

AWM4

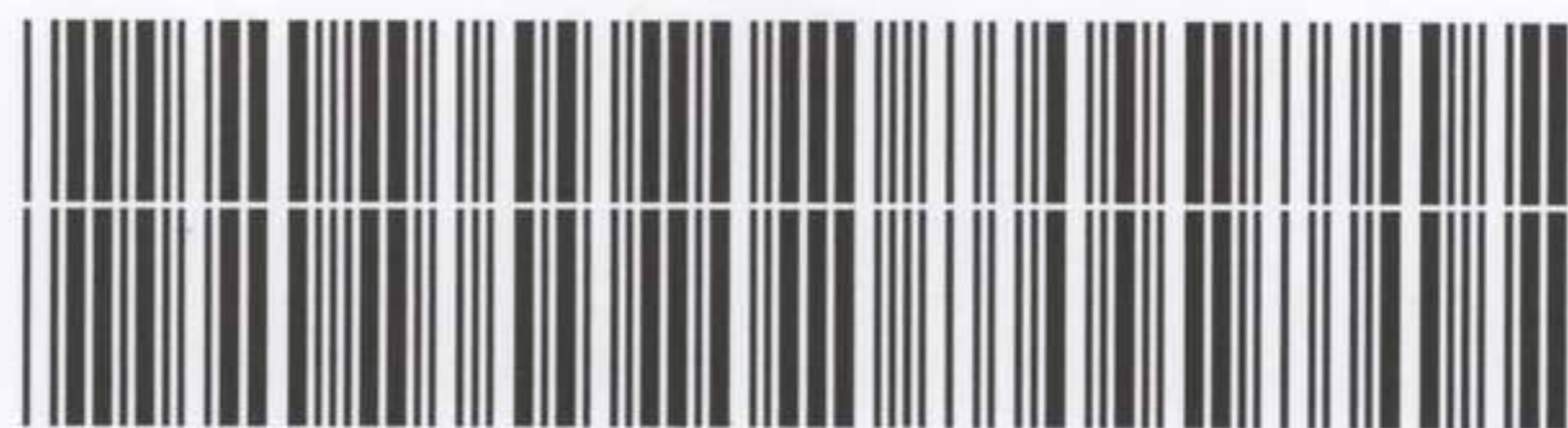
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Infantry

Item number: 23/20/6

Title: 3rd Infantry Battalion

August 1915



AWM4-23/20/6

Vol 2.

35

A. G's OFFICE AT THE BASE

3rd. ECHELON M. F. F.
Remarks or References
to Appendices, &c.,
attached.

16 SEP 1915

CENTRAL REGISTRY.

No. M. F. C/

Date.	Place and Time.	
1-8-15	ANZAC	<p>A normal day - very little fire of any sort. Our artillery fired a few shots on LONE PINE and JOHNSTON'S TOLLY.</p> <p>Casualties 2 other ranks wounded. Capt EM MACFARLANE seriously wounded.</p>
2-8-15	ANZAC	<p>The night was quiet. The 75 M.M gun opened fire at 0630 and did some damage to our parapet. It fired again in the afternoon at 1700 clock.</p> <p>There was very little activity on our front - a little digging is being done near</p>

C.11/50.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
3. 8. 15	ANZAC	<p>MIA MIAS, Casualties: 1 Officer, ^{Capt E.M. MACFARLANE} killed and 4 other ranks wounded.</p> <p>Quiet on our front during night. Enemy Raube flew over the position at 0605 and again at 1645. N.Z.F.A. fired high explosive shell from 18 pdr. for first time on LONE PINE wire entanglements with medium result.</p>	<p>W.P.</p> <p>W.P.</p>

C.11/56.

53

Vol II 40

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
4. 8. 15	Augac.	was just an ordinary day. Nothing unusual to report. All preparations that were possible were made for the impending attack on LONE PINE MA	
5. 8. 15	Augac	Same as for previous day. We were relieved from the firing line by the 5 th BN. at noon and remained in the support trenches MA	
6. 8. 15			
6. 8. 15	Augac	After resting all night and until 1400 we moved round to the rendezvous for the attack. The intense bombardment by the artillery commenced at 1630 and ended at 1730. At 1730	

G. 11/55.

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Vol II 41

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		<p>the signal to advance was given when B and C Coy advanced from the new and old Spring Line - Half of each Coy on each line. As soon as we appeared on the parapet the enemy artillery opened fire with shrapnel and high explosive but the men rushed straight on and into the enemy's trenches. The 4th BN had the left, the 2nd BN the right & the 3rd BN the centre. D Coy with picks and shovels followed on with C and B from the rear</p>	

C.11.56.

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55

Vol II 42

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		<p>firing line. A Coy followed B Coy. although we were allotted a certain frontage we found that our men got scattered and all different units were mixed. Our plans of the trenches were incomplete but were a good general guide. At night we hung on to the trenches taken against vigorous counter attack and heavy bombing.</p> <p>Our casualties are unknown but very heavy.</p>	

C.11056.

[Signature]

5

Vol II 43.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7-8-15	LONE PINE	<p>We held our position against continuous bombing at which the enemy appear to be very expert. Our casualties were heavy and we confidently expect from results of observation that theirs were the same. About 70 prisoners and two Machine guns were captured the previous night one of which is in action against the enemy. Both our own M/Guns were put out of action during the day by enemy M/Gun on</p>	

C.11/56.

57

Vol II 144

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7-8-15		<p>JOHNSTONES TOLLY. A strong counter attack was launched by the enemy on our front during the night. Bombing which has been much neglected in our training is the thing required most. Our men however demonstrated their ability to use bombs successfully and our trained men were as good as those of the enemy.</p>	
7-8-15		<p>The day was spent in holding our front against bombs and</p>	

C.11(54)

2

5.00

Vol II 45

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7-8-15		consolidating the line. A further 30 yards of trench was taken with this object about 1800 and prepared for defence.	
8-8-15		We had no trouble here during the night 7/8th ^{was} COL. E. S. BROWN was killed and MAJOR D. M. M'CONAGHY assumed command. We spent the day trying to improve our defensive position. The enemy kept bombing continuously but we established superiority. All along the line the enemy were very active and appeared	

C.11156.

Vol II 46.

Date	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
8-8-15		to be preparing for an attack.	O.H.P.
9-8-15		<p>About 4 am. the anticipated attack developed and the enemy showed great determination. A party advanced up a communication trench which separated our right from 4th BN. left but were bombed back with some loss. An hour later another party of bombers tried to come along the same trench but our snipers repulsed them with losses. We had to vacate a small portion of trench</p>	

C.11-56.

V07 II 47

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
9-8-15		during the attack owing to bombs but regained this again. The Bn. was relieved by 1st Bn. about 10 am. and marched back to the recently vacated lines for a rest.	W.P.
10-8-15		We rested and reorganised. Our strength is 7 officers 277 other ranks; the remainder 21 officers 579 other ranks were killed wounded & missing the exact proportions being yet unknown.	W.P.
11. 8. 15		At 09.30 we commenced to relieve the 5th Bn at No 1 Section at LONE PINE	

C.11-56.

Vol. II 48

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
12. 8. 15	ANZAC	<p>This section was in a very unprepared state, the trenches being congested with dead bodies and the stench almost unbearable. By night we had this much improved. The enemy were fairly active with bombs during the night but as we held the line very lightly with supports close at hand under bomb proof cover our casualties were slight. Casualties 1 Officer & 4 other ranks wounded.</p> <p>By continuous work of four Pioneers we cleared the trenches of 137 bodies</p>	

C.11.58.

VOT. II +9

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
13. 8. XV	ANZAC	<p>and now have them in a state from which they can be improved. Improvement of the firing line was pushed on with by widening deepening & building sniping posts. Casualties 1 other ranks wounded.</p> <p>We were relieved by the 5th BN. at 09.30 for 48 hours rest. 80 men and 2 officers were promoted as BDE Reserve on night of 12/14th.</p> <p>Casualties Nil.</p> <p>Burial services were held over the dead at LONE PINE by</p>	

C.11056.

5.13

V07 II 50.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		<p>the DEAN of SYDNEY and FATHER McAULIFFE.</p> <p>The Battalion strength before operations on LONE PINE commenced was:-</p> <p>24 officers 856 O.R.</p> <p>The numbers who actually went to LONE PINE & took part in the action were 23 officers 736 O.R., we mustered the Battalion 3 days later when there were 7 officers and 295 other ranks. Of the officers who originally landed</p>	

C.11.56.

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K

V07 II 51

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
14.8.XV.	ANZAC	with the 3 rd BN. only 2 are left - MAJOR D.M. MCCONNAGHY and LIEUT O.G. HOWELL PRICE, Adjutant. The Battalion was in reserve resting. Casualties Nil.	P.P.P.
15.8.XV.	ANZAC (LOVE PINE)	We took over No. 1 section of LOVE PINE at 0900. The work of improving & strengthening the firing line by deepening & providing Bomb Proof cover was pushed on with immediately. The enemy was very quiet. Casualties three other ranks wounded.	P.P.P.
16.8.XV.	ANZAC	The night was quiet - very few bombs being thrown. The work on the trenches was	

C.11056.

107 II 52

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
17.8.XV	LONEPINE	<p>pushed on vigorously and the line is now in a good defensive condition. During the afternoon we were heavily bombarded by 75 M.M. gun firing from GUN RIDGE. Our artillery seem unable to deal with this gun. Casualties 2 other ranks wounded. We were relieved by the 5th BN at 0900 and proceeded to our old lines for 24 hours rest. This rest is very much needed by all ranks who, after nearly 17 weeks continuous trench warfare, are really not in a condition to garrison such an</p>	

C.11056

V07 II 53

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		arduous post as LONE PINE and should be sent from the Peninsula for a rest. (Casualties 10 other ranks wounded)	
18.8.XV	ANZAC	MAJOR McCOMAGHY was promoted temp. Lieut-Col whilst in temporary command of the Bn to date from 7 th August 1915.	
19.8.XV		The Bn. rested in its old lines. Casualties nil.	
		The Bn took over No 1 Section on LONE PINE from 5 th BN at 0700. Soon after taking up our position we were subjected to a very heavy artillery bombardment, which continued intermittently during the day. Otherwise the day was very quiet. The	

C.11.56.

5-17

V07 II 54

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
20.8 XV.	ANZAC	<p>enemy continues actively digging and improving their lines immediately to our front. Casualties Other Ranks 4 wounded 1 missing.</p> <p>The night was very quiet, the enemy showing no activity whatever. The 75 M.M. gun gave us the usual bombardment during the day without doing us serious damage. As soon as night fell the enemy snipers & bomb thrower became active and continued so during the night.</p>	
21.8 XV.	ANZAC	<p>Casualties 13 other ranks wounded</p> <p>After an active night things settled down to normal in the morning. We were</p>	

C.11066.

17

107 II 55

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
22. 8. XV	ANZAC	Relieved by the 5 th BN at 0800 & moved into bivouac. Casualties Nil	M.P.
		The BN remained in bivouac resting. Casualties Nil	M.P.
23. 8. XV	ANZAC	We relieved the 5 th BN at 1000 in No 1 section LONE PINE. The enemy were very quiet all day & we were able to push on with necessary works. Our strength counting rifles is now reduced to 167. Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.	M.P.
24. 8. XV	ANZAC	Another quiet day followed on a quiet night although the enemy did show signs of activity with bombs.	

C.11056.

V07 II - 56

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
25. 8. XV.	ANZAC	Casualties 4 O.K. wounded (2 only slight).	
26. 8. XV.	ANZAC	The Bn was relieved by the 5 th BN at 0800 and went into bivouac in old lines for 48 hours rest. Casualties nil.	
27. 8. XV.	ANZAC	The BN rested in bivouac. Casualties nil. We relieved the 5 th BN at 12 (noon) at No 1 section of defence LONE PINE. There was a small bombardment by enemy artillery during the late afternoon which damaged our parapets considerably. Casualties nil.	
28. 8. XV.	ANZAC	The usual bombing took place during	

C.11/56.

V07 II 57

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		<p>the night. This prevented us from repairing our parapets as much as we would have liked to have done. Enemy 75 M.M. gun bombarded us continually during the day culminating in a very severe bombardment from 1700 to 1800. after which we had practically no look-hole left for us in our left section. soon after darkness fell a bomb attack was commenced & continued vigorously until the moon rose after which it quietened down. Enemy Trench reconstrued our position but was</p>	

C.11056.

MS

Vol. II 58

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
M.S. XV	ANZAC.	<p>Chased off by one of our M/ps. Casualties 1 OR wounded.</p> <p>It was found that during the night the Turks had improved their overhead cover, constructed a number of look-holes, & built up a parapet of sunbaked bricks within 30 yards of our trenches despite our continuous bombing and sniping. We handed over the section to 15th Bn at 15 00 o'clock & proceeded to our old lines for 48 hours beyond. Casualties 2 OR killed 4 OR, wounded (2 slightly).</p>	<p>OKP</p>

O.11.56.

107 II 59

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.8.XV.	ANZAC	The Bn. rested. Casualties Nil.	M.P.
31.8.XV.	ANZAC	The Bn. relieved the 5 th BN at 1400 o'clock. The afternoon was quiet. At 2000 there was heavy rifle fire from the enemy trenches which was apparently only a demonstration. A large number of bombs were thrown during this fire. Casualties Nil.	M.P.

C.11056.