

# MEDICAL SERVICES IN GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Great Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914. Six days later the South African Government agreed to take military action against German South West Africa. On 14 September the first troops embarked, and after a successful campaign the German forces were forced to surrender on 9 July 1915. Military hospitals were established at Swakopmund, Lüderitzbucht, Karibib, Windhoek and Aus. Casualties to the South African forces were:<sup>1</sup>

Killed in action .....	88
Died of wounds .....	25
Died of disease and accident .....	153
Wounded .....	263
—————	529
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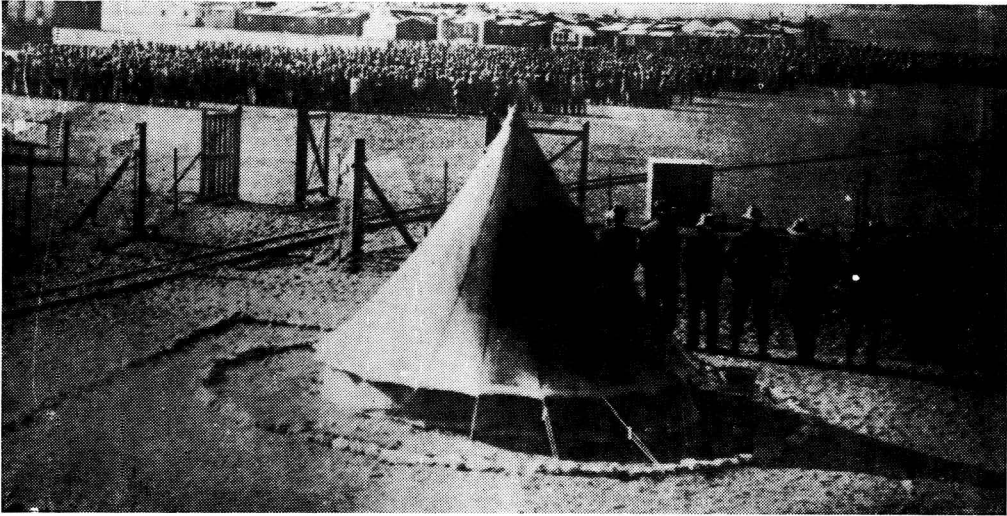
Several photographs illustrating aspects of the work of the medical services follow.



Patients and staff at Aus.

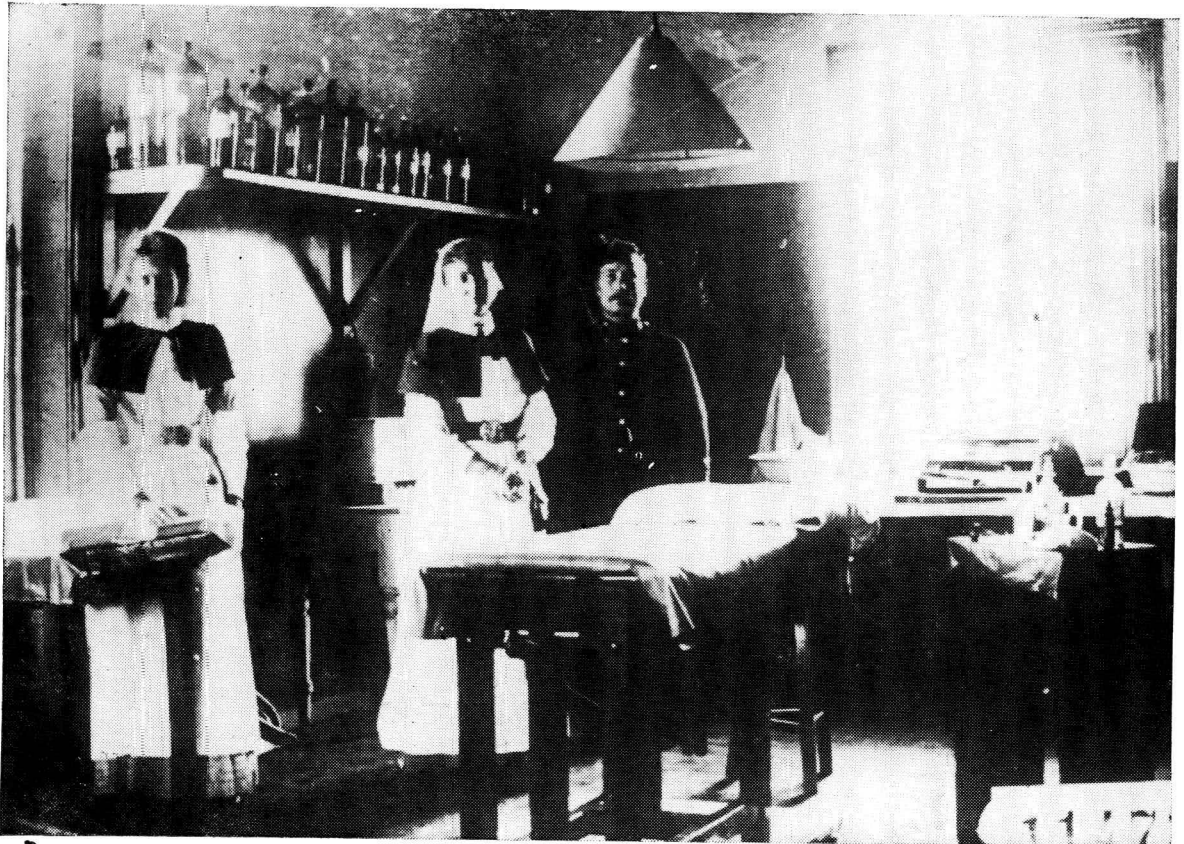
Photograph: C Doc S

1. Collyer, J. J.: The Campaign in German South West Africa, 1914-1915, p. 152.



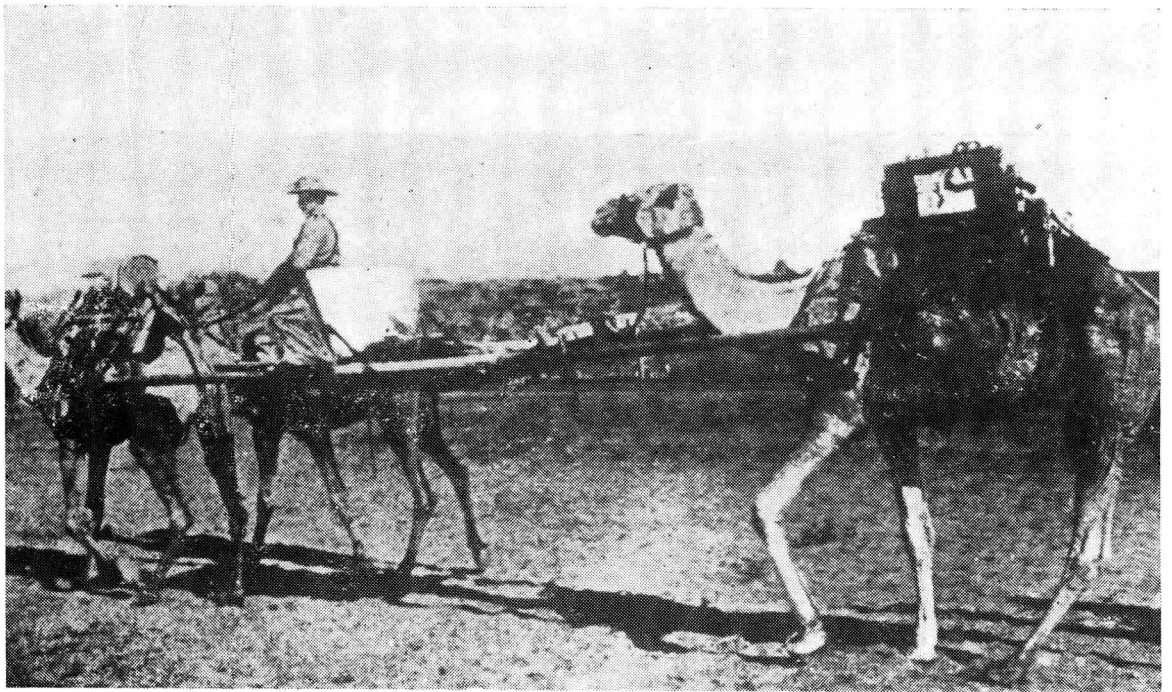
The hospital at Aus. The men massed in the background are German prisoners-of-war.

Photograph: C Doc S



Inside a military hospital.

Photograph: C Doc S



German camel ambulance.

Photograph: C Doc S



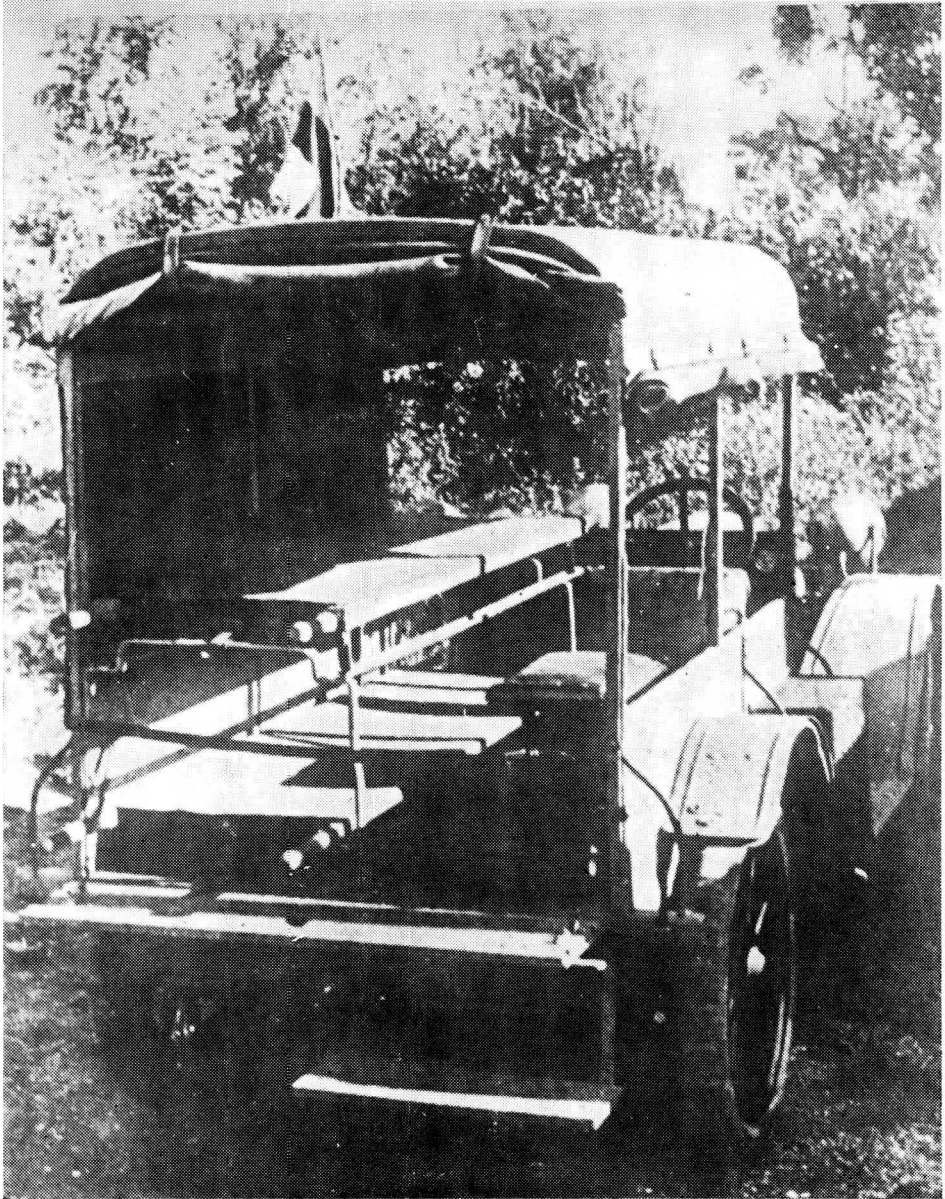
The laborious business of taking a light motor vehicle through the Great Fish River.

Photograph: C Doc S



Sisters L. Campbell and M. Blinck arriving in Lüderitz from the hospital at Aus.

Photograph: C Doc S



**An ambulance of the type employed during the campaign.**

Photograph: C Doc S