

WO 95 / 2644 / 3

41ST DIVISION

124TH INFY BDE

32ND BN ROY. FUS.

MAY 1916 ~~MAR 1918~~ OCT 1917
~~1917 OCT~~

TO ITALY 1917 NOV

DISBANDED MARCH 1918

CONFIDENTIAL
WAR DIARY

OF THE

32nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers

from 5th May 1916

TO

31st May 1916

VOLUME 1

~~9~~

B2 R Fus
Vol 1

419/15

1/2

Sheet I
WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALDERSHOT	1/5/16		Mobilisation	
" "	2/5/16		do	
" "	3/5/16		do	
" "	4/5/16		Batt ^e entrained in three trains at FARMBOROUGH for SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS. Arrived punctually without any casualties.	
HAVRE	5/5/16	1.30 a.m. 7.30 a.m.	Strength 34 Officers 985 O.R. plus 10 men attached to 124 th Lt Brigade & 41 st Division. Sailed on 8/8 BELLETRONON at 4 p.m. 7/8 LYDIA at 6.30 & 8/8 MONAQUEEN at 7 p.m. Arrived at HAVRE. Voyage very quiet. Disembarked & marched to Rest Camp No 2. Strength 34 Officers & 995 O.R.	
" "	6/5/16	12.30 a.m. 6.10 p.m.	"D" Coy entrained with 26 th RT at Point I HAVRE station for HAZEBROUCK. A.B.C. Coy orderly Room Supt. No 22322 Supt CLARK reported to Base Commandant for duty with A.A.G. 3 rd ECHELON Base. No 22544.	
ST. LOUIS WALLOM CAPPEL	7/5/16	3 p.m.	"D" Coy A.B.C. Coy detrained at STEENBECQUE. Absentee L/Cpl. Breeze (subsequently rejoined) Casualty 1 Rifle Coy (C Coy) Marched about 3 miles to billets at WALLOM CAPPEL.	

Sheet II
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32nd Royal Fusiliers.

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VALLON CAPPEL	8/5/16		Batt ^e Route March. Circular route via SERCVS - about 7 miles. Continuous rain. No men fell out.	
	9/5/16	9 a.m.	2 nd Lt SHAKESTEAR prepared list of billets, showing numbers attached & handed to Mayor. Marched to new billets - in brigade - between OUTTERSTEENE & METTEREN. Distance about 13 miles. Rain incessant. 2 Men fell out & reported again en route.	
	10/5/16		C ^o Organisation. C ^o Drill. Bayonet Fighting etc under C ^o arrangements.	
	10/5/16	9.30 a.m.	All ranks received instruction in Gas Defence measures etc from Chemical Advisor 2 nd Army at STRAZEEL.	
		2.30 p.m.	Bayonet fighting etc under C ^o arrangements.	
	12/5/16		Batt ^e Concentration March to FLETTRE. Distance about 6 miles.	
			Interpreter. M. J. RIGHE reported for duty.	
	13/5/16	3.15 p.m.	C.O. & Officers & 40 O.T. proceeded to 26 th Inf. Brigade Reserve Billets at for instruction in trench routine with 10 th A.S. Highlanders.	
	14/5/16	8.30 a.m.	R.C. Church Parade at OUTTERSTEENE	
		11.0 a.m.	C ^o Parade at T.S.H.Q.	
		1.0 p.m.	2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.	
		2 p.m.	Lectures on Lewis Gun to all ranks in C ^o areas.	

SHEET 3.
WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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32nd ROYAL FUSILIERS.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREM	15.5.16	10.30 a.m.	7 Mile Concentration March.	
		10.30 a.m.	Specialist Training.	
		2 p.m.	Bayonet Fighting under C.O's arrangements.	
— do —	16.5.16	7 a.m.	2 nd Trench Party under Major C.P. Martin proceeded to TLOEG STEERT trenches for instruction with 10 th A.S. Highlanders.	
		9.15	Physical Drill	
		10.15	Company Drill	
		11.15 a.m.	Bayonet Fighting under C.O's arrangements.	1 st Trench Party returned. Casualties.
		8 p.m.	Night operations on BAILLEUL - STRAZEELE R ^d .	also No 11742 Pte Kennedy accidentally wounded by the firing of C-PT. GARNERS. Revolver.
		6.30	Physical Drill	
— do —	17.5.16	9 a.m.	C.O's Inspection. Lecture. Bayonet Fighting. Bombing Practice.	
		2.15	Route March. STRAZEELE - MERRIS & return.	
		11.10 p.m.	Emergency Mobilisation. (Practice) Ready to move off 12.15.	
		9 a.m.	Bayonet Fighting	
		10	Bombing Drill	
— do —	18.5.16	12 noon	2 nd Trench Party returned. Casualties Nil.	
		2 p.m.	Route March about 5 Miles	
		9.15	Physical Drill	
— do —	19.5.16	9.45	Bayonet Fighting	
		11.30	Bombing	
		8 p.m.	Night March to FLETRE Distance about 5 miles.	
— do —	20.5.16			

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREM	21/5/16	9 am 9.45 2.30 pm	Nonconformist Church Parade C of E - do - Batt ^e Kit Inspection.	Gazetting. Promotions to Lt of 2 nd Lt PILGRIM. THORNBURN. LAYTON. appeared in Lon. Gazette 18/5/16.
- do -	22/5/16	9.15 on 9.45 10.30 11.30	Physical Drill Bayonet Fighting Bombing & Sapped Drill C.S. Drill	No 22164 Sgt. Penning proceeded to Dw. T. Warfare School as Supting Inst.
- do -	23/5/16	7.30 9 10.30 12 7.30 p	Physical Drill Bombing Musketry Lewis Gun Inst ⁿ Route March.	C.S. Commanders Conference at B.H.Q.
- do -	24/5/16	9 am	C.O.'s Inspection. All C.S. on C.S. Parade Grounds. Usual Training Programme.	C.S. Commanders Conference at B.H.Q.
- do -	25/5/16	2.15 pm 11.30	Usual Training Programme. Brigade Gymkhana. Progression. Hill! Practice of Emergency Move. Paraded ready to move off at 1.50 a.m. incl. Transport.	
- do -	26/5/16	4.15	do - Athletic Sports. 26 th R.F.	
- do -	26/5/16		Usual Training Programme & Baths for all C.S. at METEREM.	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

Major C.P. Martin's promotion to substantive rank appeared in Lon. Gazette 20/5/15.

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METEREM	27-5-16	6.30 c.m.	Bayonet Fighting Route March. Circular March via DUTTER STEME & BAILLEUL. Gas helmet drill under CO's command	
---	29-5-16	9.30 c.m.	Inspection by G.O.C. 124 Inf. Brigade. Very successful parade. Lecture on 1 st Aid by M.O. Usual afternoon Training Programme.	2 nd Lt A. CLAPTON } reported for 19 th duty from 2 nd Lt W.S. HART } R.F. Base.
---	28-5-16	9.45 c.m.	<u>Church Parades.</u>	
		9.00	C.E.	
		8.30	M.C's.	
		8.30	R.C's.	Attendants } 2 nd Lt W.S. HART proceeded to ENGLAND. (2 nd Army A/1913/43 of 27/5/16)
---	30-5-16	9.15 c.m.	Usual Training Programme. Afternoon employed packing Marched to LE CRECHE Billets (for one night only)	30-6-16
		6.15	Arrived at new billets.	
PAPOT	31-5-16	2.15 c.m.	Left LE CRECHE for PAPOT. Distance about 8 miles.	
		8.00	Batt ^{le} arrived at Hut Camp at PAPOT. Delayed on road by work of Brigade	
		8.00	Remainder of day spent cleaning up etc. Took over Camp from 10 th A.D.S. Highlanders.	
			Lt G.W. BAGOT } 19 th R.F. reported for duty for Base at ETAPLES. 2 nd Lt H.G. NOTBLE } 2 nd Lt E.V. CLARK }	
			2 nd Lt BARKER & 11 M.C.O's	Officers 37
			Transferred to 124 th Inf. Brigade	Strength O.R. 982

Transferred to 124th Inf. Brigade
T.M. TS. No 2.

32nd (S) Bⁿ The Royal Fusiliers

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June

32 R Fus

Vol. 2

War Diary

June 1916

*1/581
1.06.16
3rd Battalion
The Royal Fusiliers
1st Coy
1st Bn
1st Coy
1st Bn
1st Coy
1st Bn*

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32nd Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PAPOT.	1/6/16	6.30 9.15 10.15 11.30	Physical Drill Bayonet Fighting Platoon & Squad Drill Bombing	
---	2/6/16		Usual Progress of work.	Working Parties detailed & daily from 6.30 a.m. to 11 p.m. under 122 nd Inf. Brigade. G.O.C. 41 st Div. visited Camp. G.O.C. 41 st Div. visited Trenches
---	3/6/16		— do —	
PLOGSTREET	4/6/16	5am	Relieved 11 th R.W. Kents in Plug 5 th Trenches. T 121. 122. 123. Relief complete 7.30 a.m. On our left 26 th R.F. On our right 21 st K.R.R. Uneventful day & night.	
---	5/6/16		Everything normal. G.O.C. 41 st Division visited Bell th H.Q.	
---	7/6/16		— do —	
---	8/6/16		Aerial & Artillery activity. Everything normal otherwise.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOG STEERT	9/6/16	3 p.m.	Artillery Bombardment in afternoon. Bridge BIRD CAGE being object. Results unsatisfactory.	
		8 p.m.	G.O.C. 124 th Inf. Brigade dined at B.H.Q.	
— " —	10/6/16	3 p.m. 5 p.m.	Uneventful, apart for German retaliation with Whizz Bangs for previous days bombardment. Heavy bombardment of BIRD CAGE etc. G.O.C. 124 th Inf. Brigade slightly wounded whilst visiting trenches at night.	
— " —	11/6/16	5 a.m.	Earl of Faversham assumed command of Brigade in his absence. Relieved by 11 th R.W.K. & returned to PAPOT. Casualties for week. 4 Men wounded. Only 1 surviving.	
— " —	12/6/16		Usual Training Programme. "C" Co. Baths. No working parties.	
— " —	13/6/16		Usual ^{do} working parties.	
— " —	14/6/16		— do —	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PATOT	15.6.16		Usual Training Programme interfered with by Working parties. G.O.C. (Carl of Faversham inspected line etc Application to practice Defence scheme refused as it would interfere with working parties.	
PAPOT	16/6/16		Usual Training programme Preparations for next day's relief	
PLOEGSTEERT	17/6/16	5am	Gas attack at 12.10 am. No casualties - very little gas came over - enough to discolor ^{eyes} skins Buttons. Relieved 11 th K.W.K. in Ploeg ST Trenches T121 122 & 123 Relief complete 7.5 am On our left 26 R.F. On our right 21 K.R.R. Quite both day and night.	
- do -	18/6/16		Everything normal during the day. Usual working parties detailed by 122 nd Brigade	
- do -	19/6/16		12.5 am. Gas alarm. No gas noticed. Quiet during day. 5 pm. Smoke bombs & candles thrown from T123 by Bombers. Enemy replied with various shells but did very little damage. Usual working parties.	
- do -	20/6/16		Everything normal	
- do -	21/6/16		— do — Trenches 121 122 narrowed	

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PLOEGSTEERT	22/6/16		Day quiet and uneventful. 11.30 pm. Gas alarm sounded on our left: Heavy Artillery bombardment - our artillery much superior to that of enemy's. No Gas noticed except traces in S1 and S2.	
- do -	23/6/16		Very quiet during day. Usual working parties. Between 9 pm and 9.30 pm. enemy commenced shelling the wood and made special target of the Strand. Shells fell very near B.H.Q. Gloucester House. Retaliation asked from our Artillery - Enemy's fire worn down by armour. Apart from Strand not much damage done.	
PAPOT	24/6/16		Relieved by 11th R.W.K. Relief complete 8.50 am. Casualties during week - Killed 1 NCO & 2 men, wounded 5 NCO's & 4 men - including 3 NCO's wounded by defective rifle grenade. Battalion inspected by C.O.	
- do -	25/6/16		Working parties and Church Parades. Major Marten left to command 18 th R.R. Major Clarke commanding 'B' Coy took over from him.	
- do -	26/6/16		Usual working parties. Company training under company arrangements.	
- do -	27/6/16		Usual working parties. Rifle inspection by Armoured Staff Sergeant.	
- do -	28/6/16		Usual working parties	
- do -	29/6/16		Visit by Sir John Bethell M.P. Presented medals to Bath Football team.	
- do -	30/6/16		Usual working parties. Casualties for week 1 NCO wounded on working party	

W. H. Bol
Commanding 32nd R. Fus

32nd (S) Bⁿ The Royal Fusiliers

41 July

32. R. Fus

Vol 3

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War Diary

July 1916

3a

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PAPOT	30/6/16		Usual working parties. Casualties for week. 1 NCO wounded on working party.	
PLOEGSTEERT	1/7/16	5 am	Relieved 11 th R.W.K. Relief completed 7.10 am. T121.122.123 occupied new B.H.Q. Lewisham Lodge. Disposition in Trenches altered. B & D Coy as before and C Coy replaced by A Coy - C Coy going into reserve.	
- do -	2/7/16		Rifle grenades freely exchanged. { 2/7 - Garrett seriously wounded in the leg by enemy Artillery activity { Rifle Grenade at 9.30 am. Died at 7 pm in NO 2 Usual working parties. { HOSPITAL BAILLEUL	
- do -	3/7/16		Trench 124 taken over by B Coy from 26th R.F. Battalion now occupies T121/4 inclusive. Enemy's Trench Mortars active - considerable damage to our front line. Usual working parties.	
- do -	4/7/16		Battn H.Q. moved to HOPE HOUSE, - H.Q.'s of 26th R.F. who became our opposite number and now work alternate reliefs with us. New arrangement being - two units of 124 Bde relieve the other two units of the same Brigade. Enemy Trench Mortars still very active.	
- do -	5/7/16		Considerable activity with Trench Mortars on both sides. 11.30 pm. Our Artillery bombarded the enemy for about an hour. Enemy's retaliation - weak. Usual working parties	
- do -	6/7/16		Normal during morning. Our Artillery very active all the afternoon. Enemy retaliated with Trench Mortars - apart from this his reply was tame.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOEGSTEERT	7/7/16		During day at intervals our Artillery and Trench Mortar Battery bombarded enemy's front line - cutting wire in several places in preparation for a raid by 30 of our men on the 9 th . Our Machine Guns active during the night - preventing enemy repairing his wire. Retaliation feeble.	
- do -	8/7/16		do do	
- do -	9/7/16		Quiet during the day. 10.30 pm - Raid - copy of Report attached. During the night - considerable Rifle and machine gun ^{fire} on both sides	
- do -	10/7/16		Uneventful day Usual working parties Casualties for the town - 1 Killed - Wounded 2/Lt. Wills - 2/Lt. Noble (accidental) and 11 OR	
GRESLOWN	11/7/16		Relieved by 26th R.F. Relief completed 8 am	
- do -	12/7/16		Usual working parties	
- do -	13/7/16		Bathing parade Working parties as usual	

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CRESLOW	14/4/16		Working parties as usual.	
- do -	15/4/16		do	
- do -	16/4/16		<p>Church services. 9am Roman Catholics 3.30 pm Nonconformists - 7 pm Church of England. 9.30 pm and 10 pm - Ten minutes intense bombardment by our Artillery. Enemy replied vigorously. One of their shells wrecking a house immediately behind Battalion H.Q. occupied by Battalion Signallers - killing one N.C.O and wounding 1 N.C.O and 3 others.</p>	
PLOEGSTEERT	14/4/16	6am	<p>Relieved 26th R.F. Relief completed 7-15 am. Apart from desultory firing - day quiet</p>	
- do -	18/4/16		<p>Working parties as usual Everything normal</p>	
- do -	19/4/16		<p>do 2/2nd Smeetham - Ross - Bridgewater and Jameson reported for duty and taken on strength. Court Martial at Papat on 14th Brooke charged with being drunk when on active service</p>	
- do -	20/4/16		do	
- do -	21/4/16		do	

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PLOEGSTEERT	22/4/16		Uneventful day. Usual working parties. Patrol from B Coy brought in an old Minewerfer shell from Machine Gun House	2/Lt Rippe reported for duty to 12.2 1B TMB and struck off strength
PAPOT	23/4/16	5.30 am	Relieved by 26th R.F. Relief complete by 7 am. Casualties for week	11.30 am Noncommissioned Service 6.30 pm C of C. Lt Emery reported for duty and taken on strength
- do -	24/4/16		6.30 am Medical inspection of A Coy 6 pm Kit inspection of D Coy by C.O. Bathing parades at NIEPPE. Usual working parties.	
- do -	25/4/16		6.30 am Medical inspection of B Coy 10 am Adjutant's inspection of H.Q. Coy 6 pm C.O.'s Kit inspection of C Coy Bathing parades at NIEPPE. Usual working parties.	
- do -	26/4/16		6.30 M.O.'s inspection of C Coy 3 pm Kit inspection of B Coy Bathing parades. 10 am Lecture to Officers by C.O. 2/Lt Carey reported for duty and taken on strength of Batten 11 pm Gas alarm sounded. All ranks stood to with Gas Helmets ready but no gas came over the rest billets. Heavy bombardment by our Artillery.	2/Lt Carey reported for duty and taken on the strength
- do -	27/4/16		6.30 am M.O.'s inspection of D Coy 3 pm Kit inspection of B Coy Bathing parades at NIEPPE.	2/Lt Benjamin returned to duty and taken on strength 2/Lts Skinner - Hammond and Barnard reported for duty and taken on strength casualties H.O.R. Killed 2/Lt Smitham wounded 4/13 O.R.

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PLOEGSTEERT	28/4/16		<p>1 am Gas alarm sounded - no gas noticed at Papot. 5 am Relieved 26th L.F. - took over original lines, T 121, 122-123. B-6 boy relieving B boy who go into reserve. Everything normal. 2/4/16 jolly reported for duty and taken on strength</p>	
- do -	29/4/16		<p>Everything normal usual working parties.</p>	
- do -	30/4/16		<p>- do - do -</p>	
- do -	31/4/16		<p>Two Court Martials - one held at B HQ Gloucester House on Pte Owen - charged with failing to appear when warned for duty in the trenches. Acquitted. The other held at Papot on Sgt. Ramsey - charged with being drunk and in prohibited area without a pass. Everything normal.</p>	

R. Key
 Lt. Col
 Commanding 32nd Royal Fus.

C/338

TRENCH RAID.

A party consisting of 30 N.C.Os & men of 32nd R.F., under 2nd Lt Wills left T 123 at 10.30 pm and arrived at enemy's wire at approximately place fixed at 11.30 pm.

The wire was 24 ft thick and had been cut satisfactorily, but was badly tangled. The party got through easily and the cutting had been well carried out

Immediately the battery opened fire, 2nd Lt Wills jumped over the enemy's parapet.

The trench was about 5'6" deep by 3 feet at top and 2 feet at bottom, duck boarded and in splendid condition. He landed practically on a machine gun behind which was an apparent dug out.

He was closely followed by L/Cpl Swann and Cpl Maynard who helped him pick up gun and throw over parapet preparatory to bringing back. The cartridge belt got entangled in barbed wire and the gun had to be left in a shell hole near the parapet, as the trio were being badly bombéd and could not receive support from rest of party on this account.

Whilst this was being done, an officer emerged from the dug out previously mentioned and shot 2nd Lt Wills through the shoulder with a revolver. 2nd Lt Wills shot him through the head.

Afterwards throwing a bomb down the dug out to prevent further attackers coming out.

Another man then came round an angle of the trenches calling CAMERADE.

Being comparatively unsupported - as his N.C.Os were struggling with the guns - 2nd Lt Wills was compelled to shoot him.

By this time the enemy's bombs - which were all high explosive - were coming over in great numbers, preventing reinforcements arriving and making further advance impossible.

2nd Lt Wills therefore ordered the party to return immediately and received a slight bullet wound in his right leg.

The arrangements throughout went without a

1.

(Back)

hitch.

Our artillery was accurately placed and the mortar holes made as a guide by our T.M.B. were invaluable.

May the previous report about our artillery barrage falling short be cancelled, please ?

This was reported by some of the men who had apparently mistaken enemy's bombs for our own shrapnel. And it is not confirmed by Officer in charge of party

Enemy's artillery retaliated at 11.40 pm with about 30 5.9 shells on BUNHILL ROW and over Wood and also shrapnel on front trenches.

The conduct of 2nd Lt Wills appears to have been admirable throughout and he showed great coolness and presence of mind.....

.....
I also wish to mention the names of
Cpl MAYNARD and
L/Cpl SWANN
who stuck to 2nd Lt Wills throughout.....

.....
.....
.....

(Signed) R.E.Key,
Lt Col., Commdg
32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers.

1.50 am
Night of
9/10th July, 1916.

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of 3rd Lt. Fisher
Vol 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOEGSTEERT	1-8-16		Uneventful day. usual working parties	6HP
- do -	2-8-16		Quiet during the day. at 9.43 pm till 11.30 pm our Artillery shelled enemy positions at intervals. Enemy retaliated by shelling Strand and edge of wood - also sending over several trench mortars on our front line.	6HP
CRESLOW	3-8-16	5 am	Relieved by 11th R.W.K. Relief completed 7.30 am. Took over billets at CRESLOW from 15th Hants. Casualties for the week NIL	6HP
- do -	4-8-16		Working parties detailed by 122 nd BRIGADE. about 6.15 enemy replied to fire from our Artillery by shelling the Wood in 6 Coy lines. 1 killed and 13 wounded - 3 of these subsequently died in hospital	6HP
- do -	5-8-16		Working parties 6 Company sent up as reinforcements to 18th KRR who had occupied new trenches and straightened out their lines. 6 Coy occupied these same trenches and St Andrews Drive.	6HP
- do -	6-8-16		Church Services. Day of rest ordered throughout the division in commemoration of 2nd Anniversary of outbreak of War. All working parties suspended.	6HP
- do -	7-8-16		Usual working parties One man hit whilst on working party.	6HP

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CRESLOW	8-8-16		Bathing parades at NIEPPE. Usual working parties. Casualties for week 11 killed 11 eleven wounded.	C.A.P.
PLOEGSTEERT	9-8-16	5 am	Relieved 11 th R.W.K. Relief completed 6.15 am. Enemy artillery active.	C.A.P.
do	10-8-16		Uneventful day. G.O.C 124 Bde visited Trenches. Usual working parties. F.C.M. held at Bathn B.G. Linscham Lodge on Pte J Sykes of this unit. Charged Drunkenness on active service when in charge of pair horse limber. Sentence 40 days F.P. No 1.	C.A.P.
- do -	11-8-16		Uneventful day. Conference of Commanding Officers at 124 Bde H.Q.	C.A.P.
- do -	12-8-16		Quiet day. Usual working parties.	C.A.P.
- do -	13-8-16		do	C.A.P.
- do -	14-8-16		do	C.A.P.
- do -	15-8-16		Enemy Artillery more active. A new division is believed to be opposite. at night a minor enterprise carried out by D Coy. Three Bangalore torpedoes were fired breaching enemy's wire. A party rushed through the breach but were held up by 3 rows of buffe rts. An hostile party appeared on parapet and bombed our party who were obliged to return. Officers engaged in this to our own lines.	{ 2/41 Dolman 2/41 Wood 2/41 BV Clarke. C.A.P.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOEGSTBERT	16/8/16		Uneventful day. Officers from Battalion relieving the 32 nd R Fus came on tour of inspection	6HP
BRESLOW	17/8/16	5 am	Relieved by 8 th Batta Yorks & Lancs. Relief completed by 6.30 am 6 casualties for week - 1 killed 6 wounded.	6HP
LACRECHÊ	18/8/16	9 am	Handed over billets at BRESLOW to 10 th West Riding Regt. Marched to LACRECHÊ. arrived 1 pm.	6HP
do	19/8/16	7 am	Battalion route march about 6 miles. Lectures on open warfare under company arrangements.	6HP
do	20/8/16		Dinner Services C of E 3 pm. Nonconformists 3-30 pm. Bathing parades at BAILLEUL.	6HP
do	21/8/16	7 am 5.30 pm	Battalion route march to METEREN. about 12 miles. Inspection by G.O.C. Lt Enderby - 24 th Ross - Bridgewater - Barnard - Ev. Clarke transferred to 8 th and 9 th Battns Royal Fusiliers	6HP
do	22/8/16	8.30 am	Battalion route march about 6 miles Parades under company arrangements 1 pm till 4.30 pm	6HP

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
A CRECHE	23/8/16		Battalion entrained at BAILLEUL WEST STATION at 2-30pm. Train left 3-28pm	6110
BELLANCOURT	24/8/16	4 am 6 pm	Arrived PONTREMY at 1.50 am. Marched to BELLANCOURT arriving 4 am. Inspection of Companies outside billets at 3 pm by C.O. Lecture by C.O. to company commanders.	6110
do	25/8/16	9-4	Field operations at EAUCOURT. Practising lessons gained in SOMME offensive. Lecture to company commanders by Major Clark.	6110
do	26/8/16		do - do -	6110
do	27/8/16		Divine Services. C of B 10 am. Nonconformists 11-15 pm. 2.30-5 pm Bathing parades at EAUCOURT in stream running into River SOMME. Sgt F HILL of C Company drowned. Report sent to Brigade.	6110
do	28/8/16		Field operations at EAUCOURT. - as for 25 th & 26 th	6110
do	29/8/16	9 pm	do - do - Manoeuvres watched and criticised by Divisional Commanders and Brigadier. Battalion route march and night operations.	6110

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or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELLANCOURT	30/8/16		Weather conditions prevented outdoor work of every description being carried out. Lecture by Major Clark to junior officers in map reading.	640
do	31/8/16	9 am 2 pm	Battalion route march to Ailly LE HAUT CLOCHER. Bayonet fighting under CSM. Bullen of the Army Gymnastic Staff.	640

Atty. Lt. Col
Commandg 32nd Royal Fusiliers

Sheet I.
WAR DIARY

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Vol 5

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Batt^e Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELLANCOURT III BILLETTS	1916 1st Sept.	10 45 AM	Rain prevented Batt ^e training. Day spent in C ^o Organisation Transport Inspection by O.C. 41 st Divisional Train	ML
(4 miles S.E. of ABBENVILLE)	2 nd "	8 45 AM 8 P.M.	Wood Fighting & Batt ^e Training Night Operations	ML
" "	3 rd "	11 AM 3 30	Divine Service Court of Enquiry to inquire into death of Supt. F. HILL "C" C ^o by drowning 27/8/16 Bathing Parade in PONTREMY Canal. (Guiding accidentally drowned.)	ML
" "	4 th "		Rain prevented Batt ^e Training. C ^o Organisation substituted.	ML
" "	5 th "		Route March C ^o Organisation etc	ML
" "	6 th "	9 AM 2-6 12 P.M.	Bayonet Fighting Route March to ABBENVILLE Bathing parade at TBaths. Batt ^e marched to LONG PRES LES COURPS SAINTS	ML
" "	7 th "	7 AM 11 AM 12.30	Batt ^e entertained on arrival at above Detained at MERICOURT. Batt ^e marched to Bwonaac Camp near EDGE HILL S TH . PRICOURT.	ML

Sheet 2.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
near FRICOURT EDGE HILL 5 TH IN CAMP	1916 8 th Sept	9-4.30 AM PM	Prisoners of War Guard dispatched under 2 nd Lt DAVIES. (40 O.R.) C ^o Training under C ^o arrangements. Draft of 77 O.R. arrived from Base.	PM
(D 19 d. Map Sheet 62d)	"	9 th	C ^o Training. Bayonet Fighting. Post & Fort Inspection etc Lecture on Attack etc C.O's Adjutant went to trenches near DELVILLE WOOD to inspect ground. Left camp 2 nd Lt F.T.S. WILSON arrived from Base. He appeared in indifferent health. Batt ⁿ moved to camp near FRICOURT	6 th 10 th M
near FRICOURT " " (F. H. G. Map Sheet 62d)	"	10 th " 10 AM 10.30 AM	Divine Service under Brigade arrangements. C.O's adjutant returned having been prevented by mist & shell fire from obtaining much information about ground etc.	M
" "	"	11 th " 9-12 10. am	Physical Drill, Bayonet Fighting. Gas helmet drill. Entrenching Tool drill. Lecture on Gas Precautions. F.C.C.M. on 7 th PAITHFULL. M.W. C.C. Chayed with crush of Batt ⁿ Parade at VIVIER Mill	PM
" "	"	12 th " 9-12 5.30 6 PM	Batt ⁿ Training Officers Mess Meeting Concert organised for Brigade by 32 nd R.F.	PM
" "	"	13 th " 9-12 3.30 PM	C ^o Training. Batt ⁿ moved to camp near N.Z Div ⁿ at FRICOURT.	PM
" "	"	14 th " 9-12 5 PM	C ^o Training & Organisation Batt ⁿ marched to trenches near Delville Wood, via MONTAUDAN.	PM
" "	"	15 th " 5.45 PM	Batt ⁿ arrived in position of assembly for attack. Supporting 10 th Queens. Report on action attached.	M
" "	"	16 th	About 160 reorganised & established near Switch Trench in T ⁿ Support Trench.	M

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Bn. Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IN TRENCHES	1916 17 th Sept		Remnant of Batt ⁿ remained in Tea Support Trench etc. Major W.C. Clarke & Capt. S. Smith relieved C.O. & Adjutant by order of G.O.C. Batt ⁿ went to Transport lines to rest. Remainder of day occupied by Burying fatigues. Batt ⁿ relieved & bivouaced at POMMIER REDOUST.	
Near EDGEHILL 5TH Camp	18 th "	7 ^{1/2} am	Batt ⁿ returned ^{via} Transport lines near EDGEHILL 5 TH Camp Casualties 10 Officers Wounded 289 O.R. { Killed, Wounded, Missing	
(D. 19 d. Map Sheet 62.D)	19 th "		Camp struck & repitched on dry ground. Rain prevented Training Batt ⁿ reorganised etc	
"	20 th "	12 noon	Inspection of 124 th Inf. Brigade by G.O.C. in rear of Camp. G.O.C. congratulated Brigade on successful efforts on 15 th , 16 th & 17 th inst. Telegrams sent by H.M. the King through G.O.C. in C. & also Corps Commander etc.	
"	21 st "	9-12.30 2.00	Batt ⁿ Training Camp Area C.O.'s Inspection.	
"	22 nd "		do	
"	23 rd "	9-12.30 3p-	Batt ⁿ Training C.O.'s & Ady's Conference at Brigade H.Q.	
"	24 th "	11 am	Divine Service Bathing Parade at VIVIER MILL.	

Sheet 4.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

32nd Bde Royal Fusiliers.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
near EDGEHILL STC (Camp)	1916 25 Sept	9-12 2.30 2.30	Belt Training in Camp Area. Attach Practice. Camp struck in readiness for move, which did not materialise. C.O.'s Inspection. Camp Pitched again after inspection.	PM.
"	26 "	9-12 2.50 6.15	C ^o Training in Camp Area. Redistribution of Lewis Guns & Grenades (2 per Coy). Belt Parade. Attach Practice. C.S.M. Godson returned from Base.	PM.
"	27 "	9-12 2.30 4.15	C ^o Training. Belt Parade. Attach Practice etc. Guard Mounting Competition. G.O.C. attended. "D" C ^o supplied winning guard.	PM.
"	28 "	9-11.30 11.30 12.45 2.45	C ^o Training in Camp Area. Attach practice etc. Belt Parade at VIVIER MILL. G.O.C.'s 174 th INF BRIGADE Inspection. Turn out fairly satisfactory. Approved by G.O.C.	PM.
"	29 "	9-12.30 11a- 2.30	Heavy rain interfered with C ^o Training. Lectures to H.C.O.'s. Belt Parade & C.O.'s Inspection. C ^o Drill etc.	PM.
"	30 "	9.50 10.30 2.30	Physical Drill in Camp Area. Attach Practice. Kit Inspection by C.O.	PM.

	Officers	O. Ranks
Max. Strength during month.	35	984
Min. " " " "	26	699
Present " " "	28	704

R. Key Lt. Colonel,
Commanding 32nd Bde
Royal Fusiliers

SECRETC O P Y

OPERATION ORDERS

14th Sept 1916.

Reference Maps.

57 C S.W. 1/20,000

Trench Maps (Already issued)

1. INFORMATION. The 4th Army in co-operation with the Reserve Army and the French is to attack and capture the enemy's system of Defences up to and including the line MORVAL, - LES-BOEUFs - GUEUDECOURT - HIGH WOOD.

The Attack will be pushed home with the utmost vigour all along the line until the most distant objectives have been reached.

1st Objective. The enemy's trenches 800 yds South of FLERS, SWITCH LINE. No halt will be made in TEA SUPPORT TRENCH.

2nd Objective. Enemy's trenches running S.E. on the S.W. and S side of FLERS, which is known as the FLERS LINE.

3rd Objective. The Village of FLERS and the line cross roads N.31.B.4.0, Junction Road and N 31.A.2.5.

4th Objective. Establish line
N 20.D. 5.0. exclusive,
N 20.C. 3.6
N 25.B. 0.6. road junction.

Track exclusive.

Where the objective consists of a double line of trenches then assaulting troops will push on and capture the farthest trench.

2. INTENTION. The G.O.C intends to attack in four stages on a two Battalion front, two Battalions in front line, 2 Battalions in Support.

3. DISTRIBUTION.

1st Line. 10th Bn "Queen's", right,
21st K.R.R.C. left.

Support. 32nd Bn R.Fus. right.
26th Bn R.Fus left.

Four Vickers' Guns will be attached to 32nd Bn R.Fus.
Half Section 237th Field Coy. R.E. will be attached to 32nd R Fus to assist in construction and consolidating of Strong Points.

4. METHOD OF ATTACK. The Battalion will attack in 4 waves of small columns at not more than 50 yds between Waves. The 1st Wave following not more than 50 yds behind the last Wave of the 10th Queens.

DISTRIBUTION OF WAVES.1st Wave.Commdr

Lieut R.GUTHRIE.

Nos 5, 1, 13 & 9 Platoons in the order named, reading from right to left

2nd Lt C.A.HULL,
" " F.A.CAREY,

(4 Vickers Guns will accompany this Wave).

2nd Wave.CommdrCapt H.A.ROBINSON
2nd Lt J.B.JAMESON,
" " C.W.LANGLEY.Nos 6, 2, 14, 10 Platoons, in order named reading from ~~left~~ right to left.
1. (Back)

CONTINUATION.(3rd)Comdr

Capt W.W. SMITH,
2nd Lt L.C. NICOLL.
" " A.W. CLAPTON.

3rd Wave.

Nos 7.3, 15, 11 Platoons in order
named reading from right to left.

4th Wave.Comdr

Capt A.J.S. BROWN
2nd Lt A.L. BENJAMIN.
" " S.W. SKINNER.

Nos 8.4.16, 12 Platoons, in order
named, reading from right to left.

The 4th Wave will garrison SWITCH TRENCH from COCOA LANE (exclusive) to CADDY LANE (inclusive) and will open up CADDY LANE and connect it with FLARE LANE (the most Northerly point of DELVILLE WOOD,) (Unless this work is done by a Pioneer Battalion.)

When the Artillery barrage rests on an objective, and the Advance is held up Advantage must be taken of all available cover.

5. ASSEMBLY. The Battalion will be in its position of Assembly by 11 pm on the 14th.

Place of Assembly. Nos 1 & 2 Waves. On right of 26th R.Fus in GREEN TRENCH, 1 wave behind the other.

Nos 3 & 4 Waves. Immediately to right of 26th R.Fus in EDGE TRENCH, one wave behind then other.

The right of the Battalion will rest on COCOA LANE exclusive Positions of Assembly & Avenues of Approach will be taped or marked by 10th Queens.

124th Infantry Brigade will be clear of Area S. of YORK TRENCH by 9 pm.

6. AVENUE OF APPROACH. for 124th Infantry Brigade is FLARE LANE.

7. DIVIDING LINES

(a) between 124th Inf Bde & left Brigade of 14th Div will be the line at Point S 22.C 9.2. and S 17. d 9.8. thence COCOA LANE to its-junction with SWITCH LINE.

T.1 D 9.2.	(inclus to 14th Div)	Road junction
T 1.B.1.2	(inclus to 14th Div)	" "
N.31 B 4.0.	(inclus to 41st Div)	" "
N 31 B 5.2	(inclus to 41st Div)	Strong Point.
N 36 C 4.4	(inclus to 14th Div)	Road Junction.
N 36 A 9 1	(inclus to 14th Div)	

All houses & gardens at GUEUDECCOURT inclusive to 14th Div.

(b) Dividing Line between Battalions of 124th Infy Bde is marked on your plan. FLARE LANE is the only C.T. to be used by 124th Inf Bde.

8. DIRECTING FLANK. General direction of Attack 28° true bearing. The left Bde will direct.
9. ARTILLERY. The Artillery will form a creeping barrage, troops moving immediately behind it.
10. HOOR OF ASSAULT. At zero hour the leading waves of Infantry will assault. As each wave moves forward its place will be

CONTINUATION.3.

taken by the troops in rear, and so on backwards

11. TANKS. 10 tanks will co-operate in the Attack and will precede the Infantry, their role is to clear the way for Infantry. The Infantry must follow behind the Tanks (unless the Tanks break down) and should any Strong Point hold up the Infantry they will call for ~~xxxxxxx~~ a Tank to assist them by giving the signal 'Enemy in sight' with a rifle.
The following signals will be used from Tanks to Infantry
- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Red flag | = | 'Out of action'. |
| Green " | = | 'Am on Objective'. |
| By night, a series of | Ts (on lamp) | = Out of Action. |
| A series of | Hs | = Am on Objective. |
12. CONSOLIDATION. Each objective will be consolidated as soon as possible after its capture and made secure against Counter Attack.
13. CARRYING PARTIES. O.C. 1st Wave will detail 12 men per Vickers Gun attached as ammunition carriers.
O.C. 4th Wave will detail 10 men per Stokes Gun attached (20 men in all) as ammunition carriers.
All men not detailed for special work will carry four extra bandoliers of S.A.A.
14. STRONG POINTS. A Strong Point S.P.1 will be constructed and garrisoned by 25 men under 2nd Lt C.W. LANGLEY at T 7 A.2.6.
- A Strong Point S.P.2 will be constructed and garrisoned by 2nd Lt L.C. NICOLL & 25 men at T 1 C 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.
- A Strong Point S.P.3 will be constructed and garrisoned by 2nd Lt F.A. CAREY & 25 men at N 31 B 5.3.
- The R.E. will assist in the construction of these Strong Points
15. LEWIS GUNS. 2 Lewis Guns will accompany each Wave, but one of these Lewis Guns which accompanies the 2nd Wave will occupy S.P.1 at T 7 A.2.6. and be under the command of 2nd Lt LANGLEY. The Wave Commander will be responsible for detailing this gun.
16. VICKERS GUNS. Of the Vickers guns accompanying the 1st Wave one will garrison S.P.2 at T 1 C 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and one will garrison S.P.3 at N 31 B 5.3.
If Vickers guns are not available, Lewis Guns will be detailed. O.C. 1st Wave is responsible for this.
As soon as these Strong Points have been constructed and garrisoned the troops occupying the ~~first~~ first two German trenches will reorganise and be ready to advance when ordered.
Lewis & Vickers guns not already detailed for holding Strong Points must push well forward and hold tactical points.
17. BOMBS. Every man will carry two Mills Bombs which are to be looked upon as a reserve for the use of Bombing Squads. They will not be thrown but collected and dumped in each successive line gained.
18. BOMBERS. Battalion bombers will accompany first wave and be under the 1st Wave Commander's orders.
19. COMMUNICATION WITH AEROPLANES. Every Officer & N.C.O and 50 men per Wave will carry two red flares. These are to be lighted in the front line only at intervals of 20 yds on gaining the line of each objective as soon as the contact

3.

(Back)

CONTINUATION.4.

aeroplane appears or calls for flares on the KLAXON horn, and again at 2 pm and 5 pm on 15th and at 7 am on 16th September.

Vigilant mirrors are to be attached to the backs of the coats of a proportion of the men.

20. VISUAL AND RUNNERS. The Signalling Officer will endeavour to establish communication both by cable and by visual signalling as the Attack progresses. He will establish a Visual Station at S 8 D 9.3. Runners will be freely used and relay posts have been arranged at intervals of 300 yards in FLARE LANE. Posts will be marked with yellow flags.

Runners should be directed to the top of FLARE LANE and be instructed to return to the Front Line when the message has been delivered to the First Relay Post. 4 runners from B.H.Q will be left at Brigade H.Q. Forward Runner Posts will consist of three men dug in and marked by a yellow flag.

21. PIGEONS. Each Battalion in front line will be provided with two pigeons.

22. MEDICAL. Advanced Dressing Station at the Quarry S 22 C 2.6
Aid Post near B.H.Q.

23. PRISONERS OF WAR. Wave Commanders are responsible for making their own arrangements for escorting prisoners back to B.H.Q. An escort of 10% is sufficient.

24. DRAWING OF EQUIPMENT. Units will draw S.A.A, Stokes Ammunition, Bombs, Flares, Rockets and other articles ordered to be carried from ~~the~~ Brigade Dump on their way to position of Assembly.

Each Wave Commander will detail the necessary number of men for this purpose.

25. DOCUMENTS. No maps or documents giving information of British Trenches must be taken over the parapet.

26. WATCHES. Watches will be synchronised on 14th instant at 10.45 am and 4.45 pm and on 15th at 5 am.

27. RATIONS. Three days rations will be carried and water bottles filled.

28. BATTALION HEADQUARTERS. Battalion Headquarters will probably be in GREEN TRENCH at the commencement of Operations.

14th September, 1916.

Dictated to
all Officers at 12.55 pm.

(Sgd) R.E. KEY,
Lt Col., Commandg
'PEPPER' Battalion.

AFTER ORDER.

29. SIGNALLERS. Four signallers will go with each wave, the remainder to be with Headquarters.

30. SNIPERS. 25% will accompany each wave.

Instructions have previously been given
as to equipment to be carried.

C O P Y.

From O.C. 32nd (S) Bn Royal Fusiliers.

To H.Q., 124th Infantry Brigade.

The attached Reports of the ACTIONS on 15th, 16th & 17th September, 1916, are forwarded for information, please, in accordance with Section 139. F.S.R. Pt II.

(Signed) R.E.KEY.

20th Sept., 1916.
EMCS.

Lt Colonel,
Commdg 32nd (S) Bn R.Fus.

=====

SUMMARY of REPORTS.

1. REPORT by O.C. 32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers,
2. REPORT by Intelligence Officer, 32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers.
3. REPORT by Lewis Gun Officer,
4. REPORT from 2nd Lt L.A.M.DUNLEA, Battalion Signalling Officer.
5. REPORT from Capt A.J.S.BROWN, Officer Commanding 4th Wave.
6. REPORT from 2nd Lt C.W.LANGLEY, surviving Officer of 2nd Wave.
7. REPORT from 2nd Lt J.B.JAMESON, surviving Officer of 2nd Wave.

-----000-----

Reference Maps.

57 C. S.W. 1/20,000.
Trench Maps. ---

C O P Y.

REPORT on OPERATIONS
on 15th, 16th & 17th September, 1916,
carried out by 124th Infantry Brigade
near FLERS.

OPERATION REPORT No 1
by
O.C. 32nd (S) Bn Royal Fusiliers.

At 6.20 am on 15th September, 1916, the 32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers advanced from position in Support to the 10th Bn the "Queen's" 200 yds in advance of DELVILLE WOOD.

1. DISPOSITION. 26th Royal Fusiliers supporting 21st K.R.R.C, being on our left flank, and 14th Div on our right flank.

2. BARRAGE. Our barrage opened punctually and was extremely effective. The Battalion followed close to the barrage and were able to reach the first two lines of German trenches, viz., TEA SUPPORT TRENCH and SWITCH TRENCH, the resistance being comparatively weak, the enemy having evidently suffered severely from our previous bombardment. The enemy's barrage opened in reply almost immediately across NO MAN'S LAND, and consisted generally of H.E. This was subsequently lifted on to the Wood which was searched systematically, and again at intervals during the day, fire on the front edge and left flank of the Wood being particularly effective.

3. ADVANCE. The Battalion originally advanced in four waves in support, after the first two trenches were reached and the 4th Wave remained behind to consolidate, the other three waves became mixed up with the survivors of the 10th "Queen's", men of the 26th R.Fus, who had lost direction and also some of the 14th Division. When SWITCH TRENCH had been won, the remnants of the waves which advanced consisted of two parties -

(a) under Captain H.A.ROBINSON,
(b) under Lieut W.V.ASTON,
both being about 80 strong.

A. The former pushed on with his party beyond FLERS capturing three field guns, 5 Officers and about 40 other ranks. The field guns were subsequently destroyed by the enemy's concentrated artillery fire. Prisoners were sent to the Corps Cage, but were apparently taken to the 14th Division in error.

B. The second party occupied a position near SUNKEN ROAD, and owing to M.G. fire and sniping from the far end of FLERS were held up until a tank advanced from SUNKEN ROAD and silenced enemy fire. The party then advanced beyond FLERS and dug in under heavy shrapnel fire. Lieut W.V.

CONTINUATION.

(2)

ASTON was later ordered by a superior officer to withdraw his party owing to lack of Supports, and further advance from SUNKEN ROAD was not made until the afternoon of the 15th when this party again advanced beyond FLERS until held up by M.G. fire.

4. CASUALTIES. When the Battalion was eventually withdrawn, figures were as follows :-

	<u>Killed.</u>	<u>Wounded.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Officers	Nil	10	Nil	10.
Other ranks	28	168	87.	283.

5. COMMUNICATION. Full details are forwarded under the Battalion Signalling Officer's Report attached. Communication was very difficult throughout.

Very heavy shelling caused the transfer of Battalion Headquarters three times, and casualties amongst runners who knew the way being very great, considerable difficulty was experienced in communicating with the Front Line until lines were successfully laid and kept in working order.

Communication with the Artillery was absolutely impossible but the presence of an F.O.O. at B.H.Q. would probably have simplified matters.

6. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. The Regimental Medical arrangements were satisfactory throughout, the Battalion Stretcher Bearers doing especially good work, but no R.A.M.C. stretcher bearers or Relay Posts were available. This considerably delayed the evacuation of the wounded, and, in many cases, led to wounded men being killed before they could be removed, the work being too heavy for the regimental stretcher bearers to cope with unaided.

7. PRISONERS. 5 Officers and about 77 other ranks were captured by this Unit. The majority were of a poor type and appeared dazed. Several stated that they had only recently come into the line and in most cases about 2 days and that they had suffered very severely from our artillery. Others mentioned that their own feeding arrangements were quite satisfactory.

They were apparently not greatly affected by the appearance of the Tanks, and it is suggested that they had in all probability been warned of their existence either through spies or through the noise made by the Tanks in approaching.

8. TANKS. Apparently the Tanks were considerably impeded by the unsuitable nature of the ground. In spite of natural difficulties, however, they appear to have done very good work, one in FLERS Village and another near GUEUDECOURT causing heavy casualties.

Captain H.A.ROBINSON, of this Unit, on his way to the Field Dressing Station stated that he saw a tank near GUEUDECOURT put a field gun out of Action before it was subsequently put out of action by another gun of the same Battery.

In one case the smoke from a tank's exhaust caused considerable confusion amongst a party of the enemy whom it came upon rather suddenly. It is stated that they imagined the smoke to be a new form of gas and endeavoured to adjust their gas helmets before hurriedly retiring.

(3)

CONTINUATION.

9. Strong Points. Two Strong Points were constructed by this Unit -
- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| (a) | at | T 1 C 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. |
| (b) | at | T 7 A 2 6. |

These were immediately observed by the enemy's artillery, and were, in both cases, destroyed almost at once. Although persistent efforts were made to rebuild them, the heavy shell fire made this impossible.

10. ARTILLERY.

(a) British. Our Artillery fire on the 124th Inf Bde Sector of the Line was most successful. Large numbers of German dead were found in most of the German trenches occupied, and 25 bodies were taken from a small portion of SWITCH TRENCH alone. The shooting on FLERS and GUEUDECOURT appeared particularly accurate.

(b) Enemy's. During the earlier stages of the Action on the 15th instant the enemy's artillery was very ably handled and undoubtedly caused the greater majority of our casualties throughout. In view of the rapidity with which all targets were fired upon, it is obvious that the enemy's O.P.s were very favourably situated. Even the smallest ~~xxx~~ parties moving between DELVILLE WOOD, FLERS and GUEUDECOURT were fired upon, and in some cases a single stretcher party was considered worth firing upon. The Field Guns advancing down FLERS ROAD were also fired upon very quickly and accurately immediately they came into sight over the top of DELVILLE Wood ridge.

No ~~chemical~~ chemical shells of any sort were noticed by or reported to this Unit, but several prisoners complained of having suffered from our chemical shells.

11. COUNTER ATTACK. Only two ineffective counter attacks by Infantry have been reported by Officers of this Unit and this appeared to have been nipped in the bud by our Artillery fire. At about 6.15 pm a very heavy bombardment of all the captured positions and also the edge of DELVILLE WOOD was commenced, but it was not followed up by the enemy's Infantry.

=====oOo=====

16th & 17th September, 1916.

On the above dates this Battalion did not participate in any active fighting, but remained in reserve in positions captured.

Apart from the heavy artillery fire which was experienced almost incessantly during these two days, there is nothing to report.

20th September, 1916.

(Sgd) R.E. KEY,
Lt Colonel,
Commdg 32nd Bn R.Fus.

THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE BROUGHT TO NOTICE DURING THE ACTION, AND ARE SUBMITTED AS SUGGESTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE G.O.C.

1. It is suggested that more attention should be paid to preliminary organisation and also reconnaissance.
2. A large number of unnecessary stores etc were carried into the Attack. It is suggested that rations, water and ammunition are really only absolutely essential and that stores etc could be sent up by carrying parties after dark.
3. It is essential that all Regimental Aid Posts should be placed in sheltered positions well behind the Support Line.
4. Stretcher bearer Relay Posts should be established between Front Lines and Support Lines and Regimental Aid Posts and from thence to the Dressing Station.
5. Trench mortars did not appear to be particularly suitable for the Attack although every effort was made by the T.M.B Officers to keep them in Action. Two parties were sent from this Unit at great risk and duly arrived but the ammunition was unprotected on arrival and was immediately blown up.
6. It appears advisable that proportion of Machine Guns and Lewis Guns should be retained in reserve to be sent up when positions have been consolidated.
7. Better communication with the Artillery seems imperative This was more neglected during the Advance than it was in the trench warfare at PLOEGSTEERT.
8. An increase in the scale of pigeons issued to Battalions is recommended.
9. A long march immediately before the Attack should be avoided.
10. Necessity of ensuring that important messages reach their destination. One most important one was never delivered, and the Officer concerned only heard of it through another Unit.
11. Supports should be very close and easily get-at-able.

WAR DIARY

Sheet 1.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn. Royal Fusiliers

Vol 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Near EDGEHILL STN. CAMP.	1916 Oct: 1st	11 am 1 am 2.30 pm 4.30. 7.0 pm	Church Parade WINTER TIME came into use. Time pieces moved back 1 hour. Conference of Officers. Washing of clothes at VIVIER MILL. Warming Order received.	Map Ref. 62 D. D 19 d.
- 11 00	2nd "	7.30 am 8.45 am 1.30 pm 9.30 pm	Camp struck. Battalion Parade, C.O.'s Inspection. Battalion Paraded, marched to camp at POMMIERS REDOUBT, arriving 7.15 pm Picnic ended.	F. 6. A.
POMMIERS REDOUBT.	3rd "	2 pm.	Battalion marched to trenches (support) at SUNKEN ROAD (M 35 d. 8.5) arriving 9 pm. Major W. C. CLARK commanding & Capt. S. C. B. SMITH as adjutant.	est
Support N/THREMOES	4th "		Under orders to move forward. Capt. S. C. B. Smith wounded about 12 noon by premature burst of our own H.E. Shrapnel Capt. H. E. T. COOPER arrives at 9.30 pm. Movement Order cancelled suspended for 24 hours.	M. 35 d 8-5
	5th "	6.30 p.m.	Enemy Artillery very active Day & night. Large number of S.G. searching for our batteries near First Alley etc. Strength going into line was 14 of 3935 r Batt = relieved 11th R.W. Sweeps. Batt = H.Q. at Factory Corner. Cellars fitted up by previous German owners with luxuriant furniture. Including 4 Torte & velvet covered chairs. Guides led CP to enemy trenches, but these were put right by Adj. & 2nd Lt	M. 19 C. 62.
			2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.	EDWARDS.

WAR DIARY

Sheet 2.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GIRD SUPPORT & ADVANCED TRENCHES	1916 Oct 6 th	11.30 p.m.	Enemy's Artillery very active during entire day. Disposition - D.A. TS Coy in Strong Point line. "C" Coy in support. B.H.Q. moved to front line & scooped out temporary shelter. Whole batt ⁿ worked all night in digging new trench which should have been done previous night but R.E.'s lost way. Practically completed at daybreak.	N. 19a 4.4 PM
"	" 7 th		New Trench was not occupied as it was found 26 th R.F. had not dug their front to link up with ours. One Heavy Artillery fired short for five hours & did great damage to our trenches. All front Coy positions were evicted with severe shell shock & hit for wet soil shells would have caused very heavy casualties. The Batt ⁿ attacked at 1.45 p.m. but was unsuccessful. See special report attached.	PM
"	" 8 th		Major D.C. CLARK took over command of 10 th Queens at 10 a.m. & Lt Col. R.E. KEY took over command. B.H.Q. was established in old German Digout in GIRD TRENCH. C.O. left to attend Conference at B ⁿ H.Q. at 3 p.m. Enemy appeared passing for counter attack at 5 p.m. Intense hostile aeroplane activity. One aircraft probably prevented this.	N. 19d 09. PM
"	" 9 th		Draft of 3 officers & 19 O.T. arrived at Transport lines. Day was spent consolidating front line. Enemy came out under. Red Cross fly to collect wounded. We extended Red Cross fly with aid of red flags from H.Q. officers' tent. Practically all dead & wounded recovered.	PM
"	" 10 th	9.30 p.m.	10 Hostile planes very active flying over our front & support line. New communication trenches were dug & front line improved. Men very exhausted. Batt ⁿ was relieved at 9.30 p.m. by 2 nd Royal Scots. Casualties during time	Officers 11 O.T. 229 PM
MAMETZ WOOD CAMP.	" 11 th		Batt ⁿ arrived at MAMETZ WOOD Camp at 5.30 a.m. Proceeding by train to BECORDEL Camp at 10 a.m. arriving 1 a.m. Day spent clearing up equipment, lists and reorganising.	N. 6a. PM
BECORDEL CAMP.	" 12 th	8.30 10 a.m. 11 a.m.	Coy Organizational Batt ⁿ Parade Kit Inspection. Draft of 1 officer & 60 O.T. arrived.	E. 12 a. PM

WAR DIARY

Sheet 3.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bⁿ Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RECORDEL Camp.	1916 Oct 13 th		2 Drafts of 20 ⁴⁰ arrived. Capt. E.T. COOPER relinquished Adjutancy on promotion to Major. 2 nd Lt C.E. EDWARDS took over a/adjutancy.	
" "	" 14 th	9.30 a.m. 2.30 p.m.	Inspection of Drafts by C.O. Bayonet Fighting Physical Drill etc. Batt ⁿ moved to TSUIRE. Billets. Draft of 201 arrived.	PM A. 296.
" "	" 15 th	9.15 a.m. 2.15 p.m.	Church Parade Distribution of M. Medals by Dist. Commander to Cpl. DALZELL & Pte BARTLETT. Lecture on Prevention of Trench Feet by M.O. Specialist Training.	PM
" "	" 16 th		Batt ⁿ entrained at MERICOURT at 6.30 p.m. having marched from TSUIRE. Draft of 36 men arrived. Tactical Train very uncomfortable & very slow. 1 mile per hour average speed.	PM
LONGPRES	" 17 th	1.30 p.m.	Batt ⁿ arrived at LONGPRES. Accommodation provided in very good Billets. Batt ⁿ spent remainder of day in cleaning up etc.	PM
" "	" 18 th	11.00 a.m.	Batt ⁿ Parade. Specialist Training continued. Rain prevented work in afternoon.	PM
" "	" 19 th	9.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. 11-12 p.m. 2.15 p.m. 12.45 p.m.	Instruction in Gas Measures, Helmets etc. Bayonet Fighting. Coy Drill & Rifle Exercises etc. Cleaning up Batt ⁿ entrained for CAESTRE.	PM

WAR DIARY

Sheet 4

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bⁿ Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN AREA	1916 Oct 20 th	2.30	Detained at CAESTRE & reached to scattered bullet in METEREN area. Draft of 38 O.R. arrived.	
PATRICIA Camp.	" 21 st	9 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Bett ^e marched to PATRICIA Camp. Arrived at above. Day spent in C ^o Organisation, C ^o Guides, & proceeded to RIDGEWOOD trenches.	
RIDGEWOOD	" 22 nd	7.15 - 2.15	Bett ^e proceeded to RIDGEWOOD Support trenches & took over for 46 A.T.F. Relief completed.	M. 5 a 8.3
"	" 23 rd	9 a.m. 5.30 p.m.	Bett ^e practiced trench routine & relieving in old trenches near hutments. Working Party of 200 provided for T.F.E.s daily throughout month.	
"	" 24 th	9 a.m.	C ^o Organisation Specialist Training.	
"	" 25 th	4 a.m.	C.O. ^{do} (Lt Col. R.E. Key) went on leave. Major E.T. COOPER took over command.	
"	" 26 th	9 a.m.	Preliminary Muster, etc. 1 Officer & 2 O.R. went on leave.	

WAR DIARY

Sheet 5.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

(32nd (S) Bⁿ Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGE WOOD HUTS.	1916. Oct 27	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	A & B. Co Battled at REMINGHELST. Co D & H. Q. Co — do —	EWL
Trenches	" 28	2.15 p.m.	Batt = relieved 10 th Queens in trenches. No losses suffered relieving. Enemy's attitude quite. Trenches waterlogged.	EWL M. 10 a 7.7.
"	" 29	9 a.m. - 5.45 p.m.	Heavy Rain. All available men working on front line. Div ^l Commander & Brigadier inspected line. Raid by 49 th INF. Brigade at 5.45 p.m. on sector on our right.	EWL
"	" 30		Repair of Trenches etc. continued. Brigadier inspected trenches.	EWL
"	" 31		— do —	EWL
			Maximum Strength during Month. Officers 28 Other Ranks 977	
			Minimum " " " Officers 15 Other Ranks 493	
			Present " " " Officers 25 Other Ranks 971	

[Signature]

7/14
EWL

Major
Temply Comm^d 32nd Bⁿ
Royal Fusiliers.



WAR DIARY

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SHEET 1

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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32nd (S) Bn ROYAL FUSILIERS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT	1/11/16	3pm	Major W. C. CLARK rejoined from 10 th "Queen" and took over command. Conference of b.o's & adjutants at 124 Buzian Hdqrs. Cocoa Bar opened. 4 th Australian artillery "shoots" at 5.45pm, 6.27pm, 7.1pm, 7.42pm & 8.15pm.	Bn. H. G. N1062.9
- " -	2/11/16	10.30am 4pm 11.45am	Lt. Shortman proceeds to BASE to relieve Capt. SOLBIE, 11 th R. W. Kent. G.O.C, 41 st DIVISION visited the trenches. Ablution shed made from a dug out. Enemy shelled NEW RESERVE TRENCH and artillery retaliated opposite N12 & 7.7. Patrol went out from N12 & S2.1 - N18 & 2.8. Ret'd 2.15 am.	
- " -	3/11/16	8.45pm	Relieved by 10 th Bn "Queen". Relief complete 12.30 am 4-11-16.	
LA CLYTTE	4/11/16		H. R. H. The Duke of Cornwall visited 41 st Divisional area at RENINGHELST. Usual Working Parties supplied.	N 7 Central
- " -	5/11/16	10am	Baths at LA CLYTTE from 9am to 4.15pm. Usual Working Parties. Conference of b.o's at 124 Inf. Bge. Hdqrs.	
- " -	6/11/16		Battion fitted with Small Bore Respirators. Usual Working Parties.	

WAR DIARY

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SHEET 2

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn ROYAL FUSILIERS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTTE	7/11/16		C. O. returned from leave. Evening Working Parties cancelled owing to bad weather. Inspection by 2 nd Army commander cancelled.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	8/11/16	10 am	Conference at B. H. & Mess of Officers. Usual Working Parties.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	9/11/16	2 pm	Relieved 10 th Bn. "Lucas" in Night Sub. Sector commencing at 2 pm. Relief complete 5.15 pm	<i>[Signature]</i>
VIERSTRAAT	10/11/16		Day & Night Working Parties supplied for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	11/11/16		Day & Night Working Parties supplied for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	12/11/16		Inter-company relief. Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	13/11/16		Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- 11 -	14/11/16		Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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SHEET 3

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32nd (S) Bn ROYAL FUSILIERS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRANT.	15/11/16		Relieved by 10 th Bn: "Queens" commencing at 2 pm. Relief complete 3.35 pm.	
RIDGEWOOD.	16/11/16		Usual Working Parties supplied.	N 5 Central.
- " -	17/11/16		3 Officers & 80 O. Ranks to Brigade Bombing School for training for raid. Usual Working Parties supplied.	
- " -	18/11/16		Usual Working Parties supplied.	
- " -	19/11/16		Usual Working Parties supplied.	
- " -	20/11/16		Usual Working Parties supplied.	
- " -	21/11/16		Summary Raid carried out by 39 th Int. Bge: at SPANBROEK MOLEN. Usual Working Parties supplied. Relieved 10 th Bn: "Queens" at Right Bn: H. Q. commencing at 4.30 pm. Relief complete 5.15 pm.	

WAR DIARY

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SHEET 4

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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32nd (S) Bn ROYAL FUSILIERS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT.	22/11/16	10 am	F.G.C.M. at Bge: H. O. on Pt. Salomon, Tula & Israel. ^{MURRUMBIDGEE CAMP} Can dismissed. Usual Working Parties for front line work. Enemy Artillery exceptionally quiet	<i>[Signature]</i>
- - -	23/11/16		Major E.T. Cooper proceeded to Bge: Bombing School as o/c Raid. Raid fixed for 25th inst: cancelled. Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- " -	24/11/16		Inter-company relief at 2 pm. Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- " -	25/11/16	5.30 pm	Lecture on Reading Aero. plane photographs at Bge: Hdqrs. Usual Working Parties for front line work	<i>[Signature]</i>
- - -	26/11/16		Usual Working Parties for front line work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
- " -	27/11/16	2 pm	Relieved by 10th Bn. "Queens". Relief complete 3.45 pm.	<i>[Signature]</i>

WAR DIARY

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SHEET 5

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTTE	28/11/16	9.30 am 2.0 pm 5.0 pm	Inspection of clothing by Quartermaster. C.O.'s Inspection by companies. Conference of Officers at Bn H.Q. No Working Parties supplied by Divisional Commanders' orders.	
- " -	29/11/16		Baths at LA CLYTTE allotted from 9 am - 4.15 pm. Usual Working Parties supplied.	
- " -	30/11/16		Usual Working Parties supplied.	

Maximum Strength during month
Minimum " " "
Present " "

Officers.	Men.
26	975
24	966
26	966

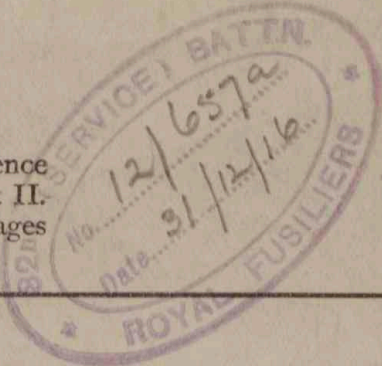
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32nd Col R Fusiliers

WAR DIARY

Sheet I.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn Royal Fusiliers.

Vol 8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Vierstraat	1916 Dec 1 st	2 pm	Battalion relieved 10 th Queen's R.W.S. Regt in Trenches. Usual Working Parties.	Relief completed by 3-50 pm. Bn J.H.Q. N. 10.6.2.9
"	2 nd		RAID carried out on enemy trenches by the Battalion. (See attached Report)	
"	3 rd		Enemy artillery quiet throughout the day. Our artillery was active during the day. Usual working Parties.	
"	4 th		Inter Coy Relief. Our Artillery active during the morning. G.O.C 12 th Infy Bde. visited our front line at 10 am.	
"	5 th		Lt Col R. E. Key, Commandg, proceeded to take over command of 12 th Inf Bde during absence of Brig. Genl W. F. Clemson on leave. Major W. E. CLARK took over command of Batt. Enemy artillery more active. B. H. Q. Shelled.	
"	6 th		VIERSTRAAT Shelled by enemy with H.E. our artillery shelled enemy T.M.B positions.	
RIDGEWOOD	7 th		Battalion relieved by 10 th Bn Queen's R.W.S. Regt + proceeded to RIDGEWOOD. Relief completed by 6/30 pm.	Bn J.H.Q. N. 5a 7 1/2

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet II.
32nd Bⁿ Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGEWOOD	19 th 8 th Dec.		Uneventful day.	B ⁿ J. Q. R. N. 5 ^a 7 ¹ / ₂ 2.
"	9 th Dec.		Enemy sent over some TEAR Gas Shells on RIDGEWOOD. ENEMY aircraft active during the morning. Battalion bathed at REIRINGHELSST.	Richards
"	10 th		41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out a Shoot at 2 pm on enemy's chief lines of communication to cause casualties on enemy transport.	Richards
"	11 th		12 th Inf Bde T.M.B. bombarded enemy's line in front of HOLLANDSCHESKUDR SALIENT at 2 pm.	Richards
"	12 th		RIDGEWOOD shelled by enemy with H.E. + Shrapnel during the morning from 10am - 11 am.	Richards
VIERSTRAAT	13 th		Battalion proceeded to Front Line to relieve 10 th B ⁿ Queen's R.W.S. Regt. Relief completed at 6/30 pm.	Richards P. J. R. N. 10 6 2.9
"	14 th		Enemy artillery active during the morning. VIERSTRAAT shelled in morning. 41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out Shoots on enemy line at 1 & 6 pm. Enemy about 100 strong raided the 26 th R. F. on our left at 9 pm. Our Artillery immediately opened fire & the enemy were driven out. Our Lewis Gun fire was very effective. Our Casualties - 1 Sick & Wounded 4 Wounded. (See Copy Report attached) Richards	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet III,

32nd Bn Royal Inniskilling.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT	1916 Dec 15 th		Enemy Artillery fairly active. VIERSTRAAT shelled during the morning with H.E + Shrapnel. Suspected Raid by Enemy in evening.	B.S.R. M. 1062.9 Edwards
"	16 th		41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out shoots on MARTEIN'S FARM at 1 pm + 3 pm. Draft of 75 o.r. arrived from Base + accommodated in transport lines. Capt W.V. ASTON rejoined for duty from Base. Our Artillery active during Aft. Enemy's T.M.s active during	0846.0 Edwards
"	17 th		41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out shoot at 8 pm on road from 0.2d 5.0 to 0.8d 9.5.	Edwards
"	18 th		Our Artillery slightly active. VIERSTRAAT shelled by Enemy during morning + afternoon by H.E.	Edwards
"	19 th		Enemy aircraft slightly active.	Edwards
LA CLYTTE	20 th		Battalion relieved by 10 th Queen's R.W.S Regt at 3/45 pm + proceeded to Rest Billets at LA CLYTTE. Enemy places several T.M.s + Whizz Bangs on front + support lines during the morning, doing no damage.	N. 7 Central Edwards
"	21 st		Battalion bathed at LA CLYTTE Baths. Rest 66 or. of recent drafts left POPPERINAHE at 9 am for MUSKETRY TRAINING at II nd Army School of Musketry at TILQUES. Heavy rain during the day + high wind. Rest Concert at Y.M.C.A. Hut at LA CLYTTE by in evening.	Edwards

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet IV
32: Royal Fusiliers.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTT	1916 22 nd Dec		Unsuccessful day.	N.7 Central.
"	23 rd		Conference between ^{officers} G.O.C. & M.Ss as to Christmas arrangements.	Orders
"	24 th		Church Parade. Divine Commander presents Military Medal ribbons to Sgt RICHARDSON, Lance G. PACKER, Pte SAMUELS, L/Cpl AMOS, 11-45 Gas Helmet Drill. During the aft was spent in decoration of Huts.	Orders
"	25 th		Church Parade in morning. Christmas dinner was served under C.O. arrangements. Messages received from Commander in Chief, Army Corps, Divine & Brigade Commanders. The day proved to be most successful.	Orders
"	26 th		Lt HILL-LOWE & Sgt WILSON of 8 th Cavalry Corps arrived on attachment for instructional work.	Orders
VIERSTRAAT	27 th		Battalion proceeded to line in relief of 10 th Queen's Rts. Surrey Regt, Relief completed at 5/30pm.	Orders N.10 6.2.9
"	28 th		Our Millerly ^{aircraft} active. Patrol consisting of 2 Officers + 2 O.R. left N.12. d 1.1 1/2 at 11pm to examine enemy wire in front of our Sector, & reported front line quiet & no patrols encountered.	Orders
"	29 th		Major W. C. CLARK left for 41 st Div. TRAINING CAMP at STEENVOORDE as COMMANDANT and Capt W. Y. ASTON took over Command of Bde. MAJOR LOCKHART of 2 nd 10 LIVERPOOL REGT arrived on attachment for instruction.	Orders
"	30 th		Lt Col R. E. KEY proceeded to PARIS on leave + Capt W. Y. ASTON took over Command of Bde. 1.45pm 12x th Inf Bde T.M. B's bombarded enemy lines + enemy retaliated, on B.S.T.Q. being shelled with 4.2 cm. No damage done to B.S.T.Q. Sentry at VIERSTRAAT killed by a shell during the morning.	Orders
"	31 st		Enemy artillery active during the morning, POPP, LANE being considerably damaged.	Orders

Mun Shugle during MONTH 30, 1006
 " " " 25, 950
 " " " 30, 1006

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

Capt Staff for Capt
 Commanding 32nd Bn. R. Fus.

WAR DIARY

Sheet I

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bⁿ Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Vierstraat	1916 Dec. 1 st	2 pm	Battalion relieved 10 th Queen's R.W.S. Regt in Trenches. Usual Working Parties. Relief completed by 3-50 pm.	B ⁿ J.H.R. N. 10-6-2-9
"	2 nd		RAID carried out on enemy trenches by the Battalion. (See attached Report)	
"	3 rd		Enemy artillery quiet throughout the day. Our artillery was active during the day. Usual Working Parties.	
"	4 th		Late Coy Relief. our Artillery, active during the morning. G.O.C 162 nd Infy Bde visited our front line at 10 am.	
"	5 th		Lt Col R S Key, Commandy, proceeded to take over command of 172 nd Inf Bde during absence of Brig ^{ad} Genl W. F. Clemson on leave. Major W. C. Clark took over command of Bde. Enemy artillery more active. B. H.R. Shelled.	
"	6 th		VIERSTRAAT Shelled by enemy with HE. our artillery shelled enemy T.M.B. positions.	
RIDGEWOOD	7 th		Battalion relieved by 10 th B ⁿ Queen's R.W.S. Regt + proceeded to RIDGEWOOD. Relief completed by 6/30 pm.	B ⁿ J.H.R. N. 5a 7 1/2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 4110.

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet II.

32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGEWOOD	1916 8 th Dec.		Uneventful day.	B: HQ N. 5: 7 1/2 a 2.
"	9 th Dec.		Enemy sent over some " frag TEAR Gas Shells" on RIDGEWOOD. ENEMY aircraft active during the morning. Battalion bathed at REIRINGHEIST.	
"	10 th		41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out a Shoot at 2 pm on enemy's chief lines of communication to cause casualties on enemy transport.	
"	11 th		12 th Inf Bde T.M.B. bombarded enemy line in front of HOLLANDSCHEIDT SILLIENT at 2 pm.	
"	12 th		RIDGEWOOD shelled by enemy with HE + Shrapnel during the morning from 10am - 11 am.	
VIERSTRAT	13 th		Battalion proceeded to front line to relieve 10 th Bn (Queen's R. W. S. Regt). Relief completed at 6/30 pm.	
"	14 th		Enemy artillery active during the morning. VIERSTRAT shelled in morning. 41 st Div ^l Artillery carried out shoot on enemy line at 1 + 6 pm. Enemy about 100 strong raided the 26 th R. F. on our left at 9 pm. Our Artillery immediately opened fire + the enemy were driven out. Our Lewis Gun fire was very effective. Our Casualties - 1 Dead + Wounded + 4 Wounded. (See Copy Report attached)	B: HQ N. 10 6 2.9

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Sheet III,

32^d Bn Royal Tankies.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRANT	1916 Dec 15 th		Enemy Artillery fairly active. VIERSTRANT shelled during the morning with H.E + Shrapnel. Suspected Raid by Enemy in evening.	Pr. 7502
"	" 16 th		41 st Div ^l Miller carried out Shoots on MARTEUR'S FARM at 1 pm + 3 pm. Draft of 75 or driven from Base + accommodated in Transport Lines. Capt. W. V. rejoined for duty from Base. Our Artillery active during Aft. Enemy's T.M.s active during aft.	0846.0
"	" 17 th		41 st Div ^l Miller, carried out Shoot at 8 pm on road from 0.2d 50 to 0.8d 95.	
"	" 18 th		Our Artillery slightly active. VIERSTRANT shelled by Enemy during morning + afternoon by H.E.	
"	" 19 th		Enemy aircraft slightly active.	
LACLYTTE	" 20 th		Battalion relieved by 10 th Queen's R W.S Regt at 3/45 pm + proceeded to Billets at LACLYTTE. Enemy placed several T.M.s + WHIZZ Bangs on Front + Support N. 7 Centre Lines during the morning, doing no damage.	
"	" 21 st		Battalion Bathed at LACLYTTE Bath at 9 am for MUSKETRY TRAINING at IInd Army School of Musketry at TILQUES. Heavy rain during the day + night. 66 or. of recent drafts left POPPERINGHE at Y.M. CA. Hut at LACLYTTE in evening.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet IV
32nd Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTTE	1916 22 nd Dec		Unsuccessful day.	N. 7 Central
"	23 rd		Conference between 90 th ^{officers} & CO M.S. as to Christmas arrangements.	
"	24 th		Church Parade. De ^{Unit} Commander presents Military Medal ribbons to Sergt RICHARDSON, Lance C PACKER, Pte SAMUELS, L/Cpl ADIOS, 11-45 hrs. Helmut Diele. Since The aft. was spent in decoration of Huts.	
"	25 th		Church Parade in morning. Christmas dinner was served under Coy arrangements. ^{Message} received from Commander in Chief, Army Corps, De ^{Unit} & Brigade Commanders. The The day proved to be most successful.	
"	26 th		Lt HILL-LOWE & Sgt WIGGINS of 8 th Cavalry Corps arrived on attachment for instructional work.	
VIERSTRAAT	27 th		Battalion proceeded to line in relief of 15 th Queen's Rts. Surrey Regt. Relief completed at 5:30pm ^{aircraft}	P. 21. R N. 106. 2.9
"	28 th		Our military party acted. Patrol consisting of 2 officers + 2 g.r. left at 11pm to examine enemy line in front of our sector. Reports sent late night & 11pm encounter.	
"	29 th		Major W. C. CLARK ^{later} proceeded to 41 st DIV. TRAINING CAMP at STEELBOORD as COMMANDANT of the MAJOR LOCKHART of 2/10 th LIVERPOOL REGT arrived on attached for instruction.	
"	30 th		Lt Col R. E. KEY proceeded to PARIS on leave & Capt W. V. ASTON took over command of Bde. 1:45pm 12 th Inf Bde T.M.B. bombarded our enemy lines & enemy retaliated on B. S. R. being shelled with 4.2 cm. No damage done to B. S. R. Sentries at VIERSTRAAT killed by a shell during the morning.	
"	31 st		Enemy artillery active during the morning, POPPY LAKE being considerably damaged.	

Maximum strength during month
Minimum " "
PRESENT " "

off O.R.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

Capt Staff for Capt
Command 32nd R.F.

REPORT OF LT. COL. R. E. KEY ON THE RAID
CARRIED OUT ON NIGHT 2/3rd DECEMBER 1916 .

NARRATIVE. At 10 pm the raiding party, consisting of 4 Officers and about 90 N.C.Os and men, arrived in busses at B.H.Q. They had previously been fully equipped at the Bombing School and no time was lost in marching them down to the front line which was reached about 11.10 pm. Hot soup being served in POPPY LANE en route. As O.C. Operations, I established my Headquarters in a dugout about 50 yards to the right of POPPY LANE where I was in communication with the Brigade H.Q. and Battn H.Q. and arrangements were made to establish communication with O.C. Raid as soon as his party went over.

10 pm
11.10 pm
11.50 pm
12.5 am
12.35 am
12.35 am
12.41 am
12.53 am
12.55 am

At 11.50 pm the raiders began to file out into NO MANS LAND, and were able to form up within 40 yards of the enemy's wire without molestation. A few very lights were fired from the German trenches, but it was remarkable how well the party escaped observation, and the absence of M.G. fire was especially noticeable.

Within a half minute of schedule time, the Batteries opened fire, and at 12.35 am (Zero hour) the raiding party's signal reel, which had been placed in my dugout and was connected to the telephone of O.C. Raid began to unwind and so indicate that the party was moving forward under the shrapnel barrage. I should here like to say that all Officers expressed great admiration for the admirable shooting of the Artillery, and it was undoubtedly due to their splendid co-operation so few casualties occurred.

At 12.35 am the first message was received from the O.C. Raid to the effect that he was moving forward and this had already been surmised by the unwinding of the signal drum.

At 12.41 am two further messages came through to the effect that the enemy's trenches had been successfully entered and that several prisoners had been taken. I should like to emphasize the value of the forward line which kept me in touch with the raiders. The line was easily maintained and no difficulty was experienced in picking up messages even during the artillery bombardment.

At 12.53 am the rockets which were the prearranged signal for return were fired and at 12.55 am the raiders commenced to leave the enemy's trenches. O.C. Raid (Major Cooper) 2nd Lt. TROTTER, and several slightly wounded men reported at my Headquarters shortly afterwards, the remainder returning direct to B.H.Q. with the prisoners and trophies they had taken.

2nd Lt. TROTTER, a young Officer whom I wish to bring to your notice, Sir, reported to me that he believed one of our men, Pte CARRUTHERS, was lying wounded in the German trenches and he volunteered to go back to search if he could find a few volunteers to accompany him. This I agreed to, and 2nd Lt, TROTTER and two men set out to look for the wounded man. Major COOPER also volunteered for this work, but I would not allow him to go, as I thought one Officer sufficient and did not care to risk more than seemed more than was absolutely necessary.

Sheet 2.

2nd. Lt. W.P.
TROTTER.

2/Lt. TROTTER reached the enemy's parapet ~~he~~ but hearing a good deal of shouting and movement in the front line, he decided to return and take out a larger party. I did not agree to this, but it occurred to me, and to the O.C. Raid also mentions it in his report, that after a successful raid a second party of about 30 strong might do considerable damage and take further prisoners when the enemy comes back again to occupy his line.

RETALIATION.

The enemy's retaliation was feeble. A few trench mortars of various sizes in the vicinity of POPPY LANE and a sprinkling of whizz-bangs seemed to have been the utmost of his efforts, and less than an hour after the raid I walked back along POPPY LANE without hearing anything except an occasional rifle shot from the ~~other~~ opposite trenches.

TRENCHES.

The enemy's line appears to be dry and on the right in good, with hurdle revetment. On the left 2/Lt. TROTTER reports that it is not so good, and his impression is that the trenches are shallow and out of repair. L/Cpl COOPER reports that there is no trench round the crater, no signs of an emplacement there, and no wire round or in it. The trench runs ~~back~~ behind. Pte SEARS smashed a hosepipe and Lt. DAVIS cut what appeared to be two armoured cables which ran along the trench. There is a diversity of opinion about the wire, but the majority agree that it was little damaged and difficult to negotiate.

SAPPERS.

The sappers and tunnellers carried out this work very thoroughly and about 1.15 am the explosion was heard which it is believed destroyed the saphead. Of this I may be able to get further evidence when the Tunnellers are interviewed.

In conclusion I beg to mention that Major COOPER carried out his duties as O.C. Raid entirely to my satisfaction and all the Officers and several men whose names I will submit later seemed to have behaved bravely and helped to make the raid a success. I believe our casualties to be 2 seriously and 5 slightly wounded, possibly one missing, but I have not yet had an opportunity of having the roll called owing to the men having made their way home.

Major COOPER thinks that about 12 Germans were accounted for, besides the three prisoners, and a few trophies also taken.

Only one man was wounded by retaliation being hit through the calf of the leg by a machine gun bullet.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Sd) R. E. KEY, Lt. Col.

6 am 3/12/16.

REPORT ON RAID 2/3rd Dec, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the Raiding Party under my command left our trenches at 11.50 pm and lay in NO MANS LAND as close to the shrapnel barrage as possible until 12.30 am when the line advanced in the enemy's front trenches at the two points planned, viz:-

N.18b. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.8 $\frac{1}{2}$ and N.22d.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.0 $\frac{3}{4}$.

My party withdrew at 12.50 am. We succeeded in capturing three prisoners, blew up two dugouts known to contain Huns, who resisted and would not surrender, and, it is believed a third, but this is not absolutely confirmed. An enemy's mineshaft or sap was discovered about 20 yards down a communication trench, leading from the centre of their front line, but owing to the darkness and confusion it is impossible to place this more definitely, an exploding charge was placed therein and subsequently exploded.

A sniper's post was also demolished leading out of the sap at "C".

No Machine Guns or emplacements would be discovered. The M.Gs were either withdrawn in the early stages of the bombardment or were in the bombed dugouts.

An enemy's bombing attack on our left flank was repulsed with several casualties, and it is estimated that at least 12 Germans were killed by my party.

OUR ARTILLERY.

The Artillery arrangements throughout, were extremely satisfactory although they apparently opened fire two or three minutes early.

The field artillery did not appear to do much material damage to the front and partially disused trenches in the salient, and it was impossible to verify the damage done by the heavy artillery, but from the bursting of the shells the firing was very accurate and probably accounted for the entire absence of M.G. fire.

ENEMY'S WIRE.

The wire was very slightly affected by the bombardment, but entrance to the trenches was made at the places previously selected.

ENEMY'S ARTILLERY.

The enemy's retaliation was extraordinarily weak, and it is suggested that he may have moved some of his batteries to YPRES quite recently. H.E.

A very ineffectual/shrapnel barrage was attempted across NO MANS LAND but these burst too high to do any considerable damage, and the heavy T.Ms which burst in the customary positions at the head of POPPY LANE did not affect the Raiding Party.

ENEMY'S WIRE.

The enemy's wire was very much thicker and stronger than had been anticipated, in some places it was only three or four coils thick, but in others it ran to a depth of over 30 yards, but was not very high, consisting chiefly of barbed concertina wire.

ENEMY'S TRENCHES.

The Front Line trench was more shallow and narrow than our own, but was in approximately the same condition. Attempts at revetment had been made with hurdles, and the trenches throughout were floored with duckboards.

(2)

CASUALTIES.

Our casualties are believed to have been very slight. One man is reported Missing, but this cannot be definitely confirmed at present. It is estimated that about 6 men were slightly wounded and one severely. It is believed that there no men killed in the Raiding Party.

ENEMY'S CASUALTIES.

Approximately 12 Huns, who were in the two dugouts blown up, were killed (?)

SUGGESTIONS.

The following points are suggested by experience gained during the raid.

- (1) That a raiding party, which is not intended to penetrate to the Support system, should not number more than 50 all ranks.
- (2) That the first raid should be followed shortly afterwards by a second bombing attack, and an effort made to take prisoners.
- (3) Very experienced and reliable stretcher bearers must be selected for enterprises of this nature.
- (4) That the time to be spent in the enemy's trenches might be extended at the descretion of the Raid Commander, if any good results could be obtained.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Sd) E. T. COOPER,
Major, O.C. RAID.

REPORT ON RAID 2/3rd DECEMBER 1916 .

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the whole of the Left Party encountered thick coils of concertina wire, in which there were only two gaps, one a small gap on the left, and one large gap on the right. One half of my party entered by the left gap and one half by the right.

Almost as soon as they entered the trench a dugout was found, and a "p" bomb was thrown in. One prisoner emerged and shouted "Boys, boys", but did not like being taken over the parapet at all.

The Left Flanking Party bombed to "C" meeting with resistance between "B" and "C". A bombing fight ensued in which one of our men was wounded. About 20 bombs were thrown by our men and the enemy retreated. A sniper on the left was also troublesome.

We partially demolished a sniper's post.

The trench itself was very narrow and shallow, having duckboards, but only being revetted at certain parts.

After a quarter-of-an-hour the left party left the trench, finding difficulty in getting through the wire again.

It is feared that the man wounded in the bombing fight may have been left.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd) W. P. TROTTER,
2nd Lt. O. i/c Left
Party.

3/12/16.

Copy of REPORT by O.C. =D" Coy: on enemy operation on evening of
December 14th 1916.

To:- Adjutant,
KNUCKLE.

REPORT ON NIGHTS OPERATIONS.

At about ~~X~~ 9 o'clock this evening the enemy suddenly opened a very heavy fire with trench mortars, whizz-bangs, machine guns and rifles: he appeared to be putting a box barrage on us as most of the stuff fell behind the trench between the F.L.T and the Support Line. I passed the word to "stand to" and as the fire seemed to increase in intensity I gave the S.O.S. call to the gunners for my left sector, and afterwards to those covering my right. The guns answered very quickly with their first 2 or 3 shells, but seemed to take some time after that to get into their stride, firing at a very slow rate for five minutes or so (This is accounted for by the C.O. ordering slow artillery fire on the enemy frontline before the Coy: Commander called for the SOS)

After that, however, they left nothing to be desired either on the score of quickness, accuracy of aim and rapidity of fire.

Shortly after the SOS call one of my men from the extreme left came and reported to me that at about 9.15 p.m. men from DEW came running down from their line to ours, but returned a little later.

The enemies fire slackened at about 10 p.m. and I sent the O.K. to the Gunners at about 10.5 p.m.

In the middle of the bombardment I observed the enemy send up 3 rockets, which burst into two lights, yellow and green, fanwise.

One of my Corporals states that at the commencement of the bombardment he heard a shunters horn blown in the enemies trenches, similar to that which I reported last night.

(Sgd) J. BRUCE JAMESON 2nd. Lieut:

O.C. =D" Coy:

Dec: 15th 1916. 5 a.m.

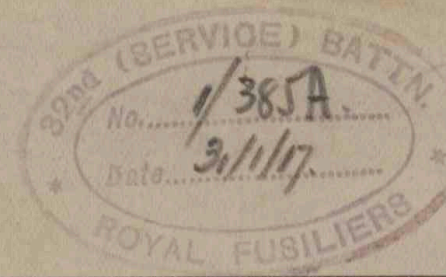
The damage to our trenches was not severe & the total casualties appear to be 5 O.R. The enemy did not enter ~~xxx~~ our trenches at any point.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118.

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Vol 9

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT	1/1/17	3pm 5.45pm	B. H. Q. shelled at 10am to 11.15am by H.E. & 4.2's. little damage. Brigadier General's conference of Battalion Commanders. 16 th Div? on night sent up S.O.S. rocket. Artillery activity above normal on both sides.	N104.2.9
RIDGE WOOD	2/1/17		Battn: relieved by 10 th Bn. "Queen" RWS Regt. and proceeded to RIDGE WOOD. Artillery activity on both sides.	N5a 7.3.
- " -	3/1/17		Enemy shelled S.E. corner of RIDGE WOOD with H.E. & Shrapnel from 9.30 to 11 am. Our artillery retaliated	
- " -	4/1/17		Enemy shelled RIDGE WOOD with H.E. & Shrapnel at frequent intervals during the day. Our artillery retaliated. Lieut. Col: R.E. KEY returned from leave and took over Command.	
- " -	5/1/17		Considerable aircraft activity on both sides, together with artillery exchanges. A shell penetrated a dug out, slightly wounding 2 nd Lt. E.G.S.E. TREMAYNE. Particular attention was paid to a German battalion working on NEW TRENCH & 3 men were badly hit. Visibility high. Draft of 66 O.R. returned from MUSKETRY course at TILQUES.	N1542.5

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGE WOOD	6/1/17.		Our French Mortars were very active, & carried out a short on the enemy's wire at 2.45 pm, supported by artillery. Enemy reply feeble. Baths at LA CLYTTE allotted to Unit all day. Heavy rain in the evening.	
- 11 -	7/1/17.		During the morning the enemy sent over 600 shells - 4.2 & 5.9 - having apparently located a battery behind RIDGE WOOD. Most of the shells fell in DICKEBUSH LAKE & no damage was inflicted. Enemy aircraft active & was sniped by our machine guns & A.A. gun & driven off.	
RIDGE WOOD VIERSTRAAT.	8/1/17.	9am	Enemy shelled RIDGE WOOD - 3 casualties viz: Sgt. LEAHY & Cpl. STANYER - KILLED L/Sgt. BURLEY - WOUNDED. Battn. relieved 10 th Bn. "Queen" in Right Sub-sector. Relief complete 5 pm. B.H.Q. had been evacuated during 10 th "Queen" hour, owing to intense enemy fire. New B.H.Q. (temporary) at N11a 5.8.	N11a 5.8
- 11 -	9/1/17	7pm	X corps Heavy Artillery bombarded enemy lines. No retaliation. Quiet day.	
- 11 -	10/1/17		Quiet day. Work was commenced on preparing Battle Hdqrs. for occupation.	N11c.3.8.

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT.	11/1/17.		Enemy sent a few H.E. on VIERSTRAAT and continued to Rt. B.H.Q. 16 th Division (on right) raided enemy trenches.	BR
- 11 -	12/1/17.		Generally quiet. A few H.E. on Rt. B.H.Q. about 5pm.	BR
- 11 -	13/1/17.	3pm	Quiet day. Visibility low. G.O.C and Battal. commanders conference at Bde. Hdqrs.	BR
VIERSTRAAT LA CLYTTE	14/1/17.		Generally quiet. Low visibility. Battal. relieved by 10 th Br. "Queens". Relief complete by 3pm	BR
- 11 -	15/1/17	5pm	Baths allotted to Unit all day. b.o. inspected battalion by companies. b.o.'s lecture to all officers	BR
- 11 -	16/1/17.		Quiet day.	BR
- 11 -	17/1/17		Quiet day	BR
- 11 -	18/1/17.		Lt. Williamson, R.A.M.C. left for duty with 139 F.A. Capt. GRIEVESON, R.A.M.C. took up duty as M.O.	BR

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTTE	19/1/17		Major Clark rejoined from 9 th Bn. Yorks. 6 new officers joined from Base. A.M.S. (Col. RATTRAY) 41 st Division, inspected battalion and reported men in good average condition. Concert by "The Trumps" at Yucca Hill, La Clytte.	
LA CLYTTE VIERSTRAAT.	20/1/17		Batt. relieved 10 th Bn. "Queens" R.M.S. in Rt. Sub. sector. Relief complete 3.20pm. Bn. H. Q. moved to old Battle Hdqrs. at N.H.C. 3.8.	
- " -	21/1/17		Enemy shelled Bn. H. Q. with 10.5 shrapnel. No damage done. Low visibility.	
- " -	22/1/17		Some aircraft activity on both sides, but otherwise a very quiet day. Work of strengthening New Batt. H.Q. continued.	
- " -	23/1/17		Increased aerial activity, owing to high visibility. Weather became intensely cold. -25° at night.	
- " -	24/1/17		Continued aerial activity. Good visibility. Artillery quiet on both sides.	
- " -	25/1/17		Enemy aircraft very active and were engaged by our machines and driven off. Good visibility. Lt. Col. R. E. Key handed over his command to Major M.C. Clark and proceeded to England.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT RIDGE WOOD	26/1/17		Aircraft on both sides very active. Enemy machines crossed our lines but were driven off by our A.A. guns and machines. Enemy artillery quiet. Cold weather continues. Battu: relieved by 10 th Bn. Queens' R.W.S. Relief complete 4.30 pm. Casualties during the loss - NIL.	
- " -	27/1/17		Our artillery bombarded enemy trenches North of the canal for 1½ hours. Enemy's artillery quiet. Kaiser's birthday. Weather intensely cold. 10° at night.	
- " -	28/1/17		Baths at RENINGHELST allotted to Unit, but owing to cold M.O. considered inadvisable for the men to bathe. Artillery on both sides quiet.	
- " -	29/1/17		Considerable aircraft activity on both sides owing to good visibility. Artillery quiet.	
- " -	30/1/17		Quiet day	
- " -	31/1/17		Slight enemy artillery activity. Our trench Mortars carried out a shoot on enemy trenches, supported by artillery at 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm. Low visibility.	

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information			Remarks and references to Appendices
				<u>Officers</u>	<u>O. RANITS</u>	
			PRESENT STRENGTH	36	993.	
			MINIMUM STRENGTH DURING MONTH	28	993	
			MAXIMUM " " " "	36	1001.	
<p><i>J. C. Cawk.</i> Major commanding, 3rd (S) Bn. Royal Fusiliers.</p>						

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. BATTN

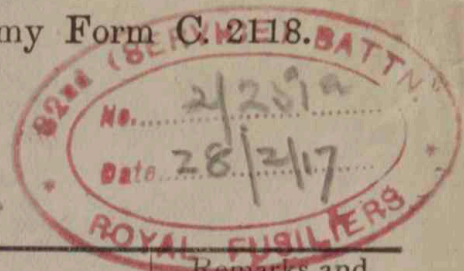
Vol. 10

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet I

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Battⁿ Royal Fusiliers.



Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Line VIERSTRAAT	1917 1 st Feb		The Battalion relieved 10 th B ⁿ "Queen" Royal West Surrey Regt. in the line at VIERSTRAAT. Relief completed at 12 noon. During the relief enemy aeroplanes crossed our line but were driven back by our anti-aircraft guns. Enemy artillery quiet.	N 10 b-3.4
"	"	2 nd	Weather cold + frosty. Enemy artillery active, several H.E. shells bursting over RIDGEWOOD. Our trench mortars showed considerable activity.	"
"	"	3 rd	Weather cold + frosty. Enemy artillery quiet during the morning, enemy trench mortars retaliated in the afternoon for our T.M. shoot the previous day. Enemy aircraft also active.	"
"	"	4 th	Weather cold + frosty. Enemy artillery active, considerable number of shells sent over RIDGEWOOD. A little activity by enemy aircraft, efficiently dealt with by our aircraft guns.	"
LA CLYTTE	"	5 th	Weather cold + frosty. The Battalion was relieved by 10 th B ⁿ "Queen" R.W. Surrey Regt. in the line + proceeded to LA CLYTTE as Brigade Reserve. Relief completed by 4 pm.	N.Y. a 3.6
"	"	6 th	Weather cold + frosty. The medical officer inspected the Battalion. Baths at LA CLYTTE allotted to Batt ⁿ all day. Lecture by C/O to all officers.	"
"	"	7 th	Weather continues cold + frosty. Day occupied by working parties + Coy organization.	"
"	"	8 th	Baths allotted to Battalion. The medical officer lectures to all officers. Weather cold + frosty. Usual working parties provided: preliminary marksmanship training carried out.	"
"	"	9 th	Cold + frost continues. Battalion went on a route march of 6 miles. Coy Lewis gunners practised on range of 124 th Inf Bde during the afternoon.	"
VIERSTRAAT	"	10 th	Weather continues cold + frosty. The Battalion relieved 10 th B ⁿ "Queen" R.W. Surrey Regt. in the line, relief being completed at 3-30 pm.	N 10 b-3.4
"	"	11 th	Cold + frosty. our artillery bombarded GRAND BOIS to which the enemy did not reply. Enemy wire cut by our J.Ms. during the afternoon.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Sheet II

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT.	15 th 7th 12 th		Weather cold + frosty. our artillery showed considerable activity throughout the day, but the enemy's artillery remained quiet + inactive. our T.Ms again cut the enemy's wire opposite in front of office. HOLLANDSCHESHUUR SALIENT.	N. 10 & 3.4
"	13 th		Weather cold but thaw commences. our artillery active at different periods of the day. Enemy artillery does not retaliate. our T.Ms cut enemy wire during the afternoon. A little activity by enemy aircraft.	"
"	14 th		our artillery again active intermittently throughout the day. no retaliation from the enemy. Enemy wire cut by our T.Ms during the afternoon. Aircraft inactive.	"
"	15 th		our artillery active during the afternoon. Enemy plane crossed our lines but was driven back by our anti-aircraft guns. weather cold + frosty.	"
"	16 th		our trench mortars cut enemy wire during the day. A patrol went out at 10 pm to examine result of wire cutting. C.S.M. HILL, one of the patrol, was wounded in part of enemy wire. The enemy called out to him "Come in" in English. The C.S.M. was eventually brought in after two attempts to find discover him, by 2 nd Lt. ER HOME-GARD. This patrol reported that enemy's wire did not appear to be sufficiently cut by the T.Ms.	"
RIDGEWOOD	16 th 10 th		Weather dry. Battalion relieved in the line by the 18 th Bn King Royal Rifle Corps + proceeded to RIDGEWOOD in support. Considerable activity by aircraft by both sides during the day. Casualties 10 or wounded.	N 5a 3.8 ^{1/2}
"	17 th		Weather dull. Conference with Coy Commanders held by C.O. on general organization of Coy. Enemy artillery active during the aft.	"
"	18 th		Court of Enquiry assembled at B.H.Q. at 10 am to enquire into loss of a bicycle. MO. inspected the Bats + lectured the Sketcher Beavers. Usual T.M wire cutting. weather dull.	"
"	19 th		our artillery active throughout the day. Enemy retaliation negligible. our T.Ms wire cutting during the afternoon. weather dull.	"
"	20 th		T.Ms again engaged in cutting enemy's wire in front of HOLLANDSCHESHUUR SALIENT during the day. visibility poor.	"
"	21 st		Usual wire cutting by our trench mortars. weather dull. uneventful day.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Sheet III

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Royal Fusiliers

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
YIERSSTRAAT	1917. 22 nd		Weather dull. Battalion relieved 18 th Bn King's Royal Rifle Corps in the line today. relief completed at 1-30 pm. Our artillery activity restricted on account of relief. 2 nd Lt G. W. CARLSON joined for duty from the Base, having posted to C Coy.	N. 10 & 3. 14
"	23 rd		Weather misty & dull. Our artillery bombarded GRAND BOIS & HOLLANDSCHESHUVR SALIENT at different periods throughout the day in preparation of raid.	"
"	24 th		Weather dull. About noon the raiding party of 10 th Bn "Queen" proceeded from LA CLYTTÉ to their position in the front line, our Battalion having during the morning withdrawn to NEW RESERVE TRENCH leaving garrisons in the line. Our artillery bombarded during the morning & afternoon the enemy's defenses opposite our Brigade sector, the T.M.s Co-operating. See Special Report on Raids attached.	"
"	25 th		Weather dull & overcast. Inter-Coy relief in front line "D" Coy being relieved by "C" Coy. Our artillery quiet throughout the day. Enemy showed no signs of activity.	"
"	26 th		Weather bright & clear with good visibility. At 7-30 am the effect of what seems to be a mine explosion was felt at B.H.Q. It was apparently a mine on the WYTSCHAETE-VIERSSTRAAT ROAD. At night a party went out to examine but could find no trace of it. Our aircraft active during the day.	"
"	27 th		Weather bright in the forenoon becoming misty in the afternoon. Our artillery shelled GRAND BOIS & enemy's front line at 3 periods during the night. 2 nd Lt A.P.C. VIRIAR joined for duty & was posted to D Coy. Capt H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O. rejoined from the Base, having been evacuated to England by aircraft on 15/11/16.	"
LACLYTTE	28 th		Weather clear & fine. At 9-50 am enemy sent up about 30 white light gas from behind his front of GRAND BOIS. Nothing happened as the result of this. The Battalion was relieved by the 10 th "Queen" in the line at 2 pm & proceeded to LACLYTTE in Brigade Reserve.	N. 4 & 3. 6

MAXIMUM STRENGTH during month.	Off 36	Other Ranks 967	Total Casualties during month	K. 4	W. 10.
MINIMUM STRENGTH " "	Off 34	Other Ranks 910		1 Died of Wounds.	
PRESENT " "	Off 38	Other Ranks 942.			

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

28th 11/1917.

Col Commanding
32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers

REPORT OF RAID on HOLLANDSCHESCHUUR SALIENT
By 10th Bn "QUEENS", R.W.S.
24th February, 1917.
=====

At 4.55 pm 24th February 1917 the 10th Bn "Queens" R.W.S. successfully raided the HOLLANDSCHESCHUUR SALIENT as far back as the second line i.e. N.18b.24.53 to N.18b.86.93. Many Germans were killed, and 1 Officer and 54 N.C.Os and other ranks have been captured. The majority of the prisoners belonged to the 133rd I.R. (Saxons). Their Officer was a Prussian. Three of them belonged to the 292 Mining Company. The identifications were normal. A mine shaft sunk from the side of the crater at N.18b.20.80 was successfully blown up and with it some Germans who were concealed in it and refused to come out. The cellars under HOLLANDSCHESCHUUR FARM were found to have been converted into a concrete shell-proof dug-out and after extracting four prisoners from it, it was blown up. Another concrete dugout was blown up on the N.E. side of the SALIENT. The trenches on the N.E. side were found to be ⁱⁿ fairly good condition, but those on the W. side were nearly obliterated. Four heavy machine guns were found firmly fixed to concrete emplacements. One was removed and brought back, the other three could not be unfixed and were therefore blown up.

WAR DIARY

Sheet No I

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) BATTⁿ Royal Fusiliers.

Vol XI

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT LA CLYTTE	1917. MARCH 1 st		Coy organisation + preliminary musketry in the morning. In the afternoon the Batts were allotted to the Battalion.	N.7. Central.
"	2 nd		Unsuccessful day. Weather clear + bright.	
"	3 rd		The Battalion went on a route march in the morning, an hour's halt being given for description of targets + fire control. The Lewis gun officer lectured to officers of "C" + "D" Coy in the afternoon. N. COs attended at Range for firing instruction in Lewis gun.	
"	4 th		Dinner Service in the morning. The C.O. left to attend a Course for commanding officers at WISQUES + Major H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O., took over command. In the afternoon practice was given at 17th B. trench W.P. to those who had not previously thrown a live bomb.	
"	5 th		The G.O.C. 124 th Infantry Brigade inspected the Battalion on the Parade Ground at 9am. Weather cold with snow at intervals throughout the day.	
VIERSTRAAT in the line.	6 th		The Battalion relieved the 10 th Bn "Queens" R. Co. Serrey Regt in the right sub-sector of the line at VIERSTRAAT, the relief being completed at 2. pm. Enemy shelled VIERSTRAAT - HALLEBAST ROAD while the relief was taking place.	P.S.F.Q. N.10 G.29.
"	7 th		Weather frosty with good visibility. Our artillery carried out a shoot commencing at 6.30 am on the enemy's front line - The enemy's retaliation was feeble. About 4 pm enemy sent over several 4.2 shells which fell about 150 yards short of our Pt. H.Q.	
"	8 th		Considerable artillery activity on both sides. In the afternoon our artillery carried out a shoot, silencing 4 enemy trench mortars. About 4 pm enemy's artillery shelled sectors of considerable activity on the right of the VIERSTRAAT - WYTSCHAETE ROAD.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet II.

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIERSTRAAT In the line.	1917. MARCH. 9 th		The C/o/c. 12 th Inf Bde visited our sector of trenches in the morning. Between 9.45-10.30am enemy registered on Bakery on right of VIERSTRAAT - HALLEBAST ROAD with about 30 H.E. shells. This was followed by heavy shelling of the Bakery from 11-15-11.0am. At two or three times during the day enemy planes attempted to cross our lines, but were driven off. Weather cold & frosty.	bss Bn H. Q. N. 10 b. 2. 9.
"	10 th		The C/o returned from his course & assumed command in the afternoon. Artillery inactive on both sides during the day. It was noticed that the enemy fired all his very light gun his support lines. Weather mild with poor visibility.	bss
"	11 th		Artillery quiet on both sides, but there was considerable aircraft activity throughout the day, our aeroplanes engaging frequently with the enemy. Weather, mild. Visibility poor.	bss
"	12 th		Battalion relieved by 10 th Bn "Queens" R. W. Surrey left, relief being completed by 5.20 pm & proceeded to RIDGEWOOD in reserve.	bss
RIDGEWOOD	13 th		G.O.C. Command 41 st Div visited Camp in the morning. C/o. exd held Conference with all officers. Weather bright throughout the day.	bss N. 5 Central.
"	14 th		Quiet & uneventful day. At 10.30 pm the enemy sent over 6 Whizz-bangs which fell on B. H. Q. no damage. Weather dull & cloudy.	bss
"	15 th		Usual working parties. Artillery quiet on both sides.	bss
"	16 th		Weather cold & frosty with good visibility. Little artillery activity on both sides.	bss
"	17 th		Quiet & uneventful day. Artillery quiet on both sides.	bss

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet III
32nd Bn Royal Tank

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGEWOOD VIERSTRAAT (On the line)	17 th MARCH 18 th		Weather fine with good visibility. The Battalion relieved the 10 th Bn the "Queen's" R.W. Surrey Regt in the line, relief being completed at 8.20am. Artillery quiet on both sides.	N.5 Central. N.10 b.29.
"	19 th		Weather fine; good visibility. at 9-45am Enemy sent over several H.E. & Shrapnel between VIERSTRAAT & RIDGEWOOD. Enemy aircraft active during the afternoon. at 4.10pm an enemy machine was engaged by one of our aeroplanes & forced to descend behind his own lines.	
"	20 th		The G.O.C 124 th Infantry Brigade visits the line. Weather - rainy & stormy at intervals.	
"	21 st		In the morning officers from 8 th Bn GLOUCESTERSHIRE Regt visited the Battalion to acquaint themselves with position & prior to taking over from us on the following morning. Snow fell at periods during the day.	
" STEENVOORDE	22 nd		The Battalion was relieved by the 8 th Bn GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGT commencing at 7am & completed at 8.35am, afterwards assembling at the MILIE KRUISE ESTAMINET on the DICKEBUSCH - LA QYTTEROED where 30 motor lorries conveyed us to STEENVOORDE the training area. The journey took about 3 hours. On arrival at STEENVOORDE the Battalion was billeted in the various farmhouses in the vicinity, the Town of STEENVOORDE being situated about 1 1/2 miles from B.H.Q.	K.14 b.4.5.
"	23 rd		The morning was occupied by preliminary drill & physical exercises & in cleaning up for the inspection in the afternoon. at 3pm the Battalion was inspected by Genl Sir H.C.O PLUMER, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., A.D.C. & Comm ^{dr} II nd Army, accompanied by several Staff Officers & the G.O.C 124 th Inf Bde. after the inspection Genl PLUMER took the "MARCH PAST".	
"	24 th		The day was devoted to training, physical drill & preliminary musketry, gas helmet drill. In the evening the C.O. lectured to all officers. Weather - clear & fine day.	
"	25 th		Divine Service in the morning followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion. Football in the afternoon.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet IV

32nd Royal Division.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEENVOORDE	1917 MARCH 26		The Medical Officer inspected the Batoe. The Companies carried out Coy & platoon organization under by arrangements.	all K. 146.4.5
"	27		In the morning the Batoe proceeded to a field in proximity to STEENVOORDE for a gas demon- stration by the Gas Officers of the 41 st Div. which proved all ranks to be thoroughly acquainted with means to be adopted in case of gas attack or gas shell bombardment.	
"	28		Letter was recd from the Div. Commander expressing appreciation of the good work done by the Brigade during the 5 months it held the WYTSCHAETE sector. "A" Coy carried out musketry in the range at BEAUVOORDE. Batoe were allotted to the Batoe. In the afternoon a "B" Coy held musketry as follows. 1 st "A" Coy 2 nd "C" 3 rd "D" 4 th "B" Coy. Football in the evening.	all
"	29		Three of the Coy's bathed at STEENVOORDE during the morning. F.G.C.M. on No 10014 Pte WEBSTER was held at B.A.Q. at 10.30 am. Coy practised in Coy + platoon attack + formation. Night march cancelled owing to inclemency of the weather.	all
"	30		Battalion Route march + Outpost Scheme. Dinners in the field. Weather cold + Showery.	all
"	31		The Batoe carried out a small practice attack in preparation for the coming Brigade practice attack. afternoon musketry + Football in the evening. Weather cold + Showery.	all

Maximum strength during month	Offn	O.R.	CASUALTIES during the month.
Minimum " " "	27	696	
Present " "	39	902	
			off. O.R.
			Killed
			Wounded 10
			Died of Wound. 1 2.

32nd Royal Division.
Capt + Maj.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.

Sheet No I

Vol 12

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEENVOORDE	1917. April 1 st		Divine Service in the morning - The Church of England Service being held in the field at Bunnings Cross followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion. In the afternoon sports and football. The Battalion met the 26 th Bn. R. Fus. in the Brigade Semi Final, the match being played on the M.G. Coy's ground and resulted in a win (2-1) for us. A team of 8 represented the Bato: in the 3 mile Cross Country race & finished 2 nd in the Brigade. Weather cold and wet with severe squalls.	K. 14. 6. 4. 8
"	2 nd		Weather dull & showery. A practice attack was carried out in the morning, the Battalion assembling at the cross roads at K 8 d. 4. 2. The Cops, Div. & Brigade Commanders were present. In the afternoon & evening weeks by football matches were played.	"
"	3 rd		During the night snow fell heavily, and in consequence the practice Brigade Attack had to be postponed until the following day, so the time was occupied by Company organisation, lectures and cleaning up.	"
"	4 th		At 8:40 am the Bato: assembled at the cross roads at K. 8 d. 4. 2 & proceeded to the ground for practice Brigade Attack which was carried out under the direction of the Brigadier. In the afternoon football matches were played between the Coy. The day was dull & cloudy with some showers at intervals.	"
"	5 th		Another practice attack was carried out in the morning in accordance with several points which were noticed by the Coy. in the previous days practice. The operation was carried out with great success, all ranks evincing interest & keenness. P.M. C.M. in Hon BARKER was held at 4 th Coy in the morning. In the afternoon we met the 21 st Bn. K. R. R. Coy in the final of the Brigade football match. The match opened at a very fast pace on the first half which eventually had the effect of wearing down the players. Result: 21 st K. R. R. won by 5-3. The Brigade Major (Capt C. G. Ling, R.E.) refereed the match. The day was clear & bright.	"
RENINGHEIST.	6 th		At 10 am the Bato: formed up outside 'A' Coy's billets & proceeded by route march to RENINGHEIST, the route being via STEENVOORDE, ABBELE & BOEACHEPE. On arrival at RENINGHEIST at 3 pm the Bato: was accommodated in ONTARIO CAMP. Packs were carried by transport. The weather was bright & sunny.	"
RENINGHEIST	7 th		The day was occupied by cleaning up & Coy Drill & organisation. Football matches were played in the afternoon.	M. 4. 6. 6. 8 last Map Sheet 28. S.W.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) B^y The Royal Fusiliers.

Sheet No II

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RENINGHELST (ONTARIO CAMP.)	1917 April 8 th		Divine Service was held in the morning, this being Easter Sunday. The day was clear & bright. Football in the afternoon.	M. 4668. Map Sheet 28 S.W.
"	9 th		In the morning, Bayonet fighting, Physical Training, Musketry & platoon drill were carried out under Company arrangements. The C.O., the Adj. & Coy Commanders went up to the line on a tour of inspection of the line to be taken over by us - the right sector of the ST ELOI SECTOR	"
"	10 th		Training was carried out under Coy arrangements in the following Bayonet fighting, Physical Training, Gas Helmet & Boe Respiratory Drill, Musketry, Lewis Gun & Bombing instruction & Platoon Drill. Weather. Stormy, with high winds & rains at times.	"
"	11 th		The same training instruction was carried out today as yesterday. The Baths at RENINGHELST were allotted to the Batts for the whole day. A Court of Enquiry was held at B. H. Q. to enquire into deficit in J.R. Coy's Imprest account. Weather, wet & cold.	"
RENINGHELST & Left Sector of ST ELOI SECTOR	12 th		The Batts relieved the 12 th B ^y East Surrey Regt in the right sector of the ST ELOI SECTOR. The relief being completed at 2.45 pm. The 12 th East Surreys gave us great help in guiding the B ^y & gradually making us "au fait" with this portion of the line. The weather was cold but clear with one or two snow falls in the morning. There was a little shelling by the enemy during the day, but our artillery was considerably more active than his.	" N. 6 C. 9. 9 1/2 Baths Hags Map Sheet 28 S.W.
"	13 th		At 4.15 am the enemy commenced to shell B. H. Q. & the BRASSERIE, a set of buildings used as R.A.P.s about 200 yds from B. H. Q. with H.E. & 4.2's. This appears to be a regular occurrence each morning & the C.O. & the Staff at B. H. Q. move to a trench near B. H. Q. mess. The day was bright & clear although inclined to be cold. Considerable enemy aircraft activity during the morning, our guns dealing effectively with them.	"
"	14 th		About 12 noon a number of shells were sent over by the enemy apparently in the direction of VOORMEZEELE. At 4.20 am the enemy again carried out what is apparently intended to be a road shoot near DEAD DOG FARM (B ^y J.R. Coy) to the BRASSERIE using .77's & 4.2's. 12 min incendiaries were fired over the left sector of our front line trench during the morning.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.
Sheet No III.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Line. ST ELOI Sector Left Sector	1917. April 15 th		Enemy artillery was active throughout the day. The enemy retaliated with trench mortars on left Coy Stgs for our artillery shoot at 3am, Trench S. 14. being badly damaged. The weather was clear & bright.	N. 6 c 9.9 1/2 Bn Hdqrs
"	16 th		Enemy aircraft was active at at different times of the day. At 2.10 am a heavy explosion was heard behind enemy's front line trench, the direction being apparently opposite junction of our F.L.T and VOORMEZELE EXTENSION. There appeared to be considerable movement in the enemy lines a relief being suspected in the evening. The artillery was informed & the road was shelled.	"
"	17 th		There was considerable movement on the part of the enemy throughout the day. Little enemy artillery activity. The day was clear & bright.	"
" and RENINGHELSST. (CHIPPEWA CAMP)	18 th		The Patrol was relieved in the line by the 11 th Bn Royal West Kent (Dunwichham Patrol) Dept. The relief being completed at 1.50pm & proceeded by way of DIKREBUSCH to CHIPPEWA CAMP about 3/4 of a mile to the north of RENINGHELSST. The day was cold with snow falling at intervals & mud everywhere in plenty.	G. 35d 8-2 Map Sheet 28 S.W.
"	19 th		Usual working parties were found. Baths & cleaning up.	"
"	20 th		A/Capt A.L. BENJAMIN of 'B' Coy left the Patrol in the morning to take up duty at the Base Training Depot in relief of Lt J.M. THORBURN. 2 nd Lt A.K. DAVIS returned to duty from Hospital. with 2nd Coy on 11/19/17 after returning to the Coy of the 10th Bn Queen's Royal West Kent Regt, 11/19/17.	"
"	21 st		In the morning at 10.30am a Patrol Parade was held at which the C/O congratulated 2 nd Lt A.C. YATES & the members of the patrol of the 18 th April on their splendid work & offensive spirit shown by them on this patrol at which they dispersed an enemy wiring party & covering party, killing at least two Germans. The message of congratulation from the Divisional Commander Major Genl S.T.B. LAWFORD, C.B., was read out.	"

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.
Sheet No. IV.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RENINGHELST. CHIPPEWA CAMP	1917. April 22 nd		Divine Service in the morning. an enemy aeroplane passes over our Camp quite low was fired at but not hit. Baths at the Camp were allotted to us in the morning. a Survey Board was held at 15 th Lt. Q. to examine old clothing etc. In the evening one of our aeroplanes of the 20 th Squadron with Capt THEARE as pilot descended in our Camp owing to engine trouble. The machine flew away the following morning.	G 35d 8.2. Map Sheet 28 S.W.
" & Left Line ST Eloi Sector Left Sector	23 rd		The Battalion proceeded to the line to relieve the 11 th Bn R.W. Kent Regt. The relief being completed at 1-45 pm. The enemy's activities was fairly quiet. During the afternoon the enemy sent several shells over us apparently going a long distance away. An enemy aeroplane flew over our lines at 11-15 am. The day was bright warm & sunny.	N. 6 C. 9.9 ¹ / ₂ Map Sheet 28 Bn Hdqrs S.W.
"	24 th		The C/o Lt. Col W.C. CLARK proceeded to England on special leave for 3 weeks & Major H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O took over the Command. Enemy aircraft was somewhat active during the morning, crossing our lines several times. Several at many points the enemy exposed himself, many with Service caps & peaked caps with white covers being seen. The weather was clear & bright.	"
"	25 th		During the morning & again in the afternoon the enemy shelled VOORMEZEELE, SCOTTISH WOOD & CAFE BELGE. Nothing of importance occurred. Weather clear sunny & warm.	"
"	26 th		CAFE BELGE and DICKERBUSCH were shelled by the enemy during the day. Several enemy working parties were observed at different times of the day. Weather clear - good observation - sunny & warm.	"
"	27 th		Enemy artillery was less active than usual, a few 4.2s HE shells falling in the vicinity of MIDDLESEX LAKE & "R" line between 7.30 and 8 am. a few whizz bangs near the junction of P & O Trench & front line trenches during the afternoon. Patrol which went out under 2 nd Lt. YATES to capture a prisoner if possible found no sign of any enemy patrols in the area.	"
"	28 th		Weather clear bright & warm. our medium trench mortars assisted by the artillery carried out a loose cutting shoot. Enemy retaliates with 5.9s one of which unfortunately fell in a bog inflicting casualties on the Lewis gun team there. a patrol which went out under 2 nd Lt. YATES to reconnoitre to Man's Land found no sign of any hostile patrols.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.


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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.

Sheet No. V

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
In the Line. ST ELOI SECTOR Left Sector	1917 April 29 th		Weather, clear, bright & warm. There was a little aerial activity on both sides during the day. The C.O.C. visits the line accompanied by the Brigade Major. One medium trench mortar assisted by the artillery again cut the enemy wire, hostile retaliation being on The Brasserie, otherwise the day was fairly quiet.	N. 6 C 9.9 1/2 Balco Hdgrs Map Sheet 285.W															
"	30 th		Weather, clear, bright & warm. The trench mortar again cut the hostile wire assisted by the artillery, no retaliation coming from the enemy. Very little aircraft activity on either side.	"															
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Offrs</th> <th>O. Rs.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MAXIMUM STRENGTH during the month.</td> <td>40</td> <td>913</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minimum " " " "</td> <td>38</td> <td>892</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present " " " "</td> <td>38</td> <td>892</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Offrs	O. Rs.	MAXIMUM STRENGTH during the month.	40	913	Minimum " " " "	38	892	Present " " " "	38	892			
	Offrs	O. Rs.																	
MAXIMUM STRENGTH during the month.	40	913																	
Minimum " " " "	38	892																	
Present " " " "	38	892																	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASUALTIES during the month.</u></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Offrs</th> <th>O. R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Killed</td> <td>-</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Missing</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DIED OF WOUNDS.</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Offrs	O. R.	Killed	-	5	Wounded	1	7	Missing	-	-	DIED OF WOUNDS.	-	1
	Offrs	O. R.																	
Killed	-	5																	
Wounded	1	7																	
Missing	-	-																	
DIED OF WOUNDS.	-	1																	
<p style="text-align: left;">30th April, 1917.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"> <p><i>L. Hanover</i> CAPT. & ADJT. for Major <i>Comins</i> 82nd (S) BN. THE ROYAL FUSILIERS.</p> </div>																			

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet No: I Vol 13

32nd Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Line. ST ELOI Sector Left Sector.	1917 MAY 1 st		Weather, Clear, Bright + warm with good visibility. Enemy again shelled back areas during the day. Enemy aircraft active in the morning. Our artillery retaliated during the afternoon in "R" Line. Co's Gordon Street for our practice barrage of yesterday.	N. 6 c. 9. 9 1/2. B4 1583 Map Sheet 28. S.W.
" + CHIPPEWA "B" RENINGHELST.	2 nd		An Officer patrol went out from O.I D. 9. 1 1/2 to examine wire round PICCADILLY FARM. The wire was found to be a fairly good obstacle + there was much movement in PICCADILLY FARM. This patrol remained out for 1 1/2 hours. The Battalion was relieved today by the 23 rd MIDDLESEX REGT, the relief being completed by 1 pm + proceeded to CHIPPEWA "B" Camp.	G. 35 D. 8. 2. Map Sheet 28. S.W.
" "	3 rd		Weather clear + fine. During the morning the Battalion vacated Chippewa Camp. Two Coy proceeding to MICMAC CAMP and two to ONTARIO Camp where Bato Hops was also established.	"
ONTARIO & MICMAC CAMPS.	4 th		The 2 Coys at Ontario Camp, "B" & "D" Coys carried out preliminary musketry + specialist training. Baths at RENDINGHELST were allotted for the Bato's + "B" "D" + "H.Q." Coys baths during the day. Board of Supply was held today on winter clothing withdrawn. The two Coys at Micmac Camp supplied working parties.	M. 4. B. 6. 8. Map Sheet 28. S.W. H. 31 B. 3. 5.
"	5 th		Coys at Ontario Camp carried out Physical Training + preliminary musketry. ^{Bombing practice.} Under Coy arrangements, the two Coys at Micmac supplying working parties. The Range at the Brigade French Warfare School was lent to us for officers' Resolvoer Practice. Lecture was given to officers by the Ofc Special R.E. working party on the employment, tactics + weapons of Special R.E. Bde.	"
"	6 th		Divine Service in the morning at RENDINGHELST. ^{got} The weather was hot throughout the day. A Tent + Stores at the Qm's Stores were burned today. Football in the afternoon.	"
"	7 th		Coys at Ontario Camp - Physical Training + Coy Training. Court of Enquiry was held at the Qm's Stores to Enquire into the loss of a Tent + Stores in the 6 th by fire. A Lecture was given by the Divnl Commander at the Theatre, RENDINGHELST at 4 pm today to all officers + Sergeants.	"

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet II.

32nd Bn. Royal Fusiliers (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MICMAC & ONTARIO CAMPS.	1917 May 8 th		The two Coys at ONTARIO CAMP relieved the two Coys at Micmac Camp. Cleaning up & bay organisation in the morning. Musketry & Specialist Training during the afternoon. Board of Service was held at the Q.M.S. Store. The winter clothing withdrawn. Charging kettle were gathered & cooked as a substitute for green vegetables, with great success.	M.4.B.6.8. & H.31B.3.5
"	9 th		"A" & "C" Coys carried out physical training & Musketry under Company arrangements. "B" & "D" Coys supplying working parties for the line. Baths at REMINGHELEST were used by "A" & "C" Coys. The Divisional Commander accompanied by the Brigadier inspected the two Coys in training at Ontario Camp.	"
"	10 th		"A" & "C" Coy carried out Musketry training in the morning. Dinner at the Divine Soldiers' Club at REMINGHELEST was given for all ranks who came out with the Battalion in celebration of its coming overseas on 4 May, 1916. In all about 286 were present. The "Buffs" gave a concert to us in the afternoon.	"
"	11 th		Weather - dull & showery throughout the day. Preliminary Musketry & physical training in the morning & afternoon.	"
" + CHIPPEWA "A"	12 th		The Battalion moved to CHIPPEWA "A" Camp today, completing the move by 4 pm. Weather, fine.	M.6.A.2.7.
CHIPPEWA "A" Camp.	13 th		Divine Service in the morning. Baths at CHIPPEWA CAMP were allotted to "A" "B" & "C" Coys during the afternoon. The Adjutant, Capt C. EDWARDS proceeded to England on special leave.	M.6.A.2.7.
"	14 th		Physical training & Company training was carried out by "B" & "D" Coys. Sketches Drivers received instruction by the Medical Officer in first aid & carrying.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet No. III.

32nd Bn Royal Irish Rifles.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CHIPPEWA "A" Camp	15 th		Physical Training + Company Training by Coy. Kit Inspections + Coy organisation. M.O lectured to all Sketcher Beaters. Baths from 8am to 3.30pm.	M. 6. A. 2.7.
"	16 th		Weather - wet + stormy. Coy organisation + physical training from 7am to 4pm. M.O lectured to all Sketcher Beaters. Baths were allotted again during the afternoon. In the evening the Battalion Entertainment party gave a concert at the Church Army Hnt at CHIPPEWA CAMP.	"
"	17 th		The Battalion left CHIPPEWA "A" camp at 2pm + proceeded by route march via RENINGHEIST to ABEELE arriving there about 5pm. Bivouaced at ABEELE for the night. Weather fine + clear. The Coy. Lt Col W. C. CLARK returned from Sean + joined the Battalion at ABEELE.	"
ABEELE.	18 th		at 8.30 am today the Battalion marched to ABEELE STATION where it embarked for WATTEN at noon. Arrived at WATTEN at 3pm + marched to HOULLE, a village about 3 miles from the station. HOULLE is a pretty village situated among forests, with the RIVER HOULLE flowing through it. The Battalion was billeted in farmhouses, Battalion Hqs at the Malterie at HOULLE.	L. 33. D. 5. 4.
HOULLE.	19 th		The day was occupied by musketry at the 2 nd Army "A" Range. Very hot throughout the day.	Q. 5 c. 65. 65. Map Sheet 27 A. S. E.
"	20 th		Divine Service in the morning in the Transport Field of 26 th R. Ims. Bathing in the lake near the Brickfields during the afternoon. Weather - Warm, Bright, + Sunny.	"
"	21 st		Training was carried out as under under Coy organisation:- Physical Training + Bayonet fighting, Special Training of each Section in use of its own weapon, Tactical handling of platoon in attack + defence. Lecture in the afternoon. Weather, hot throughout the day.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet No IV

32nd Royal Frontier

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOULLE	19 th May 22 nd		The same training was carried out today as for yesterday. Weather still continued bright + warm.	Q. 5c. 65. 65.
"	23 rd		Training, the same as for 21 st instant.	"
"	24 th		The Battalion proceeded to "B" Range for Musketry, leaving billets at 6.30 am. Breakfast + dinner were served on the Range. The following names of officers + men of the Bato were published in F.M. Sir Douglas Haig's Dispatch of April 9 th , 1917 as deserving of special mention: LT. COL. W. C. CLARK, Hon Capt. G. M. A. HIGHAM, Lt. H. DIPPLE, LT. H. T. HAMMOND, Capt. SCOBLE + No. 8940 Sgt. DAVIES, W. T.	"
"	25 th		Bato: Carried out training under Coy arrangements on Bato's Training Ground. Lewis Gun Teams proceeded to Miniature range for instruction under Lt. Army Lewis Gun instructor. The Adj. Capt. C. Edwards, returned from leave.	"
"	26 th		Bato: left billets at 6.15 am + proceeded to Brigade Training Ground for training. F.G.C.M. was held on No. 13820 Pte. DALTON.	"
"	27 th		Divine Service in the morning. The remainder of the day was occupied by Bathing, + cleaning up.	"
"	28 th		The Bato: left billets at 6.30 am + proceeded to Brigade Training Ground to carry out a practice in Brigade attack. Breakfast + Dinner in the field.	"

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet No V

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32nd Royal Fusiliers.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOULLE.	1917 May 29 th		The Battalion proceeded to Brigade Training ground, leaving billets at 6.30 am for Brigade Practice Attack. Weather Bright + Sunny.	Q.5.c.65.65.
"	30 th		Brigade Practice attack on Brigade Training ground. Breakfast + dinner on the fields. At 7.30 pm the Battalion left HOULLE + marched to WATTEN STATION where it embarked for ABBEELE at 8.45 pm, arriving there at 3 am. Motor lorries conveyed us to RENIN & HELST + we arrived at MIDDLE CAMP WEST, South of DICKEBUSH, at 7.30 am.	"
MIDDLE CAMP WEST.	31 st		The day was occupied by rest + cleaning up. In the evening, the Batta. supplied men for working parties.	N.1.A.0.8

CASUALTIES during MAY, 1917.

	Offrs	Other Ranks.
Killed	-	4
Wounded	-	2
MISSING DIED OF WOUNDS	-	Nil.

STRENGTH during month.

	Offrs	Other Ranks
Maximum	37	944
Minimum	35	875
PRESENT	35	958



llward

Capt. & Adjt
for the Col Commandg
32nd Royal Fusiliers.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code..... m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of :	Recd. at..... m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		Sent		 Service.
		At..... m.			From.....
		To.....			By.....
		By.....		(Signature of "Frankin ^d Officer.")	By.....

TO H.Q. 124th Inf Bde

Sender's Number. * 7/114.	Day of Month. 5/4/14	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	-----

Herewith War Diary for
June 1914 please aad

From o/c C 1815	Bridgman
Place 15th HQ	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.	(Z)	Captn T. Day
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	

* This line should be erased if not required.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

1917
41

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

2 Royal Fus
Sheet I

Vol 14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Middle Camp. W.	1917 June 1st		32nd Bth The Royal Fusiliers Weather clear Bright & Warm The Battalion supplied men for day & night Working Parties	N.1. a O.8. bss.
"	2nd		Weather Clear & fine Usual Working Parties found. G.O.C. Coy reconnoitred routes to assembly areas. D in Horse Show Entries: - Cooker entered by the Battalion. won 1st Prize. Working Party of 31 st / 1 st June commended by R.E. Officer 1/c Party "having behaved and worked splendidly" under Enemy fire in front line.	bss.
"	3rd		Weather clear Bright & Warm. Open air Divine Service during morning Usual Working Parties supplied.	bss.
"	4th		Weather clear & fine Bach at RENINGHELST allotted to the Battalion. G.O.C. addressed the Bth on the coming operations. In the afternoon the C/O conferred with all Officers taking part in the attack and went over the scheme of operations with them Evening Open air Concert by Battalion Concert Party	bss.
"	5th		Battalion moved to the line, leaving Camp at 6 am & the other two Coys at 10 pm A. Coy took up Battle front in front line 0.2.8 - 0.3.2 & Support D " in the R line H.Q. Command Lane B. & C Coys Advanced G.H.Q 2nd line Details of the Battalion joined the D in Reinforcement Camp at RENINGHELST Weather, clear bright & warm.	bss.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet II

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Place	Date	Hour	3 rd B ⁿ Royal Fusiliers	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Line.	6 th	10pm	The Battalion remained in its position during the day and at 10pm commenced Weather clear & fine.)	to occupy their assembly positions for the attack	llh.
"	7 th		Battalion assumed position of assembly two hours prior to the attack Reports on action attached Weather clear & fine		llh.
ELZENWALLE CAMP	8 th		Battalion were relieved at 2 am by the "Buffs" 24 th Div and marched to G.H.Q 2nd Line. Day spent in cleaning up and resting. Battalion moved to ELZENWALLE CAMP in the evening.		llh.
"	9 th		Details rejoined Battalion at ELZENWALLE CAMP. during the morning Battalion Roll called. Weather Clear, Bright & Warm.		llh.
"	10 th		Open air Divine Service Burying & Salvaging Parties found by Battalion Coy Officers reconnoitred new line.	X Corps Commander addressed the Battalion & thanked men for their part of the work	llh.
"	11 th		Battalion relieved the 4 th Northhamptons of the 43 rd Brigade, 23 rd Middlesex Reg ^t and part of the 20 th D.L.I. of the 123 rd Infy Bde Dispositions B & C Coy ^s Reserve Line. (BLACK LINE) between S.W. corner of DENYS WOOD and Trench junction at O. 10 C 35. 95. D. Coy (BLUE LINE) between O. 9. C. 25. & O. 9. E 3. 1. H Coy Old German Line between OASIS STREET O. 9 a 40. 95. and OESTHOEK ESTAMINET.		O. 9. C. 25. 80. llh.

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet 3.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In Support to Right Bde Sector.	12 th		Enemy's Artillery very active on the whole of the Brigade area Enemy's aircraft active, flying low over our front line trenches and firing at garrison. Explosion was heard near the ruins at 0.11. a. 0.2. Clearing up & Salvaging carried out.	O.G.C 25.80.
"	13 th		Enemy Artillery very active In the evening in retaliation for two of our practice barrage shoots he shelled RAVINE WOOD heavily. Our patrols went out advancing 600 yards without encountering the enemy. Our heavy guns caused an explosion in the enemy's lines. Enemy's aircraft active	"
"	14 th		Enemy Artillery active, special attention being paid to DENYS WOOD, THE RAVINE & THE BLUE LINE. Enemy's aircraft active	"
"	15 th		Enemy's Artillery active, especially on left sub-sector area. Enemy's aircraft active.	"
RE Sub Sector	16 th		Enemy's Artillery very active, 9.40 pm the Germans put up a heavy barrage on OLIVE TRENCH and bombarded the DELBSKE FARM locality vigorously. Our artillery promptly replied. Battalion moved to the Front Line, in Relief of the 10 th Bn Queens R.W. Surrey Regt. Heavy enemy shelling caused difficult relief but not casualties suffered.	"

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

SHEET 4

Place	Date	Hour	32nd Bn The Royal Tank Regiment Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RT Sub Sector	17th		Enemy Artillery active. Attention being paid to DENYS WOOD Enemy aircraft active early in the morning. Our Patrols went out. No sounds of the enemy were heard.	bll
"	18th		Enemy Artillery very active chiefly on RAVINE & DENYS WOOD Enemy aircraft active Our Patrols went out to reconnoitre valley in front of our line no enemy were encountered	bll
"	19th		Enemy artillery less active. Two large fires were seen behind the enemy's lines BN Transport Lines on VIERSTRAAT ROAD were shelled, causing casualties Transport Lines moved to M. 6. 6. 1. 7. near RENINGHELS Inter Coy relief carried out today	bll
"	20th		Enemy Artillery comparatively quiet Enemy aircraft very active. Much smoke was seen rising from KORTEVILDE, TENBRIELEN and other villages during the morning. N side of the ROOZEBEEK was twice patrolled, No movements of the enemy were heard.	bll
"	21st		Enemy Artillery active, Enemy Aircraft active Our patrols went out to examine edges of GREEN WOOD, no sounds of enemy were heard	bll

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet 5.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			32nd Bn, The Royal Fusiliers	
	22nd		Enemy Artillery very active. The enemy appeared to have more guns in action. A large fire was seen in the direction of WARNETON Battalion relieved by the 21st K.R.R. Corps & moved back to support position in the Blue Line & the DAMMSTRASSE Relief being completed by Midnight	b/s
IN SUPPORT.	23rd		Enemy's artillery active. Our artillery very active Enemy aircraft less active Working Parties found for improving the Black line Fires continued to burn in villages behind the enemy lines.	b/s
"	24th		Enemy's artillery less active. Aircraft active Usual Working Parties found for constructing Communication Trenches	b/s
"	25th		Enemy's artillery active. Usual Working Parties found. Our aircraft active Several fires seen burning behind the enemy's lines	b/s
"	26		Enemy Artillery very active. Our artillery active Battalion relieved the 10th Queens in the line Left Sub Sector Relief being completed at 2 am. During the relief the Batt H.Q. shelled until daybreak enemy put over a large number of shells causing casualties	b/s
Left Sub Sector	27th		Enemy Artillery active Enemy aircraft active Our patrols went out to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy. None of the enemy were seen & his Very lights were fired at a considerable distance behind his lines his front line being thought to consist of strong points in shell holes. The movement of the enemy appeared to indicate that he was at work constructing his line of defence along the East bank of the YPRES-COMINES CANAL	b/s

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

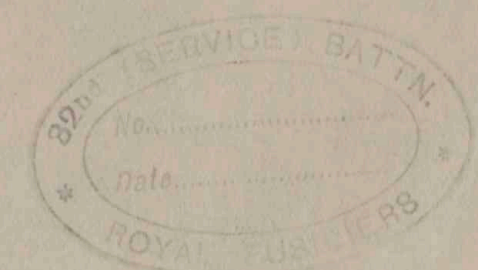
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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet 6.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
			32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers																
Left Sub Section	28th		<p>Enemy's artillery very active Our patrols went out to reconnoitre No Mansland. None of the enemy were seen this side of GREEN WOOD Our artillery active. A severe thunder storm broke out during the evening accompanied by a heavy down pour of rain</p>	all															
"	29th		<p>Enemy's artillery active Battalion relieved by the 21st London Regt in the left sub section relief being completed at 2.50 am.</p>	all															
	30th		<p>Battalion marched to Camp at M. b. d. 5. 8. halting on the way for breakfast at Ridgewood and arriving at Camp at 6.30 am. Weather very wet Morning spent in resting and cleaning up Battalion moved off to the METEREN AREA in the evening leaving Camp at 8 pm. and arriving at METEREN at 1 am the following morning and proceeded to its billets in the Town</p>	all															
<p>CASUALTIES during June 1917. → Officers O. Ranks</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Killed</td> <td>2</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>7</td> <td>183</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Missing</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Died of Wounds</td> <td>-</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </table>					Killed	2	24	Wounded	7	183	Missing	-	2	Died of Wounds	-	8			
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all done
 Capt & Adj. G.
 32nd Royal Fusiliers

REPORT ON OPERATIONS.

June 7th, 1917.

32nd (S) Bn The ROYAL FUSILIERS.

1. ARMY SCHEME.

The 2nd Army assumed the offensive on the 7th June, 1917 from S.E. of XPRES to PLOESSTREERT WOOD. The 41st Divisional Front from right to left was:-

(1st Stage) 124th Infy Bde, 123rd Infy Bde.

(2nd Stage) 124th Infy Bde, 122nd Infy Bde.

The three objectives, which were respectively the "RED LINE", "BLUE LINE" and "BLACK LINE" are shewn on the attached map.

2. BRIGADE SCHEME.

The Brigade was disposed for the attack as follows:-

On the right.....10th Bn "Queens" R.W.S. Regt.

In the centre.....21st K.R.R. Corps.

On the left.....32nd Bn Royal Fusiliers - from
Trench O.2.7. central to
O.3.2. central.

" "26th Bn Royal Fusiliers, within
the same limits.

3. BATTALION OBJECTIVES.

1st Objective - The enemy's front and support lines, including Nos. 4 & 5 Craters, from OASIS DRIVE (inclusive) on the right to OASIS STREET (exclusive) on the left (RED LINE).

Final Objective - After passing through the 26th Royal Fusiliers at the DAMSTRASSE (which was the 1st objective) the three trenches, OBSTACLE AVENUE, OBSTACLE SUPPORT and OBSTACLE SWITCH, from GOUDEZENE FARM (exclusive) on the right to a point on OBSTACLE SWITCH 250 yds to the left (BLACK LINE).

4. ASSEMBLY.

Immediately prior to the action the Battalion was disposed in depth, from the front line trenches as far back as G.H.Q. Advanced Line. The movement to the assembly position was commenced at 5 hours before ZERO.

The assembly of the Battalion took longer and was more difficult than was anticipated owing to congestion in the trenches and enemy shell fire. One Sergeant and 2 Other Ranks were wounded on the way, and several casualties occurred actually in the position. However the Battalion was up to time and all stores distributed for carrying over.

5. DISPOSITION.

Opposite ST. ELOI CRATERS, North of MESSINES RIDGE, from Trench O.2.8 (opposite No. 4 Crater) inclusive to Trench O.3.2, 500 yards left, in 4 waves, 2 waves being in the Front Trench and 2 waves behind the parados. On our right a gap to allow for the explosion of mines under Nos. 2 & 3 Craters, with the 21st K.R.R. Corps beyond. On our left the 23rd Middlesex Regt, being the Right Battalion of the 123rd Brigade.

6. ADVANCE.

General direction 157° true bearing. The 4 waves were at only 30 yards distance to enable the 26th Royal Fusiliers, immediately in rear, to clear our Front Line before the enemy's barrage dropped on it.

(2)

7. NARRATIVE.

There was a bright enough moon to cause anxiety about the discovery by the enemy of our move. Very lights were being sent up frequently from the enemy craters and Support Line. About 15 minutes before Zero rockets bursting into a shower a orange coloured stars were sent up from the Crater almost continually, one after another. These lights were also being sent up by the enemy well away to our left.

At 10 minutes before Zero Headquarters moved into NO MAN'S-LAND with the left two thirds of each of the 4 waves, the right remaining in the assembly position to avoid the shock of the mines to be exploded under the ST ELOI Craters 300 yards to the right front of the Battalion. The enemy signals were still going up and at ZERO hour the mines were successfully exploded and the Battalion went forward to our barrage rapidly, the enemy's barrage opening simultaneously on our Front Line and part of NO MAN'S LAND. One officer (2nd Lieut. HARRISON) was wounded at this time.

The Battalion went without check to the RED LINE, meeting with practically no opposition. The direction was good, though the left was overlapped slightly by the 23rd Middlesex. Casualties were very slight. The whole ground and enemy trenches in this neighbourhood were so ruined by our shell fire as to be practically unrecognisable, and a part of the Battalion, in the excessive keenness which they showed throughout, went on with the 26th Bn Royal Fusiliers right up to the DAMSTRASSE and took part in the assault of it. The Stream marking the right of the RED LINE had been converted by our shell fire into merely a string of shell craters having more water in them than those in the neighbourhood.

The Battalion was reorganised here and dug in, with the Vickers Guns and Stokes Mortars, and Headquarters were established for the time being in a shell hole immediately behind its left.

At 5.40 am the Battalion moved up to the PURPLE LINE and collected those who had gone forward. At 6.50 am the advance from the DAMSTRASSE was begun under the barrage for the attack on the BLACK LINE, which was reached under cover of the barrage at schedule time, viz. 8.10 am. The three trenches - OBSTACLE AVENUE, OBSTACLE SUPPORT and OBSTACLE SWITCH - which were taken in this final advance, had been battered almost out of recognition by our shell fire, and practically no opposition was offered. A number of the enemy fled and were fired upon, most of them being accounted for either by our rifle fire or shell fire. Only about 30 were left to be taken prisoners - these mostly were eager to give themselves up, but a few required bombing out of their dugouts. One German Officer was seen to shoot himself in a dugout.

During the $\frac{1}{2}$ hour halt between OBSTACLE AVENUE and OBSTACLE SUPPORT a defensive flank was formed on the right facing the ESTAMINET and firing into the enemy retreating therefrom, until the K.R.R. Corps took the position. The flank formation then swung into line again and joined in the attack on the last two trenches.

The Battalion dug itself in about 100 yards beyond OBSTACLE SWITCH between its correct boundaries and sent out a line of advanced posts with 7 Lewis Guns. Patrols were pushed out and small parties of the enemy observed in ROSE WOOD and the neighbourhood of ODYSSEY TRENCH were kept under our rifle and machine gun fire and many casualties caused. A few guns were seen being taken away in the distance and were also fired on. Two Vickers Guns reached the BLACK LINE with the Battalion and took up a position one on each flank. A party of R.E. arrived later on and constructed a strong point in our

(3)

NARRATIVE (Contd)Front Line.

We got into touch with the 81st K.R.R. Corps on the right and the 12th East Surreys on the left immediately on arrival on the BLACK LINE. *About 4pm. Bn. H.Q. were established in OBSTACLE SWITCH immediately in rear of GOUDEZHUNE FARM*

8. OUR ARTILLERY.

The barrages throughout were entirely satisfactory and the few casualties caused by them were only due to the men's eagerness to push forward. There is no doubt that the power and precision of our artillery during both the preliminary bombardment and the action itself enabled the infantry to carry out the programme without the slightest hitch. The accurate shooting not only destroyed the enemy's defences and morale of his men, but inspired our troops with the confidence which is necessary for complete success.

9. ENEMY ARTILLERY.

During the assembly his enfilade fire from the North East caused one or two casualties. At Zero minus 2 minutes his barrage began to open on our front trench and part of NO MAN'S LAND, in response to the rocket calls sent up from his Craters during the preceding 15 minutes, causing several casualties, including one officer - 2nd Lt. GOSLING (killed). During the action the Battalion was well beyond his barrage, which seemed poor and ineffective. He devoted a good deal of attention to our original trenches and communications, with a view to cutting off reinforcements. After the capture of the DAMMSTRASSE his shelling of that line and the RED LINE, where the Battalion spent two hours, was weak and the two hours wait caused us no serious trouble. After the capture of the BLACK LINE our troops holding it were not inconvenienced by his shell fire at all, though he searched the ground between them and the DAMMSTRASSE with Whizz-bangs and kept OASIS DRIVE under the fire of his 4.2s. He was obviously searching for our advanced 18 pounder positions with heavier shells, but having lost observation made poor shooting.

10. COMMUNICATIONS.

The Battalion signallers, under 2nd Lieut. HOME-GALL, with the invaluable help of Sergt SCOBLE, did most excellent work throughout. On arrival at the RED LINE Battalion Headquarters were established in a shell hole 50 yards behind the left of it, and the power buzzer was immediately brought into position and messages sent to Brigade Forward Command Post. A line was laid to the Brigade Forward Station 30 minutes after Zero and communication was in good working order by telephone at that time, also by Lucas lamp to Divisional Visual Station at H.36d. 8.2.

A wire was started towards the 123rs Brigade Forward Station at RUINED FARM, but owing to dust and smoke direction was lost. A linesman however connected up with "B" Detachment 123rd Brigade. Visual signalling was carried on between Battalion Headquarters and the Companies at the other end of the RED LINE. At Zero plus 30 minutes Battn Headquarters moved up to a point 50 yards behind the left of the DAMMSTRASSE, the power buzzer being handed over to "B" Detachment Brigade Forward Station. Communication was established by telephone with that Detachment within a few minutes. Several messages were sent to aeroplanes by panel, and all Companies were in touch by visual. A disc message asking for lengthening of barrage of the BLUE LINE opposite PHEASANT WOOD was picked up and transmitted by

(4)

COMMUNICATIONS (Contd)

telephone to C.E. (123rd Brigade), and by aeroplane panel to contact plane. The message reached the Brigade and was promptly acted upon. Several messages from the Battalion on the left were transmitted through our station to the 123rd Brigade Headquarters. On the advance from the DAMMSTRASSE the Battalion Signalling Sergeant and the 8 linesmen followed the last wave, laying out wire, and 5 minutes after the capture of the Black Line were in direct communication with Battalion Headquarters. Shortly afterwards the Battalion Headquarters moved up to DAMMWOOD and a line from there was linked on to this line, thus establishing communication with all Companies and with Brigade Forward Party.

Note. On arrival at the RED LINE the man in charge of the aeroplane panel was temporarily missing, but successful communication with aeroplane was established by waving signalling flags parallel to the ground.

11. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

4 Stretcher bearers per Company advanced with the Battalion, 12 extra stretcher bearers remained with the Battalion M.O. at the R.A.P. These latter were pushed forward by him some 1½ hours after zero and cleared the ground forward. The scheme worked out satisfactorily, all wounded were got away in reasonable time and the R.A.P. was never over-crowded.

12. AIRCRAFT.

One or two enemy machines were seen overhead and a pair of them brought down one of our machines, but there were large numbers of our machines in action and no enemy machine was able to fly low over our troops. The contact planes were continually in evidence and we got several messages taken by them besides the flare signals.

13. TANKS.

Only one tank reached the Battalion final objective, the remainder on the Brigade Front all broke down either before reaching the DAMMSTRASSE or just after. The going was obviously almost impossible for them, and it is astonishing that some of them got as far as they did. Their services were fortunately never required.

14. CASUALTIES.

The casualties were slight and practically all occurred before leaving the DAMMSTRASSE. Of the 6 officer casualties four occurred near the enemy front line. The total casualties are 6 officers and 163 other ranks, including 29 at present unaccounted for. (None fell into the enemy's hands) The strength going into action was 17 officers and 551 other ranks.

Lt. Col. commdg
32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.

10.6.17.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32nd (S) Batts The Royal Fusiliers

Sheet I.

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15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	1917. July 1 st		The Battalion arrived at METEREN at 1 am this morning having marched from the RENDINGHEEST AREA, the journey taking 5 hours. The Bilt's were in the village of METEREN itself. After a rest, cleaning up occupied the remainder of the day.	X. 15.D. 3.7 Map Sheet 27 SE.
"	2 nd		Training under Company arrangements was carried out during the morning, the rest of the day being free for rest + recreation. In the evening the Divisional Concert Party - "The CROOPS" gave a performance for the Batts in the Y.M.C.A. The day was bright + warm.	"
"	3 rd		The morning was devoted to Specialist training + Coy organisation. Football in the aft. Six Officers were posted to the Batts + arrived from the 39 th Inf Base Depot today. The weather remained clear + warm. A draft of 13 or (Trainer Signallers) arrived today.	"
"	4 th		The usual Specialist training + Coy organisation under Company arrangements were carried out + instruction in Bayonet fighting was given by Cpl. CHEETHAM of the II nd Army Gymnastic Station the Battalion Parade ground.	"
"	5 th		The Range at NOOTE BOOM was allotted for Musketry practice during the morning and this was carried out under Company arrangements. Specialist training in the afternoon.	"

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

32nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet II

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	1917 July 6 th		<p>Weather continued good. Instruction in Lewis gun was given to Officers by the Lewis gun Officer + Bayonet fighting practice was carried out under the 11th Army Gymnastic Instructor. The following M.C.O.s then were announced in Corps Routine Orders of this date as being awarded honours for gallantry + devotion to duty during the action on 7th June at St Eloi:- <u>BAR to Military Medal.</u> 22347 Sgt W.T. SCORLE, 22353 Pte J. CASS, 24699 L/Cpl E.L. BARTLETT, <u>Military Medal.</u> 22102 Sgt C.H. CAMERON, 53016 Sgt F.N. JOHNSON, (since died of wounds) 22531 Sgt F.D. MURCHIE. 21176 L/Sgt S.A. CLARK, 49739 Cpl I.A. DRAPKIN, 60179 Cpl R.J. PETERS, 60237 Cpl W.CH. PRICE, 3247 L/Cpl A.E.H. YATES, 34738 Pte C.W. PRICE, 11109 Pte F.G. WESTON, 49604 Pte A. CLARK, <i>AK</i></p>	X.15.D.37. (Shell 27. S.E)
"	7 th		<p>Battalion Parade in the morning on Battalion Parade Ground. Training under Coy arrangements was carried out. The Commanding Officer, Lt. Col W.C. CLARK, was awarded D.S.O. for gallantry in action + splendid leadership during the Battle of St Eloi on 7th June 1917. <i>AK</i></p>	"
"	8 th		<p>Divine Service was held on the Battalion Parade Ground followed by a celebration of Holy Communion. Decorations were announced in C.R.O.S of today as follows:- <u>MILITARY CROSS</u> 2nd Lt ARTHUR KELLER DAVIS and 2nd Lt EDWARD REGINALD HOME-GALL, D.C.M. C.S.M. J.T. JACKSON. for gallantry in action on 7th June 1917. <i>AK</i></p>	"

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

32nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet III

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	19 th July 9 th		Weather continued bright + sunshiny. Specialist Training + Coy organisation were carried out under the usual arrangements.	X.15.D.3.7 (Map Sheet 27.8E)
"	10 th		Training under Company arrangements was continued. A letter from the Divisional Commander was received conveying his appreciation of the good work and cheerful and soldierly spirit shown by all ranks under the severe strain and during heavy ^{persistent} hostile fire while holding the line for three weeks.	"
"	11 th		Battalion Parade on Battalion Parade Ground. 2 Companies (A + B) were ordered to proceed to RIDGEWOOD today in relief of 11 th B ^{ys} R.W. REGTS for work under 8 Corps Signals. Weather continued fine.	"
"	12 th		The morning was spent in preparation + rehearsal for presentation of awards by the Divisional Commander in the afternoon. Battalion paraded at 3pm on Battalion Parade Ground + he presented to the recipients the ribbons of their awards. Afterwards the Div ^l Commander inspected the 1 st Line Transport ^{at} which he expressed his satisfaction at the cleanliness of the vehicles + condition of the animals. A letter was received subsequently conveying the C. O. Coy's appreciation of the smart appearance of the Batt ⁿ at the Parade.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

32nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet IV.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN and RIDGEWOOD	19 th July 13 th		The remainder of the Battalion moved by march route to RIDGEWOOD, leaving METEREN at 10 am and arriving at RIDGEWOOD at 4 pm. The Battalion was accommodated in the former dugouts occupied during the winter months together with tents and bivouacs. On reaching RIDGEWOOD a draft of 68 or was joined the Battalion having been posted from the 63 rd (R.F.) Inf Base Depot. The weather was hot + close throughout the day.	X 15 D. 3.7 Map Sheet 27. S.E. N. 5 A 5.2 (Map Sheet 28. S.W.)
RIDGEWOOD	14 th		The Battalion provided working parties for cable burying + trench digging in the vicinity of SPOIL BANK and THE BLUFF under 2 nd Corps R.E. Signals.	N. 5. A 5.2 (Map Sheet 28 S.W.)
"	15 th		The usual working parties were provided. During the night 15/16 th one party was caught by enemy shell fire + suffered 17 casualties, consisting of 1 officer + 16 other ranks, two of the latter subsequently dying of their wounds. Enemy aircraft was quite active during the day + in the early morning flew quite low over the Camp. Our Lewis gun gave them attention.	"
"	16 th		Working parties were supplied for work on cable burying. During the night enemy aircraft were over the Camp + bombs were dropped at a distance in some unknown village. The enemy made repeated efforts to bring down by a new kind of straggled one of our observation balloons at HALLIBAST, but failed to do so; the observer dropped by parachute on an enemy plane approaching.	"

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 32nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet V

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGEWOOD	19 th July 17 th		Day + night working parties were supplied by the Battalion. A draft of 124 other ranks was received from the Base, (2100 from the 1/22 nd London REGT + 103 or from the 3 rd Bata. King's Liverpool Regt.) Work was continued on the allotments at RIDGEWOOD by 3 men of the Bata.	N. 5A 5.2 (Map Sheet 28 S.W.)
"	18 th		The usual working parties and were supplied for the 2 nd Corps Signals. Two Companies of the 10 th B ⁿ Queen's arrived during the afternoon to assist in supplying working parties + came under the Command of the Battalion. Enemy aircraft were active. The weather became unsettled with gales at intervals throughout the day.	"
"	19 th		Working parties were supplied as usual from the Battalion and from the 2 Coy of the Queen's. Specialist Training was carried out by the rest of the Bata who were not engaged on working parties. Hostile aircraft was again active: our Bombardment continued.	"
"	20 th		Usual working parties were supplied, the remainder of the Bata carrying out Company organization.	"
"	21 st		Working parties were supplied. In the afternoon a Battalion Parade was held at which the CO distributed the cards of appreciation from the Divisional Commander.	"

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

82nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet VI.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGEWOOD	1917 July 22 nd		Usual working parties were supplied + specialist training was continued. A draft of 64 other ranks arrived from the 37 th Inf Bde Depot having been transferred from the West Riding Regt. A letter was received from the G.O.C. expressing his satisfaction of the splendid manner in which the Officers + men of the Bato ⁿ carried out their work on the night 15/16 th instant. The G.O.C. signified his appreciation of the excellent discipline shown.	N. 5. A 5.2 (Map Sheet 28. S. W.)
"	23 rd		Working parties were again supplied for Cable burying under 8 th Corps R.E. Signals. Enemy aircraft was active throughout the day. Our Bombardment in preparation for forth coming operations continued. Some gas shells fell near the Camp during the night but they were ineffective. The day was clear + fine.	"
"	24 th		Usual working parties were supplied. The Co proceeded to take over command of the 12 th Inf Bde, + Major H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O., assumed command of the Battalion. RIDGEWOOD was slightly shelled by the enemy during the night with H.E. + Shrapnel, enemy planes dropping bombs in the direction of BAILLEUL during the night.	"
RIDGEWOOD and DE ZON CAMP LA CLYTTÉ.	25 th		The Battalion proceeded by march route to DE ZON CAMP arriving there at 5 pm. The day was wet + stormy throughout.	" M. 12c. 6.3 (Map Sheet 28 S.W.)

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

82nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet VII.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DE ZON CAMP LA CLYTHE.	1917 July 26 th		The day was spent in cleaning up + Draining under Company arrangements, lectures being given in explanation of the forth coming operations. Enemy aircraft were again active during the evening dropping bombs in the region of BAILLEUL.	M. 12 C. 6. 3 (Map Sheet 28 S.W.)
"	27 th		Company organisation + specialist training was carried out during the morning. Lectures in the afternoon.	"
"	28 th		In the afternoon a practice attack was carried out by each Company. The final of the Battalion Football Inter Coy Platoon Competition has to be postponed. Bathing in the afternoon.	"
"	29 th		Weather continued showery. The Rifle Grenade Range near WEST OUTRE was allotted to Coy for practising the firing of rifle grenades. The Open air Church Parade had to be abandoned owing to the heavy downpour of rain. A concert was given in the evening by the Battalion Concert Party - "The DALLIERS" which amused the men considerably.	"

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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82nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

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Sheet VIII.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																											
DE ZON CAMP. VOORMEZELE.	15 th July 30 th		<p>Weather cloudy, over cast with light rain at intervals. The Batts at MURRUM BIDGEE CAMP were allotted to the Batts today. The Batts proceeded to the VOORMEZELE AREA leaving camp at 9 pm, + arrived at their destination at 10.40 pm. Details were left at DE ZON CAMP with Capt R.W. HAMMOND in Command. <i>BR</i></p>	M. 12. C. 6-3 (Map Sheet: 28 S.W.)																											
"	31 st		<p>Weather very wet + cold. The Battalion were in Reserve for the attack but occupying the following positions:- (a) MIDDLESEX LANE from G.H.Q IInd Line to VOORMEZELE SWITCH (b) G.H.Q IInd Line Line from BRASSERIE - ELZENWALLE ROAD to MIDDLESEX LANE. Battalion Headquarters were established at in G.H.Q IInd Line at H. 36 C. 9. 4. Casualties during the day were 2 Killed 1 Died of Wounds 3 Wounded all O.R.</p>	<i>BR</i>																											
			<p>STRENGTH during the month.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Offr</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MAXIMUM strength during month</td> <td>38</td> <td>971</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MINIMUM " " "</td> <td>31</td> <td>757</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PRESENT " "</td> <td>38</td> <td>964</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>CASUALTIES during the month of July.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Offr</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Killed</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>1</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MISSING</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DIED of Wounds.</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Offr	O.R.	MAXIMUM strength during month	38	971	MINIMUM " " "	31	757	PRESENT " "	38	964		Offr	O.R.	Killed	-	2	Wounded	1	29	MISSING	-	-	DIED of Wounds.	-	3	
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R. Hammond
Capt + Adj.
82nd (S.) Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

32nd. (S) Battn. THE ROYAL FUSILIERS.

REPORT ON ENEMY ATTACK ON MORNING 5th AUGUST 1917,
ON BATTALION FRONT.

- PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENT.** 1. At 2 am the enemy commenced shelling our forward area heavily. At 3.3 am this increased to an intense bombardment, with shelling of back areas.
- WEATHER.** 2. At this period and throughout the action, there was dense fog.
- LISTENING POST.** 3. At 4 am the advanced listening post in front of our left Company withdrew to our front line with information that the enemy was advancing on our line.
- ENEMY ATTACK.** 4. Ten minutes later the barrage lifted on our Support line and the attack developed under cover of the fog and smoke bombs. So far as this Battalion is concerned, the attack was confined to the left half, the extent to the left of that not being known. The frontal attack was held off by rifle and Lewis Gun fire, but a break through on the right of the Battalion on our left allowed a party to get behind our line. Half a dozen of the enemy were dealt with there and several further attempts were made on our front and left flank, but the line was held in its entirety and the attack stopped at 6 am.
- REINFORCEMENTS.** 5. Major Robinson who had been inspecting the line during the night and was present throughout the action, went back and brought back personally two platoons from the supports during the attack. Other reinforcements were sent up from Battn. H.Q. (vice para. 8.)
- ENEMY DIGGING IN.** 6. After 6 am. the enemy were seen to be digging themselves in on a line about 150 yards in front of the left half Battalion and he opened machine gun fire which rendered movement difficult and caused casualties. This was replied to by rifle and Lewis gun fire which was seen to cause him losses, as was the case with our rifle fire during the attack itself, the men having made such use of them that they became too hot to hold and several bolts jammed. The enemy's digging was interfered with as much as possible.
- SITUATION NORMAL.** 7. By 6.30 am the situation had become normal, though it was uncertain what the position on the left flank was. It was ascertained at midday that the enemy occupied about 100 yards of JEHOVAH TRENCH, viz. north of the Klein-Zillebeke road.
- COMMUNICATION** 8. At 4 am the enemy's barrage was suspected of being on our front, but the only means of communication besides runners, viz. visual, was rendered impossible by the fog. A power buzzer sent up the day before had not yet been got into working order. The first information from the front line was received by runner at 5.35 am.

(2)

REINFORCEMENTS
FROM H.Q.

9. Two platoons were forthwith ordered up from the reserve Coy. under Capt. Thorburn, who was instructed to carry out a counter attack if necessary, otherwise to remain as a reinforcement. The two supporting platoons of the Left Coy. were found to have been called up by the Battalion on our left and were not available. This situation arose from the fact that the position taken over by them from the outgoing Battalion was west of the Klein Zillebeke Road, therefore out of our area.

At 5.50 am a telephone line was run out from Bn. H.Q. to the visual station at I.36.d.05.65 and half an hour later the Battn. Signalling Officer was sent out to lay on a new line from there to the front line. By 7 am communication was through but very shortly the wire to the Visual station from H.Q.'s was cut to pieces. Both Battn. & Coy. runners were used freely after 6 am and rendered valuable service though slow.

ARTILLERY.
(ENEMY)

10. The bombardment was very severe and the whole area back to Bn. H.Q.'s was heavily shelled rendering the movement of reinforcements difficult

OUR ARTILLERY

11. At 4.30 am a slow rate of fire was obtained through the Artillery Liaison Officer and shortly after counter battery work was begun. The enemy however did not decrease his fire and counter battery work was continued until midday.

MENTION.

12. I wish to draw your attention to the fine behaviour of the Officers and men concerned in repelling the counter attack. Major Robinson D.S.O who was inspecting the line at the time, organised the defence and took a personal share in the fighting, particularly when leading a few men against the party of the enemy which had got round to the rear of the centre post in the forward line and killing half of them and dispersing the remainder, after both the Lewis Guns on his flanks had been put out of action. His already proved qualities as a fighting soldier made his presence invaluable and his courage and coolness were most inspiring. I cannot speak too highly of this Officer.

Capt. H.L. KIRBY, commanding the Company involved shewed most splendid courage and resource. He was severely wounded by a bullet in the hand early in the action, but carried on until well after the situation had become normal, in spite of severe pain.

2nd Lieut G.W. MURRELL was severely wounded in three places in the right hand and arm, but carried on through the action and was eventually the only officer on that sector not being relieved until 12 hours after the attack. His behaviour and personal bravery was splendid throughout.

The other officers concerned, who also did very fine work were:

2nd Lieut G.F. COOK (Killed)

" " H.W. HUTTON who was wounded but carried on.

" " F.H. KENNER (Wounded in the shoulder and carried on)

A/Capt. J.M. THORBURN who brought up reinforcements from the

(4)

MENTION (Contd)

Reserve Company and was very severely wounded,
(Since died of wounds)

OFFICER CASUALTIES.

Killed.....1.
Died of Wounds.....1.
wounded.....4.

REPORT by Sergt. CLARK.

About a quarter to four our advanced bombing post sent back warning by a runner that enemy were advancing on left front. The Post fired and withdrew to the Strong Post Line, when the Lewis Guns and rifles opened fire. Major ROBINSON sent me about 4 am on right flank with Lewis Gun team. I had not until then seen any of the enemy. About 4.10 am a barrage was dropped all round the Strong Point and kept-on for 10 minutes, when it lifted to Support Line. I then heard our men open fire, which was maintained for several minutes. I could still see no signs of the enemy and posted one team thus:-

Myself and No. 1 watching front.

2 men half right; 1 man half left, and 1 man watching rear.

The first warning I had that they were behind us was from the man watching behind, who shouted and fell forward. I saw about 12 Germans advancing towards us from the rear, having got round our left flank. We fired a magazine at them with the Lewis Gun and withdrew towards the Support Line, as we were not in touch with anything. We withdrew about 10 yards at a time and opened fire at each ~~post~~ halt. When we reaching Support Line they were "standing to" but had not seen the "S.O.S". I told Sgt FOSTER ~~xxxxxx~~ and he gave me a runner to go to B.H.Q. The Lewis Gun team were attached to Support Line.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

32 R F
Sheet I
Vol 16
FUB
SERV (SERVIDE) BATTN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.Q 2nd line	1917 August 1 st		Battalion in Divisional Reserve for attack. Weather - Very wet & cold.	C.M. H. 36 c 94
"	2 nd		Battalion remained in position. Enemy artillery active. Weather continued to be unsettled.	C.M.
"	3 rd		Weather slightly improved. Battalion remained in position during morning. In the afternoon & evening companies moved up to relieve 26 th R Fusiliers & 21 st K.R.R. troops in the Front line. Enemy artillery very active, causing casualties.	C.M.
KLEIN ZILLEBEKE	4 th		Relief completed, Battalion holding line in the neighbourhood of KLEIN ZILLEBEKE. The G.O.C. received a communication from the Army Commander, saying he was "fully conscious of the stiff time the officers & men were having" & that he was very pleased with the spirit shown by all ranks.	C.M.
"	5 th		At dawn enemy made strong counter-attack under cover of thick mist. Report on attack attached. Enemy artillery very active throughout the day, causing many casualties. Weather fine.	C.M.
"	6 th		On the night 6/7 th Batta was relieved by the 21 st K.R.R. troops Enemy artillery active, gas shells being sent over during relief.	C.M.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet II

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IMPERIAL TRENCH	1917 August 7 th		Relief completed at 5 am. Batten in rest camp in neighbourhood of ELZENWALLE CHATEAU. Day spent in cleaning up + resting. Weather fine + sunny. Open air concert by Batten Party -	COW
	8 th		Tents + bivouacs struck + camp moved to field near RIDGE WOOD. Day spent in cleaning up + reorganising. Weather wet + stormy.	COW
	9 th		Company organisation carried on during the morning. C.O.'s Inspection in afternoon. Enemy aircraft very active, bombing raids being carried out in the neighborhood of HALLE BAST. Open air concert by Batten concert Party + Boxing competition were held in the evening.	COW
	10 th		Battalion relieved 11 th Queens R.W. I. Regt + the 20 th Durham Light Infantry in support. Details moved to DE ZON CAMP.	COW I 34 d. 85 90
	11 th		Weather unsettled. Battalion remained in support + supplied carrying parties to the 237 th Field Coy R.E. Enemy aircraft active, + artillery very active during the night.	COW
	12 th		Weather continued showery. Carrying parties were again supplied. Working parties sent to front line to assist in consolidating trench.	COW

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet III

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IMPERFECT TRENCH	1917 August 13 th		Enemy aircraft active throughout the day. Work on front line trench was carried on by working parties at night. Enemy artillery very active during the night, a large number of gas shells being used.	I 36d. 8590
	14 th		Battalion was relieved during the afternoon by the 17 th Sherwood Foresters, 117 th F. Bde returning to Rest camp at RIDGEWOOD. Relief complete at 7 pm.	
RIDGEWOOD FLETRE	15 th		Day spent in cleaning up + resting. At 5.30 pm Battalion proceeded by motor lorries from HALLEBAST to FLETRE. Details marched from DE ZON CAMP to join Battalion at FLETRE.	
"	16 th		Day spent in reorganising + equipping. Enemy aircraft carried out bombing raid in neighbourhood, bombs being dropped near officers lines.	
"	17 th		Camp was struck + tents erected under cover of hedgerows to prevent observation by enemy aircraft. Battalion inspected by Divisional Commander. After inspection Battalion proceeded on Route March.	
"	18 th		Battalion inspected by G.O.C., 2 nd Army. Remainder of day was spent in recreation.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet IV

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	19 th August 1917		<p>Battalion Church Parade on Battalion Parade Ground Baths at LA BESACE FARM (X.9a.27) were allotted to the Battalion. The undermentioned N. C. Os & men were congratulated by the commanding officer on being awarded the MILITARY MEDAL for gallantry & devotion to duty at KLEIN ZILLEBEITE on the 5th August 1917.</p> <p>1481 Sgt H HARRISON 21149 Pte A.C.J. LORD 4784 Cpl G.H.J. SPRING 60209 " A. GOODLAKE 49659 Pte T LOVELL</p>	C.M.
"	20 th		<p>Battalion training, the following work being carried out:- Physical Training under C.S.M. CHEETHAM. Bayonet Fighting. Lewis Gun Instruction Weather bright & sunny.</p>	C.M.
"	21 st		<p>Platoon & company training during the morning. Specialist training was also carried out & a lecture was given to all officers by Major H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O. Battalion Route March in afternoon, distance about 6 miles.</p>	C.M.
"	22 nd		<p>Battalion in mass for Physical Training under C.S.M. CHEETHAM boys carried out Bayonet Fighting & the usual Specialist classes were held. The afternoon was spent in cleaning up equipment etc. From 9-10.30 pm boys carried out a short route march.</p>	C.M.

WAR DIARY

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Sheet V

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	1917 August 23 rd		Usual training carried out during the morning Battalion Route March at 2 pm. Distance about 6 miles	CW
	24 th		Usual morning training. Battalion inspected by commanding Officer, followed by Route March.	CW
STAPLE	25 th		Battalion proceeded by march route to TATINGHEM area, halting for the night 25/26 th in billets at STAPLE (U.5c). Distance about 9 miles, time of arrival at STAPLE at 1 p.m.	CW U.5c
"	26 th		Battalion left STAPLE at 7.30 a.m. + continued march to TATINGHEM, arriving at billets about 1 p.m. Remainder of day spent in resting.	CW
"	27 th		Weather very wet. Specialist training carried out in billets	CW
"	28 th		Weather continued wet company + Specialist training in billets lectured by company commanders.	CW
"	29 th		Battalion on Training Ground. Platoon + company training being carried out, new Attack Formation receiving special attention.	CW

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet VI

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																				
TATINGHEM Area.	1917 August 30 th		Battalion on Training Ground, usual training being carried out Lectures were given to Officers + N.C.Os.	C.D.H.																																				
	31 st		Inspection of 124 th Infantry Brigade by the Field Marshal, commanding-in-chief. After inspection the Brigade marched past. The Field Marshal, commanding chief expressed his entire satisfaction with the smart + soldierly appearance of all ranks, their steadiness on parade and their handling of arms.	C.D.H.																																				
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASUALTIES</u> during action of 31/7/17 - 7/8/17</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Officers</th> <th>O. Ranks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>KILLED</td> <td>2</td> <td>41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DIED of WOUNDS</td> <td>1</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WOUNDED</td> <td>4</td> <td>84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MISSING</td> <td></td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>7</td> <td>134</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Officers	O. Ranks	KILLED	2	41	DIED of WOUNDS	1	6	WOUNDED	4	84	MISSING		3	TOTAL	7	134	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASUALTIES</u> from 8th - 31/8/17</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Officers</th> <th>O. Ranks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>KILLED</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DIED of WOUNDS</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WOUNDED</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MISSING</td> <td></td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td></td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Officers	O. Ranks	KILLED			DIED of WOUNDS		1	WOUNDED		2	MISSING		3	TOTAL		3
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C.D.H.
2nd Lt. J. H. J. J. J.
for Lt. Col. Conyngham
32nd Royal Fusiliers

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

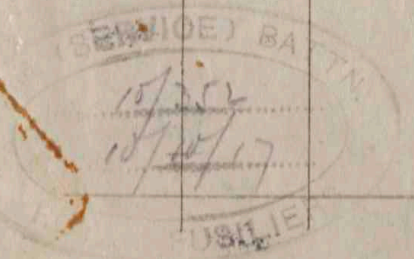
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SHEET I

Vol 17

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
TATINGHEM Area	1917 September 1st		<p>Battalion in Training.</p> <p>"A" Range at Q.14 b allotted to the Battalion, & the following practices were carried out:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application (5 rds) 200 yards. 2. Rapid (15 rds - 5 in magazine) 200 yards. 3. Snap Shooting (5 rds) 300 yards. 4. Application (5 rds) 400 yards. <p>During the evening the Regt Band gave a performance in the Gardens at ST OMER.</p>	Sheet 27 ^A S.E. X.1d.9.1 M.V.																		
"	2 nd		<p>Battalion Church on Field at X.2d.3.9.</p> <p>The Divisional commander presented ribbons to the following, for gallantry & devotion to duty:-</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Lt Col W. C. CLARK D.S.O.</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">MILITARY MEDAL.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capt H. F. WOOD M.C.</td> <td>22531 Sgt MURCHIE, F.G.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>38179 L/C BOVINGTON, G.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>47874 " GRAZIER, J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10195 " GRAVES, N.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bar to M. MEDAL</td> <td>21149 Pte LORD, A.I.C.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22333 Pte CASS J</td> <td>60209 " GOODLAKE, A.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22699 Lpl BARTLETT E.L.</td> <td>38502 " PERKINS, W.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>9853 " WALKER, H.</td> </tr> </table>	Lt Col W. C. CLARK D.S.O.	MILITARY MEDAL.	Capt H. F. WOOD M.C.	22531 Sgt MURCHIE, F.G.		38179 L/C BOVINGTON, G.		47874 " GRAZIER, J.H.		10195 " GRAVES, N.	Bar to M. MEDAL	21149 Pte LORD, A.I.C.	22333 Pte CASS J	60209 " GOODLAKE, A.	22699 Lpl BARTLETT E.L.	38502 " PERKINS, W.H.		9853 " WALKER, H.	" M.V.
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"	3 rd		<p>Company & Platoon Training was carried out.</p> <p>Baths were allotted to the Battalion during the morning.</p>	" M.V.																		
"	4 th		<p>The usual Platoon & Company Training was carried out on the Training Ground.</p> <p>A Letter of Commendation was received from the G.O.C. thanking & complimenting all Units which took part in the parade for the commander-in-chief on the 31st ulto, on the splendid way in which everything was carried out. The commander-in-chief expressed himself as very pleased indeed with all he saw.</p>	" M.V.																		



WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SHEET II

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TATINGHEM Area	1917 September 5 th		Company + Battalion Training on Training Ground. Live grenade practise + Specialist Training were also carried out. Battalion Sports Meeting was held during the afternoon on Field at X. 2b. 8.0. followed by a concert by the Battalion Party.	X. 1d. 9.1 acp
"	6 th		Battalion Training under Major H. A. ROBINSON, DSO, M.C. for attack against two objectives. 2 loops in front taking + consolidating the 1 st Objective. 2 Supporting loops leap frogging + taking + consolidating the 2 nd Objective.	" acp
"	7 th		The Brigade scheme of Attack was carried out on the Training Ground by the Battalion.	" acp
"	8 th		Battalion practised Brigade Attack with other Units of the Brigade on the Training Area.	" acp
"	9 th		Battalion attended Brigade Church Parade on Field at X. 9 central. After Church Parade the Battalion marched to Field at X. 2c. 35.45, where the Commanding Officer distributed the prizes for the Sports Meeting. Draft of 400 other ranks arrived from 139 th Infantry Base Depot.	" acp
"	10 th		Practice Attack carried out in conjunction with the other Units of the 124 th + 122 nd Brigades. A counter attack scheme with skeleton enemy was arranged. Brigade Forward Command Post, Advanced Dump + R. A. P. were also established. During the afternoon officers visited model of country opposite new Div. Front. Officers, W.O.s + Sergeants attended Lecture in R.F.C. Hall LONGUENESSE.	" acp

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SHEET III

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TATINGHEM Area	1917 September 11 th		Usual Platoon + Company Training. a Gas Demonstration + Lecture was given by Divisional Gas Officer. 7 Officers reconnoitred new sector of the line to be taken over by the Battalion.	X-1d. 9.1 act
"		12 th	Practice Attack was repeated under same arrangements as for the 10 th . Party of 6 officers reconnoitred new sector of the line. During the afternoon the Second Army rifle grenade practice ground was allotted to the Battalion.	" act
"		13 th	Companies carried out arms, feet + boot inspections. Rest of the day was spent in resting + recreation.	" act
ZUYTPEENE		14 th	Battalion commenced to march to the forward area. Route for the day being LONGUENESSE - ARQUES - LE NIEPPE - LES TROIS ROIS - O. 26b - ZUYTPEENE (0.7d). Distance about 12½ miles. The night 14/15 th was spent in billets in the ZUYTPEENE Area.	O. 7d. act
THIEUSHOUK		15 th	March to the forward area continued via BAYIN CHOE - OXELAERE - O. 12b 54 - P. 7a 49 - STEENVOORDE - EECHE - Q. 28 5.9 - THIEUSHOUK (Distance about 13½ miles) Battalion arrived at billets at 4 pm + the night was spent in THIEUSHOUK district.	W. 6a. 5.9 Sheet 27a act
LA CLYTTE		16 th	Battalion continued its march to the forward area, halting for the night at MURRUMBIDGEE CAMP, LA CLYTTE. The route for the day being Q. 30c - R. 25b - R. 19d - BERTHEN - R. 16c - WESTOUTRE - CANADA CORNER - LA CLYTTE. The weather remained bright + clear throughout the march. Draft of 37 O.R. arrived from 39 th Infy Base Depot	N. 7a 6.3 Sheet 28 SW. act

WAR DIARY

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Sheet IV

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIDGE WOOD	1917 September 17 th		Battalion moved to RIDGE WOOD by route march, arriving in camp at 11 pm.	N. 5a. 7.8 Sheet 28. <i>all</i>
CANADA STREET TUNNELS	18 th		Concentration of the Brigade was resumed on the night 18 th /19 th Battalion moving to the area of CANADA STREET TUNNELS. Details marched to CARNARVON CAMP. Battalion band Party gave a performance prior to the Battalion moving to the forward area. Weather clear + bright.	<i>all</i>
	19 th		Battalion remained in position throughout the day. During the night the Battalion moved up to its assembly position for the attack on TOWER HAMLETS.	<i>all</i>
	20 th		Report on attack attached.	<i>all</i>
	21 st		Day spent in consolidating objectives gained. Enemy artillery very active. Weather fine + bright.	<i>all</i>
	22 nd		Battalion holding the line. Consolidation of objectives continued. Enemy artillery + aircraft very active. During the night 22/23 rd Battalion was relieved in the line + took over the camp at RIDGE WOOD.	<i>all</i>
RIDGE WOOD CASTRE AREA	23 rd		Day spent in resting + cleaning up. Battalion marched to OUDERDOM + entrained at 5.30 pm for CASTRE. On arrival at CASTRE Battalion marched to LA BREARDE, arriving in billets at 1 am. Capt. R. W. HAMMOND given temporary command of 26 th Bn R. Fusiliers with acting rank of Lt Col.	V. 5c Sheet 27a

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SHEET V

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA BREARDE	1917 September 24 th		Day spent in resting + cleaning up	V 5c. all Sheet 27a
"	25 th		<p>Congratulatory message received from Divisional Commander, for the way in which the attack on the 20th September 1917 was made, + the determined way in which many strong positions + difficult points were dealt with.</p> <p>The following message was also received from Field Marshal Viscount French "My warmest congratulations + best wishes to all my old comrades"</p> <p>Company organisation + Specialist training was carried out.</p> <p>Baths were allotted to the Battalion.</p>	V. 5c all
"	26 th		<p>Weather continued bright + clear</p> <p>Company + specialist training + organisation were continued</p>	" all
"	27 th		<p>The G.O.C., 124th Brigade inspected the recent drafts.</p> <p>Battalion Transport proceeded by march route to the GHYVELDE area, halting for the night at WORMHOUDT.</p>	" all
"	28 th		<p>Weather clear + bright.</p> <p>41st Division transferred from Second to Fourth Armies.</p> <p>Battalion moved to GHYVELDE by bus, arriving in camp at noon.</p> <p>Remainder of day spent in resting.</p> <p>Enemy aircraft very active at night, bombs being dropped in the vicinity of the camp.</p>	all

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SHEET VI

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHYVELDE	1917 September 29 th		Inspection by Divisional Commander. Company r Specialist Training. Bathing in the sea during the afternoon. Enemy aircraft active at night	D. 210.80.90 SHEET 19 all
	30 th		Battalion Church Parade on Parade Ground. Remainder of day spent in rest r recreation Enemy aircraft active at night	" all

CASUALTIES
during action of
19-22/9/1917.

	Officers	Other Rank
KILLED		35
DIED of WOUNDS		5
WOUNDED	10	224
MISSING	4	29
TOTAL	14	293

* 3 since died of wounds,
1 killed.

STRENGTH during SEPTEMBER

	OFF	O.R.
MAXIMUM	41	954
MINIMUM	25	666
PRESENT	25	666

*all info sent to adjt
32nd (S) Div Royal Garrison*

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

R E P O R T

on

OPERATIONS, 20th to 23rd September, 1917.32nd (S) Bn The ROYAL FUSILIERS.
-----1. CONCENTRATION.

The Battalion marched from TATINGHEM (St OMER area) to MURRUMBIDGEE CAMP, LA CLYTTE, in three consecutive days.

17th. Moved to RIDGE WOOD.

Night 18th/19th moved to MOUNT SORREL area, digging in about 500 yards W. of CANADA STREET TUNNELS (Bde Hdqrs) - Battalion Hdqrs in TUNNELS.

At dusk on 18th evening enemy put creeping barrage, mostly 4.2 and 5.9 H.E., across the area, causing 20 casualties, including the Battn Signalling Officer (Wounded).

2. ASSEMBLY.

Night 19th/20th Battalion moved into Assembly Position in file along CLEMSONS LANE to SHREWSBURY FOREST, its front resting on the road running North from just West of LOWER STAR POST, its right being immediately behind LOWER STAR POST and its left on the road 250 yards North of that point. Assembly completed 1 hour before Zero, with two casualties.

3. DISPOSITION.

In support on the Right of the Brigade Sector, 50 yds in rear of the 10th "Queens" (the attacking Battalion of the Right-Sector) whose waves were closed up so as to occupy 75 yds depth from front to rear of the Battalion.

The 17th K.R.R.C., 39th Division, on the right, the 26th Royal Fusiliers, supporting the 21st K.R.R.C., on the left.

Battalion disposed as follows:-

"A" Coy (right) and "B" Coy (left) in front line with "D" Coy (right) and "C" Coy (left) in support.

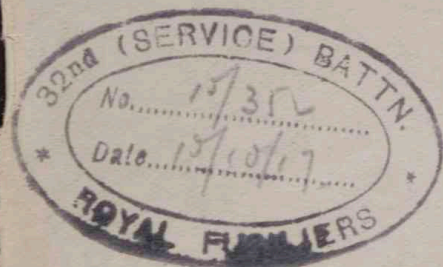
All-Coys, with 2 platoons in front wave and 1 platoon on 2nd wave, each wave being a line of sections in file.

The whole Battalion closed up to a depth of 75 yards.

4. THE ADVANCE.

At Zero hour, 5.40 am, (Summer time), the Battalion advanced in close formation immediately behind the 10th "Queens", thus escaping the enemy barrage which dropped a few minutes later well behind the Battalion - the assembly having been carried out without being observed by the enemy's forward posts.

There was no obstacle to the advance in the first 200 yards, but at about that point very heavy machine gun fire was opened from JAVA DRIVE on the left front from shell holes and from the trench opposite the centre, causing very heavy casualties amongst the 10th "Queens" and also amongst the Battalion.



(2)

4. The Advance (Contd)

The attack was definitely held up in the centre and the majority of the officers of the Battalion became casualties, including the Acting Adjutant and two of the Company Commanders, a third being hit but remaining at duty.

The 10th "Queens" ceased to be a fighting unit but "A" Company, under 2nd Lt. CHRISTIE, pushed on on the right, and "B" Company, under the C.S.M., got forward on the left, moving out of the Battalion Sector.

This relieved the pressure on the centre and the whole line was enabled to progress, though the check had lost the Brigade the benefit of the barrage.

In spite of this there was no serious opposition encountered between the RED and the BLUE LINES, though the enemy Machine Gun fire and sniping from the opposing ridge was heavy and accurate.

By 9 am the BLUE LINE was captured but the units were extremely disorganised, and owing to the heavy casualties, which amounted to about 50% of the Battalion, it was found impossible, in face of the M.G. fire to organise a further advance.

The Battalion had captured the first two Objectives (which had been assigned to the attacking Battalion in front of it) and was unfitted for any further effort beyond holding the ground gained.

At about this period the 17th K.R.R.C. on the right were re-inforced by a battalion of the Cheshire Regt. and a portion of the latter, seeing how thin our line was, took up their position on the left of our right party.

A portion of the Left Company of the Battalion had moved so far across to that flank that they finally dug themselves in on the opposing slope, about 200 yards beyond the BASSEVILLE BEEK, on the extreme left of the Bde Sector, together with a party of the 26th Royal Fusiliers, while parties of the 21st K.R.R.C. and 18th K.R.R.C. were behind them West of the BASSEVILLE BEEK.

Thereafter the Machine Gun fire of the enemy, partly from the opposing slope and especially from the rather low ground opposite the Division on the right, became, and remained, very serious, making movement even by individuals very hazardous, and effectually preventing any movement by bodies of men.

The sniping too was very accurate.

At about 4 pm and 6 pm the enemy were reported to be massing opposite our front for a counter-attack, but our S.O.S. Barrage was prompt and prevented any developments.

The Brigade was re-inforced by the 123rd Brigade and orders were given for the 23rd Middlesex to assemble on the left of the BLUE LINE and attack the GREEN LINE at 9.30 am on the 21st in a S.S.E. direction.

Great difficulty was experienced in assembling on the somewhat vague line then being held in the face of continual Machine Gun fire and increased shell fire. The advance was begun, several dugouts were captured and cleared, but after about 300 yards the advance was definitely held up by Machine Gun fire from undamaged concrete dugouts and from trenches.

(2)

(3)

4. The Advance (Contd)

During the morning very effective Machine Gun fire was brought to bear on the opposing ridge from 8 Machine Guns posted just behind our RED LINE and also from rifles in the BLUE LINE, but by noon the attempt was abandoned and the BLUE LINE became again the ultimate line of the ground captured in these operations, and was held by mixed elements of the two Brigades.

The Battalion was relieved on the nights 22nd/23rd and 23rd/24th.

5. ARTILLERY.(a) OUR BARRAGE.

At Zero hour the barrage gave the impression of being some 350 yards away instead of 150 yards, and in fact the attacking troops being held up near the start, never got really under it. The distance of the smoke and dust-cloud was undoubtedly due in part to the fact that no H.E. was observable in the "A" Barrage, and this employment of a shrapnel "A" barrage appeared to be ineffectual in keeping down the fire of the forward enemy Machine Guns.

(b) S.O.S. BARRAGE.

This was exceedingly prompt and effectual.

(c) ENEMY BARRAGE.

Started well behind our assembled troops and was only spasmodic during the whole of the 20th. On the 20th night and during the whole of the following two days and nights it was very heavy on the area from the original Front Line back to the 18 pounder line, with occasional heavy bursts on the forward area.

6. TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY.

Did not come into action. They might be very useful if brought up well after the advance when there would be a better chance of the teams, with their ammunition, arriving more or less in-tact. They could then be most usefully employed in barraging Strong Points against which it would be impossible to employ a fresh artillery barrage without a good many hours delay.

7. MACHINE GUNS.

(a) OURS. The Machine Gun Barrage fire was, of course, unobservable during the advance, but during the consolidation of the BLUE LINE it appears to have been a valuable addition to the Artillery Protective Barrage.

The Machine Guns allotted to the Battalions reached a splendid position immediately behind the RED LINE and were extremely useful in harrassing the enemy on the opposing ridge, at a range of 950 yards. - During the 21st they found many targets on that ridge and were of great assistance.

(b) ENEMY. His Machine Guns in the forward line, both in dugouts and in trenches, were unaffected by the shrapnel barrage and the morale of the teams

(3)

(4)

7. MACHINE GUNS (Contd)

was up to a high standard - they fought their guns until flanking parties had got well round their positions.

During the whole action enemy Machine Guns were very active from the opposing slope, and one gun firing from opposite the next sector on the right was able to sweep the whole of the Battalion position, including the low ground around the BASSEVILLE BEEK and the high ground about the RED LINE. His gun was never put out of action.

8. SNIPING AND RIFLE FIRE.

(a) OURS. Sniping poor, great lack of individual effort. Rifle fire was used by groups very largely, particularly after reaching the BLUE LINE. So much so that, while waiting for further supplies of S.A.A., the main party on the right was using enemy rifles and ammunition of which they had captured large quantities, and fired some thousands of rounds in assisting to cover the ~~advance~~ of the 123rd Brigade.

There was abundant evidence that whenever the enemy became exposed to rifle fire his resistance ceased at once.

(b) ENEMY. Sniping good, continuous and very harassing. The individual courage and determination of the enemy ~~was~~ when in a fairly good protected position, was very well exemplified by this.

Rifle fire of other description apparently nil.

9. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) TELEPHONIC: The Brigade Forward Station at R.P.1 was never out of touch with the Bde Hdqrs for more than a few minutes. The wires were cut by shell-fire a good many times, but the work done by the linesmen was prompt and courageous and deserves special mention.

(b) A POWER BUZZER was in action soon after the post was established and was a valuable auxiliary.

(c) VISUAL was used only on the extreme left of the Brigade Sector, where one of the main parties of the Battalion was. No signallers reached the right of the BLUE LINE.

(d) RUNNERS. Most valuable and efficient. Continuous communication was maintained with all parties after the attainment of the 2nd Objective, and the work done by this branch of the Battalion was of outstanding merit.

(e) WIRELESS was not used.

(4)

(5)

10. SUPPLIES.

S.A.A., rations and water were sent up by the Brigade, and most of them reached Battn Hdqrs and were distributed to parties in front. But the shelling of back areas was particularly heavy on the 21st and 22nd and the conducting of carrying parties presented very great difficulties.

The forward Battalion dumps were not used, partly owing to the shortage of men available for sending back, and partly because as this Battalion had not been in the line before the 20th there were none who could be depended on to guide a party to the right spot. Shortage of men was a hampering factor on every occasion of any sort throughout the operations.

11. MEDICAL.

The work of the R.A.M.C. bearers appeared to be very good in spite of the large number of cases to be dealt with. The evacuation of the wounded was made comparatively easy by the fact that about 70 per cent of the casualties must have occurred before reaching the RED LINE.

In the forward area great use was made of enemy prisoners as bearers, who, generally speaking, behaved very well in this respect.

I would suggest, however, that a practice be made, both by Battalions and the R.A.M.C. of carrying and erecting a number of small sign-posts to indicate the direction to and position of R.A.Ps and Bearer Relay Posts.

12. GASUALTIES.

	Officers	O.Ranks.	
(a) KILLED.....	-	35	
DIED OF WOUNDS.....	-	5	
WOUNDED.....	10	224	
MISSING.....	4	29	x
	14	293	

Of the total sent up 77% officers became casualties and 60% other ranks.

x Of the 4 Officers "Missing" 1 was subsequently killed and the other 3 Died of Wounds.

Of the 29 Other Ranks "Missing", 6 have since been reported Killed in Action, and 1 Wounded. 2 of the Wounded have died.

(b) At least 70% of the total casualties occurred in the attack on the RED LINE and were caused by bullet wounds.

(5)

(6)

13. POINTS suggested by the OPERATIONS.

(a) BARRAGE. 18 Pounder Shrapnel is ineffectual in dealing with M.G. Emplacements and has little moral effect.

It also produces very little "line" for the leading waves to follow. The impression produced on me personally at Zero hour was that, although I was ahead of my Battalion and within 70 yards of the leading wave of the front Battalion, the barrage was over 300 yards in front of me.

Suggested that "A" Barrage be entirely H.E., and good deal of shrapnel being used in "B" Barrage to catch enemy retiring from forward posts across the open.

(b) RIFLE FIRE. Was good when carried out by parties under an officer or senior N.C.O., but individual effort is lacking, men being too apt to lie in shell holes with their heads well down, not realizing that every British sniper will assist in Neutralizing enemy sniping.

(c) GRENADES. Men have not learnt the value of this weapon against M.G. Emplacements and Strong Points; the want of realism in training is partly responsible.

(d) LEADERSHIP AND INITIATIVE. This is the pivot of the whole question of success in such operations. The importance of it has not been overlooked in training but it is clear that too much attention cannot be paid to it. The difficulty of the advance was enhanced enormously from the time when 14 out of 18 officers became casualties by the want of confidence of the N.C.Os in themselves and of the men in their N.C.Os.

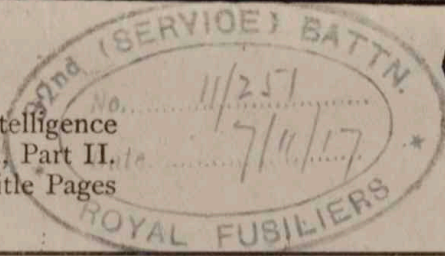
(e) MINOR TACTICS. A great deal of training has been devoted to the principle of flank attacks on emplacements and strong points, and this was carried out in practice on several occasions with complete and immediate success; but time and lives are still lost through it not being universally applied.

(f) The formation was too dense. It would appear impracticable to attempt, once the advance has begun and if any opposition is encountered, to open out two Battalions from a total depth of 150 yards or so to their proper depth and at the same time retain efficient organization and control.

J.C. Clark

Lt. Col. comdg
32nd (S) Bn The Royal Fusiliers.

10.401917



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet I Vol 18

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHYVELDE "B" camp.	1917 Oct	1 st	During the morning Battalion carried out Platoon + company Drill, Musketry, Fire control + Specialist Training carried out during afternoon. Weather bright + clear. Enemy aircraft active, a number of bombs being dropped in the neighborhood. Draft of 283 OR arrived from 39 th Infy Base Depot.	D. 21c. 80.90 SHEET 19
"		2 nd	Weather bright + clear. Organisation of new drafts. Battr on Northern Training Area (West). Platoons + Coy Drill + Specialist training being carried out. Enemy aircraft active at night.	"
"		3 rd	Usual Training on Southern Training Area (West). Weather continues fine.	"
"		4 th	Rifle Range allotted to the Battalion, the following practices being carried out: 1 st 5 rounds Application at 200 yards. 2 nd 10 rounds Rapid at 200 yards.	"
"		5 th	Usual company + Specialist Training carried out on Southern Training area (East). 7 Officers joined from Base.	"
COXYDE BAINS		6 th	Battalion marched from GHYVELDE to COXYDE BAINS (WILTSHIRE CAMP) to relieve the 1/4 th East Lancs Regt in the Reserve Battalion sector of the Coast Defence. Relief complete at 7 p.m.	X. 1 to central SHEET 11.
"		7 th	Battalion Church Parade. Afternoon spent in rest + recreation. Weather clear + bright. 6 Officers joined from Base.	"

WAR DIARY

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Sheet II

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COXYDE BAINS	1917 Oct 8 th		Physical Training + Bayonet Fighting, Platoon Drill + Specialist Training was carried out. The Commanding Officer + 2 Officers per Coy re-committed the O.D.B. Defence Sector.	X. 1 to central a.c.
"	"	9	Usual Training. The C.O. lectured to all new officers. Sandbagging of huts carried out.	a.c.
"	"	10	Lecture to all ranks on Outposts. Outpost drill + Putting out a small outpost line. Sandbagging of huts continued.	a.c.
"	"	11	Baths at ST IDESBALDE allotted to Battalion. Specialist + company Training continued.	a.c.
"	"	12	Practical Outpost Work + Lectures. Lewis Gun Teams carried out firing practices. Specialist Training in their own arms.	a.c.
"	"	13	Lectures by company Commanders on Trench Routine + Gas. Physical Training, Musketry, Lewis Gun + Rifle Grenade instruction carried out. MILITARY MEDALS awarded by the X th Corps Commander to the undermentioned, for bravery + devotion to duty during the attack on the 20 th Sept 1917 63178 Pte C.A. MUCHMORE 60190 L/C S. ROBINSON.	a.c.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet III

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
COXYDE BAINS	1917 Oct. 14 th		Battalion church Parade in concert Hall, WILTSHIRE CAMP. Remainder of day spent in resting	X. 1 b central												
In the line		15	Battalion relieved the 11 th Bn "Queens" R. W. I. Regt in the Right Batten sector of the Front line. Enemy artillery active during relief. Details proceeded to CORNWALL CAMP, OOST DUNKERKE. Weather clear & bright. The undermentioned were awarded honours by the X th Corps commander for gallantry & devotion to duty during the attack on 20.9.17. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MILITARY MEDALS.</u></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>8940 A/CSM T DAVIES</td> <td>22195 Sgt J. H. ROBBINS</td> <td>18783 Pte J. CRAMB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9613 Sgt C. H. HISCOKE</td> <td>49646 Pte W. HORNE</td> <td>94413 bpl W. A. OXENHAM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>49617 Pte A. G. CRAMB</td> <td>22191 bpl E. PEGGS</td> <td>60224 Pte F. G. CLARKE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>49606 " R. J. COLE</td> <td>8962 Lt/Sgt J. KELLY</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BAR TO MILITARY MEDALS</u></p> 38179 Lt. C. G. H. BOVINGTON. 54945 Pte C. BAYLEY.	8940 A/CSM T DAVIES	22195 Sgt J. H. ROBBINS	18783 Pte J. CRAMB	9613 Sgt C. H. HISCOKE	49646 Pte W. HORNE	94413 bpl W. A. OXENHAM	49617 Pte A. G. CRAMB	22191 bpl E. PEGGS	60224 Pte F. G. CLARKE	49606 " R. J. COLE	8962 Lt/Sgt J. KELLY		B. H. Q M 20. 6. 84
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49606 " R. J. COLE	8962 Lt/Sgt J. KELLY															
"		16 th	Weather bright & clear. Our aircraft very active. Enemy artillery active, especially on back areas. D. C. M. awarded by the Field Marshal commanding-in-chief to 52677 A/CSM C. GORMAN for remarkable bravery & coolness during attack on 20.9.17.	"												

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet IV

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the line	1917 Oct	17 th	Enemy French Mortars active on CLOSE SUPPORT. Our aircraft very active, especially with Machine Guns against enemy lines. Enemy artillery very active, the woods near B.H.Q. receiving special attention.	M. 20 b. 84.
"	"	18 th	Enemy French Mortars active, causing casualties 1 O.R. Killed + 2 O.R. Wounded. Enemy artillery continued active, - our Artillery carried out retaliation shoots. Our aircraft very active over enemy lines.	"
"	"	19 th	Our aircraft active, dropping bombs on enemy defence works. OOST-DUNKERKE ROAD was very heavily shelled by enemy. Enemy T.M.s active, killing 2 O.R. Wire defences strengthened on both flanks.	"
"	"	20 th	Artillery on both sides very active. Wiring parties sent out. The Field Marshal commanding in chief awarded the following honours to the undermentioned officers: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>BAR TO D.S.O.</u> Lt Col W.C. CLARK, D.S.O.</p> <p><u>D.S.O.</u> 2nd Lt M.I. CHRISTIE</p> <p><u>BAR TO M.C.</u> 2nd Lt W.P. TROTTER M.C.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>MILITARY CROSS.</u> Capt R.W. HAMMOND " H. DIPPY 2nd Lt A.C. DAVY " M.C.B. TODD</p> </div> </div>	"

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet V

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the line	1917 Oct 21		Artillery duel continued. Enemy shelled the vicinity of OOST DUNKERKE, shells falling around Details camp + H.Q. Wiring carried on.	M. 20 b. 8.4. <i>all</i>
"	Oct 22		Artillery below the usual activity on both sides. Improvement of trenches as carried out. Wire defences again strengthened.	" <i>all</i>
"	"	23	Enemy artillery fairly quiet. The Battalion was relieved by the 10 th Bn Queens R.W.I. Regt on night 23/24 th commencing at 12.30 am. On relief the Battr marched to OOST-DUNKERKE + took over YORKSHIRE CAMP (X.3a.9.1).	" <i>all</i>
YORKSHIRE CAMP	"	24	Day spent in cleaning up + resting.	X.3a.9.1. <i>all</i>
"	"	25	Baths at YORKSHIRE CAMP allotted to the Battr. Major H.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O. awarded the Bar to D.S.O.	" <i>all</i>
"	"	26	Company + Specialist Training carried out. YORKSHIRE CAMP shelled with H.V. shells, 2 O.R. being wounded.	" <i>all</i>
"	"	27	Usual training carried out.	" <i>all</i>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Sheet VI

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
TETEGHEM.	1917 Oct 28 th		Battalion relieved by 7 th Bn Seaforth Highlanders (9 th Division) + conveyed from COXYDE to TETEGHEM area by lorries.	I.15 to 2.3 SHEET 19												
"	"	29	Company organisation + training carried out	"												
"	"	30 31 st	Usual training	"												
<p><u>casualties during the month.</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>KILLED</td> <td>3</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WOUNDED</td> <td>6</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> </table>					KILLED	3	O.R.	WOUNDED	6	O.R.						
KILLED	3	O.R.														
WOUNDED	6	O.R.														
<p>Strength during October</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Officers</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MAXIMUM</td> <td>41</td> <td>1004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MINIMUM</td> <td>27</td> <td>983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PRESENT</td> <td>41</td> <td>1004</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Officers	O.R.	MAXIMUM	41	1004	MINIMUM	27	983	PRESENT	41	1004
	Officers	O.R.														
MAXIMUM	41	1004														
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<p>Accepted Capt + Adjut for Lt Col comdg 32nd (1) Bn The Royal Fusiliers</p>																