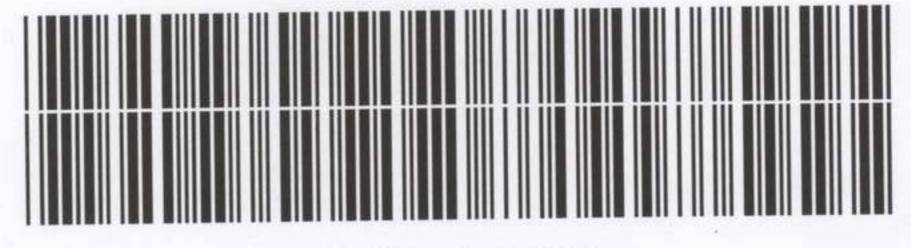
AWM4 Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/29/40

Title: 12th Infantry Battalion

June 1918



AWM4-23/29/40

R.20,000-5/18-11069.

CONFIDENTIAL.

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

12th BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

JUNE 1918

Signature of Officer compiling.

Lt. & Adjt 12th Battalion.

Signature of Officer Commanding.

Lt.Col

Commanding 12th Battalion.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1005675

Army Form C. 2118.

12th Battalion,

Volume 111. Page 22.

Place	Date	Hour 8	Summary of Events and Information ref	marks and ferences to ppendices
ront Line		1 2 3	Strength 46 Officers 900 other ranks. Quiet day along the whole line with the exception of a few trench mortars. At 1.30 a.m. the 11th Battalion our left attacked and captured MONT DE MERRIS. The operation caught the enemy in the middle of a relief and was a complete success. "D" Company on the left of our position co-operated and pushed our line forward about 400 yards in order to conform to the new line. (Report attached). At 11 p.m. we again endeavoured to improve our line on the right of the railway by capturing and consolidating the copse about E.11.B.0.6. Opposition was met with however, and we were not able to hold the position. Lieut. A.T.WERTHEIMER was dark killed during the operation. (Report attached) The front line was shelled more or less all day, especially after dusk. Relieved by 7th Battalion, the line companies accomplishing the relief during a lull in the shelling. Relief complete	wind with
A KREULE		6.	1.40 a.m. (5/6/18). On relief moved to a biwouac camp near LA KREULE. The whole Battalion working at night on "B" & "C" Lines. After a magnificent fight, a German plane was driven down to ground by several/our fighting planes and make a good landing within 50 yards of the camp. The officer was uninjured and was	in the same of the
ERCUS	Rose 14	9.	Relieved by 1st Battalion and moved to SERCUS Area about 2 p.m. Strength 46 Officers 893 O/Rs. Brigade Church Parade at which the Corps & Divisional Commanders attended. Machine Guns and Trench Mortars captured by the Brigade on night 2/3rd inst. on exhibit. The Battalion out working on burying cable. Battalion marched out to the long musketry range and fired "Application" & Rapid" practices. Brigade Sports Day. The sports were well organised and thanks to the fine weather proved an unqualified success. Lt. J.R.TAYLOR returned from hospital.	White the same of
AZEBROUCK	Cur 15		Battalion paraded and attended a demonstration by the 2nd Army Model Platoon. Lieuts. A.D.ANDERSEN & L.D.RAFFERTY to hospital. Battalion left SERCUS at 7.30 a.m. for bivouac area just outside HAZEBROUCK. Whilst in the camp at SERCUS an extremely contagious epidemic of influenza broke out in the camp. Its main symptons were a high temperature, aching limbs and complete prostration. In the course of a few days it proved to be the cause of approximately 200 evacuations. "Precautionary Stage" adopted during the morning. Lieut J.J.KEEN evacuated. Relieved 6th Battalion in Support Area. Relief complete 11.25 p.m. A5834 Wt.W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D.D.& L.Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.	We will

A.I.F.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date 918 Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Support	June 17 18 19 20 22 23 24 25 26 27	Battalion was retained to garrison SRAZEELE AVENUE. Lieuts. P.F.SELLICK and M.BENSLEY evacuated with influenza. 2/Lieuts. B.N.BUTLER and A.MONT- GOMERY arrived from CadetbBattalion. Lieut. A.D.COOPER evacuated with influenza. Capt. L.E.BURT and Lieut. W.J.KELLY evacuated with influenza. Strength 48 Officers, 854 Other Ranks. Lieut. W.LAMBERT wounded. Lieut. S.W.DOBSON tried by G.C.M. at SERCUS on a charge of Absence without Leave. Lieut. W.J.KELLY returned from hospital. Relieved the 9th Battalion in the Line Right Sector relief being complete at 11.57 p.m. 2nd Royal Fusiliers on our right. The battalion was disposed as follows after relief:= "A" Company Line Left, "B" Company Support, "C" Company Line Right and "D" Company Reserve. Heavy gas shell bombardment of artillery positions and rear area, but we were not affected as the wind was favourable to us. Nothing exentuated.	A LIVE
	30	Strength 45 Officers, 710 Other Ranks.	Constant of the second of the

12th Battalion, 3rd Aust. I. Bgde.

WAR DIARY

Volume 3. Page 24.

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

A.I.F. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

	be prepared in		script. The pages (Erase heading not required.)	98		
Place	Date 191	Hour 8	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices		
LINE	June	30	across the flat. The 6" Trench Mortars firing over our sectors have done a deal of short shooting owing - they say - to faulty amminition. During the month the following decorations have been ararded:- COMMANDER of St. MICHAEL & St. GEORGE. Lt.Col. C.H.Elliott D.S.O. MILITARY CROSS.			
			Capt. H.E.Spotswood.			
			Bar To DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL. 1480 Sgt. W.Vickers DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL. 2732 Sgt. G.W.Turner			
			MILITARY MEDAL. 2062 Ret.L.Cpl E.R.Stewart 6561 Pvt. A.R.Goss 4034 " L.R.Saltmarsh 7328 " F.T.Reynolds MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL. 39 Sgt. E.J.Bradley 208 R.Q.M.S. H.J.Cassidy.	Cure -		
			Major-General Sir H.B.WALKER relinquished command of 1st Aust. Division to command 40th British Division. Brigadier)General T.W.GLASGOW assumed command.			
			Helhott			
			Commanding 12th Battalion.			
			Committee and Davide a			
			A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & E. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.			
0			1373/ 137,000 0/10 11. D. C.			

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

4

WAR DIARY

30

OF

12th BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

JUNE 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

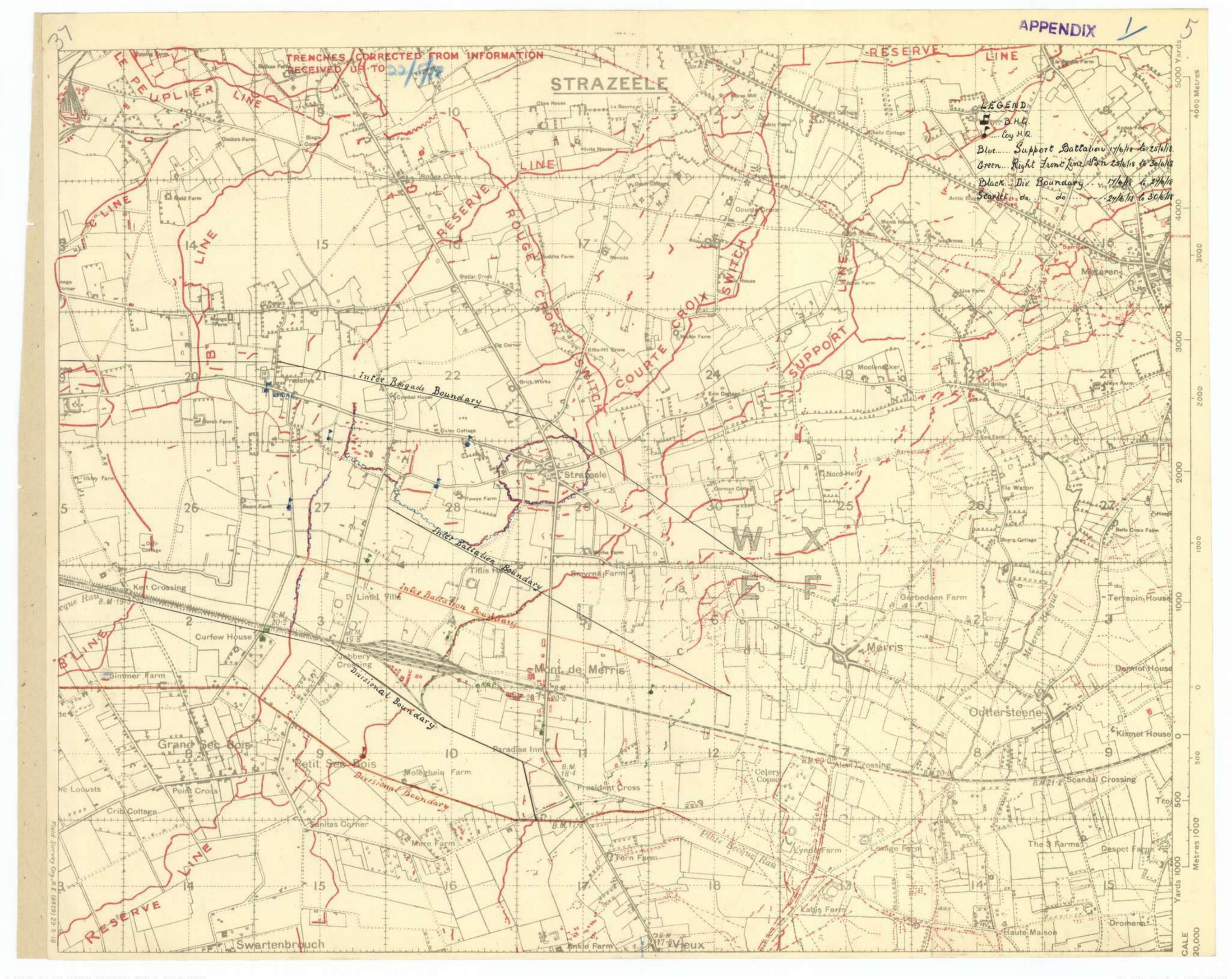
No.

Subject.

- 1. Map illustrating Battalion's tour in line 16-30/6/18.
- 2. Report on Operations, 3/6/18, by Capt. B.J.ANDREW, O/C "D" Company (Original only)
- 3. Report on Operations, night 3-4/6/18, by Lieut. A.L.WARDLAW, "B" Company (Original only)
- 4. Syllabus of Training for W/e 15/6/18.
- 5. B Battalion Operation Order No. 36 (Original only)
- 6. Battalion Operation Order No. 37.
- 7. Seniority List of Officers for Month of June 1918.

...Lt. & Adjt.

12th Battalion.



in m

Special Report on Operations Intention To advance on right.

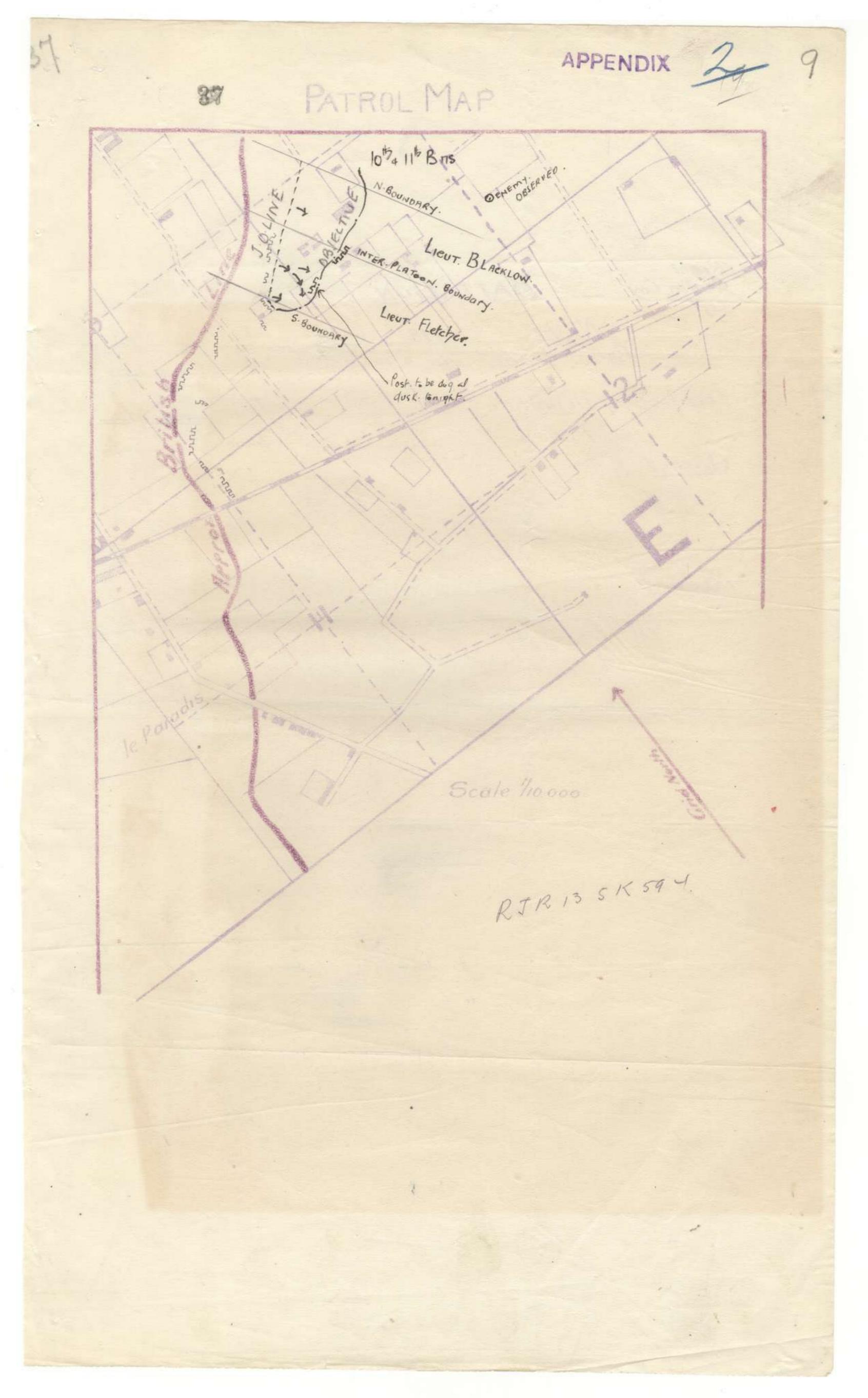
The Box and cooperate with

then in the capture of MONT. DE MERRIS and Arenches m E 6 Our forces. Nov. 13, 15, +16 platoons. (LABLACKLOW and FLETCHER) Dispositions refore attack. as shaven on altached sketch. Helsellaw 13 + 2 & Platon Method Hallack Platoons formed up as shown an attatched sketch. It Hetcher to swing to right and make good wood and right flank and to maintain touch weth It BLACKLOW. It BLACKLOW to advance straight forward, manufaring touch with Bu on left. Both parker to deg in on objective

shown on assached map. hamp usual stateon was established at compound Esd and Repl Communication Throughout. IPlatoon "A" Coy relieved enable 16 platoons to take He attack. The attack of forming up was curred and as arranged and objective Experied by 0145. Moobile bombing was net with pomaboul E 6 C 26 causing several Casualties, but was soon avercome on the post seried. Several shots of our barrage fell And just after commercement but otherwise harrage evers very effective and cathofactory.

Aconsol dahon Touch with 10th on left established leonesh dation was Commenced as saon as objective was reached And ivery black const on Prisoners 10/1 19 pursoners were captured and IM Gun Helonging to * reachy dead conedul be brought in brought in hefore light and 13 RJR. 5 K. 594 Revenue presoner went chargh ot RAP with wounded Casuathis approunte Casuathis 5 Rilled 13 warmach harres attaleted General Century and quick to ful down Counter barrage but worth, on room communication, ynd an war of posts, Hans of all colours were fret Blande en basil
0450/18.

O4316/18. 043/6/18.



widently throught he were attacking in Inu + Lad advanced Juni The June I have Laken their ontprop on himing he hours E11. B. 26 & nothing a munhor of he June harde ming from his My Tombo hished about I made for the site I had privingly were subjected to very Die C'Gry, as Jollins, Ham famel

John will withdraw as other blatoms have not parshed In ward I che Buthimus platon has been badly boy How when a Carnally Completely mishfull as to me strugth + direction of about a post on our gight more put up a barrage of thirts which die not runch us try at lung 100x the finned between goly appears to be very strongly held by M Co Austra morare into shell holes et at high I drematine very title there not believe the hora town 50° H Rly is wind - he knowing appined to be very nervous as if experting another atrick There was finishent, howment When high things him Platon

19th. BATTALION

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

COMMENCING JUNE 8th. 1918.

8.30 -- 9.85am.

10 mins.march to Training Ground.

5 mins. Rifle Exercises.

30 mins, Battalion Drill.

10 mins. Rapid Loading.

9.30 -- 12.0

Specialist training as per attached syllabi for:-

(a). Lewis Gunners.

(b). Musketry & Bayonet fighting.

(c). Rifle Grenades & Bombing.

(d). Signallers.

(e). Intelligence.

MONDAY 10th.

Battalion Route March.

Platoons in succession to be put through a practice in Tactics, Fire discipline & control.

Allewan L'rad for It. Col.

Commanding 18th. Battalion.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINGNG AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

LEWIS GUNNERS.

June 8th. hour Stripping. Mechanism. Causes of, and remedy of stoppages. Stoppages. Stoppages. June 10th. Gun drill. Use of Hill Jackson Sight. Rapid loading of magazines. "A" Coy. on Range. Stripping, including all component parts. June 11th. Loading drill with empty magazines. Use of Elliptical F.A. sight. "B" Coy. on Range. Mechanism. June 18th. Stripping. Rapid loading of magazines. Stoppages. "C" Coy. on Range. June 13th. Stripping. Elliptical F.A. Sight. Loading drill. Stoppages. "D" Coy. on Range.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION.

Battalion Drill. June 8th. 8.30-9.15. Observation, What to look for and how to 9,30-10,30. report it. Rractical Map Reading. 10945-18.0. Battalion Drill. June10th. 8.30-9.15 Practical use of Compass. 9.30-10.30 Reports and Message writing. 10.45-12.0 Battalion Drill. June 11th. 8.30-9.15. Patrolling. 9.30-10.30. Signalling. (Flag). 10.45-18.0. Battalion Drill. June 18th. 8.30-9.15. Simple Field Sketching. 9.30-10.30. German Army. 10.45-18.0. Battalion Drill. June 13th, 8.30-9.15. Map Reading. Finding ones own position. 9.30-10.30. O.P. Work and routine. 10.45-11.15. General Intelligence. 11.30-12.0.

SIGNAL SECTION.

June	8th. 8.30-9.30.	Battalion Drill.
	9.30-10.15.	(a). Buzzer. (b). Flag(Sending)
	10.15-11.0	
	11.0 -18 0.	Semaphore.
Tune	10th. 8.30-9.30.	(a) Flas. (Bendins). (b). Readins (Group).
Ouriso	The same of the same	Battalion Drill.
	9.30-10.15.	(a). Flag. (Sending). (b). Reading. (Group).
		(a). Reading. (Class messages).
	10.15-11.0.	(b). Message Form.
	11.0 -19.0	
June	11th. 8.30-9.30.	Battalion Drill.
	9.30-10.18.	(a). Lamps. (b). Buzzer.
	10.15-12.0.	(a) Phone Station Work.
		(b). Lamp. Intelligence Sect. Flag Drill
June	12th. 8.30-9.30.	Battalion Drill.
	9.30-10.15.	Compass and
	10.15-11.0.	Map Reading.
	11.0 -12.0.	Memory Training.
June	13th. 8.30-9.30.	Battalion Drill.
9 (41.1.1)	9.30-11.0.	(a). Station work (Visual). (b) Reading (Messa
	11.0-12.0.	
	distribution of the second	Semaphore. AMMENTENL'rasi.

12th. BATTALION ORDER No. 36.

Secret

Reference Sheets: -

35A 1/40,000 27 1/40,000 Battalion Headquarters

6/6/18.

1. The 3rd.A.I.Brigade will relieve 1st.A.I.Brigade in Reserve area tomorrow 7th. inst. 12th.Battalion will relieve 1st.Battalion in camp at C.11.C.6.6.

The Battalion will pass the starting point V.15.D.0.6. at 2.3 p.m. in the order H.Q. "D". "C". "B". "A". An interval of 100 yards will be maintained between companies and transport.

Dress:-Fighting Order, Steel Helmets will be carried.

3. Route: - V.15. D. O. 6. -- V. 9. C. 2. 8. --V. 8. D. 3. 6. V. 7. D. 7. 2. -- U.18. C. 1. 6. --U.23 C. 3. 9.

4. Valises, officers mess gear, orderly room gear, canteen gear etc., will be stacked near canteen by 1.0 p.m. Cookers to be ready by 1.0 p.m.

5. Packs (NOT Steel Helmets) will be stacked by companies near the canteen by 7.30 a.m. They will all be plainly marked. Blankets will be rolled in bundles of ten (10) plainly marked and stacked with packs by 7.30 a.m. 0/C "B" Coy. will detail an officer to supervise this work.

Transport Officer will arrange to have them taken to LA BREARD

Each company will detail one man and H.Q. an N.C.O. to proceed as a guard over them.

6. Lieut.J.J.KEEN will proceed in advance to take over Area Store. The allotment of space in the camp will be the same as when the Battalion occupied it before.

7. Instructions regarding drawing of rations have been given to the R.Q.M. separately.

Lieut. & Adjt.

12th. Battalion.

Distribution.

Copy No. 1. War Diary.

" " 2. File.

" " 3. "A" Coy.

" " 4. "B" "

11 11 5 11(1) 11

11 11 6 11 11 11

12th Battalion Operation Order No. 37

Reference Sheet:-36A N.E. Edition 7a Local. Battalion Headquarters,
PRADELLES,
June 24th 1918.

The 12th Battalion will relieve the 9th Battalion in the right sector of the Brigade front on night 25/26th inst., and will be releived by 11th Battalion in the Support Area.

2. On completion of relief, the Battalion will be disposed as follows:-

- 3. Receipts for Trench Stores handed over (in duplicate) and taken over, together with Company Commander's sketches will be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 6 a.m. on 26/6/18.
- 4. Each line company will send 1 N.C.O. per platoon and 1 Lewis Gunner per gum forward into the line on night 24/25th inst. All officers will reconnoitre their new dispositions.
- 5. Companies will move into position independently as soon as visibility permits.

Rations will be delivered and hot evening meal consumed before

companies move.

Each company will take 20 magazines per Lewis Gun into the line with

When in the line, the ration dump for night 25/26th inst. will be at bend of road near railway at E.4.D.45.25. Line companies will arrange for guides to be waiting there at 2 a.m. On subsequent nights, the ration dump will be at ammunition shed at E.5.C.4.3.

- 6. Trenches will be left thoroughly clean and certificate to that effect obtained from incoming unit and forwarded to Battalion Headquarters.
- 7. Code-word for relief complete "ARLETTE".

Issued at 11 p.m. to:-

1. "A" Company.

3. "C" Company.

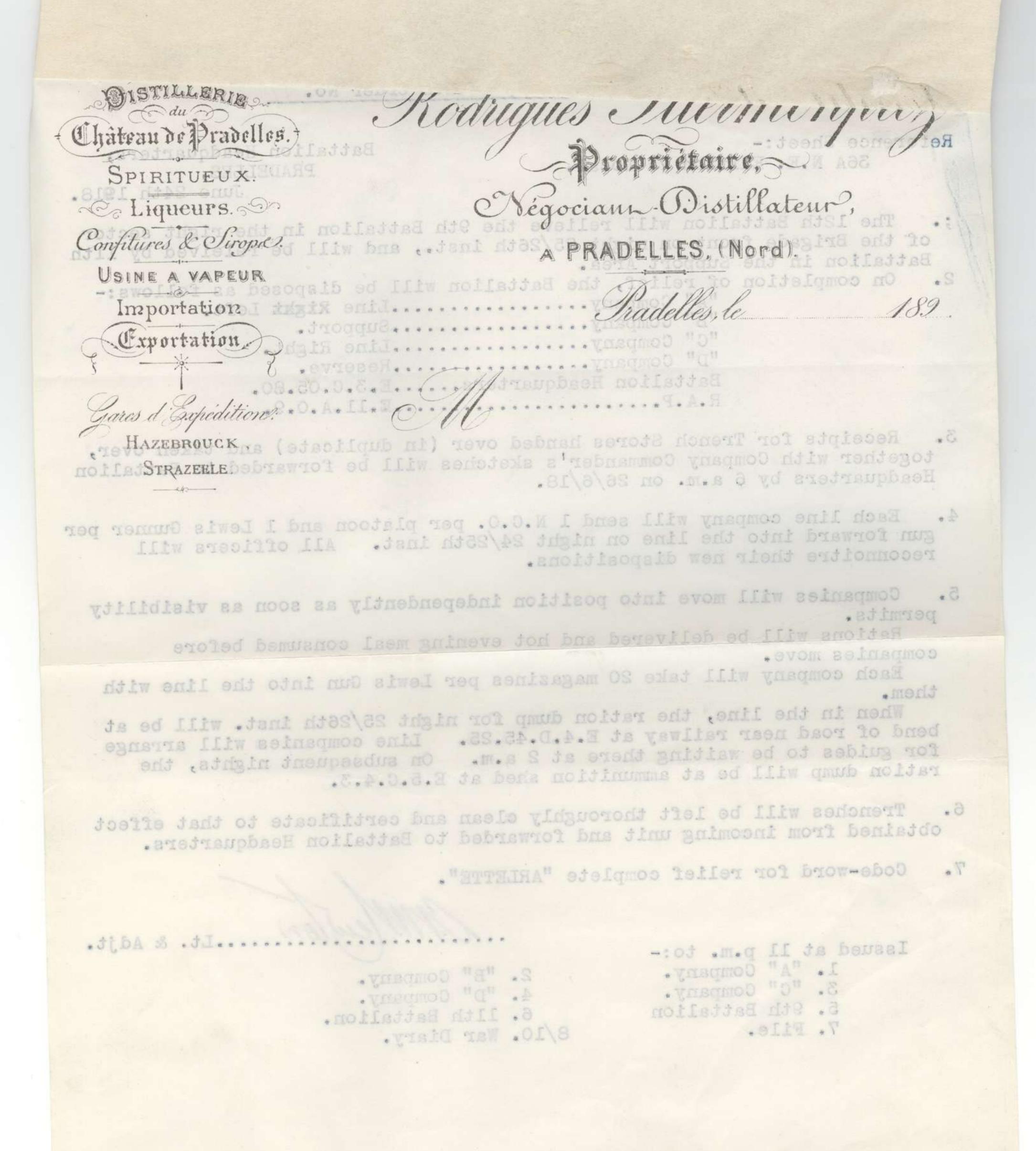
5. 9th Battalion

7. File.

2. "B" Company.

4. "D" Company.

6. 11th Battalion. 8/10. War Diary.





SENIORITY ROLL



OF OFFICERS OF 19th., BATTALION 3rd. INFANTRY BRIGADE

RANK.	NAME.	DATE OF APPOINT'T	HOW EMPLOYED.
Lt. Col.	C.H. ELLIOTT.	1/3/16	Commanding 19th. Battalion.
Major.	F.W. PAGE.	1/7/14	Not yet reported.
11	H.A. MACPHERSON.	12/3/18.	2nd. in command.
Captain.	J.A. FOSTER. L.E. BURT.	1/12/17.	0/d. B. Coy.
Capbarri.	E.Y. BUTLER.	30/2/16:	Evac to hospital 20/6/18.
	R.A.L.MGELWEE.	1/3/16.	1st. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
11	B.J. ANDREW.	26/7/16.	0/C. D. Coy.
	S.R. HOUGHTON.	19/9/16.	and, in command D. Coy.
"	W.R.JORGENSEN.	3/19/16:	" " a/ 0/C 0. "
11	C.N.RICHARDSON.	84/8/17.	0/C. 3rd. Bac. Mining Coy.
11	D.McLEOD. G.PETERS.	16/5/17.	Evac. wounded 10/5/18.
	G. SHEETING	16/5/17.	Aust. Corps Salvage Officer
11	I.N.HOLYMAN.	16/5/17.	2nd. in command B. Coy.
11	R.M. W. THIRKELL.	28/5/17.	Staff Capt. 1st. Tng. Bde. Sec'd.
Hon. Capt.	F.A. TEARLE.	31/5/17.	1st. Ing. Bde. Seconded.
11 11	H.E.SPOTSWOOD.	29/12/17.	R.Q.H.
Lieut.	E.A. SHEPHERD,	28/4/18.	O/Seas Tng. Ede. Seconded.
11	G.F.GOULD.	85/5/16.	2nd. in command A. Coy.
11	L.DADSON. P.F. SELLICK.	25/5/16.	P/C. B. Coy.
11	L.M. NEWTON	12/6/16.	Evac to hospital 18/6/18. Adjutant.
11	G.T.GANDY	31/7/18.	P/C. B. Cov.
11	P.F.H.REED.	5/11/16.	Missing, believed killed
			24/4/18. Seconded.
11	G. VAUGHAN.	5/11/16.	O.T.B. Seconded.
11	B.W.MITCHELL.	5/11/16.	Evac. to hospital 25/5/18.
	A.D. TYNAN.	5/11/16.	Asst. Adjt. evac. to hospital 17/5/18.
	L.T. BUTLER.	84/18/16.	Staff Trainee 14th, British Division, Seconded.
Ti .	A.S. WEBB.	24/13/16.	Evac. wounded 30/5/18.
H .	R.D.RADFORD.	7/4/17.	1st. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
11	A. I. WARDLAW.	7/4/17.	P/C. B. Cov.
11	F.E. PRIDDEY.	80/6/17.	A/Asst. Adjutant.
11	W.J.KELLY. M.BENSLEY.	20/6/17.	P/C. A. Coy. Evac. to hospital 18/6/18.
	L.H.B. MACLEOD.	82/7/17	Evac. wounded 8/5/18.
11	J.J.KEEN.	22/7/17	Thron to hoghitol 18/8/19
*1	S. W. DOBSON.	28/7/17.	Evac. to hospital 26/6/18 arrest
. 11	J.R. TAYLOR.	18/8/17.	P/C. C. Coy.
**	W.K.GILL.	16/8/17.	Awaiting absorption from
11	T C MODDICON	4 n /n /4 m	Supernumerary List.
11	J.S. MORRISON. T.A. MILES.	16/8/17.	Div.Gas Officer Seconded. 3rd. A.L.T.M.B. Seconded.
17	W. LAMBERT.	16/8/17.	Evac. wounded 85/6/18.
11	R.B.JAMES.	19/9/17.	Training with A.F.C. Sec'd.
- 11	R.G. WALDUCK.	. 19/9/17.	L.M.G.Officer.
ff .	A.E. POTTS.	19/9/17.	Transport Officer.
	R.W.FLETCHER.	19/9/17.	Bombing Officer.
11	L.D.RAFFERTY.	19/9/17.	Evac. to hospital 15/6/18.
11	H.M. SANDY. J.B. CATTERALL.	19/9/17.	P/C. D. Coy.
11	C.H.McKAY.	19/9/17.	Assist Transport Officer.
. 11	W.J. WACHNER.	19/9/17.	3rd. A.L.T.H.B. Seconded.
11	S. V. GIBSON.	17/10/17.	Evac. to hospital 17/4/18.
11	A.L.S.DAVEY.	7/11/17.	1st. Tng. Bde. Beconded.
11	T.A.LAY.		3rd. A.L.T.M.B. Seconded.
ff fr	A.D. ANDERSEN.	7/11/17.	Evac. to hospital 15/6/18.
11	A.R. MACDONALD.	7/11/17.	P/C. B. Coy.
11	W.C.B.DALY.	7/11/17.	P/C. D. Coy. Evac. wounded 28/5/18.
tt .	E.R. FACY.	18/19/17.	Evac. Wounded 31/5/18.
11	T.E.C.BRIDGER.	16/18/17.	Signal Officer.
11	E.E. TERRY	1/1/18.	Evac. wounded 4/5/18.

37

SENIORITY ROLL (Contd.)

RANK.	NAME.	DATE OF APPOINT'T	HOW EMPLOYED.
Lieut.	A.W.CLEMES.	1/4/18.	Evac. wounded 84/4/18.
11	R.B.GOODE. C.W.COOKE. A.H.GORDON.	8/4/18. 8/4/18. 8/4/18.	P/C. B. Coy. 3rd.A.L.T.M.B. Sec'd. Evac. to hospital 26/6/18.
"	G.W.MUIR. A.D.GOOPER.	8/4/18. 8/4/18. 1/5/18.	P/C. B. Coy. P/C. A. Coy. Evac. to hospital 19/6/18.
**	J.G.SIMMONS.	1/5/18. Sile	Evac. wounded 20/4/18.
and" " " "	E.M.DOLLERY. M.R.GLOZIER. B.N.BUTLER. A. MONTGOMERY.		Evac. wounded 8/5/18. P/C. A. Coy. P/C. C. Coy. P/C. C. Coy.

ATTACHED.

Major. Rev.

W.W.S.JOHNSTON. (3rd.Field Amb.) R.M.O. H.A.HAYDEN. C. of E. Chaplain.

C.H. Elluott

Lieut. Col.

Commanding 19th. Battalion.

30/8/18.