

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/59/2

**Title:** 21st Indian, Kohat Mountain Battery

May 1915



AWM4-13/59/2



# 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

(Erase heading not required.)

| Hour, Date, Place | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 4.A.M. May 1st.   | <p>R X proceeded at 4.A.M. to position prepared yesterday &amp; C X under Major Campbell to the 224 M 1 position at 4.30 A.M. R.X could only clear the crest at the short range required (about 450 X) by using reduced charges &amp; experiments were made with half charges &amp; guessing elevation &amp; fuze &amp; fairly satisfactory results obtained. Rounds expended 250, wounded 4 mules, 2 ponies, no men.</p> <p>(sgd) A.C. Fergusson.<br/>Major, R.A.<br/>6/5/15 Codg. 21 (Kohat) M.B.</p> <p>(Original of above written on same sheet as entry for end of previous month &amp; filed with volume for that month)</p> |                                      |



May 1915

WAR DIARY 21 (Hobart) 11 35 (P.F.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**

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| Hour, Date, Place.                | Summary of Events and Information.  | Remarks and references to Appendices. |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| GALLI POLI<br>May 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 4.30 am C.X. under Major Campbell at its former position (224 M.1) till 5.15 am. Trenchard came ashore about midday & relieved Major Campbell. A new observing station was found & the battery dug in about 224 M.5. to assist in covering an attack on the 700 hill (224 D.5).<br>7.15 pm The attack was preceded by a bombardment of 14 hrs after which the ship batteries fired on another line to prevent re-inforcements coming up. The battery fired for 35 mins. in all at section fire 20 secs. 2516 rounds in all were expended during the day. Casualties killed (by snipers) 3 wounded, 22 men wounded. All men except 8, as a guard, disembarked from PERA today. |                                       |
| May 3 <sup>rd</sup>               | 5 am The guns remained in position all night with an Indian Officer & 1 W.C. & 4 men for gun. The remainder of the men returned to camp, but were out again ready to open fire at 5 am. No suitable targets were found & the day was expended in improving our positions & allowing the men to bathe in relays. Casualties 3 men wounded & 1 man. 64 rounds expended by C.X. at front to old position, & Major Campbell with half charges which was very faintly successful.  |                                       |
| May 4 <sup>th</sup>               | 12 noon All sections as on May 3 <sup>rd</sup> . About 12 noon the battery was called upon to help a Naval Battery which was in rather a precarious   |                                       |



May 1915

WAR DIARY

21. (92405) (E.F.F.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Hour, Date, Place.  | Summary of Events and Information.   | Remarks and references to Appendices. |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| GALLIPOLI           |  |                                       |
| May 5 <sup>th</sup> | position, 2 Co. Naval Brigade exposed himself as well satisfied with the assistance rendered. 1 man wounded, 1 wounded man died, 14 rounds expended.<br>One of the emplacements at 224 M. 5 having been handed over to a Field battery, R. X. returned to the emplacements at mouth of nullah from which they covered nearly the same point as C. X. in 224 M. 1. 100 feet rounds however were fired owing to a scare that we were hitting our own men, which scare was proved to be absolutely false. 64 rounds fired, 1 fighting man, 1 follower, 1 man wounded. |                                       |
| May 6 <sup>th</sup> | C. X. in usual position, R. X. to old position at 226 M. 9, L. X. resting. Capt. Thoms did F.O.O. for a section of 26 M.B. to shell some huts believed to be some enemy H.Q., but unfortunately communication broke down just as fire was becoming effective, arrangements made to repair line but this was not completed before dark. The sea shore emplacements (224. 2. 6) were infiltrated in the afternoon by a battery about 203 h. 4, firing was very heavy but luckily there were very few casualties. Wounded 4 men, 57 rounds expended.                  |                                       |
| 3. p.m.             | L. X. in 224 M. 1. position under Capt. Marchand, R. X. at 224 M. 9 under Capt. Lawson. Capt. Thoms acting as F.O.O. to a section of 26 M.B. trying to knock out an enemy H.Q., observation post & gun.  |                                       |
| May 7 <sup>th</sup> |  |                                       |



May 15

WAR DIARY

21 (Dated) 11.9.15

Army Form C. 2113.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Hour, Date, Place.                            | Summary of Events and Information.  | Remarks and references to Appendices. |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| GALLIPOLI<br>7 <sup>th</sup> April May<br>Ces | Ans. in heavy shell this morning, the following damage killed 1 man (Sahib Haidar) & 2 animals (including 3 officers) Wounded: 1 man & 20 animals, 2 more animals wounded during the day. Rounds expended 97.   |                                       |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> April May<br>Ces              | Positions of Officers & sections as yesterday. Capt. Thom's duties were as detailed yesterday. Capt. Meredith's section duty is to keep down rifles at head of main valley near QUINN'S CORNER, & to engage an enemy battery in a semi-covered position which sometimes appears. Capt. Dawson's section duty is to fire on positions 400 m. S. 224. W. & water KABA TEPE and ASMAK DERE. 12 wounded mules sent to S. S. HESSEN for cure. 1 man wounded, 1 wounded mule destroyed. |                                       |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> May.                          | 2 sections (A & C) employed as yesterday & also Capt. Thom. Major Campbell went with Capt. Thom & Co. to be able to carry out of the latter was required with his section. Both sections appear to be now virtually employed. A & C are watching the road southward KABA TEPE & the guns in that neighbourhood. A & C are keeping down the shells. with more QUINN'S CORNER. 1 man wounded & 2 mules in all. The line has been in a state of                                      |                                       |



May 1915

WAR DIARY

21 (Kohat) 4 B (F F)

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

7-8

| Hour, Date, Place.   | Summary of Events and Information.  | Remarks and references to Appendices. |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| May 9 <sup>th</sup>  | fighting in the afternoon as before. Casualties 10 Private followed   |                                       |
| May 10 <sup>th</sup> | Wounded. Rounds expended 44<br>Giving to a battery having opened which explodes the beach<br>it was decided to move HQ & all men to the depot across<br>the nullah, while still keeping the guns & a number of gunners<br>with the LX which still seeing the enforcements, all officers at<br>same duties as before. Casualties, 1 man wounded, rounds<br>expended 141. |                                       |
| May 11 <sup>th</sup> | Capt. Hodgson D.C. (26 MB) relieved Capt. Thoms as F.O. for the<br>section of 26 MB. Other officers employed as before, arranged for the<br>Red Cross of Indian Field Cook to boil all sheep before noon<br>as the resin cakes so hard that the bullets do not separate when<br>the shell bursts. Casualties 1 man wounded, 88 rounds expended.                         |                                       |
| May 12 <sup>th</sup> | LX, under Capt. Thoms took over the enforcements & duties<br>of a section of 26 MB. situated near present position of RX,<br>but covering ground towards N, whereas RX enforcements<br>(duplicate) face E & S, CX & RX as before. Casualties 4 men,<br>24 mules, wounded, 64 rounds fired.  |                                       |
| May 13 <sup>th</sup> | all sections as before. Casualties, 1 man & 3 mules wounded,<br>1 private wounded mule destroyed, 139 rounds fired.   |                                       |



May 1915

WAR DIARY 21 (Hohat) 403 (IT)

Army Form C. 2118.

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# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

1-5

Hour, Date, Place.

Summary of Events and Information.

Remarks and references to Appendices.

May 14<sup>th</sup>

All sections as before. In the morning Capt. Rawson discovered what looked like a covered gun emplacement about 650 yds. from our trenches & built a rifle pit in corner. He immediately started to dig a position for 1 gun in the firing trenches without breaking down the front parapet. He arranged for all the field guns to start firing at all known enemy guns at 5 p.m. & at the same hour knocked down the parapet in front of his gun & engaged the enemy in the open, largely by target sight. He was in action for half an hour before being discovered & during that time destroyed the emplacement, knocked out a Maxim machine gun & blew in a lot of supplies in a trench, having no casualties himself during this time. The other sections have done very good & useful work but neither has yet had a chance of doing as good as this. Casualties: full day, 100 men killed, 4 men & 2 mules wounded, 205 rounds expended. All sections as before. Nothing unusual occurred. Casualties: 1 killed, 122 rounds expended.

May 15<sup>th</sup>

Gulab Singh & Sons, Calcutta—







May 1911

WAR DIARY 21 (Khat) 11 B(77)

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

7.

| Hour, Date, Place.                 | Summary of Events and Information.   | Remarks and references to Appendices.  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| ANZAC COVE<br>May 19 <sup>th</sup> | <p>Right Section started firing at 5 am from their open position. I found under Cap Rawson killed a large number that the enemy seemed to be put off by. During 3 died hit in 3 rounds, range about 400 yds. A man who Sub. MIT SINGH, assisted by Lieut. Brown. The latter being an expert shot. At 2.30 PM, the 2nd section started firing. The section remained in action all day doing excellent work though under very heavy fire. Several acts of bravery were performed for which recommendations have been made. Perhaps the best of these was 2nd Lt. KARM SINGH who was shot through both eyes while helping to pass a man. I continued to do so saying nothing about his wound till the work was finished. Cap. RAWSON's name will also go for a recommendation in due course.</p> <p>Left Section started firing at 3.45 and continued to do so all day though also under heavy fire. They did good work including getting off some very accurate sniping. A man who was shot at, he did this by firing through the Marshall charge.</p> <p>1st Cavalry during today. Subedar MIT SINGH 2 times wounded, 6 men killed. 11 others wounded. Rawson killed. 9/13.</p> <p>Right Section fired again from their open position at 11. The remains of the enemy were destroyed yesterday about which the troops seemed very anxious as they were being hit again. The remains further down was done by the 2nd section. There was no more that have been seen. 1st Cavalry killed 2 killed 3 wounded. 11 others killed 12 others wounded.</p> | <p>1st Cavalry during today.</p> <p>2 - Work Sunday</p> <p>Other section as before</p> |



May 1918

# WAR DIARY

21 (L) 11 (B) (T-F)

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| ANZAC COVE<br>May 21 <sup>st</sup> | All sections as before CX was called up at 1 am by a message saying QUINN'S POST was being attacked & asking for fire. They continued to fire till 2 am. The Post afterwards informed Major Campbell that his shell was bursting right among the Turks. A counter-attack was made this day of overhead cover full gas Casualties 1 man wounded. 69 rounds expended. |                                       |
| May 22 <sup>nd</sup>               | Very thick mists issued limiting expenditure of ammunition to 4 rounds per gun per day unless we are being very much attacked. All sections as before CX overhead cover completed. Casualties NIL. Rounds 7. Expended. The first day since landing that the battery has had no casualties among the animals.  |                                       |
| May 23 <sup>rd</sup>               | Sections as before. Nothing of interest occurred. Casualties NIL. Rounds expended 19.   |                                       |
| May 24 <sup>th</sup>               | Section as before. Casualties for day dead from 7.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. Capt. Thomas proceeded to H.Q. for medical treatment for a few days & Major Ferguson took command of Lt. in his place. Casualties NIL. Rounds 5 fired.  |                                       |
| May 25 <sup>th</sup>               | Sections as before. Nothing of interest occurred. Casualties NIL. Rounds fired 8.   |                                       |
| " 26 <sup>th</sup>                 | do do do do do " NIL " 45.  |                                       |
| " 27 <sup>th</sup>                 | do do do do do " NIL " 20.  |                                       |
| " 28 <sup>th</sup>                 | do do do do do " NIL " 20.  |                                       |
|                                    | Capt. Rowland sprained his ankle & had to be relieved. Lt. was left in charge of section MIT SINGH, who Capt. TOPP. As a result of this & other necessary casualties. 1 man wounded, 21 rounds. Rounds fired 8.   |                                       |



M 15

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or

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K-9

ANZAC COVE.  
May 29<sup>th</sup>

Sections as before. Capt. Henry. Adj. J. M. A. D. took charge of R. X. about 11 am. At 4 am enemy attacked Quinn's Post, R. X. was asked for rapid fire. LX hearing the firing & suspecting an attack but having no other information fired as the enemy concealed battery whose flashes were visible. The intensity fell about 7 am. At 8 am. Sub. MIT SINGH took a gun into the open & loaded down 3 machine gun emplacements, at close range (1350 yds) Cassinette M4, Rounds expended 384 of which CX fired 292. Arrived here for emplacements of R. X. completed this day.

May 30<sup>th</sup>

Sections as before. Several enemy guns which had not been before located were this day spotted by W. A. H. D. Mahomed, & duly pointed out to all concerned including 26 M.B. W. WALKER'S RIDGE Cassinette. 2 rounds expended. Rounds expended 139.

May 31<sup>st</sup>

Sections as before. Capt. Thorsburn. Adj. J. M. A. D. took charge of LX. The latter returned & head quarters. Cassinette M4. Rounds 4.

Since landing on the R. ALLIPOLI peninsula the battery has fired 5129 rounds. The mortar T. as it is in a very bad state but think the guns are in good order they naturally not so accurate as when new.

2 April  
May 25<sup>th</sup>  
1915A. J. S.iggins  
May 29  
C. J. M. B.

1.6.15







