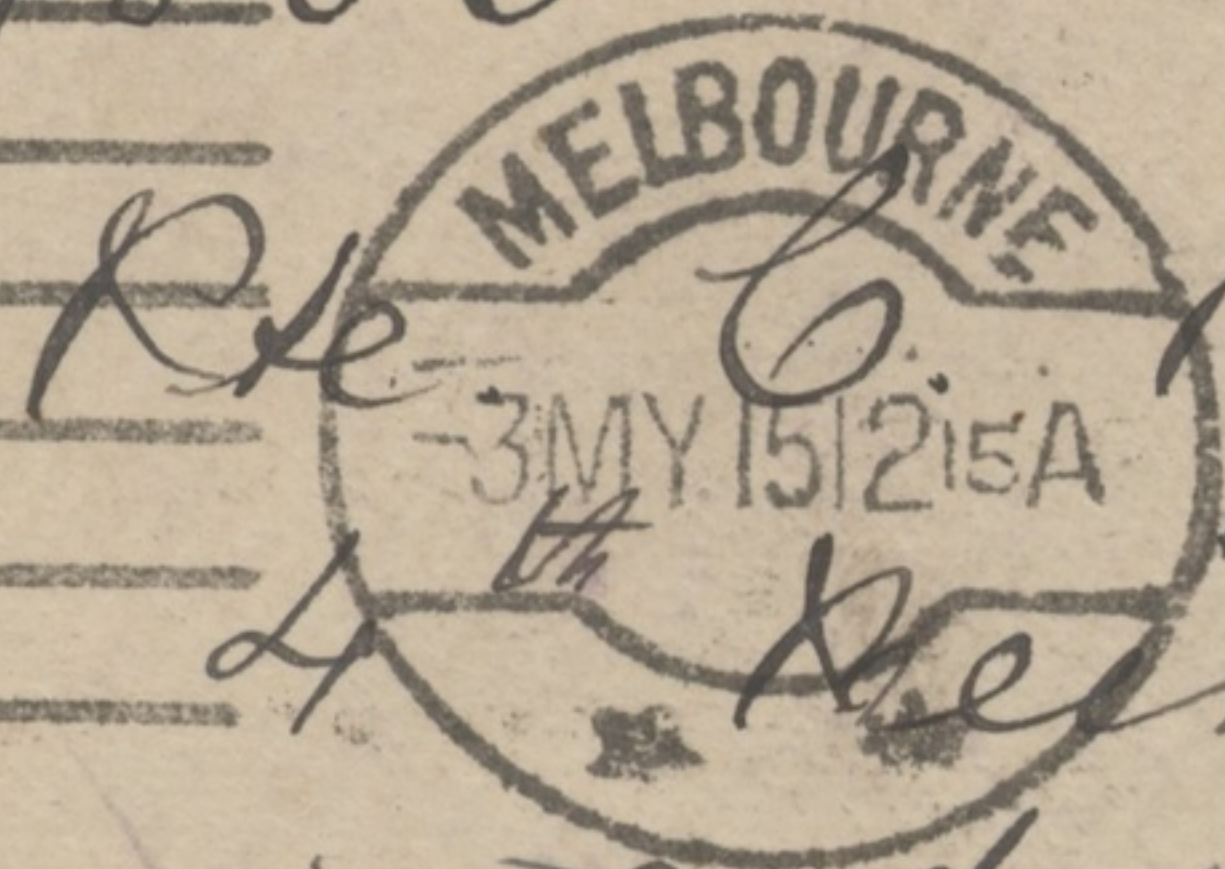


We are marched up this first
 hill through a trench into the
 next valley where we find another
 dug hill 700 feet high passing us
 with our pack, canteen & ammunition
 this is a stiff job. We are
 steadily approaching the firing
 line. At the support trenches our
 names are checked there I meet
 Frank. We both put on a show
 of diffidence but I was devilishly
 glad to see him. He is looking
 pretty thin but otherwise very
 fit. I had to go before the Brigade
 to get my transfer confirmed but
 that was soon arranged & I am
 allotted to 16 section 4 platoon
 A "Co" 3rd Bn. We go down
 into the dugouts for 3 days
 of rank of camp the same
 dugout, but we have to go
 up into the support trenches
 at 6 o'clock sleep there in readiness
 for immediate action. At
 3:30 am we are woke up & have to
 stand to, this is the critical
 time at 4:30 we go back to the
 dugouts

No 1803

ONIA



Mr C. Annelly
Reinforcements



2nd Battalion
1st Brigade

3rd Bn

Mr
%
36A

Secretary for Defence
Melbourne

TUESDAY. ~~JULY~~^{JUNE} 1ST. The 3 days

down in the dugouts are supposed to be spent in resting after being several days in the ~~dugouts~~^{trenches} the resting consists of carrying bins of water, wood & provisions up the hill. Today was tobacco day we each got half a bin of light caps & 2 packs of cigarettes & a box of matches. The appearance of some of the old hands is very funny! they have let their beards grow & are dressed in all sorts of uniforms, there is no parade headdress needed here. All of them have a profound contempt for the Turk & an unbounded confidence in themselves. It is very funny to see no new arrivals but our heads when a bullet whistles by, but we soon get over that. I didn't feel quite comfortable the first night when we were standing to duty against heavy firing, it makes a man

1 DRL 422

(3)

think very seriously, but his
prepared for anything now.
We have one weapon here which
the Japs are extremely
frightened of, it is called
the Japanese bomb, it is
fired from an article
resembling a toy cannon
& the firing charge is
compressed air. It mounts
straight up in the air & comes
down like a howitzer shell
at the range it is set for
It bursts just as it reaches
the trench with a deafening
report, & from all accounts
causes terrible
damage

(4)
WEDNESDAY 2nd Had my first

misadventure today, carrying a tin of
beef stew up the hill when
I slipped & the stew & I went to
the bottom of the hill. I wounded
my ankle & bruised my shoulder,
but that wasn't the worst, as
some of the boys had no dinner
through it. On duty just the
same but am doing no
fatigue. Our ration consists
of 1 lb of biscuits, 12 oz of beef
tin, 4 oz of jam, 2 oz of cheese
& hot tea 3 times a day. At
dinner time we get the bully
beef in the form of a stew
mixed with desiccated
vegetables.

THURSDAY 3rd Received no

1st 2 platoons in the firing
line at midday. The firing
line is a trench about 4 foot deep
with a 2 foot parapet of sand
bags whose dirt on the parapet
bags are cut at a height of



Pte. G. M^c Anulty No 180

Wot B Coy

14th R.

2nd Bn. 1st Coy

1st Brigade

G. Secretary for Defence

Melbourne

3/1. 2 loopholes (5) to each ledge
2 mates generally go to the same
loophole. Observing is done
by means of a periscope, one
observes & the other snipes when
ever he gets a chance. Their
snipers are very good, they'll
put shot after shot through
your loophole if they ^{miss} ~~miss~~ a
if you happen to have your
rubble bag out of place you
stand a good chance of getting
hit. Had a few shots this
afternoon but could not see
any target so gave it up.

FRIDAY 4th Came out into
the communication trench
at 6 a.m. We do 6 hours work
at a time in the firing line
then 6 hours spell then again
a couple of casualties in
our platoon last night

(6)
3/4 There are 2 loopholes
to get ledge observing
is done with a periscope
then one can see everything
that is going on without
exposing oneself while
one is observing the other
is changing whenever the
opportunity offers. Secure
as the fort seems it does
not do to take any chances.
Their uniforms are deadly
just as they appear through
through your lookouts if they
have reason to think there
is anyone behind, was to
be sure who causes the
rubble bag out of his loophole
when he is not firing.

1 DR 422

SATURDAY 6th (7) Turks generally open up
on the beach with shrapnel about 8 o'clock.
They seem to have information that there are a
lot in bathing there but as a rule do very
little damage. Our Mountain Batteries seem
to have them guessing.

SUNDAY 7th Met Father Heenan formerly
Parish Priest of Richmond this morning.
He is attached to the 2nd Brigade. We have
a Father M. Aueiffe from Sydney attached
to our Brigade. The boys of Sydney are
the B of E. Chaplains. The boys are very
quiet today just a little desultory
firing.

MONDAY 8th The country about here
is curiously similar to Australia in
fact the hills & gullies leading up from
the beach remind me very much of Borenton
or ~~St. John~~ Queenscliff, the vegetation is
also the same. Had an alarm tonight
about 11 pm. It started with sharp firing
on the left & spread right along the line.
The artillery joined, what with it & the
bombs the air was deafening. Flare
lights & star shells were used by both
sides. We fired away till our rifles
were that hot we could hardly handle
them after about 4 am they died
down as suddenly as it started. An attack
was launched, our casualties were slight.

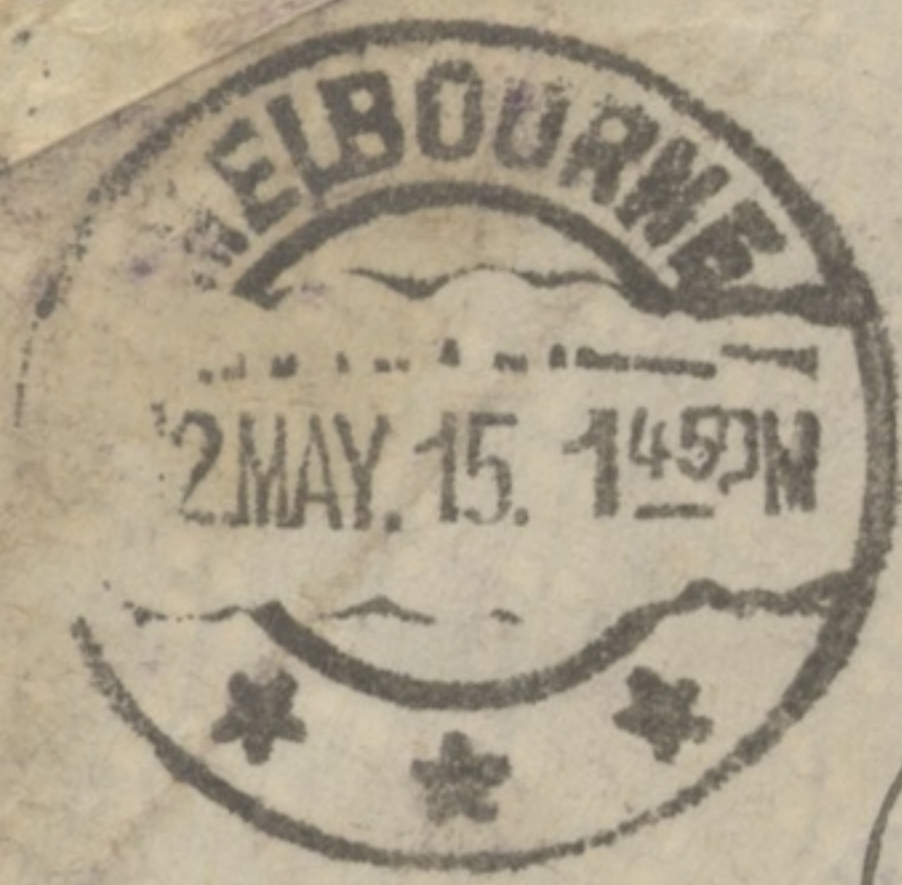
TUESDAY 8th / all on (8) time out of the firing line
is spent in fatigue work, we get about 2 hours
work & 4 hours sleep. We are continually trench
digging & sapping or carrying water & provisions
up the hill. Our aeroplane flew over & threw
bombs this morning & dropped 2 bombs. They
seemed to land right in their trenches. Judging
from the explosion & smoke & dirt that was
thrown up must have done great damage.
There are 3 destroyers lying low in Anzac
Cove every morning & evening they run
in close to the shore & shell the Turks

WEDNESDAY 9th / Our O.C. Capt Carter was
hit this morning. This is the 3rd time he has
been wounded in about 7 weeks. He got
up to a loophole to have a look round & got
hit in the jaw & stomach & stomach. He looks
pretty bad. 5th reinforcements landed this

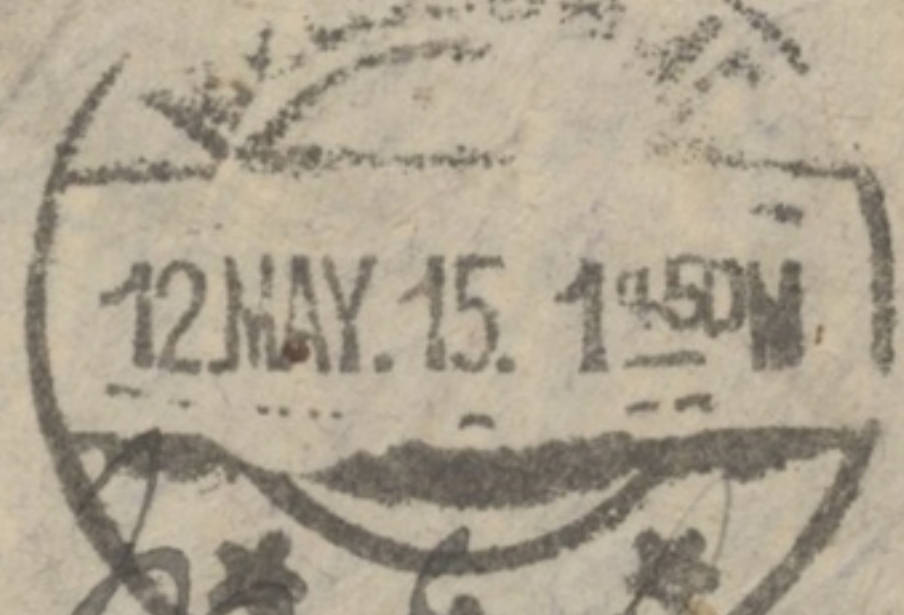
morning. I have heard that the next contingent
of 10,000 are due in Egypt. They are all needed
here. Things very quiet all day.

THURSDAY 10th / They are doing one of the most
ridiculous things imaginable
here drilling the latest reinforcements
behind the firing line; if they are not sufficient
trained they should not be sent here. If they
requires a couple of extra feet shells to do
down of them to put a stop to this silly
practice. Heavily fighting on the night all
day. Prisoners captured state they would
rather face the Bulgarians than the Australians.
They call us the white Turks. The cream
of the joke however was about the Light Horse
The Turks say that the men with the fur
their hats are not as good fighters as the
Australians. The L.H. are very wroth about it.

1918
A number of
men appeared in the morning
the first of them in evening
to the street there was a
number of them in the
morning a lot of them
casualties on the part of
the afternoon the Germans
are using explosive
bullets which do not
make a ghastly sound
One of our shells hit the
lower part of the great
concrete wall of the
well in the morning
however the enemy
has been very much
weakened



VICTORIA



Private to Mr. G. M. Smith
 4th Reinforcements
 2nd Battalion
 1st Infantry Bde.
 c/o Secretary for
 Defence
 Melbourne

not a boy

B

1 DRV 422

(10/5) The Turks sent over
SATURDAY 12th 1915 Jack Johnson
this morning, 2 failed to explode
& landed where they could do no
damage & the fifth dropped into a
communication trench bringing
down the walls burying 2 of our
troops one was dug out & escaped with
a broken leg, the other was killed.
These steel stands about 2 ft 6 in high
are capable of doing great damage
if properly directed I don't think the
Turks have too many of them to
spare, they are reported to be short of
ammunition.

SUNDAY 13th another quiet day
on our front. The British & French
are fighting heavily down on the
right & are reported to have captured
some trenches. Two German aeroplanes
appeared over our lines this morning
but had no opportunity to do any damage
as soon as they were sighted our plane
flew up, although they were 2 to 1, the
Germans thought discretion the better
part of valour & flew in opposite direction.
Our plane chased one, but it landed
safely behind its own lines. The
British plane dropped down very low
& although subjected to a heavy
fusillade from straguel machine
guns returned safely. Our man
is absolutely indifferent to danger.

Go. Secretary for Defence
Melbourne



not a copy

Private of Cecil McAnulty No. 1803.

4 R. B. 2nd BN. 1st Brigade

3rd Bn 4th Reinforcement

(Left in transport - A.S. formerly
s.v. Argyleshire)

1 DL 422

MONDAY 14th (11)
Waked all night carrying
dirt from a sap. This is
all carried to the rear of the line
so that no signs of the operations will
be visible to the enemy. The flies are
simply unbearable, they are here in
millions ~~of~~ from the size of a
penn head to great blue bottles that
blow ated they can fly, other vermin
irritate us very much at night & it
is a very troubled restless sleep
we get when we get any at all.

TUESDAY 15th The Turks are also
busily engaged sapping
or trenching, we can see the dirt flying
over their parapets, their trench opposite
is about 100 yards away, we take pot shots
as the stone shows up. If we hit it it
is dropped, if we missed it is waved back
& forwards, but they also have men
watching their chance if they detect
the loophole you are firing from will
open up on you. They pulled out 2
of the loopholes that were being used
but the chaps stuffed them up before
any damage was done. It is
rumored that they are tunnelling
towards us, if so there ought to
be something doing when the
two saps get close to each other.

1st DRG 422

WEDNESDAY 16th (17) It appears that
the reason for the inactivity on our
part is that our position is the
pivot of the whole situation. The line
runs ~~the~~ as follows - until
the 17th or the left of the British & French
on the right none of level we can
do nothing except keep the work
busily engaged. As far as possible
we put a line on our part. The 2nd Battalion
have had several casualties the last
few days, 5 of my old Coy & 2 of the 2nd
being killed.

THURSDAY 17th Had my first experience
of being directly under shrapnel
fire today. We were leaving the
dugouts for the firing line when
the tanks opened up the noise
evening artillery duel started
to rain shrapnel just on the spot where
we were. We were crouched up against
the side of a trench. The shells were
bursting directly overhead & the
pellets splashing into the opposite
bank about 20 ft away. I felt a bit
queer at first but it soon passed
off & I began to take an interest
in things again. This lasted about
20 minutes. They got 5 of our tank
killed & 5 men wounded.

FRIDAY 18th (13)
a German aviator flew
over our lines today very high up
he was seen to drop a bundle of what
looked like leaflets but unfortunately
the wind caught them & blew them
all over to the Turkish trenches.

The French are reported to have
captured more trenches today
also a strongly fortified position
we could take them at any day.

The Turks had a good haul on the
beach today there is always a
great number of men swimming
unfortunately we haven't had the
chance of getting down yet. They
opened up with shrapnel this
afternoon when the water was
crowded, there were 14 casualties
altogether, this may have the
effect of stopping bathing

SATURDAY 19th Very heavy
bombardment
all night. When I woke up this
morning had a regular ear-
ache, the left ear was running
& bleeding & I was almost
stone deaf in it. The heavy

(14)

firing had evidently burst
a small abscess. Fortunately
there was a first class eye
specialist here. He relieved
the pain & made me off
duty for the time being! This
evening the Turks had some
of the leaflets that were intended
for us & a bomb & sent them
over. They announced that
the English had realised that
it was impossible to force the
Cardanelles. That drawn
off, leaving us to our fate
that our supplies would be
stopped & we would starve.
They urged us to surrender
they had plenty of provisions
& guaranteed us good treatment
& good food. England had
desisted us by surrendering
we would be released from
our bondage. So far I have
not heard of anyone
accepting this unbusiness
offer

on active service

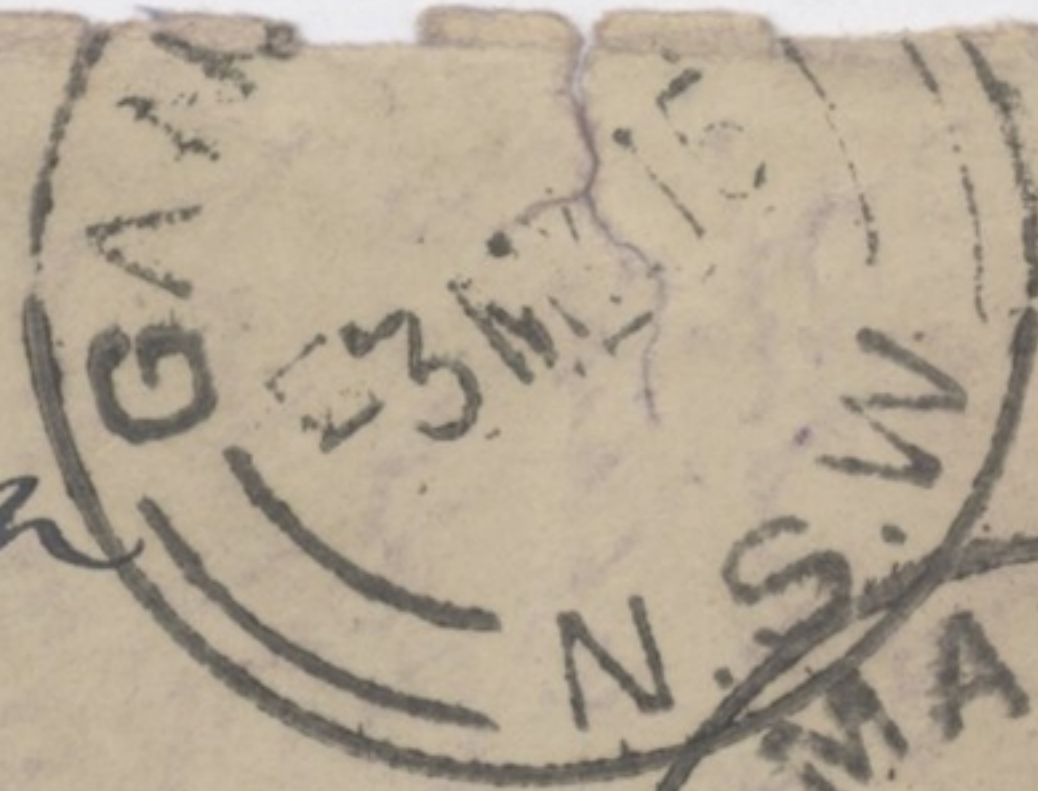
1584 Pte J. P. Sullivan

A Company
3rd Battalion

1st Infantry Brigade

1st Division

Aust Imp Forces



1 DEL 422

SUNDAY 20⁽¹⁵⁾ a few lunks

came in surrendered yet
they were sent down to the
beach & instructions given
that they were to be well fed
& well treated & after a few
days were to be allowed plenty
of freedom. The idea being
that they would escape back
to their lines report how well
they were treated & induce
others to surrender. However
they showed no signs of
escaping. So they were given
an area about 1/2 mile to a distance
hill nearer to their own lines
than ours to get a load of wood.
Everyone thought that
would be the last we would
see of them but just on
sundown they staggered in
with loads that said they
couldn't carry they could
where they are well of 6

(16)
The Turks are largely German
led these officers adopt the
same tactics here as in France
men who seem reluctant to
advance are stopped by
them, prisoners report that
they treat the men very
brutally. I have heard on good
authority that 50 men who
tried to surrender had a
machine gun turned on them
not one survived. Cur is
a lot easier today, but Jim
almost stone deaf in it.
Jim still sticking to the
platoon, although I'm not
doing any duty, as
there may be something
doing any day, I want to
be with you in case of
anything does come off

1 Dec 422

MONDAY 21st (17) It is reported that the Turks are
equipped with appliances for using poisonous
gases, it is also rumoured that they used
them on the left that 2 officers died as a
result but this is not confirmed. In case
they do resort to gas we have been issued
with respirators & instructed how to use
them. I sincerely hope we never have
occasion to wear them I don't mind
facing lead or steel but have a decided
objection to being poisoned. More
casualties down on the beach today

TUESDAY 22nd Received my first letters
since leaving Australia
~~they~~ they have been wandering all
round the various battalions. A 12
pounder shell dropped into the 2nd
battalion's trenches this morning
& failed to explode, one of the dogs
picked it up & started to sniff it
the cap, it exploded then killing
him & wounding 2 others. Further
reinforcements arrived this morning
also a detachment of the Royal
Artyillery with guns.

WEDNESDAY 23rd The Turks made
of our tunnels this
afternoon blew it up, 2 men
killed but they gained no further
advantage. British & French
steadily advancing, 2/3 were
heavily engaged all night the
Turks unable to determine attack
they used to be very active

~~Lt. [unclear]~~

~~Lt. Col. Jones 15~~

~~Mr. Lucas 15~~

~~W. [unclear]~~

~~T. Cochrane~~

~~J. J. [unclear] 13~~

~~Bde Duderley. Fitz-Cabrage~~

~~C. O. Duderley. St. W. I. [unclear]~~

~~One Coy [unclear] St. Askin~~

~~C. C. O. [unclear]~~

~~Monk~~

1 DRL 422

(18)
THURSDAY 24th The 1st & 16th Batt
went to the island of Imbros
for a couple of weeks' spell
today, Imbros is only about
half an hour run from the
west & is only a small rocky
island. Our Batt is expected
to go shortly & it is not before
some of the old hands had
a rest. More aeroplanes
flying about today. British
hydroplane went up & laid
a couple of eggs in the Turkish
territory. (which is not known)
See Jan Hamilton paid
a visit to our lines today
he came in a torpedo boat
accompanied by a strong
escort in H.M.S. L. Nelson
indulged in some fancy
shooting with her 12" gun
while he was in.

FRIDAY 25th The health of the
troops is surprisingly
good considering the conditions
of the food. With the exception
of a few cases of dysentery &
scurvy due to the time of meat
no sickness of any sort has
broken out. Evidently
inoculation against fever is
effective. The Turkish troops
on the whole are well armed
& well equipped. The Nizams
or regular troops being the
well built men well clothed
& fed. The 2nd, 3rd line men
are neither so well equipped
or clothed & are poorer in
physique.

SATURDAY 26th Saw one of the
most horrible sights today
I have ever seen, and
literally shot to pieces
he had evidently had a
machine gun turned on
him at short range & there
was hardly a chance

(19)

men on his body that didn't
have a bullet hole. Of course
he was dead long before he
reached the dressing station.
The boys are remarkably quick
in dealing with a man if an
operation is necessary. They
chloroform the patient on the
spot then perform it there
then in the open air. Everything
considered they are very deft
& gentle. Have watched two
operations lately, one for a
serious wound to the head
& the other for a shattered
leg. They were both performed
in about 10 minutes & were
both successful.

SUNDAY 24th A few more
warships moved into
Anzac Cove this afternoon
it is rumoured that there
is going to be a big
bombardment tomorrow
followed up by an attack
on the right that the
Australian troops are to
make a demonstration
& hold as many Turkish
troops here as possible.
For the last 3 days the
cannonading down on the
right from the warships
the British shells has never
ceased.

W. J. G. G. G.

1 Dec 422

(20)
MONDAY 28th / The bombardment started at
12.30 & lasted till 1.30 all
sorts of shells were hurled across, & pieces
howitzer gank Johnsons & Japanese bombs
repeatedly the Turkish trenches was
one cloud of black & yellow smoke & thick
dust they must have done fearful
damage. The Turks replied in a feeble
sort of way but were completely out-
clashed. We were standing to all the
time but were needed! As soon
as the bombardment ceased, the 3rd Brigade
attacked advanced 800 yards & captured
2 lines of trenches, they held on till 5.30 when
their work being done, & as no advantage was to
be gained by holding the trenches they retired.
Mines were used about 800, the Turkish
casualties must have been much
heavier in some places their trenches were
completely blown in, burying several
men, about 8 o'clock there were strong
Turkish counter attacks on the right, & heavy
firing was opened up on our front we
sustained a few casualties & the
attacks on the right were completely
defeated. The effect of the whole movement
was that we gained several trenches &
advanced our lines considerably.
Our casualties for the whole of the forenoon
were about 200.

TUESDAY 29th / Today has been the
coldest day we experienced
since being here, rolled up in the
blanket about 8 o'clock very early
dark, with up to 9 o'clock

as it appears that
left were not physically
of a hard Campaign.

at the P.L.Z. Conference
was a rotten turn-out,
you will find expressed
away? He had a
ver, plenty of picnics, etc
se. I hope you

For anyone who is
the chance of a lifetime
asily obtained on the

(21)
Cya violent thunder storm pitch dark
thunder & rain, the wind was howling
the grit off the parapets of the trench
striking down faces like whif lashes.
The lightning was very vivid, the Turks
evidently got panicky at the storm
expecting us to attack under cover of
the darkness, started heavy volley
firing. Of course we had to stand to
it was half dark we had to hold on to
each others backs going along the trenches
to keep in touch. Nothing occurred
but it was a very weird scene, there
was no need of flash the flashes of
lightning providing sufficient light.
What with the booming & flashing of
the guns & with the lightning
& thunder it was a scene that only
a poet could do justice to.

WEDNESDAY 30th / Being off duty I am
taking that opportunity
to wander about in the day time &
see things. Have been round several
of the batteries & other battalions &
have run across several traps
snow very rough on the beach today
several boats washed ashore broken
up

made stricter in future
some of those who have
fit to stand the strain
I got on very well
but all the same it
and my opinion of it
very forcibly in the
very good time howe
at Government expense
get through alright.
fortunate enough it is
as promotion is very e
battle field.

1 DRL 422

JULY (2)

THURSDAY 12th / Was round Lavinga
look at the Turkish prisoners today, they
keep them in a barbed wire compound
down on the beach. There is one after
there at present, rather poor specimen.
They seem very well content and well
fed & seemingly much better off than
they would be in their own trenches.
They are put to water carrying in the
afternoon. It is reported that 20 more
prisoners gave themselves up today
including a major who claims to
be an Armenian.

FRIDAY 13th / More rain today the
trenches are becoming quagmires.
I sincerely hope we are out of this
before the winter sets in. Was up
in fore of the artillery observation
posts this evening watching the
shelling of the big hill on the right.
This hill is the strongest point of the
line we can't do much till this
taken & the taking of it will entail heavy
loss. It appears this is only one of many
weak positions to be forced before the
Gallipoli peninsula is won.
The shells tonight were bursting right
along the crest of it & in the twilight it
seemed like a line of flame it must
be a living hell in the trenches there.

ent or garrisoning for the
why. I could not
transport had
sent, but was sent to
could get no tidings there.
engagement in Turkey,
went here and
ting. The last lot
only about 3 weeks
were sent away
who were severely
engagement. I
cannation is to be

1 DRL 422

SATURDAY 3rd | 2^o was round at the 2nd fall
today trying to find Albert Black,
got on to the blacks of a place
Answering to his name description
he was sent away wounded but
could not find out for certain
whether it was him or not. Turks are
reported to have received heavy
reinforcements, perhaps they are
contemplating another big attack
their losses must have been very heavy
indeed.

SUNDAY 4th | More rain last night
In the morning doing today
except fatigue. What with fatigue
we are worse off here than we were
in camp. There may work than
fighting. Two hospital ships
lying in the bay today. The
Dean of Sydney told a church parade
& commended service this morning
for members of the church of England

(21)

This morning it was a very impressive scene the Detachment was in full regalia & the Communications Kneel out in the open air. The hymn we were singing sounded very solemn & impressive. It must have carried to the Turkish trenches. Had a good illustration of the damage that our Japanese bombs must do, the Turks have something similar now some of their bombs landed in the communication trench just right a few yards from us. It burst with a deafening crash bringing down both sides of the trench & shaking the surrounding ground like a sea: saw luckily nobody was in the immediate vicinity but 2 men close by were buried by the fall of earth, but were dug out in time & escaped with a few cuts & bruises.

1 DRL 422

MONDAY 5th (22) The Turks started a very heavy bombardment this morning at 4 o'clock for the first time since they were put down in shells at the rate of 15 a minute after that they slowed down till 6 o'clock when they ceased altogether. It was very warm while it lasted they were lobbing everywhere. 16 sections was in a side communication trench & one shell dropped into it & it did no damage, we were expecting a Jack Johnson to drop a bomb on us every minute that would have blown the trench to smithereens. They have evidently got some new guns, as they sent a few 10" shells over those are the worst they have used yet. They did a bit of damage all told but nothing commensurate with the ammunition expended. They blew the parapet of the firing line in parts, & killed & wounded a few men there, there our guns were strangely silent. The bombardment seemed to have expended all their energy as they hardly fired a single rifle shot the rest of the day. Talk about the narrowest escape it is possible for men to have without getting hurt last night. We were sleeping from 6 till 12 in a communication trench leading out of the firing line, about 11 o'clock was woken up by some dirt falling on my head. Sat up & saw that the trench behind me was completely blocked up, a clod of earth the size of myself resting on the edge of my pillow. Crashed & bounced by a bomb both sides of the trench had fallen in for about a space of about 10 yards. If my head had been another 6 inches further up I would not be writing this, some of my equipment is still under some of the fallen earth.

201 700 T

TUESDAY 26th / 23 Today it was
the sweetest smoke I think I've
ever had, my tobacco ran out on
Sunday. The retubated exploded a
mile under a Turkish sap at midnight
there must have been a large amount
of explosive used, it was like an immense
earthquake, have not heard yet what
damage was done. Was on watch at
the loopholes from midnight till
6 a.m. Could hear the Turks talking
singing quite plainly also the
mule teams bringing their rations
up to the trenches. Turkish I could
understand Turkish. It was a lovely
clear night with just a few stray
stars now & again, it seemed hard to
realise that only about 80 yards
away was an enemy who only wanted
the smallest chance to show you the
way to another & perhaps a better world

WEDNESDAY 27th Another quiet day today
with the exception of the artillery. Their guns
are shooting more accurately every day they
have evidently got a number of fresh guns
up, our men don't seem ~~to~~ able to locate
them ~~so~~ so well now. Their shells caused
a few casualties in the trenches today
fortunately none in our platoon.

(24)

Had a medical examination today. I was the strictest possible. It appears that some of the reinforcements that have been arriving are not physically fit & a few of them are already feeling the strain. Every man was rigidly examined inch by inch, if he showed any defect likely to interfere with his effective work he was sent back to the base. I was passed as perfectly sound. Had quite a fifth of November celebration last night. The Turks must have been expecting some move on our part ~~that~~ all night they were sending over flares. They are using different colours now red white & green.

THURSDAY 8th Shifted to a different portion of the firing line today. were sent up to strengthen the position held by the 4th Bn. Our firing line is only 50 yards from the Turkish trenches here. Things promise to be much livelier, it is impossible to show so much as a hair of your head above the parapet here. Was on watch last night from midnight till dawn at the mouth of a tunnel about 15 yards in front of the firing line. I was very very glad when my watch was over. I was there to look out for any unusual sights or sounds. I was well hidden but bullets were flying unpleasantly close rattling almost busily by my ears along side me.

FRIDAY 9th Somehow or other a Turkish sniper has managed to sneak through our lines & has hidden himself away in the hills. It is like looking for a needle in a haystack trying to find him, as the hills are covered with thick brush & rocks. He commanded portions of the road leading to the wells & this morning got 3 men. He shot the first & clean through the heart, his rifle ran out to help him as he was crawling over him & he was shot through the stomach. The third man was only slightly wounded. There are men out after the sniper.

It is to be hoped they got ⁵ get ~~the~~ ~~wherein~~

SATURDAY 10th | We are getting a very warm
time in our new position. Their shells burst
right over our communication trenches, it is
quite a common thing for some of us to get buried
by a full of earth at meal times every morning
onight there are 2 or 3 casualties in a Coy from
bursting shells. At dinner time today a shell
burst directly over myself & two other men, although
fragments flew in all directions not one of
us was scratched while two other men about 6
yards away were hit one killed on the spot the
other severely wounded. The dead chap, quite a
boy, had his head almost cut off, a sharp fragment
of the shell caught him in the neck, severing the
jugular vein, & sawing about 3/4 way through the neck.
This afternoon one of our mountain Batteries
opened up on the trenches a little to our right.
We had a first class view of it through our periscope.
The intention was seemingly to crush up the
barbed wire entanglements in front of their
trenches, they succeeded. Barbed wire & wood went
flying in all directions. The Turks & gave us a
very unpleasant surprise on us tonight about
9 o'clock when everything was very quiet, there was
a big explosion. Some of the men standing at the
loopholes were knocked down by the concussion
a mine had been exploded about 9 or 10 yards in
front of our portion of the firing line. The Turks
idea was evidently to blow off our trenches but
their mine fell just a little too short. Several
of our men were more or less injured by falling
debris, there were 4 casualties in a platoon
alone, 1 killed & 3 wounded

1 DR L 422

SUNDAY 11th Things are a little bit too exciting in our new position. Some of our communication trenches can be captured by the Turks artillery away on the left & they catch a few men here everyday. At 10 o'clock tonight the enemy made an attack on our front, but it was killed up its infancy. They did not seem to be able to face the murderous fire turned on them, only a few left their trenches & they didn't return. We kept up rapid fire for about 20 minutes, our rifles were so hot that reliefs had to take over & placed our rifles coolers off. I fired 150 rounds in about 15 minutes. I think this was about every man's average. They did not make a second attempt, but we had to be on the gun vive till daylight, our casualties were very slight.

MONDAY 12th The enemy attacked again this morning but this time more to our left. They preceded the attack with a heavy bombardment, high explosives & shrapnel - Jack Johnson's this caused a few casualties ~~at the time~~ but we were pretty tight on our position. A lot of the shells burst directly overhead, but the trench being deep & narrow we were well sheltered. The concussion caused by the exploding shells gave me a splitting headache. Their attack again signally failed, their plan is evidently not in it, it seems to take their officers all their time to drive them to it. As soon as Achi Baba is taken will show them the way an attack should be carried out. More demonstrations last night, we get no rest at all. Was on sentry on one of the tunnels leading out to the Turkish line from 9 hrs till 1 am. This was job that I was stationed about 25 yards in front of our

branches, so was about the same distance from the
furthest trenches. East sentry post for 4 hours at
a time, but it is more tiring & exhausting than
hours of any other duty. Naturally as the enemy
is only a few yards away every nerve is strained
to the utmost tension, listening & watching for
anything unusual. These tunnels also have a habit
of being blown up at unexpected moments.

TUESDAY 13th I am out in the communication
branches for 4 hours spell but
there is not much rest about. There is always
some fatigue to be done. The 3rd Battalion is getting
thinned down now there were 14 in 16 sections when
I joined it, there are only 7 of us here now, it is here
we got some more reinforcements.

WEDNESDAY 14th Received 3 papers today but no letters
where water is running short & if it continues we will
be put on a small allowance, our rations are not as good
as they used to be. Today is the quietest day we have
had since we came into our new position.

THURSDAY 15th Today is the holiest day in
the Mohammedan religion, something
corresponding to Good Friday. The Turks
are very quiet perhaps they will lie in
up after midnight. Had a great surprise
due this afternoon. He had been looking
at the top of a parapet for a couple of
hours breaking 2 periscopes & making
observing very difficult at last I
located him. He was at a loophole

L DR 2 422

(28) His shadow gave
right opposite mine. His shadow gave
him away, every time he raised his rifle
to the loophole a dark shadow was cast
across it, after about half a dozen shots
I think I got him anyway he shot no
more from that loophole for the rest of the
day.

FRIDAY 16th They treated us to a heavy
stealing today, there were a lot of
casualties, with 2 shells (Jack Johnsons)
they got 20 men some of them very badly
wounded. Was down on the beach this afternoon
having a swim the first week for 6 weeks
was thoroughly enjoyed when they
opened up with their fire, had to
make a run for it & wait about an hour
before we could get our clothes.

SATURDAY 17th Then Jack Johnsons
are putting in some good work for
them lately, although they only use
3 or 4 a day, they cause big casualties
as when one lands in the right
place it generally accounts for
from 6 to 12 men.

I DR 422

SUNDAY 18th / 29th
Moved into a new firing
line today a few yards in advance
of our old one. It appears as if we
are digging our way to get at them
we are within easy hand bomb throwing
distance now. These trenches are
very elaborate affairs, all underground
with little holes cut in the roof to
let in light. The roof & walls are
shored up with timber every 3 yards
recesses are cut facing the enemy's
lines, these recesses are open to the sky
& accommodate 2 men. They are protected
on all sides with rows of sandbags
& are loopholed with elbow plates.
In case of heavy bombardment or
bombing everybody except the
observers retire to the passage at the
rear which is bomb proof.

MONDAY 19th / Issued with gas proof
helmets today. There must be good
grounds for believing that gas will
be used as we now have helmets &
2 respirators each have been

lectured on exactly how water
 to use them. The Turks are now
 using some of the famous French
 75 mm guns. They must have
 captured them off the French
 somewhere. They are very handy
 little guns & do a lot of damage
 when properly handled but
 we would rather face them
 than the Jack Johnsons

TUESDAY 20th Terrible calamity today.

Today was to have been our
 issue on being opened up was
 found to be wounded & had to
 be returned might have to wait
 2 or 3 days now before we get any
 more prospect.

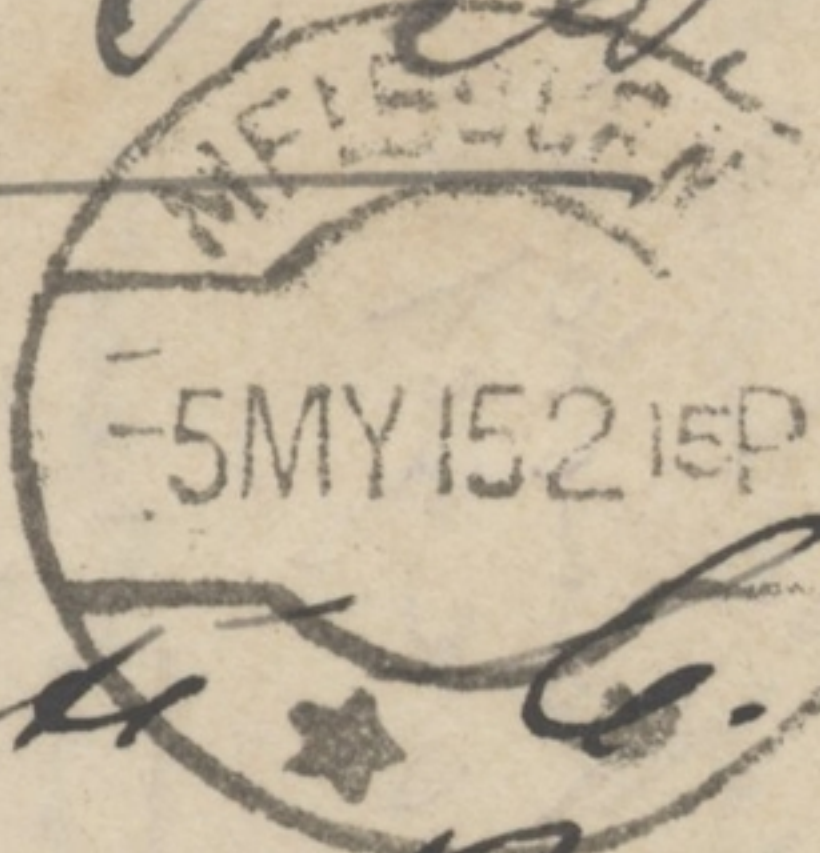
WEDNESDAY 21st Received news that
 we are to be
 relieved by Territorials as soon
 as arrangements can be made
 for it that we are to have a fall
 out before time either, as we have
 had longer in the firing line
 than any other than any troops
 either here or in France

C. A. S. D.

Not a boy



VICTORIA



VICTORIA

Private C. M. Ansell

4th Reinforcements

2nd Battalion

1st Brigade

A. I. P.

Mena Camp

Egypt

*Not a boy
Not a
Not a*

Not a

1 DAL 422

No 1803

THURSDAY 22nd

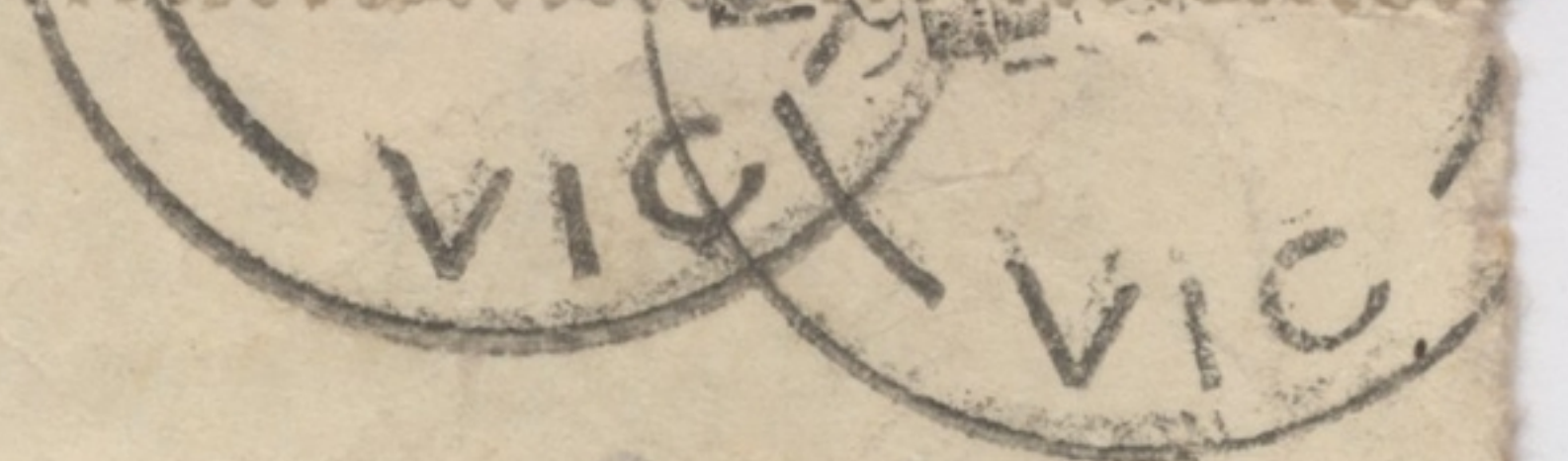
Things are beginning to get too strong on fatigue all night from 8 pm till 4 pm, carrying sandbags, pick & shovel work, then had 2 hours sleep & rest after went on with more fatigue till midday, at 4 pm we went into the firing line for an 18 hours spell flesh & blood can't stand too much of that. Men are beginning to drop now, simply wearied with work & want of sleep. In addition we go into defiling line with every indication of a big attack during the next 24 hours.

FRIDAY 23rd

I had a very hard night last night, no sleep, twice the Turks left their trenches to attack, but it was evident their heart was not in it & that their officers were driving them on, as soon as we opened a heavy fire on them they seemed to melt away. ~~Usefully we've been under~~ We've been under big gun fire all day since 7 this morning. Their big shells did a fair amount of damage, one shell dropped on a machine gun position blowing the gun & 2 men to splinters.

No. 1803 Not D

notably
B. 1



Mr. G. M. Ansell

4th Reinforcements

2nd Battalion

3rd

1st Brigade. A. I. E. L.

Secretary for Defence
Melbourne

not to be
of any
value

4 APR 1917

(31) I was nearly 3 others. Had a few
class went this afternoon of the
effect of big gun fire at close range
Our bin howitzers were dropping
shells into the trenches almost
opposite us. Lyddite high explosives
were being used extensively. Lyddite
bursting with a pale sizzly flame
with dense yellowish green smoke
high explosive with a bright flame
& black smoke. Huge gaps were
torn in the parapets & sandbags
clumps of wood blown in all
directions.

SATURDAY 24th How many were
claimed out of my
platoon last night, one shell
accounted for the lot. The platoon
originally consisted of 64, now
we can't must 20. At this rate
the platoon will very shortly
cease to exist. It's not fighting
it's simply sitting down waiting
to be killed, nothing is more
wearing on the nerves than
this kind of thing. Wish to
go home. Might let us
then, even if we are cut up

SUNDAY 25th

(32)

Had a good feed
it was composed of the following
items - 1 tin fresh herrings 2/-, 1 tin
cond milk 2/-, 1/2 tin pres fruit 2/6
1 loaf brownie (currant loaf) 3/- &
2 cakes chocolate (ordinary 8⁰ cubes)
1/6 each. Some of the sailors
are evidently making huge
fortunes out of fun.

MONDAY 26th

Very uneventful
they've eased up in their
cannonading today
it seems strange after
the incessant din of the
last 3 days, the stretcher
bearers also seem to be
getting a bit of a rest.

TUESDAY 27th

Received more
letters & papers
this morning. mail seems to
be coming alright now.

1 DAL 422

WEDNESDAY 28th (33) Actually had a whole day
off today. Left the firing line at 7 a.m.
+ a platoon went down to the beach
where we spent the whole day till 5 p.m.
when we came up to the support
trenches again. It was like a Sunday
school picnic of course we rushed
straight into the water + got about
6 weeks dirt off us, also worked +
restored up our sandbags though although
it was impossible to get them clean.
Of course the tanks shelled the beach
as usual but no shells came
near us + we had a comparatively
peaceful day.

THURSDAY 29th Very uneventful just
the ordinary routine, few shells
at meal times, our aeroplane
dropped a couple of bombs in the
tanking trenches opposite us tonight
kicked up a great row + plenty
of smoke etc.

FRIDAY 30th 2 German aeroplanes put in an
appearance over our lines this
morning + dropped some bombs down on the
beach, but they all went wide + fell in the
sea doing no damage, as soon as

(34)

our aeroplanes rose they vanished. Some of the 6th reinforcements arrived today, they appear to be a good class of men, all sturdy well set up, there'll be a difference in their appearance after about 3 months here. One of them had a mandoline & it made one feel quite homesick to hear some of the old familiar "rags" & other tunes. Matters were fairly quiet in the firing line, away on the left the Turks blew up a sap right under our trenches cutting a number of men don't know exactly how many yet. I was up on one of the highest points of land about here last night on pick & shovel fatigue to night from 8 pm till 1 am. I could see the flashes of the going guns bombarding the narrows in the Dardanelles it was like heat lightning on a hot summers night in Australia, we could just hear the low dull rumbling of the reports.

SATURDAY 21st Very quiet here constant heavy guns firing down at Ach. Baba Hill but the loss at 10 pm the Turks attacked on the right & it spread right along the line, the attack was beaten back

we counter attacked ⁽³⁵⁾ capturing series
of trenches & 2 machine guns. Our artillery
bombarded their support trenches with
high explosives right along our front
was just one shot of lurid flame
a man on either side of me was shot
through the head, dead was instantaneous
it all seemed so simple, just a little
gasps, & a fall backwards off the parapet,
it is wonderful how a man's mind
grasps things like this while his
whole attention is concentrated on
the business in front of him.

SUNDAY, AUG 1st / Out resting again
today, our coy was further weakened
last night

MONDAY 2nd / More German tanks being
adopted their aeroplanes now drop
arrows these are only about 6 inches long
made of steel they strike with such
velocity that they would go right
through a man, have not heard of any
casualties through them yet.

TUESDAY 3rd / very quiet today had
an exciting 15 minutes this
morning was down Skraffel gully on
water fatigue, carrying up water for
the firing line, a German aeroplane appeared

overhead, some body called out "look out she's laid an egg" meaning that a bomb had been dropped, there was a wild search for cover we had just scrambled into dugouts when there was a crash, the bomb had exploded on the side of the hill, a good bit away from us. After a while we picked up our cans & started off again, had only gone a few yards when the plane reappeared, 9 more bombs were dropped but luckily they all went wide.

WEDNESDAY 4th

Large numbers of troops landed last night there was a brigade of 8th West Borders & Staffordshires landed at Angus Cove also the 6th reinforcements of the Australians. We are ready for orders for a general attack any minute now, all gear & rifles etc are being thoroughly overhauled. There is a noticeable improvement in the men's spirit, now that they know that some definite move is to be made in the next few days.

THURSDAY 5th

More troops landed last night, supposed to be a full division of Lancashire, also know of some Gurkhas having landed & a

Soudanese donkeys (37) transport column.
These donkeys are only the size of goats
& the loads they carry are marvellous.
The Gullies are suffering with men
now, all nationalities. We are
ready to move any minute, all we
have with us now is our equipment
knapsacks, water bottles we are
sleeping without any blankets,
oilskins or great coats & each
man has a broad strip of white
calico sewn down the centre of
his back & a strip on each arm
as the attack will be started in
darkness

FRIDAY 16th The attack is to take place
this evening at 5 p.m. Our instructions
are to get off business at 7 p.m.
& sleep till 4 o'clock. The Royal
Irish Rifles & Connaught Rangers
landed last night. At 4 o'clock we
fell in & marched round behind
the 2nd Battalion lines from where we
attack. Am now sitting down waiting
for the word to take the chance to
write these lines. Our artillery
started to bombard their trenches

at 4³⁸ will continue till 5 when we
make the rush. Their artillery
are replying now & shells are beginning
to rain on us. They are getting the
range now, striking the support
trenches, now are beginning to
drop. Howitzer shells are dropping
about 30 yards from us digging
great holes where they land the flames
are suffocating, the shrapnel is pouring
all round us getting chaps everywhere.
This is hell waiting here. The first rush
has been made, & ~~we~~ ~~landed~~ our
chaps have got into their trenches
the wounded are beginning to come back
some awful wailings. Word given
to get ready to charge must finish,
hope to get through alright.

SUNDAY 4^{8th} We pulled through alright
so far, just got a few minutes to spare
now. In all out, can hardly stand
up. On Friday when we got the
word to charge Frank & I were on
the extreme left of the charging party.

(37)
There was a clear space of 100 yards
to cross without a patch of cover.
I can't recall how I got across it, I
seemed to be in a sort of trance. The
rifle machine gun fire was hellish,
I remember dropping down when we
reached the trench, looked round
& saw Frank & 3 other men along with
men. There was a big gap between
us & the rest of our men, we had
veered too much to the left when
doubling across. The rest of the men were
behind the shelter of the Turkish
parapet & had a bit of cover to crawl
behind which to crawl into the trench.
We were right out in the open & all the
Turkish machine gun rifles seemed
to be playing on us & shrapnel bursting
right over us. I yelled out to the other
chaps, "This is only suicide boys, I'm
going to make a jump for it. I thought
they said alright we'll follow,
I sprang to my feet in one jump