

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS RECORD OFFICE

Box 54
ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT
FSR BS 7/17
17211

CAT NO 1727

710.

9TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

24th DIVISION.

1915.

Appendix.

August.

WOLING. - EMBREY & RIMOVAL FRANCE.

21st
to
3rd
September

During the week following the 21st August 1915 the Regiment was ordered to proceed overseas.

On Aug 31st the Regiment left Woking for Southampton in three parties and embarked on the S.S. "La Marguerite" disembarking at Havre on the morning of the 1st September 1915 and marching to Camp No 5 Havre. After remaining for 24 hours the Regiment embarked at Havre during the afternoon of the 2nd inst. and disembarked at Maresquel on the morning of the 3rd inst., marching to the billeting area assigned to the Battalion at Embrey and Rimoval arriving at the latter place at 4.0 pm and 4.30 pm respectively. The weather was very bad and it rained in torrents the whole day. The leather equipment stood the wet weather very badly and does not appear to be very durable.

EMBREY & RIMOVAL FRANCE.

Still very wet. Every effort was made to increase the comfort of the billets which were mostly in barns and outhouses, the day being occupied in inspection of rifles, iron rations feet etc. digging of latrines and other necessary duties.

5th

Being Sunday Church Services were held at Rimoval and Embrey and the day being fine clothes, blankets etc. were able to be dried.

6th (Mon.)

Was again fine and the Battalion settled down to a fixed programme of work for the week, comprising trench digging makeetry, sitting bomb throwing, route marching etc. In the afternoon at 2.0 pm the Officers of the Regiment met the Corps Commander (Lieut Gen Haking commanding the 11th Corps) at Headquarters 73rd BriGade, Torcy. Gen. Haking congratulated them on their arrival in France and expressed his pleasure at meeting them.

1915.

Appendix.

September.

7th (Thurs.) Again fine and the Battalion carried out the programme as per syllabus. Nothing further of interest to record.

8th (Wed.) Fine weather again today and still in billets at Rimoval and Embrey. Sites were arranged for ranges at Rimoval and Embrey for "A" & "B" Companies and "C" & "D" Companies respectively. Special courses of bomb throwing and machine gun firing arranged. The following Officers were ordered for a 24 hours tour of the trenches and left Brigade Head Quarters Torry at 9.30 am i- Major Langdon, Capt. McIvor and Capt. Holloway. Special pockets were issued for carrying smoke helmets.

9th (Thurs.) Weather very bad. Progress made on both ranges and special courses. Nothing of importance to record.

10th (Fri.) Fine weather and very warm. Special courses carried out and ball cartridge at rate of 100 rounds per W.C.O. and man allowed. Special rifle course with ball ammunition commenced, "A" Coy on range at Rimoval and "C" Coy on range at Embrey. 2nd Lieut. Armitage appointed Reserve Machine Gun Officer in place of 2nd Lieut. Kirkpatrick. Revolver practice carried out at Rimoval by all Officers. The C.O. and all Officers also 4 W.C.O.'s per Company attended a demonstration at Divisional Head Quarters at Royon at 10.30 am. A lecture was given first on the effects of gas; all ranks were then ordered to put on their smoke helmets and were passed through a trench into which gas was being driven. The helmets proved their complete efficiency.

11th (Sat.) Fine weather and very hot. The Battalion attended Divisional manoeuvres and formed up at the rendezvous at 8.0 am, facing W.V. on the north of the Embrey-Rimoval road. An assault was carried out by the 72nd Brigade

1916.Appendix.September.11th
(Contd.)

which was ordered to attack Pettie Ste Mahoi and the 73rd Brigade being in reserve. The 7th Portants and 12th Fusiliers were ordered up in support and at 11.30 a.m. the 13th Middlesex and 9th Royal Sussex were ordered to support in the direction of Henoville.

The operation ceased at 1.30 p.m. and the Battalion marched back to billets. Troops paraded without packs in shirt sleeves and wore skeleton marching order with rifles and ammunition. All machine gunners, bombers, snipers, signallers and other specialists paraded with the Battalion. 1st Line Transport was taken.

12th (Sun.)

Fine and very hot. Church of England services held at Rimovral and Embrey by the Chaplain.

Non-Corromist Service at Embrey & Roman Catholic Service at Church Rimovral. After Church Service remains of "A" & "B" Companies fired on the Rimovral range and the casuals of "C" & "D" Companies on the range at Embrey. Nothing further to record.

13th (Mon.)

Fine and hot. All Companies continued to carry out the F&Fie course with ball ammunition on their respective ranges. Cpl Buck Guards Brigade Instructor in bombing commenced a course of instruction in bombing at 9 am. this morning. 2nd Lieut. "Cecunart" & 2nd Lieut. Langlands visited the Grenade School at St. Omor for a short course of instruction leaving Rimovral at 4.30 a.m.

14th (Tues.)

Hot. Divisional exercise at Bonbore les Hasmond. The Battalion fell in at 7.30 a.m. and marched to the place of rendezvous in rear of the 12th Royal Fusiliers arriving at 9.15 a.m. Owing to the inclement weather the operations were postponed and the Battalion marched back to billets. Lieut. Honnige Grenadier Guards delivered a lecture at the headquarters of the 12th Royal Fusiliers at Embrey at which the

1915.

Appendix.

September.

- 14th (contd.)
Bombing Officer and Bombing N.C.O.'s were present. At 5.30 pm. he gave another lecture at Brigade Headquarters at Torry at which the C.O., 2nd In Command and Adjutant were present. A reading and writing room for N.C.O.'s and men was opened for the first time by the Chaplain.
- 15th (Wed.)
Fine. Companies carried out musketry course as arranged on ranges at Rimoval and Embrey. All machine gunners, bombers, signallers, snipers and other specialists underwent special instruction. Transport pm oilco daily.
Lieut. Godwin and 2nd Lieut Armitage, Machine Gun Officers left for a tour of 24 hours in the trenches and were attached to the Canadian Division. Nothing further to record.
- 16th (Thurs)
Fine. Musketry was again carried out (bombing, sniping courses etc. sitting trenches by night & wood fighting). Nothing further to record.
- 17th (Fri.)
Fine. The days programme was identical with that of yesterday & there is nothing of interest to report.
- 18th (Sat.)
Fine. Musketry was again carried out on both ranges, together with special courses for bombers & snipers. 2nd Lieut. Stewart, two N.C.O.'s and 6 men were detailed to attend a course at the Divisional Grenade School at QUILICK and left at 3.0 o'clock.
A lecture was given by Col. Stewart to the Officers at Royal Fusiliers Headquarters at Embrey. Nothing further of interest transpired.
- 19th (Sun.)
Fine. Church Parades were carried out. The Battalion was thoroughly practised in "ambussing" and "ambussing" at Embrey special attention being paid to the best method of allowing men fully armed & equipped to buses & getting them on and off in a rapid and orderly manner. Average time taken for loading 35 seconds.
- 20th (Mon.)
Fine. Route march to Harquellers 1st Line Transport exercised with the Battalion. It was with deep regret that news was received that 2nd Lieut. Stewart had been killed

1916.

Appendix.

September.20th
(Contd.)

by the explosion of a bomb at the school at QUIEFF. He was a very promising & gallant Officer and his death will be a great loss to the Regiment.

Orders were received in the course of the afternoon that the Battalion would move from billets the following day and preparations were made for the move.

21st (Tues.)

Pine. The Battalion marched from billets at 6.15 pm joining up with the Brigade at GREUX & marched to LAIRES arriving there at 1.0 am. the following morning.

LAIRES.

Pine. The Battalion left LAIRES at 7.30 pm marching into billets at BOURNS arriving at 2.30 am the following morning. It was a very tiring march a great part of the day being over pans and the Battalion behaved excellently.

23rd (Thurs.)

Pet. The Battalion changed billets remaining in the same area.

BENVY.

24th (Fri.)

Pine. The Battalion marched into billets at BENVY arriving there at about 2.0 a.m. on the morning of 25th.

IN THE TRENCHES.

25th (Sat.)

Pine. Orders were received at 10 am for the Battalion to march and the Regiment proceeded to SAILLY LES BOURNS. On arrival there the Brigade was informed that it had been transferred to the 9th Division and was ordered to proceed via VERREBANS to the trenches, arriving there at 12.30 pm. An attack had been carried out by the Highland Brigade and at about 3.0 pm in the afternoon the Regiment was ordered to take cover in the support trenches near K 1 where it remained until 9.30 pm when a Staff Officer came with the Brigade Major and ordered the Battalion to advance

1915.

September.

25th
(Contd.)

Appendix

with the Fusiliers on POGSE B. This was carried out in column of Companies with 30 paces interval. The Battalion arrived at the POGSE at about 11.30 pm and formed up while the guiding officer and the Adjutant Capt. Stokes went forward round the EAST side of the POGSE to reconnaissance and to further guide the Regiment. The guiding officer & Capt. Stokes returned about 12.30 am. A Co then started round the EAST side of the POGSE to occupy trenches there. Meanwhile Brig Gen'l Oswald came up and directed the remaining 3 Companies right over the POGSE to occupy & take up positions on the left of A Company. The order of the Companies was then from the left B, D, C and A. The Battalion Head Quarters was established just in rear of the East end of the POGSE. Major Parker proceeded with B, D & C Companies. Both machine guns under Lt. Dodgin were with A Company. Several attacks were made by the enemy during the night of 25th Sept. 1915 and the morning of the 26th, the enemy snipers & bombers being particularly active. Orders were received that the POGSE was to be held at all costs and notwithstanding the fact that the men were without food or water the position was held until the evening of 27th when orders were received that the Brigade was being relieved by the 56th Brigade.

During the whole of the period of occupation of the POGSE the Regiment was subjected to increased artillery & machine gun fire and notwithstanding the losses sustained the Battalion behaved with the utmost gallantry. It is regretted that before being launched into such a desperate action stamps had not been taken to accustom the men to war conditions.

At about 5.0 am at dawn on the 27th the enemy made an assault on the left of "A" Co on Gabaret No.3. Notwithstanding rifle and machine gun fire a good number of the enemy got into Gabaret No.3 from which they opened enfilade fire down the trench occupied by A & B Companies.

27th

1915.

Appendix.September.27th
(Contd.)

The position of "A" Company then became unworkable and they were obliged to retire to the original support trench of the Germans. The lack of bombs was a great handicap and Capt. Stokes succeeded in securing 70 which were passed up to "A" Company. Both machine guns were blown up in action but whilst they were serviceable the machine gunners worked them with good effect.

28th

During the night of the 27th and the early morning of the 28th Sept. the Battalion was withdrawn from the trenches to the bivouac at ~~the~~ the SALIX LES BOURSIS. At 10 am on 28/9/15 a roll was called and the following were found to be missing killed and wounded: -
Major W. W. Porter, Major A. P. H. Gardien, Capt. P. E. Godman, Capt. A. R. Taylor, Capt. J. G. Clarke, Capt. B. H. Holloway, Capt. H. Bury, Lt. G. M. Spackel, Lt. L. W. Kennolly, Lt. A. H. G. Lowe, Lt. H. R. Halldman, Lt. P. O. Palford, Jr., P. R. Pynds, 2nd Lieut D. W. Armistage, 2nd Lieut H. S. Remington, 2nd Lieut. D. Langlands, 2nd Lieut W. R. Kivenswick, 2nd Lieut F. E. Bourdillon, Lieut W. S. Whitson (R. A. M. C.) and 362 Other Ranks.

SALIX LES BOURSIS.

Wed. At 8.30 pm the Battalion marched in very bad weather to the ROBERT LES MINES Station enroute for BERGUYSTE and marching to billets at village of the NORREMS POWERS arriving there at 2.30 am.

NORREMS POWERS.

30th Thurs. Fine. The Battalion rested in billets at the NORREMS POWERS. One Officer (2nd Lieut Rogerson) and 23 men rejoining the Battalion from the trenches.

October.

1st Fri.

Fine. The Battalion again rested in billets.

1916.

October.

2nd Oct.

The Battalion left the billets at 11.48 am marched to BERGHSTEIN Railway Station enrouteing for GODSWALKER-VALE and marching from there to billets at HERTZEGE arriving at 8.15 pm.

J.E.S.

Appendix.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7-17

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1915

APPENDIX

October

HERZEGELN

3rd. In billets at HERZEGELN. Church Parade was held. Efforts were made to re equip the Battalion. Nothing further to record.

4th. Still in billets at HERZEGELN. Parade under Company Commanders. Inspection of rifles & equipment.

5th. In billets at HERZEGELN. Men exercised in fire control & fire discipline. Machine Gun & bombing sections underwent instruction.

PROVEN

6th. Wet & cold. The Battalion less the trench party marched via HOUTKERQUE into billets at PROVEN arriving at 4.0 pm. 6 Officers & 400 O.R. proceeded by motor bus for a period of 45 hours in the trenches near YPRES. 4 Officers from 7th Northants Regiment were attached for duty.

7th. In billets at PROVEN. Special classes were held for Machine Gunners & bombers. Draft of 20 O.R. were received from 10th Battr Royal Sussex Reg. together with the following Officers:- 2nd Lieuts A., J. S. O'Beirne, G. L. de Wolf, S. E. Vereby.

8th. Fine. Still in billets at PROVEN. 2 Officers & 50 O.R. passed through course of instruction in hand Grenades. The trench party returned at 12.0 midnight. Two casualties were reported during period of occupation of trenches:- 3336 Pte A. Sandall killed, 3558 Pte H. Grainger slightly wounded.

9th. In billets at PROVEN. Complete inspection of the Battalion in Arms, Ammunition clothing equipment feet etc, special instruction classes in bombing and machine gun. Nothing further to report.

1915

APPENDIX

October

10th.

Sunday. Fine. Church parade for all denominations at EROVEN. Battalion route march at 2.0 pm.

11th.

Monday. Fine. Battalion marched from PROVEN at 9.30 am to Camp C at ROSENHILL near RENNIGELST and took over Camp arriving at 3.0 pm. Nothing further to report.

ROSENHILL

12th.

Tuesday. Fine. In Camp. All Companies practiced in relieving trenches. Special instruction to machine gunners bombers & signallers and representatives of Companies in use of periscopes.

13th.

Wednesday. Fine. Still in Camp C ROSENHILL. Brigade Route march. In the afternoon all Companies in fire discipline & fire discipline. Special courses for bombers, signallers machine gunners & range finders. O.C. Companies and four N.C.O.'s per Company went to trenches occupied by Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry viz U24, U25, U26 for the purpose of inspecting trenches to be taken over by their various Companies. O.C. 2nd In Command & Adjutant made a tour of the trenches and made arrangements with the O.C. the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry for the relief.

TRENCHES

14th.

Thursday. Fine. Battalion left Camp at 4.0 pm and proceeded via DICKENUSCH to the relief of trenches which were taken over from the DUKE OF CORNWALL'S LIGHT INFANTRY and the relief completed at 9.40 pm. D Company took over U24, G Company took over U25 and U26 with two platoons of B Co. in support. A and B Companies lead two platoons of B Co being in support at BATTM Headquarters at CANAL BANK KINGSWAY. Night officers joined the BATTM today from the 10th BATTM.

1915

October

15th
to
19th.

Friday to Tuesday. Fine. The Battalion held these trenches during this period the enemy being particularly quiet, the parapets & parapods of all trenches being in a bad condition, considerable work was carried out, an average of about 2000 sand bags being placed in position each 24 hours. Enemy's artillery active at intervals but were promptly silenced by the Batteries in support particularly the BELGIAN Battery which did effective work. The rebuilding of dugouts was also carried out at BATTN HEAD-QUARTERS. Casualties were extremely small, only 5 OTHER RANKS being wounded during period of occupation, none fatally.

19th.

Tuesday. Fine. The Battalion was relieved on the evening of the 19th by the 6th B SURREY REGT the relief being completed by 8.30 pm and marched back by Companies to G CAMP, ROSENHILL the last Company arriving at 10 am. on the morning of 20th.

ROSENHILL

20th.

Wednesday. Fine. In camp at ROSENHILL. A thorough inspection of rifles ammunition clothing equipment etc was held & in the afternoon half the Battalion marched to the BATHS at REMINGHEMST where each man had a hot bath and a change of underclothing. Nothing further to report.

21st.

Thursday. Fine. Still in camp at ROSENHILL. Inspecting Officer, BATTN by the Commanding Officer, the remaining half of the BATTN marching to the BATHS at REMINGHEMST. Special instruction given to Machine Gunners bombers & signallers & nothing further to report.

22nd.

Friday. In camp at ROSENHILL. Battalion carried out a route march in morning and fire discipline and fire control in the afternoon. Nothing of importance to record.

1915

APPENDIX

October

23rd.

Saturday. Mine. In camp at ROSENHILL. Special instruction given to Bombers Bnrgers 84-g-millers and all other specialists daily. Battalion found a working party of 10 Officers and 300 Other Ranks for the trenches. Nothing further to record.

24th.

Sunday. Wet. Church Parade for all denominations was held in the morning. Nothing further to report.

25th.

Monday. Wet. In camp at ROSENHILL. Rifle inspection parades and usual routine. Instruction of all specialists. Work on hut construction.

26th.

Tuesday. Mine. Still in camp at ROSENHILL. Company Commanders & Platoon Commanders visited the line of trenches to be taken over from the 1st BN WINSTER BROT, and remained in trenches. Inspection of all arms, equipment ammunition etc prior to leaving for the trenches.

27th.

Wednesday. Wet. Harshed into trenches and took over from 1st BN WINSTER BROT and were disposed as follows:- "A" Co on right "B" Co on the left, "ag-ee" with "D" Co less two platoons in the centre. "C" Co in support with remaining two platoons of "D" Co the relief being completed at 9.0 pm. Situation normal.

IN THE TRENCHES

Thursday. Wet. Great dirt only with drainage. Parapets & parados falling into trenches. All available men working to rebuild with sandbags. Situation normal. Slight shelling at intervals during the 24 hours.

28th.

29th.

Friday. Wet. Trenches in a worse condition than ever. Small river running near supports rising rapidly attempts being made to relieve pressure of water. 5000 sand bags placed in position on parapets & parados of front line trenches. Commandation trench in very bad state. Two men killed on this date. One by a sniper & one by a stray bullet. Situation normal.

1915APPENDIXOctober

30th.

Saturday. Fine. Work proceeded with rapidly on parapets & parapets also on communication trench. Men thoroughly exhausted as they were working for whole 24 hours repairing damage caused by rain. Enemy very quiet during this period.

31st.

Sunday. Wet. Great difficulty again with drains and parapets. No retelling ever having been done in the trenches these fell in without any warning and entail a never ceasing vigilance. Support dug-outs all fallen in and therefore there was no shelter for the men. Enemy shelled supports at various times during the 24 hours.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1915.

Appendix.

NOVEMBER IN THE TRENCHES

1st Monday Not. Still in trenches. Situation normal with exception of slight shelling of support trench. Enemy snipers active. Nothing further to record.

2nd Tuesday Not. Situation normal. Great difficulty again experienced with drainage etc. Parapets & parapets giving a great deal of trouble as they were continually falling in. Relieved at 8.30 pm by 2nd Ser BRINSFORD REG. and marched back via DICKENSON to FIRST CAMP at ROSEHILL arriving there at 10.30 pm and at O.D.L. Hill and 2nd Lt G. R. A. DRACON joined from Cadet School.

ROSEHILL

3rd Wednesday Fine In Camp at ROSEHILL. Usual Camp routine carried out

4th Thursday Fine In Camp at ROSEHILL 7.0 am Roll call & physical drill. 10.30 am Battalion Parade in skeleton marching order for inspection by Commanding Officer. Inspection of all drafts who have joined the Regiment since the action at LOOS. Nothing further to report.

5th Friday Fine. Usual parades, including rifle and ammunition inspection. 21st Lieut Sgt DENNY W. O. awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

6th Saturday Fine Battalion paraded at 2.45 pm and proceeded to trenches to relieve 2nd BRINSFORD REG. & took over trenches 21, 22, 23, 24, 24 D including 88, 93 in support, 21st CANADIANS on our right and 15th MIDDLESSEX on our left. Relief completed at 8-7 p.m.

IN THE TRENCHES

7th Sunday Fine quiet day in trenches. Our snipers active which did not provoke any retaliation. Nothing of interest to record.

1915.

Appendix.November

- 8th Monday Wet. Enemy's artillery active about 11 am and 3.0 pm shelling support trench retaliation given by our artillery which silenced them. Work done on drainage and repair of parapets Lt R.J.M. ILAS joined and 40 O. R.
- 9th Tuesday Wet. Considerable difficulty with parapets and parados. 18th CANADIANS relieved 21st CANADIANS on our right. Enemy quiet. Nothing further to report
- 10th Wednesday Fine Considerable activity among our aeroplanes. Sniping active on both sides. Enemy's artillery fired at intervals during the afternoon until silenced by our guns. Great difficulty in support trenches on account of water Nothing further to report
- 11th Thursday Fine Progress made with work in trenches parapets & parados rebuilt. CANADIANS and ourselves at work rebuilding communication trench which had fallen in in places. Enemy quiet.
- 12th Friday Fine Believed in trenches by 8th BVAL 3897 KENT REGT. Sallier not complete until a very late hour. Battalion marched back to camp at ROSEHILL via DICKENSON arriving in camp at 2.30 am
- ROSEHILL
- 13th Saturday Wet. In camp at ROSEHILL. Usual parades & inspections & especially the condition of men's feet Nothing further to report
- 14th Sunday Wet. In camp at ROSEHILL. Church parade at Y.M.C.A. hut at ROSEHILL. Rifle & ammunition inspection. 2nd Lt O.L. GOAD joined
- 15th Monday Fine. Battalion ordered into BRIGADE RESERVE at DICKENSON & took up billets there. "SP COMPANY" proceeding into dugouts at SPOTT BANK, they incurred six casualties - all wounded - while marching in, being fired on by the enemy with shrapnel

1915.Appendix.NovemberDICKERBUSH

16th Tuesday Fine In billets at DICKERBUSH. Battalion engaged in finding fatigues for work in trenches. Knew shelled DICKERBUSH with long range guns. Eight high explosive shells falling within a radius of 30 yards of the billets occupied by "C" Coy. No damage was done

IN THE TRENCHES

17th

Wednesday Wet. Battalion marched to trenches and relieved 2nd BRITISH REGT. relief being complete at 8.30 pm. 21st CANADIANS on our right & 13th MIDDLESEX on our left. Nothing further to report

18th

Thursday Wet. Quiet day in trenches. Pouring with rain all day. 13th MIDDLESEX on our left relieved by 7th NORFOLKS Nothing further to report

19th

Friday Fine Difficultly again experienced with drainage. All dug outs in firing line collapsed Reminding of dug outs & parapets carried out. Enemy's artillery active during morning, but were repelled to by our guns and quickly silenced

20th

Saturday Fine (Frost & fog) Our artillery fired continuously during the day bombarding the enemy positions in rear of firing line, enemy did not reply Sniping on both sides active.

21st

Sunday Very foggy, no rain. Quiet all along our sector. Good work done to parapets. Nothing of interest to report

22nd

Monday Fine, slightly foggy. Our artillery particularly active and snipers of both sides. ^{Bath} Relieved by 1st NYLAN. SOLD'S PUSILIERS. Relief complete at 9.0 pm. Marched back to ROSENHILL camp arriving at 11.0 pm

ROSENHILL

23rd

Tuesday Wet. In camp at ROSENHILL. Inspection of rifles, ammunition feet clothing etc Nothing of interest to report

1915.Appendix.NovemberOF THE MARCH

24th Wednesday Wet. Battalion commenced march into DIVISIONAL rest and left Camp at 4.0 pm, marching with units of 72nd BRIGADE to STEINWOODS

25th Thursday Fine Battalion paraded and marched to AHEKE via CASSEL arriving AHEKE 6.0 pm

26th Friday Rain snow & hail Battalion left AHEKE at 9.30 am & arrived in Rest Area at 3.30 pm (HOUJIN) 3 Companies in billets at MALVERN, one Company in farms adjoining. Billets good

HOUJIN

27th Saturday Fine Battalion parade, inspection of arms, equipment & clothing, ammunition & kits Nothing of interest to record.

28th Sunday Fine. Church of England parade at 10.0 am non conformists & Presbyterians at 11.0 am. Voluntary Service for all demonstrations at 6.0 pm, Celebration of Holy Communion at 7.0 am. First leave party left at 5.0 am. LT GODWIN appointed BDE M.G 72nd BRIGADE with rank of Captain dated Novr 10th 1915

29th Monday Wet Close order drill was carried out by Companies, Sites for rifle range, machine gun range, bombing & bayonet courses chosen. All Gas helmets handed in after inspection

30th Tuesday Fine Company & Platoon drill. Instruction in fire discipline, physical drill etc Nothing of interest to report

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.
24th DIVISION.

1918

Appendix.

December

HOULDS.

1st

Wednesday. Showery. There was a BRIGADE Route March through HOUDES SATES and back to SPERLINGUES. Draft of 180 O.R. arrived on 30.11.18.

2nd

Thursday. Fine. Training carried out by Companies according to programmes submitted, as also under Specialist Officers.

3rd

Friday. Wet. Training under Company Commanders and Specialists as per programme submitted. The new draft was inspected by G.O.C. 24th Division. A Coy had use of range in the morning and B. Coy in the afternoon.
Lt. Col. J.A.G. Rainford proceeded to England on leave.
Capt. W.C. HORTON appointed adjutant in place of Capt. STOKES.
MAJOR LANGDON took command of Battalion.

4th

Saturday. Wet. Training under Coy. Commanders and Specialists as per programme submitted.
B. Coy had use of range in the morning.

5th

Sunday. Fine. 10% of Companies attended Church Parade in the School Room HOUDES at 11.30 a.m. Men Conformists & Presbyterians at 11.0 a.m. Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m.

6th

Monday. Showery. Training under Company Commanders & Specialist Officer according to programme.
B. Coy. had use of range in the morning and C. Coy in the afternoon. 40 All ranks started on a 3 days course with the R.E. 2nd Lt. C. H. Duaneoy joined the Battalion.

7th

Tuesday. Showery. Training under Company Commanders & Specialist Officers according to programme. Nothing of interest to report.

1915

Appendix

December

- 8th Wednesday. Fine. Brigade route march. The route was HOLLIS, HORNIMORHEW, INGILBORNE, HOLLIS. First line transport did not go.
- 9th Thursday. Wet. Training under Company Commanders as per programme. Capt. J. L. Stokes proceed to England on leave from 8th to 16th inclusive. Vacancies for leave was considerably curtailed in order to give more vacancies to the regular Battalion of the Brigade.
- 10th Friday. Showery. Companies are trained by their Commanders in Company drill etc. 8 O.N. were returned to the base as medically unfit for service, vide D G R S 445/1/1 D/d 10.9.15. A Divisional letter Company shooting competition was inaugurated.
- 11th Saturday. Wet. Brigade route march. C. Company were not on parade as they were isolated on account of a case of measles. First line transport accompanied the Battalion. The Brigade marched past the O.C.O. Lt. G.R.M.F. proceeded on leave to England from 11th to 18th inclusive.
- 12th Sunday. Fine. 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion in schoolroom HOLLIS. 11.30 a.m. Church of England Service in the Courtyard of the Hallways. Non-conformists and Presbyterians at 11.0 a.m. at the schoolroom voluntary service at 6.30 p.m. for all denominations at reading room, HOLLIS. End Lt. C.V. NEWTON and H. WINDACHER joined the Battalion.
- 13th Monday. Fine. There was a practice Brigade parade in anticipation of an inspection by ~~the~~ field Marshal SIR JOHN FRENCH. 2nd Lieuts R.A. HAZELRY and J.A. FLOWERS joined the Battalion.
- 14th Tuesday. Fine. Training under Company Commanders & Specialist Officers. End Lt. J.S. CASSIDIN joined the Battalion.

1918

Appendix

December

- 15th
Wednesday. 5th. Brigade Route March. Capt. W. G. HORTON proceeded to England on leave from 15th to 22nd Inclusive. The O.O. 3 Company Commanders and P.O. attended a lecture on machine guns at HORDWICKS.
- 16th
Thursday. 5th. Battalion paraded for a gas demonstration. Sgt. B.H. SWAYR proceeded to Cadet School HINDHEADS on 15th as a candidate for a commission.
- 17th
Friday. 5th. Training under Company Commanders and Specialist Officers. Nothing further of interest to report.
- 18th
Saturday. 5th. A Brigade Transport Competition was inaugurated. This was held at 2.30 p.m. The Battalion being third in the Brigade, 2nd BATTALIONS being first. Capt. GODDARD and Captain BURY officially reported wounded and prisoners of war in GERMANY.
- 19th
Sunday. 5th. 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion in Schoolroom, HORDWICK. 9.0 a.m. Church Parade in courtyard of WALTERS. Home-conformists & Presbyterians service at 11.0 a.m. Sgt. HAKINS proceeded to England on leave from 18th to 25th Inclusive.
- 20th
Monday. 5th. Battalion route march. 4 Officers per Company attended a lecture by Lt. Colonel SHERRER of 7th NORTHANTS on the campaign in S.W. AFRICA.
- 21st
Tuesday. 5th. The Battalion held a practice attack on model trenches at the Quarries, HORDWICK. Draft 35 O.R. joined the Battalion.
- 22nd
Wednesday. 5th. Training under Company Commanders as per programme. Special Order of the day by Field Marshal SIR JOHN FRIBCH on relinquishing command of the British Army in FRANCE was issued.

1918

Appendix A

December

23rd

Thursday. Showery. Battalion had a practice attack on model trenches. A thorough inspection of rifles was held and defective rifles were repaired by the Armourer Sergeant.

24th

Friday. Wet. Training under Company Commanders as per programme. There was a Sergeants dinner and concert held in the evening to which the C.O., 2nd in Command, ADPT. & 4 O.C. Companies were invited. This proved a great success.

25th

Saturday. Showery. Christmas Day. 7.30 a.m. Voluntary Holy Communion. 11.30 a.m. Church parade in the KALTERHEIM Yard. 10.30 a.m. Non-comformists. Wesleyans & Presbyterians in the Schoolroom HOLLUM. The Battalion appeared to thoroughly enjoy the arrangements made for their benefit.

26th

Sunday. Wet. 7.30 a.m. Voluntary Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m. Church parade, 10.30 a.m. Non-conformists, & Presbyterians Church parade.

27th

Monday. Wet. Battalion had practice in the model trenches.

28th

Tuesday. Wet & windy. Training under Company Commanders as per programme. O. Company had use of Range in the morning.

29th

Wednesday. Showery. Training in Company & extended order drill under Company Commanders as per programme. B.G.C. presented the Military Cross Ribbon to CAPTAIN GOWRIE and the D.C.M. ribbon to BOY DUNBERT.

30th

Thursday. Showery. Battalion practised open country manoeuvres. The sum of Pcs. 1385 was collected in the Battalion for the Sussex Prisoners of War Fund.

31st

Friday. Showery. Brigade inspection & Brigade transport inspection by G.O.C. 24th Division. End Lt. DR IGLE M HUNTER joined the Battalion.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

JANUARY.

HOLIDAY.

1st Saturday. Wet. There was a Battalion parade on which the Commanding Officer read out two letters. One from G.O.C. and one from Bishop of Manchester. 2nd Lt. A.W. COLLINGBORN was appointed Transport Officer to date from 18/12/15 in place of 2nd Lt. W.J.F. AUSTIN, posted to A Company for duty.

2nd Sunday. Wet. 7.30 a.m. Voluntary Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m. Church Parade. 11.0 a.m. Non-Conformists Presbyterians & Wesleyans at school room HOBILLS.

3rd Monday fine. Battalion paraded at 8.30 a.m. for practice on the model trenches at which the G.O.C. and B.G.C. were present. The G.S.O.I. 17th Division gave a lecture at KORNABISQUES on the new front to be held by 24th Division. The general impression given by him was that the line to which we were going was the worst bit of the worst section of the whole western front.

4th Tuesday. Showery. Parade under Company Commanders & specialist Officer according to programme submitted. There was a short battalion parade at 11.30 a.m. on which the Commanding Officer gave a short address on the lecture of the previous day. Privates PEPPER and CORTRILL were tried by P.G.C.M.

5th Wednesday. Showery. The battalion paraded at 9.30 a.m. for a Brigade route march. Nothing further of interest to report.

6th Fine. Training was carried out under Company Commanders and Specialist Officers as per programme arranged. Lt. S.M. DAVIES left to take up his duties on the Water Line Transport and was struck off the strength of the battalion.

1916.

Appendix.

January.

7th

Wed. The battalion paraded at 9.00 a.m. less 1 platoon of "A" Company which left with the Transport at 7.15 a.m. and marched to St. OMER. With the band in front the battalion marched out from the rest billets to St. OMER where the train was taken to QUININ. The battalion detrained here and marched via POPERINGHE to Camp C. at G 18 a Sheet 28, which was reached at 6.30 p.m.

CAMP C.

8th

Thurs. The day was taken up by cleaning of rifles & equipment after the move from rest billets at HOUILLB.

9th

Sunday. Fine. 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Voluntary Church Parades were held by Companies, each Company provided 1 hut. As the battalion was under 1 hours notice to move, no H.C.O. or man was allowed out of camp except under exceptional circumstances. Smoke helmets were now worn day and night.

10th

Monday. Showery. Parades were held under Company Commanders and special attention was paid to the inspection of rifles, gas helmets and feet. 2nd Lt. W.J.F. AUSTIN was posted as 2nd in Command of "A" Company.

11th

Tuesday. Fine. The morning was given up to making improvements in the camp which was in a very muddy condition. There was no parade in the afternoon. 2nd Lt. W.J.F. AUSTIN and 3 other ranks proceeded on leave to ENGLAND from 11th to 18th inclusive. The practice of wearing the goggles on the hat which had become prevalent was ordered to be discontinued.

12th

Wednesday. Fine. Inspection of rifles, gas helmets etc. by companies and work on Camp improvement in the morning. There was no parade in the afternoon. During the morning two TABES passed over the Camp travelling N.W. towards POPERINGHE. Two bombs were dropped which fell about

1916.

Appendix.January.12th
(Ctd.)

200 yards from the camp on open ground. No damage was done.

13th

Thursday. Wet. Inspection of rifles, equipment, etc. special attention being paid to feet and work on camp improvement was carried on. Specialists paraded for instruction under their officers. A P.G.C.H. was held at battalion H.Q. at 10 a.m. 3798 Pte. FISHER, G.'s Company was tried. The C.O., Machine Gun Officer and 1 officer per Company visited BELGIAN CHATEAU and inspected the camp which the battalion was to take over later.

14th

Friday. Fine. The 5th LABOUR BATTALIONS Baths at H 14 a 4 6 were allotted to the battalion today. Only men who were going to the trenches bathed. The R.A. Band from England played for an hour at 5.0 p.m. on the camp parade ground, and was much appreciated. Pte. UPFOX, A. "D" Company was wounded while on a working party.

15th

Saturday. Fine. The morning was spent in cleaning up huts and camp preparatory to moving. The battalion less 50 men per company paraded at 2.30 p.m. and marched to BELGIAN CHATEAU which was reached about 6.0 p.m. No packs were carried by the men. 1 officer per company and the Grenadier Officer left camp at 10.0 a.m. for BELGIAN CHATEAU for the purpose of taking over stores, etc. The following message was received from 24th Division:- G.O.C. much pleased at report received from C.R.B. on work done by working party "A" Company, 9th Royal Sussex Regt. The B.G.C. (73rd Brigade) is much gratified and congratulates all ranks of the company concerned on receiving such a good report.

1916.

Appendix.

January.BELGIAN CHATEAU.

16th Sunday fine. The morning was spent in cleaning but rifles equipment etc. One H.G. shell dropped in the open fields in the vicinity of the camp, but no damage was done.

17th

Monday. Showery. Feet, rifle equipment inspections during the day. The battalion found 300 men for fatigue at GORDON FARM.

18th

Tuesday. Wet. Relieved the 13th HINDLESEX in trenches B 8 and C 1. Headquarters were situated in ZOUAVE WOOD. B. Company in the front line. A Company in support. C. Company local reserve and D Company in reserve.

IN THE TRENCHES.

19th

Wednesday. Fine. Work on improvements in the trenches was carried on as much as possible. In the morning starting about 8.30 a.m. both enemy and our own artillery were very active. REGENT STREET seeming to receive special attention with H.G. and shrapnel from the enemy. The bombardment did not last more than an hour, only desultory firing taking place later. B. Company had two O.R. wounded.

20th

Thursday. Showery. A quiet day as concerned Artillery. Enemy snipers were busy & were replied to by our own snipers. In the evening "A" company relieved "B" company in the front line, who went into support. No casualties.

21st

Friday. Fine. A quiet day again. Snipers are most active at night, while the artillery works by day. C Company had one man wounded.

22nd

Saturday. Fine. Relieved in the trenches by 13th HINDLESEX. The battalion marched back to BELGIAN CHATEAU by companies, changing their gum boots at the ASYDUM on the way. At 10 p.m. our artillery in the vicinity of the CHATEAU was very active for $\frac{1}{2}$ of an hour. A. company had one sergeant wounded and C. Company one man.

1916.

January.

BELGIAN CHATEAU.

23rd Fine. Cleaning up of rifles, equipment etc. after the turn in the trenches. Nothing of importance to report.

24th Monday. Fine. Inspection of rifles, Gas helmets, feet etc. was carried out. The battalion found a fatigue party of 400 O.R., for work in the trenches. Lt. R. J. H. LILAS was evacuated sick to hospital.

25th Tuesday. Fine. Several enemy aeroplanes flew over the camp, evidently trying to locate the batteries in the vicinity. Our anti-aircraft guns were very active. Several of our aeroplanes went up and the enemy disappeared. A fatigue party of 500 O.R. was again found by the battalion for work in the trenches.

26th Wednesday. Fine. During the day the battalion drew gun boots from the ASYNUM. Starting at 5.0 p.m. we relieved the 13th MIDDLESEX in the same trenches. B B and C I. D. Company in the front line, G Company in support. A company in local reserve and B Company in reserve.

IN THE TRENCHES.

27th Thursday. Wet. Headquarters in ZOUAVE WOOD were shelled at 11.0 a.m. with H.E. for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Sniping and rifle fire being active as usual mostly at night. G. Company had one O.R. wounded. 2nd Lt. FLOWERS was wounded in the arm in a bomb accident which might ~~have proved~~ fatal but for the presence of mind of No. 3154 L/C. T. S. HOWES, who plucked up the bomb and threw it over the parapet.

28th Friday. Fine. A good deal of sniping took place and 2nd Lt. R. A. BAZZLEY was killed. G. Company lost one man killed and two wounded, one of whom died later. G Company relieved D Company in the front line, who went into support.

29th Saturday. Fine. At 2.30 p.m.

29th

1916.

January.28th
(cont.)

and 3.30 p.m. enemy artillery was very active for 10 minutes, many H.B. shells falling round headquarters and SANCTUARY WOOD. No casualties occurred at H. 8. A. Company lost 1 man killed and C. Company 1 man wounded.

30th

Sunday. Fine. Battalion was relieved in the trenches by 12th PUSHERS and marched by companies back to the ABYDUM where gun boots were changed and 2 cooks supplied tea and thence to CAMP F at H 19 b.

CAMP F.

Monday. Fine. Cleaning of rifles, equipment etc. after the turn in the trenches. Nothing further of interest to report.

31st

W.C.N.

WEST SUSSEX MSRB V.C. FIELD
RSR

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

FEBRUARY.

CAMP F.

1st

Pline. Companies proceeded with programme of work already submitted to the Br^g Gade. Specialists working under their own arrangements. The G.O.C. 24th Division came round the camp, much admiring the drying room. We began on company's washing with fair success. Drying takes some time as the weather is not dry though fine. However washing and drying socks like this is better than relying on Divisional arrangements.

2nd

Fine. We had the use of the Baths at POKERINGH. The remainder of the day being taken up by Company training and Specialist training. The Battalion received a Gift of numerous tins of Sausages and pepperants from the Sussex Soldiers Cigarette and Comfort's fund through the Hon. Sec. Mess. Adams of St. Leonard's on Sea. This fund has also given to the Regiment at various times as many as 66,000 Woodbine Cigarettes.

3rd

Fine. The Companies went on a route march except D Company who had the use of the baths at POKERINGH. The Brigadier came round the camp. In the afternoon there was a Regimental concert at the Recreational room of the Labour Battalion. The Colonel sang and the concert was a great success. It had to be cut rather short as the Labour Battalion wanted the use of the room.

4th

Fine. Companies carried on with their programme of work. The Grenadiers drew 100 live Grenades and practised bomb-throwing. In the evening there was a fire in the camp opposite. The Quartermaster stores of R.F.A. catching fire and an outhouse burnt right out.

1916.

Appendix.

FEBRUARY.4th
Contd.

The R.F.A. were afraid the Germans might open fire on it so bright was lit but fire did not happen.

5th

Ynne, Companies continued their training except D Coy who were detailed to be responsible for the drainage of the camp and other work in it. At 10.45 p.m. the Battalion was ordered to stand to ready to move at an hour's notice. This was not well done as several men did not have iron rations or water bottles filled. The Transport situated about 2 miles away turned out very well and were round at the camp well under the hour. The Brigadier came round but did not stay long as he was not satisfied.

6th

Ynne. Church of England service was held at Labour Battalion canteen, however only 400 men could be accommodated. Services for other denominations were held.

7th

Clonduy. Inspections of rifles ammunition etc. were held by Companies. A draft of 46 arrived a great many of whom were old Sussex men who had been wounded at Loos, and sick since then. At 10 p.m. the Battalion had to stand to. This was much better done. The Brigadier was very pleased. After the hour the Battalion dismissed.

8th

A & B Companies and Bombers went up to trenches. These were billeted in YPRES in cellars. As there was not room for the whole battalion C & D Coys. were left behind at Campsunder Major Stokes. These two Companies had to find a working party. We relieved 7th Queens at 6.45 p.m.

YPRES CELLARS.

The Battalion had to find 250 men for working party. A & B Coys. and Bombers were used all officers going too. No Casualties.

9th

1916.

February.Appendix.

10th

The same working party had to be found. Aeroplanes were active. YPRES was shelled slightly but no damage done in our quarter.

11th

Net. G & D Coys. and Machine Gunners came up from Camp F, and rested for the day in the Cavalry Barracks. At 6.30 p.m. the Bathn. marched to the trenches by companies to take over from 13th Middlesex. Relief complete about 10.30 p.m. A & B Coys. in firing line and Support. G & D Coys. in reserve trench and sentries on the Menin Road.

TRENCHES.

12th

Fine. A fairly quiet day, not much shelling. The G.O. went to advanced H.q. to stop there for the remaining time in the trenches - Major Stokes and Adjutant stopped at H.q. on the Menin Road.

13th

Fine. A very heavy bombardment took place lasting for 8 hours. A great deal of damage was done to the front line trenches. There were about 30 casualties. 2nd Lt. Tidball was killed while trying to digging a man out who had been buried alive by the shelling. "A" Company was relieved by D as they had had a very bad time.

14th

Net. A considerable amount of shelling took place all through the day and at 5.45 p.m. the enemy blew up two mines on our front line. These were immediately seized by B and D Coys. and a German attack was repulsed. A platoon of D Company was completely buried alive with 2nd Lt. Hill. B Coy also suffered heavily. The G.O. showed remarkable gallantry and coolness and gave 3 cheers for the Germans when they attacked. The night was spent in digging themselves in on the cretars.

NOTE

The day
K. V. C.
McNair's Coy
HOCHE.

1916.Appendix.February.14th
Contd.

2nd Lt. De Wolf was killed, 2nd Lt. Shaw and God were wounded. Capt. Ceryly wounded at duty.

15th

Pine. A fairly quiet day and not much shelling. We were relieved by 15th Middlesex. The Battalion went back to cellars in YPRES. Total Casualties 2 Officers killed, 3 wounded, 134 O.R. Casualties.

16th

Wet. Spent in resting. We did not have to find any working parties for which we were very grateful.

17th

Pine. We had to find 200 men for working parties which we found considerable difficulty in finding as an enormous amount of men went sick and were sent to hospital.

18th

Wet. Another working party had to be found.

19th

Pine. We relieved the 13th Middlesex again in the same trenches. A & C Coy's. were in firing line and support.

Major Stokes went to advanced H.Q. The O.O. and Adjutant remained at H.Q. on Jennin Rd.

20th

Pine. A fairly quiet day. Nothing unusual occurred on our front.

21st

Pine. A quiet day.

22nd

Wet. A quiet day. B Coy--pany relieved A Coy. Some snow fell.

23rd

Wet. A quiet day. Lt. Has was killed in the early morning. A hard frost.

24th

Pine. A quiet day. Relieved by the 1st A.S.J.L. Relief was suspended but took place at 12 midnight. We went by train to POEBRIBERG and were billeted there. Very comfortable though cold.

1916.

Appendix.FEBRUARY.POPERINGHAM.

25th

Pine. The day was taken up by resting and reorganising. Companies reorganised in the afternoon.

26th

Pine. Companies continued their inspections.

27th

Pine. There were no Church Services.

28th

Pine. The G.O.C. addressed the Battalion congratulating them on the splendid work they had done, during the last tour in the trenches.

29th

Wet with Snow. Company training according to programme already submitted to the Brigade.

W.C. HORTON, Capt. & Adjt.
for G.O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1916

March

POPERINGHE

Companies carried on training.

1st.

2nd.

" " " "

3rd.

Battalion left POPERINGHE for the trenches, going by train at 8.30 P.M. We relieved 8th Queens. Relief complete very late. We occupied BELGIAN CHATEAU. Quiet night.

BELGIAN CHATEAU

4th.

Quite quiet all day. A great deal of snow fell. There was some shelling on & round about the dug-outs but no damage done. H.Q. was moved from huts to Farm House since we were there last. We had to find 200 men for working parties.

5th.

Snow fell. There was some shelling. We had to find working parties again.

6th.

More shelling than usual, 4 dug-outs were blown in. Only one or two casualties.

7th.

Not much shelling. We moved up to relieve 13th Middlesex, leaving at 7.0 P.M. Relief complete at 11.45 P.M.

TRENCHES

8th.

Quite quiet all day.

9th.

" " " "

10th.

" " " "

11th.

There was a very heavy strafe lasting from about 2.0 to 4.0 pm on our left and on our front. Little damage was done except to a small portion of our front line. The shelling went on intermittently for some time. We were relieved by 13th Middlesex and went back to BELGIAN CHATEAU.

BELGIAN CHATEAU

12th.

Very quiet, we found working parties.

1916

March

- 13th. quiet, we found working parties.
 14th. Rather more shelling than usual.
 15th. We were relieved by 8th Queens at BRIGIAT CHATEAU and went back to CANP H. We had to find working parties.

CANP H.

- 16th. Inspections were held.
 17th. We had the baths all day.
 18th. Companies had route marches.

Moved by road to HETTEREN where we relieved a Canadian Battalion in billets. We marched through RENNIGHEEST, WESTOULRE and SHAKKEN.

HETTEREN

- 20th. Company training and route marches. Battalion rather soft after having not much marching.

- 21st. Company training.

- 22nd. Company training.

- 23rd. Moved up to RMD IODDE where we relieved 13th Canadian Battalion. This was DptGade Reserve. Dug-outs and huts.

- 24th. Moved up to trenches 135 - 140 inclusive relieving 14th Canadian Battalion. Relief complete 9.0 P.M. Very quiet night.

TRENCHES

- 25th. Some shelling on our left where the 7th Northants held the line.

- 26th. Some shelling on our front in early morning. We had 10 casualties 2nd Lt Vidler joined for duty.

- 27th. Quiet all day 2nd Lt Frinze joined for duty.

- 28th. Quiet except for some shelling in the afternoon on Reserve Company.

- 29th. Very quiet day. Weather fine.

1916

March

APPENDIX

30th.

Very quiet day. Weather fine.

31st.

Very quiet. We were relieved by 13th Hindenburg Battalion. Relief complete by 10.0 P.M. The Battalion marched back to KORTLE P.V.P.

9th (BREIVICH) BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

April.

KORTPEYP.

1st.

The day was occupied in Kit inspections etc. and generally cleaning up after the tour in the trenches. Nothing of interest to report. Draft of 21 men arrived.

2nd.

Companies proceeded with the programme of work as sent in to Brigade Office. Baths were allotted to the Battalion at Neuve Eglise.

3rd.

Companies proceeded with their training. A small manoeuvring scheme was carried out. G.O.C. Division supervised the operation. The Battalion had to find 200 men for working parties on burying cable. Neuve Eglise was shelled.

4th.

Programme of work proceeded with. A regimental concert was held in a Y.H.C.A. hut close to the camp which proved a great success. Some working parties. The Commanding Officer proceeded on leave.

5th.

Programme of work proceeded with. Nothing further of interest to report.

TRENCHES.

6th.

Battalion relieved 13th Middlesex in the line. All quiet.

7th.

quiet day.

8th.

quiet day.

9th.

The Breastworks were shelled. All men except two wound left without further casualties. Otherwise quiet.

10th.

Quiet. Minnenerfer fired on Gobilon Farm but no material damage done.

11th.

quiet.

12th.

RED LODGE.

Relieved by 13th Middlesex Battalion moved back to Red Lodge in

1916.April.12th
(contd.)

Brigade Reserve.

13th.

Working parties were employed by day on making silt in the side of the Hill as protection in case of being shelled. Working parties at night had to be found for work up the line.

14th.

Work carried on as the day before. Working parties by day and night. The Commanding Officer returned from leave.

15th.

All leave stopped and men supposed to be recalled. This was not done in our case as our men were returning on 18th the day all had to be back. It was afterwards discovered that this order only referred to troops in England and our leave should never have been stopped. Capt. McHair V.C. who was to have gone to England to be decorated could not go.

16th.

Work carried on as the day before.

17th.

Work as before.

TRENCHES.

18th.

Relieved 13th Middlesex Regt.

Early relief, complete by 10.15 p.m.

All quiet.

19th.

All quiet.

20th.

Trench 140 received a little attention, 4 posts of the trench being breached. No great damage done however.

21st.

quiet day.

22nd.

quiet day.

23rd.

quiet day.

KONTREPT.

24th.

Relieved by 13th Middlesex Regt.

All quiet.

25th.

Day spent in Kit inspections and cleaning up generally.

1916.

April.

26th.

Programme of work as submitted to Brigade Officer proceeded with.

27th.

Programme of work proceeded with. A4-KKM

28th. 1.30 am.

Gas alarm was spread all over the country. Battalion turned out and "stood to". After waiting some little time, battalion stood down and turned in again. It was a false rumour spread by division on our right. Training proceeded with during the day. A game of football was played in the afternoon. Officers versus the Rest. Officers won 3 - 2.

29th.

A small operation was carried out with Lewis Guns and Scouts with one company. B.G.O. watched the operations.

KORTRAPP - TRENCHES.

30th.

At 12.45 am. Gas alarm again went. Battalion stood to and at 2.30 am. had the Order to Move. Battalion moved into Divisional Reserve. At KORTRAPP we had about 20 minutes thick gas. As the Battalion had plenty of time to put on gas helmets, no serious effects were felt. We arrived at Assembly point of Divisional Reserve at 4.30 am. After being there for some time, we marched back again to Camp. The Germans attacked on Left Brigade of Division but we driven back. Relieved 13th Middlesex Regt. in front line. The had had about 70 Casualties through gas and shell fire.

JOHN F. P. LAMBORN.
Lt. Col.

Comm. 9th Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1916

APPENDIX

TRENCHES

1st. All was quiet except some shelling on STINKING FARM.

2nd. Quiet. Machine Guns busy at night causing annoyance to Battalion Parties etc.

3rd. Quiet.

4th. Quiet.

5th. Quiet.

RED LODGE

6th. Quiet. Relieved by 13th Middlesex Regt. Battalion moved to RED LODGES.

7th. Working parties.

8th. Enemy shelled top of H:U63 but did not get down to us. Working Parties.

9th. Quiet. Working Parties.

10th. Quiet.

11th. Quiet.

TRENCHES

12th. Relieved 13th Middlesex Regt in the trenches.

13th. Quiet.

14th. STINKING FARM shelled again. A few casualties through a dugout being knocked in.

15th. Quiet.

16th. Another dug-out knocked out at STINKING FARM. One platoon was moved to TRENCHERS FIELD.

17th. Quiet.

KOBBE FYP

18th. Quiet. Relieved by 13th Middlesex. Battalion moved to KOBBE FYP.

19th. Working parties by night.

1916

MAY

20th. Four in Trenches changed from 6 days to 8.

21st. Beautiful weather. Working parties by night.

22nd. Nothing to report.

23rd. " " "

24th. Holiday granted by G.O.C. Two Games of football in the morning. A & C V B & D (B & D won) Officers v Sergeants (Officers won). Afternoon was devoted to Sports. The G.O.C. and Brigadier both came and had tea afterwards. In the evening there was a concert which was unfortunately stopped by rain.

Large working parties.

TRENCHES

26th. Relieved 13th Middlesex in the trenches.

27th. Sgt Sink & Drummer Gardner awarded Military Medal.

28th. quiet. LtOS DOUGS FARM shelled every half hour in the evening.

29th. quiet.

30th. quiet.

31st. quiet.

JOHN F. F. LANGDON, Lt. Col.
Comd. 9th Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1916.

June.

TRENCHES.

1st

quiet.

2nd

quiet.

3rd
Relieved by 13th Bn Middlesex Regt. Battalion moved back to Brigade Reserve at RND LODGE.

RND LODGE.

4th

quiet. We had to kind large working parties.

5th

do.

do.

6th

quiet.

7th

quiet.

8th

quiet.

9th
quiet. Capt J. S. GIBNEY struck off the strength. Sick to England.

10th

quiet.

11th
quiet. Relieved 13th Bn. Middlesex Regt in the trenches.

TRENCHES.

12th

quiet. Draft of 43 O.R. arrived.

13th

quiet.

14th

quiet.

15th

quiet.

16th
quiet by day. Germans made a gas attack at about 12.30 a.m. on 17th.

17th

There was no infantry attack. Gas tested about 40 minutes in 3 continuous waves. Men wore their gas helmets for 1 hour and twenty minutes. A heavy bombardment went on during the gas also heavy Machine Gun fire. A large number of men were gassed. Relieved by the 26th Bn 7th Australian Brigade. Battalion moved back in motor lorries to ST JAMES CAVEL. Capt. ROBERTSON, 2nd Lt BALHAM, 2nd Lt BERRY slightly gassed.

1916.

June. SE. JAMES GARRETT.18th quiet.19th quiet. Draft of 42 O.R. arrived.20th quiet. Battalion moved from
ST JAMES GARRETT to WAKEFIELD
HURTS near LOOPER, Divisional
Reserve.WAKEFIELD HURTS.21st Capt ROBERTSON returned from
Hospital. Draft of 13 O.R.
arrived.22nd 800 All ranks from 9th Bn
Royal Sussex Regt, 7th Bn
Northamptonshire Regt and
400 from 72nd Pde inspected
by G.O.C. 2nd Army.quiet.23rd quiet.24th March Parade at Y.M.C.A.
near LOOPER.25th 2nd Lt ROBERT posted to G. Coy.27th Relieved 15th Bn Middlesex Regt
in trenches.TRENCHES.28th Several raids took place
on our right. Enemy retaliated
heavily all along our line,
with trench mortars, minnowrafters &
shelling.29th Enemy very restless and bombarded
our line 3 times during the night.30th quiet.JOHN LANGFORD, Lt Col.
Comd. 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1916

APPENDIX

July

TRENCHES

1st.

quiet day in the Trenches.
Battalion relieved by 13th
Middlesex Regt. Battalion
moved to WAKEFIELD HUTS as
Divisional Reserve.

WAKEFIELD HUTS - KEMMEL SHELTERS

2nd
to
6th.

Working Parties in the morning
and evening. Nothing of import-
ance occurred. Major Stokes
returned off leave. On 6th
Battalion moved to KEMMEL
SHELTERS, half the Battalion
being in bivouacs and half in
huts.

KEMMEL SHELTERS

7th.

Nothing of importance to report.
Capt Kaylor went to Hospital
sick.

DRAWNOUTS

8th.

Battalion moved to DRAWNOUTS
in barns and huts, relieving
the 12th Royal Fusiliers.

9th.

Nothing of importance occurred.

10th.

" " " "

TRENCHES

11th.

Battalion moved to Trenches
O.4 - D.4. Hq at ST QUENTIN'S
CAMPART. 3 Companies in front
line, 1 in Support. Relieved
12th Royal Fusiliers.

12th.
to

14th.)

quiet. Nothing to report.
2nd Lt. G.W. FRINGS wounded.

15th.)
16th.)

quiet. Gas cylinders were
installed on Battalion front.

17th.

quiet. Gas was going to be let
off but cancelled.

18th.

quiet. No Gas relieved.

19th.

quiet. No Gas relieved.

20th.

quiet. Moved to Pletre. Relieved
by 7th D.C.L.I. Battalion in
billsers over a scattered area.
Taken from BILSFORD Camp to PLETRE
by Lorries and Buses.

1916APPENDIXJulyPIETRE (COQ de PAILLER)21st.
22nd.
23rd. }

Battalion Training commenced.

24th.

Battalion marched to GODMARRESVILLE to entrain. Train left at 8.30 pm.

KONTAGNE

25th.

Train arrived at SALZUX about 6 miles S.S.W. of ALLIERS at about 5.30 am. Battalion marched to KONTAGNE where they were billeted. Billets good and quite central.

26th.)
to
30th. }

Battalion Training carried on. Open Order fighting, wood fighting practices etc. Special attention paid to Bayonet fighting.

31st.

Battalion marched away from KONTAGNE.

JOHN LANGDON, Lt. Col,
Comd. 9th Bn Royal Sussex Regt.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916

Appendix.

AUGUST

COBBIE-SUR-SOULHE.

1st Battalion at Bayonet fighting.
A & B Coys in morning, C & D
Coys in afternoon.

SAINLY-LE-SEC.

2nd Battalion fell in 4.45 a.m.,
marched 4.55 a.m. for Sainly-
le-Sec. reaching here about
7.30 a.m. Rested until 5.30 p.m.,
then marched to Happy Valley
arriving about 9 p.m.

HAPPY VALLEY.

3rd Battalion in training. In Reserve.

4th

" " "
Two O.R. accidentally wounded by
hand grenade while visiting
original German lines. One after-
wards died of his wounds (Pte.
I.S. Miller).

5th Battalion in training. Particular
attention paid to advancing
behind barrage.

6th
7th

Battalion in training. Large
working party for work in forward
area found, 7/8/16. This party
shelled by enemy. 6 O.R. wounded.

THE CITADEL.

8th Moved from Happy Valley forward
to near the Citadel in Corps Reserve.
9th Battalion in training. Attacking
trenches.

10th In afternoon A & B Coys moved to
Montauban defences.

2/Lt. W.S. Mansell transferred to
R.P.C. & struck off.

THE CRATERS.

11th C and D Coys moved to the "Craters"
just through Carnoy. In Reserve.
Capt. Norton to Hosp.

12th Salvage work in forward area.

1916

August

13th The Craters. A few heavy shells dropped near. Cpl. Wynne killed & another O.R. wd.
2/Lt. Trencher to hospital.

14th 2/Lt. Hawkridge to hospital. Helvets work in forward area. Moved back to Hansell Copse.

THE CITADEL.

15th Battalion training in attack.

16th " " " " " "
Moved at 5.30 p.m. to relieve 9th B. Surreys in trenches before Guillemont. Stopped at Carnoy & sent back to Hansell Copse arriving about midnight

17th 8.30 Moved to Briquetterie preparatory to attack.

Attack on Guillemont

18th Attack on Outskirts of Guillemont. Officers in Action.

Lt. Col. J.F.F. Langdon (C.O.)

Lt. H.C. Coleman (Adj.)

A. Coy. Capt. Neilvor,

Lt. Shackerel,

B. Coy. 2/Lt. E. Best,

2/Lt. Collier V.C.

2/Lt. C.H. Prince,

2/Lt. H.C. Brignt.

C. Coy. Capt. Rogerson,

2/Lt. B. Vidler,

2/Lt. G.C. Mole.

D. Coy. Capt. Austin,

Lt. H.H. Strange,

Lt. Hemming.

Intelligence Officers 2/Lt. H. Trencher, 2/Lt. P.J. Surridge.

H.O.O. 2/Lt. Dudney,

Bombing Officer 2/Lt. I.B. Baker,

Sig. Officer 2/Lt. Atwood,

Medical Offr. Lt. A.A.E. Newch,

H.A.H.O.

Plan of Attack.

7th Northamptonshire Regt. to attack at 2.45 p.m. & take German front line & the Quarries. 9th Royal Sussex Regt. to attack at 5 a.m. on the 19th & advance halfway through fortified village of GUILLEMONT. Moved to support trenches in front of Guillemont. A & B Coys at 12 noon, C & D Coys at 3 p.m.

1916

Appendix.

August

18th
(Contd.)

At 2.45 p.m. 7 Northants attacked successfully. A & B Coys moved to front line trenches. 7th Northants lost heavily in hard to hand fighting & at 4.30 p.m. were reinforced by part of A & B Coys. Capt. A. H. Helvor & Capt. E. A. Hobair V.C. were wounded in trying to find a route across No Man's Land. 2/Lt. C. N. Prince was killed during bombardment & 2/Lt. Baker wounded. 2/Lt. H. C. Dight was killed by machine gun fire leading his men across to reinforce.

19th

At 7.45 a.m. C. Coy was sent to reinforce and took up position on right of the line held by 7th Northants & a few men of A & B Coys of 9th B. Sussex under Major Murphy acting C.O. 7th Northants. This position was held through the night. Nations were taken up by D. Coy, who also built a strong point on the right flank (which was in the air).

During the early morning Captain E. S. Hogerson was killed and Capt. W. J. F. Austin wounded by rifle fire. The 8th B. W. Kents relieved 7th Northants & 9th B. Sussex during the night of 19th/20th.

Total Casualties -	
Officers	Killed 3.
	Wounded 4.
Other Ranks	Killed 23.
	Wounded 133.
	Missing 23.

THE UTILITY - THE GRAVES.

The Battalion moved to the Craters on relief. Draft of 18 O.R. arrived from 8th B. Sussex. The Bn forward found a working party. There were 11 O.R. wounded during the day.

21st

Quiet.

22nd

Bn moved to Bivouacs at Sandpits.

23rd

Quiet.

24th

Quiet.

1918

Appendix.

August

26th

Moved to Bironces near Dernancourt. Very showery weather. (21st to 25th Reorganization & training were proceeded with).

30th

Battalion moved to trenches on left of DELVILLE WOOD.

Officers in Action -

Lt. Col. J.P.P. Langdon (C.O.),

Lt. H.O. Coleman (Adj.),

A. Coy. Capt. M. Campbell Johnston.

2/Lt. E. Best.

B. Coy. 2/Lt. J.A. Flowers.

Lt. G.H. Shackel.

2/Lt. C.V. Newton,

C. Coy. 2/Lt. G.H.H. Frowse,

2/Lt. T. Foster,

2/Lt. P.J. Surridge,

2/Lt. G.C. Hale.

D. Coy. Lt. H.H. L'Estrange.

2/Lt. J.A. Paul,

2/Lt. J.P. Kestyn.

Intelligence Officer 2/Lt. H. Trencher.

Lt. G.O. 2/Lt. C.H. Dudney,

Medical Offr. Lt. A.A.E. Berth,

R.A.M.C.

31st

Germans attacked at 2 p.m. after a heavy bombardment & broke through line held by Battalion on our left.

A & D Coys in front line held on to their trench & were reinforced by two platoons of C. Company.

The remaining two platoons under

Lt. Col. Langdon and 2/Lt. Foster

of C. Coy. opposed the enemy bombing party who were endeavouring to

cut in on our left rear & held them

till the arrival of A. Coy. of 2nd

Lineaters about 5 p.m. These two

platoons of C. Coy. then strengthened

the front line. 2/Lt. J.A. FLOWERS

was killed by sniper on afternoon

of 31st.

(1st.) H.C.C.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

September.

1st.

In front line trenches to left of DEWVILLE WOOD, with 2 platoons of "B" Co in immediate support. The line was held through the night 21st/1st against several German attacks, and the men suffered severely from want of rations. During the morning while attempting to get up with a ration party R.S.M. OWEN WILLIAMS was wounded. In the afternoon the Germans on our left rear were driven back by another Bn & the situation cleared considerably.

2nd

A quieter day. Occasional bombardment only.

3rd

2nd Lt BR. G.H.W. PROSSER wounded by shrapnel early in the morning. She Bn was relieved by the 7th BOWENBATONS & became Bn in support.

4th

2nd Lt RT. J.P. MORTON wounded early in the morning by shrapnel. In the afternoon Bn moved to Reserve Area. Total casualties from 30/8/16 to 4/9/16 inclusive.

Killed 1
Wounded 2
O.R.

Killed 27
Wounded 82

2 Lt. J.V. BAINBRIDGE took command of "G" Coy & 2 Lt F. JOSEPH of "D" Co.

5th

Bn moved to billets in DEWENHOUGHT.

6th

Bn entrained & moved to BRUCAMP, where they were in billets.

7th to
20th

Training and re-organisation.

11th

2nd Lt. H. TREACHER to Hospital.
2nd Lt. W.D. QUERRAULT joined from 10th Bn, Royal Sussex Regt & posted to "A" Co.

14th

Lt. & Quartermaster O.A. STEWART struck off strength, sick to England.

15th

Draft of 23 O.R. arrived.

2TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1916

October

- 1st. Bn, relieved 13th Middlesex in front line in front of SOUCHES.
- 3rd. Reinforcements arrived.
- 7th. 2/Lt. F. E. BOURDILLON returned from 2nd Army Grenade School.
- 10th. Bn relieved by 12th ROYAL FUSILIERS & marched into billets at CAMBRAIN L'ABBE, with A & B Coys at VILLERS-au-BOIS. The nine days in the line were quiet except for considerable trench artillery activity.
- 10th. Casualties - Officers 2/Lt R. BURNIER wounded. O.R. 1 killed, 1 died of wounds, 67 wounded. Major R. H. WALTERMAN joined the Bn.
- 10th.)
to
18th.)
Bn. training.
- 12th. 19 O.R. Reinforcements arrived.
- 16th. 4 O.R. Reinforcements arrived.
- 18th. Bn. moved into support at CABARET ROUGE, behind VINDY RIDGE.
- 18th.)
to
27th.)
Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.
- 27th. Bn. marched to MESTRES CAUVILLE, being relieved by 15th Bn. Canadian Infantry.
- 2/Lt J. A. HAWKESIDGE returned to duty from Hospital.
- 28th. Bn. marched to billets at LAZINGARDE.
- 29th. Bn. moved into line in TOOS area, relieving 12th Bn South Wales Borderers.
- 30th. Capt. W. J. Z. AUSTIN reported for duty from England.

(14.) H. O. O.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1916

November

- 1st. } Bn. in line at LOOS.
to } Casualties 1 Officer died of
6th. } wounds, 4 O.R. wounded.
- 1st. 2/Lt R. BURRIER returned to duty.
Major J. L. STOKES appointed ~~1st~~ 1st
Major of HALILOUCOURT.
- 5th. 2/Lt J. A. HAWKESIDE wounded on
writing party, & died on 6th.
- 6th. Bn moved to Reserve in H.
MAROC.
- 7th. Draft of 7 O.R. arrived.
- 8th. Draft of 4 O.R. arrived - Capt.
GALPHEIL-JOHNSON appointed 2nd-
in-Command. Major R. H. WATKINSON
appointed to command 1st Bn. R.
YORKS REGT.
- 12th. Bn. moved into line at LOOS.
- 13th. Capt. T. POSTER to Hospital.
- 14th. 2/Lt A. F. DIBST joined Bn. from
England.
- 18th. Bn. moved to Support in MAROC.
- 23rd. Lt. H. H. LESTERLAND transferred
to T. R. Battery & struck off.
Lt. Col J. F. P. LAMONDON vacated
command of Bn. Major H. V. B.
HILL, 1st Royal Fusiliers took
command of Bn.
- 24th. Bn moved into line - LOOS.
- 26th. Capt. W. J. F. AUSTIN wounded.
- 30th. Bn. moved to Reserve. H. V. &
2 Coys at LES BRIBES & 2 Coys
at MAROC. 2/Lt G. V. NEWTON
took command of D Coy.

(Itd.) H. O. G.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1916

December

- 1st. A & B Coys at IES BREMIS started training. C & D Coys at Haroc did fatigues.
ditto & Baths for A & B Coys.
- 2nd. Inter Coy relief. 2/Lt Atwood returned from short leave.
A & B Coys at Haroc C & D Baths at IES BREMIS.
C & D training A & B fatigues.
- 3rd. Btn relieved 13th MK in ILOS sector. 3 casualties. 1 killed.
Usual working parties & trench routine.
- 4th. ditto
- 5th. As above, Bosch quite quiet.
- 6th. Weather cold enemy's attitude nervous.
Three casualties.
- 7th. 2 casualties. Moved to Haroc
2 coys HAROC 1. DUFF ST 1. TRAVERS
& ST JAMES KEEP.
- 8th. Working parties.
- 9th. Working parties.
- 10th. Nothing of interest, usual carrying parties, & inter Coy relief.
- 11th. C & D Coys in HAROC A & B in close support.
Usual fatigues.
- 12th. Btn relieved 13 MK in ILOS trenches.
- 13th. C & D Coys in front line A & B in Enclasure.
- 14th. All quiet, work as usual.
- 15th. No casualties, Bosch very quiet, Maggie & Lulu very reticent.
2/Lt Atwood act adj.
- 16th.
- 17th.
- 18th.
- 19th.
- 20th.
- 21st.

1916APPENDIXDecember

- 22nd. Josh got wind up & sent a few
whiz bangs over, soon calmed
down, when 18 pdrs opened.
- 23rd. All quiet usual work.
- 24th. Three casualties, accomplished
me more by good luck than good
shooting. Btn went to Les
Bredes.
- 25th. Xmas Day, dinner for two Coy's.
- 26th. Baths, & working parties, &
resting.
- 27th. Inter Coy roller.
- 28th. Parties etc. 2 coy Xmas dinner.
- 29th. Baths & resting for 2 Coy's.
- 30th. Btn relieved 13 ME in 1008 trenches,
boser quite lively 3 casualties.
- 31st. 2 casualties.

F. ATWOOD,
2/7th & act. adjt.
9th Royal Sussex Regt.

9th BATTALION. THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

January.

1st to
5th.

Bn. in the line at LOOS.
Bombardment with Gas Shells
on 1st.

2nd.

2/Lt. E.R. HOLDEN joined Bn. &
posted to "A" Co.
2/Lt. A. JACKSON joined Bn. &
posted to "D" Co.

5th.

Bn. relieved by 13th Middlesex
Regt.

5th to
11th.

Bn. in Brigade Reserve at
HAROC with 2 companies
forward.
All men employed on Working
Parties.

11th to
17th.

Bn. relieved 13th Middlesex
in the line on 11th.
Fairly quiet period.

17th to
23rd.

Bn. relieved by 13th Middlesex
& became Divisional Reserve,
with H. Q. & two companies
at LWS BREBIS & two companies
at HAROC.
Companies at HAROC employed on
working parties.
Companies at LWS BREBIS re-fitting
& training.

18th.

Captain I. D. CHRISTIE joined from
1st Bn. & posted to "B" Company.
2/Lt. V. K. BOURDILLON joined Bn.
& posted to "C" Coy.

19th.

2/Lt. H. M. GEARY joined Bn. &
posted to "D" Coy.
2/Lt. H. G. WILKIN joined Bn. &
proceeded to Training Bn.

23rd to
29th.

Bn. relieved 13th Middlesex Regt.
in the line.
On early morning of 24th, Germans
attempted raid on Bn. on our
right. He did not reach our
trenches. We captured one wounded
German.

28th.

2/Lt. F. PHIPPS wounded-in-action.

1917.

April.

29th to
31st.

Bn. relieved by 13th Middlesex
Regt. & became Bn. in Brigade
Reserve with three Coy's. at
MAROC & 1 Coy. Forward. All
men on Working Parties.

H. C. COLEMAN.

Lt. & Adj. for O.C.
9th Royal Sussex Regt.

Appendix.

92nd BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

February.

- 1st
Bn in Brigade Reserve at MAROC.
- 4th
Bn relieved 15th Middlesex in the line.
- 4th to 11th
Fairly quiet tour in the line.
- 11th
Bn relieved by 10th Bn, Royal North Lancs. Regiment & moved to IMS BRIDIS.
- 12th
Bn moved to West Area & were billeted at HEDDIGNETT.
Inspected by Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief on the line of march.
- 13th to 15th
Spent in cleaning up, re-organisation, kit inspections, etc.
- 16th
73rd Infantry Brigade & units from other arms inspected by GEN. RIVERDALE, Commanding-in-Chief French Army.
Inspection held at HEDDIGNETT.
Bn. Marched past after inspection. C.O. 1st Army expressed his satisfaction "that so creditable a sample of the British Army was forthcoming".
- 17th to 28th
Progressive scheme of training carried out.
- 27th
2/Lt. W. R. CHITTENDEN joined Bn.

(It'd.) H. C. C.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

March.

1st Bn. in Rest Area at HESDINGHEM.
to Training proceeded with & final
3rd preparations made for return to
the line.

4th Bn. moved to BOUVIGNY HURTS, in
support for defence of LORETTES
SPUR. Two days spent in training
& reconnoitering the new area.

6th Bn. moved to Divisional Reserve
at SALMS-EN-GOHEMUS, Training
continued.

9th Capt. J. D. CHRISTIE took command
of "g" Coy. Capt. T. FOSTER
appointed acting 2nd in C. of Bn.

10th Bn. relieved 13th Middlesex in the
line. Left sub-section SODDERS-
S. 2. D., H. 32. a. & b. Sheet 36 C.
Germans attempted raid under cover
of bombardment about 5 hours after
relief. This was nipped in the
bud by rifle & l. G. fire. Fairly
quiet after that.

16th Bn. relieved by 13th Middlesex
Regt. & took over defenses of
LORETTES SPUR with H. Q. at ABELAIN ST.
MAZAINS.

22nd Bn. relieved 13th Middlesex in the
line.

31st On 26th, 27th, & 28th Germans
bombarded our front heavily at
intervals. Our retaliation was
very heavy. There was no infantry
action. Lt. COL. H. V. B. HILL, M.C., went on
leave to England 23/3/17.
Capt. T. FOSTER took temporary
command of Bn.

(Incl.) H.O.C.

1917.

April.

1st Bn in line in left sub-section SCUDGER. Relieved on night 1st/2nd Coy's 8th Bn. the Buffs. Bn. moved to Divisional Reserve in billets at FOSSER 10.

2nd Major M. CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON struck off strength & attached to H.Q. 2nd Army.

2nd to 10th Bn. trained under Genl F. FOSBER for attack ordered for 10th. Lt. Col Hill, M.C. returned from leave. 10/4/17. Attack postponed till 12/4/17.

11th Bn. took over portion of front from 8th Bn's on evening of 11th.

12th Attack on BOIS-en-HACHE - (S 2 b & M 32 d - Sheet 36c) The attack was carried out in conjunction with the 2nd Leinsters on our right, & in co-operation with an attack by the Canadian Corps. The objectives were the German 1st & 2nd lines, which meant the capture of his commanding position in the BOIS-en-HACHE. "A" Coy on the left & "B" Coy on the right were detailed to take the 2nd line, & hold it as a line of observation. "C" Coy was detailed to "pop up", consolidate & hold as a line of resistance the enemy front line. "D" Coy was held in reserve. The attack was timed for 5 a.m. on the 11th, just before dawn. All Companies moved into position of assembly without delay or casualty by 1 a.m. & Tea & Rum were issued to the men. The difficult operation of forming up on the proper alignment was carried out under cover of a blizzard 5 mins before Zero. In the attack heavy casualties were at once sustained from H.Q. fire. The first objective was at once captured with about 60 casualties, including 3 officers of "B" Coy, 1 of "A" Coy, & 1 of "C" Coy. About 6 Germans who fought were bayoneted, the remainder were captured or ran away. At 5.10 a.m. the advance continued. "A" Coy reached all their objectives & established a line of posts 90 yds in advance of German front line. In this advance "A" & "B" & "C" Coys each lost an officer. Three attempts at a bombing attack were made but were driven off. A counter-attack against the last one

1917.

Appendix

April.12th
(Contd.)

resulted in the capture of 2 prisoners. "B" Coy, in spite of the loss of all their officers reached their objective in small parties, one in touch with "A" Coy & 1 in touch with the 3rd Lincoln. 12 men were found killed 20 yds in front of the objective. The dug-outs in the front line were picqueted, 150 yds of the line was wired by Lt. Lloyd Davis & a party of 129 Field Co. R.S. with 15 men of D Coy. A Vickers Gun was successfully got into position in the centre of this line, & a Stokes Gun with 190 rounds was carried to a position on the left of the enemy front line. The ammunition was carried by men of D Coy. During the day "A" Coy got considerable shelling, but the casualties were very few. The attack took place in a blinding snow-storm & over ground full of large shell-holes & churned into a sea of mud by bad weather & heavy shelling.

13th

The night 12th/13th was comparatively quiet, but the unusual darkness & heaviness of the ground made communication difficult. The morning of the 13th was quiet except for shelling by single guns. At 1 p.m. it was seen that the enemy was shelling his own line & the village of ANGRES. Consequently at 1.45 p.m. patrols were sent out under 2/Lt. PATWOOD & 2/Lt H. SAXON 500 yds from the German 2nd line & reported that enemy had withdrawn except for a M.G. & two snipers who were killing. An H.Q. was established in the German front line by 4 o'clock. By this time our patrol had bombed the enemy out of POSSE 6. An outpost line was established by D Coy on the SCOTCH RIVER & before dark a patrol under 2/Lt R. BURNIER reached CAIVERY French in S. 30.8 & BURGER MILL at S 3 a. 55.90. The outpost line was held through the night & by 7 a.m. the Bn was relieved by 12th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. 19 prisoners were captured & a large number of German dead were found in the captured trenches. Our casualties were Officers 5 killed - 4 wounded. O.R. Killed 40 wounded 63 Died of wounds - O.R. 4 Total all ranks 116.

1917.AppendixApril.13th
(cont'd.)

Officers in action.

O. C. Lt. Col. M. V. B. HILL, M. C.
 2nd-in-Com. Capt. F. FOSTER.
 Adjt. IN H. O. COLEMAN
 Sigs. Off. 2/Lt P. PARROOD
 Ince Officer 2/Lt R. BURNER
 Bomb. Off. 2/Lt G. C. TOLB
 "A" Co CAPT. O. S. BARNARD (killed)
 Lt W. D. CHEPKNILL
 2/Lt V. P. F. WARD (wounded)
 2/Lt S. R. HOLDEN
 "B" Co CAPT G. M. SHACKEL (wounded)
 Lt W. B. SHAW (killed)
 2/Lt G. M. W. PROWSE (killed)
 2/Lt A. CARRER (killed)
 "C" Co 2/Lt B. H. VIDLER (killed)
 2/Lt H. S. AXON
 2/Lt H. G. W. STRAM
 2/Lt W. R. CHEWENDEN (wounded)
 "D" Co 2/Lt J. B. PAUL
 2/Lt R. W. ROUSBY
 2/Lt H. L. GEARY
 2/Lt A. JACKSON
 O. S. M. BARNARD, "A" Co. was killed.

14th

Bn moved on relief to HARGREAVES
 FARM. Weather was still bad.

17th

Bn. marched to HEMDINGEMUL into
 billets.

18th

Bn marched to AUGHEL & were billeted.

19th

Bn marched to Training Area & were
 billeted at ESPRIME BLANCHÉ

20th to

Bn. rested & reorganised. Capt.
 L. D. CHRISTIE took command of B Co.
 2/LtS ROUSBY & GEARY were transferred
 to "B" Co. 2/Lt P. J. BURRIDGE took
 command of "C" Coy temporarily.
 2/LtS O. O. O'NEIGHTE ("A" Co)
 H. M. ADAMS ("B" Co) W. B. PRIOR ("C" Co)
 & C. H. KNIGHT ("D" Co) joined 20/4/17.
 2/Lt W. F. HARRP - sick to England
 13.4.17.

21st

CAPT A. A. E. NEWBY, R.A.M.C. (std)
 struck off strength. CAPT. CHRISTER
 HARRIS, R.A.M.C. std to Bn.

26th

Bn. marched to RALMBERT

27th

Bn marched into camp at HORTCHIT -
 Bde in support to 1st Corps.

28th to

Training carried on.

30th

1917.

April.

39th

Extract from London Gazette -
2/IV O.E. GOAD to be LIEUT -
18.3.17. 2/IV A.V. SHED joined &
posted to "3rd Co. Football
Matches. 39th 9th Royal Sussex
4 Goals 73 3rd H.Q. 1 Goal
30th 9th Royal Sussex 2 Goals
2nd Leinsters nil.

(Inc.) H.C.C.

Appendix

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

May

- 1st) Bn in Camp at HOUGHIN. Training &
to) re-organization carried out. Several
8th) Brigade & Bn. Field days in the 9th-
des-DARS near SHAY were arranged.
The weather was good & much useful work
was done.
- 2nd 2/Lt G. DAVIS joined Bn. from Artists Rifles.
- 7th 2/Lt E. O. R. BYWORN joined from England
- 9th Bn left HOUGHIN at 9.30 a.m. & marched
into billets at Mt BERNEMOON at
2 p.m.
- 10th Bn left Mt BERNEMOON at 10.30 a.m. &
arrived at THIMMERS at 2 p.m. where
they were billeted.
- 11th Inspection & farewell address on leaving
Dive by C.O.C. 24th Divn Maj. Gen.
J. E. CALDER.
- 12th Marched from THIMMERS to billets near
STENVOGSDZ.
- 14th Marched to Camp at HESKEM, near
HEINHOEKST.
- 15th) Bn. was detailed for working parties;
to) for whichever available men was used.
28th)
- 26th 2/Lt A. H. LATYER joined Bn. from England
- 29th) Training & organization of new drafts.
&
30th)
- 31st Bn. moved to Corps Training Area at
STENVOGSDZ

(It'd.) H.C.C.

9TH BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix

June.

1st
to
3rd.

Bn. at STEENVOORDE, training for attack. A practice ground was flagged out to show the various objectives, & the operations were practised thoroughly in conjunction with other Battalions of the Division.

4th

Bn. moved to Camp at IVSSEBROEK. The following officers joined the Bn. from England:-
"A" Co. 2/Lt. S. T. TREW.
"B" Co. 2/Lt. D. F. G. EAY.
"C" Co. 2/Lt. A. G. G. EYS.
"D" Co. 2/Lt. R. HUDSON.
"D" Co. 2/Lt. A. D. WATSON.
2/Lt. G. D. ROBERTS.

5th

Bn. moved to OTYVA Camp near OUDERDOEK.
Battle of Messines Ridge.
Task of Battalion - To capture part of the final objective - S.W. of HOLLIBERTS on a front of 600 yds. northward from the NOOZBESK - (Mag Ref. Sheet 28 - O.16.a.90.50 to O.10.d.45.60). A line running N.E. & S.W. at a distance of from 500 to 750 yds in front of this was captured previously by other troops. The Bn. was supported by 7th Northamptonshire Regt. On the night were the 1st Royal Fusiliers & on the left the 13th Middlesex.

6th
7th

Bn. left Camp at 11.30 p.m. & marched to assembly trenches at OHAFFAU ESCARP, near DIKERSBOH. On arrival the assembly trenches were heavily shelled with gas shells. Gas shells were slight (1.0.R. killed & 3 Gassed) & the troops were got into position satisfactorily. 3.10 a.m. was the time for the first attack. The shelling of back areas at once ceased & the work of issuing Bombs, Tools, etc. was carried on without interruption. At 11.30 a.m. Bn. moved in artillery formation to old British front line. Here a halt of about an hour was made.
At 2 p.m. Bn. again moved forward slowly over the very broken ground. The advance continued over the ground captured by the 1st Division & by ZERO THREE 3.10 p.m. troops had deployed under our barrage. The advance under the barrage took 20 minutes. The objective was taken without much opposition & contact was established with the flank Battalions. The total casualties up to the evening of the 7th were under 40 of all ranks.

1917.

Appendix.

June.

- 8th
to
11th
- Bn. held the line & consolidated the position. Strong points were constructed & communication trenches cleared. Enemy shelling increased each day & the final casualties were:- Officers - 6 wounded
Lt.A-V. REEVE, 2/Lt. P. J. SURRIDGE
2/Lt. J. G. WINGS, 2/Lt. A. V. BURD,
2/Lt. G. O. O'BRIEN, 2/Lt. W. S. PRICE,
Other ranks - 31 killed, 134 wounded,
3 missing.
- 11th
- Bn. relieved by 10th Bn. The QUEENS & moved to OUDERDOL.
- 12th
- The following officers arrived -
"A" Coy. 2/Lt. J. P. STEPHENSON -
"C" Co. 2/Lt. H. BOWLING.
- 13th
- Bn. moved to MICHAEL CAMP near OUDERDOL. Major T. POSTER detached to command temporarily 7th Northamptonshire Reg't.
- 15th
- Bn. relieved 1st Royal Fusiliers as Bn. in support in HILL 60 sector. & carried on work of consolidation of strong points & support trenches.
- 16th
- Major J. C. D. BIRFELSTEIN joined from 8th Bn. Royal Sussex Reg't.
Rev. R. P. DODD, C.P. wounded at duty.
- 19th
- R. S. H. COMES, H.A. wounded. G. S. H. STANDEN appointed A/R.S.M.
- 19th
- Bn. relieved 7th Northampton in the front line. During this tour there was no infantry action, but hostile artillery fire was very heavy.
- 19th
to
23rd
- Work of consolidation was carried out steadily, but under considerable difficulties. Casualties for 8 days were:- 1 Officer wounded - 2/Lt. R. O. R. HYWORTH - Other ranks 19 killed - 61 wounded.
- 23rd
- Bn. relieved by 8th Bn. The QUEENS, & moved to MICHAEL CAMP, near OUDERDOL.
- 26th
- Major T. POSTER rejoined from 7th NORTHAMPTONS.
- 27th
- Bn. moved by train to billets in Rest Area at NIKELMS-LES-BLEQUIN.
Lt. N. E. YOUNG rejoined Bn. from 73rd Inf. Bde. H. Q. & posted to "A" Coy.

Appendix.1917.
June.28th
to
30th

In. tested & re-organised.

During the month the following
Honours were awarded:-MILITARY CROSS -CAPT. G.V. HEYTON.
2/LT. H.G. WELSH.
2/Lt. R.W. ROHSBY.DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

No. 10537 Pte. A.J. DRELL.

MILITARY MEDAL.No. 2946 QD1. H.G. SIVYER
No. 3125 Sgt. V.G. TICKNER
No. 16765 Pte. E. ISARD.
No. 5786. Sgt. C. WILDER.MEMBERS MILITARY.

No. 1381 Sgt. J. CHILMAN.

(Itd.) H. C. C.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1917

July

IN THE FIELD

1st.)
to)
8th.)

Battalion in Res. Area at HILBERS
LES BIRQUIN. One week's good
training for individuals put in.
A Platoon of "G" Coy. Gave a
good display of fire control and
musketry under a Musketry Instructor
from II Army School. On 6th
July a draft of 150 OR. joined
the Battalion, the best we have
ever received, all young men
with previous experience in France.
On 7th July Capt. G. V. NEWBORN, M.C.
gave a good demonstration of
guard mounting in the Village
Square which was much appreciated
by the H.C.O.'s. The following
officers joined during the week -
2 Lieut. G. CORPSON (D.O.W. and
Hilary Road), 2 Lieut. B.
HORSBOLT and were posted to A
and B Coys. - 2 Lieut. A.W.
GOLDEN to "G" Coy. 2 Lieut.
W. B. BRICE and A. V. JUDY to "G" and
"B" Coys from Hospital, both
wounded on 7th June.

9th.)
to)
15th.)

Training continued. 2 Lieut.
V.P. WARD joined "A" Coy. from
11th Bn. He was wounded with
the Battalion at BOIS en HAUTE
on 12th April. 2 Lieut. H.O.
ASSIEMAN joined on 10th and
posted to "B" Coy. 11th July the
Battalion had a field day's
training in the Divisional Train-
ing Area. The ground which was
covered by standing corn, was
not very suitable, but some very
good Company exercises were
carried out, in which the Rifle
Grenade was made good use of.

17th.

The Battalion left HILBERS at
2.15 am and marched 16 miles
to REMESGURE. In spite of the
heat at 10 am only one man was
behind the Transport at the end
of the march.

18th.

Marched to CAERWRE under 72nd
Inf. Bde.

19th.

Marched to WROCK by Companies
(about 1 mile).

1917

July

APPENDIX

20th.

Marched to HISSERNOOK - 9 miles without a man falling out of the ranks.

21st.

Marched to Hymas Camp near BRIMMERLEY - "A" and "C" Coys went on to CANADA Tunnels to relieve the 23rd Division.

22nd.

"B" and "A" Coys and H.Q. marched to CANADA Tunnels and "A" and "C" Coys took over front line HISSERNOOK sector from 9th YORKS. This sector was the left hand pivot of the HISSERNOOK battle on 7th June.

23rd.

Handed over part of our left Company front line to 8th BUFFS, so that the 17th I.D. could hold the front from which they were going to attack. The move cost us some casualties as it was an ugly fight. H.Q. moved from HERBES STREET Tunnels to CANADA Tunnels which being originally a linking system do not make very comfortable quarters for Infantry to live in. The trouble of keeping them dry is very great. Lieut. A.J. BISH wounded and went to Transport Lines.

24th.

to

29th.

The Battalion remained in the line, making preparations for the Brigade's attack on the 31st. Rain considerably impeded the work and the darkness and shelling at dusk and dawn made it hard for parties to reconnoitre the line.

30th.

By 8 am the Battalion was back in RICHAD Camp. "A" Coy suffered some casualties from gas shells which brought out hugh blisters on their backs and necks. 2 Lt. J.A. STEVENSON and O.S.M. STURT were both casualties. 2 Lieutenants R. HUDSON and W.M. PHILIP were both gassed. 2 Lieut. O. COMPTON killed on 26th.

31st.

At 5 am Battalion "stood to" preparatory to moving at 15 minutes notice. Orders to move came at 10.45 am and Battalion moved up to OLD FRENCH Trench and ROUGE Trench. The labour of getting 2 Cookers and 2 Water Carts through VOORDEBEEK on which a 11" gun was steadily firing was amply repaid by the hot food that could be given

APPENDIX1917July31st.
ctd.

to the men, "B" and "A" Coys
At 7.30 pm "B" and "A" Coys
moved to LAROH WOOD and CANADA
Street Tunnels respectively and
H.Q. to the former place.

(It'd.) H. O. O.

2th BATTALION. THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1917.

August.

1st.

Bn. had moved up into Support after the attack on July 31st. H.Q. & B Coy. in Iaroh Wood Tunnels. D Coy. in Cannada St. Tunnels. A & C Coys. in Goluse Trench & Convent Lane, near Vormezeale.

3rd.

Bn. took over front held by 17th Inf. Bde. D Coy. in front line W. of HPT PAPPORTS Em. B Coy. in support. A & C Coys. in HEDGE ST.

6th.

C Coy. relieved D. & A Coy. relieved B. in order to facilitate Bn. relief the next night.

1st to 7th.

During this period the weather was extremely bad. Consolidation and re-organising the line was carried out under great difficulties.

8th.

Bn. was relieved in early morning by 1st Royal Fusiliers. On relief Bn. moved to "L" Camp, DICKENBUSH, 800 yds. N.W. of DICKENBUSH Church.

8th/11th.

This time was occupied by resting and re-organising.

11th.

Bn. relieved 1st Royal Fusiliers on same front. B Coy. right front, A Coy. centre front, D Coy. right support, C Coy. Hedge St. Tunnels. The left was held by D Coy. 12th Sherwood Foresters.

11th-15th.

Weather was better than in previous four & casualties were slight. Considerable progress was made in work on the line. A system of hauling dug-outs etc. was put into force with excellent results. Guides, runners, & working parties found their way much more easily. Three German bombing attacks were driven off, & a party organized & led by Lt. N.E. YOUNG raided a German post.

1917.

August.11th-15th
(contd)

It was found to be occupied only by a single sentry. He was taken prisoner.

15th.

2/Lt. L.J.FORD wounded.

15th/16th.

Bn. was relieved by 1st B. STAFFS & moved to MICHAG CAMP.

16th.

2/Lt. W.B.PALING & 2/Lt. H.A. GOODAGRE joined from England & posted to A & C Coys. respectively.

18th.

2/Lt. E.G.BROWN & 2/Lt. S.W.HALE joined from England & posted to B & D Coys. respectively.

19th.

2/Lt. E.L.HALL joined from England & posted to "A" Coy. R.B.Major H.A.Coles rejoined Bn. Lt.Col. H.V.B.HILL D.S.O. M.C. proceeded on leave. Major T.FOSTER took command of Bn. Bn. moved to "I" Camp, Dickenson.

16th/22nd.

Weather was fairly fine & this was taken advantage of by enemy aeroplanes for night bombing raids. An anti-aircraft Lewis Gun was mounted in Camp to engage any enemy aeroplanes, who came within range. Only small working parties were required during this period & consequently valuable training was carried out.

23rd.

Bn. relieved the 8th BURNS. as Bn. in Bde Support. B Coy. in HEDGE ST TUNNELS. D Coy. in CANADA ST. TUNNELS, C Coy. in METROPOLITAN TERT, H.Q. & A Coy. in LARCH WOOD TUNNELS.

24th/27th.

Bn. was engaged in wiring support line & carrying parties for M.G.Coy. Tunneling Coy. Field Coy. R.B. 13th Middlesex & 2nd Leinesters. The shelling of back areas was much less than in previous tours & casualties were slight.

27th.

Bn. was relieved by 1st B. STAFFS & 1 Coy. 9th B. SURREYS & moved to MICHAG CAMP. Relief was carried out under very unpleasant weather conditions.

1917.

Appendix.

August.

28th/30th.

The Camp was drained & a start was made in building sandbag walls between tents & shelters to localise the effect of the horizontal burst of aeroplane bombs.

31st.

Bn. moved to H Camp, 500 yds. N.W. of DIORNBURGH GHURCH.
A large flight of GOTHA Aeroplanes came over in the afternoon. This was the first time we had seen this type of German aeroplane.

H. C. C.

 SPECIAL ORDER.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

I would like the Officers and men to be told how very much the Brigade appreciates the work done by your Battalion in the trenches during the preparations for the recent operations. A great deal of hard work had to be done in a very short time, stores had to be carried up and dumps made.

During this period the Battalion was exposed to heavy shell fire night and day, but in spite of this all arrangements were complete and up to time. Difficulties were overcome with cheerfulness and everything was carried out with that thoroughness and soldierly spirit which is a special feature of the Battalion.

W. NUGAN,
Brigadier General,
Commanding 73rd Infantry Brigade.

H.Q. 73 I.B.

7.8.17.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix

September.

III THE FIRM.

1st) Battalion in Camp at DICKENSCH. Enemy Brigades in support. Enemy aeroplanes very active during this period dropping bombs on back areas.

3rd) Battalion relieved 3rd Rifle Brigade in the line (GIBBER COPSE and SOMMER COPSE)

4th) 7th) "C" Coy Right Trench - "F" Coy Left Front - "A" Coy. Right support. "B" Coy Left support - H.Q. in HEDGE STRIKE Tunnels.

This tour was rather quieter than previous tours, but at times enemy shelling was heavy and a number of gas shells were used. Officers of the 4th and 7th Divisions were busy reconnoitering the line for the intended attack and work was being pushed ahead making dunes, trenches, light railways, dressing stations, burying cable so.

7th) 8th) Battalions relieved by 8th GREENS and moved to "J" Camp Micaeo. This Camp had been moved to a new site and was greatly improved. Training was carried on in the mornings.

11th Battalion moved to "I" Camp DICKENSCH. Working parties were found to make dug-outs near KILBEECK.

13th Battalion move to Camp at H.35.e.s.o. (29) near HALLBELL ST.

14th Battalion marched to HICKACH. An enemy march at a slow pace owing to heavy traffic. In the afternoon a football match was played against a Siege Battery in Camp. Result 1-1.

15th Battalion moved by Buses to billets near SPEDDENCH. Move entailed march of about 8 miles.

15th to 21st Billets were good though scattered. Training was carried on with a view to

1917.

September.15th to
21st (Oct.)

Remaining French Warfare, Morning
were occupied by training of
Platoons and Specialists with
Company Commanders. Afternoons
were devoted to Football, cricket,
running, tug of war etc. Each
Company held a sports meeting
in anticipation of Battalion
sports later. These 6 days were
spent pleasantly. Some good
training was carried out.

21st

Battalion moved by train from
MILITARY to BATAUN. Leaving
was very interesting, especially
going "over the top" at AMBUL.
Battalion moved from BATAUN
to Camp at HANAU.

23rd

Battalion sports were held.
A very successful day. The tug
of war (won by H.C.) was a great
success, and a new bomb throwing
contest also aroused much interest.
The success of the representatives
of Headquarters in this and other
events, was very striking. A
concert was held in the evening
with the help of outside talent,
and was an unusually good one.

24th

Battalion marched to HAUF Abi-
AMBUL. Battalion marched
past G.O.C. en route. The
hot day and hilly country made
it a trying march. Bathing
in the afternoon was very
welcome.

25th

Battalion moved by buses to
HEVILIN.

26th

Battalion relieved 23rd
NORTHUMBRIAN PUSHLERS
(4th TRENCHER SCOTTISH) in the
line at HANCOUVE. "A" Coy
left front - "B" Coy Night
front - "D" Coy. Sappers -
"C" Coy Reserve.

26th
to
30th

This part of the line was a
pleasant change from YERS.
Trenches were in very good
order considering that the
line had only been captured
about 3 weeks. Enemy
activity on our front was
limited to sniping (which was
met by counter measures) and
fairly heavy bursts of shelling
on the line and on HANCOUVE.
Work was taken in hand to put

Appendix.

1917.September.Appendix.

26th
to
30th (ctd.)

the trenches in a state to
withstand the Tanks.
The following Officers joined
Battalion during the month :-
2 Lieut E. DAVISON on 4/9/17
and posted to "A" Coy.
Capt A. V. BETHELL "A" Coy.
rejoined from England (wounded)
8/9/17. 2 Lieut J. HARRIS on
9/9/17 posted to "B" Coy
2 Lieut G. R. IVERFIELD on 19/9/17
posted to "A" Coy.

(It'd.) H.O.C.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7-17

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917

Appendix.

October

FRENCH.

1st to 4th Battalion in the line at WALKNOFF
ZARE, G. Coy Right Front, "D"
Coy. Left Front, "A" & "B" Coys

in support. Work was chiefly
devoted to clearing front line
which was very muddy and increasing
accommodation for support
Companies.

4th

Battalion moved to Brigade Reserve
being relieved by 3 Coys 13th
MIDDLESEX Regt. and 1 Coy. 2nd
LIRISH REGT.

"A" Coy in support to 13th

Middlesex at HARDY BARK,
B. Coy in support to 2nd LIRISH REGT
at ENGINE SUPPORT, Headquarters
and C & D Coys at RAVIGOUHRT
QUARRY.

4th to 8th

Working parties took all available
men. Owing to bad weather the
trenches required much work to
maintain them in good condition.

8th

Battalion relieved 13th MIDDLESEX
in front line holding RIMBEKAR
POST, BERNARD'S FORT and LITTLE
BERNARDIN. "B" Coy Right Front,
A. Coy Left Front, C. Coy in
support in HUSSAR ROAD and "D" Coy
in Reserve at HARDY BARK.

11th

Inter-Company Relief.

8th to 14th

A very quiet 6 days. No casualties.
A considerable amount of wire was
put out during this tour and Bomb
proof shelters were constructed.
During this tour the left Coy.
(100 men) held 1500 yards of front
line. Such a thing could not have
been believed 2 years ago when
Company Commanders were checked
for not having a man in every fire-
bay.

14th

Battalion relieved by 13th MIDDLESEX
and moved to Divisional Reserve at
HERVILLI. Only 1 days training was
possible owing to working parties.

17th

Battalion exercise was carried out.
Divisional Commander and B. G. C.
being present. An attack in open
country against an enemy rear guard
was practised.

1917October

16th

A Football Match was played - Officers V. H.C.Os and Ken. The latter won by 2 Goals to 1. The Divisional Band played during the Match.

20th

Battalion relieved 13th HINDISBAX in the line previously held by the 1st Coy. "A" & "B" Coys. Left & Right fronts respectively - C. Coy Reserve & D Coy Support.

Inter-Company Keller.

23rd

27th

30th

Battalion relieved by 13th HINDISBAX and moved to Brigade Reserve - H.O., "G" and "D" Coys. in TEMPERLEY QUARRIES, A. and B. in HARDICOURT QUARRY. Over 200 men daily were employed on Brigade working parties.

On the 12th Major T. POSTER was granted 6 months light duty in England. Major J. J. Bannan became Acting Second in Command and Lieut. H. SKORR H.C. took command of "G" Coy.

Casualties during the month were 3 O.R. Killed and 5 O.R. wounded. These casualties are the lowest experienced by the Battalion in one month's tour in the trenches or which 6 days only were spent out of the shelled area.

(Ed.) H.C.C.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

November FIELD

1st) Battalion in Brigade Reserve.
to) H, Q & C & D Coy's in FLEETBOLD
3rd) QUARRIES. A & B Coy's in
HARGREAVE QUARRIES. Over 200 men
were found daily for working Parties.

3rd Battalion relieved 13th MIDDLESEX REGT. in front line holding RITHEAN POST to LITTLE BENJAMIN. D COY Right Front C. COY Left Front. B COY Support. A COY Reserve.

5th Battalion took over line to the right as far as MALAKOFF FARM. This increased Battalion front to a mile as the crow flies. Right front Coy. MALAKOFF SUPPORT. GARRIBY & part of RITZ & RY GREENH. RITHEAN, BENJAMIN and LITTLE BENJAMIN POSTS. B. COY relieved D COY and I COY of HOWLANDS. LITTLE PAUL, B. CLAREMERS, H. S. A attached for 4 days instruction in trench warfare.

6th A COY relieved C COY.

3rd -) Work during this tour consisted
9th) chiefly in wiring and improving
trenches.

9th Battalion relieved by 13TH MIDDLESEX REGT. and moved to Divisional Reserve at HERVILLY.

11th Divisional Band played in Recreational Room.

14th Football Match against 12th SHEPWOODS at RUISL. Lost 2 goals to 1 after a good game.

9th -) Only one day's training was possible
15th) owing to working Parties.

15th Battalion relieved 13th MIDDLESEX REGT. in the line, MALAKOFF FARM to LITTLE BENJAMIN POST. D. COY, Right Front. C COY, Left Front. B COY Right Support. A. COY Left support

18th 5.30 am Heavy shelling commenced on Brigade on our left and on our front, followed by raid against the Brigade on our left. Hobshe made a demonstration with Flamme-thrower against our right Coy. opposite MALAKOFF FARM. Our Observations 2 men Gassed. Inter-Coy. Heliof took place.

1917.Appendix.November

20th In order to assist attack of 56th Division on our left - ZHD 6-20 gm. we made a demonstration with dummy figures opposite RIFLEMAN POST and BEMJAMIN POST which drew some retaliation. Casualties 1 died of wounded, 3 wounded.

21st Another demonstration was made by A & B COYS with "p" (smoke) bombs. This drew considerable retaliation. Casualties 2 killed. The Battalion was relieved by 13th MIDDLESEX REGT and moved to BRIGADE RESERVE. H. Q. B & D COYS at HAREBOURNE QUARRIES. A & C COYS at TEMPEUX QUARRIES.

Battalion found over 200 men per day for working Parties.

23rd)
to)
26th)
incl;

27th Battalion relieved 13th MIDDLESEX REGT. in the line. HAWKOFF FARM to LITTLE BEMJAMIN POST. D COX Right front. G. COY Left front. B. COY Right Support. A. COY Left Support.

30th Heavy shelling all day on and in rear of Left Coy front, especially RUSSAR ROAD and along Valley south of TEMPIERS and BISSON, the latter being chiefly Gas shell. Enemy attacked 56th Division on our left.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

December.

FIELD.

1st to
4th.

Battalion in the line MALAKOFF
FARM to LITTLE BERTHAINE. Enemy
gas shell activity. Much
wiring was done.

4th

Battalion relieved in the line
by 13th MIDDLESEX REGT. and
moved to Reserve at HERVILLY.

5th to
10th.

Battalion training by Coys.
One Coy. each day absorbed by
working parties. Raising party
of 42 men under 2/Lt. D.W.G.
May, 2/Lt. E.L. HALL & 2/Lt.
J. HANN carried out two days
special training.

10th

Battalion relieved 13th
MIDDLESEX REGT. in the line.

12th

Raid carried out by Battalion.
Zero 2.30 a.m. Enemy withdrew
his posts and no enemy were
encountered. His trenches
were found to be in fairly good
condition, being duckboarded
but not rewetted. Practically
no retaliation. For further
details see O.G.s. attached.

10th to
16th.

Fairly quiet tour. Some enemy
gas shelling. Battalion
concentrated on wiring.

16th

Battalion relieved in the line
by 13th MIDDLESEX REGT. and
moved to Brigade Support at
TERPLEUX QUARRIES.

17th

Snow fell during night 16th/17th.
80 men found for working parties.

18th

Battalion relieved in Brigade
Support by 12th ROYAL FUSILIERS
and moved to VERDILLERS (Brigade
in Support).

18th to
27th.

Two Coys. employed on working
parties each day. Remainder
cleared the roads of snow.

23rd

The following Officers joined
the Bn. from England:-
Lt. D.C. WESTALL;
2/Lt. R.J. BULLITT.
P. H. BRAV.

1917.

Appendix.

December.

25th

Christmas Day, was celebrated by a Dinner for the men at mid-day which was a great success. The W. Os. and Sergeants dined in the evening and a Battalion Dinner was arranged for the Officers. Unfortunately no hall was available for a concert.

26th

The whole battalion was employed on carrying wire for the JEANCOURT salton line.

27th

Battalion relieved 12th ROYAL FUSILIERS as support battalion H. G. "B" & "C" COYS. at TEMPLUX CHATELIS "D" Coy. at HARGICOURT and "A" Coy. attached to 7th NORTHANTS in the line.

27th to
31st.

These few days were a much appreciated rest.

31st

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHANTS in the line at HARGICOURT. Dispositions as follows:-
RIGHT COY. "C" Coy., GENTRE COY. "D" Coy., LEFT COY. "B" Coy., SUPPORT COY. "A" Coy., RESERVE COY. "D" Coy. 7th NORTHANTS.

HONOURS.

The following officers and N.C. Os. were mentioned in FIELD MARCHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S Despatch dated 7th November 1917.
LIEUT: COL: M. V. B. HILL, D.S.O.,
E.C., MAJOR T. FOSTER, 560 Sqr.
E. CUTTING & 8990 Sqr. A.J. BIRNHAM.

Copy No. 2.

SECRET.Ref. Corps.
Tape Sheet
T.O. 1/10,000.9th Royal Sussex Regiment.
OPERATION CRIBET No. 130.

1. The 9th Royal Sussex Regiment will raid the enemy Trenches on the night of 11th/12th December, 1917, to secure prisoners.

2. The jumping-off positions from our line will be:-

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| { | 1 | 15 yards south of left Sap. |
| { | 2 | 25 yards north of left Sap. |
| { | 3 | 50 yards north of left Sap. |

3. The 73rd LIGHT TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY will co-operate by cutting the wire previously, taking care as much as possible to deceive the enemy by shooting well over the front line with some rounds while cutting the wire with others.

At ZERO the battery will fire one round from three guns; as soon as these burst, they will fire one more round per gun. The bursting of the second rounds will be the signal to rush. The second rounds will be closely followed by two "gad" shells fired on Enemy Front Line. Fire will then be maintained at a slow rate of fire on Enemy Support Line A.25.4.22.22. The rate of fire will be quickened at ZERO plus 10, and kept up until two minutes after the rocket signal for withdrawal is sent up.

4. The 7th NORTHANTS will arrange to fire a salvo of Mills Rifle Grenades from the Right Sap into the Enemy Lines at A.25.4.30.05, and will maintain a slow rate of fire on this target until they hear the signal for withdrawal, when they will fire a quick succession of salvos for two minutes, and then cease fire; or, if this signal is not heard for two minutes after the rocket goes up.

5. The signal for withdrawal will be given by O.C. Raiding Party by blowing a Shunter's Horn, or a succession of two "longs" and a "short" (Morse C) on the whistle. When this is heard 2/Lieut. J. KARR will send up from the Left Sap a rocket bursting into many colours.

6. At ZERO plus 3 the Artillery will open on targets as arranged.

7. WYTHRAWALL. The two sections of "A" Coy. and right hand section of "B" Coy. will withdraw to Coy. Headquarters. In SUGAR TRENCH. The remainder to Coy. Headquarters. In MALAKOFF TRENCH, unless there is a heavy barrage to prevent them doing so, in which case they will come to SUGAR TRENCH.

PRISONERS. Prisoners will be sent to either of these dug-outs and kept there until all is quiet.

8. Battalion H.Q. will be established at the Right Battalion Coy. Headquarters. In SUGAR TRENCH from two hours before ZERO, until the "ALL CLEAR" signal is given, which will be the code word "BUSD".

9. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. The M.O. will establish a Dressing Station at Headquarters. SUGAR TRENCH, also an auxiliary one at Coy. Headquarters. MALAKOFF TRENCH.

10. The Signal Officer will arrange:-

1. To synchronise watches at Right Battalion H.Q. 1.5.0.3.2. at 3.0 p.m. and 6.0 p.m.

11. To put out a wire from SUGAR TRENCH to MALAKOFF TRENCH Coy. H.Q. for use in case of emergency.

O.C. "B" Coy. will also send a watch to be synchronised at 6.0 pm. as in (1)

PLEASE

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 4.30 p.m.
Decr. 9th, 1917.

J.E. PAUL, Lieut. & Adj't.
for O.C., 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

Distribution:-

- Copy No: 1. File.
2. War Diary.
3. Commanding Officer.
4. Second in Command.
5. Intelligence Officer.
6. Signalling Officer.
7. Medical Officer.
8. O.C. "A" Coy.
9. O.C. "B" Coy.
10. O.C. "C" Coy.
11. O.C. "D" Coy.
12. 2/Lieut. D.W.G. Hay.
13. 2/Lieut. R.L. Hall.
14. 2/Lieut. J. Mann.
15. 73rd Infantry Brigade.
16. 7th Mortar Bn.
17. 15th Middlesex Regt.
18. 2nd Leinster Regt.
19. 73rd Machine Gun Coy.
20. 73rd Light Trench Mortar Battery.
21. A.P.W. 24th Division.

9TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

January.

FIELD.

1st Battalion in the line at HARGICOURT. LIEUT. COL. M. V. B. HILL D.S.O. M.C. proceeded on leave and Major J. J. BARHAM took over command of Battalion.

1st - A very quiet tour in the line. The snow lasted throughout the whole tour and condition of the trenches was good. No casualties during this tour.

4th Battalion relieved by 1st NORTH STAFFS and moved to Camp at HORTLING FARM.

5th - Battalion provided Working Parties for the Intermediate Line - JEANCOURT - HESBECOURT. Concert party of 7th NORTHANTS gave a much appreciated performance on 6th.

8th Battalion moved to VRAIGNES CAMP exchanging billets with 8th Bn THE BUFFS. Rather a trying march owing to the bad state of roads and a heavy snow storm.

8th - Battalion was engaged chiefly on Working Parties but a fair amount of training was possible, notably marketry and classes for N.C.O.s. (17th) - 2/Lt. A. V. BURD left Battalion for IANK CORPS. A considerable amount of work was put in making protection around huts against aeroplane bombs and also in draining the Camp which was very muddy when the thaw came. Two debates were held and were very popular. There was unfortunately no hut large enough for a concert.

13th 2/Lt. A. V. PULLINGER joined Battalion and posted to "B" Company. An Inter-Company Football Cup Competition was started and also an Inter-Battalion League Competition. The first round of the Cup competition was played A Coy beat B Coy 2nd LEINSMERS 5 Goals against 2.

1918.

Appendix.

January.

13th
(Contd.)

B Coy lost to H.Q. 73rd INFANTRY BRIGADE 3 Goals to HILL, C Coy lost to C Coy 2nd LINGERS by 4 Goals against 2. D Coy lost to D Coy 7th NORTHANTS 4 - 2.

20th

Battalion relieved 3rd RIFLE BRIGADE as Battalion in Brigade Reserve at TEMPLEUX QUARRIES. Capt. C.E. GOLD M.C. appointed Zone Commander of the HARGICOURT FRENCH Area and detached from the Battalion.

20th -
26th

A quiet period in which the Battalion was engaged on Working Parties.
Battalion relieved 7th NORTHANTS in front line.

24th -
29th

A quiet hour. Casualties 1 O.R. killed. The trenches were in a bad state and much work had to be done to put them in good order again.

29th

Battalion relieved by 8th Bn Bn. THE QUEENS & moved to Brl Grade in support at VANDERLES.

30th

Lt R.W. RUSBY M.C. transferred to R.F.C.

30th -
31st

Battalion employed on Working Parties. Baths & Inspections. The noteworthy features of the month were:-
1. The amount of good work done in constructing new defensive lines.
2. The making of a Defence Scheme for the defence in an emergency of each village occupied by troops including the construction of a strong point to be manned by an Infantry Platoon and having a permanent look-out post towards the front line.
3. The construction of splinter-proof protection to huts as a precaution against enemy bombing raids.
4. The systematic improvement of accommodation and comfort of Officers' and men's billets.
5. The large increase in the leave allotment. During this month 10 Officers and 101 men were granted leave to England.

1913.

January.Appendix.

HONOURS.
 Major R.P. DODD and A/Captain H.C.
 COLSMAN awarded the MILITARY CROSS.
 No. 5841 OSN J. BARNISTON awarded the
 DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.
 No. 7243 Sgt. F. WOOD awarded the
 Belgian CROIX DE GUERRE.

H.C.C.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1918

APPENDIX

February

1st.
to
14th.

Battalion at VANDERLIPS, accommodated in NISSER & AIRMAN Huts, & forming part of Brigade in Support. 200 to 250 men were found for working parties daily. All other available men were employed on work to improve the Camp. Ovens and brick paths were built. Splinter-proof walls were built round the huts as protection against bombs. Time was found for a little Gardening to improve the appearance of the Camp. Football matches were arranged on most afternoons; the Batt; team did not meet with much success. The following games were played besides inter-company games - Association Football - V. Household Cavalry, lost 1-3; V. 13th Hussar, lost 0-5; V. H. 4, 73rd Inf. Bde, lost 1-2. Rugby Football, 73rd Inf Bde V. 24th Div. Irish, won 6 pts-5 pts. Hockey - V. 24th Div. H. 4. Drawn 2-2. A good Y.H.C.A. Hut was available & several excellent concerts were arranged, notably one given by the 17th Inf. Bde concert party. Two or three evenings were also devoted to boxing. Training was limited to two Refreshers Lewis Gun Classes per Coy & a Senior N.C.O.'s Class taken each day by an officer who was an expert in the particular subject.

A Lecture was given by Major JOYCE, H.C on "The British Soldiers War Alma".

Five officers attended a demonstration of the co-operation of Tanks & Infantry in attack. A meeting of officers was addressed by A.O.C., Fifth Army, the Rev. HEVILLE TALBOT H.C.

A draft of 1 Officer & 94 O.R. joined from 12th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt which has been disbanded.

6th.

9th.

10th.

1918

February

14th.

Bn relieved 3rd Rifle Brigade in the line, as Centre Bn. holding from FISH LAKE to CARBINE TRENCH. Two Companies held the line in depth & 2 Coys & Bn H.q. were at TERRENEUX QUARRIES.

17th.

A silent raid was successfully carried out by a party of 16 O.R. under 2/Lt D.W.G. HAY & 2/Lt H.C. IRSSIMAN. The Sender H.Q.'s of the parties were Sgt TOMMAN, H.K. of B Coy & Lt/Sgt ZARPART of D Coy. The party left our lines at 10.30 p.m. & proceeded to TROILOR'S TRENCH. The enemy wire had been reconnoitred the previous evening & found to be weak. 2 Officers & 10 O.R. crawled through enemy wire to parachute of the trench. At this moment two of the enemy patrolled above trench behind the parapets. They were allowed to pass as the raiding party was not in position. Two Officers & 2 H.Q.'s then crossed the trench & lay out in a semi circle 15 yds behind the trench. The enemy patrol of 2 men returned & when they were in the centre of the party, the signal (by spring) was given to rush. There was a short struggle & the enemy were then overpowered & taken back without any casualties, not a shot having been fired. The success of the raid was due to the excellent leadership & the courage of the whole party, but was made possible by good observation & study of aeroplane photos, by which the route of patrol was discovered.

14th.
to
22nd.

A very quiet tour, except for a shoot on RUBY WOOD which provoked a certain amount of retaliation. An attempted enemy raid on BOWER LAKE on the 17th was broken up by Lewis Gun & Rifle fire.

22nd.

Bn. took over front from RUBY LAKE to LITTLE HORN, relieving 13th Hadders on left & handing over a few posts on right to the 8th QUEEN'S. The defence of the line was now well organised in depth. All three Brigades were in the line, each having one Bn in the Outpost Zone, one Bn in the Battle Zone

1918

APPENDIX

February22nd.
ctd.

& one Bn in billets in Reserve.

25th.

Bn. was relieved by 13th MIDDLESEX & became Support Bn of the Brigade, holding the Battle Zone with H. Co. at TRAPLUX QUARRIES. From 25th to the end of the month the line livened up considerably. Each night there was a considerable bombardment on fronts to our flank. On the 28th the enemy raided a xxx Bn. of the 60th Division which had that day taken over the line in front of us from the 13th Middlesex. The raid was very creditably repulsed with casualties to the enemy including 2 unwounded prisoners. Casualties during the month. I. R. BURRITT was wounded while acting as Brigade Intelligence Officer on 19th February & died at O. C. S. at TINCOURT on 21st February. He had been with the Bn since Sept., 19th as Intelligence Officer had done very valuable work.

Casualties. Other Ranks -
1 Killed - 2 died
of wounds.

HONOURS.

MILITARY CROSS -
2/Lt D. W. G. HAY - D COY.
BAR to MILITARY MEDAL.
No 13042 I/Cpl W. T. BALL -
A Coy.
MILITARY MEDAL -
No 305 I/Set A. A. FARRAW -
D Coy.
No 6697 Pte F. GRIFFIN -
B Coy
No 14942 I/Cpl T. W.
DICKERSON - C Coy.

H. O. C.

9th BATTALION. THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1918.

March.

FIELD.

1st.

Battalion situated in TRAPPY MOX Quarries and HARDY BANKS. 11 p.m. heavy bombardment of front line, and Battalion "Stood to" during enemy raid on EAST LANCOS at CARLINE Trench.

2nd.

Battalion relieved by 6th IAWASHIRO FOR. and marched to HANGOURT in a blizzard.

3rd

to

20th.

Battalion in training at HANGOURT concentrated chiefly on Musketry and Platoon exercises. Brigade All-round efficiency competition was competed for but was unfinished. Battalion found a few working parties.

15th.

"B" Coy. moved to VENNILLERS for attachment to 258th Tunneling Coy. R.Fs.

20th.

Battle positions at HESBECOURT reconnoitred by C.O., O.G.Coys. Signalling Officer and 1 additional Officer per Company.

21st.

Battalion "Stood to" at 5 am. and went up to battle positions at HESBECOURT through rather a heavy Gas barrage and took up positions as under in the Redoubt Line.

1918.March.21st.Appendix

The Bosche first appeared in front of TRINITY at about 3 p.m. but failed to make any headway. The line was reinforced by stragglers coming back from the front. HESBECOURT was heavily shelled up to about 2 p.m. also TRIPLE, but the forward line was not heavily shelled until about 2.30 p.m. when enemy dropped 5.9's into wire at PRINKEP. The night was quiet. "D" Coy. was relieved by GAVELLY and took up position in WHITE CHALK TRENCH between LINSTART and TRIPLE.

22nd.

The enemy attacked PRINKEP at 6 am. under cover of a thick mist but did not take it until it was entirely surrounded at about 11am. TRINITY was also heavily engaged and were almost cut off but were able to withdraw down a shallow trench to TRIPLE. Enemy also attacked LINSTART in the mist and forced GAVELLY to withdraw thus exposing "D" Coys. right flank and forcing them to retire on to HESBECOURT line. The Bosche worked round their right flank until he got on to the high ground in the region of HERVILLY Wood forcing "D" Coy. back into line with Battalion B-4, who had taken up a position along the light railway running from HESBECOURT to HERVILLY. A party was sent round and took up a position on the High Ground in rear of HERVILLY Wood preventing a further outflanking movement on the part of the enemy. At about 2 p.m. the position in front of HESBECOURT became untenable and the Battalion was withdrawn on to the ROISEL - MONTIGNY Road where a rear-guard action was fought by about 30 men on the High Ground to the S.W. of HERVILLY temporarily checking large numbers of the enemy, advancing through HERVILLY and HERVILLY Wood. This party then retired fighting through the Green line at BERNES (held by 24th Divisional Depot Battalion) and concentrated at MERAUDOURT.

1918.

Appendix.

March.22nd
(contd)

The strength of the Battalion was found to be about 120 rifles.

23rd.

The Battalion marched off at 5 a.m. and took up a position in a thick mist at GUIBANCOURT (arriving about 6 am). At 8 a.m. orders were received to withdraw, which order was carried out, without engaging the enemy. The 73rd I.S.M. Battery was attached to the Battalion. The withdrawal was continued to the River SOMME at VALUY where the Battalion took up a position forward of the bridge head. This was only held for about an hour when the Battalion was relieved by the 72nd Inf. Bde. and retired across the BOUYE and marched to MARGHEMPOY, but returned in the afternoon to LICOURT.

24th.

Battalion marched off at 6 a.m. to CHAUMIES arriving about 7.30 and remained until 1 p.m. when it was ordered to take up a position in front of PUSSEUX which was reached at 3 p.m. and well consolidated. Patrols went forward to PUNOY and remained till dark, but touch was not obtained with enemy.

25th.

The Battalion was ordered forward to counter-attack at DRESLINCOURT and advanced at 8 am. and encountered heavy machine gun fire just outside DRESLINCOURT and was unable to advance further, but held the ground until 2 p.m. when position became untenable and orders were given to withdraw to original line taken up in the morning. Owing to heavy casualties in Officers it was found impossible to reorganise on this line so the Battalion was withdrawn behind PUSSEUX where it was reorganised and went forward again to original morning's line. This however soon became untenable owing to bodies of the enemy working round the flanks and the Battalion withdrew fighting and formed a defensive flank behind PUSSEUX. At dusk Battalion withdrew to a prepared line about 400 yards in rear.

1918.

Appendix

March.

26th.

At 12.30 a.m. a further withdrawal line which was successfully accomplished. 200 reinforcements arrived from a Composite Battalion.

At dawn Battalion was again ordered to withdraw which order was carried out successfully without casualties to an old trench line about 700 yards in front of VRELY - BOUYROY Road on a ridge overlooking BEHARICOURT. The enemy were seen swarming in force to BEHARICOURT but on coming under fire he withdrew to the woods in rear.

A patrol was pushed out to BEHARICOURT and found no enemy in the village. The night was quiet.

27th.

The enemy attacked at about 10 a.m. and succeeded in entering a system of trenches on our right and bombed down the trenches held by "A" Coy. and 73rd L.T.M.B. He was repeatedly driven back by bayonet charges down the trench but we were unable to eject him entirely as there were no bombs available. Finally a block was formed and some very good work was done by "A" Coy's Lewis Guns in holding this block. Bombs arrived about 5 p.m. after which there was little difficulty in holding the enemy.

28th.

Orders were received to withdraw to Brigade Support to the Valley down which Railway runs behind VRELY and BEHARICOURT which operation was carried out about 3 a.m. At about noon orders were received to withdraw further on to the CAIX - Le QUEBENET line which was completed by 1.30 p.m. At 5 p.m. it was noticed that the Battalions on both flanks were withdrawing, so an Officer immediately went to Brigade H.Q. to ascertain the situation and found that orders to withdraw had been issued but had failed to reach the Battalion. Accordingly an immediate withdrawal was carried out to VILLIERS - aux - BRAYES where the Brigade concentrated. At about 7.30 p.m. the Brigade formed up and proceeded by march

1918.Appendix.March.28th
(contd)

Route to CASTEL where
Battalion bivouacked in the
BOIS de SENECAF arriving there
about 2 a.m.

29th.

Battalion marched off at about
2.30 p.m. and took up an outpost
line in front of food on the
high ground overlooking the
River between CASTEL and VORSEUIL.
At 6 p.m. outposts were withdrawn
and Battalion marched to Billels
in TREZY - GILIGNOR passing West of
BOIS de SENECAF and thence
through HALLIES.

30th.

At 5 a.m. Battalion took up a
position holding Bridge-heads at
BERTHAUCOURT and TRENNIES which
were relieved by 7th NORWICHARTONS
at 5 p.m.

31st.

1 Section was sent to watch
Bridge at HALLIES at 10 am. but
was relieved at 3 p.m.
At 5 p.m. Battalion relieved
7th NORWICHARTONS in the position
held previous day.
A statement of the Casualties
sustained by the Battalion
during operations is attached.
A Narrative of the Operations
carried out by the 73rd Infantry
Battalion from 21st March to
8th April 1918 is attached.

H. C. C.

Battalions Orders by
 Captain G.V. HEWTON, M.C.
 Commanding 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

Page 67.

10.4.18.

STRENGTH DECREASE.

CASUALTIES.

OFFICERS.

KILLED IN ACTION.

MAJOR J.V. BARNHAM.	27.3.18.
2/LIEUT. R.C. BORGAN.	21.3.18.
2/Lieut. A.W. GOLDEN.	25.3.18.
2/LIEUT. A.W. BISHOP.	27.3.18.
"	
E.L. HALL.	27.3.18.

WOUNDED IN ACTION.

LIEUT. COL. M.V.B. HILL. D.S.O. M.C.	27.3.18.
CAPTAIN A.V. R. KEWELL.	22.3.18.
CAPTAIN A.W. COLLINGBOURNE.	23.3.18.
CAPTAIN A.F. JEST.	23.3.18.
LIEUT. P.O. SORRINGS.	21.3.18.
LIEUT. W.W. JOHNSTON-WILSON.	21.3.18.
2-LIEUT. H. HALL.	27.3.18.
2/LIEUT. S.L. CHAPMAN.	21.3.18.
2/LIEUT. H.C. CRESSMAN.	21.3.18.
2/LIEUT. J. MAIN.	25.3.18.
2/LIEUT. B.G. CHESTER.	21.3.18.
2/LIEUT. J.C. HALLIX.	27.3.18.
2/LIEUT. R.F. BULLERT.	25.3.18.
2/LIEUT. P.V. PHILLINGS.	27.3.18.

WOUNDED AND MISSING.

2/LIEUT. G.F.P. CLERHEW.	22.3.18.
2/LIEUT. W.E. PALING.	22.3.18.

MISSING BELIEVED PRISONER OF WAR.

CAPTAIN H. SAXON, M.C.

MISSING, believed KILLED.

CAPTAIN H.E. YOUNG. 26.3.18.

H. C. COLLEMAN.

Captain & Adjutant.

for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

Battalion Orders by
 Captain C.V. NEWTON, M.C.
 Commanding 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

STRENGTH DISCREPANCY.

No. 66
 10.4.18.

C A S U A L T I E S.

"A" COMPANY.

KILLED IN ACTION.

15150.	Pte. H. Barker.	23.3.18.
17661.	Pte. F. Cola.	23.3.18.
16373.	Pte. G.V. Hope.	22.3.18.
15438.	Pte. T. Hinch.	21.3.18.
10323.	Pte. J. Smith.	25.3.18.
2540.	l/c. A. Joseph.	27.3.18.

WOUNDED IN ACTION.

4197.	OpI. R. Ashford.	23.3.18.
16549.	l/c. D.J. Baker.	27.3.18.
8145.	Pte. H. Baker.	27.3.18.
3922.	l/c. J. Beaney.	26.3.18.
2082.	Pte. T. Burckett.	22.3.18.
13624.	Pte. M. Brown.	27.3.18.
3678.	OpI. E. Carter.	21.3.18.
11242.	Sgt. B. Dering.	26.3.18.
12258.	OpI. H. Dwyer.	20.3.18.
22173.	Pte. F. Power.	22.3.18.
14248.	Sgt. W. Pelgate.	26.3.18.
7736.	Pte. F.C. Grelson.	22.3.18.
17128.	Pte. A. Guntropp.	22.3.18.
17855.	Pte. P.R. Hardman.	25.3.18.
2462.	Sgt. V.C. Maskell.	22.3.18.
1408.	Pte. W. Newell.	22.3.18.
15636.	Pte. W. Pennon.	27.3.181
1536.	Pte. C. Peacock.	25.3.18.
18643.	Pte. A. Parron.	26.3.18.
18642.	Pte. W. Parron.	26.3.18.
1863.	Pte. G. Roberts.	26.3.18.
3758.	OpI. F.R. Seely.	22.3.18.
10075.	Pte. J. Summers.	27.3.18.
2311.	Pte. G. Sillence.	22.3.18.
3682.	Pte. G.D. Sullivan.	24.3.18.
1262.	Pte. F.W. Smith.	25.3.18.
6291.	Pte. V.G. Wood.	27.3.18.

FOUND AND MISSING.

3545.	Pte. A. Coppack.	22.3.18.
12385.	Pte. G. Dunkley.	22.3.18.
13042.	l/c. W.E. Ball.	22.3.18.

MISSING during period 21.3.18 - 3.4.18.

12253.	Pte. W. Atfield.
14343.	Sgt. L. Abel.
22268.	Pte. W. Ashby.
15878.	Pte. W. Adsett.
7215.	Sgt. R. Huggard.
12274.	Pte. W. Boorman.
4138.	Pte. R. Baldwin.
9320.	l/c. H. Baker.
758.	Pte. G. Baldwin.
226926.	Pte. J. Bennett.
17789.	Pte. H. Buldwy.
2618.	Pte. R. Hard.

MISSING during period 21.3.18 - 3.4.18.

11670. Pte. B. J. Hall.
 3515. Pte. F. Coombs.
 15545. Pte. F. Cheeseman.
 6472. U/L/Cpl. A.D. Collier.
 16000. Pte. F. Coote.
 8833. Cpl. I. Danner.
 15236. Cpl. W. Ellis.
 12125. Cpl. H.G. Zinner.
 5966. Pte. W. Pretwell.
 12116. Pte. B. Sears.
 1683. Pte. B. Finch.
 14528. Pte. B. Fiddler.
 15410. Pte. R.H. Greenan.
 17820. Pte. H. Fenwick.
 5858. Cpl. P. Gardner.
 11692. Pte. W. Green.
 29101. Pte. J. Gardiner.
 24527. Pte. H. Goodman.
 14262. Pte. C. Harben.
 24857. Pte. F. Hood.
 16230. Pte. H.O. Haldley.
 15437. Pte. W. S. Hatt.
 24412. Pte. T.J. Hill.
 290050. Pte. W. Howlett.
 260095. Pte. W. Judge.
 28715. Pte. T.J. Jewell.
 8250. Pte. H. Martin.
 239126. Pte. E. Nareon.
 6934. Pte. V. Perry.
 15524. Pte. O.G. Parker.
 22659. Pte. A. Presnell.
 24364. Pte. J.F. Playford.
 12946. Pte. W. Parkinson.
 18841. Pte. W. Pigott.
 8342. I/O. A. Rous.
 12853. Pte. G. Rogers.
 5711. Pte. A. Rooker.
 8387. Pte. A. Stevenson.
 5907. Pte. A. Swan.
 280026. Pte. F.C. Taltmarsh.
 8662. Pte. A. Stace.
 291232. Pte. A. Stevenson.
 22389. Pte. J. Tomlinson.
 12301. Pte. S. Vennell.
 12802. Pte. K. Wright.

 H. C. COLLEMAN.

Captain & Adjutant.

for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

10th April 1918.

No. 68.
10.4.18.

Battalion Orders by
 Captain C.V. HEATON, M.C.
 Commanding 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

STRENGTH DISCREPANCY.CASUALTIES.B^N COMPANY.KILLED IN ACTION.

12248. Pte. W.H. Ozems. 21.3.18.
 20578. Pte. A. David. 23.3.18.
 9473. Pte. C.H. Page. 22.3.18.

WOUNDED IN ACTION.

5299. Sgt. A. Abrahams. 27.3.18.
 6278. Sgt. R.D. Billings. M.C. 25.3.18.
 10215. Pte. D. Buckman. 22.3.18.
 12584. Pte. P. Burden. 22.3.18.
 5292. Pte. J.S. Bourne. 22.3.18.
 12129. Pte. B. Barden. 21.3.18.
 13624. Pte. W. Bokali. 26.3.18.
 1223. I/C. H. Burroughs. 21.3.18.
 8242. Pte. H. Bottings. 21.3.18.
 1298. Pte. L. Bailey. 20.3.18.
 589. Sgt. B.W. Chittins. 22.3.18.
 5547. I/C. P. Cooper. 22.3.18.
 24473. Pte. E. Cannon. 25.3.18.
 5068. Cpl. P. Cooper. M.C. 22.3.18.
 12393. Pte. A. Dorman. 21.3.18.
 10583. I/C. P.O. Edwards. 21.3.18.
 XXXX. Pte. ~~De Witts~~. M.C. 23.3.18.
 13402. Pte. J.H. East. 23.3.18.
 15671. Pte. B. Evershed. 23.3.18.
 23234. Pte. F. French. 24.3.18.
 2273. I/C. A.H. Freeman. 22.3.18.
 6627. Pte. F. Griffin. 22.3.18.
 13916. Pte. F. Garton. 21.3.18.
 2440. Pte. R. Goldfinch. 22.3.18.
 2630. Cpl. J.A. Gamsa. 22.3.18.
 6878. Pte. P. Holewell. 22.3.18.
 5242. Pte. D. Hatcher. 22.3.18.
 13448. I/C. G.W. Heaton. 22.3.18.
 14365. Pte. W. Issard. 22.3.18.
 373. Pte. A. Jones. 22.3.18.
 1837. Pte. A. James. 25.3.18.
 5544. Pte. W. Killick. 25.3.18.
 290485. Pte. H. Knight. 25.3.18.
 7566. Pte. A. Lindsay. 22.3.18.
 17715. Pte. W. Mitchell. 23.3.18.
 17682. Cpl. F.C. Peasell. 22.3.18.
 206522. Pte. W.J. Poole. 22.3.18.
 14392. Pte. H.H. Peskett. 21.3.18.
 20663. Pte. J. Richardson. 25.3.18.
 16448. Pte. B. Richardson. 25.3.18.
 3343. Pte. J. Russell. 23.3.18.
 573. Pte. W.J. Surace. 21.3.18.
 4028. Pte. A. Standon. 22.3.18.
 7250. Pte. G. Stangier. 23.3.18.
 13158. Pte. L. Standing. 22.3.18.
 18662. Pte. W. Stanbridge. 21.3.18.
 722. Sgt. J. Tedman. M.C. 25.3.18.
 6708. Pte. H. Tutt. 22.3.18.
 17692. Pte. R. Tylstone. 25.3.18.

WOUNDED IN ACTION (cont).

18674.	Pte. H. Taylor.	22.3.18.
16341.	L/O. P. Volloe.	27.3.18.
8180.	Pte. R. Watts.	22.3.18.
4803.	Pte. S. Watt.	22.3.18.
7704.	Pte. W. Ward.	21.3.18.
18637.	Pte. H. Wright.	22.3.18.
3487.	Pte. A. Wickers.	25.3.18.

WOUNDED AND MISSING.

3386.	Pte. W. Pearsey.	22.3.18.
5394.	Pte. H. Tomlinson.	22.3.18.

MISSING during period 21.3.18 - 3.4.18.

24456.	Pte. W. Barnett.
16554.	Pte. A.L. Crouch.
262128.	Pte. B. Cattell.
7702.	Pte. H. Dowling.
5482.	Pte. D. Ellis.
5446.	Pte. W. Hanson.
17526.	Pte. W. Hollis.
22417.	Pte. A.G. Marsh.
16240.	Pte. J. Heddings.
18638.	Pte. H. Randall.
18889.	Pte. H. Vickers.

DEAD OR WOUNDS.

265162.	Cpl. R.M. Glybone.	23.3.18.
2192.	Pte. W.J. Strong.	24.3.18.

H. G. GOLDMAN.

Captain & Adjutant,
for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

10th April, 1918.

No. 68.
10-4-18.

Battalion Orders By
 Captain C. V. NEWTON, M.C.
 Commanding 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

STRENGTH DECREASE.

16250. Pte. H.S. Hatchup. 22-3-18.
 11352. Pte. F. Dye. 22-3-18.
 8134. Pte. F.R. Micholls. 21-3-18.

KILLED IN ACTION.CASUALTIES.
"C" COMPANY.WOUNDED IN ACTION.

5142. Pte. F. Andrew. 25-3-18.
 14522. Pte. S. Buncham. 25-3-18.
 16673. Pte. A.W. Cooper. 22-3-18.
 8523. Pte. G. Dunn. 22-3-18.
 16621. Pte. A.B. Dickens. 21-3-18.
 22001. Pte. F. Elliott. 23-3-18.
 11225. Pte. W.A. Goodman. 22-3-18.
 16865. Pte. C. Gaudry. 21-3-18.
 6843. Pte. F. Godsmayr. 22-3-18.
 2104. Cpl. S.A. Humphreys. 21-3-18.
 287036. Pte. H. Hyman. 22-3-18.
 2022. I/O J. Hudson. 22-3-18.
 16532. Pte. S. Hales. 22-3-18.
 2462. Pte. W.H. Johnson. 20-3-18.
 2841. Pte. H. King. 22-3-18.
 180. Pte. J. Millham. 22-3-18.
 11224. Pte. G.L. Mann. 23-3-18.
 13644. Pte. H.B. Mills. 25-3-18.
 3068. Pte. E.A. Munday. 22-3-18.
 12342. I/Cpl. F.H. Norris. 22-3-18.
 3091. Pte. G. Parbery. 22-3-18.
 7270. Pte. G. Palmer. 21-3-18.
 7085. Pte. H. Poddlesden. 22-3-18.
 17271. Pte. A. Rogers. 22-3-18.
 18656. Pte. S. Ruler. 21-3-18.
 3142. I/O E. Sheppard. 21-3-18.
 16520. Pte. R.A. Stares. 21-3-18.
 7696. I/O R. Stuart. 25-3-18.
 3255. Sgt. Drmr. E. Trusseler. DOM. 22.
 16620. Pte. A.E. Vickers. 21-3-18.
 16538. Pte. H.S. Ward. 28-3-18.

MISSING BELIEVED PRISONER OF WAR.

2814. Cpl. R. Anderson. 22-3-18.
 12243. Pte. A. Beer. 22-3-18.
 12952. Pte. W. Brown. 25-3-18.
 14166. Pte. C. Beerman. 25-3-18.
 12076. Pte. F. Baker. 22-3-18.
 260180. Pte. E. Barker. 22-3-18.
 14659. Pte. L. Black. 22-3-18.
 19562. Pte. G. Boothroyd. 22-3-18.
 6323. Pte. F.H. Booth. 22-3-18.
 14917. Pte. F. Brown. 22-3-18.
 5616. Sgt. H. Campbell. 22-3-18.
 1725. Pte. W. Cousins. 22-3-18.
 3760. Pte. G.W. Collins. 22-3-18.

MISSING believed PRISONER OF WAR (cont'd).

21051.	Pte. T. Conroy.	22.3.18.
10467.	Pte. W.J. Cronall.	22.3.18.
18452.	Pte. G. Collins.	22.3.18.
22345.	Pte. H. Cooper.	22.3.18.
22427.	Pte. G. Childwick.	22.3.18.
14371.	Pte. G. Comdroy.	22.3.18.
14336.	Pte. Y.L. Chinpan.	22.3.18.
13087.	Pte. K. Denkin.	22.3.18.
265268.	Cpl. E.C. Donevan.	22.3.18.
14942.	Pte. W. Dickerson M/R.	22.3.18.
2175.	Pte. F. Davey.	22.3.18.
23250.	Pte. H.J. Dexter.	22.3.18.
14040.	Pte. A. Duffield.	22.3.18.
16811.	Pte. W.A. Eyo.	22.3.18.
5786.	Sgt. C. Fuller.	22.3.18.
16723.	Pte. R. Faulkner.	22.3.18.
285270.	Pte. R. Genlycke.	22.3.18.
165776.	Pte. A.W. Gibling.	22.3.18.
14250.	Sgt. Y. Greenfield.	22.3.18.
12220.	Pte. L.V. Garbutt.	22.3.18.
13274.	Pte. W. Gaston.	22.3.18.
16021.	Pte. C.F. Garney.	22.3.18.
9189.	Pte. H. Hatherall.	22.3.18.
1389.	Pte. G. Hazeldon.	22.3.18.
19220.	Pte. J. Hutson.	22.3.18.
9598.	Cpl. G.N. Halls.	22.3.18.
6338.	Sgt. G.V. Hallett.	22.3.18.
4923.	Pte. J. Hibbard.	22.3.18.
13771.	Pte. P.B. Homewood.	22.3.18.
20387.	Sgt. J. Harris.	22.3.18.
1480.	Pte. C. Hammond.	22.3.18.
15836.	Pte. D. Jarman.	22.3.18.
14273.	Pte. V. Knight.	22.3.18.
3224.	Pte. H. Lellicott.	22.3.18.
6625.	Pte. I. Lucas.	22.3.18.
15227.	Pte. J. Lee.	22.3.18.
203440.	Pte. J.W. Lee.	22.3.18.
4342.	Pte. J. Leves.	22.3.18.
714.	Pte. M. McNally.	22.3.18.
7510.	Cpl. W.H. Martin.	22.3.18.
2463.	Cpl. J. Macey.	22.3.18.
18625.	Pte. A.G. Miles.	22.3.18.
832.	Pte. H.M. Pallingger.	22.3.18.
260092.	Pte. G.W. Penteuost.	22.3.18.
4048.	Pte. T.R. Palm.	22.3.18.
16624.	Pte. A. Pullan.	22.3.18.
12283.	Pte. J. Rayner.	22.3.18.
8208.	Pte. A. Rowlands.	22.3.18.
12613.	Cpl. J. Robinson.	22.3.18.
18649.	Pte. A. Roseleau.	22.3.18.
18654.	Pte. B. Rudgley.	22.3.18.
3178.	I/C R. Steele.	22.3.18.
14120.	Pte. J. Stennings.	22.3.18.
170.	" J. Driecoll.	22.3.18.

MISSING believed KILLED.

301. I/c. R. Costick.

23.3.18.

MISSING during period 21.3.18 - 3.4.18.

11270.	L/C. R.H. Clarke.	22.3.18.
12074.	Pte. H. Smith.	22.3.18.
16521.	Pte. G.S. Sendall.	22.3.18.
18605.	Cpl. J. Sutton.	22.3.18.
18652.	Pte. J. Spinknell.	22.3.18.
18658.	Pte. J. Skillett.	22.3.18.
16313.	Pte. A. Turner.	22.3.18.
18672.	Pte. S. Taylor.	22.3.18.
13678.	Pte. G. VIRTUE.	22.3.18.
3454.	Pte. J. Whittam.	22.3.18.
370.	Pte. G.H. Waller.	22.3.18.
18625.	Pte. C. Webb.	22.3.18.
18955.	Pte. F. Ward.	22.3.18.
18680.	Pte. A. Watkins.	22.3.18.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

10527.	L/C. A.F. Dell. DCM.	24.3.18.
17647.	Cpl. J. Hyder.	24.3.18.

WOUNDED AND MISSING.

12599.	Pte. A. Trussler.	22.3.18.
15674.	Pte. R. Watson	22.3.18.

H. C. COLLMAN,
Captain & Adjutant.
for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

10th April, 1918.

Battalions Orders by
 Captain C. V. NEWTON, M.C.
 Commanding 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

No. 70.
 10.4.18.

STRENGTH INCREASE.

CASUALTIES.

Dth COMPANY.

KILLED IN ACTION.

192.	pte. A.K. Balohin.	22.3.18.
14538.	Pte. G. Plaknoey.	21.3.18.
6287.	I/O. E. Hurrell.	22.3.18.
6280.	Pte. H.L. Martin.	21.3.18.
5462.	Pte. G. Radford.	21.3.18.
5010.	Cpl. S. Stevens.	22.3.18.
7630.	Pte. C. Towler.	25.3.18.
200889.	Sgt. F. Whitmer.	21.3.18.

FOUNDED IN ACTION.

3441.	Pte. F. Abbott.	25.3.18.
5151.	Pte. S. Ansell.	22.3.18.
3033.	Pte. H. Burfield.	21.3.18.
5221.	Pte. W. Burry.	28.3.18.
13485.	Pte. P. Harden.	22.3.18.
6686.	Pte. A. Baker.	22.3.18.
24328.	Pte. S. Barker.	21.3.18.
10167.	Pte. G. Clarke.	22.3.18.
5802.	Pte. J. Crockett.	20.3.18.
7326.	I/O. V. Garter.	20.3.18.
16507.	UN/O. V. Hanksley.	22.3.18.
3197.	Pte. H.J. Dewdney.	25.3.18.
22677.	Pte. F. Darnall.	23.3.18.
7713.	Pte. W. Ford.	22.3.18.
6571.	Pte. H. Gower.	22.3.18.
202350.	Pte. J. Gower.	22.3.18.
3981.	Pte. F. Gardner.	22.3.18.
16134.	Pte. W. Holden.	22.3.18.
16513.	UN/Opl. W.W.Hall.	25.3.18.
16825.	Pte. E.P. Juffs.	22.3.18.
18315.	Pte. J. Keys.	22.3.18.
442.	Pte. H. Kennard.	21.3.18.
2435.	Pte. G. Knight.	21.3.18.
15844.	Pte. C. Ling.	21.3.18.
5804.	Pte. T. Lloyd.	21.3.18.
10932.	Pte. T.H. Mitten.	21.3.18.
203404.	Pte. A.W. Mundy.	22.3.18.
9567.	Pte. H. Hitchell.	22.3.18.
899.	Opl. W. Peeling.	22.3.18.
15790.	I/O. H. Pooley.	27.3.18.
15222.	Pte. H. Paulgar.	21.3.18.
24428.	Pte. A.W. Perry.	21.3.18.
16339.	Pte. J.G. Robinson.	27.3.18.
3759.	UN/Opl. J. Rickley.	23.3.18.
22406.	Pte. R. Hayner.	21.3.18.
18652.	Pte. G. Rahnes.	22.3.18.
16322.	Pte. F. Smith.	21.3.18.
14369.	Pte. J. Souther.	21.3.18.
5906.	Sgt. W. Skinner.	22.3.18.
12141.	Pte. W. Santer.	21.3.18.
2305.	Pte. A.H. Stratter.	21.3.18.
19962.	I/O. C. Shepherd.	21.3.18.
22607.	Pte. E.G. Skinner.	22.3.18.
7366.	Pte. T. Treverett.	4.4.18.

WOUNDED IN ACTION.

6682.	Pte. H. Vowles.	21	3.18.
3293.	L/C. G. White.	21	3.18.
105.	Pte. J.P. Weston.	22	3.18.
16762.	L/C. S. Wilkinson.	28	3.18.
3376.	Sgt. E.A. Williams.	27	3.18.
3879.	Sgt. F.C. Weaver.	23	3.18.
12582.	Pte. W. Weeks.	21	3.18.
12684.	Pte. W. Woodhouse.	21	3.18.
10012.	Pte. G. Wren.	21	3.18.

WOUNDED AND MISSING.

10819.	Sgt. R. Golds.	22	3.18.
24370.	Pte. J. Hales.	22	3.18.
2133.	Pte. H. Halccombe.	3.18.	
5749.	Sgt. P. Larking.	3.18.	
13439.	Pte. F. Lovegrove.	27	3.18.
16422.	Cpl. R.D.J. Seal.	25	3.18.

MISSING during Period 21.3.18 - 3.4.18.

6330.	Sgt. W. Balleley. MH.	22	3.18.
24457.	Pte. E. Burtenshaw.	22	3.18.
12006.	Pte. W. F. Cooke.	21	3.18.
20361.	Pte. A. Chambers.	23	3.18.
5766.	Pte. A.J. Ganning.	23	3.18.
3804.	L/C. H.O. Dean.	23	3.18.
6809.	U/L/cpl. F. Ellis.	27	3.18.
16123.	Pte. B. Grevatt.	23	3.18.
14622.	L/C. B. Harvey.	23	3.18.
3631.	Pte. F. Middleton.	23	3.18.
11467.	Cpl. A. Nash.	23	3.18.
14642.	Pte. H. Purser.	23	3.18.
7234.	Pte. B. Salgeman.	23	3.18.
2832.	Pte. W. Stoner.	21	3.18.
18317.	Pte. J. Smith.	21	3.18.
12070.	Pte. F.A. Smith.	21	3.18.
18664.	Pte. S. Sealey.	21	3.18.
12362.	Pte. G. Sharp.	21	3.18.
12662.	Pte. G. Smith.	21	3.18.
16814.	Pte. A.K. West.	23	3.18.
12691.	Pte. H. Wright.	21	3.18.
15028.	Pte. N. Ward.	22	3.18.
22506.	Pte. W. Young.	22	3.18.

H. C. GOLDMAN.

Captain & Adjutant.

for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

10th April 1918.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

April FIELD

- 1st Battalion was relieved from positions held at Bridgeheads at BERTRANDSUFER and HENNES, by 7th NORMANDEANS and returned to billets in TREBY OULONHT.
- 2nd "G" Coy relieved 1 Coy of 7th Northampton in original position, "G" Coy relieved forward Coy. (3rd)
- 4th Battalion less "G" Coy marched off to BOIS de GENTILLES at 5 am where it bivouacked until 2 pm. "G" Coy rejoined at 1.30 p.m. At 2 pm Battalion went forward and took up support positions in depth to 24th Divisional Depot Battalion in front of BOIS de GENTILLES on S.W. side of AUBREYS HOVE road
- 5th Battalion withdrawn at 11 pm and marched to billets in JONHEAUV.
- 6th Battalion met buses at 5 am and was conveyed to SALMUK where it entrained at 7 pm.
- 7th At 3 am train arrived at ST VALERY where Battalion had tea at CHEURCH ARMY Barr and went into billets until 2 pm when it proceeded by march route to PRIVILLE (SOMME)
- 8th Draft of 1 Officer & 365 O Rs joined Battalion.
- 9th Day spent in reorganization inspections &c.
- 10th Lieut Col. W.R. CORRAULT, M.C. assumed command of Battalion
- 11th) Intensive training particular stress being laid on the training of platoon & section commanders
) to
) 13th) 'House' Parade 6.45 am - 7.15 am
Battalion Parade 9.0 am after which platoon training till 12.30 pm
Organised Games, 2.0 - 5.30 pm.
All platoon commanders to keep a diary of training.
Conference of all officers and N.C.O.s
platoon commanders daily.

1918.Appendix.April

- 16th Battalion paraded at 11.10 pm and marched to WOHINGOURE
- 17th Battalion entrained at WOHINGOURE about 3 am and proceeded to ERENES, arriving about 11 am and detrained. ^{Headquarters} were served in a field outside ERENES after which Battalion marched to LA OUMES arriving about 4.30 p.m.
- 18th Parades under Company arrangements for kit inspections etc.
- 19th) Training at LA OUMES. Voluntary Church to) parade only, on Sunday.
20th)
- 21st 1 Platoon formed guard of honour to M. DEMENGEAU visiting the area.
- 27th Ceremonial parade at 9.0 am. Divisional Band attended
- 29th Battalion paraded at 9 am to move to LES BREBIS area. Busses arrived about 11 am and Battalion embussed. Cyclist orderly arrived with orders cancelling move. Battalion demussed and returned to billets.
- 30th Battalion under orders to move. Paraded at 3.0 pm and moved by lorries to LES BREBIS where orders were received for 3 Coys. of Battalion to go on in the lorries to HARBO where they were billeted. 1 Coy remained and occupied billets at LES BREBIS.

(Fd.) H. C. O.

NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS carried out by 73rd INFANTRY
BRIGADE from 21st March to 8th April 1918.

The 73rd Infantry Brigade were located in billets about BERRINS on the 21st March 1918. In accordance with orders a reconnaissance of a line of Redoubts running North to South on a line between HERRINGHOTT and VERNARD had been carried out and orders had been issued to Units to the effect that in the case of the ALARM being given, these redoubts would immediately be occupied.

The noise of a heavy hostile bombardment was heard in the early hours of the 21st March and at 5.38 a.m. orders were received to man the Battle Positions. Within half an hour from the receipt of these orders, the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment, 7th Northamptonshire Regiment and 13th Middlesex Regiment, had moved from their billets to the occupation of the line of Redoubts referred to above. All units were in position by 7.30 a.m. Brigade H.Q. remained established at BERRINS. The Units of this Brigade were not seriously involved in the fighting on the 21st March with the exception of one outlying Company East of HERRINGHOTT. Fairly severe casualties were incurred from hostile shell fire.

On the morning of 22nd March the enemy continued his attack and the situation on the flanks of the Division began to get very acute. On the North the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment became involved in very severe fighting and during the day were forced back through HERRINGHOTT on to HERVILLY. One company was almost entirely cut off, fighting to the last in their Redoubt in accordance with Corps Commander's instructions received 10 p.m. 21st March, stating that the line of Redoubts were to be held at all costs. Brigade H.Q. moved back to HANCOURT on the morning of the 22nd March to make room for a Brigade of 66th Division who came back from HERVILLY.

Whilst at HANCOURT orders were received, timed 12 noon stating that Units of 24th Division would withdraw fighting through the 50th Division who were then holding the VILLEREGIS - BOUCLEY line and that the 73rd Infantry Brigade would concentrate at HERRINGHOTT. Orders were issued to this effect and Brigade H.Q. moved to HERRINGHOTT. The "details" of units of the Brigade and the 73rd L.T.K. Battery, as Infantry, were placed in positions running S.W. of VRAIGHES and HANCOURT to give support, if it became necessary, to the above withdrawal and to act as Alarm Outposts in case of further enemy advance. By 6 p.m. the Brigade was concentrated in HERRINGHOTT and Divisional West of the Village. Emergency Battle Positions, West of Outpost Line, were allotted to Units to be occupied in case of necessity.

Early morning of the 23rd orders were received for the Brigade to occupy the GREEN LIME South of River OUBRON, and at 5 a.m. the Brigade was moving to the occupation of the new positions. Brigade H.Q. was established at FLIZ and Units were disposed along the front allotted. The 73rd I.C.T. Battery were attached as Infantry to the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment who had suffered severe casualties in the previous two days fighting. About 9 a.m. 23rd March verbal orders were received from a Divisional Staff Officer to withdraw to positions West of the River SOURE, moving West via the Bridge at FALVEY, which was to be secured under Corps arrangements. The 9th Royal Sussex Regiment and the 13th Middlesex Regiment who were holding forward positions were ordered to withdraw gradually providing their own rearguards. The 7th Northamptonshire Regiment in Support were ordered to remain in positions to cover withdrawal of forward troops.

The withdrawal was successfully carried out the 9th Royal Regiment and 13th Middlesex Regiment crossed the River without becoming engaged with the enemy; the 7th Northamptonshire Regiment became engaged in a brisk rearguard action, along with other Units of the Division but eventually crossed the River successfully after inflicting some casualties.

Orders were originally received to concentrate at MARCHINGPOOT but subsequently verbal orders were received to hold the high ground West of the SOURE in support to the 8th Division who were holding the Bridgheads and River Line. Dispositions to effect this were made and Brigade H.Q. established at HIGGOTT. During the night 23/24th two companies of the 13th Middlesex Regiment were at the request of the B.G.C. 24th Infantry Brigade sent forward in close support to 2nd Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment where the situation was acute.

In the early morning of the 24th March orders were received for the Brigade to withdraw and concentrate at CHAMBERS and Units were ordered to commence movement in accordance with this at 7 am.

On arrival at CHAMBERS the Brigade bivouaced East of the town, and about 12 noon orders were received to move forward and occupy defensive positions S.E. of CHAMBERS on a line PONCHETTE - HYENNGOURT IM PERTIT. Dispositions were made to effect this, the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment and 7th Northamptonshire Regiment allotted the forward positions and 13th Middlesex Regiment being kept in Reserve. Brigade H.Q. moved to PUNOCHY. The Brigade was not in action during the 24th March, a very strong position was taken up and patrols pushed forward to get touch with any British troops in front or with the enemy. Valuable information was obtained of the situation regarding British troops in advance of our positions by these patrols.

The G.S.O.1.24th Division issued verbal orders about 1 am. 25th March to the effect that the Division

were to counter attack in the direction of DRESDENCOURT in conjunction with the French 22nd Division and to drive the enemy East of the SOMMER. Confirmation by wire was received at 7 a.m. and orders were issued to Units to move forward to positions for counter attack on line CUNOY - DRESDENCOURT. 9th Royal Sussex and 7th Northamptonshire Regiments in the front line 13th Middlesex Regiment in Reserve. An Officer of the Brigade Staff went to establish touch with the French, but encounter great difficulty in locating them and eventually when he did find them was told that they were not intending to carry out the proposed counter attack. Meanwhile the Brigade moving up to positions ordered, encountered the enemy immediately East and North East of CUNOY where he was in occupation of DRESDENCOURT and the high ground H.E. of the village; our troops came under heavy machine gun and rifle fire and a fairly heavy artillery fire before arriving in positions ordered. A brisk engagement at once took place the enemy was pressing forward vigorously and as the right flank of the Brigade (7th Northamptonshire Regiment) was completely in the air a withdrawal was deemed necessary and in conjunction with the Brigade on our left and the Brigade in Support, this was carried out on to the original line held before the advance for the proposed counter-attack. The 7th Northamptonshire Regiment and 9th Royal Sussex Regiment suffered fairly severe casualties during this engagement, Brigade H.Q. withdrew to PUNOY and later to HALIL - CHAUVINS Road. Fighting continued throughout the day, the situation being very obscure. About 6 p.m. our troops were driven out of PYZAUDX by a vigorous attack supported by heavy artillery fire on the part of the enemy. Our line was again re-adjusted running immediately East of PUNOY, but as this position was realised to be quite impossible during daylight, a consultation with the Brigades on the flanks and Division was held, and it was decided to withdraw to a line HALIL - CHAUVINS during the night 25th/26th and to give battle from this position.

During the night 700 all ranks, Reinforcements from the XVIII Corps Reinforcement Camp joined the Brigade and were absorbed by the three units to replace casualties. Brigade H.Q. moved to CHILLY early morning of the 26th March.

News was received about 7 a.m. 26th March from the Brigade on our right that the enemy had penetrated their right flank and as they were in danger of being surrounded it was considered advisable to order a fighting withdrawal. Orders were issued to units to this effect, the line of withdrawal being via CHILLY - MERRARCOURT and Division were informed of action taken. A Divisional Staff Officer met S.G.C. at MERRARCOURT and issued verbal orders that a position would be taken up on the high ground East of MERVILLIES on a line ROUVROY - VEILY. This line was recommended by Brigade Staff and the Units were collected at MERRARCOURT and disposed in positions along above line, where re-organisation was carried out and line, where re-organisation was made. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment and 7th Northamptonshire Regiment were in the front line and 13th Middlesex Regiment in support near

WARVILLERS. Brigade H.Q. were established at WARVILLERS. Casualties were suffered by all Units during this withdrawal, the 13th Middlesex Regiment covered the withdrawal of the remainder of the Brigade.

From a personal reconnaissance carried out by B.G.C. 73rd Infantry Brigade the impression was gathered that the enemy had not followed up the withdrawal in any force and that the village of HEARHICOURT was not held by him; patrols were therefore pushed out in front and obtained valuable information showing that HEARHICOURT was not strongly held though elements of the enemy were in occupation. FOUQUESCOURT was strongly held by the enemy and some prisoners were taken here. The enemy began operations against the line held as above on the morning of the 27th and incidental engagements took place during the whole day though our line was held in spite of very heavy local fighting. The Commanding Officer of the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment was wounded and the Second in Command was killed during the day. The 7th Northamptonshire Regiment in conjunction with the 12th Sherwood Foresters carried out a local counter attack with the bayonet which was entirely successful in its object. Two companies of the 13th Middlesex Regiment were sent forward to reinforce the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment one of which was employed in a local counter attack under the direction of the C.O. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment who was hit during this particular operation.

Towards evening the situation became very critical especially on the right of the Brigade, and on the front of the Brigade on the right flank and it was decided to re-adjust the line falling back to a new position running immediately East of VENEY - WARVILLERS. Orders were issued to this effect the 13th Middlesex Regiment were instructed to hold the front line, additional Lewis and Vickers Guns being allotted to them for this purpose. The 9th Royal Sussex and 7th Northamptonshire Regiments who had been engaged heavily all day were withdrawn into support near a wood situated between WARVILLERS and CAIX. Brigade H.Q. was established here also.

On the morning of 28th instant the enemy continued his advance and fighting took place on the line as above. Owing to a re-adjustment of the line on the front of Division on the left, ordered by Corps, a number of troops began to withdraw in a S.W. direction behind WARVILLERS leaving 13th Middlesex Regiment and troops of the other Brigades of 24th Division rather in the air. However, these troops were collected, re-organised and sent back to the front which they vacated.

Later in the morning the continued pressure by the enemy gradually forced our line back and the 13th Middlesex Regiment withdrew in order fighting a vigorous rearguard action covered by the 9th Royal Sussex and 7th Northamptonshire Regiments. The situation at this period was very obscure, many minor counter attacks were carried out, but the line gradually was withdrawn to the wired line known

as the CAIX line where again re-organization was carried out and troops disposed for the defence of this position, touch being established with troops on flanks.

French troops were holding a line of posts 800 yards in rear of this position.

During the afternoon 28th March about 4.30 p.m. a telephone message was received stating that the French were withdrawing to a line PHESSON - BEAUCOURT which line they were to hold and the 24th Division troops in front were to conform with this withdrawal frontward, moving West via MEZIERES to VILLERS AUX HERBES where they would concentrate. Orders to this effect were issued and the withdrawal was commenced, but owing to the rapid advance of the enemy on the Southern flank and the time taken in distributing the order to units a very difficult operation had to be carried out. The Brigade withdrew through a very narrow gap which was rapidly closing and were subjected to a good deal of M.G. fire especially from the Southern flank. However, about 8 p.m. the brigade was concentrated at VILLERS AUX HERBES, where verbal instructions were received from Divisional Staff to move via cross country route to CASTEL, crossing the River AVRE at this place. This manoeuvre was successfully carried out and the Brigade arrived at CASTEL about midnight and bivouaced for the night in the Bois de SENECAZ, Brigade H.Q. being established at CASTEL. Early morning 29th March, 7th Northamptonshire Regiment were ordered forward to defend the bridge-head at CASTEL and were disposed for this purpose.

About 1 p.m. 29th March orders were received for the Brigade to adopt dispositions for the defence of the River AVRE near CASTEL. The 9th Royal Sussex Regiment were allotted the high ground S.W. of CASTEL and the 7th Northamptonshire Regiment leaving 1 company in the position at CASTEL Bridge-head, were disposed on the high ground N.W. of CASTEL, 13th Middlesex Regiment being kept in Reserve.

About 6 p.m. further orders were received for the Brigade to move to occupation of a line then under construction between BERTAUCOURT - HERBISERS - LONGLEVY Road. Orders to this effect were issued, the 13th Middlesex Regiment and 9th Royal Sussex Regiment in the front positions and the 7th Northamptonshire Regiment being kept in Reserve. Brigade H.Q. was also located. On the 30th March the Brigade was made responsible for holding the Reserve Battalion at THIERES and BERTAUCOURT in addition, hence the Troops were re-disposed to effect this. Some casualties were suffered from shelling whilst the Brigade was holding these positions. The 30th March passed without notable incident, internal battalion reliefs were carried out in the evening. A relief of the Brigade by the 24th Brigade, 8th Division was ordered and then cancelled on the 30th March.

News was received on the morning of the 31st March of an enemy attack developing on the high

ground S.E. of the River and the Brigade was at once ordered to adopt battle positions, but as the attack did not develop seriously on our front normal dispositions were soon afterwards resumed. The 1st Bn. Royal Fusiliers of 17th Infantry Brigade, were detailed to hold Bridge-head of HAILLIS and placed under command of 73rd Infantry Brigade in view of this enemy attack. 1st April passed without notable incident.

On the 2nd April the 1st Bn. Royal Fusiliers were relieved at HAILLIS by the 133rd French Division and withdrawn to THEZY CLIMONT. Later in the day the responsibility for the bridge-head at THEWELLES was removed from the Brigade the troops being withdrawn to THEZY CLIMONT. Nothing of further interest affecting the Brigade occurred on this date.

On the 3rd April the responsibility for holding the bridge-head at BERTHAUCOURT was taken over by the 133rd French Division our garrison being withdrawn. At 7.50 p. m. orders received from Division for the Brigade to concentrate in the Bois DE GENWELLES before dawn 4th in support to the right of the 17th Infantry Brigade who were detailed to hold a line BERTHAUCOURT - GENWELLES. The elements of units holding the forward posts were to remain in position until 12 noon 4th April before withdrawal to rejoin their units. Orders to this effect were issued.

On the morning of the 4th the above move was carried out, Brigade H.Q. moving to ST NICOLAS. The detail of the XVIII Corps Reinforcement Battalion left the Brigade on this date to rejoin their respective Divisions.

The Battle Positions S.E. of the Bois DE GENWELLES were reconnoitred and dispositions made to adopt them in case of alarm. Later in the day the enemy activity made it necessary for these positions to be occupied, orders for this were issued and units took posts. The night 4th/5th was extremely wet and the troops suffered severely from the exposure. On the 5th April orders were received regarding the relief of the 24th Division by the 58th Division. After dusk units of 73rd Infantry Brigade were ordered to withdraw without relief and march to LONGREAU, from where, at 5 a.m. 6th instant they embarked to SALREUX. The Brigade remained bivouaced in field all day the 6th instant and entrained for ST VALERY at 7 p.m. arriving at ST VALERY about 2 a.m. the 8th instant from where they marched to billets in present area later in the morning.

The casualties of the Brigade in above operations were as under -

9th Royal Sussex Regiment.
 Killed.
 Wounded.
 Missing.

Officers.	O.Rs.
5	20
13	170
2	13
2	174
22	377

7th Northampton Regiment.

Killed.
Wounded.
Missing.

Officers:

O.Re.

1 48
0 125
2 72

11 275.

13th Middlesex Regiment.

Killed.
Wounded.
Missing.

2 11
5 121
2 13

9 145

73rd Light T.M. Battery.

Killed.
Wounded.
Missing.

- 2
- 6
- 3

- 11.

TOTAL for whole Brigade.

42 808.

G. H. HIGSON.

Captain.

Brigade Major, 73rd Inf. Brigade.

H. Q. 73rd I.B.
11.4.18.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

May.

FIELD.

1st

Battalion situated in gulleys at S. MAROC. Battalion moved up at 8.30 p.m. to relieve 3rd GARDIAN MOUNTED RIFLES in Support to HILL 70 sector.
"E" Coy. HARRISON CRATER
"G" Coy. HARTS GRAVER - "D" Coy.
CHALK PIT ALLEY - "A" Coy. and
Bn.H.Q. VILLAGE LIME.
Capt. B. WHITMAN M.C. cross-posted to 12th SHERRWOOD FORESTERS.

2nd

Relief complete 5.30 a.m.

2nd

Quiet tour. Battalion engaged on working parties - improving fire positions and L.G. positions.
Casualties 2 O.R.'s accidentally wounded.

5th

6th

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHANTS in Left Sub-sector from HEAVEN TRENCH to O.B.I. "A" Coy. Right Front - "G" Coy. Centre - "D" Coy. Left Front - "E" Coy. Support in TOSH ALLEY. Bn.H.Q. LOOS TRENCH
Relief complete 11.5 p.m.

9th

Inter-Coy Reliefs. Bn.H.Q. took over "B" Coy's quarters in TOSH ALLEY.
"B" Coy. moved to LOOS TRENCH.
Casualties 2 O.R.'s wounded.

10th }
12th }

Casualties wounded O.R.'s 2 and O.R.I self inflicted.

13th

"A" Coy relieved by Company of 13th MIDDLESSEX Regt. and moved to VILLAGE LIME relieving a Coy of 7th NORTHANTS. This shortened the Battalion front to HUNNIBG ALLEY to O.B.I. "B" Coy relieved "D" Coy.

14th

Casualties wounded O.R. 7 and O.R. 1 accidentally injured.

15th

"G" Coy relieved by "A" Coy.

17th

Casualties wounded O.R. 2 and O.R. 1 accidentally injured.

1918.

Appendix

May.6th
to
18th

A quiet tour in the line. Very little shelling except lightning bombardments of dumps and selected trench targets by 7.7 cm. Batteries. Work. Battalion concentrated on wiring and improving fire positions especially wiring in the front line trench which was held by day by snipers and Observers at Posts at head of O.P.s and at night by Posts dug in behind the Parados.

19th
to
24th

Battalion in Rest Billed at ISS REBILS. Training carried out under Company arrangements though this was slightly interfered with by working parties having to be found. Bats were allotted on the 19th. Armourers, Kit, and other inspections were carried out.

20th

Battalion had a practice "Stand to" moving off at dusk to assembly trenches. This was done fairly satisfactorily.

24th

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHANTS in Right Sub-sector. "C" Coy. Right Front "D" Coy. Left Front "B" Coy. Support in LOOS. "A" Coy Reserve in VILLAGE LINE. Battalion H.Q. at "HATCHETS" LOOS subsequently moving to ST. PATRICKS on 28th.

25th

Casualties Wounded O.R.I.

27th

2. Lieut. H.V. ALDER proceeded to England for transfer to R.A.F. 2. Lieut. G.W. HAMBOLD, proceeded to England for transfer to R.A.F. on 19th.

28th

Vickers Guns were withdrawn from HYTHS TURNELL and L.G.'s substituted. Casualties O.R.I. wounded and O.R.I. accidentally injured.

29th

Casualties 2. Lieut. F.H. BRAY accidentally killed whilst patrolling and Missing believed Killed O.R.I. Wounded O.R.I.

1918.Appendix.MAY.

30th

"B" Coy relieved "D" Coy.
 "A" Coy relieved "C" Coy.
 Casualties Lieut. D. G. WESTFALL
 wounded and O. R. 1 killed.

31st

About 400 Gas projectors
 fired on to Battalion Sector
 at about 11.45 p.m. and about
 20 at 12.35 a.m. (1/6/18).
 These were of large size and
 produced a great concentration
 of Gas. Casualties were rather
 heavy 21 O. R. in killed and
 wounded.

24th
to
31st

Active patrolling was kept up.
 Lightening bombardments with
 V.V. cm. Batteries kept up
 especially on HYTHS ALLEY and
 O. G. I. Work in wiring,
 improving fire positions and
 digging in HUXLEY TRENCH.
 also consolidating "Defences
 of HYTHS TUNNEL.

The following Officers joined
 Battalion during the month.
 2. Lieut. P. H. HILL on 17.5.18.
 and 2. Lieut. G. A. WALFORD on 13.
 6.18.

HONOURS

and AWARDS.

The undermentioned have been
 awarded decorations for gallantry
 and devotion to duty during the
 German Offensive on the SOMME.

BAR to D. S. O.
 1. Lieut. Col. M. V. B. HILL, D. S. O., M. C.
 2. Lieut. G. A. WALFORD on 13.
 6.18.
 Par to M. C.
 1. Captain D. W. G. MAY, M. C.

Military Cross.

Capt. A. V. REWELL, 2. Lieut. J. HAHN,
 2. Lieut. P. V. PULLINGER, 2. Lieut.
 D. FASER, Lieut. H. H. L'ESTRAICHE
 attached 73rd I. T. M. B.Y.
 2. Lieut. S. HORSBOW attached 24th
 D. T. M. B.

Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No 3359 C. S. M. G. F. HEAD

Military Medals.

7671 Pte. S. STOKES.
 14366 Pte. W. ISSARD.
 5427 Corpl. C. J. ELISS.
 5985 Lce. Cpl. A. PARCES.
 5212 Pte. J. BOURNE.

Military Medals (Contd.).

27296 Corpl. W.H. HADLEY.
8148 Pte. H. BAGGE.
16756 Pte. J. DUNK.
3065 Sergt. V.O. MARELL.
12725 Lce. Cpl. C. TAPLIN.
16762 Lce. Cpl. S. WILKINSON.
13582 Pte. R.H. WEEKS.
4197 Corpl. R. ASHFORD.
17686 Corpl. Y. PRESTELL.
10924 Pte. H. PARRY.
6019 Pte. O. LEIGHTON.

(It'd) H.O.C.

9TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

June.

FIELD.

1st
to
5th

Battalion in the line N. of LOOS. A fairly quiet tour especially towards the end. Work was chiefly directed to filling front line trench with wire and digging saps forward of line of Resistance to provide fire positions.

3rd

A party of 30 OR under 2 Lieut. R. HUDSON and 2 Lieut. C. H. KANEFIELD raided the enemy trenches at HUMBURG ALLEY - E. of PUTIN 14 BIS. Artillery, trench mortars and Machine Guns co-operated in the raid which resulted in the capture of 2 Privates of the 1st BAVARIAN Reserve Division. Our casualties were 4 OR wounded and 2 OR Missing. Operation Orders for the raid are attached.

5th

Battalion relieved by 13th MIDDLESSEX Regiment and moved to BILLEBE at LES BRISIB.

5th
to
11th

Battalion in Reserve. Training was carried out, especially Lewis Gun Classes. Working parties took about two Companies daily.

6th

Raiding party went to Canadian Concert Party at CHATEAU de la HAIE.

8th

2 Lieut. S. HORSBROFT MC transferred to R.A.F. and proceeded to England.

11th

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Regiment in the line.

11th
to
23rd

An uneventful tour except for an outbreak of influenza owing to which 5 Officers and about 250 men were sent to Hospital. Work was hindered by sickness but considerable progress was made in wiring in unoccupied part of front line and also in digging saps to provide fire positions in line of resistance.

1918.

Appendix.June.

23rd

Battalion was relieved by 13th
MIDDLESEX Regiment and moved to
Reserve Billebs at LES BREBIS.

25th

Lieut. Col. F. R. CORRAIL MC proceeded
on leave to England. Major T.
ROSEBER assumed command of the
Battalion.

29th

2 Lieut. C. W. MARFIELD transferred
to R.A.F.
About 12 officers and all signallers
attended a practice in signalling
to aeroplanes by the Topham Panel.
Practice was very successful.

29th

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
Regiment in the line.

HONOURS.

MILITARY CROSS. Capt. A. F. BERT. Capt.

C. HARRIS KING (attached). 2 Lieut.

R. HUDSON (awarded for Raid on 3rd

June.)

Mentioned in Dispatches.

Capt. C. V. NEWTON MC. Capt. H. E. YOUNG.

2 Lieut. H. C. HIRSTMAN. No. 16609 Pte.

P. J. HIGHMAN. No. 5985 Ice. Cpl. A.

PARKES.

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

5010 W/R. S. H. H. A. COLES.

MILITARY MEDAL. (Awarded for Raid

on 3rd June.)

No. 14848 Serjt. W. C. NORMAN. No. 7896

Ice. Cpl. R. E. SPURR. No. 80 Pte.

A. S. LIGHTFOOT.

H. O. COLEMAN

Captain & Adjt.

for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

SECRET.O.O. No. 36.
Copy No. 15.

OPERATION ORDERS by Lieut. Col. W. R. CORRAIL M.C.
for a Raid on enemy trenches on night 3rd/4th
June 1918.

1.

OBJECT OF RAID. To obtain identification by capturing
Machine Gun post known to be at H. 28. d. 28. 30, also two
other posts about junction of HUNEBURG ALLEY and HOOK
FRENCH, and in conjunction with the Artillery, to
inflict losses on the enemy.

2. STRENGTH OF RAIDING PARTY. 2 officers and 30 O.R. divided into three groups of 10, called "Right", "Centre" and "Left" groups respectively. The right group will be commanded by 2/Lieut. R. HUDSON; the centre group by a selected N.C.O. and the left group by 2/Lieut. C.W. MARSHALL. 2/Lieut. HUDSON will be O.C. Raiding Party. In addition, two Lewis guns, each with a team of four men, 2 sections of infantry will be held in readiness in dugouts in HULLO TRENCH to assist the raiding party should they get into difficulties. (This latter para. is subject to alteration).
3. ZERO HOUR. This will be notified later. (Approx. 11.0 p.m.)
4. ARTILLERY CO-OPERATION. Arrangements have been made for five batteries (30 guns) 18-pdrs. to form a box barrage at ZERO hour round the section to be raided, as follows: on HAKE ALLEY from junction with enemy front line, to a point H.26.d.20.70 - on trench in H.26.d. central from HAKE ALLEY to HUMBURG ALLEY - on HUMBURG ALLEY from junction at HARD TRENCH to trench junctions at H.26.d.50.18. In addition a barrage will be placed on HOUR TRENCH from junction with HARD TRENCH to junction with HOG TRENCH, thence along HOUR TRENCH to a point H.32.b.70.64 and from that point to front line at H.32.b.49.79 a battery of 4.5" hows. will also engage the following points (trench junctions) H.27.c.82.42; H.27.c.21.17; H.32.b.53.40 and H.32.b.80.65.
- At ZERO minus 30 seconds, two batteries (12 guns) 18-pdr. will open with intense fire along trench running south-west, from H.26.d.51.20 to H.32.b.44.91. One battery (6 guns) 18 pdr. will sweep with intense fire enemy trench from H.26.d.15.25. to H.32.b.40.95. One gun (18-pdr) on trench running back from enemy front line at H.26.d.28.19 to H.26.d.50.20., and one gun 18-pdr. on trench from H.26.d.28.13 to H.26.d.50.20. At ZERO these guns (30 guns) cease, and join box barrage.
5. MEDIUM TRENCH MORTARS. The 6" T.W. (3 guns) will at ZERO hour engage enemy machine guns at H.26.c.60.54 and H.26.c.80.65.
6. STOKES GUNS. The Stokes guns at ZERO hour will put a barrage on enemy trenches from H.26.d.03.44 to H.26.c.30.60.
7. MACHINE GUNS. Arrangements have been made with O.C. A Coy. 24th Divl. Machine Gun Bn. to fire on the following barrage:
- 4 guns searching HOUR TRENCH from junction at enemy front line to junction with HARD TRENCH.
- 4 guns searching on trench in H.26.d. central from HAKE ALLEY to HUMBURG ALLEY.
- 2 guns searching HORSE ALLEY from H.26.d.00.80 to H.26.b.20.10.
- 2 guns traversing western end of BOYS de QUARFRES.

- 3 guns searching HULLDON TRENCH from junction with HORSE ALLEY to BOIS DE QUARREZE.
- The signal for all batteries to cease will be three red lights fired from Coy.H.Q. in HUMBURG ALLEY at H.31.b.56.65. A message will also be sent by wire to Brigade H.Q. for communication to batteries. It is estimated the raid will be over at ZERO plus 10 minutes.
8. ASSEMBLY. Raiding party will assemble in HUMBURG ALLEY, 10 minutes before ZERO hour in the following order :- Right Group - centre group - left group. Head of party to be 10 yards short of trench junction at H.32.b.14.95.
9. DETAIL. The three groups will rush in at ZERO hour, blocking parties each of three men will be formed as follows :- for the right group at the trench junction H.32.b.40.95; centre group at H.26.d.30.12. Left group at H.26.d.15.25. On reaching the trench, the right and left group will work left and right respectively, the centre group outwards. The right group will push down the trench running from H.32.b.44.91. to H.26.d.51.20 and clear up any dugouts before working towards the centre group. The signal for withdrawal will be one green light fired horizontally by each group commander. Each man will then find his own way back to our lines, viz HUMBURG ALLEY. The signal for withdrawal will be repeated by firing a rocket from the junction of HUMBURG ALLEY with HUGO TRENCH, followed by three very lights in quick succession, to enable men to pick up their direction.
- The two Lewis guns mentioned in para.2. will take up a position in HUMBURG ALLEY at about H.32.a.90.88. These guns will only open fire in the event of the enemy attempting to outflank the raiding party. They will not withdraw until the last of the raiding party has returned. The order for withdrawal will be given to them by an officer. An officer will be posted at junction of HUGO TRENCH and HUMBURG ALLEY, to count the raiders as they come in, and direct them to dugouts in HUGO TRENCH where the roll will be called. Prisoners will be taken to Coy.H.Q. in HUMBURG ALLEY.
10. DRESS. Soft caps, rifles, belts, bayonets and 20 rounds S.A.A. (10 rounds in magazine and 10 rounds in trouser pocket). Each man will carry 4 bombs, 2 in each bottom jacket pocket. Armbands of white tracing tape will be worn on the right arm above the elbow.
11. SYNCHRONIZATION OF WATCHES. Watches will be synchronized at 6.0 P.M. and 9.30 P.M. on ZERO day, from Brigade H.Q.
- This cancels Operation Order No.36 dated 30/8/18.

H.C.COLEMAN

Capt & Adjt.
for Ident.Col.

Commanding 8th Royal Sussex Regiment.

31/5/18

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1.	To H.Q. 73rd Inf. Bde.
2.	O.C. "A" Coy.
3.	O.C. "B" Coy.
4.	O.C. "C" Coy.
5.	O.C. "D" Coy.
6.	2/Lieut. R. HUDSON.
7.	2/Lieut. MANFIELD.
8.	O.C. 7th MORTARS.
9.	O.C. 1st R. FUSILIERS.
10.	(Bde) Heav. Machine Officer.
11.	126 Bde. R.F.A. Machine Officer.
12.	O.C. 24th M.G. Bn.
13.	73rd I.F.M. Batty.
14.	O.C. 73rd Hedden R.M. Bty.
15.	Commanding Officer.
16.	War Diary.
17.	File.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

SECRET.

O.O. No. 13.
Copy No. 1.

OPERATION ORDERS by Lieut. Colonel S.F. Stallard,
C.M.G., D.S.O. Commanding Left Group Artillery.

1. OBJECT.

A raid will be carried out on the 3rd June by the Right Battalion for purpose of capturing the Machine Gun Post at F.26.d.25.20 and two other posts about the junction of HUMBURG ALLEY and HOOK TRENCH, and in conjunction with the Artillery, to inflict losses on the enemy.

2. ZERO HOUR.

This will be notified later (approx. 11.0 pm.)

3. ARTILLERY.

The Batteries of the 48th, 126th, and 106th Btys Grades R.F.A. will act in accordance with TABLE "A" and diagram attached.

4. SIGNALS.

The signal for withdrawal of Infantry will be single green lights fired by Commanders of Infantry Groups.

The signal for all barrages to cease will be three red lights fired from Company Headquarters in HUMBURG ALLEY. This will be confirmed by wire from this Office.

5. WATCHES.

Watches will be synchronized at 7 P.m. and 10 P.m. on the 3rd June at these H.Q.s.

W. TEBBLY JONES

2/Lieut.
Staff Officer,
LEFT GROUP.

2nd June, 1918.

SECRET.

COPY No. 9.

73rd INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 194.H.Q. 73 I.B., June 1st, 1918.Ref. sheet
36 C, N.W.3.
1/10,000.

1. A raid will be carried out by the 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment on night 3/4th June 1918 on the enemy trenches at about H.26.d.30.00.
2. Detailed arrangements have been drawn up by the Officer Commanding, 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment. A copy of these orders is attached (so units marked * on Distribution list only).
3. ZERO HOUR will be notified later. Probable hour 11 p.m.
4. The Left Group of the 24th Divisional Artillery will co-operate in the raid. Detailed arrangements have been drawn up by Lt. Col. SEALYARD, C.M.G., D.S.O., F.P.A. At ZERO minus 30 seconds the Artillery will fire at intense rates on the area to be raided.
At ZERO hour a box barrage will be formed round the raiding party.
5. Medium T.M.'s, Stokes and Machine Guns will open fire at ZERO hour on selected targets.
6. The signal for all barrages to cease will be three RBD Very Lights fired from Company Headquarters in HUMBURG ALLEY at H.31.b.56.65.
This will be confirmed by a PRIORITY wire to Brigade Headquarters, Code word - NOW.
7. Signal for withdrawal of raiding party.
A GREEN Very Light fired horizontally by each of the three Group Commanders. An Officer will be at the junction of HUMBURG ALLEY and HUGO FRENCH, and, on seeing the GREEN Very Lights will at once send up a Golden Rain Rocket followed by three WHITE Very Lights in quick succession.
8. In the event of all the raiders not returning within a reasonable period three WHITE Very Lights will be fired in quick succession every ten minutes from the junction of HUMBURG ALLEY and HUGO FRENCH.
9. Synchronisation of Watches.
The Brigade Signalling Officer will arrange for watches to be synchronised at Right Battalion Headquarters and Left Group Headquarters at 6 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. on the 3rd June 1918.
Representatives from the Medium T.M. Battery, 73rd Light T.M. Battery and "A" Coy., 24th M.G. Bn., should be at Right Battalion Headquarters at the above hours.

- The following Code Words will be used between Battalion and Brigade Headquarters :-
- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|---------------|
| Battalion | | BRIGADE. |
| Patrolling party in position | | WANT TEND. |
| Patrolling party all back | | ROTTING DING. |
| No identifications secured | | COLEMAN |
| Number of prisoners captured | | PAUL |
| Our Camouflages | | |
11. On night 3/4th June actions etc. will not arrive at PRAIR DUMP before 12 midnight.
12. No working parties will be out in the Brigade area between 11 p.m. and 12 midnight on night 3/4th June 1918. This does not apply to parties working at HEYHE TUNNEL and on FOSSE 7 Defences.

P.L.CHEVALIER
Captain,
Brigade Major, 73rd Infantry Brigade.

ISSUED AT 7 p.m.

- COPY No. 1. Pte.
2. War Diary.
3. " " "
4. " " 24 Div.
5. 24th Div. Artillery.
6. 17th Inf. Bde.
7. Left Flank Bde.
8. 3rd Aust. L. Coy. R.E.
9. 9th Royal Sussex.
10. 7th Northants.
11. 15th Middlesex.
12. 73rd Light T.M. Battery.
13. 189th Fd. Coy R.E.
14. 73rd Fd. Ambulance.
15. D.F.M.O., 24th Div.
16. R.E.O., 73rd I.B. (for action as regards para 11.)
17. Left Group, 24th Div. Art'y.
18. "A" Coy., 24th Bn. M.G. Corps.

0 Copies of detailed scheme already sent to these units.

9th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix.

July

FIELD

1st Battalion in Right Sub-sector, Left Sector, Hill 70. Battalion R. G. St. Patricks. Major T. Foster commanded Battalion in absence of Lt. Col. W. R. Cornwall on leave.

2nd

Draft of 20 O. R. from BASE. These were badly needed owing to the large number of men in Hospital with F. V. O. epidemic.

4th

Short hurricane bombardments on front line and 1000 GRASSIER. Little damage.

5th

Inter Company reliefs were carried out.

8th

1 Officer and 5 O. R. sent to Army Rest Camp at ANDRESSELLES. Draft of 80 O. R. from Base. C. S. F. BURTONER H. C., D. C. H. re-joined Battalion from End Batin.

9th

About 200 G. S. in vicinity of 1000 chiefly on Battery Positions.

10th

Tour of Inspection by CORPS COMMANDER. He visited RYMER TURNEL and the forward positions held by the Battalion.

11th

Battalion relieved by 13th Middlesex Regt. and moved to Reserve billets in LES HERBIS.

12th

Lieut. Col. W. R. CORNWALL H. C. rejoined Battalion from Base.

13th

Visit by Corps Commander. He inspected Platoon training, billets and cookers and was very pleased with the Battalion and the method in which the training was carried out.

12th

During the tour in reserve, Platoon training under the direct supervision of the Platoon Commander was carried out. Firing on LES HERBIS range, inspections. Glasses etc were also detailed each day. A good allotment of Baths was received enabling every man in the Battalion to have a Bath and clean change of clothing.

17th

1918

Appendix

July

16th

A Smoking Concert was given by the Sergeants in their Mess to which all Officers were invited. A very successful and enjoyable evening was spent.

17th

Battalion relieved 7th Northamptonshire Regt. in Left Sub-Section Battalion H.Q. at PRESTON CASTLE.

17th
to
29th

A quiet tour during which a considerable amount of work was done. Co-operation with the Left Battalion was placed on a good footing. During the tour ruses were adopted by the Battalion to deceive the enemy and put the "wind up" him. Active patrolling was carried out. Our heavy artillery was very active on enemy back areas.

26th

Lt. Col. H. V. B. HILL, D.S.O., R.C., rejoined from England and assumed command of the Battalion.

27th

Capt. G. E. SHACKEL, R.C., rejoined Battalion and was posted to command A. Company.

29th

Battalion relieved by 13th Middlesex Regt. and moved to billets in Lt. Col. BRIDGIS and became Brigade Reserve.

30th

The day was devoted to BATHS, cleaning up and inspections. Party of 40 O.R. and a few Officers visited 2nd Battalion. Sports at BOURN-LES-BAINS and the C.O. and 6 other officers dined with 2nd Battalion in the evening.

31st

Training was carried out under Platoon Commanders. Classes were started for Lewis Gunners, Observers and young R.C.Os. Lieut. J. E. PAUL rejoined from sick leave.

H. G. COLLEMAN

Capt. & Adjutant,
for O.C. 9th/Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

August.

FIELD.

1st.

Battalion in Brigade Reserve at ISS HURDIS. 1 Company engaged on working parties, remainder on training.
1st Company marched to WARWICKERS Range for firing practice. Captain G.H. Duffield was wounded by a blow-back from a defective rifle and evacuated to C.C.S.

3rd

Day spent in platoon training. At 8.45 p.m. "SPORT PREPARED FOR ACTION" received. The message of "East HAV BATTEN POSITIONS" was delayed and not received till 10.4 p.m. The Battalion turned out in fighting kit and moved to assembly positions near of ISS HURDIS in vicinity of GREENY-NOYALLS Lane. From here 1 Officer per Company and 2 O.N. per platoon were sent forward to Battle Company 1st. and from there reported to Battle Battalion H.Q. ISS ROAD REDOUBT. The practice was carried out very successfully.

4th

Battalion relieved 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Regiment in Night Sub.Sector.

4th
to
17th

A very quiet tour except for harassing fire on LOOS and shelling at night of HATER TUNNEL. The chief work undertaken was the sifting of Battle Positions for all L.C. and Rifle sections. Blocks and "straight shooters" were made in trenches leading to posts and progress was made in wiring defensive positions. On the 28th the Brigade on our left raided the enemy lines and captured 2 wounded prisoners and a H.Q. Several casualties were inflicted on the enemy who removed his wounded across the open under cover of a Red Cross flag. On the 10th a dummy raid was carried out in the same area.

10th

Hon.Lieut. & Quartermaster T. WARRIN proceeded to England. He had served with the Battalion since it was first formed in September 1914, first as C.Q.M.S. of 'D' Company then as R.Q.M.S. and finally as Quartermaster.

17th

Battalion relieved by 13th MIDDXESSK Regiment and moved to billets at ISS HURDIS.

1918.

AppendixAugust.

- 18th
 Lieutenant J. O. WIGGS rejoined the Battalion and appointed Assistant Adjutant. Lieutenant J. E. GALE also rejoined and posted to "C" Company.
- 18th to 23rd.
 Three Companies were available each day for training, the other Company being detailed for working parties. Training at LES BREBIS was confined to Platoon training but on two days the Range at HAREQUIPENS was allotted to the Battalion, musketry practice being carried out and Company schemes practised. On the 23rd the G.O.C. 24th Division inspected the Battalion paying special attention to the Organisation. On this day the Mine Buildings at LES BREBIS were heavily shelled.
- 24th
 Major J. C. D. BIRTHWISTLE was attached to the Battalion. Major T. FOSTER assumed command of Divisional Reception Camp at LAISSEIL BOUCHE. Battalion relieved 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Regiment in left Sub-sector LOOS.
- 27th
 Battalion relieved by 1/9th ROYAL SCOTS, 15th Division and moved to billets at BULLY GREWALY, D. Company being billeted at OITR CALONNE.
- 28th
 Battalion relieved 8th ROYAL WEST KENT Regiment in the line in front of LENS with Battalion H.Q. in the Chateau de RINDHOUT LIEVIN. The 8th ROYAL WEST KENTS had taken over the line the night before from the 20th Division. This re-adjustment was rendered necessary by the move forward in front of ARNAS and consequent extension of the front at that point. These two reliefs were carried out very easily and without casualties. Transport lanes and Q.M. stores remained at BULLY GREWALY which was very inconvenient.
- 29th
 Enemy artillery active at intervals during early morning, otherwise a quiet day.
- 30th
 A quiet day except for hostile shelling during early morning. 2/Lieutenant CHILDS led a patrol of 1st Coy. toward the enemy posts at night. He located a post from which lights were sent up in response to which enemy artillery opened fire.

Appendix.1918.August.

31st

Raid carried out by Battalion on our left was not successful. After dark 2/Lieut. CHIDDS took out 2 sections and established posts on the IRENS - LA BASSSEE ROAD in N.14.C. An enemy patrol was seen but not engaged. The 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Regiment on our right attempted to occupy CHENY GRASSIER but failed owing to extreme darkness and the obstacles in position.

R.C. COLMAN,

Captain & Adjutant,

for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

4.9.1918.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

APPENDIX

1918

September

WYND

1st.

Battalion in the line on western outskirts of IRENG. Information was given by prisoners captured by 7th Northamptonshire Regt. that the 30th GERMAN Reserve Division had evacuated IRENG the previous night leaving pioneers to blow up dug outs. The line to be held was said to be the OPEL-MENICOURT-VASDILL line. Patrols were pushed forward in conjunction with 72nd Infantry Brigade on left and a line of posts was established on the LA BARRES Road. A reconnaissance of Brigade dispositions was carried out at dusk and the Battalion held the line as follows.

Front Coy. "B"
Left Support Coy. "D"
Right Support Coy. "G"
Reserve Coy. "A".

A slight increase in enemy activity was noticed. Patrols found that the enemy withdrew his forward posts by day, but that they were in position at night. "G" Coy took over positions on the GREEN CRASSIER from 7th Northamptonshire Regiment. Lieut. G.B. Dillington rejoined Battalion and was posted to "A" Coy.

2nd.

An uneventful day on our front. 72nd Brigade on left had several encounters with the enemy.

3rd.

Very active patrolling was carried out by three parties under 2/Lieut. J. CHRY, Lieut. J.R. GALE and 2/Lieut. A.G. WALFORD. The following points were reached - SALAD TR. (N.27.0. central), FOUSE 5, and IRENG STATION.

4th.

None of the enemy were encountered but a post was located in vicinity of N.21.8.1.2. The patrol to SALAD FRENCH found a section of the SCOTTISH RIFLES who had been missing for two days. An artillery shoot was carried out on front of Brigade on left, followed by a Gas operation.

1918

APPENDIX

September4th.
ctd.

Enemy shelled GREEN CRASSIER and posts on La BASSEE Road during morning. Mr HARRY LAUDER visited Battalion H.4. (Chateau de RIAMONT) in order to obtain a view of IRENS.

5th.

During the night 4th/5th OITZ des GARDENNES and vicinity was heavily shelled with Mustard Gas and Green X shells. The Battalion had no casualties but 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt suffered about 70 casualties. A patrol under 2/Lieut. S.E. Gibbs met an enemy patrol. Rifle shots and Bombs were exchanged. Two of our party were slightly wounded. They were taken back to our line and the patrol then returned to the scene of the fight in the hope of meeting the enemy again. They waited for about 2 hours without any result.

6th.

The Battalion was relieved by 13th HINDISEK Regt and moved to support. BOIS de RIAMONT "A" Coy - BOIS de RIAMONT "B" and "C" Coys. - OITZ DE CAUMONT "D" Coy. - Vicinity of CRAZY POST. Battrn.H.4. - QUARRY S.W. of BOIS de RIAMONT.

OITZ des GARDENNES was not occupied owing to Gas shelling on 5th. This locality was shelled at intervals for several days following the Gas bombardment. The 'TIMES' Correspondent visited Battrn.H.4.

7-13th.

Battalion carried out Company Training. Companies at OITZ de CAUMONT got through some very useful work. The other 2 Coys. were restricted to Lewis Gun classes, Musketry and Bombing as they were in close support to Front Battalion.

11th.

Battalion H.4. and "B" Coy moved to OITZ de HOLLINCOURT. The vicinity of new billets was shelled during the move and 2 O.R. were wounded. The shelling continued steadily through the night but no further casualties were caused. Major T. Foster rejoined Bn. from Divisional Reception Camp.

1918

APPENDIX

September

13th.

Officers reconnoitred Battle Positions of Battalion in Divisional Reserve and routes forward from assembly positions. Major J. O. D. Struthistle left Bn. to join 12th North Staffordshire Regt. as 2nd in command.

14th.

Battalion relieved by 13th MIDDLESBROUGH Regt., and became Battalion in Divisional Reserve at HARGREAVES FARM.

15th.

The day was spent in cleaning up and baths. The range was used in the morning and several Officers attended a demonstration given by 17th Infantry Brigade of co-operation between Infantry and Tanks.

16th.

Company Training. Special attention was given to learning formations for advancing in open fighting and to teaching the principles of fire and movement.

17th.

Co. Training. In the afternoon a Tactical Scheme without troops was carried out under the direction of the D. B. C. and was attended by C.O. Adjutant, Coy. Commanders and Signalling Officer. The Bn. played the Divisional Team at football in the afternoon and won by 4 Goals to nil. The Divnl. Concert Party gave a Concert in the evening.

18th.

Battalion paraded for Ceremonial Drill. A lecture was given by D. B. C. TANKS to all Officers and N. O. O.'s on the co-operation between Infantry and Tanks. The BAND played at 8th Corps H.Q. 2/Lieut. D. FRASER, N. O., proceeded to England for transfer to the R. A. F. A telegram was received from 1st ARMY, H. Q., saying German prisoners stated German withdrawal from IYMS.

19th.

Training was carried out under Company arrangements. A tactical scheme with Tanks was carried out in afternoon to demonstrate duties of Infantry assisted by Tanks. New Brigade Scheme issued in case of enemy withdrawal. The Bn. Played D. A. O. at football in the afternoon and lost 1-2.

20th.

Battalion Route March in the morning. The Divnl. Education

1918

September

20th.
etd.

Officer gave a lecture in the afternoon to all Officers and 50 men per Coy. Judging of Transport in the Corps Competition held. This was attended by the G.O.

21st.

All Coys. on Range during the day. The G.O. and Adjutant recommended the line during the day. Battalion played A.S.C. at football and won 3-1. Lieut. A.G.A. VIDLER, I.C. joined Battalion and was posted to "C" Coy.

22nd.

The Battalion went into line relieving the 7th NORTHAMPTON-SHIRE REGT in the IERSBROOK-Right Brigade. A larger frontage was taken over making a 2 Coy. front disposed as follows:-
B. Coy. RIGHT FRONT.
"G" Coy. LEFT FRONT.
"D" " RIGHT SUPPORT
"A" " LEFT SUPPORT.
BATTN H.Q. Constitution Hall.

23rd.

Situation very quiet. Little aerial activity on both sides. Weather wet. During the past week the Battalion purchased 2137 War Bayings Certificates at 1/6d. each.

24th.

Our Artillery very active during the morning. Considerable aerial activity during day.

25th.

Extremely quiet day although there was unusual aerial activity. Order received for faint attack on 71.13. front. This was cancelled later. Night 25/26 was observed as a silent night by the Artillery.

26th.

72.13. order No. 202. received for faint attack on 24th Divisional front to be carried out during the night 26/27. The Artillery did a good deal of wire cutting during the day and the 82nd I.B. raided enemy post at H.G. 4.5.4. at 3.0 pm. Raid successful. 1 German Officer killed, a dug out which sheltered Germans was blown up and H.G. captured. Enemy machine flew very low over our lines and was engaged by A.A. and H.G. fire which succeeded in driving it off. Inter Coy. reliefs as follows

1918

APPENDIX

September

26th.

took place at dusk. Disposition after relief.

"D" Coy Night Front.
 "A" Coy Left Front
 "B" Coy Right Support
 "C" Coy Left Support.

27th.

Point attack carried out ZERO being 5.5 AM. Heavy Artillery & 6" Newtons bombarded selected points on whole Div. Front from ZERO to ZERO plus 30 minutes. At ZERO plus 30 minutes covered lights were fired and from ZERO plus 30 to plus 40 a creeping barrage of 18 pounders on selected areas. After ZERO + 55 normal Artillery activity was resumed. The enemy did not retaliate very much. The usual Artillery and Aerial activity during the day.

28th.

At about 4.10 A.M. enemy raided one of "D" Coys post capturing 1 man and wounding 2 others and also taking the Lewis Gun. This post gave a good account of themselves but the enemy were too strong and bombed very freely getting direct hits on the post. Casualties: 2 G.R. Wounded and 1 Missing. Artillery active at night. The 12th K.R.R.G. carried out a raid on our right. Orders received for move of Battalion and relief by 9th LONDON Regt. on night of 30/31st.

29th.

Enemy planes active over our line during the morning. Patrols out during night but nothing seen or heard of the enemy. Relief Orders and entraining orders for Oct. 1. 1918 were issued.

30th.

Battalion relieved by 9th LONDON Regt. and proceeded to SOUCHIER from whence the Battalion was conveyed to COURRIER huts by motor busses. Good relief of casualties. This relief was preliminary to the transfer of the 24th Division to the 3rd ARMY - DOMAINS Area.

AWARD.
 No. 1776 Pte. W. GANFORTH "A" Coy. awarded the R.M. for good patrol work doing particularly well, although wounded.

October 4. 1918.

R. C. COLLEMAN, Captain & Adjutant,
 for O. C. 9th Royal Sussex Regt.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

October

FIELD

1st

Battalion under orders to proceed to MONDICOVER and stationed at COURTNEY HURTS near HERSBIN. COURTNEY HURTS were left about 1 p.m. and the Battalion entrained at HERSBIN leaving about 2.40 p.m. MONDICOVER was reached just after 9.30 p.m. Billets for the Battalion were located close to the detaching station. The 24th Division was located in this area being transferred to the 3rd Army.

2nd -)
4th)

Battalion at MONDICOVER. These three days were spent in cleaning up, Baths, Kit inspections etc. Training was carried out and included a Battalion Scheme which took place on the 4th and involved the general principles of successful attack etc. Orders were received on the 4th for the transfer of the 1/3RD Infantry Brigade group to the FRENKLOUVE - HEKLES. Area on the 6th inst and advance parties under Lieut. P.W. GRAHAM proceeded to the new area accordingly.

5th

The Transport of the 73rd Brigade Group moved by march route to MOUWERS, halting night 5/6 October at BOISEUX-AD-MOET. A Company Commanders conference was held by the O.O in the evening at H.Q. Mess. followed by a meeting of all Officers.

6th

Battalion under orders to proceed to XVII Corps AREA and left MONDICOVER about 2 p.m. and detrained at HERSBIN. The Battalion then proceeded by march route to camp of bivouacs just E. of MOUWERS arriving at about 9 pm. Night 6/7th was spent here. The 24th Division, in operations commencing 6th inst., was to be in support of the 63RD Division and to be ready to pass through if needed.

7th

Battalion moved at 3 p.m. to camp in L.I. just S.W. of CAHVALING. Here bivouacs were erected and the 190th Infantry Brigade (63RD Division) relieved. Brigade move completed by 8 p.m. The B.G.O., Battalion and Coy. Commanders reconnoitred area through which Brigade would probably pass. The night 7/8th was spent at this camp.

1918.

October

8th

The 63RD Division captured HIERONISS by 8 A.M. At 2 pm 72ND Inf. Brigade moved forward and concentrated E. of CAVAL de ST. JUREMIL in G.7 and G.8. Batt. H.9 were established in a dugout E. of NOYELINS. Four casualties from shell fire, all wounded, were suffered here. Otherwise the move was completed without incident.

9th

The 72ND Inf. Brigade attacked at 5-20 am and pushed forward to their final objectives supported by a heavy artillery barrage. AWOINGE and Railway to the E. were captured. The Battalion in conjunction with the rest of the Bde. moved forward at 6 am in close support of the 72 I. Bde. The Battalion was leading with the 7th Northhamptons in support and the 13th Middlesex in reserve. Two Stokes Guns moved forward with the Battalion which was also accompanied by the 'fighting' portion of the 1st line transport. Two sections 'A' Coy 24th B.G.C. also moved forward in close support of the Battalion. The Battalion moved forward by the way of HEMILLY due N.E. through HIERONISS to AWOINGE where the leading Battalion held the line of the Railway relieving the 72ND I. Bde. The Battalion was then ordered to move forward and occupy CAUDRIR which had been reported clear of the enemy by aerially. The Brigade were to occupy the general line CAUDRIR - CAENHOLS. Leading troops of the Battalion crossed CAMBRAI - CAUDRIR Road. At 11 am and met slight H.G. opposition from outposts of CAUDRIR. Batt. H.9, established in cellar near junction of CAMBRAI-LE CAUREAU and AWOINGE - CAUDRIR Road. H.G. came under fire here and suffered casualties. 1 runner being killed. Orders were issued by E.C.O for attack on CAENHOLS. The Battalion having to move through CAUDRIR and attack enemy positions to the E. of the village. By 6 pm advanced troops of Battalion had reached Cemetery E. of CAUDRIR. Casualties very slight. Orders were received for advance to be continued at 5 A.M on the 10th. Captain C.B. Good M.C. rejoined Battalion at DRYN (Reception Camp) from 6 months tour of duty in England

1918.

October

10th

At dawn the artillery barrage opened and at 5 a.m. the advance was resumed with the Battalion on the right, 7th Northampton on the left, 13th Middlesex in support. No opposition was encountered in the early stages of the advance. Cavalry reported HIEMX clear of the enemy but high ground North of AVESNES-les-AUBERT strongly held by the enemy. At 9.35 a.m. the 13th Middlesex passed through the two leading Battalions and was directed on AVESNES and HIEMX. By 1 pm infantry patrols were sent of these two villages. In pushing forward in support Batt.H.Q and Coys. came under shell fire and had casualties. Lieut.L.S. PAUL being wounded, 1 H.Q. runner killed and several wounded. Cover was obtained in sunken road between AVESNES-les-AUBERT and HIEMXVILLES. Soon after Bn.H.Q were established in gullies close by. Meanwhile at 4.45 pm. 13th Middlesex moved forward to attack high ground N. of AVESNES-les-AUBERT and 1 Coy. of the Battalion were placed at the disposal of the O.O. 13th Middlesex to support his left flank. By 6 pm advanced troops of Battalion had reached western outskirts of St AUBERT. Orders were issued for 13th Middlesex to hold high ground during the night and that the 17th I.Bde would pass through the 73rd I.Bde at dawn and resume the advance. The Battalion remained in its positions during the night.

11th

Early in the morning orders were received that all Units would remain in their present positions until the 17th I.Bde had reached the line VILLES-en-CAUCHIES - St. AUBERT when they would be ordered to withdraw to billets in HIEMX and AVESNES-les-AUBERT. Instructions were received for the Brigade to be withdrawn to Mesovve. Accordingly all forward troops were withdrawn and the Battalion billeted in AVESNES-les-AUBERT. Bata.H.Q moved forward from its previous position to AVESNES-les-AUBERT. The advance of the 17th I.Bde was held up by strong enemy opposition and during the night the enemy effected his withdrawal to the line of the SULTZ AVER closely followed by the 17th I.B.

1919.

Appendix.October

12th

Battalion at AVESHES-les-AUBERT. Rear B. Co and Q.M. Stores rejoined Battalion and billets were occupied by the whole Battalion in AVESHES. The day was spent in sleep, cleaning up etc. and a conference of Commanding Officers was held at Bde H. Co at 5 p.m. Orders were received from Division that the 17th Bde. would attack to capture high ground N. of SELLS River at 9.0 am on the 13th and that 73RD I.B. coming into support were to maintain close touch

13th

Battalion at AVESHES-les-AUBERT. It was understood that the Bde. would be required to pass through and capture high ground N. of HAVSBY. 2/Lieut. R.A. DICKER and 2/Lieut. H. O. SANDREFF joined Battalion to-day

14th

The whole Brigade was concentrated in the AVESHES-les-AUBERT area as Bde in Support. The B. Co held conference of Commanding Officers with regard to intended attack. Orders were not received that the 24th Division would be relieved by the 19th Division. Total casualties to date were determined as follows:-
Officers: Lieut. J. S. PAUL (Signalling Officer) wounded. 10.10.18. 2/Lieut. G. A. WATSON. wounded (GAS).
O.A. killed. 6. Died of Wounds 4.
Wounded in Action 35. Wounded in Action (GAS) 28.

14th -) During these two days General training was carried out including the practice of the intended attack on MILSIE

BLANDER. Orders were received for the relief of the 24th Division and the move of the 73RD I.B. to CAUDRIER on the 17th. Allotting party under Lieut. O. KIMMERER proceeded to CAUDRIER.

17th

At 2.0 pm. the Battalion moved by march route to CAUDRIER arriving at 3.35 pm. Bde H. Co. were also located at CAUDRIER.

17th -)
24th

Battalion at CAUDRIER. The period was spent in training and recreation. Lewis Gun and M.O. Co classes were held and recreational training took place in the afternoon. Several concerts were given in the evenings by different concert parties. A Brigade Church service was held on Sunday. 20th and attended by 200 men per Battalion. Lieut. H. O. ZEMAN M.C. rejoined Battalion from six months tour of duty and was posted to 'C' Coy.

1918.

Appendix.

October

17th -)
24th)
(Ctd.).

On the 23rd a 'HAIL HUNT' was carried out in the vicinity of billets and resulted in the collection of over 80 lbs. of nails. Football matches against Brigade and other Battalions were played during this period.

25th

A Battalion Scheme was carried out this morning by 'A', 'B' and 'D' Coy's. Stokes Mortars co-operated with 'B' Coy. The General idea was to illustrate the enveloping of a strong point which is holding up an advance. Notification was received that the 24th Division would be required to relieve the Support Division at an early date. Arrangements were made for the dumping of surplus kits etc.

26th

Advance parties left for HAVSRY-ENNERCOURT Area at 5 A.M. this morning. The 73 I.Bde. Group moved to HAVSRY. Rowcliffe 5 A.M. Breakfast 6 A.M. Battalion paraded at 7.40 a.m. and proceeded by march route via AVESBURY-169-AVSBURY and ST. AVESBURY to HAVSRY. arriving at 12.15 p.m. Battalion rested during the afternoon. Lieut. O.H. DUDDELL rejoined Battalion from six months tour of duty in England.

27th -)
31st)

Battalion at HAVSRY. During this period training was carried out including: Battalion and Company Schemes. On Sunday 27th a Brigade Cannon Service was held and attended by Battalions. After the service a March past took place the B.G.C. taking the salute. On Tuesday 29th the Brigade Sports were held in the afternoon and attended by most Officers of the Battalion, which had a good number of entries in the various events. On the 31st a Brigade Scheme was carried out in the evening. 'B' Coy. represented the enemy. The 73 I. Bde were attacking high ground E. of HAVSRY. The attack was made as realistic as possible. Incitation tanks being used. The 7th Southamptonshire Regt. and 13th Middlesex Regt. opened the attack, the Battalion (A, D and D Coy's.) passing through and securing the final objectives.

1918.Appendix.October

31st

It was understood that the 73RD Inf. Bde would shortly be leaving HAUSSEY for the forward area. No. 19148 Pte. W. A. HYDE, 'A' Company, a H.Q. runner, was awarded the MILITARY MEDAL for devotion to duty and gallantry during the operations of 8th - 14th Inst. 73RD Infantry Brigade Summary of Operations October 5th - 7th is attached (to original copy of War Diary only).

H. O. COTTEMAN

Captain & Adjutant
for O. O. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

6.11.18.

Headquarters 73rd Inf. Bde.

No. B.H. 97.
27. 10. 18.SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS.Ref. Mops. OCTOBER 5th to OCTOBER 17th 1918.57. O. 1. 57. B.
51. A. 1/50. 000
OCTOBER 5th. 1.

The Transport of the 73rd Infantry Brigade Group, which included 139th Field Company "R. B.", 73rd Field Ambulance, 197th Company A. S. C., and "A" Company, 24th Battalion M. G. Corps, moved by march route to MOEUVRES, halting night 5th/6th October at BOISLEUX AU MOHRT.

OCTOBER 6th. 2. Personnel of 73rd Infantry Brigade Group proceeded by train to XVII Corps Area detaching at HEMLES and FRENICOEUR. Units accommodated in bivouacs night 6th/7th October in Steging area "D" (just East of MOEUVRES). Divisional Commander held conference and outlined role of 24th Division in operations commencing on 8th instant. 24th Division was to be in support to 63rd Division and be ready to pass through and follow up the enemy if he withdraws.

OCTOBER 7th.

3. Moved into bivouacs in staging area "C" (just S.W. of CAYLAMS) following 190th Infantry Brigade (63rd Division). Move completed by 8 p.m.
 B.G.C. Battalion and Company Commanders reconnoitred area through which the Brigade would probably be ordered to pass.

OCTOBER 8th.

4. 63rd Division attacked and captured HIESHIES and by 8 a.m. 72nd Infantry Brigade was concentrated just N.W. of RHEMILLY.
 Later in day 72nd Infantry Brigade ordered to follow 63rd Division.
 At 2 p.m. 73rd Infantry Brigade and "A" Company 24th Bn. M.G. Corps moved forward and concentrated East of GAMBAL DE ST JERVAIS in G.V. and C.S. Concentration completed by 8 p.m. without incident.

5. Orders received from Division that 72nd Infantry Brigade was to attack at 05.30 hours 9th Inf. but and capture AMOINET and line of railway just West of it, forming a defensive flank facing GAMBAL. 73rd Infantry Brigade to keep in close touch with 72nd Infantry Bde. and be prepared to go through 72nd Inf. Bde. and capture GAMBAL. Latter operation not to take place until ordered by 24th Division.
 72nd and 73rd Infantry Brigade Headquarters both established in QUARTER at LE SUH I'OUVEN.

OCTOBER 9th.

6. At 05.30 hours 72nd Infantry Brigade attacked supported by a heavy artillery barrage, and meeting with no opposition pushed forward to their final objectives on the Railway East of AMOINET.

73rd Infantry Brigade started moving forward at 06.00 hours in close support to 72nd Inf. Brigade with 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment leading. 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment in support and 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment in reserve.

Two Stokes Guns moved forward with 9th Bn Royal Sussex Regiment and two with 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment, Battery H.Q. remaining with Brigade H.Q. 'Fighting' portions of 1st Line transport accompanied their own units.

Two Sections "A" Company 24th Bn. M.G. Corps moved forward in rear of 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment ready to assist 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment and 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment when required. Remainsder of Company moved with Brigade Headquarters.

Two Companies VII Corps Cyclists under command of B.G.O. 73rd Infantry Brigade at HULLBY were placed at 15 minutes notice from ZEDD hour onwards.

Brigade Headquarters moved at 6.45 a.m. to about 1 mile S.W. of HIRSHLIS.

On finding 72nd Infantry Brigade were meeting with no opposition, B.G.O. rode forward to ascertain plans of B.G.O. 72nd Inf. Bde. On learning that B.G.O. 72nd Inf. Bde did not consider it advisable to push on himself owing to the extent of front his Battalions were on and disorganisation owing to the attack, B.G.O. decided to push through without awaiting orders. Division notified to this effect at 09.30 hours.

Verbal instructions were issued to Battalion commanders as follows -

Leading Battalion to line of Railway.

Support Battalion to just N.W. of ANDINGR.

Reserve Battalion to follow Support Batin.

The Cyclist Batin. was directed on CAUDRE. Brigade H.Q. moved to SHRINE just S.E. of HIRSHLIS, and after short halt, to Railway Bridge just N.E. of ANDINGR.

7. At 12.00 hours orders received from Division that 72nd Infantry Brigade with Corps Cyclist Bn., 1 troop of 6 Dragoon Guards, 2 companies Machine Guns, 2 Sections 104th Field Coy. R.E. and 26th and 181st Bdes. R.F.A. under Brigadier General COLLINS to form advance Guard and push forward at once to the General line CAUDRE - CAENONOURS. 6th Dragoon Guards, less 1 troop, to act as Corps Cavalry on instructions issued direct.

8. On receipt of these orders 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment, who were in position just East of HIRSHLIS at 09.45 hours, ordered to move forward and occupy CAUDRE which at 10.30 hours was reported by Cavalry as being free of enemy.

7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment ordered to follow at distance of 1500 yards and 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment 2000 yards behind them. Leading troops 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment crossed CAUDRE - CAUDRE Bend at 11.00 hours and at 12.10 hours patrols approaching S.W. outskirts of CAUDRE met with slight H.G. opposition from the Snaken Bend just South of CAUDRE. In touch with Guards Division on right but not with Canadian on left, who at 12.15 hours were reported to have established a line of posts along the Eastern outskirts of CAUDRE.

At 13.00 hours 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. were concentrated at E.19.d. just N.W. of ANDINGR, and 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment about 500 yards due west of ANDINGR.

9. At 13.45 hours orders were issued by B.G.O. 73rd Infantry Brigade for following attack to be carried out at 16.15 hours.
- In conjunction with Guards Division who were attacking CAERISSES, 9th Royal Sussex Regiment to pivot on their southern flank, move through CAUDRE and attack enemy positions on the spur in 17.a. (500 yards East of the Village).

7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment to attack CAGNONHILLS from the south west, at the same time moving along the spur in E.9... 1 troop 6th Dragoon Guards being ordered to protect their left flank.

AVII Corps Cyclist were to take up positions on the high ground east of CAMBRAI Station to protect rear and Northern flank of the 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment, watching the East exits of CAMBRAI which had not been reported clear of enemy. On gaining touch with Canadians East of CAMBRAI they were to move along the HAVES Road and cover the left flank of the Brigade.

Attack was postponed until 16.30 hours to enable 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment to get into their assembly positions.

10. At 18.00 hours after overcoming considerable M.G. opposition which was met with from the H.E. 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment had captured the high ground west of CAGNONHILLS overlooking the village, but patrols which had pushed, after dusk, down into the village were forced to withdraw owing to strong opposition.

9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment had reached the Gemetary East of CAUROIIR and were in touch with Guards Division on their right. Heavy artillery retained heavily on CAUROIIR and western outskirts of CAGNONHILLS. 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. casualties during this operation amounted to 3 officers and about 80 other ranks.

9th Royal Sussex Regiment casualties were very slight.

Owing to shelling Brigade Headquarters moved at 16.30 hours to North edge of AEWINGT, remaining there for the night.

Orders received at 23.50 hours from Division that advance was to be resumed by 72nd Infantry Brigade at 05.00 hours 10th October, 6th Dragoon Guards to act independently.

Arrangements made with O.D. 6th Dragoon Guards for Cavalry to move along high ground on right of the Corps front. O.C. Cyclist Battalion ordered to move on RIWUX and ascertain if held or not and to keep touch with Canadians on CAMBRAI-SAUZEOR Road.

OCTOBER 10th. 11. At 05.00 hours advance was resumed with 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment on right, 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment on left, 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment in reserve.

At 06.40 hours reports were received from leading Battalions that no opposition was being met with and troops of 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment were 200 yards East of CAGNONHILLS.

At 09.00 hours Cavalry and Cyclist patrols entered RIWUX and AVESHES LEZ AUBERT. RIWUX was found evacuated but some M.G. opposition met with in Western outskirts of AVESHES LEZ AUBERT. North hours Cavalry patrols reported high ground North of AVESHES LEZ AUBERT in U.15. and 16. strongly held by enemy.

Brigade H.Q. moved at short intervals by bounds along the CAUROIIR - ST VAAST Road reaching Tr. de RIWUX about 10.30 hours.

12. At 09.35 hours 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment were ordered to pass through the two leading battalions which were now 2000 yards East of GAGNONNES, and march on AVESHES LEZ AUBERT and RIEUX.

At 11.15 hours 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment had reached line of Railway South of RIEUX and high ground 1000 yards S.W. of AVESHES LEZ AUBERT.

At 12.30 hours infantry patrols were sent of RIEUX and AVESHES LEZ AUBERT and in touch with Canadians on North. Our infantry came under heavy artillery fire on southern outskirts of RIEUX and western outskirts of AVESHES LEZ AUBERT, in addition to considerable M.G. fire from the high ground to the N.E. and N.

13. On receipt of verbal instructions from G.O.C. Division that the advance was to be pressed on, B.G.O. went forward to see G.O. 13th Middlesex Regt.

At 16.45 hours, in accordance with verbal orders issued to G.O. 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment moved forward to attack the high ground in U.15 and 16.

1 Company 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment, at request of G.O. 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment, being placed at his disposal, moved up to support the left flank of the attack.

In conjunction with this attack 1 Company 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment was pushed forward to occupy AVESHES LEZ AUBERT Station and maintain touch with Guards Division on the Southern flank.

14. This attack met with very heavy machine gun fire and considerable shell fire on left flank, and gas shelling of the valley between RIEUX and AVESHES LEZ AUBERT.

At 18.00 hours our troops had reached the high ground in U.15 and 16, but had not gained touch with the Canadians.

At 20.15 hours troops of 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment were reported to have reached the Western outskirts of ST AUBERT, and cyclist patrols were in touch with Guards Division West of ST HILAIRE.

Orders were issued to 13th Bn. Middlesex Regt. to hold on to high ground during the night and that 17th Infantry Brigade would pass through them at dawn, and resume the advance.

OCTOBER 11th. 15. At 03.00 hours orders were issued from H.R. 73rd I.B. that all units would remain in their present positions until 17th Infantry Brigade had reached the line VILLERS EN GAUCHIES - ST AUBERT, when they would be ordered to withdraw to billets in RIEUX and AVESHES LEZ AUBERT.

During the early morning news was received that Lt. Col. A.W. HINDLEY, R.O. Commanding 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment, was severely wounded by a M.G. bullet. Major R.S. DAVE, R.O. was ordered forward to assume command.

The attack of the 17th Infantry Brigade carried out at 05.45 hours met with heavy resistance from enemy M.Gs. from high ground in U.16.e., V.22.e. and b. and no further advance was made.

The enemy artillery barrage on the slopes and villages of RIBUK and AVSHEMS IZ AUDBENT was heavy.

16. Instructions were received for the Brigade to be withdrawn to Brigade in Reserve:

Accordingly during the afternoon verbal orders were issued to 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment and 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment to withdraw all forward troops by dribbles and to concentrate entire battalions in RIBUK and AVSHEMS IZ AUDBENT respectively.

7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment and 73rd Lt. T.M. Battery were also ordered to move to billets in RIBUK. Brigade H. Q. moved to RIBUK at 15.00 hours. The total casualties of units up to 20.00 hours 11th instant were as follows :-

9th Royal Sussex Regt.	2 Officers.	88 O. Bn
7th Northamptonshire Regt.	- 6 "	85 "
13th Middlesex Regiment.	- 6 "	141 "
73rd Light T.M. Battery.	- - "	1 "

17. During the course of the night 11/12th the enemy effected his withdrawal to the line of the SELLS RIVER closely followed by 17th Infantry Bde. who proceeded in securing and concentrating crossings over the SELLS RIVER.

The day was spent in sleep, re-organisation and cleaning up, and at 17.00 hours a conference of all Commanding Officers was held by B.G.C. at Brigade Headquarters.

Instructions received from 24th Division that advance to capture high ground East of RIVER SELLS was to be continued by 72nd Inf. Brigade at 09.00 hours on the 15th instant, and that the 73rd Infantry Brigade coming into support were to maintain close touch.

18. Instructions received from 24th Division that after 72nd Infantry Brigade had secured bridgeheads on SELLS RIVER that 73rd Inf. Brigade would probably be ordered to pass through and capture the high ground on the General line RISON BLANDER - P.36. central - P.39. B.G.C. requested to submit a plan of attack and carried out a personal reconnaissance of the area accordingly.

13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment ordered to move to AVSHEMS IZ AUDBENT.

19. 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment, 73rd Light T.M. Battery and H. Qrs. 73rd Inf. Brigade moved to AVSHEMS IZ AUDBENT, the entire Brigade now being concentrated in this area as Brigade in Support.

B.G.O. held conference of Commanding Officers and as many Officers as possible ordered to reconnoitre forward area with reference to their respective roles for the attack as indicated by the B.G.O.

Orders received from 24th Division that tactical situation permitting, the 19th Division would relieve the 24th Division, the 73rd Infantry Bde, moving to GAUDRIE on the 17th instant.

OCTOBER 15th. 20.

B.G.O. inspected Battalions at training - practice attacks over ground attacked on the 11th instant being carried out.

OCTOBER 16th. 21.

72nd Infantry Brigade attacked high ground East of LA SALLE RIVER with the object of establishing bridgeheads for future operations. All objectives were gained and 400 prisoners captured.

At 09.00 hours 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. were moved up into close support and placed under orders of B.G.O. 72nd Infantry Brigade, being disposed of as follows :-

H.Qrs. and 2 Companies. - ST AUBERT.
- High ground West of
LA SALLE RIVER.
2 Companies.

22.

At 13.00 hours Eight Battalion, 72nd Infantry Brigade were heavily counter attacked and forced back to West bank of the River at HAUSBY, the line of the left Battalion being withdrawn slightly with posts East of the River and crossings intact.

At 16.00 hours 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. were ordered to reliefs remaining elements of 9th Bn. East Surrey Regiment and 8th Bn. R.W. Kent Regt. with 2 Companies. This was successfully carried out.

At 01.00 hours (17th inst) information received that two forward companies of 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment were forced to withdraw to West bank of RIVER SELLIE, the enemy having penetrated the right flank under cover of darkness and threatened the remaining river crossings.

OCTOBER 17th. 23.

73rd Infantry Brigade (less 7th Northamptonshire Regiment) moved to GAUDRIE. 7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment were relieved by a Battalion of the 56th Infantry Brigade and accommodated in AVSURES LES AUBERT for the night 17th/18th, coming under orders of 73rd Inf. Bde.

7th Bn. Northamptonshire Regiment moved to GAUDRIE, the entire Brigade being concentrated in this area.
B.G.O. inspected 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment at training.

OCTOBER 18th. 24.

P. T. Chevallier Captain
Brigadier General,
Commanding 73rd Infantry Brigade.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

November FIELD.

1st

Orders received for the 73rd Infantry Brigade to relieve the 184th Infantry Brigade (1st Div.) The Battalion was to move off from HANBSSY at 14.00 hours to BERKERRAIN. A conference was held at Battalion H.Q. Open warfare training carried out during the morning.

2nd

The Battalion left HANBSSY at 14.00 hours for BERKERRAIN via MAISON BLANCHE, MAISON BLANCHE, St. MARTIN arriving about 16.30 hours. The Transport followed in rear of the Battalion. Battle Surplus personnel proceeded from HANBSSY at 09.45 hours under 2/Lieut. L.R. HARTER to DIVUL. Reception Camp. Lieut. O. H. DDDMENTY proceeded at 10.00 hours to vicinity of SEPERRIES to select a site S. of the Railway for trench shelters. The 13th MIDLSEX Regt. relieved front line troops of the 184th Inf. Div.

3rd

The Battalion left BERKERRAIN at 05.00 hours and marched by Companies to SEPERRIES, becoming Support Battalion. Information was

received that there were indications of an enemy withdrawal in the early morning and the leading Battalion had pushed forward patrols. The Battalion remained at SEPERRIES until 16.00 hours when orders were received for the Battalion to move forward. 'C' & 'D' Coys. to MARSCHEES and 'A' & 'B' Coys. to Sunken road about 400 yds. E. of MARSCHEES. The Battalion was to be prepared to continue the advance following through the following morning.

4th

Orders issued to Companies for attack through the 13th MIDLSEX Regt. to take High Ground N. of WARGHIES 1st FORT and WARGHIES 1st GRAB and to make good, if possible, the crossings over the RHONDELE River. ZERO Hour 05.30 hours. The advance was to be made through a creeping barrage. The Battalion was disposed as follows:- 'A' Coy. in centre. 'B' Coy. on right. 'D' Coy. in Support. The march to the assembly positions was made through a good deal of enemy shelling particularly in the vicinity of VILKERS FOL. Enemy Machine Guns were very active whilst Companies were actually getting into their

1918.

Appendix

November.

4th
(Contd.)

positions. A number of casualties were sustained before ZERO by these M.Gs. During the advance enemy artillery was not directed very much against front troops but M.Gs. were very numerous and caused a number of casualties particularly on High Ground W of Brick-field. The advance was successful but 'A' & 'B' Coys. were held up on the right by K.Gs. on both sides of the river until 11.00 hours when the enemy were forced to retire and these 00ys. consolidated on the High Ground W. of WARHINS le PERIT. The 13th MIDDSEX pushed forward on the left through WARHINS le GRAND and the 7th NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGT. advanced to the East edge of WARHINS le PERIT outskirting the village on the northern side during the afternoon. 'D' Company pushed forward towards under Lieut. P.R.HILL and 2 Lieut. W.ADRIDGE through WARHINS le PERIT at 16.00 hours and finding no opposition established touch with the 7th Northamptonshire Regt. E. of the village at 17.30 hours. The casualties sustained during these operations were estimated at:- Lieut. M.G. WELHAM 'O' killed in action & 35 killed (9B wounded) O.R.'s. 6 missing!

5th

The 17th Inf.Bde. passed through the 73rd Inf.Bde. at 07.30 hours and continued the advance on the Divisional front. The 73rd Inf. Bde became support Brigade and was billeted in WARHINS le PERIT. 'O' Echelon Transport arrived from Marches about 13.00 hours and joined the Battalion at WARHINS le PERIT. The enemy shelled WARHINS le PERIT at intervals during the day.

6th

The 73rd Inf.Bde. became Brigade in reserve and Battalion remained at WARHINS le PERIT. Day was spent in cleaning up etc. The enemy continued shelling of the village and caused casualties to 'D' Coy. (1 killed & wounded).

7th

The 72nd Inf.Bde. reported to have reached Eastern outskirts of BAVAI and the 73rd Inf.Bde were ordered to move to the ST. VAAST

1918.Government.Appendix7th
(Contd.)

Area. The Battalion moved off at 14.45 hours and owing to the continued advance of the 72nd Bde. was ordered to continue its march to BAVAI where it arrived about 19.00 hours and was billeted for the night. Some shelling was experienced during the march but no casualties were sustained. Owing to several bridges having been blown up the transport could not proceed further than ST. VASST where it remained until 03.00 hours (8th) when it was able to proceed to BAVAI by cross country route. The news was received that German Parliamentaires bearing the flag of truce might be expected to pass through the British lines. This was afterwards ascribed to real French lines.

8th

The 73rd Inf. Bde. was now in support and the Battalion at BAVAI. Orders received that owing to the rapid advance of the Franco-American troops on the SAND-HERRINGEN Railway the 2nd Army was to continue the advance with the utmost vigour in order to cut the last remaining line of the enemy. Bde. H.Q. and the 7th Northamptonshire Regt. moved to LONGREVILLIN. Orders were received that the 73rd Infantry Bde. would pass through the 72nd Inf. Bde and continue the advance on the morning of the 9th. This order was afterwards cancelled.

9th

The 34th Division took over the whole of the Corps front the 73rd Infantry Brigade being in the front line. The Battalion moved from BAVAI at 06.00 hours and passed through the 73rd Brigade and the 19th Division at 09.00 hours. The Brigade then advanced as follows:- 7th Battalion on the NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Regt. on the right, 13th HINDSBERG Regiment in the centre and 2nd Battalion on the left. The Battalion objective was the NOUVEAUBRANTON Road and this was reached without opposition at 12.00 hours and patrols were then sent into BERTHIERES. Definite orders were given by Brigade that the Battalion

1918.

Appendix

November.9th
(Contd.)

was not to advance east of the
MORS-NAUBERGE Road. Later
instructions were issued that a
Company was to occupy BERSILLIES
This was done and the Battalion
was disposed as follows:-
'B' Company in BERSILLIES) Front
'D' Company in BERSILLIES) Line.
'A' Company at NOHREBORN'S PARK
'C' Company and Battalion H.Q.) Support.
at ST. STARRS FORTAINS PARK
'B' Coy wore shellied rather heavily
in BERSILLIES. 1 O.R. being killed.

10th

The 73rd Infantry Brigade was
relieved by the 60th Infantry
Brigade, the relief being complete
by 13.30 hours and Battalion
marched by Companies to LES VAMERS
where the Battalion was billeted for
the night. Casualties from
midnight 2 November to date were
determined as follows:-
Officers: Lieut. H. O. WILKIN M.C.
Killed in action 4.11.18.
Other Ranks Killed in action 47.
Wounded in action 95. Missing 5.

11th

Orders were received for an early
morning move to LOUVIGNIES-BAVAI.
Battalion left LES VAMERS at 06.00
hours and marched to LOUVIGNIES-
BAVAI arriving there at 09.30 hours.
Orders were received at 10.00 hours
that hostilities would cease at
11.00 hours owing to the acceptance
by GERMANY of the terms of the
armistice.

12th-
16th

Battalion at LOUVIGNIES-BAVAI. Day
spent in cleaning up and re-organisation.
During this period General training
was carried out by the Battalion.
On the 13th the Battalion found a
Guard for Brigade H.Q. The Commanding
Officer inspected Companies. 'A'
& 'D' Companies on the 14th and
'B' & 'C' Companies on the 15th.
H.Q. courses under the Regimental
Sergeant Major were held on the
15th and 16th. On the 16th the
Brigadier general Commanding inspected
the Battalion at 09.30 hours, and
general training was carried out
during the day. It was indicated
that the Battalion would shortly
move to the DENAIN Area. A
Billeting Party under Lieut.
P. W. CHADMAN was sent to WARWINS 1e
GRAND on the afternoon of the 16th.

1918.Appendix.November.17th

The Battalion marched to WARGHITES LE GRAD leaving LOUVIGIES at 09.30 hours and arrived about 13.00 hours. This move was preliminary to the transfer of the 24th Division to the first Army. Orders were issued for the Battalion to continue the march to DEMAIN Area on the morning of the 18th.

18th

The Battalion left WARGHITES LE GRAD at 08.30 hours and proceeded via VILMERS POMARSCHE ARRES, HAIRY, and THIAIT to PROUVY where the Battalion was billeted for the night. Orders were issued for the march to be continued on the morning of the 19th.

19th

The Battalion left PROUVY about 11.30 hours and proceeded via DEMAIN'S ARBOUR to AUBERCHICOURT. Captain A.V. BIRWELL M.C. rejoined Battalion from England and was appointed Battalion Sports Officer.

20th-
24th

During this period the Battalion remained at AUBERCHICOURT and General training was carried out as far as possible. Conferences were held at Headquarters to discuss training, education and recreation. On the 21st a Thanksgiving Service was held in the Theatre, AUBERCHICOURT and attended by 300 men per Battalion. Several concerts were given during the stay of the Battalion in this area notably by the Brigade and Divisional Concert Parties. On the morning of the 23rd orders were received that the 73rd Infantry Brigade would move to RIMEGIES on the 25th and from thence to NOUICHIN on the 26th. On the 24th Lieut. Col. H.V.B. HILL D.S.O. M.C. took command of the Brigade during the absence of the B.G.C. on leave. Major F. GOSPER assuming command of the Battalion. Orders issued for the move to RIMEGIES on the morning of the 25th.

25th

The Battalion left AUBERCHICOURT at 08.10 hours and proceeded to RIMEGIES via SOMATH-HAROHIMMS-BRILZON-ROSVULT. A halt was made at 12.50 hours for dinners and the march resumed at 14.00 hours. The Battalion arrived at RIMEGIES about 16.30 hours. No men fell out during the march. Orders issued for the march to be continued to NOUICHIN Area on the 26th.

1919.AppendixNovember.

26th

Battalion left RUMSGETTS at 10.30 hours and arrived at NOTONHILL at 12.30 hours. A conference was held at H.Q. Mess to discuss Training, Education and Recreation. The Battalion was billeted at BEMOU.

26th-
20th

The remainder of the month was spent in the usual training and recreational hours were allotted in the afternoon. Several conferences were held to consider the important questions of education and the Rev. T. J. BAKER O.F. was appointed Battalion Education Officer and steps taken to start classes in the various subjects as soon as possible. Recreational training also claimed a considerable amount of attention.

December 4th 1918.

J.O. WIGGS Lt.
for Captain & Adjutant
O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regiment.

The following awards were made to H.C.O.s and men of this Battalion for Gallantry during the operations commencing November 4th 1918.

MILITARY MEDAL.

886.	Sgt.	H. Jarr	O' Coy.
5943.	Sgt.	A. Whitlock	D' Coy.
1432.	Cpl.	R.H. Pearce	A' Coy.
19276.	Cpl.	G.F. Davis	O' Coy.
475.	Cpl.	C.F. Bridger.	O' Coy.
10273.	L/O.	W. Durling.	B' Coy.
11824.	L/O.	G.L. Mann.	O' Coy.
3623.	Sig.	A.A. Collier.	A' Coy.
19188.	Pte.	R. Martin.	A' Coy.
16437.	Pte.	A.F. Greene	B' Coy.
19341.	Pte.	H. Throckston	B' Coy.
4155.	Sig.	B. Hearn.	D' Coy.
290480.	Pte.	E.A. Joyce.	B' Coy.

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

December.

Appendix.

1st

FIELD.

Battalion at MOUCHEM in billets awaiting orders to move to final area. A Voluntary Church Service was held at H.Q. at 11.00 hours. 2/Lieut. F.H. WALKER joined Battalion and was posted to 'C' Company.

2nd -
17th

During this period 2 hours training under Company Commanders was carried out in the morning and recreational training and football League matches held in the afternoon. On the 2nd the terms of re-engagement in the new Regular Army were explained to men by their Company Commanders. A Battalion Parade was ordered for the morning of the 3rd, but was cancelled owing to the inclement weather. Lectures and organization of Educational Classes being proceeded with instead. 2/Lieut. H.B. DENRY was struck off the strength on Medical Board being ordered by the War Office. A draft of 45 O.Rs. joined the Battalion from ENGLAND on the 3rd. Most of them had not been out to FRANCE before. On the 4th a lecture was given by the Divisional Educational Officer to all Officers at 73rd. 1. P.M. Battery H.Q. at 14.15 hours. The subject of the lecture was the Educational Scheme being introduced into Battalions and hints were given on the Method of Teaching. A Football Match on the 5th between 'A' Coy. & the 73rd I.R.M. Battery resulted in a draw 2 Goals each. League matches on the 6th by 'B' and 'A' Companies were both lost to 'A' Coy 7th Northamptonshire Regt. and 73rd Field Ambulance respectively, the scores being 6-3 and 3-0 in the respective matches. On the 7th the Commanding Officer, Adjutant, 8 other Officers and 16 M.C.Os. and men per company journeyed by lorry to line the road near FURNAL on the occasion of the King's visit. It was arranged for the King to stop, but owing

1918.

December.

2nd - 17th (Contd.)

Appendix.

to a misunderstanding he did not do so His Majesty was heartily cheered and the men were able to see him and the Princess very well. A League match on the 7th resulted in 'C' Company losing 5 - 0 against 'A' Coy. 13th Middlesex Regiment. On Sunday Dec 8 the usual Church Services were held and a Conference regarding Education took place in the H.Q. Mess in the evening. All Companies reported that they were ready to start classes in spite of the lack of Books and Stationery. On Monday the 9th Education Classes started in earnest being held on most mornings from 10.30 - 12.15 hours. Voting Ballot papers commenced to arrive on this day. Lectures had been given on the arrangements for voting. Each man received a Ballot paper and also a Declaration of Identity. These were completed and sent by post to the Returning Officer of the respective constituencies. The arrangements on the whole were good. It was unavoidable that men should know less than they wished of the Candidates in their constituencies, but Election addresses reached most men and lists of Candidates were posted up by each Company. A League Match was won by 'D' Company against 'A' Coy 13th Middlesex Regt. by 6 Goals to 1 Goal. 2/Lieut. A.F. CHILDS was struck off the strength on the 11th, Medical Board being ordered by the War Office. On this day a Race meeting took place at MUDOHM under the auspices of the I Corps but the weather was extremely unfavourable. Only a certain proportion of the Battalion took an interest in the races. There were 3 entries from the Battalion but they met with no success.

The first man from the Battalion to be demobilised was sent to England on the 11th to report to Dispersal Centre (SHORNOLMETS). He was No. 18943 Pte. H.G. CARSWELL and was sent home as a Coal Miner.

1918.

Appendix

December.

2nd -
17th

On the 12th about 20 M. C. Os. and men of the Battalion visited HILDE and spent an interesting day. On the 15th 3 Coalmeners proceeded to report to Dispersal Centre (OSWESLEY) for demobilisation. Lieut. Colonel M. V. B. HILL, D.S.O., M.C. rejoined for Commanding 73rd Infantry Brigade and assumed Command of the Battalion. Lieut S. F. CHESTER joined Battalion and was posted to 'B' Company. The 73rd Infantry Brigade defeated 'B' Company by 2 Goals to HILL after a strenuous game. On the 14th 'B' Company received a large number of bricks from an old German Aerodrome. These were carried to TAINTEGIRTS to be used in making creens in our new Billets. On Sunday 14th a Voluntary Service was held at H. C. at 11.00 hours. Platoon football matches took place in the afternoon good games being played. 1 Coalminer proceeded to Dispersal Centre (SEBROKOLITZE) for demobilisation. A very exciting football match took place on the 16th between 73rd Inf. 3d and 'D' Company, resulting in a draw 1 Goal all. On the 17th another Coalminer proceeded to England for demobilisation.

18th

On this day the Battalion moved to the final rest area at TAINTEGIRTS, parading at 11.00 hours and proceeding by March Route arriving about 1.30 pm. Billets were very much better than those at MOUCHIK and with a certain amount of work it was hoped to make them very comfortable. 5 O. Rs. proceeded to report to Dispersal Centre (RITFOL) for demobilisation as Coal Miners.

19th -
31st

This period was marked by a great increase in Educational Classes and Lectures were given on several days. On the 19th Companies generally cleaned up Billets and arranged Recreation Rooms. 37 O. Rs. joined Battalion from the Base; they were mostly young soldiers detained at the Base on account of their age.

1918.

Appendix.

December.

19th -
31st.

'D' Company 7th Northamptonshire Regt were beaten by 'B' Company, the score being 3 Goals to 2 Goals. On the 20th 'C' Company defeated 'A' Coy. by 3 Goals to Nil. On the 24th Senior Wipers 'A' Company proceeded to Dispersal Centre (OSBERNY) for demobilisation on account of Long Service with the B.E.F. On the 25th Christmas Day - Church Services were held in the morning. Company dinners were held Bwth. H.Q. dining with their respective Companies. The Commanding Officer visited Companies whilst dining. Every dinner was a great success. The chief items in the MENU were pork and Christmas puddings. Concerts were held in the afternoon and in the evening Sergeant's Messes held their dinners. All Officers of the Battalion attended a dinner which was held at Brigade H.Q. on the evening of Christmas Day. The Brigade Orchestra played very well throughout the evening. A few speeches were made after dinner, which was followed by a Dance Lient. Colonel M.V.B. Hill, BSO. MC. proceeded on leave to U.K. 26th. In the evening of the 26th the dinners were arranged for the Cooks and Officer's Servants who had not been able to join in the Xmas Day dinners. On the 28th 8 O.R. proceeded to report to Dispersal Centre (SECOMOLIFE) for demobilisation on account of Long Service with the B.E.F. The Commanding Officer's servant L/O J. Keys had served continuously for 51 months with the B.E.F. and had been the C.O.s. servant for that period. On the 29th 1 O.R. proceeded to Transfer Centre WATFORD to assist in the work of demobilisation. A Lecture was given by Major BELMART, the subject being Boxing. This lecture, which took place on the 31st was very well attended and was very enthusiastically received. Arrangements were made at once for nighty instruction in Boxing.

HONOURS.

Mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's Despatch of November 8th 1918.
 Lient. Colonel M.V.B. Hill, D.S.O., M.C.
 No. 5730 Pte A. BHAI 'A' Coy.

H.O. COLLIER, Capt. & Adjt.
 for O.C. 9th Royal Sussex Regt.

1919

Appendix.

January

1st/
31st

The Battalion spent the whole of the month at TAININGDIS, PEGDUN, during which period no outstanding events occurred.

Training and Educational Classes were carried out on most mornings, the afternoons being devoted to Football and other Recreation.

Several concerts were given during the month by the Brigade Concert Party, one at RUMBS on the 4th.

being attended by 12 Officers and 160 Other Ranks. The Brigade Party also gave 4 performances of "ALADDIN" at TAININGDIS and these were particularly well attended by the Battalion and other troops in the neighbourhood.

Within the Battalion many pleasant evenings were arranged generally taking the form of card tournaments in whist, bezique, cribbage and other games. A dance usually terminated the proceedings.

Demobilisation which was proceeding rather slowly at the commencement of the month, speeded up considerably towards the finish attaining an average rate of 10 to 12 per diem.

A table is attached shewing the number demobilised during the month, giving dispersal stations and reasons for the release of the men.

On Wednesday January 8th an Agricultural discussion on "Small Holdings" was held in the Schoolroom. Major T. FOSBER and Captain FASSMORE MC. made the opening speeches after which discussion was invited from those present.

On January 9th Captain G.W. SHACKEL, MC. proceeded to U.K. to attend court at S.O. School, ALDRSHOT and was struck off the strength.

On the 24th Major BRISCOE R.A.M.C. gave a lecture to "A" and "C" Companies on medical subjects.

The following awards were notified during the month:-

MENTIONED IN SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S

dispatch of November 8th 1918

Lieut. Col. H.V.B. HILL, D.S.O., M.C.

5730 Private A. Bray.

1918

January

Appendix.

1st/
2nd
(Contd.)NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

Lieut. A. V. COLLINGSWORTH awarded
the VILLIARD CROSS.

3560 Sergeant A. J. WERTHAM awarded
the DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

AWARDED THE MILITARY CROSS:

Captain F. J. BURNING

"C" Coy.

Lieut. H. R. HAYE

"A" Coy.

S/Lt. S. J. A. BRIDGER

"B" Coy.

AWARDED THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL.

3389 Sgt. A. G. R. HEVIE, Batin. H. Coy.

AWARDED THE D. S. M.

898 Serjt. W. MILLING, "B" Coy.

The following officers were

demobilised during the month:-

Lieut. H. R. HAYE, "C" Coy.

Group 43.

Lieut. G. KENNEDY

Group 43.

S/Lt. E. DAVIDSON

Group 1.

J. C. WINGS,
Lt. Col. & Adj't.
for O. C. 9th Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment.

4.2.19.

	RIPON.	SHORNCLIFFE.	PREES HEATH.	HARROWLY.	THETFORD.	PURFLEET.	FOVANT.	GEORGE- TOWN.	CLIP- STONE.	CHISLEDON.	WIMPLEDON.	TOTAL.	
	2	15	1	1			4		2		2		25 Long Service
		1	8		1	1	2						15 Releasable
		19		1	2	3	1	1	1	1			Groups.
		6	1	1		5							29 Group 1.
													1 Group 3.
		13				1							15 Pivotal.
													2 Serving
													2 Soldiers.
			3					1		1			14 Re-enlisted
													Soldiers.
													1 Over 41.
													4 Guarantee
													Letter.
	2	54	14	3	3	10	7	1	4	2	6	106	

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1919

APPENDIX

February

TRAINING

The Battalion has been in billets at TAINEBRIES (BELGIUM) during the whole of the month: A certain amount of training and instruction has been carried out but work has been considerably impeded by demobilization and preparing drafts for the Army of Occupation.

On the 6th we were ordered to prepare a draft of 10 Officers and 200 Other Ranks for the Rhine, Volunteers to be taken first and the remainder to be made up with men retainable under Army Order XIV. The

following officers volunteered, together with 151 Other Ranks. Capt. A. V. Hewell, Lt. R. T. Bryan, Lt. S. J. Chester, Lt. R. Hudson, WO. 2/Lt. W. O. Booker.

2/Lt. H. S. Aglor, Lt. R. S. Heath, 2/Lt. S. S. Gibbs, 2/Lt. W. A. Arlidge, 2/Lt. F. M. Walker, C. S. H. J. Hodgson and G. H. W. Collier were amongst the volunteers. On the 1st, the draft was reduced to 2 Officers and 150 Other Ranks. No further orders have been received and the draft is still standing by.

During the month 3 Officers and 217 Other Ranks have been demobilized. The three Officers are 2/Lt. R. H. Minter, 4th, 2/Lt. R. Aldington, 9th,

1/Capt. G. H. Knight, 17th Inst., On the 14th orders were received that the King's Colours would be conserved on the 19th and afterwards presented to all the Battalions in the Brigade by the Army Commander, General Sir H. S. Horns, KCB, KCMG. On the 15th and 17th a Battalion Practice was carried out.

On the 18th the Brigade Practice was carried out on the Champs des Manuvres. On the 19th, the ceremony took place on the same ground as the Brigade Practice of the previous day. The parade was in every way quite satisfactory and all ranks were congratulated on the general turn out of the Brigade.

1912

February

1st/28th,
ctd.

APPENDIX

The address by General Sir. H. S. Horne, KCB, KCMG, and Brigadier General R. J. Collins, CMG, D.S.O., reply are given below.

Address by General Sir Henry H. S. Horne, KCB, KCMG.

It is my proud duty today to present the King's Colour to each of the three Battalions in the 73rd Infantry Brigade. I present the Colour in the name of His Majesty the King, and I charge you to guard it and honour it in accordance with the traditions of your Regiment and of the British Army. When the Battalions now standing on parade were formed they became part of a very distinguished Regiment and they inherited the great traditions of those Regiments. The ROYAL SUSSEX (35th and 107th Foot) The NORTH-AMPTONSHIRE (48th and 56th Foot) The KINGSEX (57th Division and 77th Foot), Battalions that have served in all parts of the world, that have established splendid records and made their names famous in every corner of the globe, GIBRALTAR, CANADA; EAST INDIES, INDIA, PERSIA, ORIENT, NEW ZEALAND, JOYNT and SOUTH AFRICA. The past history of your Regiment has been written for you but it has been your duty since your formation 49 years ago to write your own history. This you have done and have done it well. Formed in September, 1914, and came out to this country a year later to take part in the Battle of LOOS, 8, and the heavy fighting at MOSSER 8, in 1916 you were in the Battle of the SOMME and fought well at GUILLEMONT and DELVILLE WOOD. In the British Offensive in the Spring of 1917, you played a most important part on the North of the VILLY RIDGE at AMBERS and HEYVEN. In June you fought at HERSBINS and in the Autumn took part in the Third Battle of YPRES. In the Great Offensive launched by the Germans in the Spring of 1918 you played an important part in holding up the enemy and then in the Autumn in the final phase of the war followed him up beyond RAUMBUON. A fine record and I

1919

February1st/28th.
etd.APPENDIX

know you are proud of it, and your esprit is high. The Colour presented to you today is the embodiment of the spirit of your Battalion - the emblem of your Loyalty and the symbol of your tradition. Men come and men go, fashions change in the ranks but the Colour remains. It is the spirit of a Battalion. That is what the Colour means. That is why men in days done by rallied round the Colour. Conditions have changed and though now in war we are unable to carry the Colour still the sentiment remains unchanged and men fight to the last for the honour of the Battalion. I have no doubt that you will guard and fight for these Colours in war and that is the spirit you should carry into Peace. We have gained a Great Victory over the Germans but Peace is not yet assured. Great difficulties lie before us. There is great unrest throughout Europe and that unrest has spread in a minor degree to England. Remember that the Army represents the pick of the nation. Remember that the Army will have Great power at home and with that power we have our responsibility. Having fought and beaten the Germans in war we must stand solid and ensure the bringing about of a successful peace, such a peace as will enable us to improve the conditions both moral and social of the life in our own country. To those of you who are going home, therefore I have this to say: - You will have much power and with that power remember there comes responsibility. The German has been beaten in war but he still hopes to gain a victory in peace. Agents are at work at home striving to upset the conditions of life. Some of them are doing it unintentionally, others are in German pay. It is those we want to beat. If we approach our task in the spirit which we have shown out here we shall put things right in a very short time. Do your

1919

February

APPENDIX

1st/28th.
etc.

duty at home in peace as you have done it in war. Demobilisation is going ahead fast. It is a sad time when comrades have to part and I know well that that sentiment implies a great many of you, but although this Brigade and these Battalions will be broken up I feel sure that the sentiment of comradeship will still remain. In bidding farewell to the 73rd Infantry Brigade I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the splendid work you have done throughout the war and especially during the period when you have served in the 1st Army. I thank you and I bid you all collectively and individually God speed.

Address by Brigadier General R.J. Collins, C.M.G., D.S.O.

I would like to thank you Sir, on behalf of the Brigade and on my own behalf for the honour you have done us in coming today to present these Colours. This will probably be the last parade on which the Brigade will appear as a whole, but I can assure you Sir, that all ranks will carry with them wherever they go the spirit of discipline and good comradeship which has been the keynote of the Brigade throughout its service in France, and if at any time the Brigade is again called into existence I am equally sure that it will under those Colours do its very best to maintain its position and that it will fight as gallantly in the future as it has in the past.

A good deal of inter-Company football has been played during the month. On the 26th, D Coy. defeated "A" Coy. by 5 Goals to 1, and on the 27th, "B" Coy. by 4 Goals to 2. On the 28th, "D" Coy. played "The Rest" of the Batin, and after a very exciting game the Rest proved Victors by 3 Goals to 2. (73rd Brigade Concert Party) gave several performances which were always well attended and thoroughly appreciated. On the evening of the 28th. at the Officers Club, TOURNAI, a farewell dinner was given by Officers

1919

February1st/28th.
ctd.

of the Brigade to Captain P.F.
Chevalier, D.S.O., M.C., Brigade
Major, 73rd Infantry Brigade.
Lieut. Col. M.V.B. Hill, D.S.O.,
M.C., Major of the 60th M.C. and
Captain R.O. Coleman, M.C., re-
presented the Battalion.

J.O. WIGGS, Lt. & A/Adjt.
for O.C., 9th Bn., R. Sussex Regt.

APPENDIX

9TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix.

March.

1/31

TAIWINGTIS VILLIUM.

The Battalion remained at TAIWINGTIS for the whole month. The gradual process of reduction to Cadre strength was carried on and the strength of the Battalion was reduced from 31 Officers 419 Other Ranks at the beginning of the month to 14 Officers 189 Other Ranks at the end. The Cadre was completed at the beginning of the month. The chief causes of decrease in strength were:-

1. Draft to the 4th Battalion ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment of 2 Officers and 150 Other Ranks.
2. Demobilisation during the month of 5 Officers and 74 Other Ranks. (This included 20 Other Ranks for Re-enlistment in the New Regular Army).

On the 24th. 45 men were demobilised, this being the record number demobilised in one day. The reduction in strength of the Battalion was not confined to personnel. At the beginning of the month there were 46 animals with the Battalion transport. All these were sent away during the month, some to KNOLEND for sale, some for further service in the Army, and some for sale in TOURKAI to civilians.

The Battalion Stores were checked in accordance with the Demobilisation Store Table and indents made out for all deficiencies.

All vehicles that could be spared were loaded up and sent to the Divisional Vehicle Park at MAISIEUX which is to be the Cadre Railhead. After these rations and supplies were delivered by lorry.

The reduction in the strength of the Battalion made it no longer necessary for the Companies to be scattered through the long length of the village. Accordingly billets were closed up round Battalion H.Q. and 'A' & 'D' COYS. were amalgamated in one area and 'B' & 'C' COYS. in another.

The organisation of the higher command was completely changed during this month and the Battalion came into a Brigade Group of Cadres under the command of Brig-Gen. R.W. Morgan, D.S.O. Corps H.Q. was replaced by H.Q. DUVAL Cadres under the command of Brig-Gen.F.G. Mansell, C.B., C.M.G., R.A.

1919.

March.Appendix.1/31
(Contd.)

On the 13th a draft of 160 O.H.s. under Captain A.V. Sewell, M.C., and Lieut. R.S. Heath left to join the 4th Battalion ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment on the RHINE.

A Roll of the Draft is attached (to Records only). This draft had been standing by for some time and was originally intended to be 200 strong. In consequence of this reduction 'G' Company only contributed 6 men to make up the full number and the other Companies sent all available men. The draft paraded at 10 a.m. and were inspected by the Commanding Officer who afterwards addressed them and recounted the outstanding performances to the credit of the Battalion which it behoved them to remember and of which they had every reason to be proud.

After this official farewell they marched through the main street of the village and their many friends turned out to give them a good send off. At the top of the street they marched past and saluted the King's Colours. They left about 11 a.m. in lorries for RAISES where they embarked. News came later that they had a good journey and were settling down happily with their new Battalion.

The following table shows the number of men of the Battalion who re-enlisted in the Post-Bellum Army:-

COMPANY.	Four Years.	Three Years.	Two Years.	Total.
1st Coy.	5	8	1	14
2nd Coy.	7	5	11	23
3rd Coy.	-	18	-	18
4th Coy.	2	17	-	19
TOTAL.	14	48.	12.	74.

The following is a list of Officers who left the Battalion during the month:-

For Demobilisation.

T/Captain D.W.G. May, M.C.	To U.K.	16.3.19.
Captain F.J. Burrows, M.C.	"	16.3.19.
2/Lieut. H.C. Sargent.	"	24.3.19.
2/Lieut. R.A. Dicker.	"	24.3.19.
2/Lieut. F.C. Chew.	"	24.3.19.

March.Appendix.1/31.
(contd.)Posted to Army of Occupation.

Captain A.V. Rewell, M.C.	
To 4th Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment	12.3.19.
Lieut. R.S. Heath,	
Do	
Lieut. S.J. Chester,	do.
Do.	
Lieut. R.T. Bryan,	do.
Do.	
2/Lieut. H. Taylor,	do.
Do.	
2/Lieut. W. Aldridge,	23.3.19.
Do.	
2/Lieut. W.G. Booker,	do.
Do.	
Major G.F. Goad, M.C.	28.3.19.
To 52nd Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment	28.3.19.
Lieut. P.W. Chapman	
Do.	
Lieut. R. Hudson, M.C.	do.
To 4th Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment	29.3.19.
Lieut. A.G.A. Vidler, M.C.	
To 52nd Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX Regiment	do.

Appointed General Staff Officer.Grade 3. 24th Division.

Captain C.V. Newton, M.C.

For a brief period after the departure of the draft to the 4th Battalion there appeared little to do and time seemed to go slowly. It was not long however, before football started again and several who had never played before found that their efforts to master the intricacies of Soccer gave them quite as much amusement as they gave to the usual crowd around the Goal. The result was that after one or two games keenness had revived and football was played whenever the weather permitted.

Several dances were got up by the civilians and were much appreciated by the men.

The month has been one of farewells. Apart from the Officers and men who have already been mentioned, there were many to whom we had to say good-bye.

Our sister Battalions were of course breaking up at the same time and at the end of the month the 13th Bn. Middlesex Regiment left to go to HAVRA for duty.

The Brigade Staff also left us -
 Brig. Gen. R. J. Collins, G.M.G., D.S.O., to take up an appointment at the Staff College, CAMBRIDGE.

1919.March.Appendix.1/31.
(Contd.)

The Brigade Major Captain P.T. Chevalier, D.S.O., M.C., to revert to civil life and the Staff Captain R.W. Hillis, M.C., to take up the duties of an appointment at DUNKIRK.

In spite of losing so many there are still a few veterans who have been with the Battalion since it was formed and are bent on remaining with it till the finish.

H.C. COLLEMAN,
Captain & Adjutant,
For Lieut. Col.

Commanding 9th Battalion, ROYAL SUSSEX REGT.

3rd April, 1919.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD SOCIETY
RSR MS REC 710A DUNKIRK EFFECTIVE

1919

Appendix.

April

1st/
30th

CREPAINNE, FRANCE.

During the month the process of reducing the Battalion to Cadre strength was almost completed, the strength being reduced from 14 Officers and 189 Other Ranks to 9 Officers and 65 Other Ranks. The following figures show the numbers who were struck off the strength of the Battalion during the month.

DRAVTS.

To 4th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. 2/Lt. S. E. GIBBS.
2/Lt. P. WALKER and 98 other ranks.
To 1st Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, Capt. C. H. DUDENEY.
To Royal Army Ordnance Corps 7 Other Ranks.
To Chinese Labour Corps 2 Other Ranks.

DEMORALIZED.

Lieut. S. F. FLEM, R.S.R. E. H. BUTCHER, N.C.; D.C.M. (Re-enlisted) and 17 Other Ranks. To England (Regular Officer) Lieut. G. E. EDLINGTON HOSPITAL, etc. 3 Other Ranks. The allotment of leave during the month was good and 2 Officers and 41 Other Ranks were granted leave to England. A number of men were given short leave to BRUSSELS.

The work of the Battalion was confined to routine and cleaning transport at the Vehicle Park, BAISBOUX. The only event of interest was the move of the Battalion to CREPAINNE on the 7th. FAIRBANKS was left with much regret both on the part of the Battalion and the civilians, but on Sundays there was always a large number of visitors to call on old friends at FAIRBANKS. The billets at CREPAINNE are not quiet so good as those we left, but with the greatly reduced numbers the Battalion was soon comfortably settled. Bad weather stopped football at the end of the month but during the first half it was played on most days. The Cadre team played the 72nd Field Ambulance in a Divisional Tournament on the 11th, but the weather was very unsuitable. The Battalion lost by 1 goal to 0.

1919April1st/
30th
(O'ed.)Appendix.

On the 29th a very successful dinner was arranged in LONDON and attended by 12 Officers of the Battalion including the Commanding Officer and our old Adjutant and 2nd in Command Major J. L. Stokes.

H. C. COLMAN,
Capt. & Adjutant,
for Lt. Colonel,
Commanding 9th Bn. ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1919

APPENDIX

May

GHEPAINHE, FRANCE

1st/31st.

During the month the Battalion was reduced in strength from 9 Officers and 65 Other Ranks to 6 Officers and 38 Other Ranks.

The latter figures include 2 Officers who are volunteers for the Army of Occupation, who are still unposted, and 1 Officer and 3 Other Ranks in Hospital.

On 25th May Lieut. Colonel H. V. B. Hill, D.S.O. M.C. left the Battalion for demobilization.

He had commanded the Battalion since November 1916 and had served in France since September 1914 with only one break of 3 months in England and after being wounded in Harer 1918.

On 28th May Lieut. J. C. WIGGS and 2 Lieut. A. W. CHADWICK left the Battalion to join the No. 337 and No. 319 Prisoners of War Companies respectively. The decrease in Other Ranks is accounted for as follows:-

Increase. 1
Demobilized. 12
To Hospital. 2
To 4th Royal Sussex Regt.
(A of O) 14

To Home Establishment, 1.
During this month leave was granted to 1 Officer and 10 Other ranks, but all had re-joined by the end of the month.

On Colonel Hill's departure on the 25th, Captain H. O. COLMAN, M.C. took over command of the Battalion during the absence of Major T. FOSTER on leave.

The work of the Battalion was confined to routine.

On the 12th a lorry was obtained and a party of Officers and men spent the day looking over the line at LEENS and LOOS and visiting our old billets at BULLY

ORENAV and LES BRIBRIS. Officers On the 19th, a party of Officers and men left for 3 days trip to BRUGES and OSTEND. The route taken was through LILLE, ARRAS, TIRRES, BAILLEUL, LOCHRE, DICKENBUH, YPRES, PASCHENDALE and ROULERS to BRUGES. Two very enjoyable

1919

May1st/31st.
etd.APPENDIX

days were spent at BRUGES and some of the party paid a visit to OSTEND. The return trip was made through ROUBENS and HESBIEU. On the 12th, orders were received that the Battalion would entrain for ANTWERP on their way to England on the 17th. These orders were cancelled next day. However on the 30th, a further order was received that the Cadre would entrain about the 2nd of June, and it is hoped that we shall not be disappointed this time.

H. C. COLMAN, Captain,
Commanding 9th. Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7-17