

AWM4

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/35/5

Title: 18th Infantry Battalion

December 1915



AWM4-23/35/5

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Courtney's Post	1/12/15	1150 1535	<p>Small parties of Turks seen gathering brush-wood on Mortar Ridge.</p> <p>The enemy's 75's damaged our trenches about 30 shells being fired " " " " " " " " " " 40</p> <p>also two 6" shells.</p> <p>Sounds heard in D6A seemed to indicate that sandbags were being dragged out of one of enemy's mines.</p> <p>Major Phipps' invention for firing through loopholes tried and found useful.</p> <p>One of our mines was exploded under Turks trenches in front of Quinn's. To demonstration on part of the enemy.</p>	
	2/12/15	1550	<p>a red flare followed by a white which produced a thick trail of white smoke were thrown from G.O.T. This was followed by enemy shelling Courtney's VOT. We suffered no casualties.</p> <p>During the night the enemy threw several flares, green white and red opposite Courtney's. We replied with flares of the same color thrown upright</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Courtney's Post	3/12/15	0600	and Turks heard talking, in one of their forward drives, from 6 A	
		0600	Quarter issue of water	
		2055	Temperature at 24° 7	
		1000	The Turks threw a white flare and opened a brisk rifle and machine gun fire at 21st Bn, on our immediate right.	
		0900	About a dozen shells landed on right half of Courtney's 1 man wounded	
			Enemy's picking getting closer to mines D26 and D9AA	
			Water fatigue shelled while drawing water from tanks 1 Casualty.	
			Lieut Picot entered Hospital	
	? 14/11/15		During the day the Post was shelled 5 times by 75's and, the last time with 6" without result. Over 100 shells landed in vicinity of our trenches.	
	4/17/15			
	? 5/11/15	1945-	a slight demonstration of by the Turks on right of Courtney's	
	5/12/15	1955		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Courtney Post	7/12/15	1400	Our ships heavily shelled the 'Chive Grove' for about one and a half hours	
	8/12/15		37 men joined unit: Reinforcements and returned wounded from hospital	
	9/12/15		Nothing Unusual.	
	10/12/15	1135	Enemy shelled our position without result	
		1550	" " " " " " " " from a new direction	
	11/12/15	1535	Enemy shelled our position without result	
	12/12/15	1015	Enemy burst about a dozen shrapnell over the right of our position	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Courtney's Post	12/12/15	1450	<p>Our position shelled by 6" and 75^s no damage was done B Coy took over Thompson's Post from 21st Batta. The 17th Batta took over part of Courtney's No 2. One Officer and 50 ORs of the 19th Bn were taken on our strength as attached.</p>	
		1540	<p>Position again shelled by 6" one burst on latrine in rear of No 1 killing one man and wounding three. Capt Hinton took over command of A Coy. Capt Bruce became acting Adjutant.</p>	
	13/12/15		<p>Thompson's Post now known as Courtney's No 1A. Capt Morris and 2nd Lt Hobbs evacuated also 19 ORs.</p>	
	14/12/15		<p>Officers' baggage and Regimental Records with guard of four men left Peninsula.</p>	
	15/12/15		<p>Commenced to put Thuggie's Takan in a state of defence Battalion HQs shifted from Courtney's No 2 to Courtney's No 1</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Courtney's Post	16/12/15		Nothing Unusual. Work on Thuggie's Plateau continued	
	17/12/15		Men taken into confidence as regards evacuation. Preparation and detailing of parties to evacuate begun	
	18/12/15	1730	At 1730 Capt Hinton, 2/Lieuts Picot, Beddie, Congdon Ransom and Mendelsohn left post to evacuate. Total evacuated 159. They took all of their equipment also a blanket extra belonging to men leaving next night. Everything Quiet.	
	19/12/15	1720	During the afternoon, garrison for Thuggie's Plateau left Post in twos and threes to take up their position. At 1720 "A" party left post consisting of Major Fitz Gerald, Capt Coen, 2/Lieuts Bolton Wood, Monie, Appleby and Lieut Witham. Total 174.	
		2350	'B2' Party left Post consisting of Capt Roberts, 2/Lieuts Cheadle.	

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Courtney's Post	19/12/15	(Cont)	<p>Lowther, Paine, Brewster. Total 140 Major Murphy and Capt Bruce left with this party for Pluggie's Plateau</p>	
Anzac	20/12/15		<p>C1 Party consisting of Major Goodsell, Capt Plant (M.O); 2/Lieuts Gibbon, Doyle and Sawcett left Post at Total number of Party 16 C2 Party consisting of 2/Lieut Kalklake and all machine gunners left Post. Total 17. Only one tripod was left behind. C3 Party consisting of Capt Sadler, Lieut Mc Niven 2/Lt Reid R.E. left Post Total 17. Pluggie's Plateau Party, consisting of Major Murphy (C.O) Capt Kirke Capt Bruce (Adj) Lieut Lane and 50 O.Rs, was told off for the purpose of assisting to cover the retirement of remainder of force when the "C" Parties had evacuated the Pluggie's Plateau Party embarked at Watson's Pier. Everybody evacuated with-out a single casualty</p>	

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1-11-14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mudros	20/12/15 (Cont)		Arrived at Mudros and camped No 3 South Camp.	
	21/12/15		Nothing Unusual Training	
	22/12/15		Lieut Witham entered Hospital. Battalion received pay. Arrival of Xmas comforts from Australia	
	23/12/15		Nothing Unusual Training of Battalion.	
	24/12/15		" " " "	
	25/12/15		Christmas Day.	
	26/12/15		Training of Battalion	
	27/12/15		" " " "	
	28/12/15		" " " "	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MUDROS.	29.12.15.		Training of Battalion.	
	30.12.15.		Advanced party consisting of Capt Hinton and five men departed for Egypt.	
	31.12.15.		" " "	

(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for beginning of January 1916 and filed with volume for that month).

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