

No 12

Cover for Documents.

Note: This file is indexed No. 12. in Contents of black
"Wooden Stationery Case at Sherridge".
Nature of Enclosures.

Xmas Messages - 1916.

ANZAC DAY

- 1 K. A. Murdoch
- 2 H. E. Budden.
- 3 C. N. Mackenzie
- 4. Overseas' Club.

1917

Forewords, Congratulatory Messages, Etc.
Public Speeches - addresses to cadets -

[In Gallipoli Box - Special Army Corps Orders &c. Congratulatory, etc
Gallipoli, and Egypt. 1914/1916.

Discipline - Ismailia. [General Murray]

Congratulatory messages on "Landing"

King's Birthday greetings.

Admiral Thorsby's Departure.

General Bridges' death

Notes, or Letters written. }
Lord Kitchener's Visit to Gallipoli. etc.

DONATED RECORDS LIST

3376

3rd Series

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E

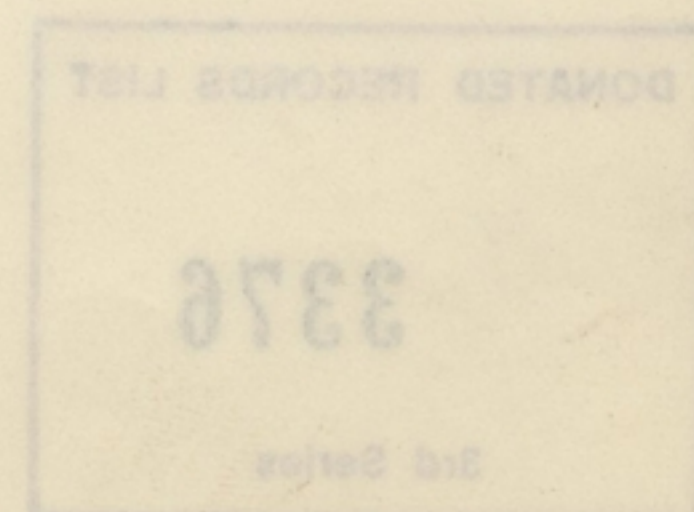
COPY of Cablegram received by the Lieutenant - General Commanding,
and of Reply thereto -----

- (1) From the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of AUSTRALIA to
the Lieutenant-General Commanding, -

"On behalf of the Government and people of the Com-
"monwealth of AUSTRALIA, I beg to convey hearty congratu-
"lations to you and all members of the Australian Imperial
"Force for the recent brilliant successes at POZIERES and
"in EGYPT. The Commonwealth of AUSTRALIA views with
"great satisfaction and pride the manner in which her
"sons upheld magnificent reputation for bravery displayed
"and efficiency gained at GALLIPOLI."

- (2) From the Lieutenant-General Commanding to the Prime Minister
of the Commonwealth of AUSTRALIA -

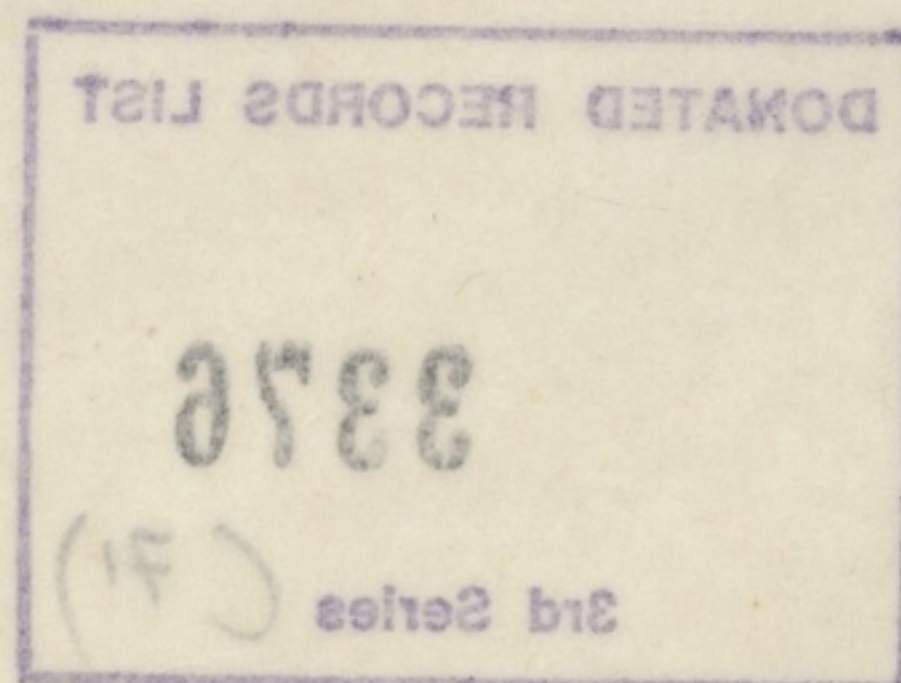
"Most grateful thanks from all members of the Aus-
"tralian Imperial Force for your kind telegram and the
"generous recognition of their good work here by the
"Government and people of the Commonwealth. No words of
"mine can express my feelings for my comrades of the
"Australian Imperial Force, with whom I am so proud and
"happy to be serving. They have shown magnificent
"courage and determination in all our recent fighting."



It gives me much pleasure to be able to write a very short introduction to the book of drawings of Signaller Ellis Silas, though these will themselves I hope appeal fully to all who see them, as portraying incidents in the lives of some of our Australian and New Zealand soldiers on service.

The sketches were made by Signaller Silas during the time he spent with the Australian troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula, and they contain an excellent record of the life spent by those troops during the months they and their comrades at Cape Helles and Suvla were upholding the honour of the British flag in that part of the world.

I heartily wish Signaller Silas all success with his book, and trust that, before the war is finished, his health will enable him to rejoin the troops, and that he will find opportunity of giving us yet further proofs of his ability as an artist in shewing us something of the life of the troops in other theatres of war.



1st May, 1916.

SPECIAL ORDER.

by

Lt.-Gen. Sir W.R. Birdwood, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., D.S.O.
Commanding 1st Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

Headquarters,
7th June, 1916.

(ON NO ACCOUNT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE TRENCHES.)

I have already conveyed my congratulations to the 27th and 28th Battalions, 7th Brigade of the 2nd Division, on the excellent raid they made on the German trenches on the night of the 6/7th June, and again wish to thank them for having led the way in this for our army corps. The great success attained was entirely the result of very careful preparation and great forethought and attention to every possible detail; it is only in this way that we can hope to eventually defeat our enemy.

Now that we have discovered that we can successfully raid the enemy's trenches as well as, if not better than, others, I am confident that we shall continue to do so without giving the enemy any rest whatever. The corps on our right are able to carry out not only two and three raids a week, but very often two and three on the same night, and to carry them out successfully. If they can do this, not only can we do so, but I hope we may be able to do still better, and establish a reputation as being the most alert and resourceful corps in this country.

I know that all battalions are getting a considerable number of men thoroughly trained in this work, and I hope that in a very short time every company will have in it a quota of men completely trained to carry out successful raids. Once this is the case, I trust that every brigadier in the front line will arrange to carry out a raid at least once a week, while divisional commanders will occasionally arrange for simultaneous raids on portions of the enemy's line.

I think we shall probably get the best results by varying the methods of raiding. Last night's raid was carried out under cover of a heavy bombardment, and it will probably be found that as a general rule this is the most successful method. If, however, we always adopt the same plan, the enemy will know exactly what to expect, and make his arrangements accordingly - possibly resulting in our raiding a completely empty section of their trenches only to suffer losses on our return.

Occasionally I think it will pay to carry out raids in complete silence, men creeping forward in the dark, cutting the wire, and rushing the enemy's trenches, while, of course, a barrage could be arranged all round the raiding party shortly after they reached the trenches.

Another/

G.O.C.

Special Order (Ctd.)

Another method which I think would probably meet with success, would be to arrange for heavy bombardments on two points of the enemy's line, by mutual arrangement between Divisions, and for the raiding party to creep forward under cover of this, cut the wire in the interval between the parts bombarded, and make their raid through it at a point where they will probably be quite unexpected - there are, however, many alternative methods, which I know the ingenuity and dash of officers, from platoon commanders upwards, will discover and carry out.

It is well worth remembering that once we can carry out very frequent raids, the enemy will be living in terror of being raided anywhere and at any time. This will result not only in the enemy getting no rest, but will cause him to live in a state of "jumpiness", which is most desirable from our point of view.

It cannot be too strongly impressed on all that work of this sort by a considerable number of men from time to time is excellent training to prepare us for the time when we hope we shall be able to attack and carry the whole of the enemy's trenches in front of us.

W. B. Greenwood

Lieutenant-General.

Commanding 1st A. & N.Z.A.C.

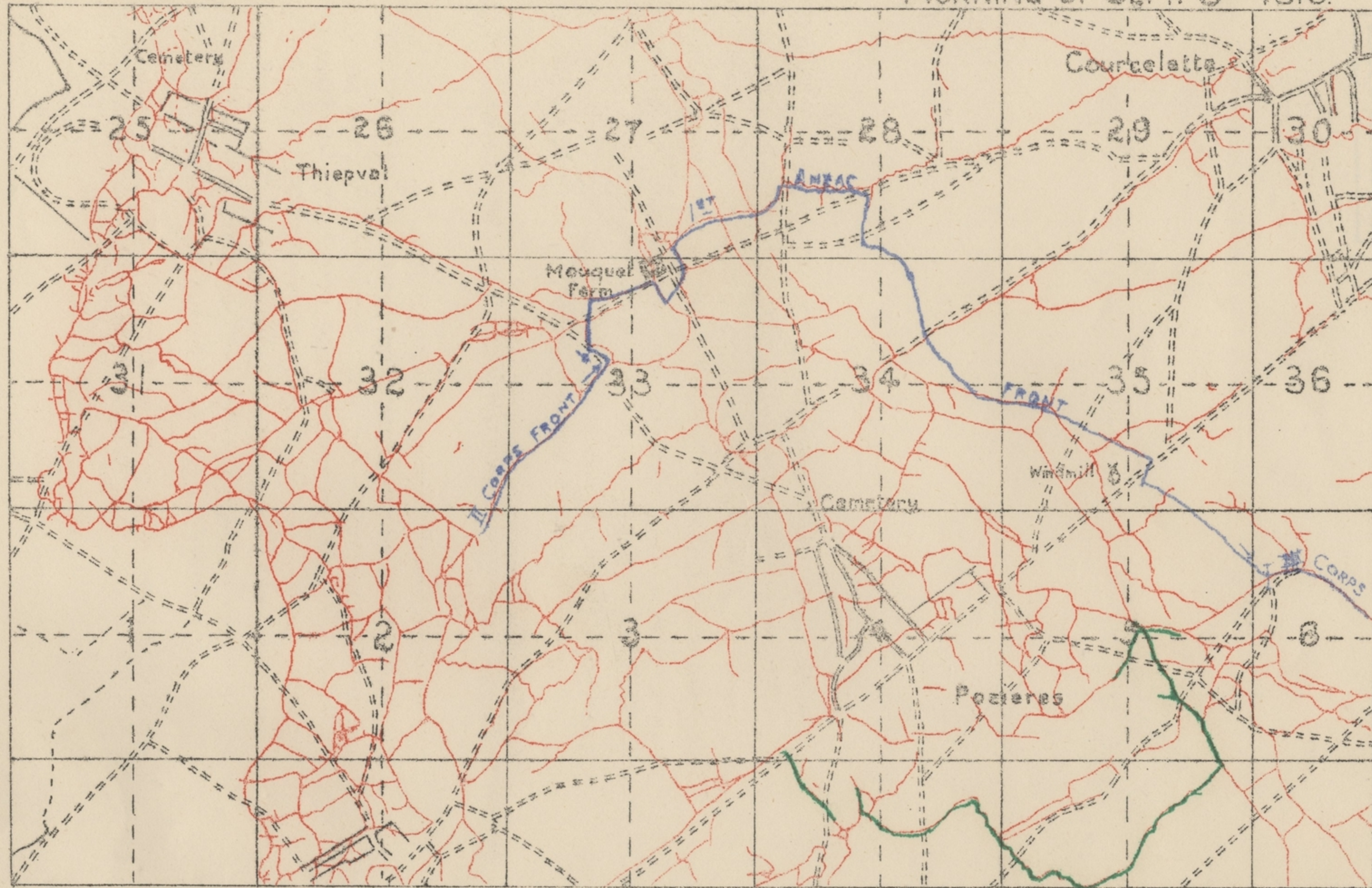
DONATED RECORDS LIST

3376(71)

3rd Series

SITUATION MAP

MORNING OF SEPT. 3RD 1916.



LINE TAKEN OVER BY 1ST AUST. DIV. 19.7.16. SHEWN IN GREEN.

SPECIAL ORDER
by
Major General H.B.WALKER, C.B., D.S.O.
COMMANDING 1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
27th October, 1916.

CONGRATULATORY. The following letter, received through 1st
ANZAC CORPS HEADQUARTERS, is republished for information :-

"To Lt-General Sir W.R.BIRDWOOD, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., D.S.O.

SECOND ARMY,
21st October, 1916.

The three Divisions of the 1 ANZAC Corps are now leaving
the Second Army for the second time.

I should be glad if you would convey to the Divisional
Generals, Brigadiers, and Commanding Officers, and through
them to all Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men, my
appreciation of the good work they have done during the last
six weeks and the improvement they have effected in the
defences of the area entrusted to them.

The fine fighting spirit which they have, as heretofore,
shewn in all the enterprises they have undertaken leaves no
doubt but that they will achieve further successes when
called upon for more extended operations.

HERBERT PLUMER, General."

C. C. - 0011

Lieut-Colonel,
A.A. & Q.M.G.
1st Australian Division.

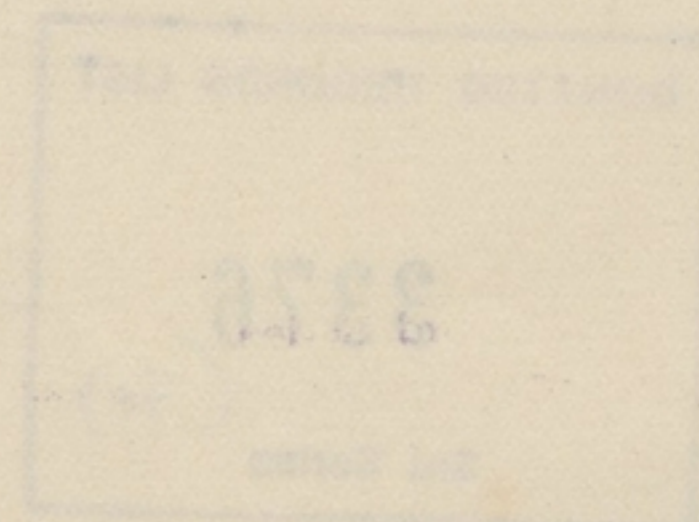
Gob B

G

Ga

Gb

Sglt



1st Anzac Corps, France,

6th November, 1916.

E. Wrench, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary, Overseas' Club,
General Buildings,
Aldwych, E.C.

For the past two years it has been my privilege to be intimately associated with the British peoples overseas through the Australians and New Zealanders, with whose magnificent army corps I have been serving.

The sea, which in time of peace separated the various parts of the Empire, has by the efficiency of our Imperial Navy been the safe avenue for the assembly of our might. It is well that this should be remembered.

The war has effected one permanent change in the British Empire. With this war the British Dominions, whose strength had been unguessed by the world, stepped right into the council of the nations. Henceforth, the world knows that each one of the British peoples overseas is a force to be considered in the settlement of the world's affairs, and with every generation, and with every succeeding year, their strength grows steadily.

If our free dominions, possessing the ideas that they hold in common for the protection of the weak against the strong, the championship of right against might, the birthright of individual nations - small as well as great - to live their own lives in their own way, can only continue to use their united strength as the strength of one man for the upholding of those ideals in the world, then the British Empire will always remain the greatest influence for men's happiness and welfare the human race has ever known.

That such will be the case we can none of us have the slightest doubt, and it only remains for everyone of us to shew that steadfastness of character, and that fortitude which is greater than bravery, to ensure the attainment of the object for which we took up arms.

(S'gd) W. R. Birdwood.

RECEIVED RECORDS LIST
3788

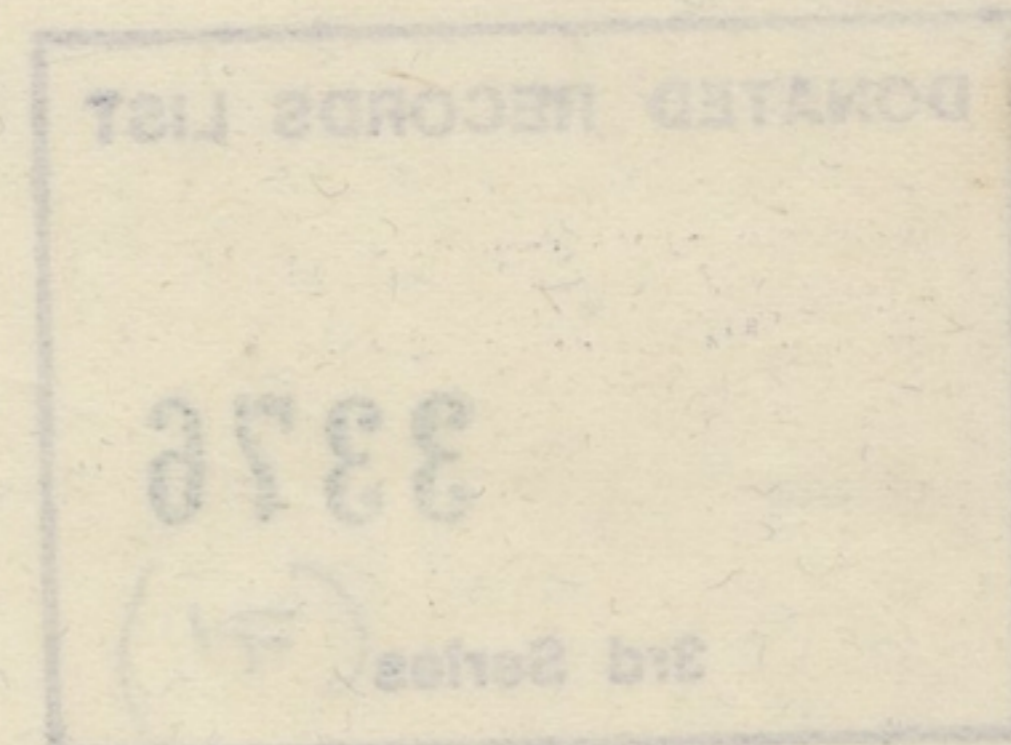


(K. A. Murdoch, Esq.,)

All Australian Imperial Force send hearty greetings to our brothers over far distant seas. Here in France we are cold, cheery and confident - confident in the strong right arms of the Forces of the whole British Empire and of our brave Allies - confident in our cause, and above all in the knowledge that we know we are not forgotten in Australia, and that we feel we can implicitly rely upon here to continue to send her sons to fight alongside of us, and to ensure that by keeping her magnificent units up to strength in the field, none shall be able to feel that their sacrifices have been in vain.

(H. E. Budden, Esq.)

All members of the A.I.F. send our most grateful thanks to the kind ^{workers} ~~helpers~~ in Australia, who have done so much to help the Australian soldiers through times of difficulty and discomfort in the field. What that help has meant none but those who have seen it on the spot can possibly realise, and we hope that our friends in Australia, who have assisted in making the Australian Comforts Fund the wonderful success it has proved, will accept our Christmas greetings which are sent with a feeling of deep gratitude to them.



C. Mackenzie Col

All members of the Australian Imperial Force send our heartiest good wishes for the coming year to our brothers in arms in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. We have all served side by side for so long now, sharing each other's dangers, losses and success, that we can hardly help feeling ourselves still to be one force, as we were throughout last year.

We all look forward with great confidence to the coming year - confidence in ourselves and in each other, and confidence in New Zealand and Australia that they are not going to forget us, and will keep our ranks full with brave men to preserve intact the glorious traditions which have already been built up by our troops.

Personally I can never forget the many months during which it was my privilege to have the New Zealand troops serving under my command, to one and all of whom I wish good fortune, and a happy return after victory to their homes under the Southern Cross.

1st Anzac Corps, France.
December, 1916.

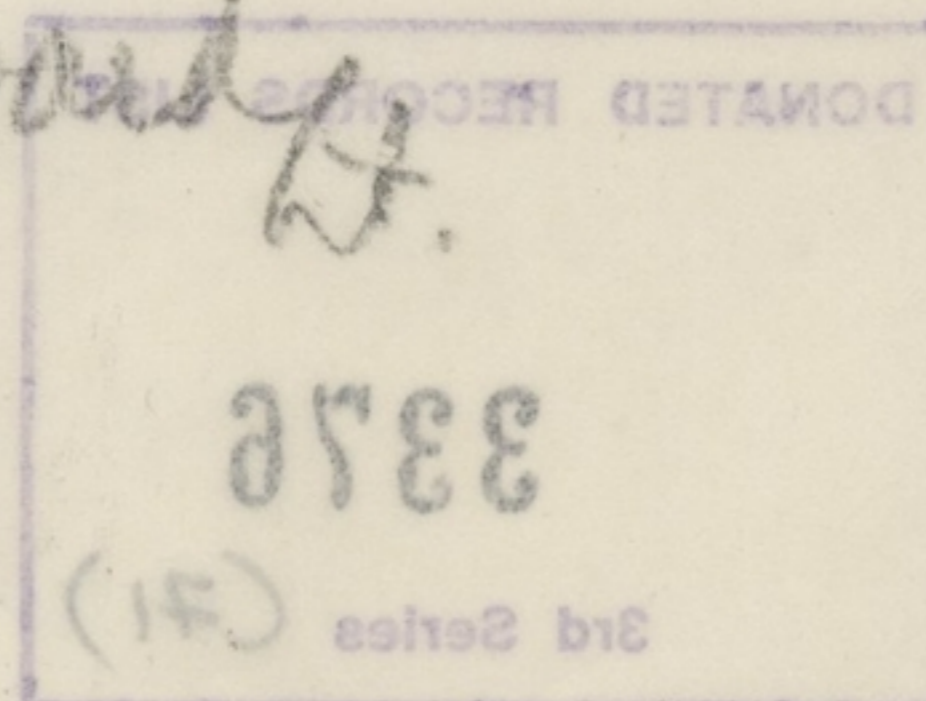
3378
2nd Series

H.R.H. Duke of Connaught,
Clarence House,
London.

17th

On behalf of all ranks Australian Imperial Force I beg to convey our deep and most sincere sympathy in the great loss sustained by Your Royal Highness. We are well aware of the deep interest you and Her Royal Highness have taken in the Australian troops, and our feelings of sympathy for you now are indeed most genuine and sincere.

General Birdwood.
(G.O.C., A.I.F.)

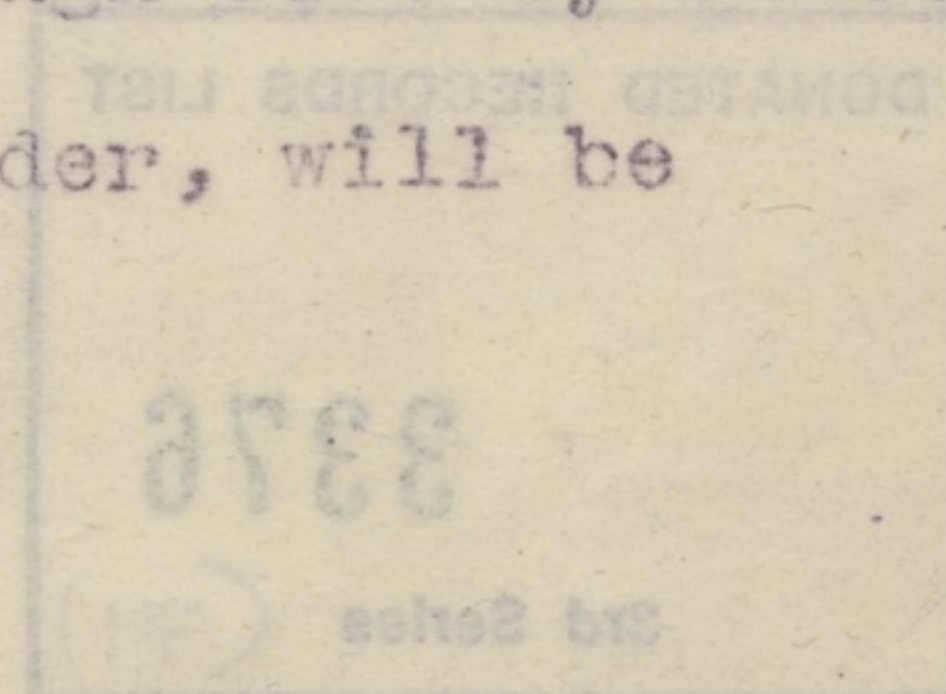


G. H. Scholefield, Esq.,
New Zealand Associated Press,
85 Fleet St.

I am sure that the appearance of the "New Zealander" will be most heartily welcomed, not only by the New Zealand troops in England and at the front, but by their brothers in arms in the Australian Force.

After the closest possible association, and fighting literally shoulder to shoulder as the New Zealanders and the Australians have done for eighteen months, it is I know with the greatest regret that the latter have found themselves (only temporarily they hope) not immediately alongside of the New Zealanders, and I trust, and indeed feel sure, that this feeling is mutual to all - I can certainly vouch for it myself; and though we are at present not so closely associated with our brothers of New Zealand, we send them our heartiest greetings with the hope that, having started this war together, we may be able to see it through side by side.

Each issue of the "New Zealander," will be *welcomed*
~~eagerly~~ awaited and appreciated by all.



"C" Form (Duplicate).

Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 50's in duplicate.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

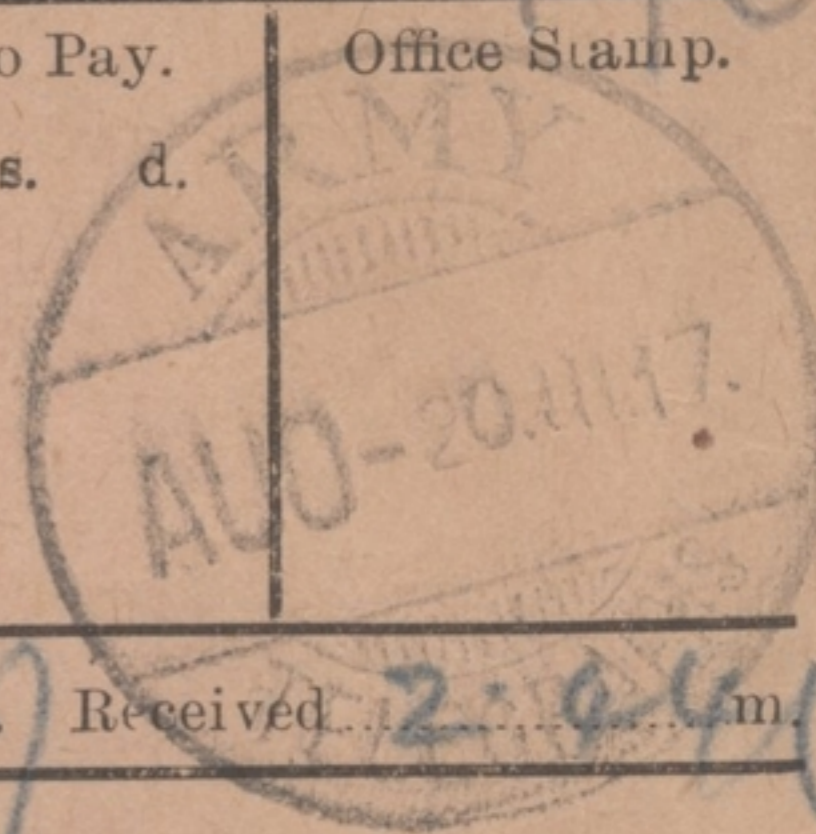
No. of Message 176

See July 17

cash charged

Charges to Pay.
£ s. d.

Office Stamp.



Service Instructions.

*Old time
Buckingham Palace London*

Handed in at

Office

2.35 p.m.

Received

2.44 p.m.

TO

*General Burdwood
Australian Imperial Forces.*

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

*most heartily appreciate the welcome
sympathy of the Australian forces*

FROM

Bonnaught

PLACE & TIME

1st Anzac Corps, France,

21st April, 1917.

My dear Lord Mayor, I am so glad to be able to send you a message in the matter of posts now usually take so many days between here and England that I have only just received your letter of the 15th, so I much doubt if my reply will reach you before Gallipoli Day. In the hopes of your getting it, I despatch this immediately, and rather than miss the post by delaying to enable me to make out a special message for you, I have adapted a message which, as curiously enough, I happened to send only yesterday to such of my Australian troops as are in Mr Bush's Bishop's Knoll Hospital. Having been associated with the Australian troops since the beginning of the war, it is natural that I should send greetings to my boys who are wounded in England, but I am equally glad to have an opportunity of sending a message to all our soldiers, whom you are so kindly entertaining. I mention this so that you will

Yours very truly,
I realise I should be glad if my message were not published in the press, as it is only a message to old comrades, and I wish to avoid undue publicity.

3
DRL
3376

P.S.

1st Anzac Corps, France,

21st April, 1917.

realise how it has come about that I should have sent similar messages to the hospital and to you.

I am so glad to be able to take this opportunity of thanking you so much for your kindness in the matter, as I know well how much Bristol has done for many of my Australian soldiers, whom I can assure you have thoroughly appreciated what you and others have done for them in this way, and they return here full of gratitude.

I so much regret that it is quite impossible for me to be present at your Reunion, for, as you will probably realise, the situation here at present makes it quite impracticable to be away.

As an old Bristolian I should all the more wish to be present, for I lived for many years at Clifton, where I am glad to think that my brothers and I between us spent just twenty years at the college, of which I have always remained so fond and proud.

With kind regards and many thanks, my dear Lord

Mayor.

Yours very truly,

P.S. I should be glad if my message were not published in the press, as it is only a message to old comrades, and I wish to avoid undue publicity.

P.S./

3

DRL

3376

(71)

1st Anzac Corps, France,

25th April, 1917.

To: Our Australian troops in hospital
in England.

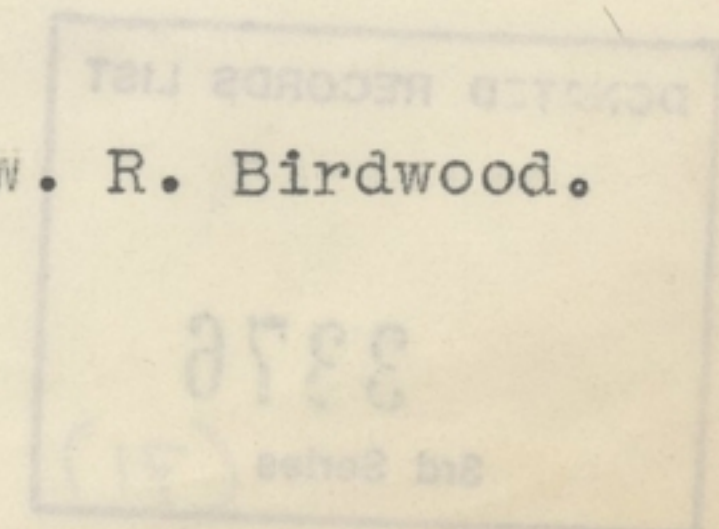
The Australian troops in France send their greetings to their comrades, who are wounded and sick in our hospitals in England. This day two years ago, the Australian and New Zealand troops were effecting a landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula, on which they established their hold in spite of tremendous opposition, and where they made a name for themselves and their people which will live for ever in History.

Anzac Day finds us still facing the enemy, probably with the critical struggle of the war still ahead of us, not only with the same courage and determination, but with the full assurance that victory will be ours - though it may be a long day yet, with many a hard fight, before we have finally crushed our enemies, and ensured the freedom of our race for which we took up arms.

At the front we all realise that you, who have been sent to the old country after so gallantly doing your duty, still have your thoughts for your old mates and friends, who continue to keep the Australian Flag flying in the face of the enemy. It is a real help to them to realise that such of you as are able to do so will come along and rejoin them, as soon as you can, and help them to see this through.

Let us pray that by next Anzac Day we may be back in our homes to bring happiness to our people and country, where we know what a welcome awaits the brave men, who have not hesitated to fight for all that we hold dear.

(S'gd) W. R. Birdwood.



- 1st Anzac Corps, France,

25th April, 1917.

On behalf of my Australian troops, I send our
heartiest greetings to our comrades, who fought with us at
Gallipoli, and who are now wounded and sick in England.
This day two years ago, troops of the Empire were effect-
ively landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula, on which they
established their hold in spite of tremendous opposition,
and where they so nobly upheld all the glorious traditions
of our Army.

Anzac Day finds us still facing the enemy,
probably with the critical struggle of the war still ahead
of us, not only with the same courage and determination,
but with the full assurance that victory will be ours -
though it may be a long day yet, with many a hard fight,
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duty/

- 2 - Anzac Corps, France,

25th April, 1917.

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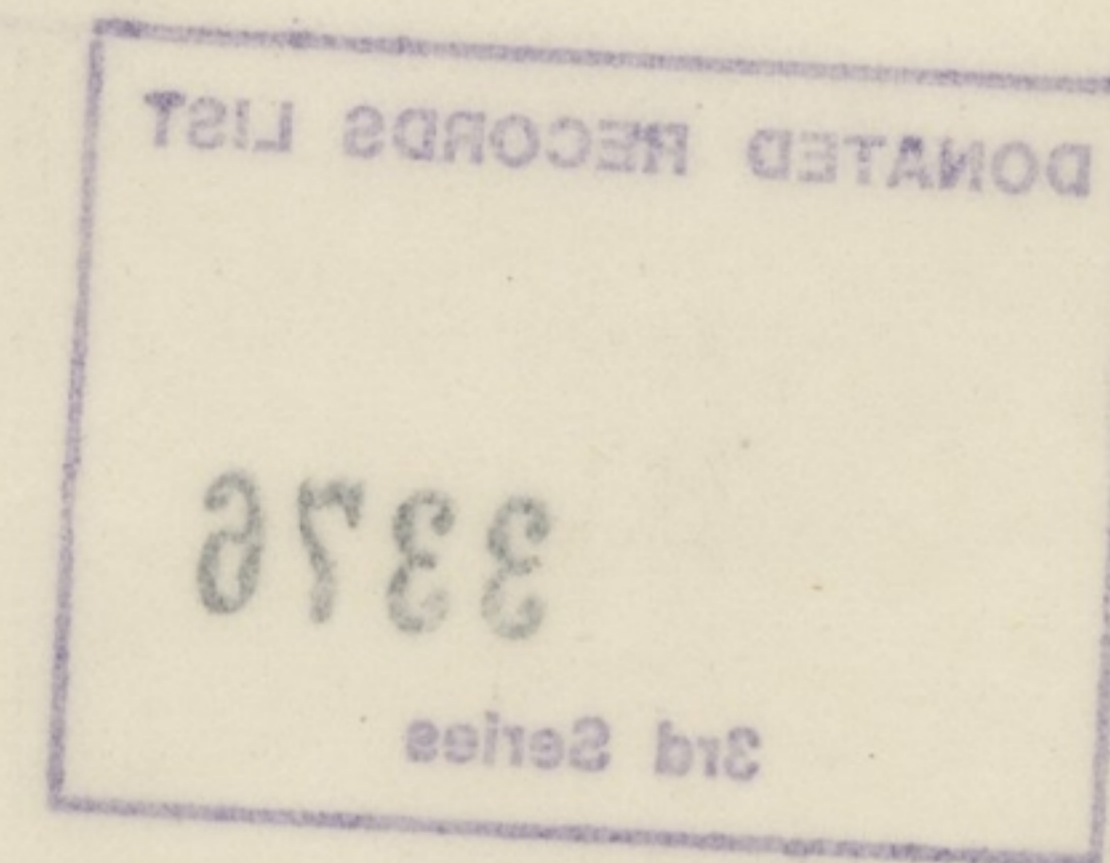
DONATED RECORDS LIST
3376
3rd Series (71)

Copy of telegram dated 7/5/17.

To : Commander-in-Chief.

From: General Birdwood.

Please accept our grateful thanks for your most generous message, which is much appreciated by all. No words of mine can express my feelings for the magnificent behaviour of officers and men who are sticking it out through continuous attacks with the utmost determination, which we mean to maintain.



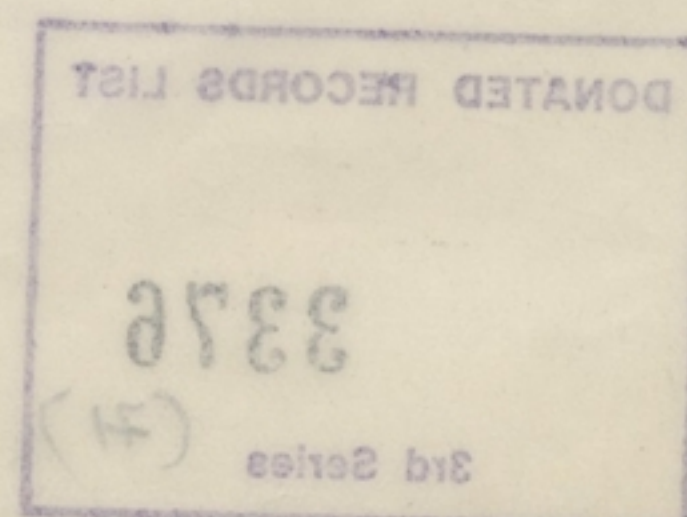
I am indebted to the Reverend Mr Green for the privilege of writing an introduction to his book, in which he gives a lucid and interesting description of the life of our gallant soldiers of the A.I.F. In his capacity as one of our chaplains to the Force, all of whom have done such noble work during the war, he has been able to enjoy a close personal touch with our men -- more particularly perhaps at Gallipoli; the record of his sympathetic observation and experience will, I am sure, be heartily welcomed by all who are interested in the welfare of the A.I.F.

Previous publications have, I know, chronicled the incidents of our campaign in Egypt and on the Gallipoli Peninsula -- deeds in which the greatest courage, determination and self-sacrifice have been displayed by our men from the Southern Seas, many of whom, alas, have made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of Justice and Freedom. Mr Green's work will, however, be an interesting sequel in that he describes, what one may call, our second phase of operations on the Western front.

Here, in France, our Australian troops have continued to shew that magnificent bravery and spirit, which has enabled them to undergo cheerfully the severest hardships, and even to enhance their fine reputation as soldiers which now stands second to none in this huge Army. No words of mine can adequately express my admiration and affection for them. I am proud to think that for nearly three years now I have been privileged to serve with them, during which ^{period} time/they have made traditions which will live for all time in the history of Australia.

I wish all success to Mr Green in the publication of his book.

France, 13th May, 1917.



COPY OF CABLEGRAM SENT TO DEFENCE MELBOURNE 16-7-17.

1st Anzac Corps has been in rest few weeks. All ranks are in good fettle. Big Australian Military Tournament held 12th July. KING present and saw 40,000 Australians of first and fifth divisions. On his departure following special order issued :-

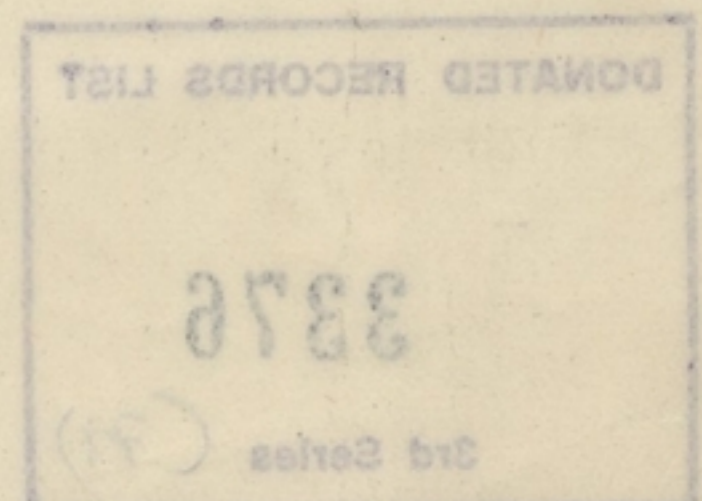
BEGINS :-

" HIS MAJESTY THE KING, upon the conclusion of his visit today commanded me to say that he was glad once again to see his Australian troops. His Majesty was greatly impressed by the vigorous and whole-hearted manner in which Officers and men carried out their work. The traditions established by so many gallant comrades who have gone were, His Majesty said, being worthily upheld. The King said that he was continually mindful of the fact that this magnificent body of men had voluntarily left their homes and their grand country and had travelled twelve thousand miles to support their comrades in arms in a struggle for the maintenance of all that British character believes to be right and just. His Majesty is aware that a great many men have served for a long period and have done what less stalwart men would call a "a fair thing" but he knows that, true to the traditions of the British race, Australian character will never look backward until our aims are achieved.

HIS MAJESTY the King was very pleased at the opportunity of seeing so many of our men and to see them in such fine physical condition, and sends his greetings to all ranks most sincerely wishing them continued health and success. The King directs me to thank both General WALKER and General HOBBS for the excellent arrangements made for today's visit.
W. R. BIRDWOOD ORDER ENDS

Trust Reinforcements will be forthcoming maintain full strength Australia's five splendid Divisions. "

BIRDWOOD.





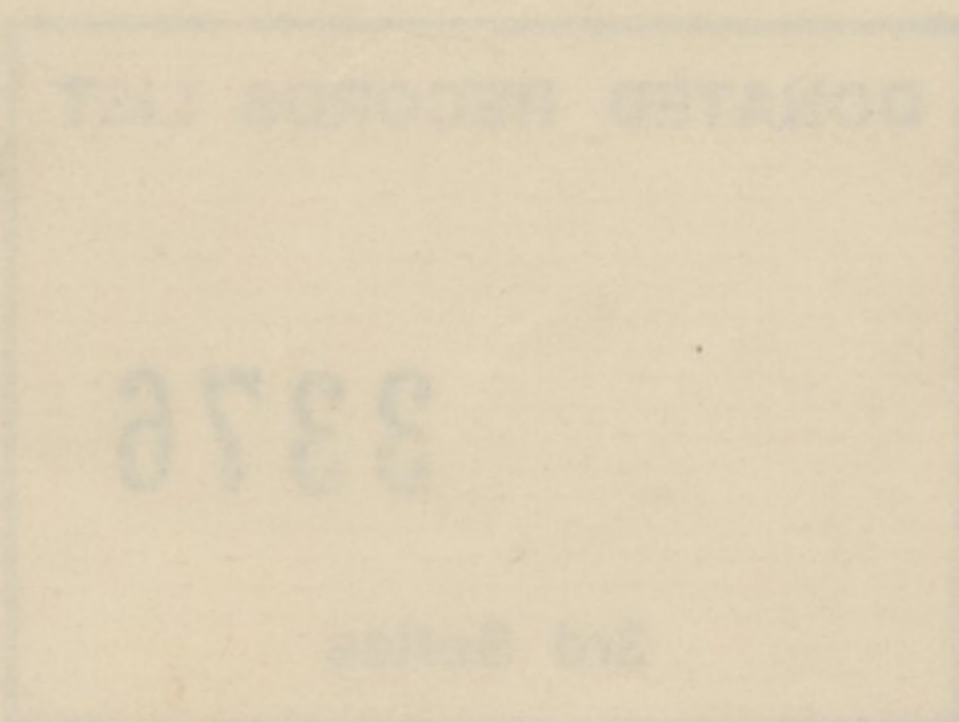
Adminaust,

London.

Please despatch following to Peake, Premier, Adelaide.

Begins:

The sterling message from yourself, Government and people of South Australia much appreciated by all here. Stop In conjunction with other troops of the Empire Australia's sons may be relied on to take their full share in bringing victory to the cause for which we are fighting. Stop Until we have achieved our aims, the courageous deeds of Australian soldiers will continue to bring glory to their country, and honour to those whom they have left behind at home, and by whom they know they are not forgotten. Birdwood. Ends.



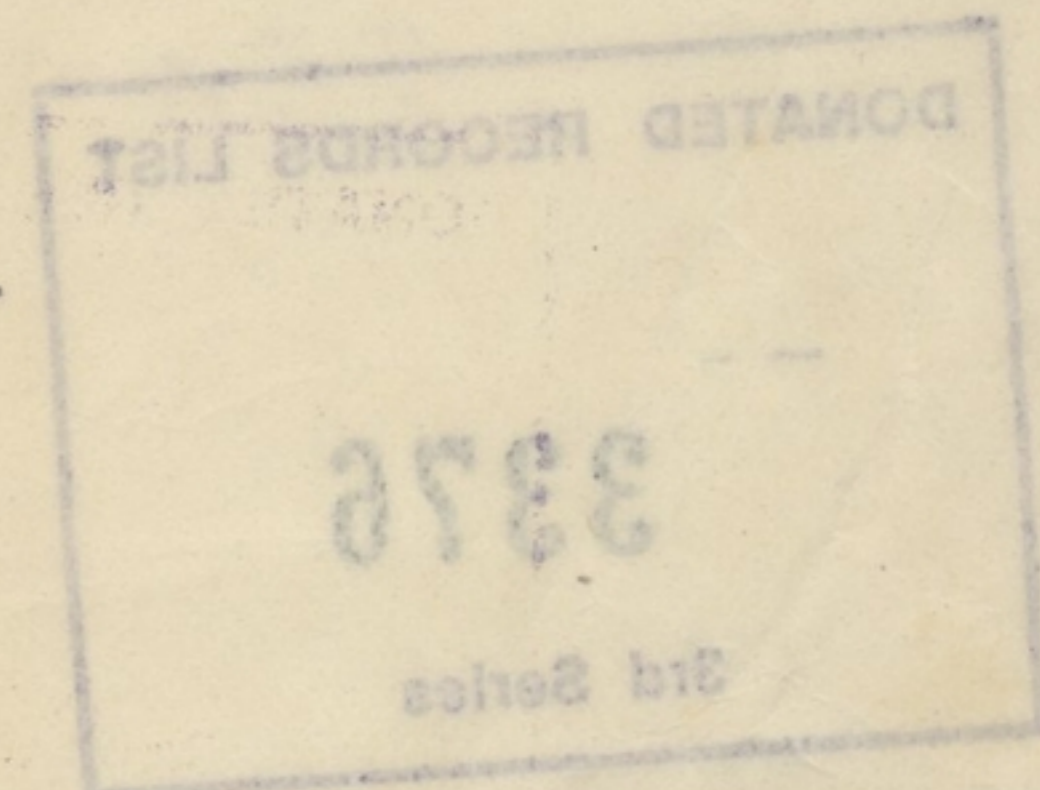
Copy of cablegram for publication in "Sunday Times" Sydney,
on third anniversary of the war. - Despatched 2/8/17.

For three years British arms have been fighting steadfastly for what they believe to be principles of justice and freedom. Unprepared at the outbreak of war, the British people with characteristic singlemindedness have gradually been organizing and preparing the resources, and, in consequence, they now have in the field armies which for the past twelve months have been steadily demonstrating their ability to achieve the aims for which they were conceived.

In this gigantic task the people of the oversea Dominions have undertaken their full share with a complete sense of individual and collective responsibility. To our enemies, and to the world, it has in consequence been demonstrated that the British Empire, loosely but insolubly bound in a homogeneous whole, the power of which is inexhaustible, and the object of which will ever be towards the maintenance of peace and the protection of the weak.

The Australian Army, grown to manhood during these years, has fought on many fields, and has earned glory as great and undying as any which has hitherto been borne by British Arms. There has, in consequence, been given to the Australian people a tradition and an heritage upon which, in honour bound to the memory of their gallant sons who have made the great sacrifice, must be builded a national and Imperial character of the highest ideals.

But the task is not yet completed. It is no part of our character to flinch or hesitate at the last great effort. Moreover, we owe it to those gallant comrades who rest beneath the wooden crosses that their lives shall not have been given in vain. I know well that the Australian people will maintain at full strength their units now in the field, and that in the last great struggle Australia will play the same noble part which has characterized her previous efforts.



63

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 50's in duplicate.)

No. of Message.....

Sm AM 77 Bap
Bez

Charges to Pay.
£ s. d.

Office Stamp.



Service Instructions.

Handed in at Adelaide 3rd 10.52a Office 12.40 m. Received 3.0 pm.

TO

General Burdwood Hdqrs 1st Anzac
B.E.F. France

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

On	eve	Third	anniversary.
declaration	near	I	desire behalf Govt
people	South	Australia	express through
you	proud	grateful	appreciation.
gallantry	our	troops	in association
with	British	arms	relatives and
friends	sends	loving	greetings their
brave	boys	seeing	under you
and	pray	complete	and glorious
victory	will	speedily	crown
courageous	deeds	our	sons
allies	that	great	cause
righteousness	will	prevail	and
blessed	with	lasting	peace

FROM

Peake Premier

PLACE & TIME

"A" Form.

Army Form C. 2121.

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message _____

Prefix.....Code.....m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.	Sent		Service.
	At.....m.			Date.....
	To.....			From.....
	By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....

TO { **-5th-Army.**
Headquarters,
Fifth Army.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
*	7th		

Will you please convey to Chief our grateful thanks for his most generous message which is much appreciated by all aaa No words of mine can express my feelings for the magnificent behaviour of officers and men who are sticking it out through continuous attacks with the utmost determination which we mean to maintain.

From **General Birdwood.**

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z) *[Signature]*

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

Archdeacon Ward has asked me to write a few words in connection with the series of addresses, which he is giving to the Australian troops, and which will I hope be of the greatest value to our men. The subject on which he is lecturing is a most difficult and distasteful one, but has nevertheless, if not perhaps all the more, got to be tackled - and that manfully.

It always seems to me that there are three great factors which every man born into the world may well claim as his birthright - Peace, Freedom and Health. We probably none of us ever put a proper value on any one of these until we have lost it. Peace! we have lost it - but through no fault of our own. Having lost it, however, we now realise all that it meant, and I am sure that all long for it again. We have lost Peace, however, in our right and just cause, fighting so that we should not lose Freedom.

Freedom, we have not lost, and are not going to lose, because we mean to win through, and by victory to regain Peace.

Then comes Health. I think we may take it that all members of the A.I.F. have been born into the world healthy, otherwise they would not have been accepted for recruitment. For this they have to thank their fathers, and their grandfathers before them, and, surely, the very least any one of us can do is to ensure that we will pass on health to our children. That, after all, is the duty of every citizen in civil and military life. Having joined the A.I.F., however, we have undertaken a solemn contract with the Commonwealth Government to do our best - each to take his own part in ensuring victory for the cause for which we are fighting. We can none of us expect always to have health, as wounds and sickness must be the lot of many. We can, however, do our best to keep ourselves healthy, and that is the bounden duty of every officer and man in the Australian Imperial

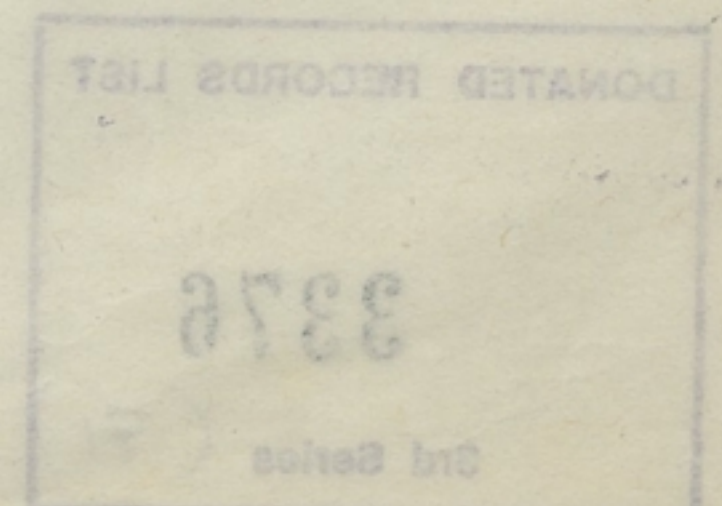
3788
Force/

- 2 -

Force. If the words of Archdeacon Ward can help in this respect -
and I am sure they can, he will have done work of inestimable
value to the force.

(S'gd) W. R. Birdwood.

France, 1st September, 1917.



Copy in Referendum File

1st ANZAC CORPS,

9th NOVEMBER, 1917.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

You will, I am sure, be interested to hear that I have to-day received a telegram from Australia announcing that the Commonwealth Government have decided to take an immediate Referendum on the subject of compulsory service throughout Australia. I feel sure, too, that it will be of interest to all our officers to know how we stand as regards reinforcements, etc., throughout the A.I.F.

I had recently to point out the fact that, owing to lack of reinforcements, we shall probably be at least 8,000 men down by the early spring, and without any reinforcements whatever immediately in sight to replace them. After considering this, G.H.Q. decided that we must withdraw one division into reserve, to act primarily as a feeder for the remainder of the force; but we of course all had to recognise the fact that this might be only the first step, and that, later on, unless the reinforcement situation improved, the question of abolishing one and even, I fear, a second and probably a third division might have to be taken up.

I naturally informed the Commonwealth Government how the situation stood, and told them how deeply all here would feel the breaking up of any single one of the magnificent units, which we have with us, and which have indeed made history for Australia for all time, and I urged the sending of further reinforcements to us without delay. I may mention that at the present time reinforcements are coming forward to the extent of a total of some 2,000 per month, while we must have about four times that number to keep our five divisions efficient in the field.

It is, of course, impossible to foresee what the result of the Referendum may be, but I am convinced that everyone of us must contemplate with horror the possibility of having to break up any of our battalions, brigades, or divisions, and, indeed, I do not know where we should make a start should we unfortunately ever be called upon to do so.

As I think that all will be interested to know about this question of reinforcements, I am sending copies of this letter for all officers.

The information I have given you as regards numbers must of course, be treated as confidential.

Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd.) W. R. BIRDWOOD.

A.P.—344—MM—11-17

1st Anzac Corps,

12th NOVEMBER, 1917.

Now that our Corps is being withdrawn from that part of the front in which we have seen so much hard fighting during the last two months, I wish to convey to all ranks my very heartiest congratulations upon the real good work which has been put in, and my deep feeling of gratitude to officers, non-commissioned officers and men for the magnificent spirit and self-sacrifice which has been shown by all. All I think must realise that the fighting we have been through has been of an entirely satisfactory nature in that we were able to attain our objective in every one of the many attacks which we have put in, and that without a single hitch of any sort. The Army Commander has testified to this after each attack made, and we know with what appreciation the Commander-in-Chief wired to Australia regarding the results of the fighting done by her troops.

In a great deal of our previous fighting, the brunt has fallen to a large extent on the Infantry. In all these recent attacks the infantry have again naturally come in for the giant's share of the fighting, but they will I know be the first to acknowledge how their success has so much depended upon the magnificent work done by the Artillery. Their comrades in the Artillery, too, have not been able to obtain the same long spell as the Infantry have had, and I am sure the whole Infantry will wish to join in unstinted praise and feelings of gratitude for the unflinching and devoted work of all the Artillery day and night without respite. They have been subjected to continuous heavy shelling, while gas shells were often poured over them for hours without cessation. During the whole of this time we have all realized what it has meant to them, and we know that nothing has ever deterred them from sacrificing themselves for the benefit of the Infantry. Not only to the gunners, but to the drivers also we owe our gratitude. With them, too, I would associate the Engineers, Pioneers, Medical Services, and Army Service Corps, who vied with each other in striving to ensure everything possible being done which would conduce to victory, and to the well being of Officers and Men throughout the Corps. All alike have taken their share in casualties, but, much as we must regret the fallen, we realise they have given their lives to ensure victory.

I am sure that whatever fighting may yet be before us, the A.I.F. will on all occasions fight just as well as it has done in the past but the successful fighting these last two months through Glencorse and Polygon Woods terminating in the capture of the Broodseinde Ridge will be difficult to beat, and I would again express my most grateful thanks to all who have taken part in it.

W. R. BIRDWOOD.

A.P.—349 —cc—11-17



1st ANZAC CORPS,
B.E.F., FRANCE,

.....23rd December,.....1917.

Cablegram.

Governor-General,
Melbourne.

Your kind greetings are much appreciated by all Australian troops under my command to whom they have been conveyed. You may rest assured that one and all of us intend to do our best ~~to the last~~ to the full extent of our power until we have attained victory. My most sincere and best wishes to Her Excellency and yourself for many a bright and prosperous year before you.

Birdwood.

HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

FRANCE, 25th DECEMBER, 1917.

On the occasion of our fourth Christmas on active service, I send my heartiest greeting to all members of the A.I.F. Another strenuous year is drawing to a close—a year in which the magnificent traditions of the A.I.F. have been fully upheld by the loyal and gallant service of one and all. During this period, Bapaume—Bullecourt, Messines and Ypres have been added to the splendid list of honours, which begins with the landing at Gallipoli—Lone Pine—and later Pozieres—names which are indelibly recorded in the History of Australia, and which will never be forgotten.

At this season of the year, our thoughts go out especially to those who have fallen, and those now in hospital as a result of sickness and wounds. The memory of our gallant comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice can but strengthen our determination to achieve complete victory over our enemies in this struggle for the preservation of right, and the establishment of a peace under conditions which will permanently safeguard the freedom of the world.

I know that all in France will join with me in sending best wishes to our comrades in hospital for their rapid and complete recovery.

W. S. Bridwood.

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W. R. BIRDWOOD.

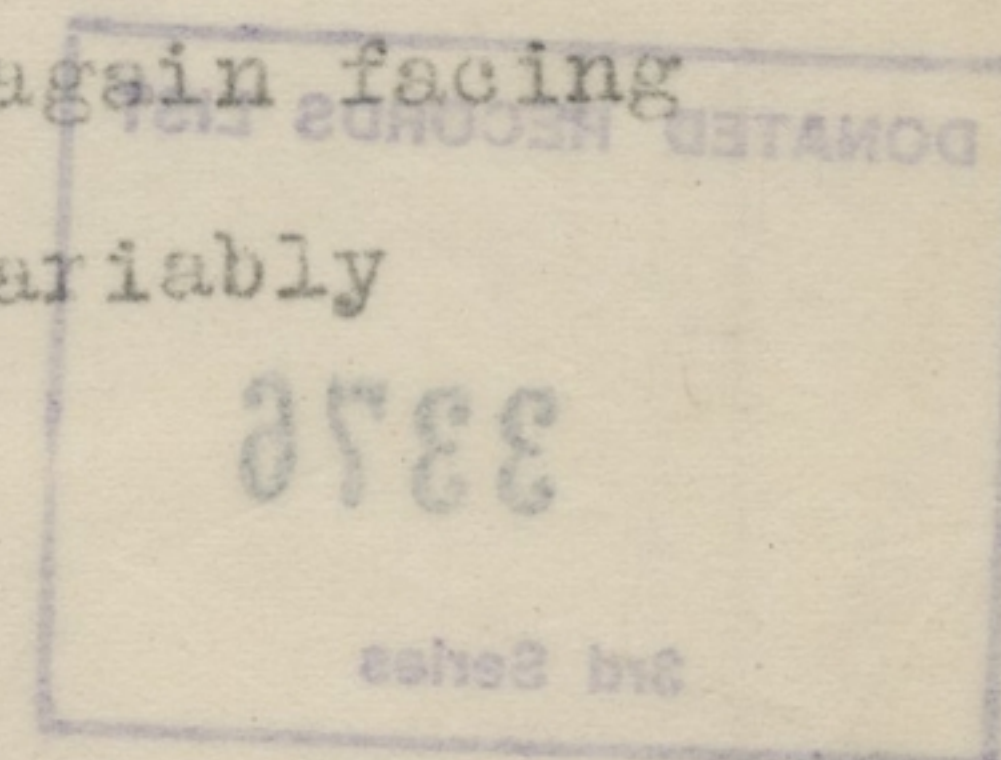
A.I.F. P.S.---389---M---12-17

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I am very glad to be given an opportunity by the issue of the Christmas number of the "Harefield Park Boomerang" to send the heartiest of Christmas greetings from all ranks of the A.I.F. in France to our comrades at Harefield. You may all be sure that you are not forgotten, and that we realise that those who are so patiently undergoing suffering, the result in most cases of wounds received in action, will think of their comrades here in the trenches, and will know, though we are separated by the channel, that we are all members of the one A.I.F. family, which all are determined shall be a happy one.

We here know well that our wounded comrades are being well cared for; we wish you all good fortune, and look forward to welcoming back to France those who regain their health, while we wish a happy return to Australia to those whose wounds prevent them again facing the enemy with the bravery which all have invariably shewn.

France, 5/



Once again I am asked by means of the New Year issue of "Overseas" to send a message to our kinsmen in all parts of the British Empire - a message of hope to the many who expectantly await the return of the men who are doing men's work, and a message of sympathy to those who must needs sorrow.

Another year has gone by, a year of great efforts and of great results, and necessarily, therefore, of great trials and great anxieties. At the end of it we are able to look back with our heads high and our hands clean, and recall a steadfastness and singleness of purpose in the British race which establishes for all time its unity and power and shews to the whole world that by God's grace we are not unworthy of the great destiny which has been placed in our keeping.

The successful prosecution of a war such as this, is dependent more upon the spirit of the nation than even on the prowess of its soldiers and sailors and the skill of their leaders. This is the first time that the British Empire has been involved in a war of nations in arms. Everyone is concerned; everyone's effort is required; and the necessary cohesion is only attained by consideration of the needs of the whole and obliteration of selfish individualism. It is almost an incredible thing that a widely separated Empire, with divergent needs and thoughts, should without hesitation have rallied to its King with such complete singlemindedness; and that the whole resources of the Empire should have been organised as they have with a single object. All this is the more remarkable when it is remembered that there was not probably on the whole globe a race less given to thought of war or to warlike preparations - despite the traditions of the past. We may indeed be justly proud not only that the resources of a vast and scattered Empire have been organized, but that the men of this Empire

appreciative/

appreciative of the common tie, and true to the old stock, have but one aim, and know that side by side they will march to victory with equal and unswerving courage.

But the end is not yet. Indeed, we are only at that point when the greatest demand is made upon our fortitude and resource. It naturally happens, after three years of war, especially after three years of such a devastating and cruel war, that a desire for peace should exist in the hearts of all - and for compromise in the thoughts of a few. "Let us call it a draw" is a phrase which will appeal to some who may try to claim that it contains the elements of the spirit of good nature and chivalry innate in the British race. But there can be no "draw" with a nation, who, from the outset, banished chivalry from its banner and honour from its creed. Germany must be shewn that might is not right; and the only way, while human nature remains human nature, to do this, is to overthrow might. We have been steadfast up to now, that is to say up to the point which assured us safety from the clutches of Pan-Germanism. But we are not fighting and have never been fighting merely for our own self-preservation; we are fighting for the great principles which Abraham Lincoln described as the aims of democracy. If we stop short of the attainment of these, we betray a sacred trust left to us by those gallant souls who have given their lives in the hope that by so doing the goal would be reached.

Whatever the cost, the British Empire will endure unto the end. Its solidarity and unity of purpose will not be diminished by time or adversity. In the maintenance of this spirit, and in securing cohesion and common thought, the Overseas Club is playing a noble part. To its 150,000 oversea members this message is addressed, and in closing I would add that the bright dawn of an enduring peace is certain if only we will firmly resolve to have no thoughts for the clouds of doubt and vacillation. firmly/

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AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Australian Corps,
B. E. F., France,
26th March, 1918.

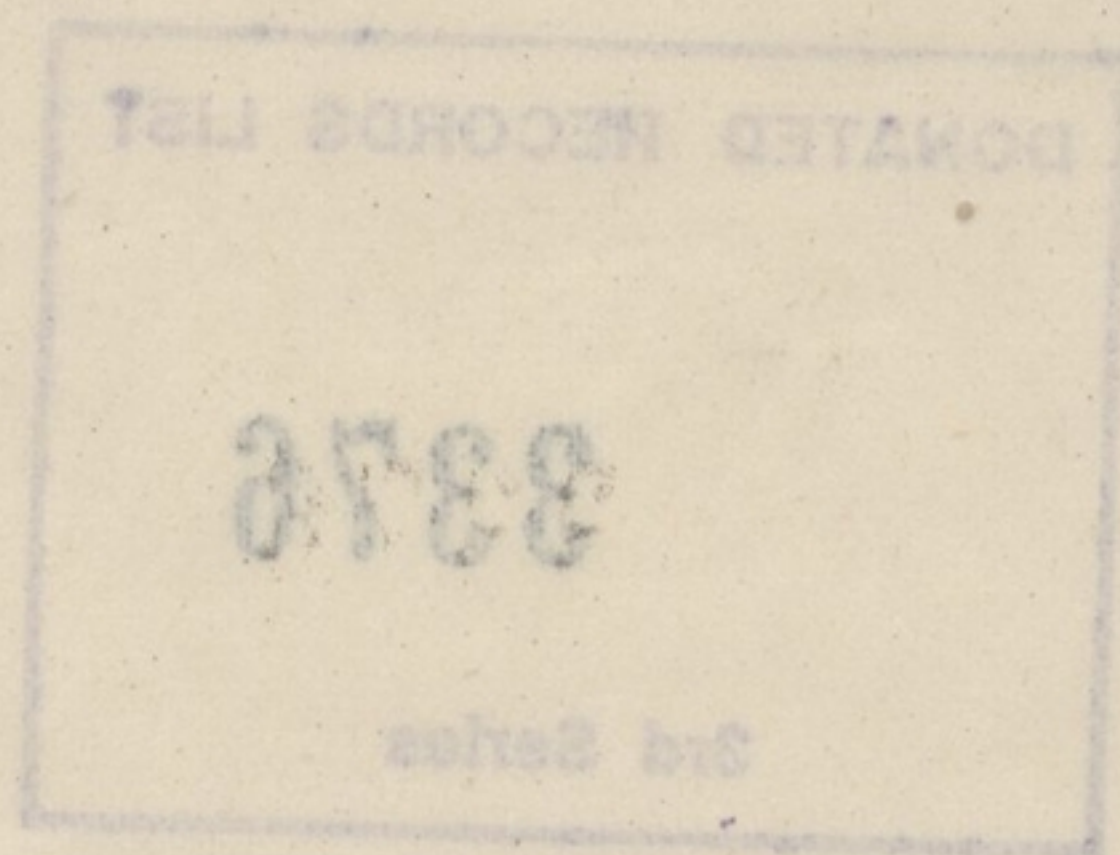
BOYS,

The time has now come when we must be prepared to "Take the strain." I think I need hardly say more. Everyone fully realizes what this means, and I know that I can confidently appeal to every single individual in the A.I.F. to realize that it is up to him personally to "Take the strain" for the sake of his country and all he holds dear.

Remember that personal determination to attain victory at whatever self-sacrifice, by every individual, is what counts, and it may well be that this spirit on the part of even a few men may be the deciding factor of the great battle in which we are now engaged.

Remember what they are thinking of us all in Australia now, and remember the lasting traditions which the Force has made for itself.

W. R. BIRDWOOD.



Special Order issued to all Australian Troops.

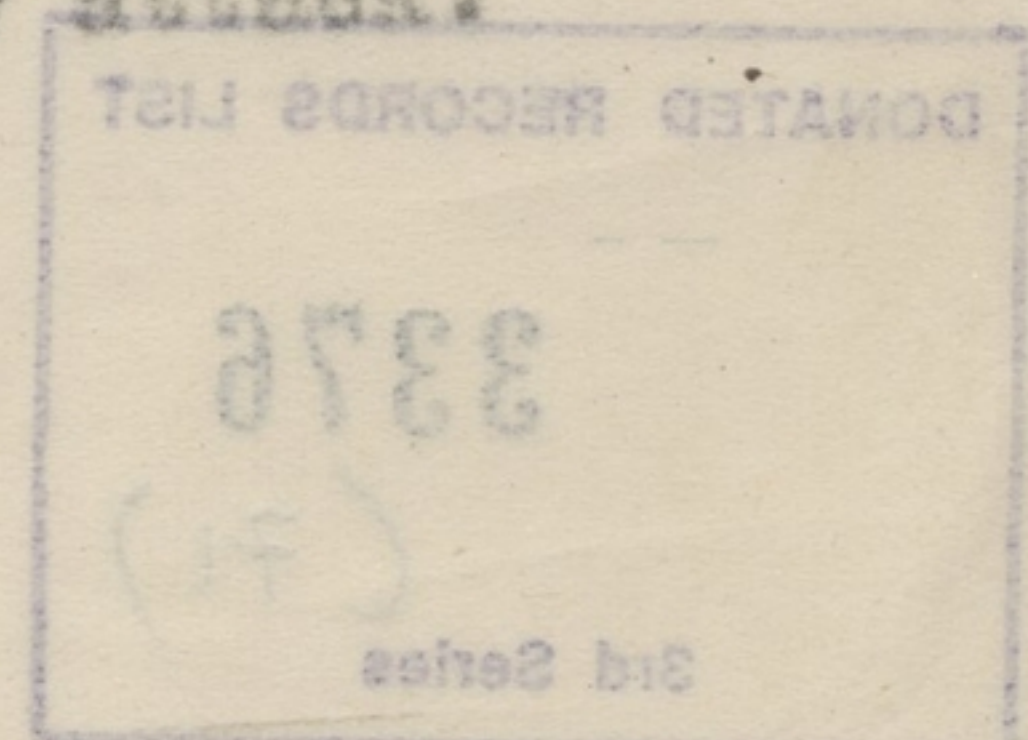
1. It is reported that German officers in British uniform are adopting ruses and ordering retirements and withdrawals of British troops.

All officers and men will be cautioned to be on their guard against indiscriminate and irregularly passed orders and messages to retire or withdraw.

If an officer or M.C.O. receives such orders from any person unknown to him, he will at once place such person under restraint until the authenticity of the order or the bona fides of the messenger are established.

2. Our troops do not retire in the face of German infantry; British superiority has been too often established. Movement is on occasions necessary to a flank or to the front to avoid shelling, but this is not to be mistaken for withdrawal in the face of enemy attack.

6/4/18.



Governor,

Adelaide, South Australia.

Australian troops in France are deeply grateful for the welcome message of encouragement, steadfastness and hope which they have received from the women of South Australia, who can confidently rely on the Australian soldiers upholding the honour of their homeland in the future as they have done in the past. We here render all homage and honour to the women of Australia who we so well know ^{are doing} ~~do~~ their full share equally with our men to maintain the principle of right against might.

General Birdwood.

3358

Copy of telegrams dated 23/4/18.

Governor-General,

Melbourne.

Three years ago today Australia and New Zealand gave of their best in the Empire's cause in an operation which not only established the patriotism, valour and skill of the troops, but will ever live in history. This anniversary finds us with our original aims yet unachieved, but with our resolution firm and unshaken. To those at home and particularly to those who mourn, we would on this day send a message of remembrance and hope. Sacrifice shall not have been made in vain, and in the spirit of 25th April 1915 we will continue to the end.

Governor-General,

Wellington.

On the third anniversary of Anzac Day I desire to convey my greetings and those of the members of the A.I.F. to the people of New Zealand, and to assure them that the New Zealand and Australian troops are continuing to uphold the great traditions established on the 25th April, 1915. The many months during which New Zealand and Australian troops fought literally shoulder to shoulder in the common cause can never be forgotten by either. All who are fighting today realize that the safety and honour of their home and people are as much in their safe custody as they were three years ago, and in this trust they will not fail.

14th June, 1918.

Gentlemen,

I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting you all today, for I am always especially anxious to see all our young officers, as soon as they receive their commissions, and before they re-join their regiments as officers.

As I dare say I have told some of you on previous occasions, I think we can almost regard this war as a "Platoon Commanders' war." You probably know what I mean by that, viz., that an early and decisive victory would depend to an enormous extent upon the efficiency and general bearing of our platoon commanders. You are almost the only officers who can actually control any bodies of men once heavy fighting begins. Units at once become so scattered that the company commander can hardly hope to have his whole company under his hand, while the difficulties of battalion and brigade commanders in this respect are naturally increased. It is according to his own character that the platoon commander can hope always to be able to command his men really effectively, and to know them for good or bad.

I am myself an old regimental officer, having been for several years adjutant of my regiment, so I think I can talk from personal experience about the feelings of the men. You, who have risen from the ranks, know the men better even than I do. As a result of your own experience, I know you will back me up in agreeing that if the men have respect for their officers and realise that they know their work and look after the interest of their men, they will follow them, if necessary, to the mouth of Hell; while, if they realise that their officers do not know their work, or take any interest in the well-being of their men, they will not care for them one damn.

The point of efficiency can be regarded from two aspects: one, the actual leading in fighting, and, the other, looking after the men in trenches, billets, or wherever they may be. The actual work of a platoon commander in the field is easily learned. Most excellent short pamphlets have been issued to you all, and these really cover most of the work required in the face of the enemy, as far as it can be learned by theory - the remainder depends upon yourself, your courage, determination, commonsense and level-headedness.

Remember that a platoon well commanded - if the platoon commander will keep his head, and select his ground carefully - can with its Lewis gun and rifle fire hold at bay a whole German battalion.

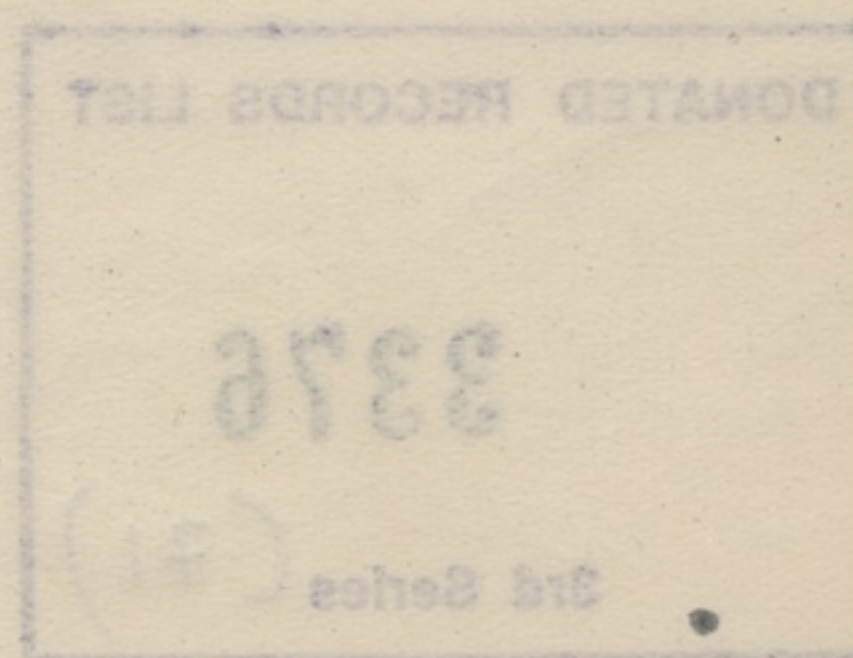
Then there is the question of looking after our men when not actually fighting. It has always been a tradition of the Army that the officer invariably looks after his men before he attempts to look after himself. You can look after yourselves, but the men cannot/

cannot do so. I know well you may get into a muddy trench on a pouring wet night: everything is miserable. Do not sit down to smoke a cigarette, or look after your own comfort and well-being, but make up your mind that you must immediately begin to bustle round, and ensure the comfort of your men. See that their food, clothing, etc. are all as right as they can be. Make an invariable custom of this in whatever part of the line you may be, whether actually in the front line trenches, in billets or elsewhere. The men will very soon realise if you have their welfare really at heart. What I do most earnestly ask every one of you to do is to try to make every man in your platoon feel that you are the best friend he has in the world - that he can always regard you as a personal friend as well as a tried soldier, to whom he will naturally turn in all trouble.

One more point - saluting. Only today, I happened to pass a dozen of our men who very correctly saluted a young officer. He in return merely gave a slight jerk of the hand. I am sure he meant no discourtesy, but it was not the way to do it. Remember that every human being is of the same clay. We all have the same feelings, and it just so happens that some of us are "vested with but brief authority." While we have that authority, let us remember what is due to those who respect it, and enter into their feelings. When a man salutes you, raise your hand to your hat; look the man in the face, and convey the impression, which is so easily done, that you are glad to see him, and appreciate returning his salute. It is only a little thing, but it makes a difference.

I know, gentlemen, that I need not say more. You know what I mean, and I am convinced that one and all of you will put your backs into it to prove that you are what I may call the salt of the earth, for that is what so many of your young officers have proved themselves to be, and what I want to think all are. Remember that no flag throughout the world is more honoured than ours now is, thanks to the bravery of our troops. Remember that it can only remain so honoured as long as it has no stain on it, and if ever occasions are given for the throwing of mud, some of it may stick and stain.

The best of good wishes to you all in whatever is before us. I know how Australia will count on your fulfilling to the utmost your duty to her, and to the men whom she has entrusted to your care.





Agent-General for New South Wales.
Sydney House, Cockspur Street,
Trafalgar Square, S.W. 1.

Reference

N^o

2nd July, 1918.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that a cablegram has reached me from the Government of New South Wales, desiring me to convey their congratulations to you on your promotion, also on your temporary elevation to command the Fifth Army on the Western Front in France.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

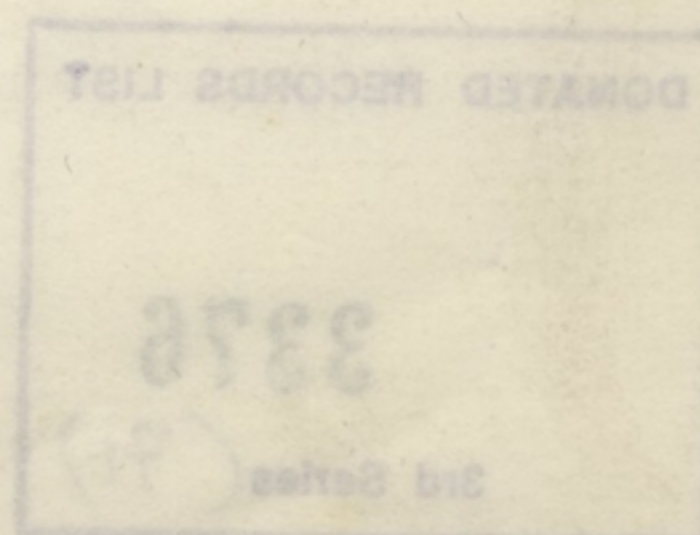
Your obedient Servant,

C. Glueck

General Sir William Riddell Birdwood, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.,
K.C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., A.D.C.,

Headquarters A.I.F.,

A b r o a d.



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APH/GW.

8, GROSVENOR CRESCENT,

LONDON, S.W.1.

General
Sir W.R. Birdwood, K.C.B.,
C/o. Australia House,
STRAND,
W.C. 2.

April 14th. 1919.

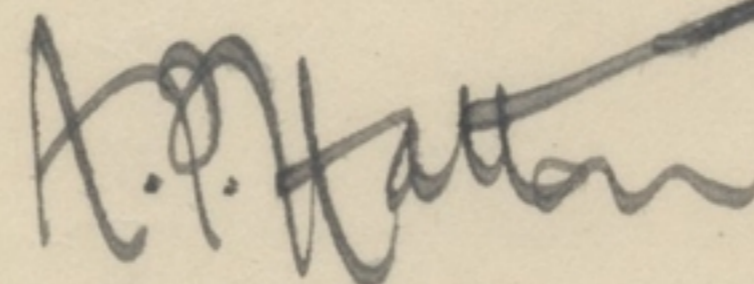
Dear Sir,

I have heard with great pleasure, a pleasure which I am sure all readers of the "Comrades Journal" will share - the news that you have kindly consented to become a patron of the Comrades of the Great War Association, on whose behalf this Journal is published.

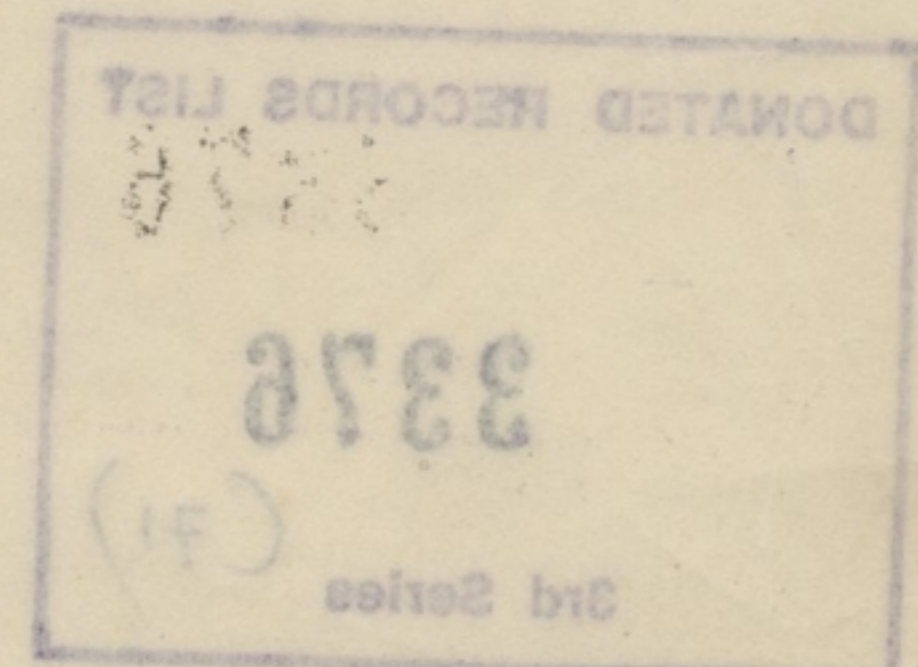
I, therefore, beg to ask if you would be so kind as to send me a small message, even if only half a dozen words, suitable to be printed under the title "Why I believe in the "Comrades", that is to say, just a brief expression of opinion from you as to the value to be attached to the comradeship which has been cemented by the trials of the war in the work of reconstruction.

Might I ask if you would kindly let me have your reply not later than the 23rd. April, so that I shall be able to include it in the issue going to press for May.

Yours faithfully,



EDITOR.



Comrade of the Great War

In this war of nations the whole of the great resources of the British Empire have been organized, not in a spirit of aggression, or for self-interest, but for the fight for the principles of right and justice. Throughout the dangers and trials which our soldiers and sailors have faced with unflinching determination and courage, there has been created a bond of brotherhood among all ranks of our forces. It is to the influence of this loyal and tried comradeship we can rightly attribute many deeds of gallantry and supreme self-sacrifice. It is natural, therefore, that we celebrate our victory with a fuller appreciation of the common tie which has drawn us closer together in the achievement of our noble aims. In prosperity equally as in adversity the value of this comradeship is incalculable, and it must be an important factor in the work of reconstruction with which we are now confronted. No efforts should be spared to cement these bonds of individual friendships, and thus perpetuate the fine spirit which has permeated

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Wm. J. ...

In this war against the whole of the great
resources of the British Empire have been organized,
not in a spirit of aggression, but in a spirit of self-defence,
"War against the aggressor, not the aggressed."
Association, in giving its aid to this end, is
rendering a great national service, in which
confidence and support will be given to the
ex-servicemen, to whom it belongs.
The influence of this loyal and tried comradeship
can rightly attribute many deeds of gallantry and
extreme self-sacrifice. It is natural, therefore, that
we celebrate our victory with a fuller appreciation of
the common tie which has drawn us closer together in
the achievement of our noble aims. In prosperity
equally as in adversity the value of this comradeship
is invaluable, and it must be an important factor in
the work of reconstruction with which we are now
confronted. No effort should be spared to cement
these bonds of individual friendships, and thus
perpetuate the fine spirit which has been

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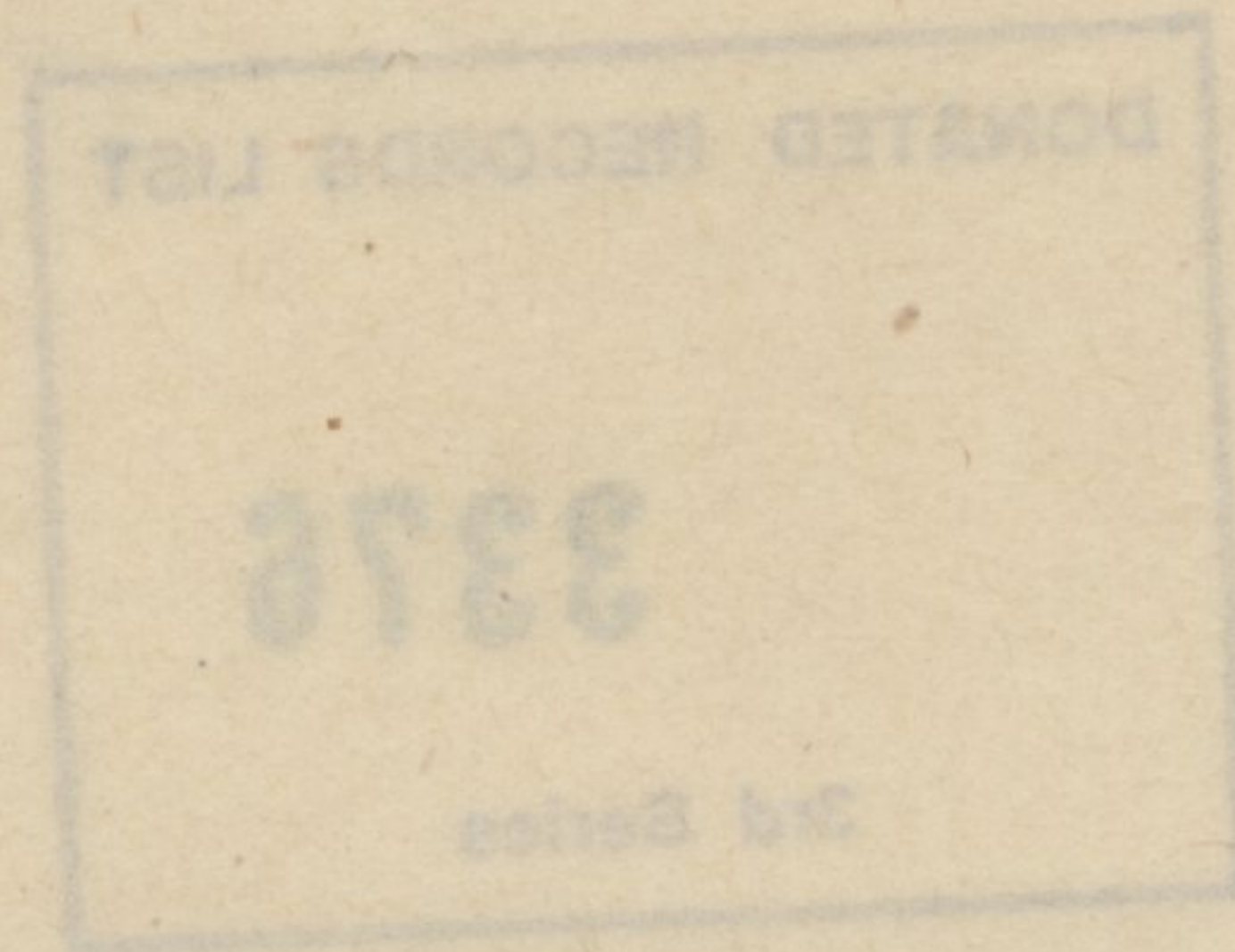
Forwarded with the Compliments of the Secretary
of the War Office. for favour of transmission
to General Sir William Birdwood.

War Office,

62

July 2nd 1919.

W7522—WD2138 20,000 11/18 HWV(P907)



No. of Telegram.....

C_D

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix 257
Code
Words

ORIGINAL
Government Telegram.
Received from By

Service Instructions.
49

Office of Origin. Adelaide 21st	Handed in at H. M. 12 20 pm	Received at 49 Sent out for delivery at 13 11	H. M. 21st	Date or Office Stamp. 21st
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TO { Gen Sir William Birdwood
Waroffice Ldn

Five thousand South Australian Diggers
 & the members of the Cheer
 Up Hut with its hundred
 Country Branches send their
 warmest greetings to you and
 Lady Birdwood rejoice prospect
 of your visit
 Mrs A Seager
 Gen Sec Cheer Up
 Hut Adelaide

Original sent to 462
 Copies sent to
 REGISTRY.

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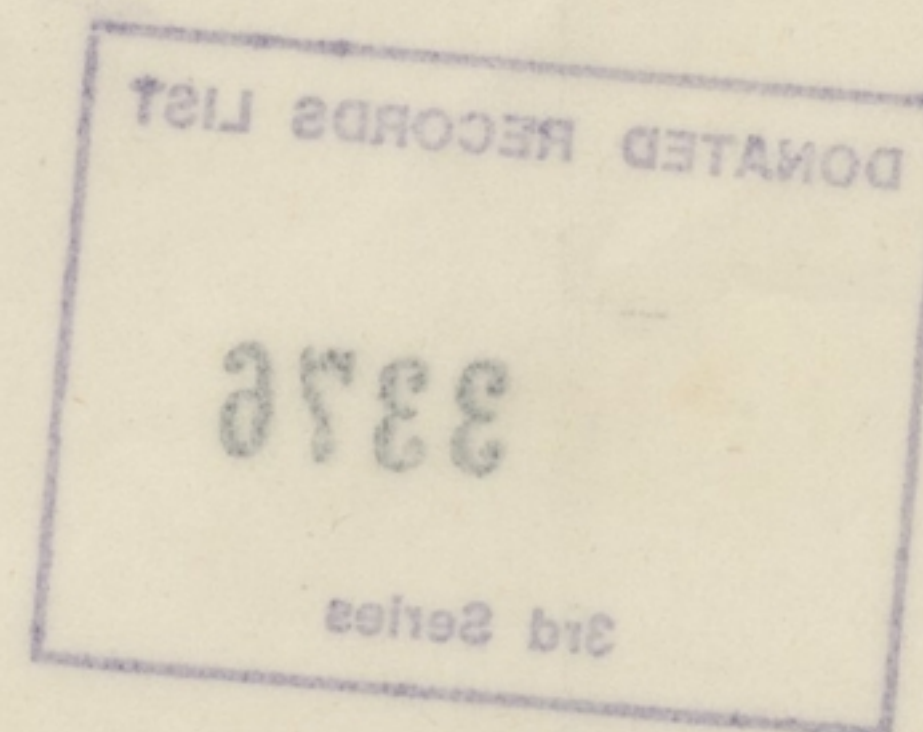
Cablegram - 24th July, 1919.

Mrs Seager,

Cheer-up Hut, Adelaide.

Deeply grateful for kind message from five thousand South Australian digger comrades and member of Cheer-up Hut. Much look forward to meeting my old comrades in Australia.

General Birdwood.



MELBOURNE.

29th Sept.

4.p.m.

WL639 Please forward following to Generals BIRNWOOD and MONASH begins
an publishing Book Salvation Army work among A.I.F. should greatly
appreciate fifty words from yourself can you oblige state house address
Salvation Melbourne will gladly refund cost Commissioner HAY Salvation
Army ends.

DEFENCE.

Will you take out an
of duplicate message, bringing in the
name of our first S.A. Chaplain - I hope
that at present, but we will
remember an excellent fellow in
1st Div. who went back from France etc

Was it in the message?
I will try to make it
90

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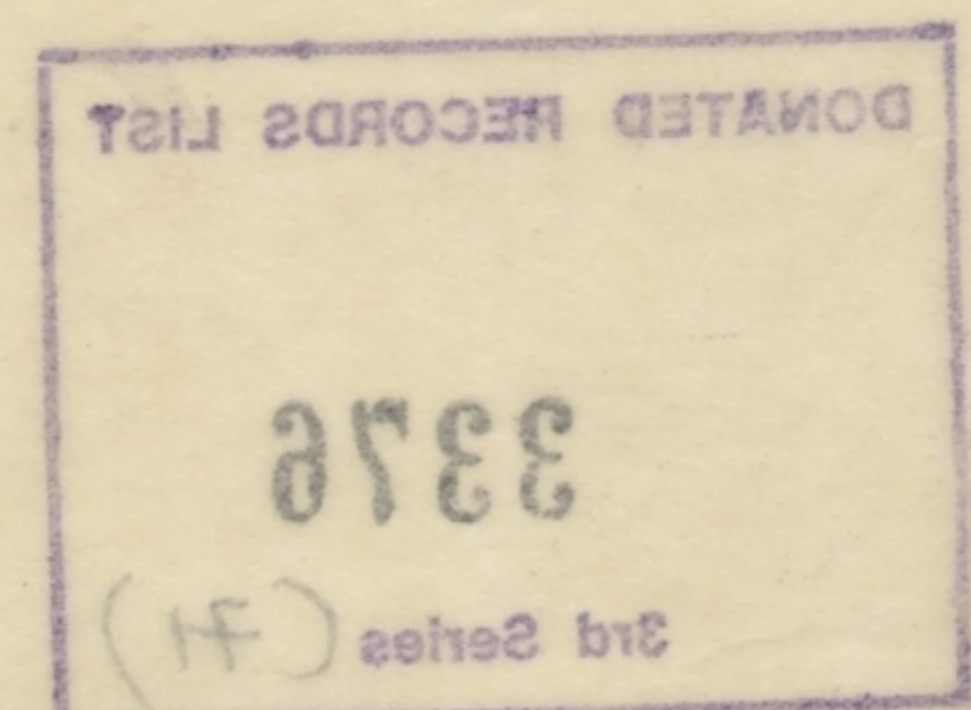
For despatch.

Defence,

Melbourne

Your WL639 following for Salvation Melbourne aaa
Work Salvation Army efficient as was unostentatious
aaa Unsparing successful efforts first chaplain
McKenzie and later confreres all theatres provide
comfort wellbeing troops particularly in fighting zone
recognized and greatly appreciated by all ranks aaa
We are deeply grateful to them and their organization
for selfsacrificing and valuable assistance Birdwood.

9/10/19.



TELEGRAMS, BASSINGHAM.

THURLBY HALL,
LINCOLN.

I am asked to ~~write~~^{say} in a very few words something
of Australia's effort in the great war. I doubt, however
if any one man except ^{perhaps} Australia's Prime Minister could
do justice to such a subject. - I can speak only for her
soldiers, ^{who have my complete admiration, confidence & affection & among whom are some} ~~whom~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~whose~~ ^{horizon} ~~of~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~my~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~vision~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~yet~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~I~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~can~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~realize~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~what~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~a~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~great~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~part~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~beyond~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~that~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~taken~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~by~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~soldiers~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~Australia~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~has~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~played~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~In~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~military~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~par~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~lance~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~it~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~is~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~"the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~man~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~behind~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~gun"~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~who~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~really~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~counts~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~-~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~in~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~this~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~world~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~war~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~it~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~has~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~been~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~people~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~behind~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~their~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~sailors~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~soldiers~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~-~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~people~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~whose~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~high~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~moral~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~support~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~has~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~never~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~failed~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~, and~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~who~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~have~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~finally~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~ensured~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~victory~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~for~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~cause~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~of~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~right~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~and~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~freedom~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~. Can~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~we~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~put~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~too~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~high~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~a~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~value~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~on~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~Australia's~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~share~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~in~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~this~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~respect~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~? The~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~soldiers~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~have~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~made~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~by~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~great~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~tradition~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~which~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~has~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~been~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~in~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~all~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~time~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~and~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~insured~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~paying~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~of~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~her~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~part~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~at~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~very~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~best~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~head~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~and~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~her~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~people's~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~courage~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~insists~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~on~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~keeping~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~it~~ ^{of my best of friends} ~~the~~ ^{of my best of friends}

DOCTOR RECORDS LIST
1211 280000 2100
The Soldiers
in all time
at the very best
with



*All communications
to be addressed to*
THE AGENT-GENERAL FOR NEW SOUTH WALES.

Telegraphic Address: "ALICUJUS, WESTRAND, LONDON"
Telephone No.: GERRARD, 2337 (2 LINES)

Reference N^o

*Agent-General for New South Wales.
Sydney House, Cockspur Street,
Trafalgar Square, S.W. 1.*

10th October 1919.

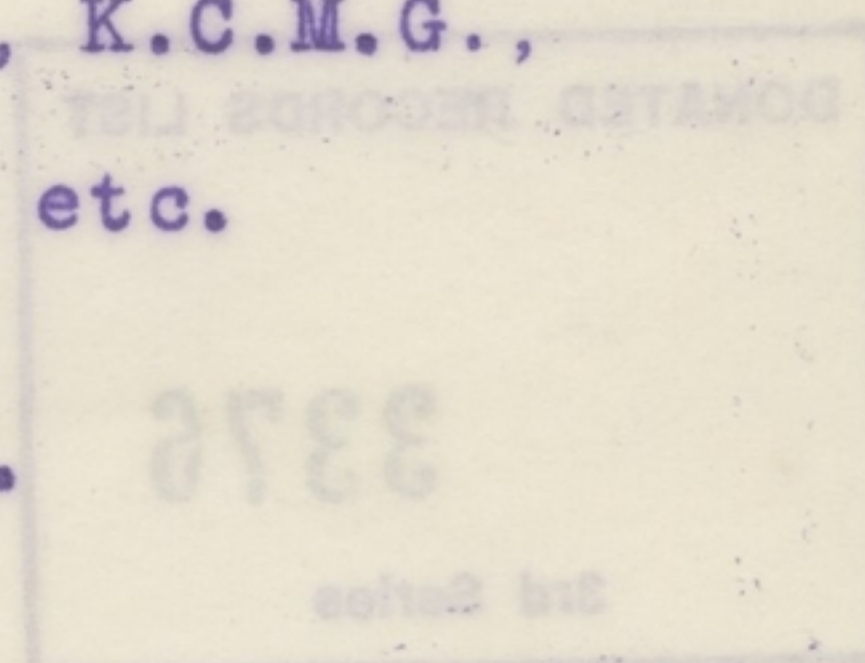
Sir,

On behalf of the Mitchell Library of New South Wales,
I desire to submit the following for your favourable
consideration:-

The Mitchell Library is a component part of the
State Public Library of New South Wales and it possesses what
is considered to be the finest collection of Australian
historical records in the world. The Principal Librarian
and Directors are now engaged in enhancing its value by the
addition of records, documents, and personal matter, connected
with the Great War. Under the "personal" heading, an
autograph letter from you - in which you might feel disposed
to give expression to your opinion on the effect of
Australian participation in the War, or the Australian as a

General Sir William R. Birdwood, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G.,
A.D.C. General., D.S.O.
etc. etc. etc.

Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.,
130, Horseferry Road,
S.W.1.



-2-

fighting man, and/or any other phase of the subject from the Australian point of view - would be highly prized in future years, owing to your having commanded Australians.

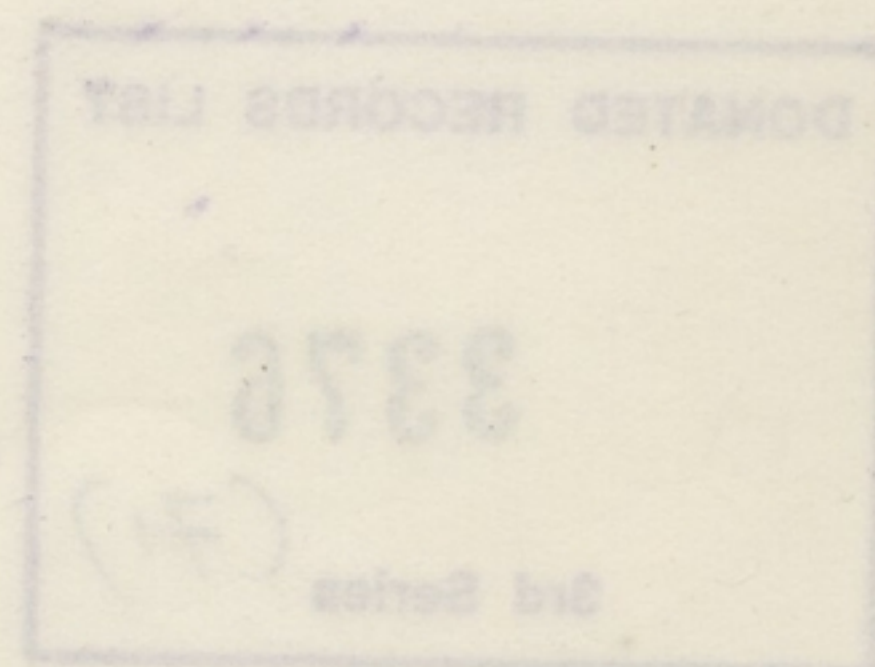
If you should accede to this request - I should be glad to forward special lasting paper. The letter would then be placed as a permanent souvenir of the War in company with similar letters which I am soliciting from Field-Marshal Sir Edmund Allenby and General Sir Henry S. Rawlinson.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. Gluade



I have taken the opportunity when meeting representative gatherings of citizens in the States I have visited of bringing to notice, as far as my memory serves me, the doings of their troops in the war, though I, of course, realize that the time available on such occasions as this does not enable me to do anything like justice to their magnificent achievements.

I would naturally mention first your wonderful 9th Battalion, which formed part of the 3rd Brigade under the command of General Maclagan, and, as you know, it was this brigade which was especially chosen as our covering force at the Landing at Gallipoli. Your 9th Battalion was therefore has the great tradition that it was one of the first three ⁴ Australian Battalions to land on the Peninsula. Being a unit of the 1st Division, the 9th has naturally a large list of Battle Honours. / ^{On proceeding to France} After our evacuation of ~~the~~ Gallipoli this battalion particularly distinguished itself in the capture of Pozieres, than which I do not think we ever experienced harder fighting, for the Germans were well supplied with artillery, which was exceptionally well organized, and they were fighting with confidence in the ultimate result of the war - very different Germans from those we met in 1918, when they realized they were a defeated nation.

Following Le Barge, the 9th came in for the very heavy fighting at Lagnicourt, where we defeated a determined counter-attack by four German Divisions, on whom we inflicted very severe casualties, and at Bullecourt. The Battalion was heavily engaged in the Passchendaele operations, and later ~~in~~ opposed the German advance at Merris and Meteren, where all battalions of the 1st Division completely destroyed the moral of the enemy by their daring and effective daylight raids. It then took part in the final phases of the war at Lihons, Proyart, and the operations leading up to the capture of the Hindenburg Outpost Line on 18th September, 1918.

Battalion commanders were Colonels Lee (?) J.C. Robertson (later Brig-General in command of 6th Brigade) Walsh (temp) Mullen and Ross (temp).

Private /
3rd Series

Private Leak was awarded the V.C. in this battalion. Among the many prominent officers, I remember Colonel Butler A.A.M.C.- Captain - later Colonel ^{in 50*} Salisbury, who both distinguished themselves in the landing. Colonel Wilder Neligan who was a Serjeant at Gallipoli - Captain Knightley.

The 4th Infantry Brigade, which also took part in the landing, contained the 15th Battalion, which then was composed of Queenslanders and Tasmanians, but later became entirely a Queensland unit. This Battalion was engaged in all our offensive operations at Gallipoli including the night attack on Sari Bair in August, 1915. Its first heavy fighting in France was at Pozieres and Mouquet Farm. With other Austn battalions the 15th displayed the utmost gallantry and determination in the attack on Bullecourt, and later was engaged at Messines, Passchendaele, Hebuterne and the final operations of the war in 1918. Commanding officers in this battalion were Colonels Cannan, later Brig-General commanding 11th Brigade) Mcsharry and Johnston (temp). Colonel McSharry, who originally belonged to your 2nd Light Horse, was killed near Corbie. Major Quinn (~~Quinn~~ killed at Quinn's Post, was a member of this battalion, as also was Major Corrigan, later Colonel in command of 46th Bn. Driver Daziel was awarded the V.C.

^{426th} The next Queensland battalions to join us ~~were~~ the 25th which formed part of the 7th Brigade in the 2nd Division, which landed at Gallipoli in the later stages of the campaign, and garrison the position known as the Apex. ^{426th} On preceeding to France the 25th also came in for heavy fighting at Pozieres where ^{the 7th Bde} it made two determined attacks ~~en~~ in which I regret it ~~achieved success at~~ it suffered heavy casualties. These battalions also took part in the operations at Malt Trench, Lagnicourt, Bullecourt, Passchendaele, Morlancourt, and in the final fighting at Amiens, Herleville, Mont St Quentin, ^{and} Beaurevoir in the Hindenburg Line.

^(25th) Commanding officers were Colonels Paton (later in command of 6th Brigade) Dawson, Norrie, F.L. Dawson (temp) W. Davis (temp) (Bean's note: Davis had a great reputation for courage)
^(later OC. 26th Bn)

* Originally the 26th contained a proportion of Tasmanians.

(26th) Colonels Ferguson, Travers and Davis. Capt Cherry and Lieutenant Borella, of 26th Bn were awarded V.C. Colonel Currie of 28th was for a period second in command of 26th.

Queensland was represented in the 8th Brigade by the 31st Battalion. This brigade, which did not land at Gallipoli, saw its first fighting in France at Fromelles, and later was engaged in the operations at Sunray Trench, - Occupation of Bapaume - Beaumetz - on the flank of the Bullecourt attack - Polygon Wood - Morlancourt - and the advance from Amiens to the Hindenburg Line, when for the first time Queensland troops were fighting alongside our American allies on 29th September, 1918.

Commanding officers were Colonels Toll, Davies
J. McArthur
(later Havre Base) and Freeman. / Col Toll was wounded when on the parapet at Felurbaix in 1916 and went through the heavy fighting with his battalion in Polygon Wood on 25th and 26th September, 1917. Private Bugden (deceased) was awarded the V.C. in this battalion.

(Gen Rankin?)
The 11th Brigade, commanded by General Cannan, contained 41st and 42nd Qld Battalions. Arriving with 3rd Division rather later in the war, their first operations were the very successful attack on Messines. The 41st and 42nd later took part in the heavy fighting at Zonnebeke - Morlancourt Amiens - Bouschavesnes and Hindenburg Line.

Commanding officers were - 41st - Colonels Board and Heron, who was a Major in 42nd - and (42nd) Colonel Woolcock. (Bean makes a special note of Heron and Captain Butler (younger brother of Col Butler AAMC in 41st.) - *Major Finello of 42nd later commanded 42nd Bn.*
Lance-Corporal Gordon of 41st was awarded the V.C.

The 47th Queensland Battalion belonged to 12th Brigade, which for a period was commanded by General Robertson, before he took over the 6th Bde. This brigade was formed on our return to Egypt after the evacuation, when we were able to organize two complete divisions, the 4th and 5th. On proceeding to France the 47th with other battalions of the

