

Historical Officers Report

Events of the Great War as reported in the Camden News
Cables from the European War. April 1917

2nd April Pte Joergen Christian Jenson VC at Noreuit, France



5th April

The British have occupied Savy, four miles west of St. Quentin, and Savy Wood, a mile north-east of the village. Vendelles, Epehy and Pozieres have also been occupied. During the march the British captured 1255 Germans, three field guns, 25 trench mortars, and 60 machine guns. From January to March 4600 prisoners were taken.

An official despatch from Egypt reports that the British advanced 15 miles from Kafia to Wadi Chuzzan five miles south of Gaza and heavily engaged 20000 Turks. Heavy losses were inflicted, and 900 prisoners were taken, including the general commanding and the staff of the 53rd Turkish Division and four Austrian officers. All the troops behaved splendidly especially the Welsh, Kent, Sussex, Hereford Middlesex, and Surrey Regiments the ANZAC Mounted and the Yeomanry,

6th April U.S. Declares war on Germany



9th April Pte Thomas James Bede Kenny VC at Hermies, France



11th April First Battle of Bullecourt



12th April

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig says: "We stormed the villages of Hermies and Boursies, in the direction of Cambrai, penetrated Havrincourt Wood, and captured Fresony la Petit, in the direction of St. Quentin. A considerable number of prisoners were taken. Up to 2 o'clock this afternoon 5810 prisoners, of whom 119 were officers had passed the collecting stations. Many more are uncounted. Of those many belong to Bavarian divisions. There were heavy casualties in to-day's fighting. Our captures include guns and numbers of trench mortars and machine-guns."

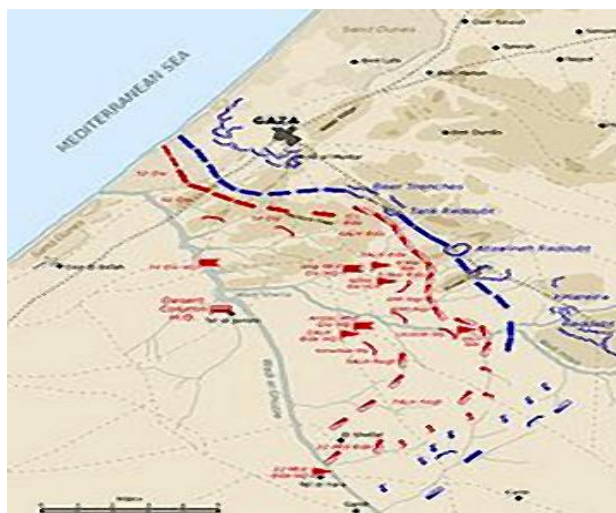
"Aerial activity continued on Sunday with great energy and several successful bombing raids were carried out. Our machines co-operated with the artillery with excellent results. Two of the enemy's machines were destroyed and fifteen others were driven down, probably smashed. Two German kite balloons were brought down in flames. Ten of our aeroplanes are missing."

"Operations continue successfully, in accordance with plan. The troops everywhere stormed the enemy defences from Henin-sur-Cojeul to the southern outskirts of Givenchy-Gohelle to a depth of two to three miles, and our advance continues. The enemy's forward defences on this front, including Vimy Ridge which the Canadians had carried and captured early in the morning, comprise a network of trenches and fortified localities."

**15th April VC Winners,
Capt. James Ernest Newland, Sgt John Wood Whittle, Lt. Charles Pope**



17th April Second Battle of Gaza begins



25th April RSL NSW granted Charter

From the Home Front

WOMEN AND THE WAR.

All reports go to show that in simply wonderful what the women of the Old Country are doing in this war. Their task is no easy one while their men folk are fighting at the Front they themselves are straining every nerve to keep the factories in full working order. Working to save their country the nature of the work is hard to realise in this far distant land. By the last English mail Miss Sidman received a letter from a cousin throwing some light on women's work in England even leaving out any reference to their loved One's on the battlefields.



Lance Corporal John Edward Williams Killed in Action 2nd April 1917
Louverval, France.

Private Allan Henry Palmer Richmond killed in Action 5th April 1917 France.

Private William Martin Moore Killed in Action 5th April 1917 France.



Private Paul Huolohan Killed in Action 9th April 1917 Hermies, France.



Sapper Victor Frank Stuckey Killed in Action 10th April 1917 Bapaume
France.

Staff Sergeant Victor Frederick Hansen Killed in Action 12th April 1917
France.



Ray Herbert
Historical Officer