

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/45/9

Title: 28th Infantry Battalion

December 1915



AWM4-23/45/9

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

28th Battalion 7th Div. Brigade
A.S.Z.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAPPY VALLEY (Gallipoli Peninsula)	1915 Dec.	1-3	The enemy's artillery fire directed at RUSSELLS TOP appear to be increasing daily and we get a lot of spent shrapnel in HAPPY VALLEY but luckily no casualties occur.	
"	"	4	A.C.M. moves up to RUSSELLS TOP where the 28 th Battalion are relieving the 26 th Battalion as garrison.	
"	"	6	RUSSELLS TOP has been termed the key of ANZAC, the position commanding the beach & pier. The enemy trenches at the neck have been pushed up close to our own & our deep-level tunnels are well under their lines. The rear of our position is a sheer cliff-like descent to the beach, except beyond, the southern part of which is known as the "Sphinx".	
"	"	7	D.C.M. moves up to RUSSELLS TOP.	
RUSSELLS TOP	"	7	The Battalion Headquarters, with B Company, proceed to RUSSELLS TOP & take over from the 26 th Battalion. General Birdwood inspects the position in the morning. The enemy send along a fair number of shells in the afternoon, damaging the parapet in nos 1 & 2 posts, but no serious casualties occur.	
"	"	8	C Company joins the Battalion, which is now complete. The enemy shell us rather heavily in the afternoon with both "Severely-fives" and	

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28th Battalion
7th Inf. Brigade. A. I. F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUSSELL'S TOP	1915 December	8	<p>Howitzers. One man killed & several wounded.</p> <p>The enemy are again active with their artillery fire, shelling us in the morning & again (heavily) in the afternoon. Shrapnel falls in the Quarters mess store, wounding 2 men (one severely). Later, a 6-inch H.E. shell fell in same place.</p> <p>About 8 pm, an explosion occurs in one of the enemy deep-level tunnels. The enemy immediately open heavy rifle & machine gun fire. The fortress stands to, but a examination over tunnels are found to be all intact & the enemy make no attempt to attack. At 9 pm all is quiet again.</p>	
"	"	9	<p>Our warships (2 cruisers & 3 monitors) open fire on the enemy just at OLIVE GROVE, the bombardment lasting for some 30 or 40 minutes. In retaliation the enemy shell our lines, RUSSELL'S TOP particularly coming in for a heavy fire - shrapnel & H.E. shell.</p>	
"	"	10	<p>Quiet morning, but the enemy shell us heavily in the afternoon. Three officers (majors) of the 20th Battalion (5th Brigade) who were visiting</p>	
"	"	11		

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28th Battalion
7th Inf. Brigade A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUSSELLS TOP	1915 December	11 cont.	<p>RUSSELLS TOP prior to the 28th Battalion taking over, were held by the enemy. There is little doubt that the enemy have a large number of new guns other supplies of ammunition appear to be now unlimited. By way of a change the enemy shell us earlier than usual this morning, but no casualties occur in our ranks.</p> <p>At mid-day the 20th Battalion take over from the 28th Battalion and proceed to their old bivouac at HAPPY VALLEY for the day.</p> <p>During the afternoon some light shrapnel directed at RUSSELLS TOP slightly wound 2 of our officers.</p> <p>During the evening the 28th Battalion embarks on a transport & leaves for LEMNOS together with the 26th & 27th Battalions.</p>	
MUDROS (LEMNOS)	"	13	The Battalion arrives at MUDROS & encamps at SAPPY.	
	"	15	The Battalion proceeds to Z VALLEY (near the entrance of the harbour) the company found allotted to the 2 nd Australian Division.	
	"	16-31	Battalions of the Division carry on with training, 5 hours per day,	



WAR DIARY

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28th Battalion
7th Inf. Brigade A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
MUDROS	1915		<p>(Wednesday, Thursday, half holidays) An improvement in the health & physique of all ranks is quickly noticeable.</p> <p>On the 29th December, 57 reinforcements & 15 detach from the Battalion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Casualties for December 1915</u></p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Killed</u></th> <th><u>Wounded</u></th> <th><u>Sick</u></th> <th><u>Died of sickness</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>OR</td> <td>0 OR</td> <td>OR</td> <td>OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>1 9</td> <td>72</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>Total</u></td> <td>Officer 1</td> <td>Men ranks 89</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Sick</u>	<u>Died of sickness</u>	OR	0 OR	OR	OR	4	1 9	72	4		<u>Total</u>	Officer 1	Men ranks 89	
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