

**THE WAR DIARY OF  
HAROLD JOHN SNAPE  
Regimental No. 145  
1915 to 30 April 1916**

Date of Attestation 24th March 1915. 10 wks to dep. Port Mac. Left.

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**1915**

**MAY**

Fri 28     Prep for procession.

Sat 29     Proceeded through town very satisfactory considering training. Ashore at 6 p.m.

Sun 30     Church parade. Went to see George B. in Base Hospital & took his togs over. Record crowd of visitors. Met L.L. & went out with a chap called King F.L.

Mon

31     Prep. for embarkation. All wagons taken to Port Melbourne & loaded. (Home on leave).

**JUN**

Tue 1     Ritchie & I went to see George & then up to town to buy music. Marched to Port Melbourne at 4 p.m. Went aboard A.39. We got ashore by a bit of manoeuvring. I went home & then to the Avenue. Met Ritchie at F. Street & got back to the ship at 12-20 a.m.

Wed 2     Stowing stores & getting ready for horses. Went ashore & home at 6-30p.m. Ret. 12-20 a.m.

Thu 3     Horses came aboard this morning. Left Port Melbourne at 3-40 a.m. & anchored off Williamstown. Went on Horse Picquet from 1 to 4 a.m.

**Voyage aboard His Majesty's Australian Troopship, A 39 'Port Macquarie'**

Fri 4     Day (1) Inspected by Military authorities. Weighed anchor at about 8 a.m. Dropped Pilot with mail just outside the (Port Phillip) Heads at 12 noon. Time altered 11-40 a.m. Fed horses etc. S.S. 8 p.m. Turned in at about 8-30 p.m. Slept well all night.

Sat 5     (2) As usual. Kangaroo died. Knocked off at 5-30 p.m. Turn in 8-30.

Sun 6     (3) As usual. Church at about 11a.m. Stand easy after dinner till feed up. S.S.

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**1915      The Voyage**

**JUN**

Mon7

(4) Dumped first horse this morning. Felt queer all day.

Tue 8

(5) Better this morning. Mess orderly. Smoke on the port bow..... Told off into lifeboats. I am in No.7

Wed 9

(6) 2<sup>nd</sup> horse. Sighted land. West Austr. & have been passing it all day. Fire Drill. Concert on Troop Deck. I tried the Trumpeter.

Thu 10

(7) As usual. I saw a flying fish alongside. Stood easy after dinner & did some washing. Lovely day except for a couple of showers. Some of the men had their hair cut with the horse-clipping machine. (Time half minute each.)

Fri 11

(8) As usual. We must be along way from the ordinary course of steamers as our escort of birds has disappeared. Got vaccinated just after dinner. Lovely day.

Sat 12

(9) As usual. We steamed right into a rainstorm which lasted 9 or 10 mins. M. Ord. Fire bell rang & we fell in at our respective posts, about 10 mins afterward the steamer whistle blew & we mustered alongside the lifeboats. We were then dismissed until feed up. Concert.

Sun 13

(10) As usual. Church. Sermon on Lord Roberts. Stand easy. Read all afternoon.

Mon14

(11) Reveille at 5-15 p.m. as we are nearing the Tropics & we finish mucking out by b'fast time. Paid 3 days @ 6/- (six shillings). 18/- 1 day for last month & 2 days up till embarkation. 2 horses died. It was nearly 9 p.m. by the time they dumped the 2<sup>nd</sup> one.

Tue 15

(12) Ditto. Exercising horses till 2p.m. then stood easy till feed up. Banker 1/6d.

Wed16

(13) As usual. Changed some horses round. Dinner 1-30 p.m. ...bite .... Muster at lifeboats. As usual.

Thu 17

(14) We have been running N 55° W since about Sat. with a light S.E. Trade Wind & there has been hardly a roll on the ship. Just like a trip down the Bay. We don't feel; much of the breeze as the boat just about keeps pace with its own smoke. The weather is getting very close. We are nearing the Tropics & some of the Train are sleeping about the decks etc. They came down with a

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**1915**    **The Voyage**  
**JUN**

rush first thing this morning to dodge a heavy shower. As usual. Stand easy after dinner. Concert on boat deck. Horse died.

Fri 18

(15) Ditto. Mess Orderly. Perfect weather. S.A. ("short arm inspection," i.e., a full medical).

Sat 19

(16) Had my kit inspected & was issued with Identification disk, rabbit-skin jacket, pair socks, mittens & flannel shirt. Changing horses round. Had a swim in the canvas bath (Good). Boat stations after dinner. Could see smoke following us on the Port side. Supposed to be troop ship which left with the A.M.C. (Army Medical Corps) the day after we did. Had the Articles of War read out to us this afternoon.

Sun 20

(17) Church on boat deck. As usual. Boat turned almost in a circle at 5p.m. Rumour that we got a wireless message at 11p.m. from Colombo. We then changed our course to N.E.

Mon 2

(18) As usual. Slept on boat deck. Canteen ran out of tinned fruit today. It is a real mess up.

Tue 22

(19) Got my shoulder badges. N.B.T. (4) also got riding breeches. Told yesterday to get our letters ready for 9 a.m. on Wed. A tramp steamer passed on our starboard side this morning fairly close. I was down in the hold today sorting out harness, horse rugs, etc. I have never perspired so much in my life. Wrote home down to here.

Wed 23

**Crossing the Equator**

(20) As usual. A wireless message appeared on the board addressed to Neptune Rex at 1600 fathoms saying we will be prepared to welcome you & your court aboard at 2 p.m. today. It was very hot when he arrived. He & his queen were seated on a raised platform & his followers, doctors, policemen (to bring in offenders) etc., were gathered round him. Lt. Bond was brought before him first. (L.C. Bracegirdle produced a certificate that he had crossed the line). Neptune ordered him to take two pills (made from soap or lard, I think) & a dose of medicine (a bitter mixture administered by the doctor's assistant); to kiss Her Majesty's hand as he stooped to do so, she turned her hand over, the back of it was covered in tar & she wiped it in his face & last of all, to be lathered & shaved. The barbers were mounted on a platform one each side of a chair, at the end of a canvas tank & about 3ft. 6ins. Above the water. One lathered him with a whitewash brush & the other shaved him with a big wooden razor. To finish, they tipped him, chair & all backwards into the tank;

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JUNE    **The Voyage**

1915

JUN

as he touched the water, five men standing in the tank grabbed him & ducked him 4 or 5 times, he was then allowed to climb out, as he prepared to do so, he was met by a stream of water out of a big fire-hose. About 50 or 60 were treated somewhat similar to this. I got it all but for the pills. Some tried to resist & were carried up by the policemen. One chap grabbed the man with the razor as he was falling backwards & pulled him into the bath with him. After my turn was over, I shoved the other barber in. They finished up by letting a couple of the ropes go, holding the tank up & all the water ran out. The sailors in the Train said it was the best turn out they had ever seen. We stood easy after this until feed up. Slept on boat deck. Paid 20 days @ 1/-

Thu 24

(21) As usual. The **Ajanus** was running fairly close to us all day. We sighted land & some katarmarans (with & without sails) just after dinner. Stood easy after dinner & watched Colombo getting clearer & clearer. The pilot came aboard & brought us in behind the breakwater where some natives in heavy rowing boats with long paddle-shaped tied us up to two buoys (about 3-30 p.m.). The Ajanus followed shortly after. We are anchored parallel to each other a few hundred yards apart & we have been yelling out to each other trying to find friends aboard each others' boats. The pilot came alongside just after tea & said there had been a uprising of the natives, & there were 800 casualties amongst our crowd. Martial Law had been proclaimed & everyone had to be in by 7 p.m. Received orders to proceed to Bombay & unload our horses & then go on as usual. Our captain said he got the wireless message at 10-15p.m. on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> in Long. 67° East Lat. 1° South. The Ajanus got the same orders. She cast off her moorings & was piloted out at about 8 p.m. We all went up on the boat deck & cheered her & sang Sons of the Sea & Bridging Train, Auld Ang Syne, Tipperary & God Save The King. During the afternoon, natives rowed their boats alongside & cadged pennies, etc. One dived over for a shilling. There are lots of boats here at present including a gun-boat. The **R.M.S Osterley** cleared out about 8 p.m. signalling Farewell & Good Luck as she went out past the breakwater. There are two powerful searchlights playing right across the entrance of the harbour. Lost about 10 horses. We cleared out of the harbour about 10-20p.m. & steered NW for Bombay. I turned in at 12 M.N. I saw some porpoises during the day.

Fri 25

(22) More dead horses. We washed mats by trailing them astern. Steamers passed us on both sides. We could see the west coast of India nearly all day. Inspection of Train in full marching order. (Concert on boat deck).

Sat. 26

(23) As usual. Squally. The boat has been rolling a lot. More horses down.

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1915

JUN The **Ajanus** is just ahead of us & appears to be steering a zigzag course.

Sun 27 (24) --- rolled worse than ever last night. Dixies, kettles, dishes, etc., were sliding up & down the tables & around the mess-deck all night. We have now lost over 50 horses, about 12 were down to it this morning. About a dozen of our chaps wound up on the broad of their backs at the foot of the stairway this morning. I have never seen such a mix-up as we had on our mess deck during dinner time. This old tub was rolling terribly. It was hard work Voyage. to sit still let alone stand up. The rain came down the open hatchways & made the deck like a skating rink. The cooks of the messes coming down with the dinner would make a dash from the foot of the steps to grab something when an extra roll would send them all express speed half way across the deck. Those sitting at the mess tables were sliding up & down on the forms, trying their best to sit still & keep the dinner etc. on the tables without much success. There were potatoes, haricot beans, hot soup, big joints of meat & plates scattered all over the deck. Mixed up with the dinner were men, some sliding on their backs & others rolling all over the ship. Altogether, it was the funniest thing I have ever seen. I was mess-orderly & I reckon I did well not spilling anything. It rained all day. Could see Indian coast. No church today as the horses were very shaky & it took us all our time looking after them.

Mon 28 (25) Dumped about 10 horses. It is getting horrible to see the poor brutes falling down never to get up again & being unable to do anything for them. It has been raining on & off all day. The crew have been taking the soundings to find the channel into Bombay. (We ran past the entrance & have now turned about. 10a.m.). The pilot came aboard at 2 p.m. & took us inside & left us at anchor in the bay.

Tue 29 (26) Came into Princes Dock & pulled alongside the wharf about 12-30p.m. We started right away unloading horses. I believe they are going about 100 miles inland as remounts for some frontier garrison. A lot of them were put ashore in slings. It is much easier than walking them. Finished up at about 4-30p.m. First half Train went ashore from 5 to 7 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> half, 7 to 10 p.m. Some of us lead the horses over to the railway station & trucked them. The trucks hold 8 horses, 10 ponies or 20 pilgrims. Five of us went up the town in a carriage ('gharry') 3/-. We had a real good time. Got back at 1a.m. Everyone tries to make something out of you. It is a very interesting place.

Wed 30 (27) Cleaning up the ship. Cleared out into the bay just about 1 p.m. Two light steamers came alongside just after tea & pumped water aboard.

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**1915                      The Voyage****JUL**

- Thu 1      28) The natives came alongside in lighters & started coaling up. They worked right through the night till 4 a.m. & then knocked off for a few hours. A couple of boatloads of officers went over to see the caves on Elephanta Island.
- Fri. 2      (29) The niggers finished coaling just about 2 p.m. I went ashore to Elephanta Is. Just after dinner. There were two boatloads & we had to row about a mile. The caves are 4,000 years old & are like big temples cut out of solid rock. There are figures cut in the walls (gods, goddesses, etc.) some about 15ft. high. ....years ago, the Portuguese landed there with guns & destroyed parts of the temple. The lower portion of a lot of the figures being blown away. We had a look over the fort on top of the island & then came down. I went for a swim off the breakwater. We got back to the ship at 5p.m.
- Sat 3      (30) Pilot came aboard & we moved out into the bay at about 8 a.m. Mess deck was foul so we slept up in the horse stalls.
- Sun 4      (31) Church Parade at 11 a.m. One of the crew (the donkey man) died at 8 p.m. He had been sick nearly all the voyage.
- Mon 5      (32) Up at 6a.m. Burial at sea first thing this morning. We fell in on the port side of the boat deck. The chaplain performed the service on the starboard side. The ship was stopped as they dropped the body over the side & at the conclusion of the service about 30 of our crowd fired 3 volleys into the air. Cleaning up the ship, etc.
- Tue 6      (33) As usual.
- Wed 7      (34) Mess Orderly. Cleaning harness. Stand easy after dinner. Lecture.
- Thu 8      (35) Clean harness. Stand easy after dinner.
- Fri 9      (36) Train fell in & the men who had had Naval or Military service were picked out. (Sort of census). This led to all sorts of rumours. The sea is getting very calm. Saw the Southern Cross.
- Sat 10      (37) Several steamers passed. One painted white without a funnel (Motor driven engines). Passed a light-house & two search lights at 10 p.m. on the starboard side.
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## 1915    The Voyage

### JUL

Sun 11

(38) Very calm. Sea was like glass. Saw land about 8 a.m. (rocky islands near Arabian coast. Passed Aden while we were in bed. Saw a steamer coaling at Perim at about 9 a.m. on starboard side. There is hardly a breath of wind except that caused by the motion of the boat. Passed a place called Mooker (famed for coffee) about dinner time 12-30p.m. The edge of the Arabian Desert supposed was just visible. We are passing close to some rocks called The Twelve Apostles. One, called Abuail, has a light-house on it. (time 6 p.m.) We had a lecture on part of The South African War by the chaplain last night.

Mon 12

(39) Weather & sea & everything as usual. Tying up bundles for issue, viz: 2 blankets in a water-proof sheet.

Tue 13

(40) Paid £1-0-0. Saw several steamers.

Wed 14

(41) As usual.

Thu 15

(42) Passed Sinai Pen. & Gulf of Achbar (Aqabar). Arrived at Suez & anchored at 10 p.m.

Fri 16

(43) Up at 5-30a.m. The Signallers landed in a lighter at 2 p.m. They are going on to Cairo by train about 6 or 7 hours journey. Some Suez Canal employees came aboard & loaded two mooring boats & a searchlight with dynamo driven by a little steam turbine & a load of sandbags which we stacked on the bridge as a protection for the captain against snipers which are supposed to be active on our starboard side in the canal. Weighed anchor & steamed into the Suez Canal at 5-30p.m. Passed the Aust (?) cruiser **Himalaya** & the French cruiser **Montcalm** at the entrance to the canal. There are forts guarded by Indian soldiers & in some cases by Territorials at intervals along the Arabian side of the canal facing the desert. They had camels, mules, etc., with them. We moored alongside a couple of buoys to allow the **Ceramic** to pass. We passed the 8 funnelled steamer, **Tearesian** in the Bitter Lakes. She had been struck by a Turkish mine.

Sat 17

(44) Anchored in the harbour at Port Said at 10-30 a.m. Went for a swim off the stern of the boat & went over to the side of the dock & landed where we saw 8 or 9 French hydroplanes also two gal. Iron pontoons riddled with bullets, captured from the Turks, by the Australians. Went up the city in swimming togs. Saw a flight of 3 or 4 hydroplanes. About 40 men broke ship & went ashore after tea, they all got caught. (Took on coal).

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**1915    The Voyage**

**JUL**

Sun 18

(45) Clean ship. The **Tearesian** was towed in & anchored alongside us at about 2 p.m. One Naval officer & four French sailors came aboard. Rumour (going to Lemnos Island), Had a swim. Left Port Said at 6 p.m. & steered N.W. in the Mediterranean.

Mon 19

(46) Rifle drill, etc. Guard on duty all day & night in case of submarines, etc.

Tue 20

(47) Guard from 3 to 4 a.m. Saw a light-house on right. (Island of Crete, I think). Musketry instruction from English Sergeant Major. Passed a rock island about 2 p.m. On guard after sunset.

Wed 21

(48) Entered the harbour at the island of Lemnos at about 8a.m. & proceeded up the bay & anchored at about 11-30a.m. There are thousands of troops camped round the harbour in which there must be at least 120 ships without counting the boats & launches. There are troopships (French & British). The **Aquitania**, a four funnelled Cunard liner, has brought 7,500 troops from England. Battleships, Cruisers, Destroyers, Submarines, Monitors, Minelayers. They have nearly all been in the Dardanelles. Colliers, a couple of cross-Channel paddle-steamers for conveying troops to & from ships & three hospital ships. About 12,000 troops have been sent from here during the last few days. We see the troopships go out & return empty inside 5 or 6 hours. Could hear guns firing in the Dardanelles tonight. Lemnos is the base for the Dardanelles.

Thu 22

(49) Musketry. Told to get ready to land at a moment's notice. French sailors left.

Fri 23

(50) As usual. Visited a troopship.

Sat 24

(51) Issued with blankets and water-proof sheets after dinner. We are all ready to land. Weighed anchor & steamed out of Lemnos at 7 p.m. All slept on deck

Sun 25

(52) Arrived at and anchored in the harbour at Imbros Island at 7 a.m. There were several troopships, gunboats and three monitors. Two monitors went out & up the Dardanelles this morning. We could hear the guns on the Gall. Pen. all day & after the monitors had been away for a while, we heard them at it. They returned at about 7p.m.



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**1915      The Voyage**

**JUL**

Mon 26

(53) Train reorganised into sections which are subdivided into detachments of 6 men & a Senior Hand. Could see the flashes of artillery firing on the Peninsula after tea. Medical Orderly. Instruction in Bridge Bldg.

Tue 27

(54) Rev. at 5a.m. Royal Engineers came aboard to assist in unloading our gear. They came below & had some b'fast. Began un-loading gear. Went ashore about 7-30p.m. with A & B Sections. Slept on side of road.

Wed 28

(55) Pulling pontoons up onto beach as they came ashore. Guard on pontoons 11p.m. to 2- 30a.m.

Thu 29

(56) I got up about 7-30a.m. Beaching gear. Pulled out to **Pro Mac** & back. Put up a blanket tent with Ritchie & LS Smith. Went for water with A Section

Fri 30

(57) Bldg pontoon rafts under instr. of Royal Engineers. Fell in & gave three cheers for the success of British troops in the Persian Gulf.

Sat 31

(58) Put bridge together. Rearrangement of camp. Inspection by Brigadier General.

**AUG**

Sun 1

(59) Pontoons were getting washed about so we had to strip off & pull them up on the beach. Church service. Night work.

Mon 2

(60) Constructing pier head. Night work.

Tue 3

(61) Pontoons. No night work.

Wed 4

(62) Material packed ready for action. Pulled out to B I steamer **Itria** & loaded some of our gear on board her.

Thu 5

(63) Rough sea. No work. After dinner issued with ammunition & then stood easy to prepare to leave for action.

Fri 6

(64) Loaded all gear on **Itria**.

Sat 7

(65) Left Imbros somewhere about 2 a.m. & anchored in Suvla Bay about 5 a.m. alongside a battleship firing. All batteries seem to be silenced except (?) Annafare Sagar & some scattered on the ridges. Some troops landing in lighters were shelled just as they landed. An aeroplane (Taube) dropped a bomb near us. Several shells dropped just astern of us also. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

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**AUG     The Voyage**

**1915**

**AUG**     Cruiser **Chatham** has been firing broadsides just ahead of us. About 6 p.m. 20 of our men landed to fix the Barrel Piers brought over from Imbros by Royal Engineers.

**GALLIPOLI PENINSULA**

Sun 8     (66) Our men returned before dinner & the whole Train prepared to land with gear about 1 p.m. Landed & started to build a pier right away.

Mon 9     (67) Finished pier. Remainder of men & gear landed. About 40 of us towed 11 rafts about 1 & ½ miles round to the Red Cross station & constructed a pier which was used straight away to load wounded into boats. Finished up & returned about 6p.m.

Tue 10     (68) Sniper scare about 2-30a.m. Two of our sections fell in & marched up the hills. They returned at about 6 a.m. after messing round all night. Cruisers firing on & off all the time. Saw portion of an aeroplane duel about 7a.m.

Wed 11     (69) R.G.A. landed 4.5" 60 pounders. A large crowd of reinforcements came also. Shifted camp further round the beach. Lull in the fighting last night & today till about tea time.

Thu 12     (70) Shrapnel falling in the water near Red Cross Pier & around the b'ships. One landed on the **Swiftsure** killing 2 & wounding 9 men; another hit the monitor, **Havelock** (no Gallipoli Peninsula. damage). Still landing men & stores.

Fri 13     (71) Getting stores at ANZAC Beach with 4 others & shells were whistling over & falling about 200 yards from us. Two or three landed near the mules but no damage was done. Pulled out to the **Cornwall** (in the Chilean engagement) & got some bread also brought a few stores.

Sat 14     (72) Something has happened as there was heavy rifle-fire in the trenches followed by the heaviest bombardment we have heard, about 3 a.m. Sea a bit rough today & it broke the Red Cross Pier. Went round & pulled gear up unto beach. A few shells about.

Sun 15     (73) Rebuilt the Red Cross Pier this morning. Loaded pack-mules with sand-bags for the trenches. Heavy musketry fire. Supposed advance of 1100 yards.

Mon 16     (74) A few shells still kicking round. Unloading engineering stores on & off till 10p.m. A mail arrived at 5p.m. (I got Letter No.5). Shells very close to us.

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**1915 Gallipoli Peninsula****AUG**

One went through Tom Dedis' dugout.

Tue 17 (75) As usual. A lot of troops landed last night.

Wed 18 (76) (No entry)

Thu 19 (77) As usual. Shells & troops.

Fri 20 (78) 30 of our crowd under Lt. Bond went up to join the Royal Engineers in the firing line. (6p.m.) (Ditto).

Sat 21 (79) Last night & this morning nearly all the troops went up to the firing line. Heaviest bombardment to date at 3 p.m. followed by general advance. (**Battle of Chocolate Hill**).

Grand sight from here. The shelling set fire to the whole battlefield which looked like bush-fires at night. Unloading barges all day.

Sun 22 (80) Guns going **Euriglis, Talbot & Swiftsure**. Stood easy after dinner. We started some new scheme (dugout for the whole Train. Our crowd returned at 7p.m. No casualties.

Mon 23 (81) Bldg dug-out for Major Jellicoe.

Tue 24 (82) Same as usual. (War news).

Wed 25 (83) Unload lighters. Fresh meat & bread issued today.

Thu 26 (84) Stood off all day. Mail 11a.m. (Letter No. 4). Unload lighter. 5-30p.m. to 4a.m.

Fri 27 (85) Stand off all day & night. 9 reinforcements arrived about 5 p.m.

Sat 28 (86) As usual.

Sun 29 (87) As usual.

Mon 30 (88) Taube (German aeroplane) dropped two bombs near battleships.

Tue 31 (89) As usual. Fuller wounded.

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**1915      Gallipoli Peninsula**

**SEP**

Wed 1

(90) Dewey & Murray wounded slightly. Fined 14 days' pay. Tom Atkinson hit by shell at ANZAC beach. Leg amputated. Heavy machine-gun-, rifle- & artillery-fire on left wing at 7p.m. The battleships also fired some shots.

Thu 2

(91) As usual.

Fri 3

(92) As usual (shells). Paid £2-0-0. First of crowd went into dug-out.

Sat 4

(93) As usual.

Sun 5

(94) Schank, Michaelson, Wood & Smith hit with shrapnel about 10-30a.m.

Mon 6

(95) Shells in amongst us. Perkins killed. Lonie wounded. Pulled out to trawler for kitbags. Mail (Letter No. 2) 10-390a.m. Stores from **Venerable**. Shells on & off all night.

Tue 7

(96) As usual. Two Tommies wounded just outside R.E. Park. Admiral Christian hit in thigh with piece of shrapnel.

Wed 8

(97) As usual. Shells.

Thu 9

(98) As usual. Shells.

Fri 10

(99) (Do.) Ditto. Mail from M & F (Mother & Father) from Bob.

Sat 11

(100) As usual.

Sun 12

(101) As usual. Camp shelled. Franklin hit in head with shrapnel.

Mon 13

(102) Pulling chittes\* off barrel pier. Cabled home. Russian victory.

Tue 14

(103) As usual. Mail from Auntie Flo.

Wed 15

(104) As usual. Wet this morning.

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\* chittes: notes pinned to barges? Or shoots growing from the wood of the pontoons?

\*\* Auntie Flo: Florence Sarah Cook, b. 11.11.1865 Maffra VIC, d. 22.8.1957, Melbourne.

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**1915 Gallipoli Peninsula****SEP**

- Thu 16 (105) As usual. Took corrugated iron off roof. 12 men told off to go into dugout. Attack of some sort over ANZAC (Cove) way.
- Fri 17 (106) As usual.
- Sat 18 (107) As usual. In raffle. Mail: nothing. (?) Finish of night work
- Sun 19 (108) Whole Train fell in at 7-30a.m. Trades, etc., taken. Went up to h' quarters with Harvey's party.
- Mon20 (109) Do. Shelled. Battallion of Newfoundlanders arrived last night.
- Tue21 (112) Do. More troops.
- Wed22 (113) Do. Shifted out of dug-out into small temporary one for last night & tonight. Shells.
- Thu 23 (114) Do. Shifted into big dug-out. Shelled. No damage.
- Fri 24 (115) Do. Mail arrived. (Letter No 5). Bit of an attack on left.
- Sat 25 (116) As usual. Shells at night.
- Sun 26 (117) As usual.
- Mon27 (118) As usual. Turkish scare attack
- Tue 28 (119) As usual.
- Wed29 (120) Finish h' quarters Derrig & Weare returned.
- Thu 30 (121) .....(?) W. Beach carry sleepers. Unload lighter 7 – 10 p.m.  
Paid £5-0-0
- OCT**
- Fri 1 (122) Fell in 1-45p.m. Shelled. Timber. A. Beach to hit W. Beach.
- Sat 2 (123) As usual. Put portion of roof on d'out. Mail No. 12 from home. Shells.
- Sun 3 (124) Stand off in afternoon. 1<sup>st</sup> Division.

**Gallipoli Peninsula**

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<b>1915</b>	<b>Gallipoli Peninsula</b>
<b>OCT</b>	(125) Pull in lifeboat to <b>Daphne</b> . The crew have been pinched from the Train.
Mon 4	(124) Ride on mule cart. Shells.
Tue 5	(125) As usual.
Wed. 6	(126) As usual. (stand of afternoon. (Shave) (?) Bath.
Thu 7	(127) As usual. Begin to rain about 8p.m. Waterproof sheets rigged up above bunks.
Fri 8	(128) Rough sea during night & morning. Lighters & boats ashore.
Sat 9	(129) Lovely day quiet. Working as carpenter on pier.
Sun10	(130) Carpenters. Wet morning.
Mon11	(131) Do. At (?) N.W. Beach. Hamilton hit in hand with shrapnel. At W. Beach. Mail No 3 Letter No. 10 from home.
Tue12	(132) Do. At Kangaroo Beach. Shells. Mail No 2. Letter No 11.
Wed13	(133) As yesterday.
Thu 14	(134) Working on Trawler, <b>Perdite</b> .
Fri 15	(135) On Trawler. Taube went over.
Sat 16	(136) Filling cribs with stones. W.Beach. Turks put 140 shells in & around our battery in 2 hours this morning. 1 man killed and 1 wheel taken off a
Sun 17	howitzer.  (137) Do. Went to dentist & out to end of Suvla Point. The Turks have been sending over some 5.6 High Explosive Caxtron (?) shells.
Mon18	(138) As usual. W. Beach.
Tue 19	(139) Do. Currie from Indians Pen. Press from W. Beach Work on cookhouse. Walked to (?) Jefferson's front firing line left wing. In trenches with South Devon Reg't. & had a shot a Turk trenches. Got back at about 6p.m.
Wed20	

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**OCT 1915**      **Gallipoli Peninsula**

- Thu 21    (140) Nearly rattled. Taube flew over again but missed. 1 horse & 1 man killed.
- Fri. 22    (141) Working in camp—Cookhouse started. Work. Not bad meals—bacon, stew, tea—
- Sat 23    (142) Rain last night. Cold this morning. Work on door shelters & then on cribs at W. Beach. Canteen stores arrived.
- Sun 24    (143) Beach; & door screen. Stand easy in afternoon.
- Mon 25    (144) Perfect day. 9 reinforcements arrived (NSW). (With Dockerty leaving camp) Andy D. & I left about 10ish & had dinner with Gunner Binge of No 2 NZ Battery & then on to Anzac. Back at 5p.m. Andy arrested.
- Tue 26    (145) Signal on battleship saying a S.W. gale expected, & all our boats etc. were pulled up & a roof made water-tight. Sent parcel & £2-0-0 home.
- Wed 27    (146) In camp's workshop. Artillery duel about 11-50a.m. Shrapnel all over centre & right wing Turk attack I think although our battleships were firing 6" & 9.2" during the morning. Papers from W. Hodges.
- Thu 28    (147) In camp. A few shells near Chocolate Hill. Letter from Auntie Flo. At W. Beach in full uniform. Our battery bombarding about 7p.m.
- Fri 29    (148) At W. Beach. Gen. Munro landed there about 4 p.m. Bombardments have been going on & off for the last few days. Put on guard over Derrig at 8 p.m., 2 on 6 off.
- Sat 30    (149) Do—Paid £3-2-0 up to end of October. Seas breaking over destroyer.
- Sun 31    (150) Guard. Train had 5 mins church.
- NOV  
Mon 1    (151) As usual. **HMS Louis** (Destroyer), a suition dredge & a couple of lighters went ashore tonight about 8-30p.m. The breeze was fairly strong.
- Tue 2    (152) Do. Paid L 3-2-0 up to end of Oct. Seas breaking over destroyer
- Wed 3    (153) Turks landed a few shells on the quarter-deck & another on the quarter of **Prince George** about 10 a.m. this morning. We have had the big battleships
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**1915 Gallipoli Peninsula**

**NOV** banging away on & off all day. It sounds like old times. The Turks have hit a store ship & set her afire. She had to be beached. The fire was put out & she is all right I think. Venn & Quinn came back drunk. On guard over them.

Thu 4 (154) Destroyer's back appears to be broken. (Sweep drawn).

Fri 5 (155) Destroyer in halves. Navy men salving her. Turks knocked about 8' (ft) off the main mast of a store-ship. Then they fired about 60 or 70 shells at the destroyer without doing any damage. Stand off after dinner till about 5-45p.m. then Hospital Beach for pontoons & gear around to A Beach finished about 12.5(?)a.m.

Sat 6 (156) Turn to 9a.m. Mail at night. Two parcels. 1 news paper & 7 letters\_\_\_\_  
{ Secret Service Cacique Cup }

Sun 7 (157) 5 min. church. Work in camp. A few shells. (Rifles going on left tonight 8pm.) Battleships fired a few shots.

Mon 8 (158) In camp. At W. Beach in afternoon. Went to **Trawler 719** for timber. Got 13 candles for 1/- (shilling).

Tue 9 (159) West Beach in morning. Broke destroyer in two with dynamite. In afternoon walked out to end of Suvla Point salving timber. The **Canopas** towed the for'ard portion of the **Louis** off, but she is almost underwater & doesn't look too good.

Wed10 (160) Messing round in camp (forge & d'out) & up on our dugout. A. Derrig tried & sentenced to 42 days. I had to go on guard again. Rilry & Gland (?) reinforce. (Monitors banged a few shots night).

Thu 11 (161) Andy went this morning he has his ticket. B'ships banging away. Rough sea & destroyer has disappeared. Stood off all day after guard job. Mail, parcel from home letter from Frank. Rumour about firing this morning. Turks took 2 lines of trenches & b'ships blew them out again.

Fri 12 (162) Walk to Red X Pier. Floated some of the "Otways" (lifeboats) off & walked back. I came in after dinner.

Sat 13 (163) R.C. (Red Cross) Pier tried another lifeboat without success. Back to dinner. Worked in camp. Nothing doing.

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**1915 Gallipoli Peninsula**

**NOV**

Sun 14

(164) Fell in. Fellout. Fell in 9 a.m. Marched to church. H'quarters. Back 10-30 a.m. Dismissed for the day. Very quiet. Few shots by b'ships. Kitchener supposed to be here. Richards wounded. Mail tonight. (Some mules taken away Salonika, E. Africa or Persia.)

Mon15

(165) Took part boring plant W. Beach. To A. Beach. Did nothing but killed time on the ridge all day. Very rough sea on. Artillery duel near centre & right wing. Heavy rain tonight. Dugout leaked a bit. W. Beach party called out to make fast iron pontoons at—W. Beach.

Tue 16

(166) W. Beach & h'quarters. Sleepers. Unlag motor car at W. Beach in afternoon. Artillery duel same as last night but with b'ships firing also.

Wed17

(167) Very rough sea, waves over into Bracie's dugout & over piers. Broke wash-house. Turned out about 9p.m. & made fast a couple of iron pontoons. Back 9-30p.m.

Thu 18

(168) Cold in morning but turned out a lovely day. No work in morning. Round at W. Beach. Put engine on motor lorry for boring plant.

Fri 19

(169) Nice day. Work on wash-house. Pulled round to sand dredge to dismantle. Kicked off by Unwin.

Sat 20

(170) W'house. Very cold afternoon. On dredge again. Issued with rain proof cape. (Kelly's hospital).

Sun 21

(171) Very cold wind. W'house & A. Beach. Unloading -----(?)-----6 to 10-30p.m. 20 men-----(?)----- (*original text cramped & unclear*)

Mon22

(172) W. house. Stand-off in afternoon unload lighter 6 to 110p.m. Still very cold wind N.E.

Tue 23

(173) Do.-6 to 10p.m.- 10.15 to 12m.n

Wed24

(174) Stand-off all day. Letter from U.(ncle) Robert Snape (Pontypridd, Wales). Work to 11-30p.m. unloading lighter.

Thu 25

(175) Work on re-floating beetle(?) at (?) Ber (?). . . . . Tommies were

**NOV**

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**1915 Gallipoli Peninsula****NOV**

unloading ammunition on **Wexford Coast**. Decking being put over beetle to make piers. Engrs next our camp were given a few minutes to pack up. B'ships & artillery blazing away today.

Fri26

(176) Work at W. Beach on breakwater, making ramp & decking over beetles. Scottish Horse gear going aboard **Wexford Coast**. Mild morning. Wind sprung off sea & ramp had to be shifted. Sea was very rough but wind turned at night & the cold N.Easter is back Rained during the night. (Bought photo frame 5/-).

Sat 27

(177) W. Beach ---do.---Cold & wet. Dugout near A.S.C. collapsed, killing 9 men. Rumours about trenches being abandoned near Chocolate Hill. Artillery duel mostly Turkish around Choc. Hill for about 1 hour at 10-30a.m.

Sun 28

(178) (Cook) Very cold. Stand-off all day. Snow, sleet & N.Easter. Rumour that left wing trenches were abandoned. (Thaw??)

Mon29

(179) Cold N.E. Snow lying on hills. About 300 men suffering from exposure brought down from trenches. Volunteers from N.B.T. went up in evening to assist men coming ..(?).. with frost-bite, etc. Ground frozen about 6" (15cm) deep.

Tue 30

(180) No work. Clean up dugout. Six of us stood off from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. to go to Lala Baba, where we arrived at about 5 p.m. We turned to after tea, launching cribs with Tommies. Crib nearly fell on Whitlaw.

**DEC**

Wed 1

(181) Worked all last night. Turned in about 6a.m. this morning. Dugout not bad as it has a fire. Changed over from seamen's party to Carpenters & turned to at 2 p.m. Bad place for shells. One burst about 12 yds away & hit 6 men, one hit seriously in leg. Knocked off about 5-30p.m. Turned in 8-30p.m.

Thu 2

(182) Start work about 8-15 a.m. on next crib (No.4) Shells again. 7 men hit near dugout.

Fri 3

(183) Work 6 to 10 a.m., 12 to 2 p.m. & 4 to 5-30p.m. Drizzling rain all day. Mail arrived 10 letters (parcel & papers later)

Sat 4

(184) No. 6 crib in position. Have had bully & biscuits for last week or so. Bread & fresh meat tonight

Sun 5

**DEC**

(185) As usual. Shelled, about 50 in 10 minutes. Hit with piece of H.E. (High

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**1915      Gallipoli Peninsula**

- Explosive) on legging. Kang. Beach for gear after tea.
- Mon 6 (186) All cribs in position. Shells. A.S.C. for stores. 4 men from Kang. Beach with pontoon.
- Tue 7 (187) Sent 23 Xmas Cards. Shells at dinner time. Troops have been landing every night for the past week. Kang. Beach for rifles, etc. (Parcel from Florrie).
- Wed 8 (188) As usual. Stores from Prince George.
- Thu 9 (189) As usual. Kit bags from Kang. Beach put on board steamer. Batteries blazing away as we were turning in. There seems to be a bit of an attack all along the line. Battleships P.G. Glory & Cornwallis blazed away at The Pimple for about ½ hour at 4 p.m. on Tuesday. Guns have been going round Anzac way for the past week.
- Fri 10 (190) Cook. Shells. Preparations for evacuation.
- Sat 11 (191) Rather quiet today. Troops going away
- Sun 12 (192) Walk round Lala Baba. Very few shells.
- Mon 13 (193) Last crib launched by 7-30 p.m. Carpenters worked from 6-30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Shells---one burst right over us working on cribs. Bursts alongside pier, & gear was being put on board by Tommies about 6 p.m.
- Tue 14 (194) As usual. (Walked round Lala Baba). Lights kept burning in R.C. (Red Cross) tents Fires lit to take place of troops who had left. More troops left. Expect to have evacuated by Sunday.
- Wed 15 (195) N.E. rather cool.
- Thu 16 (196) Shell in dugout about 4 p.m. 5 men in it, but unscratched. Welsh left. N.B.T. left Kang. Bit of shrapnel. Man killed.
- Fri 17 (197) Showery all the morning from 4 a.m. Dripped on me through shell hole. Fine afternoon. Pier finished about 3 p.m. Big high explosives came over. Guns from Anzac Gallipoli Peninsula taken off at W.Beach. R.E.s & 133 fort left at night. Final 60 of Train at Kang. left.

**DEC**

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## 1915 Gallipoli Peninsula

Sat 18

(198) Packed up & went down to dugout on beach ready to clear out. All guns have been withdrawn from Choc. Hill, etc. The artillers Q.M.S. says that ANZAC Troops can evacuate in 12 hours. Dumping Yankee ammunition. Standing by. Milk, cheese, etc. at A.S.C. (12stone 12lbs). (Watched 8 or 9 aeroplanes flying about in afternoon.)

Sun 19

(199) Big shells & H. E. 2 hit pier (about 12-15 p.m.) near 4<sup>th</sup> crib smashing 2 road bearers & about 10 ft. of deck. Spray rose about 150ft. Bridge repaired by tea-time. (Jelly for dinner. Custard & roast fowl for tea). Pearl hit by shrapnel (in old d'out). (1<sup>st</sup> troops started off at 7-30 p.m. Heavy bombardment at Hellas at 3 p.m. Saw prep. for burning A.S.C.

Mon20

(200) Evacuation continued all night & we were the last off being on the pier about 4-30 a.m. just as the flames rose from the burning A.S.C. stores, etc., at C. Beach. Got clear away without a shot being fired & were put on board **Princess Ena** & arrived at & landed at Imbros about 8 a.m. Strolled round. Saw some Vics. Slept out in open. Taube flew over.

Tue 21

(201) Drizzly in morning. Wet about 11a.m. Shelter in some .....?..... & under some corrugated iron & stretchers. Then found rooms in an old Greek village.

Wed22

(202) Breeze turned round to N and weather is fine though cool. Strolled about the place. Told to pack up at teatime. Put our gear on & marched down almost to the beach when we were turned into tents & told to be ready at 7a.m. next day

Thu 23

Up at 7a.m. Tea & scones at YMCA. Marched down to beach & went aboard Lemnos Trawler 1177 at about 11a.m. arrived at Mudros (Lemnos Island) at about 6p.m. & went alongside **Europa**, then **Arragon** & then trans-shipped into a tug which took us to W.Mudros where we landed at 9 p.m. & marched about ¾ mile to NBT camp. Turned into tents, 11 in each. Mail 7 letters.

Fri 24

(204) Two watches working. Put in Lizzie's watch. Parcel from home (2) Mrs Soame Rita, paper. Put up tents & cook-house. Rifle drill after dinner. Went to see Australians (across harbour). Saw Bill Ellis' brother & Harry Manners.

Sat 25

(205) Rev. 6-30 a.m. Up for washing parade at well 7 a.m. Church 11 a.m. Stood off. Walk down road met Stan Fowler late VR (Victorian Railways). Pudding etc for dinner. Billies arrived just after dinner. S.I. came down.

**DEC**

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<b>1915</b>	<b>Lemnos Island</b>
Sun26	(206) Service 9 a.m. Went to ASC for stores. Stood off rest of day.
Mon27	(207) Drill morning. Wrote letters in afternoon. Walked to Greek village & had tea with Stan Fowler.
Tue 28	(208) English puddings (2 for each tent) for b'fast. Rifle drill in morning. Route march up road.
Wed29	Lemnos Island (209) Rifle drill in morning. Route march & Coy. Drill in afternoon. Concert & Lecture on New Guinea.
Thu 30	(210) Cook. Stand off in afternoon. Walked 7 miles (11.2Km) to Therma & had hot bath. Back about 7-30 p.m.
Fri 31	(211) Rifle Drill & route march. Concert in Rec. Marquee till 12-15 a.m.
JAN	
1916	
Sat 1	(212) W. Mudros. Cold & a bit wet. Saw Ted Salamon
Sun 2	(213) Stand off same as yesterday. In tent all day.
Mon	(214) Rifle Drill & R.M. to Bortiano. R.D. & R.M. to Bortiano.
Tue 4	(215) R.D. & R.M. to Bortiano. Concert in Rec Hall.
Wed 5	(216) ...do... R.M. to Sarpit.
Thu 6	(217) R.M. to Bortiano. Stand off afternoon.
Fri 7	(218) Drill in morning R.M Bortiano. Stand off afternoon
Sat 8	(219) -----do----- Camp-fire concert. 50 nurses.
Sun 9	(220) Cook. Walk to Therma for bath 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. R. Eng. Chap in own tent (S. African by birth) he had just come from Helles. He said that on Fri., the Turks attacked but our machine guns mowed them down. On Sat., at about 11 p.m., we gave rapid fire which was gradually allowed to die down & we began the evacuation which was carried out successfully similar to the others. The Turks only sent a few shells over. He was one of the last party to leave.
<b>JAN</b>	They came off in a destroyer between 3 & 4 a.m. this morning, after blowing

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**1916    Lemnos Island**

up the magazine, etc. They were only 300 yards off when she went up & he lost his cap by the force of the explosion. Several monitors began bombarding as they steamed away. The whole of the peninsula seemed to be ablaze.

Mon10

(221) Same as Sat.

Tue 11

(222) Same as yesterday.

Wed12

(223) ----- do -----

Thu 13

(224) Pay strike. Trouble over pay, etc. & nobody fell in. An armed guard was put on & we were not allowed out of camp. The AOC went to battleship & several other places. Six or seven men chosen to represent us.

Fri 14

(225) Reps went out to battleship. Still standing off.

Sat 15

(226) Heavy rain last night. Kept on all day. Reps out to ship again.

Sun 16

(227) Rained all last night. Still off. Cook. Rather cold all day. Turned out about 9 p.m. Told if we struck the tents & packed the gear, etc., we would go to Egypt tomorrow.

Mon17

(228) Packed up after b'fast. Put gear on Sir Joseph Plase (P.S. Tug) about 4 p.m. which put us on **The Empress of (?) Arabia**, 1400 tons (now 18 knots or 16). (Painted black 2 pounders).

Tue 18

(229) Cook for b'fast. Steamed out at 8 a.m.

Wed19

(230) QF gun after & several machine guns. No work. Down engine room 1-30 p.m. 22" shaft.

Thu 20

(231) In sight of Alexandria before daylight. Cruising up & down till light enough to go in. Anchored in harbour at 8 a.m. Took seats in train on wharf at 7 p.m. went up the city for an hour. Train left for Ismailia about 10 p.m.

Fri 21

(232) Arrived Ismailia (Moasha Siding) at about 5 p.m. Hung round siding till about 8 a.m. & then marched about 2 mls to camp alongside Bitter Lakes (Suez Canal). Put up tents & had a bit of dinner. Same crowd in tent. ½ doz. bags mail distributed. Fatigues.

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**JAN**

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<b>1916</b>	<b>Egypt.</b>
Sat 22	(233) General Assembly F Keenan,----- & I went up town. Clinked by Grannie! About 80 bags mail handed out. I received about 25 letters & 20 odd parcels, newspapers, etc. Rolling stock in Egypt surprised me. The trains are exceptionally long as there are practically no grades. No brakes on trucks. Rails on inverted saucers in some places (Screw dog pikes).
Sun 23	(234) Doctor about teeth. Away half the day & couldn't get fixed up then.
Mon 24	(235) Cook. Went for water. A few showers during the day. Answering letters.
Tue 25	(236) As usual. Lt. Bond to Pt. Said
Wed 26	(237) As usual. Saw Camel Corps.
Thu 27	(238) As usual. Heavy showers.
Fri 28	(239) Do. Paid 850 Piastres (£8-14-5d.
Sat 29	(240) ----- do ----- ride on camel.
Sun 30	(241) As usual. Photo by R.B. Perfd day
Mon 31	(242) ----- do ----- Bracie back. (Bob at Zeitown with Field Ambulance)
<b>FEB</b>	
Tues 1	(243) Bracie spoke well to us.
Wed 2	(244) (No entry)
Thu 3	(245) Bracie spoke to Naval men.
Fri 4	(246) Admiral Weymuss inspected us & gave us a good lecture & said trouble was a wash-out. Leave 4 to 7 p.m.
Sat 5	(247) 40 odd defaulters before Bracie. Majority of us cautioned. Rifles, etc., returned in rotten condition.
Sun 6	(248) Leave from Midday. Went up the Minarets of Mosque. 2 letters from Bob. Bugle finished up.

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**FEB**

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<b>1916</b>	<b>Egypt</b>
Mon 7	(249) Rifles inspected.
Tue 8	(250) Use fresh water. On Leave. Saw aerodrome.
Wed 9	(251) Muster with full kit. Divided into sections for different parts of Canal. Ferry post at Serapeum.
Thu 10	(252) Fell in, in new Divisions. Trying pontoon bridge (First swim) Mail. In No. 2 Tent H.Q.
Fri 11	(253) Rev. 5-30 a.m. Canal parties struck tents & cleared out. I fell in with Carpenters party & got a job sketching "bay of pontoons" for O.C. Leave for Cairo granted to 10 more men.
Sat 12	(254) Caught 10 a.m. train to Cairo arr. About 2 p.m. Booked bed at Tewficks. Dinner at Samuel's. went out to Zeitown to Bob. Slept there. Saw Tom Watson. Met Jim Teolin in train going down. Met Len Tyzack & Bert Tilby in Cairo.
Sun 13	(255) Met Bill Halme. Went to C.S. Christian Science Church with Bob at Heliopolis then into Cairo for dinner then the Pyramids back stayed at Hotel Splendid 10 PT. Arrival of Xmas presents for Navy men from Aust.
Mon 14	(256) Caught 11 p.m. train to Ismailia arr, 2 p.m. had dinner at Hotel in camp 3 p.m. Letter from E. Seho.
Tue 15	(257) Before Bracie for being late back yesterday. Cautioned again. Mail from home.
Wed 16	(258) Up town with Steege for kerosene. Nothing doing all day.
Thu 17	(259) Up town with Steege for kerosene. Nothing doing all day.
Fri 18	(259) As usual. Nothing to do. Stroll near Ferry Post.
Sat 19	(260) ---- do ----- On leave in afternoon. Picture-show.
Sun 20	(261) Nothing to do.

**FEB**

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<b>1916</b>	<b>Egypt.</b>
Mon21	(262) Church. Walked round Ismailia.
Tue 22	(263) Cook. Reported adrift for not falling in at 1-15 p.m.
Wed23	(264) Parcel from home. Carpenters. Went pipe-screwing with Hunter's party
Thu 24	(265) Carpenters' party (Leave). Sent films to Bob. Cook.
Fri 25	(266) Up before Bracie re last Monday. No Leave for 4 days & clean up
Sat 26	camp from 4 to 5 p.m. for 4 days.
Sun 27	(267) Carpenter's party. Testing pontoons.
Mon28	(268) ----- do ----- Relieving Hunter's party ----- 7 to 12 p.m.
Tue 29	(269) Stand off. (Dusty) Pipes. (No work) .
<b>MAR</b>	(270) Walk to Ferry Post. Pipes. No 33 Letter.
Wed 1	(271) Dentist appointment. Pipes (no work).
Thu 2	
Fri 3	(272) As usual.
	(273) Ditto
Sat 4	(274) Mc Farlane & Bennett sent to Malta for 42 days for breaking camp. Pipes. Anchor badge for shoulder 5P per pair.
Sun 5	(275) Muggy weather. The last few days. Also dusty. Harris & Bourke (docked) 22 days' pay for being Absent Without Leave.
Mon 6	(276) As usual. Went to other side Ferry Post for Bob's letters. Pipes. Went to R.C. Church 10 a.m. Reinforcements arrived.
Tue 7	(277) As usual. More NBT men arrived. Dentist.
	(278) As usual Dentist. Pipes. In another tent.

**MAR**

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<b>1916</b>	<b>Egypt</b>
Wed 8	(279) As usual. Dentist. Pipes. Wrote Bob, home.
Thu 9	(280) NBT men trying to transfer to Engrs, etc. 8 or 9 men on tugs on Canal to report any delay in -----(?)----- of barges being towed. Went to Serapeum on S.T. Robuste (passed
Fri 10	Left 9-30 a.m; arr. 11-45 a.m.; ret. 1-30 p.m. arr. 3-15 p.m. Pipes.
Sat 11	(281) Worked all last night to 3 a.m. this morning. Walked out to (?) Moasha. Saw M Wight, (282) John Birrell, L. Murrall, F. T. Spencer.
Sun 12	(282) All night to 1-30a.m. this morning. Paid 126 Piastres (£1-6-0d. Letters from Bob. (Cook).
Mon13	(283) Wattie Wade left. Letter from Mr Bartleman. Up town with films. Saw Wellington beat Maoris at Rugby & Curyatis sailors beat Requin (French sailors) at soccer.
Tue 14	(284) Worked all night to 4-35 a.m. Machine went bung. (Spindle seized in bearings)
Wed15	(285) As usual. Finish 2 a.m.
Thu16	(286) As usual. A little carber. Saw box-on in reserve. AHQ & GHQ men.
Fri 17	(287) Till 3 a.m. this morning.
Sat 18	(288) ----- do ----- Wrote home.
Sun 19	(289) Took films to be developed. Saw little g-----
Mon20	(290) Went up town for walk, cemetery, etc.
Tue21	(291) Went to Moasha. All Australians gone via Alexandria. Stood off to take cook tomorrow.
Wed22	(292) Cook. Went up town with Paddy M. Saw Harry Franklin & Tom Jones. (Saw another g----). 333 McKenzie jammed his fingers in a pipe-screw.
	(293) Work till 2 a.m. Up town with A. Bush.

**MAR**

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<b>1916</b>	<b>Egypt</b>
Thu 23	(294) Town with A. Bush. (Pipes).
Fri 24	(295) 12 months in Train (NBT) Celebrated it with Taylor, Paddy M., Christie & Tom Jones. Camp 6-15 p.m. Pipes till 11-15 p.m.
Sat 25	(296) Mail No 34. Pipes till 11-15 a.m. Lunch at YMCA. Case of beer
Sun 26	(297) As usual. Up town after dinner. Photos. No work.
Mon 27	(298) Finish of pipe job. Stand off. (Cook.)
Tue 28	(299) Bracie's speech about state of NBT. Stand off (Cook).
Wed 29	(300) Drill. Guard on Winstanley.
Thu 30	(301) Mitchell, Robinson, Bell, Kenny to Artillery. Photos. 6 films from Pt. Said. Tooth filled.
Fri 31	(302) Gouch took photos in park.
<b>APRIL</b>	
Sat 1	(303) Application for transfer. Remanded for O.C. who went to Cairo this morning.
Sun 2	(304) Up town in afternoon. Saw youngsters in park.
Mon 3	(305) Drill. (Cook). Up town.
Tue 4	(306) Request to go to Cairo: Refused, but leave to look for a transfer granted from 1 to 11 p.m. Found spot: 12 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Artillery (a Vic. Brigade) had left Tel-el-kebir for Serapeum, so went to Serapeum by 2 p.m. train & got a letter from a Captain saying he would accept us. Walked along siding rails to NBT camp on Canal & had tea. Came back & caught 7-30 p.m. train to Ismailia. Supper in town & back in camp by 9-30 p.m.
	<b>Transfer from Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train to 46<sup>th</sup> Battery, 12<sup>th</sup> BRIGADE ARTILLERY.</b>
Wed 5	(307 days overseas on active service – Day 1 with Artillery) Up before Bracie & transfer fixed up. Got a lift to the station in a motor lorry. Caught the 2 p.m. train. Walked from Serapeum to 4 <sup>th</sup> Div. Art. HQ on Canal. Tea at NBT then

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**1916    Egypt.**

walked back ½ ml on opp. side of railway to 12<sup>th</sup> Brigade. Slept under wagons. R. Bush, C Harrison, C. Lindley & H. Rice.

Thu 6

(308-2) Up at 5-40a.m. Ray B & I put into 12th Brigade 46<sup>th</sup> Battery. In tent with Thompson & Mountjoy. Kept out of the road as we were not on the roll. Alf Eades is a sergeant in our battery. (Corporals Green & Tanjo).

Fri 7

(309-3) Rev. 5a.m. Fall-in 5-30a.m. Water horses as we were duty battery. On fatigue duties for rest of day. Told we were going to France end of May.

Sat 8

(310-4) Cleaning 18 pounder (1911 model). They are worn-out Anzac guns. Told off into D Sub-Section. Meals seem, all right. Hours: 5-30a.m. to 7-30a.m; 9 to 11-30a.m; 3 to 5-30p.m.

Sun 9

(311-5) Rev. 6a.m. Fall in 6-30a.m. Have to be vaccinated again. Portion of battery on fatigues again. Went to Ismailia by train about 9-45a.m. Dinner in town. Up to NBT camp. Box of sweets to Bob. Letters home. Pictures. Train 9-30p.m. In camp 10-30p.m.

Mon 10

(312-6) Gun drill & foot drill. Dig SL.

Tue 11

(313-7) .....Do ..... NCOs' (Non-Commissioned Officers') class started.

Wed 12

(314-8) Duty batt. R & I cleaning spare parts. Two officers' tents blew down. Rest of battery inoculated. Half holiday. Finished cleaning spare parts. Dusty at night.

Thu 13

(315-9) Make oven for cooks. Dust began to blow up again about 11a.m. when last night's shower had dried properly & we couldn't do any work. It got worse & the tent blew down about 3 p.m. I lost 50 Piastres. The wind kept up so we slept out that night behind a pile of gear. It was the worst sand & dust storm I have ever been in.

Fri 14

(316-10) Clean gun. It was a terrible mess. Signalled a while. Inoculated & then stood off for the day. Paid £1.0.0. Put up tent before b'fast; the wind was not so bad today.

Sat 15

(317-11) Gun drill. After dinner lecture on guns by Capt. Ellis. Rifle drill in afternoon. I gave a few orders for the first time.

Sun 16

**APR** (318-12) Gun drill; for N.C.O.s' class. Met Regat station & jumped the rattler

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**1916    Egypt**

- to Suez & back, 3 to 8 p.m. Gave a Tommie 25/- for a Savage & Stato Pistol
- Mon17 (319-13) Battery on fatigues etc. All day so we had a good spell on the guns.
- Tue 18 (320-14) Guns. Lecture by Lt. Collins.
- Wed19 (321-15) Guns & washing in afternoon.
- Thu 20 (322-16) Gun drill & detail with S.M. (Inspection by B.Gen. Rosenthal) 7 – 11.30 a.m. with ½ hr. smoke. Gun drill all afternoon with O.C.
- Fri 21 (323-17) (Good Friday). A Section N.C.O.s giving details of gun drill under O.C. before b'fast. I am in B Section & didn't feel so bad as I expected to. Watched dismantling of buffer in 45<sup>th</sup> Battery.
- Sat 22 (324-18) Clean guns all day. Wrote home.
- Sun 23 (325-19) Inoculated again. Dismantling buffer. Mail.
- Mon24 (326-20) Guns. Lecture on forces effecting shells & regimental duties.
- Tue25 (327-21) Anzac Day H'day sports on canal. Reassembled buffer.
- Wed26 (328-22) Had 10 men fixing boundary of camp 9 to 11.30 a.m. Fell in 4.30 p.m. Inspec. by Gen. Godley. Marched past & saluted. Dismissed at 6.5p.m.
- Thu27 (329-23) B class N.C.O.s on battery drill..... ropes. Lectures after dinner then same as morning with S.M. Eades.
- Fri28 (330-24) Cleaning Guns & W. Wheels. Paid 2 Piastres. Battery doing battery drill with 4 Guns.
- Sat29 (331-25) Same as yesterday. Rifle drill in morning. Gunners had lecture in afternoon. Mail.
- Sun30 (331-26) 9.5 a.m. to Ismailia. Went to N.B.T. for films. They had packed up ready to move to Suez on Thurs. Had dinner. Caught 2 p.m. train to Port Said. Drove round in garry. Nearly caught by M.P.s Back at 6.30 p.m. Camp 10.30 p.m. Found that roll had been called as 6 men were arrested in Ismailia & 4 in Pt. Said.
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