

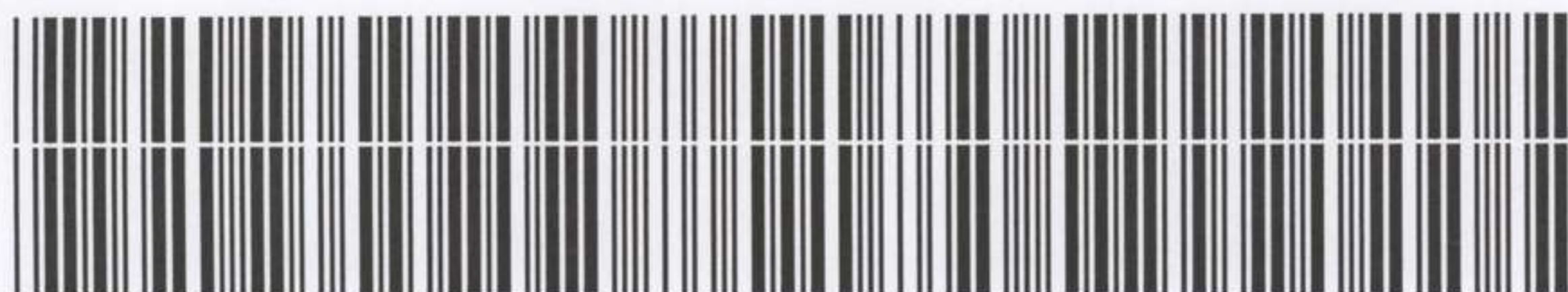
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/46/34 PART 3

Title: 29th Infantry Battalion

May 1918 Appendices



AWM4-23/46/34PART3

Patrol Report Appendix

190

Strength of Patrol - 1 officer, 15: O.R. 1 Lewis Gun

Object - To search spur on left of Y: 2 Project. also valley beyond if possible. To locate enemy wire. & secure identification

Patrol moved out via left of Y: 2 Project. at 2.25 AM. moved forward. towards spur. searched Y: 2 Main Land. to the left & returned via left of Y: 3 Project. at 4 AM.

From time patrol moved out until 3.45. it was pitch black dark, making it impossible to move too far forward with safety, as there was no means of identifying landmarks or position.

About 3.45 AM. darkness suddenly cleared & it became extremely light. when patrol commenced to return.

Y: enemy were encountered, no position located exactly. Considerable movement was heard from position (approx.) marked (X) appeared as though men were working. Two (2) flares were fired simultaneously from (approx.) marked (O)

Wanderer

4.40 AM.

5.4-18.

Patrol - 1st - 150R


Left 10.20 PM Returned 12.30 am

Moved out from No 1 Picquet in among trees
 as it was light moonlight laid in wait
 observing - moved to left across No 1 & No 2 Picquets
 returned ^{via} No 2 Picquet -

There was no signs of movement at all
 along the whole front.

W. D. Rankin

29 11 PM



Strength of Party 1. Officer 10. O.R. 1 Lewis Gun.

Object. Work out from Y: 2. Prejunct. own crest.

✓ Nyl + locate post. return ✓ search left of crest.

Engage enemy patrol.

Time of Departure. 2.5: AM.

Time of Return. 3.20. AM.

Patrol moved from Right of Y: 2 Prejunct. of crest.

until reaching patch of crap running East & West.

moved cautiously along edge of crap. for about 100x

when 3 men were seen moving about a trench (approx

marked. ⊙ slight movement was also heard at

position marked X nothing could be seen of this

place as men were lying in crap. I had not time

to move out.

Patrol had to return about 3.20. AM.

as order was received that, S.O.S. barrage wanted

to be dropped down at 3.25 AM. After firing had

ceased. it was too light to proceed out to the

left.

Gambelle Leunt

5. AM.

6.5.18.

256

2. Light Patrols working in conjunction

Strength of Patrols 1 Coy. 15; O.R. + 1 Lewis Gun to each party.

Object To push well forward & discover exact location of enemy positions. Support one another & snuff out enemy patrols & small posts.

Disposition Two small parties with thin two scouts with Lewis Gun covering each flank.

Patrol moved out from left of No. 2. Picquet at 10.35 P.M. moving up ridge. After crossing ridge for a distance of 50 yds. I.N.C.O. & 2 scouts were halted by enemy. returned & reported to Unit Wagon. Arrangements were made for Left Patrol to work in from left flank & right patrol to work in on enemy right flank. This was being done when enemy commenced sniping. He appeared to be in a continuous trench but only one post was located in which 6 men were seen. Previous to this sniping was heard in rear. (Approx. place marked with X) The four parties moved up to about 50 yds from enemy post but could not get closer owing to enemy rifle fire.

While lying in this position the 6" trench mortar opened fire on SHILLY LAURETTE. They undoubtedly shortened range & burst & killed amongst patrol inflicting 7 casualties. This battery had previously been told not to fire on this sector as patrol intended to push well forward but for some unknown reason they did fire. When getting casualties back enemy continued to snipe but did no harm. Both patrols returned about 1 A.M.

Gambler. Unit. 4.5.18.
A.M.

956

Patrol - 1 off 150R
Left No 4 Picquet at 10 PM RV
Returned No 2 " at 12.30 AM.

Track moved up valley, about A
moved on to high ground on our side of valley,
across front to No 2 Picquet.

Pushed out in front of No 2 Picquet.

(Withdraw to close in front of No 3 Picquet at
11.55 to be clear of artillery, shot)

Result - At A. noise of shovels, talking
coughing etc. also with wind blowing from
our position this made me surmise that
Fritz was digging ~~the~~ trenches on terrace
above valley & in valley, approx at about
line marked CD.

Reported this to Ofc Donald who swept
valley with vickers - Could not distinguish
any effect -

nothing else noted during Patrol

WGP Runkin A

Patrol Report

Strength 1 officer + 12 O.R.

Leader LT C.A. NICKLE

Time of departure 1 a.m.

Place No. 1 Post

Time of return 3-30 a.m.

Place Bet. nos 2 + 3 Post

Object To secure information re enemy movement, works, etc. identification

Result The night was too dark to observe movement & no sounds

indicating works or movements were heard.

Identifications nil.

C. A. Nickle Lt

256

Appendix

196

Report on Patrol

Strength

1 N.C.O. and 8 v.R.s

Leader ~~Corporal~~ ~~James~~ Hughes

Time of Dep.

10 PM

Place

No. 1. Prepat Post.

1 35 C 80 - 80

Time of Return

1 AM

Place

No 2. Prepat Post

1 35 C 50 - 50

29

Object

To observe enemy movement
break new posts and M.G. positions and
if possible to secure identification.

Result.

No enemy movement detected on
lines to right of this post. and enemy
activities quiet and apparently very
little going on at all - enemy fired a
few flares and did not open at all
with his M.G.

Cpk.

for new
Patrol

1536/3200

J. M. G. / B. G.

3. 20

9-5-48

256

1917

STRENGTH OF PATROL 1 NCO + 8 men Appendix

TIME OF DEPARTURE 1 am 10/5/18

" " RETURN 3.30 am

NAME OF COMMANDER Capt. Bagley

The patrol moved out through the right of No 2 Picquet at 1 AM, and visited unoccupied trench at G 36 C 24 where it remained for 10 minutes, while here gas was very noticeable, coming from the rear of our own lines. We then moved along the higher ground and again halted for 20 minutes about G 36 D 5.6. No sign of the enemy could be seen or heard, and no one fired while we were out. The patrol returned through No 3 Picquet at 3.30 AM

to Bagley Capt

856

Strength of Patrol 1 N 6 6 and 6 men
Time of Departure 9/30 PM returning 12/30 AM

Patrol moved out at 9/30 PM from No 3 Picquet moving forward well over the road where we halted and took up a good position for observation. We could see ~~nothing~~ ^{movement} no sign of the enemy, the light being exceptionally good, many flares and search lights showing up in the distance. Twice we could hear a dull thumping sound towards or in the village Saily-Larrette. The sound was like that made by a party laying sandbags. We stopped here 35 minutes then moved along ~~on~~ ^{up} the slope of ridge in front of our sector, just in front of unoccupied trenches stopping at intervals and listening. Once hearing voices over ridge between No 2 Picquet and Saily-Larrette, we passed over road between No 2 and No 1 Picquet and down towards timber along canal, returning through No 1 Picquet at 12/30 AM.

C Bagley lpl

29

256

Strength of Patrol 1 K. L. C. 8 men

199

Departure 1 AM, return 3/15 AM Appendix

Patrol moved out from No 3 Piquet at 1 AM, and crossed the road running in a Nth, Easterly direction. We followed the direction of road for about 300 yds keeping it on our left, following this course until we met Don boys out posts. We then took our back keeping parallel with our own front and just below the ridge in no-mans-land stopping at different intervals and listening as we went, we kept this course till near the trees along the canal, returning through A boys.

Every thing was quiet on our sector while we were out we heard nothing of the enemy, nor seen or heard no rifle or machine gun fire.

L. Pagley Capt

956

Appendix

200

Patrol of eight other ranks under
Lieut. Jackson

29/1/31

Time of Departure 10 p.m.

Place No. 1. Piquet Post

Time of Return 12.30 A.M.

Place No. 3. Piquet Post

Object: - Detect all movement in vicinity of
Enemy trenches. Obtain identification
if possible. Control no man's land

Result: - Enemy busily engaged wiring
along whole sector. Considerable
movement of transport behind his
lines.
No patrols or any movement observed
forward of his wire

1.15 A.M.

12.0.18

L. Jackson Lt.

I.O.
A.G.G.

856
Strength of patrol 8 men and one N. L. O
Departure 9/30 PM returning 12:30 AM

201

Appendix

Patrol left No 3 Picquet at 9/30 PM and moved forward till striking the road, then followed it for about 300 yards in a Nth Easterly direction, stopping for about half an hour. We then moved parallel with our front, and just below the skyline of the ridge in front, passing over and examining unoccupied trenches as we went. We halted at two different points, for a space of about 15 minutes each time, halting again on striking the road between No 2 and Nos Picquet.

There was no machine gun or rifle fire on our front while we were out. While halted once about the centre of our sector we could hear voices well over the ridge in our front. When halted near the road between No 1 and No 2 picquets one of the patrol reported seeing a man some distance away in our front while a flare was up on our left. On moving forward nothing more could be seen or heard of him. Patrol came in at 12.30 AM

L. Bagley Capt

256

202

Appendix

Patrol Report

Report of Patrol of 1 MCO & 4 men from

Time 10 AM. 13/5/1918 to 12.30 AM. 14/5/18.

Patrol from No. 1 Post. to: T35. B80 go.

Object Reconnaissance.

Result Nil.

Patrol Leader. Sgt Scott.

337 Scott Sgt.

203

Strength of Patrol 1 N.C. 8 men
Departure 9/30 PM Returned 12/30 AM

The patrol moved out from No 3 Piquet at 9/30 PM we moved across the road to a point about 936 A 4. 6, we halted here for some considerable time

While in this position we saw 6 of the enemy coming from Saily, Laurette, following the line of telegraph poles running back towards Saily-Lesack. They came about as far as the top of the ridge in our front, then turned to their left and went towards the canal getting back behind the ridge as they went. The time was then about 11 o'clock

We moved to our right but we saw no further movement on the part of the enemy

We examined unoccupied trenches on our front, crossing over the road running between No 2 and No 1 Piquets, in about a line with unoccupied trenches

The patrol returned through A box at about 12/30 AM

Everything was quiet on our sector while we were out

L Bagley Capt

856

Appendix

207

STRENGTH.

1 Officer & 10 S. Pans Co

TIME.

Departure 1 am

Return 3-30 am

OBJECT.

Maintain control of No. Mans land

RESULT.

Satisfactory
Nothing was seen or heard of
the Enemy.

F. F. Whitlow
Lt



Strength 1 ^{OFF} - 10 ^{of R}

Appendix

205

Time of Departure 10 ^{PM}
Return 12-30 ^{AM}

Object. Maintain control of N.M.L.

Result. Satisfactory. - Enemy heard wiring in vicinity of J. 36. c. 80. 5. 5. was fired on by Lewis Gun. Enemy Post at approx J. 36. 4. 50. 20 was engaged by Rifle Grenades + Lewis Guns. Enemy kept very quiet.

On account of the exceptionally good light and the fact of the moon being in our rear Patrol did not push over rise.

9 Shovels 2 Picks and 1 Petrol Tin, were saved during hour.

S. L. Patterson Lieut.

15/16 heavy (?)

29th

8th
Cust. 9th 13th
1936/4/6/20

Strength of patrol ~~at~~ one N 66 an 8 men
 Time of departure 1 AM returned 3/40 AM

The patrol moved forward from N 3 Picquet at 1 AM. We crossed the road in front and took up a good position for observation at about G. 36 A. 5. 9. We could hear working parties near the village and running away to our right towards the canal.

While here an artillery ~~shoot~~ started many shells dropping short two falling within 20 yards of where the patrol was lying several others striking the ridge in rear. As the shells were dropping short I moved the patrol back under road ~~the~~ embankment, The first ^{burst fell} ~~burst~~ the shortest

When the shoot was over we moved still farther forward, and again took up a position, at about G. 36 A 6. 8 while here we saw seven or eight of the enemy moving from the direction of the village to the canal, they did not stop ~~for any~~ in any spot for any length of time, ~~but breaking up into~~ two or three parties, looked about as though looking for something, afterwards moved back towards the village in groups of two's and three

We moved from here to our right keeping a careful watch but saw no further movement when in front of N 2 Picquet we halted again at about G 35 D 8. 9. I took two men and moved up over the ridge in front crawling along a furrow having a good high crop on our left to shield us from view but could see or hear nothing of the enemy. There was no machine gun fire or rifle on our sector while we were out.

Transport waggons and what appeared to be a caterpillar could be plainly heard well in rear of his line and moving towards our right

15/16 May

L. Bayley Cpl

16 - 5 - 18

To. F.O.

Patrol did not move out until 10 pm, as I do not consider it anyway reasonable to move before, as the light is exceptionally good up till that hour, also I do not consider it worth the risk of pushing over rise with the moon in rear of patrol.

Attached please find sample of rubble cut from dead Hun near Chalk bank!

S. H. Patterson Lieut.

I would suggest that it would be far wiser and much better results would be attained if the large patrols moved after the moon has set. C.H.

256
Patrol Report

APPENDIX

Strength 1 Officer, 15 OR, 1 Lumber Gun

Object Endeavour to capture or kill enemy

patrol which means about J. 55.6.85.50

Time of Departure 10.20 PM.

Time of Return 12.55. H.M.

Patrol moved through left of Ho 3 Regiment
straight across Road & occupied position about "N"
at 10.50 PM. & remained there until 11.25 PM.

Enemy patrol did not appear. 3 men were seen
moving toward "Smoken Rd" at X about 11 PM.

Sounds of ~~enemy~~ about "O" of movement
to the front while they are in this position

Patrol moved back near Ho 2 Regiment at 11.25 PM.
& waited for S.O.S. (artillery shoot) While there men
were affected by enemy Gas. (blue X) Shells were
bursting in J. 29. D. Patrol pushed forward again
at 11.50 PM up along crest. Returning via Right of
Ho 2 Regiment. Noisy was seen or heard. ~~over~~ crest

Due to brightness of the night & the moon
being in view, movement of patrol was restricted

Gambden
2.45 PM
20/5/19

Time. 10^{PM} To 12-30^{AM}
Strength. 1^{OFF} 11^{OR}

29

Appendix

209

Object. - General Reconnaissance, of Enemy Position, and to engage any ENEMY PATROLS. if possible to secure Identification.

Result. No. MAAS LAND. absolutely clear of ENEMY.

ENEMY heard working in vicinity of T. 35. d. 80.00

Several old posts searched, apparently our own, no sign of recent occupation.

No M.L. in good condition, with growing crops.

N. X. Patterson Lt.

N.B. No booby casemates found as result of 10 PM S.O.S. shoot. I think it would have been extremely difficult for a booby to have become a casualty even had he visited it.

Otherwise the P.O.S. appeared to be in good line laterally and if it was about 1000 yds thick, would be quite useful.

C.H.H.

856

1 off 150R

Left 1 AM Returned at 2 AM.

Moved about 150 yds in front of No 1 Picquet
to left along ridge & searched across front
of No 2 Picquet. - Then withdrawn ^{towards} No 2
Picquet to avoid counter straf from our
shaf at 2 AM -

about 2 20 enemy strafed position A
in front of No 3 Picquet & continued
to do so until 3.5. Patrol therefore returned to
to ^{quarters at 3.15 AM} no movement of enemy was noted or any
work being carried & there was no evidence
of enemy working.

W. G. D. R. K. H. A.

7/9/15

5 77

256

Patrol Report - Appendix

211

Strength - : 1 officer. 15. O.K. 1 Lewis Gun

Object. To locate enemy positions & men
no J. 30. c. To suppress enemy patrol.

1. 10. 20 PM.

Patrol moved through Right of No 3 pipe line ^{at 10.20 PM.} man
to a group of trees approx. 250' from Road. Patrol was
organised into 2 covering parties. covering Right &
Left flank. while 1 officer & 3 O.K. pushed forward
to reconnoitre. Old bunker & shell holes were searched
but nothing found. sounds of firing & digging were
heard at X Salts was heard at O. This reconnoissance
party were lying about. a party of 8 of the enemy
passed moving to the left.

Main body of patrol were too far back
to give any assistance & they did not see the
enemy.

Fight was very moonlight causing
movement to be slow.

Patrol returned at 12.35 AM.

W. H. H. H. H.
Lewis Gun
3.30 AM.
19.5.18.

Patrol. 16th 15th R

Left - 10.20 PM Returned 12.40 AM

Moved out in front of No 1 Perquet when about 150 yds in front - were fired on by M.G. Co at approx

J36c

A. who had evidently sighted us in moonlight -

The Right Flanking party saw three men in long grass on their right - but altho patrol moved down towards point nothing further was noted - It was supposed to be Enemy Reconnaissance patrol returning. Patrol moved across the front but noted no further movement. returned between No 2 & 3 Perquets. J35B 66

W.D. Rankin

18/5/18

Strength 1 officer. 15. O.R. 1 Lewis Gun.

Object Search for Hand Lanes & Reconnoitre
Enemy movements.

135,699

Patrol moved through to 3 Regt at 1.25 am.

& crossed to a point about 150' from Road. While there
we lay in wait for enemy party that has been reported
on two occasions. After patrolling around for 25 mins
& nothing seen or heard Patrol moved along
to the right kept up along crest returning through
a point about J. 35 central. at 3.35 AM.

Enemy was extremely quiet - not a shot heard
fired. Transport was heard in SHILLY. LAURETTE
and the artillery further movement could not
be heard.

About 3.5 AM. heavy mist came over
making it difficult to keep direction

Laurette Lane
18.5.18
H 30 AM

29
R. Bm

Patrol - 10ff 20 OR

Left 1.20 am Returned 3.10

Moved out in front of No 2 Picquet up to crest - suspected movement ~~in~~ crop on left about J36a 65. but when point moved further forward nothing was found. Then moved to left in front of No 3 Picquet & returned towards road in front of No 3 & then worked round the No 2.

Every thing seems absolutely quiet.

W R D Rankin Lt

As the Patrol withdrew for S.O.S shot at 3.10.

5 shots from 4.5 How dropped shot round No 2 Picquet to which patrol had withdrawn

W R D Rankin Lt

[Handwritten initials]

256
Patrol - 1 off - 15 OR

Appendix

215

Left 1 am. Returned 3.20 am

Moved out in front of No 1 Picquet - work
to left across road - worked out in front
of No 2 Picquet + across to front of No 3 Picquet.
Then moved about 100 yds forward. returned
through No 2 Picquet as enemy was
shelling around No 3 Picquet.

No movement was noted throughout
the patrol.

W. O. Rembert

20-5-18

Patrol 10ff 200R

Appendix

216

Left 10PM

Returned 12.15 AM

Moved from No 1 Picquet across
front of No 2 Picquet and front of No 3
In front of No 3, ^{out} straf on left caused
front to be hit with flares & patrol
was withdrawn slightly towards
road in front of No 3 Picquet -

& there came under retaliation of
Wing Bangs ^{along road & valley on left} - was disorganised a
little & returned at 12.15.

No casualties -

No movement of enemy noted
in front of No 1 & 2 to Picquet
Valley in front of D Coy not visited
Continuous sound of traffic in
Sally Laurette & on right of Casualty
note

Wg D Rankin

256

Patrol Report

Strength of Party - 1 officer. 15. O.R. 1. Lewis Gun.

Object - Push mill forward & reconnoitre enemy wire & if possible, locate enemy & scrupper enemy patrols.

Report Patrol moved through Co. 2 Regiment. & turned in a westerly direction reaching a point about T. 20. C. 5. 3. Then turned South, moving as close as possible to enemy positions. Returned through Left of Co. 1 Regiment.

No movement was heard, nor enemy sighted. The whole part was extremely quiet.

The morning was exceptionally bright & patrol had to move with caution.

Time of Departure 12. 5. 5 PM.

Time of Return 3. 15. AM.

Signature [Signature] Lt. [Name]
3.40 AM.
21. 5. 18.

256

Patrol Report

Appendix

218

Strength 1 officer 15. O.R. 1. Lewis Gun.

Object Move as far forward as possible in J. 36. a.
Turn South & thoroughly explore this square.
Locate enemy defenses & scrupper enemy patrols if
encountered.

Patrol did not move out until 11.25. P.M.
for signs of artillery shots. & targets were not received
until then.

Pushed forward from Co 3 Position ground in
front of enemy positions, & old trenches, were searched.
nothing was seen or heard of the enemy.

Patrol then moved right across our front.
returning through left of Co 1 Position. at 12.50 P.M.
No noise or movement was heard anywhere
on this whole front.

Fight was very tight, visibility was
good for 200*

Wambles
Lund

1.30. P.M.
22.5.18.

6

With 15 G.P. + a L.C. I left our left
 picket post at 10.25 P.m. pushed as far
 forward as I could as light would permit.
 I then traversed the whole sector passing
 in front of unoccupied benches forward of
 our centre post, & returned via J 35 c 28.

Result - ~~No enemy seen or heard.~~

Due to brightness we could not penetrate
 far toward his lines.

Gas which seemed to be floating back
 from enemy lines was at times pretty heavy
 in our main line.

E. Thomas Lt.



Patrol Report

Appendix

220

Strength 1 NCO and 8 men

Time of departure 10.30 P.M. Time of return 12.30 A.M.

Place " " NO.1. Picquet Place " " J 35 a.g.6.

Object. To locate enemy defences or movement etc.

Narrative. — We pushed forward until we got close to enemy's wire where we stopped and listened for about 20 minutes then turned N and worked our way along until we reached the road where we again established a listening post but without result. Everything was quiet and nothing was seen or heard.

G. M. Bailey Sgt

Patrol 10ff 150R with 19

Left No 1 Picquet at 12 30 moved to the rear
of forward searching ground thru trees
towards canal - Crossed old wire & moved
about 60yds ahead. Then moved & left
across front & within about 50yds of.

SAILLY - le Sec - SAILLY LAURETTE Ra
Returned towards trees - As I was
sitting light lay here for about 10 min then
returned thro No 2 Picquet.

Patrol appears to have been sighted by
post near road SAILLY le Sec - SAILLY-LAURETTE
as couple of MGs was shot on head.
Three MGs others were firing about same time

1 on Road ^{at Quarry rd} 2 at known Post along line
& a third about midway between these.

Otherwise no movement was noted
throughout.

W G Rankin

Composition : 10 officers + 80 PR and L.C. of A Coy.

Name of Patrol Leader : Lieut O.D. Davis

Time of Departure : 1.0 am

Time of Return : 3.45 am

Place of Departure + Return : No 1. Picquet, Right Coy.

Object : To ascertain whether post at J35d32 was occupied by enemy, and to obtain identification if possible.

Result

It was ascertained that this post is occupied and that a second post exists 100+ to the right and in ~~edge~~ near edge of wood. A liaison patrol appears to work between these posts.

No listening posts were occupied. Two men were observed to walk from left post, down bank and enter right post. Another man was subsequently seen.

They were at least 50 yards away and it was impossible to talk to them.

No wire was encountered to within 50+ of trenches.

Posts were long and close together. It was found impossible to work between them.

The L.C. having been left about 150+ in the rear in order to guard right flank, ~~so~~ it was found inadvisable to make a frontal attack.

The moon made patrol work slow & difficult.

It is suggested that a more accurate map be supplied to patrol leaders, as present map is misleading.

O.D. Davis Lieut
A Coy

Patrol Report

24/25 May 1918

Appendix

223

J. H. P. M.

Composition: 1 officer 14 OR 2 L.G.s & A Co.

Time of Starting: 10.00 pm

Time of Return: 1.45 am

Place of Departure and Return: No 1 Picquet J 35 C & S

Object: To obtain identification from post at J 35 d 32

Route: Patrol worked throughout on low ground between bank running SE in J 35 C & S and SOMME Canal.

Narrative: A L.G. was pushed forward along bank and trees to our outer belt of wire in order to guard our left flank with fire.

When a position (a bank) 150' in rear of objective and to the right was reached by patrol, four men and a L.G. was placed in position to protect our right flank.

The other L.G. was then placed in a pot-hole about 70' from objective with instructions to engage suspected enemy MG. in post 100' to right of objective if it opened fire.

Of the attacking party, two men worked forward along bank with instructions to get within bombing range of objective if possible and to distract attention from main storming party if necessary.

Remainder of party advanced on objective from point where L.G. was stationed, dividing into two parties: three working round right flank of post to take it in rear, while four advanced directly on post.

Some weak wire was encountered consisting of a line of barbed concertina and beyond it, a double barbed trap wire. It was found possible to work underneath the wire, and party then rushed post from distance.

(Contd)

23 Narrative (contd) 2. Patrol 24/25 May 1918 Appendix
of fifteen yds., wounding and capturing 224
the sole occupant.

Enemy m.g. then opened from post on
right, and was at once effectually engaged
by our L.C.

Enemy put up flares and threw a number
of stick bombs.

The whole patrol withdrew in good order.

One casualty - ~~1st Lt~~ G.S. wound -
was sustained by us.

Post attacked presumed to be listening
post of two men, and was found to be at
end of bank behind last tree.

A m.g. post (occupied but vacant) was
discovered on left of bank.

An old trench runs from bank towards
Canal. The right post, with m.g. that fired
(main post), was at least 100 yds nearer
Canal.

Wen already commented on, and was
about 25 yds in front of old trench + listening
post referred to above

25-5-18

C. J. Davis
A Coy

J. H. P. M.

I met Lt. B. [unclear] who had charge of the first patrol. [unclear] centre picket post at 12:15. He reported enemy trench in J 36 A wired but unoccupied. At 12:30 I left centre picket post, entered trench in J 36 A & can verify Lt. B.'s report. I then went to the right for some distance & found a listening post unoccupied but having appearance of very recent occupation. From this post a well defined coverland track runs toward the road. I did not measure it, but left & returned to road for my bearings. I then advanced keeping road about 50 yds on my right, located his wire & sent a section to examine wire to see if it ~~crossed~~ ^{crossed} the road. The section no sooner reached the wire than M.G.s opened up at close range & bombs began to fall all round them. The post is ~~situated~~ about 40 or 50 yds behind the wire & on the left bank of the road.

We were on the forward slope of the hill & must have been seen long before the guns opened upon us. In retiring we had to keep low for at least 100 yds.

The wire is continuous except for a small outlet opposite the unoccupied L.P. This is principally 1 concertina barbed outside & concertina plain inside that & barbed trip wire inside again. It varies in distance from the trench from 30 to 50 yds.

J. H. [unclear]

E. Thomas

Strength of Patrol 1 officer & 150 R.S. Appendix
 Time of Departure 1 am
 " " Return 3.30 am

The patrol moved out through N^o 2 Piquet & followed route shown on map. Taking advantage of fairly high crops & crossed the top of the hill in two places. I found very little cover on the further slope. At J 35 d 99 I spent 20 minutes watching the chalk pit but gained no information. While in position with a small party at J 36 b 6.4 one or possibly two men could be seen moving directly away from us towards the left of Parilly Laurette. The light at the time was good & I think the movement was at least 200 yds away. On bright nights such as we are now having movement of a large patrol is very difficult on this sector.

W. Shahan Capt.

Patrol Report

1 Officer & 20 PR.

In Position 10-30 P.M. about J.35; D.3.7.

Returning 3-30 A.M. through J.35; A.5.5.

To operate in front of ~~the~~ right ~~side~~ ^{Co.} of farm
left of Box in case of an attack.

No movement in No Man's Land

Machine Guns quiet

French mortars were firing about ^{Enemy} Machine
Gun position on Saily Laurette Road

One salvo fired about 2-30 seemed to
be very close to position

R. F. Hayes Lieut

(I)

Patrol Report 27-3-18

1 Off. + 20 AR.

Time of Departure 12.45 AM

From J.35-B-1-7

Return Left Position J.35-B-2.8 3.15 AM
 returned through J.35-B-1-7

Object - To form left flank of Base.
 with the object of flanking the enemy
 in the event of him making attack
 on a certain position

At time of leaving position no movement
 was noticed in No Mans Land

Owing to being in an exposed position
 I found it necessary to withdraw at
 above time owing to approach of
 daylight
 Enemy machine guns were quiet

R. F. Hayes Lieut
 27/3/18

JFM

STRENGTH OF PATROL 1 officer 15 OR's + Lewis Gun
 TIME OF DEPARTURE 12.30 AM. 27/5/18
 " " RETURN 3.30 AM "

The patrol moving on dracmond formation covered by two scouts went out from No 2 Perquet + moved over the hill-top about 20 yds North of the Parly le Pie - Parly Lamelle Road. No sign of the enemy could be seen near the chalk pit. The patrol then moved off to the North until meeting a high crop. With a small party I moved along the edge of the crop until meeting a line of plain french wire at about J 36 C 4.9. The crop at this point was beaten down + a narrow track ran back through it as though the place had been used as a listening post recently. I again moved on to the left + approached enemy wire at about J 36 A 8.6 here the wire was a fairly strong straight belt of medium high ^{barbed wire} similar to our own low-trip but slightly higher + the material used was corkwood. A trench about 150 yds in rear running in a northerly direction could be seen + appeared to run forward towards the wire. I moved along the wire about 150 yds intending to enter trench ~~which~~ when the scouts were within 15 yds of the junction they were fired on by what I took to be a listening post of 2 men in the trench on the further side of wire. I tried to get onto an attacking position but ~~was~~ ^{was} about 50 yds further down the trench opened on us. I found myself with very open ground offering no cover for movement + a good belt of wire ^{between} that patrol + the enemy + no chance of getting at the listening post from the South. It was 3.15 am + the light was beginning to get bright so I had not time to reconnoitre it + approach from the North. While withdrawing ~~two~~ + Rifle + M.C. fire continued two flares were fired. The enemy's shooting was very erratic. The patrol came on through No 3 Perquet.

W. Sheehan Capt.

236

230

DOGGO PATROL

G. 5 Appendix

Strength. 1. DPT. 18 O/R.
 Time of Departure. 12:30^{am}
 " Return. 3:30^{am}

Object. — To protect the Right Flank of Co. Picquet and keep N.M.L. clear of the ENEMY.

Result. Satisfactory. Platoon took up a good position well forward of our line on the right flank, and lay "Doggo" for 3 hours, ENEMY was neither seen or heard during the period.

A. Patterson Lieut.

6" Newton shots observed throughout night
 night — some excellent shooting resulted.
 Good bursts on targets

Per try

Cpt.
95

4.15 A.M.
 27. 5 - 18

J. M. B.

256

Strength of Patrol 1 officer 15 OR. 5 unblowers
 Date of Departure 10.30 pm 27/5/18
 Return 1.30 am 28/5/18



Object of Patrol. To move out from No 2 Picquet as far forward as possible then turn North & endeavor to locate enemy patrol or L.P. & scupper same if encountered.

The patrol moved out through No 2 Picquet & followed route shown on map. Owing to the bright moonlight I was unable to approach as close to enemy positions as on previous patrol. I spent about an hour in a Lucerne crop at about J 36 a to 2 approaching & searching a series of small posts about 100 yds in front of enemy wire. Some of these positions have a light trap wire in front but it all has the appearance of having been erected by our own people. While crossing the front I took up positions in the place & with a small party moved further forward.

Sounds of transport could be heard at 12.30 am from about J 31 central. I spent an hour & a quarter making a reconnaissance of the approach to the position located last night from the North but found no crops or high grass giving cover nearer than 100 yds to the main belt of wire.

From information gained tonight I am satisfied that the position located last night is a L. Post about 15 yds inside a strong straight belt of wire (probably reported on). The trench in rear does not cross the wire but ends fairly close to it at about J 36 & 7.8. I hoped by waiting in position in front of wire here to see the L Post change over but no noise or movement could be observed. The patrol came in through sleep of No 3 Picquet at 1.30 am. No sign of an enemy patrol could be seen.

Col Shubson Lieut

Patrol Report Appendix

232

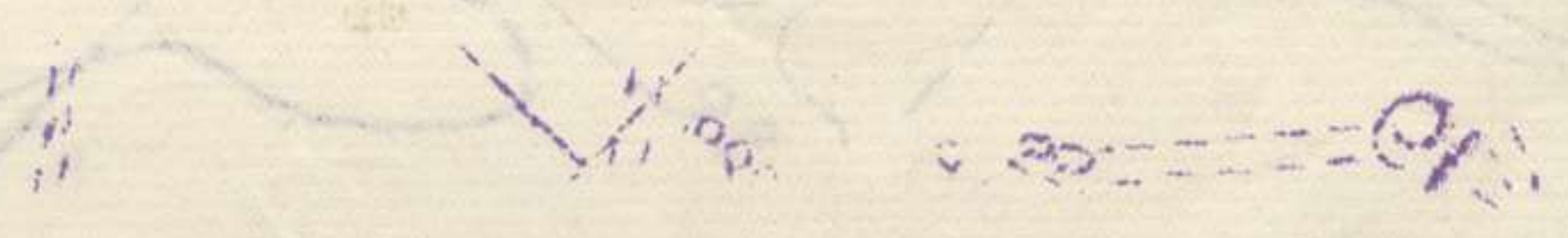
29
11/11/18

I left No. 2 Picquet at 11 P.M. + advanced in direction of unoccupied L.P. reported last night. I turned right on touching wire + scouts located an occupied L.P. on the right of tall crop. Scouts assert that they saw three men there at one time + that they saw them change over. I went forward myself + could see what appeared to be a man in a post but could see no movement. The post appears to be between his own wire.

Owing to continued firing + bombing on the night I left examining the post about 1.40 AM + proceeded to bend in road. Firing however ceased before I got there.

I returned at 2.15 A.M.

E. Thomas V



PATROL REPORT

Sergt. Ross J.C. with 8 Men. B.C. 29th Bn.

Duty. To leave J.30.C.1.3, at 1.30 am & move as far forward as possible - turn South until crossing SAILLY-LE-SEC - SAILLY-LAURETTE Rd. then return through NO 2 Picquet at 3.30 am.

Object. To locate Enemy Wire - Listening Posts - along the Sector.

I moved out at 1.30 am from left of B Co. Section until I reached the ridge. It was very bright so could not pass over skyline. I remained here some 20 min then moved South just under skyline - on reaching line of Telegraph Posts where marked X. on map I observed 3 of Enemy get up from prone position & move back toward SAILLY LAURETTE. It was too bright for me to cross skyline & examine the spot.

I returned through NO 2 Picquet at 3.30 AM.

J.C. Ross. Sgt.
B Coy. 29th Bn

W.C. Ross

With 15 I.O.R. + a L.G. I left our left
 piequet post at 10.20 P.m., pushed as far
 forward in J 36 a as light would permit.
 I then traversed the whole sector passing
 in front of unoccupied benches forward of
 our centre post, + returned via J 35 c 28.

Result - No enemy seen or heard.

During the brightness we could not penetrate
 far toward his lines.

Gas which seemed to be floating back
 from enemy lines was at times pretty heavy
 in no mans land.

E. Thomas Lt.



256

Patrol Report Appendix

235

I met Sgt Bearup who had charge of the first patrol at our centre picquet post at 12.15 P.m. He reported enemy trench in J 36 A wired but unoccupied. At 12.30 I left centre picquet post, entered trench in J 36 A & can verify Sgt Bearup's report. I then went to the right for some distance & found a listening post, unoccupied but having appearance of very recent occupation. From this post a well defined overland track runs toward the road. I did not traverse it, but left & returned to road for my bearings. I then advanced keeping road about 50 yds on my right. Located his wire & sent a section to examine wire to see if it crossed the road, the section no sooner reached the wire than M.G. opened up at close range & bombs began to fall all round them. The Post is ~~located~~ about 40 or 50 yds behind the wire & on the left bank of the road.

We were on the forward slope of the hill & must have been seen long before the guns opened upon us. In retiring we had to keep low for at least 100 yds. The wire is continuous except for a small outlet opposite the ~~unoccupied~~ L.P. Wire is principally 1 concrete barbed outside & concrete plain inside that & barbed trip wire inside again. It varied in distance from the trench from 30 to 30 yds.

2/11/1918

56
DOGBO PATROL

Appendix

236

STRENGTH. 1^{OFF} 18^{OLB}

TIME OF DEPT. 12-30^{AM}

RETURN. 3-30^{AM}

OBJECT. To protect Right Flank of Co. 1. Picquet and maintain control of N.M.L.

RESULT. Satisfactory, N.M.L. absolutely clear of any sign of the ENEMY, who kept very quiet throughout the night.

Sd. Patterson Lieut

(Separate report.)

1 officer and 20 OLBs also went out from No. 1. Picquet to protect the left of the post and maintain control of No. 1. Mars Land. I arranged for this party to leave at 12.30 A.M. but the order was changed from the rear without any advice being sent to me. and the patrol went out at 11 P.M. Patrol saw no movement.

28-5-18.

C. J. Lewis
Capt
OC 95

Night

Patrol Report, 28-29/5/18

Strength - 1 mco & man

Object - Locate enemy Posts & scupper
enemy patrols

Time & Place of leaving -
1 AM, J 35° to 55° 45°

Time & Place of Return -
3 AM, J 29 d 9 4

Result - Enemy neither seen or heard.

Narrative - I went straight forward
for about 250 yds & established a listening post for
over half an hour. I then
turned north for about 300 yds
& again established a listening
post until it became too
light to remain out any longer.

W. Miles Sgt
J. Miller

AMS.

1891
 8172/1915
 Dep't of
 [Faded handwriting on grid paper]

69

Appendix

234

Strength of patrol. 1 Officer 15 ORs & Lewis Gun
 Time of departure 10.30 pm 28.5.18
 " " return 12.30 am 29.5.18

29

Object: To endeavour to locate enemy defences & scupper
 or capture enemy patrols in listening posts.

The patrol moved out through left of No 3 picquet & followed the route shown on the map. The night was fairly dark & the patrol approached close to enemy wire at T 36 a 7.6 & took up position on forward edge of lucerne crop with a small party still further forward. While here a man approached from the direction of enemy moving directly towards patrol till striking what looks like a continuous trench when he turned & moved along to our left. While he was moving here our ~~patrol~~ 18 pdr's fired half a dozen rts the first, a dud, landing very close to the man ^{who disappeared} in the trench. About a minute later an aeroplane dropped a huge flare almost over our heads but though the light was extremely bright no movement could be seen. Two men were afterwards seen shouting against moon to move in a northerly direction along Shyminch about T 36 b 2.4. Sounds of as of shovels being knocked could be heard plainly from the valley about T 36 b 9.9. The patrol moved off to the right visiting a long trench in large lucerne crop at T 36 a 33.4 from there along in direction of bend in road. While on patrol our aeroplanes were active flying on ground just in rear of enemy lines. The patrol came in through No 2 picquet at 12.30 am. Nothing to suggest a relief taking place was seen or heard.

C. W. Shukan Hunt

Patrol Report

Appendix

239

Strength	1 NCO	8 men
Time of departure		1 AM
Time of return		3.30 AM

Duty:- To move as far forward as possible and endeavour to locate enemy defences, listening posts strong points etc.

Result. Patrol moved out from NO. 2 Picquet and pushed forward to enemy's wire, then turned North and patrolled along wire. No enemy movement was seen or heard.

Patrol returned through NO 3 Picquet

R Peachy Sgt.

29.5.18

[Handwritten signature]

Strength 1 - 18.
 Time Dept. 12 - 30 ^{am}
 Return 3 - 15 ^{am}

Object. Protection of Right Flank of
 No. 1 Picquet.

Result. Satisfactory. N.M.L. clear of Enemy
 ENEMY M.G. active from vicinity of
 approx J. 36. d. 30. 20. and
 J. 36. d. 30. 00.

S. L. Patterson Lt.

Enemy attitude of company front
 generally uneasy.

Double patrol of 2 officers and
 approx 40 men 2 Lys went out from
 No. 1 Post at 12.30 midnight and
 lay in wait in a box formation.
 No movement was observed but the enemy
 M.G.s were more active than usual

C. H. Keast
 Capt.
 or
 G.I.

4.40 P.M.

29 - 5 - 18

Strength of Patrol. 1 Officer 15 R.S. with Lewis Gun
 Time of Departure. 10:30 pm 30.5.18
 " " Return. 12.30 am 31.5.18
 Place of Departure. No. 2 Perquet J29d52
 " " Return. No. 3 " J36a9.1

Object. To endeavour to locate enemy L. Post or patrol
 & if possible scupper same.

The patrol moved out following the route shown
 on the map. Soon after getting clear of our own line
 noise could be heard from our left front. The
 patrol moved in direction of noise till getting close
 to enemy wire where a position was taken up. While
 here much shouting could be heard & the noise of working
 was very plain. The party seemed to be working in
 the dead ground in the gully at J30.C8.2

The patrol moved to the right & while on the hill top
 at J36C4.8 a MG fired from the direction of J36C4.5
 & a few minutes afterwards & flame was fired from the same
 place. The fire was sweeping & I do not think was
 directed against the patrol. It is unusual to hear such
 loud shouting as was heard on our left sector & I
 have not previously known of a MG firing sweeping fire
 from the position reported, to be directed against our left.

The patrol crossed the road & returned through No. 2 Perquet
 without seeing any sign of an enemy patrol though we
 were at all times in a position to see any movement
 on either side of enemy wire.

Col. Sheehan Lieut.

Patrol Report

Appendix

242

Strength. 1 off 15 OR 4 G.

Time & map ref. of departure - 12.30 a.m. J 35 B. 75. 50
do do return 3.30 a.m. J 35 B. 75. 50

Object To scupper post or patrol.

Result No Post or patrol encountered.

At point (approx) marked with X, observed two of enemy walking south. Too far behind our line to scupper.

W. Dyer Lt
 31/5/18

Strength of patrol. 1 NCO & 8 MEN.

Time of departure ~~J 35 B 80-80~~ 12-30

Time of return ~~J 35 B 55-45~~ 3-10.

Place of departure: J 35 B 80-80

" return " J 35 B 55-45

Object Reconnoitre Enemy Defences.

Result Enemy Wire was visited & an old trench was

Narrative visible on the enemy side of the wire. Apparently unoccupied. No enemy was seen, or any sounds of him heard.

H. C. O. /c Patrol

C. P. G. Robinson

Date 31/5/18.

Signature

29 Jan

29 Jan

60 Patrol Report 4/5

APPENDIX

244

Strength - 1 NCO + 8 men

Time - Dep. 10:30 P.M. 30/5/18

From 035.6.20-15

Return ~~30~~ Midway Pt. J. 350 8.8.

Object - To patrol and maintain command of No. 1 Mass Land - to locate any new enemy posts and observe any enemy movement

Result - Satisfactory

Narrative - Proceeded from left of Strong post - i.e. L.G. T Head Post - 200 yds direct to front - changed direction right, and worked across front through plantation ~~along~~ along wire and in on the canal side of NO 7. Recruit Post.

Nothing unusual was observed with the exception of a single enemy shot was fired appearing to come from crops near enemy listening post - J.B. 3020 it was followed by a flare from the post and enemy M.G. fire. One other flare was fired when patrol was between single row of trees and NO 11 Post.

H. Hagler cpl

1 A.M. 31-5-18