

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

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/17/3

Title: Headquarters, New Zealand Infantry
Brigade

April 1915



AWM4-35/17/3

NZ Infantry Brigade
WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

(12)

April - May
June
to June 1915

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 2nd 1915 Zerikoun</p>	<p>The Brigade received a preliminary order for embarkation at Warshington (1914 Establishment) plus 1st Reinforcement. The equipment was still far from complete; the difficulties of horse shortage were largely overcome by the arrival of the 3rd reinforcements with horses.</p>	
<p>April 10th to 12th</p>	<p>The Brigade entrained for ALEXANDRIA and embarked there. Brigade Headquarters on the GOSLAR. The Brigade now forms part of the British Mediterranean Expeditionary Force under General Sir Ian Hamilton.</p>	
<p>April 17th</p>	<p>owing to defective arrangements on the "Goslar", the transport containing Brigade Headquarters did not sail until April 17th at 1.15 pm.</p>	
<p>April 20th</p>	<p>Goslar arrived at LEMNOS at noon.</p>	

N.Z. Infantry Brigade
WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
April 21 st 1915	Disembarkation orders received. already communicated to OC units. The Brigade to land first of the NZ & A Division. The landing to be covered by the Australian Division.	
April 25 th 1915	The "Goslar" sails for KABA TEPE at 04 am. which she was preceded by the majority of the transports conveying Infantry Brigade at 1 pm. The ship passed the mouth of the BARDANELLES where the landing of the 29 th Division at Cape HELLES covered by the guns of the Allied fleet was witnessed. The "GOSLAR" arrived off KABA TEPE at 3 pm. as ordered. The covering party consisting of 3rd Australian Brigade had succeeded in getting ashore at nightfall & was then holding the high ground half mile east of beach & north of KABA TEPE where they were suffering severely from Turkish shell fire. Infantry Brigade had landed out of the transports piece meal & had been directed by companies & half companies into places where they were most required at the moment. Brigade Headquarters landed on the beach about 3 pm where we were informed that Brigadier General H. B. Walker, Major General, General Staff of the A - NZ Army Corps had taken over temporary command of the Brigade vice Col. Johnston on the sick list. Headquarters joined the Brig. Gen. on the Plateau at 4.45. The situation was then as follows - Brigade H.Q. - Stago Prater on the Plateau, Canterbury & Auckland Praters very much inter-mingled with Australian units were on	

WAR DIARY

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or N.Z. Inf. Bde

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 26th.</p>	<p>The front line of Hase has shifted causing the Wellington Battalion were still on board. The troops landed were without support from the Navy any field guns or artillery support from the Navy was at first quite inadequate owing largely to the novelty of the conditions + the difficulties of observation + communication consequently Infantry suffered severely from enemy shell fire. Between 5.45 pm + 6 pm. The Otago Battalion had suffered 30 casualties on the Plateau from shell fire. H.Q. were without any information as to the disposition of the units in the front line but during the evening received several messages the general tenor of which was that the casualties were very severe everywhere that the lines had considerable gaps - that the men had stood much punishment + were seriously disorganised. It was represented to Divisional H.Q. that the landing of field guns during the night was an absolute necessity if the position was to be maintained. During the night there was a great deal of firing + the T. was attacked in several places but the line was nowhere broken.</p> <p>The enemy's guns again opened with remarkable accuracy along the plateau + landing place. A Mountain battery had been brought up to the plateau the evening before + soon picked up the hostile batteries. The burst of New Zealand gave the line to the QUEEN ELIZABETH which succeeded in silencing the batteries for several hours.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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or N.Z. Infantry
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. *Bugare*
(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 26th KABA TEPE</p>	<p>During the night of the 25th & 26th the WELLINGTON Battalion less half a company which was sent to extreme right of position landed & came under the orders of Divisional Headquarters as Genl. Reserve. Thus the whole of Brigade A (including all personnel, tools water receptacles & ammunition (200 rounds per man) were ashore. It was decided as far as possible to relieve the AUCKLAND Battalion from the front line & concentrate it on the Plateau. This place to be taken in the front line by 1/2 Otago Battalion, who were to be under the orders of Col. MacLagan. Two Companies Canterbury Battalion, under Major Looch who had succeeded Lieut. Col. Stewart (killed in action) had gone the previous evening to reinforce 33 men of various units under Capt. Salmonson who reported he was hard pressed on extreme left of line, was ascertained to be holding a spur on 237 X 7. The Auckland Battalion less a large number of men moved up in the units was concentrated by the evening. The Otago Battalion less 2 Companies did not succeed in reaching the front line & entrenched in a Mullah for the night. During the day it was decided to reorganise into sections. The night passed quietly on the Plateau but there was a determined attack on the Australians on the right which was repulsed.</p>	
<p>April 27th</p>	<p>Orders were definitely issued allotting the left section of the line to the N.Z. Pde from the sea to above Colonel Moncrief's section 224 (actually 224 II 7).</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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N2 Inf. Bde

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 27th KABA TEPE.</p>	<p>The CANTERBURY Batta. less details with other units was already in this section. The AUCKLAND Batta. was to be left on the Plateau & come under the orders of Divisional Headquarters. The WELLINGTON Batta. was to join the Brigade. The OTAGO Batta. under the orders of Colonel Monash was to move up the Nullah north of the Plateau, prolonging Col Monash's line to the left. Until its left joined up with the right of the Canterbury Batta. In this section already was a considerable mixture of Australian units under the command of Lieut. Col Brown 2nd (Australian) Batta. Brigade Headquarters left the Plateau at 10 am & WELLINGTON Batta. followed 1/4 later. On arrival the situation was found to be a serious one. The Australian details about 250 strong had succeeded in capturing a Turkish trench about at 224 D H. The Turks decided to counter attack & were pushing it home with considerable success. Ammunition was running out & the Australians had sustained heavy casualties. It was decided to immediately reinforce the Australians on the Plateau with one Coy WELLINGTON Batta. which subsequently was followed by a second company & 2 machine guns. The opportune arrival of these reinforcements halted the wavering ranks of the Australians & restored the situation. The O.C. WELLINGTON Batta. reported about an hour later that he had the situation in hand & was holding his own. The Australians had advanced further & with them a portion of the</p>	

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or
N2 Inf Bde
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 28th. KABA TEPE</p>	<p>Attacks by Coy. The Australians began to fall back & carried the 4th Light Horse Coy with them. A serious panic was averted mainly by the action of Major Hart (Wellington Platoon) & the action of the Field Engineers. The A.C. WELLINGTON Platoon decided to consolidate his position on the original position occupied by Col. Brown. The advanced troops were consequently withdrawn. During the night another section of the Field Coy had been sent forward with a supply of barbed wire, & great efforts were made to entrench the position. Three attacks were made by the Turks during the night which were repulsed by rapid fire at close ranges. There was throughout the night a deplorable waste of ammunition which merely resulted in indicating to the Turks that the troops were ill trained & in clearly showing our position. Hand grenades were thrown by the Turks. The losses during the action were severe considering the no. of troops engaged. There were few stretchers & the medical personnel was quite inadequate for the number of casualties.</p>	
<p>April 29th.</p>	<p>The advanced trenches were engaged all day by the Turks whose advances & retreats fluctuated. Naval guns & a section of Howitzers assisted in keeping the enemy at a</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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or N2 Inf Bde INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 20th KABA TEPE</p>	<p>distance, sent Gen. Broadwood & Major General Godley visited the position during the morning. It was decided to send out a Coy of the Canterbury Battalion to go out along the beach to collect dead boats & equipment as far as the Fishermans hut. The enemy came down from the high ground & attacked the party which resulted in 5 casualties without their being able to accomplish their mission. The aeroplane reconnaissance reported the presence of a Turkish Brigade in a valley East of the Fishermans hut. This valley was shelled by the Navy during the night. The night passed without incident beyond a certain amount of shooting on both sides.</p>	
<p>April 21st</p>	<p>The construction of trenches - bank proops & road making kept the three sections Field Engineers fully occupied. Brig Gen. H. B. Walker handed over command of the Bde to Col. Johnston who had recovered from his illness. What looked like a serious attack upon the advanced trenches of the WELLINGTON Battalion was checked largely by the shooting of the howitzers & Naval guns. The night was a quiet one. The Summary of casualties up to midnight April 28th exclusive of missing & the 11th Coy Auckland Battalion were -</p>	

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N.2. Inf Bde

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.							Remarks and references to Appendices.	
<p>April 29th KABA TEPE</p>	<p>Officers</p>	<p>Killed men</p>	<p>Total</p>	<p>Officers</p>	<p>Wounded men</p>	<p>Total</p>	<p>Total</p>		
	Auckland 4	11	15	11	57	98	113		
	Canterbury 3	25	28	3	65	68	96		
	Otago 1	23	24	1	50	51	45		
	Wellington 2	16	18	5	55	60	78		
		10	75	85	20	257	277	362	
	Add Casualties								
	in 15 th + 16 th Corps		18			93			
	Auck. Bde								
			103			370	473		
	Supplementary for Wellington								
		19			27		46		
	less 2 of Wellington wrongly reported								
							2		
								517	

N.Z. Infantry Brigade
WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

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13

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
April 2 nd 1915 Zeitoun.	The Brigade received a preliminary order for embarkation at Warshengh (1944 Establishment) plus 1 st Reinforcement. The equipment was still far from complete; the difficulties of horse shortage were largely overcome by the arrival of the 3 rd reinforcements with horses.	
April 10 th to 12 th	The Brigade entrained for ALEXANDRIA and embarked there. Brigade Headquarters on the GOSLAR. The Brigade now forms part of the British Mediterranean Expeditionary Force under General Sir Ian Hamilton.	
April 17 th	owing to defective arrangements on the "Goslar", the transport containing Brigade Headquarters did not sail until April 17 th at 6.15 pm.	
April 20 th	Goslar arrived at LEMNOS at noon.	

NZ. Infantry Brigade
WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required).

4 3

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
April 21 st 1915	Disembarkation orders received already communicated to O.C. units. The Brigade to land first of the NZ. & A Division. The landing to be covered by the Australian Division.	
April 25 th 1915	<p>The "Goslar" sailed for KABA TEPE at 9 am. which she was preceded by the majority of the transports conveying Infantry Brigade at 1 pm. The ship passed the mouth of the BARDANELLES where the landing of the 29th Division at Cape HELLES covered by the guns of the Allied fleet was witnessed. The "GOSLAR" arrived off KABA TEPE at 3 pm. as ordered. The covering party consisting of 3rd Australian Pde had succeeded in getting ashore at Siphacah & was then holding the high ground half mile east of beach & north of KABA TEPE where they were suffering severely from Turkish shell fire. Infantry Pde had landed out of the transports piece meal & had been directed by companies & half companies into places where they were most required at the moment. Brigade Headquarters landed on the beach about 5 pm. There we were informed that Brigadier General H. B. Walker, Brig. General, General Staff of the A & N.Z. Army Corps had taken over temporary command of the Brigade vice Col. Johnston on the sick list. Headquarters joined the Brig. Gen. on the plateau 224.41. The situation was then as follows: Pde H.Q. & Stago Pratts on the Plateau, Canterbury & Auckland Pratts very much inter-mingled with Australian units were in</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or NZ Infantry Bde

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

3

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 26th.</p>	<p>The front line of 40000 shae shaps covering the landing. The WELLINGTON Battalion were still on board. The troops landed were without support from the Navy was at first any field guns & artillery support from the Navy was at first quite inadequate owing largely to the novelty of the conditions & the difficulties of observation & communication. Consequently Infantry suffered severely from enemy shell fire. Between 5.45 pm & 6 pm. The Otago Battalion had suffered 30 casualties on the Plateau from shell fire. H.Q. were without any information as to the disposition of the units in the front line but during the evening received several messages the general tenor of which was that the casualties were very severe everywhere that the lines had considerable gaps in them that the men had stood much punishment & were seriously disorganised. It was represented to Divisional H.Q. that the landing of field guns during the night was an absolute necessity if the position was to be maintained. During the night there was a great deal of firing & the Turks attacked in several places but the line was nowhere broken.</p> <p>The enemy's guns again opened with remarkable accuracy along the plateau & landing place. A Mountain battery had been brought up to the plateau the evening before & soon picked up the hostile batteries. The burst of their shrapnel gave the line to the QUEEN ELIZABETH which succeeded in silencing the batteries for several hours.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

N.Z. Infantry - BT

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events* and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>April 26th KABA TEPE</p>	<p>During the night of the 25th + 26th The WELLINGTON Battalion less half a company which was sent to extreme right of position landed + came under the orders of Divisional HQ adjacent to 23rd Lenz Reserve. Thus the whole of Brigade "A" Echelon consisting of personnel, tools water receptacles + ammunition (200 rounds per man) were ashore. It was decided as far as possible to release the AUCKLAND Battalion from the front line + concentrate it on the Plateau. Its place to be taken in the front line by 1/2 Otago Battalion who were to be under the orders of Col. Mc Lagan. Two Companies Canterbury Battalion, under Major Hoach who had succeeded Lieut. Col. Stewart (killed in action) had gone the previous evening to reinforce 33 men of various units under Capt Salmonson who reported he was hard pressed on extreme left of line, was ascertained to be holding a spit in 237 X 7. The Auckland Battalion less a large number of men mixed up in other units was concentrated by the evening. The Otago Battalion less 2 companies did not succeed in reaching the front line + entrenched in a Kullati for the night. During the day it was decided to reorganise into sections. The night passed quietly on the Plateau but there was a determined attack on the Australians on the night which was repulsed.</p>	
<p>April 29th</p>	<p>Orders were definitely issued allotting the left section of the line to the N.Z. Bde from the sea to where Colonel Monash's section landed (actually 224 II 7).</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

NZ Inf Bde

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 27th KAGA TEPE.</p>	<p>The CANTERBURY BATTN. less details with other units was already in this section. The AUCKLAND BATTN. was to be left on the Plateau & come under the orders of Divisional Headquarters. The WELLINGTON BATTN. was to join the Brigade. The OTAGO BATTN. under the orders of Colonel Monash was to move up the Nullah north of the Plateau, prolonging Col Monash's line to the left. Until its left joined up with the right of the Canterbury BATTN. In this section already was a considerable mixture of Australian units under the command of Lieut. Col. Brown 2nd (Australian) BATTN. Brigade Headquarters left the Plateau at 10 am. & WELLINGTON BATTN. followed 1/4 later. On arrival the situation was found to be a serious one. The Australian details about 250 strong had succeeded in capturing a Turkish trench about at 224 D.H. The Turks decided to counter attack & were pushing it home with considerable success. Ammunition was running out & the Australians had sustained heavy casualties. It was decided to immediately reinforce the Australians on the Plateau with one Coy WELLINGTON BATTN. which subsequently was followed by a second company & 2 machine guns. The opportune arrival of these reinforcements halted the wavering ranks of the Australians & restored the situation. The O.C. WELLINGTON BATTN. reported about an hour later that he had the situation in hand & was holding his own. The Australians had advanced further & with them a portion of the</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

N2 Inf Bde

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 27th. KABA TEPE</p>	<p>Hawkes Bray Coy. The Australians began to fall back & carried the Hawkes Bray Coy with them. A serious pause was averted mainly by the action of Major Hart (Wellington Pratten) & the action of the Field Engineers. The O.C. WELLINGTON Pratten decided to consolidate his position on the original position occupied by Col. Brown. The advanced troops were consequently withdrawn. During the night another section of the Field Coy had been sent for with a supply of desalted water. & great efforts were made to entrench the position. Three attacks were made by the Turks during the night which were repulsed by rapid fire at close ranges. There was throughout the night a deplorable waste of ammunition which merely succeeded in indicating to the Turks that the troops were ill trained & in clearly showing our position. Hand grenades were thrown by the Turks. The losses during the action were severe considering the no. of troops engaged. There were few stretchers & the medical personnel was quite inadequate for the number of casualties.</p>	
<p>April 28th.</p>	<p>The advanced trenches were engaged all day by the Turks whose advances & retirements frustrated. Naval guns & a section of Howitzers assisted in keeping the enemy at a</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

NZ Inf Bde

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
April 28 th KABA TEPE	<p>distance. Brig. Gen. Broadwood & Major General Godley visited the position during the morning. It was decided to send out a Coy. of the Canterbury Pratts to go out along the beach to collect dead, boats & equipment as far as the Fishermans hut. The enemy came down from the high ground & attacked the party which resulted in 5 casualties without their being able to accomplish their mission. The aeroplane reconnaissance reported the presence of a Turkish Brigade in a valley East of the Fishermans hut. This valley was shelled by the Navy during the night. The night passed without incident beyond a certain amount of shooting on both sides.</p>	
April 29 th	<p>The construction of trenches - bomb proofs & road making kept the three sections Field Engineers fully occupied. Brig. Gen. H. B. Walker handed over command of the Bde to Col. Johnston who had recovered from his illness. What looked like a serious attack upon the advanced trenches of the WELLINGTON Pratts was checked largely by the shooting of the howitzers & Naval guns. The night was a quiet one. The Summary of casualties up to midnight April 28th exclusive of morning & the 16th Coy Auckland Pratts were -</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

N.2. Inf Bn

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.						Remarks and references to Appendices.	
	Killed			Wounded				
	Officers	Men	Total	Officers	Men	Total	Total	
April 29 th KABA TEPE	Auckland 4	11	15	11	84	98	113	
	Canterbury 3	25	28	3	65	68	96	
	Otago 1	23	24	1	50	51	75	
	Wellington 2	16	18	5	55	60	78	
		10	45	85	20	254	277	362
	Add casualties							
	in 15th & 16th Corps Anzac battles		18			93		
			103			370	473	
	Supplementary for Wellington							
		19			27		46	
	less 2 of Wellington wrongly reported						2	
							517.	

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>April 30th KABA TEPE</p>	<p>The morning was the quietest yet experienced. The day was spent in relieving detachments from the trenches & sending them to the beach for rest & bathe. The beach was stilled during the afternoon. An order was received to occupy Hill 237 R. 8 8 2 to cover some 18 pits which were to be dug in on the beach. At 237 V 6 Lt was decided to postpone the operation until dusk & Major Brenton's Coy Canterbury Prath occupied 237 H 9 8 2 without incident & unopposed. The Scouts of The Canterbury Prath had gained these points during the afternoon. The night passed quietly.</p>	
<p>May 1st</p>	<p>a Party of 1 officer & 50 men from the Canterbury Prath under Lieut Skelton went in two destroyers to surround a suspected observation station at dawn. The operation was completely successful. 18 men were captured & the station destroyed. [Major Hoach, commanding Canterbury Prath was wounded during a reconnaissance in the morning] unless had been issued for an advance along the whole line at 5 pm. This evening Lt were subsequently cancelled. The Turks attacked the 4th Brigade's left about 5 pm with great determination but were repulsed by help of artillery & our machine guns.</p>	