

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

2 Northampton R

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
				Vol 18
1.	7. 16		Move. Arrived in billets in HENENCOURT WOOD at 3.30 p.m. men quite comfortable in Huts. No billeting arrangements made.	OKP Capt
2.	7. 16.		Billets. Nothing to report. The 24 th F.A. for the 8 th Div are established in the wood.	OKP Capt
3.	7. 16.		Billets. Physical training parades, were ordered to last as much as possible. Men's great coats were returned late in the evening.	OKP Capt
4.	7. 16.		Move. The Div moved ^{leaving} out of the wood and marched by BUIRE to Billets in DERNANCOURT at 6 am arriving at 9 a.m. passed through 21 st Div entraining after their action of yesterday & rest by AMIENS.	OKP Capt
5.	7. 16.		Billets. No parade during the day in order to keep the men fit and fresh should the Battalion be ordered to move during the evening.	OKP Capt
6.	7. 16.		Move. The Battalion moved off at 5.30 p.m. to go into Action and arrived at FRICOURT at 9.30 p.m. The night hours spent near the old German Support line.	OKP Capt

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			<p>to work and the people in the trench suffered many casualties from shrapnel + H.C. D' Coy followed A' Coy into the Trench and also suffered heavily. At the same time Both "B" + "C" Companies were also very severely knocked about and many casualties occurred. During this time Lt Col Beckett, Capt Parker, 2/Lt Palmer (R.F.) + 2/Lt Ferguson were wounded and Lt Selby + 2/Lt Janni were killed.</p> <p>When "B" Coy reached PEAKE WOOD, they encountered a Company of the 2nd East Lancs. Regt. retiring very quickly. Many efforts were made to stop them, but of no avail. Lt FALBY + C.S.M PIQUET of the East Lancs. did especially good work in retarding their retiring Company and joined "B" Coy in Peake wood. Owing to the enemy Barrage no one</p>	

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			<p><u>C/S</u>: could make any further advance towards the village. Eventually all the Battalion was pushed back into BIRCH ALLEY - more by the letting regiments than by our own retirement. On reaching BIRCH ALLEY the remainder of the Battalion was organised and manned the parapet under Capt Cassill - he with several subalterns managed to restore a little order out of the chaos and held the line strongly. Rifles were very dirty owing to the mud & rain but the men managed to clean them. One of our Lewis Guns was also smothered up. The Battalion eventually formed up at LONELY COPSE at about 5 p.m. and at 8.30 p.m. set out to dig a trench from PEAKE WOOD K X.16.C.3.0.</p>	<p>ACV 2/4</p>

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8/7/16			<p>Active Information was received to the effect that the Village of CONTALMAISON had been evacuated by the enemy and the Battalion together with the Worcester Regt was ordered to occupy the village. The Battalion advanced in the following order D, A, B, C, Capt Latham 2nd in Command, went forward to lead the attack and in spite of extremely heavy machine Gun & artillery fire he reached a line a little beyond Peake Wood. Hardly any men, however got so far since the casualties were so very heavy. Capt Carritt was killed during the attack, and Major Millman, at the head of A Coy, was also badly wounded. About 20 men with a few submachine guns, - 2 Lt Handley, Hardy, Parkey & Papworth reached Peake Wood, but could get no farther.</p>	

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			<p><u>Conto</u>: 2 Lt Hardy & Papworth seeing that no progress could be made decided to make a rush to Sheller Alley in the hope of finding B & C Coy there. They had been ordered to stand fast in the trenches by Major Williams, commanding. Finding no one there they decided to go back to search of the Germans. They met the Germans coming up.</p> <p>Later in the evening the Battalion was reformed near Lonely Cyprus and Major C. G. Buckle came to take command.</p> <p><u>After</u> The Battalion worked in trenches during the day.</p> <p><u>More</u> Battalion was relieved at about 3.30 pm by 2 Coy. of the 10th Gloucester Regt and marched back to billets at BRESLE. We relieved the 1st Northamptonshire Regt in billets and were given a most enthusiastic welcome.</p>	<p>JP 2/16</p> <p>JP 2/16</p> <p>JP 2/16</p>
	9/7/16			
	10/7/16			