

# 294

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**CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED**  
by authority of  
**THE SURGEON GENERAL**

32ND STATION HOSPITAL  
APO 364

31 December 1943

*Payroll*

DATE **SEP 22 1949**

Supplement to Annual Medical History Report

**CAPTAIN V. B. TAYLOR, PC**  
Historical Division

There was a total of 7502 admissions and dispositions. Of this number, 7091 of the patients were personnel of the United States Army; the remainder were British, United States Navy, United States Merchant Marine, American Red Cross, French, and German and Italian Prisoners of War.

	Disease	Injury	Battle Casualty	Total
<u>Admissions</u> - - - - -	4,631	1,225	1,235	7,091
<u>Dispositions</u>				
To Duty - - - - -	2,555	483	474	3,512
(Full duty 2,743)				
(Limited duty 769)				
To Convalescent Hospitals	279	119	160	558
To Station Hospitals - - -	530	136	161	827
To General Hospitals - - -	1,124	460	405	1,989
To Zone of Interior - - -	136	21	31	188
Died - - - - -	2	3	1	
AWOL - - - - -	5	3	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,631</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>7,091</b>

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SUPPLY SERVICE SGO  
IN

*HD 319.1 (32nd Station Hospital) mto - 1943*

Among the United States Army personnel admitted there were:  
89 cases of dysentery  
214 cases of malaria  
594 cases of mental disease.

*Harold L. Goss*

HAROLD L. GOSS  
Lt. Colonel, M.C.  
Commanding

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S.G.O. No.

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*Small*

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Authority *NND 795145*

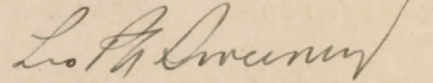
S E C R E T

32 Sta Hosp, "Med History of 32 Sta Hosp" dtd 31 Dec 43.

BPMED 1st Ind. LPAS/lcd  
HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION, Office of The Surgeon,  
APO 782, 21 January 1944.

TO: The Surgeon General, U S Army, Washington, DC  
(THRU: The Surgeon, NATOUSA, APO 534).

For The SURGEON:



LEO P. A. SWEENEY  
Lt Colonel, MC  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2 Incls:  
#1- Roster of Nurses  
#2- Roster of Officers

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HEADQUARTERS  
32nd Station Hospital  
APO 364 c/o Postmaster,  
New York, New York

008815

31 December 1943.

MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE THIRTY SECOND STATION HOSPITAL

Extract from General Order No 7, 1942, Camp Rucker, Alabama:  
"Pursuant to authority contained in Letter A.G. 320.2 (9 June 1942)  
MR-M-GM, War Department, and Letters Hq 4th Corps Area, 320.2 Gen. R.S.  
19 June 1942, and Gen. Order No 7 Hq Camp Rucker, Alabama 25 June 1942,  
the 32nd Station Hospital Unit has hereby been activated as of 25 June  
1942."

The original cadre of Enlisted Men reported to Camp Rucker, Alabama on 26 June 1942. Theodore Burstein, Lt Col, M.C., Commanding Officer joined 13 August 1942. The Medical Officers joined between the 6th and 20th of August. Intensive training of the Officers in Military Discipline and Administration began immediately. As more and more Enlisted Men joined the organization, their training was taken up by Non-commissioned Officers, Medical Administrative Officers, and Medical Officers. Ward training was done at the Station Hospital, Camp Rucker.

The unit was transferred from Camp Rucker, Alabama to Fort Benning, Georgia on 26 October 1942. Here training of unit personnel was continued in the Station Hospital. In November 1942 the status of the Unit was changed from a 250 Bed Station Hospital to a 500 Bed Station Hospital. More Officers and Enlisted Men joined to meet the increased strength of the Unit.

The unit left Fort Benning for Camp Kilmer, New Jersey on 27 December 1942, arriving 28 December 1942. The next move was to the New York Port of Embarkation on 13 January 1943 where the majority of Officers, including members of the Army Nurse Corps who had joined at Camp Kilmer, and Enlisted Men boarded the USS ANCON, USN. The convoy sailed on 14 January 1943 and arrived without serious incident at Oran, Algeria, French North Africa on 26 January 1943. From 27 January to 18 February the unit was bivouaced at Boisseville outside of Oran. On the 18th of February 1943 the unit moved by motor convoy to Tlemcen, Algeria, 90 miles south-southwest of Oran.

The hospital received its first patient on 28 February 1943 and remained in operation until 28 November 1943. During this period

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Medical History Of The Thirty Second Station Hospital Cont'd:

there were 7,503 admissions. The last patients were discharged on 28 November 1943; the hospital was packed up and moved to Oran by train on 8 December 1943 where the Detachment and Officers remained in Staging Area No 2 until 15 December 1943 when they boarded the HMMS CAMERONIA. (The ANCs, PTAs, Dietitian, and Red Cross Workers were staged at the Nurses' Staging Area in Ain-el-Turck). The unit, exclusive of the ANC etc. arrived at Naples, Italy on 19 December 1943 and were staged at Terme Agnano near the Hospital Center.

In May 1943 Colonel Burstein was taken ill. Lt Colonel Gayland L. Hagelshaw assumed command on 23 May 1943. Lt Colonel Hagelshaw was succeeded by Lt Colonel Harold L. Goss on 23 June 1943.

At Tlemcen, Algeria under the direction of the Surgeon, MBS, a hospital was set up in two school buildings. Headquarters, Administrative Offices, and the Admission and Disposition Office and Dispensary, the Operating Rooms, Ex-ray Department, Orthopedic Clinic, Pharmacy, and Physio-therapy were set up in L'Ecole des Filles Indigenes (Building "A"). This building accommodated approximately 200 patients. The second building, L'Ecole des Filles, housed the Laboratory, E.E.N.T. Clinic, Dental Clinic, Prophylactic Station and G.U. Department, and 200 patients, (Building "C"). The Engineers constructed Niessen Huts (Building "B") adjacent to L'Ecole des Filles Indigenes, to house more patients and Medical Supply. When a few weeks later the bed capacity was increased to 750, a warehouse also adjacent to "A" Building was acquired; this became known as "D" Building. When in June the bed capacity was further increased to 1,000 the roofs of Building "A" and Building "D" were put under canvas and screening; later wood and tar paper roofs with closed sides and plastiglass windows were set up.

It should be stated that the two school buildings were separated by a ten minute walk. The Detachment was housed in a four story second-class hotel within three minute's walk from Hospital "C" and seven minute's walk from Hospital "A". The Officers, Nurses, Dietitian, P.T.S.'s and Red Cross Workers lived in the Hotel Transatlantique around the corner from the main hospital. An adequate Motor Pool, Bakery, and Ration Dump were established in a near-by garage.

Because of the scattered layout of the various hospital units it was necessary to have four messes - at the main hospital, at Hospital "C", at the Detachment, and at the Hotel Transatlantique for the Officers and Nurses. This arrangement worked a hardship on both mess personnel and equipment. A problem was immediately created by the floor space open for mess facilities. The kitchens of both the Detachment and Officers' Quarters in the two hotels were indescribably filthy and in close proximity to open



Medical History Of The Thirty Second Station Hospital Cont'd:

(French) Latrines. In one hospital building, the covered space available for a kitchen was immediately adjacent to a latrine; in the other building the kitchen was not only close to a latrine but immediately in front of an open sewer. These conditions were rectified by cleaning up the hotel kitchens, and relocating the hospital kitchens under canvas and screening away from the latrines, which were also enclosed and screened.

Within the limits of French type plumbing, sewage disposal in all parts of the hospital offered no great problem. Garbage disposal was simplified by the readiness of the local populace to haul it away. Grease disposal was simplified by the readiness of the local populace to haul it away. Grease and tin cans found a ready sale, the proceeds becoming part of the Hospital Fund.

Unlike most of North Africa the water supply in Tlemcen was adequate and needed only careful supervision rather than strict rationing. Bathing facilities in the hospital buildings and Officers' Quarters were adequate; bathing facilities for the Enlisted Men were totally inadequate in their quarters, but other facilities were available for their use. Laundry for the hospital was done first by use of G.I. equipment; later by equipment rented from a local plant and adapted to laundry use at the hospital; still later by concession to an individual, and during the last phase of our stay by a Quartermaster Laundry Unit. Individual laundry for Enlisted Men, Officers and Nurses was done by personal arrangements or group contract.

SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION

The original hospital supplies loaded at the New York Port of Embarkation were fairly complete with some note-worthy exceptions -- to enumerate a few deficiencies: anesthesia apparatus, X-ray plate holders, Hawley Table, Physio-therapy apparatus, Laboratory incubator, sundry instruments and drug items. A few larger units arrived in deplorable condition due to inadequate crating; namely: the operation room water sterilizer, and large fixed X-ray table. Considerable difficulty and delay was experienced in obtaining repairs. Many of these deficiencies were supplied quickly from the Second Medical Depot. Some items came in weeks and months later. The Second Medical Depot at Oran were very cooperative in issuing supplies if they were available to them.

Unit Supply carried on with no marked deficiency at any time.

TRANSPORTATION

Being located at such a distance from Oran (ninety miles), all our transportation was kept on the road day after day working a hardship on both personnel and vehicles. The poor conditions of the roads and the difficult terrain traversed increased the difficulty. To anyone familiar



Medical History Of The Thirty Second Station Hospital Cont'd:

with these hazards the low accident rate is all the more remarkable.

The number of vehicles supplied by TBA was barely minimal to meet the daily needs. When two 2-1/2 ton trucks had been secured on Memorandum Receipt the situation was eased somewhat.

PERSONNEL

A roster of the Officer Personnel is appended. It is unfortunate that the unit had so large a turnover in officer personnel due to illness. On the whole the Medical Officers are well trained physicians and surgeons whose skills complement one another to make a well balanced staff. The Administrative Staff at this time is capable and efficient.

There has been a small turnover among the members of the ANCs. The Nurses are an average group with some very capable women. The Chief Nurse, Dietitian, and PTAs are capable and efficient.

The Detachment: Actual operation of the hospital on foreign soil showed glaring deficiencies in the Table of Organization of the Detachment. It was quickly found that a large Guard Detail was assential for security of the hospital. There was no provision in the Table of Organization for a Guard of any kind. Being non-combattant there were too few men in the unit trained in the use of firearms. It was necessary to train 35 to 40 men for the Guard Detail.

The mere setting up and maintenance of a Station Hospital on over-seas duty requires a large group of Utility Men who embrace a variety of skills e.g. carpenters, plumbers, electricians, cement workers, metal workers, and general mechanics. More by good fortune than by design our Detachment was able to supply these men.

The Technicians in X-ray, Laboratory, Operating Room, Dental Clinic, E.E.N.T. Clinic, and Dispensary proved to have been well trained as also were the Clerks and Stenographers.

The training of the Ward Personnel was good as far as it went, but was deficient in the finer arts of male nursing. For example many of the Wardmasters were incapable of changing a patient's bed with the patient in the bed. It was found to be necessary to assign Ward Personnel according to individual capabilities. A man capable of handling N.P. patients or medical patients often was incapable of working on a Surgical Ward where he came in contact with open wounds. Furthermore, it was our experience that it was difficult to maintain a working hospital and continue group training in medical and nursing procedures at the same time.

Medical History Of The Thirty Second Station Hospital Cont'd:INSECT CONTROL

Tlemcen was in a non-Malarial district; the mosquito offered no problem. Mosquito nets and bars were used on the beds of all patients and personnel.

Bed bugs presented somewhat of a problem in the Detachment and Officers' Quarters. This condition was cleaned up by using Dusting Powder and scrupulous cleanliness.

VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL

Venereal Disease in the unit presented no difficulties. There have been but two cases since the unit was activated. A prophylactic station was maintained and instruction given the Enlisted Men by Medical Officers and Chaplains.

RECREATION

Recreation for Officer Personnel has been left largely in their own hands except for moving pictures which were shown as they came in for the patients and Enlisted Men. Generally speaking the films were old and second class. The Nurses were sent for a week to the Nurses Rest Camp, and had frequent three day leaves; the Medical Officers had two weeks at the seashore.

The Enlisted Men had a well worked out recreational program with an adequate Day Room. They were sent on trips, and swimming parties and had two weeks altogether at the seashore.

Recreation for patients was minimal largely due to lack of facilities, and space.

CONSERVATION MATERIAL AND MAN-POWER

Materials such as drugs, dressings, food, X-rays, etc. were conserved by control of issue and constant supervision of Ward Officers, and Chiefs of Service. For example, X-ray requests were checked by the Head of that department, and if there was any doubt in his mind as to the necessity for X-ray examination or the number of views requested, the matter was referred to the Chief of Service; all Vitamin requests were OKd by the Chief of the Medical Service; all diet requests were checked and signed by the Ward Officer. A general check was made daily by the Hospital Inspector.

By the use of civilians in the kitchens, laundry, latrines, and in general cleaning, enlisted personnel were freed for other duties. Some



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civilians were used as additional clerks, stenographers, and technicians. Later Italian P.O.W.s replaced most of the civilians. The P.O.W.s were far superior to civilians in capability and industriousness.

FUNCTION AND ORGANIZATION

In operation during the past year the function of the Thirty Second Station Hospital was to provide four different types of hospital service:

(1) The unit fulfilled a normal Station Hospital service for troops from Command and nearby units. These patients were primarily acutely ill -- both medical and surgical -- and the majority returned to duty. The hospital also acted as a Medical Reclassification Center for these combat organizations; the patients fell into three general categories; namely neuro-psychiatric, over-age soldiers unfit for combat duty, and the post-traumatic injuries unfit for combat.

(2) The second type of service was the care of patients sent to the rear from Evacuation and other forward echelon Hospitals. These patients came by ambulance and truck convoy from the Oran Area and occasionally by train from the Algiers sector. Approximately 60% of these patients were Surgical and included a large number of battle casualties. Of the Medical patients approximately 10% were out-and-out Neuro-psychiatric; another 5-7% were found to have psychiatric factors.

(3) The third function was to supply medical and surgical care to patients Boarded for return to the Zone of Interior at a General Hospital, and awaiting the arrival of a hospital ship. Because of the uncertainty of time they would be in the hospital and their anxiety to be on their way back to the States, these patients were the most difficult to handle especially from the viewpoint of morale and discipline.

(4) On two occasions by order of the Surgeon, MBS, the hospital performed the function of a General Hospital in Boarding patients for the Zone of Interior.

Organization: The hospital organization and assignment of personnel was in accordance with TM-8-260.

*Harold L. Goss*

HAROLD L. GOSS,  
Lt. Colonel, M. C.,  
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS  
32nd Station Hospital  
APO 364

31 December 1943.

ROSTER OF NURSES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>DUTY</u>
Brammer, Helen W.	1st Lt	N732063	Principal Chief Nurse
Dickson, Emelda M.	1st Lt	N755095	Operating Room Supervisor
Houlinan, Catherine H.	1st Lt	N721905	Night Supervisor
McCormick, Margaret M.	1st Lt	N723690	Supervisor, Med Section
Moore, Rita G.	1st Lt	N723542	Supervisor, Surg Section
Barone, Annie P.	2nd Lt	N721902	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Beane, Ina L.	2nd Lt	N721941	Ward Nurse, Surg Section
Bosworth, Ivy A.	2nd Lt	N721931	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Brady, Mary L.	2nd Lt	N723148	Head Nurse, Surg Ward
Brooks, Elizabeth T.	2nd Lt	N723546	Head Nurse, Officers' Ward
Carone, Angela A.	2nd Lt	N723602	Head Nurse, Surg Ward
Daborwski, Wanda E.	2nd Lt	N721742	Night Duty, Surg Section
Donanue, Kathleen M.	2nd Lt	N721664	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Donehue, Virginia J.	2nd Lt	N721659	Ward Nurse, Orthopedic Ward
Donovan, Ruth P.	2nd Lt	N721687	Anesthetist
Drolet, Velma A.	2nd Lt	N721906	Head Nurse, Med Section
Gallagher, Mary T.	2nd Lt	N723806	Night Duty, Surg Section
Griffin, Alice E.	2nd Lt	N721671	Night Duty, Relief Nurse
Hansen, Phyllis A.	2nd Lt	N723001	Night Duty, Surg Section
Huckins, Marion V.	2nd Lt	N721912	Night Duty, N.P. Section
James, Ella E.	2nd Lt	N721670	Night Duty, Surg Section
Kauffman, Goldie	2nd Lt	N721936	Ward Nurse, Surg Ward
LaBonne, Claire M.	2nd Lt	N721658	Head Nurse, Med Ward
LeCain, Dorothea	2nd Lt	N721689	Ward Nurse, Med Ward
McCann, Kathryn J.	2nd Lt	N723269	Night Duty, Med Section
McGaulley, Elizabeth T.	2nd Lt	N723174	Night Duty, Med Section
Manoney, Helen F.	2nd Lt	N721938	Operating Room Nurse
Miller, Lexie W.	2nd Lt	N721908	Night Duty, Med Section
Milligan, Ruby	2nd Lt	N721820	Ward Nurse, Orthopedic Ward
O'Leary, Eleanor M.	2nd Lt	N721762	Ward Nurse, Orthopedic Ward
Orban, Rose E.	2nd Lt	N723371	Head Nurse, Surg Ward
Racicot, Dorothy E.	2nd Lt	N721660	Ward Nurse, Officers' Ward
Rhodes, Stella A.	2nd Lt	N723475	Ward Nurse, N.P. Section
Rubin, Frances	2nd Lt	N723539	Ward Nurse, E.N.T. Section
Russell, Ruth F.	2nd Lt	N723107	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Sanford, Catherine E.	2nd Lt	N723466	Night Nurse, Med Section
Smith, Anne M.	2nd Lt	N755062	Head Nurse, E.N.T. Ward
Sottolano, Lena	2nd Lt	N723798	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Straley, Rose V.	2nd Lt	N723106	Ward Nurse, Surg Section
Taaffe, Joan	2nd Lt	N723330	Head Nurse, N.P. Section

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Roster of Nurses - 32nd Station Hospital Cont'd.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>DUTY</u>
Thielemann, Marie A.	2nd Lt	N723683	Head Nurse, Surgical Ward
Travis, Madeline E.	2nd Lt	N723621	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Trotsky, Helen	2nd Lt	N723108	Ward Nurse, Surg Section
Uprichard, Mamie	2nd Lt	N723504	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Washburn, Cecelia	2nd Lt	N721704	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Weber, Charlotte O.	2nd Lt	N723784	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Williams, Cora I.	2nd Lt	N722774	Ward Nurse, Med Section
Wilson, Evelyn H.	2nd Lt	N723338	Head Nurse, Orthopedic Sect
Work, Estner E.	2nd Lt	N723170	Head Nurse, Med Section
Zink, Myra H.	2nd Lt	N721940	Ward Nurse, Surg Section



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HEADQUARTERS  
32nd Station Hospital  
APO 364

31 December 1943.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORG DUTY</u>
<u>ADMINISTRATION:</u>			
Goss, Harold L.	0201515	Lt Col,	MC Commanding Officer
Krueger, Gerard	0274456	Captain	MAC Adjutant
Sommermeyer, William C.	0395329	Captain	MAC Supply Officer
Zimet, Ralph R.	0467139	Captain	MC Executive Officer
Graham, Stuart E.	01534029	2nd Lt	MAC Commanding Officer, Med Det
Needles, Herman C.	01533875	2nd Lt	MAC Registrar ✓
Ramspeck, Chester C.	01547427	2nd Lt	MAC Mess Officer
Robins, Milton	01534129	2nd Lt	MAC Asst Adjutant
Tarkington, Charles N.	01547474	2nd Lt	MAC Transportation Officer
Hagerty, Thomas J.	W2114224	WOJG	No Assistant Registrar
<u>SURGICAL SERVICE:</u>			
McElroy, William D.	0481929	Major	MC Ch of Service - Orthopedic Surg
Timberlake, Landon	0202587	Major	MC Ch of Genito-Urinary Surgery
Britt, Reddin	0480599	Captain	MC Asst Ch of Service - General Surg
Dolgin, Joseph	0504576	Captain	MC Ward Officer - Septic Surgery
Hein, Hugh W.	0326794	Captain	MC Ward Officer - General Surgery
Tryggvi, Carl	0338094	Captain	MC Ward Officer - Orthopedic Surg
Vinsant, Lowell E.	0382234	Captain	MC Ward Officer - General Surgery
<u>MEDICAL SERVICE:</u>			
Warren, Robert O. Y.	0475486	Major	MC Ch of Service, Internal Medicine
Carey, William A. Jr.	0461173	Captain	MC Dispensary Surgeon, Admission and Disposition Officer
Carlson, Marlin W.	0339610	Captain	MC Assistant Ch of Service - Respiratory Disease and Internal Medicine
Eblen, James G.	01696551	Captain	MC Ward Officer - Contagious Diseases
Lee, George R.	0209450	Captain	MC Ward Officer - Tropical Medicine and Dermatology
Sorett, Joseph G.	0481209	Captain	MC Ward Officer - General Medicine
<u>RADIOLOGY SECTION:</u>			
Wessel, Isadore J.	01696175	Captain	MC Chief of Radiology Section

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Roster of Officers - 32nd Station Hospital Cont'd.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORG DUTY</u>
<u>DENTAL SERVICE:</u>			
Lalle, Howard A.	0357221	Captain DC	Ch of Dental Serv - Oral Surg
Silverman, Robert	01689303	Captain DC	Dental Surgeon
Weiner, Irving S.	0482547	Captain DC	Asst Ch of Serv - Dental Surg
<u>LABORATORY:</u>			
Resendez, Adam R.	0490904	1st Lt SnC	Laboratory Officer
<u>CHAPLAINS:</u>			
Shearer, John B.	0276988	Captain ChC	Protestant Chaplain
O'Connor, William V.	0470963	1st Lt ChC	Catholic Chaplain
<u>DIETETIC SERVICE:</u>			
Brosius, Julia R.	R000602	2nd Lt HD	Dietician
<u>PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICE:</u>			
Fruechtel, Lila S.	M000658	1st Lt PTA	Physical Therapy
Wenhart, Elizabeth S.	M000659	2nd Lt PTA	Physical Therapy

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HEADQUARTERS  
32nd Station Hospital  
APO 364

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GK:mcc  
23 January 1944

SPMC

SUBJECT: Annual Medical History Report.

TO : The Surgeon, P.B.S., APO 782, U. S. Army.

Enclosed herewith is a supplement to the Annual Medical History Report of this organization which was submitted to your office on 19 January 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

*Gerard Krueger*  
GERARD KRUEGER,  
Capt, Med Adj C  
Adjutant.

Encl:

Supplemental Report

BP MED 1st Ind. LPAS/lcd  
HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION, Office of The Surgeon, APO 782,  
24 January 1944.

TO: The Surgeon General, U S Army, Washington, DC  
(THRU: The Surgeon, NATOUSA, APO 534).

For The SURGEON:

*Leo P. A. Sweeney*  
LEO P. A. SWEENEY  
Lt Colonel, MC  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Incl: n/c

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32nd Station Hospital

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Authority *NND 795145*

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AG 314.7/353 SURG-0 2d Ind  
HEADQUARTERS NATOUS, APO 534. 22 April 1944.

ABK/whr

TO: The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, 25, D. C.  
ATTENTION: Commanding General, Army Service Forces.  
FOR: The Surgeon General.



Incl  
n/c

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