

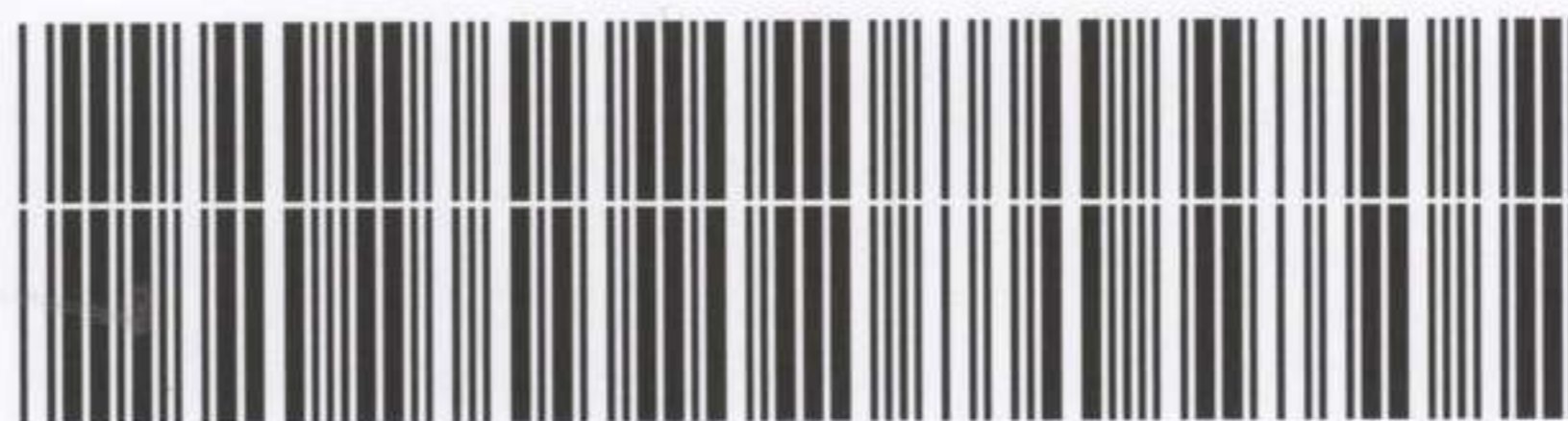
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/67/3

Title: 50th Infantry Battalion

September 1916



AWM4-23/67/3

WAR DIARY

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

50th Bn AIF Page 6

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Albert.	Sept-1	10 am	Bde under orders to take over front line commencing night 1/2 Aug. Bn still carrying on training of specialists and physical drill & bayonet fighting Intelligence officer & 6 scouts visited front line yesterday. Coy Comdros & 2 N.C.O. Rgr Coy visiting today. Commanding officer visited front line during afternoon Preliminary instructions in anticipation of operation orders issued.	attached
	2	10 am	Lt Col B. H. Cheney with 30 men including one bomb team & two Lewis Gunners detached to hold post 77 near Mouquet Farm. They will be under orders of O/C 51st Bn.	
		3 pm	Battalion will move into line at 10 pm tonight. Summary of Operations together with copies of Preliminary Instructions and Operations orders Nos 1 & 2 attached	

VOLUME IV

A.G.S.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

50th Bn A.I.F. Page 7

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
Albert	1916 Sept 4	9 AM	Returned from firing line to Billets in Albert.	Battalion resting. Rum issue to men.
"	"	11 PM	Orders received to move to Warloy tomorrow.	Returned surplus ammunition + bombs to store.
"	5	11 AM	Orders to move cancelled.	Returned surplus ammunition + bombs to store.
"	6	9:30 AM	Marched from Albert to Warloy. Arrived 12 noon. No men fell out. New packs + new clothing. Baths for A + B. Coy.	Returned surplus ammunition + bombs to store.
Warloy	"	7:20 AM	Marched out from Warloy.	Arrived Amphier 2:15 PM. No men fell out.
Amphier	"	8:45 AM	Marched to Auchieule, arrived 9:25 AM and entrained. Detrained at Godewaersvelde 4:50 PM.	Arrived Amphier 2:15 PM. No men fell out.
Stenvoorde	"	5 PM	Marched to Stenvoorde. Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army	Arrived Amphier 2:15 PM. No men fell out.
"	9	5 PM	Re-organizing and refitting	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	10	"	Church Parade - Large medal received. - Steps taken regarding reforming Band	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	11	"	Bn marched to Brigade Parade ground to be addressed by Genl Birdwood corp commander. Parade cancelled - Route march in lieu. Examination by arm.	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	Sgt. of all rifles commenced. Refitting continued. Training of specialists commenced	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	Others - Physical exercises + bayonet fighting. 39 reinforcements arrived	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	Strength of Bn Officers 26 Others 547. Medical Officer Major Jefferies granted	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	8 days leave, relieved by Capt. Y.Y.A. Lovegrove of 13th Aust. Fd Amb. Major R.B.	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	Jacob attached senior major attached 4th Aust. Div. as D.A.M. during absence	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	on 10 days leave of that officer.	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	12	"	Morning class for N.C.O.s commenced under my arrangements. Reinforcements addressed	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	by C.O. + medically examined by M.O. Refitting + training continued as yesterday	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army
"	"	"	Lieut. H. Riggs to Hospital sick	Billed outside town in farming district at 6:30 PM. 1st Army Corps transferred to 2nd Army

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

50th Bn A.I.F Page 8

Place	Date 1916	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Steenwoorde	Sept 13		Refitting and training.	
	14		Refitting & training. New type box respirator received 1 per man. 1 Officer + 15 others to Lewis gun school. Marked improvement in sanitation & tidiness of billets, cooks lines etc.	
	15		Syllabus of training for following week issued. Copy attached. Nine officers and others specially instructed in new Box Respirator. Five footballs purchased for men.	Copy of Syllabus of training attached
	16		Route march - 8 miles with 1st line Transport- and all details Sgt Schoemaker, Postal Corporal, Cooks etc included. No men fell out. 25 Reinforcements received Strength 26 officers 577 others. Three officers and 4 others granted 10 days leave to United Kingdom. One officer & four others to Lewis gun school.	
	17		March parade - Gen. Birdwood presented medals ribbons & mil medal to 9 men of Bn for gallantry near Monquet Farm on 3/14 Sept. 3065 Pte P.S. Cohen 3794 L/C R.L. Dink 3337 Pte J.B. Grogan 2664 Pte S.A. Osborne 2138 Pte L.W. Dixon 2752 Pte G.G. Smith (all Runners) 3236 L/C J.A. Bartsch 3273 L/C R.V. Coulter (Ltr Bearers) + 4851 Pte J.B. Polto. Orders received for Bn to move to Second Army Central School for demonstration purposes. School situated a WISQUES 17 miles distant.	
	18	5-15 pm	Bn left Steenwoorde by motor Busses. Arrived at Yatinghem near Wisques at 8.30 pm and billeted there, taking over from 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers. First line transport arrived 10.30 pm	
Yatinghem	18		C.O. reported to Commandant of School. Heavy rain - no demonstrations	
Yatinghem	19		20 cases tinned fruits etc received for men from Aust Comforts Fund. Lecture to all officers "Duties" by C.O. 120 men to School fatigue duties. Remainder of Bn training as per programme all batmen coats, storemen, brooms inspected by C.O. Major J.M. Herbert appointed Area Commandant. Major J. Jeffries returned from 8 days leave to England.	"Duties" by C.O.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C 2118. 51

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

50th Bn. A. I. F. Page 9

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Sept-1916			
Lattingham	20		120 men to School Fatigue. Three Officers + 17 N.C.O.s commenced Bayonet course at School yesterday. Wet weather of yesterday + today hampered training. Lecture to all officers "Vickers Gun Tactics" and co-operation of machine gun corp with Infantry by Capt Wilton. lately of 13th machine gun Corp.	
"	21		100 men to School fatigue. Battalion paid.	
"	22		H Mills + 9 men returned from Lewis Gun School. 5 men returned from Traffic Control. Lecture to all officers "Bombs" by Lieut Gore Bn. Bombing Officer. 100 men to School Fatigue.	
"	23		100 men to School fatigue. Training of specialists continued.	
"	24		Church parade. 20 men returned from hospital. Total strength 26 Officers 611 others.	
"	25		Adjt commenced leave to England - 10 days. Range practice for all Lewis gunners.	
"	26		Attack practice + 80 men to School. Officers as spectators. Lecture "Fuses + Detonators."	
"	27		One coy to School - Outpost scheme. Lecture all officers "Trench Tactics."	
"	28		120 men to School Fatigue. Live throwing for all Coy Bombers. Remainder Range practice - grouping + rapid. Inspection of Regt Transport. by C. O. Capt. Moulle + Armitage returned from leave. Regimental concert.	
"	29		100 men to School Fatigue. Balance to Bath. Sgt Riggs returned from hospital. Sgt Blaney returned from Lewis Gun School. Lecture all officers "Military custody and framing of charges" by Lieut H. Thomson assist. adjt.	
"	30		120 men to School Fatigue. 12 Reinforcements arrived. Attack practice by two coys.	

A. Salisbury Lt-Col
c/o 50th Bn.

OPERATION ORDER, No 1,

Copy...9....

By,
LIEUT COLONEL R. G. SALISBURY, COMMANDG,
50th BATTALION.

Battn Headquarters,
2nd Sept, 1916.

Ref Map FERME LAI MOUQUET. - 1/5000 Edition 4

1. G.O.C 13th Aus Inf Bde assumes command of line R.34.b.28 - 28.c.95, 2
- 31 - 33.b.59 - 55, 33.a.77 at 5 p.m. on 2nd Sept.
2. Line will be held as follows :-

49th Battn.	34.b.28 - 28.c.95, 2	- 31 exclusive.
52nd	:::	28.c.31 inclusive - 33.b.59-48-55 exclusive.
51st	:::	33.b.55 ::: - 33.a.77 inclusive.
50th	:::	in reserve at PARK LANE & TOMS CUT.

Lateral Boundaries between Battns will be, -
49th & 52nd. BOX LANE and road leading NORTH to 28.c.31.
52nd & 51st Road from 33.d.95 to MOUQUET FARM.
The 1st Canadian Inf Bde is on our RIGHT, & 174th Bde on our LEFT.
3. Relief of 12th Aus Inf Bde was commenced last night and will be completed tonight 2/3rd Sept.
Relief of Mach Gun Coy, & Light Trench Mortar Battery will be completed by 6 p.m. today.
4. The Bde will on morning of 3rd Sept attack and capture MOUQUET FARM and line 28.c.95 - 36-03-27.d.94, -12-33.b.29 and 30.
Objectives :- new

49th Battn.	1st/trench 28.c.95, 4 to 34.
	2nd. 28.c.95-36 inclusive.
	A defensive flank will be formed from point 95 and towards d.03.
52nd Battn.	28.c.36 exclusive - 03-27.d.94-73-42 inclusive.
51st Battn.	MOUQUET FARM point 31 & line 27.d.42 exclusive-12 making a defensive flank from point 12 to original line and facing WEST.
50th Battn.	In reserve, will improve PARK LANE without delay after Battn gets into position. 50th Battn will also take over Post 77 under arrangements with O.C. 51st Battn.
5. O.C. 13th Mach Gun Coy will arrange for overhead fire on trenches running NORTH from 27.d.73, 42 and 12, against FESTE ZOLLERN locality (Square 27.b.) and also to cover LEFT flank of attack.
6. 1st Canadian Mach Gun Coy will co-operate by covering RIGHT flank of attack and also bringing overhead fire against roads & trenches in vicinity of 28.d.57 and 58.
7. 13th Light Trench Mortar Battery will, during bombardment of objective, operate on trenches and dug-outs in the immediate vicinity of 28.c.95 and also on point 33.a.54.
8. The attack will be delivered in accordance with barrage map issued separately. Zero time will be notified later.
9. In event of wind being favourable, No 3 Coy 5th Battn, Special Bde R.E will co-operate with smoke across R33.a.64-47 working from SKYLINE TRENCH.
10. Water found in MOUQUET FARM or vicinity is not to be drunk until reported fit by a Medical Officer.
11. Contact patrols will be in the air at 7 a.m. & 10 a.m. on 3rd inst at which hours red flares will be shown by the advanced troops.
12. Watches will be synchronized at 7.30 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. tonight at Battn H.Qs.
13. Reports to Battn H.Qs in K.Trench about K4.a.5.9.

Tom Leautaud Captain,
Adjutant, 50th, Battln.

APPENDIX

1/2000 + wanted

Copy No 1 Retained

" 2 A Coy

" 3 B "

4 C "

5 D "

6 In Major

7-9 Was Deary

10 File

Additional, 2000, 2000

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APPENDIX

War Diary

OPERATION ORDER, No 2,

Copy...4....

By,
LIEUT COLONEL A.G. SALISBURY, COMMANDING,
50th, BATTALION.

Battn Headquarters,
2nd Sept, 1916.

Ref Map FARM du MOUQUET. I/5000. *Edition 4*

1. In continuation of operation order No I, The Battn (less detached parties) will move from Billets in Albert at 7.30 p.m. tonight to PARK LANE via POZIERS ROAD-TRAMLINE-KAYS DUMP. Platoons will march at 50+ interval after passing WIRE TRENCH.
2. Tools to the extent of one pick and one shovel per man will be drawn at KAYS DUMP.
3. Work of improving PARK LANE will be commenced immediately on arrival and will be pushed on with greatest possible speed. The old trench will be retraced with tape under direction of Capt J. Churchill Smith. O.C. B. Coy will be responsible for progress of the work.
4. Parties will move into PARK LANE by route as follows :-
 A. Coy KAYS TRENCH - TOMS CUT - BOX LANE.
 H.Qs Details and balance of C. Coy followed by B. Coy
 KAYS TRENCH direct to PARK LANE.
5. Distribution in PARK LANE commencing from N.E. end H.Qs Details - balance of C. Coy, - B. Coy - A. Coy.
 A. Coy will extend and commence work from N.E. End, a small gap will probably occur between A & B Coys. On completion of their own sector these two Coys will work towards each other & link up.
6. Parties detached :-
 From C. Coy. 2/Lieut Cheney with 30 men & two Lewis Guns to hold Post 77 under O.C. 51st Bn.
 1 Sgt and 15 men to Staff Captain for Salvage Party.
 1. N.C.O and 8 men. Ammunition Control Officer, Chalk Pit Dump.
 From D. Coy. 1 Officer, 75 men to Chalk Pit Dump.
7. AID POST will be in vicinity of KAYS DUMP.

Wm Loutlet Captain,
Adjutant, 50th, Battalion.

- No I Copy to Commanding Officer.
- 2. :: : A. Company.
 - 3. :: : B. ::
 - 4. :: : C.C ::
 - 5. :: : D. ::
 - 6. :: : Senior Major.
 - 7-9. :: : War Diary.
 - 10. :: : Filed.

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Preliminary Instructions in anticipation of operation orders to be issued later.

- (1). On instructions to move towards front line the following will be at once carried out by Company and Specialist Commanders.
- (2) Officers valises and mess kit, also men's greatcoats and blankets ^{& mess tins} will be returned to Q.M.Store. Greatcoats and blankets separately to be rolled up by half platoons and plainly marked. Coy.records to be carefully tied up, marked and handed in to Orderly Room and receipt taken.
- (3) Cocks and Cookers will proceed to Transport Lines, (Transport Officer to send horses.)
- (4) Bombs will be issued two per man.
- (5) Waterbottles will be filled and no man is to draw on his waterbottle once the Battn is warned for trenches until permission is given by Coy,Commanders. Water is to be husbanded.
- (6) Reserve Stretcher Bearers and batman will go as Bayonet men for ordinary duty.
- (7) Headquarter Stretcher Bearers will hand over rifles and equipment (less haversack, waterbottle and waterproof sheet) to Q.M., and draw stretchers from H.O. Headquarters Stretcher Bearers will proceed with their Companies to line, and after locating position of Coys will return to Aid Post in the Line.
- (8) Coy.Lewis Gun Detachments proceed with Companys. H.Qs.Lewis Guns, H.Qs.Bombers, H.Qs.Signallers, and Pioneers with Battln, Headquarters.
- (9) Brigade and Battln.runners to report to Signal Sergt. at Battn.H.Qs. Billet.
- (10) Carrying fatigue of 10 men & G.Q.M.S. per Coy, will report to S/Lieut. G.O.Long at Battln,H.Qs.Billet.
- (11) No party or man is to leave line without written permission from Coy. Commanders, (This will not apply to runners or Stretcher Bearers) S/Lieut.A.Mills assisted by Provost Corporal and Reg.Police will be posted to collect stragglers who will be dealt with under Section 4 of Army Act.
- (12) Receipts will be given for all stores taken over in the line. This is most particular in regard to Water tins. Battn.H.Qs.to be advised immediately of number of tins taken over. Receipts will likewise be obtained when handing over on completion of tour in line.
- (13) Instructions re passing of verbal messages along line to be again read to all men.
- (14) Prevention of losses in Arms, Equipment etc. is also to be impressed on all ranks.
- (15) The following Officers will go into the line.:-

<u>Headquarters.</u> Commanding Officer. Adjutant. Intelligence Officer. Bomb Officer. Lewis Gun Officer. <u>"A" Company.</u> Capt. D.L.Todd Capt. R.G.Wilton S/Lt. R.G.Goodman	<u>"B" Company.</u> Major M.J.Herbert Lieut. P.H.Auld. S/Lt. D. Jones. <u>"G" Company.</u> Capt. H.E.S.Armitage. Lieut. J.N.B.Loudon S/Lt. E.L.Cheney <u>"D" Company.</u> Capt. J.C.Smith S/Lt. J.B.McLean S/Lt. F. Smith.
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Page 4.

The remaining Officers, not on Special Duty will be the emergency Officers. Emergency Officers and two batmen only will report to Senior Major at Battn.H.Qs.Billet, half an hour after Battn.moves off.

(16) From 9 a.m. on 1st. Sept. Companys to be ready to move at one hours notice and greatcoats and blankets must be rolled up by half ~~KAKIKIA~~ Platoons each morning ready to return to Store when ordered. Waterbottles must also be filled each morning. Arms, Equipment, Ammunition, Iron Rations, Gas Helmets, Identity Discs, and Entrenching Tools to be inspected twice a day, and a certificate rendered each evening that this has been done, deficiencies to be stated. Men who lose articles to be crimed and brought before Commanding Officer.

J.M. Laintot Capt.

Adjutant 50th. Battalion.

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SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS OF 50TH BATTALION from 7.30 p.m. 2nd, Sept to 6.15 a.m. on 4th Sept, 1916.

The Battalion which was detailed as Brigade Reserve during the Operations, marched out from Albert at 7.30 p.m. on 2nd Sept, with 17 Officers and 387 others, the difference between that number and the actual fighting strength of the Battalion being made up as under :-

	Offrs.	Others.
Emergency Offrs & Batmen.	5.	4.
Transport.	1.	34.
Q.M. Sgt, Postal Cpl, Cooks		
Storemen, Water details etc.		36.
Ammn, Rations, & Salvage		
Fatigues.	3.	135.
Total.	9.	311.

Copy of Preliminary Instructions to Coys and Operation Orders No. 1 & 2 attached.

On arrival at TARA HILL, Companies and Specialists Units opened out in column of route to a distance of 50 yds. From the intersection of POZIERS ROAD and tramway to KAYS DUMP, Companies were further opened up to 30 yds between Platoons.

Battalion arrived at KAYS DUMP to time (10 p.m.) to draw tools, but was slightly delayed owing to rear of 51st Battalion not being clear.

At this time the ~~examining~~ enemy commenced shelling the vicinity of the DUMP with H.E. evidently searching for 4 of our Vickers Guns which were then putting indirect fire on the German trenches from near the DUMP.

Tools were drawn without suffering any casualties but we would have been considerably short had I not that morning sent a salvage party through the trenches and gathered 140 shovels & 80 picks which I noticed buried in the mud during my visit the previous day. As it was I still required 40 more shovels. These were drawn later from a small DUMP at intersection of POZIERS ROAD and Tramway.

Battalion moved in through support trenches by routes previously arranged and commenced work in PARK LANE at 11.40. Enemy was then moderately shelling that vicinity with ~~xxxx~~ shrapnel and H.E. PARK LANE which practically did not exist was retraced with tape by Capt J. Churchill Smith, assisted by the Battn Intlgce Officer Lieut A. J. Smith between 8.30 p.m. & 10 p.m. These Officers had a difficult task and worked under considerable shell fire the whole time. They were also continually sniped at by the enemy when examining this trench in the afternoon. Major Herbert was placed in charge of the working parties. The enemy kept a slow continuous shell* fire over the trench all night, but work was pushed on and completed to an average depth of 5'6" before 5 a.m., in some places it was 7' deep. Many dead bodies were encountered during the digging. The casualties suffered through the night were light, 2 men wounded.

* Some of which were as shells

When the assaulting Battalions commenced the attack on MOUQUET FARM, and Eastwards at 5.10 a.m. on 4th Sept our support trenches were heavily shelled by the enemy. Though this moderated an hour later it did not at all cease the whole day.

At 6.5 a.m. 49th Battalion who had gained their second objective urgently asked me for all available tools. These were sent up by "A" Coy under Capt Todd with instructions to return to support line after delivering them.

At 8.10 a.m. 49th Battalion asked for the Coy to help in work of consolidation. After referring to Brigade H.Qs I instructed "A" Coy which had not had time to return to support line to remain with 49th Battalion.

At 9.30 a.m. under instructions from Bde H.Qs I ordered "B" Coy under Major Herbert to proceed to position between point 59 & 61 to reinforce 58th Battn and push forward if possible.

(2).

Bde Intelligence Officer and guide were sent with map to explain position to Major Herbert.

Casualties up to 9.45 a.m. were 2 men killed, and 15 wounded.

At 11 a.m. enemy heavily shelling PARK LANE.

At 12.15 p.m. enemy shelling had so filled in PARK LANE except 50 yds North Eastern end that it would not afford shelter to troops. The remaining men in there were withdrawn to KAY TRENCH.

At mid-day two Coys of Canadians commenced to move into TOMS CUT.

At 13.40 p.m. Major Herbert was instructed to connect up with two Platoons of Canadians who were taking over line from 91 to 59.

Casualties to Mid-day,-

Officers Killed 1. S/Lt D. Jones.

Wounded 1. Lt. P.H. Auld.

O/Ranks. Killed 3.

Wounded 16.

At 5.30 p.m. supply of water sent A & B Coys.

At 7.45 p.m. two Coys of Canadians commenced to move through trenches to relieve part of front line.

At 7.55 p.m. enemy heavily shelled our front & support trenches for about half an hour. Apparently enemy counter attacked front line shortly afterwards. Casualties about seven of our own, and twelve Canadians.

At 8.55 p.m. advice was received from Bde H.Qs that our Coys attached to other Battalions would be relieved with those Battalions.

At 8.30 a.m. on 4th Sept remainder of Battalion still in support (about 60 men) were withdrawn and moved back to ALBERT Battn Headquarters followed at 6.15 a.m.

The following paragraphs refer to the operations of "A" Coy which reinforced 49th Battn & "B" Coy which went to reinforce 52nd Battn, but eventually joined up with 51st Battn.

"A" Company.

After collecting about 150 tools, Captn Todd moved off with his men to 49th Battalion, about 9 a.m. on 3rd inst. There was then an enemy barrage between 49th Battalion front line and support trenches which considerably hampered the progress.

49th Battalion's first objective was reached at 10 a.m., and work commenced, consolidating new position.

On completion of the work to a depth of about 7 feet, the men were moved to new front line and distributed among men of the 49th Battalion, to assist in holding that line, where they remained until relieved with that Battalion at 5.30 a.m. on 5th Sept

The O.C., 49th Battalion has informed me that these supports arrived in sufficient time and were of great assistance in helping to retain the ground taken.

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 "B" Company.- With reference to support sent to 52nd Battn; "B" Coy moved off at 10.30 a.m. through BOX LANE -9I - 55, but not having found 52nd Battn except odd men, moved across and got in touch with 51st Battn at 11.15 a.m. 51st Battn had then fallen back from MOUQUET FARM to QUARRY, -51st reported FARM was strongly held by enemy, and that 52nd Battn was reduced to 1 Sgt, & 30 men at 10.30 a.m.

51st Battn had a post near the FARM but every party sent out to gain touch had been wiped out.

My "B" Coy established a line through 55 to 58 where touch was obtained with left of Canadians at 5.40 p.m. About 11 am Lieut D. Jones of "B" Coy was killed, and Lieut Auld slightly wounded.

Posts 77 & 81 which already had two Lewis Guns each were reinforced. "B" Coys two Lewis Guns were placed at 55, There were two Vickers Guns 50 yds left of 55, two at QUARRY and two in reserve.

From 55 to 58 was held by five posts of I. N.C.O and two men each. (52nd Battn reported later that the line held by these groups appeared to run from 55 towards point R.34.a.82 and message sent to Major Herbert to verify this, but he was relieved by Canadians before it reached him).

During the afternoon the position held by this Coy was shelled badly by the enemy with heavy guns more particularly about 6 p.m.

Major Herberts Coy was relieved by No 4 Coy, 13th Battn Canadians at 4 a.m, on 4th Sept almost without casualties.

Ammunition expended during first 12 hours. Nil.

During remainder of period S.A.A. 7,000 Rds.
 Bombs. 378 Bombs.

Total casualties :-

Officers Killed	1.	
Wounded.	1.	Total. 2.
× Lt Auld slightly wounded,		still on duty.
O/Ranks Killed.	14.	
Wounded.	58.	
Missing.	4.	Total. 76.

Many gallant acts were performed by individual members of the Battalion, and a report on these will be forwarded separately.

A. G. Salisbury

Lieut Colonel,

Commanding, 50th, Battalion.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 21st. SEPTEMBER 1916.

FRIDAY MORNING. 15th.	Daily Inspection, Rapid loading & firing, Physical Training Rifle Exercises, Close Order Drill, Foot Inspection.
:: AFTERNOON.	Bayonet Fighting, Saluting, Lecture, -Discipline. -----
SATURDAY MORNING. 16th.	Route March, -8 miles, whole Battalion & First Line Transport Only exceptions, -Q.M. Sgts., Regimental Police.
:: AFTERNOON.	Inspection clothing and equipment by Platoon Commanders. Washing of clothes. -----
SUNDAY. 17th.	Church Parade. -----
MONDAY MORNING. 18th.	Daily Inspection, Rapid loading & firing, Lecture, -Care of Arms, Clothing, equipment, boots & Government property generally Rifle Exercises, Foot Inspection.
:: Afternoon.	Lecture, -"Trench Duties", Close Order Drill. -----
TUESDAY MORNING. 19th.	Daily Inspection, Rapid Loading & Firing, Guard & Sentry Duties, Physical Training, Foot Inspection.
:: AFTERNOON.	Musketry, -Aiming & Trigger Pressing. Tests for trained men. Instruction for bad shots. Lecture, "Precautions against "Gas Attacks" Bayonet Fighting. -----
WEDNESDAY MORNING. 20th.	Daily Inspection, Rapid Loading & Firing, Musketry, -Loading & firing positions. Description of Targets. Foot Inspection.
:: AFTERNOON.	Musketry, -Fire Orders & recognition of Targets. Visual Training. Bayonet Fighting. -----
THURSDAY MORNING. 21st.	Daily Inspection. Rapid loading & firing. Platoon Drill.
:: Afternoon.	Company drill. -----

Specialists will train under Special Officers except on 21st., when all specialists will fall in with Companies.

Forenoon Parade, 9 to 12, Afternoon 3 to 4.

In Forenoon parade first half hour will be given to Daily Inspection, ten minutes to rapid loading and firing, and last fifteen minutes to foot inspection.

Physical Training will be interspersed with games.

On receipt of Practice Helmets, 10 minutes a day Gas Drill.

N.C.O's Class, - One hour daily. Special attention to be given to, -
Good word of Command.
Steadiness and soldierly bearing.
Correct Commands for close order drill.
Precise movements in rifle exercises.
Guard and Sentry duties.
Art of imparting instruction.

J. M. Louch Capt.
Adjutant 50th. Battalion.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM No. 4.TRAINING.

The following notes are issued in conjunction with Syllabus of Training for week ending 21st. September 1916.

RAPID LOADING. - Rifle to be kept up in proper loading position during operation and eyes on object..

RAPID FIRING. Butt to be kept in shoulder while working bolt.

CLOSE ORDER DRILL & RIFLE EXERCISES. - Accurate performance of movement and absolute steadiness.

SALUTING. - Men to be practiced in small parties. Manner of saluting when riding bicycle or carrying anything other than arms. Other variations etc. Men to be specially informed that they must look straight at person saluted and must commence salute 3 paces before reaching him. No "fancy" salutes.

CARE OF ARMS. - Don't preach hot water and copper funnels, but common sense service methods. Warn men about leaning rifles against horsed vehicles. Point out the numerous accidents through careless handling of arms. Also the certainty of punishment for self inflicted wounds.

J. M. Leavitt Capt.

Adjutant 50th. Battalion.

15/9/16.