

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.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERMCOURT and WAVRANS	Sept 1st		Squadron training.	PP
	2nd		Sunday routine. Church Parade. Lieut Blue & 30 ORs on leave to England.	PP
	3rd		Squadron training. Inspection of B Squadron by C.O.	PP
	4th		Squadron training. Inspection of C Squadron by C.O. Lt Col Young on leave to England.	PP
	5th		Squadron training. Inspection of H Sqdn by C.O.	PP
	6th		Squadron training.	PP
	7th		Tactical exercise with troops - 40 ORs on leave to England.	PP
	8th		Squadron training. Military Speed trial at 3.30 p.m. Winners - Major Bell R.C.D. (Helter Skelter). Lt Stowden L.S.H. and Capt Watson. H.A.	PP
	9th		Sunday routine. Church Parade.	PP
	10th		Squadron training. 10 ORs arrive as reinforcements.	PP
	11th		Squadron training.	PP
	12th		Squadron training. Military Speed trial - 3.30 p.m. Winners. Lt Col. Staunton R.C. 601 Early Train. Brooke R.C.H.A. take over 36 artillery horses.	PP
	13th		Squadron training. 'A' & 'B' Sqdns hold sports.	PP
	14th		Regimental tactical exercise.	PP

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	15 th		Garrison ride. Regimental Sports for N.C.O.s & men - Major Bell, Lt. Col. Brown on leave to England.	
	16 th		Sunday routine. Church Parade.	
	17 th		Squadron training. 22 ORs on leave to England.	
	18 th		Squadron training. Field Firing.	
	19 th		Brigade tactical exercise with troops.	
	20 th		Squadron training. Lieuts Sippel & Crothers on leave to England.	
	21 st		Squadron training.	
	22 nd		Inspection of Regiment in marching orders by C.O.	
	23 rd		Sunday routine. Church Parade. 27 ORs on leave to England.	
	24 th		Squadron training.	
	25 th		Squadron training. Field Firing.	
	26 th		Squadron training.	
	27 th		Squadron training.	
	28 th		Regimental Tactical Exercise with troops. Lieut. Sayers 413 ORs on leave.	
	29 th		Squadron training.	
	30 th		Sunday routine. Church Parade.	



A554 Wt. W4975/M687 750,000 8/16 L.Ltd. Form No. 13

I. J. McNaullay
Lieut. Colonel.
Ldn. R. C. D.

CONFIDENTIAL

W A R D I A R Y

— O F —

Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

FROM 1st October TO 31st October 1917

VOLUME 30

X

WAR DIARY

Royal Canadian Dragoons Cdn. Cavalry Bde.

From 1st to 31st October, 1917.

Volume 30.

Diary Text

6 Pages.

Royal Canadian Dragoons

WAR DIARY

ORIGINAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Army Form G. 2110.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

for the month of October 1917.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Héricourt	Oct 1.		Sqdrn Training - 10 ORs from Can. Base Depot as reinforcements.	MM.
"	" 2		" " Field Firing Practice by 'C' Sqdrn - Lieut Nordheimer attacked from 8th Can. Inf Rde for duty. Brigade Band attached to the Rgt under Trumpet Major Travers.	MM.
"	" 3.		Sqdrn Training - 13 ORs on leave to England - Saskatchewan Election.	MM.
"	" 4.		Inspection of Regt in Marching Order by CO. Inspection of transport by CO.	MM.
"	" 5.		Tactical Exercise postponed owing to probability of a move.	MM.
Steenbeque	" 6.		Regiment marched at 8.15 am. joining Brigade at VALHOUN - March via PERNES - VILLERS - ST VENANT - to STEENBECQUE where it went into bivouac at 3.30 pm. Rain all day.	MM.
W. POPERINGHE	" 7		Regiment marched at 9.50 am. with Brigade via HAZEBROUCK - STEENVOORDE to No. 1. WATOU Area - point one mile west of POPERINGHE. Arrived at 3.45 pm. in heavy rain and found no tents or shelter provided.	MM.
"	" 8.		Exercise rides. - Kit inspection and routines.	MM.
"	" 9.		Exercise rides and routines. - Reconnaissance of front line by	MM.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	19.7		some officers. Tents provided.	
NIEPOERINGE/EGELIN			Exercise rides and routine. Reconnaissance of front line by some officers.	III
"	11.		Exercise rides and routine.	III
"	12.		Exercise rides and routine.	III
"	13.		Exercise rides and routine. Completion of Dark election.	III
"	14.		Exercise rides and routine. Move to back areas considered probable. Continued rain of last week having rendered Cavalry operations impossible.	III
"	15		Routine - Orders to march south and west tomorrow received.	III
CLAIRMARais	16.		Regiment marched at 8.30 AM. Ade starting point STEENVOORDE. March via CASSEL to CLAIRMARais where went into billets and bivouac at 1.30 pm.	III
THIEMBONNE	17.		Regiment marched at 8.45 AM Ade starting point ARQUES. Conference on line of march in reference to Disintd Batter. March via WIZERNES to THIEMBONNE where went into billets at 1.45 pm. Orders received to despatch 31 ORs to DRs at BAILLEUL to	III

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			make up 5 th Cavalry Bttn formed from Divisional strength. Lt Col D.D. Young in command of Bttn.	III
EMBRY Oct 18.			Regiment marched ab 900 am via YERCHOCQ to area RIMBOVAL— EMBRY — BOUBERS. Arrived at 11.30 A.M. Men for ORs despatched from THIEMBRONNE ab 7 AM by lorry.	III
" 19			Exercise rides and routine.	III
" 20			Squadron training and routine.	III
" 21			Sunday routine.	III
" 22			Squadron training. Lieut A.V.S. Nordheimer transferred from 8 th Can Inf Bde. Lieut Gwynn and 8 ORs on leave to England.	III
" 23			Squadron training.	III
" 24			Squadron training. Bde Schools of Equitation & of Physical Training commence.	III
" 25			Squadron training. Inspection of Transport by Lt.	III
" 26			Squadron training. Lieut A.V.S. Nordheimer on leave to England.	III
" 27			Squadron training. 4 ORs on leave to England.	III

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WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917			
EMBRY	Oct. 28		Sunday routine. Capt Newcomen on leave to PARIS	
"	" 29		Squadron training.	
"	" 30		Squadron training.	
"	" 31		Regt tactical exercise.	<i>W.M. D.M. J.W.</i>
			<p>C. J. van Straubenzee Lt Col. Lond Royal Canadian Dragoons.</p>	
			<p>T2134. Wt. W705-776. 500000. 4/16. Sir J. C. & S.</p>	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DIARY

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Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

FROM 1st November TO 30th November 1917

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VOLUME 31.

WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EMBRY	1		Regimental Training.	III
	2		Regimental Training.	III
	3		Divisional Route March & Inspection by Divisional Commanders	III
	4		Sunday routine. Capt. Tack attacked 54th Signal Sqds.	III
	5		Squadron training.	III
	6		Brigade Tactical Exercise. The isolation by Cavalry of an important enemy centre behind their lines of trenches after these have been taken by the infantry.	III
	7		Squadron training.	III
	8		Squadron training. Capt. Nordheimer to Hotchkiss School, LE TOUQUET as instructor.	III
	9		Brigade marched 10.30 am to BEAURAINVILLE where bivouacked for night.	III
	10		Regiment marched 9. am - Route. MARCONELLE - HUXI - LE CHATEAU to BOISBERGUES. Sgt. Churchward to R.F.C.	III
	11		Regiment marched 9 am via DOULLENS - BEAUVESNE - CONTAY - to BEHENCOURT.	III
	12		Regiment marched 3.30 pm via MORLACOURT to SUZANNE where arrived 9.30 pm.	III
	13		Regiment marched 4. pm via HERBECOURT - BIRACHES - PERONNE to camp S. side BOUCY-BAUSLE road. Arrived 10. pm and went into prepared huts and stables.	III
	14		Exercise rides.	III
	15		Exercise rides & Squadron training.	III
	16		Exercise rides & Squadron training. Camp visited by Corps Commanders and Divisional Commanders who announced impending operations.	III
	17		Exercise rides. Squadron training. Details from Pioneer Batt. arrive.	III

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 211B.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Nov. 18		Savarene Riders. Squadron training.	M
	19		Preparation for move tonight.	M
	20		Regiment marched with Brigade 12.30 am via LIERMONT - NERLU - EQUANCOURT - to the forward concentration point of the Division near FINS. where arrived 4 am and off saddled. At 6.30 am 3d Army attacked German lines on a front of 12 miles before CAMBRAI in cooperation with tanks. At 12.15 pm. the Brigade - which had been detailed as advanced guard to the Division - received orders to move up were all possible speed by a prepared route through GOUZEAUCOURT and the HAVANASH Track to the crossing of the canal de l'Escaut at MASNIERES - just in front of the last German trench line - which point had been reached by the infantry. The Brigade - with F.G.H in advance and R.C.D in reserve. arrived just W. of MASNIERES at 2.15 pm. It was then found that one of our tanks had gone through the only known bridge left intact and that enemy were still in possession of MASNIERES - BEAUREVOIA line. One Sqdn. F.G.H had succeeded in crossing earlier in the afternoon - but lost all its horses - one officer and 65% of its men. After dark. regiment was ordered to retrace to Sunken Rd. in L-36 Art. where it remained all night saddled up in an open field.	M
	21		At 12.00 noon the Regiment was detailed as advanced guard to the Brigade with orders to advance and cross the river and move round right flank of ROMILLY. The Regiment came under shell fire on road in 31.A and on reaching MASNIERES it was reported that German counter attack had pushed back the infantry across the bridge detailed to Brigade between MASNIERES and CREVECOEUR. The Brigade was accordingly pushed out to right flank and took up a dismounted position for the remainder	M

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Cross heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
21.			of the day supporting the infantry, about 32 cent. casualties - 1 OR killed 3 O.R.s wounded. About 7.00 AM the Regiment off-saddled just behind this position and troops withdrawn from behind infantry.	III,
22.			About 1.00 AM enemy shelling developed and 'B' Squadron was moved back to position of night before. Casualties - 1 Officer & 1 OR slightly wounded - 2 O.R.s severely wounded. Orders received for Brigade to move to EQUANCOURT where arrived 1.30 PM. Since the night of 19th men have had no sleep and it has only been possible to water the horses once under cover of a heavy mist on the morning of the 21st inst.	III,
23.			Brigade marched 7.30 AM via ETRECOURT - MOISLAINS - CLERY to SUZANNE where arrived and went into huts and shelters. 11.40 AM. During night orders received to be ready to move at 40 minutes notice.	III
24.			Regiment Standing-to (unsaddled) all day.	III
25.			ditto ditto Sgts Rose, Whittle & Pe Judd to RFC and Sgt Lawrence to Tank Corps	III
26.			Order to Stand-to cancelled.	III
27.			Brigade marched 9. AM via MARRICOURT - CLERY - DOINGT - ESTREES to huts and stables at MERAVCOURT where arrived 1.45 PM.	III
28.			Exercise ride. Cleaning up and routine.	III
29.			ditto. ditto. 24 riding and 2 LD horses from Remount Depot.	III

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERNAUCOURT	30		<p>At 9.15 am orders received to be in readiness to move at half hours notice. At 9.30 am orders received for Brigade to concentrate immediately at X roads E. of ESTREES - EN - CHAUSSEE. It was learned that the Germans had attacked and broken through and reached GOZETTUCOURT. Exact details not known.</p> <p>Regiment reached point of concentration 10.35 am. and followed Ambala and Sec'nd Brigades - marched via ROISEL - VILLERS FAUCON - to TACQUEVENE Copse in H. 29. At 3.30 pm Brigade advanced with RCO as advanced guard and 'C' Sqdr as advanced Sqdr. Advanced Sqdr came under fire in W. 18. d. and dug-in in front of infantry line there.</p> <p>'A' Sqdr was sent to advance on VAUCELLETTE FARM - and finding ridge in X 13 and 14 occupied - dismounted and took up a position around farm.</p> <p>'B' Sqdr took up dismounted position behind in W. 18. d.</p> <p>These positions were held during night.</p> <p>Losses - 1 OH wounded & missing. 5 ORs wounded. 2 Horses killed. 3 wounded.</p> <p>LSH are on our left. F.G.H in reserve.</p>	M

P. J. Mc Shaekeff
Lieut Colonel
Lancs Royal Canadian Dragoons.

CONFIDENTIAL

W A R D I A R Y

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Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

FROM 1st December TO 31st December 1917

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VOLUME 32

SAR DIARY

Royal Cdn. Dragoons Cdn. Cavalry Brigade.

From 1st to 31st December, 1917.

Volume 32.

Diary Text

4 pages.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2115.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dec 1.			<p>During the early morning led horses moved back behind railway near W. 23 Cent. Orders issued for a mounted reserve consisting of F.G.H 2 Sqdns L.S.H. 1 Sqdn R.C.D. to hold itself in readiness from daybreak to cooperate with a projected attack with tanks on the Beet Factory in X14 b. on the right by MHOW Brigade and GAUCHE Wood on left by Guards - final objective being VILLERS GUISLAINS. This mounted reserve stood to until about 3 pm. Owing to non-arrival of tanks on the right, objective of Jacobs House (MHOW Brigade) was changed to CHAPPELL CROSSING and high ground in X7 and 8, but attack was unsuccessful. At 3 pm orders given to Can. Div. etc as follows - To attack (dismounted) CHAPPELL CROSSING and the high ground between GAUCHE Wood and junction of roads in X8 b. joining up with MHOW Brigade on the right - (who were to attack at 3 pm) - and Guards Div. on left in GAUCHE Wood. L.S.H. attacked German positions about CHAPPELL CROSSING and being held up at Railway embankment there two Sqdns F.G.H and 'C' Sqdn. R.C.D. advanced and succeeded in occupying and consolidating German positions in X7 a. and C. Linking up with 'A' Sqdn and the infantry in VAUCELLE FARM and the Guards Division in GAUCHE Wood on the left. Heavy shelling all afternoon of VAUCELLE FARM - Repositions occupied by 'B' Sqdn and Regimental H.Q. in W. 18 b.</p>	III

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec 1st (cont'd)		Colonel Doherty, LSH. killed. RCD Casualties: Lieut OTHERS severely wounded - 9. Officers wounded - 10 horses killed - 11 wounded and evacuated 6 missing. By 10.30 pm. Ban. Cav. Bde relieved by 17th Lancers and 6th Cav. (4th Division) and withdrew to led horses.	TM.
	2nd		Brigade withdrew to JACQUEVENE COPSE and 'stood-to' Saddled all day as mounted reserve to 4th Div. and infantry holding the line until 7. pm when off saddling was permitted.	TM.
	3rd		Brigade marched at 11 am to ROISEL where arrived and went into bivouac SE of the Town at 12.30 pm. Orders received that Bagad was reserve to troops in the bad Corps Sector and would be ready to move at short notice upon SEC'BAD Brigade moving up.	TM.
	4th		Exercise rides & cleaning up. Reconnaissance of line by some officers.	TM.
	5th		Exercise rides & routine. Lieut Sipor to Hospital	TM.
	6th		Exercise Rides.	TM.
	7th		Exercise Rides	TM.
	8th		Exercise Rides. Polling open for Dominion election.	TM.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 21/5

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sec	9.		Orders received Brigade always to be ready to move at one hour's notice to position of readiness in support line. 'Stand-to' (unsaddled) from 6.30 to 8.00 every morning.	III.
10.			Exercise rides. Major Timmis on leave to England.	III.
11.			Exercise rides. Capt Newcomen to Cad. Corps School of Equitation.	III.
12.			Exercise rides Troutline. Working party of 100 to dig support.	III.
13.			Exercise rides Troutline. Working party returned about 10.00 pm. Military cross awarded Lieut V. G. CROTHERS and Military Medal to Sgt J. Dickenson and Pte. Forhan in connection with operations Nov. 30th.	III.
			At 8pm orders regarding 'Stand-to' cancelled.	
			Working party of 300 digging trenches and wiring in L. 11 and 16- commenced work 3pm. Returned 10pm. Lieuts Dickenson and Patterson arrive as reinforcements.	
14			Squadron parades.	III.
15			Squadron parades.	III.
16			Squadron parades.	III.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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	Dec 17		Brigade marched 10 am via HANCOURT - VRAIGNES - to MONTECOURT where arrived and went into huts at 1 pm.	M
	18		14 ORs. reinforcements from Base. Exercise Rides.	M
	19		Exercise Rides. Improvement of huts and Stable.	M
	20		Major Bowie from England. Exercise Rides.	M
	21		Exercise Rides. 20 Remounts from Remount Depot.	M
	22		General Routine. 25 reinforcements from Base.	M
	23		Sunday Routine. Church parades. Lt Col. D.D. Young from Sick leave.	M
	24		General Routine.	M
	25		Christmas Day. During 5 pm Major Gen MacAuliffe visits the Regiment and goes round the men's dinners.	M
	26		General Routine. Lt Col. Straubengae on leave to England.	M
	27		General Routine. Major Timmins from leave in England.	M
	28		General Routine.	M
	29		General Routine. Two reinforcements from base.	M
	30		General Routine. Lt Col. D.D. Young to Cambrai Hospital. Major Bell assumes command & Major Bowie assumes command of A' Sqdn.	M
	31		Regiment marched to BIENCOURT to practice as mobile reserve - occupation of Reserve line.	M

A381 Wt. W4973/M087 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Walter Ryle Major
2nd Royal Canadian Dragoons

CONFIDENTIAL

W A R D I A R Y

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Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

FROM 1st January TO 31st January 1918

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VOLUME 33

WAR DIARY

Royal Canadian Dragoons Canadian Cavalry Bde.

From 1st to 31st January, 1918.

Volume 53.

Diary Text

5 pages.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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MONTECOURT	Jan 1	-	New year day. Routine	✓
	2	-	Routine	✓
	3	-	Routine. Major Kingsford taken on strength of Unit	✓
	4.	-	Routine.	✓
	5.	-	Routine	✓
	6.	-	Brigade Church Parade. Special Intercessory Service.	✓
	7.	-	Routine.	✓
	8.	-	Routine	✓
	9.	-	Routine	✓
	10.	-	Routine.	✓
	11.	-	Routine. 2 ORs on leave	✓
	12.	-	Routine. Orders regarding taking over French line by Div. on 15th inst. cancelled.	✓
	13.	-	Regimental Church parade & routine.	✓
	14.	-	Routine.	✓
	15.	-	Routine. Lt Col. Straubenger from back.	✓
	16.	-	Routine. Regiment parades and practices taking over reserve line N. of BIENCOEUR as Mobile Reserve	✓
	17	-	Routine.	✓
	18	-	Routine.	✓
	19	-	Routine	✓
	20	-	Regimental Church parade. Routine	✓
	21	-	Routine.	✓
	22	-	Routine. Lt Col. D D Young struck off strength. Lt Col. Drury taken on strength as reinforcement.	✓

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Montcourt	Jan 23		Routine. Orders received in the evening to prepare to take over French line night 25/26 th .	P.H.
	24		Routine.	P.H.
	25		Routine.	P.H.
	26		French party of 9 Officers and 213 ORs passed (together with men to bring back horses) at 2.10 p.m. - proceeding Cross Country to the TEANCOURT- LE VERGUIER valley - arriving there by 4.30 p.m. Lieut Whitehead takes charge of Brigade Sq's. H.Q. at L. 29. b. 8.0. (Map. 62 ^c 1/50,000).	P.H.
	27		<u>Back area party:</u> Routine. Preparations for moving to back area tomorrow. To Hotel Equitation Sch.	P.H.
	28		Paraded at Road junction N. of the M. of Montcourt 8.45 a.m. and proceeded via BRIE and FOUCAVOUR to MARCELCAVE - where arrived about 3 p.m.	P.H.
	29		March resumed at 9 a.m. from Regimental Starting pt. the road junction S. of the M. of MARFUSEE- ABANCOURT. Route- via AMIENS- (Southern Boulevard) - LONGPONT - RAVOUEYRES to VIGNACOURT - arriving at latter place about 3.30 p.m.	P.H.
	30		March resumed at 11am from Regt Starting Point. being the Railway Crossing at Southern Exit of ST LEGER- LES - DOUARD. Route- via ST LEGER- LES - DOUARD - DOUARD - EN- PONTIEU - FRANCOVILLE - to FRANSU - where arrived about 1 p.m. and went into Bivouac. H'Qds at RIBERUCOURT. 'B' Sqdn at LE PLOVY. C Sqdn at Domroesec & HQ Detach & Transport at FRANSU.	P.H.
	31		Exercise Rides & Cleaning up.	P.H.

P.T. and then heavy fog
for 1st bat. Bandy RCO

Friech Park

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHEPHERDS COSE	Jan 26	7.10pm	<p>Look over portion of line - L. 29, B. 8.0. from 19th Hussars. Relief complete. 'A' & 'B' Sqdns in front line. 'C' Sqdn in reserve. Following officers on strength - Maj. Bowes. Capt. Newcomen. Lt. Cunningham. Lt. Le treurin. Lt. George. Lt. James. Lt. Price. Lt. Wickerson.</p> <p>11.00pm Patrol of 5 men under Sgt. Greene from 'C' Sqdn went out & reconnoitred group of fallen trees. G. 13. d. 1.0. which had previously been reported as held by the enemy. Met none of the enemy.</p>	<i>V.H.</i>
	27	2.00am	<p>Patrol returned.</p> <p>Quiet night. very foggy. Lieut Price at H.Q. Brigade H.Q.</p> <p>Lieut James left for back area to attend Cowrie in Hotchkiss Gun.</p> <p>Foggy all day. Enemy approached to an abandoned British position in front of our left hand post - which he occupied by day.</p>	<i>V.H.</i>
		8.10pm	<p>Enemy patrol of about 12 crept up to the wire in front of our left hand listening post - descended on being fired at. No casualties on either side. Lieut Downey reported from back area for duty.</p>	<i>V.H.</i>
	28	2.00am	<p>A patrol of 15 men under Capt. Newcomen went out - fog having lifted. Reconnoitred from the right to left of our line - finishing up at the abandoned post - which the enemy had occupied during the previous day's fog. Found vacant. No enemy encountered.</p>	<i>V.H.</i>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHEPHERD'S COPSE	Jan 28	5.20 a.m.	<p>Patrol returned. Fog cleared. Hard frost. Slight shelling of our two right hand posts by enemy.</p> <p>8.10 a.m. HQH patrol, i/c Capt Newcomen, went out reconnoitring undergrowth and ground opposite our left hand post until enemy wire was reached. Reconnoitred German wire and came in by the road leading from our right hand post to the German line. No enemy encountered.</p> <p>Very bright moon, and judging by the absence of sound, and listening post being unoccupied, it would appear that German line in this part was rather lightly held.</p> <p>10.30 a.m. Patrol returned.</p>	V.V.
	29		<p>Hard frost. Aerial activity greatly increased, and a certain amount above normal in the enemy trenches.</p> <p>11.00 a.m. Patrol of HQH, under Lieut Cunningham, went out & reconnoitred same part of country as reconnoitred by Capt Newcomen. Enemy patrols active on our right. Otherwise quiet night. '6' Sqdn relieved '4' Sqdn in front line - the latter coming back into reserve.</p>	V.V.
	30		<p>Clear & frosty. Enemy aerial activity increased. Enemy seen improving his front line trenches. Our line shelled for about 2 hours in afternoon.</p>	V.V.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Delete heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHEPHERDS COPSE	Jan. 30.	8pm	We were relieved by T.G.H. and came into Regimental Reserve at PIEUMEL QUARRY near LE VEROIE, with battle positions on the Brown line.	1.9.
PIEUMEL QUARRY		7.15pm	A patrol of 20 men under Lt. Gwyn went out in front of portion of line held by L.S.H. and reconnoitred ASCENSION WOOD - BIG BILL.	
		6.15pm	A patrol of 16 men under Lt. Gwyn went out and reconnoitred our late positions - now held by T.G.H. Same tract of country as patrolled on 27 th and 29 th . Nothing of importance occurred.	
	31	6pm	Very foggy. Supplies working party by night. Patrol of 20 men under Lt. Threinen & Lt. Cunningham went out over same area as patrols of 27 th and 29 th & succeeded in getting through the first line of German wire. Another patrol of 20 men under Lt. Gwyn went out in front of L.S.H. and reconnoitred BIG BILL - ASCENSION VALLEY - encountering no opposition. A German letter was found at about G. 26. 8. 9. on a stick over what appeared to be a grave.	1.11.

L.T. na Steebooy
Lieut Col.
Cmndg. R.C.D.

CONFIDENTIAL

W A R . D I A R Y

— — O P — —

— — — Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

FROM 1st February TO 28th February 1915

— — — OC — — —

VOLUME 34

with Appendix A

WAR DIARY

Royal Canadian Dragoons Cdn. Cav. Bde.

From 1st to 28th February, 1918.

Volume 34.

Diary Text 13 pages.

Appendix A. Account of a raid by troops of Cdn. Cavalry Bde. on the night February 12th and 13th.

Narrative of raid by troops of Cdn. Cav. Bde. on the night 12th/13th on LILY trench and 3 lines of Defence in rear.

Cdn. Dismounted Bde. O.O. No. 1 dated the 8th February, instructions regarding raid to be carried out by the Cdn. Dismounted Bde. against the enemy trench line from G. 27 a 5.10 to G. 20.4 O.O. Map attached.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PIEUMEL QUARRY	Feb 1		<p>Very foggy.</p> <p>5.45pm Patrol Capt Newcomen and 90 O.Rs went out through No. 5 Post and reconnoitred tanks G.13. d. 3.5 - G.19. c. 9.9 - LITTLE BILL - G.19. c. 8.5 and enemy wire G. 14. c. 6.2. locate enemy machine Gun.</p> <p>11.20pm Patrol returned.</p> <p>11pm Supplied working party (Lieut Wickerson and 40 O.Rs). Worked in front line - right sector.</p>	MM.
	2		<p>6pm Supplied working party (Lieut Le Mesurier & 40 O.Rs)</p> <p>7pm Supplied working party (Lieut Cunningham and 40 O.Rs). Both parties working in front line - right sector.</p> <p>10.30pm Patrol Lieut Gwyn and 15 O.Rs - left No. 8 Post and reconnoitred Sunken road - ASCENSION WOOD - BIG BILL circled northern edge of BIG BILL to road junction G. 26. C. Sgt Anderson was sent forward to look over bank along road and saw one of the enemy creeping towards him. At this moment Lieut Gwyn saw other enemy 150 yards away walking in a south westerly direction. He ordered his party to advance. but about 50 of the enemy sprang up to their front 150 yards away and stood out in a semi-circle. 30 others were seen running around the flanks. He decided to retire and reached 26. b. o. 5. The enemy were still following. The Patrol halted at G. 26. a. 3.2 for 10 minutes. He saw no more of the enemy. Patrol returned through No. 6 Post at 3am.</p>	MM.
GRAHAM POST	3	7.20pm	Relieved LS4 in right sector. Relief completed - 'A' x 'B' Sqn in	MM.

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			<p>front line. "C" Squadron in reserve.</p> <p>5.30pm An LSH patrol of 1 Officer & 20 ORs went out through No. 1 Post at 5.30pm</p> <p>9.30pm Patrol returned.</p> <p>9.50pm About one mile to our left front enemy sent up red flares which broke into two green. This was twice repeated at 15 minute intervals.</p> <p>11.20pm Patrol (Lieut Le Meurier and 20 ORs) left No. 5 Post - reconnected Sunken road ASCENSION WOOD. BIG BILL and remained N end of BIG BILL for 30 minutes. Patrol returned at 8.15am through No. 5 Post.</p> <p>4 11am Weather clear and bright.</p> <p>Court of Enquiry - President Capt Newcomen. Member Lieut Gwynn-Trevickerson. Assisted to report on case of 55039. He stated G.L. "C" Sqdn. who sustained self inflicted wounds whilst employed at RE Dump - VERMAND on 30th January.</p> <p>3pm Adjigadier - Lieut Col. R.W. Peterson visited lines and observed from No. 6 Post.</p> <p>3.30pm No. 550431. Pte Allan D.H. H'Spn. wounded by discharge of his own rifle and evacuated to Advanced Dressing Station.</p> <p>7.30pm LSH looking party (1 Officer & 40 ORs) improving front line wire.</p> <p>8.30pm Party returned.</p> <p>7.30pm Patrol 2 Officers - Capt Newcomen, Lt Cunningham & 20 ORs left No. 6 Post & proceeded by G. 26 C. due E. towards fork roads G. 26. H. 6. 5. Arrived within 15 or 20 yards of this point when enemy put up two alarm signals. Patrol came under Machine Gun fire from both enemy.</p>	T.M.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	5. 10.20 am		and our own guns. Patrol shelled and withdrew towards ascension valley & proceeded towards BIG BELL - but owing to track. Gun fire patrol returned through No. 6. post at 11.25 pm.	MM.
	5. 10.20 pm		Considerable enemy movement around LILY TRENCH. Court of Inquiry. Members - Capt Newcomen. Lieut Cunningham & Lieut Gwyn - investigating case of Private Allen.	
	6. 9.20 am		Patrol (Lieut Leveson - Lt Price & 30. ORs) went out through No. 6 Post reconnoitered York Roads at 26. C. Lt Price & 2 men examining wire at 27. a. H. G.	
	6. 9.20 am	11.00 pm	Patrol returned.	
	6. 9.20 am	25 H.G. near No. 5 and 6 Posts.		
	6. 9.20 am	10.00 am	Same place	
	6. 9.20 am	11.45	7 H.G. do.	
	6. 9.20 am	12.00 pm	14 H.G. do. Enemy appears to have located O.P. at No. 6 Post.	
	6. 9.20 am	14.00 pm	5.9 shell made direct hit on No. 6. Post - killing No. 226556 Pte Ross I.T. and wounding No. 556478 Pte Jamieson W and No. 600650 Pte Goodings H.G. all of B' Sqdrn.	
	6. 9.20 am	15.45 pm	Patrol (Lt Cunningham) and 30 ORs went out through No. 6 Post and reconnoitered York Roads 9.26. b. and wire at 9.26. a. H. 10.	
	6. 9.20 am	17.00 pm	Reliefs by LSH. Relief complete.	
	6. 9.20 am	10.25 pm	Regiment went into reserve at PIEUMEL QUARRY.	
PIEUMEL QUARRY			Patrol returned through No. 6. post.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7	1 pm	Enemy machine over our lines. Regiment practised for raid.	III.
	8	1.30 pm	Regiment parades & marched to DUNHILL FOOT WOOD to practise for raid.	III.
		3 pm	Night shells dropped near PREUMEL Post - of which six were duds.	
			No patrols	
	9	4.30 am	One of our own planes forced to land about 300 yards N. of PREUMEL QUARRY. Pilot reported to this office stating that he had been brought down. No casualties.	III.
		6.15 pm	No. 550308. Pte HYSLOP R. "C" Sqdn - accidentally wounded by explosion of Bangalore torpedo - fired during raid practice. Evacuated.	
		10.45 pm	Patrol (Lieut. Sc. Mesnier - Lt. Price x 30 ORs) left No. 1 Post and reconnoitred fork roads N. 26, S. 7, E. Lieut. Price and 14 ORs reached a point within 50 yards of enemy wire. No sign of enemy.	
	10.	1.50 am	Patrol returned.	III.
		1.30 pm	Repeated practice of yesterday at Practice Grounds.	
	11	9 am	Working Party repaired LE VERGOUIER - VILLERET road for passage of horse ambulance (preparatory measure for raid).	III.
		6 pm	Few enemy shells dropped in LE VERGOUIER.	
			Day spent making preparations for raid. i.e. practised Bombing jumping, trenches. Sharpening bayonets etc.	
	12.	1 am	Weather foggy.	III.
		12 noon	Final preparation for raid completed.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 21

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		7.45pm.	Regiment moves off for purpose of raiding LILY TRENCH.	
		9.15pm.	Passed through our own wire at No. 1. Post.	
		10.58pm.	Reached jumping-off point - York Roads G. 27. b.	
	13. 12.6.am.		First torpedos exploded in enemy front line wire. Raid successfully carried out and raiding party returned - last party passing through our own wire at No. 6. Post at 2.19. am.	M
			Prisoners captured. 1 officer. 9 ORs un wounded and 30 ORs wounded. Our casualties - 2 officers & 16 ORs wounded - all slight and at duty except 4 ORs! For full details see papers attached.	
		1.00pm	Conference at Bde H.Q. of all officers who took part in raid. Congratulatory messages received during the day from the 6. in E. Army Cmds. Gen. Gough. Cav Corps Cmds. Gen Macandrew. Gen. Seligman C.R.A. Gen. Daly. 24th Div. Gen Seely.	
		7.30pm	Working Party - Lt. Wickerson 60 ORs reported to right sub-sector for work.	
		11.15pm	Party returned.	
	14. 5pm		Working party 140 ORs - reported to LSH sub sector front line.	
		7.25pm	Patrol - Lt. Wickerson 490 ORs. left No. 1. Post and patrolled No. Man's Land in direction of BIG BILL at about A. 25. b. sighted an enemy patrol about 25 strong - tried out flanks and cut them off - but owing to darkness lost touch.	M

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**WAR DIARY
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Army Form C. 211^a

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		7.15 pm	Working party 40 O.R.s reported to WAX and repaired wire in front of S. 2. post.	
		10.15 pm	Both working Parties returned.	
		11. pm.	No. 1. Patrol returned through No. 1 Post.	
		11.35 pm	No. 2 Patrol (lead Gwyn & Troubridge 30 O.R.s) went out through No. 8 Post and proceeded to BIG BILL - Enemy Working party was heard in the direction of LILY TRENCH. No enemy encountered.	
15	2.10 am		Patrol returned through No. 8 Post.	
		8. am	Major Bowie left for Back Area.	M.M.
		2 pm	3 officers 9 th Lancs reported to take over Regimental Area.	
		4.30 pm	5 enemy aeroplanes passed over this post.	
		5.30 pm	3 do.	
			do.	
			Patrol (lead Brown & 30 O.R.s) with 1 officer and 3 O.R.s 4 th D.Gs - went out through No. 1 post and reconnoitred valley D.19. & LITTLE BILL and ASCENSION Wood.	
		11.10 pm	Returned through No. 8 Post - No enemy encountered.	
		1 pm	B' Sydn relieved reserve Sydn. H.G.H.	
		7.30 pm	B' Sydn returned - Working party 40 O.R.s reported to LSH and worked in front line (under Capt. Lockson).	
16		10.30 pm	Working party returned.	
		3 pm	Handed over PIEUMEL QUARRY to officer representing 9 th Lancs and French line to officer of 4 th D.Gs	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VERMAND	16	6.45pm	Regiment relieved by 9th Lancs and marched back to rest billets VERMAND.	MM
		9.00pm	Arrived VERMAND.	
	17	1.30pm	Regiment paraded for inspection.	
		2.00pm	Marched to Brigade rendezvous W. of VERMAND and were addressed by Major Gen. Macandrew.	
		3.00pm	Lieut James & 46 ORs reported from back area to relieve. Capt Newcomen.	
			Lieut Drury & 26 ORs returned to Back Area.	
		7.00pm	Enemy aeroplanes bombed Camp - killing 1 OR 8d Hussars and wounding several - also killing a number of horses.	
		10.00pm	Enemy aeroplanes returned & again dropped bombs - No known casualties.	
	18	1.00am	Enemy aeroplanes returned but did not drop bombs.	
		2.00am	Regimental parade & inspection.	
		6.30pm	Received orders to take over line from 8th A & S. Highlanders on night of 30th. Map location - A' Subsector - S. of river OMIGNON.	
			Considerable aerial activity.	
		7.00pm	Enemy aeroplanes over vermand - but no bombs dropped.	
	19	9.00am	Major Caldwell & Capt. Cunningham went up to look over line to be taken over by Regt.	
		2.00pm	Regimental parade & route march.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		330pm	Lieuts. Whitehead, Wickerson & James & 29 ORs advance party - went up to take over the line.	
		630pm	Lieut Col. G. T. van Straaten arrived to take command of dismounted Regiment.	
20		3pm	Lieut Evans and 50 ORs reported from Back Area. Head between and 22 ORs return to Back Area.	
		4.45pm	Regt. paraded & marched to A' Sub-sector S. of River OMISSION and took over line from 8th A & S. Highlanders. All Edges in front line. A' Edge right sector occupying posts 2-8 inclus. B' " centre " " " 9-14 " C' " left " " " 15-18a "	
			Regt. HQ at MOGUET WOOD. Relief completed 8.25pm.	
			Gordon Highlanders on right. 11th Hussars left.	
		6.15pm	LSH patrol - 1 officer & 30 ORs went out through No. 12 Post - Patrol returned 9.25pm through No. 12 Post reported having got in close range and firing on enemy working party and dispersing them.	
		8.30pm	Patrol of 1 officer & 20 ORs. 11th Hussars - went out through No. 6 Post returning at 10.30pm - No enemy encountered. Enemy machine guns active during night.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	21		Weather clear and bright. Considerable aerial activity - both ours and enemy. 2 aerial combat over lines. One enemy plane forced to land behind their own lines.	M.
		1 pm	Bdg. Gen. Seely visited HQ.	
		6.30pm	1 Sqdn LSH took over posts 2-6 inclusive from 'A' Sqdn. 2 'A' Sqdns Notch-kiss rifles relieved 2 Lewis Guns attached M.G. Coy. 'A' Sqdn men who were relieved occupied posts in support of B & C Sqdns.	
		11.00pm	Patrol - Lt. Wickerson & 9 ORs went out through No. 12 Post and reconnoitred PONTREUET - M10-S-7-7 - M10-a. 503. returning through No. 12 Post at 2.20 am.	
	22 nd	8 am	Patrol - Sqd. Beaumont & 9 ORs. went out through International Post & patrolled 'No man's land' from International Post to Blockhouse. returning at 5. am.	M.
		3 pm	Conference of 6.00 attended by Gen. Seely & Maj. Brooke.	
		6.10pm	Patrol - Lieut. Whitchead & 15 ORs went out through No. 12 Post and returned No. 12 Post 8.45pm. Reconnoitred ruins in village PONTREUET and took up a position near X roads M. 10.a. 2.8 and waited for enemy patrols to appear - but no enemy encountered.	
		6.15pm	Patrol - Lieut. Wickerson & 15 ORs. went out through No. 12 Post and returned to No. 12 Post at 8.45pm. Took up position about M. 10.a. 6.3 waiting for enemy, but none encountered.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAISSEMY	23. rd	3.15 am.	Patrol - Lieut Gwyn & 15 ORs left No. 12 Post and searched ruins PONTROET and took up a position in Sunken road M10. a. 3.9 and waited for enemy patrols. No enemy encountered. Patrol returned 5.15. am.	MM
		3.15 am.	Patrol - Capt Wilkes and 15 ORs left No. 12 Post and moved to a point about M10. a. 55. 40 - Capt Wilkes & 4 men moved in direction of ruins in M10. a. 75. 30 - Enemy patrol of about 8 or 9 met coming from ruins. Fired on enemy patrol and 2 thought to be hit. Enemy patrol moved S. W. along wire and were seen no more.	MM
		5 am.	Patrol returned. Considerable movement in enemy lines during day.	
		6 pm	Regiment relieved by LSH and moved into reserve at MAISSEMY.	
		9.30 pm	Relief completed.	
		8.30 pm	L.G.H. took over Posts 2-6 inclusive from LSH.	
	24	10.30 am	Supplied working party 1 officer & 60 ORs - building commun. trench between LEDOC and BRIENT TRENCH from M15. 6. 95. 58 - M. 9. d. 10. 35. Working Party returned. Lieut Col. Stanbridge & Major Caldwell reconnoitred new reserve line running through MAISSEMY. Visibility low. Our aeroplanes active. No E.F. seen.	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	25	545pm	Working Party - 2 officers. (Capt. Wilkes & Lt. Goyen) and 100 ORs worked on communication trench M. 15. b. 95. 58 - M. 9. d. 10. 35. Party returned at 10. pm.	
		5.50pm	Working Party. Lt. Goyen & 100 ORs to work on communication trench M. 9. c. 97 - M. 9. d. 45. 95. Party returned at 11. pm	
			Working party 1 NCO & 30 ORs to work on trench M. 13. a. 55. 10 - M. 14. c. 50. 50. Party returned 10.30 pm.	
		1.00m	50 ORs loaned for relief marched to VERMANT under Lt. Goyen - as relief failed to arrive party returned to camp.	MM,
		5.45pm	Working party 'A' Sqdn - Lt. Wickerson & 50 ORs - 'B' Sqdn Lt. Whitehead and 50 ORs to work on communication trench M. 6. b. 6. 9 - M. 9. d. 10. 44 -	
			'C' Sqdn - 2 parties consisting of 1 NCO and 10 men each to carry ammunition forward and act as covering party to guns of Gun Track. Gun Sqdn taking part in LSH raid.	
		5.50pm	Lt. Grant & 40 ORs worked on communication trench in PONTRUET.	
		6.30pm	Order received that Lt. Wickerson & 25 ORs will detach from working party and go out on patrol immediately after LSH operator was over.	
		9.25pm	One Squadron LSH under Capt. Tatlow with one troop HQ as flank guard raids the point in M. 10. a. 8. 3 and the enclosure at M. 10. a. 5. 17. under Artillery and Machine gun barrage - No enemy were encountered in ruins and defensive work in ruins was destroyed. Party returned 9.55 pm. No casualties and no prisoners.	

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Army Form G. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		11.50pm	Lieut Lockerson and 35 ORs left 10.12 Post and reconnoitred PONTROUET and took up position at 11.10 a 55.35. and sent out a number of small patrols. No enemy encountered - Patrol returned 2.30. am.	
	26	7. am	Lieut Cunningham assumed duties of Int. Officer	
			Lieut Cunningham observed from O.P. near LONE TREE Post - returned 9.30. am.	
		2. pm	Lieut Whitehead, Lieut Grant & 7 ORs - advance party to take over ESSLING REDOUBT from F.G.H. at same time Capt Wilkes advance party to take over sector of front line from F.G.H.	M.
		5.45pm	Capt Wilkes, Lieut Guruji and 100 ORs. Continued work on communication trench M. 11. b. 6.9 - M. 9. d. 10.4. Party returned 10.30 pm.	
			Lieut James & 40 ORs continued work on communication trench in PONTROUET. Party returned at 11. pm.	
			1 NCO and 20 ORs worked on VILLEMAY TRENCH in M. 14. C. Party returned 11. pm.	
	27	6 am	Lieut Cunningham observed from O.P. ESSLING REDOUBT returned 9.30. am.	
		2. pm	Advance parties proceeded to Forward Area.	
		3. pm	Relief of 35 ORs under Lieut Guruji marched to VERMAND and were met by louriers and proceeded to rejoin regt. in Back Area - Lieut Guruji returning to French Party.	
		4.30pm	Lieut A.S. Nordhierro and 34 ORs reported to French party from Back Area.	
		5. pm	Pay Parade	M.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		5.45pm	Regiment paraded and proceeded to relieve Fort Garry Horse. Lt. Sqdrn in front line posts - 2-6 inclusive. B' & C Sqdrns (less Lt. James and 30 ORs) in ESSLING REDOUBT. Lt. James & 30 men of "C" Sqdrn are permanent patrol - stopping by day in dug-outs MOUET Wood.	
		7 pm	Orders received from Brigade "Man Battle Positions".	
		7.15pm	Hurst James and 30 ORs went out through No. 3 post - reconnoitred banks and sunken road in M. 16. b. Reconnoitred dug-outs in sunken road. Enemy working party heard at M. 11. C. 20. 40. Another enemy party seen at M. 16. d. 80. f. Both enemy parties too far away to be engaged. Patrol returned at 10.50 pm. Lieut SELBY-LOWNDES and 1 Sgt.	
		11.30pm	19th Hussars accompanied patrol.	
	28th	2.30 am	Orders from Brigade - "Stand down". Capt Wilkes and 12 ORs went out from No. 3 Post and took up position about M. 16. C. 10. The enemy unengaged.	MMI
		3.30 am	Patrol returned.	
		7.25 am	2 E.A. flying at 1000 feet over our position	
		7.35 am	E.A. flying S.E.	
		5. pm	Orders from Brigade - "Prepare for attack. Man Battle Positions".	
		6. pm	Lieut. A/S Nordheimer assumes duties of Adjutant	

WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>545pm Fighting patrol of Lieut James and 30 ORs went out to No. 3 Post. Enemy working in front of FIGUIER in M. 10 d. - no enemy encountered.</p> <p>930pm Patrol returns.</p> <p>12 mid "Stand down" ordered. All sentries doubled.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">L. J. van Steenberg Head colonel. Lands. Royal Canadian Drag</p>	

A Account of a Raid by Troops of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade on the night of February 12th/13th., 1918.

RCS

9

1/14

"A". RECONNAISSANCE.

1. The map "A" attached shows the German trenches and our own front line. It will be seen that No-Man's land is from 1,500 yards to 2,000 yards broad.

2. For a fortnight previous to the raid our patrols had been active in No-Man's land, and by the 12th they had practically complete control of this area.

3. The instructions to our patrols were :-

- (1) To fight any patrol in No-Man's land.
- (2) To examine the enemy's wire.
- (3) To become thoroughly acquainted with the routes to the road junction at G.26.b.7.7.
- (4) To locate enemy's listening posts and to become acquainted with his habits generally.

4. To assist in keeping No-Man's land clear of the enemy spasmodic bursts of machine gun fire were kept up on points the enemy used to frequent when our patrols were not out.

Machine guns also fired on the enemy wire during the approach of our patrols, and over the enemy's parapet while our patrols were close to the wire.

5.(a) It was known that two bands of wire existed outside the enemy front line (A) and another band in front of trench (C). (See map B).

(b) Ground observers reported fresh work going on about the trenches in G.21.c., which was confirmed by aeroplane photographs.

"B". PLAN (see map "B").

6. It was decided to raid the enemy's trenches from G.21.c.3.0. to G.28.d.6.7., the support line in rear and the bank at G.21.c.4.5. The reasons for selecting this sector were :-

- (a) A suitable position for the rendezvous existed under the tanks at the road junction in G.26.b.
- (b) An advance from that point to the enemy's wire was less exposed than at other points in the line.
- (c) Two communication trenches afforded easily recognisable marks for entry and exit.
- (d) A gap in the line of wire between "A" and "C" trenches was known to exist at G.21.c.5.0.
- (e) A Company Hd. rs. was believed to be in this sector.
- (f) The same sector had been raided by other troops of this Brigade last July and the present plan was practically the same as the first, which had been most successful.

7. Details. (use map "B").

(a) The torpedo party was guided to the selected spot by occasional rounds from a 4.5" Howitzer on the junction of "B" and "A" trenches.

(b) Entry through the wire was by means of two torpedoes; the second being fired after the barrage came down.
A third torpedo was carried for the third band of wire in front of "C" trench.

(c)

(c) Torpedo party and their flank guards form first block. 21

(d) Banks party with 3rd torpedo and blocking party attached, pass through the gap and on through "C" trench to the banks, the barrage lifting over "C" trench at Zero plus 4.

Parties for "C" and "A" trenches follow in succession.

Each party is responsible for the open ground on its right and left up to the wire shown on the map, and moves forward in a 'half moon', lateral communication being kept throughout by means of electric torches.

Bombers deal with dug-outs whilst the men outside the trench, slightly in advance of the bombers, deal with the enemy in the trenches. Blocks to be established in "C" and "A" trenches beyond their junction with "D".

Return route for the above parties via "D" trench, but prisoners and wounded are to be passed back via "E" trench.

(e) Collecting post established at the Northern end of "E" trench to keep touch between the first two blocks and to take over prisoners and wounded.

8. Protection.

(a) Covering party at G.26.b.7.8.

(b) Right Flank Guard at G.32.a., with a detachment at G.26.a.

(c) Left Flank Guard N.E. of ASCENSION WOOD.

9. Strength.

(a) Strength of party passing through the wire :-

9 Officers and 177 Other Ranks,

and 1 Officer and 2 Other Ranks of the Intelligence Branch, additional to the above.

(b) Strength of protective detachments (para.8).

5 Officers and 95 Other Ranks.

10. Signals.

(a) The hour of Zero (i.e., the explosion of the torpedo) was indicated by two Red Very lights fired by order of the Leader of the Raiding Party and repeated from No.6 Post. It was to be as near as possible to 11.45 P.M.

(b) The raiders were to withdraw at Zero plus 55, ten minutes previous to the barrage subsiding. The time being indicated by a Green rocket fired from No.6 Post.

(c) Green rockets were sent up from behind No.6 Post at intervals during the withdrawal, till all ranks were checked in, to avoid any possibility of individuals losing the way.

11. Position of Assembly.

The position of assembly was the sunken road at G.26.b.6.9. Protective detachments to move out to their positions immediately after dark.

12. Artillery Barrage.

(a) Artillery barrages are explained on map "B".

Artillery taking part :-

9 R.H.A. Batteries.

4 R.F.A. Batteries.

Corps Heavy Artillery. (2)

(b) Their action consisted of two minutes bombardment from Zero, at 4 rounds per gun per minute (Field Batteries).^{3.}

The barrage then lifted gradually, commencing at the right from the point of entry, till at Zero plus 5 it formed a box round the area of the raid till Zero plus 60.

"C" trench and the banks were under bombardment till Zero plus 7.

13 and { The rate of fire from Zero plus 5 to Zero plus 10 was 3 rounds per minute.
18 pdrs. { From Zero plus 10 to Zero plus 60, 2 rounds per minute.

{ Zero to Zero plus 7, 3 rounds per minute.
4.5" How{ Zero plus 7 to Zero plus 10, 2 rounds per minute.
{ Zero plus 10 to Zero plus 60, 1 round per minute.

13. Machine Guns.

32 Machine Guns co-operated in 5 Groups.

Their role being L-

- (i) To cover the advance of the party by firing on the enemy's wire and parapet and over the top of his trenches.
- (ii) To strengthen the flanks of the box barrage.
- (iii) To keep down any fire from all points that could enfilade the front line raiders.
- (iv) Cover the withdrawal of the party.
- (v) Machine Guns and T.M. Battery of 4th Dismounted Division co-operated on the left.

"C". Training and Organisation.

14. The whole of the raiding party practised for five days, both by daylight and in the dark; a rehearsal taking place twice each day. Every man was allotted his particular role and was encouraged to make suggestions regarding it.

Particular attention was paid to the party working in complete units, i.e., Section, Troop and Squadron under their own leaders.

Touch was kept by means of electric torches, whilst Very lights were fired by leaders in "A" and "C" trenches when required. This would give them light and probably mystify the enemy.

15. Special attention was paid to leaders of detachments checking their parties coming out of the trenches, and all had to report at a post for checking out on returning to their own lines.

16. The trenches were taped from aeroplane photographs.

Flags were used to show the successive barrages, so that all men became acquainted with the passage formed by the barrage and their position after each lift.

Very lights were fired in order to accustom men to lie flat and perfectly still under them during the approach march.

17. The torpedo parties received special instruction in crawling, inserting torpedoes under the wire, fuzing and firing them.

18. Sections were divided into bombers and bayonet men.

Bombs for the dug-outs.

* Bayonets for fighting once inside the enemy wire.

Flank Guards to torpedo party were to be ready to shoot down any machine gunners manning the parapet while the gap was being made.

19.

19. Preliminary Artillery Arrangements.

4.

Registering was done in such a way as not to warn the enemy of the forthcoming raid.

4.5" Howitzers fired occasionally during the day and night on trench junctions for the following reasons :-

To guide the torpedo party and also to keep the enemy's sentries from the point of entry, occasional rounds from a 4.5" Howitzer were fired at the junction of "A" and "B" trenches, at pre-arranged times.

Other points in the line were treated in a similar manner.

20. NARRATIVE. (see Appendix "A".)21. RESULTS.

(a) Our casualties were surprisingly small :-

1 man killed.

1 man dangerously and 2 seriously wounded.

11 slightly wounded and remaining at duty.

(b) 1 Officer (Coy. Commander) and 13 other ranks, captured.
2 machine guns captured.

~~4~~ trench mortars destroyed.

About 20 enemy were killed, and the remainder of the Company burnt in their dug-outs.

It is probable that the surprise artillery bombardment accounted for many more.

All dug-outs were destroyed and wires cut.

The party remained in the enemy lines 55 minutes, to ensure complete destruction of emplacements and dug-outs.

Communication back from the raiding party was maintained by telephone throughout, thus enabling the barrage to be kept on for a further 10 minutes.

22. REMARKS.

The success of the operation was due to :-

- (a) Complete command of No-Man's land.
- (b) Thorough reconnaissance, including careful study of aeroplane photographs.
- (c) Carefully thought out preparations, including training.
- (d) All ranks knowing the plan thoroughly, so that parties were able to co-operate with each other.
- (e) The element of surprise.
- (f) Everyone connected being convinced of success from the beginning. Even if the torpedoes had failed, it was intended to carry through the raid.
- (g) Adequate protection by advanced and flank guards. An enemy patrol was driven in during the advance.
- (h) Effective employment of the artillery and machine guns; their co-operation being reported as being most accurate.
- (i) Knowledge of all ranks of their absolute safety when moving inside the 'box' barrage.
- (j)

5.

(j) The guiding shell from 4.5" Howitzer. This was most essential. It enabled the entrance to be made at the required spot; any error in the shooting of the Howitzer being in proportion to the rest of the artillery, forming the entrance channel and the 'box' barrage, thus the party was bound to strike that part of the barrage which was due to lift first.

It was pre-arranged that the torpedo should be inserted about 25 yards to the left of the line where the 4.5" shell was dropping.

The directing shell should always be fired almost at right angles to the trench to be attacked.

(k) The arrangements for dealing with enemy listening posts by machine gun fire and artillery were undoubtedly effective.

23. Coloured Very lights are more reliable than rockets.

24. Hostile artillery reply was feeble.

25. Though there were individual cases of enemy resistance, the moral effect of surprise, overhead machine gun fire and the accurate artillery barrage was remarkable.

26. The trench mortars were found loaded and their destruction was accomplished by dropping Mills bombs down the muzzle, which exploded the T.M. bombs and blew the mortar to pieces.

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14

APPENDIX "A".

6.

NARRATIVE of Raid by Troops of Canadian Cavalry
Brigade on night 12th/13th February 1918, on
LILY Trench and 3 lines of defence in rear.

L.S.M.

Lieut. COOPER, Lieut. SPRADL, L.S.H. and 31 other Ranks left No.8 Post at 7.30 p.m., and patrolled BIG BILL. It was found clear and a position was taken up there at 8 p.m.

At about 9.05 p.m., a noise was heard in BIG BILL as though a man were coughing, and 4 men were seen about 150 yards ahead of us at about G.20.d.1.4.. As I did not want to raise an alarm and so probably fetch out a patrol to meet the raiding party, I lay quiet and watched the men ahead, who were apparently working on some sort of excavation. It was very difficult to leave the WOOD without being observed by the sentry ahead and word was sent back that this party was holding me up there. I then left a Sergeant and 14 men in BIG BILL with orders to cover this party, but if they continued their work they were not to be interfered with. I then went on ahead to the 'Jumping-off Point' (G.26.b.6.7.). On arrival at this location I found everything clear and reported to Captain NEWCOMEN.

After the Raiding Party had passed we paid out about 150 yards of tape to the exit.

A Boche patrol of about 10 or 11 men, following the Raiding Party, came almost up to us. I gave orders for my men to lay low, and the patrol sent one man ahead towards us. As soon as I recognised that they were enemy I engaged them, killing one man by bayonet and three by rifle fire. The remainder ran in the direction of ASCENSION WOOD. One of my men was killed in this encounter.

At zero hour, I went to the gate with 3 men and we cut 3 belts of wire, and laid the tape from the inner gap back to the covering party.

When the Raiding Party was clear, I remained 15 minutes at the road junction and returned to our lines.

On examining the QUARRY at G.20.d.35.30., I found a partially completed trench around the Southern edge of the QUARRY. A large number of picks and shovels were lying outside the QUARRY.

Right Flank Guard.-(Lieuts. FLOWERDEW and WELDON, L.S.H. and 42 O.R.)

I had the Flank Guard in position at 9 p.m. Touch was obtained with Lieut. COOPER'S party at 9.59 p.m. Protection was maintained until 2.10 a.m., when we returned to our lines.

The German S.O.S. was in the Valley about 25 yards East of PONTRUEB-VILMERT road in G.20.d. His S.O.S. appeared to be single Red flares.

Left Flank Guard.- (Lieut. LANCELY and 22 Other Ranks).

I left No.1 Post at 6.30 p.m., and was in position at 8 p.m. This position was maintained until 1.52 a.m., when we returned to our lines at No.1 Post.

The enemy S.O.S. appeared to be a rocket, bursting into a number of Red flares, sent up from N. of BUISSON-GAULAINNE FARM. Shells dropped at the head of the Valley in G.20.a.4.3., at intervals of 5 minutes, for the first half hour. Again further back approximately 10 shells fell along the BUISSON RIDGE about G.14.c.3.2.

About 30 minutes after zero hour, a trench mortar was fired, apparently from the fallen trees on the BUISSON RIDGE, about G.14.c.3.2. The bombs dropped just short of No.4 Post - Left Sub-sector.

Captain NEWCOMEN at Head of Main Body. (with Lt. PRICE & Torpedo Party)

I cleared No.1 Post at 9.20 p.m., and remained in Valley until 9.45 p.m.; proceeding then to the S.E. edge of BIG BILL, where we came in touch with the Covering Party. About 300 yds. W. of BIG BILL a patrol was reported, presumed to be enemy, about 350 yards to our left. I sent out a detached party to find out who they were but could not find them. We reached the road junction in G.26.c. at 10.58 p.m. Torpedo party proceeded forward at 11 p.m.

Torpedo Party.

Lieut. PRICE, two Torpedo Parties and Covering Party of six men (Total 12 O.R.), left road junction (G.26.b.) at 11 p.m., guided by Howitzer Shell, and proceeded in the direction of the point of entrance. I proceeded very carefully, as I wished to be certain of the location, and heard firing behind me.

I reached the enemy wire about midnight and waited for two more shells to drop on the trench junction before inserting the torpedo.

The 1st Torpedo was exploded in the first line of wire at 12.16 a.m., and as the barrage was well back, we were able to insert the 2nd Torpedo and blew the second band of wire in front of "A" trench.

About 1 minute after the explosion of the 2nd Torpedo, the Blocking Party was able to enter the front trench. The Right Blocking Party, under Sergt. MARTIN, proceeded to M.G. emplacement just to the right of communication trench. The M.G. was found abandoned and was later carried in to our lines. Dug-out at the junction of "E" trench was bombed and burnt. Sergt. MARTIN, with 1 man, captured 6 prisoners in front of "A" trench, just inside the barrage.

The left Blocking Party met with no opposition.

These Blocks were maintained according to orders.

The emplacement shown as Trench Mortar, on interpretation of aeroplane photographs, proved to be a 'double-barrelled' latrine.

Banks Party.- (Lt. CUNNINGHAM and 40 O.R.)

Captain Newcomen attached himself to this party at the wire. Opening in the wire was made at a point 50 yards North of "E" trench.

I took my party through the wire, and proceeded along "B" trench to the band of wire in front of "C" trench. Not being able to find the opening I had the 3rd Torpedo inserted and blew this band of wire.

I crossed "C" trench. The Blocking Party proceeded to their position about 70 yards on the right.

I then went to Trench Mortar position in G.21.c., where we captured 1 prisoner; and then swung to the left and charged the Banks, our barrage lifting about this time.

About 20 yards in front of the first dug-out, we met 4 of the enemy, two of whom threw bombs and two fired rifles. We charged them, killing two; the other two escaping into the barrage.

I examined and destroyed all the dug-outs, and captured three more prisoners in the rear of the Banks.

We reached the entrance of "D" trench, and, as we still had time to spare, we again examined the dug-outs in the Banks before proceeding back by "F" trench. On this occasion we found a hut on the side of a bank, and a trench mortar which we destroyed.

I then started to check my party and found one man was missing. A Sergeant and 6 men were sent back to search for him. They found another trench mortar and destroyed it.

Behind the Banks there was a single band of thin wire, stretching from about the 2nd dug-cut for about 70 yards North. We then bombed the deep dug-out entrance in the Banks and several smaller ones. The bank is about 15 feet high, with depression sloping away from the Banks to the East. About 50 yards East of the Banks we found an Engineer dump, consisting of rolls of wire, tools, etc. ^(in C)

We proceeded along "D" trench and burnt a dug-out, about 50 yards N. of the junction of "D" trench. At the junction of "D" trench and Banks, we found two wounded Boche, whom we brought in.

We were able to keep touch with the second party at "C" trench, during the first part of the operation by means of torches.

We passed the Block at the junction of "C" and "D" trenches, and proceeded to the junction of Machine Gun emplacement and "D" trench, where we got in touch with Third Troop, who had captured the machine gun. We here destroyed a dug-out. We then proceeded through the wire, reporting to the covering party.

"C" trench Party.

"C" Trench Party. (Lt. LE MURIER and 30 Other Ranks).

8.

I followed the First Troop to the junction of "C" trench from which point we swept the ground between the Banks and "B" trench, bombing down "C" trench, where we found 6 or 7 deep dug-outs, which we destroyed. We captured 1 Officer and 3 men from these dug-outs. We killed 11 in the trench and put the Block in "C" trench N. of junction with "D" trench.

A detached party examined what was supposed to be a machine gun position at the north edge of "D" trench near the Banks. This is not a machine gun position but was reported to be a latrine.

We maintained touch with the First Troop and Third Troop and held block at junction of "C" and "D" trenches until Banks Party was clear.

I then made another examination of the entire length of "C" trench and proceeded out through the opening in the wire.

"A" Trench Party. (Lt. GWYN and 30 Other Ranks).

I followed the Second Troop through the opening and worked down A trench, sweeping from the wire in front of "A" trench to the wire in front of "C" trench. A large number of dead men were found in shell holes behind "A" trench, apparently killed by our barrage.

I met with no opposition in the first 150 yards of the trench, at which point the sentries fired at us with rifles. We killed them.

We bombed 12 dug-outs in trench between point of entrance and trench junction in G.20.d.8.5.. These dug-outs all burned freely.

At this point I sent one party to a machine gun position at G. 20.d.85.60. The machine gun opened but was bombed out of action. We captured the gun and three prisoners. We also tried to burn the dug-out but the bomb did not light. (This dug-out was later destroyed by Lt. Cunningham's party)

I sent a Blocking Party forward, who proceeded to about 100 yards to the North of the Exit. This party destroyed 3 dug-outs. We found 1 burning enemy and killed him. There was no other opposition. A machine gun was taken by this party, but was not brought in as it was forgotten when the party came out.

Four men were detailed to cut inside gap in the wire, but they found that the Exit had been almost completed by the L.S.H., and only a few strands remained to be cut.

After the 1st and 2nd Troops were clear, I withdrew my party and joined the Covering Party.

Collecting Post. (Lt. DRURY and 23 Other Ranks)
(Blocking Party for "C" trench, attached to 1st Troop).

The party followed the 2nd Troop down to the end of "E" trench, ("E" trench is a communication trench only) at which point I established the Collecting Post.

I proceeded to the gap in the wire in front of "C" trench, where I found Captain Newcomen. I obtained touch with preceding troop and with my Blocking Party in "C" trench.

The Blocking Party in "C" trench met with considerable opposition, both from bombs and rifle grenades. We bombed the position, and saw six of the enemy run into our own barrage, two of whom were seen to fall.

The Collecting Post was fired on by a machine gun from some distance away in a southerly direction, and by rifle fire, which appeared to come from behind our barrage in the same direction.

By the light of a flare we saw two men just inside our barrage, They were fired upon and seen to drop.

Two prisoners were passed back by the 1st Troop.
We maintained our position until ordered to withdraw by Capt, Newcomen,

On our way out we captured 2 of the enemy between "A" trench and the outer band of wire. They made no opposition but were standing with their hands up.

Capt, Newcomen

Capt. NEWCOMEN (and 1 Other Rank).

I proceeded with the 1st Troop until they had passed the wire in front of "C" trench.

I then got in touch with the 4th Troop and placed a connecting party to keep touch with 1st and 2nd Troops.

I examined what was thought to be a machine gun emplacement at C.21.c.7.3. It appears to be two dug-outs, either under construction or dismantled. There was a small shelter in the dug-out to the East. One of the enemy was killed in this dug-out by a bomb.

I then proceeded to a trench mortar in C.21.c., attracted by a light in the most southerly one. I there found one enemy dead, and a trench mortar, approximately 3". This mortar was loaded, and as we could not remove it we destroyed it. Another party reported that they had destroyed a similar one in the other emplacement. I examined the emplacement and verified the statement.

I counted 11 enemy dead between "C" trench and the Bank, one of whom was apparently unwounded.

I visited 5 dug-outs in "C" trench all of which were burning.

I then proceeded to the Banks, where I examined 2 dug-outs. Both of these were burning and from one of them considerable noise was heard, indicating that it was occupied.

The Green rocket having been reported, I ordered the Collecting party to 'stand to' ready to come out. On receiving the order from Major Bowie, I withdrew this party.

"E" trench is in bad condition; no revetting and it is only a communication trench. "G" trench was not revetted, but had bath mats in places. This is not a wide trench and is in a bad condition.

Our Barrage was excellent, and appeared to be placed exactly as we expected to find it.

I found a wide gap in "G" trench wire, about 10 yards North of the point where we blew an opening. I found what appeared to be a store of small trench mortar bombs in "E" trench, quite close to the latrines.

Most of the rifle and M.G. fire came from South and South-westerly directions. There appeared to be no M.G. fire from the position in C.21.c.45.95.

Some time after our torpedoes went off the enemy threw up what appeared to be two Red Very light signals.

A heavy telephone cable ran across "Y" trench in a south-easterly to north-westerly direction, and this I had cut. We also had several smaller wires cut, which ran from the direction of the enemy rear.

Lieut. PRICE.

The enemy's gas alarm appears to be a bell, like a large dinner bell, as two of these were found in the enemy's posts.

The machine gun barrage was good, and at no time caused us any uneasiness.

Major BOWIE. (Commanding the Party)

We proceeded through the wire at No.1 Post, which was cleared at 9.20 p.m. We then lay in the valley near ASCENSION WOOD for over half an hour. Just as we came to the S.W. of BIG BILL, we got in touch with the L.S.H. Just before this it had been reported to me by my left flank party that a patrol of 10 or 12 men was moving parallel to ourselves. I sent out to find who these people were but could not locate them. We reached the Roads where the covering party was (L.S.H.), and here Lieut. Cooper reported to me about an enemy working party in the Crater.

During the whole of our advance, one of our machine guns kept shooting bursts over our heads, which was of great assistance to us in our advance.

I moved forward from roads at 11 p.m., and proceeded to crawl about 100 yards in rear of the Torpedo Party.

I then heard

I then heard a man yell and some shooting in the direction of BIG BILL. The party lay low for about 15 minutes before proceeding. I had good touch with all my parties and with the Covering Party at all times. When the first torpedo exploded, the barrage came down promptly and appeared to be well directed.

I passed through the wire with the 2nd Troop and superintended the distribution of the parties, and established telephone communication with No.1 Post, which was maintained throughout the operation. I visited the various posts from time to time to ensure that the operation was proceeding smoothly. I satisfied myself that touch was being kept between all parties and could see distinctly by light signals from one to the other. When I was satisfied that all parties would obtain their objective I returned to the opening and superintended the passing out of prisoners, and communication to the rear. I superintended the bombing of a large dug-out near the entrance gap, first making every endeavour to allow enemy who could be heard talking below, to come out. They were given 2 or 3 minutes, but did not take advantage of the opportunity, so the dug-out was burned.

What appeared to be the Boche S.O.S. was not shown until about 10 minutes after Zero and the first one came from the direction of BUISSON GAULAIN FAIM.

The gate was correctly placed, and the boundaries of the passage through were clearly defined.

About 6 yards to the left of "B" trench there had been what appeared to be an O.P. dug into the parapet, covered over with sheet iron and earth. This had been hit by a shell previous to our arrival.

A gas alarm bell, a steel helmet and a sentry's breastplate, and two loaded rifles were lying at this point.

I sent the first green rocket, and shortly afterwards a message arrived from Lieut. Wickerson, at the Exit gap, stating that the main party was passing out. I then sent word to Captain Newcomen to withdraw connecting posts and block in "C" trench. When all parties had passed out I ordered the telephone to be disconnected, and returned to the Covering Party in rear of the other parties.

Two men escorting two prisoners were wounded by an enemy shell on their way to the Covering Party, and one of the prisoners seized a rifle and was about to bayonet one of our men, when another party intervened just in time to prevent our man being killed and the prisoners escaping. After passing through the Covering Party we returned to our own lines without incident.

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SECRET.

CANADIAN DISMOUNTED BRIGADE

OPERATION ORDER N.O. 1.

Ref. 1/10,000.

February 8th 1918.

19

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1.(a) A raid will be carried out by the Canadian Dismounted Brigade on the night of February 1918 against the enemy trench line from G.27.a.5.10. to G.20.d.8.8. and the enemy strong point in G.21.c.

Date and approximate ZERO hour will be notified later.

(b) Map of German trenches attached. (Marked alphabetically.)

2.(a) ZERO hour, approximately will be denoted by the firing of a BANGALORE Torpedo in the German wire at about G.27.a.4.10.

(b) The successful firing of that torpedo will be denoted by TWO RED Very lights fired by orders of the leader of the raiding party. This signal will be repeated at 10.2 Post.

(c) If the weather is foggy the signal will be repeated from FORT DYCE by Brigade Major, in addition.

3.(a) The raid will be carried out by the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

(b) One Troop of Lord Strathcona's Horse will act as a covering party.

(c) Lord Strathcona's Horse will find Right Flank Guard of Two troops.

(d) Fort Garry Horse will find Left Flank Guard of One Troop.

Times and dispositions of the above are given in the attached instructions.

4. The Pass-word will be communicated later and must be notified to all ranks.

5.(a) The raiding party must leave the enemy trenches by Zero plus 55 minutes.

(b) The covering party will return at Zero plus 60 minutes.

(c) At Zero plus 50 a GREEN Rocket will be fired from 10.6 Post to warn the raiding party that Artillery Barrage will cease in 5 minutes.

6. The return route through "No man's Land" will be left to the discretion of leaders.

7. Arrangements will be made by Lieut. W.J. WHITHILLAD, R.C.Dragoons for telephone communication back from the raiding party throughout the raid.

8. Advanced Dressing Station will be established at GRAHAM POST.

9. Prisoners will be brought back to Reserve Regiment's H.Q., thence to TAX.

10. Watches for the following will be synchronised at Div'l I.O. at 6.30 p.m. on February 1918 :-
Representatives of, R.C.Dragoons.

I.S.Horse.
F.G.Horse.
L.G.Squadrons.
Artillery.

11. Machine Gun and attached.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Major,
Brigade Major,
Canadian Dismounted Brigade.
P.T.O.

Issued at 12. noon through Signals

- Copy No.1 to R.C.Dragoons.
2 " L.S.Horse.
3 " F.G.Horse.
4 " 5th Dismounted Division.
5 " Ambala Dismounted Brigade.
6 " Sec'bad Dismounted Brigade.
7 " I.G.Squadrons.
8 " Artillery.
9 " Mhow I.C.F.A.
10 " Staff Captain.
11 " Signals.
12 " Office.
13)
14) War Diary.
15)
16 " C.R.A., Dismounted Divisions.
17 " Corps H.A.

12

INSTRUCTIONS "A"

1. The Raiding Party under the command of Major BOWIE, Royal Canadian Dragoons will leave our lines from No.1 Post. at P.M.

2. Order of march as under, the O.C., Raiding Party arranging for necessary local protection :-

Two Torpedo Parties under Lieut. PRICE, R.C.D., supported by 6 O.R's (Blocking Parties).

Captain NEWCOMB.

1st Troop, Lieut. CUNNINGHAM 40 Other Ranks.

3rd, Torpedo Party 3 "

Major BOWIE.

2nd, Troop Lieut. LEMANSURIER 40 "

3rd Troop Lieut. GWYN. 40 "

4th, Troop Lieut. DURPHY. 20 "

{ Royal Canadian Dragoons.

3. Detailed dispositions of { 1 Squadron L.S.Horse (Royal Canadians)
(1 Troop Fort Garry Horse.

4. At P.M. One Troop L.S.Horse will occupy BIG BILL and at P.M. will seize the road junction at G.26.b.7.6. leaving a Party at FIG BILL as a connecting link with the raiding party.

Touch will be maintained with this party in order that line of advance may be kept clear.

(b) After the raiding party has passed this troop will remain as a covering party and will not return until ZERO plus 60., acting as Rear Guard to the Raiding Party on its return.

(c) This troop will also be responsible for running a tape from G.26.b.6.7. to exit near wire near 'D' trench. They will assist in cutting a gap in wire at this point.

(d) Should an enemy patrol be met with it will be at once engaged, bayonets only being used.

(e) They will be responsible that casualties and prisoners passed back to them are passed back with first party returning.

5. (a) The Two Bangalore Troop Parties consisting of 1.I.C.O. and 2 men for each Torpedo, supported by 6 other ranks (blocking party) under Lieut ERICK, Royal Canadian Dragoons will move in front of the Raiding Party through Covering Party and fire One Torpedo in enemy wire at G.27.a.4.10. This will be the signal for ZERO Hour. This signal will be supplemented by TWO Very Lights fired by an I.C.O. attached to Captain NEWCOMB. The signal will be repeated by TWO RED VERY LIGHTS fired by the Staff Captain at 10.6, Post. If the weather is foggy the signal will be repeated from FOOT DYCE.

(b) The explosion of the torpedo will also be confirmed by telephone to No.1, Post.

(c) At ZERO plus 2 minutes, No.2, Torpedo Party will blow up second band of wire, (if barrage permits this torpedo will be inserted as soon as opening is made through first band of wire).

- 6 (a) Blocking Party will pass through opening in wire at ZERO Plus 2 minutes and establish blocks in "A" Trench, One block to the right of entrance and one at Junction of "A" and "E" Trenches. This passage will be maintained until ZERO plus 55 minutes.

(b) Party will return through L.S.H.Covering Party at G.26.b.7.8., after collecting party has passed through.

7. (a) 1st, Troop B.C.D. and 3rd, Torpedo Party will follow immediately in rear of Blocking Party.

Lieut. GUNNIGHAM. OBJECTIVE. The Banks and Dug-Outs at G.21.c.4.6, G.21.c.7.8.

They will blow or cut bend of wire in front of "G" Trench near where it crosses "E" Trench. They will form a block in "C" Trench at G.21.c.60.25 which will withdraw at ZERO plus 55. They will endeavour to reach position in rear of BANKS by ZERO plus 7 minutes at which time barrage on banks will lift. After clearing their objective they will return by "D" Trench, getting in touch with 2nd, Troop working down "C" Trench.

Prisoners and casualties will be passed back through passage at G.27.a.4.10.

(b) 2nd, Troop will follow in rear of 1st, Troop.

OBJECTIVE. "C" and "B" Trenches - open ground between Banks and "E" Trench.

Lieut. LEMESURI R. This troop will form a block at Junction of "C" and "D" trenches until ZERO plus 55 and return by "D" Trench aft: 1st, Troop is clear, getting in touch with 3rd, Troop at junction of "A" and "D" Trenches. Prisoners and casualties will be passed back through the passage in G.27.a.4.10.

(c) 3rd, Troop will pass through gap at G.27.a.4.10, in rear of 2nd, Troop and will work down "A" Trench to G.20.d.8.6. and cut an exit through the wire at G.20.d.6.6.

Lieut. GYNN. A party will be detailed to clear "D" Trench as far as M.G. emplacement, another being detailed to clear "A" Trench to North as far as barrage will permit (G.20.d.6.9.). Block at this point to be held until ZERO plus 55. This troop will hold exit open until 1st, and 2nd, Troops are clear, and will keep a check of numbers passing through. Prisoners and casualties will be passed to Covering Troop at G.26.b.7.8. Troop will return through Covering Troop at G.26.b.7.6.

(d) 4th, Troop will pass through gap at G.27.a.4.10 in rear of 3rd, Troop and will work down Communication Trench "E" to the end of trench, at which point a collecting Post will be established for the purpose of passing back prisoners

Capt NEWCOMBE Lieut DRURY. and casualties: they will also be prepared to assist 1st, Troop and 2nd, Troop if necessary. They will leave the trench at ZERO plus 55 minutes via the entrance gap reporting to covering troop at G.26.b.7.8. This troop will lay a tape from Covering Party to point of entry.

(e) 2 men to act as Intelligence Police will be detailed by each troop. Their duties being to collect identifications and make an accurate report of the damage done to the enemy.

(f) THE OFFICER COMMANDING RAID will move in such a position as will allow him to superintend the entire operation. He will be responsible for Local Protection crossing "No Man's Land" and the correct withdrawal of all parties.

8. FLANK GUARDS.

(a) Right Flank Guard 2 Troops I.S.H. to reach SUMMIT ROAD at G.26.a.4.0 by p.m. thence pushing a strong patrol to spur in G.26.d. The role of the right flank guard is to prevent enemy patrols coming West of the road from G.26.b.2.4. to G.26.d.4.7.

(b) -----

- (b) Left Flank Guard 1 Troop F,G,H, to reach the vicinity of LITTLE BILL by p.m. The role of the Left Flank Guard is to prevent any hostile patrol coming down valley in 3,10,d. between LITTLE BILL and our own lines.
- (c) Flank Guards will be withdrawn at Zero plus 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours).

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

INSTRUCTIONS "B"

1. EQUIPMENT.

- (a) P.H. Helmets will be carried by all ranks.
- (b) Rifles, magazines charged, 4 charges in the pockets, chamber empty.
- (c) Bayonets to be fixed, blade darkened, no scabbards or bandolier.
- (d) 80% to carry 6 No.5 mill's grenades in the haversack, or pocket.
- (e) 30% carry "P" bombs in haversack or pocket.
- (f) All ranks will carry wire-cutters, as many for heavy wire as available.
- (g) At least 3 compasses and 3 electric torches to be carried by each troop.
- (h) Troop Leaders will carry whistles.
- (i) Troop Leaders operating in "A" and "C" Trenches will carry Very Pistols and "HITE" Flares.

2. DISTINCTIVE MARKS :- White strips in right hand breast pocket and attached to the button. These will be pulled out and passed through the right shoulder strap at ZERO Hour.

3. S.A.A. Dumps.

G.C., M.G. Squadron will arrange for necessary ammunition dumps.

4. VERY PISTOLS AND ROCKETS.

R.O.D. Party will take TWO Very Pistols and FOUR RED Lights to give the signal that the torpedo has been successfully exploded.
(See para 1 (1) above.)

Staff Captain will have TWO Very Pistols and EIGHT RED Very Lights ready to be fired at ZERO Hour from i.o. f Post.
Four GREEN Rockets, one fired to be fired at ZERO plus 50 from the same post.

5. RENDEZVOUS. for all troops on return will be at L.29.b.2.l. where track to GRAHAM POST crosses PONTRU - VILLERET road, at which point Lt.Col.H.I.STEVENSON, Fort Garry Horse will make a check of the numbers. Wounded first passing through dressing station. at GRAHAM.

6. STRETCHER BEARERS.

- (a) L.S.Horse will detail 1 K.C.O. and 4 men to act as First Aid Post, with support troops. Each man will carry a haversack of shell dressings and one stretcher (carried at trail, 2 men, 2 stretchers).
- (b) K.C.Dragoons will detail 12 stretcher bearers with 6 normal Field Stretchers and 8 O.R's as Temporary Stretcher Bearers to accompany the Raiding Party.
- (c) One stretcher will be sent with each Flank Guard.

7. All documents etc. taken from Prisoners will be collected as soon as possible and handed into Brigade Intelligence Officer, who will at once pass same on to Division.
Identifications will be telephoned back from GRAHAM as soon as obtained.

Major,
Brigade Major,
Canadian Dismounted Brigade.

MACHINE GUN BARRAGE.

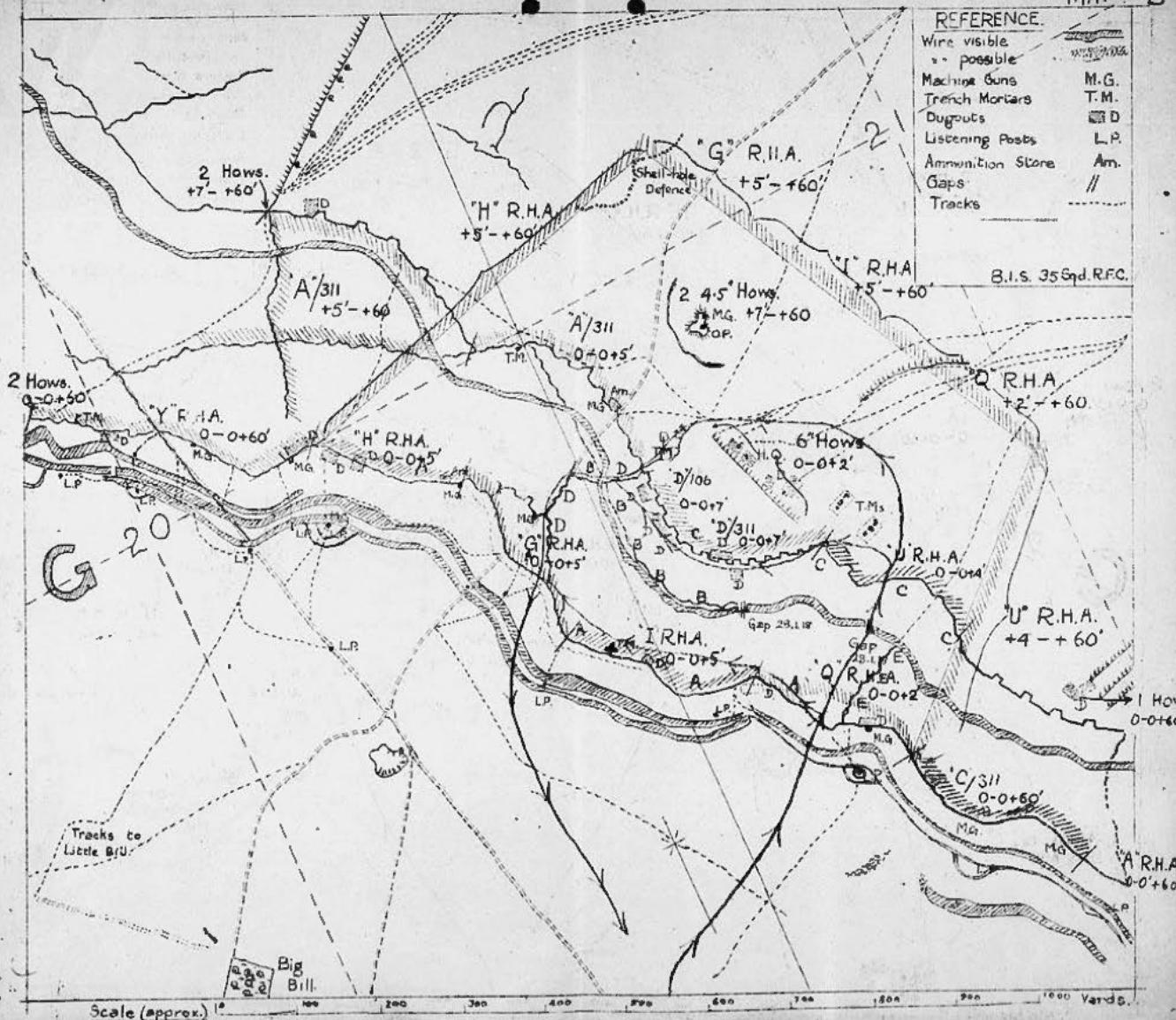
CANADIAN DISMOUNTED BRIGADE RAID.

Group.	Position.	Point of aim.	Times of fire.	Method of fire.	Remarks.
A (4 guns)	In vicinity of No. 9 Post.	(1) G.19.d.5.9. to G.20.a.9.4. (2) BUISSOR GHULAIN FARM.	7.30 p.m. to ZERO.	Intermittent bursts of 10 rds per 3 minutes.	Left Flank Protection. 1 gun only to fire.
			ZERO + 15.	Intense fire.	
			Zero + 15 to Zero + 70	Medium fire.	
B (8 guns)	In vicinity of GRAND PRIEL FARM.	G.20.b.5.0. to G.20.a.9.5. Wire in front and enemy trenches behind these points.	Zero to Zero + 15	Intense fire.	
			Zero + 15 to Zero + 70	Medium fire.	
C (8 guns)	In vicinity of GRAND PRIEL FARM.	G.27.a.6.6. to G.20.d.7.7.	7.30 p.m. to Zero + 50	Intermittent bursts of 10 rds. per 3 minutes.	1 gun only to fire.
			Zero + 70 to Zero + 100	Medium fire.	
D (2 guns)	In vicinity of DRAGOON POST.	On WATLING STREET from G.32.b.6.0. to G.27.c.0.3.	7.30 p.m. to ZERO.	Intermittent bursts of 10 rds. per 3 minutes.	Right Flank Protection. 1 gun only to fire.
			Zero + 15.	Intense fire.	
			Zero + 15 to Zero + 70	Medium fire.	
E (10 guns)	In vicinity of GEORGE POST.	G.27.c.9.3. to G.27.a.7.7. Wire in front and enemy's trenches behind these points.	Zero to Zero + 15.	Intense fire.	
			Zero + 15 to Zero + 70	Medium fire.	

NOTE :-- Above barrage by 9th, 13th and Canadian M.G.Squadrons. Barrage on adjoining sectors by 10th, 11th, 12th and 14th M.G.Squadrons. The 1st and 7th M.G.Squadrons will move up to take the place of guns to be moved forward.

Feb 1918

MAP B.



CLAIMS FOR CAPTURED TRENCH MORTARS, MACHINE GUNS AND STORES (Other than Guns, etc.).

Description of Stores.	Regd. No. (if any).	Markings on Stores (if any).	By whom claimed.	Particulars of despatch to Base.			REMARKS.
				Railhead.	Date.	Truck No.	
Machine Gun	-	4009	Royal Canadian Dragoons.	LONGPAC LE CORPS SAINTS	4/3/18	91365	Captured by the Royal Canadian Dragoons from the 4th Prussian Guards Div. in Lili French - 12/3/18.
do.	-	2634. M.G. 08/15 G.W.F. ERFURT 1917. } do.	do.	do.		N. 4664	L.T. re Thunberg ment. Col. Lansg. R.C.D.

NOTES:—(a) *Guns, Howitzers and Carriages are not to be reported in this List.*

(b) Correspondence concerning the claim should not be forwarded unless for any special reason it is considered desirable for it to accompany the form.

(c) Form to be rendered to Army Headquarters in triplicate.

COUPE DE SOUVENIR

W A R D I A R Y

— — O P — —

Royal Canadian Dragoons - Canadian Cavalry Brigade

From 1st March to 31st March 1918

— — o.c.o — —

VOLUME 35

With appendices
A-D

WAR DIARY

Royal Cdn. Dragoons, Cdn. Cavalry Bde.

From 1st to 31st March, 1918.

Volume 35.

Diary Text 7 pages.

Appendix A. Information regarding Cdn. Dismounted Bn. which was formed during the night 21st/22nd March.

" B. Narrative of operation 3rd Cav. Division detachment March 21st to March 27th.

" C. Ordre Particulier

" D. Intelligence summary of Dismounted Bde. from March 23rd to March 31st, which was formed on March 22nd, under the command of Lieut. Col. McDonnell.

a-2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

35

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE	March	1	Back Area. Routine.	M.
DOMAINE	2		Routine.	M.
LE PLOUZ	3		Service. 5 men on leave to England.	M.
	4		Routine. 15 men leave to reinforce French Party. Following immediate rewards notified - DSO. Major D.S. Bowie. M.R. Capt Newcomen. Lt Le Mesurier. Lt Gurn. Lt Birmingham. D.C.M. SSM. Asthorpe. Sgt. A.B. Martin. Capt Welsh. DSO. awarded Lt. E. Price. M.C. Lt Col. D.D. Young returns from England.	M.
	5		Routine. DSO. awarded Lt. E. Price. M.C. Lt Col. D.D. Young returns from England.	M.
	6		Routine. Major Bowie on leave to CANNES. 600 on leave to England. Lt Col. Stranbergue. 7 officers & 234 ORs returned from French party.	M.
	7		Reorganisation. Capt More returns from Cad. Corps Equitation School.	M.
	1		Forward Area. Conditions normal. Patrols out to enemy's wire during night.	M.
	2		Conditions normal. Snow falling.	M.
	3		Enemy raided No. 3 post ("A" Spur) - They were driven off - leaving 2 wounded prisoners. 2 of ours men missing.	M.
	4		Sgt. Olmsted awarded Belgian Croix du Guerre.	M.
	4	5	Conditions quiet. The order to "prepare for battle" cancelled - Advanced parties from 3rd Desmounted Rde on the line during night. Rde relieved by 3rd Cad. Desmounted Brigade.	M.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	5		Regiment marched independently to Q. 30. cent. where it entrained for ROISEL and remained for night.	M
	6		Regiment entrained 9 am at ROISEL for LONGPRE and proceeded in trains to the Regt. Capt LE BLANC and Capt LA Rose arrive as reinforcements from England.	M
	7		Reorganisation.	M
	8			M
	9		Regiment marched 9 am via AMIENS to ORESMAUX - arriving in Bilslets about 4. pm. 10 ORs on leave to England.	M
	10	11pm	Boatshoes advanced one hour (Summer Tropic).	M
	10am		Regt marched 10 am with Brigade via JUMEL - MOREUIL - DAVENESCOURT to Bilslets at WARSY and GUERBIGNY.	M
	4pm		Arrived in Bilslets.	M
	11		Routine & cleaning up.	M
	12		do do	M
	13	9am	Regiment marched 9 am via ROYE to ENNEMAIN	M
	4pm		Arrived in Bilslets	M
	14		Brigade marched becomes part of 3rd Cav. Div. Inspection of lines by G.O.C. 3rd Cav. Div. On leave to England - Lt James - Capt Wilkes. Lt. Wickerson, Capt Johnson, Capt Newcomer, Capt Nordheimer returns to duty from St. Albans School. Lt. Sawyer and 3 ORs return to duty from French Mortar Battery. 19 Remounts from last year	M
	15		Training.	M
	16		Training & Routine 3 ORs on leave to England.	M

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remariks and references to Appendices
ENNEMAIN	17		Brigade Church Parade. & presentation of medal ribands by Corps Cmdr.	M.
	18		working party of 250 to work on rear defences near ESTREES.	
	18		18 ORs leave Regiment for 3 months Canadian Turfough.	
	19		working party of 250 again required. do. do.	M.
	20		Capt Trinagle & 3 ORs on leave to England.	M.
	21		During night of 20/21 - very heavy bombardment heard all along line.	M.
	8.30 ^{am}		Working Parties Cancelled - and Brigade ordered to Stand-to at 1½ hours notice.	M.
	3.30pm		Orders received to march with 'A' bch. Brigade marched past CROIX MOLIGNAUX at 6.00pm via MATIGNY - OFFOT - ESMERY - GOLANCOURT - VILLESELVE - arriving there at 11.45pm where horses were off Saddled - Orders were then issued to form a Desmounted Batt. which moved off the lines at 5.00 am and consisted of the following - In Command. Major R.S. Timmins. 2nd Lie. Lt. J. Saward. 'A' Sqdn. Lt. Ceras. 'B' " " Gwyn. 'C' " " Grant. and 234 ORs Fighting Troops.	M.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	22		This party did not again join the Rest until March 25 th just S. of SEMPIGNY History of the operations is given in detail in Appendix 'A' Remainder of Brigade marched at 8. am via GIVY- VEAUGIES- APPILLY- to VARESNES. The horses which had proceeded with Dismounted Party being brought back there independently.	M,
	23		At 9. am orders received to supply one officer and 50 men - mounted. immediately - to form special mounted Squadron from Brigade under Lt. Col. Stevenson. F.G.H. Lieutenant Cunningham and 50 ORs reported to Brigade 9.45 am. This party did not return to the Rest until the 27 th just at ARSY. Its casualties were. Lieutenant Cunningham - Missing believed killed - and 12 ORs wounded. and 10 horses killed & missing). A detailed account of its operations is given in Appendix 'B'. Remainder of the Brigade marched at 3. pm to bivouac at CARLEPONT.	M,
	24		Remaining at CARLEPONT. 16 remounts received from R.E's and less Germany. 8 ORs of the RE's were retained to ride these horses and took part in all subsequent operations and actions up to April 1 st - two being wounded & two killed -	M,
	25		Orders received at midnight to stand-to ready to move at once. Brigade moved at 10 am to TRACY LE VAL 200 horses ifc 20 men were left near CARLEPONT for the Dismounted Party whose return was expected.	M,
			After arrival at TRACY LE VAL orders were received about 7. pm to mount every available man as a fighting force ready to move at 1/2 an	

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	26	5 am	<p>Lam's notice - all spare horses being left with B'ch. - the parties from each Regiment being formed into a unit under Lieut Col. Van Straatenberg.</p> <p>Orders were received from the force organised the evening before to move at once to a point immediately N. of LA CLOYE near SEMPIGNY to support the French holding the river Crossings of the OISE.</p> <p>A patrol of 100 men under Capt NORDHEIMER was sent to SEMPIGNY with instructions to hold the river Crossings. Here the dismounted Battalion rejoined about 10 am & the Brigade was reformed under Command of Brig. Gen. Seely. Casualties of the dismounted Battalion had been Lieut Gwyn and 48 ORs wounded & evacuated. 13 ORs missing. 8 ORs wounded & missing. 5 missing believed killed. 13 ORs killed.</p> <p>Regiment remained saddled up all night but were not called upon.</p> <p>Patrol of 100 men under Capt LE BLANC remain at SEMPIGNY.</p> <p>During the morning Brigade marched via COMPEIGNE to ARSY where it was attached as an extra Brigade to the 2nd Cav. Div. going into Billets at ARSY about 5 pm. Here it was rejoined by the mounted detachment.</p>	(M)
	27		<p>Brigade marched at 6.30 am - orders having been received that the enemy had broken through at MONTDIDIER and that a position was to be taken up on the high ground NE of LIEVILLERS.</p>	(M)
	28		<p>On arrival there - orders were received that the French had restored</p>	(M)