



DAVID W. CAMERON

25 APRIL 1915

THE DAY THE ANZAC LEGEND WAS BORN



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For

Signalman Lloyd Alfred Charles Cameron
The Australian Army
1st Air Support Signal Unit
1935–2000

and

Private John Tunks
4th Battalion, Australian 1st Division
killed somewhere on 400 Plateau
29 April 1915

no known grave

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It was truly an impressive scene when those old men embraced each other, trembling with tears in their eyes and flowers and presents in their hands. It was moving enough to make one reconsider everything. On that day, a pall of melancholy and sorrow hung over everything. Interestingly enough, there was no enmity or anger, as if it had never been them who fought there 75 years ago. You could have thought that they were old friends who had just met after a very long time . . .

On that day, I met a very old Turkish veteran and an Anzac veteran standing side by side. The Turkish veteran was trying to stand up straight with the help of his walking stick. The old Anzac was looking around with tears in his eyes. Surely, both of them were thinking of the terrible days of the war and of the friends they had lost. At one moment, I saw the Turkish veteran gently putting his conspicuously veined big boned hand on the shoulder of the Anzac who, weeping silently, watched the hills and slopes. I remained speechless and rooted to the spot . . . This scene was an obvious expression of the meaning of the Çanakkale battles. Evidently, the veteran was trying to tell his friend through touch, what he was unable to put into words . . .

Professor A. Mete Tuncoku writing of his
experiences during the 75th anniversary of the
Gallipoli landings, 1990. From A. Tuncoku,
Anzakların Kaleminden Mehmetçik, Çanakkale 1915,
Ankara, 2000, pp. 220–1.

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