

PHOTO STUDY (PART 1) AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS BATHING, SUNBAKING, SPINEBASHING

("Sunbaking" is Australian for Sunbathing)
("Spinebashing" is Australian for loafing and resting)



IN THIS PHOTO STUDY, YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THE DIGGERS HAD TO GET VERY CREATIVE TO FACILITATE BATHING DUE TO THE CLIMATE, TERRAIN, SCARCITY OF WATER, AND OTHER CONDITIONS THAT PRECLUDED GETTING A DECENT BATH. SOME PHOTOS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED CONCERNING THE PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS THE POWs EXPERIENCED IN TRYING TO GET CLEAN.

Also notice the importance of “Mateship” as the Diggers assist each other in some bathing photos.

(Effort has been taken to obscure any frontal nudity).

**SOLDIERS
BATHING IN A
RIVER OR
STREAM CAN BE
TRACED BACK
TO THE
AMERICAN CIVIL
WAR, AS SEEN
HERE.**





Korea, c. 1950-10. Standing stark naked in a stream near a damaged bridge, a member of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR), lathers up his hair with soap or shampoo while he has a wash. (Donor I. Robertson)



Three soldiers bathing off an Australian transport that was at anchor in a harbour, possibly on the Aegean island of Lemnos, which was used as an Allied base during the Gallipoli campaign.



Korea, c. 1950-12. Stripped to the waist in a snow-covered winter landscape, a member of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR), lathers up his face as he has a morning wash. The soldier is using an upturned helmet as a wash basin.



**AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS'
BATH PARTY, MALAYA,
1941.**



An unidentified naked soldier of the 61st Battalion crouches on a barrel bridge he is constructing over a stream at a camp in southern England. Several of his mates watch from the bank. 1917.



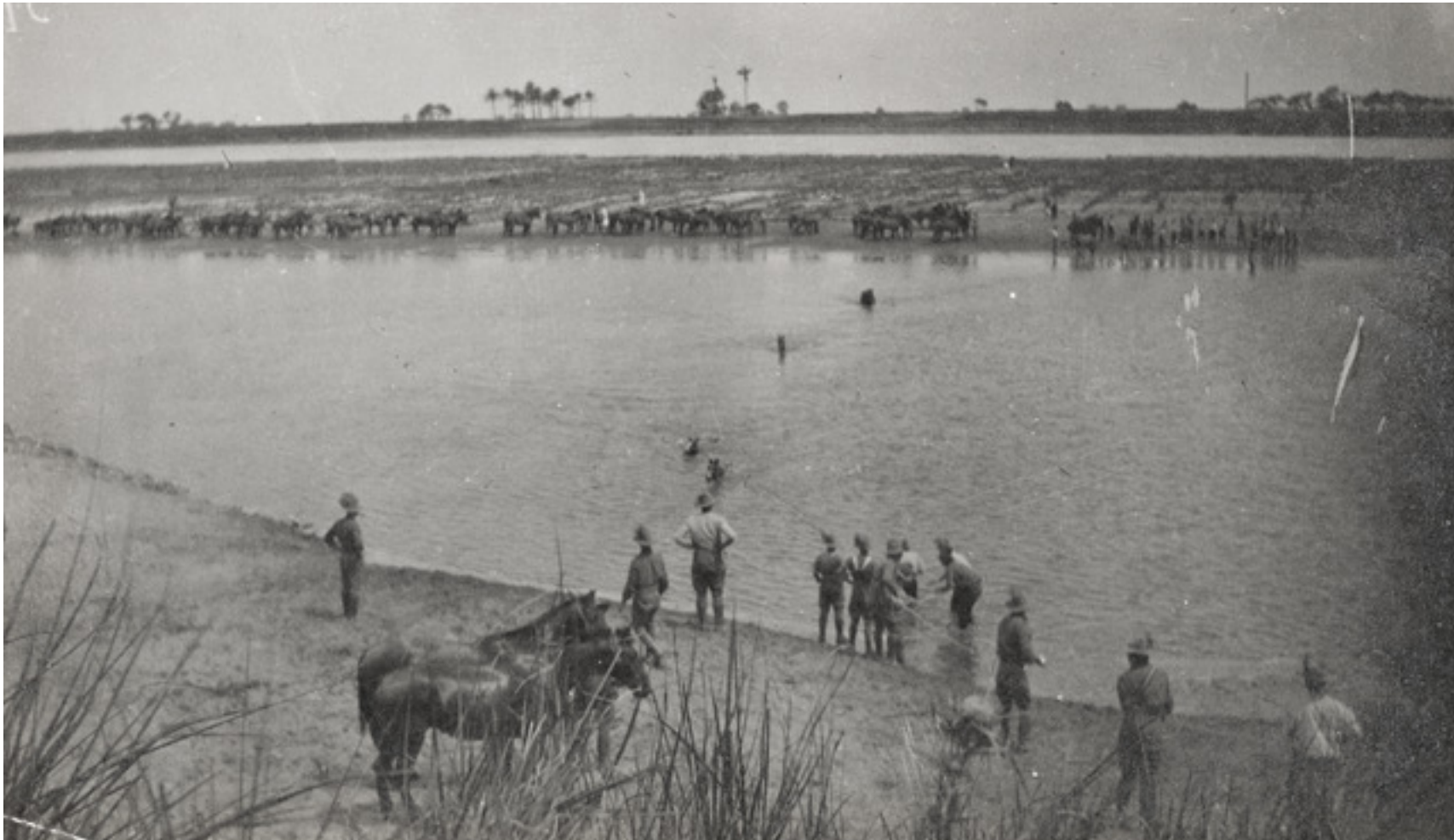
Soldiers and officers of the 61st Battalion look on as a naked soldier lifts a limber onto an improvised punt so as to ferry it across the Nadder River. The Battalion was engaged in training exercises near their camp on the Salisbury Plain.



Soldiers, most of them stark naked, dive from lifeboats or landing boats into the waters of the Mediterranean for a swim in Mudros Harbour. The boats are tethered to the side of a troopship (left). 1915.



Members of the 1st Australian Light Horse swimming horses near Cairo.





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A01778

**Four horses and limbers crossing the pontoon bridge over the River Jordan.
Soldiers are swimming nude.**

JORDAN RIVER, PALESTINE. C.1918. A FLOATING PONTON BRIDGE OVER THE JORDAN RIVER WITH NAKED AUSTRALIAN TROOPS WORKING AND BATHING. BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES COX IS STANDING ON THE BRIDGE (WITH BALD WHITE HEAD) WAITING TO SWIM. (DONOR: B. LEONARD)





**An Australian Light Horse
Brigade Field Ambulance
setting up camp shortly after
arriving at Bally Bunion. Two
large ambulance wagons are
behind the shelter. Note the
lamps at the front of the
wagons. Two men in the
centre foreground are naked
probably after having taken a
bath or swim. This is the right
hand image in a three part
panorama. See A01984P for
the combined image.**



Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. 22 May 1915. The Turkish envoy who brought the request, for an armistice to enable the Turks to bury their dead, was carried on a stretcher over the trip wires in the water by two naked bathers. The officer had been blindfolded before approaching the entanglements.



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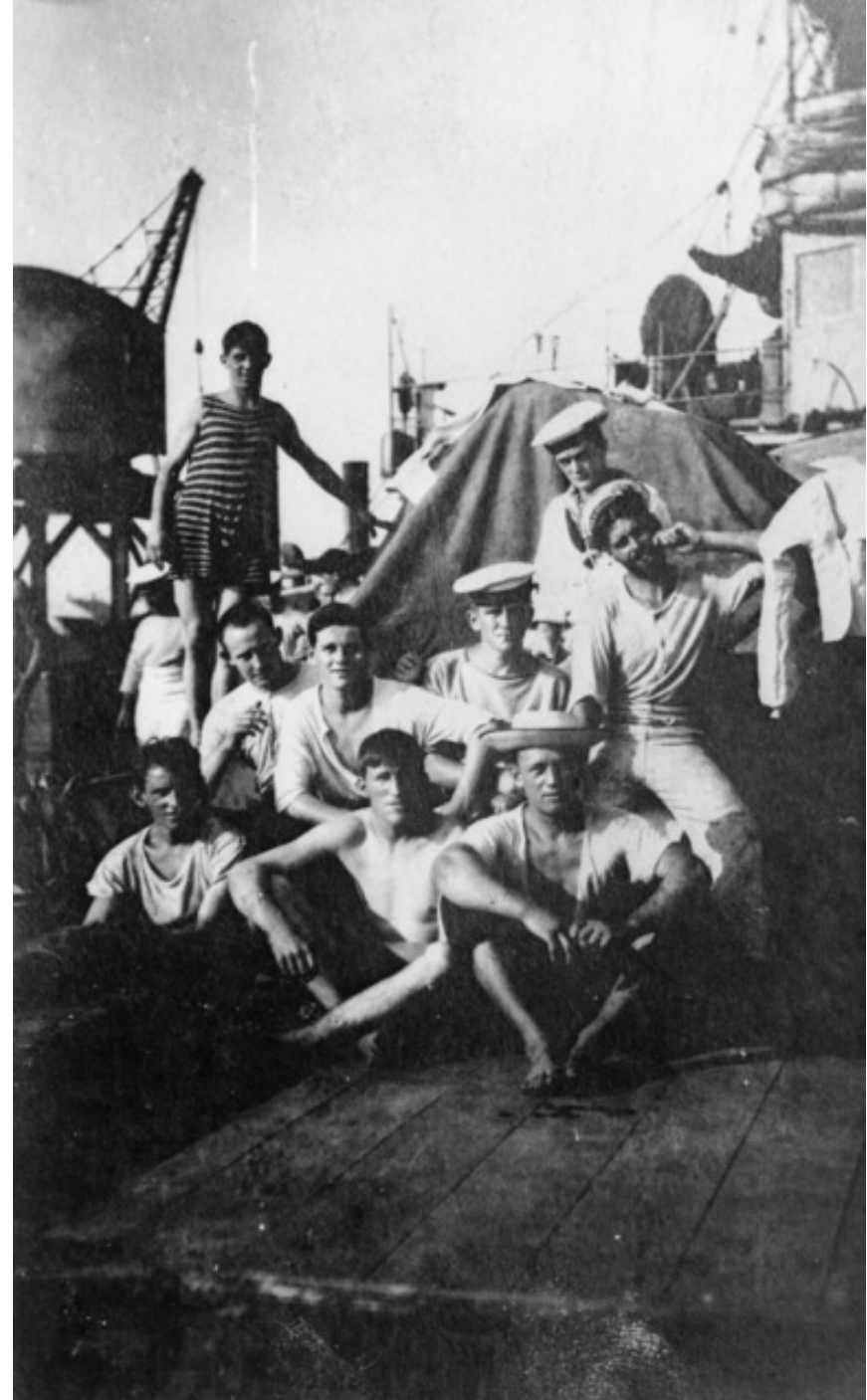
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

G00990

Australian soldiers swimming in and sunbathing beside the Suez Canal.



Informal group portrait of nine unidentified seamen from HMAS Sydney who were having a swim while their ship was in port. HMAS Sydney was about to make her way to Brazil in search of the German raider Kron-Prinz Wilhelm. 1915.



Australian soldiers enjoying a swim in the Suez Canal during a halt on a route march.



Near Auja. Eight soldiers swimming in the river after a 'boom' was placed across the Jordan River, a quarter of a mile north of Auja, to prevent floating mines from reaching the Auja bridges.

