

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7-25

02/7/20
1/25
ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT
ENGINEERING PLATOON

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

ARRIVAL.

March. MILFORD, ENO.

6th.

Left STAYLY CAMP by 3 trains.
Embarked from SOUTHAMPTON
860 on S.S. "VIBEN" & 120 on
S.S. "AUSTRALIAN". Good crossing.

EVANS.

6th.

Disembarked and marched to No. 5
Host Camp, Snow.

7th. 6 a.m. Entrained.

STENNICOUGH.

8th. 3.30
a.m.

Detrained and marched to Host
Camp, MORNINGTON.

MORNINGTON.

8th to
11th.

In Host Camp. (Hqrs. D. 14. b. 2. 6.)
FRANCE 36A.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

11th.

Marched as Brigade from MORNINGTON
to NEW BRUNSWICK. In billets for
night. (Hq. 0. 24. d. 9. 8.).

HUE DU QUENNOY.

18th.

Marched from NEW BRUNSWICK to
HUE DU QUENNOY, via HAZVAINES and
BAILLY SUR LA LYS. (Hq. 0. 24. d. 9. 8.)
FRANCE 36A. "A" & "C" Coys. in
Trenches attached to 2nd Rifle
Battalions respectively. Each
Platoon attached to a Company and
distributed along its front.

15th.

"A" & "C" in no platoons. "B" &
"D" supplied working parties.
1 man wounded on working party.

14th.

"B" & "D" relieved "A" & "C"
Attached to 2nd Rifle Brigade &
2nd Lincoln. Distributed as on
12th.

16th.

"B" & "D" in by platoons. "A" &
"C" supplied working parties.

16th.

"A" & "C" relieved "B" & "D" and
took over Company Trenches from
2nd R. B. S. & 2nd Linns. respectively.

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

MARCH.

WILKED, BNO.

5th.

Left WILKED CAMP by 3 trains.
Embarked from SOUTHAMPTON.
860 on B.S. "VIPERS" & 120 on
S.S. "AUSTRALIAN". Good crossing.

LEAVES.

6th.

Disembarked and marched to No. 5
Rest Camp. Snow.

7th. 8 a.m. Retained.

WORMBOURNE.

8th. 3.30
a.m.

Detained and marched to Rest
Camp, WORMBOURNE.

WORMBOURNE.

8th to
11th.

In Rest Camp. (Hqrs. D, 14, b, c, 6.)
FRANCE 36A.

HEUR HERBOUE.

11th.

Marched as Brigade from WORMBOURNE
to HEUR HERBOUE. In billets for
night. (Hq. D. 24, 4, 9, 8.)

HEUR DE QUESNOY.

12th.

Marched from HEUR HERBOUE to
HEUR DE QUESNOY, via BRUAINES and
SAILLY SUR LA YES. (Hq. D. 24, 4, 9, 8.)
FRANCE 36A. "A" & "G" Coy's. In
Trenches attached to 2nd Light
Battalion Irish Rifles & 2nd Royal
Berkshires respectively. Each
Platoon attached to a Company and
distributed along its front.

13th.

"A" & "G" in as platoons. "B" &
"D" supplied working parties.
1 man wounded on working party.

14th.

"B" & "D" relieved "A" & "G".
Attached to 2nd Rifle Brigade &
2nd Lineolns. Distributed as on
12th.

15th.

"B" & "D" in by platoons. "A" &
"G" supplied working parties.

16th.

"A" & "G" relieved "B" & "D" and
took over Company fronts from
2nd R. B's. & 2nd Lineolns. respectively.

1918.

March.

17th.

"A" & "C" in as Companies.
"B" & "D" as Working Parties.
2 Men wounded on Working Parties.

18th.

"B" & "D" relieved "A" & "C" and
took over company frontages.
1 Man wounded.

SAILLY SUR LA LYS.

19th.

Marched to SAILLY SUR LA LYS
(Hq. G. 16, d. 3, 0.). In billets for
night. "B" & "D" left trenches
and marched to Billets.

ZIEURBAILL.20th.
21st.
22nd.

Marched to ZIEURBAILL. In reserve
to 11th Bn. R. Sussex R. "A" Coy.
in CHOCX HANGARIAL POST. "C" Coy.
in CAIR POST.

ESCAIRIES.

23rd.

Relieved by 16th Bn. Royal Scots.
Marched to Billets in vicinity
of ESCAIRIES. (Hq. T. 17, d. 4, 6.).

ROUBERTZELLE.24th.
25th.

Moved to Billets on NEUVE HERQUIE-
MORVILLE Road. (Hq. K. 24, d. 3, 5.)
STAMBE 364.

YABRE SUR.

31st.

Moved to Billets. (Hqrs. B. 20, d. 4, 3.).

F. O. W. BRAVIER, Lieut. Colonel,
Command 15th Royal Sussex Regt.

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13TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix

1916

April

VERTE RUE

1st -
13th

In billets. H.Qrs. B.38.d.4.3. (Map 364) Company and Specialist training carried out daily. Mater. was inspected by 13th Corps Commander Maj Lt. Gen. Sir R. HAKING K.C.B., accompanied by G.O.C. 39th Divn. Major Gen. S. F. BARNARDISTON M.V.O. on April 3rd. The 2nd. was highly complimented on its ~~own~~ general smartness. During the whole of this period exceptionally fine weather prevailed.

LOCOH

14th

Moved from VERTE RUE to LOCOH via HERVILLE. Billeted about LOCOH for the night. Brig. Gen. J. E. WATSON, C.B., relinquished command of the 11th Bde. after being in command for just over a year. Brig. Gen. H. L. HOBBS, D.S.O. assumed command.

GIYENCHY

15th

Moved from Hillels about LOCOH and took over Night Sub-Section of GIYENCHY Area relieving 15th 2nd. Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The 2nd. moved in via GOINNE and the 1st BATTEN General moving by sections at 50 yards distance from GOINNE onwards. Reliefs commenced at 9 A.M. and were completed by 11.30 A.M. The line was taken over by Companies as follows:- 4th Coy (Captain B. THORPE) left Company in the part of trenches known as the PUCK'S BILL, 2nd Coy (Captain H. A. KACKLINA) Centre Coy. 3rd (Captain G. M. HURDIS-CHORTS) Right Coy. 4th Coy's flight extended to North bank of the Canal. 5th Coy. in POKE FIVE kept in support. Trenches were found to be in a very poor condition. Wire in front of Parapet practically non-existent work was immediately started to remedy various defects, chiefly building dugouts and closing a gap in the parapet between 2nd and 4th Coys. The day was quiet

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Appendix

April

14th
(ctd.)

with the exception of exchange of Rifle Grenades - 1 Man wounded. Patrols went out at night to examine Enemy's wire. Good results were obtained. 2nd Lt. G. A. B. PHILLIP sent in an excellent report which was forwarded to G. O. C. 33rd Divn. - Machine Guns on both sides were active at night. The 14th Bn. BAMPFORD Regt. occupied the left Bab Sector - 15th Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX REGT. in Support in Village Line.

16th

Plane day. Enemy shelled GUNNER SIDING and VILLAGE LINE in morning. No material damage was done. At about 12.30 P.M. he made a direct hit on our parapet in 73rd Coy's trenches. Killing and wounding 10 men. A great number of Rifle Grenades were fired on both sides. Enemy Machine Guns very active at night. Patrols were sent out at night. No reconnaissance. No Man's Land. A large amount of work was done in various parts of the line. Total casualties 5 killed and 16 wounded.

DIVERSE

17th

Enemy very quiet all day with the exception of firing a few Rifle Grenades. At night his Machine Guns were very active. We fired a large number of Rifle Grenades in reply to those of the enemy. Our M.G.'s were continually active at night sweeping the roads behind the enemy's lines. Our Patrols were active at night in spite of the bright moonlight. Three men of "A" Coy's wire party were wounded and fell upon the wire. One managed to crawl back to the trenches and inform 2nd Lt. H. de P. MARCHBURY of what had occurred. This Officer without a moment's hesitation went over the parapet and succeeded in bringing in the two wounded men. Ptes. PAVIA and HAYTER who were close by gave assistance. A large amount of work was done on the Parapet and in the communication trenches.

18th

Another quiet day with the exception of the usual exchange of Rifle Grenades. Patrols

- 1916
April
- 18th
(Contd.)
- 19th
- 20th -
23rd
- 23rd
- 24th
- 25th
- 26th
- active at night. A considerable amount of work done in wire and parapet.
- Battalion relieved by 11th Bn. R. SUDS R. Bn. moved back to GORHE into 1st Edge Reserve Hdqrs. at GORHE CHATEAU.
- In Balleys in GORHE. Whole time devoted to cleaning up inspections of kit and general reorganisation.
- Relieved 11th Bn. R. SUDS R. Bn. in Night Sub-Sector. Helldats commenced at 7 A.M. The companies took over the mine frontages with the exception that 4th took over the JUCK'S HILL Sector and 1st went into Reserve at ROFT ZILL. The usual exchange of Rifle Grenades took place. The enemy dropped a few 5.9" H.B. shells close to 4th Coy's front line trenches. Our parapet was slightly damaged. Work on trenches continued. Building of Dugouts and general maintenance.
- Enemy shelled the O.P.'s at GUNNER SIDING and GIVERNY. The usual Grenade and H.G. activity took place. A great deal of pumping and draining was done. The gap between 4th & 6th considerably lessened. Patrols were out again at night. Lt. W. D. AYTON wounded by a bomb close to enemy wire. Total casualties 1 officer & 3 men wounded.
- quiet day with the exception of a few rifles Grenades. One pitched into 7th Coy's trench and killed one man and wounded three others. General maintenance work carried out. Patrols out at night. Total casualties 0.R. 1 Killed and 3 wounded.
- Enemy quiet all day with the exception of firing a few Rifles Grenades to which we replied firing three to his one. H.G.'s on both sides active at night. Patrols out as usual. Working parties day and night repairing and building dugouts and strengthening parapet.

1916April27th

Relieved by 11th Bn. R. 5088. R. The Battalion taking over the VILLAGE LINES at Battalions in support. Companies distributed as follows: "A" & "C" in Hilllets in village. "D" Coy in LA PLATTE KEEP and WINDY CORNER. "E" Coy in GIVEMORY KEEP, HENRY'S REDOUBT, MOAT FARM and HINDER'S REDOUBT. Day spent resting and cleaning up. Keeps occupied by "D" were frequently shelled during the day.

28th

All Coys out on working parties day and night, GIVEMORY KEEP again shelled. No casualties or any material damage done. At about 8.40 p.m. a Gas Alarm was sounded on our right. The whole Battalion stood to at Alarms Posts for two hours. Luckily the Gas did not reach our sector.

29th

All Coys on working parties. Slight shelling of Keeps as before. The wind again being favourable to the enemy every precaution was taken to meet a Gas attack.

30th

Battalion relieved by 14th Black Watch 18th Hqs. Battalion marched back to Hilllets about LA PANSERIE. Headquarters at FORT L'HERMIES (W. 1.0.3.7.) BATTERIES COMBINED SECT.

J. G. W. DWAYZEN,

Lt. Col.

Command. 15th Bn. R. 5088. R.

1916

Appendix

APRIL

27th

Relieved by 11th Bn. R. SUPP. B. The Battalion taking over the VILLAGE LIME as Battalion in support. Companies distributed as follows: "A" & "G" in Billets in village. "B" Coy in LE PLANTIN KEEP and WINDY CORNER. "D" Coy in GIVENCHY KEEP, HERTS REMOULT, MOAT YARN and HILBERT'S REDOUST. Day spent resting and cleaning up. Keeps occupied by "D" were frequently shelled during the day.

28th

All Coys out on working parties day and night. GIVENCHY KEEP again shelled. No casualties or any material damage done. At about 8.40 p.m. a Gas Alarm was sounded on our right. The whole Battalion stood to at Alarm Posts for two hours. Luckily the gas did not reach our sector.

29th

All Coys on working parties. Slight shelling of Keeps as before. The wind again being favourable to the enemy every precaution was taken to meet a Gas attack.

30th

Battalion relieved by 1/4th Black Watch 15th Bde. Battalion marched back to Billets about LA PALMERIE. Headquarters at FORT L'HINGREZ (W.4.0.3.7.) BATHING COMPLETED DIRECT.

Z.G.W. BRAZZEL,
Lt. Col.
Command. 15th Bn. R. SUPP. B.

RESTRICTED

12th BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1st

9th

APPENDIX

RANGES

In billets about LA PARRERIE in Divisional Post. All men were refitted where necessary. Daily training was carried out of all specialists and Coys.

RESTURNT.

Relieved the 17th B'n. King's Royal Rifle Corps in the RESTURNT last Sub-Sector. "A" Coy took over the right end "D" Coy the left. "C" Coy and "B" were in support in Old British line.

10th

Day very quiet. In the evening wire parties were out. An enemy patrol came close to Island 30 A and threw two bombs, which did no damage, and then retired.

11th

A few "kites-bombs" were sent into RICHMOND TEE, but did little damage. In the evening enemy H.O.'s were very active, and considerably disrupted our wire parties. An enemy patrol again approached Island 30 A and threw bombs, to which our bombers replied driving the enemy off. 1/SGT HARRIOT, Batt'n Signaling Serf's, killed by H.O. fire. This splendid H.C.O. will be greatly missed. Work carried out on wire and reclamation of SHERLAND ROAD communication trench.

12th

Enemy was unusually quiet along our whole front line during the day and night. Wire parties on both sides were very busy. 2 Lt. E. SPARKS took out a patrol to try and find 2 men of "D" Coy who were missing from the previous night. Unfortunately no trace of the missing men was found. General trench maintenance was carried out, as well as work on SHERLAND ROAD trench.

13th

Except for a few Whiss Bungs directed against Right Cover Trench, which did no damage, enemy very quiet all day. Relieved by 11th B'n H. Saes. H. returning to billets at LA TOURNE.

1916

NOV

Appendix

14th,
15th,
16th.

In Biliets at LE FOURET. Working parties daily.

17th

B'n relieved the 11th B'n R.Suss.R. in the Left Sector. "g" and "c" Coy's taking the right and left respectively in the front line. "A" & "D" in support in the Old British Line. Enemy very quiet during relief. No casualties. Our Wiring Squads put out a large quantity of wire.

18th

Enemy very active day and night with snipers and M.G's. Our M.O's replied effectively silencing the enemy on several occasions. Our Wiring Parties were busy erecting new wire and strengthening the old. Work on parapet and new Batt'n Bombs Store carried out.

19th

Usual sniping activity by day, and M.O's at night, otherwise nothing to report. Wiring Squads put out 91 coils of wire. Reclamation work carried out on SHERLAND ROAD Trench, in addition to general maintenance.

20th

Enemy very quiet day and night. 2 Fuzes Banges dropped within a few yards of Bn. Kays. No damage. Our Snipers were active and claim 2 victims. Wiring Parties again did very good work putting out 112 coils of wire. 2nd Lt. G.B. MILLOFF, Batt'n. Signalling Officer Killed. This Officer had done splendid work in training the Battalion Signallers, taking great pains to bring them up to their present high state of efficiency.

21st

Except for a few "Fuzes Banges" in the afternoon enemy very quiet all day. Six Snipers and M.O's were also inactive. B'n relieved by 11th B'n R.Suss.R. Relief successfully carried out without casualties. B'n moved into Keeps and Biliets in RESTUERT VILLAGE LINE.

22nd, 23rd, B'n in RESTUERT VILLAGE LINE in Support. Repairs to Keeps and Biliets carried out.

1916Nov.Appendix20th
(Contd.)

done to our parapet and exp 14. Several men were buried as the result of the explosion, but only one killed. Following the explosion we immediately sent forward bombing parties to occupy the near lip. So some of the enemy were seen. At about 9 p.m. 2nd LIEUT. A.S. PAIRIA took out a party to recover the body of a dead German seen lying in front of our trenches, evidently killed as the result of the last night's raid. The patrol not only succeeded in recovering the German body, but also that of the H.C.O. captured by the enemy. Both were dead. The German was from a SAISON REG'T. He had removed all identification except his steel cockade and badge of rank. He was a W.O.

21st

During the day the enemy were very quiet, with the exception of sending over a few snipe Bange. Night was very quiet. Our T.W.B's were very active in the evening making several direct hits on the enemy parapet. General French maintenance and repairing damage done.

S. HUGHES,

Capt.
Commanding 13th B'n R. Que. R.

1916

May

26th

B'n relieved by 4/5th B'n BLACK WATCH. Batt'n moved to billets about LA PATERAIS. B'n Hqs at POIRY L'HIBRONS. Lt. Col. F. O. V. DRAFFIN proceeded on leave. Capt. S. HUGHES in Command.

Appendix

HIBRONS.

In billets. First day devoted to cleaning up and rest. Second day digging trenches in the Divisional Training Area.

HIBRONS - CUNCHY.

At 3.15 p.m. Orders were received that the B'n had to relieve the 2nd ANOYIS & SURELAND HIGHLANDERS, 98th INF. BDE, 33rd DIV'n in the CUNCHY LEFT Sector. B'n moved off at 6.30 p.m. marching via LOON and CORNE. Relief complete by 12.15 a.m. Companies were allocated as follows. In the front line, "A" right, "C" centre, "A" left, "D" Coy in Support. Batt'n Hqs at KINSCHERS.

CUNCHY.

Between 10 and 11 a.m. the enemy sent over several H.B.'s and Whiz Bangs, blowing in a portion of COLDSTRAW LANE Communication trench. At night an enemy raiding party succeeded in entering a small portion of "C" Coy's front. The raid was preceded by a heavy bombardment on our front and support line trenches. Parapet was damaged in several places. 6 Casualties. The raiding party succeeded in capturing a B.C.O. and several rifles. A demonstration was also made by parties of the enemy in front of "B" and "A" Coys. They were met by Rifle and H.O. fire. The raiding party made no attempt to work its way along the trenches but simply jumped in and dressed away the H.C.O. 2 loaded Revolvers. 1 Knob. Kari and an entrenching tool were dropped by the raiders. General trench repair was carried out.

Enemy fairly quiet during the day until he exploded a mine in front of "C" Coy. The near 1lb being about 20 yards from our front line. Considerable damage was

26th

26th -
27th

26th

26th

1916.

Appendix.

June.

CINQUEPORT.

1st.

The Battalion was relieved in the left sub-sector by the 11th.

Royal Sussex Regt.

The relief commenced at 2.30 p.m. and was complete by 5.15 p.m.

The billets evacuated by the 11th, Royal Sussex Regt., were taken over and the following dispositions made:- A Company in Camberlain Point. B Company at Bredell Castle. C Company, 2 platoons at Guinecy keep 1 platoon in Garter's post and 1 platoon at Fourrières.

During the night of the 1st-2nd.6.16 2nd Lt S. de P. Hobbart's carried out a reconnaissance of the enemy's wire in front of the North West breakstack. Search was thrown at our patrol without effect and the following observations were recorded. Enemy wire generally speaking thin, and the patrol found little difficulty in cutting it. One entry was observed but no movement was heard in the enemy's line, and after observing for some considerable time the patrol withdrew quietly after having discovered the breach in the enemy's wire which had been made with the idea of obtaining information as to the strength.

2nd. Battalion in support. Trench maintenance and working parties.

The Battalion in support as previously stated. Trench working parties and maintenance continued throughout the day and night.

3rd. Trench maintenance as above.

4th. Hostile artillery very active throughout the day and night. Guinecy support point heavily shelled with whiz-bangs and 4.2" guns. Considerable damage caused to the trenches but no casualties.

5th. The 13th, Br. Royal Sussex Regt. relieved the 11th. R. Sussex in the left sub-sector. In the front line the following alterations were made as-the-front-line-A Company took over the right company frontage in place of B D Company the centre in place

of G

B Company the left in place of A with C Company in support

1916.

June.

5th
(Cont'd.)

Appendix.

2.

Kaparrato Terrace. All companies reported the relief complete by 11.15 a.m. During the night an attempted raid under 2nd Lt. M. de P. Machoberts opposite the centre company succeeded in cutting through the enemy's wire to within fifteen feet of his parapet. Owing to the approach of dawn they were unable to complete the work and returned to our trenches without any casualties. Two hostile sentries were observed in the enemy's trenches but apparently neither of them observed our party while the wire was being cut. Our Lewis guns fired indirect throughout the night to cover the operations, otherwise the night was very quiet, and there was less rifle and machine gun fire than usual. Considerable coolness was displayed by all the men, and the silence with which the wire was cut spoke very highly for the tenacity and efficiency of the parties engaged.

6th.

Very little artillery activity in the morning, the enemy fired twelve 4.2" shells at 50.11 brickstack at 1.30 p.m. Our artillery replied, and the enemy ceased fire, rainfall fairly heavy during the night. Weather improved in the afternoon. At about 11.45 p.m. the raid which had been planned for the previous night was again attempted - this time with more success. 2nd Lt. Machoberts and 36 other ranks left our trenches at 8.15 a.m. and advanced up to the German wire accompanied by an engineer officer and three sappers with a Bangalore torpedo. The latter was placed in gap which had been made the previous night and the sappers returned to our front line trench. At 12.5 a.m. the message was received that all was ready and the 7.0.0. phoned back to the Artillery to stand by. After a slight pause the torpedo was fired electrically from the front line and simultaneously the artillery opened fire. Immediately the explosion had taken place the Officer and parties rushed through the gap. Unfortunately it is believed that the enemy were not entirely surprised from the fact that a barrage of bombs was thrown out in front having the effect of cutting off Lt. Machoberts from his leading party. He however entered the German trench and ran over two dead bodies, and after a struggle

1916.

Appendix.June.6th
(Cont'd.)

with an enemy sentry was wounded in the hand and head. In the meantime the second parties reached the trench and were greeted with a shower of bombs from the enemy who appeared to be fairly strong. They, however, bombed along the top of the parapet inflicting considerable casualties on the enemy. Lt. Koberberis then gave the order to 'move off' and the parties made their way back independently to our trench. Our casualties amounted to 1 officer and 14 O.R. wounded, none of them seriously. Great credit was due to 2nd Lt. W de P. Koberberis for the success of the operation, and also, to the sapper officer for his valuable assistance with the torpedo.

7th.

At about 2 p.m. the enemy fired a few whizz bangs on the left company frontage without doing any damage. Otherwise the day was quiet. During the night our machine guns were active particularly in the spot where the fold of the previous night took place. The enemy apparently made no attempt to repair the damage done.

8th.

The battn. was relieved in the left sub-sector by the 11th. R. Sussex taking over the billets evacuated by the 11th. at Amzequin north. The relief was complete by 12.45 p.m.

9th.

The Day was devoted to billet cleaning and maintenance. R.E. working parties were supplied.

10th.

The battn. was relieved by the 1/4th Suffolk and moved back to Divisional reserve in billets about La Pannerie.

LA PANNERIE.

Parades according to Brigade training programme.

11th.

12th.

The Commanding Officer inspected the kits of the battalion and incents for the necessary articles forwarded to the Q. M.

1916.

June.

13th.

The companies perched on the divisional digging ground near Locon continuing with the trenches which were commenced on the 25th. May 1916. Weather became very cold and wet and the men returned to billets about 2. p.m.

14th.

Company Commanders went on a tour of the trenches in the Forme du Bois section, preparatory to the Division taking over a new frontage.

16th.

Companies carried out rapid and application practices on the small range near headquarters. Major Bellamy having reported for duty was taken on the strength of the battalion and assumed second in command.

16th.

The battalion relieved the 17th. Lancers Fusiliers in the Forme du Bois section the following dispositions being made. Three companies in the front line and one in support. A Coy on the right, C Company in the centre, D Coy. on the left and B Coy. in support at Bois street. The battalion left billets at La Pannevie at 5.43 p.m. and guides from the Lancers Fusiliers at Richembourg St Vaast at 8.30 p.m. All coys reported relief complete at 10.55 p.m. The relief was completed without a casualty. Battalion H.Qrs. (S.9.e.8j.5.) Bethune Combined sheet.

25th IN BOIS.

17th.

With the exception of dropping a few "flamies" on the head of Plum Street at about 6.30. P.m the enemy was very quiet. There was the usual machine gun & rifle activity during the nights. Our trench mortars registered on the enemy trench in the afternoons. The usual patrols reconnoitered during the night. During one of these patrols, Capt Gillaspie & Lt Rigby were both wounded, the former seriously and the latter only slightly.

18th.

Enemy very quiet except for machine gun and rifle fire at night. Our rifle grenades were active both during the day and night. Captain F. S. Gillaspie reported died of wounds. This was a great blow to the battalion and one

1916.

June.

18th
(Cont'd.)

Very much felt by all ranks. This officer was a model of energy and cheerfulness in the performance of his duty, and was always ready to help anyone who was in trouble. His funeral took place at Kerillie and was attended by 2nd Lt Jones and 2nd Lt. H. Sparks. 2nd Lt. Dickens reported to this battalion for duty and was posted to D Company. Captain H.D.A Wittaker temporarily took on command of D Company and Lt. H.J. Coxhead was appointed s/Adjutant.

19th.

The enemy dropped a few white bombs near Cadbury's-Cockspur Str. slightly damaging the trench but causing no casualties. Slight interchange of bombs at Bear's head sap. During the night our Lewis guns dispersed a hostile wiring party. Weather rather cold - wind south-west, about three miles an hour.

20th.

Enemy bombarded our line at intervals during the day only doing slight damage and wounding one man slightly. Machine guns were active during the night and there was a certain amount of bombing activity in the Bear's head sap during which Lt. C.V. Clarke was wounded in the leg, and thighs, but not seriously. Private under Captain. Whitaker 2nd Lt. Whitley 2nd Lt. Priker went out during the day and night into NO MAN'S LAND. Direction of wind west about 5 miles per hour. Weather much warmer.

21st.

The enemy artillery was active during the day, shelling our trenches and also Windy Corner. A few casualties amongst a loading party of B Company were sustained. Our rifle grenades were again active with visibly good results. The Battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 14th Bn. Hampshire taking over the following posts and billets evacuated by the relieving battalion. A Company:- Gate post 8.15.A.5.8. Orchard Post 8.14.b.5.8 Albert Post 8.8.d.8.4. Dogs Post 8.9.c.2.4. Scott 8.8.e.2.0. Hunter 8.8.e.2.3. Millers (8.8.a.7.9. 8.8.b.1.4.) B. Coy. 8.8.b.3.3.3. B. Coy. Richards Post 8.9.a.8.9. Hens 8.3.d.1.3 Rags 8.2.e.9.9. Bones 8.2.b.1.0. H. Coy. 8.8.e.7.9.

1916.

Appendix.

June.

21st
 (Cont'd.) C Coy. Billets 8.2.a.2.7.
 D. Coy. (Grete & Angie) 8.2.m.8.8.
 St. Veneri R. 32.d.7.2. Neighbourg
 8.2.e.3.1. Companies reported
 relief complete 3.15. p.m.

22nd.

The Battalion was relieved by the
 1/nt. Beds Regiments, moving to
 billets at Vieille Chapelle,
 evacuated by the retiring
 battalion. Companies reported
 all in billets at 11.45. p.m.
 The Battalion remained under the
 G.O.C. 116th Inf. Pde. for
 administration, discipline
 and training, but otherwise
 temporarily formed part of
 Bt. Gde in Divisional Reserves.

LEVER ET BOIS - VIEILLE CHAPELLE.

23rd.

The Officers of the battalion
 were informed of a future
 operation to be carried out by
 the Brigade and the plans of
 action were discussed. The Corps
 Commander presented the Medal
 Ribbons to Ptes Parvin, Bord, and
 Balcombe. Weather very warm,
 sharp thunderstorm about 4.30 p.m.

24th.

The morning was devoted to interior
 economy, and fifty men from each
 company had a bath. In the
 afternoon the battn. marched to
 the Divisional training ground
 (R.19.e) to practise carrying out
 the attack companies marched off
 independently at 2.p.m.

25th.

Companies marched off independently
 to the training ground for attack
 practice. Special bombing squads
 under 2nd Lt. Mills marched to the
 35th. Divisional bombing ground
 at IW PACAULT (q.23.n.3.6.)

26th.

Companies paraded at 9.a.m. and
 marched to the 35th Divn. training
 ground IW PACAULT (q.23.n.3.6.) and
 practised the attack on the new
 trenches, returning in the
 afternoon to the training ground at
 (R.19.d.)

27th.

Weather very wet training abandoned
 owing to rain. In the afternoon
 companies detailed 50 men for the
 baths. Clean change of clothing
 issued out.

1916.Appendix.June.FERRIER DU BOIS.

28th.

Im. Relieved the 14th. Im. Hants
in the flight sub-sector FERRIER DU
BOIS and moved to the following
billetts. B and C companies in the
front line A in Ribebourg St Vaast
Post, and D in billetts VILLER
CHAPELLE.

29th.

Day spent in collecting materials
and general organization for the
attack. In the afternoon our
artillery bombarded the enemy
trenches from 2.p.m. to 5.p.m.
cutting his wire and destroying his
works. A copy of operation order
No.25 is attached.

30th.

Report on operations.

1. The battalion assembled at 1.30
p.m on the morning of the 30th June
in readiness for the assault with
all four platoons of each coy. in
the front line.
 2. The preliminary bombardment
on the morning of the attack opened
at 2.50 a.m and at 3.5 the leading
wave of the battalion scaled the
parapet, the remainder following at
50 yds. interval. At the same time
the flank attack under Lt. Whitley
and Ellis gained a footing in the
enemy trench. The passage across
MO HAN'S LAMB was accomplished with
few casualties in except in the left
Companies which came under very
heavy machine gun fire.
- The two right companies succeeded
in reaching their objective but the
two left companies only succeeded
in penetrating the enemy's wire in
one or two places.

Just at this moment a smoke cloud
which was originally designed to
mask our advance drifted right across
the front and made it impossible to
see more than a few yards ahead.
This resulted in all direction being
lost and the attack developing into
small bodies of men not knowing which
way to go. Some groups succeeded
in entering the support line
engaging the enemy with bombs and
bayonet and organizing the initial
stages of a defence. Other parties
swung off to the right and entered
the trench where the flank party was
operating, causing a great deal of
congestion. On the left the smoke
and darkness made the job of
penetrating the enemy wire so
difficult that few if any succeeded
in reaching the enemy trench.
Some parties of the right company
succeeded in reaching the enemy

1916.

Appendix.

June.

29th/30th.
(Cont'd.)

support line when they were subjected to an intense bombardment with H.E. and whizz bangs. Capt. Hughes who was wounded, seeing that his Coy. was in danger of being cut off gave the order for the evacuation of the enemy trenches and the remainder of the attacking force returned to our trenches. The enemy who was evidently thoroughly prepared now concentrated his energies on the front line and for the space of about 2 1/2 hours our front and support lines were subjected to an intense bombardment with heavy and light shells causing a large number of casualties. Ultimately the shelling ceased and to all intents and purposes the operations closed, the battn. being relieved by the 14th. Bants at about 1.30 p.m. and taking over their original billets at VILLERS CHAVILLIS.

Principal causes of failure.

- a). The unfortunate incident of the smoke cloud.
- b). The preparedness of the enemy.
- c). The intensity of the enemy's shell and machine gun fire.
- d). The failure of the Artillery to cut the enemy's wire on the left.

Casualties. Our casualties were unfortunately heavy and resulted in the loss of many valuable officers and men including

Capt. C.F. Humble-Crofts
 Capt. & Adj. R.D.A. Whittaker
 Lt. Fisherbert H.L. 2nd. Lt. Dudley, Morgan, Oliver, Prior A.L. and Diggs killed and missing. and
 Capt. Hughes Capt. Nakala
 Lt. W. Fisherbert. 2nd. Lt. Turner wounded. Amongst the wounded were C.S.M. Robinson, C.S.M. Jesses C.S.M. Gearr and C.Q.M. Harfey the latter lost a foot during the bombardment. The enemy casualties are also considered to have been considerable, large numbers of them being seen in the enemy trenches.

H.J. COXHEAD.

SECRET.

OPERATION ORDER No. 25.

9.

A 69 to 76
(inclusive)
B 77 to 86
C 87 to 93
D 94 to 3
(inclusive)

1. The Battalion will assemble for the assault as follows during the night of the 29th/30th June.

A Co. will move from RICKENBOND ST VAMPT via passing Battalion Headquarters at 11 p.m. At Battalion Headquarters each man will be issued with an extra 100 rounds of ammunition and 2 bombs, also sandwiches. A Co. will enter front line trenches via COCKERUP STREET and will assemble with 2 platoons in Bays 69 to 76 (inclusive) and 2 platoons in support trench immediately behind.

B Co. will be relieved by A Co. 14th HARTS which will trench junction of CALPHICKS and front line trench at 12 midnight, B Co. will then assemble with 2 platoons in Bays 77 to 86 inclusive and 2 platoons in support trench immediately behind.

C Co. will be assembled with 2 platoons in Bays 87 to 93 inclusive by 12 midnight, with 2 platoons in support trench immediately behind.

The FISH TAIL GAP will not however be evacuated until taken over by 14th HARTS.

D Co. will leave present billets and move via WINDY COCKER (B.9.a.6.9) - Battalion Headquarters (B.9.a.8.5) via STRAIN and will assemble with 2 platoons in Bays 94 to 3 (inclusive) and 2 platoons in support line immediately behind.

Head of D.Co. to pass Battalion Headquarters at 11.45 p.m. At Battalion Headquarters each man will be issued with an extra 100 rounds of ammunition and 2 bombs, also sandwiches.

HEADQUARTERS will assemble as already detailed by 1 a.m. 30th June.

NOTE - O.C. Cos. may, at their discretion, assemble 3 platoons in front line instead of 2, owing to the extremely wet and muddy state of support trenches.

ZLANK ATTACK.

Bombing Squads as already detailed) will assemble at
2/Lieut. ELPHICKS } Blk at
Pte. Young B Co. } Headquarters
Pte. Astridge A Co. } (B.9.a.8.5)
3 Sappers } at 9 p.m. and
} report to
} 2/Lieut. ELICKS

CARRYING PARTY.

The carrying party as already detailed will report to 2/Lieut. ELPHICKS at Battalion Headquarters (B.9.a.8.5) at 10 p.m. tonight (29th).

REPORT. Battalion Headquarters will move to BOARD STREET at 12 midnight.

WIRE. In front of both Support and Front Line Trench wire will be cut under Company arrangements.

BRIDGES. Special Brigades have been made in Brigade Workshops, and will be put out by 0.0. Brigade Workshops (Capt. PILLAY) in front of our trenches. Other Bridges are in the line and will be put out by 0.C. Cos.

(Sgd.) R.J. COXHEAD
Lieut. & Adjutant.

COYD No. 8.

OPERATION ORDER No. 211

INTENTION.

1. The Battalion will assault and capture the enemy trenches as follows:-

- (a) Enemy front line from BOAN'S HEAD to S.10.e.5.1.
- (b) Enemy support line from S.16.e.5g.6h. to S.16.n.9.9.

The 12th Battalion will assault on our left.

The dividing line between the battalions will be the ditch running from our front line parapet at S.10.e.6.3 to the enemy front line parapet at S.10.e.8.0.

METHOD OF ATTACK.

2. (a) Main attack, from our front line between CIRKAL TRACK (S.10.e.0.0.) and the ditch (S.10.e.6.3) near VINS STREET.

(b) Flank attack from our own TIRSHTAIL SAP against the BOAN'S HEAD.

(a) Main attack will be delivered in 4 lines, each line consisting of 4 platoons 1.e. one from each company in single rank - with one pace extension.

(b) Flank attack will be delivered by 5 bombing parties each party consisting of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men.

ASSEMBLY FOR ASSAULT.

MAIN ATTACK.

2 platoons from each company will assemble in front line trench in bays 64-95 inclusive.

A Coy on the right. Then from right to left B - C - D Coys. The platoons forming the 1st. line of assault will assemble in the odd bays.

These

Those for the second line in the even bays.

The two platoons forming the 3rd. & 4th. lines from each company, will assemble in the old support trench between CHIMNEY TRACK and VINE STREET.

A Company on the right then from right to left B - C - D Coys in rear of the platoons of their own Coys forming the 1st 2nd & 3rd lines. The platoons of each company detailed for the 3rd. line will be on the right of those detailed for the 4th line.

FLANK ATTACK.

The parties detailed for the flank attack will assemble in our front line trench near its junction with our FIRE TAIL GAP. The wire in front of our front line and support line will be cut under company arrangements the night previous to the assault.

LEVER GUNS.

These will assemble in the old disused trench about 35 yards in front of trench between BOND STREET and VINE STREET.

2nd LT MITCHELL
R. S. M. CHANCE
H. Gns. 20
8 men from each
Coy.

CARRYING PARTY will assemble in the GRAVE, as soon as the assaulting lines have advanced over the front parapet. These parties will move to the company stores situated in our present front line. Their work will be to transfer S.A.A. - Bombs - Rations and water from these stores to the company stores in the new front line.

Distance must be insulated on.

CONDUCT OF THE ASSAULT.

4. At precisely the Artillery will lift and the platoons forming the first line will clear the parapet & make for the enemy trench the platoons of the second line will follow at a distance of 60 yards.

The objective of the first two three lines will be the enemy's second line from S.16 a. 5f. 6f to S.16 a. 9. 9. They will on no account halt in the enemy's front line but push on to the enemy's support line.

As soon as the second line has cleared our front line parapet the third will advance from the support Trench across the open. Go over the parapet & follow the second line. The fourth line will act in a similar manner. The distance between lines throughout should be 60 yards. The objective of the 3rd-4th 4th line will be the enemy's present front lines.

The left of each line will direct and each platoon will be approximately on a frontage of 60 yards. If conditions permit of it the first two lines will creep out before the appointed time to an advanced position in front of our parapet. In that case the third and fourth lines will also move forward from their original position to the front parapet. Care must be taken that touch is maintained by each unit to its flanks - rear - and front.

2nd Lt KILLS
2nd Lt WHITELY
1 N C O 28 Bombers
do B Coy
do C Coy
do D Coy
1 N C O
28 Battalion
Bombers
4 snipers.

on the parapet to mark their positions.

LEWIS GUNS.

As soon as the infantry advance commences the Lewis guns will open fire on the enemy parapet. As soon as their field of fire is marked by the advancing troops they will advance with third line and join their companies.

FLANK ATTACK BLOCCING PARTIES

When a footing has been secured in the enemy support line the parties as detailed will block enemy communication trenches at points (1) (2) (3) as shown on accompanying map.
A sapper with suitable explosive will accompany each party.
1 N.C.O & 9 men (3)

INFO OUT PARTIES.

Small bombing parties will accompany each platoon in 1st line. These parties will enter enemy front line trench & bomb all dug outs to prevent our leading lines being bombed from behind. They will work from right to left. Bombing Parties will be detailed as follows:-

- A. Coy. to enter trench at V & bomb point Q.
- B. Coy. to bomb trench P as far as Q & then push on to front line.
- C Coy to bomb up trench R to point X & then to point Q
- D Coy to bomb up trench S. & then via X bomb trench Y X

These parties will accompany our first assembling line.

CONSOLIDATION OF POSITION.

B. As soon as the position is gained it will be consolidated again at once against a possible counter attack. To effect this the R.G. will erect strong points at A-B-B-C-D as shown on accompanying map.

The

The intervening trench will be consolidated by the assaulting infantry (1st & 2nd & 3rd Lines.) New breastworks on either flank will be constructed by a pioneer battalion who will also construct the following new communication trenches:-

On the LEFT continue COPES ST.
CENTRE " " VINE ST.
RIGHT " " BOND ST.

~~On the right flank the work of the platoons in the event of a counter-attack must be remembered that ever-avoiding the front line is to be avoided.~~

On no account is "straggling" or haphazard hunting to be allowed. The NEW front line will be consolidated by the 1st & 2nd & 3rd Lines. The NEW support line will be consolidated by the 3rd & 4th Unit.

DETAIL OF TOOLS
Newbs Ammunition
To be carried

6. 220 rounds of S.A.M. will be issued to each man with the exception of the bombers.

Sandbags will be carried as follows -

Each man in the 1st line will carry one sandbag
" " " " 2nd " " two " "
" " " " 3rd & " " four " "
" " " " 4th " " "

Tools will be carried as follows:-

1 pick or shovel to every man in 2nd line.
1 " " do do 3rd line.
1 " " do do 4th line.

BOMBS. Bombers will carry 12 bombs.

All other men will carry two bombs each as a reserve for company bombers.

Platoon commanders will arrange to collect these as a platoon reserve. It must be distinctly understood that only trained bombers are to use these bombs.

RATIONS

Each man will carry two days rations and will start with a full water bottle.

O.C. Companies will hold an inspection of iron rations a day or so previous to the assault.

PAGES will be collected and dumped in a spot to be notified later each man will carry a waterproof sheet to be fixed to the back of his belt.

GAZ BINNETS.

All gas helmets will NOT be examined by Company Officers.

7. Reserve S.A.A. is distributed along our front line parapet and at the head of the following communication trenches

- CONNAUGHT STREET
- COCKSPUR STREET
- BOND STREET
- VINE STREET

LOOPS will be distributed as follows:-

- FIRST Front parapet near FISH TAIL 2,000
- RESERVE Head of COCKSPUR STREET 1,600
- BOND STREET 1,600

2nd RESERVE STORE

Junction of BOND STREET & GUARDS 6,000

3rd RESERVE STORE

In ORCHARD about the COPSE 6,000

R.E. STORES

- Dumps will be established as under
- A) FISH TAIL behind the parapet forward end of VINE STREET
- B)

RATIONS AND WATER

Stores of water and rations will be established at the forward end of the following communication trenches

- CONNAUGHT STREET
- COCKSPUR STREET
- BOND STREET
- VINE STREET

8. O.C. Companies will make the following arrangements as soon as the enemy position has been captured.

1. Collect all tools found in enemy trenches.
2. Latrine accommodation.
3. Whether water is available if so it should be tested and protected.
4. Selected sites for company stores i.e. S.A.A. Grenades, water etc.

BATTALION SMIDERS.

Will advance on flanks of third line. Special instructions will be issued to sniping sergeant.

EVACUATION OF WOUNDED.

All wounded men will be evacuated to the Regimental Aid Post VIA - COCKSPUR STREET - RUE DE BOIS - to EDWARD STREET.

9. Reports to Advanced Battalion Headquarters
in BOND STREET.

Copy No.	1	To	O.C. 2A st Coy
"	2	To	O.C. 2B nd Coy
"	3	To	O.C. 2C rd Coy
"	4	To	O.C. 2D th Coy
"	5	To	M.G. Officer
"	6	To	2nd in Command.
"	7	To	C.O.
"	8	To	War Diary
"	9	To	Bombing Officer.

P.O.W. DRAWINGS
Lt. Col.
Comd'g 13th Royal Sussex Regt.

26.6.16.

SECRET.

APPENDIX A. Attached to Copy No. 8
Communications

1. The Battalion Advanced Report Centre is in a shelter off BOND STREET, Communication trench.

There is telephonic communication with Advance Brigade Report Centre, with Centre Battalion Report Centre in VINE STREET, and with Left Battalion Advanced Report Centre in COPSE STREET.

2. A line has been laid from Right Battalion Report Centre to our present front line trench at S.10.c.3.13. This line will be continued along main ditch to point S.16.n.5.87 in enemy trench in part which will be occupied by rear platoon of B. Co. A line has been laid from Centre Battalion Report Centre to our present front line trench at S.10.c.5.3. The line will be continued along ditch to point S.16.c.74.0 in enemy trench in part to be occupied by rear platoon of D Co. Visual Signalling by means of discs and electric signalling lamp will be also established between these new stations and an observation post at FACTORY.

3. 18 pigeons are available each day. They must always be sent in pairs and each message duplicated. This will only give 9 complete messages, therefore pigeons must not be used until everything else has failed.

4. Runners must be informed of nearest signal office (they will all be marked by Notice Boards) and instructed to call there before going on. It is most important that all ranks should be informed of these positions. All messages sent by runners must be duplicated and sent by different routes.

APPENDIX B

1. On the night of the 20th, just the Battalion will take over the right sub Sector, as follows:-

from CADBURYS to BOND STREET (inclusive)

The dividing line between the 13th and 12th Battalions will be BOND STREET (inclusive to 13th Batt) and a line drawn in prolongation of BOND STREET in a NORTH WEST direction.

The disposition of the Battalion will be as follows:-

In front immediate support line B & C Cos.

In reserve trench

(PALL MALL, & part of RIGHT GUARDS) } D.Co.

In billets behind Batt. Headquarters A.Co.

Battalion Headquarters BOND STREET

(with use of house @ S.9.A.8.5)

2. A few hours preceding the assault the Battalion will assemble in the positions described in para.2 of Battalion Operation Order No.23.

3- The positions vacated, i.e. CADBURYS to COCKSPUR STREET in front line, PALL MALL and part of RIGHT GUARDS will be occupied by 2 Cos. of 14th HARTS.

3. As our assaulting columns leave our front line, their place will be taken by 1 Co. of 14th HARTS.

12TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

July.

VIELLE CHAPELLE.

1st. Bn. in billets at Vielle
Chapelle. Work of reorganization
commenced. Baths allotted
to the Bn.

2nd.

Major Bellamy D.S.O. temporarily
appointed in command of the 12th
R. Sussex Vice Col. Impy wounded.

3rd.

Bn. in billets. The Corps
Commander addressed the Bn. on
the football field VIELLE CHAPELLE
LACOUTURE ROAD.

4th.

Training programme commenced.
Capt. W.T. Hengerty returned to
duty after acting as assistant
Staff Captain 11th Inf. Bde. and
was appointed C.O. B. Coy. d.
4.7.16. End Lt. Conchman
reported for duty and was posted
to B. Coy.

5th.

Bn. in billets. Training of
bombers, snipers, machine
gunners, snipers.

BEHRENS.

The Bn. moved to billets in
BEHRENS. Bn. paraded at
10 p.m. outside C. Coys. billet
and marched via the LOCOR-BEHRENS
road to billets at "ecole de
James Fillet". All in billets
went to the Brigade 12.35 a.m.

7th.

Capt. G.T. Hengerty relinquished
command of B. Coy. and assumed
the duties of acting second in
command of the Bn. dated 7.7.16.
Lt. Mills assumed command of B. Coy.
dated 7.7.16. The Bn. relieved
the 2nd A. & S. Highlanders at
Annequin South.
Bn. marched by the main BEHRENS-
LA BASSEE ROAD by half companies
at 200 yds. interval. Relief
reported complete by companies at
10.45 p.m.

ANNEQUIN SOUTH.

Battalion had to furnish heavy
working parties for 251st Coy. R.K.
at No. 11 Brickstack and GAMBERTH
SUPPORT POINT. R.Qrs. Staff
furnished parties.
Bn. fired a few shells near the
RMSW ANNEQUIN CROSS ROAD at
about 11.45 p.m.

8th.

1916.

Appendix.July.

9th.

Bn. supplied 166 men for 251st Coy. R.S. working parties. Church service held in the courtyard outside Bn. H. Qrs. Great deal of German and British aerial activity. One German machine brought down safe & damaged by our anti-aircraft guns.

10th.

Officers Commanding Companies reconnoitred the QUINCY left sub-section, preparatory to taking over the line from the 14th Hampshire. The usual working parties were found by the Bn.

11th.

The battn. relieved the left and left centre Coys. of the 14th in the QUINCY SECTION this sector being temporarily called the left sub sector. A. & B. Coys. joined together forming No. 1 Coy. and took over from the left centre Coy. of the 14th Bn. and H. & G. formed No. 2 Coy. relieving the left Coy. of the Bn. Coys. reported relief complete at 6.45 a.m. A certain amount of trench mortar activity during the night - no damage done.

QUINCY.

12th. Heavy mine warfare very active all day. Considerable damage done to our trenches, especially Oxford Street and in the neighbourhood of the brickstacks. Sgt. White of D. Coy. buried by a big "minnie". A party worked unconsistently to try and get him out but all hope had to be abandoned. Our artillery engaged the hostile trench mortar at intervals throughout the day and night but were unable to silence it. Four new officers arrived to the Bn. 2nd Lt. Macnaughton, A. 2nd Lt. Ward, O. 2nd Lt. Hopwood, W. 2nd Lt. White and were posted to the A. C. B. D. Companies respectively.

13th.

The Bn. was relieved in the left sub sector by A. & B. Coys. of the 14th Bn. moving to the village line and QUINCY SUPPORT posts. The following posts were taken over by the Companies:- A. Coy. GEORGE KEEP, LEWIS KEEP, RAILWAY KEEP. B. Coy. GAMBRIE SUPPORT POINT, CARTERS HEADWATER, TOURBIERS POST, GAMBRIE

1916.

July.

Appendix.

13th
Cont'd:

BOB STONE, O.Coy. QUINCY
SUPPORT POINT, HOUTAIR KEEP,
STAPFORD KEEP, D.Oy. BRADDELL
GASTEL, SIMMS KEEP, ARTHURS KEEP,
RUSSEL KEEP. The enemy fired
a large number of 4.2" shells
onto BRADDELL GASTEL about 4.30
p.m. doing slight damage, but
causing no casualties.

QUINCY - IX TOWER

The Bn. was relieved by the
2nd West Yorkshire Regiment in
the VILLAGE LINE and QUINCY
SUPPORT points. Guides from
each post met the parties of
relieving Bn. at ANNEQUIE CROSS
ROADS and led them to their
respective posts. The last
Company reported relief complete
at 8.35 a.m. The posts were
relieved & marched independently
to billets in IX TOWER. Lieut.
R.J. Goshend was appointed Adj.
Vice Captn. R. D'A. Whitaker
missing; authority XI Corps
A.B./176 d. 14.7.16. Five new
officers reported to the Battalion:-
2nd Lt. F.J. Ormsby, 2nd Lt. R.T.
TRIGG, 2nd Lt. E.J. Hadden, 2nd Lt.
F.W. Barrow, 2nd Lt. F.W. Carter
posted to C - A - B - D - D.Coy.s.
respectively. Coy.s. sent a
percentage of men to the baths.

IX TOWER

16th. Companies furnished a working
party of 1 Off. and 50 O.R.
for the R.E. workshops BETHUNE
new baths at LES VACHES allotted
to the bathn. Church services
for R.O's. O.or B's. Nonconformists.

17th. Company training carried on under
O.C. Companies. Bn. passed through
the gas chamber BEHLAR BUILDINGS
(X.10.b.2.5.). Bombers paraded
for instruction under Lt. Ellis.

18th. Company training and specialist
training carried on. Under
authority from the G.O.C. in Chief
the Corps Commander awarded the
Military Medal to the undermentioned
R.O.C's. & men for gallantry and
devotion to duty in action:-

No. 2896 Pte. G. DAVIS.
No. 2819 Pte. L. WEST.
No. 3240 Pte. KNIGHT.
No. 5095 Pte. COOPER, F.A.

Appendix

1916.

JULY.

18th
Centd:

Co. 2641 L. Opl. CHANDERS.
 Co. 2621 L. Opl. G. B. BALL.
 Co. 2698 L. Sgt. HAYFOLD.
 Co. 2647 L. Opl. WIGGERS.
 Co. 2994 Pte. SAILLEY.

19th.

Company and specialist training carried on. Companies fired on the range at LA BARBERIE. Full marching order was worn so as to excite route marching with musketry training. Seven new officers arrived and were posted to the following Companies.
 Lieut. Cheape to D. Coy.
 Lieut. Thomas to D. Coy.
 2nd Lt. Tierney to A. Coy.
 2nd Lt. Jennings to A. Coy.
 2nd Lt. Hill to B. Coy.
 2nd Lt. Unclaire to D. Coy.
 2nd Lt. Wilson to G. Coy.

20th.

The 18th & 19th Patens. Royal Sussex relieved the 16th Sherwood Foresters in the VENUS DU BOIS fight sub section under the composite battalion under the command of Lt. Col. Dreyfus. C. & D. Coys. (L. B. C.) under the command of Captain Mayo (No. 1 Coy.) took over the right company frontage in the front line. A. & B. (L. B. C.) Coys. under Lt. Hills (No. 2 Coy.) took over the right support company frontage. A. & C. Coys. (L. B. D.) under the command of Captain Gassy took over the left Coy. frontage. B. & D. Coys. (L. B. B.) under Captain Tuttlest took over the left support Coy. frontage. The relief was carried out without a hitch and all companies reported complete by 11.34 p.m.

VENUS DU BOIS.

21st.

Intelligence. Rifle and machine gun fire carried on by both sides during the night. Weather fine and calm. Wind S. E. Two Boasbe aeroplanes cross our lines about 8 a.m. but were driven back by fire from our anti-aircraft guns.

22nd.

Enemy shelled support line lightly about 12.30 p.m. dispersing a working party. At about 1 a.m. this morning he shelled our front line parapet & BOURVILLIK at the same time bombing his own wire. The enemy appears to be thoroughly disquieted by our offensive operations and was constantly on the alert. During the night a

1916.July.22nd
Cont'd:

considerable amount of grass was cut by both companies. No hostile aeroplanes were seen. Two new Officers joined the Battalion and were posted to the following companies.
2nd Lt. C. Barlett to C. Coy.
2nd Lt. R. W. Symms to A. Coy.
During the night of the 22/23rd we carried out a minor fire operation against the enemy's parapet the Artillery co-operating. Enemy retaliation very feeble. The loss of 2nd Lt. Carter (killed) was very much regretted.

23rd.

Day. Morning very quiet. We continued to harass the enemy with rifle grenades and fixed rifles, our snipers claimed several successes. In the afternoon the enemy carried out a small bombardment of our front trench, presumably in retaliation for our Stokes Gun activity.

24th.

Battalion was relieved in the left sub sector by the 13th East Yorkshire Reg. and moved to billets in the RHZ L'ESPINETTE. Hd. Qrs. at 8.19. B. I. G. A. Coy. in billets. B. Coy. in SPINETTE POST. C. Coy. in CAILLOUX POSTS. D. Coy. in billets. Relief reported complete 6 p.m. The battalion continued to share billets with the 12th Royal Sussex who occupied posts in PASTURET. Two new officers joined the battalion. 2nd Lt. Masters & 2nd Lt. Gellan and were posted to B. and D. Coys. respectively.

RHZ L'ESPINETTE.

Companies bathed at the 12 TOURST baths. 3 officers and 125 men were supplied for R.S. working parties.

25th.

Companies bathed at the 12 TOURST baths.

26th.

Draft of 109 O.R. from the 4th 26th Sussex arrived to the battalion and were posted as follows:- 25 to A. Coy. 24 to B. Coy. 30 to C. Coy. and 30 to D. Coy. A certain number had been in the Dardanelles but the majority had not been out here before.

1916.

July.

27th.

Draft bathed at LE TOURRET. The following Officers and O.R. went to MERVILLE to be invested by the G.O.C. 1st Army.

Lt. N. ELLIS, Lt. O.A.J. WHITELY
 Military Cross. No. 2909 Sgt.
 Cpl. Fowler, G. D.O.M. (No. 2896
 Pte. O. Davies, No. 3340 Pte.
 R. Rawley, No. 2641 I/Opl. G.
 Chambers, No. 2698 I/Sgt.
 W.P.G. Harrold, No. 2854 Pte.
 A. Bailey, No. 2819 Pte. I. West,
 No. 5095 Pte. J.A. Cooper,
 No. 3521 I/Cpl. Ball, No. 2947
 I/Cpl. Knight) Military Medal.

FIRST BATTAL.

26th.

The Bn. relieved the 11th B. Sussex in the FIRST BATTAL LEFT sub-section and the following dispositions were assumed by the Coys. Right front company A. Coy. with one platoon of G. in RICHMOND TERRACE. Left front company B. Coy. with one platoon of G. Coy. in RICHMOND TERRACE. D. Coy. and the remaining two platoons of C. Coy. in the O.H.L.

Relief was reported complete by all companies.

29th.

Day quiet on the whole. Intermittent hostile shelling of RICHMOND TERRACE. 4 officers and 19 H.O.Os. from the Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry attached to the Bn. for instructional purposes.

Night quiet. Our H. Guns fired indirect on the Bosche communications. In view of the possibility of a hostile raid on the battalion front strong defensive patrols were sent out accompanied by a machine gun.

30th.

Offensive operations carried out by the battn. according to the attached operation order. The operations were carried out with the exception of the smoke attack which was not possible owing to the direction and uncertainty of the wind.

At about 2.15 a.m. a telephone message was received from the brigade to the effect that the strong patrols could go out before the scheduled time. The Coy. furnishing the patrol was informed to that effect and the patrol left ~~the trenches~~ assembled. Owing to the mist and the extreme

1916.July.30th
Contd:

darkness of the night it was impossible to see more than a yard ahead and at about 3.6 a.m. loud bombing was heard on the right of island 34, word being passed down to man the parapet and open rapid fire.

31st. 3.6
a.m.

The patrol was ordered to stand fast, while enquiries were made as to the situation on the right. Owing to the darkness that it took some time to reach island 30 where the garrison reported that a party of men had been seen in front of our wire. A voice was heard to say "come on boys lets give it them" followed by a shower of bombs which hit the foot of the parapet. Bombs were thrown back and fire opened with rifles and Lewis guns. Firing then ceased and it was found that the patrol for gap at 3.28 a.m. had gone out about 2.45 a.m. but had not returned. Shortly afterwards these several of the patrol did return and from questioning them it appeared that the patrol went out from island 28 led by 2nd Lt. Macnaghten. They wandered about in the mist until they came to what they thought was the German trench they threw bombs and were promptly fired on by M. Guns. They took cover in shell holes and after wandering about for some time they returned to our trench. The only conclusion to be arrived at was that the patrol mistook the island for the enemy trench and not being able to find a way through the wire bombed the trench and was promptly fired on. They unfortunately suffered casualties killed and 8 ramshattering have to be reported.

(Incl:) H. J.

SECRET.OPERATION ORDER NO. 35.

- 1.(a). A raid will be carried out tonight in the enemy trenches between A.3.d.4.7 $\frac{1}{2}$ and A.3.d.5.7.5 $\frac{1}{2}$ by the 14th Hunts Regiment.
- (b) A feint attack will be made by the troops named in the margin between 8.22.0.8.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 8.26.8.7.3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Lt. Col. DRAYVEN.
13th R. Sussex R.
116th L. T. M. Batt.
116th M. G. Co.
Rifle Grenade.
Batteries under
Lt. Gammon.

2. The feint attack will be carried out as follows:-

At 10 minutes before ZERO until 15

minutes after ZERO.

(a) Smoke will be discharged from our trenches at selected points between QUIRQUH CROSSING and GREAT AY ORCHARD, provided that the wind is favourable.

The O.C. of Co. will carry out this operation. 1500 bombs will be issued to him for this purpose.

- (b) At the same hour until ZERO 2 batteries R. F. A. will fire on the enemy parapet between 8.26.8.7.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 8.22.0.8.3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

At ZERO and until ZERO 15 mins, these batteries will lift and form a barrage in rear.

- (c) At 10 mins before ZERO until 15 mins after ZERO.

A flank barrage will be formed against enemy trench from 8.20.8.4.1. to 8.28.8.7.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and from 8.22.0.8.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8.22.0.8.6. (100 rounds per mortar will be fired).

- (d) At the same time and for the same period, four 3.7 Trench Mortars will be employed to fire smoke bombs and assist in forming a smoke screen.

- (e) At 10 minutes before ZERO until 15 minutes after ZERO.

Rifle grenade batteries will assist in forming the flank barrage from 8.28.8.4.1. to 8.26.8.7.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and from 8.22.0.8.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8.22.0.8.6. 10 rifle grenade batteries will be employed on each flank.

- (f) At 10 minutes before ZERO until 2 hours after ZERO, the 116th M. G. Co. will fire indirect on HTEL ALBY NORTH, HTEL ALBY SOUTH and ADVALENT ROAD.

- (g) At 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours after ZERO. Strong patrols as per margin will go out and endeavour to secure prisoners.

R. F. A.

13th R. Sussex R.

Capt. Finlay.
116th L. T. M.
Batt.

Capt. Finlay.
3.7 $\frac{1}{2}$ Trench
Mortars.

2nd Lt. GAMMON
Rifle Grenade
Batteries.

116th M. G. Co.

13th R. Sussex R.
No. 1 Patrol
Lt. Thomas.

10 H.C.Os. of
men D.Co.
1 Lewis gun &
3 men.
No. 2 Patrol,
10 H.U.Os. of
men of A.Co.
1 Lewis gun
of 3 men.

They will make for the following gaps
in enemy wire and enter his trench
if opportunity offers.
No. 1 Patrol will make for gap in wire
at 8.22.0.6.3 $\frac{1}{2}$.
No. 2 Patrol will make for gap in wire
at 8.23.0.7.3 $\frac{1}{2}$.
3. ZERO hour will be 1.30 a.m.
4. Counter-sign will be "WILFINGH".
5. Report to Hdqrs. 13th Royal Sussex Regt.
O.B.L.

H. COMHEAD, Capt. & Adjt.

30.7.16.

- Copy No. 1 to
- 2. O.C. 13th R. Sussex. R.
 - 3. O.C. 116th L. F. M. Batt.
 - 4. O.C. 116th H.C.O.
 - 5. O.C. Rifle Grenade Batts.
 - 6. O.C. A. B. & D. Coys.
 - 7. Hdqrs. 116th Brigade.
 - 8.
 - 9. Office Copy.

13th BATTALION THE ROYAL SINKER REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix

August

27th FEBRUARY.

1st.

Day quiet on the whole. Intermittent shelling of the front line with whizz-bangs. In the afternoon at about 4.30 p.m. the enemy registered on ROPZ STREET with 5.9" howitzers doing slight damage. The battalion was relieved by the 11st Herls. regiment. Specialists were relieved by daylight. Guides met the incoming Companies at the junction of RUE L'ESPINEYTS and RUE DU BOIS 8.45 p.m. All companies reported relief complete 11.50 p.m. Companies marched independently to billets about 2300hrs, all in billets reported 3.5 a.m.

28th FEBRUARY.

2nd.

Morning spent on interior economy, kit inspections etc. Afternoon devoted to bathing. 2nd Lt. G.A.F. Whitley left to join the Royal Flying Corps.

3rd.

Training of bombers, snipers, stretcher bearers, reserve Lewis gunners, carried on. Band reorganised under Cpl. Birch. Battalion route march 4.45 p.m. - 8 p.m.

4th.

Training of bombers snipers etc. carried on. Battalion route march took place 2nd Anniversary of the declaration of war. Sport services held.

5th.

Training programme continued.

6th.

Special parade service held in BETHUNE at which the Army Commander was present. Battalion relieved the 17th King's Royal Rifle in Brigade Reserve O'NEIGHY SECTION and took over billets about 0000hrs. Companies marched independently to billets - All in billets reported 8.17 p.m.

20th MARCH.

7th.

Training of Bombers, Lewis Gunners and instruction in wiring carried on - parties allotted to the Battalion - working parties also found. Kitnaat from London Gazette Regt. Sergt. Major T. Chance to be Temp. Quartermaster and Hon. Lt out 21st July 1916. Bethune shelled.

1916.

August

8th.

Large working parties found - training of Bombers & Lewis Gunners continued when not engaged on working parties.
Bombs dropped in Bethune from hostile aircraft early in the morning.

9th.

Large working parties found and training of Bombers, Snipers and Lewis Gunners continued.

10th.

Baths allotted to the Battalion. Working parties found and HAZAIS POSTS thoroughly cleaned up and put in a good state of repair.
C.O. H. Glade, J.A. appointed acting Regt. Sergt. Major vice Sgt. Major T. Chance promoted dated 6.6.16.

11th.

Baths allotted to the Battalion. The Battalion was relieved by the 19th. Manchester Regiment (21st Brigade) the incoming unit arriving at 8.40 p.m. All Companies reported relief complete at 9.35 p.m. Companies moved off via NORTH BANK of GARAY (La Bassee) to Bethune the Battalion (with its transport) concentrating at the E.W. end of the Town at the junction of the Bethune - Chateau Road and Bethune - Hinges road. The Battalion then marched via main BETHUNE - CHATEAU ROAD through the latter town to LE BONDON where tea (carried in the cookers) was provided afterwards proceeding to billets about LOZINGHEM. All in billets reported at 4.30 a.m. 13.6.16. Capt. J.W. Cooling temporarily attached to the Battalion.

LOZINGHEM.

12th.

Battalion rested - feet inspection - cleaning equipment and polishing of all buttons and tittles on tunics.

13th.

Battalion moved from LOZINGHEM at 5.40 a.m. marching via ANCHER, PERRES, OURTON to the South side of the BOIS DU HAZOIS where it bivouaced for the day remaining there from 10 a.m. till 9.30 p.m. Proceeding at 5.30 p.m. the Battalion marched via LA COURTE, LE PERIT RIEZ and HOUVAELIN to billets about MARGICOURT EN COMTE within the NORTH BRITON Training Area of the 3rd Army to which the Brigade is now attached.
All in billets (with the exception of officers for whom it was exceptionally difficult to find billets) was reported at 8.35 p.m. Coons made in the Cookers was provided on the road at 6.40 p.m.

1916.AppendixAugustMAONICOURT-DE-COURTE.

14th. Brigade (Battalion) attached to 17th Corps, 3rd Army for training. Whole day spent on training ground.

15th. to
22nd.

Training on MORCHY BRETOW TRAINING AREA.

MORCHÉAUX.

23rd.

The 30th Division moved to the HARRISY Area - The Battalion marched to billets in MORCHÉAUX (about 11 miles) and stayed the night.

LYRÉNGY.

24th.

Battalion marched to billets in LYRÉNGY (about 4 miles) and rested till 9 a.m. 25.8.16.

BOIS DE VARRINORT.

25th.

BATTALION continued its march South East to VARRINORT wood and came under the orders of the Reserve Army. Route LUCHEUX - HAILLY - THIERREUX. Battalion arrived at 3.30 p.m. and bivouaced in wood. The 30th Division came under the orders of the Reserve Army from midnight August 24th/25th.

26th.

Battalion rested - 2nd Lieut. B. SPEARLEY joined for duty and was taken on the strength. Improvement and clearing up of cantonments.

BOIS DE VARRINORT - WOOD (P.17)
DE LA HAILLY-VAILLY.

27th. to
28th.

Church of England service at 11.30 a.m. 30th Division continued move in relief of 6th Division and Battalion marched to WOOD near HAILLY-VAILLY where bivouaced - Temp. Lie. WILLIS, SERGENTS and FABIAN promoted Temp. Capts. while in command of Companies.

WOOD (P.17) DE LA HAILLY-VAILLY.

29th.

Officers and N.G.O's and Runners reconstituted line NORTH of RIVER ARGNE - BATTALION to be in Support to 11th Batt. and 14th Batts.

30th.

Yet day and battalion soaked through by evening. Reconnoitering continued. Shells fell close to G. Company's quarters doing no hurt.

1914.

August

31st.

Shells again fell near Battalion
and trenches dug for protection.

J. G. W. DRAFFIN, Lt. Col.,
Comdgr. 13th Royal Sussex Regt.

Appendix

Headquarters 116th Infantry Brigade.

Herewith War Diary for September. Kindly
acknowledge receipt.

O. W. WARD.

2nd Lt.

a/adjt.

Commanding 13th Royal Sussex Regt.

1-10-16.

o/s/12.

13th BATTALION, ROYAL BURGESS REGIMENT.

1916

September

Appendix

WOOD (9.17) near MAILLY MAILLET.

1st Officers, N.C.Os and Runners reconnoitred the line N. of river ANCRE and N. of HAVEL.

2nd Draft of 25 other ranks reported and were taken on the strength. The Battalion moved into the line and took up its assembly positions for the attack to be made the next day.

HAVEL.

3rd

Report on Operations.

1. On the night of 2nd/3rd the Battalion took up its positions in trenches and dugouts in HAVEL. The movement was completed by about 11 p.m. All men were given hot coffee and rum in the early morning of the 3rd.

2. At zero hour (5.10 a.m.) as the assaulting troops left their positions of Assembly C & D Companies under Capt. WILKINSON and 2nd Lt. STOFF, which were told off to support the 11th Bn. ROYAL BURGESS REGT, moved into the following positions of readiness - G Company N. of FOSCH STREET in the Old British front line and D Company W. of FOSCH STREET in the Old British front line. A Company under Capt. PADIAN (less one platoon which got cut off) moved into CORROU STREET and B Company under 2nd Lt. HOPWOOD moved into FOSCHTS TRINCH one platoon going into LOUVRECY STREET.

3. At about 5.25 a.m. G Company left the old British line N. of FOSCH STREET and moved forward into a hollow in MO HART'S LAND taking cover behind a RIDGE N.W. of FOSCH STREET. When this movement was completed D. Company moved from N. of FOSCH STREET into FOSCH STREET - by this time all the Officers of G. Company had become casualties and 2nd Lt. STOFF took Command of both C & D Companies placing 2nd Lt. HENKING in command of C. Company. 2nd Lt. HENKING got in touch with the reserve Company of the

1916SeptemberAppendix2nd
(Contd.)

11th Batt. ROYAL SUSSEX REGT. whose Commander informed him that he had received orders not to move until he received further orders from his C.O. After waiting for some time 2nd Lt. Storey ordered C. Company to move forward to support the other Companies of the 11th Batt. This Company advanced over the ridge to be met by a heavy burst of machine gun fire - 2nd Lieut. Henning and several men were rounded the remainder falling back behind the ridge. 2nd Lieut STOREY then took forward D Company part of C. Company and a few men of the RIFLE BRIGADE (stragglers). Unfortunately direction was lost and the party instead of bearing to the RIGHT to support the 11th Batt. swung round too much to the LEFT and entered the enemy trench which was badly knocked about by shell fire. 2nd Lt. STOREY stayed in this trench for about two hours without being attacked but being heavily shelled during the whole time. He pushed out patrols to his right & left but did not get into touch with any of our own troops. One of the patrols reported that our troops were withdrawing to our own trenches so ultimately 2nd Lt. STOREY withdrew his men to the HIDE in NO MAN'S LAND over which the 11th Batt. had advanced. 2nd Lt. STOREY then re-organised his party and went to LAHUSHIRE POZE where he got into communication with his Commanding Officer at KENISH CAVY. He was informed that the 11th Battn. were still in the enemy's line and ordered to at once advance to their support but before he could do this further orders were received that no further advance was to take place.

4. On the left, A. Company commenced filing into GORDON TRENCH as the Assaulting Troop went forward - before the whole Company could enter shouts were heard of "Retire, Retire" and a confused mob of men from the assaulting Column principally 117th Brigade came rushing back over the top into the trench making movement almost impossible. Capt. FABIAN attempted to rally his men and shouted "Come on A Company 13th" - As many men as

1916

September

Appendix

3rd
(Contd.)

could extricate themselves followed him towards the enemy's lines - About 70 yards away from the enemy this gallant officer had two fingers blown off his right hand but he continued to press on until shot thro' the head & killed. The survivors took cover in shell holes and ultimately crawled back to our lines. Soon after the advance commenced a very heavy artillery barrage was opened on GERSON TRENCH and ROBERT'S TRENCH.

5. B. Company which had filed into ROBERT'S TRENCH at the commencement of the advance then went forward to GERSON TRENCH and 2nd Lt. HOPWOOD took forward to the German lines as many men as he could collect, but nothing more was seen of this Officer. An intense bombardment of these Trenches continued for several hours causing many casualties and owing to the mixture of units and confusion in the Trenches all attempts at re-organisation failed.

6. In the evening the Battalion was withdrawn to Prowse Fort.

Our casualties were:-

Officers

Capt. ZAVIAR }
 Lieut. CHAPMAN } Killed.

2nd Lieut. OSBURY }

Lieut. THOMAS

2nd Lieut. BOLWOOD } Missing.

2nd Lieut. BARROW }

Capt. MAPHICKS

2nd Lieut. HENNING

2nd Lieut. WILSON

2nd Lieut. MACDONALD

Lieut. DUNNING R.A.M.C. } wounded.

and 2nd Lieut. BARTINI wounded at Duty.

Other Rank.

Killed Died of Wounds Missing

8

3

26

Wounded Wounded at Duty

71

15

Total Casualties all ranks, 135. Lieut. CHAPMAN (Field Works Officer) was ordered to take over A Company after that Company had lost its Officers. His work throughout the operations was exceedingly valuable and it was only after

1916

September

Appendix

3rd
(Contd.)

he had completed it and was attending to wounded men that he was killed. He was helping to carry a wounded man away on a stretcher when he was deliberately sniped and died within a very few minutes. A draft of 14 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength.

PROWSE POINT.

The Battalion was heavily shelled in the afternoon and lost two signallers killed. At 6 p.m. orders were received to retire to the bivouac in SOOD P. 17 W. of MAILLY-VALENT. A wet night.

SOOD P. 17.

Draft of 70 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength. Working parties to collect tools and clear the trenches at HAVEL were provided.

Great working parties provided to dig trench for signals. Battalion moved to huts in HERRHARDOUR.

HERRHARDOUR.

Company drill, bayonet fighting, snakery and bombs, Machine Gunners & Signallers training under their respective officers. General cleaning and clearing up of Camps. Draft of 70 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength. A fire broke out in the village at 9 p.m. but did not spread.

Officers, N.C.O.'s & Runners reconnoitred left Subsection BRADWOUT HAVEL. 5.9 shells dropped near the Camp doing no damage or hurt.

Line reconnoitred by Officers, N.C.O.'s & Runners. Divisional band attended camp at 5 p.m. Working parties provided for signals.

BRADWOUT HAVEL. SECTION.

Believed 1/8 Gloucestershire Regt. in left subsector of BRADWOUT HAVEL. Relief complete 1.30 p.m. A and B companies in front line. C company in support (WHITE CITY)

1916

September

Appendix

3rd
(Contd.)

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1916

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10th
(Contd.)

and D Company in Reserve (The BOMBAY) a great deal of entanglement and general trench maintenance and clearing up work done. And wire put out in front of CLIVE STREET. A patrol went out to examine wire and grass - grass quite short.

11th

Gap cut in enemy wire at 9.5.a.3.24 and kept open at night by our Lewis Guns - Communication trenches 4th AVENUE and 6th AVENUE improved and cleared and a great deal of work done on front line trenches in making fire steps and improving generally. Wire put out in front of CLIVE STREET and our entanglements reconstructed and improved. Snipers posts constructed and Machine Gun emplacement in 4th AVENUE converted into an O.P. Patrols report enemy wire exceedingly strong.

12th

General trench maintenance and improvement of trenches and latrines, a lot of work done. New latrines constructed in HUNTERS STREET and BOWERY. Wire put out in front of CLIVE STREET, ROHRN STREET and RUSPER STREET. HUNTERS STREET deepened and trench connecting right front company with next Battalion commenced. Medium Trench mortar attempted to cut enemy's wire at 9.5.a.1.14 but owing to a premature explosion failed to complete its work.

13th

Wire put out in front of CLIVE STREET and RUSPER STREET. New trench connecting with Battalion on right completed. Draft of 79 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength.

14th

Relieved by 14th Hampshire Regt. Relief complete at 1 p.m. and all in billets at RAILLY-MILLER at 3.30 p.m. Battalion in Brigade Support. During the 4 days in the trenches the enemy were fairly active but our artillery was considerably more active and showed a very definite superiority over that of the enemy. Battalion attended baths - a draft of 31 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength.

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Appendix

HAILLY-KAILLET.

18th

Working parties provided for draining and duckboarding Communication trenches - for carrying Gas Cylinders to front line and loading and unloading R.B. Material - remainder of Battalion attended baths, fighting Patrols under 2nd Lt. C. BARRIST and 2nd Lt. J.E. FISHERY failed to find esp in enemy's wire and returned after finding enemy very much on the alert. One casualty (wounded).

16th

Working parties provided as on previous day. HAILLY KAILLET shelled at 9 p.m. and again later rather heavily - no casualties.

17th

Working parties as for 15th. Village again shelled at 8.15 p.m. A draft of 2 men reported for duty and were taken on the strength.

16th

Officers R.C.Os and Runners reconnoitred the right Battalion frontage REDAN SCORION preparatory to the Battalion taking over that part of the line from the 25th ROYAL INFANTRY. 2nd Lieut. O.A. WILLS reported for duty and was taken on the strength and posted to 2. Company.

REDAN RIDGE.

19th

REDAN RIDGE right Battalion frontage taken over from the 25th ROYAL INFANTRY. Relief complete 1.30 p.m. An Officers Patrol under 2/Lt. J.E. KENNEDY went out to examine enemy's wire in which it was alleged there there was a gap, but they came across a strong fighting Patrol of the enemy and withdrew. Enemy's artillery active in the evening but ceased immediately our artillery opened. 2nd Lieut. H.H. STOKY promoted Temp. Captain whilst in Command of a Company.

20th

A draft of 201 other ranks reported for duty and were taken on the strength. This draft remained at the Transport Lines BERRAHCOUR under brigade orders. Enemy shelled our support line - 5.9 shells falling near CHAIKAI TRINCH, GREGGY STREET and BURROW TRINCH

1916

SeptemberAppendix20th
(Contd.)

all of which were damaged - our field guns and 4.2 Howitzers shelled the Enemy's trenches during the afternoon and evening. 2nd LIKOV'S B.C. COULDRY and H.C. LARSDALEN reported for duty and were taken on the strength and posted to C. Company.

21st

A quieter day - a great deal of work done in repairing & revetting trenches also draining and duckboarding them, the reflection in the sky of a big fire in the direction of THISPAV seen at about 10 p.m. and lasted for over an hour. Patrols discover shell holes in NO MAN'S LAND are wired and enemy's wire particularly strong and wide - a contrast to ours.

22nd

Draft of 201 moved to MALLI-HALLIT and were detailed for working parties. CHAZHAK and 6th AVERTUS were damaged by enemy's Heavy Trench Mortars in the early afternoon this in retaliation for our Medium Trench Mortars cutting the Enemy's wire earlier in the day.

23rd

Draft joined the Battalion. Artillery on both sides active - a great deal of work done in repairing & improving trenches, dug outs and latrines - a great deal of S.V.A. and bombs salvaged. An enemy Minisweeper fell in CHAZHAK TRENCH at 2.30 p.m. Killing 9 other ranks 8 of whom had only just arrived in the trenches with the draft.

24th

Enemy fired Heavy Trench Mortars on CHAZHAK and FREDDY STRONG in the afternoon cutting the telephone wires on three separate occasions. In the evening Lachrimatory shells fell near the Support line. Our artillery was active throughout the day and our Medium Trench Mortars continued cutting enemy wire at 6 p.m. working parties as on the previous days.

25th

Enemy particularly quiet - our snipers observed a party of his

1918

September

Appendix

25th
(Contd.)

working behind his 2nd line, our artillery were immediately informed and opening quickly we obtained success. A quantity of work done in repairing Trenches etc as on previous days. A premature from one of our Field guns fell in WHITE CITY.

26th

Details for a demonstration on our front received. If wind favourable smoke bombs to be let off and dummy figures to be hoisted on to the parapet with a view to deceiving the enemy and drawing his fire and so assisting the large operations taking place on this day to the South. At zero 12.55 p.m. wind unfavourable. Our artillery heavily bombarded the enemy's Trenches throughout the afternoon & right into the night drawing little reply however. The enemy swept our front line parapet with Machine gun fire for about half an hour beginning shortly after our artillery opened.

Very few shells of large calibre were fired by the enemy throughout the afternoon but his heavy Trench Mortars were very active also several whizz bangs were sent over in retaliation.

27th

Very little activity on the part of the enemy. A shell from one of our own field guns exploded in the front line (A Coy) - no one was hurt but the trench considerably damaged. 2nd LIBURTS, P.H. LAKE and H.C. KEOGH reported for duty and were taken on the strength and posted to A and B Companies respectively. 2nd LIMUR, MASTERS transferred to England sick and struck off the strength.

28th

Enemy much more active than on previous day. Gas shells fired at our batteries to the rear of WHITE CITY in the Evening. Our artillery opened heavy bombardment on our right in the direction of THIBYVAL at 1 p.m. and a regular and continuous bombardment followed for the rest of the day and right on into the night. Batteries to

1916.

September

Appendix

28th
(Contd.)

Our rear fired across and gas shells were fired at enemy batteries throughout the afternoon and evening. Our trenches were somewhat damaged by heavy Trench Mortars and 5.9 shells between 1.30 and 3 p.m.

29th

Enemy's artillery was active and 5.9 shells fell near CHATHAM FRENCH and BUSTIER STREET also near JUNCTION of ROBERTSOTY and HOWAY ROAD damaging water pipes near the tanks. A great deal of work was done in repairing and improving the trenches also enlarging and strengthening dug outs and duck-boarding Communication Trenches. A patrol found enemy's wire extraordinarily thick and strong.

30th

Enemy's artillery fired a few 5.9 and H.B. Shrapnel at batteries behind our front and he sent over a large number of Rifle Grenades on to the front Trenches of the left front Company. Our howitzers by arrangement with us bombarded greater about 150 yards from junction of SIXTH AVENUE with front line, the front line being partially withdrawn for this purpose. 32 shells were fired 15 of which failed to explode but damage was done. Work was continued as on previous days. patrol failed to find any gap in the enemy wire which was exceptionally wide and strong. none of the enemy were encountered. No enemy airplanes were seen but our own were very active and drew enemy machine gun fire as well as shrapnel.

F. G. W. DRAPPEN.

Lieut. Col.
Commanding 15th Royal Sussex
Regt.

1st October 1916.

13TH BATTALION THE ROYAL GRENSEY REGIMENT.

1916

Appendix

October

BENDAL RIDGE.

1st

Enemy's artillery was mostly quiet. His trench mortars were active especially at night also several Rifle Grenades fell near 6th AVENUE. His machine guns fired indirect on to SUMNER ROAD and just behind WHITE CITY. Our artillery was active and dispersed working parties observed by our snipers to the S.E. of SERRE. A great deal of work was done in repairing, clearing and duckboarding trenches also constructing and enlarging dugouts under N.E. supervision. S.A.A. and bombs salvaged and cleaned. A Patrol reconnoitred crater 150 yards E. of junction of 6th AVENUE with FRONT LINE also disused trench running N. from Greter, both had the appearance of having been occasionally used but none of the enemy were encountered.

2nd

A quiet day - work continued as on previous day.

3rd

Raining in the morning and observation impossible. Orders to Rollier 1/1 Herts. Regt. in Y Ravine Sector received - enemy's artillery more active and shells fell near WHITE CITY between 1 and 3.30 p.m. also in neighbourhood of the BOWERY and Batteries to the rear of our position. H.E. Shrapnel used. Believed by 33rd Batt. Royal Fusiliers at 4 p.m. and battalion proceeded via 4th AVENUE, AUBRONVILLETS and TIPPENARY AVENUE to Y RAVINE SECTION in relief of 1/1st Batt. Herts Regt. - Rollier Complete @ p.m. C & D Companies in front line - B Company in Support and A Company in Reserve. A quiet night. Enemy shelled village Auchonvillers between 11 and 12 m'night.

Y RAVINE.

In the afternoon enemy shelled front line trench and wire making small gap - also shrapnel was

4th

1916

Appendix

October4th
(Contd.)

burst between front and support lines - his artillery was active during the evening and shelled AUCHONVILLIERS at 6.30 p.m. 13 Company took over right Company's frontage of the 11th Batt. Royal SURREX and A Company extended to left of RESERVE LINE covering front taken over. Relief complete 7 p.m. Dispositions D Company on the right (front) B Company on the left front and A Company in RESERVE LINE covering the 3 other Companies.

8th to
9th

Considerable shelling of front line and support trenches by enemy artillery but on the whole the Battalion's casualties were slight. Our Medium French mortars bombarded the enemy's wire and front trenches successfully, his retaliation was fairly heavy and did considerable damage to our trenches. On the 8th Inst. Captns. J.H. ROBINSON, LISET, H. BOX and 2nd LIETUT. R.G. CHALLIS reported for duty & were taken on the strength.

ENGINEERMAN WOOD.

10th
The Battalion was relieved in the Y RAYNE sector by the 14th BATT. HAWKS REGT. and moved to bivouacs in ENGINEERMAN WOOD's all in camp at 3 p.m. B Coy billeted in AUCHONVILLIERS.

11th
Canteen started and proved a great success. Company A Platoon drill and all ranks completed with equipment etc. Baths at HALLY MAILLET allotted to Battalion.

12th
Company and Platoon drill. Working parties provided.

HEADQUARTERS.

13th
The Battalion relieved the 13th BATT. ROYAL SURREX REGT. in the RIGHT HEADQUARTERS. Relief complete at 1.30 p.m. A Coy took over Right Front Coy. frontage. B Coy took over ~~left~~ centre front Coy's frontage D Coy took over left front Coy's frontage and G Coy was in RESERVE in the NORTH.

1916

Appendix

October

14th Except for shelling intermittently the enemy was mostly inactive.

15th Heavy shelling WITH CITY and communication trenches intermittently but on the whole a quiet day.

RECOVERY NIGHT SECTION.

16th The Battalion was relieved by the HESLON BATTALION ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION and proceeded to EDELSTEINER WOOD where after resting for the midday meal the Battalion moved on through AVELAN and WOOD POINT to the REDOUGE SECTION in relief of the 8th SOUTH LAMBASHINE BATT. Relief complete 5.30 a.m. on the 17th inst. A Company in BALNEIDON TRENCH. HEADQUARTERS in ZOLLNER TRENCH. B and D Companies in SCHWABER TRENCH and C Company in ZUDLAR TRENCH.

17th to Preparations for attack to be made at STUFF TRENCH, digging Trench linking up STUFF Communication Trench with BALNEIDON TRENCH also commencing communication Trench from BALNEIDON TRENCH to TRENCH to be captured. Forming dumps behind BALNEIDON TRENCH & carrying R.F. material.

20th The Battalion was relieved by the 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. and spent the day and night of the 20th/21st at WOOD POINT.

21st RECOVERY SECTION - STUFF TRENCH. The Battalion proceeded to the flight sub-section of the REDOUGE SECTION preparatory to the attack on STUFF TRENCH which was to be made in conjunction with the 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. Dispositions B and C Companies assaulting Companies. Two Platoons of D Company in right half of BALNEIDON TRENCH. Two Platoons of D Company and A Company in SCHWABER TRENCH - BATT. HEADQUARTERS (with the 11th Batt. HEADQUARTERS) in ZOLLNER TRENCH. Report on Operations. At 11 a.m. B and C Companies moved up from SCHWABER TRENCH in

1916

Appendix

October

21st
(Cont.)

Artillery formation and on nearing BAIKBRIDGE TRENCH extended in 3 separate lines on a frontage of approximately 250 yds 2 Company on the right with its right flank resting on the Communication Trench leading from GRUYF REMOUNT to STUFF TRENCH and O Company on the left in touch with the right flank of the 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. Then two Companies were in their assembly positions of three waves by 11.40 a.m. The first wave about 30 yds in front of BAIKBRIDGE TRENCH the second wave immediately in front of that Trench and the third wave just behind that Trench. At 12.6 Noon the artillery commenced and our men ably led by 2nd Lieut. V. S. O'CONNORIAN (Commanding B Company) and 2nd Lieut. H. G. LAWRENCE (Commanding C Company) advanced very close up to our artillery barrage and entered GRUYF TRENCH in perfect line. In the main not much opposition was encountered except on the right flank. A strong bombing party had been told off by B Company to deal with the Communication Trench on our right flank and here some opposition was met with but after ~~some~~ 40 minutes determined bombing this was overcome and the whole of GRUYF TRENCH and the Communication Trench 50 yds above the line of GRUYF TRENCH were in our hands. Captured position was heavily shelled but no counter-attack was launched by the enemy. It was very noticeable that the enemy artillery was concentrated on GRUYF TRENCH and BAIKBRIDGE TRENCH and he did not shell much further behind. The work of consolidation was at once commenced and Touch was gained with the Battalion on our right which had also advanced and taken the left portion of REDHIA TRENCH. During the afternoon S.A.A. Bombs and water and sandbags were carried up to the captured position. The 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. on our left had suffered considerably more than our Batt. and when a Company of the 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. arrived to re-inforce, by arrangement with the C.O. of the 11th Royal Sussex Regt. 3 Platoons of that Company were sent

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Appendix

October

21st
(Ctd.)

into the left of STUYT TRENCH and the other two remained in BAIRBRIDGE TRENCH in support.

STUYT TRENCH.

Except for intermittent shelling the night passed fairly quietly and shortly before dawn the platoons of G Company were relieved by 2 Platoons of D Company and withdrew to SCHVABER TRENCH. It was also thought advisable to thin out our line and accordingly two platoons of B Company were also withdrawn to SCHVABER TRENCH. Excellent progress was made in consolidating the captured trench and communication by the right flank. Communication trench was improved so that there was no difficulty in keeping in touch. Between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on the 22nd Inst. both STUYT TRENCH and BAIRBRIDGE TRENCH were heavily bombarded. Later that same evening the Battalion was relieved by the 7th KING OWN. Relief being complete at 12.30 midnight and the Batt. moved to bivouacs in HARTIBART WOOD. The success of the Battalion was due to a large extent to the extraordinary accuracy of our artillery barrage which enabled the Infantry to get within 30 yards of the objective before the barrage lifted but the primary cause of success was the determined landing of the two Company Commanders and their officers backed by the disciplined support of the rank & file. Our casualties were not unduly heavy. Officers 2nd Lieut. R.C. IARDALL, 2nd Lieut. BOX and 2nd Lieut. WELLS were wounded. Other Ranks - Killed 25 Wounded 71 MISSING 30. A large number of prisoners were taken by the Battalion.

HARTIBART WOOD.

The Battalion rested and was completed with equipment and on the 24th Inst. the bunks at HARTIBART were allotted to the Battalion.

23rd -
24th -

1916

October

SCHWARZ REDOUBT.

26th The Battalion relieved the 4th/5th BLACK WATCH in the SCHWARZ REDOUBT. A and D Companies in the front line. B Company in support and C Company in Reserve.

26th

At dawn enemy counter attacked STUYZ TRENCH on our right and was repulsed - no attack was made on our position although front line was severely shelled.

27th

The Battalion was relieved by the 17th KINGS ROYAL RIFLES and proceeded to NORTH BLUZZES. Whilst in this sector the battalion had evacuated all its own wounded and in addition 10 wounded of the BLACK WATCH and 2 of the KINGS ROYAL RIFLES.

NORTH BLUZZES.

28th The Battalion rested on the 28th Inst. On the 29th Inst. the whole Battalion was detailed for digging reserve trenches in TRIPLEVAL WOOD. B and C Companies dug by day and A and D by night.

30th

NORTH BLUZZES - WEST RIVER SECTION.
The Battalion relieved the 1/5th

GREENHINE REGT. in the WEST RIVER SECTION. Relief complete at 1 p.m. B Company and two platoons of C Company in front line in trenches Nos. 3 and 10 with strong ports and Lewis guns at far end of tunnels. Two platoons of C Company in support and A and D Companies in Reserve in TRIPLEVAL TRENCH. A very wet night which caused trenches to fall in in several places.

WEST RIVER SECTION.

31st

A quiet day and a considerable amount of work done in repairing & improving trenches.

J. G. W. DRAVER, Lieut.-Col.
Commanding 15th Royal Sussex Regt.

13th BATTALION THE ROYAL ENGINEERS APPENDIX.

1916.

Appendix

November

PIONEER RD.

The Battalion was relieved by the 1/6th Cheshire Regt. and moved to billets in PIONEER ROAD. Relief was reported complete by 8.15 p.m. New draft of 135 O.R. arrived for duty and were posted to Coy's as follows:-
A.Coy. 30.; B.Coy. 35.; C.Coy. 40.; D.Coy. 30. The draft for the most part came from the 5th and the 9th Bns. R. Sussex Reg. and were a very satisfactory lot of men.

Batn. moved to huts in HARTINGBARY WOOD. Working party of 250 O.R. was supplied for work on the AUTHRILLS ROADJUST PIONEER RD. Work proceeded satisfactorily till about 1.30 p.m. when a hostile aeroplane flew over and shortly afterwards the road was shelled. Bn. regrets the loss of 4 killed and 2 wounded.
Working party returned to HARTINGBARY WOOD about 5 p.m.

3rd. Day spent in interior economy. Weather rapidly becoming worse and worse.

4th. Heavy rain fell all day. Foot parade and medical inspections held.

PIONEER RD. - RIVER CROSSING BERTON.

The Bn. relieved the 17th NOTTS and DURRY REGT. in the RIVER CROSSING sections with B. and C. Coys. in the front line holding pts. 13, 95, 66, 47, 36 and 91, 84, 45, 16 respectively with A. and D. Coys. in support and Reserve in dug-outs about Bn. Hd. Great point 29 (Ref. map SCHWABER REIDERT DIVISION 1 I/5000).

The night passed quietly except for intermittent shelling in the Region of pts. 84, 47 and 29. RIVER CROSSING BERTON.

The batn. was relieved by the 17th NOTTS and DURRY REGT. and returned to billets in HARTINGBARY WOOD. Relief was reported complete 6.50 p.m. Total casualties for period of 24 hrs. in the trenches- 1 killed and 5 wounded.

Capt. Storry granted leave 6th. to 17th. 1916.

6th.

1916.

NovemberMARTINBART WOOD.Appendix

7th.

Day devoted to interior economy
 replacement of deficiencies of
 equipment etc.
 Capt. Story recalled from leave
 to give evidence in the case of
 2nd Lt. K.A. Gellaw.
 Draft of 9 O.R. reported for
 duty and were posted to C. Coy.
 7.11.16.

6th.

Batn. supplies working parties
 totalling 2550 O.R. to work under
 the supervision of the R.E. One
 party of 250 to work on THIEVAL
RD. One party 50 to carry duck-
 boards to work on THIEVAL RD.
 of 250 to work on THIEVAL RD.
 in the evening. Court of enquiry
 held on the accidental wounding
 of Lt. G.H. Chance.

9th.

Br. supplied a working party of
 250 O.R. for work on the THIEVAL
RD. Remainder of the Batn. used
 the baths at MARTINBART.
 Weather improved considerably
 and a noticeably large No. of
 enemy aeroplanes reconnoitred our
 lines.
 Draft of 3 O.R. reported for duty
 and were posted to B.(1) and D.
 Coy's. (2).

10th.

The Battalion relieved the
 1/6th Cheshires in the Brigade
 Reserve in THIEVAL. Small
 working parties supplied under
 R.S. supervision.

11th.

Coy's employed on salvage,
 clearing of dug-outs and burying
 dead.

12th.

Batn. relieved the 14th Bn.
 Hampshire Regt. in the RIVER
CHERTRE Section and took up
 preparatory positions for the
 operations to be carried out by
 the Division. Relief was
 completed by 4 p.m.

13th.

MARTINBART WOOD - THIEVAL.

During the night of the
 12/13th Nov. the assaulting
 troops assembled in their battle
 positions without interference
 from the enemy. These were
 complete by 3 a.m.

1916.

November

13th
(Contd.)

The duty of the battalion was to hold the line during the attack and to supply ammunition parties and general traffic control. At zero + 4 minutes the attacking troops carried their first objective with practically no opposition. For some time afterwards the situation was obscure owing to a thick mist, which, while rendering communication difficult materially aided operations by screening our troops from hostile artillery observations. 2nd Lt. Ghentley sent out two patrols to ascertain the situation at about 8.30 a.m. These patrols on their return reported all objectives gained, but a small party of German machine gunners and snipers were holding out in NO HAY'S LAMP. These however were soon cleared and shortly after 10 a.m. the work of consolidation was commenced on the newly captured ground. The casualties in the battalion were very slight and were excellent work was done by a volunteer stretcher party from A. Coy. which evacuated 27 cases from NO HAY'S LAMP, and also ~~was~~ another party that established a bomb store from which the assaulting troops drew. From the large number of prisoners captured it was evident that the attack not only took the enemy completely by surprise, but from the ~~no.~~ of regiments represented, it is more than probable that a relief was taking place at the time. The attack proved to be one of the most successful attacks of the "Great Push" and was a fitting conclusion to the operations of the 30th Division on the SOMME. The Batta. was relieved by the Rifle Brigade and moved to dug-outs in the SOUTH HEDGERS.

THIRYVALE.

Orders received for the brigade to move to FALLOU. Coy. marched off at 11.30 a.m. and reached billets about 5.30 p.m. Weather became very cold with hard frosts at night time.

The Battalion marched to billets in AUTHRIEULE on the outskirts of DOULLEM arriving there about 7.30 p.m. 2nd Lt. B.J. DAVIS reported for duty and was posted to C. Company.

14th.

5 p.m.

15th.

1916.AppendixNovemberAPPRENTICE

14th. Day spent in billets.

17th. Battalion entrained for HOPKINSE at 11.50 p.m. Entraining station DOULINSE. Very cold journey with a small fall of snow during the night.

18th. Train reached destination at 7.30 a.m. Battalion detrained and marched to "1st Camp WAFU ROAD POPPERINGE, arriving there about 10.30 a.m.

"1st CAMP POPPERINGE"

19th. Day spent in cleaning up equipment and clothing inspections.

20th. B.Coy. found working party of 100 O.R. for work on 2 Camp. Remainder of companies carried on with the general cleaning up of equipment etc.
Col. Draffen departed on leave.

21st. Training commenced.

22nd. Training carried on.

23rd. ditto.

24th. Green inspection by the G.O.C. VIII Corps. Battalion formed up in close column of companies in line on the parade ground in the centre of the camp. The battalion was complimented on it's turn out.

25th. Training in Camp. No. 4242 Pte. TIZS executed. 2nd Lt. KNOCK departed on training course.

26th. Church services held. Capt. Robinson, 2nd Lt. Tierney went on Engineering course.

27th. Route march for all the batts. except G.S. D. Coys. who bathed.

28th. Training. Route march for G.S. D. Coys.

29th. Training. Battalion Officers' Mess inaugurated. Capt. MacDougall nominated President.

30th. Training.

1.12.16.

H. J. COXHEAD, Capt.
for Major Comdgr. 13th B. Sussex Regt.

15TH BATTALION THE ROYAL GRENZ REGIMENT.

1916

Appendix

December - 1st CAMP POPPINCHEP.

- 1st Training.
- 2nd ditto weather bad. Batin. had a practise turn-out at 10 p.m. All were ready to move off in 40 minutes. Col. Draffen returned from leave.
- 3rd Training. Turnout repeated Corps Commander inspected the camp during the luncheon hour.
- 4th Training. 2nd Lt. S. J. DAVIS reported sick and was evacuated to hospital.
- 5th Training. Two Officers returned for duty. Captn. W. F. Fitzherbert & 2nd Lt. H. de P. MacRoberts. Captn. Fitzherbert took over command of C Coy 6.12.16. Lt. MacRoberts was posted to A Coy. The Batin. was very glad to have these two officers back again. They had previously rendered valuable services.
- 6th Brigade Route March. Brigade inspected en route by the Army Commander. Turn out practise repeated time taken 30 minutes. 2nd Lt. Gillan left for the base having been dismissed the Service by O.C.W. 3rd Lt. E. K. HAYMER returned to the unit and was posted to B Coy. Adjutant & O.C. C & D Coys, reconnoitred the line to be taken over by the Battalion.
- 7th Training. 2 1/4 and O.C. A and B Coy. reconnoitred the line. A Coy made use of the range at 9th camp.
- 8th Training - weather very bad. Batin. allotted baths at COURNOVE. A battalion concert was held in the recreation hut & was very much appreciated.
- 10th Church services held in the camp. Captn. H. Story departed on leave.
- 11th The 110th Infantry Brigade relieved the 115th Inf. Brigade in the Right Section of the line commencing on the 11th instant.

1916

Appendix

December11th
(Ctd.)

The Battalion entrained at POPERINGHE at 4.15 p.m. for YPRES siding and detrained at 5.30 p.m. Guides from the 16th Welsh being at the station. Guides led the coys to dugouts in the CASAL BANK and relief was reported complete at 7.30 p.m. B, C & D Coys were in dugouts on the North Bank of the Canal and A in Tunnel dugouts on the South side.

72 CAMP POPERINGHE - TURCO PARK.

12th

The Battalion relieved the 17th ROYAL WELSH BULLIONS in the TURCO PARK sector. Relief was reported complete by all companies at 7.35 p.m. The following were the dispositions taken up by the Battalion:- A & B Coys in the front line. This was held by means of 12 posts of 1 B.C.O. and three men each the line being to all intents and purposes non-existent and badly waterlogged. The remainder of A Coy which was the right front company in GILZEBD TOWERS with company Headquarters at 0.15.0.4.5. Support platoons of B Coy. In YICARS LAAN - Coy. Hd. Qrs. at 0.20.8.35.60. Two companies in the neighbourhood of Battalion Hd. Qrs. with coy Hd. Qrs. at 0.30.d.45.45 and 0.31.0.25.40. The line was normally held with 6 I.G. Posts by night and B by day one gun being withdrawn to CALZEBOD TOWERS. The condition of trenches was very bad the recent heavy rains having water logged the communication trenches and rendered drainage very difficult. The night passed very quietly and the total absence of rifle and machine gun fire was very noticeable. Lt. Col. J.G.V. DRAYNER awarded the D.S.O. this award created great satisfaction in the battalion.

13th

TURCO PARK.
Day passed quietly. The enemy artillery was very inactive and our trenches and defences received no attention. During the night 2nd Lt. DOBBERTS took a fighting patrol into HO HAVIG LAAN but encountered none of the enemy. The patrol returned to Xth our lines shortly after 11 p.m.

1916

Appendix

December

14th

Enemy showed slightly more activity and at about 12.30 p.m. the WILLOWS received attention from a battery of 77 m.m. guns. During the night 2nd Lt. R.S. CHALLIS took out a fighting patrol into NO HAV'S LAID but, as on the previous night none of the enemy were encountered. The going in NO HAV'S LAID was extremely bad and the ground for the greater part was under water. 2nd Lt. SACHSBERG evacuated to hospital. The shortage of officers was becoming a serious proposition and the loss of this officer was keenly felt.

15th

Enemy artillery again inactive. During the night Capt. FILLIBERT took out a patrol to reconnoitre the gap at MORNINGTON Pt. the latter was found to be uninhabited and the patrol returned about 11.30 p.m. At about 11 p.m. a German or German's came across to our wire and attempted to mark one of the posts. He was or they were fired at and relieved.

16th

The Batta. was relieved by the 11th R.S.R. Reg. and became the 11th Batta. In support in dugouts on the canal bank. Relief was reported complete at 7.15 p.m.

17th

Slightly working parties supplied for VIANS LARK and ATLAS.

18th

ditto

ditto

CAVAL MARE.

Working parties supplied as for previous days.

19th

20th

Capt. BACCHOWALL and 2nd Lt. T.F. HANSEN went on leave. The Battalion relieved the 11th R.S.R. in the HILLTOP SECTION, relief complete 7.30 p.m.

HILL TOP PAVV SECTION.

21st

Our artillery carried out a heavy bombardment of the enemy trenches on the right of the Divisional front, xxxxxxxx which provoked a certain amount of retaliation. The Batta. regrets the loss of Cpl. GRIBBROOK killed a very valuable S.C.O. who

1916

Appendix

December31st
(Oct.)

had done good work. During the night Lt. Sparks took out the usual fighting patrol. No enemy were encountered.

32nd

Day passed quietly. During the night 2nd Lt. HOLMWOOD carried out a reconnaissance of NO MAN'S LAND. Although none of the enemy were encountered there were several snipers and a hostile machine gun active. At about 3.30 a.m. the enemy opened a violent bombardment of the front line with T.M.'s and shells of all calibres. No infantry soldiers however took place and very little damage was done. TURCO PASHA received attention from mine-thrower a large number of which failed to explode.

23rd

Quiet day owing to the weather. Artilleries of both sides inactive.

24th

HILL TOP PASHA & 9th CAMP FOPPERINGHER. Battalion was relieved by the 1st HERTS and marched to 9th Camp 4.16.2.7.0. Battalion arrived in camp about 10.30 p.m. D Coy regrets the loss of 2 men killed by shell fire in the VILLO shortly before relief.

25th

9th CAMP FOPPERINGHER

Every effort was made to provide a suitable meal for the men on Christmas Day and the Christmas dinner was apparently a great success.

26th

Training in camp.

27th

ditto

28th

ditto

29th

ditto

ROSEINGHE RELEVANT.

30th

The 110th Infantry Brigade relieved the 110th Brigade in the ROSEINGHE SECTION of the line. The Battalion moved into reserves in huts at B.13.a.14.b. arriving there

1916

December

Appendix

50th
(Ord.)

at 5.30 p.m. The accommodation was very limited, and a few men were accommodated in the adjoining camp occupied by the 116th H.Q. Coy. Coy. Officers reconnoitred the line and the Battalion Hd. Qrs. of the support and reserve battalions.

H.J. COXHEAD, Capt.
Comd. 13th H. Sussex Regt.

ST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7-25

14th BATTALION THE ROYAL ENGINEERS.

1917.

Appendix

January

9th CAVE.

1st. Training. Working parties supplied for work on the line.

2nd. Training. Working parties supplied. Lt. Col. Draffen, D.S.O. and Major Hengerly left the battalion for 6 days at the VIII Corps.

3rd. Training - T.P.'s supplied.

4th. The Battalion relieved the 14th Bant. Reg. in the HOKELINGH Support. The following were the dispositions taken over. Battr. Headquarters at B.10.5.3.3. C.Coy. on the 1st line. Working parties supplied for the front and immediate support lines. 2nd Lt. R. F. WYKS granted 10 days leave.

5th. Working parties supplied. Day very quiet.

7th. Working parties supplied. In the afternoon the enemy carried out a heavy bombardment of the Belgian front on the left with trench mortars and mines.

8th. The Battr. relieved the 14th Bn. Hante in the front line with A.S. & D. Coys. in the front line and C. Coy. in support near Battr. Headquarters. Battr. Hd. Qrs. at HOKELINGH CHATEAU. Owing to great enemy artillery activity it was thought possible that he might be going to attempt a raid on our trenches and consequently great precautions were taken. However the night passed quietly and his bombardment was evidently retaliation for ours.

9th. Day passed very quietly and a good deal of work was done on the line. Our Snipers were active and claimed a victim.

10th. Enemy mine-sweepers very active and our artillery experienced great difficulty in silencing them. HUNTER STREET and BRIDGE STREET were badly knocked about but a large number of the "mines" fell in between the front line and the VILLAGE LINE doing no damage.

1917.AppendixJanuary10th
(Contd.)

At about 11 p.m., an intense bombardment lasting for some time started on the night the divisional artillery apparently co-operating. A trench raid was carried out by the 55th Division with excellent results.
2nd Lt. G. BARTLETT granted 10 days leave.

WE CAMP - BOSBIRCH.

11th.

The Battrn. was relieved by the 14th Battrn. Hampshire Regt. and moved to billets in BOSBIRCH Support Battrn. Headquarters at FIRST FARM. Relief was reported complete by 10 p.m.

BOSBIRCH.

12th.

The usual working parties for the front line supplied. Weather suddenly became very cold and in the afternoon there was a heavy fall of snow.
5 O.R. reported for duty and were accordingly posted to Coy's.

13th.

Working parties supplied.
Weather still bad.

14th.

The Battrn. relieved the 14th Battalion Hampshire Regt. in the front line relief was reported complete by 9 p.m.
Capt. R. J. Coxhead admitted to hospital suffering from Laryngitis. 2nd Lt. Ward ~~was~~ temporarily assumed the duties of Adjutant.

15th.

Very heavy fall of snow during the night followed by a slow thaw. Work very difficult owing to the continual collapse of the trenches.

16th.

The Battrn. was relieved by the 16th Battrn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers Regiment on the evening of the 16th instant. On relief the battalion moved to billets in YPRES. The route taken was ELVENDIJK - BRILIER - YPRES, and the reported all in billets shortly before 1 a.m.
The billets taken over were those evacuated by the 12th Battrn. Royal Sussex Regt. and the Dispositions taken over were as follows:-
Battrn. Headquarters opposite the BARRACKS RUE DE ROTRE DARE,
2 Companies (B. & C.) in the RAMPANTS and 2 Companies (A. & D.)

1917.

January

16th
(Contd.)

In the MOOLS on the YPRES - HEKIR
Road.
Capt. H. B. Shentley granted 10 days
leave.

17th.

Reconnoitering parties sent up to
the line. Two new Officers joined
for duty 2nd Lt. V. B. Cox and 2nd
Lt. G. W. HESTERON both 3rd Batta.
Royal Sussex Regt. These Officers
were posted to C. & D. Coys.
respectively.

18th.

Working parties supplied for the
front line and for work on the
support lines.

19th.

ditto. ^{YPRES Square}
In the neighbourhood of the Cloth
Hall was consistently shelled during
the day the YPRES - BORDINGHE also
receiving attention.

BORDINGHE - RAILWAY WOOD.

20th.

The Batta. relieved the 13th Batta.
Royal Sussex Regt. in the Right
Sector RAILWAY WOOD TROOP on the
evening of the 20th. The relief
was reported complete at 8.30 p.m.
The following were the dispositions
of the Batta.

G. & D. Coys. in the front line with
Coy. Headquarters at 1.12. e. 65. 20.
and 1.11. e. 30. 30. respectively.

A. & B. Coys. in support in HEKIR
TROOP and WEST LAKE with Coy. Hd. Qrs.
at 1.11. e. 70. 65 and 1.11. e. 60. 60.
respectively. Batta. Headquarters in
SOUTH LAKE 1.10. d. 65. 60.

The trenches generally speaking were
in a very bad condition and, with
the rapidly increasing activity of
the German snipers, very dangerous.
Approaches to the front line
consisted of WEST LAKE and HUD LAKE
the latter in parts, being almost
derelict.

RAILWAY WOOD.

21st.

Owing to the weak state of the wire
22 men per Coy. were employed on
wiring nightly and considerable
progress was made.
During the day the enemy showed
considerable artillery activity
and our front was intermittently
shelled all day. Our artillery
retaliated vigorously.

1917.

Appendix

January

23rd.

Capt'n. J. L. DU NOUILLI reported for duty and was posted to G. Coy. This Officer was a regular soldier of 14 years service and came from the 1st Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

23rd.

Enemy artillery considerably more active and also his aircraft - Our aeroplanes driven off and two downed in our own lines. Support line, Communication trenches and rear lines shelled intermittently throughout the day. A great deal of R.S. material was carried into the line and Company dumps made - fire was strengthened but little new wire could be put out owing to the frosty ground.

24th.

Enemy artillery appeared to be registering on Communication Trenches and Support line - Very active throughout the day - his aeroplanes also were extremely active and appeared to outclass our men. A very good day for observation. In the evening the Battalion was relieved by the 15th Batt. Royal Sussex Regt. and move to TRENCH HAVEN and the HODGKIN decelerating Battalion in support to the NIGHT RAILWAY HOOD Booter. Relief complete @ 9 p.m. All in billets @ 9.30 p.m.

25th.

In the early morning at about 5 a.m. Enemy about 50 strong raided the extreme right flank of the Left Battalion Subsection after preliminary bombardment - our casualties were 11 but 3 men of the 13th Royal Sussex Regt. were missing. Enemy Left an Officer and 2 men dead on our parapet which turned out to be 215 Regt. Working parties on GAMBRIIDGE TRENCH and HEDGE and HALLY HOOD TRENCHES were provided.

26th.

Enemy's artillery continued very active also his aeroplanes - Working parties were provided for HEDGE and HALLY HOOD trenches, erecting dug outs and improving the wire. A party also worked in GAMBRIIDGE TRENCH.

27th.

Headquarters and D. Company moved from YPANS to the SPOLK - dispositions now being A.B. and D. Companies and Headquarters at SPOLK. G. Company in the SANDPARKS TRENCH. The move was completed by 11 a.m. HESTIE ROAD was shelled between 9 and 10.30 a.m. and D. Company had one man wounded. Working parties provided as on previous days. Enemy artillery and

1917.

JanuaryAppendix27th
(Contd.)

aerial activity continued.
2nd Lieut. CHALIS reported back
for duty from sick leave.

28th.

The Battalion relieved the 13th
Batt. Royal Gunner Reg. in the
Right Sector RAILWAY WOOD SECTION
on the evening of 28th. The
relief was reported complete at
8 p.m. The following were the
dispositions of the Battalion:-
A. & B. Coys. in the front line
with Coy. Headquarters at 1.12.0.65.30.
and 1.11.B.30.30. respectively.
C. & D. Coys. in Support in BEEK
TRENCH and WEST LAKE with Coy.
Hd. Qrs. at 1.11.0.70.65 and
1.11.0.80.80. respectively.
Batt. Hd. Qrs. in SOUTH LAKE at
1.10.0.95.60. 2/Lt. Andrews and
2/Lt. HOLMESWOOD reported for duty
from COHNESE and rejoined "A" Coy.
2/Lt. GOULDREY reported for duty
from GENERAL COHNESE and rejoined
"C" Coy.

29th.

ENEMY ARTILLERY active throughout
the day especially on main
communication trenches. His
snipers also active. During the
evening 500 EMERGENCY BATTIONS taken
up by Brolley to BEEK TRENCH and
dump formed there close to junction
of BEEK TRENCH and WEST LAKE.
400 EMERGENCY BATTIONS taken up to
RAILWAY WOOD TRENCH (LEFT FRONT COY.
Hd. Qrs.) and dump formed there.
Wire (concertina) prepared by all
Coys. in the trenches during the day,
and put out in front during night.

30th.

BOMBARDMENT carried out by our
artillery, including CORPS HEAVY
ARTILLERY of the enemy's front
& support lines, started at 8.45 a.m.
& finished at 4 p.m. Enemy's
artillery retaliated vigorously
on our front & support lines.
Also on our communication trenches
especially WEST LAKE and SOUTH
LAKE. Many shells fell near
Batt. Hd. Qrs. One shell fell into
OFFICERS' BARRACKS dug-out and
wounded six of the servants, five
of them severely. Capt. COCHRAN hit
slightly in the back during the
morning. All were evacuated to
field ambulance for treatment.
During day 3 O.Bs. were killed and
10 O.Bs. wounded.

1917.

January

Appendix

30th
(Contd.)

At 5.45 P.M. two strong fighting patrols each of one Officer and 30 G.Ns. under 2/Lieut. COLTHERY and ANDREWS respectively were sent out on LEFT FRONT COY'S front and RIGHT FRONT COY'S front also respectively to reconnoitre the enemy's line. Objects of the patrols were: (a) to discover damage done to enemy's wire by the bombardment; (b) to discover damage done to enemy's front line; (c) to enter enemy's front line and obtain an identification, also discover whether enemy was holding front line or not.

RESULT OF PATROLS.

It was found that enemy wire was damaged but no definite gaps thro' which entry into his trenches could be made were found. Enemy holding his front line strongly. Enemy's front line did not appear to be extensively damaged. On return of patrols about 9.30 P.M. Lewis Guns and Vickers Guns opened continuous fire for rest of night and early morning on enemy wire to prevent him repairing damage.

31st.

ENEMY ARTILLERY very active during early morning especially shelling WEST LAKE & SOUTH LAKE near BATT. Hd. Qrs. About 9.30 A.M. a shell near B.H.Qrs. wounded Lt. Col. MAFFERTY, D.B.O., Major HENGERY, and Reg. Spt. Major R.B. STARR. All were evacuated and Major HENGERY who had been hit in the back, died of his wounds at No. 2 Canadian Hosp. later in the day. This was a terrible blow to the Batt. and his loss is greatly felt by all ranks.

During afternoon Bn. Hd. Qrs. moved up to BATT. TRENCH for the night in accordance with Brigade instructions. This because ENEMY ARTILLERY appeared to have Bn. Hd. Qrs. in SOUTH LAKE well-taped. Disposition of new Bn. Hd. Qrs. - I.II.C.80.80.

Z.I. DU MOUTIN, Capt.
Commanding 13th B. Sussex Regt.
3.2.17.

13TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SURREX REGIMENT.

1917

Appendix

February

RAILWAY WOOD.

1st

About 3 a.m. the HERRY opened an Intense ARTILLERY and MINEBROWSE BOMBARDMENT on HIND FRONT COY. of BATTY. on our left front. 14th Bn. HARTS Reg. Enemy's intention was to raid, but owing to prompt action of Capt. GOLDMITH, 14th Bn. HARTS Reg. this was frustrated. During the day enemy artillery was quiet. In the evening the BATTY. was relieved by 13th R. SURREX Reg. and proceeded to the billets they had just vacated. A, C & D Coys & Sq. Hd. Qrs. to the BOOLE. 1st Coy. to the HARPARTS. Helter was carried out smoothly and without casualties.

2nd

A Coy provided working party during the day in clearing and arranging KEMMERLEY BARRIERS etc. in X line. B, C & D Coys. carried out training in billets. *A* Coy provided working party during night and carried up and put out 101 coils barbed wire in front of X line.

3rd

A Coy provided working party to complete work commenced in X line on 2nd Feb. B, C & D Coys. In the evening Battalion was relieved at the BOOLE by the 13th R. SURREX Reg. with the exception of D Coy. The latter Company had to be left behind without rations and without blankets as no orders had been received ~~to provide~~ in time to prevent these being sent on by the Transport. The Battalion proceeded by rail from YPRES AVYLEN to BRAIDHOECK STADIN, and marched from there to O. Camp at A.30.0.3.1. arriving at the Camp by 2 a.m. on 4.2.17.

O CAMP.

4th

First day in *O* Camp. General "clean-up" of person, equipment, rifles etc. *B* Coy was relieved in the evening at the BOOLE, YPRES, and arrived by rail via BRAIDHOECK STADIN about 10 p.m. Capt. F.L. du HOUILLIS now in command of battalion. Capt. Coxhead returned for duty and became 2nd in command.

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Appendix

February

5th TRAINING in Camp. Lt. A. C. FAYLER reported for duty and was posted to 2^d Coy.

6th TRAINING in Camp. Reconnecting to front line by officers, H. C. O.'s and runners, via KEMMEL WIFE.

7th do. do.

8th do. do.

9th do. do.

10th do. do.

11th CHURCH PARADE.

12th Training in Camp. Capt. F. I. du NOULIN preceded on a GRENADE COURSE. Capt. Cochrane assumed command of the battalion.

13th TRAINING in Camp.

14th TRAINING in Camp.

15th Battalion relieved at 8th Camp by 2/5th Lancashire Fusiliers. On relief Battalion marched to POPPINGHORN CHURCH HALLWAY STATION where it entrained for BRACKENHEIM by train via Hail to BOLLINGWICK & from there by route march to BRACKENHEIM. Battalion now in Corps Rest in billets.

16th General "clean up", kit inspection etc. and cleaning of billets.

17th TRAINING.

18th CHURCH PARADE.

19th TRAINING. V.A.B. SPARRS, 2/Lt. H. de P. Macchoberts & 2/Lt. W. MORTON reported for duty & were posted to B, A and D Coys respectively.

20th TRAINING. Recreational Training in the afternoon.

21st TRAINING. Recreational Training in the afternoon. Capt. F. I. du Noulin returned to the Batt. & assumed command.

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23rd TRAINING. Recreational training in the afternoon.

23rd do. do.

1st CAMP - ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.

24th Battalion entrained at MOLLISMERIE and travelled by train viainal to the OBERNE MARKET station POPERINGHE. On ~~xxxxxx~~ arrival Batin. marched to ST. LAWRENCE CAMP 1.30.0. the 116th Brigade becoming the Brigade in Corps reserve. Lt. Col. Draffen D.8.0. returned from sick leave and resumed command of the Battalion.

ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.

25th The Battalion relieved the 9th Yorkshire Regt. in the Right section OBERNEATORY RIDGE sector taking over the following dispositions. B C & D Coys in the front line from right to left with A Coy in support in HALVAX TRENCH and Batin. Headquarters at NIEKIN HO. 1.24.0.4.15. The relief was a long time and was not reported complete till 1 a.m. The general condition of the line was not good and supply arrangements necessitated large carrying parties.

26th Owing to poor visibility the activities of both sides were inactive and except for demultery firing on a few points the day passed quietly. During the night our patrols were active but encountered no resistance.

27th Day again passed quietly. During the morning the enemy fired about 30 5.9's on NIEKIN HO. slightly damaging the trench but causing no casualties.

28th The Battalion was relieved by the 13th Sm. Hussars Regt. Shortly after relief had been reported complete. Doubting started on the night of the Batin. front and almost immediately an intense bombardment with artillery and trench mortars was opened on our front. Telephone communication being cut the situation was very obscure but it appears that no infantry action took place. Fortunately the Batin. was just clear of the

1917

AppendixFebruary28th
(Cont.)

trenches and no casualties occurred but the right coy. of the 13th suffered a certain number. The bombardment died down and finally ceased at about 10.30 p.m. and Lt. BOHME, LAWRENCE and BOWEN reported for duty and were taken on the strength of the 20th.

Lt. Col. Cmdr.
13th Australian Regt.

1.3.17.

13th BATTALION ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT.

1917

March

Appendix

1st

OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTION, THE WOOD.

Battalion now the Battalion in support in OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTION. Day occupied in cleaning kit inspections etc. 'A' Coy in EARLE COPES, 'B' Coy in the REDBAY, 'C' & 'D' Coys in the WOOD.

2nd

Day passed quietly. During the afternoon enemy shelled YPRES, paying special attention to the LITTLE GATE. Visibility good. Many hostile aeroplanes up.

2nd

Battalion relieved by 4/5th BLACK WATCH, and proceeded by march route to YPRES ASYLUM, where it entrained for ST. LAWRENCE CAMP via BRANDHOEK siding. Relief passed off without hitch, and the whole battalion was in camp by 4 a.m. on 4th.

ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.

Men rested. No work done. Rev. PROBERT G.F., having joined 10th Infantry Brigade for duty, became attached to the battalion.

5th

Battalion went to Divisional Baths. Training commenced under company arrangements.

6th

Training in Camp.

7th

Do.

8th

Do.

9th

Battalion relieved 4/5th BLACK WATCH in OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTION, and became Right front Battalion of RIGHT BRIGADE again. ST. LAWRENCE CAMP was left at 5.15 p.m., entrainment at BRANDHOEK SIDING was accomplished successfully. As railway line near YPRES had been broken in several places by shell fire Battalion disembarked some way from the ASYLUM and marched from there up the line. Relief was complete about 3 a.m. on 10th.

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OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTION.

10th

First day passed quietly. Enemy put a few shells over HAPLE COPPER and on the HES TRENCH being constructed in ARMOE WOOD to link up STRAYED TRENCH with HALLPAX TRENCH. Visibility poor. No aeroplanes up.

11th

Visibility good. Many aeroplanes up both hostile and our own. Superiority of the Hun plane very marked today. Two of our aeroplanes brought down, one near HALLPAX WOOD and one in the MOAT, YPRES. Observer seen to fall out of the latter plane before it reached the ground. Six enemy aeroplanes patrolled our front line in the evening about 5 p.m. Artillery on both sides active during the whole day at intervals on back areas. Night all quiet.

12th

Enemy very active during early morning with rifle grenades and gas bombs, on the right and left Company fronts. Our heavy trench mortars registered in the afternoon. This produced heavy retaliation from enemy "minnies" and rifle grenades. Very slight damage was done to left & centre Coy. fronts. Parapet was damaged in several places. Gas was blocked. Working parties during the night repaired all this damage. No casualties were suffered.

13th

Morning passed without incident. About 1 p.m. enemy again started on left Coy. front with "minnies". Artillery retaliation was asked for. This was given on HUN front & support line and he was almost immediately silenced. Our heavy trench mortars registered on the left battalion front about 3.30 p.m. Enemy again vigorously retaliated putting snappet, "minnies" and H.E. on the left Coy. front for about half an hour. Our artillery was again asked for retaliation, which they gave, once more successfully silencing the enemy. During the night the Battalion was relieved by 12th H. Gassez Reg. Relief was complete at 10.30 p.m. Battalion then

1917

March

Appendix

13th
(Contd.)

because Battalion in Brigade
Rearward, and took up dispositions
as follows: - Bn. Hd. Qrs. and "D"
Coy. in cellars at KNUISTIBAAK
(H. 16.d.), "C" Coy. in Cavalry
Barracks, YPERS, "A" & "E" Coys
in THE BUND.

KNUISTIBAAK.

14th

Battalion rested during day.
Every available man employed on
WORKING PARTIES up the line
during the night, in accordance
with Divisional Orders. "C" &
"D" Coys bathed in the morning.

15th

A NIGHT WORKING PARTIES again
found. Enemy shelled YPERS
slightly in the afternoon.

16th

"D".
Lieut. Col. DRAVER, D. G. O. took
command of 16th Inf. Brigade in
place of Brigadier-General
Hornby who went to Hospital
sick. Capt. F. L. du NOUILLON
assumed Command of the Batt.

17th

Battalion relieved 12th Bn. Royal
Surrey Reg. in OBSERVATORY RIDGE
SECTOR on night of 17th/18th,
and became RIGHT FRONT PART of
RIGHT BRIGADE. Dispositions of
Coys. on relief were as follows -
"E" Coy - Right front Coy; "G"
Coy - Centre front Coy; "D" Coy -
Left front Coy; "A" Coy - Support
Coy in HALIFAX STREET. Relief
was carried out very quietly,
and was complete at 11 p.m.
Capt. F. L. du NOUILLON granted
permission to wear the badges of
rank of Major while acting 2nd
1/0 battalion.

OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTOR.

18th

Enemy artillery fairly active all
day. Shrapnel & H.E. put over
on our left front Coy. (D. Coy)
about 10 a.m. Our artillery
were asked to retaliate. This
they did & effectively silenced
the enemy guns. Nothing of
importance occurred during rest
of the day.

19th

Enemy artillery quiet during the
night 18/19th. A few rounds
fired by a single gun into

2012

MarchAppendix19th
(Contd.)

WILBERKE VILLAGE in the early morning. Visibility poor owing to heavy clouds and rain.

20th

Visibility still poor. No aeroplanes up. Some artillery activity on our front during the morning, & in the afternoon the enemy severely bombarded the centre (C) Company's front knocking the trench in at several points; but inflicting no casualties. From the fact that our wire was cut, a raid was anticipated. A fighting patrol from A Company went into So Han's land at this point, but no subsequent movement of the enemy was detected. Working parties from "C" Company succeeded in restoring the trench by the following morning.

21st

Enemy artillery very active on back areas, & our advance parties were subjected to a very lively bombardment when passing the band. Later in the evening the enemy put several rounds of 4.2 H.E. shells into Sanctuary Wood, securing a direct hit on A & D Coy's cookhouse completely wrecking it. Fortunately at that moment only 1 man was inside; he was killed instantaneously. Our artillery fired on some enemy transport, which had been observed from our left (D) Coy, with excellent results. The enemy activity was answered by our own artillery & the enemy was subjected to some very severe shelling. The battalion was relieved during the night by 1/6th Drachizee proceeding to the Asylum Station at Ypras where it entrained for Brandhoek & marched into St. Laurence Camp at 4 a.m. where-44 The brigade then became Corps Reserve.

ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.22nd
Men rested. Trench cleaning up was done.23rd
Training in Camp during the morning. In the afternoon football matches were arranged.

1917

March

Appendix

24th

Training in Camp during the morning. In the afternoon football matches were arranged. Major du Roulin while attending a demonstration at Poperinghe of signalling with aeroplanes, made an ascent; but unfortunately after the machine had risen about 100 feet it smashed to the ground, pinning him & the pilot beneath the debris. Assistance was quickly forthcoming & Major du Roulin was extricated. He was suffering from concussion & also from a wound in his hand. He was removed to Ho. 10 C.C.S. Capt. Coxhead assumed Command of the Battalion. Summer time was adopted at 11 p.m.

25th

Church Parade. The service was conducted by Capt. Grosard.

26th

Training in Camp. 2/Lt. H. de J. MacRobert's granted authority to wear badges of rank of Captain while commanding B Company. A football match between the Officers & Sergeants resulted in a win for the Officers. Score 4 - 0. A very successful concert was held in the evening at the S.W.C.A.

27th

Training in Camp.

THE LAVERGNE CAMP - OBSERVATORY RIDGE.

28th

Training in Camp. Battalion relieved 1/6 Cheshires in OBSERVATORY RIDGE SECTOR, and became Right Support Battalion of Right Brigade. Entrenchment took place at Ho. 3 SIDING near FRANKHOEK SIDING at 6.45 p.m. Detachment near the AVELDIN was completed by 9.15, & the battalion marched from there to its dispositions in the line 1.5. C Company to STAFFORD ST. - B Company in the HOND - A Company 2 platoons in HAYLE COPES, & 2 platoons in THE REDAR. D Company in the HOND - Headquarters in the HOND. Relief was completed at 2.30 a.m. without a casualty, the enemy being quiet. 2/Lt. H.C. LAMUDALIS rejoined for duty. His re-appearance was very welcome, as he had proved himself a very valuable officer.

1917

March

Appendix

ONERVAATORY RIDGE.

29th

"C" Company in STAFFORD TRENCH were subjected to a fairly heavy bombardment which was mainly directed at HODDIN HOUSE, front battalion Headquarters, which were blown in in two places. Only one casualty resulted. There was some shelling over Ypres. Working parties were supplied from all Companies.

30th

During the morning there was considerable shelling on the duckboards between the BUND & YPRES and particularly round the LINDS OATS. Later in the afternoon the enemy shelled the BUND on our left. 2 or 3 enemy aeroplanes came across the BUND during the evening.

31st

The Batt. relieved the 12th B. Sussex Reg. and became Right Front Battalion. Relief took place without incident. Disposition of Companies were as follows:- Three Coys. were in the front line "B", "A", and "D", reading from right to left. "C" Coy. was in support in HALLYAL ST. Batt. Hd. Qrs. were in HODDIN HOUSE. The night was quiet. Three of the enemy entered STREART GAP, on the left of "A" Coy. front, during the night, and one of them shot at our sentry with his revolver, wounding him in the neck. The waiting sentry engaged with the BOACHE, but could not hold him. All three got away, leaving behind them one cap for an identification.

H. J. COXHEAD.

Capt.

Comd. 13th B. Sussex Reg.

1-4-17.

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL GIBBER REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

April.

OSPREYVAUGHY RIDGE.

1st.

During the afternoon our artillery carried on a heavy bombardment of the enemy front & support lines, during which our own front line was cleared. The enemy's retaliation was feeble & no casualties were sustained. In the morning the enemy had been shelling behind MAPLE CUPEN with 8" Howitzers.

2nd.

Our artillery again bombarded enemy's lines, particularly at Hill 60 on our left. Later in the evening snow began to fall heavily & one of our sentries noticed 2 men in white overalls leave the enemy's line. One of our snipers went out into He Han's land & fired on them hitting one, whereupon the other fled.

3rd.

A severe blizzard raged for several hours & was lying 9-12 ins. deep in parts. Later this gave place to brilliant sunshin & the snow melted rapidly causing a considerable amount of water in the trenches & our snipers were active & obtained 8 victims. Enemy aeroplanes patrolled the front line for long periods without molestation except from our snipers & Lewis Guns which fired several rounds but without success.

4th.

About 11 a.m. the enemy became active with Rifle Grenades on "D" Company front, & in order to direct the retreating fire 2/Lt. H.O. KNOCK got on the fire step & had only been up a few moments when he was hit through the head & killed by a sniper. The Battalion was relieved by the 13th R. Sussex Regt. & became in Divisional Reserve. A. & C. "D" Companies in the BORD. "B" & "E" in YPRES.

YPRES.

5th. The Battalion supplied working parties.

6th.

Battalion relieved by 11th HOTTIS. & DENBY REGT. & marched back to ST. LAURENCE CAMP arriving at 4 a.m.

1917.

April.

ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.

7th.

Parades for bathing.

6th.

EASTEN SUNDAY. Church parade.
Services conducted by Revd.
Capt. Greenard.

9th.

Parades under Company arrangements.
Inspection by C.O. in the
afternoon.

10th.

Inspection by Divisional Commander.
Maj. Gen. G. J. Gubbert, C. B., C. O., C. B., C. O.
The weather turned out intensely
cold, snow falling at intervals.
The C. O., C. O. expressed himself
on the whole as very pleased
with the Battalion. Platoons
were paraded under the new
formation consisting of sections
of bombers, riflemen, Lewis Gunners,
& Rifle Grenadiers. A Concert was
held in the evening at which Lt.
Chas. Cooper the effluer assisted.

11th.

Parades under Company arrangements.
The Battalion entrained at No.
3 siding at 8.0 P.M. & detrained
at ASHLIN STATION marching
from there via KEWIK ROAD &
relieved the 15th FIFTE BRIGADE
in the front line on HOGAN sector.
A & C Co Company in front line
B & D Co in support. Weather
still intensely cold, snow falling
frequently.

HOGAN SECTOR.

12th.

C Co Company's front line was
heavily shelled & knocked in at
several points. No casualties.

13th.

Enemy shelled our support &
communication trenches doing some
damage. He appeared to be taking
advantage of the good visibility
to register.

14th.

Weather very poor. Artilleries
of both sides quiet. The enemy
fired a few shots at his usual
targets shortly after dark.

15th.

The Battalion was relieved in the
HOGAN SECTOR by the 10th Bn. M.
Northumberland Fusiliers 23rd
Division. The relief was carried
out satisfactorily but was
interrupted for a short period
owing to a strafe on the left
Divisional front for which the
enemy retaliated slightly on the

1917.

April.

15th
Contd:

MERIN ROAD. On relief the battalion entrained for No. 3 siding and on arrival marched to ST. LAWRENCE CAMP.

16th.

Day spent in camp.

17th.

The Batin. relieved the 1/10th Liverpool Scottish in the right support HILL TOP SECTION taking over dugouts on the CAVAL BANK. The relief was carried out satisfactorily and without a hitch.

HOUGH SECTION - HILL TOP.

18th.

Training continued on the CAVAL BANK.

Officers reconnoitred the right battalion front.

The battalion regrets the loss of 2nd Lt. L.K. HAYNES killed by a shell while reconnoitering. His loss will be keenly felt as he was universally popular and was one of the original members of the battn. when the latter came over seas. His body was buried at VALENTINENS cemetery on the morning of the 19th.

HILL TOP.

19th.

Training continued with working parties supplied for front line system nightly.

20th.

The Brigadier General Commanding the Brigade returned from hospital and Lt. Col. Duffren rejoined the battalion. Six new officers reported for duty and were posted to COYS. as under. 2nd Lt. W. E. P. BERNETT. 2nd Lt. W. J. BARRIS to A. Coy. 2nd Lt. HAWSON, V. O. 2nd Lt. LANGDON to D. Coy. 2nd Lt. CHAIKE J. N. to B. Coy. 2nd Lt. HERRICH, R. W. to C. Coy.

21st.

Officers reconnoitred the left (11th) Brigade front and the left Batin. Right brigade front - Training on CAVAL BANK.

22nd.

Training and working parties.

23rd.

The battalion relieved the 12th Batin. R. S. R. in the front line. Coys. taking over the following dispositions. B. Coy. 2 platoons in the front line and 2 platoons in SILVER TRENCH. C. Coy. headquarters in SILVER TRENCH. D. Coy. - two platoons in the front line. 2 platoons in TOWER TRENCH. E. Coy. three platoons in the X. line one platoon in TOWER TRENCH. G. Coy. Hd. Qrs. X. line. A. Coy. 2 platoons in WILSON BANK.

1917.

Appendix

April.

23rd
Contd:

One platoon in X. line and one platoon attached to the two front line Coy's. owing to lack of accommodation. Coy. Hd. Qrs. in the X. line. Bn. Hd. Headquarters situated at LA BRUYERE.

24th.

Very considerable aerial activity owing to the fineness of the day. Shelling chiefly confined to back areas and batteries. Our Artillery shelled left battalion front drawing considerable retaliation. At about 9.45 p.m. the enemy opened a barrage on the division on our right and in response to the B.O.B. our Artillery replied, and the enemy immediately sent up red and green rockets right round the salient and the Artilleries of both sides vigorously engaged bombarded the opposing trenches. Strife lasted for about three quarters of an hour during which time 2nd Lt. COX and Sgt. HALLIDAY were both wounded the latter sustaining a broken leg.

25th.

A much quieter day. Our artillery continued wire-cutting on the left battalion front and also bombarded strong points behind his lines. Retaliation was again considerable but was chiefly confined to "minnies".

26th.

A quiet day. Demolitory shelling on the usual targets in the front system. Rather noticeable increase in counter battery work. Aeroplane activity very great. Numerous and serious encounters between large formations.

27th.

A very quiet day owing to mistiness. Artilleries of both sides were inactive and except for a few B.O.B.'s in the neighbourhood of HILL TOP gave no shooting was done. On the Bechem line were seen on two successive nights. The origin was unknown but it appeared to be grass and straw burning. A relief was expected owing to the inactivity of machine guns.

28th.

The Battalion was relieved in the line by the 1/4th Cheshire Regt. moving back by train to POPERINGHE and thence by Route March to Camp.

Appendix

1917.April.

28th.

Return of winter clothing.
 2nd Lt. WALTER G.O. reported for
 duty and was posted to D. Coy.
 (29.4.17).

30th.

Training in camp.

P.O.W. WALTER, Lt. Col.
 Comd. 13th B. Sussex Regt.

30.4.17.

13th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917

Appendix

MAY

BOUYELLINGHAM TRAINING AREA.

1st

The Battalion moved by route march to ABERLE STR. and to WIPPERHOEK STR. where it entrained for ST. OLDF. From there the Battalion marched to billets in ST. HARRIS-AU-LAKERT for the night en route for BOUYELLINGHAM TRAINING AREA. The move was accomplished satisfactorily without incident.

2nd

The Battalion left billets in ST. HARRIS-AU-LAKERT and continued by route march to the TRAINING AREA via EUDAUSSQUE and BOITZBERGHEM. Billets which were as follows, were reached at 10.30 a.m. B Coy and BATTN. Headquarters were at QUERCAERT. A Coy at LA VATHIER; C and D Coys at MORTHECOURT.

3rd

Training in "C" Area commenced.

4th

Training in do.

5th

Inspection of Battalion by Surgeon-General of 2nd Army. Rest of day was holiday.

6th

Training continued on "C" Range. 2/Lt H.F. TRIGGS returned from 10 days leave.

7th

do. do.

8th

Training+comd. Brigade Tactical Exercises.

9th

Training continued. Battalion Sports held in the afternoon. The following names of this Battalion appear in the G.O.C. in C's despatch:
Lieut. Col. P.G.W. DRAFFEN D.S.O.
T/Lieut. H.E. JOHNS & I/3/Lieut. A.B. WREAVLEY.

10th

Training continued.

11th

Training continued. Brigade Tactical Exercise at which the Army Commander was present.

12th

Training continued.

13th

Church Parades were held at QUERCAERT and MORTHECOURT.

1947

1947

14th

The Brigadier General Commanding inspected the Battalion at QUENGCAMP and NORTHSCOUT.

ROUPELIRGHAR TRAINING AREA -
BY HARRIS AND LAHRT.

15th

The Battalion moved by route march en route for the ROUPELIRGHAR AREA and billeted for the night at ST. HARRIS AND LAHRT.

BUYASCHERDRE

16th

The Battalion proceeded to BUYASCHERDRE by route march and billeted there for one night.

WONRHOUDT.

17th

The Battalion proceeded to ARRIKKE by route march, whence it marched with the Brigade to WONRHOUDT and there billeted.

18th

The Battalion visited the Divisional Baths and training Company arrangements.

19th

Training continued under Company arrangements. End Lieut. H. J. WHITE reported for duty and was posted to 2nd Coy. The Rev. MURRAY M. W. O. P. having joined the 18th Infantry Brigade for duty was attached to this Battalion.

20th

The Battalion took part in a BRIGADE CHURCH PARADE. 2ND LIEUT. A. W. RICHARDSON reported for duty and was attached to C Coy.

21st

Parades were under Coy. arrangements.

23rd

The Brigadier General Commanding inspected B Company; the remaining Coys. paraded under Company arrangements. Lieut. E. ST. A. DAVIES reported for duty and was posted to B Company. The Rev. B. L. PROSSARD having joined another unit ceased to be attached to this Battalion.

23rd

Training was continued.

24th

do. do.

1917Nov

29th

The Battalion continued Training.

30th

The Brigadier General Commanding Inspected Companies of this Battalion.

27th

The Battalion attended Church Parade.

28th

Training was continued.

29th

The Battalion moved by route march from WINDHURST and proceeded to "G" Camp.

30th

Training was continued in Camp.

31st

Training was continued.
The Battalion moved up the line and relieved the 17th F.R.R. CAVAL BATT.

J.G.W. DRAZYK, Lieut. Colonel,
Comdg. 13th Bn.
Royal Sussex Regt.

13TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix

1917

June

CARVAL BARR.

1st The Battrn. occupied the same billets as in April but under very different weather conditions. The Officers reconnoitered the front line and the companies provided several working parties.

2nd

Another beautiful day. The Battrn. visited the Baths. The artillery action on both sides has been fairly continuous. The transport suffered its first casualty since the battalion came overseas.

3rd

Sunday. Church services were held in the chapels on CARVAL BARR. At 11 p.m. Gas started to drift up the CARVAL; it continued to grow stronger and all men were warned. Gas helmets were worn till about 3 a.m. by which time all the gas had cleared. There were no casualties in the battrn. though the gas was a mixture of leachrymatory and asphyxiating gases.

4th

At night three companies went up Thredneedle Street to dig a new communication trench from THREDNEEDLE STR. to DURHAM TR.

LA BRIGADE

5th The 13th Royal Sussex Regt. was relieved by us at LA BRIGADE. During the morning one of the snipers who had come in advance of the Battrn. was killed in ALUYTAGE TR.

6th

The enemy artillery was very active. On the night of the 6/7th four companies were occupied in improving ALUYTAGE TR. and in making dumsters.

7th

At 3.10 a.m. the Knicker Southern Army attacked WEGHARTE. The 59th Division made a demonstration along its front in order to distract the enemy's attention. The Battalion's part in this demonstration was as follows:- Dumsters were placed

1917

Appendix

June

7th
(ctd.)

In ARRYTAGH TR. over night and smoke bombs were ready to be discharged along the line, as the wind was not favourable the smoke bombs were not used. At very hour two mines exploded away to our right; and at the same moment our artillery and machine guns opened on the enemy's front line. His guns retaliated promptly on our front line and communication trenches. The bombardment lasted for twenty minutes and then the artillery fire slackened; counter-battery work ensued. The situation was quiet at six a.m. In the evening a fighting patrol of one officer and twenty other ranks was sent out beyond the screen of the working parties in ARRYTAGH TR. Four casualties were reported today.

8th

The Brigade on our left gave a demonstration with GAS. The hostile artillery was very active over CAVAL & RIDGE TR.

9th

Hostile Artillery shelled the support lines in the vicinity of IRISH TR. Casualties today: fourteen were wounded of whom two died in hospital.

10th

The hostile artillery registered on LA BRIGUE with black shrapnel and during the day shelled IRISH TR. frequently with G.S. There were four more casualties today making a total of two killed, two died of wounds and twenty seven wounded since the battalion came into the line. At midnight the battalion was relieved by the 14th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

CAVAL BARR.

11th

The battalion occupied the same dugouts as previously - at the SOUTH end of the BARR. The Company commanders were sent to reconnoitre the trenches for the work to be done tonight. Large working parties went up the line tonight to work on the new trenches and to carry up R.S. material. On one of these parties 2nd Lieut. HERMON

1917

Appendix

May

11th
(Ctd.)

was wounded; he was sent immediately to the Advance Dressing Station in the BARR and evacuated to the 2nd CASUALTY C.C.S. at POPPERINGE.

13th

There were several welcome showers today. The company carried out an hours training during the day. We heard the sad news that 2nd Lieut. HERROW R.W. had died of his wounds; his body was buried on the 13th at the C.C.S.

13th

We have now had nine casualties since the Battalion left LA BRIGUE; they have been almost entirely on the SKEET working parties which have been furnished every night. Tonight S/Days, A.C. TAYLOR was wounded whilst bringing his son home from their night's work. He was in command of "A" Coy and was actually leading them when a shell burst in front of him; he was evacuated straightway from the A.D.S. to 2nd CASUALTY C.C.S. He has since lost the lower half of his right leg and the doctors state that had he been another hour before reaching medical aid he would have died from loss of blood.

14th

The Companies carried out another hour of training during the day. Sgd Lieut. CHALLIS on being classified PERMANENTLY BARR owing to weak eyesight is struck off the battalion strength.

15th

Training was carried out as yesterday. Officers were sent to reestablish the line.

16th

Advance parties were sent into the line during the afternoon, and at night the Battalion relieved the 16th Div. of the Rifle Brigade in the LAMBKILN Div. subsector, and became attached to the 117th Infantry Brigade. The 16th Infantry Brigade lost this battalion retired to the GUMPS along the POPPERINGE-VLAERTINGHE Road. The casualties since we entered the line on the 2nd are 48 by now.

1917

June

LANCASHIRE P.M.

17th

A draft of 14 O.Ns. joined the Battalion. 2nd Lieut. TOLLIERHAM G.W. reported for duty and is attached to the battalion. The casualties today number 16.

18th

At night carrying parties were provided and during the day a party was employed at near FOCH P.M. Hostile artillery shelled HALIFAX STR. HEADHOLEY LAKE and LANCASHIRE P.M. and in several cases obtained direct hits. Five men were wounded today and one killed.

19th

Three men wounded today on the working party.

20th

Eleven more casualties. The trench is in a very poor condition in parts of the front line here and the artillery bombards the support and communication trenches frequently.

21st

Seven casualties. An Advance party was sent forward to billets for the Battalion.

90th CAMP.

22nd

The Battalion was relieved by 1/5 GORDON HIGHLANDERS and proceeded to 90th Camp where it spent the night.

HOULDS.

The Battalion entrained at POPERINGHAM Main Line Station at 12.30 p.m. and arrived at WATTON at 4.40 p.m. Thence they marched to HOULDS, where they billeted. The remainder of the 110th Infantry Brigade arrived here from Camp two days previously. A draft of 75 men was posted to the battalion and joined for duty here.

24th

A Church Parade was held for the Battalion by the Rev. M.W. MURRAY G.P. The total casualties since June 2nd are: 1 Officer died of wounds, 1 Officer wounded, eleven other ranks killed, six other ranks who died of wounds and eighty five wounded.

Appendix

1917

June

29th

Training of specialists was carried out during the day and the Battalion also used the range.

26th

The Battalion left their billets at noon and trained from one to seven p.m. A Battalion attack was carried out on the village of BORTREIMHOLM.

27th

The morning was spent in training from 6.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and an attack was launched at the Hill, in Area X 5. In the evening the officers attended a lecture on "MUNITIONS" for the officers of the Brigade.

28th

The Battalion shot at the range and carried out training exercises. At 5 p.m. LIEUT. GEN. SIR IVOR MAXWELL, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., lectured to the officers of the Brigade on the lessons to be learnt from the Advance at Arras.

29th

The Battalion was occupied during the day in digging model trenches. In the afternoon two officers per company and two H.Q.Os. per platoon attended a demonstration by the Second Army Munitions School of a Company in the attack.

30th

The Battalion was allotted the "haths" during the day. Owing to the rain the Brigade Gymkhana was postponed.

J.O.V. DRAFFEN, Lt. Col.
Commanding 13th Royal Sussex Regt.

13th BATTALION THE ROYAL SHERBURN REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix

July

HOWLIE.

1st.

In the morning the 12th and 13th Battalions attended Church Parade in a field close to our billets. In the afternoon the 13th Batin. worked on the Practice Trenches. These trenches are a replica of the enemy lines on the 30th Divisional front but are dug only two feet deep; they are intended to give an idea of direction and distance in the forthcoming attack.

2nd.

The Battalion again dug the Practice Trenches, principally those in the vicinity of Kitchen's road represented on the ground by a line of boughs. Lieut. Col. Draffen, D. S. O., left the Battalion this day to proceed to Aldershot for a course of instruction for Commanding Officers. He has commanded this Batin. since it was in training in England. Major Coxhead, M. C. assumed command of the Battalion.

3rd.

Specialist training was carried out during the day and in the evening the Platoon Commanders and N. C. Os. reconnoitered the Practice Trenches. Lieut. W. ST. HILL DAVIES was struck off the strength of the Batin. having been transferred to England - sick.

4th.

The Company Commanders took their Companies over the Practice Trenches and carried out an exercise in the despatch of messages. The Batin. of HOWLIE were allotted to the Battalion. 2nd Lieut. W. F. BARRON having been transferred to England - sick - is struck off the strength dated as 16.6.17.

5th.

The Batin. were again allotted to this Battalion. In the afternoon the Companies fired on the range close to LA HALBERT. Lieut. Col. J. H. LEVY 3rd Gordon Highlanders took over the command of this Batin. from Major Coxhead.

1917.JulyAppendix

6th. The Bntn. worked on the Practice Trenches and afterwards carried out a scheme demonstrating an advance under Artillery fire.

7th. The Bntn. assembled behind SILEZ TR. and attacked S. JULLIN across the Practice Trenches. Later the Companies completed some of the half-dug trenches and then marched home to the Brigade Gymkhana.

8th. BURNAY. The Assistant Chaplain General the Rev. NEVILLE TALBOT officiated at a Church Parade held for the 12th and 13th Battalions. Lieut. D. O. KILBRICK and Lieut. F. S. O. GOODHART were struck off the Establishment dated as 30.6.17. Second Lieut. C. V. SMITH-YEOM was struck off Establishment dated as 30.6.17.

9th. The Brigade carried out an attack across the Practice Trenches.

10th. Officers Commanding Companies practised their men on the Training ground.

11th. There was a second Brigade Attack today, particular attention being paid to intercommunication and liaison.

12th. to 13th. Four hours training was carried out by the Companies in the vicinity of their billets. From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. were "salient houses" during which the men took compulsory rest prior to the night's operations. Second Lieut. V. Cade ORRILL joined for duty and was posted to "2nd Coy. At 11.30 p.m. the Companies met at on the CALAIS ROAD at the top of MORTIER HILL; hence they marched by CORNETT and ISLIERE to the Practice Trenches. A hot meal was issued to the men an hour before zero hour. At 4.10 a.m. the Attack commenced and before midday the Bntn. was consolidating its furthest objective - the line beyond S. JULLIN.

14th. This day a Divisional practice was carried out, zero hour being at 11 a.m.

15th. The Commanding Officer held a Conference in the village school for all those in charge of Companies and Platoons in the Attack. Church Parade was held conjointly with the 15th Bntn.

1917.

Appendix

July

HOULIE - 2nd CAMP.

16th. to
17th.

The Batin, left HOULIE at 12.30 p.m. and proceeded by train from WATER TO HOPOITRE SIDING arriving at 2 Camp at about 1 a.m., 17.7.17. The Camp was at the time partially occupied by the 5th Batin, of the Royal Sussex Regt., who proceeded at 10 a.m. to GARAT BARR. This is the first time the Battalions have met since on the SOHRE.

2nd CAMP.

The morning was divided between Battalion drill and the training of specialists. Special attention was paid to the instruction of the new draft in gas drill.

Second Lieut. G. J. HARRIS reported for duty and was posted to 2nd Coy. Second Lieut. G. V. BOONO was struck off strength on being transferred to the R. 2nd C.

19th.

Parades were held in Camp as yesterday. During the day two parties proceeded by bus to inspect the model trenches at the A. 30 Group Camps.

20th.

The next two days were spent as the 19th.

A. 30 GROUP CAMP.

JOURNAL. The Battalion proceeded by route march to the A. 30 Group Camps and on arrival took over a tent and shelter Camp adjacent to 2nd Camp.

In the evening a party was sent up the line to carry T. W. ammunition; two men on this party were killed and one wounded - the first casualties since the Batin, left the trenches in June.

23rd.

The Officers to go into action during the advance and the R. C. Os. in charge of platoons held a conference on the Model near "C" Camp with the Officers of the TANK REGIMENT working in conjunction with us on 2 day.

24th.

Company Commanders reconnoitred BILGE TRENCH during the afternoon and one officer from each Company reconnoitred the QUEEN'S ROAD and CHEVIE BRITAIN route by day and night.

1917.

July

25th.

The Battalion moved forward to CAVAL BANK prior to 2 day was postponed. The Officer of our two Right Companies in the Attack went to confer with the Officers of the 1/10 Liverpool Scottish who will advance on our right.

26th.

The Commanding Officer held a Conference for all Company & Platoon Commanders in the Attack. Later the Companies were taken by Platoons over the model.

27th.

At 1.30 p.m. the Headquarters of 11th Infantry Brigade issued orders to all Battalions to be ready to move at 9 p.m. It was reported that the enemy had retired from the MAIN LINE and that there were no signs of movement in the KITCHENER SYSTEM. Orders for the move were immediately issued, the men's packs dumped and the Officers' valises packed ready for the transport. No further orders were received to-day and the battalion remained in a state of complete readiness.

28th.

Orders were received to send an advance party to take over dugouts in CAVAL BANK. Brigade Headquarters moved up to the CAVAL. At about 10.30 p.m. hostile aeroplanes flew over and traversed the road outside the CAMP with H.O. fire - there were no casualties.

29th.

Y day. At 8.30 p.m. the Battalion moved up to the CAVAL BANK dugouts.

CAVAL BANK.

29th.

Y day. At 9.30 p.m. the Bn. proceeded to occupy its Assembly position before attacking and by 9.50 a.m. 31st July it was reported to Hde.H.Q. that the Bn. had assembled, wire cut, hot tea provided to men ready to move off.

ASSEMBLY THROUGH.

31st.

Z day. At 3.50 a.m. the attack opened and at 5.33 a.m. the two leading Coys. had captured the Black line - at 8 a.m. A Coy. supported by D. Coy. had taken ST. JULIAN & consolidated on the dotted Green line.

J. H. LANEY, Lt. Colonel
Commandg. 13th Sussex Regt.

11th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

August.

ST. JULIEN and BLACK LINES.

Appendix.

1st.

During the night 31st July/1st Aug. the BOSCHE was very active with his artillery, heavily shelling the positions we had captured from him on the 31st JULY especially the line of trenches known as the BLACK LINE (Gomopus Trench) and our main line of defence which we had dug in front of it - about 150 yds. - known as the dotted BLACK LINE. Bn. Hd. Qrs were established in CANOPUS TR., "B" and "C" Coys were firmly established in the dotted BLACK LINE, while A and D Coys., who were only about 70 O.H.'s strong and two officers were in ST. JULIEN VILLAGE. Rain commenced to fall heavily about 3 p.m. on 31st. JULY, and the ground was saturated. Both the BLACK LINE and the dotted BLACK LINE was full of water, and the men were standing in 2' 6" of water in places. No-one had had any sleep: everyone was wet through, but all were cheery and confident. About 12-30 a.m. on the morning of the 2nd, August orders were received for all posts to be withdrawn from ST. JULIEN, as our artillery were going to shell it. This was incomprehensible to us at the time, as with the exception of a few BOSCHE snipers in a ruined house, some 300 yds. on the ST. JULIEN-POSSCAPILLE Rd., on the far side of the village none of the enemy were visible, nor were they in close proximity according to reports by our advanced patrols. The village was re-occupied by us at 6 a.m. without incident, and was held by the battalion throughout the rest of the time until handed over on relief. Four Field Guns were captured by "A" Coy., and two machine guns in ST. JULIEN. Bn. Hd. Qrs. moved to VAHRETTEN TR. about 10 a.m. The Q.M. brought up rations in the morning on pack transport, and everyone was much comforted by these and a good issue of rum.

2nd.

The night passed quietly so far as enemy movement was concerned, but artillery activity on both sides was tremendous. The BOSCHE shelled our new positions unceasingly, and it was during this period that most of our casualties were sustained. The rain meanwhile continued to render our trenches more and more uninhabitable, and the men were

1917.

AppendixAugust2nd
(Cont'd.)

forced to get out of them & lie on top. In the afternoon at about 4 p.m. the enemy were reported to be massing for counter-attack N.E. of ST. JULIAN, but this came to nothing. Indeed it was practically impossible for anyone to move owing to mud. On the night 2nd/3rd, the 10th. Sherwood Foresters came up to relieve the battalion. This was complete by 3 a.m. on the morning of 3rd, in a particularly heavy barrage which the enemy put up on Vanhousle Dr., CHEDDAR VILLA and across the WILLET-ST. JULIAN Rd. The Bn. proceeded on relief to accommodation on the CARVAL HALL.

CARVAL BARR.

3rd. Battalion spent the day resting in dugouts.

SCHOOL CAMP.

4th. Moved by rail from YPRES to POEBRINGERE, thence by route march to SCHOOL CAMP.

5th. Cleaning & refitting in camp. Enemy aircraft dropped bombs in neighbourhood during evening & were fired on by A.A. Guns. No damage to Battalion.

6th. Re-organisation continued. Battalion received a visit from the Corps Commander Lt. Gen. Sir I. Knox, who thanked the officers & O.N.'s for what they had done in the push of July 1st.

7th. Day spent refitting & re-organising of Battalion.

PICHOOM.

8th. Battalion left SCHOOL CAMP by route march to HOPOTRIS siding, thence by rail to CAESTRIS & motor lorry to PICOOM. During night enemy aircraft dropped bombs & fired M.O's in district. Engaged by A.A. Guns.

9th. Brigade inspected by the Divisional Commander, Major Gen. C.G. Cuthbert who thanked the troops for their deeds on July 31st-Aug 2nd.

1917.

August.

9th
(Cont'd.)

Lt. Col. J. H. Lacey, Gordon Highlander, left the Battalion to take up the post of Commandant of the XVII Corps School. Major H. T. K. Robinson D.S.O. from the 12th Royal Sussex assumed command. 2nd Lt. G. C. Taylor joined the Battalion & was posted to D Coy.

10th.

The Brigade was inspected by the commander of the 2nd Army, Maj. Gen. Sir H. Plumer.

11th.

The day was spent by the Companies refitting & re-organizing.

HIDERWOOD.

12th.

Brigade moved from the WATEREN Area, travelling by motor lorries to HALLSBLAST & thence by march to RIDGE WOOD CAMP. Lieut. Steel R.A.M.C. has been posted as Medical Officer to this Battalion vice Capt. D. J. McDougall wounded, as from 1/8/17.

HOIS-CONSLIST.

Enemy plane dropped a bomb on camp, killing two & wounding six members of the M.O.C. Battalion moved to HOIS CONSLIST and became battalion in reserve in the HOLLISBECK sector. Casualties in the push of July 31st. - Aug. 2nd, amounted to 14 officers & 250 O.H.

HOIS CONSLIST.

Day spent repairing & renovating dugouts & trenches. O.C. Coy's with M.C.O.'s made a reconnaissance of the front line. Quiet day.

13th.

Working parties engaged renovating & improving dugouts. Salvage dump formed. Enemy put some 5.9 beyond camp on to road in rear during evening. During night working parties engaged on making mile track between SICHOF PW & HOLLISBECK, making a dump of wire & timber carrying.

16th.

Officers reconnoitered HOLLISBECK SECTOR. Coys. worked on trench improvement.

17th.

The Battalion (believed the 12th. In. Royal Sussex in the right sub section HOLLISBECK SECTOR on night of 17/18. The relief was carried out with no casualties.

1917.

Appendix

August.

HOLLANDER SECTION.

10th.

Front line & supports, OPTIC TRENCH, shelled intermittently. SPILL BANK & OAK TUMP received attention during the night. No movement possible during day - all rationing & work done during night.

19th.

Battalion H.Q.'s received attention from 4.2's & 6.9's otherwise situation quiet. The G.S.O. 1. Lt. Col. GOSSET R.F.A. visited Bn. H.Q. Both front line Coy's carried out patrols & gained useful information.

20th.

Major Gen. G.J. Cuthbert C.B.; C.M.G. gave up the command of the 39th. Divn. & was Major Gen. E. Freyberg C.B.; C.M.G. During night our artillery put a gas bombardment on to enemy trenches during night. G.S.O. 2 Major Lord Dampier visited Bn. H.Q. Quiet on front line. OPTIC TRENCH bombarded for 8 hours without doing any damage. During night some gas shells put over by the enemy round WHITE CHATEAU.

21st.

Our guns and artillery very active all day. Huns guns very quiet all day & also during evening. Bn. was relieved by the 12th. Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. & went back as battalion in reserve to MOIS COMPIEGNE. Casualties during stay in front line very slight - 5 men wounded.

MOIS COMPIEGNE.

22nd.

Lt. CHAIZE reported died of wounds received in action on 21/7/17. 2/Lt. R.H. Hodson, 2/Lt. H. Milvern, & 2/Lt. J.R. Bradley J.R. joined the battalion & were posted to A B & C companies respectively. Troops reacting - working parties at night.

23rd.

Battalion was relieved by the 17th. Sherwood Foresters & moved into Divisional Reserve in RIDGE WOOD.

RIDGE WOOD.

24th.

Company arrangements surdabagging tents etc.

25th.

Under Company arrangements. Camp inspected by Divisional Commander.

26th.

Heavy H.V. gun put six rounds into camp between 7 & 9 a.m. No casualties in Bn. in.

1917.

AN OVER.

27th.

Appendix.

The Battalion relieved the 1st Cumberlandshire Regiment in the MINN HILMERE left sector.

MINN HILMERE.

Very quiet in line all day. Reserve Coy's working on trenches & dugouts.

Usually quiet day. Our guns did a lot of counter battery work.

30th.

Inter Coy. relief on left Coy. front. One Boche prisoner captured by left front Coy. (C Coy) from a Hun patrol.

The Battalion was relieved by the 12th. Royal Sussex Regiment & became Battalion in support in the C.D.L. & O.D.L. near Transport Corner.

31st.

R. F. K. ROBINSON

Major

O.C. 13th. R. Sussex R.

1st Sept. 1917

11TH BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT.

1917

Appendix

September MAJIN KILLING.

1st Resting during day. All coys. on working parties during night. 1 O.R. wounded.

2nd Battalion was relieved by the 10th Royal North Lancs. Regt. & went back to RIDGE WOOD. Numerous B.A. dropped bombs in neighbourhood during the night.

3rd to Under Company arrangements - baths & gas chamber. Training under Company arrangements.

SHREWSBURY FORGE.

6th/7th Relieved 1st 4/5 Black Watch in Shrewsbury Forge (right Bn. front).

9th Enemy Artillery active during period on duckboards and back areas. T.M.'s also freely used during minor operations. At 8.40 p.m. we raided two enemy dugouts at J.25.d.30.97. The party reached their objective and the enemy retired to trenches behind dugouts & freely used bombs and T.Ms. After holding the dugouts for desired period we had to retire without blowing them up owing to the non arrival of the carrying party with gun cotton and the R.S.'s detailed. The Bn. regrets the loss of a valuable officer in 2nd Lt. BOTT S.R. who met Gallingly led the raiding party and met his death on reaching objective. It was beyond doubt, largely due to this unfortunate event that the raid was not carried through to a complete success. Front line & Support lines clearing all available dugouts of water etc. Reserve Company carrying - rations & water.

10th Enemy artillery active on Support & Reserve lines. Dugouts improved & trip wire along whole front. Our Artillery very active. Both front lines Comps. sent out freq. patrols.

11th Aircraft active - two flights with enemy planes observed. One enemy plane at 300 feet up fired M.G. on our front line. Continued firing our whole front.

1917

Appendix

September

13th Heavy artillery very active H.E. shrapnel & large quantity of gas shells (mustard) & caused us serious annoyance with 10 cases evacuated. Our artillery made but fair retaliation.

13th/13th Batta. relieved by 16th Batta. Sherwood Foresters & went back to RIDGWOOD CAMP.

13th Inspection parades and indentas. Baths.

RIDGWOOD

Training under Company arrangements.

14th

15th

do.
Relieved 16th NOTTS. & DERBY Regt. in SHREWSBURY POSTER Sector. Relief complete by 11.30 p.m.

SHREWSBURY POSTER

2nd Lt. WHITTE & 30 men raided enemy depots near LOBE STAR POST.

Our Artillery barraged twice every 24 hrs. - enemy reply feeble.

16th

do.

Relieved by 17th NOTTS & DERBY Regt. & 16th N.Y.L.C. BRIDONS. Relief complete by 6.15 a.m. Batta. went by bus to BROOK CAMP.

H.G.B.

20th Hn. moved up at 7 a.m. to XX positions at H.G.B. in reserve.

21st

Time spent in improving camp and training.

22nd

Believed fragments of 41st Division in TOWER HALLS sector.

23rd

Reconnected line for assembly positions.

24th

Relieved by 11 H. Sussex Regt. and 12 H. Sussex Regt. and 3m. (less 1 company) returned to RIDGWOOD at 10.30 A.M. & reorganised.

1917

SeptemberAppendix

25th Bn. moved up to assembly positions in TOWER HAMILTON sector relieving the 13 Royal Sussex Regt. Relief complete by 11 p.m.

TOWER HAMILTON.

26th Bn. attacked at 5.50 A.M. and captured all objectives & abt. 40 prisoners.

27th Proceeded with consolidation of positions assisted by 3 companies of 17th NOTTS & DERBY Regt. Relieved by 10th ROYAL FUSILIERS - relief complete by 1 A.M.

FRONTIER CAMP.

28th Bn. proceeded by lorry to FRONTIER CAMP near WEST HOUTRE. Day spent in rest & cleaning up.

29th Bn. bathed & reorganisation commenced.

30th Brigade Church parade in 13 Royal Sussex camp. Reorganisation continued.

H.F.K. ROWLAND, Lt. Col.
O.C. 13th Royal Sussex Regt.
2 Oct. 1917.

13TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917

Appendix

October PROXYEN CAMP.

- 1st Training under Company arrangements.
 Inspection of companies by C.O.
- 2nd Training under Company arrangements.
 Inspection by Major General Commandg.
 on 13th Royal Sussex parade ground.
 ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Work on
 improvement of camp. Trenches dug
 round tents.
- 3rd Training under company arrangements.
 Work on improvements of camp.
 Trenches dug round tents.
- 4th Companies fired at Range.
 2/Lt. V.C. de Grelle transferred
 to England sick. Struck off
 strength.
- 5th Training under company
 arrangements. Gas demonstration
 by D.V.L. Gas Officer. Musketry
 at Range. Baths.
- 6th Inspection of companies by
 C.O. Training under company
 arrangements.
- 7th Owing to bad weather no church
 parade could be held.
- 8th Training under Company
 arrangements. ~~XXXXX~~ Battalion
 Route March in afternoon.
 Baths.
- 9th Battalion Route March in
 morning. Training under
 company arrangements. 2/Lt.
 H.L. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ joined for
 duty. Lewis Gun firing at
 range. Revolver shooting.
- 10th Training under company
 arrangements. Battalion Route
 march in afternoon. Firing
 at Range. Revolver shooting.
 2/Lt. R.S. BROWN joined for duty.
- 11th Batta. Route March. Training
 under company arrangements.
 Revolver shooting. 2/Lt. H.L.
 BROWN joined for duty.
 7 other ranks joined for duty.
- 13th Battalion Route march.
 Specialist training. 1 man
 joined for duty.
- 15th Training under company arrangements.

1917

Appendix

October

14th Reconnoitering by G.O. 2 1/e Company Commanders & platoon sergeants of line to be taken over in TOWER HARTLETTS sector.

TOWER HARTLETTS SECTOR.

15th Battalion relieved 10th York & Lancs Regt. (in support). Relief complete by 10 p.m.

16th Improvement of lines and shelters carried out. Burial of dead very active. Enemy artillery

17th Burial of dead continued. Periscope salvaged from SHEPPARDSON ROBERT. Enemy artillery very active on tracks etc. Relieved 14th Hunts in front line. Left front battalion.

18th Left front Coy. accounted for 6 of the enemy by I.O. & Rifle fire. Right front Coy. claimed 13 Germans killed - relief apparently being carried out. Enemy snipers and machine guns very active from LEWIS HOUSE and isolated dugout opposite Right battalion.

19th Posts linked up by trench. Possible to visit left front Coy by day. Heavy enemy barrage on line of BAKER-STILL-BENK, assumed to have been caused by the presence of large party who were burying cable and assembled before dark. 1 officer wounded. I.O.R. killed & 2 O.R. wounded. Relieved by 16th Hotts & Berry Regt. Relief complete 12.30 a.m. Heavy enemy shelling during whole night: several casualties.

EMIGRANT'S REST CAMP.

20th Morning spent in rest. Reorganization commenced. Tents milled.

21st Church services held in camp. Improvements carried out.

22nd Commanding Officer's inspection. Clothes, boots & equipment inspected and incidents submitted for defilement. Baths. Post ridding and inspection. 11 other ranks joined for duty.

1917

Appendix

October

23rd Relieved by 8th Devons and marched to HOOKS CAMP (Divisional Reserve) tents earth-walled. 1 O.R. joined for duty.

HOOKS CAMP.

Improvements carried out. Training under company arrangements.

25th Training in accordance with programme.

do. do.
2nd Lieuten. L.G. Whjettler and O.E. Thornton joined for duty.

26th Training in accordance with programme.

Battalion Church parade.
Relieved by 2nd H.A.C. and marched to KIRKBRIDGES CAMP (H.V.A.4.9.) taking over from 1/1st Cambridgehire Regt.

KIRKBRIDGES CAMP.

29th Training under Company arrangements. Improvements carried out. 2nd Lt. Cooper Kenderline and Clements joined for duty.

Training in accordance with programme. Replion and model of enemy dugouts to be captured commenced.

30th Battalion route march. Replion and model of dugouts completed.

H. J. COXHEAD, Major,
Comdg. 15th Pl. Sussex Regt.

1917NovemberAppendix.6th
(Contd.)

Intense fire, was most praiseworthy. Relieved by 14th Bn. Regt. Relief complete 12-15 a.m. and proceeded to CANADA STREET tunnels.

CANADA STREET.

7th

Battalion in Brigade support. Relieved by 17th Bn. and Derby Regt. Patrol sent up to reconnaissance LEWIS HOUSE, under Capt. Bennett, M.C., going very difficult, and patrol reported ground very swampy and wire in trenches in front of the dugouts. M.C. fire was opened on the patrol and LEWIS HOUSE appears to be strongly held.

Marches to SHEPHERD CORNER and embused to CHEFFOVA CAMP.

CHEFFOVA CAMP.

8th

Rest and cleaning area and accoutrements. Marches to MURMELBIDDER CAMP, following 4/8th Bn. Black Watch. Baths in afternoon.

MURMELBIDDER CAMP.

9th

Morning devoted to cleaning up. Inspection of Battalion by Comd'g. Officer in afternoon. Promulgation of T.O.C.W. on pie. parrot. All other ranks evacuated sick, struck off strength. 9 other ranks joined for duty. Taken on strength of battalion.

Battalion parade for distribution of ribbons for decorations awarded, by the B.O.C. Sports in afternoon.

11th

Church parades. Best.

12th

Training in accordance with programme. Specialist training. Rest during afternoon. Football. Basketball. 6 O.N. joined for duty.

13th

4th & 5th Coys. Inspection by Comd'g. Officer. Practice attacks. 4th & 5th Coys. musketry. Football and Games in afternoon.

2/Lt. Roseroy and 3 O.N. joined for duty.

14th

Training under Battalion arrangements. Practice attacks carried out.

13th BATTALION, ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT.

1917

Korrekker

Appendix.

MURKERRIDGE CAMP.

1st

Special operation by "B" Coy. Other Coys shall note adaption practice, and training under Coy. arrangements. Baths.

2nd

"B" Coy. practising special operation. Other coys. under Company commanders, 5 other ranks joined for duty.

ROGER HAVLITS. (Left front sub-section).

3rd

Battalion relieved the 1/1st Gards. Reg. in this subsection, proceeding by bus to SHRAPNEL CORNER, thence by route march. Relief complete 11.30 p.m.

4th

Improvements to line, and dugouts. Burial of dead proceeded with. Communication trenches to front coys. commenced. Dugouts occupied by Bn. R.Q. and Aid post improved. N.G. fire and snipers very active from CHILLWELL, LEWIS HOUSE and LOES TRAM dugout. (This latter is not shown on map.)

Patrols reported around very empty in front of LEWIS HOUSE, and between Left and Right battalions.

5th

Work proceeded with. Dump formed at FAYRINYS CART. All rations and water brought to this dump. Enemy shelling of our line and HINDLY ROAD. Support trenches badly damaged and casualties caused. Large number of gas shells sent over.

6th

Very heavy enemy barrage along whole front, causing several casualties. 2nd Lt. Bayers and Sgt. Dodman wounded whilst getting communication with Bde. R.Q. by lamp. All wires between Bn. R.Q. and Coys. were cut, and communication very difficult. The action of the Officer and N.C.O. named, in endeavouring to restore communications under

1917

NovemberAppendix14th
(Contd.)

Revolver practice for all Officers and Lewis gunners, firing.

15th

Practice attacks; also carried out wearing box respirators. Firing demonstrations. Battalion drill. Football and boxing during afternoon. Improvements to camp in progress.

16th

Training under Company arrangements. Firing in box respirators. Musketry for poor shots. 14 O.R. evacuated sick, struck off strength.

SCOTISH WOOD CAMP.

17th

Battalion marched to Scottish Wood Camp, being relieved by 27th Dism. Improvements to camp commenced. Church Parade.

18th

Day spent in improving camp; hats endamaged, latrine built and Brigade messes started. 9 O.Rs evacuated sick, struck off strength. 7 O.Rs joined for duty.

BECKING HOUSE CAMP.

20th

Relieved 11th Bn. R. Huss. Regt. proceeding by march route. Improvements to camp commenced.

21st

*3rd Coy. roadmaking KROLL ROAD, remainder of Battalion carrying R.S. material from CANADA STREET to front line, and there working.

22nd

Working party *3rd Coy roadmaking at KROLL ROAD. Remainder of Battalion carrying & improving front line. Camp improvements continued. Extension to cookhouse built, duckboard walk and rubble tracks commenced.

23rd

Working parties as on previous days. Improvements continued. 4 O.Rs evacuated sick and struck off strength. 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs joined for duty & taken on strength.

24th

Working parties as before.

25th

Battalion relieved by 20th Dism. and marched to DICKERHUR where entrained to GODDAMBSVILLE -

1917

November

Appendix.

25th
(Contd.)

thence by march route to WINKSHELM
area.

WINKSHELM.

26th Training and improvements to
barracks.

27th Training under company arrangements.
Boxing and football.

28th Do. do.

29th

Battalion relieved by 9th K.R.R.
Marched to GODSWARBYLDS, enroute
to THIRDS march to COMBAT there
Battalion took over 9th K.R.R.
barracks. Work on making canteen,
improving barracks etc.

THIRDS.

Working parties "A" Coy, unloading
trains, loading lorries at HELL
FIRE CORNER. "D" Coy, Road
construction at POLLITZ CROSS
ROADS. "B" Coy, Road construction
at BAVARIAN HOUSE. "C" Coy and
every other available man
improving barracks, sanitary
arrangements etc.

H.F.K. ROBINSON.

Lt. Col.

O.C. 13th R. Sussex Regt.

P.H. YEMTON.

for O.C. 13 Royal Sussex Regt.

20th

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL BRASSK REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

December. VIETNAM.

1st. Proceeded by March Route from the COMBAT, YPENG to VIETNAM and relieved the 14th Bn. Hampshire Regt.

2nd. Battalion provided working parties during day, laying wooden tracks. I Company working on improving the bank & rendering it more habitable. H. As. dropped bombs in vicinity of Camp during the night - Casualties NIL.

3rd. Working parties continued & improvement of Camp. New dugouts, latrines constructed. H. As. again dropped bombs near camp.

Working parties continued.

4th. " " "

5th. " " "

6th. " " "

" " " during day, work handed over to 1/7th Bn. Scottish Rifles on completion of day's tasks. Enemy shelled around & over Camp with overhead H. As. - Casualties NIL.

6th. Battalion proceeded by Route March to ST. JEAN STATION & detrainning at GODESMONDVILLE, proceeded by route march to billets at in ORIENTALCROSS AREA. Arrived at about 12 noon.

ST. JEAN STATION.

9th. Sunday. Battalion Church Parade. S/Lieuts. Levett, Taylor & Harrison reported for duty.

10th. Battalion inspected by C.O. Draft of 33 Other Ranks arrived. S/Lieut. Isaacs joined for duty.

COULMBRY.

11th. Bathn. proceeded by route march to GODESMONDVILLE Station. Entrained at 12.15 p.m. Detained at HILLIARD-BROQUIN and marched to billets at COULMBRY & arrived at about 9 p.m.

1917.Appendix.December.

- 12th. Batta. inspected by G.O. Training as per programme commenced.
- 13th. Companies fired on Range (VAL DE LOUSSES). Training - recreational carried out.
- 14th. Baths allotted Batta. at BERNINGHEM. Cross Country running by Companies during afternoon.
- 15th. Firing on Short Ranges.
- 16th. Firing on X. Ranges.
- 17th. do. do.
- 18th. Firing on Short Ranges.
- 19th. Batta. inspected by Brigadier General Comdg.
- 20th. Firing on Short Ranges & Revolver Practice.
- 21st. Inspection of Batta. by Major General Comdg. and presentation of medal Ribbons for Gallantry during recent operations.
- 22nd. Practice attack on COLLIERY Training Area.
- 23rd. Church Parades. Capt. F. W. Newllan attached to Batta. as R/O during absence of Capt. Steel on leave.
- 24th. Training.
- 25th. Church Parades. Recreation, Concerts etc.
- 26th. Training. Baths at BERNINGHEM.
- 27th. Training & Inspection by Comdg. Officer.
- 28th. Firing on Short Ranges. Batta. Boxing Tournament.
- 29th. Training.
- 30th. Move to SIKES CAMP - Route march to FERRIES & entrained. Detained at BIVERDINGHE & march to SIKES CAMP.
- 31st. Training.

H. T. K. ROBINSON, Lt. Col.,
Comdg. 13th B. Sussex Regt.

13th BATTALION THE ROYAL HUSBERS REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix

January

SICKE CAMP.

1st.

Training under Coy. Commanders.
Basketry practice on short ranges
for all Coys. Boxing and football
competitions.

2nd.

Training continued. Specialist
training in afternoon.

3rd.

Company training combined with
musketry practice.
Recommissioning of new sector by
Officers and other ranks.

4th.

Programme of Training continued.
Range practice for Lewis Gunners.
Inspection of clothing and boots.
S O. No. struck off strength.
4 O. No. taken on strength.

5th.

Training continued. Specialists
in afternoon. Games in afternoon.

6th.

Day's Service. Front line
recommissioned by detailed parties.

HILLTOP PARK.

7th.

Battalion paraded at 5 a.m. and
proceeded to work at CONGE LINE.
Afterwards took over camp from
1/1 days Regt.

8th.

Working party of 3 Coys. on WINCHBERRY
SWITCH, 1 Coy. carrying material.

9th.

" " " " " "

10th.

" " " " " "

11th.

" " " " " "

12th.

3 Coys. working on WINCHBERRY SWITCH,
1 Coy. carrying material.

13th.

" " " " " "

14th.

" " " " " "

WESTWOODS BURN SWITCH.

15th.

Relieved 1/6 Cheshires in Night
Sub-sector. Gale and abnormal rain-
storm. Great difficulty in reaching
front line posts, owing to the
PADRICKEN being flooded - men swept
off their feet. Arrived drenched
through. Posts over knee-deep in
mud and water. See Relief complete
4 a.m. 16th.

1918.AppendixJanuary

16th. Relieved right front Coy. by support Coy. Ponds still very wet and muddy and many men exhausted.

17th. Left front Coy. relieved by Reserve Coy. Ponds improved somewhat, but ground very wet and muddy. Her truck made from support line to right front.

18th. Relieved by 12th RI. Sussex Regt. and marched to HILLTOP FARM - 11 p.m.

HILLTOP FARM.

19th. Day spent in rest - foot rubbing and cleaning up.

CCPES LINE.

20th. Relieved the 16th Rifle Brigade - Relief complete by 8 a.m.

21st. Latrines built and shelters improved. Relieved by 17th Royal Scots and marched to WILTON where entrained at 8 p.m. for BALLINROCK.

LEINCOLN CAMP.

22nd. Day spent in cleaning clothing and equipment. Foot rubbing parades.

23rd. Re-organising. Inspections. Issue of new clothing and boots.

24th. Company training and inspections by G.O.

25th. Baths for whole battalion. Coy. training. Football in afternoon.

26th. 9 - 10.30 a.m. Company training. Battn. preceded by route march 9-30 p.m. and entrained at Provan at 10 p.m. 106 O.Nr. evacuated sick and struck off strength. 2 O.Nr. joined for duty and taken on strength.

BALLY LAURENCE.

27th. Battn. detrained at Kerisourt L'abbé & proceeded by route march to Bally Laurence, arriving about mid-day.

28th. Parades under Company arrangements. Saluting and standing on Parade. B. & O. Coys. route march.

1918.

JanuaryAppendix

29th. Company training. A & D. Coys. route march. Foot-rubbing parades. Baths for 270 O.Rs.

30th. Batta. paraded at 2.45 p.m. and proceeded by route march to Corbie, entraining at 6 p.m. Detrained at peronne at 10.45 p.m. & proceeded by route march to Haut Allaines arriving mid-night.

HAUT ALLAINES.

31st. Foot rubbing & inspections under Coy. arrangements.

H.T.K. ROBINSON, Lt. Col.
O.C. 13th R. Sussex Regt.

.....

1918.

Appendix.

FEBRUARY.

- 10th. Footrucking parades by companies under supervision of H.O. 11 # officers and 200 O.R.'s transferred from 12th R. Sx Rt.; portion of whom joined for duty in line.
- 11th. Working parties continued. Trenches cleared and improved. Salvage continued.
- 12th. do. do. do.
- 13th. do. do. Major A. Z. Andrews took over command of Battalion on Lt-Col H. F. K. Robinson D.S.O. proceeding on leave. 50 O.R.'s joined Battalion from Base. "A" & "C" companies relieved two companies of 1/1 Hertis Regt in line. 13th R. Sx Rt becoming Right front Battalion in line. Keller complete 9 p.m.
- 14th. Work continued in trenches and posts. Reserve and support companies provided working parties. 7 O.R.'s joined Bathn from Base. 10 O.R.'s struck off strength. Patrols sent out by front line companies. Salvage continued.
- 15th. Improvements and work carried on. Footrucking parades. Patrols sent out.
- 16th. do. do. do.
- 17th. Work continued. Salvage continued. Improvements to trenches. Working parties continued.
- 18th. Bathn relieved 1/1 Hertis Regt in Divisional Reserve. "B", "C" & "D" Companies at REVELON YARR. "A" Coy. at HEUDICOURT. Relief complete 10. p.m.
- DIVISIONAL RESERVE.
- 19th. Cleaning equipment etc. Furdrdes under company arrangements.
- 20th. Baths at HEUDICOURT. Working parties on YELLOW LARK. REVELON YARR improved. Raid done by "C" Coy. on German post, found to be unoccupied. No identifications taken. 1 officer & 3 O.R.'s wounded.

13th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

February.

NAVY AFFAIRS.

1st. Battn. paraded at 8 A.M. and proceeded by route march and light railway to ~~school~~ CHURCH CAMP, HENDICOURT, to become Reserve Battn. Centre sub-section, 39th. Div., front.

CHURCH CAMP HENDICOURT.

2nd. Parades under company arrangements. Improvements carried on in camp. Working parties provided at night in improving trenches.

3rd.

Foot rubbing parades for whole of Battn. Camp improvements carried on. Two companies provided night working parties in line.

4th.

Cleaning camp. Battn. relieved 12th R. Sussex Regt in Night front sub-section of 39th. Divn. front. Two Companies A. & C. in front line. 'D' Coy. Support Coy., and 'B' Coy. as reserve company. Relief complete by 9.30 p.m. Patrols sent out by front line companies. 6 officers joined Battn. for duty.

NIGHT FRONT SUB-SECTION.

5th. Posts improved and trenches cleared. Wiring parties strengthened wire at night. Patrols and listening posts sent out. Footrubbing continued. Latrine accommodation provided.

6th.

Working parties provided daily by Reserve and support companies. Trenches cleaned. Patrols sent out. Footrubbing continued. Salvage continued.

7th.

Work in trenches carried on. Footrubbing continued. Patrols sent out.

8th.

Trenches retitled and improved. Working parties provided. Patrols sent out.

9th.

'A' & 'C' companies relieved by two companies of 1/1 Hert's Regt. in front line. 13th. R. Sussex Regt becoming support Battalion. Relief complete by 10 p.m.

1918.

February.Appendix.

21st. Baths at JINS. Working parties on YELLOW LINE. Footrubbing parades. Work on camp.

22nd. Footrubbing continued. Working parties provided for YELLOW LINE. 68 O.R.'s joined for duty. 22 O.R.'s evacuated. Hatin relieved 1/1 Herts Regt in Right front sub-sector "B" & "C" Companies in line. "A" & "D" in Support. Relief complete 9.45 p.m.

RIGHT FRONT SUB-SECTION.

23rd.

Trenches & posts improved. Salvage continued. Working parties provided for front line strong posts, and for cable-burying. Patrols sent out.

24th. Work continued. Cable burying proceeded with. Foot rubbing continued.

25th. Work continued on strong posts and trenches. Cable burying parties provided. Patrols sent out.

26th. Work and salvage continued. "A" & "D" companies relieved "B" & "C" in front line. Patrols sent out.

27th. Work continued. Strong posts and trenches improved. Footrubbing continued.

28th.

do. do. do.

A.B. ANDREWS
Major
O.C. 13th R. Sussex Bt.

1919

Appendix

March

14th Moved in afternoon to Grange Camp Villiers Faucou. Work under 16th Division on Brown line. Major Andrews left. Major Knobberstein in command.

15th

Working parties as above.

16th

Moved to Homel near Tincourt.

17th

Mt. Col. Robinson took over command on return from leave Working parties.

18th to
20th

Working parties.

21st

2ND BATTALION OF SCUMER.

Heavy bombardment commenced in early hours. Ordered to rendezvous at Gurin Wood. Arrived there 9 a.m. In evening ordered to St. Malie in support 16th Divn. A took up position in Brown line.

22nd

Enemy attacked at 7 a.m. & were driven off, but troops of 16th Divn. on right retired & A Co. was ordered to form a defensive flank. About noon enemy made strong attack on Hn. H. Co. occupied jointly with Ist Hn. at QUINCY H. of St. Malie. They were repulsed. Orders were shortly received to withdraw to Green line. This movement was successfully carried out but A Co. with 1 B Co. who had been sent up with them was cut off & annihilated & officers & about 130 O. Rs. were thus lost to the Battalion. The night was fairly quiet.

23rd

Baths ordered to evacuate Green Line & to take up position about 3 miles E. of Peronne to cover withdrawal of 117 & 118 Bdes. Going to orders to withdraw failing to reach Hn. enemy got round both flanks & it was necessary to fall back on Peronne instead of H. V. as ordered. Retreat successfully accomplished through Peronne & bridges held until blown up by sappers. During this day the Hn. again suffered heavy casualties.

1918

AppendixMarch24th/
25th

Remnants of Bn. incorporated in composite Bn. by orders of G.O.C. 60th Divn. & fought with them defending canal.

26th

Rejoined 116 Bde. & defended Obignies during retirement of 117 & 118 Bdes.

27th

Bn. ordered to defend Marcourt but enemy succeeded in crossing Somme at Corlay about 1 1/2 miles in rear & Bn. was ordered to try & cut them off, but arrived too late. A counter attack was launched & the Bn. drove enemy back about 1000 yds, but no supports or ammunition arriving were compelled to fall back to position about 1 mile N. of Lamotte.

28th

Bn. ordered to withdraw but owing to late arrival of orders because heavily engaged & only with difficulty got back to position between Marcelcave & Stenourt, whence it withdrew to position 500 yds. N. of Marcelcave.

29th

Remained in this position until evening when relieved by troops of 61st Divn. joined Brigade at Hangard.

30th

Took part in counter attack near Hangard. At night ordered to withdraw & concentrate at Longuen.

31st

Moved in lorries to Daignicourt billeted there.

6/4/18.

H.T.M. ROBINSON, Lt. Col.
O.C. 13th B. Divn. R.

13th BATTALION THE NOTAL CHINESE REGIMENT.

Appendix

1918.

April

QUINCYBOCHET.

- 1st. Battalion resting after 2nd Battle of Soissons.
- 2nd. Moved to Herlicourt-en-Vimeux by march route.
- 3rd. Marched to NOUFLIENS remained there refitting.
- 7th. Marched to Hallecourt.
- 8th. Marched to XIV and entrained for Arrguen.
- 9th. Arrived Arrguen & marched to TILQUEN.
- 10th. Ordered to proceed to STALKERSBOMM and entrained at ST. OMER at 2 a.m. 11th. Arrived VLAERSBROHE at 8 a.m. & marched to OTTAVA CAMP. OTTAVA CAMP:- Battalion made up to strength by 13 Officers and 250 men of 13th Bn. Gloucester Regt. (Pioneers) and called No. 2 Bn. of the 39th Division, Composite Brigade. The Battalion was commanded by Lt. Col. R. S. Robinson, D.R.O., 13th Bn. R. Sussex Regt. with Transport and Battalion Headquarters of 13th Bn. R. Sussex Regt. strength 27 Officers 954 O.R.
- 11th. OTTAVA CAMP. Attached to 21st Division.
- 12th. Moved by Light Railway to Balda Camp near Chateau Seward and held in Divisional Reserve, the Camp was shelled from 2 - to 2-30 p.m. no casualties.
- 13th. VIOLINITY OF CAMP was shelled & bombed during the night. Casualties Nil.
- CHATEAU SEWARD.
- Balda Camp:- Night morning, Battalion placed at 15 minutes notice to move. At 4 p.m. Battalion ordered to proceed to Ridge Wood at once, in order that they may be available for the 9th Division, in case of enemies renewed attack at STISCHAERTS.
- 14th. Ridge Wood. All quiet.

1918.

April

Appendix

15th.

Ridge Wood. Stand to at 4 A.M. Shelling of wood commenced about 4.45 A.M. Continued up to about 9 A.M. the Camp was evacuated the Bn. being accommodated in Trenches. Casualties 2 killed & about 13 wounded.

CHATEAU GARD - STSCHAYTZ.

16th.

Trenches in Ridge Wood. At 3 A.M. received orders to proceed to BOSSIGNOL Camp and came under orders of the 62nd Infantry Brigade under which we remained up to 30/23rd April. At 10 A.M. the Bn. was ordered to assemble for a counter-attack, which was to take place at 11 a.m. at STSCHAYTZ this was cancelled at the last moment.

Fresh orders for Counter-attack were issued for 7.30 p.m. in conjunction with a French Division on the RIGHT, and The Benforhis reinforced by No. 5 Composite Bn. on the Left.

The Bn. was moved forward with the 2nd Lincoln to the line VARDANNE ZAM - LAOACTE ZAM - STORZ ZAM.

It took part in the Counter attack on the evening of the 16th to re-occupy HEDZLSTEDT ZM. and STSCHAYTZ WOOD advancing under heavy M.G. fire, both enfilade and frontal and securing the first objective. No French attack developed on the right, it was therefore impossible to proceed further.

The line was then consolidated under very adverse conditions, before this attack no reconnaissance of the ground had taken place.

STSCHAYTZ.

Night of 17/18th the Battalion took over the line from VARDANNE ZM. to STORZ ZM. relieving the 2nd Lincoln Regt. & Welsh Fusiliers.

Situation remained the same.

16th.

- do -

1919.

Appendix

April

30th.

On the night of 30/31st. the Battalion was relieved and proceeded to Walker Camp. During the operations from 16th to 30th the Battalion were constantly subjected to Heavy Shell and Machine Gun fire. * 4 Officers and 130 Other Ranks were lost to the Battalion.

* 13th R. Sumeret Regt.

* 7th Lt. Col. J. GIBSON killed 16.4.19.

* 1st Lt. R. S. OSLER killed 18.4.19.

* 2nd Lt. J. O. SIMPSON wounded 16.4.19.

* 13th Gloucester Regt. 16.4.19.

1st Lt. D. B. G. wounded 16.4.19.

WALKER CAMP.

At 7 a.m. shelled out of the Camp, and again during the morning. Casualties 20 O.R. Received orders to proceed to Dominion Camp, moved by march route and arrived about 5 p.m. the night was quiet - and the Battalion rested.

DOMINION CAMP.

Refitting.

Proceeded by Light Railway to KILSWALLIE to take up position on the night 24/25th relieving the 16th R. Manchester Regt. at SPOIL BANK to KILROY PARK - including the MURRY on the N. side of Canal.

DOMINION CAMP - SPOIL BANK.

At 3.30 a.m. the enemy opened a very heavy bombardment employing H.V. guns with a considerable amount of gas shells. The enemy attacked about 4.15 a.m. the Light Front Company J's bearing the brunt of the attack. One Platoon being annihilated, the other forced back through TRIVARIX WOOD the heavy mist favoured the enemy in his attack. Enemy shelling continued throughout the day. Orders were received that 2 Companies of the 16th Bn. Manchester Regt. would arrive in support, and be placed under the orders of Lt. Col. R. T. K. Robinson, D. S. O.

21st.

22nd. to

24th.

24th.

25th.

1918.

April

Appendix

26th
(Contd.)

These Companies did not report being in position until 3 A.M. 26th April - Orders being received that the line MUST HOLD - THE BUMP - was to be held at all costs.
Lieut. Richards 13th Bn. Gloucester Regt. was wounded.

26th.

Throughout the night 25/26 the position was heavily shelled, and at 3 a.m. & 4 a.m. on the 26th, retaliation was asked for, at 5 a.m. reports were received from the front line, showing enemy to be preparing for attack, a very heavy mist prevailed at the time. At 5.30 a.m. the S.O.B. was sent through by wire, no reply being received.

The enemy meanwhile had apparently attacked on the right, the line held by the Battalion not becoming engaged.

At 7.30 a.m. strong parties of the enemy were seen approaching Bn. Head Qrs. at Spoil Bank, the mist enabling him to approach within 50 yards unseen, the alarm was given and the men ordered to take up position on the top of Spoil Bank - before this could be carried out, the enemy had gained the bank and subjected Bn. Headquarters to intense Rifle and Machine Gun fire. The mist prevented the post on the BUMP from seeing and rendering assistance. The result of this was:- that only 3 officers and about 10 O.N. of Bn. Headquarters escaped - the remainder with the exception of 1 officer & 20 men of the 13th Bn. Gloucester Regt. who gallantly held the BUMP - were either killed, wounded, or captured - Lt. Col. H. T. E. Robinson, being believed to be killed. The command of the Bn. being taken over by Capt. D. J. Rothschild, M.C. The Officer & men of the Gloucester Regt. who held the BUMP eventually managed to withdraw towards nightfall - fighting their way back to our lines - Remaining strength 1 Officer & 17 O.N.

The following Officer Casualties occurred -

13th Bn. R. Duncro Regt.
T. Lt. Col. H. T. Kay Robinson, D. S. O., missing believed killed.
T. 2/Lieut. H. C. Harvey, Missing.
T. 2/Lieut. L. H. Stott -do-
T. 2/Lieut. F. I. Bournemouth -do-

1918.

Apr.

April

26th
(Contd.)

On the night of the 26th the following were the only surviving Officers of the 13th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

1. Capt. O. Rothchild, R.O.
2. Lieut. R.G. Cooper.
3. do. J.F. Isaac.
4. Lieut. J.D. Thornthwaite Transport Officer.

Hon. Lieut. H.R. Rothwell, Q.M.R.
Temp. Lt. D.J. Valentine, H.A.M.C.
(Attached).

The following casualties occurred to the 13th Bn. Gloucester Regt.

Lieut. Homer, H.C. killed.
1. Major H.R. Howman, Missing.
2. Capt. Burger Wheeler. do.
3. Capt. O.E. Hole. do.
4. 2/Lt. Y.B. Taittall do.
do. Hague. do.

do. I.C. Farr. do.
Lieut. A.G. Baker. do.
2/Lt. J.B. Pansy. do.
do. D.D. Herring. do.
do. J.B. Smith. do.

Temp. 2/Lieut. Hall was the only surviving Officer of this Battalion.

The remnants of Co. B Composite Bn. reported to the Officer Comd. No. 4 Bn. for duty at 3-p.m. at WOODBRIDGE.

As this party only consisted of 7 rifles they were obviously of little use as reinforcements and were ordered by O.Cd. No. 4 Bn. to proceed to Transport Lines at A.30 Camp which was reached at midnight.

A.30 CAMP.

27th. One Officer & about 30 men arrived at the Camp during the morning - also 2 Officers of 13th Bn. Gloucester Regt. reported for duty from the reinforcement Camp.

The fighting strength of the composite Bn. then amounted to 6 Officers & 63 O.R. including Transport etc. 8 Officers & 150 O.Rs. During the day the Camp was shelled at intervals & the Transport was ordered to move.

28th. The Camp was shelled at intervals during the day.
Casualties 2 O.Rs.

1918.

April

29th.

Appr.

The Details received orders to amalgamate with No. 3 Bn, under the Command of Lt. Col. R. Wilkinson, D.S.O., Gloucester Regt., 5 Officers & 53 O.N., proceeded to join No. 3 Bn, at Dominion Camp.

DOMINION CAMP.

Orders were received for the Composite Brigade to be formed into 2 Bn's, the elements of No. 2 Bn, together with 3 Bn, and the 11th R. Sussex Regt. & ~~and~~ forming No. 1 Bn, under Lt. Col. R. Wilkinson, D.S.O., as Comdg. Officer; with T/Capt. G. Z. Rothchild, R.C. as Second-in-Command.

G. Z. ROTHCHILD, Captain
Comdg. 13th Bn, R. Sussex Regt.

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

MAY.

DOMINION CAMP.

1st.

The Battalion was serving with the Composite Battalion formed from the remainder of 6 Battalions under Lt. Col. Wilkinson with Capt. Reichenild as second in command. Orders were received to occupy a Green Line near Dikebush.

2nd.

GREEN LINE DISBURSER AREA.

3rd.

Occupied line all day, re-occupied returned to Dominion Camp in evening.

4th.

Reoccupied Green line at 4 a.m. Returned to Dominion Camp at 10 p.m. & received orders to immediately reoccupy Green Line.

5th.

Marched to Camp & billets near Dominion Camp thence to Turnelers Camp on Zroyen Road.

6th.

Marched to Hoedorange & entrained at 8 p.m. for Aurdlog.

7th.

WINDING-UP ARRANGS.

Arrived Aurdlog. Composite Battalion dispersed into separate Units. 13th Sussex billeted at Hiale. Only 3 officers & 30 men returned from the operations at round Yres. Those joined details at Hiale forming a battalion of 11 officers, 208 C. No.

8th.

Refitting.

9th to

Refitting & training.

23rd.

Formed into a Cadre Battalion. Training staff remained. Remainder 3 officers 132 C. No. proceeded to Stepler.

24th.

Transport left for Base with personnel of 1 CTR. 44 C. No.

25th.

REMARKS.

Marched to Dominguez & affiliated to Nos. 1 & 3 Battalion of the 305th American Infantry Regiment.

1918.

May.

26th to 31st.

Instructional duties with the above.

Annals.

G. H. ROBINSON, Major,
O. C. 15 Lt. Sussex Regt.

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WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
MS RSR 7-25

13th BATTALION, THE NOTAL SURGERY REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

June.

BOHRMANN.

1st. Instructional Duties with 1st.
& 3rd. Bns. of the 306th. American
Infantry Regt.

2nd.

-do-

3rd. 2 Lieut DOMIN to 47th Infantry Base
Depot.

-do-

4th to 5th. Instructional Duties with 1st.
& 3rd. Bns. of the 306th. American
Infantry Regt.

6th.

306th. American Infantry Regt
Left Boulogne. Lieut Colonel
C A Harman D.S.O. Lieutenant Regt.
reported his arrival and took over
Command of the Battalion from
Major G. Rothchild, M.C.

7th.

Preparation for move.

8th.

LICQUES.

Battalion Staff moved to LICQUES.

Battalion Staff undergoing Training.

9th
to

16th.

Lt Col C A Harman D.S.O. took over
the duties of Brigadier General of
the 16th Infantry Brigade, during
the absence on leave of the
Brigadier, Command of the Batten
devolved on Major G Rothchild M.C.

17th.

Battalion moved to GRASSE PAVILLON.
and affiliated to 1st. Batten of the
120th American Infantry Regt. for
Instructional Duties.

GRASSE PAVILLON.

18th. Instructional Duties with 1st. Batten.
American Infantry Regt.

19th
to

21st.

Moved with 1st. Bn. A.I. Regt to 7th
Range for Musketry Course.

22nd.

Moved to LITSBAUX & affiliated
to the 2nd. Bn. A.I. Regt. (120th.)

LITSBAUX.

23rd. Hon Lt & Q Mr R X Rothwell rejoined
for duty from Hospital.

1918.

June.Appendix.

Moved with No 2 Bn. 120th A.I. Regt to "B" Range, for Musketry Course.

23rd
to
25th.

Instructional Duties @ Istergaux.

26th.

"do"

Lt Col G A Harman D S O. rejoined from Brigade Headquarters, & resumed Command of the Battalion.

27th.

Instructional Duties at Hietergaux.
Capt White M.C. to England on leave.

28th.

Appointed to No. 1 Bn. 120th Regt & Bn. Headquarters. Duties taken over from 11th. Bn. R. Sussex Regt. on their proceeding to England.
Instructional Duties with 1st. & 2nd Bns. The Revd J. R. P. Gerrick C.F. rejoined for Duty. 2 Lt J. P. Innes rejoined for Duty from "A" Base Depot.

29th.

Instructional Duties with 1st. & 2nd. Battns.

30th.

R G COOPER

Capt
for Lieut Colonel
Commanding 13th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

12th BATTALION, ROYAL ARTILLERY REGIMENT.

1919

July

LISTERDAUX.

Appendix

1st

Battalion Headquarters moved to GRASSE PAYRIS. Other Banks remain in billets at LISTERDAUX. Instructional duties with 1st & 2nd Bns. 120th Regt. A.I. Regt.

GRASSE PAYRIS.

2nd

120th Regt. moved with 20th American Division to WITIK. Lt. Col. C.A. Harman D.S.O. accompanied Regimental Headquarters. Major G. Rothschild M.C., 2 Capt. Bradley M.C., 2 Capt. Bossi & Lieut. Jones M.C. accompanied the 1st & 2nd Bns of the 120th Regt. The remainder of the Battalion carried out training.

3rd

Training of instructors continued.

4th

Do.

5th

Lt. & Quar. L.V. Rothwell to United Kingdom on Leave by boat leaving 6th Inst. Lt. Col. C.A. Harman D.S.O., Major G. Rothschild M.C., Capt. Bradley M.C., Capt. Rose, & Lieut. Jones M.C. rejoined from 20th A.I. Division. 15 Other Banks from Demonstration Platoon joined for duty.

6th

Other Banks of Battalion moved from LISTERDAUX to GRASSE PAYRIS.

Lt. Col. Harman D.S.O. & Capt. Bradley M.C. proceeded to join 20th A.I. Division for attachment, as instructors.

7th

2 Lt. J.P. Isaac & 6 Other Banks to VII Corps School. Bombing & Musketry.

8th to
11th

Daily programme of Training of Instructors carried out.

12th

Lt. Thornthwaite & 4 Lewis Gun M.C. Os to I Pdr. Cannon Platoon School at LULLIKHOFEN, as instructors. Training of Instructors continued.

Appendix

1918

July

13th Training of Instructors continued.

14th Church Parade at MILLERS LEB AIDES.

15th Capt. White H.C. returned from Leave.
Training of Instructors continued.

16th Divisional Tactical Scheme.

17th Lt. Col. C.H. Harman D.S.O. & Capt. Bradley H.C. rejoined from 20th A.I. Division.
Capt. G.A. Bolton H.C. rejoined from 16th Infy Bde Hdqtrs.
Capt. Rose, 70 9th Division Hdqrs. for duty.
Training of Instructors continued.

18th Do.

19th Six Officers & 36 Other Ranks H.C. Corps attached.

20th Training of Instructors continued. 2 Lt. Isaacs & 6 O.Rs rejoined from VII Corps School.

21st Church Parade at MILLERS LEB AIDES.

22nd Training of Instructors continued.

23rd Do.
a/Capt. R.O. Cooper H.C. to 2nd Army Gas School, for course.

23rd Training of Instructors continued. Battalion Tactical Exercise.

24th Training of Instructors continued. Capt. Rose rejoined from Division.
2 Lt. Isaacs proceeded to Base Depot, struck off Battalion strength.
Major G. Rothachild H.C. proceeded on Leave to PARIS.

1918JulyAppendix24th
(Contd.)6 Officers & 20 O. Re. M.O. Corps
proceeded to Base Depot.

25th

Battalion moved to LIQUORS.

LIQUORS.26th to
27thTraining of Instructors
continued. Tactical Exercises.

28th

Church Parade.

29th

Training of Instructors
continued. Lt. & Quar. S.M.
Bathwell returned from leave.

30th

Training of Instructors
continued.

31st

Do.
Capt. C.A. Bolton M.O. to 116th
Inftry Bde Headquarters as Actg Staff
Captain.
Capt R.G. Cooper M.O. rejoined
from 2nd Army Gas School.

C.A. KANEAK

Lieut. Colonel.
Commanding 15th Br. R. Sussex Regt.

13TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix.

<u>AUGUST.</u>	<u>INCIDENTS.</u>
1st.	Training.
2nd.	do. Level's Gun Practise on Range.
3rd.	Training.
4th.	Church Parade.
5th to 8th.	Training.
9th.	do. Captains Rose & Bradley preceded to England on leave.
10th.	Capt. Rev. J.R.P. Garrick O.P. preceded to join 24th Divn.
12th to 13th.	Rifle Competition at La Solitude Range.
14th.	Battalion transferred to 1/4 Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. Marched to Andruinog and entrained.

R.H. COOPER, Capt.
for Lieut. "Col."
Comd'g. 13th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

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