive injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen present. Train left its siding at 23.05 hours.
Leicester.	11th	04.30	After the usual shunting and deviation of the train into three parts, detraining of patients commenced and was finished in 50 minutes. Nothing special to report. Train departed from Leicester at 05.50 hours.
Shrivenham.	11th	11.45	Train is back at Air Vac Railhead.
"	14th	21.00	Entraining of 226 patients for Birmingham commenced, and was completed in 1 hour 35 minutes. Detail: Officers male, 7, female 1, O. Ranks, 214, allied O. Ranks, 4. No less than 46 patients will receive maintenance doses of Penicillin. 60 casualties have fractures and 10 amputated limbs. B.R.C.S. canteen present to distribute refreshments. Train left at 22.55 hours.
Selly Oak.	15th.	03.35	The train has reached its destination. Detraining was accomplished smoothly in 1 1/2 hours. Nothing of note occurred during the journey. Train

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Army Form C. 2119

Unit No. 66. Home Ambulance Train.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. Creais.
R.A.M.C.

Month and Year February 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour		
Selly Oak.	15th	03.35	left for its headquarters at 05.15 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	15th	10.00	The train is back on its siding.	
"	20th	19.35	Entraining of 269 patients for Newport commenced, and was completed in 2 1/2 hours. Detail: Officers 15, O. Ranks 249, allied O. Ranks 4, P.O.W. 1. There were 51 patients with fractures, 13 with amputated limbs, 23 received penicillin treatment. B.R.C.S. canteen unit was present.	8c
			The train moved out of its siding at 22.30 hours.	
Newport Mon.	21st	00.25	The train having reached its destination, detraining of patients commenced soon afterwards, and was completed in 95 minutes. Nothing special to note occurred. The train departed for its headquarters at 02.40 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	21st	04.30	The train is back at Air Vac Railhead.	
"	22nd	04.20	Entraining of 143 patients for Worcester commenced, and it was completed in 2 hours. Detail: Officers 13, N. Officer 1, O. Ranks 126, A.T.S. 1, Allied O. Ranks 2. Of these 55 had fractures and 46 amputations. 48 needed injections of penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen provided refreshments. Train left its siding at 03.25 hours.	8c
Worcester.	22nd	06.20	The train is now at its destination. Detraining was completed in 2 hours, indaylight. Nothing of importance to note. Train left Worcester at 08.25 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	23rd	11.35	The train is back at its headquarters.	
"	24th	20.55	Entraining of 180 patients for Woking commenced. It was completed in 80 minutes. Detail: Officers 16, O.R.'s 168, A.T.S. 2, Allied O.R.'s 4. Of these, 29 casualties are receiving Penicillin injections. B.R.C.S. canteen provided snacks and hot drinks for the patients. Train moved out of siding at 22.30 hours.	8c
Woking.	25th	01.25	The train has reached its destination, detraining was accomplished in two hours. Converted char-a-banc vehicles are used here as ambulances. Whilst this may result in	

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Unit No. 66. H. Ambulance Train.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. Creais, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year February '45.

(Delete heading not required).

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour		
Woking.	25th	01.25	economy of petrol and drivers, they cannot compare with standard type of ambulance cars in comfort or convenience. The train left homeward bound at 03.40 hours.	<u>Sc</u>
Shrivenham	25th	06.55	The train is back at its headquarters.	
"	25th	22.35	The entrainment of 82 patients for Morrision commenced and was completed in 45 minutes. Detail Officers 5, O.R's 72, Polish O.R's 5. Many are grievously wounded and in pain. 30 will receive injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. Canteen present, and dispensed refreshments. Train left railhead at 23.55 hours.	<u>Sc</u>
Morrison. Mon.	26th	05.20	The train is now at its destination 1 hour and 40 minutes late. Detraining was carried out without incident in 73 minutes. Train moved out at 06.35 hours.	<u>Sc</u>
Shrivenham.	26th	10.45	The train is back on its siding.	<u>Sc</u>
"	27th	09.45	Major E.J. Creais proceeded on privilege leave, Capt. F.G. Lassalle R.A.M.C. of No. 56 H.A.T. officiates as O.C.	
"		20.30	Entraining of 161 patients for Selly Oak commenced, and was completed in 75 minutes. Detail Officers 7 O.R's 153 A.T.S. 1. of these 36 will receive maintenance doses of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen present on duty. Train left A. Vac. railhead at 22.50 hours.	<u>Sc</u>
Selly Oak.	28th	02.30	The train has reached its destination. Detraining of patients was completed in 80 minutes. Nothing of importance to report. Train commenced its homeward journey at 04.10 hours.	<u>Sc</u>
Shrivenham	28th	08.25	The train is back on its siding.	<u>Sc</u>
"	- "	21.35	Entraining of 192 patients commenced and was completed in one hour 50 minutes. The destination is Selly Oak once again. Detail Officers male 7 female 1 O.R's 179 allied O.R's 4 P.O.W. one. Many are severely wounded. 68 need injections of	

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Unit No. 66 H, Ambulance Train

Commanding Officer Major E.J. CREAIS RANC

Month and Year.....February 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

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Sheet 1.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C.

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train,
R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. CREAIS, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year..... March, 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	
In transit to Birmingham.	1	00.01	The train is now en route on an operational journey with 192 patients. All have been evacuated by Dakota aeroplanes from the B.L.A. and the majority are battle casualties.
Selly Oak.	1.	04.00	The Train has arrived at its destination. Detraining of patients was accomplished in 95 minutes. Nothing of incident occurred during the journey. The Train commenced its homeward journey at 06.00 hours.
Shrivenham, Berks.	1.	10.10.	The Train is back at its headquarters on a siding of the G.W. Railway at Air Evacuation Railhead.
Shrivenham.	2.	20.50.	Entraining of 212 patients for Epsom commenced, and was completed in 1 hour 50 minutes. Detail :- Officers 9. O.Rs. 198. Allied Officer 1. Allied O.Rs. 4. All in good fettle. 34 need maintenance doses of penicillin. A B.R.C.S. Mobile Canteen Unit was present to provide patients with snacks, hot and cold drinks, fruit, sweets, cigarettes and stationery. The Train departed on its journey at 22.55 hours.
Tattenham Corner.	3.	02.25	The Train has arrived at its destination. Detraining of patients commenced 5 minutes later and was finished in 2 hours 45 minutes. This length of time was due to the fact that single decker buses are used as Ambulance Vehicles. They are awkward to load and unload, and much time is lost in manoeuvring stretchers into and out of the interior of the vehicles. Otherwise nothing of importance occurred. The Train left Epsom at 06.50 hrs.
Shrivenham.	3.	10.10.	The Train is back at Avac Railhead.
Shrivenham.	3.	22.00.	Entraining of 164 patients for Cardiff commenced and was completed in 90 minutes. Detail :- Officers 7. O.Rs. 154. Polish O.Rs. 2. POW 1. All had been evacuated by air from the B.L.A. 56 will receive injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen present to dispense refreshments. The Train moved out of its siding at 23.40 hours.
Whitchurch, Glam.	4.	02.25.	The Train has reached its destination. Patients were detrained in 95 minutes. Nothing special to report. The train departed homeward bound at 04.10 hours.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 21

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. Creais, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year March, 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information			References to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour	
Shrivenham, Berks.	4.	07.05	The Train is back on its siding.
	4.	21.05	Entraining of 176 patients for Nottingham commenced. It was accomplished in 1 hour, 45 minutes. Detail :- Officers 14. Nursing Officers 1. O.Rs. 160. POW 1. Of these no fewer than 75 are on Penicillin treatment and will receive maintenance doses. 51 patients have fractured bones, 8 amputated limbs. The B.R.C.S. Canteen Unit was present to provide refreshments.
			Train moved out at 23.00 hours.
Nottingham.	5	03.55	The Train has reached its destination, detraining commenced five minutes later and was accomplished in 2 hours, 10 minutes. Nothing special to note. Train left on its return journey at 06.20 hours.
			The Train is back at its Headquarters.
Shrivenham.	5	11.20	Entraining of 129 patients for Leicester commenced. It was completed in 70 minutes. Detail :- Officers 8. Allied Officers 1. O.Rs. 114. ATS 3. POW 3. Of these 30 had fractures and 40 amputated limbs. 33 received injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. canteen dispensed refreshments.
	6	21.25	Train moved out at 23.40 hours.
Leicester.	7.	04.40.	The Train has arrived at its destination. Detraining commenced 5 minutes later and was finished in 100 minutes. Nothing of note occurred during the journey. The Train departed from Leicester at 07.00 hours.
			The Train is back at its Headquarters.
Shrivenham.	7.	12.45	Major E.J. CREAIS, R.A.M.C., having returned from privilege leave, resumed command of the unit from Capt. F.G. LASSALLE, R.A.M.C. of No. 56 H.A.T.
Shrivenham.	8.	18.50.	Entraining of 144 patients for Birmingham commenced and was completed in 70 minutes. Detail :- Officers 12. O.Rs. 130. Czech 1. POW 1. Of these 52 will receive Penicillin treatment. All in good shape, but tired. B.R.C.S. Canteen provided refreshments. Train moved out at 02.00 hours.
	9.	00.30.	The Train is now at its destination. Detraining was completed in 65 minutes.
Selly Oak.	9.	06.20.	The Journey was uneventful. Train departed, homeward bound, at 07.35 hours.
Shrivenham.	9.	11.50.	The Train has reached Stabling Point.

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Month and Year..... March, 1945.

Sheet 3. WAR DIARY

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 21

Unit..... No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer..... Major, E.J. CREATS, R.A.M.C.

References to Appendices

Month and Year

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour		
Shrivenham.	10	22.00	Entraining of 143 patients for Epsom commenced. It was accomplished in 75 minutes. Detail :- Officers 13. O.Rs. 128. Allied O.Rs. 2. All had been evacuated by air from the B.L.A. 38 received maintenance doses of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. Canteen present to dispense refreshments. Train moved out at midnight.	8c
Tattenham Corner.	11.	04.40	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining of patients took nearly two hours and, slow, tedious and irksome. This is quite the least efficient detraining place where patients are conveyed. After a further delay of 80 minutes, the Train left Epsom at 07.30 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	11	11.15	The Train is back at AVAO Railhead.	
Shrivenham.	12	22.00	Entraining of 189 patients for Derby commenced, and was accomplished in 85 minutes. Detail :- Officers 12. O.Rs. 176. Polish O.R. 1. Of these 40 suffering from fractures. 5 had amputated limbs. 57 need penicillin injections. Some were grievously wounded. All cheerful and in good spirits, B.R.C.S. Canteen provided snacks and drinks prior to departure.	8c
Derby.	13	04.45	The Train has reached its destination. Off-loading of patients was smartly done in 85 minutes. Nothing of importance to report. The Train departed homeward bound at 06.25 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	13	11.40	The Train is back at its Stabling Point.	
Shrivenham.	14.	21.00	The entraining of 69 patients for Whitchurch (Glam) commenced. It was completed in 30 minutes. Detail :- Officers 2. O.Rs. 60. Poles 2. POW 5. Of these, 15 are receiving penicillin treatment. The Train moved out with its small, uneconomical load at 21.55 hours.	8c
Whitchurch. (Glam).	15.	00.15	The Train has arrived at its destination. The patients were detrained in 35 minutes. Captain Crawshaw, Chairman of the Welsh Board of Health, was present during unloading operations. Nothing special to note. The Train left Whitchurch at 01.00 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	15.	03.50	The Train is back on its siding.	8c
Shrivenham.	16.	23.00	Entraining of 112 patients for Woking commenced and was completed in 1 hour.	

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Sheet 4.

Army Form C. 211

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Unit No. 66, Home Ambulance Train.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. Creais. R.A.M.C.

Month and Year... March '45.

Summary of Events and Information

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Shrivenham	16th	23.00	Detail: Officers 4, O.Ranks 97, Belgians, Czechs, Poles, Dutch and Russian 7. P.O.W. 2, A.T.S. 1. of these 13 will receive Penicillin injections. B.R.C.S. canteen present to provide ref-reshments. Train moved out at 00.15 hours.	8c
Woking.	17th	03.00	The train has reached its destination. Detraining was slow and irksome. It took two hours to unload the patients. This was due in part to the fact that char-a-banc vehicles were used as ambulances, and also to the fact that most of the steel stretchers were incorrectly blanketed. Train left Woking at 05.30 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	17th	08.15	The train is back at Air Evacuation Railhead.	
"	18th	22.00	Entraining of 82 patients from the B.L.A. commenced. They were evacuated by air to the adjacent aerodrome at Down Ampney today. Detail: Officers 5, O.Ranks 75, Allied O.R. 1, P.O.W. 1. of these 5 will receive injections of Penicillin. Entraining was completed expeditiously in 35 minutes. The train proceeded to Leicester at 23.00 hours.	8c
Leicester.	19th	04.25	The train has arrived at its destination. There followed 20 minutes of shunting and division of the train in three parts. Detraining was completed in 50 minutes. Nothing of importance to note. The train left homeward bound at 05.45 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	19th	10.50	The train is back at its headquarters.	
"	20th	22.30	Entraining of 182 patients for Morriston commenced, and was completed in 65 minutes. Detail: Officers 6, O.R's 176, Allied O.R. 1, P.O.W. 4. Penicillin will be administered to 16 patients. B.R.C.S. canteen present. The train proceeded on its journey at 00.15 hours.	8c
Morriston.	21st	04.10	The train having reached its destination, detraining commenced shortly afterwards and was completed in one hour and 50 minutes. The off-loading was done in a muddled manner, and much time was lost through shunting the train in a stupid manner. The train left Morriston at 06.10 hours.	8c
Glam.				
Shrivenham.	21st	09.50	The train is back on its siding.	
"	22nd	21.50	Entraining of 74 patients for Birmingham commenced, and was completed in	

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WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Unit... No. 66. Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.
Commanding Officer... Major... R.A.M.C.

Month and Year... March '45.

Summary of Events and Information

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Shrivenham.	22nd	21.50	one hour. Detail: Officers 5, O.R.'s 64, Allied officer 1, O.R. 4, Maintenance doses of Penicillin will be administered to 4 patients. BRCS canteen present. Train departed at 23.00 hours.	8c
Selly Oak.	23rd	03.00	The train is now at its destination, off-loading of patients was finished in 55 minutes. En route the civilian Hospital Train Officer boarded the train at Worcester, and then sorted out patients for distribution to various hospitals. This is an advantage in sorting out patients after their arrival at destination, and much time is saved. The train left Selly Oak at 04.05 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	23rd.	08.10	The train is back at Air Evacuation Railhead.	
"	24th	21.50	Entraining of 11 patients for Derby commenced and was completed in 50 minutes. Detail: Officers 11, Nursing officer, 1, O.R.'s 93, Allied O.R.'s 6, P.O.W. 2. Of these 8 will receive maintenance doses of penicillin. BRCS canteen provided refreshments. The train left at 23.00 hours.	8c
Derby.	25th	04.00.	The train has reached its destination. Detraining was completed in 55 minutes. Nothing special to report occurred. The train steamed out of Derby at 05.05 hours.	8c
Shrivenham.	25th	10.45	The train is back on its siding.	8c
"	26th	14.30	D.D.M.S. Southern Command accompanied by A.D.M.S. South Midland District visited Air Evacuation Railhead and the two H.A. Trains stationed there.	
"	26th	22.50	Colonel T.J.L. Thompson, O.B.E., of A.M.D.12, arrived at Railhead and signified his intention of being present during loading operations, and later to travel with the train to its destination.	8c
"	26th	22.55	Entraining of 199 patients for Epsom commenced. It was completed in 95 minutes. Detail: Officers 9, N.O. 1, BRCS 1, O.R.'s 181, Allied officer 1, Allied O.R. 4, P.O.W. 2. Of these 50 had fractures, 8 with amputated limbs. 28 need Penicillin several were grievously wounded. BRCS canteen present and provided refreshments for the patients. The train moved out at 05.00 hours.	8c
Tattenham Corner	27th	04.50	The train has arrived at its destination. Detraining of patients was	

Sheet 6.

Army Form C. 211

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer MAJOR E.J. OREAIS, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year MARCH, 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Tattenham Corner.	27	04.50.	completed in 105 minutes. Unlike previous off-loading operations here, the work was done much better. Several women workers were present and helped in wheeling the trollies from the ward coaches to the Ambulance vehicles. A larger number of paid C.D. workers was employed on detraining duties, than is usual at Epsom. The Train left homeward bound at 07.30 hrs. Colonel Thompson left the Train to visit No. 62 H.A. Train which is stationed at Tattenham Corner.	Re
Shrivenham.	27.	11.20.	The Train is back on its siding at Railhead.	
Shrivenham.	29.	22.45.	Entrainment of 99 patients for Nottingham commenced and was completed in 70 minutes. At an earlier hour, No. 56 H.A.T. had been loaded with patients and departed for Cardiff. It appears to me that the first train out from Railhead should have been sent on the longer journey to Nottingham and not vice versa. Detail of Patients :- Officers 10, Other Ranks 85. Allied O.Rs. 2. POW. 2. No less than 54 will receive injections of Penicillin. B.R.C.S. Canteen present to provide refreshments for casualties. Train steamed out of siding at 00.15 hours.	Re
Nottingham.	30.	04.55.	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining was carried out in 65 minutes without incident. Nothing special to report. The Train departed homeward bound at 07.00 hours.	Re
Shrivenham.	30.	12.00.	The Train is back at AVAC Railhead.	
Shrivenham.	30.	15.50.	1½ hours after reveille, the train crew entrained 192 patients for Wolverhampton. Detail, Officers 14. Other Ranks. 176. Allied O.Rs. 2. Of these, 81 battle casualties had fractures, 8 amputated limbs, and 71 were on Penicillin treatment. Loading was completed in 80 minutes. The Train left the Railhead at 17.55 hours.	Re
Wombourn.	30.	21.35.	The Train has arrived at its destination. Detraining commenced soon afterwards and was completed in 2 hours, 15 minutes. It was slow, and not done in the usual efficient manner. There were too many foremen among the voluntary workers who formed the unloading party. These played no useful part in the proceedings. The Train departed from Wombourn at 00.01 hours.	Re

WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.
Unit.....

Major E.J. CREAIS, R.A.M.C.
Commanding Officer

Month and Year..... MARCH, 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

WAR DIARY.

Unit:- 65 Home Ambulance Train, Shrivenham.
Period:- 1st to 30th April 1945.

- 7 Apr 45. Journey to Aldershot. Entrained from 22, 4, 11 Can. Gen. Hosps. & No 1 Repat. Depot, & No 1 Neuro-surgical Hosp. 22 Officers, 2 Nursing Officers, 185 O.Rs. All Canadians. Patients conveyed to Southampton for H.S. Letitia. 1 Officer Escort was carried. *J.H.P.*
- 11 Apr 45. Journey to Taplow. Entrained from 11, 18, 22 Can. Gen. Hosps. 6 Officers 253 O.Rs. All Canadians. Patients conveyed to Avonmouth for H.S. Lady Nelson. 1 Officer & 1 O.R. Escort were carried. *J.H.P.*
- 13 Apr 45. Train moved to Shrivenham to relieve 66 H.A.T. temporarily. *J.H.P.*
- 13 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Down Ampney, Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton Hosps. 15 Offs. 183 O.Rs. 2 A.T.S. O.Rs. British Army. Patients conveyed to Basingstoke for Park Pruitt. *J.H.P.*
- 15 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Down Ampney, Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton Hosps. 8 Offs. 209 O.Rs. 1 A.T.S. O.R. British Army incl. 3 Royal Navy, 1 Royal Marine, 5 New Zealand Forces, 3 Australian Forces, 3 South African Forces, 2 Palestinians, 3 Polish Forces, 1 French Forces, 3 Belgian Forces. Patients conveyed to Liverpool for Broad Green. *J.H.P.*
- 17 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton Hosps. 4 Offs. 222 O.Rs. British Army incl. 2 R.N.: 1 M.N.: 1 R.M.: 2 R.A.F.: 1 Indian Army: 12 New Zealand: 2 Canadians: 10 South African: 8 Australians: 1 Cypriot: 1 French: 1 Polish. Patients conveyed to Trentham Park for Hartshill Orthopaedic Hosp. & London Road Hosp, Stoke-on-Trent, and Royal Northern Hosp, Stafford. *J.H.P.*
- 18 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton Hosps. 10 Offs. 211 O.Rs. British Army incl. 2 R.N.: 6 Australians: 11 South Africans: 3 New Zealanders: 1 Belgian: 1 Czech: Patients conveyed to Tring for Ashridge & Stoke Mandeville Hosps. *J.H.P.*
- 19 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton & Chisleton Hosps. 3 Offs. 100 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 R.N.: 2 South Africans: 1 R.C.A.F.: 4 New Zealanders: 2 Australians: 2 Palestinians: 1 Czech. Patients conveyed to New Southgate for No 1 E.M.S. Base Hosp., Friar Barnett. *J.H.P.*
- 20 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton, 14 Offs. 183 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 R.N.: 1 M.N.: 1 R.M.: 2 Indian Army: 5 South Africans: 2 New Zealanders: 4 Australians: 2 Cypriots: 1 Palestinian. Patients conveyed to Langford Sidings for 3 Counties Emergency Hosp. Langford Bridge. *J.H.P.*
- 21 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton, Wroughton & Chisleton, 15 Offs. 230 O.Rs. British Army incl. 10 R.N.: 2 M.N.: 1 R.M.: 1 ATS: 1 Indian Army: 4 Australians: 2 New Zealanders: 10 South Africans: 1 Belgian: 1 Polish. Patients conveyed to Woking for Botley Park Emergency Hosp. *J.H.P.*
- 22 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Down Ampney, & Wroughton Hosps. 7 Offs. 202 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 R.N.: 1 R.M.: 3 Australian: 8 South African: 5 New Zealand: 1 French: 1 Polish: 1 Greek: 1 German POW. Patients conveyed to Newmarket for Newmarket E.M.S. and Addenbrookes. Hosps. *J.H.P.*
- 23 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton, Wroughton, & Chisleton, 3 Offs. 135 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 Indian Army: 4 Australians: 8 South Africans: 5 New Zealanders: 2 Cypriots: Patients conveyed to Wombourne for Burntwood, Wordsley, Royal, New Cross, Stafford E.M.S. Hosps. *J.H.P.*

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- 24 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Down Ampney & Wroughton Hosps.
13 Offs. 173 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 R.N.: 3 R.M.: 2 South African:
2 Belgian: 1 French: 3 Polish. Patients conveyed to Barnwell Junction
Nr Cambridge for Cambridge Mil. Hosp. *D.R.J.*
- 26 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton & Chisledon Hosps.
1 Off. 80 O.Rs. British Army incl. 2 R.N.: 1 R.M.: 1 Indian Army:
5 South Africans: 1 New Zealander: 1 Belgian: 2 Female (ENSA).
Patients conveyed to Worcester for Hereford and Ronkswood Hosps. *D.R.J.*
- 27 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Down Ampney, Stratton, Wroughton,
& Chisledon Hosps. 9 Offs. 260 O.Rs. British Army incl. 4 R.N.:
1 M.N.: 2 R.M.: 14 Australians: 19 South Africans: 5 New Zealanders:
7 Polish. Patients conveyed to Bradford for Bradford Royal Infirmary,
St Lukes Hosp., Westwood and Hyrolds. *D.R.J.*
- 29 Apr 45. Entrained at Shrivenham from Stratton and Chisledon Hosps.
127 O.Rs. British Army incl. 1 R.N.: 1 R.A.F.: 9 Australians: 7 South
Africans: 2 Cypriots: Patients conveyed to Nottingham for Harlow
Wood, General Hosp and City Hosp. *D.R.J.*

Shrivenham.
30 Apr 45.

D. Rees Jones
.....Lt. Col. RAMC.,
(D. Rees Jones),
O/C 65 Home Ambulance Train.

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Sheet 1.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C.

Unit. *No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.*

Commanding Officer *Major E.J. CREAGS, R.A.M.C.*

Month and Year. *April, 1945.*

Summary of Events and Information

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Shrivenham, Berks.	1.	09.30 BST.	The train is standing on a siding at Air Evacuation Railhead, Shrivenham, GWRy. On an adjacent siding is No. 56 H.A.T. The unit is engaged in evacuating sick and wounded patients of the B.L.A., who have been transported from N.W. Europe in Dakota Aeroplanes.	<i>See</i>
Shrivenham.	1	2225 BST	Entraining of 185 patients commenced, and it was completed in 2 hours. Detail :- Officers 17. O.Rs. 166. Allied O.R. 1. POW 1. Of these 57 had fractures and 13 amputated limbs. 60 received maintenance doses of penicillin. Many were severely wounded. All in good shape. A.B.R.C.S. Canteen unit was present to provide the patients with snacks, cigarettes, sweets fruit, hot and cold drinks and stationery. The Train steamed out of its siding at 0045 hours, for Leicester.	<i>See</i>
Leicester	2.	0630 BDST	The Train has arrived at its destination. Detraining of patients was completed in 110 minutes. Nothing of note occurred. The Train proceeded homeward bound at 0900 hours.	<i>See</i>
Shrivenham.	2.	1325 BDST	The Train is back at Stabling Point.	<i>See</i>
Shrivenham.	3.	2330	Entraining of 161 patients for Swansea commenced, and it was completed in 100 minutes. Detail :- Officers 16, O.Rs. 139, Allied O.Rs. 6. Of these, 72 will receive injections of penicillin. All in good fettle. BRCS Canteen present to dispense refreshments. The Train proceeded on its journey at 0125 hours.	<i>See</i>
Morriston.	4.	0505	The Train has reached its destination. Owing to the arrival of the Train at this hour, many of the voluntary workers in the detraining party had to knock off, and go away to their normal duties. A small XX squad was left to complete the job	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer Major E.J. CRENS, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year.....APRIL, 1945.

References to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			of unloading the patients. It took 2½ hours to finish the work. Nothing unusual occurred. The Train left Morriston at 0745 hrs. The Train is back at Railhead.	Re
Shrivenham.	4	1120	Entraining of 143 patients for Trentham Park commenced and was completed in 1½ hours. Detail :- Officers 12. O.Rs. 131. Indian O.R. 1. Allied O.R. 1. Penicillin will be administered to 28 patients. Several are liberated British ex POW. BRCS Unit present to provide refreshments etc. Train left Stabling Point at 0055 hours.	Re
Trentham Park.	5	0700	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining was done in a slow and leisurely manner, and it took 2 hours 40 minutes to complete. Nothing special to report. The Train proceeded homeward bound at 1000 hours.	Re
Shrivenham.	6.	1610	The Train is back at its H.Q.	
Shrivenham.	7.	2200	Entraining of 170 patients for Derby commenced. It was completed in 1½ hours. Detail :- Officers 10. O.Rs. 159. ATS 1. Of these 3 were British ex POW. 37 on penicillin treatment. Some are in bad shape. 1 patient was found to be suffering haemorrhage, and he was removed from the train and sent to an EMS Hospital near Swindon. 2 liberated British POW have gangrene of the feet following frost-bite. 2 chest wounds are in a bad condition. The Train left Railhead at 0005 hours.	Re
Derby.	8	0500	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining was accomplished in a smart and expeditious manner in 73 minutes. The patients had stood the journey well, and had slept most of the way. The Train left Derby at 0620 hours.	Re
Shrivenham.	8	1145	The Train is back at Stabling Point.	
Shrivenham	9	2235	Entraining of 221 patients for Warwick commenced and took	Re

Sheet 3.

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C.2119. If this is not available, and for
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WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C.

Unit. *No. 66 Home Ambulance Train*

Commanding Officer *Major E.T. CRENSHAM*

Month and Year.....

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Shrivenham	9	2235	115 minutes to complete. Detail :- Officers 17. O.Rs. 195. Indian O.R. 18. ATS 1. All the Indian and several of the others were liberated ex POW. They were suffering from malnutrition, 1 with frostbite (gangrene) of the toes. Many of the battle casualties from B.L.A. were in poor shape. 59 had fractures and 12 amputated limbs. 55 received penicillin injections. BRCS Canteen unit as usual was present to provide refreshments. The Train steamed out of its siding at 0105 hours.	<i>Se</i>
Warwick.	10	0335	The Train has reached its destination. Detraining was completed in 2 hours 25 minutes. Nothing unusual occurred. The Train departed from Warwick at 06.10 hours.	<i>Se</i>
Shrivenham.	10	0835	The Train is back at Avon Railhead.	
Shrivenham.	10	2230	A second train being required, 108 patients were entrained for Manchester. Detail :- Officers 2. O.Rs. 100. Allied O.R. 1. Indian O.Rs. 5. All in good fettle. 41 patients are on penicillin treatment. Each will receive 2 injections on the long journey to Manchester. BRCS Canteen present to provide snacks and hot and cold drinks etc. The Train left at 2359 hours.	<i>Se</i>
Manchester.	11	0740	The Train has arrived at its destination. Arrangements had been made to provide the patients with breakfast at 0700 hours. This was cancelled on receipt of information from the guard that the Train would arrive at its destination at 0600 hours. This proved to be erroneous. However, all patients were issued with hot tea and biscuits prior to detraining. Off-loading of patients took 55 minutes to complete. Nothing of importance occurred during the journey. The Train left homeward bound at 0845 hours.	<i>Se</i>
Shrivenham.	11	1700	The Train is back at Stabling Point.	
Shrivenham.	11	2359	Under arrangements made by the War Office and Railway Executive Board, the Train has been taken out of commission.	<i>Se</i>

Sheet 4.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2

Unit No. 66 Home Ambulance Train, R.A.M.C.

Commanding Officer Major E. J. CRENS, R.A.M.C.

Month and Year.....

Summary of Events and Information			References to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour	
Shrivenham.	12	0900	Unloading of all medical, ordnance and RASC stores and equipment of the Unit commenced. These are being removed on lorries provided by 221 Field Ambulance, to Faringdon House, Faringdon, (Berks) where they will be stored. <i>Re</i>
Shrivenham.	12.	1600.	The Train has been completely emptied, swept and left in a clean condition. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon Berks.	12.	1700.	The unit is now attached to the Faringdon Detachment of 221 Field Ambulance, O.Rs. are accommodated in a Nissen Hut in the grounds. O.C., 2 Nursing Officers, 1 W.O. and 1 Sgt. are accommodated in Faringdon House. All stores and equipment are in two Nissen Huts in the grounds. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon.	13.	1330.	R.T.O. Shrivenham reports that No. 66 Home Ambulance Train has proceeded empty to L.M.S. Ry. Workshops, Derby for overhaul and repairs. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon.	14.	0930.	The personnel of the unit are comfortably lodged in Faringdon House and grounds. They are performing routine camp duties. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon.	19.	0930.	Nothing special to report. Leave roster is being kept up to date, those behind with their leave having been sent away. Baths, rations, amenities satisfactory. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon.	23.	0930.	Routine duties are being performed. Stores and equipment have been checked. <i>Re</i>
Faringdon.	30.	0930.	Sharp cold snap occurred over the week-end, with falls of snow, frost, sleet and hail at different times. The unit has benefited as a result of the rest in the quiet surroundings of Faringdon. <i>Re</i>

J. Lewis. Major RA
O.C. No 66 Home Ambulance Train