



# The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF

*Will Davies*

Download now

Read Online ➔

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF

*Will Davies*

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF** Will Davies

**Known as The Boy Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Marks, was the youngest battalion commander in the AIF and highly regarded not only as a future military commander, but as a business and community leader.**

It was a blustery day on the 25th January 1920 at Palm Beach to the north of Sydney and the surf was wild. Two attempts had already been made to save a young woman caught in an undertow and dragged out when a young man; skinny, gangly and frail and known to be a poor swimmer, threw off his coat and shoes and raced into the surf. As his fiancée and young nephew watched, the sea closed over him and he disappeared. His body was never recovered.

This was the sad and tragic fate of a gallant, highly decorated and promising young man named Douglas Gray Marks. And it was a great loss to a nation whose manhood had been decimated and where the pain of the war remained evident and raw.

Douglas Marks was born in 1895 and educated at Fort Street High School. He had, like so many enthusiastic and patriotic young men, basic military training when he turned up at the drill hall in Rozelle two days after the declaration of war. Before embarking in November 1914, he had received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the AIF.

After a period of training in Egypt, he embarked for the Gallipoli peninsula and landed on the second day. Spending a great deal of time in the dangerous frontline trenches at Quinn's Post where he was wounded, he remained on Gallipoli until the evacuation in December of that year. Just twenty years old, he was seen as an inspirational young officer, promoted to captain and given acting command of his battalion.

Marks then travelled back to Egypt, saw the re-organisation of his beloved 13th battalion and the raising of its sister battalion, the 45th. Sailing from Alexandria, he crossed the Mediterranean to Marseilles and took the train to the north of France and the nursery areas around Armentieres and Bois Grenier.

From here, Douglas Marks found himself in the worst battles that the AIF were to fight in: Pozieres and Moquet Farm, Flers, Gueudecourt, Stormy Trench and Bullecourt on the Somme. He then travelled north and was part of the horrendous battles around Ypres in Flanders in 1917: Messines, Polygon Wood, Hollebeke and Passchendaele. Back on the Somme in early 1918, he fought at Villers Bretonneux, Le Hamel, the Battle of Amiens from the 8th August and in the fighting through to the withdrawal of his battalion in September 1918.

By this time he had been wounded a number of times, was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, was the commander of his battalion and had been decorated with a Military Cross, a Distinguished Service Order, the Serbian Order of the White Eagle and had been mentioned in despatches.

He returned to Australia and to civilian life in late 1918. In 1919 he became engaged to "Queenie" and in January 1920, took that fateful journey to Palm Beach. Though we do not know what happened to "Queenie", his distraught mother never came out of her house again.

 [Download The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF Will Davies**

---

## **Download and Read Free Online The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF Will Davies**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Rose Waldman:**

Here thing why this The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF are different and dependable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good but it really depends in the content of the usb ports which is the content is as delightful as food or not. The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no publication that similar with The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your way home by train. In case you are having difficulties in bringing the branded book maybe the form of The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF in e-book can be your alternate.

#### **Robin Blakely:**

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The particular The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF is kind of reserve which is giving the reader erratic experience.

#### **Cynthia Campbell:**

Reading a guide can be one of a lot of pastime that everyone in the world adores. Do you like reading book consequently. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoyed. First reading a book will give you a lot of new facts. When you read a publication you will get new information since book is one of several ways to share the information or perhaps their idea. Second, looking at a book will make a person more imaginative. When you reading through a book especially fictional works book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the characters do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to some others. When you read this The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF, you could tells your family, friends along with soon about yours e-book. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a reserve.

#### **Lauren Smith:**

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book than can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because all this time you only find book that need more time to be go through. The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF can be your answer as it can be read by an individual who have those short extra time problems.

**Download and Read Online The Youngest Battalion Commander in  
the AIF Will Davies #JQ7FCG8MT2X**

## **Read The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies for online ebook**

The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies books to read online.

### **Online The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies ebook PDF download**

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies Doc**

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies Mobipocket**

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies EPub**

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies Ebook online**

**The Youngest Battalion Commander in the AIF by Will Davies Ebook PDF**