

2014 Task requirements.

1. Describe his/her background before departing for the war (2 marks)
2. Describe the Gallipoli Campaign and Australia's involvement in it (3 marks)
3. What were your research subject's experiences at Gallipoli (3 marks)
4. To what extent did his/her service reflect the ANZAC spirit (4 marks)
5. Give your own understanding of the meaning of the ANZAC spirit (4 marks)
6. What was the impact of their service on families and communities left behind in South Australia? (2 marks)
7. Use a range of sources which may include photos, maps, artefacts, diary entries and archival materials (2 marks)

LT.COL William Charles Nightingale Waite

William Charles Nightingale Waite 1880-1973 was a decorated Australian serviceman of the Australian New Zealand Army Corps. Born in 1880, Waite had a decorated service career, devoting a great deal of his life to the Commonwealth military forces. Previous to this, Waite was a student at the South Australian private school, Prince Alfred College, and remains one of the school's most prestigious and well decorated military servicemen. Waite engaged heavily with Australia's values and beliefs and thoroughly demonstrated the ANZAC spirit during his multiple tours throughout various wars and conflicts, including the Gallipoli campaign.

Wait heavily involved himself in service and community spirit before the First World War as a civil servant. Born in 1880 Waite was the son of William Nicholas Waite and Anna Nee Weston Waite and studied at St. Bartholomew's Church of England School for a number of years, before transferring to Prince Alfred College in his later schooling years. Waite later held the position of an auctioneer but had always said that he had a dream of becoming a soldier. Waite entered military service in 1899 when he was of age, joining the 1st Australian contingent for 12 months during the Boer wars, thus demonstrating his eagerness to serve both Australia and the Commonwealth. After 12 months of campaigning the 1st contingent was disbanded, Waite reenlisted in 1901 into the 6th South Australian rifle brigade and continued his tour of duty in the Boer wars. When both conflicts came to an end, he remained in the military as a Lieutenant in intelligence while still maintaining his civilian occupation as an auctioneer. From this point in Waite's life was devoted to serving his nation as a civil servant, up until 1914 when the Great War erupted in Europe, Waite maintained a position as a Lieutenant in the South Australian field Artillery brigade. When in late 1914 the Commonwealth called for volunteers, on August 20 at the age of 34 Waite joined the Australian Imperial Force as a Lieutenant in the South Australian F.A.B.

During the Gallipoli campaign Waite served here for an unusually long period of time and experienced many of the heroic and daunting experiences while on tour. Shortly before embarking on the journey to Turkey, Waite was promoted to Captain and took charge of the 3rd ammunition column. Captain Waite landed on the 25th of April 1915 and was among the first Australians to land on the Turkish beaches. Waite continued to command the 3rd ammunition column for a number of months before taking charge of the 7th field artillery brigade. From his position commanding an artillery battery Waite went on to support and fight in many of the conflicts in the Gallipoli campaign including the infamous battle of Lone Pine of which he was wounded by a Turkish round. Waite and the 7th FAB played a significant role at the battle of Lone Pine and Waite received the Military Cross for his efforts. When Waite recovered from his injuries he was transferred to the 8th FAB through which Waite continued to play a leading role in the brigade's efforts in the Gallipoli campaign. While serving in the 8th FAB Captain Waite was yet again wounded, and had to be evacuated from the artillery lines. Waite often wrote back to his family describing and discussing the campaign's progress. Waite continued to serve in the 8th FAB in the Gallipoli campaign on multiple fronts and battles as the ANZAC elements of the campaign struggled to move forward. Finally on the 9th of January 1916 the evacuation order came and with it the ceasefire, Waite famously intentionally disobeyed orders and waited another five minutes after the ceasefire order had been called before firing a final 18 pound shell from the NO 4 gun of the 8th FAB battery. Remarkably this would prove to be the last shot ever fired on the Gallipoli campaign.

Captain Waite demonstrated the ANZAC spirit to the upmost during his tour in the Gallipoli campaign. Waite was one of the only soldiers to serve for the entire duration of the campaign. Serving honourably he was awarded the Military cross for his dutiful and unwavering service during the battle of Lone Pine and other battles that he was involved in. Waite served to be one of Australia's most decorated and well known servicemen, displaying every aspect of the ANZAC spirit of unwavering courage and fierce determination to

Kurt Bierlein

support himself, his comrades and his country as well as its allies as he did during the entirety of the Gallipoli campaign. He did not only serve in Gallipoli however, he went on to serve in the European front reopened after the Gallipoli campaign was discontinued. Serving in key battles such as Ypres, the Somme and Villers-Bretonneux Waite served with great distinction as he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his service.

Although it could be argued that as a field artilleryman he did not face the fore-front of the various battles that he was engaged in, and therefore could not strictly exhibit every aspect of the ANZAC spirit to the upmost. Nevertheless, in many battles including that of Lone Pine and the Somme; artillery support was imperative in order to achieve success for soldiers and often Waite would have been responsible for saving many a British, French or ANZAC soldier's life therefore fully expressing these elements of the ANZAC spirit to the utmost. Waite served with continued distinction and duty fully expressing the ANZAC spirit during his tour of service during the Gallipoli campaign and after.

Never a man to stand back, LT. COL Waite continued to have a momentous impact on the Australian community after he returned to Australia. Known as Mr. ANZAC (Australian light horse association 2000) for his unwavering values and expression of the ANZAC spirit Waite led the Adelaide ANZAC parade 29 times on a famed white charger until his death in 1973. Waite played a significant role in the recovery of South Australian families and communities in the aftermath of First World War as well as the second one and kept the now famous Australian ANZAC spirit alive for many years after the First World War.

THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN

The Gallipoli campaign was a campaign designed by British lord of Admiralty and future Prime Minister Winston Churchill in an attempt to end the war early and in favour of the Entente. The campaign lasted from the 25th of April 1915 to the 8th of January 1916 was one of the key events in World War one, despite being a total disaster. The aim of the campaign was to open a front on Turkish soil, which was viewed as having possessed the weakest army in the allies. Winston deduced that if a superior allied force were to place pressure on the Turkish front the German army would have to divide their forces away from the western front in order to protect their defensive lines as well as maintain Turkish support weakening their ability to halt the Entente, allowing the Entente a possible breakthrough in the western front and thus end the war early. Should there be a breakthrough in the Gallipoli campaign Churchill also reasoned this as an opportunity to remove the Ottoman Empire from the war. However for this scheme to be a success the Entente could not send a surplus of their own forces as this would negate the nature of the plan. Therefore the Entente called upon the younger nations of the Commonwealth mainly Australia and New Zealand. Australia had the largest non-Entente involvement with the Gallipoli campaign with both troops and combat areas in the Gallipoli campaign. Australia out of 11,410 ANZAC casualties suffered 8,109 in the single 12 month campaign (Australian department of veteran affairs 2010). Australia supplied many of the men, supplies, ships and medical staff to the Gallipoli campaign as they could not be spared by the British or the French. Australia's involvement in the Gallipoli campaign is world renowned for being the showcase of the ANZAC legend as well as being Australia's greatest oversea confrontation to date.

INTERPRETATION OF THE ANZAC SPIRIT:

The ANZAC spirit is the mentality that is the foundation of the ADF today; it has supported the AIF and Australian militaries in the past. More importantly, the ANZAC spirit is a keystone in the New Zealand and Australian nations as well as what defines us as a people. The ANZAC spirit is the culmination of mateship, the desire to serve one's country and its allies as well as remembering those who are harmed in the process. The ANZAC spirit is the spirit to which Australian and New Zealand soldiers serve and volunteer for their respective nations and involves doing what needs to be done in order to achieve a greater good while not falling folly to the abuses of other powers. However the ANZAC spirit is not one of warmongering nor is it one of a bystander, the ANZAC spirit is a series of values and behaviours that stands for the correct direction forward for the world



today. The ANZAC spirit defines Australia and New Zealand as the nations that they are and is the mentality that Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women serve upon.

Kurt Bierlein

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Australian Light Horse Association. 2000. *Lt. Colonel William Charles Nightingale Waite*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.lighthorse.org.au/personal-histories/personal-histories-boer-war-ww1-1/personal-histories-lt.-colonel-william-charles>. [Accessed 29 April 14].

Australian Biography. 2006. *Waite, William Charles Nightingale (1880–1973)*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/waite-william-charles-nightingale-8948>. [Accessed 23 April 14].

Australian department of veteran affairs . 2010. *Gallipoli, 25 April 1915 – 8 January 1916*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.anzacsite.gov.au/2visiting/tgallipoli.html>. [Accessed 15 May 14].

ANZAC.org, 2010. Allied landing positions and Turkish lines 1915. *Unknown, Unknown, Unknown*, ANZAC.org: ANZAC.org.

UNKNOWN, (1915), *Members of the 9th Battery, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, First Division, AIF, loading and firing their 18-pounder gun* [ONLINE]. Available at: http://www.anzacsite.gov.au/2visiting/images_walk/07_p00046_041.jpg [Accessed 26 June 14].

Battle of Gallipoli - World War I - HISTORY.com. 2014. *Battle of Gallipoli - World War I - HISTORY.com*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/battle-of-gallipoli>. [Accessed 22 September 2014].

Why did the Gallipoli War begin and when did it end, 2013 Anzac Tours, 2014 Anzac Tours, 2015 Anzac Tours, Anzac Day Tours Turkey, Gallipoli Anzac Tours, Anzac Tour, Gallipoli Tours. 2014. *Why did the Gallipoli War begin and when did it end, 2013 Anzac Tours, 2014 Anzac Tours, 2015 Anzac Tours, Anzac Day Tours Turkey, Gallipoli Anzac Tours, Anzac Tour, Gallipoli Tours*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.anzacday-2015.net/Why-did-the-Gallipoli-War-begin-and-when-did-it-end.html>. [Accessed 22 September 2014].

James, RHJ, 1965. *GALLIPOLI*. 1st ed. Britain: B.T Batsford Ltd.

Moorehead, AM, 1956. *GALLIPOLI*. 1st ed. Australia: Macmillan Publishers.

Pedersen, P.A P, 1985. *Images Of Gallipoli* . 1st ed. Australia : Melbourne university press.

Taylor and Cupper, PT and PC, 1948. *GALLIPOLI A BATTLEFIELD GUIDE*. 1st ed. Australia : Kangaroo Press Pty Ltd.

Prior , RP, 2009. *GALLIPOLI THE END OF THE MYTH*. 1st ed. Australia : Yale University Press .

Kurt Bierlein

