

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MONCHY.	1918. Sept. 1st.		At noon the Commanding Officer attended a Conference at Bde. H.Qrs. to discuss plans for Assault on DROCOURT-QUEANT Line. The Bn. had now a strength of approximately 300, 2 Officers, and 10 Other Ranks joining during the day. At 11.45 p.m. the Bn. marched off to a position of Assembly in P.13. Central, guides having previously reconnoitred the route.	See Appendix I
ETERFIGNY.		2nd.	The march to Assembly Area was completed without incident, the Bn. arriving in position about 2.30 a.m. The Bn. proceeded to dig in. At intervals up to Zero Hour several heavy shells fell in the Assembly Area and over 20 Casualties were sustained. 2/Lt. A.H.N. Wright was killed and Lt. F.J. Clark was wounded. Zero hour was at 5 a.m. and at 5.30 a.m. the Bn. moved in Artillery formation as far as the first German Trench where a halt for about one hour was made. The advance was then continued to the 2nd German line where another halt was made. A certain amount of hostile shelling was encountered here. About 7.20 a.m. the advance to the RED LINE was continued the direction being such as to bring the left of the Bn. on the Junction of the RED and GREEN LINES. The Bn. now came under heavy M.G. fire from vicinity of PROSPECT FARM and the advance was temporarily held up, the fire being very strong and the wire very thick. It was quite evident that PROSPECT FARM and the ground east of it had not been cleared by the 12th Brigade. By moving under such cover as the ground afforded towards the right, and by advancing by rushes, the leading Coys. entered the DROCOURT-QUEANT LINE at P.16 b.7.5. at 8 a.m. This trench was clear of the enemy but M.G. fire was very persistent from the left flank. The greater part of the Bn. in co-operation with the HAMPSHIRE REGT. then advanced with object of enveloping the enemy in and to East of PROSPECT FARM. The advanced troops now came under heavy fire from their front and right front as well as from the left, and it was obvious that the RED LINE had not been captured. It was not possible to get beyond the DROCOURT-QUEANT Support with the left about P.16.a.3.8. where elements of the 12th Bde. were found. The left flank was quite in the air and as there was considerable movement of the enemy among the hedges and banks of PROSPECT FARM it seemed possible that the enemy was contemplating a counter-attack. A mixed party of the Bn. and the HAMPSHIRE REGT. was sent up the trench to the North to secure the left flank and 2 platoons of the 2nd SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS moved over the open in a further attempt to clear this area of the enemy. The enemy M.G. Fire continued strong and little progress could be made and finally a Block was made in the trench about P.9.d.7.3. At 10.30 a.m. a party of the King's Own arrived and took over this block. During these attempts to clear the left flank the Adjutant, Capt. E. Paul, M.C., D.C.M. was mortally wounded. The Bn. was then re-organized and consolidated the trench from about P.9.d.7.1. to P.15.b.7.4. with advanced	See P.P.V. 3

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1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PROSPECT FARM.	1918. Sept. 2nd.		troops in and about the DROCOURT-QUEANT Support. As soon as it was dark 2 Companies formed a Support Line by digging Posts in DROCOURT-QUEANT Support line at P.6.a.3.8. to P.9.d.75.10. with 2 Coys. from P.15.b.7.5. to P.9.d.7.0. Capt. C.W. Hall M.C. and 2/Lt. J. Measures were wounded during the day.	
"	3rd.		<p>During the night orders were received that at 5.30 a.m. on the 3rd another attack was to be made and the advance continued to the BLUE LINE. A minute or two before Zero word was received that these orders were cancelled and it was just possible to stop the attack. Before this was done the Coys. had deployed and moved forward to get parallel to their objectives. The men were extremely exhausted but the manner in which they formed up showed wonderful spirit and endurance. About 5.30 a.m. as the enemy appeared extremely quiet a small patrol was collected and a reconnaissance of the enemy portion of the DROCOURT-QUEANT Support Line was made by the Commanding Officer and Capt. Lester, M.C., the Bde. Major. The enemy was found to have evacuated this line. Our guns were informed and then 2 strong patrols were pushed forward to secure ridge on each of house at P.10.a.3.9. 2 Coys. were then sent forward to secure the forward slope of ridge while the other 2 Coys. were pushed forward in Support. By 7 a.m. the ridge was definitely secured.</p> <p>O.C. 1st Hampshire Regt. placed 2 Coys. at the C.O.'s. disposal and these passed through the Battalion and advanced on L'EGLUSE whilst the 1st Rifle Bde. co-operated with the advance, by moving in the direction of RECOURT WOOD. Meanwhile Capt. Lester and Lieut. S.J. Dickinson pushed forward towards L'EGLUSE capturing some Germans on some the slopes outside the village. These 2 Officers then pushed on alone into the village where another party of Germans who had been left behind as a rearguard surrendered. During the day the Battalion continued to hold the forward slopes of the ridge from P.4.b.8.8., P.5.a.2.1., P.5.e.4.3. to P.11.a.1.8., touch being established on the left with the Essex Regt., who were holding trrenched in P.4.a., facing East. The force forward of the Battalion was disposed to command the crossings of the river. During the night the 2nd Bn. K.R.R.C., 1st Division took over the crossings of the river and troops of the 11th Bde. withdrew to the area in O.8., near MONCHY.</p>	<p>See Appn. 3</p>
MONCHY.	4th.		<p>The Battalion had breakfasts in O.8. and then rested until 1 p.m. when it marched off to an embussing point near TILLOY. Before embussing, the Battalion was addressed by the B.C.C., 11th Infy. Bde. and congratulated on the work accomplished. The Battalion embussed at 4 p.m. and was conveyed by way of the ARRAS-ST. POL ROAD to billets at CAMBLIGNEUL. The casualties incurred by the Battalion from 28-8-18 to 4-9-18 were 15 Officers (4 at Duty), and 313 O.R.</p>	<p>See Appn. 3</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			
SAMBELIG- NEUL.	Sept.		Fine day. Devoted to rest, checking stores and equipment, etc.	
	5th.		Fine. No parades carried out. G.O.C. 4th Division visited officers of Bn. in the morning.	
	6th.		Fine. Coys. at disposal of O's. C. Coys. for re-organization, fitting, etc. Lt. General Braithwaite, K.C.B. and Lt. General Hunter-Weston K.C.B., D.S.O., visited the Bn. in the evening.	
	7th.		Batta. paraded for Divine Service in the morning. Company football matches played in the afternoon.	
	8th.		Training commenced. Specialists classes started also. Football in the afternoon.	
	9th.		Wet. Parades as for Monday, (9th). Capt. E. Paul M.C., D.C.M. died of Wounds at 10.30 a.m. Batta. played 19th Lanes. Fusiliers and lost 2-0.	
	10th.		Parades as for 9th. Funeral of Capt. E. Paul M.C., D.C.M. took place at AUBIGNY Cemetery at 3 p.m. Bn. found firing party. Follies performed in the village Y.M.C.A. hut at night. Draft of 47 O.R. joined the Batta.	
	11th.		Wet. Light and C. Coys. on range. Specialists' Classes. Platoon training started.	
	12th.		A. and B. Coys. on the range. Remainder Artillery Formations and deployments. Attack on Strong Point Etc. Bn. Headqrs., Lt. and C. Coys. bathed in afternoon.	
	13th.		Light and C. Coys. on the range. A. and B. Coys. Artillery Formations and deployments, etc. A. and B. Coys. bathed in the afternoon. 4th Divisional Band played in the village square in the afternoon.	
	14th.		Bn. paraded for Divine Service in the morning. Coy. football matches took place in the afternoon. Capt. Collins M.C., Divn. Educational Officer gave a lecture to the Bn. at 5 p.m. in Y.M.C.A. Hut on "The Military Situation".	
	15th.			

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CAMBLEG-NEUL.	1918.			
	sept.			
	16th.		Fine. A. Coy. on the Range. Remainder Company and platoon attacks and deployments. First Round Association Football League played off.	
	17th.		Fine. Coys. in the attack. Battn. Attack in the morning. War Savings Lottery organized and results issued. 2nd Round Football League started.	
	18th.		Battn. carried out a Practice Attack during the morning. The Corps Commander. (Lt. General Sir Almyr Hunter-Weston, K.C.B., D.S.O.), visited Battn. on parade. Interviewed a number of other ranks who served with him when he commanded the 11th Bde., 1914-15.	
	0.7.d.	19th.	Battn. moved up into Forward Area. Paraded at 6.45 a.m. and marched to MONGOVAL where the Bn. embussed. Battn. debussed near FEUCHY-CHAPEL Cross Roads (Ref. Sht. 51B.), and remained in Area N.5.a. (Sht. 51. B.S.W.), until 2.20 p.m. Dinners were issued in this area. Battn. then moved into Brigade Reserve in Area O.2.c. and d. where they relieved 6th Bn. Lincoln Regt. (33rd Bde., 11th Divn.). Relief complete by 4.15 p.m. Very comfortable shelters. Quiet night, no shelling. Details to ST. AUBIN.	See App. 4. See App. 5.
	1.4.			
	(Sht. 51 B.S.W.)			
20th.		Stormy. All Officers reconnoitred routes forward during the day. Box Respirator and Lewis Gun Drill. Rifle Grenadiers practised during the day. 3 low-flying enemy aeroplanes came over about 3 p.m. Driven back at once by A.A. and M.G. Fire.		
21st.		Stormy. Training continued as per 20th inst. Commanding Officer, (Lt. Colonel V.H.B. Majendie), who stayed at Details for the tour, visited the Battn. in the afternoon.		
22nd.		Stormy. Training continued. G. Coy. fired on an improvised range. Very heavy rain during afternoon and evening. Coys. collected a large amount of salvage. A rifle range was completed during the day.		
23rd.		Wet in morning. Very fine during remainder of day. Firing continued on range. Some salvaging also done. Coys. carried out Drill and Platoon Training.		

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0.7.d. 1.4. (Sht. 51 B.S. .)	Sept. 24th.		Fine. Platoon Training carried out in the morning. Batta. relieved in afternoon by 2nd Essex Regt., the Bde. moving back into Divisional Reserve. Relief complete by 3.45 p.m. Batta. moved back into Area H.34. a, b, and d. (Sht. 5. B.N.W.) Lot of work required to be done on bivouacs, etc.	See APP. 6
ORANGE HILL.	25th.		Fine. Platoon training continued, also work on bivouacs. C.O. attended Conference at Bde. H.Q. in the afternoon. Draft of 136 O.R. joined Bn. in the evening. Capt. L.A. Osborne, M.C., D.S.O., M.C. rejoined from Hospital.	
	26th.		Fine and cold. Platoon training continued. Platoons in the attack against Strong Points etc. All officers reconnoitred the Forward Area in the afternoon.	
	27th.		Fine. Platoon and Company in the attack. Working Party of 4 Officers and 200 O.R. was found at night. Loading 18 Pounder Shells. Batta. warned to be ready to move forward at one hour's notice after 6 p.m.	See APP. 7
	28th.		Fine in morning. Later in day stormy. Batta. in readiness to move forward. Orders received to move at an hour's notice. Later orders cancelled.	
NORTH of ECOURT St. QUENTIN adv. HQ at Q.14 d. 8.9 Rear HQ at Q.13 c. 1.9 Sheet 51 B.	29th.		Fine. Voluntary Church Services held in the morning. Batta. moved into the front line at night, on right of 10th Bde., thus extending 10th Bde. front. Proceeded by bus as far as VIS-EN-ARTOIS. Then marched up to line. A. Coy. relieved A. Coy., 1st London Regt., right front Coy. B. Coy. relieved C. Coy., 2nd Seaforth Highrs., left front Coy. G. Coy. relieved A. Coy., 8th Middlesex Regt., right Support Coy. Light Coy. relieved A. Coy., London Regt., left Support Coy. Very dark wet night. Relief complete by 1.45 a.m. 30th. Batta. under Command of B.G.C., 10th Bde. No Casualties. Very quiet.	See APP. 8
Right of Bn. 1000 yds SW of PALLUEL	30th.		Fine. Very quiet Day. B.G.C. 10th Bde. visited Batta. in the morning. Remdr. of Bde. relieved 10th Bde. at night. Batta. under its own B.G.C. A little Gas shelling in neighbourhood of Bn. H.Q.	
			<i>Lt. Colonel,</i> commanding 1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.	

1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

LIST OF APPENDICES ATTACHED TO WAR DIARY, SEPTEMBER, 1918.

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<u>Ref. Number</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
1.	Operation Order No. 21.
2.	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Situation Map, FAREBURY.
3.	Account of Operations 31-8-1 to 4-9-18.
4.	Operation Order No. 22.
5.	Disposition Map, O.2.c.&d., O.3.a.&b. (Ref. Sht. 51B., S.W.)
6.	Operation Order No. 23.
7.	Operation Order No. 24.
8.	Operation Order No. 25.
9.	Addendum to Operation No. 25.
10.	Summary of Casualties, Reinforcements, etc.

1-10-18.

Arthur John Major

Jn. Lt. Colonel,
Commanding 1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

Operation Order No 21

1-9-18

by Lieut Col V H B Meyrick D.S.O. Comd^y 1st Somerset L.I.

1

- 1 Tomorrow at a time to be notified later the enemy's position opposite our front will be attacked, with the object of breaking the DROCOURT-QUEANT line, & progressing beyond.
- 2 4th (British) Div will attack on left of 4th Canadian Div. 11th Div will form defensive flank on left of 4th (British) Div.
- 3 There are 3 objectives which concern us:-
 - 1st Red Line
 - 2nd Green Line
 - 3rd Blue Line
- 4 12th British Infy Bde will capture the Red Line.
- 5 11th British Infy Bde will pass through the leading Bde & advance to the Green & Blue Lines.
- 6 12th Infy Bde (British) will form up on the yellow line
- 7 11th British Infy Bde, plus Seaforth Highlanders will assemble east of the SENSEE River in the area from wood just north of P.13 Central to road at P.13C 40. Som L.I. will be on the left, Hampshire in the Centre, R.B. on the right, Seaforths in rear of R.B. The Batts will have a frontage of about 200 x from the wood. It will assemble on a 2 Coy front, Light & B in front, Light on the Right, A & C in support, A on the right.
- 8 The following route will be followed S.P. Junction of STIRRUP & SADDLE HANE. STIRRUP HANE - Rail Way - BOIRY HANE. Guards & 1st platoon and 1st Co R. Head Co. already sent forward under Lt Blk Lewis will meet the Batts at the junction of BOIRY and HONA HANES and will guide the Batts to the assembly area. Order of March: B Light C. A Coy R.H.C.

8 Contd

2

The leading platoon of B Coy will pass the Starting Point at 11.45 pm tonight. Platoons will march at 150 yds interval.

9 Heavy guns and magazines will be placed on the Ration Dump at 600m in charge of 1 man per gun. These will be taken forward by ladders to junction of BAIRY & HONG HONGS when they will pick them up. The men with the guns will sort them out and have them ready to issue to platoons as they arrive.

10 at Leo Bath will march forward in the same formation as assembled on the yellow line. A 12" Bde being taken not to get mixed up with the 12" Bde.

11 at Leo plus 3 hours the Bath will pass the Red Line, if further orders are not issued Bath will leave the yellow line at Leo plus 2 hours.

12 a protective barrage in front of the Red line will lift at Leo plus 3 hours.

13 On advancing from the yellow line the Bath will advance with its left on the S edge of ETERRIGNY and when clear of the village will turn NE. B Coy will march on the Eastern corner of the Wood in P 9 B. Companies Bearing of 60% true.

Light Coy on the trench in P 6 C
Companies Bearing of 64% true

A & C Coys will follow in rear of the leading Coys and support them in every way.

14 B Coy will make good the Sunken Rd on the ridge in P 4 d near the green line. Light Coy will establish themselves about the trenches in P 6 C.

15
 as the advance proceeds to the Blue line
 B Coy will move along and clear the
 trench running through P 4 D + B
 Light Coy will advance on Le-Chasse Wood
 helping the Hampshire Regt to clear
 Le-Chasse if necessary. When the Blue
 line is reached all the crossings on the
 SENSÉE will be commanded by fire
 Throughout the advance the Support
 Coys will be prepared to fill any
 gaps between the leading Coys and
 assist them if they are held up

16
 In the assembly area Batt Head Co will
 be about P 13 Central. When the Batt
 has passed the Red line Batt N O
 will move to Trench Junction P 10 C
 & H as the advance moves forward
 to the Blue line Batt N O will
 move to the bend in the Road
 P 5 A to 45. Frequent messages are
 of the utmost importance

17
 If the 12" Btl Inf Bde are held up the
 11" Btl Inf Bde will be prepared to
 assist them in capturing the Red line
 subsequently pushing on to the original
 objectives. Such help will not be
 given until all the supports of
 the 12" Bde have been used. Orders
 to assist the 12" Bde if necessary will
 come from Batt Head Coys

18
 all ranks will be warned that
 German Dig Out may be mined

19
 The equivalent of a platoon of C Coy
 less Lewis Guns (about 30 men) under
 an officer will report to the 1st Bn
 of 4 Corps who are taking over

H

19 Contd

front led by the 12th Inf Bde from the junction
of SENSEE and COJEUH RIVER to P 8 006
and will come under orders of senior officer
of H⁴ M B Y Corps. This party will march
off at 7-45 PM or as soon as possible, proceed
along LONGHANE and cross COJEUH RIVER
near SW corner of Galley Wood.

20

Every endeavour will be made to
establish direct communication

Issued at 7.30 PM
1-9-18

Paul Capt
adj. Somerset

ACCOUNT OF OPERATIONS FROM '1-8-18 to' -9-18. 3.

1. The day of the 1st passed without incident, though there was considerable hostile shelling, chiefly in rear of our positions on the SENSEE Valley.

After dark information was received that the Battalion was to be relieved by the King's Own.

The relief was considerably interfered with by heavy shelling with H.E. and gas on the SENSEE Valley, but was completed by dawn on September 1st.

The Battalion marched back and was accommodated in trenches in the vicinity of SPADE Trench.

The men were very exhausted on arrival.

Two Officers and 10 Other Ranks came up to join the Battn.; which now numbered approximately 700 all told.

2. At 11-40 p.m. on the 1st, the Battalion marched off to a position in Assembly about P.17 central, guides having been previously sent on to reconnoitre the route. The Battn. arrived in position at 2-30 a.m. and proceeded to dig in. At about once a heavy burst of shelling took place which caused about 20 casualties.

Up till Zero there was a considerable amount of shelling; after Zero it was not quite as heavy as might have been expected.

3. At Zero plus 30 (5-30 a.m.) the Battalion advanced in Artillery formation as far as the first German trench, where a halt was made for about an hour.

The advance was then continued to the second German line, where another halt was made. In this position a certain amount of shelling was encountered.

At about 7-20 a.m. the advance to the Red Line was continued, the direction being such as to bring the Left of the Battn. on the junction of the Red and Green Lines.

The Battalion now came under Machine Gun fire from the direction of PROSPECT FARM and was temporarily hung up,

particularly as the wire just here was very strong. It was clear that the 12th. Brigade had kept too far to the South and had not cleared PROSPECT FARM and the ground to the East of it.

By moving further to the Right, taking what cover was afforded by the ground, and advancing by rushes, the leading Companies entered the main DROCOURT-QUEANT Line about P.16.b.75. at 8 a.m. This trench was clear of the enemy, but persistent fire was coming from the Left flank.

The greater part of the Battalion in co-operation with the Hampshires on the Right then advanced due East with the intention of enveloping the enemy in and to the East of PROSPECT FARM. In addition to fire from their Left and Left rear they also came under Machine Gun fire from their front and right front, and it was clear that the Red Line had not been captured. They could not get beyond the DROCOURT-QUEANT Support Line with their Left about P.16.a.3.8., where elements of the 12th Brigade were found: here they stayed for the remainder of the day under close fire.

It now was evident that our left was quite in the air, and as there was considerable movement of the enemy among the hedges and banks East of PROSPECT FARM, a counter-attack did not appear improbable.

Accordingly a mixed party composed of men of the Battalion and the Hampshires was sent up the trench to the North to secure the Left flank, while two platoons borrowed from the Seaforths advanced North over the open in the attempt to clear the locality of the enemy. Little progress however could be made, though a few prisoners were taken, and finally the situation remained with the trench blocked about P.9.d.7.7.

During the day a good number of Germans dribbled up until there were about 200 in and about the trench P.9.d.2.8. to P.9.b.7.0. For the remainder of the day the enemy kept up a harassing fire from the Left flank, and all movement in the open drew fire.

During the morning about 10-30 a.m. a party of the King's Own arrived, who stated that they were responsible for blocking the

main

2.

main DROCOURT-QUEANT Trench and they took over the block established by us.

The Battalion was re-organized, and consolidated the trench from about P.9.d.7.1. to P.15.b.7.4. with advanced troops in and about DROCOURT-QUEANT Support line.

As soon as it was dusk, two Companies formed an outpost line by digging posts from DROCOURT-QUEANT Support line at P.16.a.7.8. to P.9.d.7.5.10., with two Coys. from P.15.b.7.5. to P.9.d.7.0.

The men were now so exhausted that it was difficult to keep them awake.

During the day practically all the opposition encountered came from the left flank. In addition to the 12th. Brigade having gone too far to the South from their left boundary during the attack on the DROCOURT-QUEANT Line, at 8 a.m. as far as could be seen no attack was made by them towards the North in the direction of ST-ING, with the result that the left flank of the 11th. Brigade was continuously exposed.

The Tanks in the neighbourhood of the DROCOURT-QUEANT Line were asked, but without success, to clear up the situation around PROSPECT BERM: at 8 a.m. Wippets would have been invaluable for doing this.

It further appears that the chances of capturing the Blue line would have been greater if the 11th Brigade could have passed through the 12th Brigade immediately the 12th. Brigade had captured the DROCOURT-QUEANT Line, and there had been no protective barrage.

The Germans at the time were certainly badly shaken, but the pause enabled them to rally and bring up more men.

4. During the night orders were received that at 5 a.m. on the 3rd. another attack was to be made and the advance continued to the Blue line.

A minute or two before zero word was received that these orders were cancelled and it was possible to stop the attack.

However before zero the Companies had deployed and moved forward to get parallel to their objectives. In view of the physical exhaustion of the men, the way in which they moved out to the attack was wonderful, and a definite proof of the extraordinary spirit and endurance of the British Soldier.

5. At about 5-30 a.m. on the 3rd. as the enemy seemed extremely quiet, a small patrol was collected and reconnaissance on the enemy's part of the DROCOURT-QUEANT Support line was made by Capt. Lester, M.C. and myself. It was found to be clear of the enemy. Our guns at the time were shelling the house at P.10.a.7.9., which delayed our advance for a little. Information was sent back and the shelling ceased.

I then pushed forward two strong patrols to secure the ridge on each side of the house at P.10.a.7.9. : Capt. Lester moved forward with these patrols, while I returned to make arrangements for following up the enemy.

Two Companies were sent forward at once to secure the forward slope of the ridge, while the other two Companies were pushed forward to support them.

By 7 a.m. the ridge was definitely secured.

O/C 1st Hampshire Regt. kindly put two Coys. at my disposal. These were ordered to pass through my battalion one on each side of the house at P.10.a.7.9., and to advance on L'ECLUSE endeavouring to secure the Blue line, special attention being paid to the crossing over the River.

These Coys. moved out at 7-40 a.m.

Messages were sent to the 1st Rifle Brigade, asking them to co-operate in the advance, in the direction of RECOURT WOOD : this Battalion moved forward at 7-40 a.m.

Messages were also sent to the 12th Brigade on the Left, and the nearest Canadian Battalion on the Right, informing them of the situation and asking them to co-operate.

In the meantime Capt. Lester and Lieut. S.J. Dickinson pushed forward toward L'ECLUSE, capturing some Germans on the slopes covering the Village : these were sent back by a small escort, and these two Officers pushed on alone into L'ECLUSE, where more
Germans

6. Germans were captured, who had been left behind as a rearguard. In this they received some assistance from two Artillery Officers who soon after arrived on the scene. These two Officers between them captured 25 Germans, cleared L'ECLUSE of the enemy rear party, and definitely established the fact that the enemy had retired across the SENSEE River. Their action enabled the enemy to be followed up very rapidly, and the reports sent in by Capt. Lester were of the greatest value.

As the advance passed over the ridge, considerable hostile shelling took place coming from batteries on the North of the River. Lower down the slopes Machine Gun fire was also encountered from across the River.

The two Companies of the Hampshire Regt. on reaching L'ECLUSE Village and wood found it impossible to establish themselves on the BLUE LINE owing to the heavy Machine Gun fire from across the River.

Accordingly posts were established covering with fire the crossings of the river, while the remainder of the Companies were disposed under cover in the Southern part of L'ECLUSE village and wood. At this time all movement in the open drew heavy shell fire from the North.

One Company of the Hampshires was responsible for the crossings from P.33.d.8.9. inclusive to L'ECLUSE-TORTEQUEENNE Road exclusive.

The other Company held from the L'ECLUSE-TORTEQUEENNE Road inclusive to Q.1.a.2.

Touch was established with the 1st Rifle Brigade who were holding the Sunken Road in P.6.d. and P.12.b.

The force under my Command was now disposed as follows:-
2 Coys. of Hampshire Regt. as stated above.

Somerset L.I. with 4 Machine Guns holding the forward slopes of the ridge from P.4.b.8.8., P.7.a.2.1., P.7.c.4.7. to P.11.a.1.8.

Touch was established on the left with the Essex Regts. who were holding the trenches in P.4.a. facing East.

During the afternoon one Company was sent up to L'ECLUSE, but was shortly afterwards withdrawn. */of the Seapaths*

At dusk the posts commanding the crossings of the River moved forward and dug in close in front of the crossings.

The remainder of the two Coys. of the Hampshires dug a line of posts on the slopes about 300 yards South West and South of L'ECLUSE Wood and Village from about P.5.b.9.8. to P.6.d.1.9.

7. During the night the 2nd. K.R.R.C., 1st Division took over the crossings of the River, and the troops of the 11th Brigade withdrew to Q.2.

The relief was complete just before dawn.

8. The casualties incurred by my Battalion from 28-8-18 to 4-9-18 were 15 Officers (4 at duty) and 317 Other Ranks.

Lieut.-Colonel,

Commanding 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

SECRET

OPERATION ORDER NO. 22.

Lt.-Col. V.H.B. Majendie, D.S.O. by 18-9-18. 4
Comdg. 1st Bn. Somerset Lt. Infantry.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Reference Sheets 51B. N.W., I/20,000 and 51B. S.W., I/20,000.

1. The 11th. Infantry Brigade will relieve 33rd. Inftry. Bde. in the line on 19th/ 20th.
2. The Battalion will relieve 6th Lincolns in Reserve and will be disposed about O.2.c. & d., and O.8.a.
3. The Battalion will proceed by Motor Lorries to the forward area as follows:-
Embussing point - CAUCOURT-MINGOVAL Road. Head of column Northern entrance to MINGOVAL facing South.
Order of March - Bn. H.Q., "Light", "C", "B", and "A" Companies.
Time of Start - 6-40 a.m.
Starting Point - 200 yards West of Chateau.
Route - VILLERS CHATEL-MINGOVAL.
Dress - Marching Order. Picks and Shovels will not be carried, but will be dumped at the Quartermaster's Stores at 6-15 a.m. tomorrow.
4. RATIONS. The unexpired portion of the day's rations for 19th Inst., and rations for consumption 20th. Inst. will be carried on the man.
5. The debussing point will be on the FEUCHY-FEUCHY CHAPEL Road in square H.28.
6. Lieut. H.V. Berry will report to Major P.H. Hudson, 1st Hampshire Regt, at the embussing point at 7-15 a.m. This Officer will report to the Adjutant tonight to obtain the embussing strength of the Battalion.
7. On debussing the Battalion will move to the area North of HILT LANE, N.5.a., where dinners will be issued. Route - FEUCHY CHAPEL cross roads - SWORD LANE. 200 yards interval will be maintained between platoons.
8. On debussing 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. per Company will immediately proceed to Bn. H.Q., 6th. Lincolns, at O.2.d.1.4. to take over accommodation, stores, etc. Companies will relieve their opposite numbers and the exact dispositions of 6th Lincolns will be taken over.
9. The Relief will be carried out during the afternoon.
Guides, ~~two~~ per Coy. and 2 per Bn. H.Q. will be at Road junction, O.7.b.4.9. at 3 p.m. Companies will march off in the following order - "Light", "B", "A", and "C" Coys., Bn. H.Q.
"Light" Coy. will move off at 2-20 p.m. 200 yards interval will be maintained between platoons.
10. All ammunition, trench stores, etc., will be taken over and receipts given, copy of receipts to be handed in to Bn. H.Q. by 12 noon 20th. Inst.
11. Battalion Headquarters will be located at O.2.d.1.4.
12. Officers' Valises will be dumped at Officers' Mess at 6 a.m.
Officers' Trench Kits will be rolled and clearly labelled and dumped with the valises at 6 a.m. These kits will be sent up in the evening.
Kits belonging to Officers proceeding to the Details will be dumped at the Quartermaster's Stores at 6-45 a.m. Two servants will proceed with these kits.
13. The Transport Officer will arrange to send 1 Cooker and 1 Limber G.S. to 4th. Divisional Reception Camp for permanent duty, also one Water Cart, together with two Water Cart men to the Details. This Cooker will not proceed until the personnel proceeding to the Details Camp have had their dinners.
14. The remaining Cookers and Water Carts and Lewis Gun Limbers will move off to the area North of HILT LANE, N.5.a. at 6-45 a.m.
15. The remainder of the Transport will move off to area, H.19.b.
Starting Point - CAMBLAIN L'ABBE, W.22.a.9.0. Time of start - 9 a.m.
The Brigade Transport Officer will be in command.
16. The Details under command of Capt. R.C. Strachey will march to ST AUBIN. They will be formed up at Cross roads, W.14.d.7.5 (ref Sheet 44B) in column of route at 3 p.m. A lorry will be at the starting point at 3 p.m. to convey mens packs to billets.
Major P.H. Hudson, 1st Hampshire Regt., will be in charge of 11th. Brigade Details and will proceed ahead to arrange billets/-

2.
 billets. One Cook each of "A" and "C" Coys. will proceed with the details.

17. No. 36 Rifle Grenade Dischargers will be taken onto the line. All No. 23 Rifle Grenade Cups will be put in sand-bags, labelled with the name of the Coy and handed in to the Quartermaster's Stores at 6 a.m.

18. MEDICAL. Relay posts are located as under:-

I.34.c.1.1. I.27.d.4.4. O.2.c.4.4. O.1.a.6.2.
 O.9.a.3.9.

Car loading post at O.4.c.8.3.

The Advanced Dressing Station is at O.4.c.o.8.

The Main Dressing Station is at the Deaf and Dumb Institute, RUE DE PORTEURS, ARRAS.

19. S.O.S. Signal is a rocket bursting into three red lights.

20. Completion of Relief will be reported to Bn. H.Q. by Runner.

21. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith, Lieutenant,

A/Adjutant, 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

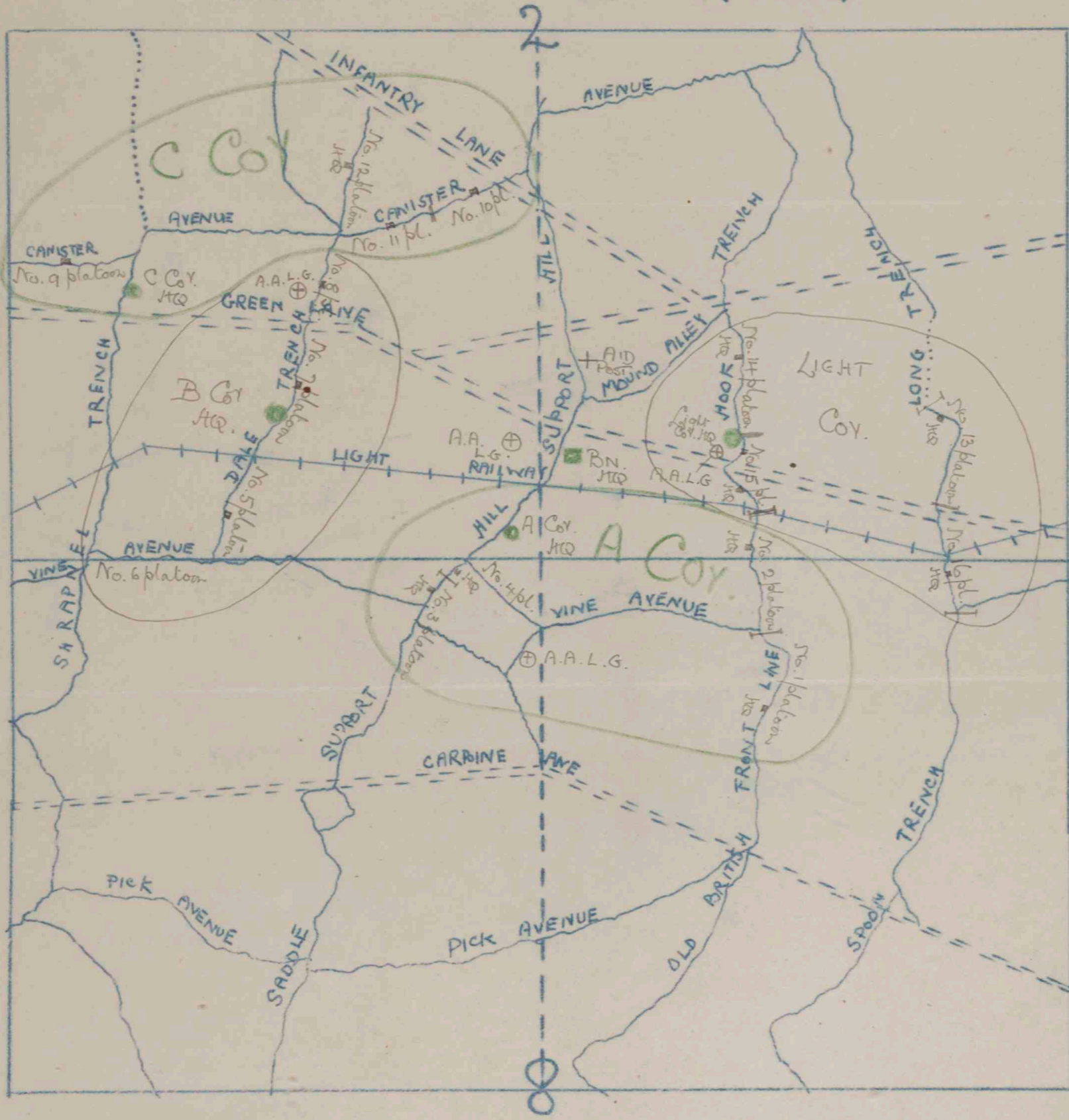
Distribution:-

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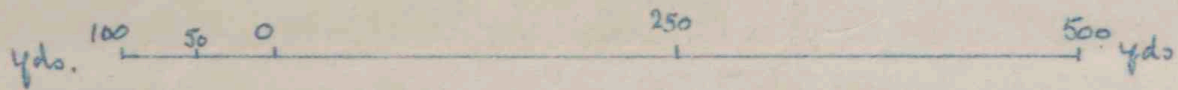
No. 1 Commanding Officer.	No. 2 O/C "Light" Coy.	No. 3 O/C "A" Coy.
No. 4 O/C "B" Coy.	No. 5 O/C "C" Coy.	No. 6 O/C Bn. H.Q.
No. 7 Transport Officer.	No. 8 Quartermaster.	No. 9 Medical Off.
No. 10 2nd. in Command.	No. 11 and 12 War Diary.	No. 13 FILE.

5

DISPOSITION MAP OF RESERVE BATTALION. SQUARES 02 c+d. 08 a + b (51 B.S.W.)



SCALE OF YDS.



SECRETOperation Order No 23 6. 23.9.15.

by

Major A. J. Harrington M.C., Comd^g 1st Bn SOMERSET LI INFANTRY.

1. The 11th Infantry Bde will be relieved by the 12th Infantry Bde in the HANBLAIN Sector on 24th + night of 24/25th Inst.
2. The Battalion will be relieved in Brigade Reserve by 2nd Bn Essex Regt.
3. RELIEF - Companies will be relieved as follows:-

A	Boy, Somerset I.S.	will be relieved by	A	Boy, Essex Regt.
B	do.	do.	B	do.
C	do.	do.	C	do.
Light	do.	do.	D	do.
4. Order of Relief - Boys will be relieved in the following order - Light, A, B + C boys, + Bn H.Q.
5. Guides - The following guides will be found -
1 per platoon, 1 per boy H.Q., + 2 per Bn H.Q. will be at Road junction, O.7.6.4.9 at 2.50 P.M.
6. Advance Party - An Advance Party of 1 M.C.O per boy + H.Q. of 2nd Essex Regt. will be sent up to take over accommodation, trench stores, etc.
7. Trench Stores - All trench stores, maps, etc, which were taken over, will be handed over + receipts obtained. Lists of stores handed over will be forwarded to Bn H.Q. by 10 A.M. 25th Inst.
8. On relief the Batts will be accommodated in the ORANGE HILL area
9. The Transport Officer will arrange to have transport for Lewis Guns, Officers' trench kits, signalling equipment, etc at Bn H.Q. at 2.45 P.M.
10. The Cooks + Water cart will move at 1.30 P.M.
11. Lewis Guns + Officers' trench kits of Light + A boys will be dumped at Bn H.Q.; of B + C boys, at C boys H.Q. at 2.45 P.M.
12. 1 M.C.O. per boy + H.Q. will report at Bn H.Q. at 11.15 A.M. + will then proceed to take over accommodation etc from 2nd Essex Regt.
13. Completion of Relief will be reported by the Code Word "SHOVEL".

ACKNOWLEDGE.

G.H. Smith.

Captain.

Adjutant, 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.Copies to:- Comd^g Officer. O/C Companies, O/C Bn H.Q. O/C 2nd Essex Regt.
Transport Officer. Quartermaster. Medical Officer. O/C Details.

W. Biam (2). FILE

SECRET.

OPERATION ORDER

N^o 24

7

by

27.9.18

L COL. Y.H.B. Majendie, D.S.O., Comd^g 1st Bⁿ SOMERSET LI INFANTRY.

1. From 6 P.M. tonight 27th Inst. the Battⁿs will be prepared to move forward at one hour's notice in full fighting order.
2. On receipt of orders to move Companies + Bⁿ H.Q. with at once stack all blankets, packs, Officers' Valises, etc., at their Coy H.Q. The Quartermaster will be notified at once + he will then send up C.Q.M. Sergeants + storemen to take charge of Coy. stores. The Transport Officer will arrange to clear the Camp at once.
3. The Transport Officer will arrange to have the Lewis Gun limbers, also transport for Signalling equipment at Bⁿ H.Q. at 5.45 P.M. today. This Transport will stand-by in the Battⁿs area + will not rejoin the Transport Trains until the Battⁿs has moved.
4. The Quartermaster will arrange to send rations for consumption on the 28th Inst. up to the Battⁿs as early as possible. These rations will be at once cooked ready for issue. O's + Coys. will arrange that their rations are ready to be issued in the event of the Battⁿs moving forward.
5. The following routes will be used on moving forward in support of the Brigades in the line:—
RIGHT BRIGADE.— Cross-country tracks, SWORD LANE, GREEN LANE, to junction of BOIRY LANE and LONG LANE—REMY
LEFT BRIGADE.— Do for Right Brigade as far as BOIRY. The main ARRAS—CAMBRAY road will not be used.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith Captain

Adjutant, 1st Bⁿ Somerset Light Infantry.

Copies to:— Comd^g Officer. 2nd in Command. O/C Companies.
 O/C Bⁿ H.Q. Medical Officer. Quartermaster.
 Transport Officer. O/C Details. War Diary (2)
 FILE.

SECRETOPERATION ORDER No 25. 29.9.18
by 8LT COL. Y.H.B. MAJENDIE, D.S.O., COMD^g 1st Bⁿ SOMERSET LI INFANTRY.

The Bⁿ will relieve the portion of the line at present held by ^{1st COY} 8th Middlesex Regt. between G 10 and the present Divisional boundary, also 1 Coy of Seaforth's + 2 Coys London Regt.

2. The Bⁿ will proceed to VIS-EN-ARTOIS by bus. Head of the convoy will be at FEUCHY CHAPEL Cross Roads at 4 P.M. 2 Lt. Harrison will take over the buses at 4 P.M.

Companies will embus in the following order:-

"A", "B", "C" + "Light" Coys, Bⁿ Hq.

"A" Coy will move off at 3.30 P.M.

Coy. will march off at 5 minutes interval.

Teas will be issued at 3 P.M.

3. On arrival at debussing point, Coy. will move off with platoons at 200 yards interval, to P 19. C.4.9., where guides will be met. Guides will be found by 8th Middlesex as follows:-

1 per platoon, 1 per Coy Hq., + 2 per Bⁿ Hq.

4. Dress will be full fighting order. S.O.S. Grenades, Key lights, etc. will be carried. The Greatcoat will be carried, rolled on the back.

5. Rations, Water, Trench Kits + Orderly Room boxes will be taken up to G.13.C.1.9 by Transport. Instructions re ration carrying parties will be issued later.

6. Orderly Room boxes + Officers' trench kits will be dumped at "B" Coys Hooker by 3.30 P.M.

7. Defence Schemes, Aeroplane photos, Trench maps + Stores will be taken over.

8. Maps showing dispositions down to posts + platoons will reach Bⁿ Hq. by 10 A.M. Oct. 1st

9. As far as possible an Officer will be in charge of every group of 3 or 4 forward posts + will live in one of them in order to be able to deal promptly with any situation which may arise.

10. Completion of relief will be issued by Code Word "CAMBRAI" or sent by runner.

E.V. Smith. Captain.

Adjutant, 1st Bⁿ Somerset Light Infy.

Copies to:- Comd^g Officer. O/S Coys. O/S Bⁿ Hq. ~~in~~ in command.

Transport Officer. Quartermaster. Medical Officer. O/S Details.

War Diary (2). FILE.

9.

Addendum to Operation Order 11^o 25, 29.9.18.

para 11.

"A" boy will be Right front boy relieving boy.
1st London Regt.

"B" boy will be Left front boy relieving boy 2nd Seaforth's.

"C" boy " " Right Support boy. " boy 8th Middlesex.

"Light" boy " " Left Support boy " boy. 1st London Regt.

"C" boy will carry rations to "A" boy and

"Light" boy will carry to "B" boy.

All boys will send back orderlies so that they
may locate Bn HQ.

1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

10
(1918.)

SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES, REINFORCEMENTS & SICK FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER,

	Officers.	Other Ranks.
Killed in Action.	Capt. J. Steel R.A.M.C. 2/Lt. A.H.N. Wright	15
Died of Wounds	Capt. E. Paul M.C., D.C.M.	4
Wounded	Capt. C.W. Hall M.C. 2/Lt. J. Measures Lieut. F.J. Clark	68
wounded (Gas)		1
Missing		4
Wounded & Missing		1
Wounded at Duty	Lieut. J.A. Radford 2/Lt. W.R. Winstone P.K. Almond	-
TOTAL.	9	93

Reinforcements
2/Lieuts. A.J. Gardiner, L.A. Young
R. Vining, J.H. Newton, A.P. Bower,
S.C.A. Smith, T.C. Mackwell, P.E. Austin,
N.F. Boyes, M.C., M. Hetherington.
Capt. L.A. Osborne, D.S.O., M.C. 291

TOTAL. 11 291.

To Field Ambulance 2/Lts. A.P. Bower & W. Boston. 52

TOTAL. 2 52.

To England (Commissions) 3

" T.M.B. Estbt. 3

Injured 3

Invalided to Eng. 2/Lts. F. Halls, N.D. Rice,
& L.H. Escott. -

1-10-18.

L. Hetherington /r. Lt. Colonel,
Commanding 1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

11/4

October, 1918

Army Form C. 2118.

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

K

1/10 Somerset Lt. Col. J. E. 90750

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q.13.C. 1.9 (Sheet 51 B, S.E.)	Oct 1 st 1918.		Very quiet day. Fine. Brigadier General commanding visited Battalion in the morning. About 20 aeroplane bombs fell in the Batt ⁿ Area, wounding Lieut. H.Y. Berry, about 7.30 P.M. Battalion awarded sixteen Military Medals.	
do.	Oct. 2 nd 1918.		Fine. Very quiet day. General Officer Comdg + Brigadier General Comdg. visited the Battalion. Slight rain during the night. The Battalion front was re-adjusted during the night, leaving one Coy. only in the front line ('A' Coy). 'B' Coy. who was left front Coy was relieved by 'C' Coy. of 1 st Bn Rifle Brigade (Batt ⁿ on our left) + on relief moved back into Reserve.	App. 1.
do.	Oct. 3 rd 1918.		Fine quiet day. Improvised boat was made, + patrol crossed swamp in this. Patrols were carried out every night. Light Coy. relieved 'A' Coy in the front line. On relief 'A' Coy moved back as Right Reserve Coy.	App. 2.
do.	Oct. 4 th 1918.		Fine quiet day. A few shells fell in neighbourhood of Bn H.Q. in the afternoon. Nothing else to report.	
do.	Oct 5 th 1918.		Fine quiet day. A few shells fell in the neighbourhood of Bn H.Q. during the morning. Officers of the 1 st Canadian Batt ⁿ , 1 st Canadian Division reconnoitred the area occupied by the Batt ⁿ , during the day. A certain amount of training was carried out on the 3 rd , 4 th + 5 th mts.	81K H. S. Mack

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October, 1918
1st Battalion 1st War Diary

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ORANGE HILL	Oct 6 th	1918	Fine day. Winter time came into force. Battalion relieved by 10 th Candn. Bn. at night. Quick relief. Completed by 8.5 p.m. On relief Battalion moved back to Orange Hill Area (ref sheet 51 BNW 1.200.000 H34 a. b. & d.) Only one casualty during tour i.e. one officer wounded by aeroplane bomb.	App. 3
BERNEVILLE	Oct 7 th	1918	Battalion paraded at 11.00 a.m. & moved back to billets at BERNEVILLE (R2 sheet 51C) arrived in billets at 3.30 p.m. One man fell out. Draft of 92 other ranks joined the battalion with the details.	App. 4
	Oct 8 th	1918	Battalion bathed. Day devoted to re-organization & cleaning up. Brigade parade at 2.15 p.m. for presentation of medal ribbons by B.G.C., G.O.C. 4 th Division addressed all officers after this parade. 2 officer reinforcements joined Battalion.	
	Oct 9 th	1918	Fine day. Battalion carried out an attack practice with co-operation of a section R.F.A. & two guns of 11 th T.M. Battery. Before breakfast all officers attended a horse-riding parade under B.G.C.	App. 6
	Oct 10 th	1918	Fine day. Platoon & Coy training carried out. Follies performed in the village at night.	
FONTAINE-NOTRE-DAME	Oct 11 th	1918	Battalion moved to forward area. F9 Central (ref sheet 57 C. 1. 40.000) Battalion embussed on ARRAS-DOULENS road at 11.30 a.m. Arriving at FONTAINE-NOTRE-DAME (57C) about 4 p.m. Battalion accommodated in old German shelters. Rain at night.	App. 7
ESCAUDOUVRES	Oct 12 th	1918	Rained all day. Battalion stood by ready to move all day. Rifle Grenadiers trained during the afternoon.	
ESCAUDOUVRES	Oct 13 th	1918	Dull day. Battalion moved to ESCAUDOUVRES (ref sheet 51A. 1. 40.000) marching off at 9.16 a.m. Battalion all in billets by 12.30 p.m. Remainder of day devoted to rest.	App. 8

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October, 1918
War Diary

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ESCHAUDOEUVRES	Oct 14	1918	Commanding officer & 1 officer per Coy visited the forward area. During the morning Coys carried out Platoon & Coy attacks on strong points etc. Practice with the small entrenching tool carried out in the afternoon. Fine warm day.	
	Oct 15	1918	Cold Cloudy day. Coy training continued.	
	Oct 16	1918	Wet day. No training outside possible. Bn moved from present billets to another street in same village. Move completed by 3 pm. Commanding officer & 4 Officers per Coy reconnoitred the line in view of relieving 5th York & Lancs on 17th inst. Right Support Bn.	
AVESNES - LE-SEC.	Oct 17	1918	Bde relieved 147th Bde in AVESNES-LE-SEC Area Sheet 5100SE. Bn relieved 1/5th York & Lancs Regt, right support bdn, in area, 0.33. A & C. Bn marched off at 1.15 pm. Seas were issued about 11.30. at 4 pm. Relief complete at 6.25 p.m. Bn had to dig in on open ground. Very quiet night. Very misty.	App. 11
	Oct 18	1918	Bn found working party of 3 Officers & 192 O.R.s during the day. Comdg Officer attended a conference at Bde HQ. all day. Little rain at night. Very misty. Enemy artillery active. 2 O.R.s wounded.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October, 1918.
1st Battalion War Diary

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AVESNES-LE-SEC.	Oct 19	1918	<p>misty & very wet. Working Party of 12 Offrs & 64 men found during the day. Comdg offr & Coy Comdrs reconnoitred the Forward Area during the morning. At dusk the battn moved forward to Area O. 28 a & dug in there. Battn HQ. at O. 22. C. 61. Battn was ordered to find 2 Offrs & 152 O. Rn. for carrying for R.E.s., M.G. Battn & T. M. Bty for forthcoming attack. Attack cancelled. about 11 pm owing to enemy withdrawal all carrying parties were then recalled.</p>	
HASPRES	Oct 20	1918	<p>Very wet. Battn was ordered to capture the village of HASPRES from S.E. assembling in Area P. 21- P. 27. Zero hour at 12.30 pm. Battn received orders for this attack at 9.48 AM & was in position at 12.25 pm. Battn had to march over 5 miles to Assembly Area, through SAULZOIR which was very heavily shelled whilst Battn was marching through. Owing to the Battn on the left reporting that their patrols were in the village, the attack was cancelled. Our patrols then pushed forward & occupied the village. Information that patrols of left Bn had entered, the village was found to be false & the attack was therefore ordered to be carried out at 3.34 pm. Information that our patrols were in the village was sent back by mounted order by to Bde HQ. & this attack was cancelled at the last minute. Bn. HQ. P. 32. C. 3.2. The Bn then pushed forward & established itself on line P. 15. C. 1.9. - P. 14. a. 9.5-</p>	APP 12

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October 1918.
1st Bn Somerset

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAS PRES	Oct 20 1918		- P. 8. a. 0. 2. - O. 12. d. 6. 8. At about 5 pm touch was established with Right Btn. B & A Coys were in front, left & Right Coys respectively. C Coy, Left Support Coy. Light Coy Right Support Coy. A large body of the enemy retreating were engaged by Rifle fire about 5 pm. Btn HQ at P. 19. b. 1. 9. Patrols were sent out during the night to keep touch with the enemy & were constantly engaged by rifle & machine gun fire.	
	Oct 21 1918		At about 4 am a patrol, consisting of 1 officer & 4 O.Rs encountered an enemy machine gun post at about P. 8. a. 2. 8. Four enemy were killed & the machine gun captured. At dawn, the Batten moved forward & dug in on line P. 2. b. 8. 7 - P. 3. c. 5. 0 - P. 9. Central - P. 9. d. 7. 3. Touch was established on both flanks. During morning patrols were pushed forward, but were held up by Rifle & machine gun fire. At dusk strong patrols were sent out to occupy sunken road P. 3. b & P. 4. c. if possible. After the third attempt our right patrol occupied FERME DE BOUVENEULE, meeting with strong opposition. Casualties 2 O.Rs killed & 2 O.Rs wounded. Left Patrol established Post at Cross Roads J. 33. b. 3. 3. Front Coys then moved forward & established line on sunken road. One Platoon on the right forming a defensive flank from P. 10. a. 4. 3. to P. 9. d. 7. 3. to keep touch with Btn on right who had not moved forward. The Support Coys moved forward during the morning & dug in	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October, 1918.
1st Bn Somerset Lvs

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HASPRES	Oct 21.	1918	<p>on line P. 2. a. 0. 3. - P. 8. b. 5. 4. - P. 9. c. 2. 6. B. Bn HQ at P. 7. d. 5. 3. Heavy enemy artillery fire on Area P. 8 Central between 3.30 p.m. & 5 p.m. On occupying farm P. 10. a. 2. 8. enemy at once put down very heavy barrage lasting about one hour. B. Bn was relieved during the night by 1st B. Bn Rifle Bde. Relief completed about 1.0 a.m. 22nd inst. Heavy artillery fire on village between 9 p.m. & 11.30 p.m. On relief B. Bn moved back into Reserve in Cellars at HASPRES. B. Bn HQ at O. 24. b. 8. 7. One O. R. killed & one wounded moving through village. The casualties during these operations were 6 O. R. killed, 18 O. R. wounded, 3 O. R. wounded at duty. Wet day.</p>	APP. 13
	Oct 22	1918	Day devoted to rest. Enemy shelled area occupied by B. Bn between 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. with 5.9". No casualties.	
	Oct 23	1918	Day devoted to rest. Orders received that the B. Bn were to carry out an attack on 24th. Village shelled during the morning with 5.9". No casualties.	

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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

October, 1918.
1st Bn Somerset

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
River E callion	Oct 24	1918	<p>Battn relieved one Coy of R B in front line leaving HASPRES at 11.45 pm 23rd. Battn were formed up in assembly positions by 2.0 am. Battn carried out attack on R E CALLION. Coy Light Coys were in front. A & B Coys 300 yds behind them. C & D Coys being left Coys. Zero was at 4 am. No opposition was encountered until river was reached. The left bridge was thrown across without much difficulty, but considerable trouble was encountered in getting the other three across, and considerable delay was caused. During this time there was considerable fire from the slopes across the river. The bridges were eventually got across by men wading out into the middle of the stream. Good covering fire was brought to bear while the bridges were being put in place. From the river the advance continued rapidly to the BLUE LINE. The HERMAN STELLUNG line in front of the 1st objective was wired and consisted of a series of isolated posts and short lengths of trenches. It was strongly held by M guns. The leading Coys by free use of rifles and Lewis guns and by working round the flanks, quickly overcame the enemy resistance and the Germans who at first showed fight suffered heavy casualties and the remainder soon surrendered. This line being captured the leading Coys pushed on to the BLUE LINE which they assaulted and took with the bayonet. The support Coys now pushed forward and passed through</p>	App. 14.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October 1918.
1st Bn. Somerset L.I.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Oct 24	1918	<p>the leading coys towards the YELLOW LINE. Various M.G posts were encountered and dealt with as before by outflanking movements. a considerable number of enemy were surprised and captured in the Sunken Road about D.5. b. 8. 3. On reaching the YELLOW LINE the support Coys at once consolidated in touch with the Hampshires on the left and the 10th Bde, on our right. From here onwards our advance to the GREEN LINE was considerably impeded by heavy m. g. and rifle fire from the right, and movement over the fier was almost impossible. Eventually about 70-80 men reached the German wire on the GREEN LINE which was very strong. From here they could proceed no further. They therefore dug in about 40 yds from the German wire, approximately from J.30. d. 8. 1. to K. 31. a 05. 50., with their right completely in the air. At dusk a Coy of the Rifle Bde was sent up to form a defensive flank by establishing a line of posts between the right of the advanced troops on the GREEN LINE and the 10th Bde. Early in the evening a bombing attack attempted by the enemy down a C.T. on our left was repulsed by h. gun fire. Previous to the relief during the night by the Essex Regt the advanced troops fell back and took up a position 300 yds from and parallel to the GREEN LINE. During the night the battn was relieved by the 2nd Essex Regt. and returned to billets in HASTRES. Casualties during the operation were as follows. -</p> <p>Officers: 3 Died of wounds 5 wounded 4 wounded at duty O. R.'s 149.</p>	<p>P.P. 16</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

October, 1918.
1st Bn. Somerset Lt. Inf.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HASPRES	Oct 25	1918	Devoted to rest, Quiet day, cleaning up & reorganization, Batten bathed.	
	Oct 26	1918	Devoted to cleaning up etc. A & C Coys moved up at 8.5 p.m. to the forward area as supports to 12th Bde coming under orders O. C. Lancashire Fusiliers.	
	Oct 27	1918	G. O. C. 4th Division addressed all Officers of the Batten at Bde HQ in the morning. Heavy rain from about 3 p.m onwards.	
	Oct 28	1918	Lt. Col. V. A. B. Majendie D.S.O. proceeded to U.K. 3 months leave. Major A. J. Harrington M.C. took over command of the Batten. C.O. Conference at Bde HQ at 9 a.m. Orders received at 12.0 noon to relieve 2nd Essex Regt. Batten moved off at 12.55 p.m. Relief complete 4.15 p.m. Batten disposed as follows Light & B Coys on railway embankment in K27.d. A & C Coys in K31.b & d. Batten HQ DELFERRIERE FARM K.26. b.2.2. Quiet night	App 15.
	Oct 29	1918	Quiet day. Batten had no work to do.	
	Oct 30	1918	Attack postponed until Oct 31st. Quiet day.	
	Oct 31	1918	Attack again postponed until Nov 1st. Railway embankment & Batten HQ heavily shelled with H.E. & gas during afternoon & evening. A & C Coys moved up to railway embankment in the evening	

Afton, Nij
Comd. 1st Bn. Somerset Lt. Infantry

List of Appendices attached to
War Diary, October, 1918.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
1	Operation Order No. 26.
2	" " " 27.
3	" " " 27A.
4	Addendum to O.O. No. 27A.
5	Disposition Map.
6	Battalion Exercise.
7	Operation Order No. 28.
8	" " " 29.
9	Instructions for supporting
10	49 th & 59 th Divisions
11	Addendum to - do -
12	Operation Order No. 30.
13	" " " 31.
14	" " " 32.
15	" " " 33.
16	" " " 34.
17	Account of Battle on 24/10/18.
18	Casualty, Reinforcement etc. Summary.
	Objectives, 24/10/18.

W. H. M. Major
 Comdg. 1st Bn. Somerset L.I.

SECRETWar Diary Oct, 1918
OPERATION ORDER No 26 2.10.18by
LT-COL Y.H.B. MAJENDIE, D.S.O., COMD. 1ST BN SOMERSET LI INFANTRY.

1. Tonight, 2/3rd Oct, there will be a re-adjustment of Battalion boundaries.
2. On completion the Battn Left boundary will be as follows:-
Junction of track, Q.7.B.49, - Q.7.C.00, - P.18.B.2.0
3. To effect this "B" Company will be relieved by a Coy of the Rifle Brigade with the exception of "B" boys. Right post at the waters-edge, which will be relieved by "A" Coy, under arrangements to be made by OS Comdg boys concerned.
4. On completion of relief "B" Coy will be disposed as follows:-
1 platoon in Quarry, Q.13.C.1.9; 1 platoon in shelters on the bank North of Quarry; 1 platoon in the dug-out + trench North East of Quarry + 1 platoon in SAUDEMONT MILL. The platoon of "Light" Coy. at present in the Quarry will rejoin its Coy.
5. Ofc "B" Coy. will hand over all trench stores + gas protection stores to the Coy. of the Rifle Brigade. Gum-boots will not be handed over.
J.: Gum-boots used by personnel of "B" Coy manning the post at waters-edge will be handed over to "A" Coy.
6. Completion of re-adjustment will be reported to Battn H.Q. by wire by code word, "LEICESTER".
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

F.V. Smith, Captain.

Adjutant, 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.Copies to:- Comdg Officer. 2nd in Command. OS C. Companies.
Ofc Battn H.Q. War Diary (2) FILE.

War Diary Oct, 1918

Operation Order No 27.

3.10.18

2
by Lt.-Col. T.H. B. Majendie, D.S.O., Comdg 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

1. "Light" Coy will, this evening, relieve "A" Coy. On relief "A" Coy. will take over the positions occupied by "Light" Coy. All details of relief will be arranged between O's C boys concerned.
2. Trench, Stores + Gun books will be handed over.
3. Special attention will be paid to handing over carefully all details regarding patrols + details of defence scheme.
4. "A" Coy. will take over "Light" Coy's Cooker. "Light" Coy's Books will return to transport tonight, + "A" Coy's books will come up + join their Coy.
5. Rations for "Light" Coy. will, in future, be sent up cooked, + for "A" Coy. uncooked.
6. Ofc "A" Coy. will detail a guide to take "Light" Coy's rations, + Ofc "Light" Coy. a guide to take "A" Coy's ^{rations} to their respective new Headquarters. Guides to report at Bn Hq. at 6.15 P.M. today.
7. Completion of relief will be reported to Bn Hq. by Code Word, "DERBY"
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith. Captain.

Adj. 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

Copies to:- Comdg Officer. 2nd in Command. O's C. Coy. Ofc Bn Hq.
Transport Officer. Quartermaster. Ofc Details.
War Diary (2). FILE

SECRET

War Diary, Oct, 1918

OPERATION ORDER No 27A 5-10-18.

by

Col. V. H. B. Majendie, DSO, Com^{dg} 1st Bⁿ SOMERSET LI INFANTRY

1. The Battalion will be relieved tomorrow, Oct 6th, by 10th Canadian Battalion, 1st Canadian Division.

2. Method of Relief:-

A	boy.	10 th Canadian	relieves	"A"	boy.	1 st Somerset	L.I.
B	boy.	"	"	"	"	"	"
C	boy.	"	"	"	"	"	"
D	boy.	"	"	"	"	"	"

3. Guides. - on the scale of 1 per platoon, 1 per Coy HQ + 2 per Battⁿ HQ, will be provided. In addition "C" boy will provide one guide for its Liaison post with 56th Division.

Rendezvous. - Chapel, G. 20. a. 95. 90. Time. 17.30 hrs (Winter time)

Guides as above will report to 2 Lt. S. H. Cole at rendezvous at 17.20 hrs.

4. Order of Relief. - 10th Canadian Battⁿ will arrive at the rendezvous in the following order:-

"D" boy.	1 Section	"C" boy.	for Liaison Post.	"B" boy.
"A" boy.	"	"	"	Battalion Headquarters.

5. Companies + Battⁿ HQ. will be prepared to supply 1 guide each to conduct Limbers of incoming Battⁿ to company + Battalion dumps.

Time + rendezvous will be notified later.

6. All ammunition, including the extra bandoliers, rifle grenades, Tom lights, etc., carried in by the Battⁿ, other trench stores, including Gum boots, will be handed over + receipts obtained. Receipts will be forwarded to Orderly Room by 18.00 hrs, 7th Inst.

Picks + shovels will not be handed over, but will be carried out by the men.

Bomb buckets, Rifle Grenade dischargers, A.A. Sights and mountings will not be handed over.

Lists of Stores to be handed over will be forwarded to Battⁿ HQ. by 12.00 hrs tomorrow, 6th Inst.

7. Details of Defence scheme, information regarding the front, crossings, trench maps, etc., + aeroplane photos will be handed over.

Particular care will be taken to hand over the Battle positions to be occupied in case of attack.

"C" boy will also hand over detail regarding Smoke screen.

Advance parties will arrive in the afternoon to take over stores, etc.

8. (a) After relief the Battⁿ will march to the ORANGE HILL area and will be accommodated in H. 34 a, b + c. Battⁿ HQ. at H. 34. d. 3. 7. (The area recently vacated by the Battalion). Companies will return to the area previously occupied by them.

(b). The Quartermaster will send on an advance party to report to Area Commandant, ORANGE HILL, H 35. a. 3. 5 at 10.00 hrs on the 6th Inst to take over accommodation. French Stretches will be issued on demand.

(c)

(c) Each boy + Pt. H.Q. will send a runner in the morning 1 P.C.O. + 3 men to assist in drawing + erecting trench shelter.

9. The Quartermaster will arrange to have tea or soup ready for the Batts on arrival in the new area.

10. The Transport Officer will make the following arrangements:-

(a) Detail 5 limbers, 1 for each boy + 1 for Pt. H.Q. to remove Lewis Guns, petrol tins, Officers' trench kits, etc., from the line. Limbers will report as soon after dusk as possible at the following points:-

Light Boy - Cross Roads, G.14.C.5.8. "C" boy - at boy H.Q.

"A" boy - at boy H.Q. "B" boy on road at G.13.C.5.1.

Batt's H.Q. at Quarry, G.13.C.1.9.

Each boy + Pt. H.Q. will detail a P.C.O. to be responsible for seeing that all Lewis Guns, magazines, & other stores, etc., are loaded before limber move off.

(b) Send horses for "A" boy's Cooker with "A" boy's limber.

(c) Arrange to deliver rations for consumption on the 7th Incl, Cooker, Water Batts, packs, blankets + Officers' Rations, at the new area.

(d) Send Changers for Ofc "A" + "B" Boys, S.O., Adjutant + M.C. with their respective limbers.

11. Completion of Relief will be wired by the code words "WATER RECEIVING".

12. Ofc Boys, Lt. "B" boy, will arrange to send a runner with a Canadian runner to Pt. H.Q. to show him the way, as soon after the arrival of the 10th Canadian Batts as possible. These runners will move out with Pt. H.Q.

13. Companies will report their arrival at ORANGE HILL to Batt's H.Q.

14. On the 7th Incl. The Batts will march to BERNAYVILLE.

(a) Starting Point:- FEUCHY CHAPEL Cross Roads. (b) Time 1108 hrs.

(c) 200 yards between companies.

(d) Order of march:- Pt. H.Q., Light, "A", "B", + "C" Companies.

(e) Dress. Fighting Order.

(f) Picks + Shovels, packs + blankets will be carried in lorries.

(g) The Transport will accompany the Battalion - distances as laid down in SS.724.

(h) A hall for dinner will be made on the road.

15. Sick Parade will be at 0900 hrs 7th. Ofc Boys + Pt. H.Q. will arrange for Platoon Commanders to hold a foot inspection at 0830 hrs on the 7th. Any man who has the slightest thing wrong with his feet will be sent rick at 0900 hrs.

16. Further details regarding the march on the 7th will be issued later.

17. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith, Captain
Adjutant, Tth Bth Somerset Lt. Infly.

Copies to:- Comd'g Officer, 2nd in command. Os C Boys. Ofc Pt. H.Q. Quartermaster
Transport Officer. Medical Officer. Ofc Details. War Diary (2) FILE.

SECRET.

4

War Diary, 10th/11/18

ADDENDUM TO OPERATION ORDER No 27A 5-10-18

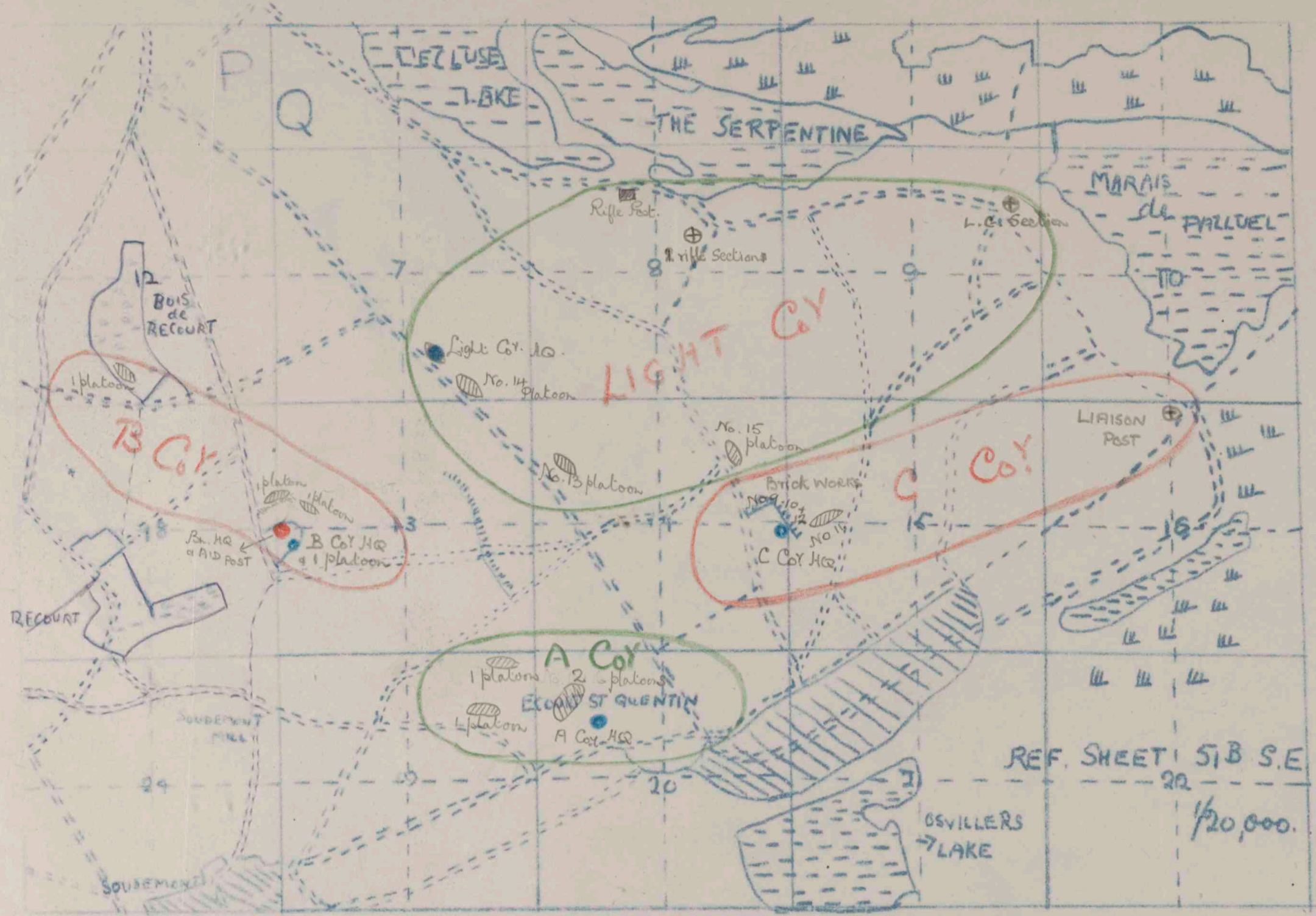
by

Lt COL. Y.H.B. MAJENDIE, D.S.O., COMDG 1ST BN SOMERSET L.I.

1. All tents & trench shelters will be struck & handed in to the Area Commandant, ORANGE HILL by 0930 hrs 7th Ind. receipts being obtained. Receipts will be handed in to Orderly Room by 1000 hrs.
2. Blankets, packs (including greatcoats), picks & shovels, Officers' Valises, etc., will be dumped at junction of track & FEUCHY - FEUCHY CHAPEL Road (H.33. d. 85.70) at 0930 hrs.
3. Four lorries will report to ~~the~~ Transport Officer at 0.13.a.1.0 at 0900 hrs. The Quartermaster will arrange to send a representative to report to ~~the~~ Transport Officer at 0845 hrs to take over these lorries. All stores at the Transport Lines will be loaded & the lorries will then proceed to H.33. d. 85.70 to load blankets, etc. Each lorry will detail 1 N.C.O. & 3 men to be at the dump at 0930 hrs to load the lorries. With the exception of 2 O.R. from Quartermaster's Staff, the party to proceed with the lorries will be detailed from the Battⁿ. This party will be selected from men who are unfit to march. The Quartermaster will ensure that the drivers of the lorries are provided with written instructions as to their destination, & ordering them to proceed first to FEUCHY CHAPEL Road. Baggage wagons will not be available for the move.
4. The Transport Officer will arrange to have Lewis Gun timber, etc., in their respective Coy areas at 0930 hrs. Cooks & Water cart will move under orders of the Transport Officer.
5. A billeting party of 2 Lt. S.H. Cole & 1 N.C.O. per Coy, ~~the~~ H.Q. & Transport will proceed in advance to take over accommodation, etc. Party to parade at Orderly Room at 1000 hrs. This party will be provided with bicycles & will report to Staff Captain at the Town Major's Office BERNÉVILLE at 1200 hrs.
6. The Details will remain at LOUEZ.
7. The Anglers will join the Battalion today.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith Captain
Adjutant, 10th Bn Somerset Lt. Infantry.

Issued to recipients of O.O. No 27.



REF. SHEET 51B S.E
 22
 1/20,000.

5
 War Diary
 Oct 1918

War Diary Oct, 1918

6. Battalion Exercise to be carried out on 9.10.18

General Idea. - The enemy has recently been heavily defeated & is retiring rapidly with the intention of taking up a line on the high ground East of ARRAS. He is covering his retirement by rearguards, composed chiefly of Machine Guns.

Special Idea. - The 4th Division is closely following up the enemy. At 9 AM the advanced troops of the 11th Brigade acting as advanced guard to the 4th Division have reached the Eastern outskirts of SIMENCOURT, BEAUMETZ, BELLACOURT. Patrols report that an enemy rearguard not in great strength are holding a position from SIMENCOURT, through R.7. central, R.14. central.

The 11th Infantry Brigade is ordered to attack at 1100 hrs, drive back the enemy rearguard, & seize the line of the Railway West of DAINVILLE. Somerset Co. J. will be the centre Battⁿ & will advance with its right on the main DOULLENS Road & its left on a line running parallel & 800 yards N.W. of this Road.

The following orders are issued to the Somerset Light Infantry. -

The Battalion will assemble on the N.E. outskirts of BEAUMETZ at 1040 hrs. 'C' & 'Light' boys will be in front & 'B' in rear. 'B' boy will be in support to 'C' boy on the left. 'A' boy will be in support to 'Light' boy on the right.

Two Stokes mortars will be attached to 'A' boy.

One Section of 27th Battery R.F.A. will be attached to the Battalion.

Zero hour will be at 1100 hrs.

Communication will be done either by runner or runner.

The leading boys will push forward scouts progressively with a view to locating the exact enemy positions & guiding the boys as far as possible under cover. During this advance the enemy position will be dealt with by the 32nd Bde R.F.A.

Battalion H.Q. will be in the wood in Q.18.6.

The leading boys will assault & capture the enemy position running through R.7 central & R.14. central. The rear boys will not be called upon for support unless they are completely held up.

As soon as the first objective has been gained Companies will be re-organized & 'B' & 'A' boys will push forward immediately strong patrols. These two boys will then advance as front boys & be supported by 'C' & 'Light' boys.

Any opposition met with, such as strong points, machine gun nests, etc., will be overcome & if there is any fear of the advance being held up the artillery will be called upon for assistance.

As soon as the Railway line W of DAINVILLE has been seized this line will be held & consolidated. Reconnoitring patrols will be sent forward & communication established with H.Q., which will move forward to a suitable position in R.3. a.

NOTE. 1. The Signal that the Artillery has ceased fire will be given by a bugler sound of three B's.

2. Machine Guns will be represented by Gas Rattles.

3. Objectives will be marked by flags & held by a skeleton enemy.

Captain
11th Somerset Light Infantry

1. Operation Order

War Diary, Oct. 1918
No 28 11-16-18

by
Lieut Col V+B Majendie, 2 S.O. Comd, 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

1. The Battalion will proceed to the forward area in buses.
Embussing point, BAC DU NORD (R & C)
Debussing - FONTAINE NOTRE DAME
2. The Batts will march to the embussing point.
Order of March: B* HQ, "Light", "C", "B", and "A" Companies.
Time 10-35 A.M. Starting Point, R.I.C. 00.50.
(Ref sheet 51^e 1.40.000)
Dress: Marching Order. Tools, Lewis Guns, and rations for consumption today will be carried on the man. Blankets will be conveyed in lorries.
3. All blankets rolled in tins properly labelled will be handed in to Quartermaster store by 9.0 a.m.
4. The Transport will move by road, staying the night 11/12 at WANCOURT. Starting Point, Cross road immediately W of 4 in LEBAC DUNORD 2.00 p.m.
Route ACHICOURT - BEAURAINS - NEUVILLE VITASSE.
5. The Details will parade at the Orderly Room at 2.0 p.m. ready to march off under orders to be issued by C.C. Brigade Details.
Two lorries will report at this P.O. to convey blankets, and Officers kits of the Bde Details to ARRAS.
Major W. J. Harington M.C. is appointed C.C. Bde Details.
6. All billets and hutments will be left scrupulously clean.

E.V. Smith, Capt
Adj. 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

No 73

Operation Order

War Diary 1918
No 24 13 10 18by
Lieut. V. H. B. Majindie, D.S.O. Comdg. 1st Bn Somerset Lt Infantry

1. The Battalion will move to the ESCAUDOEUVRES area this morning.

2. Pucks will be carried on the men.

Starting point, F.3. d. 4.2. Time 9-15 a.m.

Order of March, Bⁿ H.Q., Light, "C", "A" and "B" Coys.

200 yards intervals between Coys. will be maintained. Connecting files will be maintained throughout the march.

The transport will accompany the Battr. Distances as laid down in SS 724 will be maintained.

All blankets rolled in tens will be handed in to Quartermaster stores at 7-15 a.m. Officers' valises will be handed in to Quartermaster store at 8-0 a.m.

Low Sun and No 36 Grenades, etc. will be loaded on the transport at 7-15 a.m.

A billeting party consisting of Lieut. S.H. Cole and 1 N.C.O. per Coy, H.Q. and Transport will report at Bⁿ H.Q. at 7-30 a.m. ready to proceed.5. Rations for consumption 14th inst will be delivered in the new area. The Quartermaster will arrange to send a guide to Brigade H.Q. immediately on arrival in new area in order to guide the supply wagons to the Quartermaster stores.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E. V. Smith Capt.
Adj. 1st Bn - Somerset Light Infantry

Distribution.

No 1. Comdg. Officer, No 2. Light Coy, No 3. "A" Coy, No 4. "B" Coy,
No 5. "C" Coy, No 6. Bⁿ H.Q., No 7. Quartermaster, No 8. Transport Officer,
No 9. Medical Officer, No 10. File, No 11. Detach, No 12 and 13 War Diary.

War Diary 1918

9

Instructions for supporting 49th & 51st

Divisions in the event of a hostile attack

by
at Col. H. B. Mayende D.S.O. Comdgy 1st Bn Somerset Lth Infantry

16.10.18

1. The Role of the XXII Corps is to protect the left flank of the 3rd Army: it is therefore especially necessary to support the 49th Div in the direction of VILLERS-en-CAUCHIES.
2. In this season 10th Infy Brigade is at 2 hours notice to be employed by the 49th Div on direct application by them, in case of a sudden attack by the enemy.
3. Should previous information indicate that the enemy intend to carry out an attack against the XXII Corps, the 4th Div may be ordered at short notice to support both the 49th & 51st Divs.
4. In this case the 4th Div will first occupy a supporting position along the high ground about U10d - U9 Central - U2 Central thence across the front of IWUY about O31 Central - N30 Central to the railway (inclusive) about O30 & 40. From this position the Div will be prepared to counter-attack to regain the present front line held by the 49th & 51st Divs.
5. 10th Infy Brigade will be on the right and 11th Infy Brigade on the left, 12th Infy Brigade in reserve.

Precedences will be as follows:-

- (i) Between 10th and 11th Infy Brigades
Railway from T16 a 00 to N36 d 20 (inclusive) to 10th Infy Bde) - thence IWUY - APRESSES - to SEE round to O22 Central (inclusive to 10th Infy Bde) thence a line to O12 Central.
- (ii) Between 11th Infy Bde & Right Division Canadian Corps
CANAL DE L'ESCAUT exclusive to N20 d 20 - thence a line to railway at N24 a 00 - thence N along railway inclusive to its junction with the Canal DE L'ESCAUT.

(2)

7. If the order to move forward is received, the 11th Inf Bde will move to the following positions:-

Brigade H.Q. T10 C.05.

Somerset L.I. Trenches T10. C and d, T15. b. and T16. a.

Battn H.Q. T10. C.04.

Hampshire Regt. High ground through O.31 Central and N.30 Central between the Brigade boundaries.

Battn H.Q. N36. d.10.

Rifle Brigade Area T5. C and d, T10. b. and T11. a. and b N of Railway.

Battn H.Q. T11. a.2.4.

8. The Battn will be disposed in depth on a two Coy front as under:-

"A" and "B" Coys in two front trenches and Communication trenches between the road and the railway.

"A" Coy on the left, "B" Coy on the right, each Coy on a 2 platoon front.

"C" and Light Coys in trenches in rear of "A" and "B" Coys.

"C" Coy on the left, Light Coy on the right.

Each Coy on a two platoon front.

E. V. Smith Captain

Adjut 1st Bde Somerset Light Infantry

10
 Addendum to Defence Scheme dated 16-10-15 War Diary, 1948

1. Light Coy will detail 1 platoon to man the Railway embankment to guard the Right flank. in case of necessity the whole of Light Coy will be prepared to man the embankment.
2. From this position the Battr will be prepared to counter-attack at once to recover the present front line.
 The loss of T.W.U. will be avoided as much as possible

E. V. Smith Capt
 Adjt 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

OPERATION

ORDER

No 30

17-10-18

Lt Col H B. MAJENDIE, D.S.O.

by

War Diary, Oct, 1918

Command 1st Bn Somerset Lt Infantry

The 11th Infy Brigade will relieve the 14th Infy Bde in the left Sector of 49th Divisional front tonight 17/10 inst.

2. The Batta will relieve the 1/5 G & L support Batta.

3. Dispositions. Owing to the nature of the 1/5 G & L Coy cannot be relieved direct. The 1/5 G & L Coy will therefore take over areas on the following system as far as possible:-

Light Coy will take over occupied by C and D Coys of 1/5 G & L.

B Coy will take over area occupied by G and H Coys of 1/5 G & L.

A Coy will take over area in rear of Light Coy.

C Coy will take over area in rear of B Coy.

The Batta will then be disposed with "Light" and B Coys, A and C Coys in support facing North East. Coys will have to dig themselves in forming section posts.

4. Guides. Guides will be found by 1/5 G & L on the following route: 1. The platoon and Coy H of 2 per Bn H Q, time 5.15 PM, rendezvous at junction of railway and track at O 9.2.15.

5. Advance Party. Each Coy will send on one officer and 1 NCO after dinner ahead of the Batta to report at H Q 1/5 G & L in C. 33. a. The advance party will, in consultation with C. C. 1/5 G & L take over areas for their Coys and make arrangements for disposing their Coys on arrival.

Two tapes will be taken up by the advance party of each Coy.

This party will report at Bn H Q. at 12.30 pm.

6. Batta will proceed to line by march route, time 1.15 pm. Starting point T. 25. C. 38.

Order of March: Light, B, A, and C Coys, Bn H Q.

Route, Road junction T. 25. C. 38 - NAVES - road junction U 14. b. 27 as far as IWUY - RIEUX road. Distances will be maintained as laid down in SS 724. In advance of this line platoons will march at intervals of 200 yds.

7. Teas. The Batta will halt for teas in U.S.C. in an artillery formation. One runner per Coy will march with Bn H Q. and will go ahead with the Adjutant at the last halt before tea to take over areas which will be allotted to each Coy for teas and will then guide their Coys to these areas.

2

8. Transport The Transport Officer will accompany the Baths as far as the new transport line. The Transport Officer will detail one limber per Coy and B.H.Q. to report at their respective H.Q. at 12.15 p.m. These limbers will carry forward Lewis gun, magazines etc Nos 27 and 36 grenades, rations and water for consumption the 18th inst. Officers trench box etc. These limbers will move in rear of their respective Coys. On arrival at new transport the Transport Officer will hand over to B.T.O. 2 S.A.A. limbers, 4 pack animals complete with S.A.A. and a third limber containing 256 Lewis gun magazines and the trench reserve of No 36 grenades. Baggage wagon will remain with the Baths until further notice.
9. Tools Immediately on arrival tools will be issued by the Provost Sgt as under:-
10 Picks and 32 Shovels per Coy. 27 Shovel per B.H.Q.
10. Medical The Advanced Dressing Station is located in VILLERS-en-CAUCHIE. Main Dressing Station NAVES.
11. Billet All billets will be left scrupulously clean.
12. Trench Stores German Anti tank rifles and ammunition defence scheme, aeroplane photographs etc will be taken over. Lists showing stores taken over will be forwarded to the Orderly Room by S.C. on the 18th inst.
13. Disposition Maps will be forwarded to B.H.Q. by 10.0 am 18th inst.
14. Completion of relief will be notified to B.H.Q. by Code word HAGUE.
15. ACKNOWLEDGE

Smith Capt
Adjt 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

12 Operation Order, No 31

20-10-18

by

War Diary, Oct., 1918

Lt Col B. Mayende D.S.O. Commandy 1st Bn Somerset Lt Infy.

Instruction for an attack by the Batta on HASPRES through 10th Infy Bde.

1. The 10th Infy Bde are attacking to establish a line from P. 21 Central - P. 14 d 30 - P. 15 a 00 - P. 15 d 00 - P. 22 a 27 - P. 22 Central - P. 23 b 00. Division on the left have advanced, and are reported to be about O. 6. 3.

2. If necessary the Batta will advance through the 10th Bde, capture HASPRES and establish a line O. 12 Central - P. 7 a 62 - P. 8 a 23 - P. 8 d 00 - to 10th Bde at P. 15 a 00.

3. Should this be necessary, the Batta will move from its present position along the Valley in O. 24 Central, South of woods in P. 25 and into S.A. 2015 by westerly road in P. 260. If time permits movement will be by platoons at 150 yds. intervals. Order of march B, C, A and Light Coys, Bⁿ H Q.

4. The Batta will form up preparatory to the attack in the ^{7. 21. d} ~~Sankey road~~ ⁿ in P. 22 C and P. 28 a.

"B" and "C" Coys will be in front, "B" on the right.

"A" and Light Coys in Support "A" on the right.

In each case the right flank will be just below the top of the hill to avoid observation from the North, and the left on the railway.

This will give each Coy about 600 yds. frontage for assembly.

Bⁿ H Q will be about the railway at P. 27. d 2. 7.

5. The jumping off ground for the attack will be a line from Mill P. 20 c 26 to P. 15 a 00.

The Creeping Barrage will fall 200 yds in front of this line.

At Zero - 18 minutes the Batta will advance from its position of assembly to the jumping off line in Artillery formation, and will close up to the barrage as soon as it falls.

For the attack the railway inclusive to the left Coy is taken as the dividing line between Coys.

"C" Coy will therefore advance from its position of assembly so as to arrive at the jumping off line with its left on the Mill and its right on the railway. "B" Coy will advance so as to arrive at the jumping off line with its left on the railway and its right just below the crest of the hill.

Method of Attack.

(1) "B" and "C" Coys will go straight through behind the ~~bar~~ ^{bar} ~~to the~~ ^{to the}

(2)

- find objective N and NW of HASPRES.
- (b) At the conclusion of the attack the Battalion will be dispersed as under -
 A Coy from the railway O12 b 50 to road inclusive P8 a 23.
 It is hoped that 5th Div will cross the river and establish posts between it and the railway: if this is not done, B Coy must find posts between the railway and the river.
 A Coy from road P8 a 23 exclusive to left of 10th Bde at P15 a 00.
 C Coy from river about O12 c 72 across railway about O12 d 75 thence to road about P7 a, 62 (inclusive)
 Light Coy from P7 a, 62 in front of Cemetery to road about P14 e 14
- (c) A Coy The Right Support platoon after passing the jumping off line will right form and take up a position from the left of 10th Bde to railway P14 b 27.
 Similarly Right and left front platoons will right form and take up a position from railway P14 b 27 to road P8 a 23.
 The left Support platoon will halt in Sunken road about P14 a 05 and will be at the disposal of C Coy to use as circumstances dictate.
 B Coy will proceed behind the barrage to its objective, its right halteres on the top of the hill at P8 a 23.
 A definite portion of the left front platoon will be detailed to assist C Coy in clearing the railway.
 C Coy will proceed behind the barrage along the railway and through the Village.
 It will be responsible for mopping up the village NW of the main Street from its junction with the railway P13 a 92 to river P13 e 35, also for clearing the ground between O12 c 1 and the Village.
 Light Coy following close behind C Coy, will be responsible for mopping up the village as far as the main street crossing railway at P13 a 92 including the island on which the Church is.
 As soon as this has been done, 2 platoons if necessary will be despatched to assist C Coy in mopping up the remainder of the Village while the other two platoons take up their position NE of the railway.
 B^N & H Q will move to the neighbourhood of Chapel at P19 b 09 as soon as the village has been captured.
- (d) Should any of the enemy still be holding out in the Village S of the river, C and Light Coys will be prepared to establish a few posts at river crossings in order to protect their rear until this portion of the Village has been mopped up by the rest of the Bde.
9. In addition to sending back information by runners to B^N & H Q, Coys will endeavour to communicate with the 'Vernon' Station which is hoped to establish at the N end of wood at P25 19.
10. The Creeping Barrage starts 200 yds in front of the jumping off line and proceeds for 800 yds (till it reaches a line through

(3)

road and railway junction P13 d 52) at the rate of 100 yds in 2 minutes. Subsequently it proceeds at the rate of 100 yds in five minutes.

11. Until the situation S of the river is clear, prisoners will be sent back into SAULZOIR to B^N H Q.
12. When the objective has been gained Companies will be prepared to send forward patrols to get in touch with the enemy, to enable us to follow him up quickly if he has retired.

Early information will be of the greatest value. In any subsequent advance troops will be warned to avoid as far as possible the BOIS de L'ENTREE and LE GRAND BOIS in J 50. These woods have recently been shelled by us with gas and are not yet safe.

Troops should not bivouac or entrench in these woods before the night of October 21st.

E. V. Smith, Capt.
advt MABU.

B Operation Order No. 32. *Wood Diary, Oct, 1918*
21.10.18.

SECRET.

Lt Colonel V.H.B. Adjutant D.S.O., Comdg. 1st Bn. Somerset ^{L.I.}

1. The Battalion will be relieved by 1st Bn. Rifle Bde tonight.
2. Companies will be relieved as follows:

B. Coy 1 st Bn. L.I.	by	D. Coy, 1 st Rifle Bde.
A	"	B
C	"	A
Lt	"	C
3. Guides, at the scale of one per platoon & Coy. HQ, will be at Battn. HQ. at 7.30 P.M.
4. Coys. will send five men to Battn. HQ. as soon as possible, to take over accommodation at present occupied by 1st Bn. Rifle Bde.
5. Rations will be dumped in the new area. Battn. HQ. will be located at O. 24. S.S. 7.
6. Guides for A & B Coys. will be at junction of road & railway, P. 13. 2. 8. 2.
7. Completion of relief will be notified to Battn. HQ. by runners.
8. Acknowledge.

(Sgt) E.V. Smith Captain
Adjutant, 1st Bn. Somerset L.I.

6.10.18
21.10.18.

141 Operation Order No 3

War Diary, Oct, 1948
23.10.18

by

V. K. B. Mayender D.S.O. Commandy 1st Somerset L^{ts} Infy.

1. The 4th Division in conjunction with the 51st and 19th Div^s on either flank will attack on the 24th October.
2. Zero will be at 04.00 hours.
3. The 11th Infy Bde will attack on the left and the 10th Infy Bde on the right.
4. 1st Somerset L^{ts} will be the Right Battr and the 1st Hampshire Regt the Left.
1st R. B. will be in reserve.
5. 1st Royal Warwickshire Regt will be the left Battr of the 10th Infy Bde, and 5th Black Watch the right Battr of the 51st Division.
Inter Battr boundaries are shown on maps already issued to Coys.
6. The 11th Infy Bde will have 3 objectives:
 - First - BLUE Line
 - Second - YELLOW Line (The now run J29 d 24 - J36 e 33 - thence as previously given to G. 450 - G. 1 d 30.)
 - Third - GREEN Line
 The 10th Bde have a fourth objective - The RED Line.
These objectives are shown on the maps issued.
7. The Battr will attack with 2 Coys in front and 2 in Support.
"C" and "Light" Coy will be in front - "C" on the left.
"A" and "B" Coys in support - "A" on the left.
"C" and "Light" Coy will capture the first objective - The BLUE Line.
"A" and "B" Coys will leap-frog through the leading Coys at the first objective and will push right through to the final objective on GREEN Line.
Dividing line between Coys. P10a43 - P of PLUVINACE - P 5.240 - ^KX31
G 1.7.
8. The following arrangements will be made for mopping up:
 - (a) 1 Platoon of "B" Coy will follow closely behind the leading platoon of "Light" Coy and will mop up La LAYETTE and neighbouring houses. When these houses are clear this platoon will rejoin its Coy as it advances and will advance with it ready to leap-frog through at the first objective.

(2)

- (b) The Light Support platoon of Light Coy following closely behind the leading platoons will be responsible for mopping up ZAVISE MILL, and the big house to the N.E. of the mill, and ~~the~~ any other houses on the road.
- (c) C Coy will detail a party to mop up F^{or} de PLUVINACE.
- (d) C and Light Coy will each detail 1 platoon to mop up the HERMANN STELLUNG just in front of the first objective. Assistance in this will if necessary be given by the leading platoons of A and B Coys.
- All mopping up parties must clearly understand what they have to do and realise the importance of securing the entrances to Cellars, etc. as soon as possible.
9. (a) One Coy of the Rifle Brigade is attached to the Battr. It will follow immediately in rear of A and B Coys as far as the YELLOW line and will be responsible for mopping up the YELLOW line. When this has been done this Coy will consolidate the YELLOW line from Road junction J3501 to road J36055.20.
- (b) After A and B Coys have passed through the BLUE line, C and Light Coy will follow on behind and consolidate the YELLOW LINE, C Coy on the left of the R.B., Light Coy on its right.
- (c) If on arrival at the Green line, A and B Coys find they are too weak to hold it, they will inform C Coy Light Coy who will push forward part or all of his Coy as the case may be to assist in consolidating the Green line.
- Should this happen the R.B. of the Rifle Brigade will extend to its right and take over the area vacated by Light Coy.
- 10(a) The Hampshire Regt will consolidate with 1 Coy less 1 platoon in J36a on the left of C Coy.
- The one platoon will consolidate at X Road K25a23 joining up the Battr with 5/1st Div.
- The remaining 3 Coys of Hampshire Regt will consolidate across the whole Brigade area J35a, J35c, P5b.
- (b) The Rifle Brigade will advance and consolidate the first objective as soon as the Yellow line has been captured.
11. After capture of the Green line A and B Coys will push out patrols to report success, and join up with the 10th Bde who will endeavour to capture QUEENAN.

12. Assembly (a) C and Light Coys will assemble along the road from P 4 012 to bend in road P 10 059 and then along a tape to the right boundary. Fnd de BOUVENEULE will be avoided. Sometimes shelled. C Coy will have 2 platoons from left boundary to just N of Fnd de BOUVENEULE, and 2 platoons from just South of this Farm to inter Coy boundary P 10 a 43. Light Coy will have 2 platoons from inter-Coy boundary and 2 platoons along the tape to the Right boundary.
- (b) A Coy will turn up on a tape from P 3 d 40 to about P 9 and B Coy on a tape from about P 9 b 50 to P 10 c 03. The bottom of the valley will be avoided as it may be shelled.
- (c) The mopping up party B Coy will assemble with its Coy, and after arrival will move forward to join Light Coy under arrangements to be made between Light and B Coy Commanders.
- (d) Battⁿ H.Q. Aid Post will be under Bank about P 9 c 30.
3. Method of Relief (a) The R.B.s will not be relieved in the ordinary way. C & Light Coys will be taken by R.B. guides to their Assembly position on the road. The present front line posts of the R.B.s will not be relieved. As soon as C & Light Coys are in position, they will push forward 1 post per platoon for their own protection about 15 yds. As soon as this has been done, the Rifle Bde Coy Commander will be informed, & the R.B.s will then be withdrawn. Care must be taken that fire is not opened on R.B.s posts as they withdraw. The advanced posts of Light & C Coys must be withdrawn to the line of the road by zero - 30 minutes.
- (1) Coys will report as soon as they are in position.
- (c) The Coy of the R.B. attached to the Battⁿ will be in position in P 9 a and c.
- (d) Guides, 5 per Coy and 2 per Bⁿ H.Q. will be found by R.B. Rendezvous, Road P 13 b 40. Time 00.20.
- (e) C and Light Coys will be taken straight to their positions by R.B. guides. C Rifle Brigade has arranged to clearly mark the left of the Battⁿ and the inter-Coy boundary.
- (f) 1 NCO per platoon of A and B Coys will report to 2/Lieut L. H. Cole at Bⁿ H.Q. at 17.15. This party will proceed on and to take out the position for A and B Coys.

- (4)
- The N.C.O's of A Coy will meet their Coy at the junction of the road and bank at P9.057 and guide platoons into position.
- The N.C.O's of B Coy will meet their Coy where the tape cuts the road and guide their platoons into position.
- (A) The Batts will be in position by 02.00 hours.
- (B) The Batts will march off from billets in the following order:
 Light, A and B Coys. Platoons at 200 yds interval.
- (C) Leading platoon of C Coy will march off at 00.01 hours.
- (D) A Lewis Gun team will accompany each Coy and march in rear of the leading platoon.
- (E) Guns and magazines will be unloaded about P14.05.
- (F) All ranks will be ordered to be as silent as possible when assembling.
14. Liaison posts of not less than a section will be found by Coy as under:
- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Light Coy | P5 d 26 |
| | J36 d 20 |
| B | K 310 45.65 |
15. Bridges
- (A) Four bridges will go forward between the leading platoons of C and Light Coys.
 They will be carried by the R.B.
 Two bridges will go with C, and two with Light Coy.
 1 officer, 2 N.C.O's and 36 men of the R.B. will carry the two bridges of C, and a similar party the two bridges of Light Coy.
- (B) As soon after dark as possible 2 bridges will be dumped at P10.009 and two bridges at P9.057.
- (C) At zero minus two hours the R.B. carrying parties will report to C.C.C. and Light Coys.
- (D) The bridging parties will be under direct command of C.C.C. and Light Coys.
- (E) Each bridge requires 8/10 men to carry it, the remainder being allowed for casualties.
16. During the attack leading troops will fire white Verry lights from time to time to indicate their position.
17. B Coy + MG Batten will advance with 11th Infy Bde, they will assemble in P8 band take up positions as follows:
- | | |
|---------|--------|
| 4 Lewis | K 31 a |
| 4 " | J 36 c |
| 8 " | J 35 d |
- A M.C. barrage to cover the attack is being arranged.

Two French Mortars at F^{me} de BAUVENEULE and two
at J 33 C 86 will Co operate in the barrage.

19. ● Direct patrol will call for flare at
Zero plus 5 hours
Zero .. 5½
Zero .. 7½

Enemy attack machines will be in the air all day.

20. The attack will be carried out under a creeping barrage.
The barrage will fall 200 yds in front of the assembly
positions of C and Light Coy at Zero + 2 minutes and at
Zero + plus 4 will move forward at the rate of 100 yds a
minute till it reaches a line 200 yds beyond the first
objective. It will lift off this line at Zero plus 100.
There will then be a wait of about 50 minutes on the
first objective.

The barrage halts for 10 minutes 200 yds beyond the yellow
line, and then goes on to 200 yds in front of the final
objective, and remains a protective barrage till 2
plus 100.

Communications

- (a) A bid visual station will be established at P 3 C 31.
Coy will send back its messages to the station.
Runners will be at this station to take messages to Bn HQ.
- (b) C Coy will establish a visual station at J 36 C 15, which
will become advanced Report Centre, to which all reports
will be sent. Runners will be at this Report Centre to
take back long messages that cannot go by Visual.
L/C Burroughs with 8 runners will assemble with B Coy
and will advance immediately behind it.
L/C Burroughs will drop 4 runners at the house just N
E of TARAVISE MILL, and will himself proceed with the
other 4 to R.C. at J 36 C 15.
Coy will take the messages to R.C. at J 36 C 15, where
one of the 4 runners of Bn H.Q. will take over the message
and take it to house NE of TARAVISE MILL where they
will be taken to Bn H.Q. by the runner there.
- In addition two N.Z. Cyclists will be at the R.C. as soon
after the yellow line has been captured as possible, to
bring messages right back to Bn H.Q.
- They will come under orders of L/C Burroughs.
C.P.C. Coy will endeavour to ensure that the R.C. is
established at the right place.
- (c) It is hoped that Coy will have pigeons.

22. The line of advance ⁽⁶⁾ of the left of the left Coy is 51° True, and the right Coy from road at P5.b.50 is 11° True.
23. A German Anti-tank gun and six Cartridges will be carried forward by B Coy.
24. As soon after the Yellow Line has been captured as possible a Section of 18 Pounder R.F.A. will take up a position about J36.C.50.
- If Coy Commanders require Artillery Support they will communicate direct with the Officer in Charge.
25. As the advance proceeds Bn H.Q. will move forward to house just NE. of TARAVISE MILL and the Aid Post to TARAVISE MILL.
26. Coy Commanders will ensure that their runners reconnoitre the position of Bn H.Q. from the Assembly Areas, so that they will know their way there from the first objective or from the Yellow Line should the R.C. runners fail.
27. The first two rounds fired by 18 pounders of the protective barrage for all objectives will be two rounds of Smoke Shell.
28. Estimated Casualty reports will be rendered if possible at 09.00, 14.00, and 18.00 hours.
29. Prisoners of War The Rifle Brigade will establish an Advanced Collecting Post of 1 N.C.O. and six men at road junction P.10.C.69 at Zero plus 30 minutes. All prisoners will be sent back and handed over to this post. Only 1 or 2 men will take prisoners back to this post, a large escort is not necessary.
30. Any Civilians found in houses will be encouraged to remain in their cellars.
31. At dusk on Zero day the Bn will be relieved by the Essex Regt and will return to billets in HASPRES. Guides will be required at a time to be notified later at Advanced Bn H.Q. at P.11 a 36.
32. Reference para 9 (a) as above, $\frac{1}{2}$ Coy and not 1 Coy of R.B. as given in the above para will advance with the Bn to mop the Yellow Line.

E. V. Smith Capt
Adjt 1st Bn Somerset Light Inf

Operation

Order

No 34

War Diary, Oct, 1918
28.10.18by
A. J. Harrington M.C. Comdgy 1st Bn Somerset Light InfantryThe 11th Infantry Bde relieved 12th Infy Bde in the line on
night 28/29th inst.

The Battalion will relieve 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry Support

Method of relief. Coy will take over from opposite number
C.C. Coy will arrange for the relief of A and C Coys
direct, in conjunction with C.C. Base Regt.Guides Guides on scale of 1 per platoon and H.Q. will
be found by Base Regt and will be at Cross Road Q
a.s.t. at 2.30 p.m.

Coy will move off in the following order:

B and Light Coys, Bn H.Q. An interval of 200 yards will
be maintained between platoons. The leading platoon of
B Coy will move off at 12.55 p.m.
Route, Light Railway to P.10 b 42. Cross Road P.10 b 55.00.
Cross Road P.5 d 26. Cross Roads P.12 a 4.8. Cross Road
Q. a.s.t.Transport Officer will detail one lumber each to Light
and B Coys and Bn H.Q. at 12.15 p.m. to carry forward
Lewis Guns, Magazines etc. These lumbers will
move in rear of the leading platoon of each Coy.Rations, water etc. for consumption 29th inst will be
delivered to Bn H.Q. by lumber. 1 Guide per Coy will
be sent to Bn H.Q. at a time to be notified later to
guide their ration lumber to their Coy H.Q.

Bn H.Q. will be located at P.265.3.

Completion of relief to be reported to Bn H.Q. by runner

ACKNOWLEDGE

10-18

E.V. Smith Capt.
Adjutant 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

The Attack on the R. ECAILLON on 24/10/18

W.D. Diary, Oct 2, 1918

The battn. assembled along the road running through F^{me} LE BOUVENEULE from P. 4. C. 0. 5. 30. to P. 10. C. 7. 4. & were in position by 2 A.M. C & Light Coys were in front, & A & B. were assembled 300^x behind them.

Two bridges were allotted to C & 2nd Light Coy. the carrying parties being provided by 1st Rifle Brigade. C & Light Coys. were ordered to capture the first objective or Blue line, where A & B. Coys were to leapfrog through them, & proceed to capture the final objective or Green line.

At zero, 4 A.M., the attack started behind a creeping barrage. No opposition was encountered before the river was reached, though about 20 Germans were captured in Foe. de PLUVINAGE by the mopping up party detailed for the place. The first German was at once shot, & the others quickly surrendered. A certain number of casualties were caused by our barrage due partly to the impetuosity of the men, & partly to the inevitable number of short shells.

The left bridge was thrown across without much difficulty, but considerable trouble was encountered in getting the other three across, which caused a considerable delay.

During this time there was considerable fire from the other side of the river, & from posts up the slopes of the hill.

The bridges were eventually got across, but only

2

by men wading out into the middle of the stream. The stream was wired on our bank & at one place at least there was wire in the middle of the stream which had to be cut before the bridge could be put across. There appears to have been isolated cases of men swimming across the river. While the bridges were being put across, men not employed on this work, opened rifle fire across the river & this helped considerably to keep down the enemy fire.

Owing to the delay with the bridges Coy. became somewhat compressed.

As soon as the bridges were in position, the men crossed rapidly & the advance was continued to the blue line.

The HERMAN. STELLUNG line in front of the first objective was wired & consisted of a series of isolated posts, & lengths of trench, but not a continuous line. It was strongly held by rifle men & M. Guns.

The leading Coy. advanced against this line in Section Worms. A series of detached fights took place here, each section working on its own. As each section met an enemy post it extended & attacked it, making free use of their Rifles and Lewis Guns. Other parties at once worked round the flanks with the result that the Germans who at first showed fight

suffered considerable ³ casualties, & the remainder quickly surrendered.

This line having been captured, the leading Coys. pushed on to the Blue line without meeting very much opposition, the Blue line being actually assaulted with the bayonet, the men cheering loudly.

The leading Coys. at once ranned the road on the Blue line & opened rapid fire up the slope, while the Support Coys. pushed up to them & then passed through them.

This fire demoralized several enemy posts North East of the Blue line, & enabled the Support Coys. to deal with them with comparative ease.

A considerable number of enemy were ~~seen~~ surprised and captured in the broken road about P. 5. ~~4.~~ 8. 3.

Various M.G. Posts were encountered on the way to the Yellow line, & these were dealt with as before by fire & outflanking movements, & generally surrendered before our men got very close to them.

On reaching the Yellow line, the Support Coys. at once consolidated in touch with the 1st Hampshire Regt. on the left.

There was a considerable gap between us and the 104 Bde. who were meeting with heavy M.G. Fire & were unable to push on. This gap was filled as soon as possible.

4

From here onwards our advance to the Green Line was considerably impeded by heavy M.G. and rifle fire from the right, which made all movements over the open almost impossible. Eventually the equivalent of a weak Coy. about 70/80 men reached the German Wire on the Green Line, which was very strong. Here they came under heavy M.G. fire from the front and right, and could proceed no further.

They consequently dug in with their left on the German C.T. running to the Green Line, & about 40 yards from the German wire. Their position was approximately from J. 30. a. s. 1 to K. 31. a. 05.50. Their right was completely in the air. On the left there was a gap of 500⁺ between them & the 57th Division, but this gap was covered by men of the Hampshire Regt. who were further back, but who joined up with the Battalion at dusk.

At dusk a Coy. of the Rifle Bde. was sent up to form a defensive flank by establishing a line of posts between the right of the advanced troops on the Green Line & the 10th Bde.

Previous to the relief during the night by the Essex Regt. the advanced troops fell back & ~~took~~ took up a position 300⁺ from, and

5

parallel to the Green line.
 During the early part of the evening the enemy attempted a bombing attack down the C.T. but was driven back by h. G. Fire.

During the afternoon, E.A. were very active, flying very low & machine gunning our troops: we suffered several casualties from them, & all movements over the open was ~~made~~ much restricted.

During this operation the spirit of the troops was excellent, especially so the recent drafts, composed chiefly of young boys: the latter showed a real lust for blood, & accounted for a large number of Germans. The value of recent training was clearly demonstrated & full use was made of the rifle & L. Gun. On several occasions the latter were fired from the hip with considerable success.

Enveloping movements proved of the greatest value in dealing with enemy posts, & were invariably successful. The casualties of the day were:

Officers 3. Died of W.D.s
 5 W.D.s
 4 W.D.s. at Duty

149 O.R.

In addition to the number of Germans
killed, which was large, 3 Officers & 150
Germans were captured & sent back by
the Battery receipts being obtained for
them. In addition, a large number of
prisoners were sent back without an
escort, & proceeded down the road to
SAULZON.

Two field guns were reported captured
just in front of the Green line, but have
not yet been recovered.

Five French Mortars on wheels
were captured, as well as a
large number of M. Gas. The latter
have not yet been counted.

26/10/18

Sgt V. H. B. Maynard, ^{1st} Lt
Comd 1st Bn Somerset L. I.

Secret Operation by Order No 35 29-10-18

Major A J Harington MC Commanding MABU

1. General At a date and time to be notified later the 11th Brigade will attack and capture PRESEAU and the high ground to the North of the Village. The 61st Division will be attacking on the South and the 49th Division on the North. The 10th Brigade will be taking over this line as soon as the objective has been gained.

2. Brigade Objectives L14C91 - L14A45 - L8C00
L7 Central L7A50 - K6d55

Boundaries Right K29a47 L19b15
L20a07 L14C91

Left Halt at K20d80 K16C00
K12a00 K6d55

Inter Batts Road junction K22d32
" " L13a25
" " L13a99
and L8a91

3. Method of Attack The Hampshire Regt will be on the left and the Rifle Brigade plus B Coy Somerset L.S. on the right. The Somerset L.S. less one Company will be in support.

4. Assembly A, C and Light Companies will assemble on the line of the Railway running through K27. Exact dispositions and time when A and C Coys will move into the new position will be notified later. GC B Coy will make arrangements direct with C.O. Rifle Brigade. This Coy will be under orders of the C.O. Rifle Brigade from the time of assembly until ordered by him to reopen the Battalion.

5. Bridges Footbridges have already been placed over the River RHONELLE at ARTRES in the following positions:-

2 at K29a28
1 at K29a2570
1 at K29a1590

Four more have been allotted to the Hampshire Regt. Parties of the Somerset L.S. will be responsible for putting them in position. Particulars will be issued later.

(2)

6. The Battalion less 'B' Coy will move to a line K17C - K23a when news has been received that the objective has been captured. Companies will not move until orders to do so are issued by B=H.Q.
- On reaching this line they will dig in and consolidate. Touch should be kept with the Battalion in Reserve of the 49th and 61st Divisions.
- Every Officer should know the Compass bearing of his new position and special care to keep direction should be taken by platoon Commanders on either flank.
- B=H.Q. will remain at K26 b 2.2.
7. Communications A Visual Station will be established at K22 a 88.6. as soon as the Battalion reaches its new position. A relay post will be established at this point under L/C Burroughs who will send all messages from Companies from there to B=H.Q.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.V. Smith Capt
Adjt MABU

Addendum No 1 to Operation Order No 35

29-10-18

1. A Coy will be attached for the Operations to the Hampshire Regt.
Detailed instructions will be given to G.C.A. Coy tomorrow morning.
 - 2 (i) The four footbridges (each 20 ft long) allotted to the Hampshire Regt will be dumped by the 526th Field Coy R.E. 100 yards South of the Cross Roads K 21 d 2.3 at 18.30 hours on 30th inst.
A party of 10 men of "Light" Coy under command of 2/Lieut S.C.A. Smith will meet the wagons and unload them. Four sappers (1 for each bridge) will accompany the bridges to this point, remain with the bridges and assist the parties detailed in para (ii) erecting them over the river.
 - (ii) The following bridging parties will be detailed by G.C. Light and C. Companies.
 - (a) 2/Lieut J. Newton, 2 selected N.C.O.'s and 36 men of C. Coy for carrying and erecting the two bridges for the Right front Coy Hampshire Regt.
 - (b) 2/Lieut F.B. Applegate, 2 selected N.C.O.'s and 36 men of "Light" Coy for carrying and erecting the two bridges for the Left front Company Hampshire Regt.
 - (iii) These parties together with the attached sappers will carry the bridges from Cross Roads K 21 d 2.3. and report to their respective Company Commanders of the Hampshire Regt in the assembly position.
The time these parties will arrive at the Cross Roads will be notified later.
 - (iv) At Zero hour the bridging parties will move forward with the two front Coy Hampshire Regt and erect the bridges at points selected by G.C. front line Companies assisted by one sapper with each bridge.
 - (v) Having placed the bridges in position these parties will rejoin their respective Companies when ordered to do so by the Officers in Charge.
3. The Aid Post will remain in its present position at K 32 b 4 4.
 4. ACKNOWLEDGE

E.V. Smith
 Capt
 Adyt MABU

Addendum No 2. to Operation Order No 35

1. A Coy Somerset L.S. will be attached to and come under the orders of C.O. Hampshire Regt for the attack. It will assemble in rear of the Hampshire Regt and be in position by Zero minus two hours. G.C.A. Company will obtain instructions direct from C.O. Hampshire Regt.
- 2 (a) One Company 1st Kings Own will be attached to Somerset L.S. for the attack. This Coy will take the place of A Coy Somerset L.S. and will assemble on the Railway between "C" and "Light" Companies.
- (b) G.C. Light Coy will supply guides 1 per platoon and 1 per Coy HQ to show the Coy of the 1st Kings Own their assembly position. These guides will be at the Halt K 20 d 8.0 at 23.30 hours on 30th.
- 3 Exact disposition in Assembly area will be notified as soon as it is known whether the Machine Gunners will remain in their present position on the Embankment or not.

4 ACKNOWLEDGE

30-10-18

E.V. Smith Captain
Adj't MABU

(Wom L.S.)

Addendum No 3 to Operation Order No 35

1. The bridging parties of Light and C Companies detailed in Para 2 (ii) will not now be required.
Similar parties will be supplied instead by A Company.
2. A Company will carry 5 Lewis Guns, which will be manned by their own teams and any men required to complete the bridging parties will be supplied by B C Company.
This Company will arrive at the Cross Roads K 21 d 2 3 at 02.00 hours on Zero day. At this point they will collect the 4 bridges and carry them to the Hampshire Regt Assembly area where they will come under orders of C O 1st Hampshire Regt.
3. C Company will move up to the Assembly area leaving their present position at 01.00 hours on Zero day.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE

30-10-18

E. V. Smith Capt
Adj MABU

Addendum No 4 to Operation Order No 35

1. In addition to A Company - Light Company will also be attached to the Hampshire Regt for the attack. C Co Light Coy will visit C O Hampshire Regt and obtain orders direct from him.
2. Reference Addendum No 2 to Operation Order No 35 para 2 (a) and (b) Two Companies 1st King's Own will be attached to the Somerset L.I. These Companies will take the place of Light and A Companies and assemble on the Railway Embankment.
Guides as detailed in (b) will not be required from Light Coy.
2/Lieut B H Cole and guides to be supplied from B.H.C. will meet the King's Own as detailed in Addendum No 2 para 2 (b) and show them into position.
A space will be left between the Halt and the left of these two Companies which will be occupied by the remainder of C Company Somerset L.I.
3. The 10 men for unloading bridges under 2/Lieut S P A Smith will not now be required.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE

31-10-18

E. V. Smith Capt
Adjt MABU

1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry
 Summary of Casualties, Reinforcements, & Sick, for the
 Month of October, 1918

	Officers.	Other Ranks
Killed in Action		39.
Died of Wounds	2 Lt. A. Gardiner, P. E. Austin, + L. A. Young	5
Wounded	Lt. H. V. Berry, Lt. A. J. Frew J. C. Hackwell, M. Ketterington R. P. Cecil Smith + E. Cockburn	140.
Wounded at Duty	Lt. P. K. Almond, Lt. B. Applegate, R. Vining & J. H. Newton	7
Missing		3
Total	13	194

Reinforcements	Lt. J. P. Applegate, R. P. Cecil-Smith, C. J. Pitches & J. W. Parrott Lt. P. J. Sylvester	170.
Total	5	170

To Field Ambulance	Lt. C. M. Faux, C. J. Pitches + A. G. Schurig	75.
Total	3	75

Classified B II "Struck off"	Lt. C. M. Faux	
To England. (Common)		2
Bde. Employ "Struck off"		1
Injured		3
To Prison		1
To England. (Tour of Duty)		1
" (3 Mths Leave) - Struck off		-
Struck off (Not rejd from leave to England)	Lt. Col. W. B. Mojendie D.O. Lt. W. M. Padfield	-
Struck off (Admitted H.P. (Eng))		1
Total	3	9

W. H. Young Major
 Comd. 1st Bn Somerset LI





Scale 20000

18

October
War Diary 1918

1/ Somerset

SOMERSET

log

WAR DIARY

Army Form 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Bn - Somerset Light Infantry.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
K. 26.B.22 (Sect 51 A)	1918 Nov. 1 st		<p>The Brigade continued the attack in conjunction with the Divisions on the Left + Right. The objective was the high ground in K.12. & the village of PRESEAU. "B" Coy. were attached to the Hampshire Regt. on the left. Zero was at 05.15 hours. The line was reported captured by 07.45 hours. At 09.30 hours the right flank was counter-attacked and PRESEAU was evacuated, the line being established on the high ground 300 yards West of OLD MILL SPUR. The enemy again counter-attacked at 16.15 hours but was driven back with heavy losses. "A" & "C" Boys. of Kings Own Regt. were attached to the Battalion for this operation and in conjunction with "B" Coy. assembled on the line of the Railway Embankment in K.27. As soon as the objective was reported captured these Boys. moved up + dug in in Support in K.17.a and c. At night the Brigade was relieved by Kings Own on the Left + Seaforth Highlanders on the Right. The Brigade moved back to area K.17 + K.23 and ARTRES. The Battalion moved to area K.17. Owing to the lateness of the relief + the great darkness "A", "Light" + "B" Boys. did not arrive back in this area until daylight. Casualties of other ranks were slight. Officer casualties were. - Killed: 2 Lt. Power; Wounded: Capt. L.A. Osborne O.S.O., M.C. & 2 Lt. F.W. Penell. At 2300 hours orders were received that the attack would be resumed on the following morning: Kings Own on the left + Seaforth Highlanders on the right.</p>	<p>Appendix No 1.</p> <p>827 16th Nov</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
K.26.6.2.2 (Sheet 51A)	1918. Nov. 1 st cont'd		and that the Battalion would be in support to the Seaforth Highlanders on the right. Orders were issued at once, but with the exception of 'C' Company, whose exact location was known, were not received till very late. Light, 'A' + 'B' boys were in the process of being relieved from the various Batt ^{ns} to which they were attached.	
-do.	Nov.	2 nd	The attack was continued in the morning. Zero was at 05.30 hours. 'C' Coy reached their assembly area in time to dig in, whilst Light + 'A' Coys. were only just moving up into position when the attack commenced. 'B' Coy. were not found until about 08.30 hours. 'C' Company advanced in immediate support to the Seaforths. Light + 'A' Coys. followed up + the three Coys., after mopping up the village of PRESEAU dug in on the Eastern outskirts of the village. Soon after 09.00 hours 'B' Coy. had joined the remainder of the Battalion. At 09.45 hours orders were received that the Batt ⁿ were to withdraw + dig in on the OLD MILL SPUR, West of the Village. This movement was complete at 13.00 hours. Enemy activity in this area decreased, but steady shelling around the village was kept up during the afternoon. Officer casualties were: Killed, Capt. G.C.H. Lewin MC; Wounded, 2 Lt. G.S. Harrison. The Batt ⁿ was relieved during the night by 'A' Coy, 9 th West Yorks Regt Relief complete at 23.15 hours. On relief moved back to billets at HASPRES, the Batt ⁿ being reported present in billets at 04.30 hours, 3 rd Bn. Total casualties sustained in the operations on Nov. 1 st + 2 nd , 5 Officers + 88 O.R. A few O.R. who were still with the Rifle Brigade + Hampshire Regt.	Appendix No 2.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	Nov. 2 nd	6 th	- at the time of relief, reported during the morning of 3 rd Inst.	
HASPRES.	Nov. 3 rd		Day devoted to rest + cleaning up. Wet day.	
do.	" 4 th		Day devoted to rest, -cleaning up + re-organization. Battalion bathed. Fine day. Divisional Band played in village square.	
do.	" 5 th		Very wet day. Section + platoon training.	
do.	" 6 th		Very wet day. Section + platoon training -continued.	
do.	" 7 th		Section + Platoon training. "A" + "B" Coys. fired on the range. Battalion found Divisional H.Q. guard. 1 N.C.O + 11 men proceeded to YALENCIENNES to attend a civic re-opening of the town.	
do.	" 8 th		Section + platoon training -continued. Lewis Gun range was allotted to "B" + "Light" Coys. Fine day. Brigade Competition started. Battalion was first in Officers' Revolver Competition + second in Signalling Competition. Brigadier General Compton, D.S.O visited Battalion in the morning.	
do.	" 9 th		Company in the attack. Fine day. G.O.C. Division inspected Battalion at training. Battalion won Transport Competition. Batt ⁿ played 11 th Field Ambulance at Association Football + lost 1-0. Fine day.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HASPRES	Nov. 10 th	1918	Fine day. Church parade in the village School at 10 A.M. During the afternoon the Bn. played the Hampshire Regt. at Association Football in the Brigade Competition; lost 2-0. News received of Germany's acceptance of Armistice terms.	
CURGIES.	Nov.	11 th	The Brigade group moved forward from HASPRES to CURGIES; the Bn. by March Route at 9.20 a.m., & arrived in billets at 2.30 P.M. Cold day. (The destination of the Bn. was, originally, SAULTAIN; on arrival there no billets were available, consequently the Bn. moved on to CURGIES).	Appendix No. 3.
do.	Nov.	12 th	Section & platoon training continued in new area. Fine day.	
do.	"	13 th	Section & platoon training continued. Fine day. The Bn. was second in the Brigade Jug-of-War Competition. The Bn. played the Rifle Brigade at Association Football & won, 1-0.	
do.	"	14 th	Fine day. Morning devoted to Company Drill & cleaning up, etc. Educational training started. The Bn. was second in the Brigade Cross-Country Run.	
do.	"	15 th	Fine day. The Brigadier Genl Comd ^g inspected the Bn. in full marching order. The Bn. played the 2211 Corps at Rugby Football during the afternoon; won 9-3.	

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Bn Somerset LI

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES.	Nov.	16 th	Fine-cold day. Morning devoted to Company training + Educational training.	
"	"	17 th	Very-cold day. A Brigade Church Parade was held on the football field at 11 a.m. Draft of 152 other ranks joined the Battalion.	
"	"	18 th	Morning devoted to Company Drill, Company in the attack + Educational training. The Batt. found the Divisional HQ. Guard.	
"	"	19 th	Company training-continued. There was a practice Brigade ceremonial parade during the morning.	
"	"	20 th	The Batt. took part in a Divisional Ceremonial parade and march past in the Aerodrome, SAULTAIN.	
"	"	21 st	Company + educational training-continued. The battalion played the Rifle Brigade at Association football in the afternoon + lost.	
"	"	22 nd	Company training-continued. The Transport was inspected on the march by the General Officer Comd ^g during the morning.	
"	"	23 rd	Morning devoted to company drill + short route march. Educational training-continued. Fine day. The Divisional Band played in the Square during the afternoon.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURBILES	1914. Nov 24 th		Church parade with the Divisional Band on the football field during the morning. Fine day.	
"	"	25 th	Morning devoted to Squad + Company Drill + Educational Training. Platoon knock-out Football Competition started. No 1 platoon beat No 6 platoon.	
"	"	26 th	Short route marches under Company arrangements. Educational classes continued. Platoon football competition continued during the afternoon.	
"	"	27 th	A practice Brigade ceremonial parade took place at 9.30am. Remainder of the day at disposal of O's C. Boys for bathing under Coy. arrangements. Platoon football during the afternoon.	
"	"	28 th	The Army Commander, General Sir H.S. Home, K.C.B., K.C.M.G. inspected the Division at the Aerodrome SAULTAIN. Wet day.	
"	"	29 th	Morning devoted to Company Drill + Company in the attack. Educational Training under Platoon Commanders. Draft of 60 Other Ranks joined the Battalion.	
"	"	30 th	Companies at disposal of O's C. Companies for Physical Training, Drill + Musketry.	appendix No 4

A. Hainington. Lieut-Colonel

Comd'g 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

Openhouse Order No 35 = with Order Appendices

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1st Battalion Somerset L.I.

Summary of Appendices, War Diary, Nov. 1918.

N^o 1. Operation Order N^o 35.

N^o 2. Operation Order N^o 36.

N^o 3. Operation Order N^o 37.

N^o 4. Summary of Casualties.

Operation Order No. 36, 1.11.18.

by

Major A. J. Harrington M.C., Comd 1st Bn. Somerset Lt. Infantry.

1. The 11th Bde. will continue the attack tomorrow morning Nov. 2nd with the Seaforth Highlanders on the Right & the King's Own on the Left.

The Somerset L.I. will follow the Seaforth Hrs. and mop up PRESEAU.

2. (a) Objective. (As in O.O. 35) L.14.C.9.1 - L.14.A.4.5 - L.8.C.0.0 - L.7. central - L.7a.5.0 - K.6.d.5.5.

(b) Boundaries - (As in O.O. 35).

Right - K.29.a.4.7 - L.19.B.1.6 - L.20.a.0.7 - L.14.C.9.1

Left - K.16.C.0.0 - K.12.a.0.0 - X Roads L.1.B.2.2.

Inter Battalion - K.22.d.3.2 - Road Junction L.13.a.2.5 - Road Junction L.13.a.9.9 - L.8.a.9.1.

(c) Jumping off lines - The Seaforths will assemble in following position: - K.18.d.35.95 - K.18.d.5.4 thence due South to K.24.d.5.9.

The Battalion will assemble in a suitable position three to four hundred yards in rear in the following order:-

Left Front Coy:- 'C' Coy. Left Support Coy:- 'Light' Coy.

Right Front Coy:- 'A' Coy. Right Support Coy:- 'B' Coy.

Companies will be in position by 0300 hrs. & will report when in position.

3. Method of Attack:- Touch will be kept with the Seaforths from the moment they advance, & in the event of their being held up, assistance will be given.

PRESEAU will be mopped up & on completion of attack the Balm. will consolidate on the Eastern outskirts of the village & remain in support of the Seaforths.

2.

4. Artillery Support. An 18 pdr. barrage will fall at Zero 250 yds East of front jumping off line, when it will rest for 10 minutes. It will then lift at the rate of 100 yds in 5 minutes to 400 yds in advance of the BLUE LINE (Objective) when it will become protective for 15 minutes.

5. ZERO 0530 hours.

6. Report Centre, & relay post for runners will move from present position to R 23 - central.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E. V. Smith Capt.

Adjutant, 1st Bn Somerset L.I.

Dated at 2300 hrs, 1.11.18.

Copies to. - Comd^r Officer. O's Comd^r Companies. Adjutant.

Signalling Officer. War Diary (2). FILE.

S E C R E T.

O P E R A T I O N ' ' O R D E R ' ' N o . 3 7 .

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

1. The Battalion will move to SAULTAIN tomorrow, Nov. 11th.
2. The Battalion will form up as follows:-
Starting Point - Junction of road and railway, F.15.a.85.20.
Time - 9-20 a.m. Order of March - Buglers, Bn. H.Q., "Light", "A", "B", and "C" Companies.
Route - MONCHAUX - MAING-FAMARS-Road junction, E.24.d.5.6. - SAULTAIN.
Dress - Fighting Order. Jerkins will be worn, and the waterproof sheet strapped on the waistbelt.
As far as possible Coys. will move off the road; where it is necessary to use the road, Coys. will march in file.
3. An interval of 200 yards between Coys will be maintained. Transport will accompany the Battalion. Distances as laid down in S.S. 724 will be maintained.
4. A halt of about an hour will be made somewhere between MAING and FAMARS: details of this will be issued later.
5. A billeting party consisting of Lt. R. Spackman, 1 N.C.O. per Coy., H.Q. Transport and Quartermaster's Stores will proceed in advance to take over accommodation. This party will be provided with bicycles, with the exception of the N.C.O. from the Transport, who will be mounted. Party will parade at Orderly Room at 9 a.m. and will report to Staff Captain at SAULTAIN Church at 11-30 a.m.
6. Packs, blankets tightly rolled in tens, and all surplus kit will be stacked at the Quartermaster's Stores at the following hours:-
Bn. H.Q. 7 a.m. "A" Coy. 7-15 a.m. "B" Coy. 7-30 a.m.
"C" Coy. 7-45 a.m. "Light" Coy. 8 a.m.
All articles must be clearly labelled.
7. Officers' kits will be stacked at their respective Coy. H.Q. at 8-15 a.m. and the Transport Officer will arrange to collect them.
8. Lewis Gun limbers will be loaded tonight. Any tools at present in possession of Coys. will be loaded on the tool limber at the Transport lines at 8 a.m.
9. Two lorries will be available to convey packs, blankets, etc. The Quartermaster will detail a representative to be at Brigade H.Q. at 8 a.m. to take over these lorries. Each Coy. will detail 1 N.C.O. and 3 men to report to Quartermaster at 8 a.m. to load the lorries.
10. The party proceeding on leave on 12th. Inst. will report at Bn. H.Q. at 9 a.m. and proceed to the Divisional Reception Camp, proceeding to railhead on 12th. Inst.
11. Companies will report their arrival in billets to Bn. H.Q.
12. A C K N O W L E D G E .

10-11-18.

G. H. Cole Lieut. for Captain,

Adjutant, 1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

Issued at 8 p.m., 10-11-18.

Copies to.- Cmdg. Officer. O's Comdg. Coys. O/C Bn. H.Q.
2nd. in Command. Transport Officer. Quartermaster.
Medical Officer. War Diary (2) FILE.

Appendix No 4, War Diary, Nov. 1918

1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

Summary of casualties, Reinforcements, + Sick for the Month of November, 1918.

	Officers.	Other Ranks.
Killed in Action.	Capt. C. G. H. Lewin M.C. 2 Lt. A. P. Bowser.	11.
Died of Wounds.		2.
Wounded.	2 Lts F. W. Perrett + C. S. Harrison Capt. L. A. Osborne, D.S.O., M.C.	63.
Wounded (at duty)		1.
Missing		1.
	TOTAL: 5.	78.
Reinforcements.	2 Lts. F. H. Bose; A. Hunt; A. S. Barnes; J. Ellis; F. H. Lydford; H. M. Boucher; E. Burton; P. W. Busker; J. A. Flint; E. Limes; R. W. Melton; W. J. Toy; J. C. Peters; A. W. Moore; W. J. Major; Lts. J. B. Sage Brown; E. H. Firth; Capt. R. A. Cluckerton M.C. Capt. D. G. H. Edwards M.C. 2 Lt. H. S. Wilkes	320.
	TOTAL 20.	320
To Field Ambulance.	2 Lts A. S. Wilkes; C. J. Pitcher; F. H. Bose; S. G. Smith; Lt. R. Spackman	91
	TOTAL 5	91
Died.		1.
French mortar Battery (Struck off)		3.
To Base, "medically unfit"		6
	TOTAL.	10.

2/12/18.

W. Huntington.

Lieut. - Colonel

Comdg, 1st Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry
Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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98 5-2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES	1-12-18		Parade services were held in the morning. The Battalion beat 520 Field Coy. R.E. (Association) by 3 goals to 2. Platoon League continued	
	2-12-18		Coy. Training & Educational Training continued Lt. Col. W.B. Nayndro, A.S.O., rejoined from N.K., and assumed command of the Battalion Platoon League continued	
	3-12-18		Coy. Training & Educational Training continued, also Platoon League. Dabbling of Ammunition in neighbourhood of PRESEAU started	
	4-12-18		Wet day: no outdoor training possible. Educational Training continued. The other ranks beat the Officers of the Brigade at Rugby Football by 3 tries to nothing	
	5-12-18		Coy. Training & Educational Training continued The Battalion lined the streets to greet H.M. The King who was given a very enthusiastic reception 2/Lt. R.P. Cecil Smith awarded the M.C.; 2/Batt Sgt. Harris awarded the M.C.; and the following other ranks were awarded the D.C.M. :- No. 44504 Pk. Buzzard G.; No. 30335 Lk. Simpson H.W.; No. 21718 Lk. Gregory J.	
	6-12-18		Coy. & Educational Training continued, also saluting. Battalion bathed at Valenciennes. Corpl. Corneline, M.M., Coy., awarded bar to M.M.	
	7-12-18		A Brigade ceremonial parade was held at Hurdle Field L. 2 at 6 (sheet 51 A). Wet day Battalion played 21 st West Yorks at Rugby and won by 8 points to nil	
	8-12-18		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning Battalion played 8 th Battalion at Association Football in the afternoon and lost by 1 - 0	

83 K
5/12/18

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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1st Battr Somerset Light Infantry

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES	9.12.18		Co. Educational Training continued. Wet day. Each company held a short route march.	
	10.12.18		Co. Educational Training continued. Wet day. B Coy on the range. Temp/Lieut. J. Radford awarded the M.C., CSM. Johnson and Sgt. Webb awarded the D.C.M.	
	11.12.18		Brigade parade for presentation of medal ribbons by Corps Commander (XII Corps) in the morning. 2 Officers & 50 other ranks attended, as the parade was held in a barn owing to rain. Remainder of Battalion bathed in the afternoon. No. 9090 CSM. Cook, A., was awarded the D.C.M. and 1st Sgt. Harris M.C., was awarded Bar to M.C.	
	12.12.18		Wet day. All training was confined to billets.	
	13.12.18		Co. Training continued. Rain most of the morning. Final of Platoon League - 707 Platoon beat 709 Platoon by 2-0.	
	14.12.18		Co. Educational Training continued. Light Coy. on the range. GOC. 4th Division visited the transport in the morning.	
	15.12.18		Battalion paraded for Dawn Service in the morning. Commanding Officer inspected billets after parade. Service. The Cross-Country run in Light Coy. Competition was decided in the afternoon. Result:- A Coy. first - Light (H) Coy. second - B Coy. third.	
	16.12.18		Co. Educational Training continued. B Coy. on the range in the morning. Battalion played 8th MG. Battalion in 1 st round of Lucas Cup at M.A.R.L.Y. and lost 3-0.	
	17.12.18		Co. Educational Training continued. Boxing competition for Light Coy. started in afternoon.	
	18.12.18		Training continued. Boxing competition continued.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES	19.12.18		Draining continued. A & Light Coy bathed in the morning. Boxing continued.	
	20.12.18		Draining continued. B & C Coys bathed in the morning. Boxing competition continued.	
	21.12.18		Battalion ceremonial parade in the morning.	
	22.12.18		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. Commandg. Officer inspected billets after the parade service. Semi finals and Finals of Boxing Competition fought in the afternoon. Result - Light Coy 1 st - A Coy. 2 nd - C Coy. 3 rd .	
	23.12.18		Coy. Educational training continued. Remainder of Battalion bathed in the morning. Regt. Hunt to Hunt Race Meeting was held in afternoon in very wet weather. Battalion got 1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd out of 4 races.	
	24.12.18		Coy. Educational training continued in wet day. Preparations made for Christmas Day.	
	25.12.18		Christmas Day:- church services held in the morning. Commanding Officer, 2 nd in command, etc., visited dunnets. Coy. concerts held in the afternoon and evening. Very enjoyable day spent.	
	26.12.18		Boxing Day. No Parades. Wet day.	
	27.12.18		Wet day. all parades held in billets.	
	28.12.18		Another wet day. all parades carried out in billets.	Brigade
	29.12.18		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. First round of Battalion Boxing Competition in the afternoon. Battalion won all fights.	
	30.12.18		Cops' went for route march independently. Educational training continued. Finals of Brigade Boxing Competition held in the afternoon. Battalion won 5 fights out of 7.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

1st Batt. Somerset Light Infantry

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES.	31.12.18		<p>Platoon in the attack. Educational training continued. Preliminary round in brigade tug-of-war completed for in the morning. Battalion drew a bye in catch weights and beat 1st Hampshire Regiment in the Light Weights (100 stone on the rope). Finals of tug-of-war completed for in the afternoon. The Battalion won both the light and catch weights beating the Rifle Brigade in both cases.</p> <p>Summary of Casualties for the month of December.</p>	Appendix I.
			1-1-19	
			<p>V. H. B. Hojindie Commanding, 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry</p>	

APPENDIX No. I W-r Diary, December, 1918.

1st. BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY.

SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES, REINFORCEMENTS AND SICK FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1918.

	OFFICERS	OTHER RANKS
REINFORCEMENTS.	Lieut. Col. V.H.B. Majendie, DSO. Lieut. R.P. Johnes Lieut. W.J. Drake. Lieut. F.W. Perrett.	61
	4	61
TO FIELD AMBULANCE	Capt. D.L. Gough, M.C.	43
	1	43
FROM FIELD AMBULANCE	-	13
	-	13
FROM HOSPITAL	2/Lieut. H.G. Wilks 2/Lieut. C.T. Pitcher. Capt. D.L. Gough, M.C.	-
	3	-
INJURED	-	3
DIED	-	1

Som. L. J.

Jan - Feb 1919

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 4

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

1ST BATTN. SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CURGIES.	1.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Inter Company Rugby Football Match in afternoon.	
"	2.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued : wet day.	
"	3.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Light Coy. on the range.	
"	4.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Lieut-General Hunter-Weston, K.C.B., D.S.O., visited the Battalion in the morning and interviewed all people who served under him in the Brigade. Transport started the march to the new area at 09.00 hours.	
"	5.1.19.		Battalion proceeded by bus to LA LOUVIERE AREA. Embussed at east end of CURGIES at 09.30 hours - started at 10.10 hours, and proceeded via VALENCIENNES & MONS. Battalion reached HAINE-ST.-PIERRE (Battn. Area) about 14.30 hours. Very comfortable billets.	See Operation Order No.37.
HAINE ST PIERRE.	6.1.19.		Day spent in settling down; a few parades carried out.	
"	7.1.19.		Battalion bathed in the morning. Company & Educational Training carried out. Battalion Mess started.	
"	8.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued.	
"	9.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. The Burgomaster and the members of the Commune gave a civic reception to the Officers of the Battalion in the afternoon : 4th Divisional Band and Battalion Buglers were in attendance.	
"	10.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Lieut.Col. V.H.B. Majendie, D.S.O., assumed command of the Brigade during absence on leave of Brig-General Webb Bowen, D.S.O., and Captain D.C.H. Edwards, M.C., assumed command of the Battn.	

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

1ST BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INF.

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAINE ST. PIERRE.	11.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. G.O.C., 4th Division, visited the Battalion during the morning. The FORCED MARCH in the Light Company Competition was held in the morning with the following result :- 1st "C" Company. 2nd. "Light" Company. 3rd. "B" Company. 4th "A" Company.	
"	12.1.19.		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. In the afternoon, Light Company played the local football team and won by four goals to two.	
"	13.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. The GUARD MOUNTING in the Light Company Competition was held in the morning, resulting as follows :- 1st "Light" Company. 2nd. "B" Company. 3rd. "A" & "C" Companies (equal). Two companies in the morning.	
"	14.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Two companies bathed in the morning.	
"	15.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. "A" Company beat "B" Company at Association Football in Light Company Competition by 6 - 0.	
"	16.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Light Company beat "C" Company in Light Company Competition by two goals to nil.	
"	17.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued.	
"	18.1.19.		Wet day. Company & Educational Training continued. Company Drill Competition in Light Company Competition held in the morning; result :- 1st. "Light" Company; 2nd. "A" Company; 3rd. "C" Company; 4th. "B" Company.	
"	19.1.19.		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. "B" Company beat "C" Company by one goal to nil in the morning; "A" and "Light" Companies played a drawn game (1-1) in the afternoon. Both games were in the Light Company Competition.	

WAR DIARY

OF

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1ST BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INF.

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

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAINES ST. PIERRE.	20.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Battalion played rest of Brigade at Rugby in the afternoon and won 41 points to nil.	
"	21.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Two Companies bathed in the morning.	
"	22.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Two Companies bathed in the morning.	
"	23.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Headquarters and Transport bathed in the morning.	
"	24.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Rugby Match against 2nd Seaforth Highlanders in Divisional Cup cancelled owing to hard state of ground.	
"	25.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Owing to heavy snow no sports were permissible.	
"	26.1.19.		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. No sports possible owing to snow.	
"	27.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. The Divisional Cross Country Race was held in the afternoon, the Battalion being fifth.	
"	28.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Divisional Boxing Competition in the afternoon - Battalion won two bouts, lost two, and drew one bye.	
"	29.1.19.		Company & Educational Training. Finals of Divisional Boxing Competition in the afternoon; Sgt. Southwood could not fight owing to injury; Battalion lost the other bout. In the whole competition, the Battalion had one winner and one runner up; Pte. Britt being winner in the Bantams and Sgt. Southwood runner up in middles.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

1ST BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INF

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAINE ST PIERRE.	30.1.19.		Companies went for a Route March. More snow made it impossible for any sports of any kind outdoors.	
"	31.1.19.		Company & Educational Training continued. Lieut-Colonel V.H.B. Majendie, D.S.O., returned to the Battalion from Brigade and assumed command of the Battalion.	
1.2.19.			<p style="text-align: right;"><i>V.H.B. Majendie</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Lieut. Colonel., Commanding, 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.</p> <p>-----</p>	

S.L. 212.

1ST BATTALION SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY.
-----SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES FOR JANUARY, 1919.

		<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>
Reinforcements		-	49
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		7	49
Struck Off.	Lieut. P.J. Sylvester Capt. R.A.A. Chichester	2	1
To England for Demobilization Duty		-	17
Demobilized	Lieut. N.F. Boyes, M.C. 2/Lieut. J.H. Newton	2	142
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		4	160
To Field Ambulance.	Lieut. P.J. Sylvester	1	28
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1	28

1.2.19.

VMB Majordie

Lieut-Colonel.,
Commanding, 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

S E C R E T.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 37

COPY No. 11

by
 Lt. Col. V.H.B. Majendie, D.S.O., Comdgr. 1st Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

Ref. Sheets : VALENCIENNES &
 NAMUR I/100,000.

1. (a) The IIth Infantry Brigade will move to the LA LOUVIERE AREA on 4th and 5th January, 1919.
 (b) The Battalion will proceed to HAINE-ST-PIERRE on 5th instant by bus. The Transport will move on 4th instant by march route.
2. (a) The embussing point will be JENLAIN-CURGIES road, the head of the column being at S.W. edge of CURGIES facing in the direction of VALENCIENNES.
 (b) The debussing point will be the PERONNES-FAYE-LES-GENEFPE road, head of column being at the road's railway crossing, about one mile N.E. of L in HAINE-ST-PAUL.
3. (a) Busses are allotted to Battalion as follows - No. 6 to No. 24 inclusive.
 (b) The Battalion will be told off into Units of 25 irrespective of Companies before moving off.
 (c) Care must be taken that the road is left clear during embussing.
 (d) Lieut. G.H. Cole will be at the embussing point at 08.40 hours to take over busses.
4. The Battalion will move to embussing point as follows :-
STARTING POINT - Head of Battalion at Orderly Room. Order of march :- "C", "B", "A" and Light Companies. Batta. Headquarters.
TIME 08.35 hours. DRESS Marching Order. The great coat will be worn and the jerkin will be carried in the pack.
5. (a) The Transport will move Brigaded under the command of the ^{Brigade} Transport Officer, by march route on 4th and 5th instant in accordance with Appendix "B".
 (b) One representative from Transport will proceed in advance with the Brigade Transport Officer to take over billets for night 4/5th instant.
6. One N.C.O. per company and H.Q. will report at Orderly Room at 07.45 hours to-morrow, 4th instant, and will proceed to HAINE-ST-PIERRE to take over billets. This party will meet the Battalion at debussing point on arrival 5th instant.
7. 3 lorries are allotted to the Battalion for blankets, stores, Officers' kits, etc. The Quartermaster will arrange to send a representative to Brigade H.Q. on 5th instant at an hour to be notified later to take over these lorries.
 Blankets clearly labelled, rolled in tens, will be stacked at the Shoemaker's shop on 5th instant, at a time to be notified later.
 Officers' valises will be stacked at Officers' Mess, 5th instant, at a time to be notified later.
8. All Lewis Guns, etc., signalling equipment, (except that in use at present), and Orderly Room boxes, will be loaded on the Transport to-day.
9. Any claims will be forwarded to Orderly Room by 12.00 hours to-morrow in order that they may be investigated. Before moving off certificates should be obtained from the owners of property occupied by troops to the effect that they have no claim to make. These certificates will be forwarded to Orderly Room by 08.00 hours on 5th instant. The certificates to be rendered by Transport will reach the Orderly Room by 20.00 hours to-day.

2.

10. All billets will be left scrupulously clean. Officers' Commanding Coys' - H.Q., Transport, Quartermaster, will render a certificate to the Orderly Room one hour before their billets are vacated to the effect that their billets have been inspected by an Officer and that they are left in a clean and tidy condition.
11. RATIONS for consumption on 7th instant will be cooked before moving off.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Appendix "B" issued to Transport Officer only.

E. V. Smith

Adjutant, 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. Captain.

Distribution: No. 1 O/C "Light" Coy. No. 2 O/C "A" Coy.
 No. 3 O/C "B" Coy. No. 4 O/C "C" Coy. No. 5 O/C Bn. H.Q.
 No. 6 Commanding Officer. No. 7 2nd in Command. No. 8 Med. Officer.
 No. 9 Quartermaster. No. 10 Transport Officer. War Diary (2).
 FILE.

S.L. 545

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Haine Saint Pierre	1.2.19		Coy & Educational Training Continued. The Mayor and Corporation gave a dance in the evening to the Officers of the Battalion which was very much enjoyed.	
	2.2.19		Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. No games yet possible owing to the state of the ground.	
	3.2.19		Coy & Educational Training Continued. Divisional Commander visited the Battalion in the morning. Battalion relieved a Guard of 1st Rifle Brigade at MANAGE Station consisting of 1 Officer, 1 Sgt., 4 Ncpls., and 21 men. This was found by Light Coy.	
	4.2.19		Coy & Educational Training Continued. More Snow. Winners of Divisional Boxing Competition fought Belgian Boxers at La Louviere. Pte Britt Light Coy fought in the Bantam Weights and lost in the fourth round.	
	5.2.19		Coy & Educational Training Continued. Heavy Snow fell in the afternoon & night.	
	6.2.19		Heavy Snow made Parades impossible. Morning devoted to games and Educational Training.	
	7.2.19		Coy & Educational Training Continued.	
	8.2.19		Morning devoted to inspection of Billets etc. and Educational Training. Three Coys. bathed in the morning. A dance was given to the men of the Battalion in the evening by the Mayor & Corporation.	
	9.2.19		The Coy paraded for Divine Service in the morning.	
	10.2.19		Coy, and Educational Training Continued.	
	11.2.19		Coy and Educational Training Continued.	
	12.2.19		Coy and Educational Training Continued. Still Frosty and very cold.	
	13.2.19		Company Route March. Educational Training. Still cold with snow.	
	14.2.19		Coy and Educational Training Continued. A little rain. Two Coys bathed in morning.	
	15.2.19		Morning devoted to inspection of Billets etc. Three Coys Bathed in morning. Thaw set in with rain. In the evening the Officers gave a dance in the Cinema. A good Show.	
	16.2.19		The Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. Weather dull with fair amount of Rain.	

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WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.*1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry*

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<i>17.2.19</i>	<i>Haine Saint Pierre</i>	<i>Coys & Educational Training continued. The B.G.C. inspected the Transport in the morning. In afternoon we were to have played 2nd Seaforth Highlanders in Divisional Rugby Cup but they scratched.</i>	
	<i>18.2.19</i>		<i>Coys & Educational Training continued. Weather showery. Sergeants Dance in the evening. Coys Boxing, CSM Johnstone was beaten, and Pte Britt had to scratch as being overweight.</i>	
	<i>19.2.19</i>		<i>Coys & Educational Training continued. Weather dull. In the afternoon the Batt. played 2nd Lancs. Fusiliers at Harlemont in the Div. Rugby Cup, resulting in a win for us 9-0 (1 drop goal & 1 try)</i>	
	<i>20.2.19</i>		<i>Coys Training and Educational Training continued.</i>	
	<i>21.2.19</i>		<i>Coys & Educational Training continued. Batt. played against 2nd Duke of Wellingtons Regt. in Final of Rugby Cup. Lost 12-0.</i>	
	<i>22.2.19</i>		<i>Devoted morning to administrative inspections. 3 Coys bathed 18 horses sent away.</i>	
	<i>23.2.19</i>		<i>Battalion paraded for Divine Service in the morning. Orders for Draft received.</i>	
	<i>24.2.19</i>		<i>Coys. at disposal of O.C. Coys for fitting up draft.</i>	

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1st Batt Somerset Light Infantry

(Erase heading not required.)

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
<i>Haine Saint Pierre</i>			
	<i>25. 2. 19.</i>	<i>25.2.19</i>	<i>Boys at disposal of O.C. boys for fitting up Draft.</i>
		<i>26.2.19</i>	<i>Draft marched off at 8.45 a.m. to proceed by train from <u>Manange</u> to <u>Calais</u>. to join 59th Division. Capt. C.M. Pounce & 2nd Lieut S.E.A. Smith and 299 O.R.s</i>
			<i>Corps Races at <u>Mons</u></i>
		<i>27.2.19</i>	<i>Battalion amalgamated into Headquarters, Transport and 1 Company. 7 horses sent away for repatriation.</i>
		<i>28.2.19</i>	<i>Training impossible owing to there being no available men. 11th Brigade Group. played 12th Brigade Group</i>

*1853 Majinde, Lieut. Colonel,
Commanding 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry*

1st Batt Somerset Light Infantry

Summary of casualties, Reinforcements Sick etc., for
Month of February 1919.

	Name of Officers	Number of Other Ranks.
Reinforcements from Hospital and 11 th T.M. Battery. } From 2 nd Lovats Scouts Yeomanry	-	24
	Lieut S. Stephenson	-
Totals.	1	24
To England for Demobilisation	2/Lieut A.W. Moore 2/Lieut R.W. Melton 2/Lieut A.G. Barnes. Lieut F.W. Perrett. Lieut P.K. Almond	148
Demobilised on Leave	-	7
To 11 th Batt Somerset Light Inf.	Capt E.M. Prince 2/Lieut S.C.A. Smith	299.
Totals.	7	454
To Field Ambulance	Lieut P.J. Sylvester Lieut D. Gage-Brown	34
Totals.	2	34

Aine St. Pierre,
Belgium

1. 3. 19

R.B. Majors;
Commanding 1st Batt Somerset Light Infantry