

Appendix II

I/5TH BN. ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT.

1917.

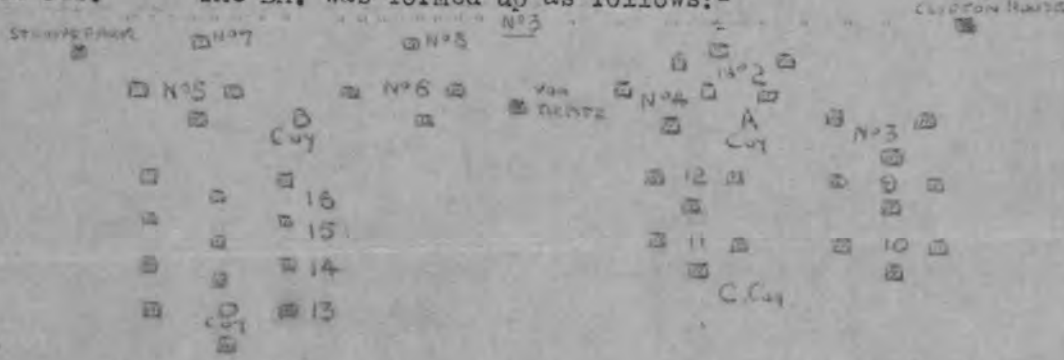
Map Ref: POELCAPPELLEGH/10,000.

Mon. 1st Oct. C.O, 2nd in Command, & Signal Officer went up to reconnoitre from VICTORIA HOUSE (re-named "P" HOUSE) D 7 b 31. 2nd in Command stayed up, Company Commanders & their 2nd in Commands joining him. The Objectives were observed as much as possible from O.P's and landmarks noted. At dusk these Officers went over their forming up ground & put in marking posts. All returned before dawn except 2nd in

Tue. 2nd Oct. Commands of Coys who stayed in the front line trenches all day returning at dusk. I Officer & 2 N.C.O's per Coy went up at dusk, reconnoitred the forming up position under 2nd in command. Signal Officer & Intelligence Officer laid directing tapes from JANET FARM to "P" HOUSE & from JANET FARM to ARBRE.

Wed. 3rd Oct. Signal Officer (Lieut. C.L. GORDON. Wounded) These Officers & N.C.O's stayed in the front line all day taking compass bearings etc., Forming up tapes laid out under 2nd in command (Capt. E. HOLT.) & Bn. in position by 11.30 p.m. with only one casualty.

Thur. 4th Oct. The Bn. was formed up as follows:-



The ~~enemy~~ ^{enemy} opened a heavy fire along our forming up line at twenty minutes before zero, & B. Coy suffered 7 casualties (O.R's) and I Officer before zero.

Right Company. (A. Coy.)

No. 1 platoon under 2/Lieut. W. SHADBOLT got to VALE HOUSE with only a few casualties & consolidated the flanks.

No. 2 platoon passed through No. 1, had some severe fighting around WINZIG took 30 prisoners & consolidated.

No. 3 & 4 platoons came through Nos. 1 & 2 but the NEW ZEALANDERS (I. AUCKLAND BN.) lost direction & pushed our men over to the left.

No. 3 platoon under 2/Lieut. A.F. FOREMAN got on to the high ground about D.2 central & consolidated with the I/6th R. War. R. on the left & the NEW ZEALANDERS on the right, he had about 10 men remaining.

No. 4 platoon after casualties from M.G. fire on the left reached D.2 c 7.1 & dug in.

About zero + 50 minutes heavy shelling of VALE HOUSE commenced almost wiping out No. 1 platoon, wounding the platoon Commander & killing or wounding all of the forward H.Q. which had just moved up there.

(Capt. E. HOLT. 2/Lieut. S.G. MINCHER, & 2/Lieut. W. SHADBOLT, wounded.)

B. Coy. (left front Company).

As soon as the leading platoons commenced moving forward heavy M.G. fire was opened from the front from about D.2 c 1.4 D.2 c 5.15 in all about 5 (light pattern) M.G.'s & many snipers. These places were eventually cleared up but the Coy. was only about 30 strong. Lieut. C.E. CARRINGTON with about 10 men worked across to D.2 central & consolidated there. The remainder of the Coy consolidated in the positions they had taken.

(2)

C. Coy. (right support Coy.)

Moved up at zero + 20 minutes & some of the leading men became somewhat involved in the fighting round WINZIG.

The pressure from the NEW ZEALANDERS on the right pushed the Coy. over & 2/Lieut. F.W. HALE with No. 9 platoon got to about D.2 central & consolidated just in rear of the NEW ZEALANDERS.

No. 10 & 11 lost direction & I found them about 9.15 a.m. about D.2 c 3.3. & sent them off in the direction of their objectives D.3 c 0.6 & D.3 c 2.8 but apparently they crossed the STROMBEEK about D.2 c 1.6. & working to the left consolidated behind the NEW ZEALANDERS about D.2 b 3.1.

D. Coy. (left support Coy.)

Moved up at zero + 20 minutes & soon lost all its Officers & 3 platoon Sergeants from shell fire & snipers who still held out about D.2 c 5.3.

The remains of 2 platoons I found about D.2 d 1.4 where they dug in close to the 2 M.G.'s of A. Section (Lt. WHYLE) the other 2 platoons were in shell holes when I arrived up about 9.30 a.m. & I ordered C.S.M. SCOTT to dig in along the line of the STROOMBEEK about D.2 c 5.5.

About 100 prisoners (wounded & unwounded) were taken by the Bn.

During the day Lieut. C.E. GARRINGTON was ordered to withdraw & form a support Coy. about ALBATROSS FARM. Also in the afternoon the NEW ZEALANDERS moved to the right, thereby leaving about 30 men of the I/5th R. War. R. under 2/Lieut. F.W. HALE & 2/Lieut. A.F. FOREMAN between D.2 central & WELLINGTON FARM. This thinning out was very necessary as there were too many men in the area & it was being heavily shelled.

About 4.45 p.m. 3 Coys. of the I/5th ~~Gloucesters~~ Gloucesters advanced to advance our line but although Capt. E.P.Q. CARTER & 2/Lieut. G.T. GAUNTLET directed them on our front the high ground around D.2 central & the fact of having to cross the stream diagonally if they kept in the right direction attracted them towards D 2 central where they dug in.

5th Oct./17.

Area round WINZIG - VALE HOUSE and valley of ~~STROOMBEEK~~ STROOMBEEK heavily shelled. At dusk relieved the New Zealanders who had come into our area by 3 Coys. with 1 Coy. in support about D2 a 1.4.

6th Oct/17.

A Coy. 1/4th Oxforas relieved A.C. & D companies in the front line.

B & C went back to the line. CLIFTON HOUSE, STROPPE FARM. A & D to the line ALBATROSS FARM D 2 c 55.

A Coy. 1/4th Oxforas advanced their outpost line about 100 yds. and sent out a patrol which located an enemy M.G. about D.2 b 7.8. & was fired on by rifles from about D.3 a 0.5.

7th Oct/17.

Heavy enemy shelling about 4.15 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. all along the valley of STROOMBEEK & about 100 yards to the N.E. of the stream also the area VALE HOUSE, WINZIG, & the high ground of the LANGEMARCK LINE.

The Bn. & A. Coy 1/4th Oxforas was relieved about 2.0 a.m. 8th October by two Coys. of I/4th Royal Berks.

<u>CASUALTIES.</u>	<u>Killed.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>	<u>Died of wounds.</u>	<u>Wounded at duty.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Officers.	3	-	8	-	10
O. Ranks.	55	9	6	7	254
TOTALS.	58	9	7	7	264

	<u>Wounded</u>
Officers.	8
O. Ranks.	177
Total.	185