

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required)

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Place	Date	Hour	<i>Page 500</i>	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and reference to Appendices
	<i>1</i>			<i>Fine day. Battalion moved off from METZ at 13.00 hours into huts at VELU WOOD.</i>	
	<i>2</i>			<i>Fine and bright. Very cold in the early morning. All companies employed under Company Commanders for inspection and reorganization.</i>	
	<i>3</i>			<i>Fine and bright. Training for the day as follows: All Platoon Officers under Company Commanders for training in map reading, compass etc. All N.C.O's except one for company under the R.S. Major for training. Companies at Baths.</i>	
	<i>4</i>			<i>Fine day with dull intervals. All companies training under Company Commanders. Each company had an hours practice on the range. Remainder of time allotted to platoon training.</i>	
	<i>5</i>			<i>Dull day with some slight showers. "A" and "B" Companies training. Tactical Exercise and Advancing by patrols, "C" and "D" Companies. Company and</i>	

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	5			<i>Platoon training. Special instructions in Bombs and Rifle Grenades. Tactical handling of Lewis Guns. Attack by a Platoon taking a trench in enfilade. Lecture to N.C.O's on protection.</i>	
	6			<i>Brighter day. Heavy shower during the afternoon. Brigade Church Parade Service at 11.30 hours in the Cargo hut in VELU WOOD.</i>	
	7			<i>Dull day with bright intervals, rain during evening. The Division reorganized into 3 Battalions for Brigade. The 12th Bn. Gloucester Regiment was disbanded and distributed amongst the Division. Companies training under Company Commanders including one hour each on the range. Remainder of the day spent on Company and Platoon training.</i>	
	8			<i>Weather showery and cold. Battalion practiced in battalion drill. The G.O.C. 5th Division and the B. G. C. 95th Bde visited the battalion and stayed to Dinner. Warning Order received that the Battalion is to be prepared to move tomorrow. The enemy is reported to be retiring on the Corps Front.</i>	

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	9 th			<i>Bright forenoon, cold rain during evening. Battalion left VELU WOOD and marched to area W. of BANTOUX. Battalion in trenches and dug outs. The Field Marshall "Commander in Chief" passed battalion and stopped to compliment the Commanding Officer on the good work of the Battalion since August 21st.</i>	
	10 th			<i>Battalion moved at 09.30 hours to area S. of ESNES. Battalion bivouaced in sunken roads. Battalion Headquarters in ESNES.</i>	
	11 th			<i>Dull morning. Rain in the afternoon. Battalion moved from ESNES at 09.00 hours to CAUDRY where they remained in billets.</i>	
	12 th			<i>Dull day with rain at intervals. The 5th Division relieved the 37th Division in the line. The 13th Inf. Bde were in the line with the 95th Bde in Support. The Battalion moved from CAUDRY to BETHENCOURT where they were billeted in houses.</i>	
	13 th			<i>Dull morning with rain in the afternoon. All companies under Company Commanders for inspections and cleaning up of billeting area. All Companies</i>	

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	<i>13th</i>			<i>on working party at night, digging a trench line.</i>	
	<i>14th</i>			<i>Very dull with fine rain all day. All companies under Company Commanders for training. Special training of patrols in exploitation.</i>	
	<i>15th</i>			<i>Very wet all day. All Companies training in billets.</i>	
	<i>16th</i>			<i>Dull day with bright intervals. All Companies, training of Platoons in the attack and in exploitation.</i>	
	<i>17th</i>			<i>Dull with slight showers. Companies at training of platoons in the attack and exploitation.</i>	
	<i>18th</i>			<i>Very dull day with some rain at night. All companies training under Company Commanders. All company commanders attended a conference under the Commanding officer to discuss the attack on the 20th inst.</i>	
	<i>19th</i>			<i>Very dull day. Thick ground mist all day. All companies preparing for going into the line. Battalion moved off from BETHENCOURT at 21.30 hours to assembly positions in J.6a. & b. and J.10.d. Battalion Headquarters at J.16.d. 35/75. ZERO is at 02.00 hours 20th inst. The 13th Inf.</i>	

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	19 th			<p><i>Brigade will attack and capture the first objective. Railway and road in E.25.b. and d. and K.1.b.</i></p> <p><i>The 95th Bde with 1st E. Surreys and 1/DEVONS in the line and the 1/D.C.L.I. in reserve will pass through to the further objective.</i></p>	
	20 th			<p><i>Heavy rain during early morning. Dull but fine afternoon.</i></p> <p><i>The attack commenced at 02.00 hours and the 13th Inf. Bde. after some resistance captured the 1st Objective. At about 03.00 hours the 1st DEVONS and the 1/E. SURREYS passed through and captured their 1st Objective the ridge in E.19.d. and E.26. After a short halt they passed on to the second objective in E.21.a & c. and E.27.a & c. Here a halt of 3 hours was made and a defensive flank formed to allow the Division on the right to get up. AT about 06.30 hours the 1/D.C.L.I. moved forward and relieved the 13th Inf. Bde. on the Railway and road in E.25.b and d. and K.1.b.</i></p> <p><i>At about 07.00 hours the 1/DEVONS and the 1st E. SURREYS again attacked with their final objective the ridge in E.15 and 22. Very strong resistance was met with and they were unable to make any</i></p>	

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	20 th			<p><i>headway. At about 10.00 hours the 1/D.C.L.I. were ordered to move over to the right flank and the battalion dug in in depth in E.26.b.d & c.</i></p> <p><i>The Battalion in the front line were re-organizing and at 16.00 hours they again attacked and captured the final objective and dug in on the ridge in E. 15 and "".</i></p> <p><i>The 1/D.C.L.I. moved to support in E.21 and E.27.</i></p> <p><i>The battalion had some casualties during the day especially when taking over the line of the railway and road. 3 Officers and 16 O. R. were wounded.</i></p>	
	21 st			<p><i>Very dull day with rain at intervals. Battalions resting and reorganizing during the day. At about 18.00 hours the battalion relieved the 1st DEVONS and 1/E. SURREYS in the front line. On completion of relief the 1/DEVONS and 1/E. SURREYS moved back to the ridge in E.21 and 27. Enemy artillery was very active and some casualties occurred in getting into position.</i></p> <p><i>Casualties for the day. Other Ranks 3 Killed and 17 Wounded.</i></p>	

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	22 nd			<p><i>Rain most of the day. Enemy fairly quiet during the day.</i></p> <p><i>At about 23.00 hours the 15th Inf. Brigade moved up in preparation for the attack the following day. The 1st CHESHIREs and 1st BEDFORDS assembled on and around the front line and the 1st NORFOLKS relieved the DEVONS and E. SURREYS. The 1/D.C.L.I. remained in the line to cover the assembly of the 15th Inf. Brigade and came under orders of the B.G.C. 15th Infantry Brigade.</i></p> <p><i>Casualties for the day. Other ranks, 1 Killed, 11 Wounded.</i></p>	
	23 ^d			<p><i>Very bright and moonlight during early morning and a fine bright day. Owing to the bright moonlight the assembly of the 15th Bde. was evidently seen by the enemy and at 00.30 hours a very heavy counter preparation was put down by the enemy. This continued for over an hour and when at 02.00 hours the Division on the right attacked, the fire increased. This heavy fire continued until about 03.00 hours and considerably disorganized the assembly of the 1st CHESHIREs and 1st NORFOLKS who were to attack at 03.20 hours with their objective the village of BEAURAIN.</i></p>	

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	23 rd			<p><i>During this lull every attempt was made to reorganize these Battalions and at 03.20 hours the attack commenced. The enemy immediately replied to our barrage and their M.G's were also very active.</i></p> <p><i>The attacking battalions were unable to make much progress although some elements reached the ridge in E.10 and 16. but owing to them being so disorganized they were obliged to withdraw to their original positions. Here they again reorganized with the addition of 2 Coys of the 1st NORFOLKS again attacked at 08.30 hours and succeeded in gaining their objective. This was cleared up and consolidated. At about 09.30 hours the 37th Division passed through and continued the advance.</i></p> <p><i>At 10.30 hours the battalion received orders to withdraw and moved back to BETHENCOURT arriving in billets at about 16.00 hours. Rather heavy casualties occurred through so much shelling. 2 Officers were killed and 2 Wounded. Casualties to Other Ranks were 12 Killed and 34 Wounded including some gas casualties. Casualties for the phase 20/23rd were 8 Officers and 95 O.R.</i></p>	

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	24 th			<i>Fine bright day. No training was done. Men were allowed to rest and clean up.</i>	
	25 th			<i>Fine morning with some rain at night. All companies re-organizing and re-fitting. The G.O.C. 5th Division visited the Commanding Officer and expressed personally his appreciation of the behaviour of the Battalion during the recent operations, during which they had to endure sustained bombardments without the opportunity of attacking the enemy.</i>	
	26 th			<i>Fine bright sunshine. All companies training in Platoon and Section work.</i>	
	27 th			<i>Fine bright morning with rain in the afternoon. Church Parades "A" & "D" and "H.Q". at 10.30 hours. "B" & "C" Companies at 11.30 hours. A football match was played in the afternoon. The Regtl. Team V 13th Field Ambulance. Result 1-1.</i>	
	28 th			<i>Fine and bright. All Companies training. Platoons and Sections in the attack.</i>	

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	29 th			<i>Fine bright sunshine. All companies Anti-Gas training and testing of Box Respirators and one hours Company Drill. All companies attended baths.</i>	
	30 th			<i>Fine and bright. Training – Battalion on Tactical Exercise Attack and Exploitation.</i>	
				<i>A football match was played in the afternoon. Officers of the Battalion v Officers of the 1st Bn. E. Surrey Regiment. Result. D.C.L.I. won 4 goals to NIL.</i>	
	31 st			<i>Dull day. Rain during morning. Battalion on Brigade Parade for presentation of scrolls to Company Flags. The scrolls been made by Lady Haking. A Rugby Football match was played during the afternoon. 1/D.C.L.I. v 13th Field Ambulance. Result</i>	
					<i>J. W. C. Kirk Lt. Colonel Commanding 1st Bn. Duke of Cornwall's L. I.</i>

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				<p><u><i>Attached to War diary for month of October 1918</i></u></p> <p><i>A.F.B 213's for month</i> <i>Operation Orders No's 528 and 528/1</i> <i>Recommendation from Officer of R.A. Force</i> <i>2 Congratulatory messages from Divisional Commander on recent operation</i> <i>Official report of unconditional surrender of AUSTRIA.</i></p>	