

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

Box 52
BORN SUSSEX REGIMENT
REG. NOS. 7/11

CAT NO 119.

702

7TH BATTALION THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
1ST DIVISION

1915

APPENDIX

May

ADDRESS

30th. 11.5. MAJOR J.F. STEWART, 1207 B:
JAY & HIND 102 R. & P. 79
Horses, 24 Vehl also 9
bicycles called from 7th
BOROUGH Exp. S.W. Rly.
(Additional 6 A.S. Corps R. &
P. attached.) arrived SOUTH-
P.M. APPROX 8.30 AM. Immediately
on S.S. CITY OF SUDBURY.
6 pm. Sailed for HAVRE.

HAVRE

31st. 2 am. Above detail arrived HAVRE.
9 am. " " disembarked.
3 pm. " " marched to No. 2.
Rest Camp, distance 5 miles.

1st. 9.30. Above detail left No. 2. Rest
Camp for HAVRE OVER THE
HARBORHEADS.
11.15. Intrained within one hour.
6 am. Train despatched.
3 pm. POINT DE BRIQUE

2nd. 6.5. Rejoined Battalion Hd: qrs:
am. and attached to same train which
was despatched 6.30 a.m. (Vide
page No 3.). Detail complete
without any casualties.

ADDRESS

31st. 7.30. Hd: qrs: "C" & "D" Companies
P.M. IN COLONEL V. J. OSBORN Command-
ing, Captain R. J. A. SHIRLEY Ad-
jutant, Lt: J. S. CLARKE Q.R.M.R.
CAPTAIN G. H. HENRY, J. A. THOMPSON,
Q. T. OSBORN, LIEUT. A. K. TROWER,
Q. T. BICKETT, C. W. BEALE, R. G.
WELLS. 2nd LIEUT. R. J. WILTON,
G. A. THOMPSON D. J. COX, P. H.
BICKERTON, and Medical Officer
LIEUT. A. H. THOMPSON, R. A. H. C.
TOTAL: 15 Officers & 490 R & P.
entrained & railed from Govern-
ment siding.
10.40. Arrived FOLKESTONE PIER, & embarked
P.M. on S.S. VICTORIA.
7.55. "A" & "B" Companies, MAJOR R. J.
BICKETT, Commanding, CAPTAIN
J. C. HUBBARD, L. P. JASS, R. S.
BORNER, LIEUT. N. J. HENDERSON,
R. J. HAY, H. J. COX, 2nd LIEUT.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS OFFICE

THE BATTALION THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
12TH DIVISION

1915

APPENDIX

May

ADDRESS

30th. 11.5 HAYOR J. L., SERGEANT, LIEUTENANT;
JAY & HIND 102 R.C.M. 2. 79
Horses, 24 vehicles 9
by order rallied from 24th-
BOROUGH L., R. S. V. H.Y.S.
(Additional 6, A. S. George R. S
attached.)
12.45. Above detail arrived SOUTH-
P.M. AUSTON's ambulance Armamentally
on S. S. CITY of DUNKIRK.
6 pm. Rallied for HAYERS.

HAYES

31st. 2 mi. Above detail arrived HAYES,
9 am. " " disembarked,
3 pm. " " marched to Ho 2.
Rest Camp, distance 5 miles.

1st. 9.30. Above detail left Ho 2, Rest
Camp for HAYES 6 AM 28

11.15
8 am. HARBORHEADS.
Entrained within one hour.
Train despatched.

POINT DE MONT

2nd. 6.5 Rejoined Battalion Hd:trns;
8 am. and dispatched to same train which
page No 3.). Detail complete
without any casualties.

ALDERNEY

31st. 7.30 Hd: trns: "C" & "D" companies
p.m. IN COLONEL V. L. OSBORNE Command-
ing, Captain H. J. A. BETHUNE Ad-
jutant, LIEUTENANT COLONEL G. R. HIR,
CAPTAIN G. H. LEECH, J. A. THOMPSON,
G. F. OSBORNE, LIEUTENANT A. H. BROWN,
G. J. RUSSELL, G. V. BEALE, R. G. WELLS,
2nd LIEUTENANT R. J. WILSON,
G. A. THOMPSON, J. J. COX, 2nd LIEUTENANT
RICHMOND, and Medical Officer
LIEUTENANT A. H. THOMPSON, R. A. H. G.
TOTAL:- 15 Officers & 450 R & F.
entrenched & rallied from Govern-
ment sidings.
Arrived FOLKESTONE 21st, & embarked
on S. S. VICTORIA.
"A" & "B" Companies. MAJOR R. H.
BIRKETT, Commanding, CAPTAIN
J. G. RUSSELL, L. F. GARRIS, H. S.
BOREBY, LIEUTENANT R. J. RICHMOND,
R. T. MAY, H. V. COX, 2nd LIEUTENANT

10.40
p.m.
7.55
p.m.

1915

MAY

31st. otd.

H. G. BUTTON, G. MADIE, H. B. STOKES, D. F. WOODFORD, J. O'LEARY - 11 officers, & 438 H & V. entrained and railed from Government siding. Arrived POLKSTON PIER, & joined H&V:iers of beta Ion on B. S. VICTORIA. 11.33 p.m. Railed from POLKSTON PIER, p.m.

JUNE

1st. 1 a.m.

MOULDERE - OSTRHOVA
B. S. VICTORIA arrived after clear smooth passage. No moon. Disembarked & marched to OSTRHOVA RISE GALE (1 1/2 hrs) - No casualties. Remained at OSTRHOVA. Interpreter MAOJ. VASSIUS soldier of 2nd Class 15. Section of Comd's overiers & addnl:iers- tion joined for duty, on order of Base Commandant MOULDERE.

2nd. 4.25 a.m.

OSTRHOVA - ARQUA - MINDREQUINS
Marched for FOW IN ARQUA.

5.30 a.m.

Arrived FOW IN ARQUA.

6.20 a.m.

Interviewed and took on MAJOR SICKELAY'S detachment (Vale page No 1.)

6.30 a.m.

Train left.

11.15 a.m.

Detained & marched one mile to MINDREQUINS.

12.45 p.m.

Went into billets.

MINDREQUINS

3rd.

In billets. Instruction to troops in respirator drill.

4th.

In billets. G.O. & H.O. Officer to WARRORS for machine gun instructions.

5th. 6.10 a.m.

Evacuated and joined Brigade at ARQUAS. Marched to bivouac north of LES GRAS RUES, west of HAZENBROUK. 12 1/2 hrs. 37 men fell out. Heat considerable after 10 a.m. All in bivouac 1/30 p.m.

1915

ARZEBIDA

June1st BATTALION - STEWARTSON6th, 6, 10
a.m.

Paraded, reached starting point 6/25 a.m. Reviewed by Corps Commander, Major General (Temp: Lieutenant) W. P. PULFERY A.C.S.I., D.S.O., on parade through HERBIBS, broke off from Brigade at MOORE HOUSE 11.30 a.m. Great heat. Men fell out exhausted in spite of extra halts.

2.30
p.m.

Companies in billets and bivouacs. 156 men spent on marching in, distances 12 1/2 mts. All rejoined by 6 p.m. (10th) - Men began falling out after 9 mts and 2/3 mts in last 1/2 day.)

STEWARTSON

7th.

10 pm.

Remained in billets. Rallied in on alarm posts. 45 minutes to distribute & hook in transport ready to move, without collecting blankets from outgoing bivouacs.

8th.

Remained in billets. Instructional parade. Visit of G.O.C. Brigade to 'A' Company.

9th.

Remained in billets. Route march 1 1/2 hours to the platoons each Company 7.30 to 6 a.m., and 6 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Instructional parades additional. G.O. Adj't: 4 Coy: Commanders & 4 Subalterns re-considered areas E of STEWARTSON on front from North MOIR DE FROST-STRAND to South SAC ST HAUR.

STEWARTSON - ARBERTIENS

10th.

5.20. Paraded.

8 a.m.

Marched to ARBERTIENS in Brigade 11th Middlesex left Colleen E of STEWARTSON to join 12th Brigade Infantry via GROIX DU SAC. Heavy rain first half of march. Latter half clear.

8.45

Arrived and attached 3rd Infantry Brigade commanded by COLONEL GILBERT of DEYON HERRI; part of 27th Division. Allocated halves of Division: HQ des Jesuits. Companies in fortifies adjoining streets to East. Reserve ammunition, tools & detachment LAUTHIND, & CI R & Z. remained at STEWARTSON. Captain J.A. THORPSON reported sick.

ARBERTIENS

11th.

9.30

G.O. & Adjutant to P.I. Squatters trenches with Lt:COL: WOOD GDS:

1915

June

APPENDIX

11th. 2 pm. "A" Coy to R.I. Fusiliers trenches etc.

- "A" Coy to R.I. Fusiliers trenches for 24 hrs; instructional tour (Machine Gun Section (2 Gns) also with this party.)
"B" Coy: to D.O.L.I. trenches for 24 hrs; instructional tour (Machine Gun Section (2 Gns) also with this party.)
"C" Coy: to R.Irish Regt; for night entrenching 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
"D" Coy: to Leinster Regt; for technical instruction.
Major Stemann, 2nd In Command to R.I. Fusiliers trenches.
4.30. Lieut Cpl. Thompson R.A.M.C. to R.I. Fusiliers for instruction.

12th. 9.30. "D.O." to D.O.L.I. trenches with

- Lt. Colonel ERICs order:
"E" Coy to R.I. Fusiliers trenches (for 24 hrs; tour (H.G. Section, 2 Gns, called with this party.)
"F" Coy: to D.O.L.I. ditto.
"G" Coy: to R.Irish Regt; for night entrenching 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
"H" Coy to Leinster Regt; for technical instruction.
2.30. Major Stemann, "2nd in Command" to D.O.L.I. trenches with Lieut; Adj. THOMPSON R.A.M.C.
Sergeants ~~...~~ ~~...~~ ~~...~~
Sgt. I. THOMPSON stak to 37th Field Detachment.

13th. 10 am. O.O. & "2nd in Command to Leinster

- Rgt; H.H. Received report of explosion of German Mine in D. Coy, Trenches IN TOUCHET followed up by shell & machine gun fire, 7.25 a.m. One Sergeant & 2 Ptes; "D" Coy; wounded by shrapnel splinters, all slight. One private "C" Coy; killed while working in Irish Fusiliers trenches morning of 13.VI.15.
"A" Coy: to R.Irish Fusiliers trenches for 24 hour tour.
"B" Coy: to D.O.L.I. ditto.
"C" " " " Leinster Regt; for technical instruction.
"D" Coy: to R.Irish Regt; for night entrenching 8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.
O.O. & 2nd in Command to Generalbridge Rgt; (7) trenches with Major ARMISTE, Commanding.
- 14th. 2 pm. "A" Coy. to Leinster Rgt; technical instruction.
"B" Coy: to R.Irish Rgt; night entrenching 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
"C" Coy: to R.Irish Fusiliers for 24 hrs; tour.
"D" Coy: to D.O.L.I. for 24 hrs; tour.

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June

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14th. 12 Casualties for proceeding 24 hrs:
 noon. (One private 73rd Coy?)
 5 pm. German 42. Howitzer from point
 just S of S. shelled "O" Coy's
 front billets in school S. of
 gas works. 5 shells (one un-
 exploded) no damage to personnel,
 or material.
 8 pm. German F. Artillery 3 shells on
 "place" north of gas works.
 between "A" & "B" Coys: billets.

ALBERTWERBES - STEINWERK

15th. 2 pm. All four Companies back to town
 billets. Officers for Battalion
 to return STEINWERK passing
 HOTEL DE VILLE 4.30 p.m.
 4.20 pm. Arrived as directed.
 5 pm. Noted peculiar movement of shells
 of windmill south of POPE DE
 NIEZZE, about 1 mile from main
 road. (Reported to 13th Division
 H. 8 - 8.55 pm. on 16.VI.15.)
 7.15. All Companies in billets STEINWERK.
 12. Casualties for preceding 24 hrs:
 noon. 2 privates slightly wounded by
 shell on HANON S. of "A" Coys;
 billets. One horse of water-
 cart at same time, slightly
 damaged wounded.

STEINWERK

16th. 6 am. } Company Interior Economy.
 to } Smoke helmets, respirators, arms,
 11 am } equipment & boot repairs. Heavy
 eye pieces of smoke helmets found
 broken, through bad folding & men
 lying on them. (90% in "C" Coy.)
 11 to } Men confined to Company billet
 4 pm. } area.
 4 pm. } Men allowed out walking in
 to } station billet areas.
 6 pm. } no further casualties.

17th. Remained in reserve ready to move.

18th. As on 17th.

19th. 6 am. Route march fully equipped via
 to LE ZETIE NORTHWEST-EN VERRIER,
 9 am. Sal all ranks, reception transport
 & infantry platoon company, &
 Battalion duties. Rapid loading
 & fixing, & inspections.
 BREAKER visited by G.O.

20th. 5 am. Three Companies to HAILLIEUL, &
 to return for bath & change of
 11.30. underclothing. Arrangements
 a.m. satisfactory. One Coy: including
 platoon, & details total 432,
 still to bathe.

21st. 6 am. Route march fully equipped
 to VIA LE VERRIER-NORTHWOOD (S of)
 9 am. -LEVEL CROSSING S. of HAILLIEUL.

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June

APPENDIX

21st.
dtd.

560 all ranks. Reconstructions transported, & infantry platoon, Rapid Loading & aiming, bomb throwing with dummies. Exercise on ground B. of STEENBERGK for Company Commanders, & sub-platoons supervised by O.O.

22nd. 6 am. Route march fully equipped, via LA ZEVIL HOUTIER-LE VERBILIN.

23rd. 9 am. Route March STEENBERGK-LA ZEVIL-
0 am. BALAISUL level crossing. SCHOOL
to BALAISUL level crossing. SCHOOL
(36th H.Q.). Instruction.

24th. 6 am. Short route march, afterwards interior economy details, (S.B. fully equipped Battalion, taken 3 hours for 7 miles. OR conclusion of 7 miles & halt of 4 hour reconnoitred with heat from Cooker, 14 garrisonals, Heat 7 miles to complete 14 would take 3 1/2 hours. Total 7 1/2 to 8 hours to march 14 miles on usual roads.

25th. 3 pm. Heavy rain in afternoon. Marched Battalion 4 1/2 plns to billets SIEPPE-FOUR DE-SIEPPE, COHONNE ZAVR. All settled in 10.45 p.m. Transport to FOUR DE-SIEPPE. No casualties en route. Two machine guns with complement to IX; RG's; for duty H. of FLORENTINERT WOOD.

FOUR DE SIEPPE

26th. 10 am. O.O. & A Company Commanders to Leinster Regt; trenches, 62nd Regde; reconnaissance, & settlement of details, & time of relief. H.Q. Officer (Reserve), & Signalling Sergeant for same purposes.

27th. 10 am. 2nd in Command & Medical Officer to Leinster trenches,

3 pm. Snijper, under Lt: BRYAN to Leinster trenches.
7 pm. O.O. & 2nd in Command, Adjutant, & H.Q. to relieve Leinster trenches. 9th Coy: rendezvous at Hotel Our Gormer 6.30 p.m. to relieve D.O.M.I. snijpers at IXB SARD, and LA TOUQUET (2 platoons each place). 7th Coy: 9.10 p.m. 7th Coy: 6.45 p.m. 10th Coy: 10 p.m. All reliefs complete 12.15 h.m. 29th pm trenches go to 94 in-dummies. No casualties during relief.

LA TOUQUET

28th. 10.40. Captain BUSEWILL Commanding "A" e.m. COY: killed in advanced salient by snijper, when pointing out

1915

June

26th.

etd.

dangerous spot which required closing.
 Intelligence Officer reported German working party at barracks at brewery South end of WETTINGHAM (0.17 n. 1.7). Other casualties to 12 noon three other tanks slightly wounded.

6.30 p.m. German working party at Brewery 8 of WETTINGHAM again reported. Shelled by a Battery (95th) of 2nd Inf'y Bde; but continued work after an interval. Report made to Hdqrs Major 36th Inf'y Bde; at 6.30 pm. 14th request to notify 2nd Bde; Casualties to 12 noon this day One slightly wounded.

29th. 6 am.

German working party at Brewery 8 of WETTINGHAM again reported. Shelled by a Battery (95th) of 2nd Inf'y Bde; but continued work after an interval. Report made to Hdqrs Major 36th Inf'y Bde; at 6.30 pm. 14th request to notify 2nd Bde; Casualties to 12 noon this day One slightly wounded.

30th.

All quiet. Casualties to 12 noon this day. One killed, two wounded, slightly. Complaints of Snijper in or about houses near 13 FOURTH BAY STATION. Search made without result. Communication trench immediately E. of Hvy: line deepened. A.F.W. 12th Div: sent Belgian Officer and Interpreter to remove all inhabitants.

WEST SUSSEX RSR REFERENCE

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.
13TH DIVISION.

1915.

Appendix

1st Lt.

IS FOUCHER.

All quiet. German working party at Brewery, South of FRODLINGHAM and reported. Casualties to 12 noon this day - one badly and three slightly wounded. Relief by 8th Lt. Fusiliers commenced 8-30 pm, completed 1.45 am 2.11/15. No casualties during relief.

2d Lt.

2nd Lt.

In billets, 8.30 pm, working party 300 strong under Captain Lacey for 2nd line. Work continued till 1.45 am. At 8.30 pm there is too much daylight to work anywhere in view of German observation posts if work is to be concealed - no casualties. Draft of 40 R & P arrived from 3rd Bathn. Good and well-trained men.

3rd Lt.

Working party of 650 (480 under

Major Birkett and 800 under Capt. Jess) to work on 2nd line - wounded. Signaling by lights reported to have been seen from HOPBILMS direction; search being found in house suspected; A.S.M. 27th Division took up case.

4th Lt.

Working party, 500 (300 under Capt. THOMPSON, 200 under Capt. HERR)

to work on 2nd line; casualties nil. Signaling again reported but this time from POINT DE HIERRE direction. This may be artillery signallers - direction taken and point fixed by daylight bearings for enquiry by daylight.

5th Lt.

Working party, 650 under Major BIRKETT and Captain GABIS to work on 2nd line - casualties one man B. Coy. wounded.

Commanded to relieve 8th Royal Fusiliers in trenches 90 to 12-65 am 7-VI-15.

1918.AppendixJuly.LE FORQUER.

7th

All quiet. Supposed that relief of German trenches must have taken place since last ton of Bata. here. Snipers of enemy not so active and less fire at night. Two men (A & D Coy.) wounded.

8th

All quiet. One man B. Coy killed. Working party on PRILMORHEM SANDSLEY continued active. Communication of 93 Trench opened out further for holding 2nd line in case of mine attack by Germans.

9th

All quiet. No Casualties; 0.0. settled line of 50 yards line trench through LE FORQUER village with 0.0. 69th Coy. B. & H. Coy. 3rdn shelled by German 4.7. Gun, three direct hits. No damage except to Barn which protected houses. German Ft. Arty. also shelled unoccupied trench in rear of 94. 0.0. 6th Green's visit re taking over.

10th 12.30
am

Report of German concentration and stood to arms throughout all trenches thick fog which gives terrible pandemonium lasted till could not see. 6th Green's Regt. 6am. Killed by 6th Green's Regt. commenced 6am and completed 7.45 am without casualties. Battalion moved to billets PORT DE NIÈPPE. All in, 9-am.

PORT DE NIÈPPE.

Rested in billets. Orders for line to be taken up in case of determined attack, received and position reconnoitred.

11th

Battalion on duty at call of G.O.O. Division.

12th

Route march by platoons morning and evening; 1 1/2 hours each. Bomb instruction new types, by B. Co. Officer at DOUTOUR Farm. Stood to arms on account of heavy firing from H. Co., which spread along southwards to LIS River. Dismissed after an hour.

13th

9.35
pm

1916.Appendix.July.

14th 9.30 am G.O. 2nd In Comd. and Adjts
visited Hd Qrs. 2nd R.I.
Battalions, HOUPPIERS for
taking over.

11 am

Heavy shelling of ARRETTIERES
this day: over 300 shells
reported chiefly at NAIRIE,
and adjoining streets.
Major SIEBMAN reported sick and
unfit for duty. Major BIRKERT
to 2nd In command. Capt.
RODDHANS to command 3rd Company.
Strength this day. 1045 all
ranks.

15th 6.45 pm Marched for HOUPPIERS and took
over H. & and B. Coys of H.I.
Battalions. A, B, and C. Coys
in billets; D. Coy 3 platoons in

HOUPPIERS.

All quiet. Rain & high wind this
day. Reconnaissance of trenches
of section to be occupied by
Battalion.

16th

All quiet. ~~Severe~~ weather
continued rainy. Fatigue
parties daily while in reserve
on communications & by night
on Support lines.

17th

G.O. & 2nd In command to view
trenches 80 to 89 inclusive
with O.O. 8th R. Battalion.
Discussed programme of work
to be carried out. Transport
ordered to move & be brigaded at
FONT D'ACHILLIS distant about
5 miles from Br. Hd. Qrs.
(1 hour & 30 minutes) Fatigues
as on 17th.

18th 9 am

German artillery fired over 100
shells into HOUPPIERS & adjacent
roads searching for anti aircraft
gun which fired on & hit a
German aeroplane. No casualties
in Br. One civilian killed at
HOUPPIERS. Fatigues as on 17th.

19th 5 am

Company & platoon commanders
round trenches to be taken over
tomorrow also platoon Sergeants
Squad & signallers - All quiet.

20th 10 am

Started relief of 8th R. Battalion
in trenches 85 to 89 inclusive.
Relief complete 7.45 pm. 8th
R. P. took over TISSAGE billets.
Hd. Qrs. 7th Royal Sussex remained
in HOUPPIERS. No casualties
during relief.

21st 5 pm

1916.

Appendix

July.

22nd

Quiet day. Ordinary trench work continued, casualties to 12 noon 1 killed & 1 wounded.

23rd

Quiet day ordinary trench work. Casualties one wounded & one died of wounds received on 22. VII/15 (1001 Loo).

24th

Quiet day ordinary trench work. No casualties. Redistribution of ammunition supply commenced.

25th

Quiet day ordinary trench work. New observation post & snipers' post arranged by D Coy overlooking German trenches & enemy can be seen moving through them. Casualties to 12 noon one killed. Two German snipers accounted for by D Coy.

26th 2 pm

Our artillery bombardment of BRASSEVILLE & GUYANNE (near chicken farm) FLEUBOURGHEM. Howitzers 4.5 and trench howitzers (50 lb bomb) bombarded for quarter of an hour while 2nd guns sweep communication trenches with shrapnel. BRASSEVILLE & North of trench was opposite for 300 yards were left vacant except for 1000 cwt's whils garrison took over. No immediate retaliation from enemy. Pte King A Coy brought in a German hand Grenade which they had attached to a flag placed near their trenches by him & inscribed "Gett Strafe Germany" King has done much good patrol work. Casualties to 12 noon two killed.

27th 8.30 am German sent "aerial torpedoes"

on "Sausages" over A Coy in HOBBS' Farm to the number of eight but no damage. D Coy in B9 trench also got some rifle grenades & "sausages". One sausage recovered intact is a cylinder of 3/4 diameter of sheet iron plugged with wood & fastened by screws. A slow match at one end. How throw is doubtful but range appears to be 400 yards. Relieved by 8th B. Fusiliers - No casualties - Battalion into reserve

1918.

Appendix

July.

28th

Battalion in Reserve. A large number of German field artillery shells were put about the streets & houses. No casualties in Battalion Fatigues on support trenches etc.

29th

Battalion in Reserve. About 50 German howitzer shells put into HOUNDING streets between 9 & 10 am. Dressing station twice struck but no casualties. A shell into timber yard wounded 3 of 9th AI Regtillers but none of Royal Sussex. Fatigues on support trenches etc continued.

30th

Battalion in Reserve. Fatigues on support trenches etc continued. No casualties

31st

Battalion in reserve. At 6 pm German 4.5" Gun shelled vicinity of CHATEAU DE STADE. Three men killed & Lt RICHARDSON & SERGE ROBERT wounded. Lt RICHARDSON'S platoon (No. 5) was occupying part of subsidiary line. Seven shells were put in by Germans of which three did not burst. Five men were watching in house which was hit but two escaped unhurt.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MUSEUM

THE BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

August.

HOUPPING.

1st

Battalion in reserve. No casualties. Total fatigue during this Reserve period 3600 men.

2nd

6 p.m. Battalion rallied 8th Royal Fusiliers. No casualties during rally which was completed by 8.30 p.m. Rain this day.

3rd

quiet day - One killed & one wounded. On O. G. & 7th Co's report German rifle fire much more accurate & lower than formerly. 2nd Lt borne out by subsequent observation. Main. Captain J. A. WILKINSON sick to transport lines.

4th

quiet day. 8 p.m. R.E. tunnelling Coy exploded a mine opposite 8P trench as Germans had come dangerously close to our camp. Repair difficult to estimate as Germans had carried out extensive repairs by daylight on 5. VIII/D. Explosion was followed by less rifle fire than usual on these occasions. Casualties one died of wounds & two wounded. 3. O. G. Det held conference on 5th of counter attack & methods of distribution of bombs in trenches attended by C. O. Units at R. O. G. Hd. Q. R. S. Heavy rain this day.

5th

8.30 a.m.

Corps Commander, Divisional Commander & Det Commander visited trenches held by Battalion. Casualties one died of wounds & one wounded.

6th

quiet day. Casualties two killed & one wounded. Germans were heard singing & celebrating fall of YPRES. Bombing parties threw two bombs into German trenches by day after approaching under cover.

7th

quiet day. At evening about 5.30 p.m. German artillery were active & shelled HOUPPING & AMBERING. Some shells in

1918.Appendix.August.

7th (Crd.)

Battalion Hd. Qrs. The King brought in German notices from in front of their trenches "FARBIGER KREUZ" painted on canvas. He had previous brought in a German flag roughly made of canvas & painted in German colours. Casualties & wounded.

8th 10.0
a.m.

German heavy artillery commenced registering on "D" Coy's trench 89 also on FIVE AVENUE & other communication trenches. A direct hit on dugout occupied by 5 men "D" Coy killed one man & wounded three. Battalion relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers commencing 6 p.m. Complete 0.30 p.m. One wounded during relief. Casualties one killed & wounded.

9th 3.56
a.m.

Battalion in Reserve. German bombardment of 88 & 89 trenches commenced at 4.45 a.m. Battalion stood to for over an hour. Owing to noise of bombardment at HOOGE to North & firing at PROGRESSIVE TROOP difficult to hear where gun fire came from. While heavy guns & mine throwers bombarded 88 & 89 trenches & 95, 96 to a less degree also our Company (O) in reserve in S. 6/88 - German field guns fired shrapnel over a line 300 yards in rear.

"G" Company in occupation of S. 9/89 in reserve suffered no casualties - 8th R. Fusiliers suffered 25 casualties.

One of our field batteries D/62 also later A/65 Howitzers & O/62 field fired on opposing German trenches & neither side used rifles. During bombardment all telephone wires including cable in A&Ks. were out. Lieut. TITON kept Battalion Hd. Qrs. in touch with "D" Coy in S. 9/88 - Morning was busy. Plans of recovery of all HOOGE trenches by 6th Division (16th & 16th Decs.)

Fatigues on support lines & laying underground cable to prevent repetition of breakages in telephone line. Peak Coys brought up to Bn Hd. Qrs. from transport lines to remain handy. No casualties.

10th

1918.

Appendix.August.

- 11th Patigues support lines burying cable & machine gun emplacements making. One wounded making communication trench behind fire trench 89. A dangerous place & well out of it with one casualty.
- 12th Patigues as before. All quiet. No casualties.
- 13th Patigues as before all quiet. No casualties. Total of men for work on derelict during this tour in Reserve. ~~10000~~ 10000.
- 14th 6 p.m. Relief of 8th Royal Fusiliers by Battalion in trenches 88 to 89. Complete without casualties at 3 p.m. Sgt. JOHN G.A. THOMPSON sick to commandment home AMBULANCES. Remained slightly.
- 15th quiet day. Rain increased. One man wounded. Engineers arrived to tackle problem of 88 trench.
- 16th Very heavy rain with thunder & lightning. Communication trenches began to get bad with boards floating. These should be fastened down as soon as submerged they give a flimsy footing.
- Type of breastle for end of trench board to rest on as per sketch - The side stays are useful for to hold up revetment - Rebar prevented artillery fire & enemy artillery how opposite are believed to be serious & are not enterprising. No casualties this day.
- 17th Heavy rain continued with thunderstorms. Telephone became rather unusable at times when lightning was close. Sniping seems to have stopped on the part of the enemy. Nothing doing except trench repairs.
- 18th Slight rain. Day continued quiet. 2 platoons from each Company of 10th

WEST SUSSEX RSP REF

1915.

Aircraft.

19th (ctd.)

Royal Fusiliers (Shock Exchanges Battalion) attached to each Company 7th Royal Sussex Regt for individual instruction of their officers N.O.'s 24 hours tour. Growing rather excessive & somewhat detrimental to individual instruction. No casualties.

19th

Quiet 24 hours 2 platoons of 10th Royal Fusiliers for 24 hours tour in relief of those arrived yesterday. Col R. WHITE commanding with O.C. Snipers shot & Germans this day. Targets have not been mainly for snipers. Casualties two wounded.

Foggy shelling of ANBERTIERS at ~~HOUEPAINS~~ burning with incendiary shells - some houses on fire.

20th

During this tour & for three days or last Reserve period two motor machine guns attached for firing on German Communications etc at night (1) On broken timber bridge 17000 from our trenches & W of ~~PERLEBRIER~~ (2) On road N of ~~PERLEBRIER~~ using 2500 to 2600 slant & steering tops of buildings (3) On cross roads at LA VERDURE FARM & road leading thereto from ~~PERLE~~ DE LA MOURABRIER. O.C. M.M.G. worked in conjunction with O.C. 7th Royal Sasseur. Five opened when transport heard on road. Quiet day. Relief of Battalion & attached platoons commenced 6 p.m. All complete 9 p.m. Last company into SISBACK billets 10 p.m. Casualties two wounded but not during relief.

21st

Battalion in Reserve in SISBACK billets. Cleaning up. Draft of 1 Corp'l & 29 Privates from base. A few returned wounded 2nd Bn. Men others 3rd Bn. & a few R.A.S.C. Transfers. Quality Good. Battalion this day strength of Battalion 27 officers & 1055 other ranks.

22nd

Quiet day - No working parties - first time men have had two consecutive even nights in since 18-VI-15.

1915.AppendixAugust.

23rd
 Lieut. H. J. COX killed in action when returning from working party 1:30 a.m. between S/98 & RIVER AVENUE.
 Usual fatigues on support & cable.

24th
 Quiet - No casualties - Usual fatigues.

25th
 Quiet - No casualties - Usual fatigues.

26th
 Quiet day. Total of fatigues during period in Reserve 1060 men.
 Battalion started relieving 8th S. Snatchers 6 p.m. Relief completed 8 p.m. without casualties. Strength of Battalion 25 Officers 1048 O.R.

27th
 Quiet day. Enemy friendly & conversational asked if Battalion was here last night apologized for shells burst on parapet & wished our men to meet them half way to talk. Strict orders issued to prevent this. One German killed by our snipers in D Coy.

28th
 Germans continue to be conversationally inclined but stopped for lack of response.
 Battle report centres occupied for practice. Communications with new hurried cable worked smoothly. Supply of bombs from dump in rear practised.
 One man killed in 58 trench listening post. This post is unsize & remains remodeling.
 Capt. G. P. OSBORN rounded in thigh when dressing ether bathing in R.L.Y.S in covered position.
 German sniper seems to have found this place from trees LEVONQUER way. About half a dozen shrapnel were fired by Germans guns at the bathing place shortly after but all went over.
 No one burying cable in trench & deep below drain under boards or communication trenches which makes 2' 6" below earth level or trench. Feet boxes buried every 100 yards or so with blue posts on side of trench to mark them. Brigadier Genl BOERADVAINE round trenches at night. Snipers shot two Germans this day.

1915.

Amundik.Amundik.

29th

Very quiet day - Heavy rain.
No casualties.

30th

9 a.m. Inspection of bomb magazines by
G.S.O.I of 1st Div. Localities approved.
Largest supply of bombs should always
be kept in support fire
trenches & other lines in rear.
No battle report sent in -
Telephone communications
through to Division from fire
trenches also by orderly.

2/50
P.m.

31st

quiet day no casualties.
Reported from O.O. Coy. that
they think there are different
troops opposite since yesterday.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS
RSR MS 7111

7TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

September HOURLINES

1st

Inspection by G.O.C Bde of troops in trenches standing to in positions occupied during bombardment. This should be practised again & additionally manning of the parapet quickly from bombardment positions, halted by 6th B Fusiliers 6 pm completed by 8 pm. Heavy rain afternoon. One wounded by shrapnel in HOURLINES STREET SERGEANT SHERRETT H.Q Section.

2nd

Battalion in Reserve - A.B & Q Coys in "SISBAGS" billets "J" Coy in support line. Heavy rain. All quiet in firing line. Lieutenants PROWSE & JAY promoted temporary Captains, 2nd Lieutenants LINDSEY & STURD promoted Lieutenants, dated 10th June (Wide London Gazette.)

3rd

Battalion in Reserve. Large H.E working parties found by battalion. Very heavy rain. Considerable damage to wire, support & communication trenches from rain.

4th

Battalion in Reserve. More rain. H.E working parties found and work on communication trenches continued. One man "D" Coy wounded at washing place in TYS-BEYER on left of S.S.85.

5th

More rain. Church service in billets. H.E working parties found. Capt HIRSH promoted temporary Major dated 10th July (Wide London Gazette) Lt Col OSBORN proceeded on short leave; Major HIRSH in temporary command. Enemy's and our guns active today; no damage in HOURLINES.

6th

In Reserve R.E working parties found arranged scheme for wire and signalling between trenches and Battalion & Brigade Headquarters, for use in event of wires being damaged. A/65 battery (heavy) fired 20 Lyddite shells at a point opposite trench 88 where a Machine Gun had been located and they exploded parapet damaged and they exploded with a few "misses" and "sausages" which did no damage

1918.

Appendix.

September

7th 3 pm

Army Commander Lieut General Sir H. G. O. PINDER K. C. B. inspected the Battalion A. G. & D. Coye were drawn up in two lines, by trench north of "SISAGOZ" he then proceeded to trench C. J. 88, occupied by "D" Coy; he stated that he was very satisfied with all that he had seen. Battalion commenced to relieve 8th R. Fusiliers in trenches. Relief completed without casualties by 7.45 pm. New system of sentry posts commenced for night duties; No. 02 posts relieved sentries doubled.

8th

Quiet night in trenches. Enemy's machine guns and search lights active during night, heavy mist until 7 am. One man "D" Coy killed in listening post opposite trench 87 about 5 am. Quiet day. Machine gun located in BRASSBRIE OPERATIVE, opposite trench 89 firing in direction of LE TOWNIER.

9th

Quiet night. Our patrols think relief in enemy's trenches was being carried out. Our wiring parties were able to do a considerable amount of work. Orders had been issued for the evacuation of HOUSEHILLS by civil inhabitants, and all had left by 9 am today. Regimental Officer shop & canteen opened today. Civilians were seen at work behind enemy's line, carrying coops.

10th

Quiet day in trenches. 2 men wounded by "miss bangs". Enemy's artillery has been more active today in shelling our transport from the direction of PINEBERY; about 12 rounds fired today which fell near battalion HQ (2) about 4 pm; one man slightly wounded by shrapnel. Route taken by transport has now been altered.

11th 5.30

Quiet day Machine guns in trench 85 opened on hostile working parties at 4 HALLOW'S PARK at request of 11th Middlesex Regt work ceased. Lt Col W. L. OSBORN returned from leave in England & resumed command. Casualties 2 killed & 1 wounded. Shelling of front entrance Sn H. 0. has been persistent at 5.30 pm for 4 or 5 days

1915.

Appendix

September

12th 6 am Sounds of mining opposite 1st Coy of 7/88 heard by miners up to 8 am. Lt GARDNER, R. I., sent for & arranged change from 4th Coy to 10th in enemy sup. Charge blown at 9 pm. Casualty reported. Generalities 2 wounded.

13th 12

noon

Lt RICHARDSON recovered of wound reported at 2a H. Q. Lt HIND transport officer reported sick again last night from foot lacerated by horse accident. Battalion's conference at H. S. R. at H. Q. 10 am. Heavy conversational again.

12/45 About 12 "Miss bangs" on 88 trench replied to with 8 from our H. P. A. Shell in trenches by 8th H. P. commenced 5.30 pm complete at 7.30 pm. All in billets 7.40 pm no casualties this day.

14th

In Reserve No. 2, 100mm. Heavy artillery somewhat active 4.1 mortar shells on ground between 39/88 & 21st trenches. Tanks not recognized by us but was probably trench hoiviser position at fire trench end of IRISH AVENUE. No casualties this day. Sun again this day. Fine spell of weather broken & wind changed to S.W. Capt & Adjt STRAIN to England on leave this day.

15th

1st Reserve usual fatigues. Route marching 5th platoon daily over 10,000 yard course full marching order. Gate way of 2a H. Q. again shelled twice during day from PERCHES direction. Official report received through 2d Major of soldierly conduct of 1st Lt SURYON 8th Coy Sussex Regt attached mining section of 26th Bde in recovering gassed miner from mine shaft near that blown up by us on 12th inst. Reporting officer Lt GARDNER, H. S. & O. R. 12th Division. No casualties this day.

* (4 platoons A one platoon B Coy) 10 am Bomb instruction by 2 Lt Col WOODWARD to officers & 8 O. R. per Coy.

16th 9.45

am

Route march 4 platoons C Coy 1 platoon B Coy 10,000 yards course inspected by O. O. 26th Bde on passing 2a H. Q. Casualties to 12 noon one man shrapnel wound.

10 am Bombing practice by Coys.

4.2 pm

1918.

September

- 17th 7.45 am Route march 4 platoons D Coy 1 platoon B Coy. Bombing practice by Dcys. 21st day. Unaided trenches. No casualties.
- 18th 7.45 am Route march 1 platoon B Coy Unaided trenches. Bombing practice by Dcys. No casualties.
- 19th Relief of 8th Royal Fusiliers in trenches commenced 5.30 pm finished 7.30 pm. Lt R.D. WELLS leave to England - No casualties.
- 20th Quiet day. Heavy shelling to south of ARMENTIERES heard. Casualties one wounded G.O.'s conference at R.ctr. H.Q.
- 21st Quiet day. Major S.H. BIRKBEY to leave England. Post 8.0.8. message to artillery covering 88 trench. 2 minutes for first shell to land on German trenches. Casualties one man accidentally wounded in trenches.
- 22nd 10 am G.O.'s conference. German 7.7 centimetre guns fired 50 to 60 shells H.P. & shrapnel on West portion of HOWLINGS. R.E. strike tubes & 12 shells close by on 3 & 4 of house. Sergeant slightly wounded with shrapnel. Houses vacated. Our field guns & howitzers replied with 80 shells or so on various portions of German lines. From C 17.d.4.5 (Sheet 86) Magazine bursting of shells was 1280 between 2 & 3 gaps between report of gun & arrival of shell.
- 23rd German artillery again active & put up barrage between main road into HOWLINGS (from ARMENTIERES) & R.IVS at chateau DE LA HDSE. Casualties one wounded.
- 24th Moved H.Q. of 4th into new Battle Report centre (GOODWOOD) in trenches German artillery active with field guns & howitzers on whole area. Mde H.Q. moved into chateau de la HDSE (old Battalion H.Q.) D Coy in trench 69 immediately S of R.IVS had a contest with bombs & rifle grenades against Germans in the CHAUSER & BREVIER Germans ceased fire after finding our troops well provided with grenades & mortars. Casualties nil to 12 noon

WEST SUSSEX RSP REF

1915.

Appendix.

September

25th

Smoke curtain arranged to take place at 0.56 am along whole length of British line. Dump struts burnt in bundles along parapet. Incendiaries, & red phosphorus bombs, with smoke candles put up an effective curtain. No mining dump & FORGERY curtain drilled to left front artillery on both sides active. Casualties 3 killed & 9 wounded.

26th

Absolute quiet along front. Even an aeroplane only attracted a few solitary shots & "snorkaker" in German line. An aeroplane flying fairly low or even at a height generally attracts a large volume of rifle fire. Casualties two wounded. Solved at evening from trenches by 7th Durham L.I. Relief completed without casualties & moved into billets in ABERMURRES.

7.30 pm

27th 3.30 Heavy shelling by mortars of all

to billets except one. Machine gun section lost Sgtt JASSON killed. Sgtt BALDWIN wounded & five who killed & eight wounded. "G" Coy 1 killed & 4 wounded. "H" Coy 4 wounded. A Coy 1 wounded. Total 4 killed & 18 wounded. Three miles killed.

BOUPLINES - BUSNETTES

28th 5.45 Marched for STRENGTHOCK entrained 9 am.
Arrived MOCQUES 11.30 am. Marched to BUSNETTES 3 miles billeted for night.

VERVOIGHEMUL

29th 10.50 Marched from BUSNETTES to VERVOIGHEMUL.
Billeted in mine workings of that place, strength of Battalion 27 Officers & 1015 men.

30th

Relieved 3rd Coldstream Guards in trenches E of old German line E of VERMELLES on frontage of 300 yards - three lines deep. Ede H. Q. at LEROUVING, in H.Q. in second line. Wet night & some shelling during the night. Shortage of water in these trenches. Carriage for it by hand only from water carts 1 mile distant. Casualties 1 killed & 9 wounded.

WEST SUSSEX

1915.

Appendix.

September

25th

Smoke curtain arranged to take place at 0.56 am along whole length of British line. Dump stores burnt in bundles along parapet. Shells, etc. & red phosphorus bombs, with smoke candles put up an effective curtain. Morning damp & foggy curtain drifted to left front artillery on both sides active. Casualties 3 killed & 9 wounded.

26th

Absolute quiet along front. Even an aeroplane only attracted a few solitary shots & "snorkeler" in German line. An aeroplane flying fairly low or even at a height generally attracts a large volume of rifle fire. Casualties two wounded. Followed at evening from trenches by 7th Durham L.I. Relief completed without casualties & moved into billets in ABERDEENBARRS.

7.30 pm

27th 2.30 Heavy shelling by mortars of all

to billets except one. Machine gun section lost. SGT BASSON killed. SGT BALDWIN wounded & from two killed & eight wounded. "G" Coy 1 killed & 4 wounded. "H" Coy 4 wounded. A Coy 1 wounded. Total 4 killed & 18 wounded. Three miles killed.

HOURLINES - BUSHNETTES

28th 5.45 Harshed for STEWARTS entrained 9 am.
 4 pm Arrived BROOKS L.I. 3 am. Harshed to BUSHNETTES 3 miles billeted for night.

VERQUIGNOUIL

29th 10.50 Harshed from BUSHNETTES to VERQUIGNOUIL.
 3 am Billeted in mine works. S. of that place, strength of Battalion 27 officers & 1015 men.

30th

Followed 3rd Coldstream Guards in trenches E of old German line E of VERMELLES on frontage of 300 yards - three lines deep. Bde H. Q. at LEROYVILLE, Bn H. Q. in second line. Wet night & some shelling during night. Shortage of water in these trenches. Carriage for it by hand only from water carts 1 mile distant. Casualties 1 killed 9 wounded.

WEST SUSSEX

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1915.

Appendix.

October, OPPOSITE HULLUCH.

1st

Continued consolidating front line & communications. Fire trench subject to enfilade from HULLUCH on left flank & S. R. Fusiliers on left flank; 11th Middlesex on right flank. Casualties one killed & four wounded.

2nd

This line consists of the back communication trenches made by Germans to lead into their front line from HULLUCH. Included in our defences near most forward line were two German Gun pits with 2 field guns & about 1000 rounds ammunition abandoned by them. Commenced digging a forward line (parallel to German trench covering HULLUCH) about 1700 distant from VERHEILDES-HULLUCH road. Straight untraversed trench to be used for assembly for attack. Our Artillery covered working parties with shrapnel barrage on above named road. Casualties 3 wounded.

3rd

Continued work at night & communications every 100 yards to new assembly trench. Wiring done by Pioneer Bn. Northants with gaps every 12 feet. Considerable heavy shelling by howitzer searching our area all night but no shells into trench. Casualties 1 wounded. 1 missing (Pte. DOWN, "D" Coy.)

4th

Work as yesterday. Much shelling at intervals, gave ration & water parties a bad time at night. Water very short owing to difficulty of carriage. German field guns removed at night by R.G. & Pioneer working party. Casualties 1 missing killed & 8 wounded.

5th

Work as yesterday. Quieter night. Germans also working hard, only thin wire on their HULLUCH-VERHEILDES road line, but heavy posts & wire on edge of houses in village & S.R. yards up to ridge facing us & between WINDLES & HILL 70 & chalk pits. Casualties 2 wounded.

1918.

Appendix.

October.

6th

Work as yesterday. More
shrapnel on trenches in afternoon
& some howitzer shells distributed
as daily over area. Casualties
3 wounded.

7th

Relieved by 10th Gloucester Regt.,
relief ordered 7 p.m. did not
commence till 10 p.m. owing to
this unit having to arrive from
another trench line. Casseron
Higgin: also took a short piece
of our line & Roberts a portion
in rear. Casualties 2 wounded.

VERQUIN.

8th

Battalion H.Q. & staff clear of
line. 3.45 a.m. whole battalion
arrived VERQUIN. 8.30 a.m.
billets in village. Ordered to
stand ready at one hour's notice
to march.

9th

Remained in billets - Very filthy
& all occupied in cleaning.
Still standing to.

10th

Remained in billets.
Strength 4th State 765 -
Hospital 78. Command 18.
Total 1050.

11th

Remained in billets.

ROYELLE AND VERRELLERS.

12th

Marched from VERQUIN to ROYELLE-
LES-VERRELLERS & billeted 3 Coy's
in CHATEAU farm buildings & one
in Main Street. Transport in
fields towards LAZINGOUM. Rate
of march about 2 1/2 miles an hour
which is good and it is found no
men fell out going at this rate.

13th

Remained in billets while heavy
bombardment from our guns about
VERRELLERS proceeded all day
against HULLIHOE & HOLHEIZOUMEN
REBOUDY preliminary to attack
by 46th Division & 55th & 37th
Infy. 3000 of 12th DIVYI
Attack partially successful but
full objective not gained.
Moved at 7 p.m. to occupy
railway trenches VERRELLERS which
were found untenable owing to
proximity of gun & howitzer
emplacements. Billeted in
raind houses at cross roads N
of PHILLOSOPIES.
Casualties 2 wounded.

1915.

Appendix.

October.PHILOPPHIA.

14th

Moved from PHILOPPHIA to railvee 27th Bde. QUINN'S REGT. in trenches opposite HULLUCH & immediately S of VERMILLET - HULLUCH road. Relief complete 3 a.m. Two boys (A & B) in fire trenches. D. Coy. in support at about 150 yards and C. Company in reserve 500 yards in rear in old German line with battalion Headquarters. Casualties - one wounded. 3 Machine guns in first line, 1 Machine gun in reserve near Battalion Headquarters.

TRENCHES.

18th

11th Middlesex Regt: on our left shelled by Germans to some extent. German line about 400 yds. from our front line. Not much rifle fire but considerable shelling by enemy field guns at irregular intervals. Retaliation with assistance of liaison officer 76 Brigade R.F.A. at Battalion Headquarters. Trenches improved by traverses and communication trench between STONS ALERT and HAIN ALLEY deepened. Partial parties for our and Germans dead about HULLUCH Pond carried on work. Casualties one killed and two wounded.

16th

Draft of 30 N.G.Os. and men remained with Transport. Remained in trenches as yesterday. Shrapnel barrage by our artillery on German trench S and W of HULLUCH Pond continued. Working of our trench continued. Our snipers killed two Germans when fog lifted early morning. Casualties one killed.

17th

Draft of 30 N.G.Os. and men remained with Transport as yesterday. Traverses and communication trench and wiring continued. Casualties one wounded. Field State 965. Hospital 95. Command 35. Total 1085.

18th

Heavy shelling of our front line trenches by German field guns, with some Howitzer shells for about two hours in morning. Casualties one killed and five wounded.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1918.

Appendix.

October.PHILOMOPHIE.

14th

Moved from PHILOMOPHIE to follow 27th Bde. QUERRI'S REGT. in trenches opposite HULLUCH & immediately S of VERWULDES - HULLUCH road. Relief complete 3 a.m. Two Coy's. (A & B) in fire trenches. P. Coy. in support at about 100 yards and C. Company in reserve 500 yards in rear in old German line with Battalion Headquarters. Casualties - one wounded. 3 Machine Guns in first line, 1 Machine Gun in reserve near Battalion Headquarters.

TRIEDER.

15th

11th Middlesex Regt: on our left shelled by Germans to some extent. German line about 400 yds. from our front line. Not much rifle fire but considerable shelling by enemy field guns at irregular intervals. Retaliation with assistance of liaison officer 76 Brigade R.G.A. at Battalion Headquarters. Trenches improved by traverses and communication trench between STONS ALBERT and HALLS ALLEY deepened. Burial parties for our and German dead about HULLUCH road carried on work. Casualties one killed and two wounded.

16th

Draft of 30 H.G.Os. and men remained with Transport. Remained in trenches as yesterday. Shrapnel barrage by our artillery on German trench S and W of HULLUCH road continued. Wiring of our trench continued. Our snipers killed two Germans when fog lifted early morning. Casualties one killed.

17th

Draft of 30 H.G.Os. and men remained with Transport as yesterday. Traverses and communication trench and wiring continued. Casualties one wounded. Field State 965. Hospital 85. Command 35. Total 1088.

18th

Heavy shelling of our front line trenches by German field guns, with some Howitzer shells for about two hours in morning. Casualties one killed and five wounded.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1918.

Appendix.

October.

19th

Shelling of our reserve trenches in old German line in afternoon. Killed by 7th Royal Scots Fusiliers at evening, completed at 12 mid-night. Battalion moved into old British front line and assembly trenches about 1000 yards in rear and North of VERBERGLES - HULLYCK road. Casualties - four wounded.

OLD BRITISH LINE.

20th

Remained in old British line. Found magazines for bomb carrying to 37 Brigade holding front trenches B.K. of HONKIZOLAKKE Redoubt trenches very crowded. Rifle fire drawn by men walking above trenches in daylight. Detailed Lieut. Woodford and 16 bombers for relief of Kasack bombers at QUAPPEN. Attack by German bombers 10.15 and beaten off with assistance of our 2 H.Gs. under Capt. Jay. Relieved by 11th Middlesex bombers. Casualties Cpl. St. Croix, Pte. Morgan, and one other bomber killed and 9 other bombers wounded. FIVE casualties in H.G. detachment. Two other German attacks made on map during night made half-heavily failed.

21st

Brigade moved out of trenches. 9th Royal Fusiliers out of front line. 11th Middlesex and 7th Royal Sussex out of old British line and 8th Royal Fusiliers out of VERBERGLES Trenches. Battalion marched to HOTTENIS and then motor ferried to FOUQUENHULL to billets.

FOUQUENHULL.

22nd

In billets FOUQUENHULL. Training of men to throw live bombs. Major R.H. Birckett to Brigade Staff 36th Brigade.

23rd

In billets. Inspection of Battalion by Major General Scott Commanding 15th Division.

24th

In billets. Bombing continued. Lieut. Cox and one man wounded accidentally through exposing themselves when throwing live bombs.

WEST SUSSEX R.S.D. REF.

1918.

Appendix.

October.

ANNIGUIH.

Brigade marched from FOUQUEREAU,
FOUQUINNEUX and AMBIROUET to
LA BOURNE - SALLY LA BOURNE -
ANNIGUIH and ROYELLE. Bataillon
to ANNIGUIH billeted in such
 ruined minor cottages. Weather
 wet and inclement. Beginning
 of winter.

26th &
27th.Remained at ANNIGUIH. Weather
wet.

28th

Moved into reserve trenches
 between VERMELLE and ROYELLE
 relieving 8th Royal Fusiliers.
 Men in dug-outs without trench
 boards. Accommodation damnable
 but no other choice but the
 ruins of VERMELLE, which are
 frequently shelled with heavy
 stuff.

ROYELLE.

29th

Short and sharp shelling of
ROYELLE cross roads 2 p.m. Also
 of roads leading thereto.
 Transport shifted but moved back
 again. (Quarter Master) wounded by
 J.M. Clarke. }
 Capt. G. Woodman. } thrown
 4 Hrs. wounded, one horse and
 two mules wounded.

30th

Remained ROYELLE - Heavy rain.

31st

Practised 3 Companies assault in
 specially dug trenches to represent
STORY FRENCH and LITTLE WILLS
 near HOHENKOLLNER REDOUZE.
 Bombing parties practised by small
 assaulting parties and followed by
 bleeding sandbag parties arranged
 for 3 Communication trenches
 known to lead into enemy's line.
 11th Kadlosser Regt. co-operating
 on left against CROSS FRENCH
 running into LITTLE WILLS.
 One man accidentally wounded by
 stray detonator in dug-out.

W.L.O.

2th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1915.

November.

NOVEMBER.

1st.

Practised assault again with 2 Landing Companies. Very wet day. Moved in afternoon and took over 6th pits in Reserve. French headquarters near junction of AMBROUX and VERMELLES Railway lines. Line opposite HONNEZOLSHEN Redoubt.

TRENCHES opposite HONNEZOLSHEN REDOUBT.

2nd.

Remained in reserve. Fatigues carrying bombs and R.C.'s material and digging in front line. R.C. Dump near BATHN. Hd Qrs. shelled one killed and three wounded.

8th R.C. holding WEST FACE, 11th Middlesex holding STICKY and MUD TRENCHES, 9th R.C. Old British line to Railway line (VERMELLES to LA BASSUE line).

3rd.

Fatigues continued. Shelling with 7.7's. Guns continued by Germans with little effect. 4.1" German Howitzers shelled "G" Company in Reserve trench with no effect but one man wounded.

4th.

Relieved 11th Middlesex Regt. in STICKY, MUD & NORTHAVON Trenches. Heavy Shelling of all lines and communications by Germans during night, also of QUARRY (BATHN. Hdqrs. of Bx.) One killed and one wounded.

6th.

"C" Company held MUD and STICKY Trenches, D Company NORTHAVON Trench in support "G" Company and "A" Company in successive lines of OLD BRITISH LINE. The 1st and 2nd BATTNS. Hdqrs. at QUARRY received most shelling throughout the day but not at night except for occasional "miss bangs".

7th & 8th.

Heavy fatigues all the time in trenches which are new and

1915.

November.7th & 8th
(contd)

unpaved. Rain continued incessantly and no shelter for men in "A" & "D" Coy's. Little for those in "A" & "E" Coy's. Trench feet and Rheumatism commenced to reduce numbers fit for duty. White Oil and Anti-Frost-Site were in constant use and large supplies of dry new socks were used. Bombers and Machine Gunners relieved every 48 hours. Daily shelling of QUARRY and all Trenches continued. Casualties 7.11.15. Three wounded. 8.11.15. Nine wounded.

9th.

Very heavy shelling by Germans. One killed. Our Artillery retaliated on all occasions when asked to with proportion of 5 to 1 or over. Brig.Gen. Horrodalle held C.O.s. conference in H.I. Snook Hdqrs. on matters regarding trench feet, care of arms, clearance of salvaged rifles and equipment etc. Casualties One man killed.

10th.

Brig.Gen. Horrodalle handed over Command of 30th Brigade to Lieut. Col. Boyd-Moss from G.Staff's Regt. through Col. Ingle. Usual fatigues chiefly on boarding and clearing trenches fallen in owing to wet weather. Colder weather. Casualties One wounded.

11th.

Major R.W. Hixkott returned from 30th Brigade Staff. Wet weather continued. Heavy fatigues resulted in many men being sent away to field Ambulce. "Trench feet" prevalent usual shelling.

12th.

Battalion relieved in afternoon by 8th & 9th Royal Fusiliers owing to their centre. Returned to SAUVY FA BOURGERS billets. No casualties.

SAUVY FA BOURGERS.

Remained in billets SAUVY FA BOURGERS. Remainder of Brigade relieved by 6th Bde on 13.11.15. morning. Frost three nights.

16th.

Moved to BATHONE billeted ORPHELINAGE-RUE MICHELISET.

Appendix.

1915.November.16th
(contd)Draft of 20 arrived, recovered
wounded and sick. Weather wet.

17th.

Remained BETHUNE. Started drills and
cleaning up. Received orders to
move 18th.

18th.

Brigade left BETHUNE. Battalion
to St. HILLAIRES. 11th Hq. and
8th R.S. to BOURBONQ and 9th
R.S. to FORNY. Took over billets
of Indian Corps. 50 men unable to
march, by Motor Bus, Remainder
marched well. Total strength
750. (Approximately).St. HILLAIRES.18th to
30th.

Battalion remained in neat billets
reorganizing and training.
After cleaning up thoroughly drill
parades for steady work were held
daily, combined with physical
training & getting up drill.
Training of Bombers and reserve
machine gunners to replace
Casualties; Thirty yards range
for machine gunners at St. HILLAIRES
COTTES cross roads. One hundred
yards range for rifle in chalk
pit west of wood on west of
ANCHY road about 1 kilometre
S. of St. HILLAIRES COTTES.
Trenches for training bombing
attacks also this way.
Bark & Yale fitted out here with
vents, leather jerkins, waterproof
capes and mitts. During this
period a few days hard frost day
& night was succeeded by sleet
and rain and weather turned
muggy again.
Strength on 30.11.15. 33 Officers
799 Other Ranks.

W.L.O.

Notes on tour in Trenches ending 12.11.19.

The weather throughout was wet and cold. The trenches were partly new and partly existing.

Such work was required on both kinds. The new trenches GRIDDPORD, HORNHAYTON, GRICKY and MUD had been cut a week or so before we took them over. The earth from all trenches had been placed above ground and reworked with handbags without leaving any part. The result was that the concussion of shell-fires even when the trenches were not actually struck brought down piles of sandbags and mud and filled up the trenches.

The night of boarded floors was badly felt and the Battalion was living in mud without dugouts (for the most part) from 28th Oct. to 12th Nov. The result was that nearly 200 sick were evacuated for "French feet" and Phossiasis. In spite of daily use of the whale oil, anti-foot-bite grease and massage of the feet, the daily sick rate continued to be a heavy one.

The enemy's shelling was persistent and was applied to fire, support and reserve trenches also to the fourth line and battery, Hdqrs. In the quarries. The fourth line and quarry were the favourite targets but except on one day in fourth line, occupied by "A" Coy. under Ident, NAV, little damage was done. German shells used were 5.9" 4.1 and 7.7 c.c. Only on two nights was shelling experienced during dark. The hostile trench mortars also their ships did not achieve any success though the former were fairly active.

It seems as though these two kinds of offensive action take a little time to be elaborated by the Boobas. Our older methods of offensive were bombs and rifle grenades backed up by the 20lb. and 41lb. trench mortars of the 12th Division. These methods always succeeded in taking the Hoch Infantry.

Retaliation by our Artillery was frequent and readily available when asked for through the R.G.A. liaison officer at battn. Hdqrs. or direct to Brighead Hdqrs by wire. O.C. Battalion always asked for it to be applied where it was thought the Boche Infantry would be living in fair numbers, say their support or reserve or fourth line trenches, 14lb. Guns on support trenches and 4.5 howitzers on other trenches latter for choice at night. The German front line trenches varied from 30 yards to 150 yards distance from ours to the flat trajectory. 181b. Field Guns were applied more to support and other trenches in hostile ground.

Communications. Telephones worked smoothly on this occasion and most fortunately so. Orderlies in deep mud take too long. It took the O.C. $\frac{1}{2}$ of an hour to reach a neighbouring Battn. Hdqrs. (8th Royal Fusiliers) about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile away.

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

12th DIVISION.

1918.

Appendix.

December.

ST. HILAIRS.

1st-

ST. HILAIRS.

2nd

HINDRYTE.

Marched in Brigade from ST. HILAIRS
9 a.m. ROMBOG Church - arrived
in HINDRYTE 1.45 p.m.
Weather wet & inclement.

3rd

4th
to
9th

Remained in Divisional Reserve.
Lieut. Col. Osborn to England on
leave, night 8th/9th inst.
Major G.H. Impoy took over
Command.

10th

Battalion moved to WESTURBERT
taking over billets & keeps
in Old Village Lane from 19th
Royal Fusiliers. Lane between
RUE DU BOIS & LE ZANTRY.
Fighting strength - 17 Officers
729 Other ranks. No Casualties

11th

WESTURBERT.

Battalion took over front line
right Sector from 21st Bn. Royal
Fusiliers 23rd Division Front
line here consisted of pieces
of parapet standing above
surrounding mud & water and
numbered in this Sector as
islands 1-16 held by parties
varying from 6 to 24 according
to available space. Four
machine guns were distributed
over the frontage of say 500 yds.
Support was impossible. Parties
were relieved every 48 hours in
darkness. The main line of
defence was OLD BRITISH LINES
800 Yds in rear with several
detached British & German lines
in between. 35th Brigade was
on Right of Bctn. 11th Bctn.
Middlesex Regt. on Left. No
casualties.

12th

Remained as on 11th.
(1) Four platoons in islands A
& B two each.

1916.

December.Appendix.18th
Centd.

(2) 2 Coys. C & D 1st Bn 1
platoon in OLD BRITISH LINE
with BATTN-HEAD OPER.
(3) four platoons A & B Coys
relief to (1) in billets
WESTMINSTER.

(4) Machine Gun 8th R.P. &
one platoon in GOLDNEY'S KEEP.
quiet night & day Garrison
only Snipe occasionally when
target efforts otherwise sit
very tight.

13th 8 A.M.

Captain Gass commanding "A"
Company Killed by German
Sniper on Coy H.Q. Island of
High Sector - otherwise nothing
occurred. Captain Owen's body
could not be brought in for
burial till night as even
single men cannot get to islands
in daylight. Casualties. One
officers.

14th

Kil.

Relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers
& moved back into billets &
Keops of Village lane as occupied
on 10th inst. Garrisons worked
on Keops & wire.

15th

16th

Distribution of Battalion.
"G" Company in WESTMINSTER CENTRAL
& E. KEEP & billets.
"B" Company in WESTMINSTER CORNER
on TUNING FORK ROAD to GORRE.
"A" & "D" Coys. in RUE DE
L'ESPINETTE.
Detachms for R.H. & on Keops
continued.
No casualties (4 accidentally
wounded by detonator at
transport lines IN FOURTH.

17th
18th

Kil. No casualties. (One man
of permanent fatigue OIVENOHY
killed this day).

19th

HINCHETTE.

Relieved by 6th Royal W. Kent
Regt. commencing 10.30 A.M.
& BATTN. returned to HINCHETTE.
No casualties.

1916.Appendix.December.18th
Centd.

(2) 2 Coys. C & D less 1
platoon in OLD BRITISH LINE
with BATH-ED-OPR.
(3) Four platoons A & B Coys
relief to (1) in BILLETS
PASTURE.
(4) Machine Gun 8th R.P. &
one platoon in GOLDMINEY KEEP.
Quiet night & day Garrison
only Snipe occasionally when
target often otherwise sit
very tight.

13th 8 A.M.

Captain Cass commanding "A"
Company Killed by German
Sniper on Coy R.Q. Island of
High Sector - otherwise nothing
occurred. Captain Cass's body
could not be brought in for
burial till night as even
single man cannot get to islands
in daylight. Casualties. One
Officer.

14th

Kil.

Relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers
& moved back into BILLETS &
Keeps of Village line as occupied
on 10th inst. Garrisons worked
on Keeps & wire.

15th

16th

Distribution of Battalion.
8th Company in PASTURE CENTRAL
& E. KEEP & BILLETS.
"B" Company in BRITANNIC CORNER
on TUNING FORK ROAD to GORRE.
"A" & "D" Coys. in RUE DE
L'EPINETTE.
Detachms for R.H. & on Keeps
continued.
No casualties (& accidentally
wounded by detonator at
Transport Lines IN FOURT.

17th
18th

Kil. No casualties. (One man
of permanent fatigue OIVENOHY
killed this day).

HINDERTHE.

Relieved by 6th Royal W. Kent
Regt. commencing 10.30 A.M.
& BATHN. returned to HINDERTHE.
No casualties.

19th

1918.

Appendix.

December.

20th

Patrol party of 16 Officers
720 Other Ranks carried Gas
Cylinders into GIVEMORY LINE
for use by 58th Brigade. No
casualties.

21st

Lt. Col. GARDNER resumed Command
of Battalion & took over Command
36th Brigade during Temp. absence
of Brigadier General. DTD 1058.

22nd

Nil.

GIVEMORY.

23rd

36th Brigade took over RIGHT BATTN.
Battalion took over RIGHT BATTN
of Right Sector from 7th Suffolk
Regt. Spent occupied from Sap
H. Just S. of RIXEMANS CRATER
to S. of DUKE'S DIRT by "C", "D",
& "E" Companies. "A" Company
in support QUINERS BIDDING &
MACHINE ANDOVER.

24th

7.15
A.M.

Germans blew up detonative mine
between Inker Lane & ours opposite
Saps G & H blowing in the end of
these two Saps & causing
considerable damage by burying
men & subsequent shell fire.

In afternoon the Germans occupied
this crater temporarily & could
not be got at owing to the depth
of mud around the newly blown up
crater. Sap "H" was rendered
untenable except for 15 yards.
Rifle Grenading began on both
sides. French mortars were
either out of gear or could not
be found to reply & turn enemy
out of crater. Machine gun
entirely was of some use.
Much artillery fire both sides
day & night.

Casualties 5 killed, 25 wounded.

25th

Artillery duel continued.
Battalion relieved at morning

by 8th Royal Fusiliers.

"B" Company to GIVEMORY KEMP.

"A" " " IN FLARTIN KEMP.

"D" " " BILVETS WINDY CORNER.

"G" " " Battalion H. 4.

for bomb carrying. Casualties

Nil.

1918.

Appendix.

December.

26th

M1. No Casualties.

27th

Relieved 6th Royal Fusiliers in front line at morning. Bombs whizz-banging 7.7. H.M. Shells caused 5 wounded. "A" B's & "G" Companies front line. "D" Company in GUNNERS SIDING. Casualties 5 wounded.

28th

Lt. Col. Osborn resumed Command of Bde. on return of Brigadier General Boyd Ross. Much little Oranading. 1 Killed & 6 wounded.

29th

Germans blew up a second defensive mine near the old one & touching it. There are now so many craters that it is difficult to distinguish one from the other. Two killed & three wounded. Sap H which had been deepened was slightly damaged & four of our bombers buried but extricated alright. Enough of Sap H remained to prevent Germans using this crater. Patrol reported Crater 20 Yards by ten Yards & full of water at bottom. Held on further 1 1/2 by day & commenced to German line by Sap. Battalion relieved by 6th Royal Fusiliers this morning. Casualties for the day 2 killed & 3 wounded.

1st QUEENBORO.29th
30th

Remained in Brigade Reserve at 1st QUEENBORO. Hested and cleaned up, carried out cylinders from GIVENCHY LINE.

31st

Battalion returned to HINGETTE after relief by 6th R. W. Kent Regt.

(1st). W.L.O.

The A.O.
G.H.Q.
Base.

Horwath "War Diary" for the month of
January 1916.

W.L. OSBORN
Lt. Col.
Commanding 7th Bn. Rl. Sussex Rgt.

2.2.16.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

January.

MINUTES.

Rest billets. General cleaning up. Strength of Battalion 33 Officers 802 Other Ranks.

2nd

Rest billets. Company Parades & Lectures.

3rd

Rest billets. Draft 87 Rank & File re-inforcement arrived.

PERFORMANCE.

4th

Marched 8.15 P.M. to take over PESHAMMER front line trenches from 7th Suffolk Regt. Relief completed 7 P.M. One wounded by shell. Distribution 2 Platoons "C" Company & 2 Platoons "D" Company in island posts. "A" & "B" Companies and Battalion Hd. Qrs. in OLD BRITISH LINE. 2 Platoons "C" Company in PESHAMMER village & 2 Platoons "D" Company in RUE DE L'ESPINE. These last 4 platoons kept back for relief of island posts every 48 hours.

5th

Nothing doing. No Casualties. Work of rebuilding OLD BRITISH LINE & wiring same continued by "A" & "B" Companies. Also provision of shelters (dug outs) in islands of front line.

6th

As on 5th. No Casualties. Six shelter frames & roofs taken up to islands.

7th

As on 6th. No Casualties.

8th

Exchanged places with 8th R. Fusiliers on relief & went into VILLAGE LINES. Battalion Hd Qrs at RUE DE L'ESPINE with 2 Platoons "A" Company & 2 Platoons "B" Company. 2 Platoons "A" Company in SPINETS WEST KAMP. 2 Platoons "B" Company in RUE CARLON keeps. "D" Company in PESHAMMER Central & East keeps.

1916.Appendix.JANUARY.8th
(Contd.)

"G" Company billeted ESPAINIER
CORNER towards LE PAVILLOIS. Relief
commenced 5 P.M. & completed
7.30 P.M. No casualties.

THE DE L'ESPAINIER.

9th

Remained as on 8th and continued
work on upkeep & wiring of keeps.
Demolitory shelling of VILLAGES LINE
particularly DANSEUR CORNER,
CALLOUX Road & PERIBERT VILLAGES,
former 14th 7.7 Guns & a few 4.2
inch shells into latter.
No casualties.

10th

As on 9th. No casualties.

11th

As on 10th. Lt. Colonel HASSY
LLOYD 3rd Suffolk Regt arrived
for attachment.

12th

As on 11th.

13th

Relieved during morning by 6th
R.W. Kent Regt commencing 10.30 A.M.
Relief completed 12.30 P.M.
Battalion assembled at LE HANGEL
for food and marched to ESPAINIER
for billeting in workshop.
Casualties & wounded in last
24 hours of "G" Company leaving
DANSEUR CORNER. Lt. Colonel
HASSY LLOYD left for ENGLAND.

BEYNDRE.

14th

Remained in billets, Heavy
Fuzigers for O.R.E. 1st Corps etc.

15th

As on 14th - Gapekin C.D. MAY left
Battalion for machine gun company.
Strength of Battalion, 35 Officers
886 O.R.

16th

Remained 10 A.M. & walked to
LILBERS, thence by road 3 1/2 miles
to HAM-EN-ARROIS for long rest.
Brigade Hd Qrs at HAM-EN-ARROIS.
8th R. Fusiliers BORDOUC - 9th R.
Fusiliers HANGUR VILLES - 11th
Middlesex LECONNET BORDOUC.

HAM-EN-ARROIS.

17th

Remained at billets. 2nd Royal
Essex at LILBERS.

1916.Appendix.January.

- 18th Battalion drill parade for ceremonial inspection on 20th by General JOFFE.
- 19th Brigade ceremonial practice for inspection. Major R.H. Birckett rejoined from 15th Day School.
- 20th Inspection by General JOFFE of 20th Bde & detachments from R.F.A., R.B., R.A.M.C., A.S.C., Lieut. General Sir Douglas HAIG & Staff, French & British present.
- 21st Battalion training - Regimental exercises for Officers, Outposts. Bn-Grades. Bombardier class commenced.
- 22nd Battalion Route march. Played 2nd Bn at football at ILLERSIE in afternoon.
- 23rd Sunday. Church service - no other parades.
- 24th Company training - "A" & "B" Companies 5 rounds grouping 5 rounds rapid practices. "C" & "D" Companies outposts & afternoon Drills. Regimental exercise Advd guards.
- 25th Brigade training. Route march through St. HILLARIE to RENT & back.
Brigade scheme for Field Officers.
- 26th Company training "A" & "B" Coy's outposts & afternoon drills. "C" & "D" Companies 5 rounds grouping & 5 rounds rapid. Battalion kept under 2 hours notice to march.
- 27th Two hours restriction cancelled - Company training. "A" & "B" Companies 5 rounds application & 5 rounds rapid practices. "C" & "D" Companies advanced guards to GIVARBOCQUEZ.
- 28th Two hours restriction put on again in afternoon. Company training "A" & "B" Companies advanced guards "C" & "D" Companies 5 rounds application & 10 rounds rapid practice.

WEST SUSSEX RED CROSS SOCIETY

1916.Appendix.January.

29th

Regimental exercise - Flank Guards - All Companies practised firing 5 rounds at target wearing smokes helmets. Results satisfactory but shooting inclined to be too slow.

30th

Battalion perused 8.10 A.M. to proceed on Divisional manoeuvres with Brigade. 36th Infantry Brigade marched via St. Hillaire - BELX - ESSEBE BLANCHES & billeted for night. 7th Royal Sussex BATTERY. 9th Royal Fusiliers ENGINE-DEPT. 9th Royal Fusiliers BRIGADE-DEPT. 9th Light Machine BATTALION - BLANCHES. All in 6.15 P.M.

31st

Returned to old billets 1.45 P.M.

2.3.16.

F. L. CROFT

Lt. Col.

Commanding 7th Bn. Lt. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX REGIMENT RSR MS FULL COPY

7TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1916

APPENDIX

February

HAVRE-LE-POIDS

1st.

Orders for move to HELVINGE cancelled. Brigade to remain in same place until further notice.

2nd.

Battalion paraded for route march.

3rd.

The 36th Brigade Company formed under the command of Capt Asley 8th Batta Royal Fusiliers, 2nd Lieut's Dickerton & Hill and 33 N.C.O.'s & men were transferred from the Battalion to this Unit.

4th.

Holding to report, except orders received to exchange billets with 37th Brigade.

5th.

The 36th Brigade exchanged billets with 37th Brigade, as follows:-
8th Royal Fusiliers BUSHNETT,
7th Royal Sussex Regt VERMOREL,
11th Middlesex Regt COMBERGILL,
9th Royal Fusiliers Lt. FRIBLING,
Brigade Headquarters COMBERGILL.
Battalion proceeded to billets by route march.

17 FEBRUARY

6th.

Sunday. Church Service, no other parades. Strength of Battalion 22 Officers 747 Other ranks.

7th.

Battalion allotted the baths at COMBERGILL, no other parades. Major R. H. Barrett returned to the 12th Divisional School.

8th.

Regimental Exercise for all Officers during the morning, other parades, handling of arms & instruction of Junior N.C.O.'s.
Battalion paraded in afternoon for presentation of D.C.M. ribbon to No 101st Serge, J. King, "A" Coy. by the G.O.C. 12th Division.

9th.

All Companies paraded for wiring in accordance with a Special System demonstrated by the 70th Coy R. E. Other parades, physical training and lectures.

1916

FebruaryAPPENDIX

10th.

The Commanding Officer, with Company Commanders and Lewis Gun Officer proceeded to VERBULDER to inspect trenches to be taken over by Battalion. Patrols were at 9.2.16. Orders received for Battalion to move to BAILLY LA SOURCE.

L'HOUCHE & BAILLY LA SOURCE

11th.

Battalion proceeded by route march to BAILLY LA SOURCE, resending billets about 2 P.M. a very cold and wet day, continual rain throughout the day. Capt & Adjt R. d'A. Bethem proceeded on leave.

THE COMES OPPOSITE TO HOHNZOLLERN REINQUET.

12th.

Battalion relieved a Battalion of 9th Dismounted Brigade in trenches opposite HOHNZOLLERN REINQUET. Relief completed by 9.45 A.M. Except for a few trench mortars, a quiet day. Casualties Nil.

VERBULDER

13th.

A quiet morning, junction of HUD & HOHNZOLLERN trenches was lightly shelled. Enemy was active with rifle grenades to which we retaliated, about 5.30 P.M. the enemy opened an intense bombardment with Howitzers, Field Guns and French mortars on the trenches occupied by 11th Middlesex on our right, the right platoon of our right Company also came in for this. Our artillery at once retaliated and at about 5.55 P.M. the enemy blew up a small mine opposite our sep, our bombers immediately started bombing and at about 6.10 P.M. situation became normal again. The enemy's snipers were less active. Casualties 1 killed 2 wounded.

14th.

A quiet night. Several enemy's working parties were dispersed by our rifle fire. The enemy's artillery inactive. Our snipers claimed 2 hits, a reversed rifle bullet struck a steel helmet. The man was unhurt. A draft of 48 N.G.O.'s & men, mostly wounded and sick returners joined transports.

1916

APPENDIX

February

15th. Hostile working party in LAITHE WILLIE was dispersed by our rifle fire. Enemy active for a short time with trench mortars but our retaliation was effective. Casualties 1 killed 3 wounded.

16th. Relieved by 8th Royal Palsiders. Battalion took over trenches as follows: "B" Company's Reserve Trench, 2 platoons "C" Coy CENTRAL KEEP. "A" Company OLD BRITISH LINE 2 platoons JUBOIRI KEEP. Working parties under R.N. and pioneers on the trenches. Casualties Nil.

17th. Work continued on trenches in occupation and numerous working parties found for R.N. Casualties Nil.

18th. RESERVE TRENCH and OLD BRITISH LINE lightly shelled in the morning. Work on trenches continued. Casualties Nil.

19th. Nil.

20th. Usual work on trenches, Lieut Col W.L. Osborn proceeded on leave. Major G.H. Impey took over Command of Battalion.

21st. Relieved by 6th Battalion Royal West Kent Regt. The Battalion proceeded to JOUJOURNAIL for rest. Ballets reaching there 7-45 P.M. Battalion ordered to Garrison keeps at VERBUELLERS, BOYERLERS, BAILLY-DE-BOURNE.

JOUJOURNAIL

22nd. Battalion allotted the baths at HESTRUE. Parades under Company arrangements for inspection of Kit, etc. Weather very bad, snowing hard.

23rd. Parades for bombing practice and beyond fighting. Weather still bad.

24th. Same as previous day.

25th. The "De VERBUELLERS, BOYERLERS and BAILLY DE BOURNE relieved by a detachment of "B" Company under 2nd Lieut Bonstar.

1916APPENDIXFebruary

26th. Evenden again on previous day. A draft of 24 R.C.O's & a man joined the Battalion.

27th. Machine Service in the morning. Orders received for Major R.H. BIRKBY to proceed to England to take up Command of a new Service Battalion. Battalion received orders at 10-15 PM to proceed to AMBUQUH the next day. Improvement in the weather.

28th. The Battalion proceeded to AMBUQUH by route march and took up billets there, arriving 5 P.M. Orders received to relieve 6th Royal West Kent Regt at 9-30 AM the next day.

MARCH

29th. The Battalion relieved 6th Royal West Kent Regt in left Sector of DZ at 9-30 am. Relief completed by 12-30 pm.

WEST SUSSEX P.V. NOTICE
RSR MS

7th BATTALION. THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

March.

TRENCH.

1st.

The Battalion in occupation of the trench in front of LITTLE WILLIE and HORNWOODS REBOURT. Except for hostile trench mortars to which we retaliated, quiet day. Casualties. Strength of Battalion 16 Officers Other Ranks 869.

2nd.

Battalion was relieved in front line trenches by 8th Royal Fusiliers, the following was distributed on relief. "B" & "C" Companies RESERVE TRENCH. One platoon in CENTRAL KEEP. "D" Company in RAILWAY RESERVE TRENCH. "A" Company in LAMCASHER TRENCH. One platoon in JUNCTION KEEP. The 8th & 9th Royal Fusiliers at 5.45 P.M. attacked the CHORD, following the explosion of 4 Mines. "D" Company were ordered up at 5.45 P.M. to hold MID TRENCH. This Coy. was placed under orders of the Officer Commanding 8th Royal Fusiliers. All other Coys. except 3 Platoons of "A" Coy. who were removed to RAILWAY TRENCH on "D" Coys. departure were employed in bomb carrying & other duties throughout the whole night. Casualties Rank & File 1 wounded.

3rd.

"B" & "C" Companies 6th Connaught Rangers were ordered up from ABBERQUIN and occupied RESERVE TRENCH by 2.30 AM. Orders were received at 7 AM. to relieve 8th Royal Fusiliers. G.O. & Company Commanders proceeded up to 8th R.F. Headquarters, and relief was completed by 4.30 P.M. At 11.30 AM. Lt. Col. W.L. Osborn returned from leave & took over Command of Battalion. The distribution of the Battalion on relief was as follows:-
"A" Coy. occupied craters
B.C. Ho. 4(a) 4(b) & Ho. 3
"D" Coy. 2 Platoons WBS-FACE & "C" & "D" Coys. 2 Platoons TRENCH.
"C" & "D" Coys. 2 Platoons SPICKY & NORTHAMPTON TRENCHS respectively.
"B" & "C" Coys. 6th Connaught Rangers MID-TRENCH & 1 Platoon NORTHAMPTON

1916.

Appendix.

March.3rd
(contd.)

TRENCH. Immediately on completion of relief the enemy after a few regaining opened an intense bombardment with large trench mortars, howitzers, & field guns, on all the craters held by us and also on EAST PAOS and NORTHAMPTON TRENCH. Our Artillery at once retaliated, and towards 7 P.M. there was a great deal of bomb fighting in which, we held the advantage, at 10.15 P.M. the bombardment ceased, but intermediate shelling continued during the night.

4th.

At 6 A.M. the enemy again opened an intense bombardment and 6.45 AM. bombing parties tried to detrrench from LITTLE WILLE and the CHORD, but they were at once stopped in the former case by Heavy fire from STICKY TRENCH and in the latter by from greater 4(a) & (b). There was great deal of heavy bomb fighting in which we held the advantage.

The Germans making many attempts to detrrench, and at about 9.15 AM. the attack ceased, leaving us in possession of all the positions taken over.

The rest of the day passed quietly and during the afternoon orders were received for relief and Commanding Officer & Adjutant of the 6th East Surrey Regt (37 Ide) visited the trenches. A draft of 69 N.C.O.s & Men arrived and remained with the transport.

Casualties during night 3rd/4th March.

Officers Killed.

Lieut. R.G. Wells. "D" Coy.
2nd " R.A. Kontzko (Lewis Gun Officer)
Lieut. C.W. Heale (attd. 36/A I.M. Coy).
Officers Wounded.
Lieut. H.S. Consons. "A" Coy.
2nd " G. Haggle. " " "
2nd " B.H. Bourne. " " "
2nd " P.G. Procter. "C" Coy.
Lieut. J.R. Wilson. "D" Coy.
Capt. G.P. Osborne. "D" Coy.
Hank & Yale. Killed 22.
Died of wounds 5. Wounded 191.
Missing 2.

1936.

March.

5th.

The night passed quietly and the Battalion was relieved at 9.30 A.M. by the 6th East Surrey Regt, and proceeded to ARRISQUH for billets. Relief complete by 1 PM. Casualties Nil. Weather very bad.

ARRISQUH.

6th.

The Battalion proceeded to PONDREWHY by route march, reaching there 1 PM. Weather still bad. Orders received at 11.30 PM. to proceed to SAILLY-IA-BONNE the next day. Strength of Battalion Officers 16. O.R. 737.

PONDREWHY.

7th.

Weather still bad. The Battalion reached SAILLY-IA-BONNE at 12 Noon.

SAILLY-IA-BONNE.

8th.

The Battalion allotted the baths. In the afternoon the Battalion paraded for inspection by Lieut. General Sir HUBERT GOUGH G.O.C. 1st Corps who addressed all ranks and complimented the Regiment on its defence of the craters in front of the KORNHOEFEN-HEDOUET, about 5.30 PM. C's & M's Coy's, under Capt. Woodman were sent to ROTHEIMS for bomb carrying.

9th.

The Battalion again allotted the baths. Parades under Coy. Arrangements. C's & M's Coy's, returned from ROTHEIMS at 10 AM. but owing to M's & M's Coy's, being at the baths, had to proceed to VERHEILIS for bomb carrying and returned in the evening.

10th.

The Commanding Officer and Coy. Commanders proceeded to the trenches (GUARIES SECTION) to inspect them prior to taking over. Orders were received to relieve 7th Surrey Regt. in 1st sub-sector. M's Coy found a carrying party for VERHEILIS in the afternoon.

WEST SUSSEX REGIMENT

1916.

Appendix.

March.

11th.

The Battalion relieved 7th Suffolk Regt. in left Sub-Sector QUARRIES. Relief complete by 1.30 PM. Distribution of Battalion. 9th & 9th in firing line. 9th Coy. in O.B. 1st Coy. in COUNTER-CHARGES. A quiet day, except for a few Rifle grenades. Casualties 1 Man wounded. Capt. & Adjt. H. J. BETHAN proceeded to 12th Division "G" Branch. 2nd Lieut. H. B. STOKES took over the duties of adjutant.

12th.

The day passed quietly, and there were numerous working parties improving the new craters extending French. 9th 7th H.A.P. were attached for instruction. 2 platoons of each were attached to "G" & "H" Coys. in the firing line. The remainder in O.B. 4 & 5. During the early part of the night the enemy became very troublesome with Rifle grenades & Trench Mortars, but Artillery retaliation stopped them. There were large working parties on the PULPIT during the night. Casualties 11 Rank & file wounded.

TRENCHES.

13th.

The enemy started to fire light Trench Mortars at the right front COY. about 7.30 AM. Our Howitzers retaliated & the Trench Mortars ceased, otherwise a quiet day. Casualties 1 Man wounded. A draft of 4 Officers 2nd Lieuts. T. V. WOOD, J. O. R. GOWLIN, D. F. CHRISTIE, S. G. BIRNING and 100 N.C.Os. & Men arrived and remained with the Trenchport.

14th.

The Battalion was relieved in the front line Trenches by the 8th Bn. Royal Fusiliers and proceeded to billets as follows. Headquarters. "A" & "H" Companies to VERRILLANS. "G" & "D" Companies to ROYKILLS. The 2 Companies were employed in carrying parties & R.E. fatigues. Hd. Qrs. was lightly shelled about 3 PM. Casualties Nil. Strength of Bn. 20 Officers 737 Other Rank.

1916.

Appendix.

March.VERRELLERS.

The Companies at VERRELLERS employed on fatigues and carrying parties. The neighbourhood of Hd. Qrs. lightly shelled at about 1 P.M. A draft of 3 Officers left. P.Y. FORING and Lieut. G.H.R. TALBOT R.C.G. JOHNSON and 2 Rank & file arrived. Casualties Rank & file 1 killed.

16th.

As on 15th. No casualties VERRELLERS rather more heavily shelled than usual. Company Commanders to 8th Royal Fusiliers to reconnoitre trenches to be taken over tomorrow.

TRENCHES GUARDERS SECTOR.

17th.

Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in ALEXANDER & BROOKWOOD trenches 9 A.M. Relief complete 12.45 P.M. Considerable trench mortaring of our trenches behind HAIRPIN CRATER. Retaliation by Artillery difficult to place on required spot behind crater mounds. One Officer 2 Lt. SIBBINS & 5 Other Rank & wounded.

18th.

Enemy trench mortars again active in morning as yesterday. Howitzers D/65 retained successfully. Afternoon shelling of our trenches by enemy 4" guns & heavy trench mortars afterwards ceased & very heavy bombardment of HORNZOLLERN sector commenced & a small mine was exploded there about 5.30 P.M. Casualties 9 other ranks wounded.

19th.

Day generally quiet. We blew a small mine in of 1st Lt. Bog of HAIRPIN to blow in German Gallery. Nothing but rifle & machine gun fire resulted. We took crater, but found it not worth holding except by a sap head only 8" x 10" x 6' deep. Captain G. WOODHAMS killed & Lieut. RICHARDSON wounded helping in wounded man. 11 Other ranks wounded Capt. MAY took over "B" Coy. & Lieut. MAGUIE A Company.

20th.

Moved Hatin. Hd. Qrs. into new quarters O.G. 1. 8th Royal Fusiliers commenced relieving 9 A.M. Completed noon. Battalion into support

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE

1916.March.20th
(contd.)

trenches O.H.I. 4 & 5 & QUINCY CRASHBROT. Casualties 3 other ranks wounded.

21st.

Remained in support trenches. Patrols excessive 350 men employed greater part of 24 hours out of total available duty strength of 450. Casualties 20 other ranks wounded.

22nd.

As on 21st. O.O. & Company Commanders to 8th Royal Fusiliers re taking over. No casualties.

23rd.

Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in front line 9 A.M. Relief complete 11 A.M. HORNZOLLEBER sector on our left heavily bombarded by Germans. Some shells fell in 4th Coy's trench on our left & caused casualties. 2 killed & 7 wounded. Draft of 37 men arrived & posted to Coy's.

24th.

Heavy fall of snow continued throughout day. Change noticed in enemy attitude which became much quieter and less offensive. Enemy mine exploded opposite NEW CUT in line held by 11th Middlesex Regt. on our right. stood to throughout our sector until matter reported quiet. Germans occupied one side of crater and got into NEW CUT but left again. Our casualties this day other ranks 3 killed & 3 wounded 4 of these by aerial torpedo back to HAINPICK CRATER. The big trench mortar here shifted off after 11/65 howitzer had found it.

25th.

O.O. & Company Commanders 6th Royal West Kent Regt. came to reconnoitre to take over tomorrow. Later order cancelled this proposed relief. 5.30 P.M. Enemy mine exploded about front line on HINDLOCK ROAD south of our sector. Did not fire our sector but stood to until matter cleared up. Casualty one other rank wounded.

26th.

Very quiet day. Nothing to record. One other rank wounded.

1916.

Appendix.

March.

27th.

Relief by 6th Royal West Kent Regt. commenced 9.30 A.M.
 Complete 12 noon. Battalion moved to ANNEQUIN. 9 cases trench foot due to prolonged stay in snow slush in trenches. Our boots grease etc. all carefully used - This always seems to occur in bad weather after the 9th or 10th day. Casualties 2 other ranks wounded.

ANNEQUIN.

28th.

Between 8 & 9 A.M. Enemy 4.2 howitzer shellied FOSSE & vicinity one shell struck Lewis Gunners billet, killing 1 & wounding 7 men. Working parties to 4 keeps. Two carrying parties to trenches at night 1 officer & 20 & 1 officer & 40. Total of casualties for day 2 killed 8 wounded.

29th.

Work on keeps. 2 carrying parties 1 Officer & 20 & 1 Officer & 30 at night. Divisional band played from 4.30 P.M. to 6.30 P.M. No casualties.

30th.

Exchanged billets with 8th Royal Fusiliers & moved into BETHUNE. ORPHEANER Billets, 11th Middlesex in TOBACCO Factory. 9th Royal Fusiliers at BATHY IN ZOUHRE. "A" Company 3 officers 100 men left behind for work in trenches and returned to BETHUNE same day by motor lorries. No casualties. 12th Division notified awards for fighting in HONNEZILLEM 3rd/4th March.
 Lieut. COL. OSBORN the D.S.O.
 Lieut. MADAM the M.C.
 Sergt. LANGLEY, L. O21. CHESSMAN & Pte. SHORT the D.O.M.

BETHUNE.

31st.

Battalion route march 9.15 a.m. to 12 noon.
 SPENGOTH this day in FRANCE. 25 Officers & 702 Other ranks.

W. L. O.

7TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1916.

April.

REVIEW.

Remained in billets GERVAISE,
Company drill - Re-adjutant
of H. O. G. Major General Scott
G. B., J. S. O., Commanding 12th
Division inspected Coy. on
parade at their usual work.

Brigade Church Parade manipulated
theatre - 7th RI Sussex and 11th
Middlesex present. Lieut General
Sir Charles Murray Commanding 1st
Army attended, and troops passed
him for inspection in Column of
route.

End

3rd

Relieved 7th Suffolk Regt in
Reserve trenches of Dr.
HARDINGHAM sector. Completed
15-20 P.M. Presentation of
medal ribbons at SALIX LA SOURCE
by Lieut General Sir C. Murray -
present "A" Coy 7th RI Sussex and
detachments R. B. X, Edwards Horse,
R. F. A., R. A. M. C., and A. S. C. Major
General Kavanagh Commanding 1st
Corps present with Staff.
Lieut Col Osborn, 2nd Lieut Macle,
Sergeant Mangley and Lt. Opt Cheeseman
were decorated at this parade with
other Officers and rank & file of
Battalion.

REHEARSALS.

The Brigade on our right G. 2
Sector QUARNS blew two mines,
nothing happened. No casualties.

4th

5th

Draft of 23 men from ROYALS came
up to trenches, two units rejected
by H. O., otherwise good. Coy
Commanders to front line trenches.
Lieut Col Osborn and 2nd Lieut
Magle to England to investure at
Buckingham Palace, Major Impy
took over command, Lieut May took
over "A" Coy, and Lieut Richardson
"B" Coy. Lieut Beckett "C" Coy and
Capt Osborne "D" Coy. Another mine was
exploded in G. 2 sector by Brigade
on our right, nothing occurred of
note. No casualties.

Remained in Reserve trenches -
A small mine exploded by us in

6th

1916.

Appendix.

ADRIA.

6th (Ctd.) HORNHOLMERS.
 Situation normal but Battalion stood
 to - No Casualties.

7th

Relieved 8th HI Fusiliers in front
 line. Relief complete 11.50 A.M. -
 A small mine was exploded in G.2
 Sector as a defensive measure.
 Serjt Skerrett and 3 Lewis Gunners
 wounded - Skerrett afterwards
 died of wounds. Total Casualties
 5 wounded.

8th

Day very quiet till 6.30 P.M.
 when Germans blew mine on our
 front "B" of Orator "A".
 Went face French HORNHOLMERS
 and mine shaft therein blown in.
 If mine shaft in dug out
 and mine shaft, all evacuated
 except one miner who shot
 himself in the chest. Germans did
 not attempt to come greater.
 He extended dug 3 to 1 1/2 of new
 greater and cleared WEST SIDE -
 "G" Coy. were holding this portion
 of front and were reinforced
 from "F" Coy. in support.
 Casualties: 1 Lt Saiton was
 killed while stumbling over killed
 in portion of WEST FACE to find
 out that had happened in M.6. Seps -
 about 7.30 P.M.
 Casualties: 1 Officer (Lt Saiton)
 & 2 other ranks killed. 6 missing.
 39 wounded & 1 Gassed.

9th

Enemy trench mortars were very
 active but our 60 lbs. were
 answered well and kept him down.
 Otherwise nothing special to note.
 1 Lt Saiton buried 9-30 P.M.
 WEATHER: British Cemetery,
 HORNHOLMERS 1 killed and 2 wounded.
 (French Mortars).

10th

1 Lt Col Osborn resumed Command
 of Battalion. Hostile trench
 mortars and aerial torpedoes
 active in early morning and
 silenced by our howitzers.
 Casualties 2 wounded.

11th

Relieved by 8th R. Fusiliers in
 front line - Bath back to
 reserve in Kamerling's trench.
 One Coy in Railway Reserve trench.
 During relief enemy sartrage mine
 was blown in the group of orators

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1916.

Appendix.

April.

11th (Ctd.) "B" & "C". A piece of debris killed and Lieutenant Field and two Sergeants also were wounded this way. (Williams & Wood A Coy). Casualties 1 Officer Killed 4 Other Ranks Wounded.

12th

Major General Scott, Col Grant (G.S.O.) and G.R.E. visited Battalion Headquarters this morning. Artillery put up screens about the spare ground between trenches. These were to draw German fire and succeeded in doing so. No casualties.

13th

G.O. with Lieutenant Col. Ammelsley went round defensive line. - The front line trenches opposite HORNKOLMANN Group of craters have now become very communication trenches to the Sap heads or crater lips and are not capable of defense with rifle fire. The portion of fire trench between Craters 4 & 3 faces the German (German trench) and is capable of being used for rifle fire over about 300 yards.

NORTH APPROX FISHHOLE.

The support line, is well wired and constructed but very subject to enfilade Artillery fire from S.E. Three mines blown by us this evening 6 P.M. G.Crater.

14th

The mines blown last night have deepened the gashes previously existing to a depth of 50 to 70 feet but have not seriously upset the German line of defense on far lips.

The enemy alerted and restored it to its former state by 12 noon this day.

It is possible he had some original lies in his Saps but he started bombing immediately after explosion. The gash from Crater G to Crater 4 is now 200 yards long and 60 to 100 yards wide. Hoopholes fixed in No 4 Crater by End Lieutenant Hagley and Scouts. Casualties 1 man wounded.

15th

Relieved 8th R. Fusiliers in front line. Completed 10.15 A.M. Lieutenant Col. Owen and Coy Commanders 6th R. W. Kemps arrived to arrange

1916.

Appendix.

April.

19th (Sat.)

about 10:00 by 37th Sqn on
 17 inst.
 The Division got out 10:15. Also
 some shelling ensued and spread
 to our sector which received
 some V.V. shells and French
 mortar bombs in good numbers.
 2nd Lt. Col. Robinson wounded.
 Other ranks 1 killed 7 wounded.

19th

Heavy rifle grenades active and
 got length of HORNHURST TRENCH.
 We replied heavily with some
 projectiles. Germans 4, 2 and
 7, 7 and 4th Gns bombarded the
 disused old German line behind
 CR. HORNHURST 0.30 to 7-50 A.M.
 This line has been abandoned for
 weeks. At 11.30 P.M. reports
 from mining officer to the effect
 that miners had broken into
 German shaft under 307 Lip of
 Crater 3 and had withdrawn German
 charge of 3000 lbs & suggested it
 might be possible to blow here
 to blow their way in which case
 Crater 3, 307 10 & 9 & 8302 ZICE
 would have to be cleared.
 Demolition and Lewis Tapper
 wounded. Other ranks 1 killed
 5 wounded.

17th

Relieved by 6 R. Tents and
 moved to AMBROSE remaining
 of Brigade 11th Middlesex SALTY
 14 BUISSE 8th & 9th R. P. to
 BARKING. This is normal portion
 of Reserve Brigade in Division
 while in front line.
 Leather jerkins & fur coats taken
 from troops for return to Ordnance.
 Treat 148 men arrived under Lieut
 Wilson. Quality Good.
 Men served previously in 2nd Batin 7
 do 7th " 32
 How reinforcement from 3rd Batin, 103
 Medical Officer sent 5.
 Demolition Other ranks 1 killed
 2 wounded.

AMBROSE.

At AMBROSE. 7th & 9th Coy's at
 Batis. 90 Other ranks and 2
 Officers on fatigue in front
 line of stem 37th Sqn. No Demolition.

18th

1916.

Appendix.

April

19th

"G" & "H" Coye at Beths. 2 Officers & 70 men morning carrying for R.P.
1 Officer & 40 men at night in front line system of trenches.

20th

Relieved by 8th F. Puntiers by 11-30 A.M. & marched to BERTHEM STUBBAGG PACOY. New crest of 26 men arrived. Good quality, mostly returned from slight wounds.

21st

Good FIELD. Parade service - Hundredal therefore 11 A.M.

REPORTS.

Marched to relieve 9th Bussar. Two Coye "G" & "H" to VERMILLAS Beths. FIDOURS and "A" & "B" at BETHMAS. Capt MORTALP reported arrival from 14th Beths.
No communication.

NOTICES & VERMILLAS.

G.O. & Coy Commanders visited G. Sector of VERMILLAS trenches to take over from 8th Royal Fusiliers. Capt Gas alarm 10 P.M. answered difficulty of knowing what detachment occupied billets at VERMILLAS. Casualties 1 man wounded.

24th

Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in front line. Cr Charles sector. Trenches very full of water from previous week's rain which had not ceased. Coy Commanders of 7th G.O. Adv'd. Coy Commanders of 7th Cameron Highlanders arrived 12 noon to arrange relief by them on 25th inst. Very quiet in trenches.
Major TORRENS reported arrival & directed to remain at transport lines.
Casualties 2 men wounded.

REPORTS.

Very quiet in our front line system. German artillery carried on in a cautious manner this day. The HULLION system south of us was

25th

1915.

Appendix.

April.

25th (Ord.)

bombarded systematically with 5.9 - 4.2 Horseshoe 4" Gun & 7.7 Guns. They began with two targets in one sector, then shifted to two targets in different sectors & then two in a third sector. It looked much like practice firing. Little on our sector. Lieut Warren reported arrival. Lewis Gunners relieved by 7th Camerons 6 p.m. Very quiet day. Casualty one other rank wounded.

25th

Battalion relieved by 7th Camerons. Hot combats till 1.40 P.M. Heat became excessive. Keller went off quietly and Battalion return to ANNECUIH Camerons. One wounded.

ANNECUIH.

4.45 A.M. heavy firing & bombardment of gun positions surrounding ANNECUIH. My Coy shifted out of School billets about 6 A.M. into open ground on R.I. for safety. Also Horses & Mules shifted. Bombardment continued heavy. 7 A.M. Gas was smelt & Hooper (Stronhus horn) at VERMELLES warned us of Gas ahead which could be seen approaching. There was no wind only slow movement of air. Cloud continued to hide till 7.45 A.M. when it began to clear. Smoke helmets were removed at 8 A.M. 8 A.M. the German artillery started using Lechrymatory shells on to gun positions road ANNECUIH. Only one casualty from shell, slight round of hand. None attracted at all by Gas. Bombardment died down about 9 A.M. 3-50 P.M. 6th Camerons Highlander (15th Div) relieved Bettin, which marched to LA PUGNOY 12 miles arrived 8-50 P.M. Horses fell out but Horses very slack & seemed to have been affected by Gas. Strength on arrival LA PUGNOY 26 Officers. 891 Other Ranks. Atack was on 16th Division in HULLDOR Sector.

27th

1916.

April.

April 1st.

28th

29th

30th

IA. PORNIX.

In billets. Heating & decorating up. Inspection of Kit & clothing for replacement.

As above & preparation of bombing course. Training received to be ready to move at 3 hours notice.

Band of Church paraded. Major Imprey to 12th Bn in Sussex left. at GIVERNY to assume command. Restrictions as to 3 hours notice removed.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS
RSR MS 7/11

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Approved

1917.

LARPNOY.

1st

Bathn bathed at MARLES LES VILLES. "A" and "B" Companies in the morning. "C" and "D" Companies in the afternoon. Other parades as shown on attached programme. Second case of measles in No 8 platoon.

2nd

Training continued. Brigade ordered that Corps Commander would probably visit training area, but he did not come. Football Committee meeting held to make arrangements for inter platoon football tournament. 44 men inoculated.

3rd

Brigade Route march to practice B.B. Defence Scheme. Bathn paraded 9.4.16. Meal eaten during a one hour halt in Woods S.W. of LARNOYVILLE.

4th

Parades as on programme attached. Capt Osborne goes on leave and Capt Berrise takes over Command of "D" Company. Lecture on Court's Martial by D.A.A.G at ALLIADALE. Major Forrens and Company Commanders detailed to attend, but motor bus to convey party did not turn up. 41 men inoculated.

5th
6th

Parades as on programme attached. Bathn rather excessively hot today. Lecture by Major Campbell in Divisional Camp, LARPNOY at 2 P.M. Subject, "Bayonet fighting and application of Bayonet in open fighting." C.O.s inspection of Billets at 10 A.M. 42 men inoculated.

7th

Combined Church Parade for 7th Royal Sussex and 9th Royal Fusiliers at 11 A.M. Heavy rain in the afternoon and weather turns much cooler. End Night S.G.O. Richards to 4th Bathn Coldstream guards.

8th

Parades as per scale attached. Orders issued to Companies to give men extra practice in rapid fire. C.O.s Lecture to Officers at 3.30 P.M. Draft of 13 arrived. All previously belonged to 7th Bathn. Order re-arrangement from G.O.C. 1st Army read ~~me~~ out to Bathn on parade as directed. 43 men inoculated.

1916.AppendixMAY.

- 9th Main all day interfered with parades. Lectures in billets by Company & Platoon Commanders. Capt Bowly returns from leave and resumes Command of "G" Company.
- 10th Parades on scale attached. C.O. Goes to STAPLES to visit Base Depot and inspect system of training at Base. 42 Men inoculated
- 11th Parades on scale attached. Divisional General visited training area. Cinema entertainment in Divisional Cantonment 12PM-10 30 P.M.
- 12th Parades on scale attached. Following promotions appeared in London Gazette of 11th Inst. To be Temp Capts - Temp Lieut R.S. Richardson (Jan 10th) Temp Lieut G.F. Reichelt (Jan 15); Temp 2nd Lieut G. Magie (March 20th). Temp 2nd Lieuts to be Temp Lieuts. R.S. Steeles (Nov. 29th) W.S. Gill (Jan 10th) H.S. Gordon (Jan 15th) R.C. Richards (Feb. 21st). 39 men inoculated.
- 13th Rall all day. 0.08 Lecture to Officers at 10-20 AM. Lectures by Company and Platoon Commanders in Billets.
- 14th Brigade Church Parade cancelled owing to rain. 1 Officer and 40 O.S. per Company attended. Service in Div. Cantonment at 10-15 AM. Capt Brown arrived and is posted to "G" Coy. 48 Men inoculated
- 15th Morning parades cancelled owing to rain. Bayonet Fighting, Physical drill and lectures in billets 0.08 Lecture to Officers at 12 noon. Subject, "Protection". Major Forems elected President of Brigade Sports Committee and Sergt Russell member. Committee meeting in Div. Cantonment 3-25 PM. Commanding Officers attend at Base HQ quarters at 3.30 P.M. for Divisional Scheme. Capt May goes on leave and Capt Reddick takes Command of "A" Coy.
- 16th Battalion field exercise in BOIS DES DAMES (EAST) parade 8-45 AM. Capt Osborne returns from leave and resumes Command of "D" Coy. 35 Men inoculated

WEST SUSSEX

1916.17th.

Battalion field exercise in BOIS DU DANNE (WEST). Capt Brown, 2nd Ltnt Wood and 100 O.R. attend Gas Demonstration at Div Gas School REVELTON at 2.30 P.M. Three men wounded by premature explosion of Grenade during practice on bombing ground. Battalion heats for Brigade Sports, run off 4.30 P.M.

16th

Brigade Field Day in BOIS DES DANNES. Battalion paraded at 8.15 AM. Interval from 1 to 3 PM for dinners. Arrived back in billets 5.30 P.M. O.C. Goes on leave. Major Torrens takes over Command of Battalion. The same party that attended Gas Demonstration yesterday detailed to proceed to BRISOPHIE at 6.30 P M to carry cable. Busses provided to convey and bring back party. Party returned 8.30 AM 49 Men inoculated.

15th

Parades. "A" Coy: on Bombing Courses. "B" Coy: on Bayonet Fighting Course. "C" & "D" Coys. practise attack in HARBOUR Woods (EAST). Working party of 1 Officer and 50 O.R. detailed to unload wood at No 4 Field Supply Depot BRIDGES RIVAGE. Paraded at 6.30 AM. Busses provided to take and bring back party. Billeting party proceeded by bus to BRISSE BLANCHE to take over billets occupied by 7th Suffolk Regt. 45 Men inoculated.

30th

M.O.s inspection of billets at 10 AM. Brigade Sports at 2 P.M. Give first prizes won by men of this Battalion. Draft of 37 men arrive. All fit. 12 having previously belonged to this Bn.

21st

Combined Church Parade for 7th R.Sussex and 9th R.Fusiliers at 10.45 AM. Billeting party of 6th Bnks come to take over billets.

22nd

Bn marching to BRISSE BLANCHE. Paraded at 11 AM and reached destination at 8.15 PM. Distance 15 miles. One long hat for dinner and a shorter hat for tea were made. Established in billets 9 P.M.

WEST SUSSEX

1916.Appendix.May.REVUE BIANCHE.

23rd.

Parade 9-30 AM Battalion exercise, Artillery formation and attack in training area 4. 44 men incanted.

24th

Battalion paraded 8-15 AM to repeat previous days exercise in training area 3. Divl Gen present and watched the operations afterwards addressed all officers, 5 Officers and 48 men incanted.

25th

Heavy rain in early morning. Battalion paraded 9 AM and practised an Obsolete Scheme in Area 2. Army Commander was present for part of the time.

26th

Working party of 500 men under Capt Richardson and 10 Officers paraded 9-15 AM and marched to Hill 140 in the training area to dig trenches. Capt May returns for leave and resumes command of 7th Coy. Det of 41 Men arrive. Majority in its condition. 51st previously belonged to this Battalion. 1 Officer incanted

27th

Battalion paraded at 9 AM to practise advance and rear guards on area 4. 22 Men incanted. Orders received at 7-30 P.M. to parade at 10 P.M. for move to FORBINGHAM under Defence Scheme D.C. 1 Officer and 66 O Reserve unable to march owing to incantation, left behind in billets and came on in buses following day. Battalion arrived FORBINGHAM 2-30 AM and were established in billets 3 AM

FORBINGHAM.

28th

Awaiting further orders. Coy Commanders proceed by bus at 1-30 PM to reconnaissance VILLAGE LINE of 16th Div. Received orders at 8-30 P.M. to proceed to LAPTHORV and occupy same billets as before.

29th

Battalion paraded 6 AM and marched to LAPTHORV established in billets 8-30 AM. Sections in Command of Companies reconnoitre rear lines of the 23rd Division, party conveyed by bus at 1-16 PM. Brigade on one hour notice to move from LE MOUH. Brigade detached 3 Officers and 10 O.R. to attend a concert at BENHONG at 5 PM. Party conveyed there by motor lorry. O.O. returned from LEWAV.

1916.Appendix.May.LAPORNOY.

30th

Day commanders reconnoitre front of 1st Division, conveyed by bus at 1.30 PM. Division in Army Reserve and Brigade under 2 hours notice from 6 PM.

31st

Parades. Bayonet exercise 7 AM to 7.20 AM. Battalion drill under C.O. 9 AM to 10 AM. Lewis Gunners and snipers under own Officers. Organization of Bombing platoons for all Companies 11 AM to 12.30 PM. Seconds in command of Companies reconnoitre front of 2nd Division. Conveyed by bus at 12.45 PM. Battalion complete 1st Year of Active Service.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS
RSR MS 7/11

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

June.

LAVENOR.

1st

Army Commander inspects all Brigade 1st Line Transport at 3 P.M. Brigade on 2 hours notice from 5 P.M. to 6 A.M. and 4 hours notice from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M. Working party of 100 men for burying cable under Lieut. Hill & 2nd Lieut. Gervin, preceded by motor lorries at 6.30 P.M. to PHILIPPOUS and reported to Lieut. Sherman 1st Corps Signals.

2nd

Parades. "A" & "B" Companies practise attack in HOIS DSS DAVIS. Divisional General and Brigadier present. Baths at HARTS-TRE-BIRNS. "C" & "D" Companies morning; "A" & "B" Companies, afternoon. Open air Concert 8 to 9.30 P.M.

3rd

Parades Company drill; Bombing on Course; Bayonet Fighting on Course; and wiring practise. C.O.'s inspection of billets at 10 A.M. C.O.'s Lecture to Officers at 12 noon. 20 Men inoculated.

4th

Church Parade at 11 A.M. for 7th Royal Sussex & 9th Royal Buffords.

5th

Rain in the morning. Exercise in HARRISBY WOOD cancelled. Route march instead VIA ALQUADRE, CROQUES & LAUREVILLE. "A" Coy firing on SAND PIT rifle range from 2 to 4 P.M. "B" Company 4 to 6 P.M. 100 men under Capt. Heclitt and 2nd Lieut Christie proceeded by bus to PHILIPPOUS at 6 P.M. Lieut. Hind & 20 men inoculated.

6th

Rained all morning. 200 men & 4 Officers with Capt. Trevor in charge proceeded by bus to GORNBURN, at 9 A.M. to fill in trenches. Party returned at 2.30 P.M. Capt. Heclitt and 29 men inoculated.

1918.

Appendix.

June.

7th

Battalion less "A" Company paraded at 8.45 A.M. for training in BOIS DES DAMES. "A" Company filled in trenches used previously for handling practice. Started on probable movement to forward area tomorrow, and received orders later to relieve 9th Essex Regt. with 2 Coys. & Hd. Qrs. at BULLY BREWERY and 2 Coys. in HARBOUR.

8th

Hd. Qrs. "A" & "B" Coys paraded at 8.55 A.M. for move to BULLY BREWERY to relieve Hd. Qrs. and 2 Coys. of 9th Essex Regt. "C" & "D" Coys. and men accommodated on 6th Intt. also sick men paraded at 8 A.M. under Major FORRENS and proceeded by Bus to LASH BRIDGE, whence they marched to HARBOUR & relieved 2 Coys of 9th Essex Regt. Battalion established in billets at 12 noon. C.O. with Adj. of 9th Essex Regt inspected the BAYFOLK and HAISTRE lines at 1.30 P.M. Battalion is attached to 1st Division for work. "A" & "B" Coys. under 3rd Infy. Brigade. "C" & "D" Coys under 26th Field Coy. H.M. Permanent task of improving HAISTRE line allotted to "C" & "D" Coys. hours 9 P.M. to 2 A.M. nightly. This night owing to rain "C" & "D" Coys. ceased work at 12 mid night. 30 men of "A" Coy. unrounded sectors at M.B.C (map) at 11 P.M. C.O. visited HAISTRE line at 12 mid night.

BULLY & HARBOUR.

9th

C.O. visited BAYFOLK line at 10 A.M. usual working parties. A & B Coys. in BAYFOLK line 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. 2nd Lieut. FLEMING & Cooks reported their arrival & posted to "B" Coy. C.O. visited lines at 11 P.M.

10th

Rained heavily all day. Working of A & B Coys cancelled.

11th

"A" & "B" Coys worked instead of yesterday in BAYFOLK line from 9 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. Major FORRENS went sick and admitted to Field Ambulance.

WEST SUSSEX RSP

1916.Appendix.June.

12th

Showers most of the day.
 Usual working parties.
 Received orders to move to
 DROVIN & VAUDRICOURT tomorrow.
 End. Lieut. Branghall arrived &
 posted to "A" Coy.

13th

Moved to DROVIN & VAUDRICOURT.
 First platoon of "A" Coy. moved
 off at 6.30 A.M. & remainder
 by platoons at 200 yards distance
 in following order: "A" "B" "C"
 & "D" Coys. Bombard. Police Scouts-
 Signalers- Hd. Qtrs. Established
 in billets as follows: "A" "C"
 & "D" Coys. I. G. & Drum Transport
 in DROVIN & remainder in
 VAUDRICOURT, at 12.30 P.M.
 Showers all day.

DROVIN & VAUDRICOURT.

14th

Parades. Morning under Coy.
 arrangements. Lecture by C.O.
 to Officers 12 Noon. Afternoon
 assault practice for B & C Coys.

15th

Parades. Morning under Coy.
 arrangements. Lecture by C.O.
 to Officers at 12 Noon.
 Afternoon assault practice for
 "A" & "D" Coys. Received orders
 for move tomorrow.

16th

Bath. paraded at 10 A.M. and
 marched to FOUQUENBULL to
 entrain. Transport proceeded
 3 hours earlier. Train left
 at 12 Noon. & arrived at
 LOUQUENAI at 7-45 P.M.
 Detachment complete 8.25 P.M.
 Battalion entrained through
 ANSINS VIA EPERBES to billets
 at YVIGNACOURT. Distance 10 Miles.
 Established in billets 4 A.M.
 No one fell out on the march.
 Two halts were made for ten.

YVIGNACOURT.

17th

O.O., Adj. & Coy Commanders
 reported at Brigade H.Q. 6.30 A.M.
 and proceeded by Bus to reconnoitre
 rear of line H. of ALBERT.
 Returned at 5.30 P.M. End. Lieut.
 Sedler arrived and posted to
 "A" Coy.

1916.
 June.
 18th
 Church Parade 11.30 A.M.
 2nd Lieut. Day arrived and posted
 to "D" Coy.
- 19th
 Raite march for Battalion under
 Capt. G.F. Cawborn and 1 Officer
 per Company. Map reading for all
 other Officers under C.O.
 Divisional Conference in the evening.
- 20th
 Parade. Coy attack on narrow
 front followed by Battn. attack on
 same lines. Gr. Mitr. and Transport
 Officer by bus to front line, North
 of Albert to reconnoitre roads and
 dumps. Lieut. Wilton to 7 Days
 Leave VIA HAVRE.
- 21st
 Brigade exercise N. of WIMBORNE.
 Assault of trenches by 8th R.F.
 and 7th R.S.M. Interval for
 dinner, then attack on narrow
 frontage against village of
 WIMBORNE.
- 22nd
 Improved baths, using tubs in
 tents. Whole Battalion washed.
 C.O. lecture on the attack to
 all Officers and full ranks.
 Capt. Hoyle attached to 35th
 Brigade from this date.
- 23rd
 Div. exercise for 35th and 37th Brigades
 near WIMBORNE. C.O. and Coy
 Commanders of Battn. as umpires
 and spectators. 8 O.R. Bombers
 joined the 8th Division for bomb
 detonating. 1 Officer and 50
 O.R. proceeded by bus to
 WIMBORNE 8.30 A.M. to prepare
 Ordnance depot ground.
- 24th
 Brigade exercise over WIMBORNE
 area assault of trenches followed
 by attack in depth on a narrow
 frontage. 5 P.M. Div. Conference
 on the recent exercises, followed
 by lecture by Major Karlake on
 the "Big Push".
- 25th
 Church Parade 11 A.M. C.O. and Col.
 Armesley (8th R.F.) reconnoitred
 ground for Regt'l. combined Field
 Day. 8th R.F. and Battn. C.O.
 lectured Officers at 6 P.M. on
 matters concerning coming operations.

1916.

APPENDIX.

June.

26th

8th R.F. & 7th R.Sz. practised attack on narrow front to teach Officers and N.C.O.s to carry on after reinforcer seems and mangling of Coys. and Battns.

27th

10.30 A.M. C.O.s. lecture to Coy. Commanders on details of manning order and distribution of Specialist during combat operations. 6 P.M. Battn. proceeded to ZAMBRESKIS about 3 1/2 miles. Marched delayed. Installed in billets 9.15 P.M. Battn. & 11th Hider. In billets in village. 8th & 9th R.F. in bivouac.

ZAMBRESKIS.

28th

Coy Commanders inspection in the morning. Heavy rain. 8th R.F. joined the Battn. in the billeting area. Further move postponed.

29th

Battalion paraded B.S. of Village at 9.15 A.M. for inspection and instructions from C.O. The following Officers arrive at ZAMBRESKIS and are instructed to remain there pending arrival of the Battn.:— 2nd.Lieuts. MARGARY and BUNDETT (posted to 'A' Coy). 2nd.Lieuts. PAGESOUR and GLEIBERSEN (posted to 'B' Coy) 2nd.Lieuts. FITZSIMONS and HAIT (posted to 'C' Coy) 2nd.Lieuts. LE DOUX VAITCH and BROUHING (posted to 'D' Coy).

30th

Battn. paraded at 9.15 A.M. for presentation of Distinguished Conduct Cards to the following N.C.O.s & Men:— Red Cards. to SERGT. EVARS (1st A Coy) 2nd.Opl. YURICH & Pte. HENRY (5th Coy) 1st.Sgt. FRADOCK. Ptes. WILSON, HARRAL, GRAYFACK, and BIRD (7th Coy) Green Cards. to SERGT. SIMMONS, SERGT. BUDDETT, 1st.Opl. WOODGATE and Pte. SICHOLIS (8th Coy) Six others were awarded a red card and one other a Green card, but these were not with Battn. at present having been evacuated

WEST SUSSEX RSP

1916.

Appendix.

June.

30th
Contd.

either to England or to the
 Home. Billington party leaves
 at 2.30 P.M. for FROTHINGHOOD,
 and returns peruses at 7.30 P.M.
 and marches to FROTHINGHOOD,
 distance 10 1/2 miles.
 established in billets 12.45 A.M.

It'd. O.P.O.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD
 RSR MS 7/11

7TH BATTALION THE ROYAL HUSSEAR REGIMENT

1916

APPENDIX

JULY

27th BATTALION

(Detachment in 36th Brigade
12th Division, III Corps
PULVERNEY'S), STURMETH 37
OFFICERS 945 OR.
Marched 3 miles to bivouac in
BAIZOUX WOOD. Occupied bivouacs
with 11th Hussars, 8th & Officer
9th R.F. in order march.
10 AM. Guide from 2nd Cossackians 5th
Division reported.

5.50. Ordered to move at 7-15 P.M.
P.M. Bivouac party to MILDENHURST
under 2nd Lieut TILM.
Puffs scored in farm house at
BAIZOUX. Company Commanders
proceeded in advance to re-

co-locate trenches occupied by
35th Brigade. Destination altered
on march and Brigade proceeded
VIA LONG VALLEY to the ABERST-
BOUZHOUET intermediate line.
Officers and men selected to
remain "out of action" were
withdrawn to transport on line
of march. All in trenches of
intermediate line 1-30 AM.

ABERST-BOUZHOUET LINE

2nd. Remained in intermediate line
trenches - Cookers and water
carts brought up 5 AM. Orders
for Lieut Col Osborn to be with
Battalion and afterwards cancelled.
Capt Osborn rejoined from
MILDENHURST in consequence.

10 PM. Particulars of attack on OVALLENS
by 35th & 37th Brigade at
3-15 AM tomorrow recalled.
12 P.M. Orders to march at 3-15 AM. to
join 6th R.F. at Railway cutting
HARROUET BRIDGE 3-15 AM.

ABERST RAILWAY CUTTING

3rd. 2.45. 2 carrying parties 50 each for
A.M. bombs carrying to 35th and 27th
3-15. Brigades.
6 AM. Battalion marched to railway
cutting.
two carrying parties 50 each
for bomb carrying to 35th and
37th Brigades. Capt OLIVAVER
Royal Scots Fusiliers attd.
7th Royal Hussar, reported arrival.
9th Royal Hussars & 11th
Hussars Regts are in front

1916

APPENDIX

July

3rd.

line & support line to front system. 6th Royal Fusiliers & 7th Royal Sussex in reserve at Balling Catling.

9. PM.

Orders received to return early to intermediate line (ALBERT-BOULINCOURT) arrived 10.40 P.M.

ALBERT-BOULINCOURT LINE

4th.

In intermediate line trenches. Rain all day. Division joined X Corps (NORMANDY).

5th.

In intermediate line trenches. Following working parties provided.

6. PM.

(a) Hendevous CIVILIENS POST. 50 men of "A" Coy under 2nd Lieut SAUNDERS report to 87th Coy. R.F. at 6 P.M. (b) Same Hendevous 100 men of "A" Coy under 2nd Lieut KENNARD and HURBERT report to 87th Coy. R.F. 6.30 P.M. Base Hendevous 200 men of "B" & "C" Coy's under Capt. NORMAN. 2nd Lieut GOLDIE, NORMANSON & WARREN report to 70th Coy. R.F. 36th Bde relieved by 37th Bde. 7th R. Sussex, 6th R.F. & 30th F.M. Coy remain in present positions, remainder to billets in Albert. Casualties, 1. Other Rank killed "B" Coy. 8 Other Ranks wounded "A" Coy.

ALBERT-BOULINCOURT INTERMEDIATE LINE.

6th.

Intermediate line.

8. AM.

Received orders that 36th Tfy Bde will relieve 37th Bde. in trenches. 1st Batin. 6th N.F. to pass CROUVIX CORNER at 12 noon.

10. AM.

Coy commanders reconnoitre trenches meeting Bde Major 10 AM at CROUVIX CORNER. O.O. & next Senior Officer per Coy to Bde HQ & receive particulars of the operations tomorrow.

11-15.

Batin parades & goes into trenches "A" Coy in front line, "B" Coy in S.E. line (MORIER St. O & D Oays & H. 1. In HOBOKEN St. O.O. saw Coy Commanders & gave orders for the attack on CIVILIENS at 8.30 A.M. tomorrow. Assault in 5 lanes. "A" Coy (2) "B" Coy (1) C. Coy (1) D. Coy & Hd Qrs (1). Objectives 5 lanes from 1st German trench to E. side of village.

See Hqs.

7 PM.

1916

JULY

6th.

7th.

Advance with right on BURDEN road 6th R. S. on Right Flank, 9th R. S. left flank. 74th Brigade were to assist by attacking G. Flank of Germans from LA HOISSELAIN.

IN TRENCHES OPPOSITE (W OF) OVIANSIS.

36th Bde attacked OVIANSIS after intensive bombardment by heavy & Divnl Artillery. (74th Bde attacked from the right at 6 A.M.). Order of attack - 9th R. S. on the left 7th R. Sussex, Centre - 6th R. S. on the right. At 8-20 A.M. the first line crawled out of trenches to get in line on top of ground. For the previous 5 TO 10 minutes a heavy German "barage" had been put on to the new assembly trench & our old front line trenches. At 8-30 AM the whole Brigade advanced in good line. - The 8th R. S. on right came under heavy machine gun fire from Sgt. 1 & 2 Iron Trenches which 74th Bde should have taken but did not penetrate far enough. The 7th Royal Sussex got a good share of this machine gun fire and were heavily disrupted by Walk bang guns & Jack Johnsons. The left of 9th R. Snailers got a good deal of machine gun fire from the NORTH plus the barrage & crump barrage on their right. On reaching the line the 7th Rl Sussex got snarlade machine gun fire & found the Germans at their deep-camping or in their deep dug-outs. 2nd Ltent RHODDALL & a few (20) men of 7th Royal Sussex & 7th R. S. reached 3rd Objective.

Capt GAZAVAR, 2nd Ltents TAYLOR, HUMBERT and POLYBQUE with about 50 men reached the 2nd Objective (German Support line) while 1st Ltent H. G. LAMONT Col GIBSON, Ltents WILSON & GORDON and 2nd Ltent SANDLER & 120 men of all Coys occupied the first objective in German fire trench, all other Officers were casualties.

See Map
for 5
Objectives.

8.30.
A.M.

WEST SUSSEX ROAD

1916

July

7th.
ctd.

APPENDIX

The clearing up proceed then started under H.G. fire from B.M. The 8th R.G. had not reached their first objective and only about 80 men 9th R.G. under Capt BUCK were in front German line on our left.
Germans were in groups some fighting, some surrendering & there was a good deal of individual sniping & some soap throwing in which our men had the best of it. The Jews Guns did good work on the retreating parties.

At one moment the German bombers grove in our left H. flank but were soon dislodged & driven back to beyond the Communication trench on our left which led to our forward line in their 3.5th trench. 2nd Lieut SANDLER & Cpl KREYER led the counter attack. Although each man had to carry over 20 bombs in sandbags many of them were dropped and the supply had to be even after collecting German bombs of which there were a number in the dug outs but no dump could be found. During the fighting Lieut GORDON was killed by a white bang. Lieut WILSON wounded by shrapnel. Capt GLEAVER bullet wound through shoulder. 2nd Lieut SANDLER bomb wound on head & beyond thrust in foot.

12
The G.O. had now decided on abandoning 3rd Objective & held 2nd with 2nd Lieut AYLER, PURVIS & BROUGHALL. (2nd Lieut PURVIS having been wounded.) and about 60 men 7th R. Sussex Regt & 10 to 15 9th R. Fusiliers. The Garrison of first objective consisted of the G.O. (as stated) by O.S.M. JOY & WEAVER, Sgt FAYRE & Cpl PREYER and 120 men 7th R. Sx with Capt BUCK, 2nd Lieut CALWELL, 9th R.G. and about 40 men 9th R.G. Each line had some Lewis Guns. Sgt Russell, Scout BERT stayed with this line helping until all was settled and then related owing to his wound being too much to go on with. Up to this time no communication could be obtained, several messengers volunteered but never reached

1926

July

7th.

old.

the Hd Qrs. in the sector of trenches from which the attack was made. Rain began and continued throughout day, making the trenches into a kind of porridge mud.

The day went on much the same, with the clearing up and consolidation of line by means of fire step and block making. Each line had strong bombing party supported by Lewis guns on right & left flanks & the remaining Lewis Guns were shifted from place to place as found requisite. The left of our forward position under 2nd Lt. MAJOR suffered much from hostile H.G. enfilade fire & finally reversed their trench with a sandbag wall. This line was also reinforced by some 15 of 6th Royal Fusiliers who joined up.

In the afternoon a party of ~~BRIDGES~~ 40 strong with a Lewis Gun came up and brought more bombs which were welcome. 2nd Lt. MAJOR commanded this party. Later Captain CHOMELIS 11th HINDERSBUX came with more bombs and a party of 50 11th HINDERSBUX with Lewis Gun. Also Sgt. LEACH with some of D. Company 7th Royal Sussex. Lt. MAJOR was directed to strengthen our first objective and our left defensive flank.

The Brig. Gen. J. WOOD-ROSS Commanding 37th Army Brigade got his first news of our position at 6 P.M. this evening. Now four Companies 9th Essex Regt under Major HANSEN came up and reinforced our much depleted line. Their object was to further clear the Germans out on our left and particularly to get so far as to permit the extension of a shallow gallery known as HAYWOOD TUNNEL to meet the German line. Also to push through the village towards our third trench & fifth objective (see Roman letters on maps in War Diary).

The night passed without incident beyond occasional shelling of their old lines by the Germans. This was not so persistent or so accurate as might have been expected. Rain continued throughout. Lt. MAJOR OSBORN was placed

6th.

APPENDIX

3016

JULY

8th.
ctd.

In change of the troops H. of SUNDER ROAD which now consisted of 4 Companies 9th Essex Regt, about 200 men 7th Royal Sussex Regt, 60 men 9th B. Pufflers, 25 men of 8th B. Pufflers and 60 men 14th Middlesex Regt., (as far as may be remembered) 14 Lewis Guns in all. Bombing posts were arranged on flanks of each line held, and each bombing post had a reserve post to follow it up as it made ground. During the day the Brigadier Genl BOYD HOBS came up and gave orders re consolidation also sent up some reserve officers (Capt TROWER & Lieut DAVY) to hold.

The Maddeaux had done fine work carrying the night before, and we had a good supply of bombs, ammunition and water at the German end of SUNDER ROAD. The troops had to be checked over waiting bombs. The best way to do this is to send them up only one or two at a time, even when they are pressed. Afternoon we heard that all details 30th Infy Bde would be relieved at night by 2nd Manchester Regt under Lieut Col LYNCHES (Devon Regt) who was to take over from Lieut Col OSBORN. Yeaser Regt to stand fast awaiting another relief.

Manchester's started coming in 7-30 P.M. A good stout lot who took over quickly and well. Headquarters did not leave till 9-30 P.M. when a heavy German barrage was put up and Headquarters went to earth to wait till it passed over. Major SANDERS had been with Headquarters all day. By 11 P.M. Battalion had collected and had tea at ORCHERTON COMMON near AVELEY and moved to billets in ABERNETH, where we had a good meal and received orders to be ready to move again about 10-30 AM on 9-VII-16. Casualties on 7-VII-16 & 8-VII-16 were 20 Officers & 506 Other Ranks (estimated). Officers killed Capt H.T. DAVY.

AMBERE

Marched 10-30 A.M. from billets to BERLIS VIA HILLENBOURT about 5 miles in Brigade at 20 Min's

9th.

1946

APPENDIX

July

9th,
10th,
13th.

distance between Battalions.
Havouoked S.A. of SERLIS.
had dinner while 3rd Division
details cleared the village.
Officers as follows: 1st Lt COL
OSBORN, Command; Capt OSBORN,
2nd in Command; 1st Lt. TILL
Actg. Adj.;

- 2nd Lt. SUTS. HOLBY, WOOD,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. HOUQUAIL, GEMISTER,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. COOKE, GEMISTER,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. FORTS-SUR,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. HOUQUAIL, 2nd Lt. SUTS.
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. TAYLOR, FITZSIMONS,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. CAPT THOMER, 2nd Lt. SUTS.
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. LAY, 2nd Lt. SUTS. VEITEL,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. HOUQUAIL,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. RABO 38th Field
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. Applance,
- 2nd Lt. SUTS. J. GRAHNS.

TOTAL 20
Including M.O.
attached.

10th.

36th Infy. Bde less 7th Bn. Sussex
Regt. marched to NOROVILLE about
4 miles 8-30 AM. Battalion
Havouoked H. of SERLIS to bathe
at a company at a time.
Marched to NOROVILLE by Companies,
starting at 2 P.M., all in about
6 P.M. 1st Division transferred
to VILLI (NUMBER-ASTOR).

NOROVILLE

11th.

Marched off in Brigade at 30
miles distance VIA AHEK to
DUB-DEB-ARVOIS. Divisional
Commander & Bde Commander &
their staffs watched Battalion
march past on road near village.
Divisional Band played Bath
post with 1st Bn. March.
Good shelters in DUB WOOD with
8th B.N. HINDENBERG & 9th B.N.
in village. Divisional Head-
quarters & post of Division all
collected in DUB.

DUB-DEB-ARVOIS

12th, 11-30
A.M.

Battalion visited by General
SCOTT Commanding 1st Division
who congratulated all ranks on
Gallant attack and capture of
OVLIMBS houses. Leaving up
and reforming. Bombing & Lewis
Gun classes started.

13th.

O.O.'s inspection of Battalion
9-30 AM. Defilementes meted
and listed for quar. Master. Capt
OSBORNE with Bde Major 30th Bde

WEST SUSSEX ROAD FORCE

APPENDIX

1916

JULY

13th.
abd.

to reassemble 4th Division
Front HUSBANDS, 2nd Lieut.
R.D. ALTON joined for duty
and posted to "G" Coy.

14th.

Received orders from Brigade
to be ready to move at short
notice at 10-15 AM. G.O. &
Adjt went to Brigade Head-
quarters to arrange a composite
Battalion composed of 7th
Royal Sussex & 9th Royal
Fusiliers. The composite
Battalion of 12 Officers 390
Other Ranks 7th RI Sussex &
8 Officers 250 Other Ranks
9th R.F. paraded at 1-30 P.M.
under Lieut COL OSBORNE to the
DEPT WEST of SALIZY AV BOIS,
to be Brigade Reserve to 145
Infy Bde. Battalion established
in Husbands at 3-15 P.M.

SAVILLY-10-BOIS

15th.
Ordinary parades in morning
and special classes in afternoon.
OAO and Company Commanders
recommended appointments to
42nd Division front also communi-
cation trenches leading up.
The R.O. Capt SEVER-RAND went
sick and was relieved by Lieut
HODKINSON-RAND. Received orders
from 145th Brigade about our
role.

16th.
Part of 97 Royal Sussex arrived.

Ordinary parades for Coy's,
Lewis Gunners & Bombards in the
morning. The composite
Battalion was relieved by 13th
Welsh Regt. (133th Bde) at
4-30 pm and marched back to
huts and tents in bus woods;
arrived at 5-15 pm.
The following drafts arrived
and were posted as follows:-
53 Royal Fusiliers posted to
"B" Coy.
60 Middlesex Regt. posted to
"G" Coy.
22 Royal Sussex Regt posted to
"D" Coy.
3 Queens (H.W.B.) Regt posted
to "B" Coy.
These drafts were not up to the
same standard of previous drafts
a large percentage were found
unfit by the H.O. attached to the
Battalion.

WEST SUSSEX RIFLES

1916

JULY

17th.

DUS WOOD

"A" & "B" Coy's paraded at 9.30 hrs. for G.O.'s inspection "G" & "H" Coy's at 10.30 A.M. "A" & "B" Coy's went to the baths at Dus from 2 to 6 p.m. Lewis Gunners & Bombers paraded under their respective officers in the afternoon. A draft of 100 Royal West Kent's arrived and were posted to Coy's as follows:- 9 to "A" Coy and 9 to "B" Coy. 50% of this draft were passed unfit by the P.O. attached to Battalion.

18th.

O.O. went to the Division about the recent drafts at 9 A.M. 2nd Lieut. VONCK, 12th Division Intelligence Police gave a lecture on German words and expressions to a few officers & 50 O.F. at Bath Hd. Qrs. at 11.30 A.M. General Scott G.O.O. 12th Division inspected the new drafts of the H.R. Gade at 2.30 P.M. behind the Battalion lines, he was not favorably impressed. A working party of 100 under 2nd Lieut. Holtz detailed to work at night deepening a communication trench in 11th Brigade Area near VAILLY, party returned at 4.30 A.M. 19.VII.16.

19th.

"G" & "H" Coy's paraded at 9 A.M. under Cn. *Obourne for a Hotte March, Lewis Gunner & Bombers at practice. Under authority of G.O.O. 12th Division the following drafts received on 16th inst. were transferred to units as under:- 50 H.I. Fusiliers transferred to 9th B.I. Fusiliers. 60 Middlesex Regt transferred to 11th Middlesex Regt. 16 Royal Royal West Kent's transferred to 6th B.I. West Kent. 3 Queens (R.W.G.) Regt. trans-ferred to 6th Queens (R.W.G.) Regt. Received warning of move to the line tomorrow to relieve 4th Division.

20th.

Ordered to relieve 1st Somerset Light Infantry at VAILLY VAILLY today the Battalion paraded at 1.15 P.M. and marched by Coy's to billets in VAILLY. Relief complete at 4.2 P.M. Occasional shelling of village during the night one sentry wounded.

1916

APPENDIX

JulyDAILY DIARY

21st.

O.C. Reconnoitred trenches of 1st Battalion in morning. Village slightly shelled at 9.P.M. 2nd Lieut. Harvey sick & admitted to 7d. Ambulance.

22nd.

O.C. Commanders reconnoitred trenches in morning. VALLEY shelled at 3.P.M.

23rd.

Voluntary Church Service in Y.H.O.A. HALLS at 9.P.M. A draft of 79 Royal Sussex pre-viously posted to 6th R.I. West Kent transferred to the Battalion. 19 were posted to "g" Coy. & 40 to "9" Coy. Orders for relief of trenches annulled, ordered to move to huts in BOYS DU WARRE HOUT near BUS tomorrow. 2nd Lieut. Sadler rejoined from Field Ambulance (wounded).

24th.

The Battalion moved off by platoons for BOYS DU WARRE HOUT starting at 2.P.M. arrived at 5.P.M. Lt. Col. W. J. Osborn D.S.O. received orders to take over Command of 10th Infy. Bde. forthwith.

BOYS DU WARRE HOUT BR. BUS.

The Battalion paraded at 9.A.M. & O.C. addressed them before leaving. The O.C. left at 3.P.M. for Madens en route for ROSEBATH, the band played "Sussex by the Sea" and all the men lined the road and cheered as he drove away.

Received orders to move to HINDAVILLE, marched as a Brigade leaving at 5.30.P.M. established in Brigade at 9.P.M. 2nd Lieut HOWE & GEE reported and were posted to "A" & "D" Coys respectively.

HINDAVILLE

26th.

Received orders to march to HARTISBART WOOD at 9.A.M. tomorrow. 49th Division Band played for the men from 7. to 8.30.P.M.

27th.

The Brigade moved off at 9.A.M. arrived HARTISBART WOOD 11.15.A.M. Received orders at 2.30.P.M. to relieve 8th Warwickshire Regt. in LA BOITELLE started at 4.30.P.M. Battalion in support to 11th

1916

APPENDIX

July27th.
etd.

Hiddlesex Regt.

TRENCHES IN BOISHEMME

28th.
General Scott came round trenches at 0.41. Received orders to move to line between LA BOISHEMME & OVIENNES, established in new position at 6.30 P.M. Supplied a carrying party of 70 to take stakes down to front line. 3 men wounded today.

TRENCHES IN BOISHEMME OVIENNES LINE.

29th.
Supplied party of 100 to carry bombs to 11th Hiddlesex in front line & 50 to carry water.
0.0. & 0.5. Commanders re-completed trenches in morning. Casualties 10.4. Wounded.

30th.
At 11.4 A.M. received orders from Brigade to relieve 11th Hiddlesex in front line WEST of POZIERES, relief complete by 4.15 P.M.
At 4.30 pm orders were received that in conjunction with the 11th Hiddlesex Regt., an attack was to be made against a strong point & 100 yards of enemy trench on the left flank. Lt. COL. Fargher 11th Hiddlesex was in charge of the operations. A party of 50 Hiddlesex made a frontal attack from the SOUTH whilst 50 of "D" Coy. 7th RI Sussex Regt., in bombing formation made a demonstration on the NORTHERN flank to divert the enemy's attention.
The frontal attack lost direction and entered our own trench 150 yards NORTH of where they started from; the attack was therefore a failure. Casualties, O.R. 4 killed 1 missing 24 wounded.

TRENCHES IN POZIERES

31st.
At 1 p.m. orders were received from Brigade that the attack which failed last night on German strong point was to be resumed again tonight at 10.30 P.M. The preparations were the same with the exception that in the event of the Hiddlesex attack failing a strong bombing party of 7th RI Sussex Regt were to work down the gap as far as possible and try to gain the

Ed. Grew.
36th Infy Bde.

Herewith "War Diary" for the month of
August 1916.

R. J. A. BRYMAN
in for
for Lt. Col.
Comd'g 7th Bn. Fl. Sussex Reg't.

1.9.16.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

1916

July31st.
etd.

objective. The Hiddesex attack was discovered as soon as it started and they were prevented reaching the German trench by Machine Gun & Rifle fire, our bombing party then worked down the sap and captured and consolidated 50 yards, beyond this they were held up by a Machine Gun in a straight piece of trench. A second attack was launched by the Hiddesex to try to get behind the Machine Gun this attack also failed. We completed consolidation and held the captured 50 yards. Casualties 7 C.A. killed 19 wounded.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

August.

TRENCHES POZIERE.

1st Fairly heavy shelling of communication and support trenches during day and night.

2nd

Usual shelling day and night.

3rd

8th Royal Fusiliers attacked RATION trench at 9 P.M. after artillery preparation and captured most of it.

4th

At 3 A.M. received orders to send one Company over to RATION trench to get in touch with 8th Royal Fusiliers and work up to the ridge; also one platoon to attack strong point on the right, after this had been captured they were to work down RATION and get in touch with A Company.

A Company sent too much to the left, but reached RATION trench finding the Buffs already there. Col. Gope (O.G. Buffs) ordered A Coy. to push forward and take the ridge, which they reached without any difficulty; but were heavily counter attacked and obliged to fall back to RATION trench. The platoon on the right came under heavy Machine Gun fire and were not able to capture the strong point. Later in the day orders were received for two Companies to attack the ridge of RATION trench in conjunction with attack of 9th Royal Fusiliers. Two platoons were again to attack Strong point on right from POZIERE trench. B and D Companies attacked across the open but lost direction, some however reached their objective and got in touch with 9th Royal Fusiliers. The two platoons of C Company were unable to capture Strong point, owing to heavy Machine Gun fire. The result of this operation, was that practically the whole of RATION trench was captured and consolidated.

1916.

August.Appendix.4th
(Contd.)

Casualties during two days. 3rd Lieuten. Wood Le Doux killed, 3rd Lieuten. Cooke, Fitzsimons, Hoile, Missing. Capt. Brewer, 2nd Lieuten. D Alton, Glenshaw, Howe, Browning, D wounded. Other ranks 16 killed, 25 missing, 109 wounded.

5th

Information received that about 200 Germans were lying out in shell holes between HAYTON trench and our old front line. Men with a knowledge of German were sent out to induce them to surrender and 180 came in and surrendered to 7th Royal Fusiliers and 9th Royal Pussiliers. Battalion relieved by 9th Royal Pussiliers at 6 P.M. Moved out to PARA-USA line. Major H.A. OARR joined the Battalion here to take command. Lieut Cousins returned and took over command of A Company.

PARA-USA LINE.

6th
Shelled with bear shells from 3 A.M. to 6 A.M. No Casualties.

The Battalion moved off by platoons to AIRBURN - BOUZINCOURT line starting at 11 A.M. A draft of 40 Sussex men arrived. Company Commanders were now as follows :- A Coy Lieut Cousins, B Coy 2nd Lieut. Sadler, C Coy Capt Borlby, D Coy. 2nd Lieut. Major. Major H.A. Carr. Commanding. Capt G.P. Osborne 2nd in Command Capt G. Nagle 1st Adjutant.

LIEUT & BOUZINCOURT LINE.

7th
Battalion was relieved by 9th Bnser at 2 P.M. Marched off by Coy's to BOUZINCOURT at 2.50 P.M.

BOUZINCOURT.

8th
Ordinary parades in morning. Following officers reported and were posted to Companies as under. 2nd Lieut Ballard FO A Coy. 2nd Lieut Clarke C Coy. 2nd Lieut. Ledger to D Coy.

9th
Parades under Coy. arrangements in the morning. 0.08 parade at 2.30 P.M. for distribution of Cards awarded by G.O.C. 36th Ind'y Brigade for Gallantry at the HORNZOLLERN REDOUBT last March.

1916.Appendix.August.9th
(Contd.)

Received orders from the Bde about the inspection of 36th Infy Bde by H.M. the King tomorrow. A draft of 28 or different Royal Sussex Battms arrived.

10th

The Batten paraded at 1.30 P.M. and marched out near EHLIE where the Bde formed up on both sides of the road. H.M. the King and Staff arrived at 3.30 P.M. and walked down between the ranks. The Prince of Wales accompanied the King. Three cheers were called for His Majesty, after which the Batten marched back to billets at 4 P.M. Capt R. J. A. BISHAM rejoined from 1st Army Headquarters and took over duties of Bnd in Command.

11th

The Battalion paraded at 7.20 A.M. and marched with Brigade to VAREMBE, established in billets at 10 A.M. Capt Osborne took over command of D Coy, again. A draft of 24 of all Sussex Battms arrived at 6 P.M.

VAREMBE.

The Battalion paraded at 9.10 A.M. and marched with Brigade to PUGHEVILLERS established in billets at 1 P.M. A draft of 176, mostly 5th Batten arrived. The following decorations were awarded by G.O.C. in Chief.

Capt. Ossever. Royal Scots attached 7th F. Sussex. Bnd Ixent. Broughton Ill. Ace. R. S. M. For Military Cross.
No. 541 Serjt Provost D. C. M.

PUGHEVILLERS.

Church parade in orchard next to Batten H.Q. at 11.15 A.M. A draft of 70 Sussex Yeomanry arrived.

14th

Ordinary parade under Coy arrangements in morning. Received orders to march as a Brigade to SARTON tomorrow.

15th

Battalion paraded at 7.15 A.M. and marched with the Bde to SARTON established in billets at 10 A.M.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1916.Appendix.AUGUST.SARON.

16th The Battalion paraded at 6.10 and marched with the Bde to SIR ST. KENNEDY arrived 1 P.M.

SIR ST. KENNEDY.

17th The Battalion paraded at 6.45 and marched with the Brigade to THE LEE HANSAULT, arrived 10 A.M.

THE LEE HANSAULT.

18th

Short parades under Coy arrangements. Rained most of the day.

19th

C.O. Adls. and Company Commanders rode to DAINTVILLE and the reconnoitred trenches east of AGRY, held by 6 Yorkshire Regt and 1st Cav Bde to BENNYTTS to await the arrival of the Battalion which arrived at about 10 P.M.

BENNYTTS.

20th

The Battalion moved off by platoons at 8.45 P.M. to relieve 6th Yorkshire Regt. In left sub-sector B.2 east of AGRY. A B C Coye from right to left on the front line. D Coy in Reserve. Battalion H.Q. AGRY village. Relief complete at 2.50 A.M. 21.8.16.

FRANCIS AGRY.

21st

Very quiet day. Casualties Nil.

22nd

Very quiet day. Casualties Nil.

23rd

Very quiet day. " "

24th

Very quiet day. " "

25th

Very quiet day. " "

Received orders for relief of Battalion, by 8th Royal Fusiliers, C.O. and Company Commanders 8th Royal Fusiliers reconnoitred trenches.

26th

Battalion relieved by 8th R.Fusiliers at 8.30 P.M. and moved to billets at DAINTVILLE established at 7 P.M.

DAINTVILLE

27th

Voluntary Church parade in Y.H.C.A. Hut at 11.30 A.M.

1916.Appendix.Avonah.

28th

Ordinary parades under Coy. arrangements.

29th

Parades under Coy. arrangements. A Coy at range in morning. Concert for the men in Y.M.C.A. Bar from 5 to 7 P.M. Very busy with most of the day. The 11 Corps Commander awarded the Hillary Medal to the following W.O.s N.C.O.s & men for FOZING operations:- A/O.S.M. Hayes, A/O.S.M. Ronald, Serge Hovey, N/Serge Horns, N/Serge Selby, A/Serge Lawrence, I.Opl. Innes, Pte Glenister, Pte. Resport, Pte Nicholls, Pte Godard, Pte Angler, Pte Selby, Pte White.

30th

Parades under Coy arrangements. Two Coys at Bains. C.O. distributed cards to following men of A & D Coys. Pinned all day. A/Serge Selby, I/Serge Lawrence, A/Serge Horns, Pte Glenister Resport, A/O.S.M. Innes, Pte Overlock.

31st

Ordinary parades in morning. Two Coys at Bains. C.O. Distributed Cards to B & C Coys. A/O.S.M. Ronald, Sgt Rowery, I Opl. Blakins, Angler with A/O.S.M. S. Simons, I Sgt Pascock, Ptean Kennedy, Nicholls, Arnell. Concert by Divl Groups in Y.M.C.A. Bar from 8 to 7 P.M.

R. T. A. BRYMAN
In Jor
for Lt. Col.
Comdgs 7th Bn. Rl. Fusess Regt.

1.9.16.

WEST SUSSEX RSK

7th BATTALION, ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

1916.

Appendix.

September.

DAIRYVILLE.

1st

Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in trenches in front of ABEY, left and sector G.2. The Battalion marched off by platoons from DAIRYVILLE starting at 8.30 a.m. Relief complete at 1 p.m. 7 Officers from 11th Bn. East Surrey Regt. arrived & were posted to Coy as under.
A¹ Company, 2nd Lieut. G. H. Horse & Z. G. Gals. 7th Company
2nd Lieut. H. Ross & H. Surridge. 8th Company 2nd Lieut. J. Dunlop. 9th Company 2nd Lieut. J. W. Handing & P. Kestran.

~~2nd Lieut. J. W. Handing & P. Kestran.~~

2nd

Very quiet day, nothing of importance happened.

3rd

2nd Lieut. S. G. Gorringe & G. A. Phillips joined from 10th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt., & were posted to "Q" & "R" Companies respectively. The following awards in the Bn. were given for gallantry at POLKENS in August.
Captain H. S. Bondy - The Military Cross.
Sergeant G. Ward & Sergeant G. Hodges The Distinguished Conduct Medal.

4th

Very quiet day.

5th

Very quiet. General A. B. Scott G. O. G., 12th Division visited the trenches.

6th

Very quiet. Received orders for relief by 8th Royal Fusiliers tomorrow.
Captain G. Hagle appointed Adjutant Vice Captain R. J. A. Betham promoted A/C: 10th 1916.

7th

Relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers in morning and moved to ABEY defenses under Major R. J. A. Betham and Headquarters details in ABEY and two boys. SURGERY HOWD. A carrying party of 100 for R. B. stores detailed.

1916.

September.ADRY.Appendix.

8th 300 Men detailed for work in the trenches near ADRY under R.S. supervision.

9th Usual working parties supplied.

10th - do -

11th - do -

12th Received orders to relieve 8th Royal Fusiliers in left sub-sector G.2. tomorrow. Usual working parties detailed. Casualties 1 other rank killed.

13th Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in left sub-sector G.2. Relief complete at 1 p.m. A draft of 29, mostly old, 7th Batin, men arrived.

TRENCHES - ADRY.

14th Very quiet day. Major R.J.A. Betham inspected the draft.

15th Nothing of importance occurred. Very quiet. Major R.J.A. Betham went on leave.

16th Very quiet. Capt. H.S. Cousins proceeded to 3rd Army School. Pld Lieuts. A.C. Ward & A.C. W. BOTH joined from 3rd Batin. and were posted to "C" Coy.

17th Artillery cut lanes in German wire in front of left Coy. Ten men left for 3rd Army Post Camp BOWDOONS for a week.

18th Received orders for relief by 8th Royal Fusiliers tomorrow.

19th Relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers starting at 9 a.m. and moved to billets at DAINVILLER established at 2.30 p.m. A draft of 20, a few old 7th Battalion men arrived.

DAINVILLER.

20th A working party of 100 was detailed for work daily in trenches under R.S.

21st Usual working party found. Parties under Company arrangements.

1915.

Appendix.

September.

22nd

Usual working party & patrols.

23rd

Usual working party found. Parades in morning under Company arrangements.

The Divisional Concert party gave a concert in Y.H.C.A. hut at 6.30 p.m. Received orders for relief of 8th Royal Palslers in trenches tomorrow.

24th

The Battalion moved off from DAIRVILLE by platoons starting at 8.30 a.m. to relieve 8th Royal Palslers in left sub-sector O.C. Nelson complete at 11 noon. 3rd Coy. on the left attempted to get through the German wire and make a raid; after having cut through about 80 yards, they found another 50 yards of very thick wire in front of them which was impenetrable; so the officer in charge decided to throw his bombs into the German Trench and withdraw. He did this and returned to our lines without casualties although fired on by about 8 or 10 rifles.

25th September 1915.

Very quiet day, nothing of importance occurred.

25th

The Batts. was relieved by 9th Batts. R.R.R.C. 14th Division at 8 P.m. and moved to BENNYVILLE for the night.

26th

Casualties for today 1 other rank killed & 1 other rank wounded. 2nd Lieut. Willard reported for duty and was posted to "A" Company. Received order for move to BODDINGHAM tomorrow.

27th September.

The battalion moved by dogs, at 9.40 a.m. for VANQUERTIN and proceeded by lorry from there to billets in BODDINGHAM arrived 2 p.m. Transport moved off from BENNYVILLE at 3.30 a.m. and arrived in BODDINGHAM before the battalion.

27th

1916.

Appendix

September.HONGKONGTASHO.

28th Transport moved off at 8.30 a.m. Destination unknown. Received orders for move by bus tomorrow.

29th

The battalion paraded at 7.30 a.m. and marched out to rendezvous for buses 1 mile south of HONGKONGTASHO. French buses arrived at 11 a.m. and took the buses as far as cross-roads south west of LAVITVILLE arrived at 9.15 p.m. Received orders to march from here to FRENCH HENDOUX camp east of YANTZ arrived at 1 a.m. After a march of 10 1/2 miles. A few tents and bivouacs were provided as accommodation.

FRENCH HENDOUX (near YANTZ).

30th

Transport arrived at 7 a.m.

H. A. OAR, Lieut Col.
Commdg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX REGIMENT
RSR MS 714

THE BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

OCTOBER. POSITION RECOGNISE GARR.

1st Received orders for relief of 11th Company in trenches near Flers. Corps marched at 5.30 p.m. and marched up to 11th via Longueval and Bernafay following to the left on the road the march was slow. Relief of 11th Company in support trenches complete by 1 a.m. Battalions were distributed as follows: 8th B.F., left front line; 9th B.F., right front line; 7th B. Sussex Regt Support trenches; and 11th Bdd near Regt in reserve trenches. 2nd front. Factory Corner - Ligny Hillory road to W.86 control. 37th Bde on right of 56th Bde & AFSD Div. on left. (see Map).

SEPTEMBER 29. FLERS.

2nd Front line & support trenches were heavily shelled most of the day.

3rd Trenches shelled most of the day; Flers also shelled. The Battalion relieved 8 B.F. in left line sector starting at 6 p.m. D Coy on left & O Coy on right in front line (Glad Support Coy). B Coy in support in Factory Cr. and A Coy in reserve in Old Cr. (see Map). Heavy artillery quiet during relief.

4th Front line and support trenches shelled all day.

5th Heavy shelling of front and support line trenches. O & D Coys dug an assembly trench joining the two strong points on right and left (see Map). Two German guns over & surrendered to this party.

6th Usual shelling of trenches. Battalion was relieved in left sector by 8 B.F. starting at 6 p.m. After relief Battalion moved back to support trenches. Relief complete at 12 midnight.

7th The attack was continued at 1.40 p.m. by Sussex, 4th, & 6th French Army. There was no intensive bombardment before the attack but at 2.30 a line creeping barrage was opened on a line 150 yards beyond front line trenches. The 8th & 9th B.F. attacked beyond trench with 37th Bde on their right and 41st Div. on their left. 7 B. Sussex

1916.Appendix.October7th
(Oct).

Batt were in support & 11th Middlesex Batt in reserve. Before dawn A & D Coy under Capt Osborne moved up to 61st trench to a position of readiness and at 5.30 & 5.45 mins were to move up to front line. owing to barrage & state of trenches, however, only D Coy was able to reach the front line. A Coy attempted to get up, but found it impossible. The 8th & 9th R.F. suffered heavy casualties from enemy barrage & H.G. fire, so the C.O. decided to move B Coy up to left of D Coy & C Coy to 61st Tr. to reinforce if necessary. The attack was not successful & by 6 p.m. the situation on Brigade front was the same as before the attack commenced. At 6 p.m. the 11th Middlesex relieved the whole Brigade front & the Battalion moved back to position of support Battalion. The Lewis Gunners of the Battalion remained in the front line.

8th
Heavy enemy shelling of front and support trenches.

9th
Usual shelling of trenches. Received orders from 4th that Lt Col. H.A. Carr was to proceed forthwith to take command of 1/8th Worcester Regt R.F. & that Capt. A.J. Sanson, 6th R. Ex. Co. was to take command of the Battalion. Lt. Col. H.A. Carr departed at 11.30 a.m. & Capt. A.J. Sanson took over command. The Battalion was relieved at 6 p.m. by 9th Essex Regt and moved to camp at Barnham Wood.

Total casualties during last 10 days in trenches:
 End Lt. P. Goids & End Lt. F.J. Franklin, killed; Lieut. W.S. Hill, and Lt. G.A. Philips, End Lt. A.O. Usher, End Lt. B. Martin & End Lt. H. Jones, wounded; Lieut. H. Sadler & End Lt. G.R. Howe, sick to Field Ambulance.
 174 Other ranks killed & wounded.

CAJAP B. BIRDAWAY WOOD

11th
Major General Scott and Brigadier General Boyd-Jones visited the camp. A working party of 150 was found by the Battalion to dig an assembly trench in front of 61st support trench for 35th Brigade.

1916.

Appendix.October

12th

Attack on Bayonet trench resumed; 35th Brigade attacked with 88th Brigade on their right & 36th Brigade in reserve in Sornatey Wood. This attack was also unsuccessful, although 88th Brigade gained some ground.

13th

A working party of 300 found for 35th Brigade.

14th

Working party of 100 found for 35th Brigade.

15th

Working party of 100 found for 35th Brigade.

16th

Working party of 100 & carrying party of 250 found for 35th Brigade.

17th

From 5 p.m. today the Battalion was attached to 35th Brigade. At 10.30 p.m. Coy's paraded & moved up to Flers trench in reserve to 35th Brigade. Established at 12.30 p.m. Received orders that 9th Bnwer would attack Bayonet trench at 3.40 p.m. 7th Royal Sussex Bnct were in reserve. This attack also failed owing to H.G. fire & thick wire in front of Bayonet trench.

REMARKS PLANS

18th

Party of 108 men arrived. Received orders that the attack on Bayonet trench would be continued at zero, with 9th Royal Bnct on right and 7th Royal Sussex on left (attached to 5th Royal Bnct). The attack was to be in the nature of a surprise, carried out from both flanks, by 4 bombing squads on each flank and 1 Coy from each Battalion in support. The 4 bombing squads of 7th Royal Sussex Bnct, under 2nd Lt Clarke and 2nd Lt Leister, and C Coy, under 2nd Lt Salinar, moved up to a position of readiness at 12 midnight.

19th

Zero was fixed at 3 a.m. At 2.50 a.m. the enemy opened a heavy barrage on all approaches to Bayonet trench and put up several Vexey lights. Patrols were now sent out towards Bayonet trench, where the enemy were found in strength and waiting for the attack. So 0.5th Royal Bnct now decided not to continue the attack. It is believed the enemy saw the assaulting squads moving up to assembly positions.

1916.

Appendix.

October

19th
(Cont.).

At 6 a.m. C. Coy and the 4 bombing squads returned to Piers trench. At 3 p.m. the Battalion was relieved by 1st Lancashire Fusiliers and moved out by Coys to 26th Brigade Camp at Kemets Road. Reestablished at 7 p.m.

CAMP, HANREZ ROAD

20th Received orders from 26th Brigade to rejoin 26th Brigade at Pricourt Camp. Coys moved off at 1.15 p.m. and arrived at Pricourt Camp at 4.30 p.m. Received orders to move to Salze tomorrow. A party of 6 men of Sussex Yeomanry joined the Battalion.

PRICOURT CAMP

21st The Battalion paraded at 8.10 a.m. & marched by Coys, at 200 yards distance to Salze. Arrived at 12.30 p.m. Received orders about move by bus to Poeseux tomorrow.

BUISSE

22nd The Battalion marched out at 12.15 p.m. to bus rendezvous near Hibernoy, and moved off in French buses at 1.30 p.m. for Poeseux. Arrived at 6 p.m. & marched to camp at Gony. Reestablished at 8.30 p.m. Transport moved by road.

CAMP, GONY

23rd O.C. inspected the draft in the morning. O & B Coys at baths, Gony. Another draft of 7 Casuals rejoined.

24th A & B Coys and H. Coys, at baths, Gony. Other parades under Coy arrangements. Transport arrived at 12 noon.

25th Parades under Coy arrangements.

26th Battalion paraded at 11 p.m. for distribution of bus cards by O.C. Battalion paraded at 7.30 p.m. and marched to bus rendezvous at Harnagebin. Buses arrived at 11 p.m. and conveyed the Battalion to Delnville. Arrived 12.15 a.m. Transport moved from Gony to Bernoville in the afternoon.

DELNVILLE

27th Parades under Coy arrangements.

28th
" "
" "
" "

1916.AppendixOctober

29th

O.C., H.Q., O.G. Coy, and S. H. O.C.'s per Coy attended a Sals lecture at Borneville at 9 a.m. Church parades today were held as under in Br. Ende reading room, Dismal Hill.

A and B Coys 10.30 a.m. C and D Coys 11.30 a.m.

30th

Parades under Coy arrangements.

31st

Parades under Coy arrangements. Received orders for roll of O.G. S.A.P. in left sub-section G.S. tomorrow. Divisional concert party gave a concert for the Battalion in Y.H. O.A. hut at 7 p.m.

AL. SARSON, Lt. Col.
Command, 7th Bn., Rl. Sussex Regt

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 771

THE BATTALION ROYAL SHERIFF REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

November. AGRY TRENCHES.

- 1st Very quiet. 1 man of B Company killed.
- 2nd Quiet.
- 3rd Ditto. Major Osborne went on leave.
- 4th Ditto. Lieut. Kemp & 2nd Lieut. Smart joined Battalion; posted to A & D Companies respectively.
- 5th Quiet.
- 6th Received orders for relief tomorrow. Padre returned from leave.
- 7th The Battalion was relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers, starting at 9.30 a.m. After relief the Battalion moved to AGRY trenches and SHERKIN road. A & D Companies in former, B & C Companies in latter. Relief complete 13 noon. Draft of 32 old men arrived. Rained all day.

AGRY TRENCHES.

- 8th to 13th Unal daily working parties for 250' s and Battalions in the line.
- 13th Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in left sub-sector, 9.30, commencing at 9.30 a.m. Relief complete 11 a.m. Companies distributed from right to left as follows:- D., B., C., A Company in reserve.

AGRY TRENCHES.

- 14th Generals Scott and Boyd-Moss visited trenches. 2nd Lieut. Norris joined Battalion and posted to B Company.
- 15th Quiet. C.O. went on leave.
- 16th 2nd Lieut. Farrow & Bowler arrived and were posted to D Company.
- 16th to 18th Major Osborne returned from leave. Very quiet.
- 19th Relieved by 8th Royal Fusiliers. Relief complete 11 a.m. Moved to DUNVILLE established in billets 12 noon.

1916.

Appendix.

November. DAINVILLE.

- 20th Parades under Company arrangements.
General cleaning up.
- 21st Parades by Companies. Usual training by platoons. Concert party gave concert in Fall O.A. hut at 6 p.m.
- 22nd Parades under Company arrangements. General Owen D.S.O. took over command of Brigade on departure of General Boye. Owen to command a Brigade at home.
- 23rd Battalion fitted with new small box respirator. Evertons tested under gas. And Knut and Cracken joined and posted to B Company.
- 24th Company parades. Captain Bomby rejoined from 4th Army School. And Lieut. Moore rejoined A. Company from sick leave.
- 25th Relieved 8th Royal Fusiliers in left sub-sector, starting at 9 a.m. Relief complete 11 a.m. Companies distributed in line from left to right as follows:- A., B., D., C Company in reserves. Captain Bomby departed to 3rd Army H.Q. to report to Chemical Adviser, 3rd Army.
- ADVT. TRAININGS.
- 25th to 29th Very quiet. O.O. returned from leave.
- 30th Received orders for relief by 8th Royal Fusiliers tomorrow.

A.J. SAMPSON Lieut. Col
Commanding 7th Bn.
81. Sussex Regt.

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1916.

Appendix.

December.

TRENCHES AGENT.

1st

Very quiet.

2nd

The Battalion was relieved by the 8th Royal Fusiliers and moved to AGENT as Brigade Reserve; 2 Companies in Condon Road, and 2 as Garrison of AGENT TRENCHES.

ARMY DISPATCHES.

3rd to
7th

Usual working parties found for Royal Engineers and Battalions in the front line.

8th

The Battalion relieved the 8th Royal Fusiliers in left sector.

TRENCHES AGENT.

9th to
13th

Very quiet; nothing to report.

14th

The Battalion was relieved by the 8th Royal Fusiliers commencing at 9 a.m. After relief the Battalion moved to billets in DAWYLLS.

DAWYLLS.

15th

Received orders from Brigade for move to rest area.

16th

The 5th Oxford Light Infantry arrived as relief at 1.30 p.m. The Battalion paraded at 2 p.m. and marched to AMBERNS. Routes:- WATSON, WARDRETH, HAWTHILL, AVONING-1st-CORPS, and OVENING-1st-CORPS. Established in billets at 10 p.m.

AMBERNS.

17th

The Battalion paraded at 9 a.m. and marched to SIBYLLS. Routes:- LAGHICOURT-SUR-CARONS, HOVAIN-HOVAINHEUL.

SIBYLLS.

18th

Short parades under Company arrangements, fitting of clothing etc.

1916.

Appendix.

December.

Parades for Companies, according to Programme attached.

24th Church parade for 2 Companies at 9.15 a.m. and 2 Companies at 10 a.m. was held in "D" Company's billet.

25th B & D Companies were given their Christmas dinner in D. Company's billet at 2.30 p.m. This dinner was followed by a concert.

26th Parades under Company arrangements in the morning.
G. Company was given their Christmas dinner at 1 p.m. and A Company at 3 p.m.
The dinner was followed by a concert for both companies.

27th The football match arranged between the 8th Royal Fusiliers and the 7th Royal Sussex was played on our ground at 2.30 p.m. The 8th Royal Fusiliers won 3-0.

28th to 30th Genl. H. B. Dowby returned from Third Army Headquarters. Parades according to Programme attached.

31st Voluntary Service was held in "D" Company's billet at 9.15 a.m.
The Sergeants of the Battalion gave a Smoking concert from 6 to 10 p.m.

A. J. SAINSBIE, Lieut., Col.

Command. 7th Batta. Royal Sussex Regt.

7th BATTALION, THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

January.

SIRIVILLE.

1st. Parades according to Programme attached.
2nd Lt. A.C. Ward and P.C. Gorrings went on leave.

2nd. Parades as Programme attached.
The Commanding Officer inspected 2nd Coy. on Parades.

3rd.

Parades. See Programme attached.
Brigade Football Competition.
2nd Coy. Royal Sussex v 2nd Company 8th Royal Fusiliers. Result.
2 Goals nil.
2nd Lt. H.S. Gervie went to No. 12 Squadron R.F.C. for Course of Signalling.

4th.

Parades. See Programme attached.
The Divisional Band played outside Orderly Room between 2.30 & 4.30 p.m.
Received Draft of 101 N.C.O.'s and men.

5th.

Parades. See Programme attached.
Received a draft of 58 N.C.O.s and men.

6th.

Parades. See Programme attached.
The Commanding Officer inspected 4th Company at 11.30 a.m.
The Commanding Officer also inspected all recently arrived drafts.
Brigade Football Competition between "D" Company, 7th Royal Sussex Regt. and "C" Company 8th Royal Fusiliers at SIRIVILLE. Result. 8th Royal Fusiliers 4, 7th Royal Sussex 2 Goals.
The Officers gave a Concert to the Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s. in "B" Company's billet from 6.0 to 10 p.m.

7th.

Voluntary G of K. Services in the School Room at 9 a.m.
The Commanding Officer inspected all billets in the morning.
Inter-Company Football Competition between "B" and "C" Companies. Result. "B" 3. C 1 Goal.

1917.Appendix.January.7th
(contd)2nd Lt. G.A. Baboneau &
R.R. Surridge came off leave.

8th.

Parades. See Programme attached.

9th.

The Brigadier General, 36th Infy. Brigade inspected the Battalion at 10 a.m. & presented medals for Gallant Conduct in the Field to Q.M.S. Long & C.Q.M.S. Hanton. 2nd Lt. J.I. Hshere joined from 3rd Battalion and posted to 4th Company.

10th.

Parades as Programme attached.

11th

" " " " " "

to

11th. "C" Company Sports at 2 p.m.

13th.

13th. "D" " " " " at 1.30p.m.

14th.

Voluntary C of R. Service at 9 a.m. in the School Room.

15th.

Gen. A.E. Scott, G.O.C. 12th Division inspected the Battalion at 10.30 a.m. & presented ribbons to the following W.O., N.C.O's and men.

R.S.M. JOY, N.C.

} Military Medal.

C.S.M. Richard.

} Military Medal.

Sgt. Horne.

} Military Medal.

L/Cpl. White.

} Military Medal.

Pte. Kerport.

} Military Medal.

Pte. Hayward.

} Military Medal.

A/G.S.M. Ward. D.C.M.

} Military Medal.

Pte. Wilson. } Bar to Military Medal.

2nd Lt. J.I. Knox joined & posted to "C" Company.

2nd Lt. G.M. Morse went on leave.

2nd Lts. G. Gorringe & A.C. Ward came off leave.

16th.

Signalling exercises by Battalion. Contact Patrol work with Aeroplanes.

2nd Lt. R.M. Perkins went to Divisional School for course of instruction.

12th Divisional Marathon Race = 7th Royal Sussex Regt 10th (Last).

17th.

Parades under Company arrangements.

18th.

The Battalion moved to billets in WANDURTH by route march. Left 9 a.m. arrived 4 a.m.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE

1917.Appendix.January.WANDERING.

19th.

Cleaning of Billets etc.

20th.

Musketry Practice on ranges;
other work under Company
arrangements.
Received draft of 30 R.C.O.s.
and men.

21st.

C. of B. Service in Church Army
hut between 9.0 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

22nd.

Signalling to Aeroplanes by
Battalion Signalers.
Received draft of 104 R.C.O.'s
and men. This draft was inspected
by the Brigadier-General 30th
Infantry Brigade.
Capt. H. Hagie & R.C.D. Hind
went on leave.

23rd.

The Battalion moved to
billets in ARBAs by route march
& were attached to 37th Infantry
Brigade for digging. Left
WANDERING 2.30 p.m. arrived
ARBAs 5.30 p.m.

ARBAs.

24th.

Digging 6 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

25th.

Digging 6 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Gas shells on "A" and "B" Companies.
20 men were affected in "B" Company
and 3 of this number went to
Hospital. One man slightly wounded.
Total. 4 Casualties.

26th)
to)
31st.)

Digging 6 p.m. - 4.30 a.m.

A. J. SARNOF.

Lt. Col.
Command. 7th Bn. Rl. Sussex Rgt.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

February.

Appendix.

1st ARRAS.
Usual disenging parties found by
the Battalion.

2nd " " "

3rd " " "

Capt. A. A. Rees, Medical officer in
charge of the Battalion taken to
Field Ambulance.

4th Usual working parties. Lt. Col.
Sansom, Major Osborne & Company
Commanders reconnoitred trenches
I & 3 (left) sectors.
Capt. A. A. Rees died in hospital
(List G. O. S.)
Lieut. Mills, R. A. M. C. joined for
duty.

5th Working parties provided for
67th Field Coy., R. S. and 5th
Horsebuses for work on dugouts.

6th Similar working parties found.

7th The Battalion relieved the 6th
Royal West Kent's in left sector
I B. A Coy on right, C Coy on
left, B Coy in the centre and
D Coy in reserve. Relief
completed by 10.30 a.m.

8th

I & 3 SECTOR, ARRAS.

The Commanding Officer Lt. Col.
A. J. Sansom proceeded on leave.
Major G. G. Osborne took over
command. Gasmaster Nil.

9th

Gasmaster. 3 men killed by shell
fire in ARRAS.

10th

Very quiet day.

11th

The Battalion was relieved by the
6th Royal Fusiliers & moved to
barracks in the Ecole des Jeunes
Filles, rue Gambetta, ARRAS as
Battalion reserve. Relief complete
at 11 a.m.
Large working parties found during
the afternoon and night.

ARRAS (BRIGADE RESERVE).

12th

Large working parties found from
all Commands.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

February.

ARRAS.

1st Trench digging parties found by the Battalion.

2nd "

"

3rd "

"

Cap't. A. A. Rees, Medical Officer in charge of the Battalion taken to Field Ambulance.

4th

Trench working parties. Lt. Col. Sansom, Major Osborne & Company Commanders reconnoitred trenches I 2 (left) sector.
Capt. A. A. Rees died in hospital (4th Coy C.O.S.)
Ident. Mills, F.A.M.C. joined for duty.

5th

Working parties provided for 87th Field Coy., R.S. and 5th Northants for work on dugouts.

6th

Similar working parties found.

7th

The Battalion relieved the 8th Royal West Kent's in left sector I 2. A Coy on right, C Coy on left, B Coy in the centre and D Coy in reserve. Relief completed by 10.30 a.m.

I 2 SECTOR, ARRAS.

The Commanding Officer Lt. Col. A. J. Sansom proceeded on leave. Major G. F. Osborne took over command. Casualties Nil.

9th

Casualties. 3 men killed by shell fire in ARRAS.

10th

Very quiet day.

11th

The Battalion was relieved by the 8th Royal Fusiliers & moved to billets in the Ecole des Jeunes Filles, rue Gambetta, ARRAS as Brigade reserve. Relief complete at 11 a.m.

Large working parties found during the afternoon and night.

ARRAS (BRIGADE RESERVE).

12th

Large working parties found from all Companies.

1917.

Appendix.

February.

13th

Usual working parties.

14th

" " "

15th

The Battalion relieved the 9th Royal Fusiliers in right sub-sector I.1. Relief complete at 10.30 a.m. 2nd Lt. Thomson, 3rd Dragoon Guards, attached to the Battalion for 10 days for instruction.

I.1 SECTOR, ARFAS.

16th

Very quiet. Lieut. Salton & 2nd Lieut. Hodges joined the Battalion & were posted to "B" & "A" Companies.

17th

Very quiet.

18th

At 5.30 a.m. a Russian prisoner who had been working behind the German line came over and surrendered to "D" Company. Capt. H.F. Taylor returned from 16th I.B.D.

19th

Relieved by the 8th Royal Fusiliers and moved to billets in La Grande Place, ARFAS as Support Battalion. Battalion Head Quarters in the Rue de la Paix. Casualties: 2nd Lieut. C. Clayton & 1 O.R. wounded. Usual working parties found in the afternoon and during the night.

ARFAS.

20th }
21st }
22nd }

Large working parties found by all Companies.

23rd

Relieved the 8th Royal Fusiliers in right Sector I.1. Relief complete at 10.30 a.m.

I.1 SECTOR, ARFAS.

24th

Quiet day. 2nd Lieut. Thomson 3rd Dragoon Guards left to rejoin his unit.

25th

Very quiet day.

26th

A raid was carried out by the 11th Middlesex Regt. from our left Company trenches at 8.30 a.m.

WEST SUSSEX

1917.Appendix.February.26th
(contd.)

Twenty five prisoners were taken. Casualties slight. Our Casualties: 2 killed; 6 wounded. The enemy retaliated by shelling our front and support trenches and cemetery defences.

27th

The Battalion was relieved by the 11th Middlesex Regt and moved to billets in the Boole des Jeunes Filles, rue Gambetta as Brigade reserve. Relief complete at 11 a.m. Usual working parties found by Companies in the afternoon and at night.

ARRAS.

Usual working parties found by Companies.

28th

G.F. OSBORNE
Major
Commanding 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MEMORIAL

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1912

Appendix.

March

I. SECOND, ARRAS.

1st

Btlegals Remerys. Battalion P.O. in RUE CAMBERTA. Usual working parties provided by Companies.

2nd

The Battalion was relieved by 7th Suffolk. Battalion paraded at 8.30 p.m. and marched to BOYRESSCOUFFE, arriving at 9.30 p.m. 2nd Lt. G.M. Keplin remained in ARRAS as C.O. of Caves.

NOUVELESPERONS.

3rd

Battalion paraded at 10 a.m. and marched to LIGNERUILLI, arriving at 2 p.m. Lt. Kemp and Depot platoon rejoined the Battalion from the Depot Battalion.

LIGNERUILLI.

4th

Fixing of clothing and cleaning up. C.O. of 8. Services in the theatre hut; A & B Companies at 10.15 a.m., C & D Companies at 11.15 a.m. Evening at 7 p.m. Received notice that Sir Douglas Haig would inspect the Brigade on the 6th inst.

5th

Morning. Parades under Company arrangements. Inspection of all Companies by Commanding Officer.

6th

The Brigade was inspected at DIVENCHY-LE-MOULIN by Sir Douglas Haig.

7th

Parades under Company arrangements. Parties provided for digging practice trenches. A Battalion Mess for Officers was instituted.

8th

Company parades according to attached programme. Working party provided for digging practice trenches. The Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command and Company Commanders attended a "Tank" demonstration at XIII (near ST POL).

1917

Appendix.

March

- 6th
 Usual large working party provided for digging. Company parades according to attached programme. End Lt. P. Y. LINDBERG (Lieutenant Bombing Officer) and End Lt. H. C. BOULDER accidentally wounded.
- 10th
 Company parades according to attached programme. Usual large working party provided for digging practice trenches. End Lt. A. F. WILLARD and 6 O.R. accidentally wounded by a bomb.
- 11th
 Lt. COL. A. J. SAINBORN returned from leave.
 C. of A. Services in Cinema Hut. A & B Companies at 10 a.m.; C & D Companies at 10.45 a.m.
 Received news that End Lieut. R. J. LINDBERG had died of wounds at 12.20 a.m. 11.3.17.
- 12th
 8.30 a.m. Battalion marched to training ground at GIVENCHY-LE-KOULE for practice over the assault trenches.
 2.0 p.m. Parades under Company arrangements.
- 13th
 Morning. Parades under Company arrangements.
 Afternoon. The Battalion marched to training ground for practice over the assault trenches.
- 14th
 6.30 - 12.45 p.m. Parades under Company arrangements.
 Capt. THOMPSON rejoined from 3rd Army School.
- 15th
 8.30 a.m. The Battalion marched to training ground for practice over the assault trenches
 2.0 - 4.0 p.m. Parades according to programme.
 End Lt. H. NEGRACKEN rejoined from Divisional School.
 End Lt. B. D. BURHART joined the Battalion from HERRAVEN and was posted to A. Company.
- 16th
 8.30 a.m. - 12 noon. Parades under Company arrangements.
 1.15 p.m. The Battalion marched to training area for assault practice.
 End Lt. J. L. WATSONS rejoined from Signalling Course.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1917

Appendix.

March

17th

8.45 a.m. The Battalion marched to Training Area for assault practice. The Divisional Concert party came over and provided two hours splendid entertainment from 9.30-7.30 p.m. Lt. SAITTOF left for Lewis Gun course at IN TOUCHET.

18th

8.45 a.m. The Battalion paraded for usual assault practice on Training Area. Voluntary Svensons in the Cinema Hut for C. of E. at 6.30 p.m.
 2nd Lt. KROK left for Divisional School.

19th

8.45 a.m. Usual assault practice on Training Ground.
 Afternoon. Parades under Company arrangements.

2nd Lt. E. HOCHS joined the Battalion from the 4th Sussex and was posted to "C" Company. 142nd Field Ambulance Concert Party gave a very good concert in the Cinema hut from 6 - 8 p.m.

20th

8.45 a.m. Usual assault practice. Afternoon. Parades under Company arrangements.

21st

8.45 - 13 noon. Cleaning up billets. 2.30 p.m. The Battalion moved to LATRES-ST-QUENTIN & took over billets from the 6th Royal West Kent Regt. Arrived at LATRES-ST-QUENTIN at 4.45 p.m.

LATRES-ST-QUENTIN.

22nd

Moving. Cleaning up Billets. 2.30 - 4 p.m. Parades under Company arrangements.

23rd

Parades under Company arrangements. CAPT. H.F. TAYLOR and four other Officers with 175 O.R. left for ARNAS for work under 35th Brigade. The Commanding Officer, 2nd in Command and Company Commanders rode over to the Beauport Training Area to watch the 37th Brigade do the assault practice. 2nd Lt. FIMMINGS joined the Battalion from the Artists' Rifles & was posted to "A" Company.

24th

8.30 a.m. Paraded under Company arrangements. The Commanding Officer attended a Corps Conference at 5 p.m. 2nd Lt. W. HINE joined the Battalion from the 5th Sussex and was posted to "B" Company.

WEST SUSSEX RIFLES

1917

March

Appendix.

25th	<p>Celebration of Holy Communion at 8.30 and 11 a.m. in the School Room. Evensong at 7 p.m.</p>
26th	<p>Parades under Company arrangements. The Commanding Officer and CAPT. COUSSENS rode to ARRAS to reconnoitre trenches. CAPT. HIRD left for 3 days leave to PARIS.</p> <p>2nd Lt. A.J. MORRIS went on leave to England.</p>
27th	<p>Parades according to Programme.</p>
28th	<p>" " " " "</p> <p>2nd Lt. R.T.R. FARROW admitted to Hospital.</p>
29th	<p>Parades according to Programme.</p>
30th	<p>" " " " "</p> <p>Lt. C.F. BALDARD conducted a party of 3 Officers and 171 men to ARRAS for work under the 57th Brigade.</p> <p>2nd Lt. HORS joined from Kewhaven and was posted to "A" Company.</p>
31st	<p>Morning. Cleaning up and inspection by Company's. The Battalion paraded at 3 p.m. for inspection by Lieutenant-General J.A.L. Haldane, C.E., D.S.O. commanding VI Corps.</p>

A.J. SANSON

Lieut. Col.

Commanding 7th Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RSR

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

April.

LATRE ST. QUENTIN.

Appendix.

1st Parades under Coy. Commanders.

2nd Parades under Coy. Commanders.
Capt. A. J. PROUSOR took over duties
of second-in-Command.

3rd The Battalion paraded at 6.30 p.m.
and marched to ARRAS, established
in cellars and caves in CAMBRAI
ROAD at 4.30 a.m. 4/4/17.
3 Officers and 108 O.S., under
Capt. A. J. PROUSOR remained with
transport.

ARRAS.

Bombardment commenced at 6 a.m.
Transport and details moved to
AGREZ LES VOISARS. H.Q., "A" and
"B" Coys., moved to trenches at
8 P.M. H.Q. to INK FRENCH "A" and
"B" Coys., to I. and support lines.
Front line held by posts. (See
Map). "C" and "D" Coys., remaining
in cellars in CAMBRAI ROAD.

FRENCH ARRAS.

Bombardment on enemy trenches
continued. Wire in front of INK
FRENCH and SUPPORT LINE removed.
Ladders and bridges brought from
ARRAS and placed ready for putting
into position.

6th Bombardment continued. "A" and
"B" Coys., sent out patrols to
examine wire.

7th Bombardment continued. A raid
on German trenches was carried out
by No. 2 Platoon, under Lieut. FRISCH.
The raiding party entered the
German front line but found that
the enemy had vacated his front
trench hurriedly when the party
approached his wire. A German
rifle was brought back. Casualties,
1 man killed, 2 slightly wounded.

8th Bombardment continued. Final
arrangements made for attack. "A"
and "B" Coys., removed all wire
and obstacles from before our
front line. Ladders and bridges
placed in position.

1917.

AppendixApril.

8th

Zero fixed for 5.30 a.m. "G" and "D" Coy's, moved into position at 3.30 a.m. The Battalion attacked the German trenches at 6.30 a.m. All objectives were gained and consolidated. The barrage proved most effective and little difficulty was experienced in reaching objectives. See attached attack orders and Map. About 100 prisoners and 2 Machine Guns were captured by the Battalion. "B", "G" and "D" Coys., moved up to support 5th R. Barks, near PENOCHT CHAZEL at 5.30 p.m. "A" Coy., remained as Garrison of GUINDFORD TRENCH.

Orders & Map.

10th

At 11 a.m., Battalion B.A.G. moved back to old H.Q. in INK TRENCH and "A" Coy., to SUPPORT LINE. "B" Coy., moved back to SUPPORT LINE at 5.30 p.m. and "G" and "D" Coys., to cellars in CAMBRAI ROAD.

11th

Orders were received at 1.30 a.m. to move up and relieve a Battalion of 36th Infy. Bde., in Brown line near PENOCHT CHAZEL. The Battalion paraded at 10 a.m., arriving at PENOCHT CHAZEL at 12.30 p.m., and relieved 5th R. Barks., in trenches round PENOCHT CHAZEL. An outpost line on ORANGE HILL in front of HALIBAX TRENCH was held by "A" Coy. Orders were received at 4.30 p.m., to attack the German positions S.E. of HONOCHY. These orders were cancelled later and the Battalion moved up at 9 p.m., and relieved elements of 17th Divn., in front line trenches S.E. of HONOCHY. (See Map for disposition of Coys.) The night was spent digging-in and improving the positions.

Maps.

TRENCHES HONOCHY.

12th

The day passed fairly quietly. At 10 p.m., the 1st Newfoundland Regt., arrived to relieve the Battalion. After relief the Battalion marched back to BOHVILLE CAVES in ARRAS established 4.30 a.m. 13.4.17. Total Casualties since 4.4.17:-

2nd Lieuts. WORTESGOU, SHARP, HODGESS, SURRIDG, wounded.
 57 O.R. Killed, 5 O.R. Died of Wounds.
 102 O.R. Wounded, 7 O.R. Missing.

WEST SUSSEX

1917.

April.

ARRAS.

13th Battalion remained in ROUVILLE
CAYES.

14th

The Battalion paraded at 7.45 a.m.
and marched to LAFFRES ST. QUENTIN,
arriving at 1 p.m.

LAFFRES ST. QUENTIN.

15th

The Battalion paraded at 7.45 a.m.
and marched to HONDICOURT,
arriving at 1.30 p.m. Draft of
2 Officers and 66 O.S., arrived at
9 p.m. 2nd Lieuten. BOURNE and
ATKINSON posted to "A" and "B" Coy's.,
respectively. Major G. S. BOURNE
took over command of "D" Coy., and
Capt. R. S. TAYLOR, "B" Coy. Officers
actually serving with the Battalion
were according to attached list.

HONDICOURT.

16th to 21st Ongoing-up and re-fitting after
attack. Major-General A. H. SCOTT,
Command, 12th Divn, inspected

Transport and Drums at 10.30 a.m.

22nd

Voluntary Church Services in
Schoolroom at 8.30, 10.30 and
11 a.m. A draft of 2 Off. and
23 O.S. joined the Battalion.
2nd Lieuten. H. O. SKIRLING and
O. WILLIAMS, posted to "C" and "D"
Coys., respectively. 2nd Lieut.
MORSE rejoined from Divisional
Trench Mortars.

23rd The Battalion paraded at 8.30 a.m.
and marched with Brigade Group to
VANQUERIN, arriving at 8.30 p.m.

VANQUERIN.

24th The Battalion moved to billets in
ARRAS by bus at 2 p.m. Established
in billets in RUE GAMBETTA and
ROUYEYARD DE STRASBOURG at 4.30 p.m.
Major OSBORN left for Base Depot
for a tour of duty.

ARRAS.

25th

The Battalion moved to RAILWAY
TRIANGLE, to relieve 7th Suffolk,
starting at 8.30 pm. 6 Officers and
91 O.S., under Capt. HAZLE,
remaining in ARRAS. The relief was
completed by 11.30 p.m. "A" and "B"
Coys. in trenches within the
RAILWAY. "C" and "D" Coys., and
Battn. H. Q., in dug-outs on Eastern
Bank of the TRIANGLE. Battalion
Transport moved up to Q.25.b.7.5.

1917.

Appendix.April.RAILWAY TRIANGLE.

Day spent in filling-up trenches and ground in vicinity of RAILWAY TRIANGLE. One Officer from each Coy. reconnoitred ground and positions occupied by the 8th and 9th Royal Fusiliers and Units of the 35th BrIGade.

27th

Cleaning-up of ground continued. 1 N.C.O. and 10 men detached from "A" Coy. for work under Royal Engineers on Railway. The Battalion had to form a digging party of 3 Officers and 150 O.S., and carrying party of 1 Officer and 50 O.S. for work on the ORANGE LINE. These paraded at 7 p.m.

28th

Cleaning up and filling in of shell holes continued. The Battalion found a working party of 3 officers 150 O.S. and carrying party of 1 Officer and 25 O.S. for work on ORANGE LINE which paraded at 7 pm.

29th

Filling in of shell holes continued and all Dug outs thoroughly cleaned out. Two working parties each of four officers and 175 O.S. were found by the Battalion for work on the ORANGE LINE these paraded at 7.30 am and 7.15 pm respectively. 2 Lieut S.H. BOURNE left for a 3 months tour as Bombing Instructor at Rome. There was a celebration of Holy Communion at 6 pm.

30th

The Commanding Officer attended a conference at Brigade H.Q. at 10 a.m. The Battalion moved to the newly dug ORANGE LINE (orders for the move attached) starting at 9 pm. move completed by 10.50 pm. Captain H. S. BOWERY and four other ranks left for 3rd Army Rest camp at EMBLEM near BOULOGNE.

30.4.17.

A.J. SANSON Lieut.Col.
Commanding 7th Bn. Tm.
H. Sussex Regt.

- (10) ARTILLERY FLAGS. The Yellow and Black flags already issued will be waved to indicate our positions to artillery observers. On no account will they be stuck in the ground.
- (11) S.O.S. SIGNAL. Will be a succession of Green lights and lampthen fange a succession of White lights.
- (12) MEDICAL. Half the Coy. stretcher bearers will go forward with their Coys., the remainder being held in reserve at the Aid post by the M.O. Position of Aid Post G.30.a.3.5. (Junction of IHX STREET and IMPARNEY ROAD).
- (13) RESERVE STORES & WATER. After ZERO, Coys., may send down and draw water. S.A.A. and Bombs, from reserve store at present Battrn. Hq.
- (14) ZERO hour will be notified later.
- (15) These orders must be destroyed before going into action.
- (16) Acknowledged.
- Copies to:-
O.C. 111 Coys.
R.S.M.
M.O.
Office file.
36th Bde. Hq. (for information)

G. HAGLE Capt. & Adjt.
7th Battrn. Royal Sussex Regt.

S. B. O. R. M.F.

Coyd No. 3.

36th IMPARNEY BRIGADE OPERATION ORDER NO. 177.

Reference:- MAP FIDLOY 1/10.000.

Enemy's Forces. 1. Fallen back with his main forces to the HINDERBURG LINES.

Our forces. 2. The Fifth Army and VII Corps on the right of the Third Army have advanced, and are now facing the enemy on the HINDERBURG LINES.

3. The 12th Division supported by the 3rd Division on its right, and 16th Division on its left, will break through the enemy's defences as already shown on objective Map legend.

The 36th Brigade, supported by the 37th Brigade on its right, and the 44th Brigade on its left are responsible for the capture of the BLACK and BLUE LINES.

Frontage of attack.

4. As stated in Preliminary Instructions, paragraph 4.

Brigade Objective.

5. The 7th Royal Sussex Regt., and the 11th Middlesex Regt., will capture the BLACK LINE.
The 8th Royal Fusiliers and the 9th Royal Fusiliers, will capture the BLUE LINE.

Consolidation 6. & strong points.

Each objective captured will immediately be consolidated. Outposts with Lewis Guns will be pushed well forward under cover of the Barrage. Units will be re-organised as rapidly as possible so that troops may be available for further action, or to resist counter attacks.
Strong points will be established approximately:-

First Objective. G.30 d. 95.81, to be Garrisoned by 11th Middlesex Regt.

G.30 h.99.40 to be Garrisoned by 7th Royal Sussex Regt.

Second Objective. H.26.c.3.7 to be Garrisoned by 9th Royal Fusiliers.

H.25.n.30.10 to be Garrisoned by 8th Royal Fusiliers.

The Section 70th Field Company R.E. and 2B attached Infantry will be employed for constructing each of the above strong points. The time that these parties will move up will be decided by the Brigade.

Communication 7. Trenches.

Communication Trenches in British System of trenches as stated in Preliminary Instructions, Para. 15.
For communication across "The Man's Land" 2 Platoons of the 8th Northamptonshire RMT, will connect up Sap 60, and enemy Sap W.80, and 3 platoons will dig across from a point G.30.g.9.6 to enemy Sap W.18. This party will not move from ST SAUVAIN OAKS until orders are received from the Brigade.

Stokes' Mortar Covering Fire.

8. Four Stokes' Mortars will take up suitable positions so as to bring effective fire on enemy Sap heads. These guns will come into action from ZERO to ZERO + 2 minutes, at which time they will commence moving forward. Captain Barlow, Commanding 36th Trench Mortar Battery, will reconnoitre these positions before "G" day.

Forward movement of Units.

9. The Units of the Brigade will move forward to position of readiness in accordance with a March Table which will be issued later.

The Brigade will be formed up in Assembly trenches by ZERO - 2 hours, as follows:-

7th Royal Sussex Regt.	FRONT LINE
11th Middlesex Regt.	1 LINE.
	SUPPORT LINE.
8th Royal Fusiliers.	1st STRIKE
	RESERVE LINE.
9th Royal Fusiliers.)

The 8th Royal Fusiliers and 9th Royal Fusiliers, will move up as close as possible to the forward Battalions.

The Assault. 10.

(a) At ZERO on "Z" day, the Brigade will assault. Simultaneously the Artillery and Machine Gun Barrage will be formed according to programme issued.

(b) The attack will be divided into the following phases:-

(1) First Phase. At ZERO + 4 minutes, the 18 pounder Creeping Barrage lifts off the German front trench.

(11) Second Phase. At ZERO + 2 hours 20 minutes, the 18 pdr. Creeping Barrage lifts off the front line of the Second Objective, which will then be assaulted by the 8th and 9th Royal Fusiliers.

(111) Third Phase. At ZERO + 6 hours 40 minutes, the 35th Infantry Brigade will advance to the assault of the Third Objective.

Role of Machine Guns.

11. As stated in 36th Brigade Preliminary Instruction No.12. The Machine Gun Barrage has been fully dealt with in 18th Divn. Instructions, No.5, with tracing. The two Reserve Machine Guns will not move forward from BROAD WALK until ordered by the Brigade.

Role of Tanks.

12. The action of the Tanks operating with the Brigade, has been explained in 12th Division Instructions No.9, with tracing, and Brigade Preliminary Instructions No.16 and amendment.

13. Contact
Aeroplanes. (1) Aeroplanes working with the 12th Division will be marked with one black band under both lower planes, with black streamers attached to each plane, immediately in rear of the black bands.
- (2) The times that flares are to be lighted will be issued later.
14. Artillery
Flare. The two yellow and black flares being carried by each platoon will be waved to indicate to Artillery Observers the position of the Infantry. These have blunted ends, and must on no account be planted in the ground.
15. S.O.S. Signal. The S.O.S. Signal during operations will be a succession of green lights, and "lengthen range" a succession of white lights.
16. Hour troops
to be in
position. The Brigade will be in their assembly positions by ZERO - 2 hours.
17. Synchroniza-
tion of Watches. Watches will be synchronised at 12.30 p.m. on "X" day, and at 12.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. on "Y" day. An Officer from each Unit of the Brigade will report at Brigade Headquarters to Brigade Major, at these hours, for the above purpose.
18. Removal of
wire. This has already been fully dealt with. Battalions will be responsible for removal of wire in their respective forming up areas.
19. Ladders & steps.
Bridges & steps. This has been dealt with. Numbers as allotted to Units, will be placed in position on Y/2 night.
20. Signal
Communication. This has been dealt with in Preliminary Instructions.
21. Carrying
Parties. The Carrying Party detailed in Appendix G, will report to Brigade Headquarters at 8 p.m. on Y/2 night.
22. Medical
arrangements. As in administrative arrangements issued with Preliminary Instructions.
23. "Z" Day and
Zero hour. "Z" day and zero hour will be communicated later.
24. A O K N O W L E D G E .

I.D. GUMHRE Captain.
Brigade Major.
26th Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 10 a.m. on 6th April 1917.

ROLL OF OFFICERS.

9.

HEADQUARTERS.

Lieut. Col. A.J. SAFFORD (Commanding)
Major. A.L. PHOENIX (2nd in Command).
Capt. G. HAZEL (Adjutant)
Lieut. G.C. STODOLSKY (Asst. Adjutant)

"A" COY.

Lieut. G.W. BALLARD (Commanding).
" G.W. PRIGG.
2nd Lieut. S.W. BRYAN.
S.L. BUNDETT.

"B" COY.

Capt. H.F. TAYLOR. (Commanding)
Lieut. W.H. SAITON.
2nd Lieut. M. MORGAN.
" A.J. MORRIS.
" H.J. FLETCHER.
" G.R. ATKINSON.

"C" COY.

Capt. H.S. BOURBY. (Commanding)
Lieut. E.G. GOSWICK.
2nd Lieut. J. DUNLEAVY.
" J.M. KNOX.
" " R. SMITH.

"D" COY.

Major. G.S. OSBORN. (Commanding)
Capt. G.L. ROBERT.
2nd Lieut. F.W. BRADING.
" " H.J.R. PARSON.

T.O.
C.M.
H.O.
Chaplain.

Capt. R.O.D. HIND
Lt. J. R. OLIVER.
Lt. E. ANLINS R A M O.
Capt. W.T. WILLIAMS. C.P.

7th Royal Sussex Regt. Operation Order No. 2.

References:- FAIRFOUR
Scale 1/10,000.

1. The Battalion will move into the newly dug ORANGE LINE tonight and occupy the position of 4c extending from the RAILWAY to the road at H. 9b.c.4.4.
2. Companies will be equally distributed along the line from right to left as follows:- A, B, D, C. Coye & will be guided by men detached from reconnoitering party this afternoon.
Companies will report to Bn HQ at H 22 & 3.2 as soon as they are in position.

3. The Batin will move at 9.30 pm in the following order:- H Qrs, A, O, B, D Coy.
Each animal is 3 per Coy will report at present Ration Dump at 8.30 pm - Lewis guns, magazines reserve Grenades B A A etc and Officers French kits to be dumped at ration dump at 7.30 pm. Loading party from each Company to be detailed & will accompany the pack animals to new dump at H 28 d.4.4.4 & will remain until Companies arrive in the trenches.
4. Each man will carry 3 Sandbags which can be drawn from Batin H Q. Every available pick & shovel must also be taken.
5. The 8th & 9th R.A.F will be in front of us & the 11th Lt in BROWN LINE.
The 57th Bde will be on our right.

G.G. STOKES Lt
Asst/Adj.
For OC 7th Bn Ry. Sussex Regt.

Copies to:-

A Coy.
B " "
C " "
D " "
File
FO
38th Inf Bde for information.

Issued at 2.45 pm 30.4.17.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS
RSR M 7111

THE BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1917.

1st.

THOMAS E. OF ABBAS.

Battalion in new trench in ORANGE LINE from RAILWAY to crest of ORANGE HILL. Carrying Party (4 Officers & 150 O.N.) carried rations etc for 8th Royal Fusiliers to HAYOMER TRENCH, remainder at work during the night improving ORANGE LINE.

1st

2nd

Plans for general attack on following day were discussed at a conference of O.Os. at Brigade Headquarters during the morning. O.O. Coy's recommended positions for assembly during the afternoon. Orders (Attached) for the attack were issued during the evening.

3rd

Headquarters and Coy's moved independently to assembly positions and occupied same at 1.45 P.M. Zero was at 3.45 P.M., when Coy's moved forward and occupied HAYOMER TR which was tenaced by 8th & 9th Royal Fusiliers. After the two leading Battalions had passed forward to their objective it was found that SOBBARD TRENCH had been re-occupied by the enemy, and the Battalion was ordered to attack this trench at 12.0 P.M. after a ten minute intense bombardment.

The attack was successfully carried out by "A" & "C" Coy's. who captured the trench and took 46 prisoners (including 3 Officers) and 3 M.G.s. Consolidation was proceeded with and communication obtained with the 8th & 9th B.F. During the afternoon the enemy was reported to be vacating his positions and a further attack was therefore ordered to be carried out by the Batta. with the 8th & 9th R.F. and Orders (Attached) were issued in the evening. The attack was successful - the BROEF LINE was reached and "A" & "C" Coy's were proceeding with the consolidation of some

1917.Appendix.Nov.

3rd (Ctd.)

When information was received from Pde., that the objectives had not been gained by units attacking on our right and left, and 56th Brigade was accordingly in the air. Soon afterwards orders were received to withdraw from the BROWN LINES and re-occupy SCARBARD and BAYONET TRENCHES. This was successfully accomplished and soon after midnight the situation of the Bn. was as follows:--

"B" and "C" Coy's forming one composite Coy. in SCARBARD TRENCH, "D" Coy. on the left in BAYONET TRENCH and "A" Coy. on the right in BAYONET TRENCH.

4th

Battn. occupying SCARBARD and BAYONET TRENCHES. Heavy shelling throughout the day. Battn. H.Q. moved from the GUN PITS to dug-out in old German Battery position and an advanced Battn. H.Q. formed at junction of BAYONET TRENCH and new communication trench where a signal station was now being maintained and telephone communication kept up between Battn. H.Q. and Brigade.

5th

The enemy put down frequent barrages but not many shells came into the trenches. Consolidation was carried on. Strong points dug and manned. Salvage Dumps etc. formed by each Coy. and H.Q.

6th

Consolidation continued. Strong points completed. Trenches cleared of dead and deepened. Repairs carried out where enemy shelling had damaged parapets and trenches. Enemy shelling fairly heavy throughout the day.

7th

Still occupying same position. During the afternoon information was received that the Battn. would be relieved by 6th R.F. Kents.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1917.

New

7th (Ord.)

Relief commenced at 9.30 p.m. but was considerably delayed by heavy hostile barrage and was not completed until 1 a.m.

8th

On relief the Battalion moved to the BROWN LINE and occupied the trenches there from the Railway to a point about 800 yards south of it. Part of 5 Officers, and 51 O.C. arrived from details in ARMS.

9th

Two carrying parties provided for the 37th Brigade.

10th

Received orders to relieve the 5th Berks in support line on right sector of Divl. Front H.36 a. & c. Move commenced at 9 p.m. and relief was completed at 11 p.m. Major BAYARD left to join details and 2nd Lt. FINLAYSON, HOWE, SCRIBNER & WILLIAMS rejoined their Coys. from the Details Camp.

11th

Received orders to relieve 11th Middlesex Regt. in ORANGE LINE. Move completed by 3.30 a.m. Battalion Headquarters in BROWN LINE.

12th

Consolidation of ORANGE LINE carried on, also improvements in sanitation. Working parties provided for 87th Field Coy., R.F.

13th

Continuing work on GRANGE LINE. Received orders to relieve 11th Middlesex in trenches East of MORICHY. Move commenced at 9.30 p.m. Helia F complete by 3.0 a.m. Capt. HARRY joined his Coy. from Details Camp.

14th

A Chinese Bombardment was carried out by our artillery at 3.0 p.m. Enemy retaliated with fairly heavy barrage. All Coys. employed in improving trenches - varying degrees of sanitation etc. Considerable enemy shelling at intervals.

15th

Major THOMSON returned to Details Camp. Received orders that Battalion

1917.

Nov.

16th (Wed.)

would be relieved by 6th R. F. I. Relief commenced at 9.30 p.m. and was completed at 1.0 a.m.

16th

Coy B. marched independently to ABRAS when the Battalion was established in billets by 4.30 a.m. All Coy B. bedded during morning and afternoon.

ABRAS.

17th

Battalion marched from ABRAS at 5.45 a.m. and arrived at AGHER-LES-VILLAINS at 11.0 a.m. when it occupied the camp situated N. of the village.

AGHER-LES-VILLAINS.

18th

Cleaning up the camp - Football - recreation etc.

19th

Cleaning up and recreation.

20th

Battalion paraded at 10.30 a.m. with 11th Middlesex Regt. for Church Parade. Divisional Band was in attendance.

21st to

23rd

Parades according to attached table.

23rd

The Battalion paraded with 11th Middlesex Regt. at 5.15 p.m. for inspection by Major General SCOTT D.S.O. who afterwards presented medal ribbons to the following N.C.O.'s and men.

24th

The Battalion paraded at 7.30 a.m. and marched with remainder of Brigade Group to GRAND-BULLIQUERE. Arrived 11.30 a.m.

GRAND-BULLIQUERE.

25th

Parades according to attached table. 2nd Lieut. F. R. VAIZE joined the Bn. and was posted to "G" Coy. Part of 36 sergeants rejoined.

26th

See Parade table.

27th

Battalion paraded with 5th Northamptonshire Regt. in CHATEAU Grounds at 10 a.m. for Church Service. "A" and "B" Coys. held their sports at 3.0 p.m.

1917.

Appendix.

Mtz.

28th

See Parade table.

29th

" " " " "C" and "Y"
Coy's. hold their sports at 2.15
p.m.30th)
31st)

See parade table.

A. J. SANDS, Lieut. Col.
Commanding 7th Battalion Royal Sussex Regt.7th BATTN, ROYAL SUSSEX REGT.OPERATION ORDERS No. 5.

1. General. The 56th Brigade is taking part in a General attack tomorrow :-

2. Objectives.

- (a) The BROWN LINE from I. 26.b.7.1. to I.32.a.4.5.
 (b) The YELLOW LINE I.26.b.1.8. to I.32.b.7.8.
 (c) The RED LINE from I.21.e.9.3. to I.27.d.2.6.

3. 6th & 9th Royal Fusiliers will attack A. & B. - 7th Royal Sussex will pass through and attack C. Skirmishing LINES which will be cleared by 11th Middlesex Regt. in support.

4. BARRAGE. The attack will be in two phases zero and ZERO zero will be 3.45 a.m. and zero - will commence by Signal after the BROWN LINE has been taken.

The signal will be an intense bombardment for two minutes in front of BROWN LINE after 4th company in conjunction with Green lights fired from Headquarters 56th Infy. Me.

5. Assembly. At zero - one, companies will be assembled in trenches as follows :-

9th Coy. H.35.b.5.2. to H.59.d.4.5.
 10th Coy. H.30.d.5.2. to H.30.d.4.3.
 11th Coy. H.35.a.7.5. to H.30.e.9.2.
 12th Coy. O.P. from right of 11th Coy. H.36.b.5.2. to LINDEN LINE.

6. At zero companies will occupy BAYONNE trench from right to left as follows :- 12th Coy. 11th Coy.

7. At zero - X 2 hours 30 minutes companies will form up under barrage in front of YELLOW LINE as follows :-
 "C" "D" "E" "A" and advance with the barrage at the rate of six minutes per 100 yards till the RED LINE is reached

then outposts will be pushed forward close to the stationary Barrage while the line is being dug and consolidated.

8. Each Company will make its own arrangements for carrying its own tools, S.A.A. BOMBS, etc.
9. Battalion Headquarters will move to H.35.d.9.9. at zero - One hour to SCARBARD TRENCH on capture of YELLOW LINE.
10. Medical Aid Post will be at H.35.d.9.9. at zero-one hour.
11. Flares to be lit when called for by aeroplanes - Handkerchiefs or Helmets to be waved in lieu of flags as signals to Artillery.
12. These orders are to be destroyed before going into action.

Copies to :-

"A" Coy.
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(Signed G.G. STOKES, Lieut.
 & Acting Adjt.
 7th Bn., Royal Sussex Regt.)

2.6.17.

Operation Orders No.5.

No O.O. All Coy's SENDPAGE.

I have just been informed that it is the intention of the Division to advance our line as far as BROWN LINE tonight. I am therefore sending you a preliminary notice that operations will probably start at 9.45 and disposition of Brigade for the advance will be 7th Royal Sussex on left, Composite Coy 8th and 9th R.F. on right, 11th Middlesex in support. It will be a combined show of SPARKING and GRANE and from the latest information it should not present much difficulty.

Further details will be sent you as soon as orders are received from Brigade Headquarters.

(Sgd.) G.G. STOKES, Lt. & Adjt.
 7th Royal Sussex Regiment.

2.6.17.

To O.O. All Coy's, SERRAVALLE.

The BROWN LINE is to be occupied tonight 9.45, by 7th Royal Sussex Regt. on the left and 8th & 9th R.S. on the right.

The 7th Royal Sussex will take up a position as follows:--
 "D" Coy, and "A" Coy in front line "B" and "C" Coys. in support.

As soon as Barrage in front of BROWN LINE lifts, patrols will be pushed out, outposts held and a strong point made at cross roads that will be on left flank of "B" Coy., to protect from enfilade N.G. fire from across river.

Issued at 9.0 P.M. 3.5.17.

Copies to "A" Coy. "B" Coy.
 "C" " " "D" " "

(Signed) G.G. STOKES, Lt. & A/Adjt.
 7th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.

3.5.17.

 HONOURS AND REWARDS.

Military Medals.
 No.10615 Pte. SMITH J.
 8368 Pte. Scott E.
 796 " Pentlands J.
 648 " Bell T.H.
 3788 " Isted S.

BAR to Military Medal. No.1212. Serjt. HOWE, A.V.

7th BATTALION, ROYAL ARMY CORPS OF TRANSPORT.

1917.

Appendix.

June.

GRADE MILITARY.

1st

Parades according to programme (attached). Batin, sports held in the afternoon. Brig: Gen: Geborn came down to see the Batin:

2nd

Parades according to programme. Brigade Gymkhana in the afternoon. Sergeant's Smoking Concert at 8 p.m.

3rd

C. of B. Parade Services with Horsemen in Chateau grounds at 11 a.m.

4th

Parades according to programme. Brigade sports in the afternoon at 505-ST-12887.

5th

Parades according to programme.

6th

Parades according to programme. C.O. went on leave. Navi Williams E.Lt. Stocks returned from leave.

7th

Parades according to programme. Brigade Boxing Tournament at 505-ST-12888. 2nd Lt. Goldcott joined the Batin. From 102nd Training Reserve Coy. ADMIRALTY.

8th

Parades according to programme. 1st Day of Diya: Sports at GRAND MILITARY. The Batin: won the Diya: Band competition.

9th

Parades according to programme. Diya: Boxing Tournament. Lt. PRINCE and 2/Lt. READING returned from VI Corps School.

10th

Holy Communion at 8 a.m. C. of B. parade service at 11.30 a.m. in Chateau Grounds.

11th

Parades according to programme attached. Diya: Sports postponed on account of wet weather.

12th

Parades according to programme. Diya: Horse Show in the afternoon.

13th

The battalion marched to the SOEBRIN Training Area and carried out battalion and Coy. Drill etc. Final day of Diya: Horse Show. R/Lt. HOGROKEN returned from Third Army School.

1917.

Appendix.

June.

14th

Parades according to programme. During the afternoon the DIVL: Commander presented medal ribbons to the following recipients for gallantry in the field. Beretti Baker, Sergt. Osborne, Pte. Cooper & Pte. Bartholomew. The presentation took place at 508-ST-18058.

15th

Parades according to programme. 2/Lts. Hargray & Hill joined the Battalion.

16th

Parades according to programme. Lt. Col. Hanson returned from leave. Reed: orders that the Brigade would move to AGNEZ-LISS-DUISANS on the 17th inst.

17th

The Battalion paraded at 5.30 a.m. & marched to AGNEZ-LISS-DUISANS arriving at 9.30 a.m. 2/Lt. Hargray left the Battalion to take up duties of DIVL: Purial Officer.

AGNEZ-LISS-DUISANS.

18th

The Battalion paraded at 5.50 a.m. & marched to ARNAS arriving at 8.30 a.m.

ARNAS. BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS AT BROWN LINE.

19th

The C.O., 2nd in Command, & Coy: Commanders reconnoitred the positions in BROWN LINE trenches to taking over in the evening.

The battalion marched from ARNAS and took up position in the BROWN LINE & were established at 11.30 p.m.

BROWN LINE.

20th

Large working parties provided from 10 p.m. to 2.30 a.m. for work in front systems. 2/Lt. Minningre returned from leave. Lt. PRINCE proceeded on leave.

21st

Usual working parties from 10 p.m. to 2.30 a.m. Capt. HILLS (M.O.) went on leave. Capt. ROBERTY proceeded to Third Army School.

22nd

Usual working parties. The C.O. & Coy. Commanders reconnoitred front line trenches.

23rd

Battal: moved up at 9.30 p.m. to relieve 8th R.S. in left sub-sector Relief completed at 2.35 a.m. See map attached.

1917.

Appendix.

June.

LEFT SUB-MOTOR COMPANY.

24th

} Fairly quiet.

25th

26th

27th

} Quiet day. The Battalion was relieved by 8th R.F. in left sub-sector & moved to MONCHY defenses after reliefs. Reliefs completed by 2 a.m.

MONCHY DEFENSES.

28th

} Carrying parties found for 8th & 9th R.F. Casualties 3 O.R. wounded.

29th

} Carrying parties found for 8th & 9th R.F. & 70th Coy. R.F.

30th

A.J. SANDER, Lt. Col:
Command: 7th Battalion, R. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RSR MS PHOTO OFFICE

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix

JULY.

MONCHY DE WERONS.

1st

Our artillery bombarded enemy's positions round BOIS DU SART & BOIS DU VERT from 5.3.30 p.m.

2nd

quiet day. Relieved 9th R.F. in Right sub-sector.

FRONT TRENCHES (WAIN & HOOK).

3rd

Quietly quiet. 2/Lt. F.W. Rending wounded by sniper. Casualties O.R. 2 K-in-A. 3 wounded.

4th 2.30 a.m.

D Coy attacked enemy shell-holes in O.2.d. at 2.30 a.m. They were heavily bombed & forced to withdraw before reaching the objective. Lt. WILLARD missing & 2/Lt. WILLIAMS wounded. Major THOMSON went to P.A. & Major OSBORNE returned from No.1. Training Camp SWAPERS. Casualties O.R. 2 K-in-A. 7 wounded & missing.

5th

Our artillery bombarded the enemy shell holes in O.2.d from 3-3.20 a.m. Enemy retaliated vigorously, chiefly on VIER LANS & SHRAPNEL TRENCH. A shell fell in SHRAPNEL TRENCH near BATTN. H.Q. Killing the G.O. (Lt. Col. Sisson) & the Adj. (Capt. Nagle.) Barrage on enemy positions in front of HOOK & LONG TR. for 2 minutes. Enemy again retaliated vigorously on SHRAPNEL TRENCH. Casualties O.R. 3 K-in-A. 4 wounded.

6th

Shelling on both sides above the average. Casualties 7 O.R. wounded.

7th

quiet day. Casualties- 811. 38th Infy. Bde. relieved 36th Infy. Bde. The Batten. was relieved by 9th Essex. Helter complete 1.35 a.m. 8.7.17.

1917.Appendix.July.AOHICOURT.

8th 3.30 Battalion established in billets. 2/Lt. SHIPP & 2/Lt. CUTLER joined the Battalion. & posted to D Coy. 2/Lt. ATKINSON & 6 O.R. left for Third Army Rest Camp. C.O. & Adjt. buried at AHBAS, 6.30 p.m.

9th Cleaning up & bathing. 2/Lt. CALDWELL left for 12th Bn. H. Sussex Regt.

10th Perades during the morning under Coy. Commandants.

11th 2/Lt. BISHOP returned from course at Corps School. 2/Lt. MORRIS rejoined Bn. (Battle Casualty.)

12th Battalion peraded at 1 p.m. & marched to VANDOURT-REUCHY LINE, to provide digging & carrying parties. 250-man supplied.

VANDOURT-REUCHY LINE.

13th Digging & carrying parties of 250. Lt. STOKES went to P.A.

14th Digging & carrying parties of 250. 2/Lt. BULLOCK returned from P.A. Various.

15th Bn. moved to AOHICOURT, arriving 10.30 a.m. Capt. HOWLAND returned from Third Army Munitionery Camp. Digging & carrying parties of 250, by light railway from AHBAS.

AOHICOURT.

16th 2/Lt. FARRIN rejoined Bn. (Battle Casualty) & posted to G. Coy. 37 men of D Coy. isolated, diphtheria suspected.

17th 2/Lt. FARRON returned from leave. Perades under Coy. arrangements. Working party 200 men.

18th Battalion moved to ESOUHY-VANDOURT LINE. Left AOHICOURT 8 p.m. Believed 7th E. Surrey Regt by 10.45 p.m. 2/Lt. FINNIMORE left for XVII Corps Bombing School.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

1917.

Appendix.

July.

VAHQOUR-TRUOHY ITR.

19th

Working parties, 280 men.

20th

" " 279 " "
Casualties 2 O.R. wounded.

21st

Working Parties 270 men.
Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.

22nd

Relieved 8th R.F. in Southern Brigade front, left sub-sector. Relief complete 1.30 a.m. (23.7.17.) Casualties 4 O.R. wounded.

23rd

TRUOHY TRENCHES (LONG & TONG).

Quiet day. Casualties 1 O.R. wounded. Enemy aeroplanes very active flying low over trenches.

24th

Quiet. Casualties Nil. Enemy aeroplanes again very active.

25th

5 a.m.

Enemy attacked & captured LONG & SPOON TRENCHES. Approx. strength of enemy one Battalion. 162 I.R. 400 strong. Enemy used "Zaunserferer" Gas T.M. Bombs & a heavy barrage of artillery & T.Ms. We made a bombing attack but no progress made. Total Casualties 2 Of. 91 O.R. 2/Kt. BULLOCK missing & 2/Lt. SKINNEY wounded. Relieved by 8th R.F. by 1.30 a.m. 26.7.17.

VAHQOUR-TRUOHY ITR.

26th

Working parties 240. Capt. HURKITT returned from Third Army School.

27th

Working parties 230. Casualties 1 O.R. killed.

28th

Relieved 8th R.F. in left sub-sector. Stormy relief owing to enemy putting up a light signal very similar to our S.O.S. Our guns opened & the enemy gradually followed. Casualties 1 O.R. killed, 6 O.R. wounded. Relief complete 1.20 a.m. 29.7.17.

1917.Appendix.JULY.BROT TREMPERS (HOCK, 1902).

29th

Totally quiet. Casualties
1 O.R. Killed.

30th

Quiet day. Casualties 1 O.R.
Killed.

31st

Enemy active with T.M.'s &
artillery. Casualties 1 O.R.
wounded. Relieved by 7th
Morale Regt. 55th Inf. Bde.
Relief complete 1.10 a.m.
1.6.17.

G. F. OSBORNE, Major,
Commandg. 7th Batta. R. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7117

7th BATT. ROYAL SUSSEX REGT.

WAR DIARY FROM

AUG. 1st to AUG. 31st/1917.

G. F. OSBORNE.

Major for Lieut. Col.
Commandg. IAVA.

31.8.17.

Commandg. 30th Infy. Bde.

Commandg. 12th Divn.

7th BATTALION. THE ROYAL TANK REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1917.

August.

ACHICOURT.

1st.

Relieved during the night by the 6th Bn. The BPPB. Reached billets at 4 a.m. Day spent in cleaning up and Baths.
2 Lieut. PALRY returned from Corps Infantry School and 2 Lieut. PHINMORE from Corps Bombing School.

2nd.

A. & B. Coys. on Miniature Range. C & D Coys. parades under Company Commanders.
Captain BALFARD went on leave. Draft of 7 Officers (Captain Campbell, 2 Lieutenants Rowse, Mills, Glenister, Hinson, Prewer and Cobon) and 8 other tanks arrived.

3rd.

C. & D. Coys. on Miniature Range. A & B Coys. parades under Company Commanders.

4th.

In the evening 25% of the Bn. employed as carrying parties for the front line moved as far as KEMOCH CROSS ROADS by motor buses.

5th.

As for the 4th August, 260 of the Bn. employed as carrying parties.

6th.

Relieved 6th BPPB in the HONGCHY BARRACKS. Companies distributed as follows. A Coy. in EAST TR. B Coy. one platoon H STRONG EP - one platoon F STRONG EP - one platoon in CIRROIE TR. C Coy. in CIRROIE TR. D Coy. in THONM LINE. Relief completed by 12.46 am. Major THOMSON returned from DIERP.

HONGCHY BARRACKS.

7th.

A quiet day. 90 men employed on carrying parties.

8th.

A quiet day. Major OSBORNE went on leave. Lieut-Colonel G.H. IREBY D.S.O. arrived to command the Battalion. 2 Lieut. ATTIBSON left for Signalling Course.

1917.

August.

9th.

Artillery Bombardment of enemy lines started at 6.15 am. At 7.45 p.m. a successful raid was carried out by parties of the 35th and 37th Brigades. Battalion relieved by the 11th Middlesex. Relief completed at 1.10 am.

BROWN LINE.

10th.

A quiet day. Working parties of 241 Other ranks found by Battalion. 4 Other ranks wounded.

Draft of 16 Other ranks arrived.

11th.

A quiet day. Battalion found 290 men for working parties.

12th.

BROWN LINE rather heavily shelled. Draft of 115 joined Bn. in the BROWN LINE. Bn. relieved 6th Royal Fusiliers in left front line. Coys. distributed as follows. B & D Companies in front line (TWIN and SHAWLER TR.)
 C Company in Reserve in ORCHARD.
 G Company in BROWN LINE. Bn. R. Q.
 in F. STRONG PT. Relief complete at 11.40 p.m.
 Captain Taylor and Lieut. Prince proceeded to 3rd Army Infantry School.
 2 Lieut. Howe left for XVII Corps Lewis Gun School.

FRONT TRENCHES.

13th.

A quiet day. 2 Lieut. Margery wounded (slight).

14th.

A quiet day. Casualties nil.

15th.

A quiet day. An inter Coy. relief took place A Coy. relieved D Coy. in the front line. C Coy. came from the BROWN LINE in relief of B. The Coys. were therefore distributed as follows.

A & G. Front line.
 D ORCHARD RESERVE.

BROWN LINE.

An enemy raid was unsuspected by the Division on our left. Orders were therefore issued to Coys. as to their action if this raid took place. Lieut. RAINTON and KNOX went on leave.

1917.August.

16th.

A quiet day.

17th.

At 1 am. S.O.S. was put up on our right. Both sides put a barrage down for about an hour. Our casualties as a result were 2 O.R. killed and 2 wounded. Remainder of the day was quiet. 2 Lieut. Hanley and ROGERS joined the battalion remaining in ARRAS.

18th.

Quiet. Enemy shelled ORCHARD for a short period, there was little damage. 3.30 am. Lethal bombardment of the BOIS DU SART. No retaliation. G.O.C. Third Army visited the line. The battalion was relieved by the 1st SOMERSET I. Infantry (4th Div.) in the front line. 7th SUPPLIX in ORCHARD, 9th SOMERSET in detached post TWIN COPSE. Relief complete. 1.30 am. and battalion en route to billets at ACHICOURT.

ACHICOURT.

19th.

Battalion arrived in ACHICOURT at 2.30 am. All coys. had baths in the afternoon and cleaned up. CAPT. BOWLEY left for the U.K. on one months leave.

20th.

A & B Coys on MUSWETRY RANGE. C & D Coys. under O.C.Coys. MAJOR OSBORNE returned from leave.

21st.

All coys. on the Bayonet Fighting Course under the Divisional Instructor. All officers & N.C.Os. attended a demonstration in the use of phosphorus grenades and rifle grenades. 2 Lieuts. COHEN and ROGERS and 2 O.R. accidentally wounded.

22nd.

Parades under coy. arrangements. C & D Coys. on ranges. Conference in ARRAS of Intelligence Officers of the Division, attended by Major Osborne. Major Thomson proceeded on leave. Draft of 3 O.R. arrived. All old hands rejoined.

Appendix.

1917.

August.

23rd.

All Coys., on Bayonet Fighting course. The G.O.C. Division visited Battalion during training.

The G.O. went on a Gas course.

24th.

Battalion relieved 9th Royal Fusiliers in Brown Line. Relief complete 4.30 p.m. Working parties 290 O.R.

BROWN LINE.

25th.

2 Lt. Howe rejoined from I.G. course - working parties 288 O.R. Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.

26th.

Working parties 265 O.R. Very wet night.

27th.

Captains Hardy & Heckitt attended Gas course. Working parties 262 O.R. Casualties 2 O.R. wounded.

28th.

G.O. Capt. Hardy & Heckitt attended Gas course. Working parties 272 O.R. Rum issue.

29th.

Quiet day. Captain Hardy left for transport to go on leave. Working parties 254 O.R.

30th.

Keen enemy fairly active all along Brown line. Casualties 2 O.R. wounded. Working parties 121 O.R.

Battn. relieved 9th MESSIN Regt. in left portion of Brown line, N. of CAMBRAI ROAD. Relief complete 8 p.m. 5th R. Berkshire Regt. relieved Battn.

31st.

Quiet day. Working parties 270 O.R. 2 Lt. T. GARREK rejoined and 5 O.R.

G. H. IMPBY,
Lieut. Col.
Commandg. "TAVAN"

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1912

APPENDIX.

September

BROWN LINE (BARCOURT - BIRCHY LINES).

1st

Company Commanders reconnoitred MONCHY Defences prior to taking over. Usual working parties

268 O.Rs.

2/Lt. BIRGER left for III Army Snipers Course. Captains Ballard & Salton were attached to the Artillery for 2 days.

2nd

Captain FRODITT left for transport lines to proceed to L.G. Course G.H.Q. Battalion relieved 11th Middlesex Regt in MONCHY Defences. Relief complete 11.45 p.m.

Dispositions:- "A" Coy, EAST TR.,

"B" Coy, ORCHARD TR., "C" Coy, TR.,

D. I. & P. strong points. "D" Coy,

CIRKLE TR. H.Q. P. Strong Point.

9th B.F. carried out a successful raid.

MONCHY DEFENCES.

3rd

quiet day. Captains Ballard & Salton returned. Captain Campbell & 2/Lt. Stimson attached to R.F.A.

4th

C.O. reconnoitred front line. Major Thomson & 2/Lt. Fernin rejoined from leave.

5th

Coy. Commanders reconnoitred front line in morning. Battalion relieved 8th R.F. in Left Sub-sector.

Relief complete 10.30 p.m.

Dispositions:- "A" Coy right front,

"C" Coy, left front, "B" Coy support,

"D" Coy Brown line.

FRONT LINE.

6th

quiet day. 2/Lt. Burdett proceeded to transport lines prior to going on leave.

7th

quiet day. Harassing fire carried out by our Artillery. Retaliation poor. Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.

8th

Enemy F.M.s active during the day. Lieut. Farrow rejoined from Corps School. D. Coy relieved A. Coy.; B. Coy relieved C. Coy. Relief complete 10 p.m.

1917

Appendix.

September

- 9th
Enemy T.R.'s active again.
1 O.R. wounded.
- 10th
Quiet day. C.O., left for Gas Course at III Army H.Q.
Captain Hardy rejoined from leave.
- 11th
Quiet day. Battalion relieved by 5th Royal Berke. Regt. Relief complete 11 p.m. After relief Battalion moved back by train to ACHICOURT arrived 2.30 a.m. 12th. A few Gas shells were sent over about 10 p.m. No. damage done.
ACHICOURT.
- 12th
Coys. spent day cleaning up, bathing etc. C.O., returned from Gas Course. Captain Reckitt returned from I.G. Course (LE TOUQUET).
- 13th
A & B Coys. on range. Other parades as usual. Major Thomson, Lieut. Farrow & 2/Lt. Clarke attended a 2 days Gas course.
- 14th
Usual Company parades. 2/Lieut. Howe proceeded on leave. 2/Lieut. Hills rejoined from 12th Divl. Snakety Course.
- 15th
Usual Company parades.
- 16th
Church parade 10 a.m. C.O. presented cards from Div. & Bde. after parade. 2/Lt's Finlimore & Rogers proceeded to Corps School & Bombing Course respectively.
- 17th
Battalion relieved 9th R. F. in 2015 DBS BOMBERS. Paraded 2 p.m. & arrived 3.30 p.m.
Working parties found 130 O.R.
- 2015 DBS BOMBERS.
- 18th
Working parties. 125 O.R. by day.
153 O.R. by night. Captain Taylor rejoined from III Army School.
- 19th
Working parties. 154 O.R. by night.
123 O.R. by day.
- 20th
Working parties. 157 O.R. by night.
123 O.R. by day.
2/Lt. Hingen from III. Army Sniping School.

WEST SUSSEX ROYAL BERKELEY REGIMENT

1917

Appendix.

September

- 21st Working parties. 186 O.R. by night. 123 O.R. by day.
2/Lt. Morris proceeded on leave.
Capt. Somly returned from leave.
- 22nd Working parties. 123 O.R. by day.
186 O.R. by night.
- KONGHY DEFENCES.
- 23rd Relieved 6th R. Berke. Relief complete 10.45 p.m.
Dispositions: A. Orchard Reserve.
B. Coy. CIRQUE, C. Coy. HAIR RESERVE. D. Coy. D.M.F. Strong Points.
- 24th 4.30 a.m. Enemy attempted a raid against the Divisional front, under heavy barrage. Raid failed.
- 25th 3 Officers & 60 O.R. left the Defences for BEAUBAINS CAMP, to train for a raid. Casualties 1 O.R. killed.
- 26th 2/Lt. Paley left for III Army. Rest Camp. 2/Lt. Smith for BEAUBAINS CAMP. Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.
- 27th 2/Lt. Howe returned from leave & Capt. Sainson joined Bn. from ARMS.
- 28th 3/Lt. Skingley proceeded on leave.
Major Thomson & Capt. Hardy attached to 63rd Bde R.F.A.
Casualties 2 O.R. wounded.
- FRONT TRENCHES.
- 29th Relieved 8th R.F. in left Subsector. Relief complete 7.30 p.m.
Dispositions - D. Coy. left Front Line, G. Coy Right Front Line - A. Coy Reserve - B. Coy. Brown Line.
- 30th Quiet day. Enemy aircraft active flying low. 2/Lt. Rogers returned from VIII Corps Bombing School.

G. H. IMPEY,

Lieut. Col.

Commandg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

7TH BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1917

APPENDIX

October

PROUT TRENCHES

1st. 2-4 pm we bombarded enemy trenches on our immediate right. Enemy sent over many large gasmasks for from 6.15 pm - 6.45 pm and again at midnight. Casualties 2 killed 1 wounded.

2nd. A quiet day. CAPT H. S. COUSSENS returned from Senior Officers Course Aldershot.

3rd. The field fired for 12.50 pm postponed, our artillery bombarded reported concentration of enemy from 2 pm to 4 pm. 2 Lieuts Clarke and Hill and 30 Other Ranks raided enemy's lines. 4 or 5 Germans killed but no identification. Our casualties 1 killed and 7 other ranks wounded. 2 Lieut. GIBBISTER joined from DEWARATHS.

4th. A very quiet day.

5th. We bombarded enemy trenches opposite our left. Very little retaliation. Relieved by the 9th BSEX. Relief reported complete at 9.40 pm. Battalion returned to AGHILCOURT by train, and all in billets by 11.30 1 am. 6.10.17.

AGHILCOURT

6th. Day spent in cleaning up equipment etc. Whole battalion bathed and issued with clean clothing.

7th. All companies paraded and carried out gas drill, Company Drill Physical training, bayonet fighting.

8th. Ordinary parades in morning and A company on the range. Battalion moved to SHERMAN Barracks ARRAS in the afternoon. Love complete by 4 pm.

ARRAS

9th. Coye paraded in barrack square. 2 Lieut. PALBY returned from Coy's Rest Station.

1917

APPENDIX

October

10th.

Parades as usual and B.C.D. Coys fired on the ranges.

ARRAS & BROWN LINE

11th.

Battalion moved to the BROWN LINE as reserve for the 35th BRIGADE. Complete at 5.15 pm. Batin supplied 202 other ranks for carrying and working parties. 2 Lieut SKIRSLICK returned from leave and 2 Lieut Watson joined the Batin.

BROWN LINE

12th.

Battalion supplied 232 other ranks for carrying parties to the front line. 2 Lieutenant HOSSEP went on leave. Lieut GORRINGE & 2 Lieut Hanley returned from a two days gas course.

13th.

Moved to the BROWN LINE on South of CAMBRAL ROAD.

14th.

Raid by 6. Coy. West Kent, Queens and 7th Norfolk Regt. 04 prisoners taken.

15th.

Lt ROUSELL left for Divisional Huxtery School. Lt HOURS returned from Officers Rest Camp WARBUS.

16th.

Batin supplied 110 other ranks as working parties for the C.P.S.

17th.

The Brigade went into the front line. Battalion moved to the BROWN LINE N of the CAMBRAL ROAD. 2 Lieut CLARKE returned from leave. 2 Lieut COOPER rejoined but went back to the Batin Rest House in ARRAS. 2 Lieut CLARKE awarded the M.C.

18th.

Battalion supplied 7 officers 280 other ranks as working parties in front line system.

19th.

Batin found working parties as follows 30 OR in the morning. 8 Officers 324 OR by night. 2 Lieut PALSY went on leave.

20th.

Working parties found at night. 6 Officers 336 other ranks.

21st.

Working parties found by Batin were 227 O.R. by night. Lieut GORRINGE went to XVII Corps Inf. School.

WEST SUSSEX DISTRICT

1917

APPENDIX

October

21st.
etc. 2 Lieut FERRIN went to XVII
Trench mortar School.
2 Lieut SMITH went to XVII
Lewis Gun School.

22nd. Battalion found working parties
of 50 C.R. by day and 202 C.R.
by night.

23rd. Battalion found a working party of
30 OR by day. Battalion was
relieved by the 1st Rifle
Brigade of the 4th Division,
Hatter complete.
Battalion marched to ARRAS
and arrived at 6.45 pm.
Major Osborne and Capt HARDY
left to go on leave to PARIS.

5.20pm.

HERBAVILLE

24th. Battalion left ARRAS at 8.40 am
and arrived at HERBAVILLE 1.15 pm.

ARRAS

25th. Arrived from HERBAVILLE at 11.40 am.
2 Lieut SKIDGLEY left for England
to join Machine Gun Corps.
CAPT CALZEBEL and 2 Lieut KNOX
rejoined Battalion from Dugouts
Party.

26th. Day spent in cleaning up etc.
Bathhouse-bathed-and-dressed-with
clean-clothing.
The Quartermaster and 2 Lieut
HOSSOR returned from leave.
2 Lt. ROUSSEL returned from
Divisional Musketry Class.
2 Lieut HILL left to go on leave.

27th. Day spent in cleaning up and
inspection by Company commanders.
Bathhouse were bathed and issued
with clean clothing.

ARRAS and FRAINCOURT

28th. Battalion moved to BOULAYRES and
FRAINCOURT at 10 am and arrived
1.30 pm. H.Q. C and D Coys at
FRAINCOURT. A, B, and transport
at BOULAYRES.

VIRIL HERDIN

29th. Moved from FRAINCOURT at 9.30 am
and arrived 2 pm. Major OSBORNE
and CAPT. HARDY returned from PARIS.

30th. Companies spent morning in clean-
ing up and did Physical Training
etc. The Medical Officer went on

1917

APPENDIX

October

30th.
old.

1888th, relieved temporarily by
Capt LAMBERT from the 30th Field
Ambulance.

31st.

Parades 9 - 12. Close & ex-
tended order drill, Arms drill
& Platoon Organization Salpêtré
and Lewis Gun Classes started.

G.H. TURBY, Lieut. Col.
Command, 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

THE BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1917.

Appendix.

November. TIEP-HERRIN.

- 1st A & B. Coys bathed at HERRIN.
Company Parade for O & D. Coys.
- 2nd Company Parades.
- 3rd A & B Coys fired on range. O & D.
Parades under O.C. Coys. Capts
Taylor, Hind went on leave.
- 4th Church Parade. 80 per Coy.
- 5th O & D Coys on Range. A & B Coys.
Individual & Tank Training.
- 6th A & B. Coys on Range. O & D Coys
Individual Training. All Coys
Tank Training. 2 Lt Palay left
with working party for BOCH DIV:
- 7th All Coys Tank Training.
- 8th All Coys Tank Training. 2 Lt Hill
returned from leave.
- 9th Tank Training.
- 10th 2 Lt Smith went on leave. Capt
Salton left for 14 Army Inf.
School. Capt Hills R.A.M.C.
returned from leave. The Bn:
marched to EOLINDOX & practised
attack with Tanks.
- 11th Church Parade. 80 per Coy.
Individual & special training.
- 12th Individual & special training.
- 13th Individual & special training.
- 14th Bn: transport left & marched S.
2 Lts Burdett, Morris left with
83 O.C. for WONDROOERT.
- 15th 1 pm. Bn: left for SIBIVILLE, arriving
5.30 pm.

SIBIVILLE.

- 16th 2 pm. Bn: left for PREYMER. Arrived
at 4 am & arrived PERONNE 11.30 am.
Bn: was billeted for the afternoon
in PERONNE. Left PERONNE 6.45 pm
& arrived MORLAINE 11 pm.

1917.Appendix.November.NOISIAIS.

17th Transport arrived at 2 am. Bn: moved to BAVINCOURT, arriving 6.30 pm. Major Thomson, Capt Campbell joined details Camp HANZHOUFF en route.

BAVINCOURT.

18th Bn: left at 4.25 pm & reached VAUCHESTER M. at 8 pm. 0.0. Coy's & platoon commanders reconnoitered assembly position.

VAUCHESTER M.

19th 2 Lt Pelay rejoined from Working Party. Bn: left at 9.35 pm & marched to assembly position N. of GOLIBLIEU.

GOLIBLIEU.

20th 6.30 Attached German positions. All sn. casualties gained & held. Casualties. 2 Lt KNOX killed. 2 Lt Cohen died of wounds. 2 Lt Brewer wounded - 106 O.R. casualties.

SUPPORT TRENCHES.

21st 36th Bde in support to 35th Bde on right & 37th Bde on left, the whole division forming a defensive flank facing S.W. Bn: H.Q. moved to SOHISEY M. Casualties 1.0.R. returned from leave.

22nd Quiet day. Casualties Nil.

23rd Capt Taylor left for Angland. quiet day. Lt. Bourne left for R.P.C.

24th Hostile artillery activity increased slightly.

25th 1-30 Left support Trenches & relieved 8th R.F. in front line. Attached PELICAN & BURGH Trenches at 7 am 7 am All objectives gained, but Bn: was driven out owing to lack of bombs, & mud in rifles & L.88s. Capt Ballard M.C. killed. 2 Lts Binsgen & Hill wounded. Attached PELICAN Trench at 10-50 pm. & made slight progress. 2 Lt Brewer wounded. Total casualties 116 O.R.

1917.Appendix.November.FRONT LINE.

26th Quiet day. Relieved by 11th Lx
& 9th R.G. Relief complete
11.30 pm. Casualties 3.0.A.

SUPPORT.

27th Working parties, 152 O.P.

28th Working parties, 130 O.P. Gaps
Heath, Campbell - 1c Goringe -
2 Lts Burdett, Rogers, Atkinson,
Paley rejoined Bn: Also 109 O.P.

TRENCHES (BDE RESERVE).

29th Quiet Day. Working Parties.
Day 25 Night 220.

20th Germans counterattacked at 7.15 am.
& broke thro' on the right.
By noon, Bn: had taken up a
defensive position in the Reserve
line.

C.H. LEEY Lieut. Col.
Commanding 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Rgt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS

27th BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1942

APPENDIX

December

RESERVE LINE

1st.

In support to 9th R.G., about noon enemy made a bombing attack along HINDENBURG first and second lines. Enemy reached 3rd side of CANTHVAL RD, but was unable to cross the road. Heavy shelling during the afternoon. The Battalion was relieved by the 61st DIV., OLDUBERGERS and VARIOUS & moved to O.B. line. Casualties 24 O.R.

O.B. LINE

2nd.

Arrived O.B. line, near VILLARS PLOUICH 4 am. Battalion left at 4.30 pm for HENDICOURT, arriving 10.30 pm.

HENDICOURT

3rd.

Re-organized nation and cleaning up. Major THOMSON & 2/Lt SMITH re-joined Bn from composite Bn. of DIVAL. details. 2/Lt. MINNIBORE left for R.F.C.

4th.

The Bn left at 10.55 am & marched to GARTREY, arriving at 3.30 pm.

GARTREY

Left at 7 am & proceeded by bus to DEPLANCOURT. Arrived 1 pm.

DEPLANCOURT

6th.

Cleaning up.

7th.

2/Lt. HILLS left for Third Army Suckery Camp, VARIOY. Bn then entrained at MOCHETVAL and left for AIRS at 11 pm.

AIRS

8th.

Arrived AIRS 6 am. Marched to QUIESTON & COCHENDAL, arriving 11.30 am.

QUIESTON & COCHENDAL

9th.

Cleaning up. Kit inspections.

10th.

Bn then had baths at ROUQUETOURS, cleaning up & refitting.

1917

APPENDIX

December

- 11th. Lt. Farrow, 2/Lt. Rounsell proceeded on leave to U.K. Parades at disposal of O.C. Coy.s.
- 12th. Parades at disposal of O.C. Coy.s. 2/Lt. Clements joined the Batin & posted to D. Coy.
- 13th. Parades at disposal of O.C. Coy.s.
- 14th. Parades at disposal of O.C. Coy.s.
- 15th. Inspection of Coy.s. by O.C.
- 16th. Maj. Osborne left for 4 days attachment to No. 4 Squadron R.F.C. & 2/Lt. Chivers R.F.C. joined the Batin for 4 days attachment.
- 17th. H.Q. details fired on the range. Capt. Salton rejoined from Fourth Army Infy. School.
- 18th. B. Coy. fired on the range. Other Coy. parades on Coy. Parade Grounds. 2/Lt.s. Norris & Mossop rejoined from III Corps School. 2/Lt.s. Outler & Atkinson went on leave.
- 19th. 2/Lt. Glenister left the Bn. for the H.Q. 2/Lt. Clayton re-joined the Bn & posted to C Coy. O. Coy. fired on the range.
- 20th. Batin Route March. Major Osborne returned from R.F.C. & 2/Lt. Chivers left.
- 21st. D. Coy. fired on range. 2/Lt. Watson went on leave.
- 22nd. Cleaning up. Inspection of T'port by G.O.C.
- 23rd. Bn. moved to BERGQUIETE, leaving 10 am & arriving 2 pm.
- BERGQUIETE
- 24th. Capt. Campbell went on leave.
- 25th. Christmas dinners for the men.
- 26th. Batin. route march. 2/Lt. Mossop left with party of 30 OR. for attachment to 70th Coy. R.K. for work in forward area.
- 27th. "A" Coy. fired on range. Lt. Farrow & 2/Lt. Rounsell reid. from leave. Waring squad started work under 2/Lt. Morris.

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

1917

December

28th.	B Coy. on range. C.O. went on leave.
29th.	O. Coy & Snipers on range. Lieut. Burdett left for First Army S.O.S. School. 2/Lt. Clarke left for First Army Infy. School.
30th.	Church Parade. 4 officers & 80 OR.
31st.	*D* Coy. & Snipers fired on the range. All N.O.s paraded at 2.30 p.m. under P.S.M.

A.L. THOMSON, Major,
Commanding 7th Rl. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 711

H.Q.,

36th Infantry Bde.

Herewith, War Diary from 1.1.18 to 31.1.18.

G.R. THREY.

Lieut. Col.
Commanding 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

1.2.18.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 711

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

JANUARY.

BERKHAMPTON.

1st A Coy fired on range, B. C. D. Lewis at disposal of O.C. Coys. 2/Lts. Rounsell, Hervey, Clements, proceeded to XV Corps School. Capt. Goussens. Capt. Reekitt & 2/Lt. Ho. Cracken went on leave.

2nd B Coy & Snipers fired on the range. 2/Lt. Hill left for demonstration of H.Q. Barrage at GUILDS. Capt. Hardy left Bn. for attachment to 36th Infy Hde H.Q.

3rd Bn. Route March. 2/Lts. Cutler & Atkinson returned from leave. 2/Lt. Hills rejoined from XII Army Musketry Camp.

4th O.Coy & Snipers on range. Box Respirators of the Bn. were tested.

5th D. Coy & Snipers on range. Other Coys. Inspection by O.C. Coys. 2/Lt. Rogers went on leave.

6th Moved to CHAVERILE DUVEILLE. Left 8.40 a.m. Arrived 12.50 p.m.

CHAVERILE DUVEILLE.

7th Parades on Coy parade grounds. 2/Lt. Watson returned from leave.

8th Heavy snow. Parades in billets.

9th 100 bombers practised at XV Corps School.

10th Bn. practised Defence Scheme of crossings over LAWE River. 2/Lts. Rounsell and Dumbrell joined the Bn. and were posted to D & A Coys respectively. Capt. Campbell returned from leave.

11th O.C. Coys reconstituted the Front line.

1918.

Appendix.

January.

12th

A & B Coys. and Snipers practised in Bullet, Bayonet, Bullet course at XV Corps School.

13th

Bn. moved and relieved the 14th Velon Regt. 56th Division, in the Right Sub Sector of the LA BOURMILLON Sector. Relief complete 3.8 p.m. 2nd Portuguese Division on right of the Bn. Disposition of Coys. - C Coy, Right front. D Coy Left front. B Coy in Support. A Coy in Reserve.

FRONT LINE.

14th

quiet day. Lt. Gorringe returned from G.H.Q. L.G. School. C.O. returned from leave.

15th

quiet. 1 O.R. wounded. Capt. Sainson & 2/Lt. Perkin went on leave.

16th

quiet. 1 O.R. wounded.

Inter Company relief. A relieved C. B relieved D. Snappy Patrol of 3 O.R. was driven off from our left front Post. 1 O.R. wounded. 2/Lt. Watson proceeded on course at Div. Gas School. Capt. Reckitt & 2/Lt. De Graeken rejoined from leave.

16th

Officers of 5th P. Barks. reconnoitred the line.

19th

quiet day. Major Thompson left for I Army Hqs. School Camp.

20th

quiet. Hostile Artillery activity on Right Division at 2 p.m. 2/Lt. Atkinson attended a one day's course on Pigeons.

21st

Bn. was relieved by 5th Royal Barks Regt. Relief complete 12.45 p.m. Bn. proceeded to DULHIN, arriving 3.30 p.m. 2/Lt. Rogers returned from leave.

1918.

Appendix.

January.DOUJEU.

- 27th A. B. C. Coy went to Bath. Lt. Gorrings went on leave.
- 25rd D Coy. H.Q. details. Dyma went to baths. Remondor cleaning up and Kit Inspect on.
- 24th Parades at disposal of O.C. Coy. Snipers and Lt. Gunners on range. 2/Lt. Mills rejoined from leave.
- 25th Working parties of 320 men found by B. C. D. Coy. A Coy parades at disposal of O.C. Coy. Lt. Gunners and Snipers fired on the range.
- 26th A. G. D. Coy. found working parties of 320 men. B. Coy under O. C. Coy for parades. Snipers and Lt. Gunners on range.
- 27th Working parties of 320 men found by A. B. D. Coy. G. Coy H. Q. details attended Church parade.
- 28th Relieved 6th R. W. Kent Regt. in Hqs Reserve of the BOIS BRISIER Sector. Relief complete 2.15 P.m. O. Coy responsible for FLEUR BAIX defences.
- DURHAM RESERVE.
- 29th Working Parties 220 men. Major Penson went on leave. Major Osborne returned from leave.
- 30th Working Parties 320 men.
- 31st Working Parties 320 men.

G. H. TERRY,

Lieut. Col.
Commandg. 7th Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORDS

7th BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

FEBRUARY. ZEMBRATE.

- 1st Working parties 250. Draft of 19 OR. arrived.
2nd Working parties 250. 2 Lt Popkin returned from leave. Received sudden orders to relieve 8th B.F. in front line next day.

THIRD LINE.

- 3rd Relieved 8th B.F. completed 12 noon. Distribution: A Coy right front; D Company left front; C Coy right support; B Coy left support.

- 4th Enemy raided PENSAR POST held by A Coy at 9.30 am. Casualties 3 killed & wounded & 4 missing. 2 Lt F. Clarke returned from 1 Army Inf. School.

- 5th Quiet day - 2 Lt. Mc Craeken proceeded to England for 6 months.

- 6th Quiet day - Took over left half of 11th Middlesex sector. Heister complete. 2 Irs Clements, Howsell & Lanley returned from XVth Corps School. 2 Lts Jones & Lobelin joined & posted to A & C Coys respectively.

- 7th Quiet day except for usual shelling of Bois GRAMIER - Report received that enemy were massing opposite the Battalions front. Nothing happened. 2 Irs Sca. Swift & Soutar joined from H.A.O. & were posted to A. B & D Coys respectively.

- 8th Quiet day - 2 Lt Hill left for A.A. Lewis Gun course - Captain Upleby & 48 OR joined from 13th Battalion & stayed at Transport.

- 9th Quiet day - Captain Upleby was killed by a shell whilst in a billet in the Rue BAVANTILLE.

- 10th Quiet day. Draft of 48 from 13th Battalion came up to trenches. Lieut Howe went on leave

- 11th quiet.

- 13th Quiet. C.O. & company commanders of 7th Suffolk Regt came up to reconnoitre trenches.

WEST SUSSEX

1918.

Appendix.

February.

15th Front line. quiet day.

14th Quiet. Relieved by 7th Suffolk Regt. Relief complete 9.40 pm. Marched to SAILLY-sur-la-LYS arriving 11.30 pm.

SAILLY-sur-la-LYS.

15th Lieut Hill returned from A.G. I.G. course. 2 Lt Duggs joined the Bn; from the 12th R. Sussex. Major Pomon returned from leave. Working parties 400.

16th Battalion had the baths. Major Osborne left for I Army Ammunition Camp.

17th Working parties 400. Capt Bondy returned from leave.

18th Working parties 450. H.A.O. demonstration platoon at PORT HENRY. Lt Burdett went on leave.

19th Working parties. H.A.O. demonstration platoon at PORT HENRY.

20th G.O. & Coy O'Connell's reconnoitered the right sub-sector. Working parties 430. H.A.O. demonstration platoon

21st Working parties 450. H.A.O. demonstration. 2 Lt Morris returned from leave. 2 Lt Clarke returned from G.H.Q. I.O. school.

22nd Relieved 6th R.W. Kents in Night Sub-sector of Night Brigade Pleunbaix sector. Relief complete 3.15 pm. 2 Lts Jousell, Dumbell, Lothian left for XV Corps School s. Major Osborne returned from I Army Ammunition Camp. 2 Lt Dixon joined the Battalion & posted to O Coy H.O. went on leave. Capt O'Halley O.S.R. attached.

FROM LINE.

23rd Quiet. Capt Bechitt returned from I Army Ammunition Camp.

24th Quiet.

25th Little activity. 2 Lts Hill & Foley left for leave.

WEST SUSSEX BORIS DELETED

1918.Appendix.February.

25th quiet. Inter-Doy relief. 2 Lt Hanley rejoined from leave.

27th Few shells in Support Line in retaliation for our P.M. fire. 2 Lt Hanley returned from leave.

28th quiet day. 2 Lt Rogers rejoined Bn from attachment to 70th H.S.

A.L. THURSON Major
for Lieut. Colonel.
Commanding 7th N Sussex Reg't.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

Herewith :-

War Diary March 1st to 31st/1918.

G. H. IMPEY.

~~Capt~~ Lt. Col.

~~see~~ Lt. Col.

Comd. 7th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

7TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

March.

FROM LINE LA BOURLIMERE SECTOR.

1st Quiet day. Lieut R.M. HOWE returned from leave. 2/Lt V. St G. Smith from 2nd Army S.O.S. School. Capt & Q.M. J.R. Clarke from leave.

2nd Quiet day. Relieved by 9th R.F. Healer complete 6.15 p.m. Dn. proceeded to position in Brigade Reserve.

BRIGADE RESERVE.

3rd Capt H.S. Bowler left for a fortnight's attachment to Bde H.Q. Working parties 800.

4th Working parties 800.

5th Major Thomson went to P.A. Working parties 800. Capt. R.D. Hind & 2/Lt. T. Clarke to leave.

6th Lecture for D Coy in Sully trenches about trenches to be raided. D Coy practised for raid. Working parties. Lieut R.D. Goringe to XV Corps I.G. School.

7th D Coy practised for raid. Proceeded to support line in the evening. Working parties.

8th D Coy raided the enemy's trenches at 4.30 a.m. under cover of an artillery 2.M.A. & H.O. barrage. Only 8 Germans were encountered of which 2 were captured & 6 killed. Our casualties were 2 slightly wounded. Working parties. 2/Lt. I.A.P. Watson to England - 6 mos tour of duty. Lt J.S. Collins to leave.

9th Hostile Artillery active. Working parties.

10th Back areas shelled with gas shells. Relieved by 7th Suffolk Regt at about 6 p.m. & went into Sully into Divisional Reserve. Lt E.O. Goringe from XV Corps I.G. School. 2/Lt J.H. Pundrell

1919.AppendixMarch.

10th (Ctd.) to Hospital sick.

SAILING.

11th Bug St Hear shelled. Working parties 300. To leave 2/Lts V. St. G. Smith & R. F. Olemere.

12th Enemy bombarded Portuguese in the early morning. Im. ordered to stand to. All quiet by 8 a.m. Working parties 300. 2/Lt A. V. Swift to leave.

13th Quiet. Working parties 300.

14th Artillery active. Working parties. 2/Lt S. Iothelm from XV Corps I. G. School.

15th Artillery active. Civilians leaving in large numbers. Working parties. Lt. S. L. Bardett from leave.

16th Working parties. From leave 2/Lts G. H. Hill, J. R. Paley. To Hospital 2/Lt Durge.

17th Quiet. Working parties.

18th More activity by artillery. Working parties Capt H. S. Bonalby rejoined from Brigade.

19th Working parties. To England M. G. Centre for transfer 2/Lt R. F. Mills. To leave 2/Lt J. I. Sauter.

20th Working parties. 2/Lt. A. A. Jones to Hospital sick.

21st Relieved by 2/6 Kings complete about noon. Im. moved to Gondesarre - arrived 4 p.m. Received orders to move to Steenbeque the following day.

CAUDREQUE.

22nd Left 2 p.m. Arrived Steenbeque 2.30 p.m. from leave 2/Lt. R. Clarke. joined Im. Capt. M. Campbell-Johnston.

STEENBEQUE.

23rd Working parties 100. 2/Lt. J. S. Collins to 1st Army Ammunition Camp. Lt C. Clayton to 2nd Army

1918.

March.

Appendix.

23rd (Std.)

Central School.

Left at 8 a.m. Arrived Burghere
3.30 p.m. Embussed at 9 p.m. &
left for VAREY. Capt R. O. D.
Hind from leave.

VAREY.

Arrived Varelly about 9 a.m.
Bn. waited in a field. Left
for Lantreville at 3 p.m.;
intercepted at Henencourt by
Staff Captain & ordered to
break packs & leave out
surplus personnel. Brigade was
Montangar. Bn halted just E.
of Albert about 9.30 p.m. -
2.45 a.m. Bn ordered to hold
another crossing N. of Aveluy.

25th

Positions established by about
6.30 a.m. Bn frontage from
S. end of Aveluy Wood to
Black Horse Bridge.

Dispositions - C & D Coys Front
line, A & B Coys in support.
11.30 p.m. Report was received
that enemy had broken thro on
the left of the Bn. sector. A
defensive flank was formed by
the left support Coy.

AVELUY WOOD.

27th

About 9 a.m. the enemy attacked
on our right & the Bn on our
right fell back. A Coy formed
a defensive flank along the S.
edge of Aveluy Wood & later
B Coy were also put in on the
right flank to bridge a gap
between D & A Coy. The Bn was
now formed on 2 sides of a
square - C & D facing E. & A &
B facing S.

About 5 p.m. enemy attacked on the
whole front & succeeded in
breaking into the wood at the
S.E. corner.

A Coy retired slightly. Killing
a large number of the enemy.
2/Lt Rogers was taken prisoner
but succeeded in escaping.
D Coy retired on Bf H. G., which were
at quarry Post. The attack was
held up at Bn. H. G. which were
temporarily surrounded.

1918.

Appendix.

March.

28th

During the night 27/28 the line was readjusted - A & D on the left in touch with the R. Coy. & B Coy in quarry foot. No news was heard of G. Coy. During the morning the enemy attacked & drove in the line slightly. A counter attack restored the position. B. Coy at quarry foot completely repulsed the enemy. During the afternoon, touch was gained with C Coy & B Coy. After dusk a continuous line was formed across quarry foot facing S.E. from quarry foot exclusive, which was taken over by the 9th R.F. to the right of the Ox & Bucks (2nd Div). B. Coy were in support.

29th

Bdtn, quiet day. Relieved by 24th London Regt. Relief complete 15.30 a.m. From leave Lt R.F. Clements, R./Maj. V. G. Smith & P. S. Russell. Bn marched to Tarryog.

30th

WATERLOO.

Arrived & a.m. Total casualties for operations starting 25th. 2/16 Hanley killed. 18 O.R. killed. 3/17th Outier, Smart, Lohlein, Atkinson & Paley. 73 O.R. wounded & 24 O.R. missing believed prisoners.

31st

Reorganisation & working parties 275. Lt. Edgar joined the Battalion.

G. H. THREX.

Capt. G. B. Asst.
for Lt. Col.

Commandg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX

INDEX.

A.40.

Herewith War Diary for month ending
30th April, 1918.

G.H. HENRY, Lt. Col.,
Commanding 7th R. Sussex Regt.

1/5/18.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

THE BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1918

APPENDIX

WARDOX

1st.

Bn: ordered to "stand to" by 6 am. Bns stood down 7.45 am. Lt Collins - Clayton rejoined.

2nd.

Bde took over left Sector of Divisional Front, just N. of Albert. Bn: relieved 10th Sherwood Foresters (17th Div:) in Bde Reserve. Relief complete 11.30 pm.

BDE RESERVE

3rd.

Relief quiet.

4th.

Artillery activity considerable about 1 pm.

5th. 7 am.

Battery attached all along the front. Barrage heavy & considerable gas used. Coy was sent to support 9th R.F. on the left. Enemy penetrated front held by 5th R. Borks. A & B Coy's counter-attacked (under 5th R. Borks) at 6.45 pm. Attack unsuccessful. Bn: relieved 5th R. Borks during the night. Lieut Collins missing. 2 Lt Hodson wounded.

FRONT LINE

6th.

Relief complete 4 am. Coy left front line. D. Coy right front line. A & B Coy's anti-gassed, in support. About 11 am. Bn: on right sent up S.O.S. About 5 pm, enemy put down a barrage, as a result of attack by Division on right. Our guns retaliated on S.O.S. lines. All quiet by 6 pm. Bn: was relieved by 6th Queens. Relief complete 3.30 am. Total casualties 2 Off. 127 O.R.

SHIELDS

7th.

Bn: bivouaced under banks on slopes S.W. of SHIELDS. 6.30 am enemy gas shelled SHIELDS.

8th.

Enemy gas shelled from 5.30 am to 8 am.

9th.

Bn: relieved 5th Northants (Pioneers) in left Sub-sector of right Bde - Relief complete 11.15 pm. Draft of 304 O.R.

1918APPENDIXApril

9th.

Joined details at COMTAY.
2 Lt Lothelm rejoined.FRONT LINE

10th.

Quiet day. Major Thomson
rejoined Bn; after chickenport.

11th.

Quiet. Relieved by 14th ENLICH
Regt. Complete 3 pm.VARDOY

12th.

Bn reached Vardooy 4.45 am.
Left Warloy 2 pm. Bathed at
COMTAY. Bn established in
HIRVAUX 9.30 pm.HIRVAUX

13th.

Cleaning up & distribution of
draft. Capt Ellis H.O. arrived
& took over command of A Coy.

14th.

B & C Coys fired on range.
L Gunners on range.

15th.

A & D Coys. Range. L Gunners
on range.

16th.

B & C Coys Range. Bn moved
to FERRIBOOT - Arrived 1.15 pm.FERRIBOOT

17th.

Range & L.G. training. Bn
returned to HIRVAUX. Tents
erected at midnight. Bn
turned in at 1 am.HIRVAUX

18th.

HIRVAUX. All Coys on range.

19th.

H.O. on range - Bn moved to
HARBONVILLE. Left 2.35 pm.
Arrived 6 pm.HARBONVILLE

20th.

Buckety all Coys. Bn: practised
manning Corps Line. 4.30 pm. -
7.30 pm.

21st.

Working parties in morning 500.

22nd.

A Coy bathed at COMTAY. Bn:
moved to ACHIEUX - left 3.30 pm
Arrived 5 pm. G.O. & O.G. Coys
recommenced the front line.

1918

APPENDIX

April

AFTERM

23rd.

Inf: relieved 2nd & 3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade. Left ACHERUK 6.15 pm. Relief complete 11.30 pm. Inf: took over from Right Inf: of Right Subsector. Details 5.0.11. 75.0.0.R. Dispositions - B. Coy. Right Front. C. Coy. Left Front. D Coy in support. A Coy in Reserve.

FRONT LINE

24th.

Quiet day. Casualties 2 killed 2 wounded.

25th.

quiet. 1 O.R. wounded.

26th.

quiet.

27th.

Inter Company relief. B. Coy relieved by A. Coy. C. Coy relieved by D. Coy.

28th.

Slight hostile artillery activity. 1 killed & wounded.

29th.

Quiet. Slight hostile artillery activity on trenches.

30th.

quiet.

G.H. TILLEY, Lt. Col.
Commanding 7th Div., Sussex Regt.

7th (SERVICE) BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix

FRONT LINE, RIGHT SUBSECTOR.

1st Quiet day. Battalion relieved by 9th R.F. Relief complete 11 p.m.

ACHIEVE, DIVISIONAL RESERVE.

2nd Battalion established in billets 4.30 a.m. Day spent in cleaning up etc. Men paid. Enemy shelled ACHIEVE Chateau 11.50 p.m. 3 O.R. wounded.

3rd A & D Coy supplied working party of 300 O.R. on Purple Line.

4th Working parties. 400 O.R. Major Thomson slightly wounded.

5th Working parties. 400 O.R.

6th Battalion relieved 5th R. Berks in PURPLE LINE, E. of VAILLET - VAILLET. Relief complete 10 p.m.

VAILLET - VAILLET (PURPLE LINE).

7th Working parties. 390 O.R.

8th Quiet day. Working parties. 100 O.R.

9th Working parties. 100 O.R.

10th Working parties. 100 O.R. Hostiles attacks expected.

11th Slight gas shelling. Working parties 100 O.R.

12th Battalion relieved 5th R. Berks in Front Line. Relief complete 11.30pm. B & C Coys in front line. A & D Coys in support & Reserve.

FRONT LINE (RIGHT SUBSECTOR).

13th Heavy rain all day. 2/1st. Foster, Lyons, Brown, Crowell joined the Battalion.

14th Quiet day. 9th R.F. carried out a silent raid, but failed to obtain identification. C.O. left for C.O.'s course at III Army Inf. School. Major Osborne took over command of the Bn.

15th Some artillery activity. VAILLET - VAILLET was shelled.

1918

May

16th

Aircraft active. 6th Buffs raked enemy trenches on our left. Inter-Company roller.

17th

Artillery active during the evening. Major Thomson returned from Hospital.

18th

Quiet. Hostile gas shelling of HALLIDY at night. Major Osborne went to transport line & Major Thomson took over command of the Battalion.

19th

Gas shelling of HALLIDY during early hours of the morning.

20th

Quiet. Battalion relieved by 1st Buffs & proceeded to PURPLE LINE, on account of expected hostile attack. Battalion stayed there till "all clear" received.

PURPLE LINE.

21st

Battalion moved back to ACHERIX, less "A" Coy left as garrison, arriving ACHERIX 10.30 a.m.

22nd

ACHERIX. (DIVISIONAL RESERVE).

Working parties 150 O.R. cleaning up etc.

23rd

Working parties 150 O.R.

24th

Battalion warned to be ready to occupy PURPLE LINE. Nothing occurred. Raid by 8th R. Berks. 8 prisoners taken. 8 stretcher bearers lent to the Berks. Lieut. Prince arrived.

25th

Battalion less A. Coy. relieved by 7th Border Regt. (17th Division) at 12 noon. Battalion marched to BEAUGUESNE arriving 3 p.m. Lt. J. Clarke left for England.

BEAUGUESNE.

26th

A. Coy relieved in PURPLE LINE by 7th Lincoln Regt. Arrived 11.15 a.m. Church Parade for 3 Coys 11.15 a.m. O.O. returned from Course & Capt. Dewby from 111 Army Rest Camp. Capt. Hews left for G.R.Q. I.O. School. Course A.

1918

Appendix.

May

26th
(contd.)

The Battalion was detailed to experiment with a reorganisation as suggested by V. Corps, viz. Bn. H.Q. would have 2 I. G. Platoons with 4 I.C.'s in each Platoon, the whole under an Officer. Each Company to have 2 rifleman platoons of 3 sections each, & 2 I.G. platoons of with 2 guns in each platoon. Re-organisation carried out.

27th

G.O. inspected B. C. D. Coys.
A. Coy cleaning up. 103 Details rejoined from the wing.

28th

B. & D. Coys fired on the range.
C.O. inspected A. Coy. C. Coy
platoon training. Lt. Burdett
rejoined.

29th

A & C Coys on range. B & D Coys
platoon training. 2/Lt. W. S.
Howell rejoined from wing.

30th

All Coys on Ranges.

31st

B & D Coys on Range. A & C.
Platoon training. Inspection
of transport by G.O.C. Brigade.

G.H. HARRY,

Lt. Col.

Commanding 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

41.5.19.

WEST SUSSEX RSR REFERENCE

7TH (S) BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

June.

BEADPUSERS.

Division in G.H.Q. Reserve. Battalion on 1 hour's notice to move between 6 am and 10 am & 3 hours notice at other hours. A Coy fired on the range. B, C, D Coys platoon training. Battalion sports were held during the afternoon.

2nd

A & C Coys attended Church Parade. B & D Coys fired on the Range. 3 companies & H.Q. personnel bathed. All S.B.Re tested.

3rd

All Companies & H.Q. personnel fired on the range.

4th

The Corps Commander, V. Corps, inspected the Brigade during the morning. Transport also attended the parade.

5th

All training suspended owing to the possibility of a move. It. Live proceeded to V. Corps Infantry School.

6th

B & C Coys fired on the range. A & D Coys platoon training. During afternoon, C.O. & Company Commanders attended a Brigade Medical Ride.

7th

A & D Coys on Range. Field firing scheme. B & C Coys platoon training. Lt. Dixon proceeded to III Army Musketry Camp.

8th

B & C Coys on Range. A & D Coys Company training. 20 O.R. joined the Battalion.

9th

Brigade Parade Service. B & C D Coys attended. A & C Coys fired on the range.

10th

B & D Coys on Range. A & C Coys training ground.

11th

A Coy on Range. Brigade sports during the afternoon.

12th

A & C Coys fired on the Range; B & D Coys on training ground.

13th

B & D Coys range. A & C training.

14th

Battn: carried out a scheme on the Divisional training area. Advanced

1918.Appendix.June.14th
(Contd.)

Guard, the attack, Outposts, were practised, report & Q.M. stores personnel fired on the Range. 12 O.R. joined the Bn:

15th

C.O., Adjutant & O.C. Coye reconnoitred the line, i.e. the Reserve Bn Area of the Right Sector of the Aveluy Wood Sector.

16th

11 officers, 124 O.R. battle surplus left for Donqueur under Major Osborne H.C.

17th

Battn: moved off from Beauneque at 10 am & marched via TOTTENBOURG and HARPOVILLE to Valley N. of FARRLOY, arriving 5 pm. bivouaced till 9.30 pm. Battn: relieved 18th Lancashire Fusiliers, 35th Division: relief complete 12.45 am.

SENTINEL (Bde Reserve).

18th

Battn: in Brigade Reserve of Right Brigade sector of Aveluy Wood Sector - Working parties 400. 10.30 pm. few gas shells near Bn: H.Q.

19th

Quiet day. On left Brigade sector, a "chinese" operation was carried out, starting at midnight.

20th

Working parties 400.

21st

Quiet day. Relieved Bn R. Fusiliers in right sub sector. Relief complete 1.25 am.

FRONT LINE.

22nd

A Coy left Front Coy. C Coy right Front Coy: B Coy left Support, D Coy Right Support.
Hostile T.M.'s were active on C.Ts otherwise quiet.

23rd

Quiet day. Lt.S.G. BOYS killed by H.Q.

24th

Hostile T.Ms active on right C.T.

25th

Inter-Company relief: B Coy relieved A Coy & D relieved C.

26th

Very quiet.

1918.Appendix.June.

27th

Nothing to record except our guns very active harassing fire during the night.

28th

Our T.Ms active on enemy wire; hostile T.Ms retaliated slightly. 3 O.R. wounded.

29th

Day quiet. Battalion was relieved by 6th Queens & 6th P.W.Kent's; Queen's relieved the right half Battalion; Kent's the left. Battalion proceeded to bivouac area in Valley N. of Warley; arrived 4.30 am. 3 O.R. killed; 1 wounded.

DIVISIONAL RESERVE.

Men rested & cleaned up. 2 Battns. of 37th Inf. Bde (i.e. Queen's & W. Kents) attacked enemy trenches at 9.35 pm.

G. H. IMPEY.

Lieut. Col.
Commandg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Rgt.

WEST SUSSEX REGIMENT
RSR MS 7717
RIFLE

THE BATTALION THE ROYAL BURSAR PROGRAM

1918

APPENDIX

July

DIVISIONAL RESERVE (H.P. of WALKER)

1st.

Battalion "stood to" at 2.30 am. Stood down 3 am. Battalion bathed. 9.15 pm Battalion was ordered to move to Purple System, N: of SENEIS. Move complete 11.15 pm.

PURPLE SYSTEM (N. of SENEIS)

2nd.

C. Coy on left; D Coy left centre
A. Coy right centre; B. Coy on right. Working parties for 6 platoons ordered; these were cancelled after 1 platoon had left for Zandaryous.

8.45 p.m.

Enemy counter-attacks & captured positions taken by 37th Infantry Bde. on 30/6/15. Battalion placed under orders of G.O.C. 37th Infantry Bde. Battalion received orders at 1.35 am. to counter-attack at 3 am.

3rd. 2.45 a.m.

Orders for counter attack cancelled. Coys returned to Purple System, N. of HEDAVILLE-BOUZINCOURT Rd. arriving 5 am. Battalion relieved 6th Bn's in right sector - right Brigade sector of AVERLEY WOOD sector. Relief complete 1.30 am.

NOTE LINE

4th.

C. Coy Right Front - A Coy Left Front - D. Coy Right Support - B. Coy Left Support.
Day quiet. Our guns carried out active harassing fire during night.

5th.

quiet.

6th.

quiet.

7th.

Inter-Company relief. H. Coy changed over with A. Coy, and D with G. Heavy fired few Blue & shell on BOUZINCOURT support trench at 9.45 pm.

8th.

quiet day.

9th.

3 am. 100 Oranienwerfer, filled with gas, fell on right Coy front.

1918

July

10th.

Battalion relieved by 12 Manchester Regt., 52nd Bde 17th Division, Heller complete 2.15 am.

YOUVENOUCURT WOOD

11th.

Battalion arrived 6 am.

12th.

Cleaning up and re-organisation. Headquarter personnel bathed.

13th.

B & G Coye bathed, G.O. inspected all boys, G.O. went on leave to THOUVILLE. Half Regimental transport left at 1.30 pm & proceeded by road to St Jean (outskirts of ALIENS).

14th.

Battalion embussed W. of HERRISART & proceeded to PREMONTIERS.

Arrived 3.30 pm. Transport arrived from BR JEAN 2 pm. Transport left for HONDEL station, from where it went by train to BADOULET. Arrived PREMONTIERS 6 pm.

PREMONTIERS

15th.

Embussed at Premontieres at 7 pm. Arrived ORSEVAUX 10 pm. Transport by road.

ORSEVAUX

16th. Cleaning up & issuing clothing. Division in support to IX and XXXI French Corps.

17th.

8.30 am - 12.30 pm. P.T. Smart-ening-up drill & individual instruction. 7.15 pm - 9.0 pm. Coy route marches.

18th.

G.O.D. reconnoitred GAGRY-CHENTWILLERS line. G.O. reconnoitred with G.O.C. Platoon training.

19th.

Platoon training. Fronts of III, XV, 66th French Divisions reconnoitred by Officers from H.Q. - D, G. Boys respectively.

20th.

Same French Divisional fronts reconnoitred by officers from G.D.A. Boys respectively. Draft of 50. O.H. arrived.

21st.

Brigade church parade. 10 am. French Divisional fronts reconnoitred by officer from H.Q. A. B. Boys respectively. 6-8 pm Battalion concert in V.H.O.A. hut.

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICE

- 1918
JULY
- 22nd. 7-9 a.m. All Coys. Coy route march. Range C Coy 10-12, D Coy 2-4. A & B Coys Flatoon training. 3-8 pm, all B.S.Rs tested in Gas chamber.
- 23rd. 7-9am. All Coys Route marches. Training in billets during morning. B Coy on range 2-4 pm. Lectures for A.C.D Coys on German H.G. Tank demonstration for 4 officers & N.G.O's.
- 24th. 7-9am. Coy Route marches. 10-30 - 12.30pm D Coy Range: 0. Coy outpost scheme, B. Coy under IX Corps Infantry Training Officer (attached to Battalion) 2-4pm A Coy Range.
- 25th. 7-9am. Coy route marches. 10.30-12.30pm, D. Coy Range. A & D Coys Outpost scheme. 2-4 G. Coy range. Lecture by D.G.O. to all officers on Gas training. Lecture by by IX Corps L.G., expert to Coys. Lecture on German H.G. to Bnt H.G. personnel.
- 26th. 10.30-12.30pm. 0. Coy on Range. 2-4 A. Coy on Range. B & D Coys Company Training.
- 27th. A.C.D. Coys Inspected on training ground by G.C.O. Division. B. Coy visited on Range.
- 28th. Battalion Church parade. 50 per cent attended. 5.30pm Brigade Morning Competition.
- 29th. 90 men of B & D Coys dug demonstration trenches. A & C Coys on range. Capt Howe & 2 Lt Referees returned from III Army Infantry School.
- 30th. Battalion march to LOEBLITZ & entrained at 6.30pm. Detrained VIEHADOUBT 9.30pm. Transport proceeded direct by road, leaving 12.45pm & arriving 9.30pm. Bnt billeted at VIEHADOUBT.
- VIEHADOUBT
 Lt Hockracken returned from G.H.Q. riding course. Day spent in cleaning up.
- 31st.

A. E. THOMSON, Major,
 Command, 7th Bn. N.I. Sussex Regt.

7TH BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

August.

Appendix.

VIGNACOURT.

1st. Day spent in training of platoons.
2nd Training in billets.

3rd. 8.30. The Bn. embussed on Vignacourt -
Flesselles road and proceeded to
"Round Wood" East of HERRINGCOURT
Camp taken over from 6th Bn. West
Kents. Relief complete 2.10 am.

ROUND WOOD.

4th Tents dug down and made bomb proof.
Day spent cleaning up.

5th The Bn. bathed at DIV. Baths at
HERRINGCOURT - "A" Coy. 9-11.10 am
"D" Coy. 11.10 - 1.30 pm.
"B" Coy. 1.30-3.45 pm - "C" Coy.
3.45 - 6 pm. H.Q. 6 pm - 8 pm.
Continued cleaning up camp and
digging down tents.

6th 36th Inf. Bde. relieved 53rd Inf. Bde.
of 16th Div. The Bn. relieved 8th
Bn. Berkshire Regt. in the 1A
ROUSSOYE STRICH. Relief complete
12.25 am.

1A ROUSSOYE STRICH.

7th C.O. and Os. C. Coys. reconnoitred
line S.W. of MONTAUCOURT.
The Bn. moved to assembly positions
S.W. of HERRINGCOURT. Bn route Bn.
skipped in HEALYI Lieut. DIXON killed
Lieut. CLAYTON and ROGERS wounded.
Later on the march 2 Lieut. JUREWAY
killed.

FRONT LINE.

8th 2.30 Bathn. in Assembly positions at 3.45 am.
am. D. Coy. right front.
C. Coy. left front.
B. Coy. right support.
A. Coy. left support.
Zero hour was 4.20 am. Attack took
place in thick mist that did not
lift until 10 am. All coys. were
disorganized owing to mist and on
lifting it was found that the Bn.
was behind its objective, patrols
pushed forward and coys. moved up to
near their final objective.
Bn R. Berkhires passed through and
took up outpost position on Bn. final
objective. Bn. orders attached.

1918.Appendix.August.

8th 9.30. Bn. relieved 5th Berkshire in front line relief complete by 10. pm.

9th

quiet morning. Slight shelling in the afternoon.
5.30. Attack continued by troops passing through the Batm. sector. After all had passed through Bn. moved back to rest shelters near LERICOURT L'ABAYE.

11. pm. Bn. all in by 10 pm.

10th

11.45. am.

Bn. moved forward to positions in old British and German front lines W. of HORLAINGOURT. Bn. were under orders of G.O.C. 37th Brigade. Received orders to relieve 9th Essex in front line N. of HORLAINGOURT. Actually Bn. relieved elements of 9th Essex and 6th SWZS. Relief complete 5.30 am.

11th

quiet day. Front line coys. spent day and night pushing patrols out to discover how enemy was holding his line. Several machine gun posts were discovered. Front line very quiet, certain amount of shelling in back areas.

12th Very quiet day. Outposts were put out in front of main line.

13th

Local operation carried out by the Bn. orders issued verbally to Coy Commanders.

Attack was carried out by C & D Coys. and I platoon A.Coy. on right. The left of the attack was held up and had to return to our front line. The platoon on right got 300ft up an enemy trench, captured 12 prisoners, 2 M.Oms. and destroyed 6 more. Owing to counter attack and lack of support on left was forced to return to original line. Enemy artillery was very active. Bn. was relieved by 5th Royal Berks. Relief complete 12.10 am.

IN SUPPORT W. OF HORLAINGOURT.

14th

quiet day.
Day spent by Coys. in cleaning up and making up deficiencies from salvage.

15th

quiet day. Coys. employed in cleaning up Batm. sector and collecting salvage.

1919.

Appendix.

August.

16th

quiet day. Day spent in collecting salvage. Bn. relieved by 9th Messex. Relief complete 9.50 pm. Casualties for this phase from 8 August 14 officers 235 O.M. Lieuts. Dixon, GARDNER, 2 Lieuts. HOSBELL, PALMER, MURPHY, MURRAY, killed.
Lieuts. PRINGS, GRAYTON, 2 Lieuts. SAITZ, DAVIS, NOTZING, JOHNSON, TROWELL and SOUTHER wounded. Material captured 1 77mm gun 11 M.G. 2 T.M. 120 prisoners approx.

MERICOURT.

17th

quiet day. Coys. spent day in cleaning up, bathing in river, and reorganising. A few H.V. shell fell near the station during night.

18th

quiet day.

19th

quiet day. A few H.V. shell fell in neighbourhood of Coy. trenches.

20th

8 am. G.O. and Coy. Commanders reconnoitered lines of support battn. Moved up from MURPHY WOOD at 10 pm and took over BUFFS, H.Q. in B.26-d. G.Os. went to conference at Bde. H.Q. and were given instructions for the attack.

21st

Company Commanders Conference Oa.C. Coys. reconnoitered assembly positions for next day.
11 pm. Moved up to assembly positions. Heavy gas shelling from 12 mid-night onwards.

22nd

Our barrage opened 4.45 am. Zero 4.45 am. No enemy resistance. All objectives gained. Dn. H.Q. moved forward to E.35.c.4.7.
2/Lt. MORRIS wounded.
60 prisoners taken by "B" Coy.
"B" Coys. H.Q. in big dug out in SAND PIT.

23rd

quiet day.
7 pm. Orders received for attack next morning.

24th

1 am. Attack by "B" & "D" Coys. Assembled F.13. All objectives gained. Berks on left. queues on right. Lane diagonally across F.14-b. 26 prisoners captured also a night signalling apparatus.

WEST SUSSEX

1918.

Appendix.August.

- 25th 2.30. 9th Ryl Fusiliers attacked through us. "A" Coy. lent to support them. No oppositions encountered.
3.15. Bn. moved to P.8. near FRIQUENT. 35th Bde. became advanced guard to DIV. H.V. very active on FRIQUENT x roads.
- 26th 1 am. Orders for attack in morning arrived.
2 am. O.O.C. arrived.
2.15. 0.09. arrived. Orders given verbally.
3 am. Bn. moved. Attack commenced East of MARETZ 4.30 am. Held up in valley in front of 1st Objective C.O. slightly wounded. 2/Lt. LAWRENCE killed 2/Lts. HORNBYMAN, HORSWELL & PHIPPS wounded.
3 pm. Enemy withdrew. Strong patrols sent forward to gain contact. Contact gained on NORTDAUBAN - CARROY ROAD.
- 5.30. MAJOR HORNBY arrived and took over command of the Bn. LT. COL. THOMSON proceeded to transport lines. 18.20-pm. - verbal orders - about 8-30 pm.
- 27th 4.30. ~~2.2. - P.8.~~
37th Infantry Bde. attacked. Evilere Wood captured. Bn. remained in same place. 1.e.e. companies round CARROY - NORTDAUBAN 3rd Bn: H.9. 7.8 d.
7.30. O.O.C. Bde. gave verbal orders of attack by 36th Inf. Bde. in morning 28/8/18. Written orders received 10.30 pm.
- 28th 1 am. C.O. had conference with O.O. Coys. at O.O. B. Coys. H.Qrs.
3.30. Coys. moved to trenches in A.10.
4.55. Bn. H.9. in bank F.9. d. 4.5.
5.30. 9th R.F. attached with 3rd London's on right & 1st/1st Gdms. on left. All objectives gained. Bn. moved up in close support W. of Evilere Wood.
- 29th 2.9. d.
Fairly quiet day - A. Coy. attached to 9th R.F. to hold line just E. of ZAVERNE WOOD, and assisted to dig line with one Coy. of pioneers.
Enemy withdrew. 35th & 37th Infantry Bdes moved forward. Bde. relieved by Bde. 102nd Div. Division.
6 pm. Bn: moved back to valley just W. of CARROY - NORTDAUBAN RD. 5th post moved to same valley.

WEST SUSSEX

1918.Appendix.August.

30th

Reorganisation & cleaning up.
Lt. Col. Thomson took over command.

31st.

Draft of 263 joined Bn:- 13
Officers joined & rejoined Bn:
cleaning up etc.A.L. THOMSON, LT. COL.
Commandg. 7th R. Sussex Regt.OPERATION ORDER NO. 1.Ref. Sheet. 63.D.W.E.
1/20,000.

7/8/18.

1. The 36th Inf. Bde. will take part in an attack to be carried out by the 18th Div. & other troops.
2. The 7th Royal Sussex will attack on the right & the 9th Royal Fusiliers on the left.
3. The Bn. will attack on a 2 Coy. frontage, each Coy. with 2 platoons in the first wave & 2 platoons in the second. Objectives & boundaries are as shown on map already issued to Coys. C. & D. Coys. will each leave 1 leading platoon to mop up enemy front line. These will subsequently become the local reserve of their Coys. & will be available for local counter attack.
4. A & B Coys. will keep frog C & D Coys. and will wear white arm bands on the left forearm.
5. Bayonets will be fixed by all troops 15 min. before ZERO.
6. Sections of 10th Bn. Tanks will assist the 36th Inf. Bde.
7. Assembly positions & position of Bn. H.Q. see B. Q. 67.
8. ZERO day will be the 8th inst. ZERO hour will be about 4 am. Exact time will be notified later.
9. The 174th Bde. will be on the right of the Bn.
10. Care must be taken to maintain liaison with the flanks during the battle.
11. The advance of the Infantry will be covered by an artillery creeping barrage (one gun per 250 of front). This barrage will start at ZERO at which time the Infantry will move forward.

13. All Tanks taking part in the attack should be warned that the noise caused by the TANKS & that of the H.Q.s. & aeroplanes which will be used to disguise the noise of the TANKS will be considerable for some minutes before ZERO. This will tend to cause Infantry to start off before ZERO, which must be carefully guarded against.
13. Contact aeroplanes will fly along the front at ZERO plus 90 minutes & ZERO plus 240 minutes calling for signals whereupon forward Infantry will place three rifles across trench at an interval of 3 ft.
14. The following light signals will be used by the III Corps.

Signal:	Meaning.
(a) No. 38 Grenade Signal Green/Green/Green.	S.O.S.
(b) No. 38 Grenade Signal White/White/White.	Success Signal is "We have reached objectives".

15. Situation reports will be sent to Hq. H.Q. at frequent intervals. Whenever such a report is sent in a report will also be sent on Coy's Estimated Casualties giving simply numbers of Officers & O.R.s. Ascertained casualties will be forwarded as soon as possible.
16. In the event of an advance Hq. H.Q. will establish itself at K.25.18 or as near there as possible.
17. One section of STORES TRENCH MORTARS will be attached to Hq. H.Q. during the battle & will be at the disposal of the G.O.C.
18. A supply TANK will endeavour to reach K. 31.D.32 with supplies of ammunition, etc. for the Hq.
19. All fighting TANKS carry 5,000 rounds of S.A.A. labelled "REPARY". Care should be taken to obtain this before the tank returns to its base.
20. The following signals will be used from Tanks to Infantry:-

- (1) A Green & White flag to indicate
(11) A Red & Yellow flag to indicate
"I am broken down, go on".
(111) A tricolour flag to indicate that the tank is returning out of action & prevents its being mistaken for an enemy tank.

(Sgd.) S.L. BURDITT, Lt.
Lieut. & Adj't.
7th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

OPERATION ORDER.

Ref.62.d.ME 1/30,000
Corps Sheet No.113 1/10,000.

SECRET 1.

1. The 35th Infantry Brigade will take part in an attack by the 12th Division on the morning of the 22nd inst.
2. The 35th Inf. Brig. will attack on the right of this Brigade - the units on our (7th H. Sx. R.) immediate flank being, as far as the first objective, 7th NORFOLK REGT. from first to second objective - 6th BURG.
3. The 54th Infantry Brigade (right battalion 6th NORFOLKESHIRE REGT) will attack on the left of this Brigade.
4. The 36th I.B. will attack as under
 - (a) as far as 1st Objective.
9th R.F. Right Battalion.
5th R. Berks Left Battalion.
 - (b) from 1st - 2nd objective.
7th H. Sx. Right Battalion.
5th R. Berks. Left Battalion.
The 7th Royal Sussex pass through 9th R.F. at 1st objective.
5. Headquarters.
36th Inf. Brig. K.9. b. 30.
7th Roy. Sussex. R. (K.3. b. 9. c.
9th Roy. Fus.
6. The first objective (as given verbally) will be known as the BROWN LINE.
The second obj. as the GREEN LINE.
7. ASSEMBLY.
Companies will take up assembly positions (as recommended) in B.28. c. and K.4. a (north) by 2.30 am. on 22nd inst. unless otherwise ordered.
8. DISPOSITIONS.
 - (a) The battalion will attack in 2 waves - each of 2 companies in platoon artillery formation as under.

1st WAVE	{ B. COY.	RIGHT.
	{ D. "	LEFT.
2nd WAVE	{ A. "	RIGHT
	{ C. "	LEFT
 - (b) Until clear of our present line companies will preserve undermentioned spaces.

(c) Between waves of COYS.	100 yds. }
DISTANCE between platoons	100 " }
INTERVAL "	250 " }

All approximate.

(d) When clear of original front lines these spaces may be amended at discretion of O.C. Coy's.

(e) Care will be taken not to telescope the 6th R.F.

(f) O.C. Coy's. must be prepared to assist for counter attack from flank - especially C. Coy.
O.C. Support Coy's. (2nd Wave) must be prepared to assist 1st Wave if held up.

9. PLANKS - LIAISON.

Every effort should be made to keep in touch with flanks - by patrols along roads etc.
O.C. B and A Coy. should have with 6th Buffs at following.

{ 1 } Dugout	about	R. 20 a. 4. 2.
{ 11 } Road Junction		R. 23 d. 6. 6.
{ 111 } Dugout (Sankon road)		R. 24 a. 5. 5.
{ 1v } Sandpit.		R. 16. d. 4. 4.

Other companies should attempt similar liaisons.

B and D Coy's. must push forward contact patrols to keep in touch with 6th R.F.

10. ARTILLERY.

General programmes (O = ZERO).

O O - O + 4 Barrage E. of present outpost line.
O + 4 - O + 108. Creeping barrage 100 yds - 4 mins.
O + 108 - O + 118. Standing barrage 300 yds.
O + 118 onwards. Creeping barrage 100 yds. - 4 min
until 300 yds beyond 2nd Objective.
Barrage will then stand for 30 mins.
finally lifting to allow light tanks and
cavalry to pass through.
Artillery will fire 1 smoke shell to
every 15 stragglers and 1 thermalite every
two minutes - On the Southern brigade
and divisional boundaries.

11. TANKS.

(a) 3 Heavy tanks will co-operate with the
battalion.
{ b } Signals as before.
{ c } Men must be warned not to follow tanks as
their course is irregular.
(d) All tanks are warned that the tanks assembling
with covering M.G. fire and aeroplanes
tend to cause men to move off before ZERO.
This must be carefully guarded against.

12. CONTACT AEROPLANE.

(1) A contact aeroplane will fly over at zero + 3
hours 15 minutes.
Infantry will burn flares and show disc and
rifle signals - when called for by this
aeroplane.

(11) Hostile balloons should be reported at once.
A special section R.A.F. will deal with them
if and when requested.

(111) Ammunition will not be dropped at fixed points but in any place where a 'V' signal is put out.

13. LIGHT SIGNALS.

Success signals for this division (as issued will be fired on gaining objective.
Success signal 47th Division is 1 red Veroy light.

14. MACHINE GUNS.

- (a) 4 Guns Coy, 13th Bn. H.G.C. will co-operate with the battalion finally covering 2nd Objective.
- (b) An H.G. barrage will be put down prior to the attack.
- (c) R.M.
Detachments of 70th Company and 5th Northampton (Pioneers) will assist in the consolidation of final objective.
- (d) STOKES PORTLAND
3 Stokes mortars will support the battalion in the final objective.

15. SITUATION REPORTS.

Reports should reach B.H.Q. at frequent intervals - All reports are of value. Estimated casualties of Coy. should be shown on each report simply. Officers and O.N. Total should be shown each time.

16. DEFENCE OF FLANKS.

In event of unexpected resistance on left. 5th Royal Dorks & 9th R.S. will form a defensive flank.

17. PRISONERS.

To be sent in parties - escort 1 per 10 prisoners To be handed to 13th DIVISIONAL CAMP and receipt obtained

18. GENERAL.

1. ZERO To be notified later.
11. WATCHES - Will be synchronized later.
111. BOOBY TRAPS - All men should again be warned about booby traps especially in dugouts.

19. ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

R.S. MILLS, Adj't.
Capt. Add't.
7th Royal Sussex Reg't.

21/8/19.

OPERATION ORDERSECRET

Ref. 63.d.N.H.
1/30,000.

1. The 36th Inf. Brig. will advance at ZERO hour 25th line, to General line F.10.e.50 - F.3.c.39.
2. The 37th Brig. will advance on night B4th Brig. 15th Division on 16th.
3. (a) Boundary between 36th and 37th Brigades is on line through F.9.c.00 - to road at F.10.c.8.0.
(b) Boundary 12th and 13th Divs. is line of stream running S. of FALGOURT and N. of HINCORDE inclusive to 13th Division.
4. Attack will be carried out by the 9th R.F. and will pass through present outpost line at ZERO. For the purpose of this Operation A. Company 7th Royal Sussex Regt. B. Company 9th Royal Berks, will be at the disposal of 9th Royal Fusiliers.
5. These Companies will only be used after all companies 9th R.F. have been called on.
6. After ZERO hour the battalion and 5th Royal Berks - less 1 company to go into Brigade Reserve they will continue to hold present line.
In event of A Company moving forward C Company will slide slip and establish flank touch. Immediate steps will be taken to organize companies in depth men as much as possible.
7. Three antijets tanks will rendezvous in valley in F.19.a. and b by ZERO is 60 minutes and will move via F.13.d and b - F.8.e - F.14 and will assist in clearing valley in F.16.e and d - F.8. and 9. They will cross front line at ZERO + 10 minutes.
As soon as advance takes place it may be assumed that conditions approximating open warfare will be reached and units will push on without expecting close touch on their flanks. They will, however, always safeguard their flanks and gain touch with flank units on the slope of hill.
When objective is reached line will be consolidated covered by support line - Cavalry and cyclists will then be sent forward to keep touch with enemy.
8. Barrage will open at ZERO on line F.9.c.40 - F.2.15.2. Remaining there until ZERO + 4 and will move in such a way as to take up on a H. and B line through F.9.c.4.0. It will then move forward at rate of 100 yds - 4 mins. until 300 yds. beyond objective when it will halt for 30 mins. after which it will lift to allow for patrols to move out.
9. ZERO hour to be notified separately.
10. H.Q. with R.F. in SAND PIT F.16.d.3.4.
11. B & D Coy's. will find liaison patrols to keep in touch with 9th R.F.

WEST SUCC

12. O.C. B. Coy. will arrange for his signallers to gain visual communication with Brigade H.Q. at R.S.D. 6. If this is not done already.

13. O.C. A Company will resolve further particulars from 9th R.F.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.B. MILLS.

CAPT. & ADJT.

24/8/18.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

September.

- 1st
Rested & re-organised in same area. Warned for move in the evening.
- 2nd 2.15 am
4.45 am
Reveille.
Moved up, via HARTCOURT, NATHURAS, LE FOREST, to trenches some 3000 yards in front of the latter place, just above a battery of 6" hows.
- 3rd
Remained in same area. Slight shelling, no casualties.
- 4th
6.0 reconnoitred early in the morning. Battalion moved to positions S.S. of ST PIERRE VASSY Wood to take over from 7th QUEENS at 7 p.m. Area heavily gassed throughout the night.
- 5th 3.45 am
5.30 am
6.45 am
Orders for attack received. Relief reported complete. Battalion attacked with HURRI as objective. Held up along HURRU Ridge by Machine guns. 2/LTS BRASOR, NOSSOP, & BURNETT wounded. Heavy gas shelling throughout the day. Attached again, but again held up. CAPT. G. O. GORRINGE & 2/LT R. T. ASHBY killed 60-70 casualties among the men during the day.
- 6th
7 p.m.
Army retired before other troops, who passed through. Battalion remained in the valley in front of HURRU.
- 7th
Remained in reserve. Men bathed, etc.
- 8th
Moved up to trenches round HURRU. LIEUTS A. O. W. DLOFF, H. P. OLIMBERTS, J. A. WRIGHT, 2/LTS. W. HOWERT, I. G. COXHEAD, J. H. PYDNER, E. O. ERIOSON joined Battalion.
- 9th)
10th)
11th)
12th)
13th)
14th)
15th)
16th)
General training, cleaning up, re-organisation. Few H.V. shells fell about 500 yards from Battalion each day.

1918.

Appendix.September.

17th 10 p.m. Moved up and assembled in front of SPREY. Some gas shelling towards.

18th

Battalion attacked at dawn Very heavy H.G. fire, owing to SPREY not being mopped up by the troops in front. Alpine Corps fought hard for the village. Our casualties about 200 OR.

Officers killed in action.

LT J.A. WRIGHT, 2/Lt/s J. BENTON, M.O. BRICSON, W. KORTNER, S.G. HUGHES, Wounded. LT. H.V.R. PARKER, P.W. READING, 2/Lt/s P.L. WRIGHT, W.R. AXELL, H.O. GOODWIN.

LT A.O. WILSON 2/Lt/s A.J. LYONS H. SPREYER. The Battalion finally established positions E. of SPREY, on the railway bank, & remained under very heavy sniping & H.G. fire.

19th

LT A.O. WILSON died of wounds. Other troops passed through the Battalion, which remained on the railway bank, & was heavily shelled.

20th

Remained in same area. Slight shelling.

21st

Moved up & attacked positions in the neighbourhood of PYLE. Casualties about 30. 2/LT B. VAUGHAN KILLED in action. LT H. MCCRACKEN wounded. Heavy sniping & H.G. fire throughout the day.

22nd

Battalion remained in support to the Brigade. Fairly heavy shelling all day. LT H.F. OMBERTTS wounded.

23rd

Shelling heavier than before. Battalion remained in the same area. Battalion relieved part of the 6th B. Berkshire Regt when the front was reorganised 2/LT H. WRIGHT, A.O. SHILTON, A. GILBERT, R.H. PERCY, R.H. BOURNE, joined Battalion.

24th 11.30 am

Enemy attacked under heavy barrage at 11.30 a.m. & was driven off with heavy casualties. 2/LT W.E. LAWRENCE wounded early in the morning. Died of wounds later in the day.

WEST SUSSEX BATTALION OFFICE

1918.Appendix.September.

25th Relieved by 5th Northamptonshire Regt. fairly quiet.

26th Remained resting in old trenches about 1500 yards from the line. quiet day.

27th Took over front line again in the evening from 5th Northamptonshire Regt. 5th ILL fairly quiet.

28th Remained in the line. slight shelling. Nothing else of importance.

29th BIG attacks on our right by American & Australian troops. 37th Infantry Brigade passed through us. Artillery fire fairly heavy. 2 OR killed, 5 OR wounded.

30th quiet during the day. Relieved by 18th Division during the evening. Moved back to positions near GYEMONDRE, ready to embus next day.

A. J. THOMSON, Lieut. Col.
Commandg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex
Regt.

WEST SUSSEX
RSR MSN

27th (S) BATTALION THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

1918

APPENDIX

October

1st.

Embussed at SAUZICOURT and went via PERONNE to PROVANT. bivouacked on side of hill.

2nd.

Men bathed feet & rested. bivouacked at 2300 hours. Left at 2300 hours. Major BOWLEY to S.O.S. course.

3rd. 1300.

Arrived at A.C. Station and detained there. Marched to CHATEAU DU HAIR - installed in a Camp.

4th.

Remained in wood at HAIR - Reorganised - cleaned up. O.C. went out at short notice and reorganised line in front of VIEUX - enemy appeared likely to move.

5th.

Major OSBORNE returned - left CHATEAU DU HAIR at 4 pm. Moved by bus to cross road W. of TRIEUX - marched to a Battalion Hq near VIEUX. Battalion S.W. of HENRICOURT relieved 6th Straphirens. Situation very obscure - everyone trying to advance. Lieut BROWNING joined.

6th.

Line violated by Brig-General. Dispositions reconstructed. Situation of forward Coy still obscure. Front quiet.

7th.

Battalion Hq moved to 'G' Coy Hq - DORIS KEANE's trench. Forward company situation cleared up slightly. A Coy relieved D Coy. Barrage put down 1930 & 2130 hours - each for 20 minutes - otherwise front quiet. Lieut G.A. PHILIPPS went on leave.

8th/ 1930.
9th.

2100.

2/Lts BRADLEY & GIBSON joined. News that enemy was withdrawing and 8th DIV pushed on. Capt R.H. HORS from leave. Patrols pushed out found enemy gone. D Coy advanced to new positions. Lt B.H. G. CLARK O.C. 'G' Coy. B Coy passed through D Coy & took up new position. Relieved by 5th B. Berkshire Regt.

1918

APPENDIX

October

- 10th. Battalion in reserve. 5th R. Berkshire Regt in same position. Enemy still withdrawing rapidly. Battalion moved in afternoon to ACHERVILLE trenches.
- 11th. Battalion moved in afternoon & established in DRODCOURT-JULIANT line by 1900 hours.
Lieut Col. A. L. THOMSON RSO went on leave - Major G. F. O. BOURNE HQ took command. 2/Lt FERRIS admitted to Hospital.
- 13th. Major OSBORNE & Coy Commanders reconnoitred line. Battalion moved at 1500 hours. B. H. Q. at NOYRILL-BOUXY. Relief complete at 2300 hours. Heavy H.G. & T. R. fire from enemy on usual. Some shelling. 2/Lt GILBERT to VIII Corps Signal School.
- 14th. Canal found impassable - bridges cannot be built. Enemy shelled heavily all day. B. H. Q. forced to move to a pillbox.
- 15th. Day quiet. B Coy relieved 9th Coy. D Coy relieved 7th Coy. Capt. F. E. MARKE (QMI) from leave.
- 16th. Day quiet - arrangements made to cross canal. Repairs - stabilisation etc. etc. Lt. THOMAS & FRASER joined.
- 17th. 0230. Canal bridged & crossed by D Coy - no opposition. Advance continuous all day. B. H. Q. Sugar Factory & then RAINBACOURT. All quiet.
- 18th. Became reserve Battalion - many a Villains found in RAINBACOURT. Their first sight of British Soldiers.
- 19th. Moved to LA BOURGANE into billets with Transport. Lieut F. A. KEMP & 2/Lt G. H. HILL returned from leave - Capt R. O. D. HIND went on leave.
- 20th. 1530. Moved transport & stores to ORCHIES. Lieut B. H. C. CLARK to Hospital.
- 21st. 1500. Left ORCHIES & moved to LANDAS - in billets which we vacated at 2359 hours. Battalion B left at ORCHIES. Lieut FALST & 2/Lt LATHAM, BURGESS, BUTLER & CHAPMAN joined.

1918

APPENDIX

October

- 22nd. 0001. Moved with Battalion A to RUMBOGS. Rested a hud break-fast on side of road. Battalion A left at ROUTE Messes HOTELBUD. Moved to Support in vicinity of LINDINGS. Roads & bridges blown up at many places.
- 23rd. Moved to HIVERLE. B.H.Q. HORT DU FROY. 9th Coy crossed canal at HIVERLE, 9th Coy followed & a line is established N. of HAIRIE DE HIVERLE. 9th & 9th in billets W. of canal.
2/Lt THORNTON wounded in hand. W. H.Q. shelled & hit - moved.
- 24th. 1630. Barrage put down & efforts to entlade at 1700 by D & G Coys. Felled owing to heavy MG & Artillery fire. Lieut BRANSON re-joined. 2/Lt RHODES joined. Lt S I BURDETT from leave.
- 25th. 9th & 9th Coys reach LA HORTZ. 9th & 9th Coys, W. of canal in support, dug out at 2/Lt R.H. HONDE killed.
- 26th. 9th relieved 9th Coys. 9th & 9th unable to push forward to CHATEAU L'AMBALIS as country is flooded and enemy MGs command all roads. B.H.Q. moved to HAIRIE DE HIVERLE. 2/Lt BRADLEY died of wounds.
- 27th. 0200. 9th Coy took CHATEAU L'AMBALIS - 2 prisoners captured. No casualties. Capt R.S. KELLS wounded.
Relieved by 5th R. Berkshire Regt 2000 hours.
- 28th. 1600. Relieved by 7th Scottish Rifles - 52 Division. Arrived in billets at VAUX-COCHER.
- 29th. 0940. Moved off from COCHER. Arrived MONTREUIL 1400 hrs. 008 Con-ference 1030 hours.
- 30th. First day in rest billets - baths cleaning up. Lt Col A.L. THORNTON DSO returned from leave.
- 31st. Second day of cleaning up & re-organisation of Platoons, Coys, etc.

A.L. THORNTON, Lieut-Col.
Comd'g. 7th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

2th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918.

Appendix.

Korombert.

YILINS.

1st
to
9th

Training, inspections &c. -
Lt. ABRITZGER joined on 3.11.18.
Capt. Hind returned from leave
on 5th 11/18 - 2/14. JAVHANI
went to VIII Corps I.C. Course
on 7. 11/18.

10th

Moved to LANDAS starting 11.45
hrs arriving 13.45 hrs.

11th

Wire received that armistice
would commence 11 a.m.
11 a.m. Church Parade - Capt.
HILLS H.O. returned from
hospital - 2nd Lt COMHEAD to
I Army S.O.S.

12th

1st Camp to Eng. special leave -
Capt. Taylor H.O. rejoined.
3 Platoons A Coy. sent to
guard mined area ORCHIES - YILINS-
RACHS.

13th

Capt. HILLS H.O. on leave. -
Capt. PHILIP joined posted to
C.Coy. Training.

14th

Training. Army Commander

entered HQS 15.11.18 attended
witnessed by G.O. & a few men. -
Capt. HICKITT returned from
hospital 19.11.18 - Lt. MARGARY
rejoined 23.11.18.

25th

Moved to HORNING. Starting
09.00 hrs arriving 15.00 hrs.

26th

Setting into billets & Training.
saying etc. - 2/Lt. GILBERT
rejoined from Signalling course
26.11.18. Lt. BLUNDEN H.C.
joined Bn.

30th

A.L. THOMPSON, Lt. Col.
Commandg. 7th Bn. R. Sussex Regt.

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1918

Appendix.

December IN THE FIELD.

1st	Dispositions unchanged.
2nd	do.
3rd	do.
4th	do.
5th	do.
6th	do.
7th	do.
8th	do.
9th	do.
10th	Battalion practice ceremonial parade for inspection by G.O.C. 12th Division.
11th	Brigade practice ceremonial parade for inspection by G.O.C. 12th Division.
12th	Dispositions unchanged.
13th	do.
14th	do.
15th	do.
16th	do.
17th	do.
18th	do.
19th	Inspection by G.O.C. 12th Division.
19th-	Dispositions unchanged.
28th	
29th-	Bath proceeded about 12 kilo-
31st	metres to BOUCHAIN to salvage that area. Wet throughout this period.

A. L. THORSON,
Lt. Col.
Commanding 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix.

January.

"IN THE FIELD" HOURLING.

Major H.S. Rowley M.C. rejoined.

Situation Unchanged.

1st	"	"	"
2nd	"	"	"
3rd	"	"	"
4th	"	"	"
5th	"	"	"
6th	"	"	"
7th	"	"	"
8th	"	"	"
9th	"	"	"
10th	"	"	"
11th	"	"	"
12th	"	"	"
13th	"	"	"
14th	"	"	"
15th	"	"	"
16th	"	"	"
17th	"	"	"
18th	"	"	"
19th	"	"	"
20th	"	"	"
21st	"	"	"
22nd	"	"	"
23rd	"	"	"
24th	"	"	"
25th	"	"	"
26th	"	"	"
27th	"	"	"
28th	"	"	"
29th	"	"	"

KINGS COLOUR drawn from SOMAHE by
Lt. KENNEDY.

Situation Unchanged.

G.O.C. Inspected Battalion billets.

Practice parade for Colour
Presentation.

Situation Unchanged.

1919.January.

29th

Situation Unchanged.

30th

" "

31st

Practice Parade for Conservation
of Colours.

A. I. SHINGOR

Lieut. Col.
Commanding 7th Bn Royal Sussex Reg't.WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11
Appendix

1919.

February.

28th

Examination for Army Class at
SOMMERS.

H.S. BOHLEY

Major

Commandg 7th Royal Fusilier Reg't.

April.

7TH BATTALION ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix.

March.

MOVING.

1st	Situation unchanged.
2nd	Draft of 4 Officers & 115 O. Rank proceeded to join 1/4th Batten Royal Sussex Regt.
3rd	Batten concentrated into composite Company.
4th	Situation unchanged.
5th	" "
6th	" "
7th	" "
8th	" "
9th	" "
10th	" "
11th	" "

VILLERS CAMPBELL.

12th	Batten moved to VILLERS CAMPBELL less transport.
13th	Situation unchanged.
14th	Transport of Batten established at VILLERS CAMPBELL.
15th	Situation unchanged.
16th	" "
17th	" "
18th	" "
19th	" "
20th	" "
21st	" "
22nd	" "
23rd	" "
24th	" "
25th	" "

1919.

Appendix.March.

26th	Situati on Unbeuged.	
27th	"	"
28th	"	"
29th	"	"
30th	"	"
31st	"	"

A.L. F. BAKER Mont. Colonel.
Command. 7th Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

Appendix.1919.April.

	Situation Unchanged.
26th	" "
27th	" "
28th	" "
29th	" "
30th	" "

G. J. OSBORN, Major,
Commande, 7th Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

1919.

Appendix.

April.

VILLERS CAMPBELL.

1st	Situation Unchanged.
2nd	" "
3rd	" "
4th	Draft of 1 Offr. & 15 O.Rs. proceeded to join 1/4th Bctn. Royal Sussex Regt.
5th	Situation Unchanged.
6th	" "
7th	" "
8th	" "
9th	" "
10th	" "
11th	" "
12th	" "
13th	" "
14th	" "
15th	" "
16th	" "
17th	" "
18th	" "
19th	" "
20th	" "
21st	" "
22nd	" "
23rd	" "
24th	" "
25th	" "

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

<u>1910</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>VILLIERS CAMPBELL.</u>
1st		Station unchanged.
2nd		"
3rd		"
4th		"
6th		"
6th		"
7th		"
8th		"
9th		"
10th		"
11th		"
12th		"
13th		"
14th		"
15th		"
16th		"
17th		"
18th		"
19th		"
20th		"
21st		"
22nd		"
23rd		"
24th		"
25th		"
26th		"
27th		"
28th		"
29th		"
30th		"
31st		"

G. H. HILL, Capt.
Comd'g. 7th Batta. Royal Sussex Regt.

D.A.G.,

British Troops in France & Flanders.

Herewith War Diary of 7th Bn. Royal Sussex
Regiment (Cante) made up to and including 16th
June 1919.

W.H. SMILL,
for Colonel
Comdgr. 12th Division, Brigade Group.

19.6.19.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 11

7th BATTALION, ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT.

Appendix.

1919

June

VILLERS CAMPEAU.

1st	Situation unchanged.
2nd	" "
3rd	" "
4th	" "
5th	" "
6th	" "

7th Transport paraded at SOEVAIR STATION.

8th Cadre entrained at 19,00 hrs.

DUNKIRK.

9th Cadre arrived DUNKIRK 1200 hrs.

Situation unchanged.

10th	" "
11th	" "
12th	" "
13th	" "
14th	" "
15th	" "
16th	Cadre embarked for England.

G. F. OSBORNE,
Major,
Commandg. 7th Bn. Royal Sussex Regt.

WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE
RSR MS 7/11