

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSP MS 4/64

ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT
RSP MS. 4/64

ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT
RSP MS. 4/64

1/5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

FEBRUARY. POWER OF LONDON.

- 16th. 10.30 The Battalion was inspected by
a m General Konck preparatory to
receiving orders to join the
British Expeditionary Force.
2.15 Orders received to be ready to
p m embark on 18th. inst. at time to
be notified later

SOUTHAMPTON.

- 18th. 8.30 The Battalion commenced to entrain
2.m. at Waterloo for Southampton.
6pm Embarked on S.S "Pamcras" & sailed.

LE HAVER.

- 19th. 4am Arrived off Le Havre - Stood to fill
about mid-day - Disembarkation was
completed by about 3. p.m. The
Battalion marched to No.1 Rest Camp
on hill above St.Adresse.

ALLONGENE.

- 20th. 7 pm Entrenched
- 21st. 9 pm Arrived here after detrainning at
Choqueux & moved into billets -
Major Ashby sent to Hospital at
Lillers. Attached to 2nd.Brigade -
1st Division with 2/Sussex,
1st Northampton, 2/K.R.R., &
1/L.H.Lance, under Genl Westmacott.

- 26th. Orders received to move to HINGES
on 29th. inst.

- 27th. 11.30 Inspection of the Battalion by
a m G.O.C 1st.Army Corps - Orders
received to move to HINGES tomorrow.

HINGETTE

- 28th. 2.45 Marched here, via CHOQUEUX, VENDIN-
p m IZEL-BETHUNE & HINGES - distance
about 8 miles - Took over billets on
both sides of Canal.

MARCH.

- 2nd. Moved out of billets on EAST side
of Canal & took over same at
AYRIETTE.

LE CORNET MALO.

- 10th. 7.15 Marched to LE CORNET MALO - stood by
a m all day. The Brigade in Army Reserve
during attack on NEUVILLE CHAPELLE -
Took up close billets for the night

1918.

Appendix.

March.ISS FACONS.

12th. 7.30 Marched here & took up fresh
p.m. billets - very close.

HINGETTE.

13th. Moved back here preparatory to
doing tour of duty in trenches -
Battalion with transport complete
moved off in 11 minutes after
receipt of order to move.

GOERE.

14th. Marched here & took up billets
as support to 2nd Batin. in the
trenches in front of WESTBERT.

15th. Working parties sent up after dark -
Self & 2 Company Officers with
2nd Bn. to learn duties &c

17th. Three men of transport shot by
1st. Queen's when exercising
Pte. Foster & Stone severely
wounded in chest - Bishop slightly
in arm pit. Pte MUSKETT 1730
wounded in head while with working
party in trenches.

WESTBERT.

18th. 7 Took over Hd Qrs. & trenches from
2nd Batin. C & D Companies in
trenches - One platoon of A Coy
in work T¹ - remainder in second
reserve. "B" Coy in 1st. Reserve
in WESTBERT village.

19th. Pte. P. W. J. Vince - 2375 "C" Coy
killed - shot through head

20th. French Companies relieved - last
platoon of "A" shelled as going in -
2641 Pte. Catt. B. killed & several
others & Ptes. Adams, Bourne, &
Dunster wounded - the latter severely.

22nd. Handed over trenches to 1/WORCESTER
Regt. Inf. Corp'l Gosons wounded
marched to billets at PORT TOURNAWAT
near ACCOON.

LE TOURNET.

23rd. Marched here & took up billets in
support of 2nd Sussex in trenches
near RUE DU DOIS - south of NEUVE
CHAPRAINE.

24th. "G" & "D" Companies sent as a
Detachment under Major Langham to
RICHBOND St. VAASST. in immediate
support of trenches

1915.March.

26th. 11.30 Orders received to take tour
a.m. of duty in trenches tomorrow

RICHENBORG I'AVOUZ.

27th. 7 p.m. Relieved 2/Sussex in trenches -
A.B. & C. Companies in
breastworks. D Company in
support - Artillery fire on
right by ("A") during night &
after dawn

28th.

Few Casualties - Ptes. SWAIN &
GARNER ("A" Company) Killed by
shell bursting in dug-out.
Ptes. FAYLOR & HAYWARD killed
by rifle fire in advanced
trench - 2 men wounded -
Advanced breastwork lengthened
by 70 yards during night of
27-28 March.

29th.

Advanced breastworks completed in
length to join left section in
Orchard - Too long a line to
hold by centre Company - "D" as fire
of main line masked - "D" Company
accordingly ordered to occupy
advanced line at night &
communication trench with centre
section commenced at 10 p.m.
2 platoons of "B" in centre
breastwork &c.

30th.

Corpl. GARRAGHAN & Pte. TESTER
"D" Coy Killed by rifle fire in
advanced trench which is still
very thin & low; thus no parades
or dug outs - Relieved at 10 p.m.
by 1st. Coldstream Guards & marched
by companies to HINGETTE

HINGETTE.

31st. 4.30 Move completed. No casualties
a.m. during relief - In rest during
day.

FRED. G. LANGHAM
Lt. Col.
5th RI Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX

Appendix

5TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix

April

HINWATER.

1st In rest billets - until

REVUE CHAPELLE.

7th

Ordered to move up to trenches here this evening - "A" Company in Brigade Reserve at RICHEBOURG ST. VAAST & "D" Co & "D" Coys in trenches from night to left from road to Bois de Biez North of POUL ARTHUR to the Brewery - enemy's lines 400 to 500 yards away except at a gap on left of "C" Company where distance about 250 yards.

8th

Capt. F. H. Hornblower wounded while assisting severely wounded man under fire.

11th

"D" Coys relieved by 4th Seaforths & to billets in RICHEBOURG ST. VAAST succeeded during first 3 days in completely dominating enemy's rifle fire & killing or wounding about 50 of them.

RICHEBOURG ST. VAAST.

"B" & "C" Company relieved by 2/2nd Churcheas - billeted at RICHEBOURG. "A" & "D" Coys to COMBRES.

GOZAN FEN.

13th Hq. H. Coy. & "B" & "C" Comps. to COMBRES in rest billets.

LONG COMBES.

24th

Moved here to new billets.

25th -

Practically whole Battalion employed on working parties at RUE DU BOIS.

26th

RICHEBOURG ST. VAAST.

27th

Moved here into billets in Brigade Reserve.

RICHEBOURG L'AVOUE.

28th

Occupied trenches in night & centre sectors of D.S.
1 Company 9th King's Liverpool Regt. attached to Battn. for

1915AprilAppendix29th
(Cont.)

trench training. Relief completed in 1 hour & 10 minutes. 1st Coy. (4 Bpls) in front trench, 4th & 7th in 2nd line, 9th in support in dugouts.

29th

Front trenches bombed in early morning with mine mortar.
Heavy shelling about 5 p.m.

30th

Our rifle Grenades & trench mortars silenced enemy's mine mortar.
Very heavy shelling from noon to 1 p.m. & between 3 & 4 p.m.

FRED G. LARKIN, Lieut.
Command. 5th Bn. Sussex.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS
RSR MS 4/6

5TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix

MAY

RICHENBURG L'AVOUE.

1st 4.15 Violent bombardment particularly of 2nd line & communication trenches & dugouts in rear. Enemy at last silenced by our heavy artillery - C.S.H. Bull instantly killed by a shell in his dugout - Casualties remarkably slight - men showed great steadiness under extraordinary heavy fire.

2nd Helped by Scots Guards - Immediately before relief of 2/Lt. W.S. Price instantly killed by a rifle bullet outside his dugout. Marched during the night to GOMBERG.

GOMBERG.

3rd 4.30 Arrived at 4.30 a.m. & took over rent billets as before. 2/Lt. Price buried in S.W. corner (under ground) GOMBERG churchyard. Remained here until 6th May when received orders to move tomorrow to LESPLAUX.

LESPLAUX.

6th 6 p.m. Move completed into close billets.

7th Blankets & packs of 1st Divn. stored here during the day. Received orders to move out to RICHENBURG L'AVOUE (section D.2.) ready for attack at dawn on 8th. Move countermanded while Battalion parading.

RICHENBURG L'AVOUE.

8th Moved here in evening into support trenches (C line) behind RUE DE BOIS (Section D.3.) & ordered to attack at dawn.

RICHENBURG L'AVOUE - AVERTIERE - GOMBERG - LESPLAUX - GAMBRY.

9th 4 p.m. Heavy bombardment commenced in enemy's parapets & barbed wire and on buildings in rear. The Battalion had received orders to advance to the attack at 5.40 a.m. after 10 minutes incense bombardment. The line of attack is shown in annexed Sketch MAP. The orders as to attack were as follows :-

MAP A
annexed

1918

NAV

9th - 20th
(Otd.)

Appendix

1/10000
LITERS-
VIOLAIERS
FESTUERE

(Reference LITERS - VIOLAIERS - FESTUERE 1/10000) The 2nd R.I. Sussex on left - with left on cinder track and the 1st Northampton on right, with right directed on point 22. The second line were the 5th R.I. Sussex on left and the 2nd King's Royal Rifles on right. The third line were the 1st Royal H. Lancos, on left & the 9th King's Liverpool on right. The first objective was the trench line between Q.2. & V.1. & when this had been taken to gain the line (P.10.) - building about P.13. - Q.14 & entrench at once, making a strong point of the farm at Q.10. The second line were ordered to clear the trenches, the K.R.R. to work along to P.8. & protect the right flank & eventually gain the ground at P.4. Our Battalion was to follow immediately in rear of the assaulting Battalions - feed up them as necessary - clear all hostile trenches still occupied in rear of both assaulting Battalions - secure all prisoners & send them to the rear & then follow in support. The second objective of the left Battalions was THE COUR D'AVOURE (includ) to Q.12 (includ) with all buildings about P.12,13;14;15 & 16) & the ultimate objective of the Brigade the line Q.9. - P.8. - H.9. - M.25. Our Battalion Orders were for A Coy on the right & C Company on the left to form the first & second lines of the Battalion, & for B Company after following A Coy, into the enemy's trenches to work along towards the right in support of the left of the Northampton's, the K.R.R. having by then moved right handed in their advance towards P.8. The Battalion was ready in the C line & as the bombardment ceased moved A & C Coys into B line & then followed across the open 250 yards to the advanced line after the 2nd R.I. Sussex. Before reaching the advanced trench the Germans had already opened an extremely heavy rifle, machine gun & shell fire & C Coy had 1 Officer (2/Lt. Halsey) wounded & about 30 men killed or wounded during this preliminary advance - C Company (less 1 Platoon) & A Company (less

1918

MAY

Appendix

9th-20th
(Ced.)

1 Platoon) left over the front parapet & advanced most gallantly to the support of the 2nd Sussex, who were already held up by the enemy's fire - B Company (less 1 Platoon) having seen the left companies of the K.R.R. go over the parapet, themselves went over & advanced a quarter left. I immediately stopped the 4th platoons of A & B from advancing as I found the situation impossible & no more men could be advanced. The enemy's fire particularly from Machine Guns near the ground in the salients of his line on our left flank, made it impossible for anyone to advance. The men out in front were being hit constantly & the whole ground in front of the advanced breastworks & behind them was under an extraordinary heavy shell fire. I found later that Capt. Courtope had fortunately been able to stop a platoon of G Company from advancing. Lt. Kappert was here wounded in the advanced trench. At 7 a.m. orders were received to retire, & those men who could began to come in, many of them wounded. Sgt. Roberts was very brave in going out 3 times with orders to the firing line. Eventually we received orders that we should be relieved temporarily & to collect our men in D B line - but to be ready to resume the attack in the afternoon after a further artillery bombardment - we then found 2/Lt. R. Farnan had been killed, Major E.H. Langham, 2/Lts. Dodd, Perry, & Hobart, wounded & Capt. Grant & Stewart Jones & 2/Lts. Powell & Dennison were missing and about 250 other ranks either killed wounded or missing. About 2 p.m. we received orders to move into the D line in support to the 1st Brigade, who were to attack at 4.30. This they did - but although we heard that a few men of the Black Watch & some of the 2nd & 5th R Sussex who got up & joined their advance got into the enemy's trenches, very few got back, & the attack failed as in the morning. At 6 p.m. we were ordered to march to LE TOURNAI where we should get instructions as to billeting - we formed up in a field behind Chocolate Miner Corner

1915

Appendix

MAY9th - 30th
(Contd.)

8 p.m.

5 p.m.

told the men off & marched down in fours through a considerably disorganized mob of men from other regiments. At LE TONNER we were ordered to go to billets at AVELLETTE. Where we stayed till 8 p.m. & then marched to GONNINHEM and stayed there in rest billets until the next day when we moved to BETHIMS and took over billets in the Tobacco factory in the Rue de Lille. Remained there as Corps Reserve & then Brigade Reserve until the 2nd Bde. Relieved the 3rd Brigade in Section 2 which the latter had taken over from the French the previous week. S of QUINCHY towards VERRELLIS - we moved into Brigade support at front of the Battalion in the village in billets & A Coy. part of B Coy in dugouts near the VALBON ROUTE.

CAMBRIE.

24th

Relieved 2nd Rl. Sussex in trenches holding section 2.3. With Hd. Qrs. near VALBON ROUTE. Capt. E.A.C. Bazan appointed temporary Adjutant, vice Capt. A.F.K. Loye to Hospital with nervous breakdown.

25th

Surgn. Capt. Waugh rejoined from England.

27th

Capt. E.P. Dawes to hospital - nervous breakdown.

28th

Returned to billets in villages on relief by Rl. Sussex.

31st

Ordered to take over QUINCHY trenches tomorrow - left section from the CANAL Bank to PALM HALL. Reinforcements of Officers & men badly needed - reduced to 6 Company Officers & about 360 effective fixers for the firing line - total strength only 366 including 8 combatant Officers, Gr. Mtr. Transport Officer & M.O.

FRED. G. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
Comdg. 5th Rl. Sussex Regt.

1/6th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1915.

Appendix

QUINCY.

June
1st.

Relieved 1/4th Bn in A.S from
PAUL BATT. Inclusive to the CARL.
D. & G. Companies in fire trench
B. & A. Companies in support
trenches - Very quiet save on our
own line - but 2 enemy mines
exploded on our right & a heavy
bombardment on our left at
QUINCY on evening of 3rd June.

LABREVILLE.

4th. 11.
p.m.

Relieved by 4/8. v. Gunners &
marched here to rest billets -
remained in rest till

8th.

Inspected by G.O.C. 1st Corps who
spoke well of the Battalion in the
field, in billets & on parade -
Reminded in rest carrying out
programme of work, route marches,
wood fighting, outposts, field
firing & ceremonial parades for
disciplinary training.
Still very short of Officers - even
dangerously so if ordered into
action - Warned on 15th to be
ready to move up into QUINCY
section of trenches on 16th but to
await further orders.

LE QUENNOY.

16th.

Moved into bivouac in LE QUENNOY
Wood (N. of BEVERY).

YERQUIN.

19th.

Moved into billets here - Draft of
9 Officers joined from England
(including Lt. Thomas & R/Lt. Hingen).

ALLIQUOIRE.

24th.

Moved by Brigade Route March into
billets here.

26th.

Lieut. SAMBOUR took over duties of
Adjutant.

YERQUINVILLE.

27th.

Moved into billets here - Working
parties furnished to make new
trench in rear of Z.1.

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix

1916.

July

VERQUOIN.

1st.

In billets here until

7th.

GABRIEL.

Took over 2.2 of GABRIEL section of line from 9/KING'S Liverpool - All four Companies in front line 1 Company of 2/Sussex in TINS KEEP & support trench.

13th.

VERQUIN.

Relieved by 3/Welsh Reg. and moved here into billets.

19th.

VERMILLIN.

Took over Y.2 of VERMILLIN section of line from London Scottish - "A" & "B" Comps. in front line "D" in support in GURLY Regiment & "G" in reserve in VERMILLIN.

21st.

"G" Company moved up to GURLY CRESCENT.

22nd.

"D" Comp. relieved "A" in front line.

23th.

LADOURE.

Moved back here into billets - No casualties during last 6 days in trenches. Working parties to be found by day & each night to complete CHAPEL ALLEY.

27th.

Jumped new line 400 yds. long to close reentrant between Y.1. & Y.2. - Work continued till 30th July nightly.

31st.

GABRIEL DIVY.

Moved here to complete & extend this new camp.

F.O. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
5th Sussex.

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1915.

Appendix

August.

GARDEN CITY.

Continued work on new camp - made roads - erected Orderly Room & Officers' quarters - made 3 road bridges & 6 foot bridges - dug out & completed swimming camp bath - put in surface drains over entire camp - worked till

6th.

SAILLY LA BOURSE.

Moved here in Brigade Reserve in billets. Had to attend Control post orders as found same unintelligible & unworkable - The result had been that they were disregarded & traffic to VERBETTES & MAZINGARBE was much disorganised.

CAVRY.

Relieved 1/L.N. Lances in trenches sector 2.1.

8th.

ANNEQUIN.

Relieved by 9/Kings Liverpools - played during day with M.G. on HAINES with indirect fire at main street (range 3100 yds. by clinometer) & also on 2nd & 3rd line trenches in CHIRCHY TRIAROLE (range 1800 yards). Some shelling at 5 very accurately directed on position in 2nd line where M.Gun had fired in morning - no doubt by cross-bearings from HAINES & CHIRCHY, so we must have done some damage. The shells sent over us are apparently a new type of 4.2 shrapnel with a double explosion - very noisy & bright flash on explosion & two reports with green smoke. Marched to billets at ANNEQUIN.

12th.

Working parties on new Support trench in 2.1. T-shaped fire trenches in RAILWAY ALLEY, & in 2nd line defences at CAVRY & ANNEQUIN. Warned to be ready to entrain for III Army to be attached to 48th Divn.

17th.

FOURDEUIL.

Relieved by 4th R.V. Fus. & marched here - All details rejoined.

18th.

1915.

AugustAppendix

19th.

Inspected by G.O.C. 1st Divn. & G.O.C. 2/Brigade - Told we may be turned into PIONEERS. We were congratulated on "always having played the game" while with the 1st Division - exactly 6 months.

DOHLERS.

20th. Entrained at 3.15 p.m. & arrived here at 9 p.m. ordered to march to

SARTON.

21st. where we arrived about 1 a.m. Told we were attached to 48th Divn. as a PIONEER Battalion.

LOU ENGELBT.

21st. Marched here at 2.15 p.m. & Hd. Qrs. & A. & B. Coys. went into billets - C. & D. Coys. (under Capt. A.H. SOON) went on a detachment duty to COLINCAERS to fortify LA SIGNY Farm.

22nd.

Working parties daily in BOIS DE HANNINOT (near AUTHE)

23th.

The 2 Coys. on detachment moved to SAILLY-au-BOIS - on change of Divisional Boundaries.

SAILLY-AU-BOIS.

29th. Hd. Qrs. & A. & B. Coys. moved here to find working parties daily on SAILLY 2nd line from WILL at COLINCAERS northwards in front of SAILLY to point due N. of CREU, de la HAIE, & on the SAILLY Village defences.

F. G. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
Command. 5th R. Sussex Regt.

1915.

September

1st.

SAILLY-AU-BOIS.

Battalion given charge of JENA & LARREY trenches - VERENGTOIRX, PAPIE, AUERSTADT, VILLARS, WAGRAU & JEAN BART in support line in 12 miles of work in all to get in order & keep in order. Work continued daily on all these works & good progress made. O.C. Battalion appointed Commandant of SAILLY Area.

1915.
September

Appendix

10th.

Battalion granted a holiday for good work done.

21st.

SAILLY slightly shelled - 1 man killed.

24th.

A.D.S. G. COYS. moved into front line trenches to gain knowledge of same in case of an advance, as Battalion detailed to clear up, collect stores, blankets etc. Remained there till 27th Sept.

30th.

Work continued to end of month.

1915.

October

1st.

SAILLY-AD-2015.

F.O. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.,
Comd'g. 5th Bn. Sussex Regt.

Ordered to make forts at crossing of VERGIMONTORIX - VAGRAH (Sussex Port) and SAGIT - VAGRAH (Southdown Port). Also to make up PORT GROSEVOR & PORT DICK - make accommodation in former for 50 men, in latter for 16 men, to make new work near KILN at HERUTRIS, strengthen wire at PORT DICK & wire in new work - put in new wire along S. side of BAPTIST from the GARRIBES to VAGRAH inclusive & about 300 yards of fire trench - & to wire & T. parts of JENA.

8th. Opened Institute & canteen in SAILLY for use of all units there.

17th.

Heavily shelled three times between 12 noon & 2 p.m. with 77 mm., 4.2. & 5.9 Guns - about 50 incendiary 5.8 shells sent in, probably from latter guns - 8 casualties & about 12 in other units - one house burnt - Heavy guns apparently B.S. of GERRIS - & the 79s between Fms SAUS HOU & the HOIS DE ROSSIGNOL.

31st.

Work continued during month steadily - nearly all finished, except the wiring & work N. of SAPPIN & revetting parapets etc in PORTS DICK & GROSEVOR. Ordered to make a Survey post at the GARRIBES for the III Army & commenced work.

F.O. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.,

Comd'g. 5th Bn. Sussex Regt.

1/8th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1915.

November

Appendix

SAILLY AU BOIS.

6th
Ordered to man FORT GROSVENOR with two platoons. As recent rains had made work very difficult arranged a relief every eight hours.

8th
24 hours relief in FORT GROSVENOR. Each Company to hold in turn for 3 days. Work continued.

9th to
12th
All available men employed in JEREA & LABREY trenches owing to continuous heavy rains.

15th &
16th
Owing to snow, all men employed clearing above trenches and roads in SAILLY au BOIS.

22nd
Draft of 40 R.C.O.s & men from England.

26th
SAILLY shelled with incendiary shells. About 20 fell between 4.15 & 4.45 p.m.

Work continued during the whole month as weather allowed. Army Survey post occupied & used but shelters for attached not yet completed.

December

5th
Village shelled about 4 p.m. Two direct hits on MAIRIE - FORT GROSVENOR abandoned temporarily as untenable owing to weather.

7th
Trench boards to be removed from JEREA & LABREY & laid in tracks along open ground for Brigade reliefs. Work commenced.

8th
SAILLY shelled at 11 a.m. & 4 p.m. No casualties.

9th
SAILLY shelled between 8.30 a.m. & 9 a.m.

12th
Screen commenced along PAPIN on East side.

14th
New drain begun out of PAPIN to be revetted, as trench holding about 4 ft. of water & falling in at sides.

1915December19thAppendix

Battalion Grenade School established under Lieut. C.R. LANGHAM.

20th

Orders received to erect eventually 10 corrugated iron shelters in VERDINGTORIX and about 100 steel casemates in that trench and elsewhere in that of HEDDINGERS & FONGUILLIENS - Work commenced on excavation of sites. Very heavy digging & space very cramped. Much of the work under fire.

25th

SAILLY heavily shelled from 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. & from 5.55 p.m. to 6 p.m. About 200 shells fell. Three R.C.A. killed & 5 horses.

During month Army Survey post completed. One shelter & one casemate erected - shortage of timber. No bolts or spikes for casemates. Sites prepared for three shelters and 7 casemates.

YVES G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.
Comd. 5th Hl. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS A 10

1/8th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916

January

Appendix

SAILLY-AL-BOIS.

1st
R.E. Stores shelled between 4 & 4.15 p.m. About 60 shells - 2 men wounded - one very severely.

ST. LOUBERT-LES-AUTHIES.

6th
Battalion Headquarters & C & D Companies moved to ST. LOUBERT & AUTHIES respectively - leaving A & B Companies in SAILLY. Tool stores, institutes etc, & 2 M.Guns in position. Handed over Hd. Qrs. at SAILLY to 2/Lancecorps Fusiliers. Major WOOD detailed to act 'pro tem' as O.C. SAILLY area.

15th
Military cross granted to Capt. E.A.C. JARAN & the D.C.M. to G.M.S. ROBERTS and Pte. WESTON.

20th
C & D Companies relieved A & B Companies at SAILLY.

30th
Reinforcement of 50 men received. Ordered to take over charge of roads in area ACHREUX-ROUBERT-MARIEUX - & sent over Officers & men to be instructed as to the work.

31st
During the month 4 LEWIS guns received & the MAXIM guns called in. Fifteen complete gasmasks erected & a number of further sites dug & material prepared & collected.

Ordered to take Hd. Qrs. back to SAILLY on the 2nd proxo & to move 1 Company to ARQUES & one to TOURNECOURT on that day.

YVES C LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.
5th Bn. Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers)

1/8th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916

February.

Appendix

SAILLY-VA-BOSIE. ST. LOGER.

A & B Companies moved from
AUTHIE to TOULLECOURT & FLETCHERS
respectively to take over work
on roads in that area under C.E.
VII Corps.

2nd

SAILLY-VA-BOIS.

Battn. Hd. Qrs. A Coy moved from
TOULLECOURT to HERSBART.

4th

10th

Lieut. C.A.W. BINGEN killed
instantly by B.G. shell while
superintending work in
VERMOISENORIX Trench.

19th

Following Company moves took
place A & B Coys to SAILLY;
C Coy to SOUSMERS; D Coy to
HERBANCOURT, G & D Companies
to work on roads in forward
area behind 48th Divisional
front line.

29th

B Coy ordered to Garrison
Southern Keep at FONDREVILLERS,
but to continue work.
Division will be in X Corps,
4th Army. No orders as to
whether we are to be 4th Army
troops or remain with 3rd
Army.

By end of month, effective
strength reduced to 31 Officers
& 747 other ranks. Still no
draft received. 250 men
urgently needed to enable work
to be proceeded with.

FRED G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.
Comd. 5/Sussex (Pioneers)

8TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

March

SAILLY-AU-BOIS

D Company moved from BERTHIAUCOURT
to BUS-EN-ARROIS

7th

Major E. R. LANGHAM appointed Acting
Camp Commandant X Corps Hd Qrs (on
probation) at TOUTINICOURT and left
Battalion -

8th

C Company moved from SOUASTRES to
BAYESCOURT and B Coy from
BOURGUILLEBARS to the keep
HEBUTERRE.

11th

A Company relieved B Coy in the keep
HEBUTERRE.

12th

D Coy moved from BUS to SAILLY-au-
BOIS

21st

Battalion given portion of front
line to hold, viz K sector; left -
trenches in A.9 (4 S 2 & 1) &
K.3. (1 & 2) - front line taken
over by A Coy from 4th Ox & Bucks
L.I. with 2 Lewis guns and D Coy
moved into the keep, HEBUTERRE.

Refuge
squared
Cap
No. 67D.
H.B.

23rd

Heavy bombardment on our Sector
in consequence of bombing raids
to H. & S. 1 man killed & 7
wounded.

31st

Effective strength at end of
month 33 Oftrs & 642 other ranks

FRANK G. LANGHAM

Lt. Col.

Commandant 8th RI Sussex Regt (Pioneers)

1/5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

April.

SAILLY-AU-BOIS.

1st.

B. Coy. relieved A. at the
Keep, HERBYSRUE who moved to
BAYENCOURT. C. Coy. relieved
D. in the trenches A. left
sector & D. moved to SAILLY.

2nd.

A. Coy. moved to SAILLY.

10th.

2/Lt. Adams & 45 men of B. to
Army French mortar school at
VALEURBUX to dig emplacements
etc. C. Coy. went into trenches -
D. Coy. into KEEP, HERBYSRUE.

13th.

Game out of trenches - D. Coy.
still in KEEP.

18th.

Remainder of B. to LONGUEVILLE
to cut timber.

21st.

22 draft from Base arrived.

29th.

Night alarm till 3 a.m. on 30th
but no attack.

T. G. LARGHAN, Lt. Col.,
5/Sussex (Pioneers).

.....

1/5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1916.

May.

SAILLY-AN-BOIS.

A. Coy. in keep at HEPPELERS relieved by 167 Inf. Brigade.

4th.

AVERTIS.

Battn. Hd. Qrs. with C. and D. Companies ordered to HEM, & marched into bivouac at AVERTIS.

5th.

HEM.

Marched here as above with for training with H.S.

6th.

83 draft from England & Base.

13th.

D. Coy. moved to SAILLY to replace A. Coy.

19th.

A. Coy. arrived at HEM. B. Coy. at SARTOU relieved by C. Coy. & also arrived at HEM, for training with H.S.

21st.

Detachments of 2 Officers & 100 O.R. & 1 Officer & 50 O.R. sent to WILLE SCALIN & VAUCHERELLES under Corps C.E.

23rd.

Detachment of 1 officer & 35 O.R. sent to FAMERON for tree felling.

29th.

Ordered to return on 1st prox. to SAILLY en BOIS with Bn. Hd. Qrs. & remaining men of A. & B. Coys. Took over the Divisional O.P.s. in GENEVIVAS & PAPIN with 1 Offr. & 18 O.R. Strength at end of month 32 officers 908 O.R. Very useful training done with R.S. during month in knocking & holding, pontooning, raft & trestle bridges &c.

31st.

J. G. LAUGHAN, Lt. Col.
Commandg. 5th Bn. Sussex (Pioneers).

15th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

SAILLY-LE-BOIS.

Battn. Hd. Qrs. & A. & B. Coye.
marched here from HEN.

Detachment from BRILL BOLISE
rejoined.

Draft of 38 men received.

Draft of 56 men received.

35 men from VANDOEUVRE rejoined.

Moved into Livoune W. of SAILLY-
le-BOIS.

23rd. Draft of 56 men received &
detachment from VANDOEUVRE
rejoined.

27th. Livoune shelled by "percy"
(3.11 Naval Gun) U.S.N. Hart
& 2 O.R. killed. Draft of
46 men received.

30th. Ordered to be ready to move at
8 a.m. tomorrow on 4 hours notice
to SAILLY-LE-BOIS to form part
of Corps Reserve in ensuing
operations.

During the month very heavy work
day & night, particularly for
Corps Signale. Often men working
from 10 to 14 hours a day - wet
through & no time to dry & most
of the time under fire. Night
parties nearly every night.
Very available men in the Battn.
ordered out, including Signaller,
Lewis Gunners, Officers' Batmen
& other details.

Very wet & cold month for June
& work in this easily soluble soil
rendered more difficult than
usual.

F. O. LARKHAM, Lt. Col.,
Commandg. 5th Bn. Sussex Regt.

.....

5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

July.

MALDEN-BATTLE.

1st. 8.30
a.m.

The Battalion & transport marched to Blyoune in wood S.W. of MALDEN-BATTLE as part of Corps Reserve. The first time the whole Battalion & transport had been on parade together since 23/8/15.

9.30
p.m.

(E. of COLINGHAMPS) to consolidate behind 1st Division but move was cancelled just after the leading Company had marched away.

2nd. 7.30
p.m.

Paraded to join in attack on German trenches between BEAUFORT and the River ANCHS which the 29th Division had failed to take yesterday. Attack to be made by 144 & 145 Brigades, each in waves on a 2 Battalion frontage. was ordered to detail a Company to attack with each attacking Battalion, one platoon to go with each Company of such Battalion. As the whole front was too wide to cover & my whole command was out of my hand, I decided to form a forward dump at HYDE PARK CURRIER and feed it as required by limbers from the R.M. dump at WIGELSHAM where I left my second in command - Capt. THOMAS. The attack was countermanded at the last moment when the leading Companies were actually in the front line trench.

SAILLY-LE-HOIS.

3rd. 8.10
p.m.

Arrived here in old Blyoune - the whole of 48th Division being moved back to their previous area.

4th.

600 men ordered to MALDEN-BATTLE to commence new front line from sap at HART HEDDA - a S.W. to meet similar work to be commenced by the 5th Monmouth (Pioneers) from near the river ANCHS - Bent 150 men from each Company. The new trench which is to be traversed is marked out from 4.17 a.m. to 4.19 a.m. & is about 120 to 150 yards from the enemy's front line & in places some 350 yards from our own front line.

took over Divl. Obsn. Posts from 143 Brigade.

Refce.
Trench map
French map
Sheet 89D
S.W. Bdn. S.R.

1916.
July.

Appendix.

6th.

A. & D. Companies & tools etc. under Capt. G.R. LANGRAN moved to MAILLY-MAILLET & attached to 29th Divn. to continue & complete above work. B. & C. Companies ordered to clean up & as far as possible trench-board main communication trenches up to the LA SIEUX position in front of SEBRE previously occupied by 31st Divn. and to establish good lateral communication between 145 & 144 Brigades.

BOUZINCOURT.

15th.

Above work completed by this date - that on the new trench under particularly heavy fire causing casualties nightly - great goodness & gallantry shown by Officers & N.C.Os. under very trying circumstances.

On this day the whole Battalion moved to BOUZINCOURT in billets as the Division was ordered to continue the attack on OUILLEMS-LA-COISSELLE and POTIERS in relief of 32nd Division.
B. Coy. & 2 Platoons of C. Company moved to the Quarries by the CHOUVEIX CORNER (N. of AVELUY) to take over and deepen a new communication trench into the enemy front line in X.7.d. from Z.89 to Pt.99 - also RIVINGTON TRENCH to be held by a platoon & Lewis Gun as the end nearest the enemy lines is only 7 yards from their front trench which they still occupy at X.7.b.9.2.

Remainder of Battalion with tools ordered to move into position of readiness on USNA Hill to assist in work of consolidating any gains by 143 Brigade.

ALBERT.

17th. 11 a.m. Remained all night by roadside until 11 a.m. when ordered into ALBERT to take up billets & meet Hd. Qrs. & transport there.

2 p.m. A. Coy. ordered to work on German Communication trenches - out till 7 p.m.

8.30 D. Coy. ordered out on similar work with 105th Field Co. H.K. at LA ROISSELLE.

During the night communication established through RIVINGTON TRENCH with enemy front line, & also from WESTLAND TRENCH in X.1.d. & X.7.b.

Ref.

OUILLEMS

E4n.20

V10.000.

Appendix

1918.July.18th.Ref.
OVIILERS
Edn. 25.
1/5000.

Last mentioned work completed.
2 platoons with 144 Brigade
cleared up enemy front line in
X.2.c. taken last night. Two
Companies at ALBERT dug partly
lateral communication trench from
X.2.d.4.4. to X.2.d.8.3. 2/Lt.
STYONS killed in his dugout at
CHOUPIX GORNER. Trench X.3.0.
from 0.2. to 9.3. cleaned &
deepened.

19th.

Trench in X.2.d. from 4.4. to 8.3.
deepened to 4 ft. & levelled, &
sprinter proof post constructed
at latter point. Trench also
continued to X.2.d.9.1. to depth
of 3.9. & trench to X.3.e.9.5.
cleaned & further deepened.
Strong points dug at Pts.
X.2.d.4.7. - do. 8.3. - X.3.e.0.2. -
and X.5.b.7.9.
X.2.d.9.1.
X.3.0.
Moved here - Tonight's work
cancelled.

20th.

New trench dug 2 ft. from X.3.d.5.2.
to pt. about 500 yds. from
X.3.d.2.8. Thence westward for
total length of 300 yds. also from
X.3.d.5.2. in S.W. direction to
X.5.b.6.7. Other work rendered
impossible by rain & heavy barrage.

22nd.

8/Lt. BLUNDER killed on working
party. One Company consolidated
& wired. Keep in LA BOISSELLE &
wired trench eastwards from Pt.
X.9.e.4.6.

23rd.

"G" Coy. worked on OVIILERS KEEP -
New communication trench from
X.3.e.6.3. to X.3.d.2.8. to a
depth of 3 ft. Also traversed
fire trench from X.3.e.0.7. 200 yds.
westwards & 100 yds. S.W. (to approxy.
X.3.e.3.5.) to a depth of 2 ft.
Our platoons took over Bath &
Trenway in ALBERT.

24th.

Last night's work completed &
continued on OVIILERS KEEP.

25th.

Work on KEEP continued - Trench from
X.9.b.6.6. to X.3.e.9.3. cleaned
& deepened. Trench from X.8.b.7.6.
to X.3.e.3.9. cleaned & deepened.

26th.

Work in OVIILERS KEEP continued -
New fire trench dug from X.2.d.9.7.
to X.2.d.4.7. Work on trench
X.3.e.02 - 51 - 93. Other work
prevented by gas attack.

1916.Appendix.July.

27th.

Whole Battalion employed on new communication trench from X.9.0.2.0. to X.3.0.9.3. to about 3 ft.

28th.

Battalion completed the work to average depth of 6 ft. stopping work at midnight.

DONQUERR.

29th.

Marched at 6 p.m. & took omnibuses from BOUZINCOURT to here for rest - about 35 miles.

30th.

Rest.

Inspection of Companies, kit, arms, boots, clothing, etc. etc.

31st.

Y. G. LAUREN, Lt. Col.
Command. 5th Bn. Sussex Rgt. (Pioneers).

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS A56000116

5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

August.

DOMQUOURE.

1st.

In rest billets.

3rd.

Working strength of 4 Companies moved to bivouac at CAMP de CEGAR (near L'ETUILE-SOMME) for instruction in bridging with R.E. material - & marched back on 5th. August.

AVHILTY

8th.

Battalion moved in buses - H.I. Coys. & A & B Coys to the village, & C, & D. to bivouacs in intermediate line near BOUZINCOURT to work under C.R.E. 12th. Divn. until latter relieved by 48th. Divn. Work allotted as permanent jobs - Clean out & trenchboard 2nd. Avenue. Wire defences of OVILLERS - Keyet & narrow 3rd. Street B. wards from Pt. 91 - & construct deep dug outs for H.Q. emplacements in OVILLERS defences.

HAP
OVILLERS
1/5000.

9th.

A. Coy commenced work - Officers of other Companies reconnoitred work.

12th.

Work at night cancelled owing to an attack.

13th.

G.O.C. 48/Divn. took over. Work continued - C & D Companies moved into bivouacs in AVHILTY. East of Railway.

14th.

Our Support line work handed over to Northants Pioneers & we took over their work in more advanced positions - commencing last night - A Coy to deepen Comm. Trench between BATTION & SKYLING TRENCHES (X.3.a.1.5 to X.2.b.7.8.) B. COY to lay out new Comm Trench from R.33.c.9.3 to 6.9. C Compy on Comm Trench X.3.a.4.9 to R.33.c.1.4. D. Coy to clean & Comm Trenches X.3.b.1.1. to X.3.a.9.5 - to R.33.c.7.1. and X.3.b.4.9 to R.33.d.0.5. A.H. & C. were unable to work as SKYLING Trench had been recaptured by enemy - & a counter attack was in preparation. Also took over maintenance of Tramways - & the Divisional O.P. west of AVHILTY - Also management of Tramway Depot & makes at NORTH CHINNEY, AISHERT, & B. Compy. found garrisons for 7 strong points new front line - work

1916.

Appendix.

August.14th
(Cont'd.)

continued on night of 14th.

15th.

Capt. ROGE & 2/Lt Whiteman marched out new trench & A & C began digging under very heavy fire. D. were ordered to assist in attack - but were not required as attack unsuccessful.

16th.

A. & C. Companies unable to continue as suffered heavily from shell fire. They accordingly worked further back in clearing communication trenches.

17th.

A & $\frac{1}{2}$ of C did not work.
2 Platoons of G, unable to reach work - & worked in back ammunition trenches.

18th.

D. Coy went out at 2 a.m. & worked on 3 C.T.s between SKYLINE & RATION trenches - In evening, $\frac{1}{2}$ Company on each of 2nd 3rd & 4th Streets with Report Centre for R.E. at pt. 91. They worked as far as the first objective - & were relieved by D & $\frac{1}{2}$ C. at 2 a.m. on 19th. August.

20th.

Found 11 permanent parties of 24 each to work on deep dug-outs at 7 different points - in support line - between OVIKERS & POLIERS, & in front of THIRVAL. ~~new-
parties-~~

21st.

Lewis Guns went out to find covering parties for Infantry attacks by 144/Brigade - During operations one gun of A Coy. & one of D Company covering 6/Glosters assisted very effectively in repelling a strong counterattack - Part of our working party also helped by rifle fire & others in carrying up bombs & bombing themselves - A party of 90 were deepening trench from X.2.e.1.6 to R.31.d.8.1. at the S.E. corner of the LEIPZIG SALIENT, & was relieved by a party of equal strength on the morning of 22nd. Aug. (Top of 1st. Street.)

22nd.

1. Guns of 2 Companies (B. & C.) lent to 143/Brigade in the line.

23rd.

Two platoons working on new C.T. S.E. of the SAB.

24th.

1. Guns relieved by guns of A & D Coys. work on new C.T. as above continued & completed.

1916

Appendix.

Avramb.

25th.

Permanent work continued.

26th.

Work on dug outs handed over to Cavalry.

27th.

D Coy & part of A. laid out dug, & finished new fire trench joining SULEYHUN AVUZ. & RAFTON TR. (X.3.e.3.1 to X.2.b.8.0.) B & C Coys constructed & finished strong points in SULEYHUN AVANUZ. Party at night deepened C.T. between Pt 19 & the front line in X.2.h. & worked till 10.30 a.m. on 28th. Augt.

28th.

Entailion marched at 3 p.m. on relief of W. S. W. Borders (Pioneers Detn.) 25th. Divn. to VADCHELLES-LES-AVRAMB.

VADCHELLES-LES-AVRAMB.

29th.

In rest here - 144/Brigade still in line B. of ENGHIDIMISS.

FRANK O. LANGHAM

Lt. Col.

Comd 5th RI Sussex (Pioneers)

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS R.A.F. FILE

1ST/2ND BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

September

VAVERHAM-LEZ-AUTHIE

1st

In rest here - Daily training by companies and details

5th

Detachments sent out to VARENNES, MORDICOURT, SAUVAIL DEZAINCOURT

11th

LONGUEVILLE

14th

Harried here

15th

Reconnaissance of ANIERS defence line

Ditto continued - moved during this night by omnibus to

16th

BREILLE

Harried the same day to AVILLY. Lent to II Corps to complete OVIERS to POZIERES Trenches -

20th

AVILLY

work completed -

22nd

Lent to 11th Division - Took over work from 6th Sussex - Light railway to POZIERES - Trenches from AVILLY siding to AUTHVILLE Road - Party on AVILLY to AUTHVILLE Road & at AUTHVILLE Hill - Commenced Trestle bridge at SHOCKERS PASS -

25th

Cleaned 1st & 3rd Streets & RATIO Trench preparatory to attack on THIEVAL.

26th

Cleaned 1st & 3rd Streets & RATIO Trench preparatory to attack on THIEVAL.

27th

2 Companies (B & C) making road from POZIERES Cemetery N.E. towards GRANDCOURT. A & D Companies making road for guns etc up the NAB valley between THIEVAL & MORDICOURT SARE.

28th

same work continued

29th

ACHEUX BAYENCOURT

Work continued in morning till men recalled on orders received to march at 4.30 pm to ACHIEUX in huts in the wood -

1914.

September

30th

Marched at 10 a.m. to
BAYSCOURT and then came again
under orders of 48th Division.

FRED. G. LANGHAM

Lt Col.

Comdg B/RI Sussex (Pioneers).

Appendix.

1/5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

October.

SOUSAstre.

1st.

Moved here via COIGNEUX into huts.

2nd.

A & C Coys to work on trenches in right Sector at HERBETHEE with 1st S. M. Pd. Coy R.E. - B & D Coys to work on 6th Avenue & Kellerman trenches with 3rd. S.M. Pd. Coy. - This work was continued daily and finished - THORP St. cleaned & repaired - The MOUTSERAP cleaned out - Two fresh switch trenches dug by the CALVAIRE into MOUTSERAP Sump - MILL SF. cleaned out - Sumps dug in all trenches - MAP St. widened - & YIDDISH cleaned out & boarded back to CAT HILL Road -

WARLINGHOUT-LEZ-PAS.

20th.

Marched here into huts.

BAISENOX.

25th.

Moved here in 'busses via COTTINGENS and AIZERE-AVIERS.

ALBERT.

26th.

Marched here - Party of 50 men detailed under 2/Lt CAVE to work on RAILWAY near COMPAIMAISSON with 7th. Sd Coy R.E.

BAZENFIE-LE-GRAND WOOD.

28th.

Marched here into bivouac to work under G.R.E. 15th. Division. Found half bivouac cut through by new Railway.

29th.

Work commenced - A Coy cutting wood for Corduroy Road to BAZENFIE-LE-PEIT & laying same; B SdG on road to MARTINPUICH - D Coy on main BAPAUME road from COURCHETTES to LE SARRS; C Coy on light railway from COMPAIMAISSON VILLA to GURBIT ROAD & on towards LE SARRS

31st.

D Company having finished BAPAUME road brought back to work in MARTINPUICH.

FRANK. G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.

Comdng 5th RI Sussex (Pioneers.)

1/5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

November. BAZENTH-LE-GRAND WOOD.

1st.

Work continued under C R E.
15th Divn. as end of last month.

3rd./20th.

Commenced under C.R.E. 48th Divn.
B Company to make brick track
through MARTINPUICH - A Coy to
make trench boards & lay track
from end of tramway about
N.33.e.9.6. towards LAUCOURT
L'ABRAYE - D Coy to do similar
work from GUNPIT ROAD past
DESTRICOURT FARM towards front
line N E of LE BARS. Odd men,
light duty men, servants &c. to
construct camp, erect ALIENS huts,
make roadway &c. Work continued
by day & night as necessary until
when C Company commenced on
tramway S. of MARTINPUICH

23rd.

B Coy commenced work on tramway
N.34.n.74 to N.28.s.45 -
work continued to end of month.
During month 18 ALIENS & 10 NISSER
huts erected & most of them
completed. 150 yards of road
cleaned & metalled. Whole camp
trenchboarded - Stable & Horses
Standings put up.
Abutment trenches made - Centaen
built & opened - Tool sheds -
Cooker Shelters, Stores Dump &
shed, soup kitchen, & latrines
built.

FRED. G. LANGHAM

1st. COL.

Commg 5th RI Sussex (Pioneers)

1/8th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916

December

Appendix

BAKERFIN-IS-GRAND-WOOD.

1st

Work continued in forward area on trenchboards tracks to LN SRS and 60 c.m. Trenchway to ROBERT of WILLIAM, GILBERT & GREGORY alleys commenced. D company employed on providing dug-out accommodation on about 600 yds. west of MARTINPUICH - & two platoons moved in there.

15th

On reliefs of 48/Division by 15/Division fresh work undertaken on roads - COMYALMAISON - VILLA - MARTINPUICH, BAKERFIN - MARTINPUICH, & CURPIE LANE.

17th

Defences of MARTINPUICH reconnoitred & preliminary plan of same prepared.

24th

Work commenced - also work on derelict camp at MIDDLE WOOD.

27th

New work on shelters for latrines, cookers, abution sheds, etc. began in SCOTT'S REDOUBT (W. & S.) and SHELTER WOOD (W. & S.) ACID DROP and PIONEER Camps.
Road work continued to end of month. Camp completed with material available. 23 Amiens Huts, 12 NISSEN HOW Huts, 2 Company Headquarters, Stable, bathhouse, Road into dump, trench board tracks throughout made & laid, 2 M's stores, Tailor's shop, Armourer's & Pioneers, & Bootmakers shop, C & D Coys Cookers shelters finished and another for A. Coy Cooker. Hd. Qrs. & two company kitchens & orderlies' quarters erected. New latrines & abution shade built. Transport lines near LA BOISSERIE completed.
Men still very crowded in the huts, & two Company Officers' Messes still in dugouts. Health of men much improved, especially during last half of month, owing to rest from constant night-work & care of feet, etc.

FRED G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.
Comde. 5th Bn. Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers).

1st January 1917.

1917

January

14th BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix

BAZEMIN-LE-GRAND-WOOD.

Our camp to be officially known as "CINQUE PORTS CAMP", all huts etc. numbered & marked. Work on Camps & on KARTHOVICH defences continued.

1st

15th

Work on all camps completed.

16th

Moved by train from ALBERT to LOUPOPE. Handed over camp to 15th Division, in good condition & very clean & sanitary.

RAILWAYS.

17th 3 a.m. Arrived here to rest at 3 a.m.

27th

Inspected by O.O.C. 48th Divn. who praised work of Battalion during last 3 months - also congratulated Bathn. on report received from III Corps that the camp at BAZEMIN-LE-GRAND WOOD had been excellently planned & carried out - & left in an exemplary state of cleanliness & sanitation.

CENTRE-SUB-SOINET.

Moved here with 14th Brigade Group by train - to relieve 152nd French Division in front of FEROME.

28th

FRED G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.

Comd'g. 5th (Cinque Ports) Bn.
The Royal Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers)

3rd February 1917.

1ST/5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

February

CHENEY-GUN-SQUARE

C Company moved to dug outs in
trenches about 1000x H. of
HERBECOURT (WITKIND Trench)

FROISSY

Bn Hd Qrs & A & B Coys marched
here - extreme cold - 30% f. below
f.p.

HERBECOURT

Hd Qrs marched here - to P. O.
JABON. A Coy to Tr. RIMZI -
B Coy - 1/2 to H. 36, c. and 1/2
to switch off B. GUNRIERS at
H. 29. P. D Coy to FROISSY

Work commenced on maintaining
Comm. Tr. GUNRIERS & ROKINS
IX POSSES - & trench warden posts
established -

8th One section to each side Hd Qrs
to maintain O.P.s & signal lines -

11th A Coy moved to FLAYCOURT - with
2 Platoons in ADVILLE in B. des
Territoriaux -

12th B. Coy relieved by D Coy -

15th 2 Officers & 90 o/r. to III Corps
Ry. Coy.

20th B. Coy moved up from FROISSY to
dugouts in HELMINE Tr.

21st Relief between C & D Coys.

22nd - A & B Coys.

During month had charge of 3 main
communication trenches - manned
DIVL O.P.s - & established
S.O.S. posts between Dae & DIVL
H. Q. Trenchboard tracks laid -
work done for H. Q.s - & DIVL.
details, & T.B. emplacements.
2 DIVL. Soap Kitchens erected -
work on F.O. VALDUN. Very heavy
work caused by thaw (after nearly
6 weeks frost) during last 10 days
of the month

FRED. G. LANGHAM

Lt Col.

Company 6th Bn. Sussex (Pioneers)

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix

March
HERBECOURT.

Inter Company relief of C & D Companies.

do. do. A & B. do.

17th.

All working strength concentrated on road HERBECOURT - BIACHES & FLAUCOURT - BIACHES owing to evacuation of BIACHES & LA VAISSENETTE by the enemy.

20th.

1 Platoon of C to PERONNE to work on billets.

PERONNE.

Batt. Hd. Qrs. & D. Compy. moved to MAUBOURG de PARIS, PERONNE & A. Coy. to the transport to LA CHAPLAINETTE - work to continue on roads west of SOMME.

21st.

B. Coy. detailed for light railway from FLAUCOURT.

23rd.

D. Coy. moved to 34 Youngs at S. W. corner of Bois de BUIRE & A. Coy. to FINGOURT to take over forward roads - B. Coy. to PERONNE to work on roads radiating from there.

28th.

C. Coy. moved to BUSBY to take over intermediate roads, the roads allotted to A & D. being extended Eastwards as the enemy is driven back.

30th.

F. O. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
Cmdg. 5th RI. Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers)

2.4.17.

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.1917.AprilBOIS DE TINGHENT.Appendix

3rd.

Headquarters moved here in BIVOUAC -
about J.18.D.33 - G-Coy to ST. SWILLIE.
B-Coy to quarry - E.5.0.93.Map
62.C.H.R.
1/20,000.

8th.

D-Coy to Bivouac in GROR WOOD.
E.27.Central.

24th.

A-Coy (less 1 platoon hutting) moved
to ST. SWILLIE (E.18.e.75).BIVOUAC AT E.11.a.34.

Headquarters moved here in BIVOUAC.
Work during month all roads in
forward area, erection of Adrian huts,
filling Headquarters for 48th DIV.,
filling numerous craters, digging
strong points & communication
trenches, wiring, & consolidating
positions gained at TOURCOIS, SART,
PARIS PRIEL & CHILIZONNY Farms -
Cannettes slight.

62.G.H.R.
1/20,000
&
62.D.H.V.

27th.

E.8.LAVOHAL, Lt. Col.Comdr. 8th Bn. Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers).

3.4.17.

WEST SUSSEX
RSR MEMO

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL INDIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

1917.

MAY

BIYOUNG AT K. 11.8.04.

Appendix

3rd. 10 a.m.

48th Division relieved by 42nd Division. We stay in the line for the present.

7th.

Scouts (noting on 48th Divn. G.P. Observers) withdrawn after 3 months constant observation work for Division.

8th.

Scouts to YANBINGOURT for rest & training.

11th.

All work to cease at end of night working parties - after 15 days consecutive night work. *D* Coy. to PERONTE.

13th.

Remainder of Battalion moved out to PERONTE.

PERONTE.

13th.

1 Platoon each of B. & D. moved to HAPLINCOURT to prepare Divl. H.Q. near BEAULINCOURT.

14th.

Scouts moved to BEAULINCOURT to take over Divl. O.P. in new area from 40th Divn.

COMBLES.

15th.

Marched here via Clery.

HAPLINCOURT.

Marched here via SAILLY-SAILLISBT.

16th.

Reconnoitering new work.

17th.

B. & D. Coys. moved up into BIYOUNG near VELU.

20th.

A. Coy. moved up to BIYOUNG west of VELU. *B* & *D* in HERBIES - MOIRIES line - *A* in BEAUBERTS - MORCHIES line - G. Coy. training & resting at HAPLINCOURT.

26th.

B. & D. Coys. moved up to GARRISON reserve line - BEAUBERTS - MORCHIES as far north as the GAURNAI road.

1917.May

31st.

Appendix

A. & C. Coys. relieved B. & D. Coys.
 D. Coy. returned to rest. B. Coy.
 took over work of 'A' Coy.
 During month very few reinforcements
 but 2 Officers & 87 O. R. re-joined
 from III Corps Light Railways Coys.
 At end of month effective strength
 39 Officers & 1040 O. R.

P. O. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
 Comd. 5th Hl. Sussex Rgt. (Pioneers)

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
 RSR MS 4/64

1ST/5TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

June

HAVINCOURT.

No 1 Platoon & a few men from No 2 (A Company) under 2/LT TRAVERS employed to consolidate our enemy post taken by the 9th Bn. Work topped out 5 minutes after zero time & commenced within 10 minutes & entirely completed by dawn & without a casualty.

HELDERS

1/20000-

K.26.n.9555

7th

8th

Some party completed work on post left unfinished by the Infantry Corps & DFL G.O.G.s expressed great satisfaction with work.

13th

Relief of A & D Companies -

13th

B Company to neighbourhood of HERIES.

14th

A Company to road S. of MORRIS.

28th

B Company to snaken road S E of BEAURETZ & C Company into that village - Battalion warned to be ready to move & join XVII Corps near FORENTIN. Work during month fortifying the HERIES - DIVIDED line & construction of dug outs - strength at end of month 41 Officers & 1085 O.R.

FRED G LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
Command 8th RI. Sussex Regt. (Pioneers)

1st July 1917.

1/5th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917
July

Appendix

ACHTM-LE-CRAND.

3rd
Bathn. relieved by 20th K.R.R.C.
(Pioneers 3rd Divn) & marched
here. C.O. went forward to
XVIII Corps area N of YPRES to
make preliminary reconnaissance.

4th
Inspection by G.O.C. 46/Divn.
who expressed his satisfaction
with work done & regretted
having to send in the Bathn. to
the near Area without any rest.

HOFUZERS.

5th
Moved here by train & marched to
BELGIUM
Sheet 28
1/40000.

COSTRUNER.

6th
Into bivouac at wood in A.24.
c & d.
7th
Bivouacs & Transport lines
heavily shelled.

POPERINGHE.

8th
Moved at 1.30 a.m. into billets
here.

ST. JAN-TER-PIEZE.

9th
Moved here to camp Z.
10th
Reconnaissance of forward work
by G.O. & Coy. officers.
11th
B. Coy detailed for Light
Railway construction.

12th
Work on Bont Rd. & Causeway No.3.
commenced - men going up by Lorry -
by D. Coy.

16th
C & D Coye moved to CANAL BANK
about I.I.C.75. Transport to
PESLHOEK. ST. JULIEN
28.8.17.

17th
Handed over to 13th Bathn. &
moved to Bivouac at A.15.c.75.
(PESLHOEK).

PESLHOEK.

25th
C & D Companies moved back - both
badly gassed on work in CANAL BANK.

1917July

26th

Appendix

A Coy moved to Blyoune at H.4.c.90
(N.S. of Vlamertinghe).

VLAMERTINGHE.

30th

Hd. Qrs. & C. & D. Coye moved to
Blyoune with A Coy. - on
notification today is the day.
(No. 2 Platoon gassed in night).

31st

Commencement of 3rd Battle of
YPRES. 2 Sections of D Coy moved
out at 2.45 a.m. to open BOUNDARY
ROAD N. of HAMMOND'S CORNER for
guns - Remainder moved off at
7 a.m. - & opened up BUFFS ROAD
by 9.45 a.m. Continued work all
day - 2 Platoons worked on
maintenance from 4 to 9 p.m.
CO Pte & 6th Hows. Got through
beside field guns, Hows, Wagons
& Pack Transport.
About 100 men admitted to
Hospital during the month with
Gas symptoms.

FRED G. LANGHAM.

Lt. Col.

Comd'g. 5th Bn. Sussex Rgt.
(Pioneers).

3/8/17.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS B

1/5th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917

August

Appendix

VIAWORTHINGHE.

1st Continued work on BUYPFS Rd. & also cleared ADMIRAL'S Rd. as far as Corps Southern Boundary near WILDJIE & commenced to repair it. NAP
ST. JULIAN
(28.8.17.2.)

3rd Repairs of BOUNDARY Rd. commenced.

CANAL BARK.

5th Moved into ~~east~~ CANAL BARK (about C.25.d.d.) ready for more forward work.

YEPPEB.

6th Began to corduroy single track on BUYPFS Rd east of ADMIRAL'S Rd. as far as CALIFORNIA Suppy. (C.22.d.1090).

16th Renewed attack on enemy's positions E. of the STEENBECK. Five platoons under Capt. C.R. LANGHAM detailed to ALBERTA to consolidate any positions gained. Only one platoon of D Coy was able to consolidate JEW HILL, which was done under Serjt. Cannon, Capt. C.R. LANGHAM & 2/Lt. J.H. GREEN having been killed. The remainder of the Battalion opened up BUYPFS Rd & the ST. JULIAN Rd. as far as VAN HEDDE PARM.

18th Commenced work on forward accommodation near HILL TOP & ENGLISH FARMS.

19th 2 Platoons of C moved to HILL TOP Pm.

23rd Remainder of C moved to HILL TOP Pm.

26th D Coy moved to near ENGLISH Pm.

27th A Coy consolidated BORDER HOUSE & improved position at JEW HILL.

A.28.d.5.2.

29th Relieved by 16th R.I. Rifles (detached from 56th Divn.) &

BELGIVUM &
FRANCS.
28 N.W.

1917.

August

29th
(Contd)

Appendix.

Moved here with Hd. Qrs. & C & D Coys - A Coy moved to a Bivouac at H. 5. a. 49 (East of VIAMERTINGHEM).

31st

A Coy commenced work on DUPES Rd. East of ADMIRALS Rd.

During the month "B" Company continued work on Light Railways in detachment. A considerable number of Officers & men were slightly gassed during operations. Casualties were numerous but except on 1st not serious in nature. Reinforcements badly needed as effective working strength getting very low. 2 Platoons having practically disappeared.

FRED G. LAVERNA.

Lt. Col.

Comd'g. 5th Bn. Sussex
(Phone 29).

2/9/17.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS RECORDS OFFICE

1/8th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917

September

Appendix

A.28.d.52.

Since beginning of month, A's
Cmpy have continued work on
forward Roads.

BELGIUM &
FRANCE,
28 N.W.

8th

9th

A. Coy came back here to rest.
C & D Coys moved to camp at
H.4.c.48 & made additional
accommodation.

10th

C Coy commenced work on BUYS &
ADRIALS roads. D Coy on others
in O.C. lines 1 & 2.

21st

B Coy rejoined from Light Railway
work.

23rd

C & D Coys moved to new camp at
B.29.b.54, in consequence of
continued bombing at old camp.

25th

A Coy relieved C Coy in
consequence of great reduction
of latter by casualties.

W. GARAL BK. (N. of YPRES).

27th

Rd. Gtrs. with A, B. & D. Coys
moved here - A & C to Bristol Farm
(H.10.a.57) Transport to MARSH
Camp in H.5.b.

28th

A Coy commenced work on SF.
JULIEN - WINTERG RD. - B Coy on
St. JULIEN - FRANKS Jk. road -
D Coy on Trenchard tracks
under O.C.475 rd. Coy R.E.

28 N.W.2.

Very few reinforcements received
during the month & casualties
heavy.
Companies in temporary rest were
trained in drill & musketry.

FRED G. LANCHEA.

Lt. COL.
Comdg. 5th RI. Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers)

3rd Octr. 1917.

5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

October

E. CANAL BANK (H.O.F. TRENCH)

1st

Work continued on forward roads & tracks.

4th

* C Coy moved up to CANAL BANK & worked in forward T.B. tracks

SIBER CAMP (A.20.d.91)

10th

Battalion moved here taking over from 20th E R R C (Pioneers of 3rd Divn. temporarily attached to 9th Divn.)

BELGIUM &
FRANCE
28 N.W.

12th

4.0 P killed. 18.0 P wounded 47 horses killed & 12 wounded by one H.C. shell in camp.

SIBER CAMP (A.20.d.91) ACE

14th/
15th

Battn entrined at PREMIER for 1st Army area to join Y Corps, & debriined at MARSDI & marched here.

ACE

16th

Reconnoitred work of 2nd Canadian Pioneers.

SHROTONAL FARM

17th

Battn Hd. Qrs. moved here with A & D Coye & Transport - B. Coy took camp N. of REUVILLIS ST. VAAOT & C Coy to dug outs N. of LES THIBOUL corner (west of THEBUS)

A Coy moved up to dugouts adjoining B Coy.

19th

B Coy relieved by D Coy. Work done in new area mostly on PIGGY TRENCH & laying & sorsewing Trench Bd. track along to RND TRAIL - one platoon working concrete gun emplacements - Company in reserve opening out & repairing old road to SHROTONAL FARM & repairs to billets etc. - houses in TRENCH area were 2 Oftrs & 39 O R killed - & 7 Oftrs & 306 O R wounded besides 7 Oftrs & a number of O.R.s wounded & remaining at duty.

28th

FRED. G. LAURICHAK,

1st Col.

Command 5th RI Sussex Regt (Pioneers)

2/11/17

1ST/5TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

November

HEZONVAL MARÉ.

7th

A Coy withdrawn to Batten, Hd. Qrs.
B & D Coys to dugouts in E
N. of VILG.

AVRODOIGNE.

17th

Batten Hq. Qrs. & A Coy marched here
from HEZONVAL on relief by 2nd
Cann. Pioneers

18th

B C & D Coys marched here from
HEZONVAL.

22nd

Company training, sketching, lectures
for since 18th inst.

23rd

Interlined Hd. Qrs. A & C Coys at
SAVY - & B & D Coys at TRIGUES
for an unknown destination.

LEGNARD (TRAIT).

29th

Detained here, after passing by
ALBERT, AVENS, PARIS, EXOY,
AVIGNON, BARBETTES, GARNIES, HICQ,
GENOA & PARRA, & marched to
billsots at HIRZICH.

PAISSANO.

30th

Marched here from HIRZICH.

FRED G. LANGHAM, Lt. Col.
Comd 5th Rl. Sussex Rgt. (Pioneers)

6:13:17.

(Delayed owing to constant moves.)

5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

December

GADGARO.

Marched here from PASSANO

1st

POITE DI BARBARANO.

Marched here from GADGARO

2nd

JARREGO.

Marched here from POITE DI BARBARANO

3rd

ISOLA DI CAPRINO.

Marched here from JARREGO

4th

LOVARI.

Marched here from ISOLA DI CAPRINO

5th

ESPILAVON.

Marched here from LOVARI.

11th

30th

One platoon of D Coy to
VALLE SAN PIETRINO to erect intrenchments.
Last three weeks of year employed
in company training, reconnaissance
of Sorbellis & Gr. mountains round
RUMBITO - One platoon of A - received
bridging instruction from 474 Coy
R E on P-~~BRUNNA~~.

FRID G. LANGHAM. Lt. Col.
Command 5th Bn. Sussex (Pioneers)

2nd January 1918.

1/6TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix

January

SOHIAVOH

3rd "C" Company commenced work on Telephone Cable Trench N. of MORABATICA.

7th "C" Company moved into billets in MORABATICA.

7th to 20th "C" Company continues work on cable trench & a detachment of D Coy continues work on camp at VALLE S. FLORIANO. Remainder of Battalion training.

17th Lt. Col. P. O. Langham admitted to Hospital, Major Eberle R.E. assumed command.

21st Warned to be ready to move to New Area. C Coy. recalled from MORABATICA to SOHIAVOH also majority of D Coy detachment.

22nd Moved to HRESANAYIDO.

23rd do MORBARHO.

23th do KIBOHA.

S. AMBROGIO.

Moved to S. AMBROGIO.

27th to 30th Remained in billets at S. AMBROGIO. Road work carried out on road from S. AMBROGIO to PIAMBINO.

31st A Company marched to TRUVYVO & encamped there to proceed to G.H.Q. central school. Active strength at end of month Officers 34. O.Ranks 896.

G. P. ZEBERLE, Major R.E.
Comdng. 5 RI Sussex Regt.

5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

February.

SAMBROGIO.

1st-11th. The Battalion (less A. Company) remained at S. Ambrogio and continued training.

TREBASIGNONE.

11th. Moved to TREBASIGNONE.

13th. 5 officers & 80 O. R., moved from TREBASIGNONE to VILTORNA to take over work on Corps line in the 5th Div. Area.

16th. 2 Platoons of D. Company moved to SPRESIANO and ARCADE for work on O. P. for G. H. A. in conjunction with 477 (B. H.) Field Coy. R. E.

CAVALLO.

18th. The Battalion (less A. Coy. in G. H. Q. Training Area and detachments already in 5th Div. Area) moved to 5th Div. Area. Battrn. Hdqrs & C Coy at CAVALLO 3 platoons B Coy at LA MARCHELLA and two platoons of D. Coy. S. of PAVOLIANO.

19th. Reconnaissance of work on Corps line in 5th Div. Area, & work on opening roads

22nd./

27th.

Work on Corps line in 5th Div. Area.

26th. A. Coy. returned from G. H. Q. training area & billeted at SOVERNICO

28th.

The Battrn. moved to take over billets & work in 7th Div. Area from 24th. Bn. Manchester Regt. (Pioneers) Battrn. Hdqrs $\frac{1}{2}$ mile W. of SCHIAVONCESA & 300 yds N. of SELVA-SCHIAVONCESA Road. A. & C. Coys. in GIAMERA - D & D Coys on IL MORELLO. B Coy on Road 5. D. Coy. on Road 8. Effective strength at end of month officers 36. O. Rks. 988. Casualties during month - NIL.

G. F. ERRICK

Major R. E.

Comdr. 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. (Pioneers)

5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

March.

GIARRA.

1st-14th. Battalion worked on CHORD line and screening roads in the NOTTEVALO area.

16th.

Relieved by 68th Italian Division and marched to MISANO.

MISANO.

16th.

Marched to BADONE.

BADONE.

17th.

Marched to MARMIZAGO.

MARMIZAGO.

18th.

Marched to S. MARIA di NOV and remained in training.

S. MARIA di NOV.

23rd.

Marched to LIVENA and remained there in training until end of month.

Only casualties during the month occurred on 8th. - 2 men killed and 8 wounded, 3 of whom died of wounds. The effective strength of the Battalion considerably reduced during the month owing to an epidemic in "A" Coy; presumed to be caused by bad water, 97 O.R. Having been evacuated sick during the month. Strength at end of month. Officers 46. O.R.'s 793

O.P. KERRIE

Lieut:Col:

Comd'g: 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt (Pioneers)

1/5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

APRIL.

LIERNA.

Appendix.

1st.

Ordered to move into 23rd Divn. Area to work on mountain roads under G.H. of XIV Corps. Transport left LIERNA by road and arrived at VIGHERA in the evening.

2nd.

The Battalion less A. Coy. were conveyed by lorries from LIERNA to CHIUPANO, transport arriving at same place from VIGHERA.

M. CAVALLERIO.

3rd.

The Battalion less A. Company and Transport marched via CALTRAVO and GALVENS, thence by mule tracks to hutsments north of M. CAVALLERIO.

4th.

Cleaning up & reconnaissance of work. A. Company moves by lorry from LAVO to CHIUPANO.

5th.

Work commenced on mountain roads. A. Company joined remainder of Batta. in afternoon.

5th to
20th.

Work continued on mountain roads etc. under supervision of Italian Engineers.

21st.

Cleaning up & handing in tools etc. preparatory to handing over work to 8th B. Staffs. Regt. (P) 23rd Divn.

GRANAZZA.

22nd.

The Battalion moved to hutsments east of GRANAZZA, taking over camp & work of 9. S. Staffs. Work on roads, mule tracks, etc. leading to front line.

23rd.

Game under orders of 48th Divn. who take over command of the sector.

23rd to
30th.

Work continued until end of month. Bad weather hindered work considerably during the whole month. Effective strength end of month. Officers 49, O. Ranks 611.

G. F. KERBLE, Lieut. Col.,
Comdg. 5th Batta. Royal Sussex Regt.

5TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

May.

Appendix.

GRANDEZA.

1st to
15th.

Work continued on roads, mile
tracks etc. in Right Division.
Camp at GRANDEZA
thoroughly cleaned when snow
melted. Rifle range erected.

20th.

Resting & cleaning up preparatory
to move.

21st.

Relieved by 9 B. Staffs. (Pioneers
23rd Divn.) and marched to HARE.

22nd.

HARE.

Marched at 4 a.m. from HARE to
camp N. of SARGEDO. Halted
during the day & moved again at
9.30 p.m. SARGEDO - HARE -
PROBIANO - TEEZE to billets
in CUSTO arriving at 6 a.m.
23/5/18.

COORO.

24th to
31st.

Training.

31st.

Moved at 9.30 p.m. to VILLAVIEJA.
Effective strength at end of
month

42 Officers.
830 Other Ranks.
Casualties during month 1 Other
Rank killed.

G.P. KERRIE, Lieut. Col.
Comdg. 5 Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. (Pioneers).

.....

8TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix

VILLAVIEHA

1st

The Battalion arrived at Camp near VILLABERIA from COSTO at 6 a.m.

2nd

Moved at 5.15 a.m. to CANISINO.

CANISINO CARRIOLA.

3rd

Moved from CANISINO at 4.30 a.m. to relieve 24th Hampshire (Pioneer Bn) 7th Div. in camp near CARRIOLA (Hd. Qrs. A Coy) and FRA PEJUNCA (B & D Cos).

4th

Companies resting & cleaning up.

5th

Work on roads & tracks in forward area.

to
14th

Owing to attack by Austrians the Battalion stood to at 3.15 a.m. & later manned the RED Line, where they remained until withdrawn on morning of 14th inst. Seven O.H.s. wounded.

15th

Work continued on roads & wiring of front line etc.

17th

to
25th

CANISINO

The Battalion was relieved by 24th Hampshire & marched at 10 a.m. to CANISINO.

26th

27th to
29th

Remained at CANISINO. Companies training & inoculation of all men not inoculated within previous 13 months.

CAPT. EL MARIN COSTO.

30th

The Battalion (less D Coy) moves at 6 a.m. to camp at CAPT. EL MARIN (1 mile S. of THEME) & moved again at 6 p.m. to march to COSTO. D Coy marched at 6 a.m. to the Plateau. Comp. Hdqrs. and two platoons being attached to 7th Divn. and two platoons to 23rd Divn. for work under C.R.-As. Effective strength at end of month. 41 officers 695 O.H.s.

1918

June

30th
(Ctd.)

Appendix

During the month the working strength of Battalion was much reduced by an epidemic of "Mountain Fever" which commenced on 7th of month & lasted until 18th total cases 287, all of which with a few exceptions rejoined Bn. before end of month.

G. P. BERRILL, Lieut. Col.
Command. 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

5th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

July

Appendix

THIENE.

1st The Battalion (less D Coy) marched to COSIO from camp near THIENS.

COSIO.

2nd to
6th Training.

6th B. Coy embarked at COSIO and moved to GRANZZA for work under 23rd Divn. for Heavy Artillery.

7th Bn. Hdqrs & C. Coy remained at COSIO training.

18th

Bn. Hdqrs & C. Coy moved at 7.30 p.m. via TAZZS and MALO to staging camp E. of THIENS arriving on 19th.

THIENS.

19th to
20th Remained in Staging Camp, THIENS.

21st Bn. Hdqrs & C. Coy moved at 4.10 a.m. via GROMOLO, CROSARA and UDGO to HARS.

HARS.

22nd Bn. Hdqrs. & "A" Echelon transport moved at 3.30 a.m. to GRANZZA & C. Coy to camp at S. SISTO. B & D Coy. again come under orders Batten. Hdqrs on the latter reaching GRANZZA.

GRANZZA.

23rd to
31st Work on mined dugouts, artillery emplacements &c. continues. B & C Coys work rather hampered owing to constant changes of accommodation &c. & standing in alarm posts.

27th Lt. Col. G.Y. Sberle D.S.O. left unit to proceed on a month's special leave to D.K. Major A.G. Thomas M.C. assumed Command.

31st Fighting strength at end of month, 40 Officers, 920 other ranks. Casualties during month, 1 O. Rank wounded.

A.G. THOMAS.

Major.

Command, 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.(P)

5th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

August

Appendix

1st to
31st.

GRANDEZZA.

During the whole month the battalion remained at work in the Forward Area, the following items of work being carried out:-
S. SISTO RIDGE: erecting huts & horse lines for D.A.C.; constructing dugouts etc. for B.A. Hq. GRANDEZZA and for Artillery Brigades;
construction of water point on KASERLAKA road; construction & erection of camouflage on roads & tracks in Forward Area & patrolling & repairing roads & tracks. General improvements & repairs to camps occupied by the battalion. Kims erected at H.Q. camp for the recovery of soldier from old time. 43 lbs recovered during the month.

16th

"B" Coy. ordered to move up from camp on West of road PIRA DELLA ACQUA - THE DIAMOND on to the S. SISTO RIDGE, being accommodated in dugouts & splinter proof shelters on the ridge, with Coy. H.Q. in the rear.

27th

Owing to continued shelling by night of soldiers & bivouacs in neighbourhood of EBOR, SWERTON and FORREST redoubts & casualties received, "C" Coy. H.Q. and 2 platoons were withdrawn to camp at GRANDEZZA, the other two platoons remaining in "THE DELL" in vicinity of HARBOWGAN, HUNDERSFIELD and TINKLEY redoubts.

20th

3 Officers and 50 selected other ranks commenced a special "Guides" course under G.S.O.2. 49th Div.

27th
29th

Course finished.

31st

Effective strength at end of month.
24 Officers, 905 other ranks.
Casualties during month,
7 other ranks wounded.

O. F. SMITH.

Cmdg 5th Royal Sussex Regt (Pioneers)

5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

September

Appendix

GRABEZZA.

Work continued by the battalion, in the forward Area during the month - concreting Dugouts on S. SISTO RIDGE and excavating and timbering entrances etc. Road & ammunition maintenance & patrol on all forward roads & tracks.
Re-erecting Tank & Troops at water point LAMVASIBA RD.
Strengthening & wiring LEFT REMOUNT at S. SISTO.

7th.

4th Coy. completed road from front line at end of S. SISTO RD. towards ASIMBO. Erecting horse standings for D.A.C. at GRABEZZA, improving rifle ranges & erecting stables at FORTER CAMP.

23rd.

Work on S. SISTO RIDGE taken over by D. Coy. 5. Coy. returning to the Bathn. Camp for training.

24th.

Going to heavy shelling No. 11 platoon C. Coy. moved from bivouacs near the DELL to Company Here on S. SISTO RD. 18 Dugouts now completed on S. SISTO RIDGE, each accommodating 9 men.

Effective strength at end of month 38 Officers 853 Other Ranks. Casualties during month -
2 C. Ranks slightly wounded.

G. F. BERRILL

Lt. Col.

Cmdg. 5th Royal Sussex Regt.

1/5th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix

October

GRANDEZA.

1st. to
14th.

Work in forward area continued by
"C" and "D" Coys., "E" Coy. at
Battn. Hqs., undergoing training
in Pioneer and Infantry work.

15th.

"E" Coy. relieved "G" Coy. in
forward area. "E" platoons
occupying the "DUXIE" and
HARBORAGE and HILARY Redoubts,
and 2 platoons in shelters near
GREEN DUNE.

"C" Coy. returned to Battn. Hqs.
On the evening of the 15th "E"
platoons were placed at the
disposal of the 14th Inf. Brigade
and manned the Piquet line.

16th.

"E" Coy. Hqs. and 1 platoon
withdrawn from Piquet line to the
"DUXIE" at daybreak.
Evening of 16th inst., remaining
platoon of "E" Coy. withdrawn from
Piquet line.

19th.

"E" Coy. (less 2 platoons) cease
to be at the disposal of the
Brigade at 18.00 hours.

19th. to
29th.

Normal work continued.

29th.

Owing to the reported enemy
withdrawal to the H. GAZZ line,
special working parties, consisting
of 2 platoons of "E" Coy., and 1
platoon of "D" Coy., commenced work
at 23.00 hrs. on roads leading
from British front line towards
ASINAO.

30th.

Working parties relieved at
05.30 hrs. by similar parties
from forward companies and worked
normal hours; one of these
parties, namely 3 platoons of
"E" Coy. were heavily shelled.
No further work ordered on forward
roads.

Work completed during the month:
Dugouts on B. SIBO ridge completed.
Maintenance of roads and
camouflage in forward area.
Horse standings in PIONEER CAMP
completed and improved; GUD
CAMP dismantled, and hutting work
carried out under orders of 477
Field Coy. R. E.

1918.

October

31st.

Effective Strength at the end of
the month: 32 Officers, 860
O.Ranks.
Casualties during the month:
1 Officer and 4 O.Ranks wounded.

G.F. SHERIDAN, Lt. Col.,
Comd'g. 5th R. Sussex Regt.

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Appendix

1/8th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix

November

GRAVEZZA.

B and D Coys. ordered to commence work at 11.00 on main road from DIAMOND NORTH to ASIAGO, and northward to CAPITULLO-BRIGHE, B Coy. working to entrance of ASIAGO and D Coy. forward. G Coy. moved from GRAVEZZA to dugouts on S. SISTO RIDGE to await orders. On conclusion of day's work B. & C. Coys. took up positions in LEFT BRIGADE SECTION of old FROST LINE, B Coy. in Right Sector, C Coy. in Left Sector, D Coy. returning to IABRELLABA SOUTH where advanced Battalion H. Gns. were established.

2nd.

B. & C. Coys. again worked on forward roads and on conclusion of day's work awaited orders at RUTZER SOUTH. In the afternoon D Coy. were employed in collecting stores & baggage from former billets of B. C. & D. Coys. & loading them on transport. In the evening D Coy. & advanced Bn. H. Q. moved to RUTZER SOUTH. No. 11 Platoon attached to Div. H. Q. as Divisional escort. B. Echelon Transport moved from PAKA to rear Bn. H. Q. GRAVEZZA.

RUTZER SOUTH.

3rd.

The Battalion (less rear H. Q. & B. Echelon Transport) moved from RUTZER S. to VEZZENA (about 3 1/2 kilometres inside AUSTRIAN territory) an AUSTRIAN COMPS H. Q.

During the night 3rd./4th all companies furnished armed posts in vicinity of VEZZENA to deal with bands of Austrian prisoners who had not been disarmed. A platoon of 'C' Coy. were detailed to occupy VEZZENA PORT and disarm a party of Austrians there. They met with no resistance beyond a few rifle shots.

VEZZENA.

4th. The Battalion paraded in the morning ready to continue the advance but orders were received cancelling further move owing to the Armistice being signed with

1918.NovemberAppendix4th
(Cont'd.).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY with effect from 13.00 hrs. B. Coy. and 75 O. Ranks B. Coy. marched to CALDORVAZZO with orders to bring back AUSTRIAN prisoners. They were not required for this work, but cleared & repatriated main road. D. Coy. & remainder of B. Coy. salvaging captured arms etc. & guarding prisoners.

5th.

D. Coy. & 3 platoons of B. Coy. guarding prisoners & collecting arms etc. 1 O.R. & 30 O. R. B. Coy. moved to TERRINE for duty under Supply Officer. 70s Coy. and 75 O. Ranks B. Coy. returned from CALDORVAZZO in evening.

6th.

3 Platoons D. Coy. employed on main road through GEMTA to CALDORVAZZO and billeted at GEMTA. E. & G. Coys. collecting arms etc. 1 platoon of D. Coy. returned from GRANIZZA on completion of escort duties.

7th.

3 Platoons D. Coy. continued road work at GEMTA and were joined by remainder of D. Coy.

8th.

The Battalion (less D. Coy. & 1 platoon B. Coy.) marched from VIZZINA to accommodation on S. GIUSTO RIDGE. D. Coy. returned from GEMTA and followed the battalion staying for night 8th/9th at TERRINE.

S. GIUSTO RIDGE.

The Battalion moved into billets at GRAVEZZA.

9th.

GRAVEZZA.

Bn. employed on clearing up area from old front line to IANFABRICA RD. No. 11 Platoon rejoined Bn.

11th.

Work on clearing the area continued. Detachment of B. Coy. rejoined from TERRINE.

13th. to
16th.

Various guards & working parties furnished on dumps etc. at GRAVEZZA.

17th.

B. & D. Coys. under Major A. G. Thomas, M. C. moved to TERRINE.

18th.

Detachment under Major Thomas moved to COSTO.

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Appendix

16th. to
19th.

Salvage work continued.

Work handed over to a detachment of Maltese Mining Company. The Battalion (less B. & D. Coys.) moved to THIERE A 02

20th.

THIERE

to COSTO, "C" Coy. taking up biliees at CASPIELLO.

COSTO.

21st. to
30th.

Training and Recreational Training.

Casualties during month nil. Effective Strength at end of month " " 22 Officers 893 Other Ranks.

G. I. KERRIE,

1st Col.

Comd. 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.
(Pioneers).

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS (ARRIVED) OFFICE

5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

December.

COSTO.

1st-31st.

During the whole month the battalion remained in billets at COSTO, with 9th Coy at COSTELLIO.
Training & Recreational Training continued during the month. The following work was carried out. 9 Italian Huts erected for use as Recreation Room, Canteen & extra accommodation.
Improvement of Horse standings, for Battalion Transport & erection of 60 metres of stabling and 6 Italian huts for 241 Bde. R.F.A. at FIZZE. Classes were held under the Army Education Scheme in the following subjects:-
Shorthand, Book Keeping, Arithmetic, English, French, Italian, Electricity & Magnetism.
Gardening. Average attendance 10% of strength.

7th.

Lt. Col. G.S. Eberle D.S.O. admitted to hospital sick.
Major A.G. Thomas M.C. assumed command.

16th.

A composite company of 100 O/Rs under Capt. F.F. Twine M.C. attended a ceremonial parade at VALDARO, at which Italian Decorations were present by. The following attended to receive decorations. Capt. T.G. Rose M.C., Silver medal for valour.
2/Lt. H K F Hillbrand. Cross de Guerre.
Effective strength at end of month. 32 Oftrs. 1023 O.Ranks.

A.G. THOMAS

Major.

Cmdg 5th (C P) Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. (Pioneers)

5th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix

January.

COSTO, ITALY.

1st-31st.

The battalion remained in billets at COSTO, with 90th Coy at CASTELLO, training continued during the month, also Recreational Training including Football, Basket Ball, Field Pipes and performances by the Battalion concert party.

The following work was carried out during the month:- Erecting stables and Harness Rooms for 241 Rde. H. 3rd A at TEGGE; work on De-lousing Plant at the Baths TEGGE. Supervising work carried out by Austrian prisoners.

1st.

The following Officers & other ranks received awards (New Years Gazette) Order B.R. (Class B) Capt. T.W. ROBE, M.C. CAPT. F.P. TWINE, M.C. M.C. CAPT. W.B. DOHE. D.C.M. 240078 Lce Serjt. A. OYLER. R.S.M. 240002 C.S.M. WHITE, A. 240551 Serjt. BAKERSTER, H.F. 240405 Corp. BROWNING, R. 240385 A/Corp. ISTRUD, F.

The following were mentioned in New Years Honours & Despatches:- Lt Col G.S. J. F. HERRIS, D.S.O. MAJOR A.G. THOMAS, M.C.

Lieut. G. BRURKILL,

240667 Sgt. G. CANNON, 240783 PTE COSMENS, 240439 Ldcpl. H. TURNER, 240122 Serjt. G.R. TURNER

The battalion won the Divisional Cross Country Competition at VALDAGNO by 273 points.

A cup was presented by the Corps Commander after the race.

The Battalion won the final of the G.H.Q. Cross Country Race at TRISSINO by 170 points.

One company assisted to repair damages caused by heavy rains to banks of River AGNO at TEGGE and received a letter of thanks from Corps Commander.

Lectures on Demobilization by the Adjutant.

6th.)
7th.)
8th.)
9th.)

20th.

The battalion won Group "A" of the Italian Expeditionary Force Horsemastering and Transport Competition (open to 3 Pioneer & 3 M.G.Bns) by 32 points. VALDAGNO The cup was presented at VALDAGNO by the Corps Commander on 24.1.19. Lecture by Lieut. GARLEN (48th Div. H.Q.) in Recreation Room. Subject "Relations between England & France.

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Appendix.

24th.

Lecture by Senior Chaplain
48th Div. in Recreation Room
Subject "Problems of Peace"

27th.

Lecture by Col. DOWDING, in
Recreation Room. Subject
"Resettlement in Civil Life"
Educational classes were continued
in the following subjects:-
Shorthand, Bookkeeping,
Arithmetic, English, French,
Italian, Gardening.
1 Officer and 92 O. R. demobilised
during month.
76 O. R. Re-enlisted in Post
Belium Army during month.
Effective strength at end of
month. 21 officers 722 other
ranks.

A. G. THOMAS

Lt. Col.

Cmdr. 5th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. (T. F.)
(Pioneers).

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
MS A/14/100

8TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

February

POSTS, TAUN.

Appendix.

8th

Owing to the reduced strength of the battalion, companies were re-organized into two platoons each. Educational classes ceased from this date.

11th

10th Coy was amalgamated with B & D Coys, half to each company, and all billets at CASPIZZO vacated.

16th

76 other ranks retained for service in the Army of Occupation, were transferred to the 1/7th Royal Warwickshire Regt and 60 other ranks to the 4/6th Gloucestershire Regt.

17th

H & Q Coy Details absorbed into B & D Coys.
2/Lt. S.P. SAUNDER transferred to 1/7th Royal Warwickshire Regt.

19th

Lieut. L.F. RICHARDS and Mr. S.J. TRAVERS transferred to 1/6th Gloucester Regt.

23rd

B & D Coys. amalgamated.
4 Officers and 690 other ranks demobilized during the month. Effective strength at end of month.
15 Officers 76 other ranks.

A.G. THOMAS, Lt. Col.
Comdr. 8th Bn, Royal Sussex Regt. (T.P.)

7TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

March

CORPO ITALY

1st-23rd

7 Officers and 28 other ranks
demonbilised.
2 Officers eligible for Army
of Occupation sent to 3rd (Res) Bn
in England.

12th

All animals disposed of and
animal n/c cleared.

16th

All equipment of unit handed
in to Ordnance and clearance
obtained.

17th

Battalion represent n/c closed
and clearance certificate
obtained from command
Paymaster.
Strength strength on 23.3.19.
Officers 4 other ranks 51.

A. G. THOMAS

Lt Col

Comd. 5th Bn Royal Sussex Regt. (T.S.)

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 4/64