

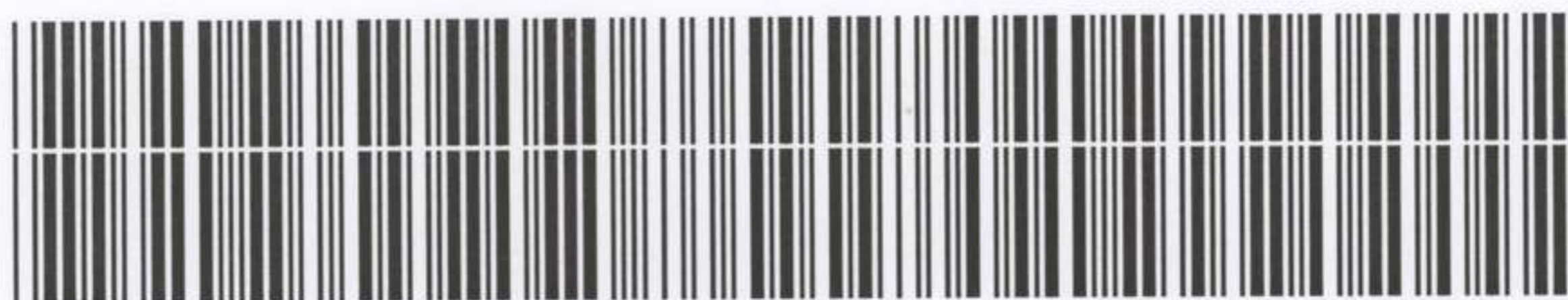
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/44/26 PART 2

Title: 27th Infantry Battalion

October 1917 Duplicate with additional appendices



AWM4-23/44/26PART2

Brig 98

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres Area	Oct	1st	Battalion camped in open at CANAL AREA. outside YPRES. Coy Comdrs with guides moved forward to WESTHOEK RIDGE. (KIT KAT J.1.D.4.6. Bati moving up after dark. A & B Coys occupying ground in rear of KIT KAT. D Coy at BELLEWAARDE RIDGE. J.7.A.C. (SHEET 26NE) and C Coy at D.26.D. — 2/Lt RODDICK from Supy List, Lieut B.T. Schramm to 7th T. Battalion.	
"	Oct	2nd	All day spent in above positions. Officers reconnoitred forward.	
"	Oct	3rd	Bati in same position. 2/Lt V.A. RIGGS wounded (chest) Lieut L. BROWNELL wounded & died. M. FRIEDRICHS wounded & resumed duty.	
"	Oct	4th	Battalion was in first position of assembly at 5 AM. Formation Coys in line in file. Bn H. Dns at J.2.A.4.6. At Zero hour Bn moved forward to a position on ANZAC RIDGE. At Zero + 70 minutes the Bn moved forward to a position in rear of first objective & dug in at approx D.22.C.9.6. Bn H. Dns established at D.22.A.1.4. At 8.10 AM. A & B Coys moved forward to assist 2nd Bn in taking 2nd Objective.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres area	Oct ⁴		Continued Objective gained and position consolidated. Major R.R. Frederickson again wounded and (evacuated) Lieut V.W. Lampard Wounded; 2 nd Lieut R.W. Crews Wounded; Lieut A.J. Matters Wounded; 2 nd Lieut E. O'Brien Wounded; 2 nd Lieut A. Scott Wounded;	
"	Oct 5	—	At 1 PM "A" Coy withdrew to D 22 a. 1.4. The remaining Coy were also withdrawn later that day A & B Machine gunners left in to hold the line	
"	Oct 6 th		The Bn at 1 PM withdrew to ridge in D. 27 c & d and dug in. Orders received to relieve 2/6 th Manchester Regt Reconnaissance of line to be relieved carried out by CO and 1 Officer and 11 N.C.O. per Coy. At 10 PM the Bn relieved the 2/6 th Manchester Regt at D 22 b.	
"	Oct 7 th		2 nd Lt. Judge J.O. 2 nd Lt. Stewart J. 2 nd Lt. Stockham S.C. Lieut Coombs H.S. 3 rd Anzac Corps School Above relieve completed 1.30 AM. Bn in above position all day. Were relieved by 17 th Bn at 10 PM Moved back to RAILWAY WOOD.	
"	Oct 8 th		Reorganising & equipping carried out at RAILWAY WOOD Lieut M.F. De G. Sells evacuated sick	
"	Oct 9 th		The Bn moved forward to ANZAC RIDGE as reserve Bn to 5 th & 6 th A.I.F. Brigades. The Bn moved forward & occupied old red line in D. 23. A. 2. b. Capt E.S. Gumbel Killed; 2 nd Lt J. J. Kelly Killed; 2 nd Lt S. O'Ryan Killed; 2 nd Lt R.B. Coulter Wounded;	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres area	Oct	10 th	Bn withdrew from old RED LINE to Gordon Camp arrived at Ypres 8-30 AM. Bn embarked for STEENVORDE at 7 P.M. arriving at destination 10 P.M.	
Steenvorde	Oct	11 th	Quarter Parade & Roll Call. Pay Day (X Mas Special) Capt P. G. Price from 7 TB 'Seconded'	
..	Oct	12 th	Bn resting & cleaning up. Details left out of line rejoined at 2 P.M.	
..	Oct	13 th	Bn resting & cleaning. Court of Inquiry held Re Capt Hoeking's horse, lost at YPRES. Also Re missing men.	
..	Oct	14 th	Bn Church Parade. Court of Inquiry Re missing horse & men, continued & concluded.	
..	Oct	15 th	Training & Pay Day	
..	Oct	16 th	Training. Mjr J. R. Chalmers proceeded on English Leave. 2 nd Lt R. B. Coulter previously reported Wounded, now reported died of wounds.	
..	Oct	17 th	Training Company Recruit Marches	
..	Oct	18 th	Training. Lecture on Battle of Verdun by Area Commander in STEENVORDE. CINEMA HALL	
..	Oct	19 th	Training	
..	Oct	20 th	Training. 1 Officer, 2 nd Lt Holloway E and 70 other Bn's Details rejoined Bn from the 70 th Bn	
..	Oct	21 st	Church Parade & Presentation of Medals by General Birchwood	
..	Oct	22 nd	Bn Inspection by General Patten & Acting Brigadier Collet on Bn Parade Ground.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEENVORDE	Oct	22 nd	Continued / Bn attended Divisional Gas Demonstration by Capt W. Miller on 25 th Bn Parade Ground. Special Inspection of 27 th Bn by the CO Lt Col J. E. Slaney for a Platoon Prize of £200.00. Lt Col J. E. Slaney VD proceeded to FLETRE to take command of 2 nd Div Reinforcement Camp. Lt Bartlett to 2 nd Div Camp. Mr Devonshire D.S.O. temporarily Commanding 27 th Bn.	
"	Oct	23 rd	Training. 2 nd B.C.C. McCann to Bombing School. Lt M. J. De G. Sells, Lt B. Ashing. Lt R. H. Harris from Hospital.	
"	Oct	24 th	Training. Half Holiday. Football Match 27 th Bn v 28 th Bn. 27 th Bn Won by 5 points. Lt Wiltshire from T.B. Lt R. H. Howard to English leave. Lt W. S. Coomber from School.	
"	Oct.	25 th	Training. Lt W. S. Wiltshire and Lt M. J. Sells proceeded to 2 nd Div Reinforcement Camp. Lt C. Puxton proceeded to England R.E.C. School. Lt J. H. Luffthorne presented with M.C. medal.	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEENVOORDE	Oct 26 th		Bn embussed at 9 AM just outside STEENVOORDE for SWAN AREA. Debussed near CAFE BELGE at 11 PM. Marched to SWAN AREA and camped. Eighty Trench Shelters obtained from Area Commandant, men erected shelters & made themselves comfortable. One Officer per Company reconnoitred forward, torrents of rain.	
ALBERT REDOUBT	Oct 27 th		Bn left SWAN AREA at 12.30 PM to relieve 59 th Bn at ALBERT REDOUBT Support Area to Front Line. - Route - By way of WARRINGTON TRACK. BARR CROSS ROADS. BELLEVARDE GRESENT. HELLES DUCK WALK to destination. Enemy artillery shelling at various points on the way in to relief 1 slight casualty. Relief complete at 5.30 PM. Heavy shelling by hostile artillery of ANZAC and WESTHOEK RIDGE. Bn Hd Qrs J. G. A. 30. 65. (By BECEHARR MAP. SACRET 28. NW. (50 men of D Coy reported to RE SWAN AREA 3 weeks work.)	
"	Oct 28 th		Bn in same positions. C Coy carried 20 th Bn Rations forward to front line. Heavy bombardment of ANZAC & WESTHOEK RIDGE with Mustard Gas shells, a few slight casualties owing to shells bursting in shelters.	
"	Oct 29 th		Bn on fatigue, intermittent shelling of Support Area all day. Heavy Gas shell bombardment by enemy from 5.30 PM until 8 PM (Chlorine & Mustard) C Coy wearing helmets for 4 hours. Bn Hd Qrs uncomfortable for an hour all	

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WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)



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VOLUME 19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUPPORT AREA ALBERT REDoubt.	Oct 29 th		Continued — wearing masks, about 6 men slightly affected. Officers reconnoitred forward to FRONT LINE. Fine clear day.	
"	Oct 30 th		150 men under Capt Hosking dug 400 yds of communication trench front near forward Bn H ^d Qrs to front line. good work no casualties. Enemy artillery active, rain fell heavily. C. Officer Bn and I Officer reconnoitred front line. Great aerial activity in the early morning on both sides.	
"	Oct 31 st		Fine & clear, great aerial activity. enemy dropped bombs on WEST HOEK. (5 Gothas) Machine Guns & AA Craft engaged them but without success. Heavy Gas bombardment by enemy on Support Lines Mustard & Tear Shell principally, we had a few casualties (9) owing again to shells bursting on Trench Shelters. Most of the men were only slightly affected. The Bn successfully relieved the 28 th Battr in front line. Relief complete at 10-15 PM. Bn H ^d Qrs at J. 4. B. 80. 15. Lieut Roddick with a patrol of 20 men left our lines at 11-15. Patrol Officers report — Our Patrol left our line at a point J. 5. B. 3. 7. (BECAUSE HERE MAP) The ground in vicinity of Celtic Wood was found to be swampy. We passed through JUSTICE WOOD. No opposition was met with and no enemy seen. AM Move Lt 10. 27 th Battr	

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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
	Oct	1 st	<p>Manure Report on Operations Oct 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10th Oct 1917 -</p> <p>The Approach March. The Unit left Pioneer Camp at 8-15 p.m. night of 1st Oct, and marched to WESTHOEK-RIDGE. After passing through YRRES, 50 paces distance was maintained between Coy's. Coy's were led by guides who had been sent forward during the day to reconnoitre the route. No artillery fire was experienced. D Coy took up a position on BELLEWAARDE-RIDGE. A & B Coy dug in on WESTHOEK-RIDGE. C Coy went on to ANZAC-RIDGE and dug in, as supports to 26th Bn A.I.F. 27th Bn HQs was established at TIT-TAT. The whole of the 2nd & 3rd Oct was spent in these positions. Officers reconnoitred forward. — At 5-AM Oct 4th. The Bn was in first position of assembly. J2 a.o.s. Formation Coy in line in file ↑ D Coy. C Coy. B Coy. A Coy. with Bn HQs in trench at J2 a.u.v. — At ZERO hour the Bn moved forward in line of Coy in single file to a position on ANZAC-RIDGE. At ZERO + 70 minutes the Bn advanced from this position in lines of sections in file to a position in rear of 1st Objective and dug in at approximately D22.c.9.6 to D22.d.1.5. The ground being fairly soft. The men were soon under good cover. Bn HQs were by this time established behind a pill box at D22.d.1.4. At 8-10.A.M. I saw a message addressed to CO 26th Bn, from Capt Herbert 26th Bn who was taking 2nd Objective, asking for 100 reinforcements as the attack was held up by enemy MG fire</p>	

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Appendix

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 28

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Narrative Report on Operations. Oct 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10th 1917. - Continued - from DAISY WOOD. I ordered two Coy forward to assist in taking 2nd objective. A Coy Lieut Lampard. B Coy Capt Gould, immediately advanced. At 8-55 AM. I received a message from Capt Gould stating 2nd objective was captured & was being consolidated. Casualties very light. The position was then that A Coy 27th Bn was in touch with 21st Bn 6th Aus Infy Bde, on the BROODSEINDE MOORSLEDE ROAD. and my left Coy (B) was connected up with 26th Bn A.I.F. on the left. The position remained the same all day. At 1 AM Oct 5th on instructions from G.O.C 7th A.I.F. I withdrew A Coy to its original position in D22d. & B Coy closing to the right kept touch with 21st Bn A.I.F. On the night of 5/6th Oct. the 27th Bn withdrew to RIDGE in D27cd & dug in. On the night of 6/7th Oct the Bn withdrew from this position & went to RAILWAY-WOOD. At 10.30 AM. 6/10/17 I received orders to take over that part of the line held by 2/6 Manchester Regt. That night I went forward & made a reconnaissance of the line, also sent an Officer & 4 N.C.O's per Coy to do the same so that they could guide their Coy's forward to the new position that night. At 10-p.m. on the night of the 6/10/17 the Bn moved forward to relieve the 2/6 Manchester Regt. At 1.30 AM 7/10/17 the relief was complete</p>	

Appendix 1


WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Narrative Report on Operations Oct 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10th 1917. Continued - With only 1 casualty 1^{OR} being slightly wounded. On the night of 7/8. 10. 17. the 19th Bn A.I.F. relieved me. My Bn going back to RAILWAY-WOOD. The 8. 10. 17 was occupied in reorganising, and at 3 AM 9/10/17 the Bn moved forward to ANZAC-RIDGE as reserve Bn to 5th & 6th A.I.F. Bdes in their operations. At 11-45 AM 9/10/17 I received orders for the Bn to move forward & to occupy old red line in D23. a & c. and that the Bn then came under the orders of G.O.C 6th Div Inf 5 Bde. At 1-30 PM. the move was complete and Bn HQ's were established ^{D23. b & 37}; at 5 AM 10/10/17 I received orders to withdraw the 27th Bn to Gordon Camp. The Bn arrived in YPRES at 8-30 AM. where the cooks were waiting. The men had a good feed & sleep. at 7 PM. The Bn embussed for STEENYORDE.</p>	
			<p>J R Chalmers Major 27th Bn</p>	<p>Appendix 9</p>



Form 5112

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Intelligence for the day)

Summary of Events and Information

Date Hour

All information in this diary is to be kept secret and the diary is to be destroyed after the war.

Handwritten diary entries in Cyrillic script, including dates like 1918 and 1919, and various military or intelligence-related notes.

Handwritten signature or name in Cyrillic script.

Handwritten initials or code in Cyrillic script.

Appendix

Vertical text on the left margin, possibly a reference or classification code.

ANZAC RIDGE MEMOS 9/10/17

Memos ^{270m} ~~from~~ ^{5/19/17}
Coys to Bn. Hq

AUSTRALIAN WAR
359
C.S. 979

from time of leaving
Railway Dugouts to
time of moving up to
FRONT LINE

From
Place
Time
The

Censor.

Sig. of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

(27964) Wt. W492/M1647. [E 1187]. 130,000 Pads—5/17 M.R.Co., Ltd. Forms/C.2121.

From

Place

10 Aug.

24th Bn



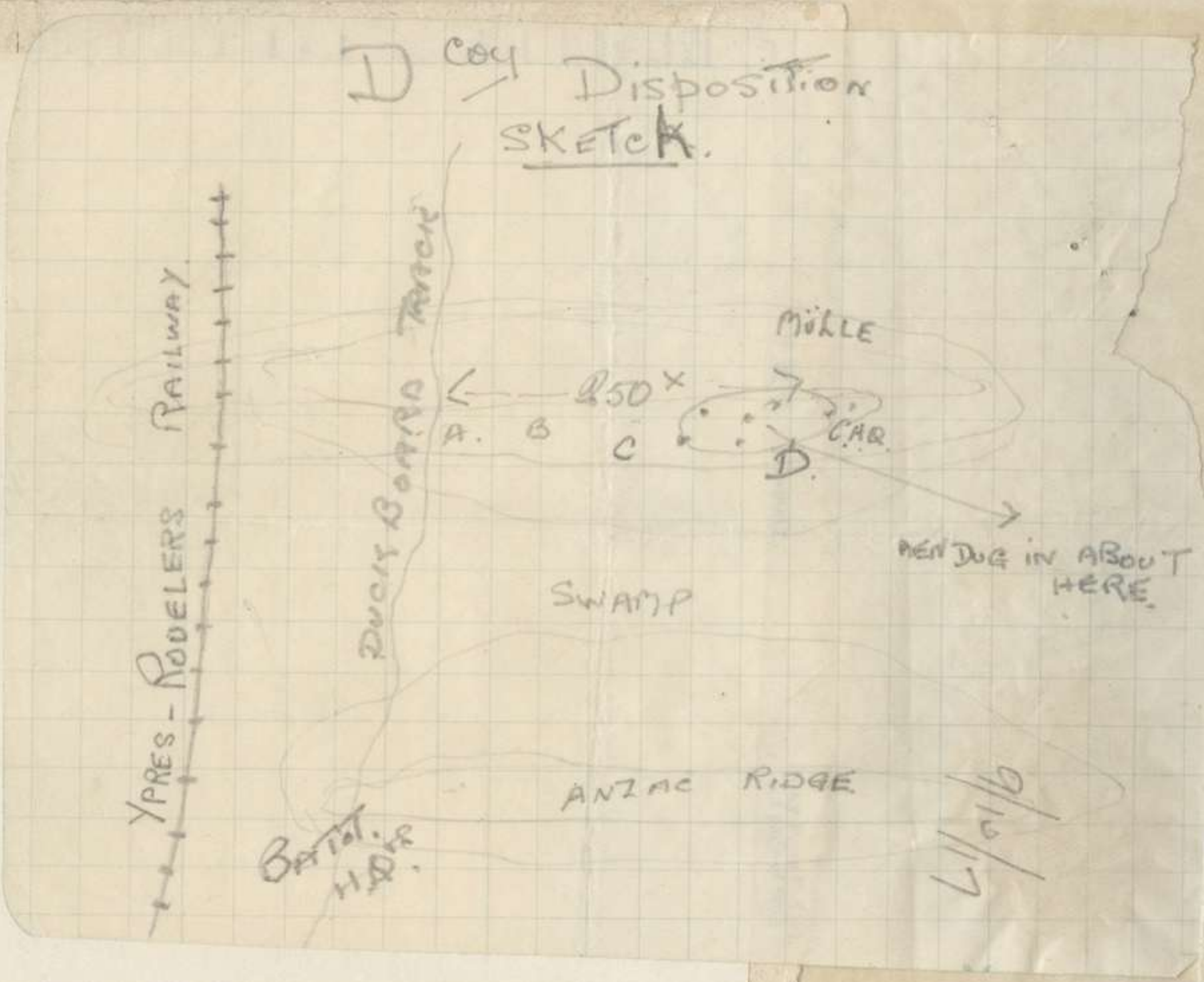
Everything here is O.K. The
 men are well dug in in
 groups of three & four.
 They are just starting to get
 a bit of a lining in their stomachs.
 We missed the hot meal this
 morning.

W. G. Horwood Lt. Col.
 D. D. Coe

1.35 AM.

9.10.19.

(27964) W. W. 492/M1647 E 11871 130,000 Pads—5/17 M. R. Co., Ltd. NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND



Handwritten notes on a separate piece of paper, including the date '9/10/17' and other illegible text.

Ypres - BELGIUM

7

27th Bn

Belgium

27th Bn

27th Bn

27th Bn

27th Bn

Belgium

"A" Form.

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

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Prefix	Code	m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at	m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.				Sent		Service.	Date
				Lt	m.		From
				To		By	
				By	(Sig. of "Franking Officer.")		

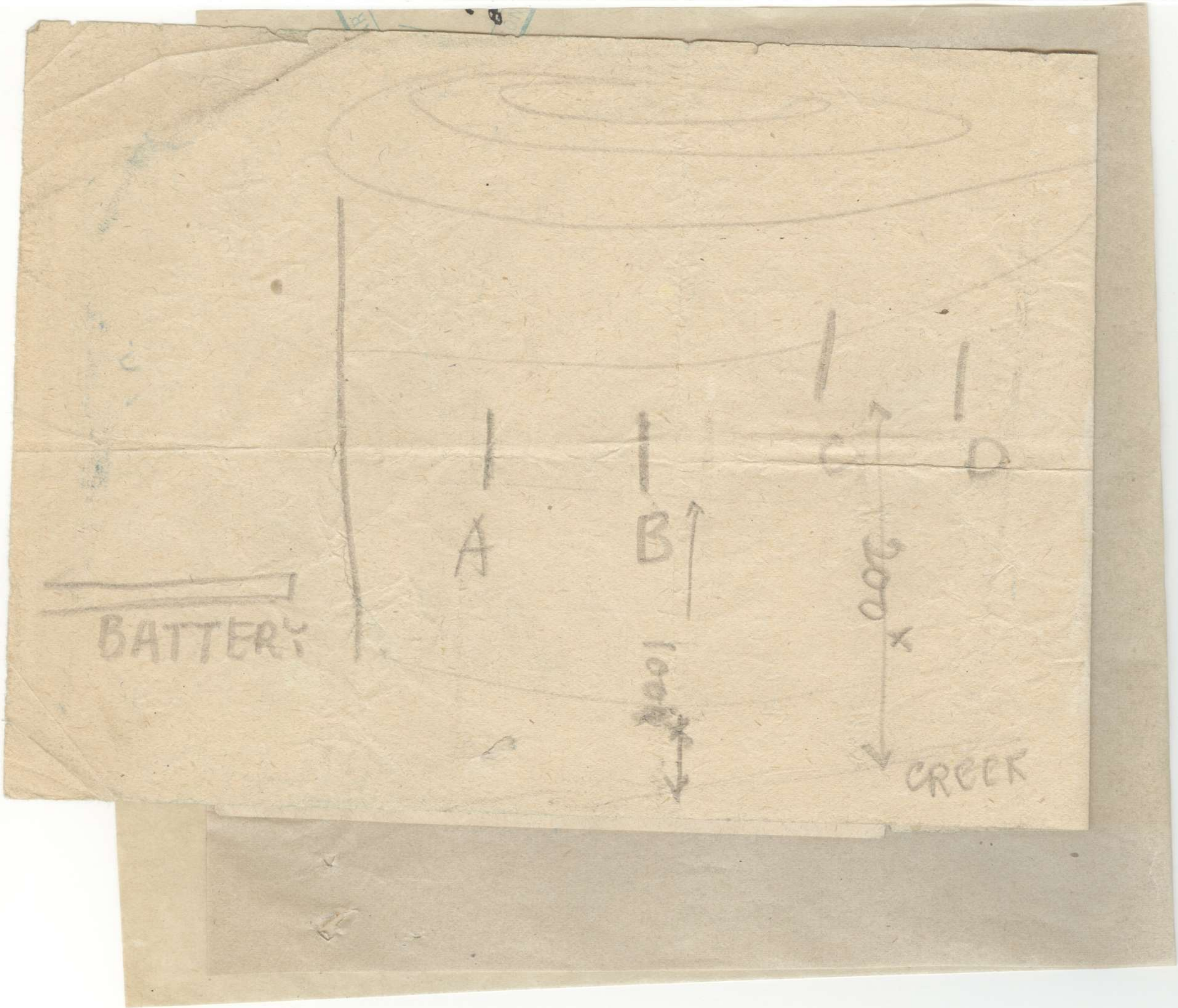
TO { 27th Bn

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
* HI	39		

Digging in as per sketch on back

No casualties

From	
Place	
Time	6.25 am
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)	
Censor.	Sig. of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.



Summary for Month ending Oct 31st 1917 Appendix

Taken on Strength Officers O.R.

Wounded Hospital 105
Sick Do 132
Reinforcements 97
Supply List 4
T. Batten 5
Prison 1



344

2/Lt Roddick W from Hoops Sick
Capt Bice P.S. " Seconded
2/Lt Kalloway E. " Cadet Bn
1/Lt Jells M.F. Delg " Hoops Sick
" Harris R. Ho. " Hospital Wounded
" Hosking G. Ho. " Sick
Capt Wiltshire W.S. " Seconded
1/Lt Wood A.F. Base Le Harve

Total Officers 8 Other Ranks 344

[Signature]

AM Moore Lt
27th Batta

Summary for month ending Oct 31st 1917 Appendix

Taken Off Strength O Ranks

Hospital wounded 180
Sick 89
Killed 46
215

Lieut Brownell L. Hospital. Wounded & Died
" Riggo VAW. Wounded
Mjr Friedrichs KAR. "
Lt Lampard V.W. "
1/Lt Crews K.R. "
Lt Seed A "
" Jells M.F. Delg Sick
Capt Gould E.S. Killed
Lieut Organ S. "
" Jurn G. "
1/Lt Coulter R.B. Died of wounds.

Total - 11 Officers 215 O Ranks

AM Moore Lt
27th Batta