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HEADQUARTERS

- 97th (US) General Hospital,
APO 204, U. S. Army

15 October 1944

HISTORY OF THE 97TH GENERAL HOSPITAL, 15 JULY TO 30 SEP 1944

1. The location of the 97th General Hospital remained the same since its original setting up at Holton Park, Wheatley, Oxon. Map coordinates 0425, Ordnance Survey GB 1/63000 (10 mile map). There were no important changes of personnel, size or general procedure since 15 July, the date on which the last report was rendered. On 23 September, the 97th General Hospital became a part of the 15th Hospital Center, commanded by Colonel O. H. Stanley, with headquarters at Cirencester, Glos., England.

2. The number of admissions and dispositions and patients under treatment in the hospital showed an overall rise during the period, reaching a peak on 13 August with 1,121 patients. Up to 30 September, the total number of patients treated was 5,574, 2,374 of which were battle casualties. Of the battle casualties 619 were returned to duty, 527 were sent to other hospitals, 82 were sent to rehabilitation centers, 321 to reconditioning centers, and 332 were sent to the Zone of the Interior. There were no deaths of battle casualties in the hospital from its activation until 30 September. 493 battle casualties remained in the hospital on 30 September. Statistics reveal that the average stay of a patient in the hospital was $20\frac{1}{4}$ days, and that the total patient days of military personnel, including

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white, colored and WAC up to 30 September 1944 was 113,496. 93 patients other than members of the United States Army were treated of whom 24 were British, 1 Canadian, 1 Belgian, 16 French, as well as 51 from the US Navy, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, and the American Red Cross. Deaths occurring in the hospital were low in number up to 30 September; they were 14 in number, 7 from disease and 7 from injury; of these 2 were dead on arrival; of the total, 3 were females and 11 males. Probably the busiest days of the hospital's existence during that time occurred in the 48-hour period preceeding 2 August when 599 patients were admitted and 440 disposed of, making a turnover of 1039 patients.

3. The Receiving Office in order to meet this increased turnover, devised and put into operation an ingenious system of tags for each bed, which were kept on a large board in the Receiving Office and which showed at any time exactly how many beds were empty and just where the beds were located.

4. The Medical Service during the period treated 2,300 patients, 281 of which were neuro-psychiatric cases. The Surgical Service handled 3,274 patients, performing 1,792 operations in the period.

5. REHABILITATION found that its work was greatly increased during this period, averaging about 106 patients under its care at any one time. The staff was enlarged to include 3 officers, 1 nurse, and 5 enlisted men. The activities included work in

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the arts and craft shop and in the gym, drills, hikes, road marches and lectures by officer patients and members of the staff. The principal aim of rehabilitation was physical rather than mental, its purpose being to recondition men who had been suffering injuries so that they would be able to return to duty.

6. A great many improvements were made in the Mess during the period reported upon. Improved coal bins were built of brick near each of the three mess halls. A covered outdoor corridor complete with boilers was erected outside of the Detachment Mess for the purpose of washing the mess gear, thus eliminating the necessity for washing them in the mess hall proper. An outdoor, brick incinerator was constructed. Steam tables and gasoline baking ovens were installed in the messes. On the biggest day of the period 1750 people were fed in the combined messes.

7. In compliance with War Department and Theatre directives, every effort was made to have as many recreational facilities as possible on the post for patients and members of the hospital detachment. Towards this end the work of Special Service and the spontaneous efforts of the various members of the Detachment have done a great deal. USO shows and CEMA entertainers were brought to the hospital whenever possible. Trips were organized to nearby places of historical interest. Free tickets were obtained for performances at the local theatres. From 10 to 12 motion pictures were shown per week on the wards, with

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four shows a week for the ambulatory patients and two for the hospital detachment and officers. A soft-ball league was organized within the hospital and a team was organized which played seven games against the neighboring 91st General Hospital. Day-rooms were set up and equipped with pianos, phonographs, games and subscriptions to all manner of current periodicals, as well as stocked liberally with books. An excellent jazz orchestra was organized which played for dances given by the enlisted men and officers and which had "jam sessions" for the listening pleasure of the patients in the Red Cross. When possible, patients who were able to were invited to play with the band. Ping-pong tournaments were organized among the nurses, officers, enlisted men and patients. Football and basketball teams were organized, with plans to have games amongst the various groups within the hospital as well as outside games from time to time. The officers club was the scene of informal concerts and dances weekly. Plans and preparations were made towards its improvement and refurnishing. The enlisted men's "pub" was improved and plans for its redecoration were made. An outdoor "Newsmap" was set up near Headquarters and marked with colored pins and string to enable patients and members of the detachment to follow the course of the war.

8. Public Relations, as a result of interviews with the various patients, was able to send in several hundred releases of their combat experiences. These stories later appeared in

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the home town newspapers of the men. Stories concerning certain officers, nurses and enlisted men of the hospital were also sent into their home town newspapers for publication.

9. Thus, with the winter coming on and duty hours more than full, the morale of the officers, nurses and enlisted men of the 97th General Hospital was very high, and Colonel Knox Dunlap, the commanding Officer, was able to view with pride his organization which had weathered the storm difficulties of the early days in the European Theatre of Operations and settled to the smooth running life of a well trained, efficient organization.

Prepared By:

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1st Lt, Med Adm C,
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Knox Dunlap
KNOX DUNLAP,
Colonel, MC,
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS
-97th (US) General Hospital-
APO 204, U. S. Army

3 January 1945

HISTORY OF THE 97TH GENERAL HOSPITAL, 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1945

1. The location of the 97th General Hospital remained the same since its original setting up at Holton Park, Wheatley, Oxon, (Map coordinates 0425, Ordnance Survey GB 1/63000 (10 mile map). There were no important changes of personnel, size or general procedure since 1 October 1944, the date on which the last report was rendered, although some were felt to be imminent in accordance with the adoption of the new Tables of Organization for General Hospitals. To meet such circumstances, the Commanding Officer appointed certain officers to understudy the work of the men who might be expected to leave the organization. The 97th General Hospital remained a part of the 15th Hospital Center for the period.

2. During the period the work of the Utilities Department seemed even greater and more varied than before, their tasks ranging from the setting up of additional huts and the building of a road, to the construction of a Nativity scene for the Chapel at Christmas. One of the greatest problems as the wet English winter set in for certain, was the mud that seemed to be everywhere. Ditches approximately two feet deep were dug along the sides of all the roads and filled with rock core and cinders to facilitate drainage. Approximately five hundred yards of road

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was built through the "Civilian Area" of the post in order that mud and water filled holes would not cause vehicles that must go there to track mud about the rest of the camp. Effort was made to dig drainage pits and fill holes and low places all about the camp to prevent the accumulation of mud from the unusually rainy weather. A parking lot was made near the headquarters, designed to be as nearly "mud-proof" as possible by digging deep and then filling in with rocks and cinders hauled from the Electric Company in Oxford. A building was taken down at an abandoned camp and set up here to be used for the preparation of vegetables and meats, thus leaving more room for the actual cooking in the overcrowded mess halls. Three additional huts were under construction at the end of this period, two to be used as day rooms for the Enlisted Men, the third was to be a "Broadcasting Studio" in connection with the newly acquired Public Address System. Partitions were set up in the Detachment Mess so that the Bakery might be separate from the rest of the Mess Hall; all three messes were repainted throughout. About one hundred road signs were made and put out along the roads on the way to the Hospital to facilitate the approach of ambulances evacuating from other units. The Post Exchange and the Enlisted Mens' "Pub" were repainted and redecorated to make these places more attractive, in order that as much recreation as possible might be found on the Post. As the cold weather drew on, the tents, which had been set up to enlarge the bed capacity of the hospital, were "winterized" by fitting them with composition board walls and wooden doors; after this was done it was felt by

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many patients that the tents were just as comfortable as the wards themselves. As Christmas drew on, much pleasure and spirit was afforded both the patients and the detachment by the decorations and tree lights that were made from scrap wire, and the candelabra and nativity scene made for the chapel.

3. Ever increasing as the population of the hospital grew, the work of the Mess Department reached its climax at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanksgiving was the biggest day in the Mess's history with 1828 meals served at the Thanksgiving dinner. On that day approximately 2900 pounds of turkey were consumed in the mess halls decorated for the occasion by the nurses. The Christmas dinner, with all the halls again decorated appropriately for the season, ran a close second with 1630 meals served. In making an approximate survey, it is revealed that the mess halls consumed in a week, 12 tons of canned and other non-perishable foods, and six tons of meat and perishable foods. Thus an average of 18 tons of rations were brought into the hospital each week.

4. The Public Relations department during the period added another Enlisted Man to its staff and was turning out approximately five stories a day on the casualties in the hospital and the members of the detachment. Pictures were taken and picture layouts were submitted wherever possible. On one occasion a story was sent back to the United States, concerning a casualty who was payed by a detachment member, an old friend from his home town. This story was considered of so great human interest that it was broadcast on a local network and later picked up on a national hook-up.

5. The work of the Rehabilitation Service continued without

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much change since the last period. Volunteer Officer patients were used to take the men on road marches and to lead them in outdoor activities in general. A picket fence was made to go around the flag-pole green outside of Headquarters and to set off the various buildings in that area. Approximately 250 wooden toys were made of scrap lumber in the Rehabilitation carpentry shop to be given at the Christmas party to the children of Wheatley. Through the efforts of Rehabilitation, one of the sergeants who has had considerable experience as a physical training instructor, gave calisthenics over the public address system twice each day. These exercises were designed primarily for the patients who could not leave the wards, and ranged from simple exercises for those confined to bed, to more strenuous ones for those able to be up and about. An hour of training films were shown each day as part of the program, and special combat films, procured from the Hospital Center, were shown several times each week. At the close of the period a special rehabilitation program was being organized for the Neuropsychiatric patients, for whom certain aspects of the regular program would not be appropriate.

6. Some statistics from the Registrar's Office will be of interest and help in getting a correct picture of the growth of the hospital and the types of patients treated during the period. The greatest number of patients in the hospital was on 1 January 1945 on which date there were 1255 patients in the hospital, the greatest number since the hospital was activated. November 3, 1944 saw the greatest number of admissions, 328. The total number of patients treated during the period was 2150, bringing the number

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treated since the start of the hospital to 7554; of these 3711 were battle casualties. The number returned to duty during the period was 1121, since the start, 2172. And the number sent to the Zone of the Interior for the period was 642, since the start, 1066. The average stay of a patient in the hospital was 22.4 days; 16.8 for disease, 29.5 for injury, and 30.5 for battle casualties. During the period there were only five deaths in the hospital, bringing the number from the start up to nineteen. Only three cases of Venereal Disease were reported from the hospital detachment for the period. The surgical service reported 1314 admissions for the period, with 650 operations performed, 34 of them were major and 616 of them minor operations.

7. In speaking of the work of Special Services, a broad field embracing the efforts of the Red Cross and the spontaneous achievements of many members of the command will be considered. Two installations in the hospital made possible a whole range of activities that began during this period: The construction of the Post Theater and the setting up of the Public Address System. The rear end of one of the wards which was not intended to hold patients was fitted with a complete stage procured from Special Services Supply. This stage, though small, was complete with curtains and all the various necessary lights. The Utilities department enlarged it and arrangements were made so that there would be dressing rooms for the visiting entertainers. In this theater two moving picture shows were given daily from Sunday through Wednesday, and movies were shown on the wards themselves at the rate of 12 to 18 a week. At least one "live show" was given at the theater each week, the shows ranging from plays, such as "Three Men On A Horse"

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with Sam Levine, to the various USO and ARC entertainment groups. Magicians, puppets and glee clubs also were included in the presentations. The entertainers toured the various wards as well for the amusement of the bed patients. The Post Theater was also used every other week for Detachment Dances. At these affairs, local girls were invited by the men and music was supplied by the unit orchestra equipped with instruments procured from Special Service sources. On occasion flowers and favors for the guests were purchased and distributed. The dances were climaxed when on 30 December, Sam Donahue and his 18-piece United States Navy Dance Band played for the evening's entertainment. On alternate weeks, when there was no Detachment Dance, beer parties with free beer for all were held at the "Pub". At the end of the period a crystal microphone was being installed in the Theater so that the various presentations might be carried through the Public Address system to the wards for the benefit of the bed patients.

The Public Address system, procured by the Red Cross, consisted of a unit containing a radio, a record player and a microphone, with speaker outlets on all the wards. During the day this was used to bring radio music and attractions to all the wards and for the purpose of making special announcements of interest to all personnel. The record player was used both in guessing contests arranged by the Red Cross, and in a Music Appreciation program. Perhaps the most unique purpose for which the Public Address system was used was in the presentation of Radio Plays by a group of Officers, Nurses and Enlisted Men calling themselves "The Hospital Playhouse".

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These, starting as an experiment, met with such instant success that they were repeated on an average of one every other week. At the close of the period it was planned that more plays would be done, for in the beginning they had to be written, directed and produced entirely by this group. For these productions sound effect equipment was improvised, and later certain sound effect records were purchased. Several times the players went to nearby hospitals equipped with similar Public Address systems to put on the plays.

Beginning several weeks before Christmas a choir was formed to sing Christmas carols and hymns under the direction of Lt Mason. On Christmas Eve this group sang at a candle light service in the Chapel, and then made rounds of the wards. It also repeated the service held in the Chapel over the Public Address system so that the patients on the wards might hear the music. Trips were made to nearby hospitals as well to give the program there.

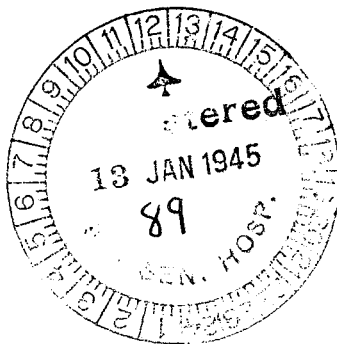
During the football season a football team was organized which played against several Station and General Hospitals in the United Kingdom. Six games were played, four won and two lost, with transportation supplied for the enthusiastic rooters that followed the team. A basketball team was organized to play against outside groups and eight intra-mural teams comprised of the personnel from different departments were organized, playing an average of two games a week. Through the cooperation of the British Council, trips to Parliament and to nearby places of historical interest were organized. Arrangements were also made for those on leave to attend short courses at famous Universities, such as Oxford,

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Cambridge, Belfast and Edinburgh. The regular Special Service functions such as the maintenance and equipment of day rooms, handling of subscriptions to the various periodicals, and the distribution of Book Council books, were of course carried on. A contest was held at Christmas time to determine which ward had the most original and artistic decorations. This met with great enthusiasm and some of the wards were truly startling in the magnificence of their Christmas splendor, even going so far as to improvise stained glass windows. It was believed that the enthusiasm and interest shown by all personnel in instigating and carrying out these various recreational and entertainment efforts was exceptional. The Commanding Officer gave great encouragement to all these activities and by his great interest did much to foster their increase. He expressed pleasure in the results obtained and said that they were in full accordance with the Theater Commander's wish that as much diversion as possible be afforded on the Post itself.

In considering the operation of the Hospital as a whole during the past quarter, the Commanding Officer expressed pleasure at the ever increasing interest and enthusiasm shown by groups and individuals in making the hospital an even more efficient and smoothly running institution.

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 1st Lt, Med Adm C,
 Unit Historian.



Knox Dunlap
 KNOX DUNLAP,
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HEADQUARTERS
- 97th (US) General Hospital -
APO 204, U. S. Army

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20 May 1945

HISTORY OF THE 97TH GENERAL HOSPITAL, 1 January TO 8 May 1945

The 97th General Hospital, furnishing fourth echelon medical service for all troops in the European Theater of Operations is located at Holton Park, Wheatley, Oxon, England. (Map coordinates 0425, Ordnance Survey GB 1/63000 (10 mile map).

Although the size of the installation and bed capacity remained the same, T/O 8-550 dated 3 July 1944 reduced our enlisted strength from 492 to 450. There were 49 changes in our enlisted personnel, including the appointment to 2nd Lieutenant, Medical Administrative Corps, of three key non-commissioned officers. Fourteen professional Officer changes were made including the loss of the Executive Officer, Chief of Dental Service, Chief of Laboratory Service, Chief of Urology and the Assistant Chief of Surgical Service.

During the period of reorganization, the patient census reached it's highest peak, 1331 patients. Instead of the normally expected decline of efficiency, the unit reached it's highest degree of efficiency. Numerous letters, from former patients, expressing appreciation for the professional service and personal consideration rendered were evident testimony of our success.

On 31 December 1944, 1024 patients remained in the hospital.

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97th (US) General Hospital

Between 1 January and 8 May 1945, 3038 patients were admitted to the hospital. The admissions included 3027 U.S. Army personnel, the remainder were personnel of the American Red Cross, U.S. Navy, U.S. Merchant Marine, Canadian Army, British Army and British Merchant Marine.

Casualties were received via Hospital Trains, plane, and ambulances. The majority of the train evacuations, which necessitated the presence of all personnel, arrived between 2400 hours and 0800 hours.

Of the new admissions, 1538 or 54.11% were hospitalized for disease; 1114 or 36.8% were battle casualties; and 275 or 9.09% were injuries. The average number of patient days for disease was 27.9 days, for battle casualties 35, and for injuries 33.4 days.

During the period covered by this report, 3257 patients were discharged, of this number, 1578 were returned to duty, 292 were transferred to other hospitals and 1387 were returned to the Zone of Interior. Although six patients were classified as seriously ill, no deaths occurred during this period.

The Surgical Service under the supervision of Sherwood R. Russell, Lt. Col., M.C., Chief of Surgical Service, performed 54 major operations, 845 minor procedures and 124 diagnostic procedures. X-Ray Department expended 7877 films. Consultations by the various sections of the Surgical Service were as follows: EENT-560, Orthopedics 275, G.U.-104, Proctology 58, and General Surgery-80.

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Under the direction of Linn F. Cooper, Lt.Col., M.C., Chief of Medical Service, the service had an unusually large patient load, due to Trench Foot and Recovered Allied Military Personnel.

Approximately 520 patients were admitted with Trench Foot. A Trench Foot Section under William H. Browning, Capt., M.C., was unusually successful in their treatment. Eighty-six percent of these cases were returned to duty, 14% were returned to the Zone of Interior.

A total of 325 RAMPs were treated by the Medical Service. Revaccination, stimulating doses of tetanus and typhus toxoid as well as anti-typhoid inoculations were administered in each case. Prior to discharge, all RAMPs had complete "63" examinations.

Additional consultations within the Medical Service were:
General Medicine-293, VD-111, NP-1054, and Dermatology-256.

The Laboratory pulled its' share of the load by making 19,793 tests. Breakdown was as follows: Bacteriology-2474, Serology-1196, Chemistry-1910, Urinalysis-4674, Hematology-9494, and Tissues 45.

Five Dental Officers, one under strength, examined and treated every patient admitted to the hospital in addition to their out patient work. Five thousand, eight hundred and fifteen appointments were kept which included: Artificial dentures-140, fillings-2319, missing teeth replaced by prostheses-703, oral prophylaxis-579, intra-oral x-ray exposures-925.

Except for a few critical items the Medical Supply needs of all wards and departments were successfully handled.

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Mass admissions and evacuations placed an extra burden on the Medical Supply Department for the property exchange of litters, blankets, pyjamas, and towels.

Unit Supply handled all laundry, dry cleaning, and shoe repair for all assigned personnel. All patients were issued individual clothing and equipment prior to discharge. Exchanges, fittings, and partial issues necessitated 6244 separate issues to patients.

Two hard working Chaplains with an appropriately appointed Chapel met the spiritual needs of patients and assigned personnel. Daily Catholic Mass was held as well as the usual Holy Day and Sunday Services. Protestant religious services were held each Sunday and a weekday Bible study group met through most of this period. Jewish Holy days were observed and arrangements made for the people of this faith to attend such services in Oxford. Daily calls were made upon all wards and ward tents. Countless personal interviews were had with patients of all faiths.

Lacking the equipment generally associated with an installation of this size, the Mess Department was largely responsible for the high morale of patients and assigned personnel. The arrival of the RAMPs, suffering from malnutrition, greatly increased the number of special diets. With all the difficulties of equipment, all patients and personnel were served three well balanced, hot and tasty meals daily.

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Under the Special Service Officer, William Grossman, Major, M.C., a well rounded sports and recreation program was always in effect. Basketball and baseball teams from the organization participated in the 15th Hospital Center Leagues. Eight basketball teams played in an intra-organizational league while six softball teams are engaged in an intra-organizational league. Volleyball, golf, and tennis have been enjoyed on an individual basis.

Sports played a large part in the reconditioning of Rehabilitation patients. Volleyball and softball being the most popular.

Although improvised, the Post Theater was well equipped. Movies provided the greatest amount of entertainment for the largest number. Two showings, four times each week were presented in the theater, while bed patients viewed an average of 16 complete showings on the wards. In addition to the movies, ARC and USO presented "in person" shows every ten days. Bi-weekly dances were held for the enlisted men with music furnished by the unit band. On alternate weeks beer parties were held in the pleasantly decorated enlisted men's pub. Two well equipped day rooms were also available to men of the Detachment.

Weekly dances highlighted the Officer's Club activities and limited civilian facilities made the club the center of attraction and recreation for all officer personnel. The facilities and services of the Officer's Club were made available to all Officer patients on a temporary basis.

Sightseeing tours to points of interest in this locality were arranged through the cooperation of Special Service and the Transportation Officer.

Five permanently assigned Red Cross personnel generously assisted by fourteen British Volunteers offered a varied social and recreational program for ambulatory and bed patients. A ward visiting library, craft shop, and game room were also equipped and staffed by the Red Cross.

Convenience and comfort merchandise amounting to \$32,500. was sold in the unit Post Exchange.

With the decrease in the patient load, all assigned personnel were encouraged to avail themselves of passes, leaves and furloughs.

VE Day found the personnel with the sense of satisfaction for a job well done, pride of organization, high morale, and confidence in future missions.



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REPORT
OF
OPERATIONS

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NINETY-SEVENTH
GENERAL HOSPITAL

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APO 757, United States Army

*

25 June 1946

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By 13 NARA Date 9-8

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FOREWORD

In this report it is intended to show the activities of the 97th General Hospital between the months of April in 1945 and January in 1946:

- (1) To describe the scene of activities it left in England;
- (2) To relate its transition to Frankfurt, Germany;
- (3) To delineate the steps with which it assumed the burden of a new installation;
- (4) And, to observe its final program of administration and care for the patients and assigned personnel . . .

OPERATION IN ENGLAND

Introduction

Activated on 25 June 1943 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, under the command of Colonel Knox Dunlap, the 97th General Hospital completed its basic training at that camp and remained there until it left for the European Theater of Operations in March of 1944.

April found the unit in England, and on the 21st day of that month it began operations at Holton Park, Wheatley, Oxon, England (map coordinates 0425, Ordnance Survey GB 1/63000 (10-mile map)). Here the peak in the patient census was 1,331 patients.

Services

Casualties were received by hospital trains, hospital planes, and ambulances. The majority of the train evacuations occurred between 2400 hours and 0800 hours and required the presence of all personnel.

Of the admissions, 54.11% were hospitalized for disease, 36.8% were battle casualties, and 9.0% were injuries. The average number of patient days for disease was 27.9 days, for battle casualties 35 days, and for injuries 33.4 days.

The Medical Service had an unusually heavy patient load, due mainly to Trenchfoot and Recovered Allied Military Personnel. The Trenchfoot Section was very successful in its treatment. Eighty-six percent of the cases were returned to duty, and 14% were returned to the Zone of Interior. RAMPs were cared for by re-vaccination, stimulating doses of tetanus and typhus toxoid, as well as anti-typhoid inoculations, which were administered to each patient.

Five Dental Officers examined and treated every patient admitted to the hospital, in addition to their out-patient work. No separate statistics are available for the month of May for any of the other Services of the hospital.

Supply

Mass admissions and evacuations placed an extra burden on the Medical Supply Department for the property exchange of litters, blankets, pajamas, and towels.

Mess

Lacking the equipment generally associated with an installation of this size, the Mess Department was largely responsible for the high morale of patients and assigned personnel. The Recovered Allied Military Personnel suffering from malnutrition greatly increased the number of special diets. With all the difficulties of equipment, all patients and personnel were served three well-balanced, hot, and tasty meals daily.

OPERATION IN ENGLAND (Contd)

Chaplains

Two hard-working Chaplains with an appropriately appointed chapel met the spiritual needs of patients and assigned personnel.

Daily Catholic Mass was held, as well as the usual Holy Day and Sunday Services.

Protestant religious services were held each Sunday, and a weekday Bible Study Group met through most of this period.

Jewish Holy Days were observed, and arrangements were made for people of this faith to attend such services in Oxford.

Daily calls were made upon all wards and ward tents. Countless personal interviews were held with patients of all faiths.

Special Services

Sports played a large part in the reconditioning of rehabilitation patients. Volleyball and softball were the most popular. Eight basketball teams played in an intra-organizational league, and six softball teams were engaged in an intra-organizational league.

Although it had been improvised, the Post Theater was well-equipped. Movies provided the greatest amount of entertainment for the largest number of people. Two showings four times each week were presented in the theater, and bed patients viewed an average of 16 complete showings on the wards.

The American Red Cross and United Service Organizations presented "in person" shows every ten days. Bi-weekly dances were held for the enlisted men with music furnished by the unit band. On alternate weeks beer parties were held in the well-decorated enlisted men's pub. Two well-equipped day rooms were also available to men of the detachment.

Weekly dances highlighted the Officers' Club activity, and limited civilian facilities made the club the center of attraction and recreation for all officer personnel. The services of the Officers' Club were made available to all officer patients on a temporary basis.

Sightseeing tours to points of interest in the locality of the hospital were arranged through cooperation of Special Services and the Motor Pool.

Red Cross

Five permanently assigned Red Cross personnel, generously assisted by fourteen British volunteers, offered a varied social and recreational program for ambulatory and bed patients. A ward visiting library, a craft shop, and a game room were also equipped and staffed by the Red Cross.

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When the hospital closed officially on 18 May 1945, it found the personnel filled with the sense of satisfaction for a job well done, with pride of organization, high morale, and confidence in future missions.

The remaining days of June were spent in packing and in the preparation for the expected move of the hospital. At 0515 on 30 June 1945, the personnel of the hospital boarded a train at Wheatley, England, for a destination unknown.

OPERATION IN GERMANY

Transition

At the half-year mark in 1945 the 97th General Hospital was at Le Havre, France, where it landed upon completion of its trip from England. The unit remained here throughout the month of July, leaving Le Havre during the latter part of the month to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany.

Orientation

On 1 August 1945, the unit assumed operations of the new installation in Frankfurt from the 180th General Hospital, and it remained there throughout the rest of that year. The installation which was handed over to the 97th General Hospital was a former German Luftwaffe Hospital, and it was quite adequately equipped. Many problems had to be met and solved which were the result of the presence of German equipment, a strange locale, and fairly extensive bomb damage; but through the diligent and untiring work of all of the hospital personnel, the problems were met and gradually overcome.

Along with the new medical installation, a large number of nearby apartment houses were taken over; and these were eventually made a part of the installation as billets for assigned personnel. Considerable work was required on these billets to make them habitable because of extensive bomb damage.

All available hospital space was utilized or was in the process of conversion for hospitalization. Fourteen additional nissen-type treatments were added to provide additional ward space for convalescent patients, and a women's ward and obstetrical clinic were planned.

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MEDICAL SERVICE

A rapid turnover of beds occurred at first because of the 15-days policy. Admissions were high but evacuating by air to rear echelons occurred daily.¹ Rapid redeployment caused high admission rate of cases normally cared for by local dispensaries, field and evacuation hospitals. When the 120-days policy was instituted on 22 August 1945, additional beds had to be set up in the halls as the daily air evacuation stopped then. This situation was relieved by diminishing admission rates and the transferring of convalescents to the 317th Station Hospital and the 16th Field Hospital in Weisbaden, Germany. In November and December, evacuation, every four or five weeks only, by hospital train to hospital ships in Bremen, increased the occupancy of beds.

Redeployment caused a constant change in staff and usual problems. Specialists became conspicuous by their absence. Battle casualties were not a problem since all acute cases had been evacuated before our arrival after V-E Day.

Trenchfoot, old, with persistent symptoms were seen in the first few months. The majority of these cases were returned to duty. Old chest wounds with persistent chest pains were seen and evacuated to the Zone of the Interior.

The largest section was General Medicine. Fifty percent of admissions were due to Gastro-Intestinal Disease. One third of the beds were occupied by cases of Hepatitis. There was no epidemic, but the constant flow of new cases replaced the discharged. Total Hepatitis cases were 225. No deaths occurred. The average duration of hospitalization was six weeks. No causative agent was found. Treatment consisted of bed rest, low fat, high protein, high carbohydrate diet, and intra-muscular Thiamin Chloride, 100 mgms daily, until convalescent.

A large number of Duodenal Ulcers were diagnosed and transferred to the Zone of the Interior. Two Gastric Ulcers required gastric resection, one because of persistent hemorrhage; the other because of suspected carcinoma. Both cases were in young individuals.

There were many cases of Acute Gastro-Enteritis for which no cause was found. No special treatment was required. Many officers were discharged with diagnosis of functional disturbances of the Colon. Four cases of Amoebic Dysentery responded to Diodoquin Therapy. Bacillary Dysentery was conspicuously absent.

1

From 31 July 1945 to 1 January 1946

Total admissions to Medical Service: 3,200.

Discharge to duty: 2,665.

Transfers to the Zone of the Interior: 535.

Number of patients in Out-Patient Department: 51,885.

Number of treatments in Out-Patient Department: 57,255.

Number of consultations made in hospital by Medical Service: 1,001.

MEDICAL SERVICE (Contd)

Twelve cases of Acute Rheumatic Fever were treated successfully with large doses of salicylates. All responded successfully, including two cases complicated by acute pericardial effusion. One of the cases of pericardial effusion had been receiving daily paracentesis at another hospital.

Six cases of Acute Nephritis were diagnosed, following upper respiratory infections due to Beta Hemolytic Streptococcus. All responded to usual symptomatic therapy.

The second largest section was Dermatology -- Venereal Disease. Six to ten cases of Penile Ulcers with darkfields positive for Treponema Pallida were admitted daily after the 7th Army VD Center closed on 1 December 1945. Several extra-genital chancres were seen.

All cases of Syphilis, primary and secondary, were treated with intensive therapy consisting of Penicillin, 50,000 units intra-muscularly every three hours, to total 4,000,000 units, and Mapharsen 0.06 gms intravenously, daily to total 0.48 gms. Total cases: 147.

Gonorrhea cases were admitted for treatment only when complications or relapse developed. Total cases: 223.

Chancroids were prevalent in greater ratio than in England. Sulfonamides produced satisfactory results. Lymphopathia Venereum cases were infrequent.

Diphtheria was the major contagion problem. Seventy cases were treated with Penicillin, parenterally, and serum in adequate dosage. Fifteen cases of Myocarditis and five cases of Peripheral Neuritis occurred as complications. One death occurred due to Myocarditis.

An active skin clinic of fifty patients, three times a week, kept the service busy. Scabies, particularly over-treated and mis-diagnosed, was the most common skin disease. Epidermatophytosis was the second most common disease seen. Acute reactions to Penicillin were not a rare cause for admission.

The Neuropsychiatric Service was not large because of lack of patients. The psychotics were transferred to 317th Station Hospital in Weisbaden because of poor facilities for security patients at this installation. The psychiatrist averaged about 100 consultations per month in the hospital and about 10 per month for outside court-martials.

In October and November, special clinics were established for annual examination of 450 Regular Army Officers.

Clinics were held three afternoons weekly. General Medicine had an average attendance of 20 patients daily. The Dermatology Clinic had an average attendance of 50 patients daily. The Neuropsychiatric Clinic saw patients only by appointment. An Allergy Clinic, one afternoon per week, was started by Major Hoffman on 26 December 1945. One Medical Officer was designated as receiving officer and maintained an Out-Patient Clinic as a full-time job.

MEDICAL SERVICE (Contd)

Unusual Cases

Five cases of cutaneous diphtheria were treated successfully with Diphtheria Antitoxin, without complications.

One case of Kala Agar failed to respond to Antimony. Autopsy was performed.

One case of Guillain-Barre Syndrome failed to survive inspite of the use of respirator and tube feeding. Autopsy revealed multiple pulmonary abscesses.

Several Methyl Alcohol poisoning cases and one acute Ethyl Alcohol poisoning case died.

One case of chronic Splenic Hemolytic Anemia was treated and sent to the Zone of the Interior. He had had acute attacks for the previous 16 years and had seen one year of combat duty in the Field Artillery. He still has his spleen.

One case of Hanot's Hypertrophic cirrhosis of the liver was sent to the Zone of the Interior.

Four cases of Dextro-Cardio were admitted in the period of one month.

Four cases of congenital bundle branch block were sent to the Zone of the Interior.

One case of Polycystic Kidneys was admitted because of an attack resembling angina pectoris.

Diagnosis of Acute Haemorrhagic Pancreatitis was substantiated at autopsy.

One case of Atrophic Cirrhosis of the liver was admitted.

One case of Carbon Tetra-chloride poisoning survived and returned to full military duty.

The Dermatologist was impressed by the fact that Penicillin reactions occurred frequently in individuals with skin sensitized by chronic epidermatophytosis and cautioned against the use of Penicillin in such cases. Reactions consisted of chills, fever, arthralgia, and skin lesions, varying from erythema to urticaria, angioneurotic edema, and exfoliative lesions.

New Treatments

1. Diphtheria carriers were treated with Penicillin Nose Drops, and spray with solution containing 500 units of Penicillin to one cubic centimeter of normal saline. One hundred percent failure occurred in two cases.

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MEDICAL SERVICE (Contd)

2. Benzyl Benzoate emulsion and ointment were tried in treatment of Scabies. The Dermatological Consultant found the treatment unsuccessful and too irritating to the skin.

3. Penicillin intra-spinally and intra-muscularly was successful in one case of Meningitis due to Pneumococcus Type I and Type III as complication of fractured skull involving frontal sinuses.

4. Thiamin Chloride 100 mgms intra-muscular, daily, was successful in controlling vomiting, weakness, and anorexia in cases of Hepatitis, acute infectious. It is believed that several cases could have resulted in death if this treatment had not been given.

5. One case of poisoning due to ingestion of 200 cc of Carbon Tetrachloride survived with use of intravenous flucose 10%, in distilled water, and daily intra-muscular injection of 100 mgms of Thiamin Chloride.

Pharmacy

A well-equipped, organized and functioning Pharmacy was inherited from the 180th General Hospital.² Serious problems have been scarce. German pharmaceuticals were suspected of being an excellent source of possible sabotage. They were turned over to local German Hospitals. All drugs and filled prescriptions were recalled from wards and replaced by new issue. Trained manpower shortage due to redeployment was solved adequately by hiring German civilians and United States civilian Pharmacists Assistants. Excessive demand for compounding prescriptions for outlying units was solved at first by sending ingredients and instructions for compounding. Later this was attended to by Pharmacy maintained at Weinheim Medical Depot. Some of these units had come 200 miles. A large distillation plant has been adequate for the hospital and utilities need for distilled water.

2 The amount of prescriptions per month:

Average:	Miscellaneous -----	1,700
	Narcotic -----	300
	Hypnotic -----	200
	TOTAL	2,200

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SURGICAL SERVICE

The Surgical Service of the 97th General Hospital assumed responsibility for the treatment of surgical patients left by the 180th General Hospital when that unit moved from Frankfurt, Germany, on 1 August 1945. There was a hospital census of 626 on that date, a majority of which were surgical patients.³ By separating surgical cases from medical cases and establishing designated areas of the hospital for each of the surgical specialties, it was possible to increase the efficiency of treatment and disposition of surgical problems.

Due to the frequent change of personnel on the Surgical Service as well as in other departments of the hospital, there was a constant problem of maintaining qualified specialists in the various sections. Redeployment of medical officers and skilled surgical technicians of the enlisted grades required frequent re-adjustment of assignments. Training of replacements was accomplished in many instances by having the newly-arrived enlisted men get on-the-job training with the enlisted men who were about to be redeployed. This made it possible to maintain a high degree of efficiency and prevented possible decrease in the quality of service rendered by technicians. For short periods of time, due to redeployment, there would be no qualified specialist to cover such departments as Ophthalmology and Neurosurgery, but by the cooperation of other sections, partly-trained specialists satisfactorily maintained these departments and performed the necessary technical services in an exemplary manner.

³ For a 4-month period, the following average daily admission rates to the Surgical Service are noted:

Sep 1945	-----	30
Oct 1945	-----	27
Nov 1945	-----	25
Dec 1945	-----	20

During this same period, the following average daily census on the Surgical Service are noted:

Sep 1945	-----	450
Oct 1945	-----	430
Nov 1945	-----	420
Dec 1945	-----	395

The following table indicates the type and amount of Surgical operations done during the periods stated:

<u>1945</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Elective</u>	<u>Emergency</u>
Aug	69	269	295	43
Sep	88	222	245	56
Oct	91	308	316	83
Nov	76	188	212	52

SURGICAL SERVICE (Contd)

The establishment of a "Shock Ward" for the treatment of serious injuries and the care of patients following major surgical operations proved to be a very satisfactory and efficient method of handling these cases. Responsibility of a single officer who was put in charge of the "Shock Ward" simplified the problems of shock treatment and made possible an efficient management of special post-operative treatments. By special installation of suitable valves and piping, the Utilities Department of the hospital supplies the "Shock Ward" with an outlet for continuous suction and an outlet for oxygen for inhalation at the head of each bed. A suction pump with a negative pressure tank and a large tank of oxygen were housed in a cabinet placed outside of the ward. These were connected through the wall by pipes leading to the individual outlets at the head of each bed. The free use of suction by this apparatus applied to double lumen metal drain used in the treatment of peritonitis proved to be a most efficient method of aspirating pus from the peritoneal cavity and probably was the most important single factor in saving the lives of all peritonitis cases that have been treated in this manner here. Oxygen supplied by the apparatus has been used almost daily in the efficient management of head-trauma and other cases requiring oxygen inhalations.

For the purpose of improving clinical records and aiding the study of surgical diseases, a photographic laboratory was established in December, 1945. A technician corporal of the US Army working with an employed German civilian physician have given excellent service and produce clinical photographs of high quality. The laboratory is equipped with material for the developing, printing, and the enlarging of films. Pictures of surgical defects before and after operation have proven valuable, especially in cases requiring plastic surgery. A print of such photographs are made a part of the patient's clinical record.

The following sections of Surgery are now in operation:

- (a) General Surgery.
- (b) Orthopedic Surgery and Physical Therapy.
- (c) Urology.
- (d) Plastic Surgery.
- (e) Ophthalmology.
- (f) Otorhinolaryngology.
- (g) Gynecology and Obstetrics.
- (h) Operating Section, Anesthesia Department, and Central Supply.

The section of Gynecology and Obstetrics was established in November, 1945, for the purpose of treating US and Allied female personnel. All surgical diseases in women have been admitted to this section. Arrangements have been made for obstetrical care of military dependents but at this time there are very few applying for this service. In anticipation of the arrival of the families of US military personnel in this region, provision has been made for prenatal and postnatal clinic care and the proper handling of infants and children.

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SURGICAL SERVICE (Contd)

The section of Plastic Surgery was established in December 1945 when a qualified specialist in this field was assigned to the hospital. Chief consideration of this section has been the surgical treatment of burns. Three large tubs in the Physical Therapy Department have proven valuable in the treatment of burns and the patients suffering from extensive 2nd degree and 3rd degree burns have been grateful for the relief they obtain by bathing daily in these warm tubs of water.

The Orthopedic Section has had a consistently high patient census, and numerous long-bone fractures are managed by traction devices on the ward until the fractures are sufficiently united to permit application of plaster casts and transfer of the patients to the Zone of the Interior.

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On 29 July it began operation in its present site in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany. The Dental Clinic was established in four rooms in the basement floor of the hospital building. One small room was a laboratory, the other three rooms each had two chairs. All equipment was German, and consisted of two German Ritter and four German Siemens units, six base chairs, a German Siemens dental x-ray machine, and German instruments and sterilizers.

On 10 August 1945, Lt. Col. Charles M. Farber replaced Lt. Col. George H. Richardson as the Chief of Dental Service. On 27 August plans for a Dental Clinic in a group of empty rooms on the third floor were submitted to the Commanding Officer. This was disapproved in September. However, two rooms in the group were allocated later to the Dental Service, and the Prosthetic Section (operating room and laboratory), began operating in B 307 on 19 November. This arrangement separates the Prosthetic Section from the rest of the clinic, being on the floor above and in a different section of the building. There has been a plan proposed to increase the facilities of the hospital by building four additional wings. To date this plan has not been approved. In the plan construction is to begin on 1 April 1946 and scheduled to be completed 1 January 1947; one floor of one wing to be a complete Dental Clinic.

The Out-Patient service accounted for 80 percent of the admissions and 70 percent of the sittings. Within a radius of some 50 miles, more than 10,000 troops were without Dental Officers, and depended upon this hospital to provide their dental treatment. "Bleeding and sore gums" was a common complaint. There were periods when these cases required the full time of two Dental Officers. In addition to these, many thousands with Dental Officers depended upon this hospital for x-ray, oral surgery consultation, and prosthetic service.⁴

⁴ Listed below is a brief summary of the Dental treatments accomplished in this hospital during the five months it operated between 1 July to 31 December 1945:

Admissions -----	3452	Permanent fillings -----	1701
Sittings -----	8047	Teeth extracted -----	722
Fractured mandibles ---	47	Teeth replaced by new	
Fractured maxillae ----	26	prosthetic cases -----	1626
New dentures -----	171	Stomatitis vincentis ----	235
Dentures repaired ----	257	Gingivitis -----	15
New fixed bridges -----	21	Gum Treatments -----	1485
New jacket crowns -----	20	X-ray exposures -----	174

During this period the average number of Dental Officers present for duty was 5.4.

DENTAL SERVICE (Contd)

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for more than 90 percent of the 47 fractured mandibles and 26 fractured maxillae, and almost without exception were "jeep accidents". This unusually high ratio of maxillae to mandibles is remarkable, since the ratio of former experience had been about ten mandibles to one maxilla. These accident cases were often associated with serious fractures of the head and long bones and shock. They presented entirely different problems than the fractures usually seen, that resulted from fights and less serious accidents, when the patient was ambulatory, in good physical condition and uninjured otherwise.

The combination of the large emergency and routine Out-Patient Dispensary Service with the full hospital service required the time of personnel ordinarily assigned to operative dentistry.

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<u>Biochemistry</u>		<u>Urinalysis</u>	
Blood A/G ratio	60	Acetone	562
" Alcohol	156	Bile	256
" Calcium	18	Blood	1,132
" Carbon dioxide	13	Complete	7,058
" Chlorides	24	Diacetic acid	11
" Cholesterol	108	Mosenthol	20
" Creatinine	20	PSP	12
" Glucose tolerance	30	Urobilinogen	77
" Icterus index	1,392	Routine	1,602
" Non-protein nitrogen	166	Sulfa	672
" Phosphorus	16	Diabetic sugars	560
" Phosphatase	6	Fishburg conc. test	35
" Sugar	172	Microscopics	14
" Sulfonamide level	497	Albumens	19
" Total protein	56	Sp. Gravity	44
" Urea nitrogen	64	Indican	1
" Urea clearance	27	Total	12,075
" Uric Acid	21		
" Van den Bergh	26		
Bile, feces	5	<u>Toxicology</u>	
Gastric analysis	158	Liquor analysis	45
Hematocrit	84		
Hemoglobin	37	<u>Histopathology</u>	
Hippuric acid	18	Autopsies	49
Spinal fluid globulin	203		
" " protein	138		
" " sugar	107		
Quant. bilirubin, gall bladder drainage	1		
Quant. albumin in urine	14		
" urine sugar	4	<u>TOTAL TESTS</u>	<u>64,452</u>
" lead in urine	2		
PSP	4		
Miscellaneous	4		
Serum diastase	4		
Synovial fluid total protein	1		
" " sugar	1		
" " sp. gravity	1		
Urine diastase	3		
Brain alcohol	1		
Spinal fluid chloride	3		
Water pyrogen analysis	25		
Urinary calculi	3		
Total	3,697		

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Both American and German civilian personnel and Wacs have been employed in the Laboratory since assumption of operations at Frankfurt. Unskilled German personnel were employed from the beginning and since the first week in August, two skilled German technicians have been employed. Two Wacs have been working in the Laboratory since the first week in October. American civilians have been assigned as technicians since the middle of November. Three enlisted male technicians were redeployed to the United States during the last part of November. There has been a considerable shift in officer personnel. Three different officers have been assigned as Chief of Laboratory, the present officer having taken charge in December.

Of interest is the number of nose and throat cultures performed for the determination of the presence of *C. Diphtheriae*. There has been a steady increase in the number of positive cultures from July through December. A large number of urethral smears for gonococcus and darkfield examinations for *T. pallidum* have been performed with a considerable incidence of positive findings.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

On 31 July 1945 the 97th General Hospital assumed command of the 4377th United States Army Hospital Plant from the 180th General Hospital, and at that time there were 554 patients hospitalized, of which 529 were United States Army personnel, 11 British, 1 Canadian, 2 Polish, 1 Greek, and 10 United States civilians. A further breakdown of the United States Army personnel shows 438 or 82.8% were disease and 91, or 17.2%, were injuries.

Between 31 July 1945 and 30 December 1945, 7,593 patients have passed through the Receiving Office, 7,172 having been United States Army personnel, 198 civilians, 30 Navy, 53 Italian Co-operatives, and 140 other Allied personnel; making a total of 8,147 patients carried on the Hospital Registrar during the period of this report. Of the 7,172 United States Army personnel admitted, 5,608, or 78.19%, were disease and 1564, or 21.81%, were from injuries. A further breakdown of the number of United States Army personnel admitted indicates that 4,183 were Unit admissions, 1,640 were casual admissions, and 1,349 were by formal transfer from other United States Army hospitals.

The hospital had its highest census on 21 August 1945 with 980 patients occupying beds.

Hospital Records indicate 7,429 dispositions; 5,833, or 78.52%, were disease and 1,596, or 21.48%, were injury. Further, 7,084 were United States Army personnel; and the balance of 345 consisted of all other than United States Army personnel. Under the dispositions of United States Army personnel, 5,101, or 72%, were returned to duty, 1,334, or 18.81%, were evacuated to the Zone of Interior and 649, or 9.19%, were transferred to other United States Army hospitals. This, however, is not actually a true picture of the dispositions of United States Army personnel. It was approximately one month after we assumed operation of the hospital that we were given authority to convene a Disposition Board. Therefore, a large proportion of the 649 patients transferred to other United States Army hospitals were cases transferred to the 390th Medical Collecting Company for further transfer to other hospitals for boarding and probable evacuation to the Zone of the Interior.

The number of deaths of United States Army personnel during this report period was 34 as a result of injuries and 13 from diseases.

The total number of days United States Army patients remained in the hospital was 104,199. Patients days due to disease were 75,091, or 73.02%, and 29,108, or 26.98%, due to injury. The average number of patients days per individual United States Army personnel was 12.79.

In November 1945 all Provisional Hospitals in the European Theater of Operations were officially closed, and as a result "old" cases of venereal disease, which heretofore were transferred to the Provisional Hospital for necessary treatment, are now being hospitalized here.

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Aside from the medical treatment necessary, this has added considerably to the administrative functions of the Registrar's Office. On each case admitted to the hospital, a Personal Contact Report, Form WD AGO 302, is made up. This is obtained by personal interview with the patient; one copy being forwarded to the patient's immediate Commanding Officer, and another copy to the Office of Military Government nearest to the scene of the contact, within 24 hours. A third copy is forwarded to the Surgeon's Office, 7th Army Headquarters, as an enclosure with the Weekly Statistical Report, Form WD AGO 8-122, and the fourth copy is retained in our files. Weekly and monthly Venereal Disease Statistical Reports are computed and forwarded to the various headquarters concerned.

Another classification of patients now being admitted are females who are dependents of United States Army personnel. Although to date these admissions have been few, it is anticipated that the number of admissions will increase considerably. In cases of pregnancy under 7 months, these patients have the right to request evacuation either to their own country or to the United States. In the latter instances, visas and clearances have to be obtained through the Adjutant General's Section of Theater Service Forces European Theater (Rear) before evacuation can be affected through medical channels.

There has been an ever changing of personnel, both officers and enlisted, within the past few months due to redeployment, and although the number of trained replacements have not equalled the original number of personnel transferred out, the functions of the Registrar's Office have continued in a most satisfactory manner.

Authority NND 735017By JB NARA DLS 9-8SUPPLY SERVICE

The Supply at this installation has passed through a very difficult stage. The conditions responsible for this were unavoidable due to the circumstances under which the plant was taken over.

Operations began by taking the plant intact and operating with the equipment found at the site. This was supplemented with the requisitions for TO and E property as the need arose. It has been impossible to operate an efficient Supply until very recently as no inventory had been taken and places for issue room and warehouses had to be cleared before proper procedure could be installed. Due to this condition many excesses and many shortages were disclosed when procedures and inventories were accomplished.

The most important problems now confronting the Supply Service are maintenance and repair of German equipment, inexperienced personnel, and arriving at proper levels of supply. Another difficult factor that arrives each time German electrical equipment is replaced is the difference of voltage and cycle. Practically all American equipment is 110 V - 60 C, the institution is wired for 220 V - 50 C. This involves installation of transformers, which does not lend to maximum efficiency.

The entire Supply is now being placed under one department and within a short period will be operating as one unit which should improve the service. First because proper administration has been set up and second because the Weinheim Medical Depot is now equipped to give more adequate service.

As the German equipment becomes unserviceable due to lack of parts or through wear it will be replaced by American. Until this is accomplished, there will be continual difficulty in operating.

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OFFICE OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

The 97th General Hospital assumed control of this installation on August 1, 1945, at which time the total strength of German civilians and other nationals was 272. Since that time, the needs of the hospital have necessitated an increase as available, of civilian workers in all categories, till now the strength stands at 516 excepting US War Department civilians who number an additional 83 to date. The US War Department civilians are utilized according to their abilities and MOS numbers to the fullest extent in practically all departments of the hospital. This office expects to receive additional US War Department civilians, till all job requisitions submitted have been filled and replacements for redeployed military personnel have been met.

In regard to German nationals, this office bends every effort to effect a close control, but at the same time a fair judgment. For, example, close alignment with the Office of the Provost Marshal of this installation is maintained especially pertaining to regulations on entry, passes, and curfew, black market, theft, and order. An extensive check is being made in conjunction with the CIC. Special attention being given to the Fragebogen forms or questionnaires of Military Government which are the basis on which is determined the eligibility for employment of German nationals.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

The beginning of the period found the Military Personnel strength as follows:

MC - 30	SnC - 2	ANC - 76	WO - 1
MAC - 9	CE - 1	HD - 3	EM - 396
DC - 5	QMC - 2	PT - 2	ChC - 2

The end of the period found the Military Personnel strength thusly:

MC - 37	CE - 1	HD - 4	EM - 380
DC - 6	QMC - 1	PT - 3	ChC - 4
SnC - 3	WO - 1	WAC - 2	
MAC - 9	ANC - 96	EW - 40	

The following table illustrates the continual change in Military Personnel during the period:

	TRANSFERRED IN			TRANSFERRED OUT			ACTUAL STRENGTH		
	OFF	ANC	EM	OFF	ANC	EM	31 DECEMBER 1945		
1945	OFF	ANC	EM	OFF	ANC	EM	OFF	ANC	EM
July	2	2	0	5	0	0	51	83	395
August	31	28	0	20	2	2	62	109	393
September	17	11	109	11	24	24	68	96	478
October	11	9	167	14	7	54	65	98	591
November	21	72	7	26	15	140	60	155	458
December	18	10	10	16	62	48	62	108	420

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On 28 August 1945, thirty-six enlisted Wacs and three WAC officers were assigned to the unit. They joined the unit on 3 September 1945, and as of 20 September 1945 this group was activated as the 97th General Hospital WAC Detachment per General Order 674, Headquarters, Seventh Army, dated 14 December 1945.

The 1121st Postal Unit consisting of two enlisted men was assigned on 28 September 1945.

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By JB NAPA DLS 9-8

MESS DEPARTMENT

Redeployment during the past six months has made it impossible to prepare a complete semi-annual history of this department as in the past. The Army personnel has been reduced from 60 to 27, a large number of which have been recently assigned here, including the Mess Officer.

During the past five months, three messes have been operating -- Patients, Officers, and Detachment -- food being prepared for Officers and Patients in one kitchen. The Detachment Mess, serving approximately 1,500 meals per day, is not quite satisfactory. However, we are making every effort to improve the building and equipment.

At the present time, the building is being enlarged and remodeled after which we hope to have it painted. We have received several pieces of modern kitchen equipment including an electric coffee machine, electric friers and gas grills, which are contributing much to the improvement of the mess.

During a 30-day period, 48,000 meals are served -- 24,750 to Patients and 23,250 to Detachment.

We employ 112 German civilians including 11 Cooks and 6 Bakers. The remainder of the civilian help is used as KPs and waiters.

The quality of the meals during the month of November was lower than at any other time of the year. This was due to a shortage of shipping space from the United States and a surplus of canned meats in this theater; however, at the present time the issue is normal and the meals are improving remarkably.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

A complete new staff of ARC personnel joined the 97th General Hospital at its new site in Frankfurt on 3 August 1945. During the period 3 August to 31 December 1945, which this report covers, the entire activity of the Red Cross was expanded. The original staff of five members were increased to a total of twelve. The program of recreational activities and the number of services given patients were considerably extended. The building space allotted to Red Cross was supplemented by the much needed addition of two Quonset huts built together to give adequate space for larger group entertainments.

For the first two months the staff put a great deal of thought and energy into making the recreation hall as attractive and comfortable as possible, while carrying on an expanding program. Then the emphasis was placed more heavily on integrating social case work and recreational services, spreading all the activities more to the wards and building up new and accessible interests for the patients. Some of the latter include a craft shop equipped with a large variety of tools and work materials, which not only served patients coming to the recreation hall, but which also was the hub of craft activity on the wards. An Art Room with its working paraphernalia gave some patients the opportunity to express themselves through the medium of art with some interesting results. In November a Polish Displaced Person with considerable skill and training in art was employed to come in twice a week to instruct in this field. In music the results of setting aside a room for music, having a well-trained musician on the staff, and supplementary aid from a DP musician, gave impetus to the enjoyment and participation of a very large number of patients in a wide variety of musical activities. Indoor games and outdoor sports when weather permitted added activity for another type of patient.

A consistent program of parties, games, contests, skits and trips included other patients. The use of a patient committee for suggestions and of carrying out details of the planning enabled the Red Cross staff to reach a larger number of patients and to gear its activities to patient wishes. A weekly newspaper written for and by patients and sponsored by a Red Cross worker kept the ward patients informed of the goings on at the Red Cross.

A service equally important as recreation is the social case work program carried on by professionally trained Red Cross personnel. Their aim is to assist the patient in his personal problems inasmuch as it is well known that personal worry and emotional upset can retard a patient's physical progress as well as originate physical illness. The increase in causes for emotional upset in a war-torn city away from home have tested to the social workers' skills to the utmost in seeking out the cases and giving the patient realistic assistance.

Two points of difficulty existed during the period under consideration. The first was the trouble in obtaining supplies and equipment, and the second was the unavoidable lack of stability of program caused by a constantly changing medical and nursing staff, with all the ramification contingent in each point.

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Perhaps a brief statistical survey will give a clearer picture.

	<u>Social Work Statistics</u>		<u>Recreation Statistics</u>
Letters	513	Entertainments	
Cables	174	(ward and recreation hall)	1,044
New Cases	298	Parties	
Brief Interviews	7,300	(ward and recreation hall)	223
Personal Services	5,820	Special activities	80

It was felt by the Hospital Department Directors of the Red Cross Headquarters that the progress and development of the activities of the 97th General Hospital Red Cross Unit warranted the establishment here of a brief, concentrated training program for other Red Cross personnel in the Occupied Territory. During December plans had been completed for the starting of such a training program to begin 14 January 1946.

Any success achieved by this unit could not have been effected without the excellent cooperation of the Commanding Officer, his staff, and the medical and detachment personnel of the hospital.