



War Diaries
5th Canadian Siege Battery
Canadian Garrison Artillery

Originally Known as
165th Canadian Siege Battery
Canadian Garrison Artillery



Transcribed from Library and Archives Canada

By

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Edited

By

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As at 2 July 2020



***The 5th Canadian Siege Battery is proudly perpetuated by the Gunners of the
15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in Vancouver, B.C.***

Formed on 16th June 1916 from personnel of the Canadian Siege Artillery Depot, Horsham, mainly from 97th, 131st, 98th and 107th Canadian Siege Batteries. Designated 165th (Cdn) Siege Battery.

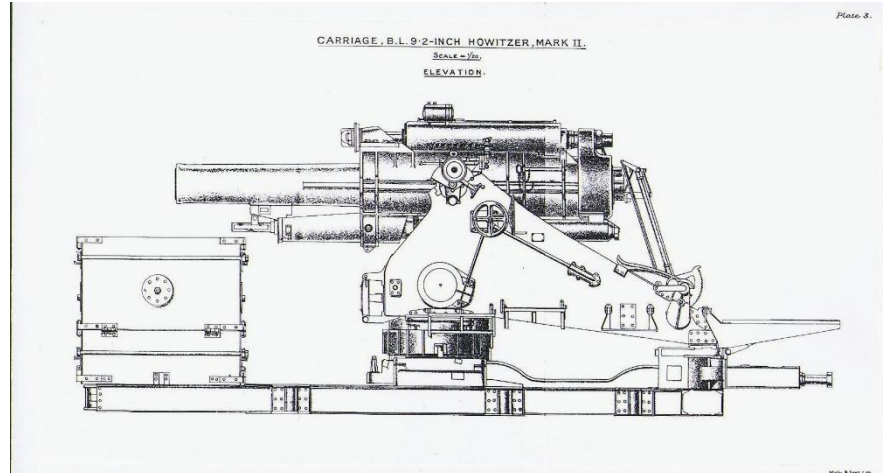
1916

Sep – No entries

21 Sep – Arrived in France

POIZIERS

Oct 8th - Opened fire on Roads and lines of approach at M14b 7.9 and the sides searched 50 yards each way. Firing was kept up nearly all day at slow rate and stopped at 7.35pm. (?)6 rounds being expended.



Oct 9th - Commenced registering with aeroplane observation at 8.15 am. Target being at M14b 7.8 24 Rounds were fired and we finished this task by 8.45 am. Lieut Palfreyman R. F. C. was the observing officer and stated the shoot was very satisfactory. At 2.25 pm. We opened fire on Regina Trench at M14b 7.8 at the rate of 3 Rounds per hour at irregular intervals.

Oct 10th - Commenced firing at 5.25 am. At the slow rate of 3 rounds per hour and continued to do so until we received orders from a plane to stand by for a shoot on target No 432. We went into action on this target but after firing one round the plane gave C I as it was too cloudy to observe. During the afternoon plane again called up and shoot was commenced on target in M14.6.7 7 rounds were expended on registration and 30 Rounds were then fired at the target with very good results. A slow bombardment was kept up during the evening, three rounds per minute at irregular intervals.

Oct 11th - 4.16 am. Commenced firing at steady rate of one round every two minutes which was kept up until 5.50 am. We had arranged to do a shoot to-day on German Battery situated at L25(?) 58.9(?) but plane did not turn up so shoot had to be abandoned. During afternoon and evening we were firing at slow rate until 6.15 pm.

Oct 12th - From 2.30 am. To 6 am. We were firing slow bombardment. At 8 am. We registered by aeroplane observation on Trench junction at M14b (??) after registering 200 rounds were fired on the trench running south east of this point keeping well within the safely limits of our own troops at M15a 4.5. We also registered visually on portions of Regina Trench and then fired 60 rounds for effect with very good results, several shells dropping into the trench. From 8 pm. To Midnight a slow bombardment was kept up on enemies trenches and approaches.

Oct 12th - At 6.32 am. We were to start registering by aeroplane observation but owing to low clouds and poor visibility this had to be abandoned.



At 10.35 am. We started a shoot on the trench south of Pys from M3a 11 eastwards and the REGINA TRENCH from M14b 7.8 to M14b 5.3. only 4 rounds were fired before Plane called and we continued the shoot by aeroplane observation after firing 10 rounds for registration we fired a total of 150 rounds with very good results.

During the afternoon we fired at intervals on BELOW TRENCH front and support lines and also on GALOWITZ TRENCH front and support lines.



Heavy guns being moved forward in France, Oct 1916. ((Library and Archives Canada Photo, MIKAN No. 3395191))

Oct 13th - At 10 am. We registered by visual observation on BELOW TRENCH and M8c 4.7. expending 13 Rds. During the morning we were firing on Junction of BELOW TRENCH and PRACTICE ROADS.

At 2.5 PM the 3rd Corp in conjunction with the 1(?)th and 1(?) Corp attached on a point adjoining the Canadian Corp Area and from Zero to 30 minutes we bombarded at steady rate the Southern and Eastern half of M14b 6.8 to 7.8. we then increased our rate of fire until we had completed 100 Rounds and then turned on to REGINA TRENCH down to M14b 2.3. and continued firing at steady rate. At 5.20 PM. We put in 20 minutes rapid on same target.

Oct 14th - During the morning we were again firing on REGINA TRENCH at slow rate. Capt. L. C. ORD the F.O.O. observing and keeping check on our firing. At 1.40PM we fired 100 Rounds into REGINA support trenches at M14b 1.4 to 4.8. During the afternoon we fired 75 Rounds at slow rate into these trenches and then increased to steady rate until 4.30PM. firing 233 Rounds. Observation was very difficult owing to poor visibility but despite things very good work was done.

Oct 15th - The day was very stormy one and very little work could be done. A very high wind increasing at times to a gale was accompanied by violent squalls of rain changing later to snow which made observation impossible. There was no firing today.

Oct 16th - NIL



Oct 17th - 120 Rounds were fired today as intermittent and harassing fire, mostly on REGINA front line and GALOWITZ TRENCH. Hostile shelling was particularly heavy during the early part of the day and it was noticed that the enemy was using a new type of shell. A green light was observed to become detached from these shells about 150 yards before reaching the point of contact. These would have been plainly visible from the German trenches. It was thought that this was a new experiment for observing fire.

Oct 18th - The day was again taken up by intermittent and harassing fire on BELOW, GALOWITZ trenches and supports. And there was nothing unusual to report.

Oct 19th - Intermittent and Harassing Fire was kept up during the morning on Crest Trench and Below front. And during the afternoon 75 Rounds were fired on BELOW TRENCH.

Oct 20th - NIL

Oct 21st - 396 Rounds were fired today, mostly by visual observation. BELOW TRENCH, BELOW SUPPORT LINES and Crest Trench. Twice during the day we attempted shoots with aeroplane observation but both times had to discontinue. At 3PM. German re-enforcements were seen emerging from PYS near Summer House we immediately opened up on them and after firing 10 Rounds they dispersed. During the night we fired 100 Rounds at slow rate on CREST TRENCH and westerly.

Oct 22nd - At 8.30AM. we fired 25 rounds with aeroplane observation on Target 420 (Hostile Battery) the results were very good. 2 OK's being registered. After getting good registration the plane gave C.I. and we fired a further 75 Rounds on the Battery without observation. 436 Rounds were fired during the day on PYS, IRLES and MIRAMONT.



1- Battery location Pozieres / 4 – Beaumont Hamel Monument

Oct 23rd – NIL

Oct 24th - Raining heavily and very heavy mist hung about all day, it was impossible to see any targets and consequently there was no firing.

Oct 25th - We were engaged all day on Counter Battery Work, taking on three Hostile Batteries numbered F2, F3 and F14. During the afternoon we put 8 Rounds at intervals into each of these batteries.

Oct 26th - NIL

Oct 27th - NIL

Oct 28th - Fired 200 Rounds on REGINA TRENCH from Practice Road to its junction with BELOW at fairly regular intervals throughout the day. This was done by visual observation.



Oct 29th - Yesterdays program was repeated and opening rounds were observed by aeroplane observation.



The uniform worn by Bombardier Harold Poyser. The metallic 5 on the epaulette for the battery designation followed by CGA for Canadian Garrison Artillery. On the sleeve is the rectangular red patch indicating the 2nd Brigade over the Canadian Corps Heavy Artillery (CCHA) with the Lance Bombardier chevron underneath and the three service stripes at the bottom. The lapel features the Universal Grenade despite the fact that the Canadian Artillery adopted a more stylized grenade with Canada underneath in 1907. This uniform is owned by the Bowden Pioneer Museum, Alberta. Photo – Dale Lenting

Oct 30th - Fired at intervals throughout the day on REGINA trench but as visibility was very poor the shoot was unsatisfactory. A southerly gale blowing all afternoon and heavy squalls made observation impossible.

Oct 31st - Fired 12 Rounds on concentrated shoot on orders from the group. Nothing unusual occurred today.

Nov 1st - During the day we fired 100 Rounds by visual observation on REGINA TRENCH at M14a 0.3 t Practice Roads. The shoot was observed by Major Maxwell and was very satisfactory.

Nov 2nd - To-day's task was a repetition of yesterday and we again shot up portions of Regina Trench by visual observation.

Nov 3rd - There was no task for us today. But stood by all day to answer Zone calls. During the night we kept up a slow rate of fire on GRND COURT TRENCH, COULEC and BELOW TRENCH.

Nov 4th - NIL

Nov 5th - No Firing during the day but during the hours of darkness slow rate fire was kept up on Line 100 North of GRAND COURT TRENCH and COULEE TRENCH

Nov 6th - NIL

Nov 7th - NIL

Nov 8th - NIL



Nov 9th - From 2 PM. To 4 PM. We conducted a shoot by aeroplane observation on Target No 464 (Hostile Battery) This shoot was unsatisfactory on account of very poor visibility and heavy clouds.

Nov 10th - Aeroplane went up again today to finish shoot on Target No 464 which was completed satisfactorily

Nov 11th - At 5.30AM. we fired 24 Rounds on BELOW TRENCH at M8d P.E to M8c 5.7 and then switched to M8c 5.7 to M8a 0.1 to M8a 3.2. 54 Rounds being fired on these targets. At 7.50AM. plane went up to observe shoot on Target No 416 (Hostile Battery) but after 6 Rounds had been fired Plane gave CI on account of clouds and shoot had to be abandoned. During the morning we put over 6 Rounds on this target for effect without observation.

During the afternoon we fired 75 Rounds on BELOW TRENCH from M8d 0.3 to M8a 0.1

Nov 12th - From 5.30 AM. We fired 85 Rounds in to BELOW TRENCH and BELOW SUPPORT LINES and harassing Fire was kept up all morning. During the afternoon two concentrated shoots were carried out on Hostile Batteries No 465 and 496. There was no firing during the night.

Nov 13th - Starting at 5.30AM. we had a full days firing, no less than 10 Hostile Batteries being engaged by us. These were numbered 500, 525, 514, 451, 146, 145, 475, 414, 418, 465. A total of 326 Rounds being fired into these batteries. 24 Rounds were fired between 2PM. And 5PM. On MIRAMONT and MIRAMONT QUARRUIE. During the evening in answer to an S.O.S. call we fired on (??) to Moc2.6 First 20 rounds rapid and then dropping to 30 Rounds at slow rate. Hostile shelling was very heavy at times eight men being badly wounded and several slightly. Two men were killed.

Nov 14th - NIL

Nov 15th - During the day four Hostile Batteries were taken on for neutralization and firing was kept up continuously all day. Hostile shelling was again very heavy, the enemy coming back on our position with heavy bursts of shrapnel and H. E. We lost Four men wounded, one of which died on the way to Hospital. There was no firing during the night.

Nov 16th - 11.33AM. Plane went up and registered on target No 416 (Hostile Battery) This shoot was very satisfactory. Several direct hits being made whilst registering. Plane gave CI after registration and we then fired a further 28 Rounds for effect. During the afternoon 12 Rounds Neutralization Fire was put over on target No 519.

Nov 17th - During the day a continuous bombardment was kept up on several Hostile Batteries. A total of 249 Rounds being fired.

Nov 18th - at 6.50AM. we put up a protective barrage and at 8.30AM. we went back to our Counter Battery work which consisted of the same targets as yesterday. At 4.15PM. we received orders for all Batteries to cease fire on counter batteries, but this was again resumed at 9.30PM. and a slow rate of fire was kept up all night on selected targets.

Nov 19th - A plane shoot was arranged for today but had to be abandoned owing to poor visibility.

Nov 20th - Six Hostile Batteries were taken on today. Neutralization and harassing fire being kept up on them all morning, the Batteries were numbered 496, 523, 493 498, 494. A registration shoot of 16



rounds was fired on Target No 540 by aerial observation. Shoot was satisfactory and very good registration was obtained.

Nov 21st - Very little counter battery work was done today, good observation being almost impossible owing to very bad weather and poor visibility. During the afternoon 200 Rounds were fired on trenches and supports.

Nov 22nd - NIL

Nov 23rd - Very little work was done today, 18 Rounds were put into Hostile Battery No 149, and later in the day 6 Rounds were fired into Hostile Battery No 150.

Nov 24th - From (?)AM. To 8.40AM, 36 Rounds were fired on Hostile Batteries. Major Maxwell was seriously burned on face and hands as the result of an explosion of N.C.T. He was taken to Hospital and Lieut D. J. Maxwell took command of the Battery.

Nov 25th - NIL

Nov 26th - During the afternoon we fired 60 Rounds on Communication Trench (?)12c 1.9 to GRANDCOURT TRENCH and then up and down SUNKEN ROAD in R12a between R12c 1.9 and CREST TRENCH. This was done with ground observation.

Nov 27th - Only 4 Rounds were fired today on concentrated shoot on Target No 150.

Nov 28th - NIL

Nov 29th - At 4.40PM we opened up a bombardment on MIRAMONT in L5.5c and continued for half an hour at steady rate. Harassing fire was kept up during the night on selected targets.

Nov 30th - Very little firing was done today. 12 Rounds were fired on targets Nos 150 & 149 (Hostile Batteries. “?” Gun was taken out and new firing beams laid and Gun re-mounted . Six men of the 175th Tunnelling Company were attached to us today for the purpose of building Dug-outs.

Dec 1st - NIL

Dec 2nd - Only 10 Rounds on concentrated shoot were fired today. Nothing unusual occurred.

Dec 3rd - For the purpose of counter Battery work one more Hostile Battery Numbered 151 was added to our program. There was no firing today.

Dec 4th - A machine of the 7th Squadron R.F.C. went up to observe for us at 7.20AM. on hostile Battery No 416 but gave C I Clouds before any rounds were fired. Plane went up again at 1.45PM. but again gave C I Clouds after 13 Rounds had been fired. And shoot had to be discontinued.

Dec 5th - We took on Four Hostile Batteries for counter Battery work today. Six Rounds from each gun being fired on each target. These were numbered 524, 144, 145, 146. Received orders today that we are to pull out at 8.00AM on the 7th.



Dec 6th - Battery went out of action today preparing to move.

Dec 7th - Battery left Pozieres at 8 AM. and proceeded by road to TOUTENCOURT which was reached at 2 PM. The men went into a rest camp here and guns arrived later in the evening.

Dec 8th - Battery resting

Dec 9th - Battery left TOUTENCOURT at 7AM. And proceeded to SAVY BERLETTE, which was reached at 7PM. Men went into billets here.

Dec 10th - Resting and awaiting the guns.

Dec 11th - Two of our guns arrived today.

Dec 12th - Men were transferred to Huts in village of ECROIVES.

Mt. St Eley

Dec 13th - Remaining two guns arrived today. Officers quarters were taken in Mt. S. Eley and a room fitted up for orderly room. Lieut. D. A. Guilford joined Battery.

Dec 14th to 16th - Preparing positions for guns. On night of 16th Two guns were put in and got ready for firing in the morning.

Dec 17th - The day opened up very foggy and later in the day increased. It was too foggy to observe and guns could not be registered.

Dec 18th - Started firing about 10.30AM. on A16d 8.6 and up trench 200 yards. On account of very poor visibility the registration was not satisfactory.

Dec 19th - Visibility was better today and we were able to get good registration with two guns in action.

Dec 20th - A broken cam in breech mechanism of "D" gun put that gun out of action for the day. A cam was taken from one of the other guns and "D" gun put back in action.

Dec 21st - Working on new gun positions at 'SOX' which is to be out permanent position. New dugouts were also being built and Lieuts May and Maxwell scouted for an Observation post. A good O.P. was found in (??) a 3.4 in an Estaminet(sic) but we were advised by the Adjutant to find a new one as this was already overcrowded. "B" and "C" Guns are new out of the shops and parked at (??).

Dec 22nd - No firing but working on new positions.

Dec 23rd - We were all ready to open fire today but weather was too bad to observe. Heavy rains and high winds increasing at times to gale force prevented any work being done. "B" Gun was however put into position during the night.



1- Pozieres 2- Toutencourt, 4 – Beaumont Hamel Monument, 15 - Albert Communal Cemetery Extension, 22-Pozieres British Cemetery, 23 - Sucrerie Military Cemetery



Dec 24th - Fired today on THELUS MILL for registration from new O.P. which was named 'Coalbox'. Observation was good and satisfactory registration was obtained. Remaining gun was put into position during the night.

Dec 25th - Received message stating that no action will be taken today by C.C. H. A. except in retaliation which would then be very severe. All Guns were kept laid on night lines in readiness.

Dec 26th to 28th - NIL

Dec 29th - Officers moved to new quarters in old Chateau.

Dec 30th - Prepared to remove two guns from position at Carbolic to new position at SOX.

Dec 31st - Preparing positions at Sox for the two guns removed from Carbolic.

1917

Jan 1st - NIL

Jan 2nd - "A" Gun was put into new position at SOX

Jan 3rd - NIL

Jan 4th - "D" Gun was put into new position at SOX

Jan 5th - At 11.30AM. started a double line shoot on THELUS MILL at A6c 55.95 for registration of No 1 Gun, the result being very satisfactory. At Noon we fired 15 Rounds on the same target to test the difference in range between Gas Check and flat band type of shell. During the afternoon a registration was carried out on La Folie Farm in S2.9a 4.4. Excellent registration was obtained and four direct hits observed.

Jan 6th - During the morning we fired 100 rounds Bombardment on trenches A5a 40.25. In the early morning observation was impossible owing to poor visibility but it cleared up later and the general effort was observed to be very satisfactory.

Jan 7th- NIL

Jan 8th - Fired 6 Rounds on THELUS MILL for Line and in the afternoon fired 10 Rounds on La Folie Farm for registration.

Jan 9th - Fired 16 rounds on La Folie in the morning. Observed by Lieut Fraser and very satisfactory several shells being observed to fall in the building. In the



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afternoon we fired 30 Rounds on Trench Junction at S28b 75.80. Shoot very satisfactory.

Jan 10th - Fired at THELUS MILL to check error of day. During the afternoon fired 41 Rounds on Trench Junction A17b 5.7 several OK's and shoot very satisfactory.

Jan 11th - Heavy snow and mist prevented any shooting by observation today.

Jan 12th - Fired on A5a 5.5 to A5b 1.5 Visibility very poor, had to cease fire after 8 Rounds.

Jan 13th - NIL

Jan 14th - The day opened up very misty with occasional snow flurries making observation very difficult. A shoot was attempted on A11b 2.6 but had to be abandoned after only 4 Rounds had been fired as it was found impossible to observe.

Jan 15th - During the morning we fired 11 Rounds on Trench junction at A11d 64.27 to correct error of day. 11 Rounds were fired during the afternoon, bombardment on A23a 48.85.

Jan 16th - On account of the heavy fall of snow extra precautions had to be taken to conceal our position. New camouflage was rigged made of calico fastened on wire. No shooting was done today.

Jan 17th - NIL

Jan 18th -NIL

Jan 19th - During the morning we fired salvos from two guns on a Hostile Battalion Headquarters situated at S29a 05.00. Capt L. C. Ord observed these from a front line O.P. and very good results were obtained. 15 Rounds were also put over on Trench Junction in S28b 6.7. After which salvos were fired at intervals during the evening.

Jan 20th - Capt L. C. Ord again observed a shoot on Enemies' Battalion H.Q. 14 Rounds were fired with satisfactory results. During the afternoon 22 Rounds were fired on trench junction at S28b 63.70.

Jan 21st - 24 Rounds were fired in Trench Junction at S29c 2.6. This was a very good shoot, 6 Rounds were seen to fall in the trench. During the afternoon salvos were fired on T13d 50.45 and T20c 10.60. Salvos were also fired on these targets at intervals during the evening.

Jan 22nd - Fired 38 Rounds by ground observation on target in A5c 41.52. Shoot observed by Lieut Fraser and was very satisfactory, after this shoot we switched to A5a 4.2 and fired 10 Rounds which started a fire amongst some material in the trench.

Jan 23rd - Early in the morning we fired 4 Rounds on VIMY STATION for effect (T20c 13.60). Plane went up to observe for us on target in T13d 39.95, this was the first time a plane had observed for us since coming on this front, and was not successful. No correction was given for the first shot and only two



corrections followed for the next four rounds, these being most erratic, the plane was therefore given C I and the shoot postponed.

During the afternoon we fired 35 Rounds by ground observation on A11a 7.3. This was very satisfactory, three rounds were seen to fall in the trench and three direct hits were observed on dug-outs in the trench junction.

Jan 24th - At 11.10AM. Plane went up to observe for us on Hostile Battery No 618 in T13b 44.05. 40 Rounds were fired with very good results, plant reporting several OK's. During the afternoon we fired several rounds on this target for effect.

Jan 25th - Started shoot on (?)24c 72.32 by aeroplane observation but again had considerable trouble. 17 Rounds were fired, only 4 of which were observed. The Guns were carefully checked and fuses changed but plane could not get our shots. At 11.30AM. started shoot by ground observation on trenches from S29c 2.6 to S29c 4.6. This was a very effective shoot, a considerable number of rounds being seen to fall into the trench. From 1.0PM. to 3.0PM, we fired 150 Rounds without observation on a triangle of trenches at A16d 4.5 to 4.6. We were complimented on the effectiveness of this shoot by the infantry. During the afternoon we fired 40 Rounds without observation on DUMP AVENUE TRENCH in S29c 7.0 to S29d 2.0 and 50 Rounds on trenches in A5b 0.6

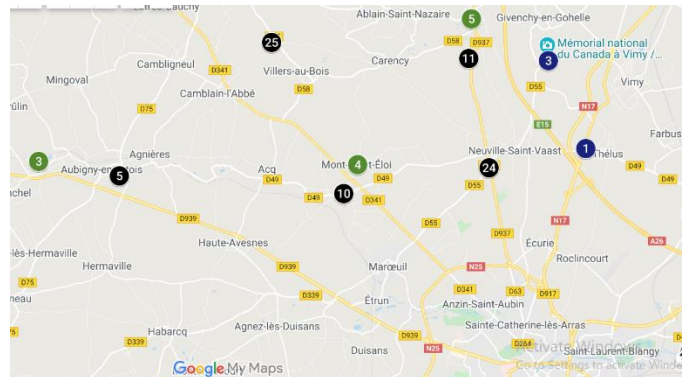
Jan 26th - 2.30PM. - Aeroplane went up and registered us on Hostile Battery No 637 in S24c 74.32, after we had registered 100 Rounds were put over with very good results. Plane gave mostly Y's and Z's and server O.K's.

Jan 27th - 40 Rounds were fired on Artillery Commanders Post is S18d 39.75 and track Junction in S18d 4.6. At 10.30AM, aeroplane attempted to register us on Trench Junction in A 11d 63.26 but was not successful and shoot had to be abandoned after firing 9 Rounds.

11.30AM to 11.50AM opened up bombardment at slow rate on S29a 05.00 and S28b 6.7. Fired for effect without observation. At 2.45PM. commenced shoot by aeroplane observation on Hostile Battery No 634 in S18c 9.3. Fired 141 Rounds with very satisfactory results. Plane reported a number of Y's, Z's, and OK's.

Jan 28th - Enemy shelled Mont St Eloy during the morning and orders were received from the adjutant to retaliate at the rate two shells to each one of the enemy's. We fired 20 Rounds on Farbus and 20 Rounds on the town of VIMY, cease fire was given at 10.55AM.

Jan 29th - 11.05AM - started shoot by aeroplane observation on Hostile Battery no 648 in B2d 4.2. Shoot was again unsatisfactory, only one correction given for 11 Rounds. Plane was then given C I. From 11.15AM to 12.10AM fired 25 Rounds on



3- Savy Berlette 4- Mont St Eloi, 5 – Souchez, 3 – Vimy Ridge, 1 – Thelus Canadian Artillery monument, 10 – Ecoivres Cemetery 11-Cabaret Rouge Cemetery, 24 – La Targette Cemetery, 25 – Villers Station Cemetery



Trench Junction in S29c 2.6. This was observed by Lieut F. R. May and was very satisfactory.

Jan 30th - Fired 47 Rounds registration shoot on S29c 2.6. Registration satisfactory. At 2.50PM. started shoot on Hostile Battery in B1a 15.45. Fired 23 Rounds, plane reported one pit hit and badly damaged. In the meantime Hostile Battery No 657 in B14b 74.10 had become very active plane switched us on to this target. One of our shells fell just behind centre Gun Pit and exploded some of the enemy's ammunition. As this gun was working at the time it is probably that some of his gunners were hit. The battery at once ceased fire and plane shortly after gave CI on account of clouds.

Feb 1st - NIL

Feb 2nd - NIL

Feb 3rd - NIL

Feb 4th - At 1.10PM. commenced shoot by aeroplane observation on Hostile Battery No 636 at T19c 20.75. 80 Rounds were fired on this target with very good results, plane reporting several Y's, Z's and OK's. After the (??)th Round our plane was attacked by an enemy plane and a hot fight ensued in which the observer in our plane was severely wounded and brought down. The shoot was consequently abandoned.

Feb 5th - During the afternoon we started a shoot by aeroplane observation on Hostile Battery No 644 in B1a 41.07. but as plane was driven off by hostile planes. Shoot again had to be stopped.

Feb 6th - NIL

Feb 7th - During the morning we carried on with a shoot by aeroplane observation on Hostile Battery No 644 in B1a 41.07. We fired 34 Rounds for registration and effect, with very satisfactory results. From 1.15PM to 3.30PM fired 67 Rounds on Trench Mortars in S28d 40.30. Observed by F.O.O. At 3PM, we started a shoot on Hostile Battery No 670 in B1d 35.52. Had only fired 3 Rounds when we received urgent message from R.F.C. to send plane in as it was required for other work.

Feb 8th - A shoot this morning by aeroplane observation was very unsatisfactory owing to our wireless gear being out of order. 34 Rounds were fired on target which was a Hostile Battery in B1d 35.52.

Feb 9th - An aeroplane shoot carried out at Midday was very satisfactory. The target being Hostile Battery No 644 in B1a 41.07. Plane reported several OK's, Y's, and Z's. During the afternoon we fired 32 Rounds for calibration of bands and error of day on THELUS MILL, using double line observation.

Feb 10th - NIL

Feb 11th - NIL

Feb 12th - Fired 21 Rounds on Trench Junction at S28d 63.70 by ground observation, results were very satisfactory, several rounds being seen to drop into the trench, others were very near.



Feb 13th - From 4.AM. to 5AM. We fired on three Hostile Batteries Numbered respectively 634, 604 and 615 in S18c 9.3. S18d 15.90 and S18a 1.2. 115 Rounds being fired on these targets. During the morning we received a request from the 7th Infantry Brigade to open fire on Trench Junction, Switches and Artillery Ways in S22d 45.55. 40 Rounds being fired.

Feb 14th - At noon we started an aeroplane shoot on Trench Mortars at S 28b 23.25, shoot very unsatisfactory as we again had considerable trouble with the wireless installation and only received one correction for 8 rounds fired.

Feb 15th - NIL

Feb 16th - At 3AM, we went into action against Hostile Batteries No's 615, 618 and 628. Fired 5 Rounds on each target. At 4AM, we received orders from Adjutant to fire 5 more rounds on H.B. No 615 which was done, firing at 3 minute intervals. During the day 10 Rounds were fired on FARBUS and VIMY at request of group.

Feb 17th - NIL

Feb 18th - Officers quarters moved up to Battery position. Major Maxwell died at 7.20PM this evening.

Feb 19th - Major Maxwell was buried at 3PM today, all officers except Lieut R. A. Fraser attended, also 75 OR's.

Feb 20th - NIL

Feb 21st - NIL

Feb 22nd - Engaged in shifting Guns for new arc of fire. During the evening 5 rounds each were fired on Hostile Batteries No's 615 and 671 in S18a 10.20 and S23c 68.78

Feb 23rd - NIL

Feb 24th - One Gun was put back into new position during the evening, but line was not laid out.

Feb 25th - Gun ready for action at 10.30AM and started to take down other guns.

Feb 26th - Lieut L. H. Gass reported to H.Q. 54th Batt. As liaison officer in connection with C.B.

Feb 27th - At noon commenced shoot by aeroplane observation on Trench Mortars in S23b 23.25, fired 2 Rounds which were unobserved, plane then gave C.I. on account of mist and clouds.

Feb 28th - NIL

Mar 1st - At 3.15AM. opened fire on Hostile Batteries No 628, 615, and 562 in S18b 05.15, S18a 10.20 and S12d 56.15. Thirty Rounds being fired on each target. From 5.AM to 8.AM 229 Rounds were fired on the above targets, and 80 Rounds were expended in cutting cable in S29a 95.05. During the afternoon



we registered by aeroplane on Trench Mortars in S28b 23.25 and S28b 28.28 shoot was very successful, plane reporting several A's and Z's and three OK's.

Mar 2nd - NIL

Mar 3rd- NIL

Mar 4th - Started at noon on shoot by aeroplane observation on H.B. No 635 in S24b 14.92, the target bracketed but plane gave C I after 8 Rounds. Started again on same target at 2.15PM. by aeroplane observation, shoot very successful, plane reporting 3 OK's, several Y's and Z's. Plane was attacked by hostile aeroplane and during the fight that followed our plane had its wireless aerial shot away so could do no more registering for us. We therefore fired the remaining 38 Rounds without observation. 105 Rounds in all were fired on this target.

Mar 5th - NIL

Mar 6th - From 8.30AM to 9.45AM conducted a very satisfactory shoot by aeroplane observation on Trench Mortars in S28b 28.28 and S28b 23.25. Plane reporting 5 OK's and several A's, Y's, and Z's. One round at c(?) caused the explosion of a quantity of ammunition. The airman later reported that the target was completely destroyed.

Mar 7th - NIL

Mar 8th - NIL

Mar 9th - During the day we fired 44 rounds on Taelus Mill which was observed by F.O.O. from Hilltop OP. Capt L. C. Ord left battery on special leave to England.

Mar 10th - NIL

Mar 11th - 11.20AM to 1.40PM. we fired aerial observation 87 Rounds on Hostile Battery No 553 at S6c 75.70. Plane reported 2 OK's and several Y's, Z's, and A's. Shoot was very satisfactory. At 11AM we fired 16 rounds on a crater D62 in S15d 6.2 for registration. From 2.PM to 2.15PM at the request of Major Keith of the 11th Infantry Brigade we fired 40 Rounds on Railhead, Trench Mortar Ammunition dump and Dugouts in S16d 70.15. This was done without observation but to the satisfaction of the infantry. During the afternoon a plane attempted to register us on Hostile Battery No 555 in S6b 00.05 but without success. Plane gave CI after 4 Rounds all of which were unobserved.

Mar 12th - During the day we fired 22 Rounds on Crater D62 at S15d 6.2 and on Trench Mortars in rear of crater to check error of the day, this was done by ground observation.

Mar 13th - NIL

Mar 14th - NIL



Mar 15th -An attempt to conduct a shoot by aeroplane observation during the afternoon had to be abandoned on account of bad visibility, our target being Trench Junction at S15b 16.43. Only 6 Rounds were fired. From 3.30PM to 4.15PM we fired 50 Rounds for effect without observation on S16c 11.

Mar 16th - In compliance with Counter Battery Order we fired during the early hours of the morning, 45 Rounds on three Hostile Batteries in S6c 15.85, S6a 90.05 and S11b 35.41. From 3.40PM to 4.20PM fired 20 rounds on Ecole Commune in S23c 03.30 to calibrate new line.

Mar 17th - 3.53PM to 5.12PM fired 62 Rounds by aerial observation on Hostile Battery at S6b 00.05. Shoot was unsatisfactory.

Mar 18th - 2.15PM to 3.45PM we fired 80 Rounds on Trench Mortar in S3a 17.64. This was observed by F.B.O. and was very satisfactory. 4 direct hits being obtained and 19 Rounds in Trench destroying it for 50 yards on(of) each side on the trench mortar.

Mar 19th - NIL

Mar 20th - NIL

Mar 21st- During the afternoon we fired 44 Rounds on trenches in S17c 8.4 without observation

Mar 22nd - At noon we fired 30 Rounds on Crater D62 in S16d 6.2 double line calibration shoot. We intended afterwards to switch to a point behind Vimy Ridge, but shoot was unsatisfactory on account of poor visibility. 2.30PM to 3PM. Fired 16 rounds on Ecole Commune in S23c 03.30. This was for calibrating 3rd charge in preparation for shoot on Ammunition dump. A very good registration being obtained. At 4.PM we fired 30 Rounds on an Ammunition dump at S30a 6.3 without observation.

Mar 23rd - During the evening we fired 50 Rounds at slow rate on Hostile Battery at B1d 37.50. No observation.

Mar 24th - At 4.30AM. in compliance with counter battery orders we fired 30 Rounds on Hostile Batteries in S24b 10.90, A6b 85.70 and B1d 05.60. Ten Rounds being fired on each battery. At 9.55AM, we started shoot on Hostile Battery No 826 by aeroplane observation. This was not successful and after firing 37 Rounds 27 of which were unobserved. The shoot was abandoned and plane given C I. During the afternoon we again tried by aeroplane observation to conduct a shoot on Hostile Battery No B21 at B2c 15.75. but was again unsuccessful. After 14 Rounds had been fired, plane gave C I on account of heavy mist.

Mar 25th - During the morning we fired 100 Rounds on Ecole Commune in S23c 25.30 for calibration of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Charges. Results were very satisfactory. In the afternoon we conducted a shoot on Hostile Battery S15 in S6a 90.05 using both aeroplane and balloon for observing. The shoot was successful. Plane reporting a good many corrections but balloon only observed 4 Rounds out of 12 Rounds fired. A total of 49 Rounds were fired on this target. Later in the afternoon we fired 101 Rounds



without observation on this target for effect. From 5.30PM to 6.30PM we fired 56 Rounds on a machine Gun emplacement in S23b 85.65 3 direct hits were obtained and a quantity of Elephant Iron and other material were thrown up.

Mar 26th - During the afternoon we fired 144 Rounds on a machine gun emplacement in S28b 85.65 which was very satisfactory, 8 OK's were obtained and a number of rounds fell in Swischen Stelling. 7.30Pm to 8.10PM. fired 100 rounds on Hostile Battery T56 at T18c 20.75 no observation.

Mar 27th - During the afternoon we fired 40 Rounds on Trench Junction in S22b 22.80, S22b 18.90 and S3c 65.85. During the evening 30 Rounds were fired on hostile battery (?)21 at B2c 18.74. Both these shoot were carried out without observation.

Mar 28th - An aeroplane shoot on trench junctions in S15a 83.72 and S9c 91.05 during the morning was unsuccessful. 8 rounds were fired all of which were unobserved. At noon we fired 10 rounds on Thelus Mill to check error of day. During the afternoon we registered on Crater D62 at S16d 6.2, fired 22 Rounds and obtained very good registration and then switched to Trench Junction S15a 83.72 to S9c 97.95 and fired 100 rounds. Shoot very satisfactory.

Mar 29th - 11.30AM to 1.12PM after registering on crater D62, switched and fired 100 rounds on S22a 10.50 and S22a 2032. Very good shooting and much light material was seen to be thrown up. During the afternoon we fired 100 Rounds on machine gun emplacement in S15d 90.10 by ground observation. Obtained one direct hit on the emplacement but it was not demolished. 6.30PM to 7.PM we fired 80 Rounds on Hostile Battery S53 in S18d 15.85 without observation.

Mar 30th - 5.55PM to 6.15PM. fired without observation 100 rounds on S16c 3.8 to S16c 5.5 and during the evening 100 Rounds without observation on Hostile Battery T60 at T15d 15.95

Mar 31st - Fired continuously throughout the day on various targets in support of a raid by our infantry. Our first targets being trenches in S15a 85.75 to S15d 30.85 which was observed by our F.O.O. Several rounds were seen to fall in the trench. We then switched to S15a 85.75 and S15d 30.85. Firing 70 Rounds and then turned back to the first target. At 10.30AM we fired 82 Rounds on Hostile Battery at S16c 15.85 and H.B. at S6a 30.15

Apr 1st to 15th requires transcription

Apr 16th - Enemy entirely out of range.

Apr 17th – Started taking down guns to remove to a new position.

Apr 18th – Capt L.C. Ord and Lieut D.J. Maxwell with two N.C.O.s went to SOUCHEZ to locate new positions

One Gun was moved up in the afternoon and another in the evening, Lieut F.R. May and a gun's crew went forward in the morning to man a captured 8" gun.



Apr 19th – The two guns moved into SOUCHEZ were put into position during the night ready to fire in the morning.

Apr 20th - Capt L.C. Ord and Lieut F.R. May in charge of section at Souchez, fired 3 Rounds from this position

Souchez

Apr 21st – Lieut D.J. Maxwell and Lieut D.J. Guildford took charge of new section and Capt L.C. Ord went to locate new position at Mew Boyer. 150 Rounds were fired on Hostile Battery T20 at T13a 4.6 by aeroplane observation. Target was bracketed after 14th round and plane gave C I we then fired 135 Rounds for effect. Enemy came back at us with an intense bombardment in which we lost 2 Killed and 7 Men wounded.

Apr 22nd to 30th - This position was shelled every day at frequent intervals, the enemy had direct observation by balloon and the visibility was extremely good. On 24th we lost seven men wounded three subsequently dying. The following day three men were wounded enemy shelled position very heavily destroying quantities of shells, cartridges, gun stores and equipment,. It was then decided by H.Q. that this section should not do any firing except in case of emergency, detachments were therefore withdrawn to cover and kept clear of the guns unless ordered to shoot. The enemy continued to shell position each day but we had no more casualties.

May 1st – Nil

May 2nd – Nil

May 3rd – Nil

May 4th – From 12 Noon to 12.45 P.M. we fired 17 Rounds on T3a 3.8 to check error of day. At 1.45 p.m. started a shoot on Machine Gun Emplacement in T1b 1.3 ½ . This shoot was observed by F.O.O. Lieut. May 100 Rounds were fired, F.O.O. reporting 4 O.K's and emplacement totally destroyed. At 5.30. p.m. a plane registered us on a Telephone exchange near Cross Roads at M33c 7.5, 16 Rds were fired for registration and 160 Rounds were then fired for effect. Registration was very good. A Concentrated shoot of 10 Rounds on N27c 8.1 was fired at 8.20.p.m.

May 5th – At 11.40.a.m. we registered 2 Guns on Trench Junction, Embankment and Road in N33c 97.90 by ground observation. 216 Rounds were fired in the afternoon on trenches in M36d 4.7 to 3.9 and M36d 5.8 to 5.0. many rounds were seen to fall into the trench and shoot was very satisfactory. During the evening 58 Rounds were fired on LA CHAUDIERE in N31c 45.10 to 80.45, this was again repeated at 10.15.p.m.

May 6th – At 3.30.a.m we received an S.O.S. call and fired 15 Rounds on N31b 4.2. No 3 Gun was registered during the morning on T3a 3.8 observed by F.O.O. 16 Rounds were also fired into AVION at



T3aO.9. to T3a 3.9 there were 6 O.K's on Houses. During the afternoon we fired 116 rounds on LA COULOTTE West of Arras Road in N31c (Communication trench).

May 7th – At 10.45 a.m. we started shoot on trench in N31c 10 to T1a 6.6 ½ , F.O.O. observation, shoot was very satisfactory, many O.K.s reported in trench. At 3.15 p.m. commenced shoot M 31 a and b. Capt L.C. Ord was the observing officer and noticed Hostile troops preparing for an attack upon our positions. We immediately ordered guns to be switched and 80 Rounds were fired into the massing troops. This Battery received the credit for breaking up first wave of the attack, the following letter being received from Major General Commanding 4th Canadian Division.

Canadian Corps 4th Division, No 4 Double Group

The enemy attempted to attack on 19th Canadian Infantry Brigade front from two directions yesterday the 7th May

The first report of any attack came from No 4 Double Group Heavy Artillery, who reported that about 3.p.m. the Germans about a Battalion in strength were forming on the LENS-ARRAS Road east of the Brewery, and that they appeared to be coming from ELEU-DIT-LEAVETTE. (Left attack) A 9.2" engaged with them and dispersed them up to the road and back towards AVION, some however getting close in to the Railway Embankment south of the Brewery. A Brigade of Field Artillery was then put on to this area and remained firing for some hours. Isolated parties of the enemy were still trying to hide along the LENS-ARRAS Road and being shelled from cover to cover. About two strong platoons advanced against the right Battalion (44th) of the 10th Canadian Infantry Brigade. The rear lines being caught in the 18 pdr barrage and wiped out. The front lines were dispersed or wiped out by M.G. or Rifle fire never getting closer than 150 yards. About 3.30.p.m. bodies of the enemy evidently from a separate unit debouched from ELEU-DIT-LEAUVETTE moving over the open towards the ELECTRIC POWER STATION, with their right on the SOUCHEZ RIVER. These bodies were caught by our 18 pdr barrage and that of the 46 Div. Some of them reached the nest of trenches round the power station. A portion of the enemy attempted to advance against the Left Battalion from CALLOUS TRENCH but were driven back or wiped out before reaching our posts or the road running from the SOUCHEZ RIVER at M30d 2.3 to M30b 0.5. The enemy were seen in confusion in the nest of trenches round the power station which area was well treated by the 4.5" Hows and covered with a barrage to the east by the 46th Division which caught isolated parties retreating over the open. Up to 7.p.m. bodies of the enemy were seen running about in this area trying to get away from the shelling.

The enemy losses were very heavy. The co-operation of the 46th Divisional Artillery and No 4 Heavy Group was most efficient. The enemy's left attack was certainly broken up by the prompt action of the 9.2" Battery firing at the Brewery.

Sgd E. Ironside, Lieut-Col.

For Major General

Commanding 4th Canadian Division

May 8th

H.Q. C.C.H.A.

G.10/30

O.C. 30th H.A.G.

O.C. 1st C.W.A.G

For Information



Please convey to Capt L.C. Ord, who detected the concentration and whose prompt action was instrumental in obtaining such satisfactory results, as also to the Officers N.C.O's and Men of the 5th Canadian Siege Battery for their excellent shooting my hearty congratulations and best thanks.

(Sgd) T.J. Chapman Lt Col, R.G.A.

Commanding 57th H.A.G.

(No. 4 Double Group)

During the day 110 Rounds were fired on trench at T1a 7.6 to 9 ½.5, F.O.O. reported several rounds in trench, visibility was very poor.

May 9th – 100 Rounds were fired in Trench at T1a 7.6 to 9 ½.5. F.O.O. reported very good results many O.K's in Trench 50 Rounds were also fired on MERICOURT.

May 10th – Battery proceeded on rest to DIVION being relieved by 1st Canadian Siege Battery.

May 10th to May 22nd - Battery on rest in Billets at DIVION.

May 23rd – Battery returned from rest at Divion and moved to new position near Souchez. C Gun was put in and got ready for action by the afternoon. At 4.20. P.M. we fired 20 Rounds for registration on Trench Junction at N32a. 1.1. Observed by Capt L.C. Ord ground observation.

May 24th – Nil

May 25th – Very little shooting was done today. Guns at left section were registered during the afternoon on trench junction at N33a 1.1.

May 26th – All shooting was done by the right section today, the target being a Machine Gun emplacement at M30d 20.35. This shoot was observed by F.O.O who reported 2 direct hits and many rounds fell close. The emplacement was badly damaged and an explosion caused.

May 27th – There was no shooting done today and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

May 28th – at 2.p.m. today we started a shoot on a Machine Gun Emplacement close to the front line at M36d 8.1 by ground observation., 22 Rounds had been fired when the shoot was stopped as it was found that our Infantry had not been warned of this shoot and were still in the line before this Machine Gun Emplacement, and were in danger from short rounds, Fortunately nothing serious happened and the Infantry were then moved back and we continued our shoot at 4.55 p.m. The shoot was considered successful 1 Direct hit knocking off the right hand corner of the Emplacement and several rounds falling very close badly damaged the pit. We had two short Rounds at 6.p.m. and the shoot was then stopped on account of this.

May 29th – Nil

May 30th – Nil



May 31st – There was no shooting today. Lieut. R.A. Fraser proceeded to 10th Brigade Headquarters as Liaison Officer.

Jun 1st – Nothing to report

Jun 2nd – Fired a few rounds on Junction railway Embankment and Road at XXXXXXXX N31e95.00 also on Brewery at N31a95.15. Ground observation. F.O.O. reported 9 O.Ks. on Brewery and one round caused small fire.

Jun 3rd – Fired a few rounds on Houses in N31b1½.2. Opening rounds were observed by F.O.O. Concentration sheet. During afternoon fired a few rounds on Fesse 3 at M30b, also on houses in N31b1½.2, and Trenches and Cross Roads in ELEU DIT LEAUVETTE.

Jun 4th – Nothing to report.

Jun 5th – Nothing to report.

Jun 6th – This evening fired one hundred rounds on Trench Junction T1b9.6 and Trench T1b9.6 to M3144.2. F.O.O reported several rounds falling in trench.

Jun 7th – Fired 150 rounds on Trench T.2.a.1.5 to 4.3. Shoot was very effective.

Jun 8th – To-day we engaged three M.G.Es. Fired 120 rounds on M.G.E. at T1a90.36. F.O.O. Shoot was observed from Group O.P. and results were reported as satisfactory. F.O.O sent to war F.L.T. could not get communication through to Battery.

Fired 15 rounds on M.G.E. at T1a2.8. This point was very difficult to identify and shoot had to be abandoned. Fired 50 rounds on M.G.E. at T2B3.0. Shoot was successful.

Obtained 1 direct hit on Concrete House which tore a large hole in building. Many rounds fell close and building was badly damaged.

8.27 pm to 9.10 pm, fired 53 rounds on Houses in ELEU DIT LEUVETTE and Trench System immediately S.E. in response to S.O.S. Call.

11.45 pm to 1.18 am. June 9/17 fired 251 rounds on Houses in ELEU DIT LEUVETTE and Trench System immediately S.E. Infantry Operation.

Jun 9th – Responded to S.O.S Call at 4.09 am. Fired 7 Rounds on ELEU DIT LEUVETTE and Trench System to South East.

Jun 10th – Nothing to report. Shooting Nil.

Jun 11th – Nothing to report. Shooting Nil.



Jun 12th – Early this morning we fired 30 rounds on our S.O.S. lines. German attack did not materialize. During the afternoon fired 150 rounds on Railway Embankment at M30d15.32, with ground observation. Shoot was very satisfactory, 1 explosion and 1 fire being caused.

10.05 pm to 10.55 pm fired 91 rounds on M25a90.06, M25a85.10, M25a65.25, M25a50.40. Response to S.O.S. Call.

Jun 13th – Shooting Nil. Howitzer No. 162 was sent to No. 3 Ordnance Workshop.

Jun 14th – Fired 6 rounds on N29.a?.5. Concentrated shoot ordered by Group.

Jun 15th – Nothing to report.

Jun 16th – Nothing to report.

Jun 17th – Fired several rounds on Trench Junctions at T1b6.8 and at T1b85.60. Rounds observed by Kite Balloon and shoot reported as satisfactory.

Jun 18th – Fired 10 rounds registration on N31b27.90 and 40 rounds for effect on Trench Junction at N25c76.22 and 50 yards South. Ground observation, double line.

19 June 1917 – Fired 50 rounds on Trench Junction N31a87.60. Ground observation. Shoot rather unsatisfactory as we were obliged to use different lots of N.C.T. and one round fell on our own lines. Responded to S.O.S. Calls at 7.15 pm, 9.20 pm, 10.29 p.m. in each instance we fired on Trench at N25a45.20 to N19a45.99.

Jun 20th – To-day fired several rounds on Trench Junction at N31d40.13 obtaining fairly satisfactory results.

Jun 21st – Nothing to report.

Jun 22nd – Nothing to report.

Jun 23rd – Fired 40 rounds on Strong Point at T2b9.5 with double line observation. Many rounds fell close but had no direct hits. Shoot considered unsuccessful.

Fired several rounds on House at N32e2.8. Double line observation. This target was obscured by other houses and difficult to identify. We obtained 2 hits.

Fired 90 rounds on Bridge at N25b8.7. Balloon observation and part of time double balloon observation. Observers reported 8 hits on bridge and buttments.

To-day O.C. located new forward position in ANGRES and party was sent up this evening and laid platform for one gun.

Jun 24th – Fired 50 rounds on Bridge at N25b8.7. Obtained 5 o.Ks. but bridge was not demolished. Fired several rounds on House in KLEU DIT LEAUVETTE.



Jun 25th – Forward Section at ANGRES, N3305.9, fired several rounds on Strong Point at N31e5.1. 4 O.Ks. reported. Other section fired several rounds on Trench at N31d95.65

Jun 26th – (Advanced Section) Fired a few rounds on Hostile Batteries ? at ? and ? at ?. Aeroplane called at 4.45 pm and Section engaged Hostile Battery ? at. Were only able to fire 72 rounds owing to hostile ? shelling of position by 4.2 and 5.9. One shell dropped in B gun pit killing 346861 Gunner R.F. Turner. A quantity of ammunition was also destroyed.

Jun 27th – Fired 36 rounds on Hostile Battery at N 30 d 2.9. Shoot abandoned owing to poor visibility. To-day we were taken over by MACGEE'S GROUP (Counter-Battery).

Jun 28th – To-day fired several rounds neutralization fire on Hostile Batteries NY 70 at N21d95.05, NZ 15 at N23d50.55, MY70 at M21a95.o5.

This afternoon engaged Hostile Battery NY 74 at N33b 20.50 with Balloon observation.

Shoot abandoned owing to call for neutralisation fire.

7.10 pm to 8.45 pm fired ? rounds on Hostile Batteries NZ 17 at N36a8.6 and NZ7 at ? in support of Infantry Operations.

Jun 29th – Expended 45 rounds on Hostile Batteries in reply to call for neutralisation fire.

Jun 30th – To-day we returned to COLE'S GROUP but C.C.H.A. will have a call on us for ? Hostile Battery shoot per. day.

Expended 40 rounds on Fesse 5 at N23c3.7.

Jul 1st – Between 11am and 12 noon fired 40 rounds on Concentrated Troops in Quarry at N20d40.75.

At Noon all Batteries in Canadian Corps fired 3 salvoes for Dominion Day celebration.

In the afternoon we carried out successful shots on Trenches in N20c and on Bridge at N35a and Railway at M27d.

Jul 2nd – During the afternoon we fired 100 rounds on Trench at N33a60.25 to 85.00 with ground observation. This shoot was very satisfactory, Trench and Houses in vicinity being demolished and a fire caused.

In the evening we carried out a successful shoot on Hostile Battery NY70 at N21d99.03 with balloon observation. After we had completed this shoot the enemy shelled the position with H.E. and Gas Shells. We had only one casualty, 43962 2/Am Carpenter, W.H. (16th. Squadron R.F.C.) being slightly wounded in the hand with a splinter.

Jul 3rd – From 6.30pm to 11pm we engaged Hostile Battery NZ83 at M28b40.05 obtaining 2oks. The shoot was very satisfactory.

Jul 4th – To-day was very quiet. Only fired 50 rounds on Trenches in M33b and M27d.

Jul 5th – During the day we fired a few rounds for registration. In the evening we carried out a very successful shoot on Hostile Battery NI41 at N16d84.30. We obtained 6 Oks.



Jul 6th - During the morning we fired 64 rounds on Hostile Battery NX49 at N5c52.44. We obtained 10K but the shoot had to be discontinued owing to hostile shelling.

During the evening the position was strafed with 5.9 HE and 4.2 gas Shells. The undermentioned were gassed.

1204 Amt. S. Sgt. Smith, F.C.

302914 Gnr. Smith, C.A.

303476 Gnr. Gillen, W.J.

303425 Gnr. Davis, F.H.

314723 Gnr. Lajoie, W.P.

Jul 7th – This afternoon we carried out a satisfactory shoot on Hostile Bty NX49 at N5c52.44 with aeroplane observation expending 113 rounds.

Jul 8th – Nothing to report.

Jul 9th – Day quiet, no firing.

Jul 10th – All quiet.

Jul 11th – During the afternoon we carried out a shoot on Hostile Battery NW16 at N9c03.25 with aeroplane observation. We obtained 20Ks and 16Ys. After plane gave CI No. 10 K.B.S. went up to observe and reported very good shooting.

From 7.30pm to 8.15pm we carried out concentrated shoots as per schedule on Trenches at N13d, N14d, and Fosse in N20a.

Jul 12th – Nothing to report.

Jul 13th – In the forenoon we engaged Hostile Battery NX34 at N11a26.33. The registration was not very satisfactory in the morning and later in the day we went back to this target expending a total of 185 rounds.

Jul 14th – To-day fired 200 rounds on Hostile Battery MK 40 at M16ds8.47, with aeroplane observation. Fired 26 rounds during ranging and 174 rounds for effect.

Jul 15th – During the afternoon fired 150 rounds on Hostile Battery NW15 at N15d 00,55. Shoot was satisfactory. In the evening we fired several rounds on Trenches and Houses at N15a, N14b and N34a.

Jul 16th – During the after noon we fired several rounds on Trench Junction at N33d98.90, Railway N34c and T.M.s at N19b70.65 to N19b77.45.

In the evening we fired 120 rounds on Hostile Battery at N11c00.32.

Shoot had to be cancelled owing to 2 guns going out of Action with broken elevating gear. This is the first time the Battery has been completely out of Action since arrival in France.



Jul 17th – Nothing to report, all guns out of Action.

Jul 18th – No firing, guns still out of Action.

Ju 19th – During the evening fired 25 rounds neutralization on Hostile Battery TI30 at T6a50.65.

Jul 20th – Fired 170 rounds on Trenches in T4a6.9 to Ns4o8.0 to N8k07.3e also 10 rounds concentration on SALLAUMINES.

Jul 21st – Fired 130 rounds on Trench at M33d95.85 with aeroplane observation but shooting appeared erratic.

Jul 22nd – Day quiet. Only fired 30 rounds of Concentration Shoots on Houses at N20a and N25a.

Jul 23rd – During the forenoon fired several rounds on Trenches in M19d, M35c and d, and M34b. In the evening we fired 140 rounds on Hostile Battery NZ90 at N29b4.9.

Results were satisfactory.

During the day position was again shelled with 5.9HE and 4.2 Gas Shells. We had no casualties.

Jul 24th – From 12noon to 5pm fired 250 rounds on Hostile Battery NX34 at N11a20.35 with aeroplane observation. Obtained satisfactory results.

8.15pm to 9.40pm fired 90 rounds on Hostile Battery NZ99 at N22a9.0. Orders from Counter battery Group.

At midnight fired 18 rounds rapid on MOYELLES.

Jul 25th – Day quiet, only fired 35 rounds calibration on Fosse 4 de COURIERES.

Jul 26th – Fired 30 rounds rapid on CITE ST EMILE at 11.35am.

11.55am to 12.45pm fired 75 rounds concentration on Hostile Battery NX28 at N10b 4.5.

During the evening we fired 200 rounds on Hostile Battery MX43 at N10o50.70 with aeroplane observation. Results satisfactory.

Jul 27th – 12.30am to 12.35am fired 15 rounds rapid on M33b7.3 (Trenches).

Jul 28th - The Battery Position was shelled to-day with H.E. Lieut. J. Kay was seriously wounded and died on way to Dressing Station. 346828 Cpl. H. Sheldon was also wounded.

Jul 29th – Throughout the evening and night we carried out concentrated shoots and harassing fire on Trenches in N29a, N21a, N15d, N20a, and on Hostile Batteries NX78, NX10 and NX41. Expended 110 rounds on shoots.

Jul 30th – Carried out concentrations on Trenches as during the previous days.

Jul 31st – Carried out programs of Harassing Fire as directed by 1st C.H.A.G. on NE part of N20a.



During the month the undermentioned reinforcements were received,

346900 Gnr. Kendall, P.H.	3346891 Sgt. Cornell, E.C.	346874 Gnr. Mclvett, J.G.A.
1250744 Gnr. Beales, J.D	1250701 Gnr. Boulding, E.F.	335931 Gnr. Hickling, F.G.
2010188 Gnr. McLean, A.H.	2040200 Gnr. McLeod, J.A.	



Gunner Frank Hickling

ANGRES

Aug 1 – 31 Aug – During the month of August the Battery took part in the capture of Hill 70, also the taking of the Green Crasier and all the fighting on the Lens front. During this time the Battery was twice heavily shelled by 8” and on several occasions we were bombarded with Gas Shells.

Aug 6th – Lieut. R.L Smith was sent to 8 Canadian Siege Battery.

Aug 12th – Lieut. F.R. May proceeded on leave to England.

During a heavy bombardment by the enemy a large number of stores and ammunition were blown up and a direct hit on the earth box of No 1 Gun. Two men No 1250744 Gunner Beales J.D. and No 203 Gunner Sloan O.S. were buried in a cellar which collapsed as a result of a direct hit. The men were extricated and sent to Field Ambulance. No 91881 Sgt Ware J.A. was also knocked unconscious by the concussion of a shell.

Aug 25th – Lieut. W. Beecroft joined Battery and Lieut. F.R. May returned from leave to England.

Aug 26th – Lieut. D.J. Maxwell proceeded on leave to England. 2nd Lieut. D.A. Guildford proceeded to Canadian Corp Gas School.

ANGRES

Sep 1917 – During the month we were bombarded with Gas shells on several occasions also shelled 8” and 5.9” losing a quantity of ammunition. We took part in a raid by the 11th Brigade Canadians on the 6th and while in action the enemy came back on our position with Gas shells compelling the crews to work with their Gas Masks on. Four of our men were badly gassed and had to be taken to Field Ambulance, they were 346826 Bdr Trotter D.D. 346850 A/Bdr Russell W.G. 346891 Sgt Cornell K.G. and No 303392 Gunner Floyd P.J.

Sep 2nd – Lieut. F.R. May proceeded to 11th Brigade as Liaison Officer.



Sep 7th – Lieut. D.J. Maxwell returned from leave to England. Lieut. D.A. Guildford appointed Gas Officer C.C.H.A.

Sep 8th – Lieut. F.R. May returned from 11th Brigade.

Sep 15th – Major. T.W.P. MacDonald proceeded on leave to England.

Sep 21st – Lieut. R.L. Smith proceeded to 11th Brigade as Liaison Officer.

Sep 30th – Capt L.C. Ord proceeded on leave to England.

ANGRES

Oct 1st - Nil

Oct 2nd - Fired 15 Rounds on Hostile Battery in N.Z. 98

Oct 3rd - Fired 39 Rounds on Hostile Battery in N 21 c 90.18 and 18 Rounds on Hostile Battery in N 20 a 52.45 and at 5.5.P.M. fired 9 Rounds retaliation on M(?)ericourt sector.

Oct 4th - Fired 42 Rounds on Hostile Batteries in N21 c 90.18 and T 5 a 10.85
At 5.10.P.M. Fired 15 Rounds retaliation on M(?)ericourt and at 7.45.P.M. 20 Rounds on Lons Church

Oct 5th - Fired 28 Rounds Registration shoot on Bridge at N 20 a 40.30.

Oct 6th - Nil

Oct 7th- Nil

Oct 8th - Fired 9 Rounds on M(?)ericourt Sector at T 5 b
R. J. Waterous left Battery for England to attend course.

Oct 9th - Fired 35 Rounds on Hostile Batteries at N X 44, N X 43 and N Z 98.
No 91880 Gunner Burgess A was accidently killed by a small explosion from a 106 Fuse.

Oct 10th - Nil

Oct 11th - Fired 20 Rounds on Hostile Batteries at T 5 a 35.18 and N 35 c 8.8.

Oct 12th - Fired 20 Rounds on Hostile Batteries at T 25 at T 5 d 55.70.

Oct 13th - Fired 9 Rounds Retaliation on M(?)ericourt sector at T 5 b 4.0.

ANGRES



Oct 14th - Fired 9 Rounds on S.O.S Lines Lens Sector at R(?) 21 a 25.51. and 15 Rounds S.O.S. Lines M(?)ericourt Sector at ?.4 b 9.8.

Oct 15th- Nil

Oct 16th - Nil

Oct 17th - We received orders to be prepared to move North leaving our guns and equipment.

Oct 18th - We received orders to move and the battery took the road in Motor Lorries leaving one Officer Lieut. Beecroft and 10 men as rear guard to hand over to relieving Battery. The remainder of the Battery proceeded to Bethune where we billeted for the night.

BETHUNE

Oct 19th - Left Bethune and proceeded North via Hazelbruick and reached Steenvoorde about dusk. The lorries were parked in the Town Square where we stayed for the night.

STEENVOORDE

Oct 20th - Reached YPRES about noon and the men proceeded to their billets. The Officers quarters being in the CLOTH HALL.

Oct 21st - We took over from the 55th Australian Battery. They had two guns in action and one to be mounted

Oct 22nd - No 2001258 Gunner Marshall wounded in arm and side. No Firing today but work was carried on with mounting guns in preparation for the advance.

Oct 23rd - Nil

Oct 24th - No 1257813 Gunner MacFarlane W. P. Seriously wounded and No 1257868 Gunner Gorham E. R. Slightly wounded. Fired 143 rounds on strong points by visual observation and 48 Rounds Bursts of Fire and Harassing.

Oct 25th - Fired 22 Rounds Barrage and 164 Rounds on strong points and Harrassing Fire on Graf Farm

YPRES

Oct 26th - Got guns into action for the advance of today but gun went out of action before the end of the day and had to be pulled out and put back on new line.

Fired 298 Rounds attack barrage and 31 Rounds protective barrage on Battery lanes.

During the evening we fired 12 Rounds, bursts of Fire and during the dark hours fired 50 Rounds on Valour Farm.

Oct 27th - Fired ?2 Rounds Barrage on Battery lanes and 54 Rounds on a Pill Box at V 29 d 30.60 by Aeroplane observation. During the afternoon fired 12 Rounds as Bursts of Fire on Valour Farm and D.5



Central. At 3.15P.M. we fired 20 Rounds barrage on Battery Lanes. During the night Bursts of fire were kept up and 38 Rounds expended.

Oct 28th - No 92919 Gunner Saerran G. E. wounded in the leg.

Major T.W.F. MacDonald was admitted to hospital leaving Lieut. DJ. Maxwell in command of the Battery. Fired Barrage of 8 Rounds on Battery Lanes. Battery heavily shelled by 5.9"s and No 1 Gun received direct hit putting it permanently out of action. The loading derrick of No 2 Gun was blown off and the gun was out of action for 24 hours. This put the Battery completely out of action until following evening when No 2 Gun was put in action again and No 3 Gun went into action the following morning in the time for the advance on October 30, 1917.

Oct 29th - Lieut Fraser R. A. who had been sent to England to raise new section for two extra guns rejoined unit bringing Lieut E. Scott and 70 Other Ranks. Fired 35 Rounds Barrage in Battery Lanes, and during the night 30 Rounds on Valour and Vegetable Farms.

Oct 30th - Lieut H. M. Stairs arrived at Unit for duty with Battery. Fired 45 Rounds by visual observation on Vanity House and Vine Cottage, 50 Rounds were then fired by Map on Vapour (Valour?) Farm and 45 Rounds on Vocation Farm. During the afternoon 287 Rounds were fired on Barrage and 46 on S.O.S.

Oct 31st - At 5 A.M. 25 Rounds were fired on barrage and 10 on S.O.S. lines. At 1.45P.M. a shoot was commenced on Valour Farm by Aeroplane observation but Plane gave C.I. after 2 rounds had been fired. Bursts of fire were kept up during the afternoon and 20 rounds fired on S.O.S. lines.

YPRES

Nov 1st - Headquarters at Cloth Hall YPRES, Half Way Billets at St Jean, and Battery at Bussar Farm in C23b 3.4.

4.P.M. tp 4.5 P.M. Fired 10 Rounds in bursts of Fire on line 500 Yards east of R.F.A. Line. Repeated at (?)P.M. to 4.35 P. M. During the night 30 Rounds were fired on VENTURE and VOCATION FARMS. The battery position was heavily shelled with Gas shells but no casualties were reported.

Nov 2nd - 3.A.M. to 3.24 a.m. we fired 2? Rounds on Hostile Battery at E 2d 17.92 and at 5.55. a.m. opened up on Barrage as ordered by Groups (S/5/22) 24 Rounds were fired and we ceased fire at 6.19.a.m.

At 7.30.p.m. the battery was heavily shelled with H.E.'s 3" and 4.1" Guns followed at intervals by bursts of shrapnel. The bombardment was kept up continuously until 11 P.M. when it slacked to intermittent fire. During this bombardment we had a night task of 50 Rounds to fire followed almost immediately by a barrage of 22 Rounds, notwithstanding the heavy bombardment both these shots were pulled off without the loss of a single man. The enemy then put over a heavy Gas Barrage compelling all ranks to work in S.B.R's.

Nov 3rd - At 5.30.a.m. Enemy again shelled position with 8" and at the same time we received an S.O.S. call which despite the heavy shelling was responded to, 40 Rounds having expended. Enemy shelling was kept up until 8.30 a.m. when it dropped to intermittent shelling. At 10.a.m. started a shoot on VOCATION FARM with visual observation, shoot lasted until 1.15.p.m., Rounds being fired with very



good results, several hits were registered. 4.30.p.m. to 4.50.p.m. 20 Rounds were expended in bursts of fire on the enemy's lines of approach. The enemy came back on battery position at 5.30.p.m. with 5.9's and shrapnel, shelling was kept up very heavy until 6.p.m. and then intermittently until 9.p.m. As the result of one shell the pole of the wireless station was cut in two. There were no casualties, the soft nature of the ground preventing the splinters of shell from flying to any great extent. There were, however, many narrow escapes as several times shrapnel burst directly over the guns. From 9 P.M. until 3 A.M. next morning we fired 50 Rounds on target in V 24d and (?).

Nov 4th - At 4.40.a.m. we opened up an Barrage as ordered by Group. The Barrage being continued until 5.24.a.m. 75 Rounds were also fired on Hostile Battery at E 2 c 65.65. At 6 a.m. we fired 12 Rounds barrage in Battery lane. Day was very quiet and we had no special task but during the day fired 55 Rounds in Bursts of fire in Battery Lanes. During the evening we were shelled by 8" and Gas. No damage was done although a large number of shells fell very close to the guns.

Nov 5th - At 4.a.m. we opened fire on M lane, east of main Westrosebake Road in area V24d 65.10 to (?)19a 54.00 using about 50% (?)6 Fuse. We continued to fire in this area until 4.50.a.m. expending 50 Rounds

At 4.50+a.m. we commenced Barrage fire in lanes M and A area V29 b 75.55 to V24d 90.57. 106 Fuse was good entirely in this barrage.

2.30.p.m. we fired on Venture Farm in V30a 45.10. This was a very strong point, originally a farm house into which the enemy had built a reinforced concrete 'Pillbox' and was a very difficult target. The first 30 Rounds were observed by Lieut H. M. Stairs during which one O.K. was recorded.

Visibility then became so bad that ground observation had to be abandoned and shoot was finished by registration, 63 Rounds in all being fired.

From 4.45.p.m. to 6.15.p.m. we fired 24 Rounds using 106 Fuse on Barrage in Battery Lanes L & M in area V29b 33.35, to V30a 45.62

At 9.10.p.m. commenced shoot of 75 Rounds against Virile Farm and Vocation Farm, both very strong points of a similar nature to Venture Farm and situated in areas V29b 80.45 and V30a 07.57 respectively. This shoot was carried out without observation.

Hostile shelling during the day was below normal, an occasional shrapnel bursting over the guns. A few 5.9" HE's dropped in the battery position but these were probably intended for the Road or Railway track which runs closed to the position. At about 6.30.p.m. a dump at Spree farm blew up sending splinters all around battery position but fortunately there were no casualties. During the night the battery was shelled intermittently by a 4.1" Gun, no damage being caused.

Nov 6th - This was a very busy day, the guns being in action continuously. In the early morning we took part in three heavy barrages which were kept up from 6 a.m. until 2.45 p.m. The first of these was directed against Vine farm in V 30a 07.57. expending 44 rounds and lasted until 6.42a.m. when we lifted to Vocation Farm in V30a 07.57. At 7.30p.m we switched to V30b 85.60 and V30b 80.80. this barrage lasted until 2.45pm a total of 244 Rounds having been fired.

At 9.30.a.m. we took on a strong point in V19c 47.12 other targets during the day being the Cross Roads at W35a 90.90. Whist Farm in W19d 10.90 and the main roads N.E. of Whist Farm. Gun gave considerable trouble, going out of action twice during the day, but was finally got into good order in time for the early morning barrage in support of the infantry attack on Passchendale. During the early



part of the day Hostile shelling was very heavy and 11 Casualties were reported Four by H.E. and seven by shrapnel, three of these later returned to duty. The men wounded and sent 'down the line' were no 303567 Gnr Stevenson, 1260577 Gnr Owens J , 346891 Sgt Cornell E. C. 346821 A/Bdr Campbell D. D., 346808 A/Bdr Ryan D, 303371 Gnr LeBlanc C.J. 314745 Gnr Hoag J, and 1250701 Gnr Boulding E.F. We were again shelled very heavily during the evening but no further casualties were reported. A Total of 523 Rounds were expended on the days work.

Nov 7th - At 5.30a.m. we opened up on barrage fire. 500 yards east of R.F.A. line in V29b 75.45 to V24d 70.70. Both Guns were in action and 44 Rounds were fired. 8.22 a.m. to 8.50 a.m. Fired 8 Rounds on Farm in V24b (?)5.95. During the afternoon 100 Rounds were fired in areas V24b 10.10 top V24d 35.00. Firing was kept up nearly all night principally on Roads at V24c 95.20 – 82.75. 100 Rounds being fired. A letter of congratulation on the splendid work performed on Nov 6th by the Artillery of the 33rd H.A.G. was received to-day from Lt Col. Castle, O.C 33rd W.A.G.

Nov 8th - At 4.30.a.m. we received an S.O.S. call which was immediately responded to but "cease fire" was given after the 6th Round.

At 5.a.m. went into action again on barrage which continued until 5.48.a.m. 48 Rounds being fired.

At 11.45a.m. we started a shoot by aeroplane observation on Farm at V24b 25.95. This shoot was unsuccessful on account of poor visibility. bursts could not be observed and shoot had to be abandoned. 30Rounds were fire only 14 of which were observed.

3.05.p.m. fired 13 Rounds on barrage in areas V29b 73.52 to V24b 00.15

4.5.p.m. to 4.10p.m. we opened up in bursts of fire on areas V29b 98.60 and V24d 60.45. 23 Rds being fired

Hostile shelling was practically Nil, only an odd shell falling near the position.

Nov 9th - Bursts of fire were again opened on same areas at 4.45p.m.

At 6.a.m. a barrage of 22 Rounds were fired on V30a 20.60.

3.05a.m. commenced shoot against Venison Farm, a very strong point in V24d 25.95 by aeroplane observation. This was again unsuccessful on account of poor visibility.

1.30p.m. we undertook a shoot on Venture Farm in V30a 45.10 by ground observation. Lieut F. R. May was the F.O.O. and on arriving at the O.P. found the enemy shelling so heavy as to make observation almost impossible. However, a start was made, the order to fire was given and the F.O.O. remained in the open just long enough to notice the effect of the burst before being compelled to drop to the ground to avoid the splinters thrown up by the bursts of the enemy's shells. This continued for some time, Hostile shelling becoming heavier, making observation very difficult and dangerous. After observing 28 bursts and obtaining good registration Lieut May was compelled to come in, the shoot being carried out on by the registrations obtained. 50 Rounds in all were fired on this target.

At 4.30p.m. we took part in a barrage on areas V30b 50.60 and W19c 40.50. but ceased fire after 12 Rounds had been expended.

6.5 p.m. to 7.p.m. we fired 56 Rounds on barrage in areas V30b 50.60 and W19c 40.50.

Harassing fire was kept up until 4.30a.m. mostly on strong points and enemy's lines of approach in V24d 30.90.

During the day the enemy shelled our back areas heavily with 6" and 9.2" Naval Guns. The square in front of the Cloth Hall (our Headquarters) coming in for a great deal of attention. Hostile shelling



around the Battery position was at times very heavy but towards evening dropped to an occasional burst of shrapnel or an odd H.E. There were no casualties.

Nov 11th - There was no early barrage and the day was fairly quiet, our first task for the day being a 10 Round shoot on a farm in V19b 90.20 from 1.30p.m. to 4p.m. a 75 Round shoot on a farm in V24 d 30.95 both shoots were pulled off without any unusual incident, the shoots being on the whole very good. Rain fell heavily all day making work in the soft ground very difficult and unpleasant. About 10.30p.m. the enemy put up a Gas bombardment around the Battery position which lasted until Midnight, during which our guns were in action, engaged on harassing fire, Dispite the strong concentrations of gas the guns were kept in action, all ranks wearing gas masks and no casualties and no casualties occurred.

Nov 12th - Two shoots were undertaken today on Farm in V24d 30.98 30 Rounds being expended between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and the 2nd shoot which started at 1 p.m. was finished by 6 p.m. 130 Rounds in all being expended on this target.

During the afternoon Bursts of fire were concentrated on the enemies lines of approach in W19c 40.45 and W20a 30.00

During the night 100 Rounds were fired on night harassing fire mostly in V24d 30.90. Hostile shelling was below normal, apparently we are now out of range of enemy Howitzers, the only shells now falling near the position being H.V. Guns. A few, mostly 4.1" fall in the Battery position but there were no casualties.

Nov 13th- From mid-night to 5a.m. we continued with night harassing fire and at 5.15a.m. took part in the morning barrage which was laid 500 yards east of the R.F.A. lines from W19c 60.55 to W19c 95.15. Howitzer No 249 was received from workshop and set up and No 3 gun had to be dismantled owing to the foundation being too poor. The gun had sunk into the soft ground and had to be remounted on a better foundation.

From 10.35a.m. we fired all Rounds on Farm at V24d 30.95 and at 4p.m. while conducting this shoot we received an S.O.S. call and the shoot was stopped in consequence. The enemy laid a violent barrage on our line about 90 degrees grid which extended to the left flank around Passchendale Ridge with the intention of making a large counter-attack. Our field artillery was the first to open fire and immediately after the entire artillery came into action. The rapid working of the field guns resembled, from the back country, machine guns and the 4 heavy artillery worked almost as fast. The bombardment continued until 5.57 p.m. and whatever the enemy expected

Expected to gain in ground his losses in men must have been considerable. A message received later stated that the enemy counter-attack had failed and the message added that the artillery takes the credit for having responded so quickly. Are lines after this attack remained intact.

During the night 100 Rounds were fired on Farm and roads in V24d 30.95.

Nov 14th - At 6.a.m. we took part in the early morning barrage. Out target being V24b 70.20 to V13d 00.10 Barrage finished at 6.42 a.m. 42 Rounds having been fired.

During the morning bursts of fire were opened on 2W19a 15.25 to W19B 00.35, 100 Rounds being fired. At 7.25.p.m. we received an S.O.S. call and went into action on W19A 15.25. This was finished at 7.40.P.M. and we then turned to the night task of 200 Rounds on Farm in V24d 30.95. This was not completed before we had to take part in the morning barrage, only 150 Rounds having been expended.



Hostile shelling was very heavy at times, reaching its limit at 7.p.m. but during the night only an occasional shell fell anywhere near the battery position.

Nov 15th - Day was very quiet and nothing unusual occurred. At 6.10.a.m. We fired 20 rounds barrage on V24d 60.95 and V19a 90.55. Howitzer No 482 was mounted and got into action.

Nov 16th - At 6.30 a.m. we opened up on the usual morning barrage which consisted of 46 Rounds and lasted until 7.35 a.m.

Nearly the whole of the day was taken up by a shoot on Venison Farm in V24d 30.90, 150 Rounds were fired and the shoot finished at 6.p.m.

At 6.58 p.m. we received an S.O.S. call and fired 23 Rounds on V24b 90.15. This was again repeated at 75p.m. and a further 23 Rounds were put over.

During the night 100 Rounds were fired into Venison Farm at V24d 30.90.

The day was very quiet as regards hostile shelling. Very few shells fell near the Battery position.

Nov 17th - Bursts of fire were put over from 5.55p.m. on enemy's lines of approach and forward areas.

A day task of 100 Rounds on V59d 30.90 was undertaken from 11.45 a.m. to 6. p.m. by ground observation. The visibility was very poor, resulting in slow shooting, but satisfactory results were obtained despite the difficulties of observation.

During the night we fired a further 100 Rounds on the same target.

Nov 18th - Bursts of fire were opened up in the early morning on W19 a & b and a day task of 30 Rounds on Venison Farm in V24d 30.90.

During the morning an observing plane was hit by some of our 18 pdr shells and fell in front of the battery position. The aviator fell into a large shell hole full of water, where he was in some danger of being drowned, he was however quickly pulled out and suffered no more serious injury from the fall than a sprained ankle.

Hostile shelling was very heavy during the evening. An 18 pdr dump on our right being hit and blown up. The flame from this explosion was evidently seen by the Huns as he immediately shelled that position and the vicinity with increased vigour. At one time the shells were dropping almost as fast as machine gun bullets, but shelling slackened towards midnight and finally stopped about 1 a.m. During the night we fired 100 Rounds on Venison Farm.

Nov 19th - 5.45 a.m. to 6.13 a.m. we fired 26 Rounds on barrage in V24d 75.10 to W19a 3.3

During the day we fired 30 Rounds on Venison Farm at V24d 30.90 and a night task of 120 Rounds was satisfactorily accomplished on same target.

We are apparently out of range of enemies Howitzers as hostile shelling is not practically Nil, only an occasion shell from a H.V. Gun falling anywhere near the battery position.

Nov 20th - 6.30a.m. to 7.30 a.m. a barrage of 42 Rounds was fired on Farms at V19b 35.75 to W13d 3.0.

We again occupied nearly all day in shooting up Venison Farm (V24d 30.90) but the task was interrupted at 4.30p.m. by an S.O.S. call, we put over 56 rounds on our S.O.S. lines in V19a 00.10. and V24b 90.15. Cease fire was given at 5.p.m. and we resumed our task on Venison Farm which was continued throughout the night. 200 Rounds in all were put over on this target.



Nov 21st - At 10a.m. we recommenced firing on Venison Farm, 80 Rounds being fired on this target during the day. At 4.30p.m. barrage was opened up on enemy's lines of approach and communications. We fired 60 Rounds in this barrage on Farms in V18c 80.95 and huts and strong points in V18d 20.30. During the night 60 Rounds were fired on Venison Farm. There was no hostile shelling during the day, everything being perfectly quiet.

Nov 22nd - During the day 30 Rounds were fired at Venison Farm, 20 of which were for registration purposes. This was carried out by visual observation and satisfactory results obtained. 4.30p.m. we fired 20 Rounds concentration shoot on areas W18c 80.90 and W18d 20.80. 60 Rounds were fired on Venison Farm during the evening.

Nov 23rd - At 3.a.m. received an S.O.S. call and fired 10 Rounds on W19b 35.75, followed almost immediately by a barrage of 42 Rounds on areas W19b 35.75 and W13d 3.0. At 5.30a.m. another S.O.S. call was received and 50 Rounds fired on W19b 35.75. From 11.30a.m. to 2.50p.m. we fired 38 Rounds on Venison Farm, this shoot was continued at 4.45p.m. a total of 60 Rounds being fired. During the night we again kept up fire at slow rate in and around Venison Farm.

Nov 24th - 4.45a.m. to 5a.m. a barrage of 16 Rounds was fired and 16 Rounds spread around Farm in W19d 10.90
11a.m. to 6.0p.m. 40 Rounds were fired on Venison Farm in V24d 30.90 and a further barrage on W19d 10.90.
3.45p.m. to 7.45p.m. 64 Rounds were fired on Forward areas, and lines of approach. 28 Rounds were fired during the night on Venison Farm. Hostile shelling was practically nil.

Nov 25th - From 5.a.m. to 5.40a.m. a barrage of 32 Rounds was fired on W19a 75.60 and V24b 90.10. Our day's task was again on Venison farm and 40 Rounds were fired on this target. 4.30.p.m. to 5.15p.m. a barrage of 32 Rounds was fired on areas V24b 90.15 to W19a 60.45. We received an S.O.S. call at 7.20p.m. and opened fired on our S.O.S lines, firing 25 Rounds. Venison Farm was allotted to us as a night task, and fire at slow rate was kept up on it all night. There was no hostile shelling during the day, a few H.V. gun shells fell around the position during the night.

Nov 26th - 5.0a.m. to 6.a.m. fired 28 Rounds on W18a
Venison Farm again came in for a good deal of attention during the course of the day. 12 noon to 3.p.m. we fired 30 Rounds on farm in V17c 25.10 for registration purposes. 4.55p.m. to 7.10p.m. We fired a searching and sweeping barrage in area W19a 30.30. During the night harassing fire was kept up on enemy's lines of approach and support lines in W19b 50.00, W19b 00.30 and W19c 30.00. 60 Rounds were expended in these areas.

Nov 27th - An early morning barrage was fired in areas W19d 50.00, W19d 72.12, W13d 00.20 and W13c 30.05. During the day we fired 30 Rounds on areas W19b 50.00—30.20, W19d 00.30 and W13c 30.00.



5.30p.m. to 5.45p.m. a barrage was put down on the northern half of W19d 50.20—72.12, and a second barrage followed immediately after on W13d 00.20 to W13c 80.05. 32 Rounds being fired on those two barrages. A night task of 50 Rounds was successfully carried through on areas W19a 95.85 to W19b 50.95. Hostile shelling was practically nil, but during the evening our back areas were shelled by H. V. Guns.

Nov 28th - Two barrages were carried out between 4.50.a.m. and 5.35a.m. on areas from V24b 35.00 to V24d 45.30 and W19d 10.90 to W19d 25.65. Harrassing fire was carried out during the day on Roads and approaches in W19a 95.35 and W19d 50.95, 30 Rounds at intervals being fired. 11.25a.m. to 3.25p.m. we fired 50 Rounds on enemy's position on Hill 50 in V17d.

Two barrages of 32 Rounds each were put over during the afternoon on V24db 35.00, V24d 45.30 W19d 10.90—25.65.

During the night a continuous harassing fire was kept up on Farms, Roads and approaches in W19b 40.50, W13d 85.20, and from Lyell Farm in W19b 40.50 to limit of range on main road.

Nov 28th - Hostile shelling was mostly confined to Road and Railway near Battery position but our rear billets in Ypres, the town Square and Ypres station were heavily shelled by H.V. Guns. From 2.30p.m. to 3.30p.m. a concentration of H.V. Guns were directed against Ypres and Ypres station, shells falling at the rate of 18 per minute.

Nov 29th - At 4.45a.m. we opened fire on barrage "L" in W19d 10.90 to 24.65 and at 5a.m. switched to Barrage "M" in V24b 2500 to V24d 45.30. 32 Rounds being fired in these two barrages. From 6a.m. to 9a.m. we fired 20 Rounds on Lyell Farm, Roads and tracks around W19b 40.50.

During the afternoon we repeated the early morning barrages, and during the night kept up a continuous fire on Lyell Farm and the roads and approaches. A few hostile H.V. shells fell in the battery position during the day and our rear billets again came in for a good deal of shelling.

Nov 30th - Enemy opened heavy fire on Battery at 7a.m. forcing crews to take cover, one man Bdr Magee being seriously wounded and almost immediately after we received an S.O.S. call which very heavy shelling was immediately answered. As the only N.C.O on No 2 Gun was wounded, Gunner C.G. Roome on his own initiative took command, ordered the crew out and got the Gun into action and kept it going throughout the S.O.S. About the same time a shell struck the cartridge dump behind No 2 Gun setting the cartridges on fire. As the men were all engaged on the S.O.S. Lieut F. R. Fraser at great personal risk ran over and fought the flames until they got beyond control, one tin of cartridges burst almost in his face forcing him away, but he nevertheless succeeded in saving a quantity of cartridges. Enemy aeroplanes were very active during the morning, evidently directing the fire of hostile batteries and several very hot air fights took place. One of our planes was shot down and nose-dived from a good height and crashed. A second plane came down under control until within about 100 feet from the ground when the plane burst into flames, the pilot jumped but unfortunately was killed by the fall. One enemy plane was also brought down in flames at the same time, all three planes falling close to the battery position.

During the morning we fired 10 Rounds on Hill 50 in V17d and two barrage shoots were successfully conducted in the afternoon on W19b 30.40 and W20a 60.20. 43 Rounds being fired in these shoots. During the night fire we kept up on Farm, Roads and tracks in W19b 40.50 to W13b 35.20.



Hostile activity was below normal after 5p.m.

YPRES

Dec 1st - 5.10a.m. to 5.45a.m. we were firing on Barrage in "K" and "M" lanes at qW19d 70.60, V20a 60.20, W19c 50.35 and W198b 30.40. 48 Rounds being expended.

During the day we fired at slow rate on Farm and Roads in W19b 40.50 to W13d 35.20. This shoot was still in progress at 4.30p.m. when we were ordered to switch to lane K, 1300 yards east of R.F.A line, 24 Rounds were fired and we then switched to lane "M" 1100 Yards east of R.F.A. lines. A registration shoot was carried out during the afternoon farm in V17c 25.10. Two guns being registered.

During the night harassing fire was kept up on Roads in W19b 40.50 and V13d 35.20+ Hostile shelling was normal throughout the day, 9 H.V. shells fell in the battery position but there were no casualties.

Dec 2nd - Two heavy barrages were opened up in the early morning, From 2.10a.m. to 6a.m. 250 Rounds were fired on farms in W13d 9020 and W20a 30.50/ After completing these shoots we returned to our night task of harassing fire on Roads and farms in W19b 40.50. We fired 70 Rounds which completed the task and finished at 7.25a.m. We opened fire again at 9.50a.m. on the same target and at 11.10a.m. after having fired 50 Rounds were ordered to cease fire.

S.O.S. call was received at 4.15p.m. and opened fire on W19a 60.50 and ceased fire at 4.35p.m. after firing 47 Rounds. During the night we fired 60 Rounds on Farm and Roads in W19b 40.50 and W103d 35.20. Hostile shelling was below normal but considerable bombing of our rear billets took place during the evening.

Dec 3rd- At 3.10 a.m. No 346903 Bdr K. J. Marshall was guide to an ammunition party from Mannera Jct to Battery position, Having deposited the ammunition he walked back alone to the rear billets. He had covered about half the distance when he noticed a man walking ahead of him and attempted to overtake him in order to have company back to the billets. The man refused to be approached and turning sharply to the right slipped into an old pill-box. Bdr Marshall then noticed the man was wearing a German pattern steel helmet so followed him into the pillbox and flashing his light around discovered a German soldier hiding in the corner, He immediately took the man prisoner and marched him back to the Corps Cage, It was then discovered that the prisoner had been wandering around our lines for 5 days with very little food and explained that he was scared to give himself up to the Canadians as his officers had told him that he might expect at our hands if taken prisoner. He was very much surprised and relieved to find conditions so very different to what he had expected.

From 6.15a.m. to 7 a.m. we fired in "bursts of fire' on Roads and Farms in W19b 40.50 and W13d 35.20 36 Rounds being fired.

During the day we fired intermittently on McCulloch and Sorby Farms. Hostile shelling was normal throughout the day. A few gas shells and H.V. gun shells fell in and near the Battery position.

Dec 4th- At 11a.m. we started voting for the Canadian General Election. Lieut D. J. Maxwell being the presiding officer. Great enthusiasm prevailed amongst the men who were all anxious to poll their votes in favour of the Government.



Dec 5th Received instructions from Group H.Q. that 1st and 2nd Heavy Groups and all Canadian Batteries would shortly be pulling out of the line and to hold ourselves in readiness for pulling out at very short notice.

During the day we fired on area McCulloch Farm, Sorby Farm and Nicholson Cross Roads in W13d 90.20, W20a 30.80, and W20a 08.55. The same targets and to 350 yards east were taken for a night task, 85 Rounds being fired. Some hostile shelling of the battery position occurred during the afternoon but never at any time reached large dimensions.

Dec 6th - During the day Harrassing fire was carried out on Roads W20a and searching 350 yards east of Nicholson Cross Roads. From 7p.m. and continuing throughout the night Fire was kept up on Venison Farm in V24 30.90. 100 Rounds being expended on the night task.

During the evening a Hostile raiding party flew over and bombed our back areas and rear billets in Ypres, one plane became separated and was brought down by A.A. Guns. The pilot discharging his cargo of bombs whilst falling, the machine crashed between Ypres and Poperinghe, the pilot being killed.

Dec 7th - At 6a.m. we opened up in "Crashes" on area W16d 30.15, W26c 10.20 to E1b 39.55 18 Rounds being expended. Our day task was again on Venison Farm and Nicholson Cross Roads. Starting at 10a.m. we continued to fire at slow rate until 4p.m. when we opened up in "Crashes" on same area as in the early morning shoot.

Throughout the night harassing fire was kept up on Nicholson Cross Roads, Sorby and Vulture Farms. 150 Rounds being fired during the night.

Dec 8th - From 5.30a.m. to 5.45a.m. crashes of fire were opened up on area w26a 00.70, W26a 50.10, W26c 50.40 and W26c 00.40. This was again repeated at 6.30a.m.

Dec 9th - A special artillery attack opened up at 5.45a.m. and lasted until 5.55a.m. we fired In 15 Rounds in this attack on area W26b 00.90 to W21c 00.20, and W26b 0065 to W21c 00.000/

At 6.30a.m. this programme was repeated. Our task for the day was harassing fire which was kept up at slow rate on Roads in W19c 70.25

50 Rounds were fired during the night on Velvet Copse (V18d 05.25) and Vulture Farm (V24b 60.55).

From 6.30p.m. to 11.45p.m. we were shelled by 4.1" H.V. Guns. The enemy firing in salvos of three about every 10 minutes, no damage, however, was done to either personnel or material.

Dec 10th - Started taking down guns ready for removal. Now No 230 went out of action during the night Hows (?) No 482, 251, and 249 were pulled out in the morning and taken to Siege Park.

Dec 11th - Arrangements were made for 16 lorries to withdraw ammunition from position, but at 9a.m. enemy opened up on the battery position and it was then impossible to get lorries up to position beyond St Jean. Hostile shelling was kept up until noon, when ammunition was loaded and finally got away by 6p.m. Hostile shelling was resumed almost immediately after last lorry had left. The ammunition was taken to Dump and permission was given by Group to unload it there and to proceed without it.



Dec 12th - The morning was taken up by the men casting last votes for the election. Poll was completed by 2p.m. and the remainder of the day was occupied by packing ready for removal on the morrow.

Dec 13th - Left YPRES at 10a.m. and proceeded to M.T. Supply Column. Party was completed here and we proceeded by lorries to Morbecque via Poperingau and Hazelbruick. We arrived at Hazelbruick about Noon and found the town was being heavily shelled by Naval Guns, our route had to be diverted. Several lorries having very narrow escapes from being hit by falling masonry and pieces of shell but fortunately the danger zone was passed without any casualties. A halt was called for the night on main road outside Morbecque. Men sleeping in the lorries.

Dec 14th - A start was made at 8a.m. proceeding via Morbecque to Bethune where we spent the night, the men being billeted in the barracks and lorries parked in the town square.

Dec 15th - Left Bethune at 8a.m. and came back to Lillers, reaching that place about noon and were then sent on to the village of Ham-en-Artois where we went into Billets. The Guns were parked at Barlin under guard.

Dec 16th - Men in Billets at Ham-en-Artois.

Dec 17th - do (ditto)

Dec 18th - Lieut D. J. Maxwell and Lieut F. R. May proceeded to Lieven to look over new position.

Dec 19th - Nil

Dec 20th - Men reviewed by General Currie at Billets in Ham-en-Artois. Two sections with Hows No 230 and 251 moved up to new position at Lieven.

Dec 21st - Two guns were placed into position and got ready for firing.

Dec 22nd - Two guns were ready for action early in the morning, their positions being M25a 47.58 and M28a 30.47.

Dec 23rd - Took over position from 62nd Siege Battery and remaining sections with two guns arrived. We also took over two Hows No 162 and 7 in position at Angres (M33a). These two guns were to form a silent battery and only to fire in case of S.O.S. Forward position of Four guns to be active. 62nd S.B. left position at 6p.m. and we took over their billets.

Dec 24th - Working to get Hows No 249 and 432 into Position

Dec 25th - All guns ready for action. Fired 1 shot from How No 251 for registration. Shell exploded in Barrel throwing Gun forward on to the earth box and splitting carriage. No one was hurt, but gun was completely out of action and later condemned by I.O.M. and w\sent back to base.



Dec 26th - Plane called at 2.30p.m. to observe for us on Hostile Battery (Z1) shoot was very successful, the pilot reporting 2 O.K's, 4 Y's, 7 Z's, and 2 A's. 75 Rounds in all being fired. During this shoot the enemy ranged on us with woolley Bears by aeroplane observation and at 4.40p.m. commenced a destructive shoot on our position with 5.9" H.E. Shells were falling at the rate of 14 per minute and 259 Rounds in all were dropped into the Battery position. How No 230 was struck by a shell and put out of action. Ten Men were wounded in the cookhouse whilst lining up for supper. The shelling continued until 5.40p.m. and then ceased and the casualties were then hurried to the dressing station, one man later returning to duty.

Dec 27th - How No 251 was pulled out ready for removal. The I.O.M instructed Barrel to be sent to Woolwich and carriage to Base. There was no shooting today and no hostile shelling. Lieut R. L. Smith proceeded to 11th Brigade to act as Liaison Officer.

Dec 28th - Morning was very misty with occasional snow flurries and very bad visibility but cleared up for a short time in the afternoon. At 3p.m. we fired 14 Rounds on a snipers post in a building near Fosse St Louis in M20c 30.90 This was observed by Lieut F. R. May and was successful. 2 O.K's being registered.

Dec 29th - A shoot by aeroplane was started at 9.25 am on Hostile Battery NX 59 in N18b 30.50. This was a very difficult target, being partly concealed by clumps of trees. Visibility was very poor and shoot unsuccessful. 38 Rounds were fired and plane gave C.I. at 11.30 am. During this shoot we were ordered by group to concentrate on Trench Mortars in Railway Embankment in N34c. Plane was given M.Q. and 10 rounds rapid fired at the T.M's after which we resumed shoot with plane. At 2 P.m. we fired 10 Rounds rapid in Cemetery at N33b, without observation and at 3 p.m. 10 Rounds on M33d 90.90 also without observation. How No 251 was removed to Railhead during the night. Gas alarm was given at 12 Midnight and all precautions immediately taken but no gas came over position.

Dec 30th - Day was very quiet and nothing unusual occurred. Visibility was very bad in morning, but cleared later in the day. A few snow flurries fell in the afternoon. There was no shooting done.

Dec 31st - Started preparing two more positions at RED MILL in rear of present position. Work was carried on under ideal conditions. Light mist and clouds, we were therefore not interfered by hostile aircraft. Day was very quiet and there was no shooting.

1918

LIEVEN

Jan 1st - There was considerable activity during the day, which, although misty had occasional bright intervals, and enemy aircraft took full advantage of these, several flying over Battery position in the morning and again during the afternoon. At 4p.m. we were ordered to open fire on Hostile Battery N.Z. 19 at N29b 90.10 5 Rounds neutralizing fire being put over. At 6.30p.m. enemy attempted to raid our trenches near Mericourt under cover of a heavy bombardment. We received S.O.S. and opened fire on S.O.S. lines "E" in T5c 33.60 and T5d 68.00. Three parties of the enemy dressed in white attempted to enter our trenches but were disorganised by our artillery fire, some of our patrols who were out in "No



Man's Land" at the time engaged these parties, and, after hard fighting, succeeded in overcoming them, capturing three prisoners. At 7p.m. the enemy attempted a raid on Hill 70 but was repulsed with heavy loss. At 9.50p.m. another enemy party attempted to rush one of our posts in AVION, but was driven off. Our men taking one prisoner. No S.O.S. calls were received in these last two raids, the Infantry handling both raids with rifle and machine Gun Fire.

Jan 2nd - Everything was quiet throughout the day. Visibility was very poor and no shooting was done. Work was carried on at new gun positions and nothing unusual occurred.

Jan 3rd - Visibility cleared up a bit about 10a.m. and we took advantage to register 2 Guns. The target was Will Farm in N29c 56.26. No 2 Gun was satisfactorily registered, but light failed before No 1 Gun could be satisfactorily registered. A shoot on Hostile Battery NX63 in N16b 98.05 was successfully carried out by aeroplane observation during the afternoon. 75 Rounds were fired the pilot reporting 2 O.K's, 13 Y's, 14 Z's, and 10 A's. Hostile shelling was below normal and nothing unusual occurred during the day.

Jan 4th - Visibility was very poor with occasional bright intervals. Some houses in N27a 95.65, which obstructed the view from the front line had to be demolished and a shoot was started at noon, working Nos 1 and 2 Guns with a view to getting a good registration. No 2 Gun was not registered satisfactorily on account of the light failing and shoot had to be stopped after the 17th Round. A very interesting shoot was started at 12.45p.m. on some gas projectors in N14b 9.9. As two other batteries had tried to destroy these projectors without success, it was very important that our shoot be successful. A plane was sent up to observe for us, unfortunately low clouds obscured the target and hindered the work of the pilot. Only one burst was seen which was given as C12. 7 Other rounds were fired but were unobserved and the pilot gave CI mist at 1.26p.m.

Jan 5th - There was very little activity on this front during the day, mostly confined to Trench Mortar activity N.W. of Lens. There was no firing by this battery during the day.

Jan 6th Day w- as very quiet. Low clouds and misty rain prevented any shooting during the day. Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

Jan 7th - NIL

Jan 8th - Visibility was bad in early morning owing to heavy snowstorms, but cleared up a bit later. Some houses in N27a 95.65 were again selected for registration. Shoot was started at 1120a.m. Lieut K. Scott observing from Lawson O.O. Shoot was twice stopped on account of visibility failing but was finally finished at 3.15p.m. shoot was satisfactory, the houses being completely demolished and a good registration of Nos 1 and 2 Guns obtained. From 10a.m. to 10.30a.m. we fired 30 Rounds without observation on some dugouts in N28a 06.86. Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day and hostile shelling in the vicinity of the battery was Nil.



Jan 9th - From 2.05a.m. to 2.31a.m. we opened fire on three Hostile Batteries. OY18, in N25d 65.90, OY36 in N35c 20.60, and NZ19 in N29b 90.05. 16 Rounds were fired on each Battery without observations. Nos 5 and 6 Guns were satisfactorily registered during the morning on Fosse 13 in N28a 50.70.

Aeroplane called at 10.46 a.m. to observe for us on W.B. NZ 35 in N23b 91.30. L was put out almost immediately but plane did not acknowledge it. Pilot came down as he had mistaken the Map spotting for our ground strips but on this matter being rectified he went up again at 12.50 p.m. 1st G was sent at 1.04 p.m. First shots were rather good, getting 4 Z's and 6A's after which the light faded and at 1.56 p.m. pilot was obliged to C I on account of mist. The last 11 shots were unobserved.

Jan 10th - As soon as visibility permitted a shoot of 30 Rounds was started by ground observation on Puits No 2 in N10b 66.18 to finish registration of Guns. The results were very satisfactory. All Guns being now registered. Orders were received from H.Q. that we4 would be relieved by 1st C.S.B. tomorrow and proceed for three weeks rest and reorganisation. All Guns and stores were to be left behind.

Jan 11th - At 4 p.m. we were relieved at Battery Position by 1st C.S.B. and proceeded to Camp at Lillers au Bois for rest and reorganisation. Men were marched to the Camp and stores and kits proceeded by Light Line Railway. Villers Au Bois was reached about 11 p.m. and the battery went into billets and hutments.

Period Jan 11th to 31st

During this period extensive training was carried out in all branches. Gun drill was carried out on 9.2" How. Mounted on the parade ground and classes in musketry and Machine Guns, Lectures were held each afternoon for Officers and N.C.O's and in all our work we received very high compliments from General Currie, and Brig Gen Morrison also from Major W. B. Prowse O.C. 2nd Brigade C.C.A. During the week experiments were carried out in loading and unloading a 9.2" How. on Light Line Railway. This proposition had not been undertaken before and this Battery was detailed to carry out the experiment, which in its early stages presented almost insurmountable difficulties. Lieut. K. S. Bushell and Q.M.S. J. A. Ware D.C.M. set themselves to the task and after various plans had been tried, invented and adopted a ramp, placed on both sides of the track. The Gun and carriage on transporting limbers were hauled by drag ropes up to this ramp, and the railway trucks then ran underneath them. A complete drill was organised and the men practiced this until all were thoroughly conversant with the part each man had to do. After three days it was found the gun could be loaded in 15 minutes and unloaded in 10 minutes. This was considered by H.Q. Authorities a most important advance in gun transportation, as up to this time a 9.2 How has always been obliged to keep to, or close to, a main road. With the new system it was clearly seen that by laying short spurs of Light Line a gun could be run into places where under the old system of caterpillar transport, it was never possible to take them.

Jan 31st - A demonstration was given before General Currie. Brig. Gen. Massie and Brig. Gen. Morrison. The demonstration was perfectly satisfactory, the entire operation of loading and unloading taking less than 25 Minutes.

All ranks received the highest praise for their smart drill and excellent manner of handling the guns.



Feb 1st to 4th - During this period training was continued at Camp in VILLERS AU BOIS.

At 10 a.m. Feb 4th advance party of 3 Officers and 10 Other Ranks proceeded to Lievan to take over Battery from 1st Canadian Siege Battery, who in turn relieved a Battery of the 91st H.A.C. then proceeding to Camp for training. The remainder of the Battery left Camp at 3 p.m. by Light Line Railway, reaching Lieven by 5 p.m. The Battery was then split into 3 sections Two Guns forming a silent section at Angres (M33a 18.44) and M33c 18.78. two other guns were placed in Cite Calonne at M14d 00.07 and



9.2-inch Howitzer mounted in pieces on wagons near Lens, France, Feb 1918. (Library and Archives Canada Photo, MIKAN No. 3395348)

M14a 95.20 and the remaining two guns in old position in Lievan at M28a 60.07 and M27a 65.95/ The headquarters of the Battery were also in Lievan. Staff Sgt F. C. Smith and A/B.S.M. Woolley were dispatched to Calais to take over two new guns to complete our establishment to a 6 Gun Battery.

Feb 5th - Visibility during early part of the day was poor but cleared up a bit towards noon. No shooting was done by this battery. Hostile shelling was normal being confined mostly to Wooley Bears and a few H.E's.

Feb 6th - During the early morning Hostile Artillery was very active. From 3.30 a.m. to 3.50 a.m. a heavy bombardment was put down on our lines from Green Crasiar to Hill 70 and Heavy T.M. Barrage on our front lines, Batteries in this vicinity, however were not engaged and we received no S.O.S. call Visibility was very poor throughout the day and very little shooting could be done. At 3.35 pm. We attempted a shoot on H.B. N.Z. 16 in N22b 69.30 by aeroplane observation but had to be discontinued after 19 Rounds on account of bad visibility. Target being obscured by Clouds.

Feb 7th - NIL

Feb 8th - Visibility was very good during the early part of the day and good work was done in getting Guns of the North Section registered. At 12.55 p.m. we fired 10 Rounds N.F. without observation on



M.B NX 63 in N16b 98.05. From 12.30 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. 18 Rounds were fired on Puits 2 in N10b 65.25 to register No 2 Gun. Results were very satisfactory. Hostile shelling in the vicinity of the Battery position was NIL

Feb 9th - Howitzer No 155 was received from Workshop and placed in position at Angres in M33a 13.42. This gun was on charge to 1st C.S.B. A destructive shoot was successfully carried out by Aeroplane observations on H.B. NZ 16. Fire was opened at 3.40 p.m. and 21 Rounds expended ranging during which we obtained 5 Y's, 2 Z's, and 7 A's. During fire for effect Battery shot remarkably well one shell causing large explosion in No 1 Pit. 50 Rounds in all were expended on this shoot. Hostile shelling was at times very heavy, mostly to the right of battery position. Positions towards Avion were subjected to a heavy bombardment from 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Feb 10th - Howitzers No 279 and 303, both new guns from Ordnance Calais were removed from Railhead to Siege Park until such time as they could be placed in position.

Feb 11th - Nil

Feb 12th - Nil

Feb 13th - At 3 a.m. we opened fire on W.B. O.W 17 in O7c 36.23 in support of Infantry. Neutralizing Fire was also opened on W.B. NX 17 and NX 57, a total of 86 Rounds being fired. At 3.20 a.m. 8 Rounds were fired on W.B. NX 63 in N16b 98.05. Visibility was good during the day and Hostile shelling in the vicinity of the battery position nil. During the morning we engaged enemy T.M.s in M34c 77.34 by ground observation. 9 Rounds were expended for registration and 10 Rounds on task results were satisfactory, guns getting well on to the target.

Feb 14th - From 6.40 a.m. to 6.45 a.m. we opened up with Neutralizing fire on Hostile batteries NZ 16 and NZ 35. Five rounds being fired on each battery. Visibility was very poor during the day and no shooting could be carried out.

Feb 15th - Visibility very bad and nothing unusual occurred. Hostile shelling was normal in the vicinity of position but some heavy shelling on our right took place during the afternoon. At 19.45 a.m. we opened fire on M.B. NZ 3 with five rounds neutralizing fire, H.B. NZ19 was also neutralized 15 Rounds being fired on this target.

Feb 16th - Visibility was fairly good during the day. At 10.45 a.m. we commenced a shoot on W.B.; NZ19 by aeroplane observation, shoot was very successful, 4 O.K's being obtained and considerable damage done to gun pits. A N.F. Call was received at Noon in reply to which we fired 10 Rounds on M.B. NZ 16. Only 1 G was given by plane. Considerable shelling of battery positions in this district took place during the day and in order to silence Hostile Batteries we opened up on MX 36 and NI64. 20 Rounds were fired after which hostile shelling ceased and did not reopen again during the day.

Feb 17th - At 9 a.m. we opened fire on H.B. MX 63 by aeroplane observation. During 48 Rounds ranging we obtained 3 Z's and 14 A's. General position of Hostile Battery only was visible to observer so damage



could not be ascertained but 1 O.K. was obtained during fire for effect. Enemy shelled positions with Wolley Bears and a few H.E's fell near the battery position.

Feb 18th - A successful shoot by aeroplane observation was carried out on M.B. NZ 30 at 9.25 a.m. during 26 Rounds ranging we obtained, 1 Y, 7 Z's, 7 A's, 5 B's and 6 C's. During fire for effect 1 M.O.K. was obtained. Airman reported "Battery shot well and quickly and got well onto target. General position only visible."

An excellent shoot was carried out by Lieut D. J. Maxwell for 10 Infantry Brigade on M. G. E. In N20 c 90.46. 4 O.K's were obtained which knocked a hole in the emplacement. The last shell was reported (?) to fall in the emplacement and bursting inside completely destroyed it. Visibility was good and hostile shelling below normal.

Feb 19th - Nil

Feb 20th - Nil

Feb 21st - Visibility was poor all morning but cleared up a little towards noon. A shoot by aeroplane observation on Bridge at H35c 72.62 was started at 3.40 p.m. but plane gave C I before ranging was complete, shoot had to be abandoned on account of mist. 19 Rounds were fired on this

Feb 22nd - Nil

Feb 23rd - Nil

Feb 24th - W.B. NZ 16 and N22b 69.30 was engaged at 1.45 p.m. shooting by balloon and aeroplane observation. Shoot was satisfactory, 2 M.O.K's and 3 O.K's being reported.

At 4.55p.m. all guns concentrated on NX 63, 20 Rounds being expended. Visibility was good and E.A. active but hostile shelling was practically nil, being confined mostly to W.B.'s and shrapnel.

Feb 25th - At 6 a.m. we were relieved at our rear position, Angres by a section of the 1st C.S.B. Who took over Guns No 162, 136, and No 7. Our section formerly at that position were removed to North Section Cite Calanne (?).

Feb 26th - Visibility good in early morning. Enemy had 7 Balloons observing and one was engaged by a 6" Mk 19 \Battery near our position, enemy retaliated with 4.1 Gun and a lively artillery dual was kept up for about an hour, several shells falling in our position.

Enemy opened up harassing fire on Main Road through Lieven and Dusk, Continual shelling being kept up until 8 p.m.

Feb 27th - Visibility good and hostile batteries active, Considerable shelling of the town and Battery positions near here in the afternoon and evening by 5.9" and 4.1" gun.

A shoot by aeroplane observation was started at 1.45 p.m. on W.B NZ16. Shoot was successful, 34 Rounds were expended ranging, during which we obtained 5 Y's, 9 Z's and 8 A's. During fire for effect 2



M.O.Ks were reported and an explosion caused close to No 2 Pit. General position only visible and damage not ascertained. Hostile shelling above normal.

Feb 28th - No firing was done by battery during the day. Hostile batteries were active during the afternoon. Harrassing fire being kept up on roads and positions in Lieven during the evening.

Mar 1st - Visibility was poor throughout the day, Low clouds, mist and occasional snow flurries prevented any work being done.

Mar 2nd - Day was fairly quiet and nothing unusual occurred until evening. At 5.30 p.m. Enemy put down heavy barrage of all calibres on our trenches in N 13c. At 5.35 p.m. in reply to two split green flares Hostile barrage increased and range lengthened taking in Battery position and also batteries in our rear. Effective retaliation was carried out in reply to this bombardment, during which we fired 3 1Rounds on various targets. All was quiet by 6 p.m. and remained comparatively quiet for the remainder of the night.

Mar 3rd - Visibility was poor during the early morning. Howitzer No 279 was removed from Siege Park and placed in position in Cite Calonne at M14d 15.59. Bursts of fire were opened up from 1.07 to 1.12 p.m. 5 Round being fired on N Z 67 in N18c 51.65 This was repeated at 1.50 p.m. on N Z 37 in N24a 14.50.

Mar 4th - At 5.55 a.m. enemy opened up very heavy barrage in support of hostile raid, during which Battery position and vicinity was heavily shelled. Dispite heavy shelling all ranks answered smartly to S.O.S. and guns were in action by 6 a.m. The S.O.S. fire was kept u continuously until 7.27 a.m. during which we fired 131 Rounds. Only one casualty occurred in the Battery. No 1250217 Gunner Kelsall J. being struck by a splinter and instantly killed. The enemy raid was unsuccessful two prisoners being left in our hands.

7.32 a.m. to 7.37 a.m. we fired 5 rounds on H. B. NZ 37 in N24a 14.50. without observation.

Mar 5th - Gunner Kelsall was buried this morning at Cabaret Rouge.

A destructive shoot by aeroplane observation was successfully carried out during the afternoon on N.B NZ 19, 28 Rounds were fired ranging during which we obtained 2 Y's, 7 Z's, 8 A's, and 5 B's. During fire for effect a small explosion occurred in buildings at B8(?) from target, and a second explosion occurred near pin point of target. General position of hostile Battery only visible and pilot was greatly hampered in his work by low clouds.

Mar 6th - 8.45 a.m. we commenced a destructive shoot on HB NZ 34 in N22b 96.55 by aeroplane observation, shoot was successful(?)

Shoot was successful, 75 rounds being expended. Hostile shelling in vicinity of battery position. Nil.

Mar 7th - Nothing of unusual interest occurred today. Visibility was poor in early morning owing to heavy ground mists. 5 Rounds were fired at 9.35 p.m. on H. B. NZ 95 in N29a 20.53. Neutralizing fire.



Mar 8th - Visibility was fairly good today and day was exceptionally quiet. No shooting was done by this battery and hostile shelling was Nil.

Mar 9th - From 8.07 a.m. to 8.12 a.m. 5 Rounds were fired to neutralize H.B. NZ 95 in V29a 20.53. From 2.50 p.m. to 4.34 p.m. 75 Rounds were fired in destructive shoot on M. B. NZ 37 in N24a 14.50. by aeroplane observation, shoot was successful. 5 Rounds neutralizing fire was put over at 5.30 p.m. in N30a 50.53.

During the evening Harrassing fire was carried out in N30a 50.53 and on road Junction in N15c 20.91. Visibility was very good during the day and hostile shelling normal, being confirmed mostly to Wolley Bears.

Mar 10th - A few hostile shells, mostly 5.9" fell in the battery position but no damage was done either to material or personnel. No shooting was done by this battery. Hostile shelling increased during the evening in and near position.

Mar 11th - Visibility good. At 12.26 p.m. a shoot by aeroplane observation was opened on H.B. NX 41 in N16b 86.05. 55 Rounds being expended, after ranging shoot had to be stopped on account of hostile shelling which became very heavy about 1 p.m., shoot was eventually finished at 6.p.m. Hostile shelling was again resumed during the evening and lasted about 1 ½ hours, principally around No 2 Gun but no damage was caused.

Mar 12th - A successful shoot was carried out by aeroplane observation at 2.10 p.m. on H.B NZ 35 in N22b 85.05 during which we obtained 1 O.K., and 2 M. O.K's. Visibility was fairly good. Hostile shelling in vicinity of battery position was heavy between 1 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. and slacked off during the afternoon to an occasional shell and a few Wolley bears.

Mar 13th - Nil

Mar 14th - From 10.45 a.m. to 1.08 p.m. we carried out a destructive shoot on H.B. NX 56 in N17a 07.70 by aeroplane observation which was successful. Enemy attempted twice to register on Battery positions principally at No 2 Gun. Hostile shelling was at times exceptionally heavy but no damage was done to either personnel or material.

Mar 15th - From 5.34 a.m. to 6.35 a.m. 35 Rounds were fired on Target U W 1 in U1a 57.93. Visibility was fair and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. Hostile shelling was Nil.

Mar 16th - A successful shoot by aeroplane observation was carried out at 10 a.m. on O Y 36 in O25c 22.62 during which 2 O.K's were obtained. Hostile artillery was active during the day and position was shelled during the afternoon with 5.9's. 8.5 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. 15 Rounds were fired in response to an S.O.S. call.

Mar 17th - From 9.5 a.m. to 10.33 a.m. 60 Rounds were fired on Purdy Bridge by ground observation, and during the afternoon 15 Rounds were fired on Puits 2 and 13 Rounds on South Fosse Cite du Grande



Conde in N9d 02.05, Both these shoots were observed by Lieut D. J. Maxwell F.O.O. Hostile shelling today was below normal.

Mar 18th - 9.21 a.m. to 11.95 a.m. 3 Rounds neutralizing fire was put over on M. B. WX67 in N18c 52.62. Hostile shelling was heavy during the afternoon, No 2 Gun coming in for a good deal of attention Main roads through Lieven were continually harassed with 5.9's, Wooley bears and 4.1" Gun. No damage was caused to battery stores or personnel.

Mar 19th - Nil

Mar 20th - Nil

Mar 21st - S.O.S. call was received at 5.52 a.m. in response to which 35 Rounds were expended on S.O.S. lines. During the afternoon 110 Rounds were fired on NX 68 in N17d 33.04 and 20 Rounds fired into Enemy Headquarters in N3d 70.90. Day was quiet and hostile shelling below normal.

Mar 22nd - Nil

Mar 23rd - Visibility good, during the day we fired 20 Rounds on M.B. NZ 9 45.86 and 10 Rounds on M. B. NZ 85 in N22b 80.93. Hostile shelling was below normal and nothing of unusual interest obscured.

Mar 24th - From 4.05 a.m. to 4.15 a.m. 20 Rounds were fired on H.B. NX13 in N23c 75.68. This was repeated at 5.0 a.m. 15 Rounds were expended at 5.50 a.m. in response to an S.O.S. call. From 11.02 a.m. to 1.14 p.m. 105 Rounds were fired with good results on W.B. NX 63 in N17d 33.04. 15 Rounds neutralizing fire was fired from 11.45 p.m. to 12 midnight on NX 39 in N11c 77.55. Hostile shelling during day was practically nil.

Mar 25th - No shooting was done by this battery during the day. Hostile shelling heavy in the afternoon in and around positions in Lieven.

Mar 26th - NIL

Mar 27th - Nil

Mar 28th - 15 Rounds were fired during the afternoon on TX 30 and 22 in T 6a. Hostile shelling normal near battery positions but a great deal of shelling of back areas by H.V. Gun.

Mar 29th - Orders were received today that our North Section at Cite Calonne would be relieved by 10th S. B. And that we would take over their guns now at rest. A new position was to be occupied near Neuville St Vaast. Major T. W. F. MacDonald and Lieut D. J. Maxwell proceeded to New Position to look over position for guns. Road was under shell fire by H.V. Gun. One shell fell near the Car killing driver and severely wounding Major MacDonald.

Capt N. P. MacLeod arrived at Battery today and took up duties as O.C.



Mar 30th - Battery position and cross Roads were heavily shelled during the day but no damage was done. Guns No 208, 242, 212, 230 were taken over from 10th Siege Battery our own guns being taken over by them.

Mar 31st - Four sub sections were removed to new positions at Neuville St Vaast. Two guns and personnel together with Battery Headquarters remaining at Lieven.

During the afternoon a destructive shoot by aeroplane observation was successfully carried out. 75 Rounds being expended.

LIEVEN

Apr 1st - Visibility in the early morning was very poor but cleared up a little towards noon. Harassing fire was carried out in the early morning on Hostile Batteries NZ38 and NZ18 in N24b 40.27 and N36b 36.29. During the evening neutralization fire was carried out on Hostile Batteries NX63 in N16b 90.01. Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

Apr 2nd - No 2 Gun was shifted today to a new position further forward, the operation being carried out by using light line railway.

A wire was received from 42nd C.C. S. Stating that Major T. W. F. MacDonald had died of wounds received on March 29th. Harassing Fire was carried out on Hostile Battery positions during the early morning. At 5.25 a.m. an S.O.S. call was received and we opened fire on T4b 48.83 6 rounds being fired. 8 Rounds were fired at 7.30 a.m. to neutralize Hostile Battery (??38 in N24b 40.27. A successful shoot was carried out by aeroplane observation on N.B. 63 in ?16h 96.05 during which we obtained 1 O.K. and 2 M.O.K's.

During the night we fired upon Hostile Billets in N25c 5.7 – 90.85 and also on Hostile Battery NZ38 in N24b 40.27. Hostile shelling was normal during the day. Main Roads through Lieven being subjected to harassing fire, mostly shrapnel.

Apr 3rd - Major T. W. F. MacDonald was buried today at Aubigny, all Officers and Men not actually on duty attended.

Visibility was decidedly bad, heavy rains and low misty clouds making any kind of observation impossible. An S.O.S. call was received at 5 a.m. in response to which we fired 5 Rounds on T4b 48.82. Hostile shelling was heavy during the day and at night Battery position and vicinity was subjected to heavy Gas Bombardment. H.E's were freely mixed with the gas. Main roads were were also under harassing fire. No serious casualty occurred however Gunner N.G. Turnbull was wounded by shrapnel and 2/AM Lightfoot R.F.C. was admitted to Hospital suffering from Gas poisoning. During the afternoon 10 Rounds were fired on Fosse 13 for registration. During the night we fired 40 Rounds in N.F. Calls, neutralization, and harassing fire on billets in N28c 50.70 – 90.85 and Hostile batteries NZ31, NZ 38 and NZ18. Visibility considerably improved towards evening.

Apr 4th - Visibility was again spoiled by heavy rains and mist which prevented any good work being done. Hostile artillery was fairly active and main roads through Lieven were again subjected to harassing fire. During the night we carried out a program of harassing fire on Billets in N26(?)c 5.7 to N28c 90.85



Apr 5th - Visibility poor and hostile shelling below normal. Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. In the afternoon we neutralized Hostile Battery NZ38 in N24b 40.27 and a program of harassing fire was carried out during the night on enemy Headquarters in T5b 30.10.

Apr 6th - Hostile shelling was more active during the early part of the day in vicinity of battery positions Maud Villas in N36c 77.00 – 36d 10.15 were subjected to harassing fire during the night.

Apr 7th - Visibility was fairly good during the day although early morning was very misty. Hostile shelling was normal. Hostile Battery NX9 in N18b 37.98 was neutralized during the afternoon and Maud Villas were again subjected to harassing fire. Neutralization and Counter Battery programmes on NZ 38 and NX71 were carried out during the night.

Apr 8th - Harassing fire was carried out in the early morning on Rose Cottage in N36' 38.29 and Noyelles Road and approaches were also subjected to harassing fire. Enemy put up heavy Gun Bombardment at 4.30 a.m. lasting until 4.58 a.m. during which time we neutralized N.B's NX71 and NZ37, the shoot being conducted in S.B.R's.

Noyelles was harassed during the afternoon and Tramways in N35b and NZ46 were subjected to harassing fire during the night.

Apr 9th - Hostile batteries NZ38 in N36d 30.55 was neutralized at 3.20 p.m. and harassing fire was carried out on Noyelles and approaches during the evening. Hostile shelling was below normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred. 5 Rounds for neutralization was fired on N.B. NZ40 in N30b 31.19

Apr 10th - Maud Villas were subjected to a heavy harassing fire during the early morning, also an enemy Headquarters in N30b 35.75 was fired on during the evening. 30 Rounds being put over on this target. Enemy shelling was normal some scattered shelling of the roads with shrapnel and few H.E's

Apr 11th - Nil

Apr 12th - From midnight to 8 a.m. fired 20 Rounds harassing fire on Railway in N35d 00.00. A very successful shoot was carried out during the afternoon on Dumps at Rose Cottage in W36b 38.30 the shoot being observed from Alice O.P. The 29th Round caused a very large explosion apparently at the dump followed shortly after by a series of smaller explosions which continued for several minutes. At the 45th Round a large fire was started which quickly spread to between 75 and 80 yards in extent and burned for considerable time. Visibility failed at 7.15 p.m. and the last report from Alice O.P. states both dump and Rose Cottage to be still burning. Shoot was continued without observation until the allotment of 75 Rounds had been expended.

Apr 13th - Day was exceptionally quiet and nothing of unusual interest occurred. Harassing fire was opened up on Billets in N15b 77.77, Cross Roads in N22b 78.96 and Rose Cottage.

Apr 14th - Hostile shelling was below normal but full days program of Harassing fire was carried out by us. 170 Rounds being expended in Harassing fire on selected targets and neutralization of Hostile Batteries.



Apr 15th - Nil

Apr 16th - Rear section of Battery left Neuville St Vaast and relieved 10th R.G.A. at Cite Calonne taking over 3 Guns.

90 Rounds were expended during the day as harassing fire and H B's, NX91 and NZ19 were neutralized Hostile shelling was below normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred.

Apr 17th - Lieut R.L. Smith was discovered in an unconscious condition in bed and although all methods of resuscitation were tried for over two hours he failed to recover consciousness and died. The medical officer giving his verdict as Heart Failure. He was buried same afternoon at Ahlain St Nazaare, all members of his sub-section who could be spared attended.

Two S.O.S. calls were received in the evening the first being at 10.18 p.m. in reply to which we fired 8 Rounds on S.O.S. lines St Emile. The second call was received at 10.27 p.m. and a further 8 Rounds put over on the same line. At 10.30 p.m. we fired 10 Rounds as per C. B. Program on N.B. NX \65. Harassing fire was kept up for the remainder of the night on N17c 50.00 and searching and sweeping around N35d 10.30.

Apr 18th - 90 Rounds were fired during the day as Harassing fire on NX65 in N12c 86.57 and N45 & NZ85 Hostile shelling was practically Nil

Apr 19th - Day was exceptionally quiet and nothing of unusual interest occurred.

8 Rounds were fired at 10.09 p.m. on N(?)15a and b in reply to an S.O.S. call
A program of harassing and neutralizing fire was carried out during the night.

Apr 20th - Enemy troops were observed on Canada Road in N21d 9.7. at 2.25 p.m. and 6 Rounds were fired into them. A shoot by aeroplane observation was opened up at T(?) p.m. on NX65 in N12a 36.57 but had to be abandoned after the 15th Round on account of Mist obscuring the target.

Apr 21 - A successful shoot by aeroplane observation on N.B (?) 65 in N12a 86.57 opened up at 10.19 a.m. 150 Rounds being expended. During the evening 20 Rounds were fired on NX41 in N16a 85.15 successfully neutralizing it. The shoot being conducted by balloon observation.
65 Rounds were fired during the night as harassing fire on selected targets. Hostile shelling at times was above normal. Two destructive shoots being carried out by the enemy on Battery Positions in Lieven.

Apr 22nd - Hostile shelling in vicinity of Battery position was normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. The usual program of Harassing fire was carried out during the night. 60 Rounds being expended.

Apr 23rd - Nil

Apr 24th - One subsection of battery was sent to prepare reserve Gun positions at Couy Servins. Nothing of unusual interest occurred and only programs of Harassing fire and neutralization on NZ63 and NZ24 were carried out.



Apr 25th - Visibility very poor throughout the day and nothing of unusual interest occurred. From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. we fired 10 Rounds on Noyelles and 10 Rounds on Loision. During the night 129 Rounds were expended as harassing fire on selected targets.

Apr 26th - Nil

Apr 27th - Hostil(e) shelling was nil. Visibility very poor throughout the day. 30 Rounds were fired as Harassing fire on Canada Road in N30b and N22d 7.9, during the evening and 10 Rounds neutralizing was put over on M.B's NX93 and NX95.

Apr 28th - A demonstration was held before Brig. Gen Morrison and Brig. Gen Massie by detachment under Lieut K. S. Bushall in loading and unloading a 9.2" Howitzer on light line railway. The demonstration was very successful and the following letter was received from the G.O.C Canadian Corps through the Brigade Commander: --

"The conduct of the demonstration of loading a 9.2" Howitzer on light line railway, by the detachment of the 5th Canadian Siege Battery was most excellently carried through. It reflects great credit on the Unit and especially those members directly concerned.

I want you to convey to Lieut Bushall, N.C.O.'s and Men of this detachment my thanks for and appreciation of, their excellent work.

Signed: K. W. R. Morrison Brig. Gen. G.O.C R.A. Cdn

Apr 28th - Hostile shelling during the day was practically nil and we fired 95 Rounds harassing fire on selected targets.

Apr 29th - Day was (v)ery quiet and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. 20 Rounds were fired during the night on Harassing fire.

Apr 30th - Visibility was poor throughout the day and nothing of interest occurred. From Noon and throughout the day 50 Rounds harassing fire was put over on selected targets.

May 1st Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day, Hostile shelling was practically nil, 20 Rounds were fired during the night as harassing fire on T12a 8.8 and T5b 7.0

May 2nd - Orders were received this morning for battery to move out into reserve with 2nd Brigade C.G.A. All guns were dismantled and placed into position ready for travelling. But orders were received at 9.15 p.m. to cancel moving orders and put guns back into positions for firing. This was done immediately and all guns were ready for action by 2 a.m.

May 3rd - Hostile artillery was below normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. Starting at 3 p.m. we conducted a destructive shoot by aeroplane observation on H.B. NZ 24 at N33b 90.28. 238 rounds were fired with satisfactory results.

During the night harassing fire was kept up on N5d 6.9 and N35c 9.8



May 4th - During the day two guns were registered on Houses in N21c 01.02. 23 Rounds being fired and registration satisfactory.

May 5th - Nil

May 6th - Day was very quiet and nothing of interest occurred, as a registration for Nos 1 and 2 Guns we fired 22 rounds on embankment at N16d 80.00

May 7th - Nil

May 8th - No shooting was done by this battery today. Hostile shelling was above normal. A considerable amount of 5.9" H.E's and shrapnel being thrown into Battery positions in and around Lieven. No material damage was done and no casualties were reported amongst personnel.

May 9th - A shoot was carried out at 9.43 a.m. on H.R. NX 68 in N18a 20.99. 120 Rounds being fired with aeroplane observation, obtaining 6Y's, 10Z's, 10A's, explosion and fire on pin point of No 1 Gun pit, explosion in No 2 pit. Houses all around target much knocked about. Airmen reported Battery shot well and shelled target thoroughly.

During the evening a second aeroplane shoot was carried out on OY 45 in O25c 22.62/ 120 Rounds being fired with satisfactory results. Hostile shelling during the day was normal.

May 10th - Nil

May 11th - Hostile shelling normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. 10 Rounds neutralizing fire was put over on NZ 42 sy M28b 82.57 and 5 Rounds on NZ 81 at N17a 06.72

May 12th - A shoot with aeroplane observation was carried out from 5.30 p.m. to 7.15 p.m. on OY 46 in N20b 4.6 120 Rounds were fired with satisfactory results. A.M.F. call was received from plane at 8.20 p.m. and 21 rounds fired on N30b 4.6

During the night 30 rounds general neutralizing fire was put over on H.B's NZ95 and NZ 24 in N36c 18.14 and N23b 90.24.

Hostile shelling was normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

May 13th - At 5.42 a.m. we started a destructive shoot on H.B. NX 65 in N12c 88.67 by aeroplane observation 120 Rounds being fired with satisfactory results. At Noon, we fired 9 rounds on Windmill in N11d 72.86 using ground observation to check line of N1 gun, which was found O.K. During the afternoon we also fired 4 rounds on movement in N9d 60.80. Hostile shelling was normal and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

May 14th - 18 rounds were fired at noon on IVY COTTAGE in T6d 30.15 for registration of No 2 gun, using both ground and balloon observation. Destructive shoot on Headquarters in W30b 40.70 with aeroplane observation was started at 2.04 p.m. 120 rounds were fired obtaining 1Y, 6Z's, 7A's and 34 M.O.K's. Houses badly knocked about causing 2 large and 1 small explosion.



A second shoot with aeroplane observation (MQNP) on H.R. NX76 on M16b 98.05 was carried out during the evening, 52 rounds being expended, resulting in 1Y, 5 Z's, 5A's and 1 M.O.K. Bridge near No 3 pit believed destroyed and one explosion ensued.

May 15th - Hostile shelling was at times above normal. Two destructive shoots being carried out by the enemy during which 3 O.R's were wounded. During the morning we fired 15 rounds on NX 28 in N5d 20.10 using balloon observation.

May 16th - During the day a 120 round shoot on HB NX 50 with aeroplane observation resulted in 1Z, 6A's, 2 MOK's. Airman reported positions well shelled

May 17th - Destructive shoot with aeroplane observation on H.B. OY 42 in O25a 50.30 was commenced at 10.05 a.m. 120 rounds were fired resulting in 5 Z's, 1A's, and 5 MOK's. One large explosion occurred in buildings at A12, a large explosion at A7, one in buildings at B8 and large explosion caused in No 2 pit, pit evidently destroyed. Shooting was excellent during fire for effect. Hostile shelling was very active during the night but no damage was done.

May 18th - During the early hours of the day 20 Rounds harassing fire was put over in N39b 65.50. A 120 round shoot with aeroplane observation was carried out on NX25 with following results: 2 OK's, 11 Y's, 11 Z's. Battery reranged obtaining 1 MOK. Nos 2 and 3 pits appeared utterly destroyed. No 1 pit probably destroyed. No 4 pit damaged. One round fell at edge of Carvin Road (B3) and caused several explosions and a fire, evidently ammunition dump.

May 19th - Harrassing fire was put over on N39a 65.50 during the early morning. A shoot of 120 rounds on NX66 at N12d 34.11 was carried out with aeroplane observation at 9 a.m. to noon, resulting in 3Y's, 9Z's, 8A's, and 2 MOK's, also causing small fire in Battery position. Hostile shelling of our battery positions and vicinity was at times very heavy. During the afternoon 70 Rounds were fired on bridge at N21a 8.5 with satisfactory results. Harrassing fire was put over during the night on T6b 2.5

May 20th - A shoot by aeroplane observation was started at 7.50 a.m. on H.B. NZ 60 in N30a 25.35. A second shoot by aeroplane observation was commenced at 10.53 a.m. on NZ59 in N29d 53.35 resulting in 1Y, 5Z's, 8A's, and 6 MOK's. Several small explosions in general position, which was well shelled. Hostile battery appeared to have to forward and two rear pits, the latter being doubtful. During the night harassing fire was put over on N29d 6.1 and N36b 5.2. Hostile artillery more active in back areas and vicinity of battery position shelled with H.E's and woolley B's

May 21st - Nil

May 22nd - From 11.19 to 11.20 a.m. 10 Rounds were fired on OY 45 in O25c 2.7 as neutralizing fire. At 11.42 a.m. a shoot by aeroplane observation was started on OW46 on O7c 40.20. 200 rounds were fired obtaining 6 Y's, 9Z's, 13A's (includes ranging) and 4 MOK's.



May 23rd - From 9.03 a.m. to 11.10 a.m. a shoot of 120 rounds on HB OY44 in O25b 62.60 by aeroplane observation was successfully carried out. During the night 30 rounds were fired at intervals as harassing fire on N29d 18.98.

May 24th - Nil

May 25th - From 11.15 to 1 p.m. we carried out a shoot with aeroplane observation on NZ63 in N30b 77.66 obtaining 4Y's, 7Z's, and 8A's, and 2 MOK's. Two large explosions were caused in houses near target. Hostile artillery was active during the night harassing roads and approaches thru Lieven.

May 26th - At 4.35 p.m. 10 Rounds neutralizing fire was put over on H.B. OY40 in P25a 16.68 and at 5.28 p.m. we started an aeroplane shoot on NX92 at N18a 96.90 obtaining 3Y's, 9Z's, 15A's, and 2 MOK's also causing a small explosion and fire.

May 27th - From 1.57 a.m. to 2.57a.m. Battery position and vicinity were subjected to heavy Gas bombardment of Yellow and Blue cross gas from 15cm and 10cm Howitzers and 77 mm guns. The gas shells were freely mixed with 5.9" H.E's On the first alarm being given gas curtains in every dugout were lowered and S.B.R.'s adjusted. In consequence of the smart action and precautionary measures taken only two casualties were reported, these being two signallers who were working on the signal lines and continued with their work throughout the bombardment. Over 1000 shells were fired in 2 hours. All gas shell holes were treated with chloride of lime and filled in with earth and every endeavour made to clear out the gas from around battery position.

A 120 round shoot on NX37 in N6d 50.41 with aeroplane observation was successfully carried out during the morning.

May 28th - Hostile shelling was fairly heavy during the early part of the day, mostly 5.9" HE's with an occasional burst of 4.1 HV Gun Shells.

A shoot with aeroplane observation on NX65 in N12c 88.67 was successfully carried out. 120 Rounds being fired.

27 men were reported today as gas casualties. These casualties were caused by the blast of the guns stirring up dust which had been contaminated with mustard gas during the recent bombardment. Everything possible was done to eliminate the possibility of further casualties through the same causes, Bottles of Bi-carbonate of soda were placed in each dugout for bathing the eyes of men who were believed to have passed through the affected areas, and the greatest care was exercised by all ranks on account of the persistency of the gas.

May 29th - During the night the 2nd Brigade, C.G.A. went out into reserve and this Battery together with 4th C.S.B. were taken over by 67th Brigade. R.G.A.

From midnight to 5 a.m. we fired (?)0 rounds on Fosse 4 in M29d 7.5 as harassing fire. Hostile shelling was kept up intermittently all day, enemy using 5.9" Hows and a 4.1 HV Gun. No material damage was done and only one man wounded. No 339545 Gnr Swanson A being hit in chest with piece of shell.

May 30th - Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day, and hostile shelling was normal.



May 31st - A shoot with aeroplane observation on OX40 in O25a 16.68 was successfully carried out during the morning. 120 Rounds being fired. Harrassing fire was also put over on Cross Roads at N29b 90.52

Total rounds fired during month—3387

Total casualties for month—35

Jun 1st - The carriage and cradle of Howitzer No 482 having been condemned, the gun was pulled out during the day and removed to Workshops. Enemy was active during the morning. Battery positions in and around Lieven being shelled for a short time by 10.5 cm Hows.

During the afternoon a destructive shoot of 60 Rounds with aeroplane observation on NX16 was successfully carried out, obtaining 5Y's, 9Z's, 16A's, and 2 M.O.K's. A second shoot with aeroplane observation was started on OY44 in O25b 60.64 but was discontinued after the 18th Round as target was too far away for our guns to do any effective shooting.

Jun 2nd- From Midnight, Lieven and Battery positions were heavily shelled for half an hour with 10.5 cm and 15 cm hows. A considerable number of gas shells being mixed up with the HE. Some scattered shelling of our positions at Cite Calonne also took place shortly after midnight, mostly by HV Guns. A destructive shoot with aeroplane observation was started at 11 a.m. on HB NZ63(?) in N30b resulting in 2Y's, 5Z's, 7A's, and 2 M.O.K's. A fire was also caused at O.K. pin point. Airman reported fire for effect very good.

During the night, Harrassing fire was put over on selected targets in N35b.

Jun 3rd - Our north position at Cite Calonne was lightly shelled by 10.5 cm Hows at 1 p.m. The shelling lasting about 60 minutes. Enemy activity was below normal during the day and nothing of unusual interest ensued. There was no shooting by this battery during the day.

Jun 4th - The day was unusually quiet and nothing of important occurred. The evening and during the night was more active. At 10.36 p.m., the enemy put over harassing fire in and around position in Lieven, mostly 15 cm shells. Light harassing fire was also over by the enemy from 7p.m. guns(?) and was kept up intermittently throughout the night. One O.R. was admitted to Field ambulance suffering from the poisoning which brings our total casualties from the recent gas bombardment up to 36. There was no shooting by this battery during the day.

Jun 5th - Enemy activity was slightly above normal, the battery position and positions in and around Lieven being heavily shelled by 15 cm hows and at 4(?) p.m. our North Section at Calonne was shelled by 10 cm or 15 cm how. Information was received today that it had been decided to rearm this battery with a new equipment of Mark II Howitzers. There was no shooting by this battery during the day.

Jun 6th - During the early morning Lieven and Calonne were intermittently shelled by 10.5 cm Hows but no damage was caused to our material or personnel.

Captain N. P. MacLeod and 14 Other ranks left for La Havre to take charge of new equipment of Mark II Hows. Hostile activity was below normal during the day and nothing of unusual interest occurred.



Jun 7th - A (?) of hostile fire was placed on Calonne at 2 a.m. but the shelling was not maintained and no damage was done to personnel or material. Nothing of interest occurred during the day. At 11 p.m. and at intervals during the night Lieven was shelled by 10.5 cm Hows.

Jun 8th - Hostile activity was much below normal and there was nothing of interest to report. At 4.30 p.m. we received an L.L. call in another to which we fired 10 Rounds on (?) 9.d

Jun 9th - Hostile shelling was normal during the day and only a slight shelling around the battery position took place during the afternoon mostly by 5.9" Hows. Harassing fire was put over by us during the night on Railway Embankment in N2(??) 66.95

Jun 10th - At 3.(??) a.m. Lieven was subjected to some gas shelling but there was no protracted bombardment the remainder of the day was quiet and nothing of interest occurred. There was no shooting by this battery.

Jun 11th - Hostile artillery quiet and nothing of interest to report.

Jun 12th - There was no shooting done today and enemy activity was comparatively quiet, but considerably (?) between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. which appeared to be the enemy's favorite time for harassing fire which took place in short bursts. A few (?) (?) shells were also fired over with H.E.'s .

Jun 13th - Captain N. P. MacLeod and party returned to Battery today having drawn new equipment which was left at Workshop for (?) fittings and overhauling. A successful shoot was pulled off at (?) p.m. on enemy Headquarters at N(?)d 30.85 using both balloon and ground observation, 90 Rounds being fired.

During the night Lieven was subjected to harassing fire by 10.5 cm Hows but not met with any great Intensity.

Jun 14th - Hostile activity was practically nil. A demonstration of Aeroplane S.O.S. was carried out on this front (?) 6 p.m. S.O.S. smoke having being dropped from the plane to demonstrate the procedure during a hostile attack.

Jun 15th - Between 3 a.m. and 8 a.m. Hostile artillery showed very marked activity. Lieven coming in for a great deal of attention. Short bursts of fire were also put down during the afternoon. About 9 p.m. we put over (?)0 rounds on (?). The shoot being observed by the 10 Kite Balloon section the reported shooting good and (?) (?) on the target.

Jun 16th - Enemy activity was not marked now at any time during the day very intense. Most of the shelling took place in the early morning and was periodically directed against our battery position in Lieven. From 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. several parts of Lieven were persistently shelled by 10.5 cm and 10 cm Hows and intermittently afterwards up to 1.30 p.m. The afternoon was quiet until 5 p.m. when the shelling on Lieven, mostly near and around our No 1 gun was resumed until 6 p.m. with a series of bursts. No casualties occurred although 1 Dugout was blown in and some material damage caused.



During the afternoon, we fired 50 Rounds on NX66, corrections being given by No (?) who reported Battery was well onto target.

Jun 17th - Nil

Jun 18th - Nil

Jun 19th - It had been decided that This Battery less two sections would relieve the 79th S.B. 10th Brigade R.S.A. at positions at Neuville St. Vaast, they taking over four guns now in position at Calonne. June 19th....In preparation of this exchange we removed the platforms to new positions at (?). How No 306 was also pulled out and moved(?) to Larwie(?) park ready for shipment to the base, How No 330(?) was pulled out but on account of the caterpillar failing to turn up (?) (?) not possible to remove it as had previously been arranged.

Jun 20th - During the evening the new Mk II Hows Nos 614 and 619 were received from shops and placed in position at (?) Neuville St. Vaast. (?) (?) (?) (?) (?) (?) (?) The old Mark I pieces being removed to Larwie(?) park for shipment to base.

A shoot of 120 Rounds with aeroplane observation was successfully carried out during the day on (?) (?), (?) reported 2 Y's, 13 Z's, 21A's, and 2 OK's position well shelled and a fire ensued.

Jun 21s - Remainder of (?) with (?) H. E. Was completed during the evening and 2nd Brigade G.C. A. (?) the line from rest relieved the 10th Brigade R.C.A. Pelly O.P. was taken over by us at 7 p.m.

Jun 22nd - The Headquarters of the (?) was reported to Neuville St. Vaast (?) aeroplane under Lieut (?) (?)(?). The 4 sections at Neuville St. Vaast being under the (of the Brigade C.G.A.

Jun 23rd - From 3.10 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. we fired 34 Rounds at (?) at (?) using ground observed time. During the evening we also fired 10 Rounds on light line railway at (?) 70.30 and corrections were given by balloon. At intervals during the night harassing fire was put over on targets in W37a 70.78(?).

Jun 24th - 3 Other ranks were removed to hospital today suffering from a new form of fever which had began to spread in this district with alarming rapidity. The symptoms resembled inflammation combined with high temperature.

Neutralizing fire was put over during the morning on NY 30 at U31b 90.05 and (?) 1 at (?) d 5.3 70 Rounds were expended during the evening as harassing fire on selected targets in (?)

NEUVILLE ST VAAST

Jun 25th - (?) of the prevalence in the district of the new fever, which owing to the short duration has been termed 'The three days Fever' a special hospital was erected for the Battery (?) for the care of the affected. This was a large and commodious dugout fitted with almost every available comfort and placed under the charge of three Other ranks who had had previous experience in Hospital work with the S.A. M. C.(?) This hospital has proved a great success and several men going sick with the fever were



placed therein, kept warm and given lots of hot drinks were able to resume their duties at the end of a few days.

During the day Lieven was subjected to very severe harassing fire by 10.5 cm Hows. From 1 p.m. to 3.40 p.m. we completed a destructive shoot on (?) and (?). 100 Rounds being fired with aeroplane observation. The shoot was satisfactory obtaining 3 MOK's, 1 Y, 9 Y's, and 16A's. The North section of Lieven also carried and a destructive shoot with aeroplane observation on OX60 obtaining 3 Y's, 4Z's, 9A's, and 3MOKs. No 3 (?) was also reported damaged. Harassing fire during the night consisted of 30 Rounds on Railway at (?) 96.70.

Jun 26th - Howitzers Mark II Nos 565 and 594(?) were brought up and placed in position at (?). Hostile activity in (?) of south section. Position normal but North Section position in Lieve3n came in for a good deal of attention during the morning. Later on between 10 p.m. and midnight Lieven was again heavily shelled.

A destructive shoot by aeroplane observation was successfully carried out on NW (?) at (?) 15.15 during the evening 180 Rounds being fired, resulting in 1X, 4Z's, and 12A's.

A destructive shoot with aeroplane observation was also carried out by the North Section resulting in 7 Y's, 12Z's, and 17 A's.

Jun 27th - The evening was very lively for our North Section position. Lieven and Battery positions being heavily shelled by at least one (?). Neutralization fire was opened up in which a few rounds of gas shell were used and apparently proved effective.

A shoot with aeroplane observation on UW(?) in (?) (?) was successfully carried out from 3.5 p.m. to 8 p.m. 128 Rounds being fired resulting in 1Y, 3Z's, 7A's, and 1MOK.

A destructive shoot of 120 Rounds carried out by our North Section position with aeroplane observation resulted in 3Y's, 9Z's, and 19A's.

Jun 28th - 10.45 a.m. to 10.(?) a.m. UW1 at (?) 65.40 was neutralized. 10 Rounds being put over with satisfactory results. A shoot with aeroplane observation on (?) 10 at (?) 36.08 was started at 6 p.m. but had to be abandoned at 6.20 p.m. after 11 Rounds had been fired on account of clouds hindering the work of the airman.

During the night 30 Rounds harassing fire was put over on O (?) (?).

Jun 29th - Lieut. G.A. Bennett joined Unit from 3rd B.A.C to replace Lieut. D. J. Maxwell M.(?) on duty in England.

At 9.00 p.m. North Section at Lieven was subjected to bursts of fire from 15 cm Hows. Enemy also showed considerable activity in front of South Section positions using a large number of gas shells but causing no casualties.

A destructive shoot on (?) (?) was successfully carried out by our North Section using aeroplane observations. 100 Rounds were fired obtaining 3X's, 10Z's, and 4A's. Airman reported (?) excellent throughout. 4 p.m. to 4.10 p.m. neutralising fire was put over on (?) (?) and at 8.10 p.m. we opened up on enemy movement in (?) firing 8 rounds. 5 Rounds neutralising fire was also put over on (?).

Jun 30th - Lieven was again shelled by 10.5 cm Hows at 3.40 a.m. During the evening the remainder of Mk X and the non-(?) stores were loaded at Aubigay railhead and dispatched to base. 6.00a.m. to 9.15



a.m. we fired 20 Rounds and successfully neutralised (?) 80. 20 Rounds harassing fire was also put over during the night on (?).

Rounds expended during the month: (Total E & C 1445.48)

Casualties: Nil

Jul 1st – Corps sports were held to-day at Tincnes and all available men who could be spared were dispatched there in the Morning by Lorries. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught visited First Army including Canadian Corps Headquarters and sports.

During the night and early morning our North Section positions at Lieven were subjected to a very heavy concentration of gas, but fortunately no casualties were reported.

Very little shooting was carried out during the day. Hostile Battery in M26d.05.06 was successfully neutralized at 11.45.am and a Hostile Battery in 02h.49.43 neutralized at 9.30.pm with good effects. Harassing fire was put over during the night on Hostile Batteries in ?9.6.d. with good effects. Enemy opened up heavy Gas Bombardment in Lieven, our North Section position coming in for a good deal of attention. Further photographs taken of N.B. O.Y.82 engaged by us on 29th ults shows MP.I. was well onto target and position considerably damaged.

Jul 2nd – During last night's Gas Bombardment at Lieven 2 – 5.9" Yellow Cross Gas Shells fell in No 2 Gun pit and several fell around No 2 Pit.

Some very fine shooting was carried out by this section during the day. Despite large concentration of gas in and around the pits they undertook a destructive shoot by aeroplane observation on H.B. at O.14.c.23.62. All ranks were obliged to wear S.B.R's and anti-gas gloves nevertheless although considerably handicapped the shoot was very successful, obtaining 2x ? 4 Y's, 3X's, 8A's, 4.MOK's A large explosion was caused at E3 and much damage believed to have been done.

Enemy artillery has shown considerable activity. Battery positions at B24 and NE7d in Lieven receiving considerable attention. Both our positions were heavily shelled between 2 and 3 pm. With 150.mm and 105.mm and again about midnight short bursts of 77.mm Gas fell in the positions. A destructive shoot by aeroplane observation on UW.68 resulted in 9 X's, 11 A's, 1 NOK, and an explosion at ? and No 2 pit received a direct hit.

Harassing fire was put over during the night on Cross Roads at U.6.d.60.45.

Jul 3rd – The following letter of congratulation received by 87th Brigade RGA was forwarded to us this morning.

67th Brigade RGA

The section of 5th Canadian Siege Battery with your Brigade was gassed during the night of 30th June and again during the night of 1/2nd July.

The section was ordered to do a Counter Battery Aeroplane shoot on the morning of 2nd July. The conditions were such that the detachments had to work wearing their Small Box Respirators. The shoot lasted for two hours and during the shoot 6 Y's, 5?'s, 8A's ? and a large explosion at X3 observations were received and much damage inflicted.

In spite of the difficulties under which they were working the shoot proceeded so well that the observer was unaware that the Battery was shooting under any but normal conditions.

This is a very good example of what can be done under the circumstances and is a proof of the training and steadiness of all ranks under trying conditions.



The B.G. H.A. congratulates all ranks concerned and trusts that their example will be emulated by all units of the Corps Heavy Artillery should they have the misfortune to be placed in a similar condition. It is only by continual training, discipline and forethought that this can be obtained.

Sgd. H.C. Kenyon. Major R.A.

July 2nd 1918.

Brigade Major, VXXX Corps, R.A.

During the early morning Lieven was subjected to fairly consistent harassing, but this occurred in bursts and only small calibres were used. Wexwew again shelled intermittently all morning and until 3.pm in the afternoon by 10.5 cm Hows, principally around No 2 Gun pit. 1 shell struck the building used as a cook house breaking through the roof and bursting inside the building severely wounding the cook, No 303627 Gnr Purdy S.C. 5 men were also admitted to Field Ambulance suffering from Burns and effects of Gas poisoning. At 9.pm to 9.30 pm and again from 10.pm to 12.pm rather sharp bursts of 10.5 cm how shells were placed in some positions.

A successful shoot on U.W. 22 in U.2.b. observed by Lieut Knibbe, R.A.F. was carried out from 3.15.pm to 4.30.pm 30 rounds were expended ranging and 81 fired for effect during which we obtained 4 Y's, 10 Z's, 10 A's and 1 MOK. Several explosions occurred near target and MPI well on to target. Plane gave CI petrol at 5.26.pm and fire for effect was continued without observation.

During the morning, ? and ? were successfully neutralized and 10 Rounds harassing fire was placed on UW 22 during the evening.

Jul 4th - Hostile Artillery Activity was not so active during the preceding 24 hours and only normal activity took place in the vicinity of our gun positions. During the evening Neville St Vaast was harassed by a 10.cm Gun.

.A destructive shoot on H.B. UW.? In U.?. b. observed by Lieut Goulding RAF was carried out by South Section from 4.pm to 5.50.pm. 30 rounds were expended ranging and 90 rounds fired for effect during which we received the following observations? 2 Y's, 7 Z's, 6 A's, 5 B's 8 C's and 2 D's a fire was caused near O.K. pin point MPI was well on target. Plane gave CI petrol at 5.36 pm.

A destructive shoot carried out by the North Section from 5.pm. to 8.55.pm was observed by Lieut Macneil RAF on O14c. and was successful. 25 rounds for ranging and 95 for effect resulting in 3 Y's, 6 Z's, 4 A's, 5 B's, 5 C's and 3 NOK's MPI well onto target.

During the night NB UW77 in U13d was successfully neutralized and harassing fire put over on same target at intervals throughout the night.

Later reports from Photos taken of shoot on UW.55 show No 2 pit received a direct hit.

Jul 5th - Hostile Activity was below normal, the shelling taking the form of harassing fire in short bursts, night harassing fire was less than usual. A fairly heavy concentration of 10.5. cm how shells was placed on Lievin at 4.30.pm otherwise the afternoon was fairly quiet. Between 10.30.pm and 11.pm. Lievin was harassed by 10.5. cm Hows.

A very successful destructive shoot was carried out by our North Section on OY 95 in O334 from 12.08.pm. to 2.15.pm. 120 rounds were fired with the following results 2 Y's, 6 Z's, 7 A's, 3 MOK's. All four pits were hit and several explosions caused. A fire at Z7 lasted for 30 minutes, a switch to A5 caused a fire in No 4 pit and switch A11 caused several explosions and fires were still burning when plane came in. This was also reported by various ground observers.



Harassing fire in ? was also put down on some target from 3.45.pm to 8.pm. Harassing fire was continued all night on roads in O87a.

A destructive shoot by aeroplane observation was carried out by South Section on OY 34 130 rounds were fired resulting in the following observations, 5 Y's, 4 X's, 6 A's, MPI well onto target. Later reports on this shoot from photographs taken by 16th Squadron RAF shows this position to have been well shelled but it was extremely difficult to estimate results.

Jul 6th - A rather heavy concentration by 10.5. cm Hows and 77.mm guns on Lieven lasted with varying intensity from 3.15.pm until 5.45. pm. A certain amount of desultory shelling of Lieven continued throughout the day, in response to which neutralizing fire was put down nine hostile batteries.

Lieut W? Becroft conducted a destructive shoot on UZ 15 at U16e at 9.8.am. 22 rounds were expended ranging obtaining 1 Y, 3 Z's, and 6 A's.

During the afternoon 18 rounds Harassing fire was put down on Cross Roads at U3c.

Jul 7th - Two destructive shoots were successfully carried out during the day. One by the North Section was conducted by Lieut D.A. Guildford and observed by Lieut Whittame RAF on OY92 from 4.37.pm. 27 rounds ranging resulted in 4 Y's, 6 Z's 11 A's. Airman reported fire for effect very good.

The shoot carried out by the South Section from 6.50.pm on UZ 10 in U16c was conducted by Lieut C.S. Bennett and observed by Lieut Caley RAF. 1st G at 7.3.pm 25 rounds ranging resulted in 6 Y's, 6 Z's, 8 A's, 4 B's and 1 C. Fire for effect good.

Jul 8th - The following letter received by 67th Brigade was forwarded to us this morning, 67th Brigade, RGA

The following letter has been received in this office:-

G.O.C., HA

R.A. VIII Corps No GB 20/137

Reference your WM/36 of 2nd July. Please convey to OC, Officers, N.C.O's and men of 5th Canadian Siege Battery the Corps Commanders congratulations and appreciation of the gallant, well-disciplined and good work done.

7.7.18

Signed, Major, R.A. G.S.O., R.A. VIII Corps

Enemy aircraft was unusually active over the South Section position during the morning and several exciting air flights took place, during one of which a hostile plane was brought down in flames and crashed from a good height some distance in front of our guns.

Enemy artillery was, generally, rather quieter and took the nature of harassing fire principally on Front line areas.

Lievin was harassed by 77.mm and a small proportion of Yellow Cross Gas and sharp bursts of fire were placed on area near guns from 1.am to 7.am

A successful shoot on OW 85 conducted by our North Section under Lieut K.S. Bushell and observed by Capt Caley RAF was carried out at 6.pm 1st G was given at 6.1.pm and with 15 rounds ranging obtained 2 Y's, 4 Z's, 3 A's, 4 B's and 1 C. Fire for effect was then carried out from 6.28.pm to 7.10.pm. Section was then re-arranged and 10 rounds ranging obtained 3.Y's, 5 Z's, 1 A, 1 B. Fire for effect was then carried out from 7.23 pm during which we obtained an explosion near O.K. pin point and a large explosion at Z3. Plane then gave ? and switch Z6. No 2 Pit received a direct hit. Fire for effect was very good and plane gave Sl at 7.55.pm.



Lieut Whittome RAF at 6.5.pm. 1st G was sent at 6.13.pm and in 22 rounds ranging obtained 9 A's 12 B's and 1 C. Fire for effect was carried out from 6.45.pm to 7.10.pm. when battery was re-ranged obtaining 3 Y's, 2 Z's 10 A's, 10 B's and 1 C. Fire for effect was good and plane gave CI at 9.pm.

Jul 9th - Enemy artillery normal, the morning being very quiet. In the evening some neutralizing fire was put over on our position by a 10.5.cm gun apparently firing from near Algoma.

During the night Lieven was shelled with M.K. and gas from 150.mm Hows but was apparently in the nature of Harassing fire. A considerable number of H.E's being mixed with the gas.

Two other ranks were admitted to Field Ambulance gassed.

A destructive shoot on UW 60 in U9a by our South Section was conducted by Lieut H.W. Stairs and observed by Lieut Calvert RAF from 10.35.am to 12.47.pm. 1st G at 10.57 am an in 32 rounds ranging obtained 1.O.K. 9.Ys, 3 Z's, 10 A's. 4.B's and 5 C's. Fire for effect was carried out from 11.50 am during which 2.MOK's were obtained and a large explosion near O.K. pin point. Airman reported fire for effect very good.

During the evening H.B.s WW 81 and UW 85 in U14b were successfully neutralizes.

Jul 10th - Enemy artillery was in no way above normal. North Section in Lieven was shelled with 150.mm between 8.pm and 9.pm the remainder of the night being fairly quiet with the exception of some scattered shelling in the vicinity of Cite de Roillencourt.

At 8.30.am Lieut HM. Stairs conducted a destructive shoot on MB, UW 35 in U3c. Lieut West RAF observed this shoot which was in every way satisfactory. 1st G was given at 8.42 am and 29 rounds rained obtaining 2 Y's, 7 Z's and 15 A's Fire for effect was excellent.

At the North Section Lieut K.S. Bushell carried out a destructive shoot on MB of 93. 1st G at 7.2.pm 24 rounds were expended ranging during which we obtained 4Y's 3Z's 7A's 8B's and 2 OK's A small explosion followed by a fire occurred near OK pin point. Plane gave CI on account of low clouds making observation difficult.

During the night we carried out harassing fire on U27b and U1b.

Jul 11th - Enemy artillery activity normal during the day. Position in Lieven was neutralized during an aeroplane shoot in the evening which had to be abandoned after 50 rounds.

Battery position in Lieven had been subjected to a great deal of attention and in and around the position shelling has taken place almost every day, in addition to which a considerable amount of harassing fire is put over during the night. The whole valley in which a considerable amount of harassing fire is put over during the night. The whole valley in which the position is located reeks with gas and not one member of the position can speak louder than a whisper, all being affected, more or less, by the poisonous fumes despite every possible precaution that could be taken. Despite the adverse conditions and the trying circumstances the excellency of the work performed by this section has tendered to increase, and they are justly proud of the congratulations received from the Corps Commander.

It was several times decided to relieve this section by a section from rear position at Neuville St Vaast but urgent requests were received from Lieven section to be allowed to remain and continue with their work there. These requests were eventually acceded and the section remained.

At 7.30.pm a destructive shoot was commenced on HB.GY 92 conducted by Lieut B.A. Guildford and observed by Lieut Douglas RAF. 15 Rounds ranging during which we obtained the following observations



5 Y's 3Z's 5A's 4B's. A fire was started at Z12 and an explosion on OK pin point. Airman reported fire for effect was very good. During fire for effect Battery was shelled from Olde and shoot had to be stopped after 50 rounds had been fired.

During the evening UB86 was successfully neutralized by South Section and night harassing fire was put over on London Copse in U1b.

Jul 12th – A Destructive shoot on HB ? ? was carried out by Lieut D.A. Guildford at 6.30.pm and observed by Lieut Carrie RAF. 25 rounds ranging obtained 5 Y's 4Z's 3A's 7B's 4C's and 2 D's. Fire for effect was then carried out until 8.pm when Battery was reranged, obtaining 2Y's 2Z's 1A's and 2 B's. Fire for effect was reported by Airman as being very good. Observation was difficult as only general position was visible.

Jul 13th - During the morning we put over 6 rounds on enemy H.Q's at G1a without observation., and a destructive shoot on Houses in U8a was successfully carried out during the afternoon. Several Houses being demolished. During the evening 30 rounds harassing fire was put over on U9d & U18c.

Lieut F.R. May carried out an excellent shoot on hostile battery with aeroplane observation.

1st G at 10.10.am and in 24 rounds ranging obtained 4Y's 7Z's 5A's 4B's we reranged at 11.40.am obtaining 5Y's 9Z's and 4A's. An explosion was caused at Z6 and a fire at Y9 which lasted 12 minutes. A large explosion occurred in No 1 pit and both pits were ht. Fire for effect was very good. Battery was highly complimented on this shoot by VIII Corps C.B.S.O. R.A.F. and C.C.N.A.

Jul 14th - Lieut H.M. Stairs conducted a shoot on ? at O.32.G at 4.42.pm This was observed by Capt. Caley RAF, and was successful. 1st G. at 4.48.pm and in 28 rounds obtained 1.O.K, 8Y's, 4 X's 3A's and 7 B's. Observer reported fire for effect very good but observation was difficult as early general position was visible.

Lieut W.A. Beecroft at North Section conducted a destructive shoot on OY.48 at 7.35.pm. This was observed by Lieut Whittome RAF and was successful. 1st G was given at 7.35.pm and in 28 rounds rangig obtained 4 Y's, 1Z, 6 A's and 9 B's, fire for effect was good. A fire was started near OK pin point at 8.30.pm which was still burning fiercely at 9.10pm when pilot gave CI petrol.

During the afternoon a T.M. position was engaged at N.33.a 32 rounds being fired with satisfactory results.

Jul 15th - Hostile artillery activity was above normal during the day. Positions in Lieven being subjected to Heavy bursts of fire intermittently during the whole day.

During the morning NX 82 and NX 81 were successfully neutralized by North Section. Lieut W.A. Beecroft conducted a shoot on MX 52 (MQNF) at 11.30.am. observed by Lieut Carrie RAF 1st G at 11.36.am and 14 rounds ranging obtaining R. (4Z's, 2A's, 3B's, Battery was then reranged and in 24 ranging rounds obtained 4Y's, 5Z's, 6A's and 5B's. a fire was started near OK pin point. No 1 Gun was temporarily out of action for some time during this shoot which was carried on with one gun. Airman reported fire for effect very good and shoot successful.

Visibility during the evening was very good and a destructive shoot with aeroplane observation was conducted by Lieut Bennett at 8.pm on UV 47. 1st G was given at 8.15.pm and 22 rounds expended ranging with the following results 3Y's, 6Z's 8A's and 3B's. Airman reported "Battery shot well and quickly and fire for effect was very good. Shoot was successful."



During the afternoon No 10 Kite Balloon Section observed a shoot for calibration on Houses in N21b. Two Hostile Batteries, UW.35 and UW.27 were also neutralized and during the night harassing fire was placed on U9d and U15.a.

Jul 16th - During the afternoon we carried out a calibration shoot ? and ? which was again observed by No 10 Kite Balloon section. Calibration was very satisfactory besides which a large fire was started at N22b. During the evening concentrations of fire were placed on NX92 & ?. Heavy shelling took place during the afternoon of position in Lieven, several shells falling behind No 1 pit wounding 2 men. No 314726 Gnr Ballantyne W.N. was seriously wounded, a shell splinter penetrating the neck just behind the jugular vein. This man's life was undoubtedly saved by the smart action of No 346844 Cpl Forsythe W. who stayed by the man under heavy shell fire staunching the flow of blood with his hands until First Aid could be applied.

Jul 17th - Nil

Jul 18th - Battery position in Lieven was subjected to severe harassing fire by 10.5.cm Hows at 6.am and again at 3.15.pm. A further severe burst of fire was also placed on the position at 7.pm.

Jul 19th – 2nd Brigade CGA was relieved during the night by 14th Brigade and 2nd Brigade less 8" and 9.2" Batteries relieved 83rd Brigade RGA which then proceeded to G.H.Q. reserve.

Jul 20th- During the afternoon one section at Neuville St Vaast was relieved by 69th Siege Battery RGA. The section at Lieven were relieved during the night and we proceeded to take over positions of 69th S.B. Guns stripped of all stores were left in situ.

The exchange of guns was certainly to the advantage of 69th S.B. As although their guns were very little older than our own they had not been kept in the same excellent condition. The guns taken over in Thelus position will, before any good shooting can be done, have to be pulled out and relaid and much work will also have to be done to the other positions if we are to uphold the excellent reputation which we at present hold.

Jul 21st - This Battery is now split into three sections and spread over a fairly wide front. One section under Lieut F.R. May went into position at Thelus (A.17.a.) and one section under Lieut H.H. Stairs to position at St Nicholas at 6.16.b The remaining section and Battery Headquarters took up positions at Kourie at A.21.c. The three sections being called Left (Thelus) Centre (Ecourie) and Right (St Nicholas) The position at Kourie was fairly open, accommodation being provided in Nissen huts and tin shacks, which was a decided change after 8 months of deep dugouts and damp cellars with positions as far advanced as Field Guns (In Lieven 18 pdr batteries were behind us.) The sudden change from daily and almost constant shelling to open country and few shells made this position very likely a rest camp and this was badly needed as the men were feeling played out after the strenuous time they have literally gone through.

Jul 22nd – The section at St Nicholas came under the 19th Brigade RGA for Tactical purposes but were still administered by the 2nd Brigade CGA.



Jul 23rd - During the night our position in Kourie and surrounding districts were subjected to harassing fire by 5.9" H.V. Guns. This took the form of short bursts of fire from 6 to 8 shells at intervals of half-an-hour. Fortunately all fell in the open and no huts occupied by our men were hit, altho several shells fell dangerously near the billets.

During the day N.B. CA 84 in C8d was successfully neutralized and harassing fire kept up throughout the night on C16b and 68d.

Jul 24th – During the afternoon enemy made determined attempts to shoot down the Captive Balloon at Ecurie with N.V. Guns, 14 shells being fired. The balloon was damaged and occupants compelled to make a descent by parachute.

The district was again harassed during the night by H.V. Guns of 4.1 and 5.9" calibre. Four Hostile Batteries were taken on today for harassing and neutralizing. The harassing fire took the form of salvos at long intervals and an occasional burst of fire. N.B's engaged were CA.98 and 99. IA.93. and 96. Harassing fire was also kept up throughout the night on ?

Jul 25th - Nil.

Jul 26th - Harassing fire on roads, tracks etc in this district again received a considerable amount of attention from the enemy.

Considerable movement of enemy troops was observed in C.16.b. during the afternoon which was dispersed by a concentration of fire, this battery firing five rounds. 10.30.pm we fired 16 Rounds on C23c in support of a moonlight raid by the Infantry.

Jul 27th - Apparently harassing fire of this district by H.V. guns is a nightly performance as this has taken every night since we took up our position here. Fortunately no damage has yet been done to any billets occupied by our troops. oH.B..CB 71 was successfully neutralized during the afternoon and Harassing fire continued throughout the night on C1d and C18b.

Jul 28th - Nil

Jul 29th - A Theatrical party of the 4th Division gave excellent performances of "Camouflage" during the week at Ecurie and arrangements were made for a party of 25 men of this Unit to attend each evening. The men were highly gratified and appreciated to the fullest extent the talent of the performance. This is the first time this Battery has been in position with these kind of shows within walking distance.

Jul 30th - Canadian Corps Heavy Artillery H.Q. pulled out during the day and were relieved by 17th Corps RGA, under whom we now come for administration and tactics.

Jul 31st - Very little shooting was done during the day by any of our sections and the day passed quietly with nothing of unusual interest occurring.

ANGRES

Aug 1st – Nil



Aug 2nd – Day was exceptionally quiet and nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day. Harassing fire was carried out throughout the day during which 50 Rounds were expended on various targets. During the night 30 Rounds were expended on trench work, part of which were in support of an Infantry Raid. 12 Rounds were also put over on H.Q's at C13a.

Aug 3rd – A shoot of 50 Rounds was carried out during the afternoon on H.Q. in T 30.c. The shoot was conducted with ground observation, very satisfactory results being obtained. In Counter Battery work we engaged five Hostile Batteries, two rounds being fired on each in conjunction with Corps and Brigade Salvos. Harassing fire was kept up during the night on selected targets. Nothing of special interest occurred.

Aug 4th – A special service of remembrance and Intersession was held today at First Army Headquarters being the fifth anniversary of the Declaration of War by the British Empire. One O.R. was despatched to this service to represent the battery. 137 Rounds were expended on Counter Battery work during the day. One destructive shoot of 100 Rds on C.B. in C 11e was successfully carried out during the evening with aeroplane observation.

Aug 5th – Very little shooting was done today, only 4 rounds being fired in Counter Battery work. Hostile Battery CB 56 was again harassed during the night, 25 rounds being put over during the dark hours.

Aug 6th - Kourie, tracks and railways in vicinity were considerably harassed during the night by H.V. Guns but no damage was done to either material or personnel. Most of the shells falling in the open fields adjoining the Railway tracks. Shooting during the day was entirely devoted to Counter Battery work, mostly Corps and Brigade salvos. 5 salvos were participated in and 5 rounds rapid were placed on HB Ic 41.

Aug 7th – Day was very quiet and nothing of exceptional interest occurred during the day. 5 Corps salvos were participated in during the day on active hostile batteries and a special operation during the night in support of a moonlight raid by the infantry.

Aug 8th – Very little shooting was done today and nothing of interest occurred. 10 Rounds were fired during the day on Counter Battery work. During the afternoon both guns at Kourie section were registered using Neuvieul Church as a target. 7 Rounds were fired obtaining a satisfactory registration.

Aug 9th – Lieut H.M. Stairs carried out a destructive shoot with aeroplane observation on OA 72. 100 Rounds being fired obtaining 7 Z's, 10 Y's and 2 O.K's. Airman reported shooting excellent, 2 explosions were caused and position badly damaged. Counter Battery work at Thelus and Kourie positions was confined mostly to Corps salvos and N.F. Calls. Five Hostile Batteries and an H.Q. was engaged. A total of 62 Rounds being expended.

Aug 10th – Two destructive shoots were carried out during the day, one of which was observed by aeroplane Lieut W.A. Becroft conducted this shoot on IA 63. Obtaining 10 A's, 11Z's, 4 Y's and 1 O.K. Z 6 was an O.K. on No 3 pit. Visibility was very poor during this shoot. The second shoot was of 50 rounds observed by Lieut K.S. Bushell and was very successful. A large explosion being caused and a good M.P.I.



on target. A total of 195 Rounds were expended during the day on C.B. work. 40 Rounds is Harassing Fire, and 30 on destructive work, these latter being fired on a dump at Mauville Farm in 8 16 d and was very succesful. Dump being destroyed.

Aug 11th – From 3.25 p.m. to 4.am. we fired 60 rounds in reply to an S.O.S. call for Right and centre brigades. A destructive shoot on H.B. CB 56 was successfully carried out by Lieut Payne. 100 Rounds being fired and 4 O.K's, 6 Y's and 7 Z's were obtained. Shooting was well around the target, the pits were blown in and target very badly pitted with shell holes. This shoot was observed by 52nd squadron R.A.F. 10 Rounds were also fired in C.B. work on targets in reply to N.F. calls. 50 Rounds harassing fire on I.A. 63 and 58 were put over during the night.

Aug 12th - Nil

Aug 13th – Day was very quiet and nothing of special interest occurred during the day. 26 Rounds were fired in the early morning on selected targets in support of special operations, the infantry and 8 rounds expended in Counter Battery Work.

Aug 14th – Nil

Aug 15th – Nil

Aug 16th – On Counter Battery work during the day we expended 16 rounds spread over 7 selected targets firing salvos on each. No 1 Gun was successfully registered during the evening. Orders were received during the day to commence work on new positions at G.10.a.d.7. (halfway between our present position at Kourie and our right section at St Nicholas)

Aug 17th – Early this morning the staff duty crews of Kourie position were sent under the Sgt Major to get two new positions prepared at G.10.a. This work was got under way at once and good time made. Two pits were completed by evening and 200 Rounds of ammunition received and stored. On Counter Battery work we expended 54 Rounds.

Aug 18th – Guns at Kourie position went out of action during evening and were at once dismantled in readiness for removal to new position. Guns went out of action at 5.pm and at 7.30 pm were pulled out on the road awaiting orders to move. About this time the original orders were cancelled as it was thought the enemy was withdrawing on this front and further orders were received to put guns in position at a more advanced position at H.13.a. This was done and two guns and 200 rounds of ammunition were removed during the evening to new position. Work was carried on all night and guns were ready for action by 6.am next morning.

Aug 19th – Work was carried on all day at improving the new positions and arranging the transfer of remaining personnel and stores from Kourie.

Aug 20th – Remainder of personnel and stores were removed from Kourie during the day. Battery Headquarters were established with Right Section at St Nicholas. Our positions are now as follows:-



2 Guns under Lieut F.R. May at Thelus (A.17.a.) 2 Guns under Lieut H.M. Stairs at St Nicholas (G.16.b) and 2 Guns under Lieut D.A. Guildford at Blangy H.13.a. The section at St Nicholas came under 19th Brigade for tactics but remained with 2nd Brigade CGA for administration. Work was also begun on advanced Gun Positions at "Spider Corner" H.20.d. in preparation for further advance.

Aug 21st – Work was continued on advanced positions and all work completed and pits got ready to receive guns.

Aug 22nd – 130 Rounds were fired during the day on Counter Battery work including one destructive shoot of 120 Rounds on H.B. at C.27.d. A special operation was also ordered in which we fired 28 rounds on targets in H.6.d.

Aug 23rd – Nil

Aug 24th – Operations during the day were confined to salvos and bursts of fire on Hostile Batteries. 5 Active batteries being engaged for neutralization and effectively silenced.

Aug 25th – 36 Rounds were fired during the day on Counter Battery work mostly bursts of fire on active Hostile Batteries.

Aug 26th - In support of Infantry attack this morning we fired 750 rounds on various targets until 11.30 when two guns in rear position were supposed to be out of range. During the afternoon however these guns again came into action, target being Jigsaw wood which was holding up the advance of the infantry. Howitzer No 574 went out of action during the afternoon on account of flaws in the chamber causing it to split for a length of about 20 inches. The gun was at once hauled out and removed to No 20 M.O. Workshop where it was condemned.

Aug 27th – Battery was again in support of Infantry, a total of 380 rounds being fired. Amongst the targets engaged were, Jigsaw Wood, Boiry, Long Valley, Trench Systems from Boiry to Victoria Copse and Pelves. Rear Section was now out of range and Howitzer No 475 was pulled out and removed to advance position at Spider Corner (N.20.d.)

Aug 28th – Howitzer No 486 was removed during the morning and placed in position at Spider Corner H.20.S. Rear position was now vacated with the exception of Quarter Master Stores which on account of the rapid advance and frequent moves of the Battery it was decided to leave in the old position for the time being.

Aug 29th – Firing was kept up continually during the day targets including H.B's, Biche St Yeast, Hamblais, Vitry-en Artois and the roads in 06 central. A total of 476 Rounds being fired during the day. How No 468 was put in during the day and came into action in the evening. We had now three guns in action at advanced position at N.29.d. the remaining gun from Thelus position having been brought up, and two guns in action at Blangy H.13.a



Aug 30th – 6 N.F. calls were received during the day and answered and 5 Hostile batteries engaged for neutralization. A total of 70 rounds being expended.

Aug 31st – At 3.30.p.m. orders were received to remove the 2 guns from Blagny to a more advanced position in the vicinity of Fampoux in order to reach the whole of Brebieres. These guns were to be in action by 11.p.m 1st Sept. The two guns went out of action at 8.30.p.m and were pulled out in readiness for removal. This was done during the night. In shooting we fired 11 Rounds on Vitry church, 50 Rounds on Vitry Station and 30 Rounds in Counter battery work.

During the latter half of this month work has been exceptionally heavy. With the exception of three weeks spent in intensive training in February, this Battery has now been constantly in action mostly in advanced positions for 16 months without a break. The last rest of 10 days being in May 1917.

Sep 1st – Headquarters of Battery at St Nicholas, 2 Guns at Blangy St Laurent, 3 Guns at Spider Corner. During the day the 2 Guns at Blangy were hauled out and moved forward to Spider Corner. In operations for the day 90 Rounds were fired on selected targets which included VITRY station and Church.

Sep 2nd – The Guns at Spider Corner went out of Action at 8.p.m and were pulled out ready to move forward to new positions at Fampoux in H.17.c. Guns were ordered to be in action by daylight, and the crews who had already completed a 24 hour shift worked throughout the night in an endeavour to comply with this order. 2 Guns were in action by 5.a.m. but owing to greater difficulties the other Gun was not ready for action until 10.a.m

During the day a total of 653 Rounds were fired, 14 N.F. calls were received and answered and 1 N.F. call received from Balloon section in addition to several Zone Calls.

80 Rounds harassing fire was put over during the night on the town of Brebieres and 159 Rounds fired in support of the Infantry attack in the early morning.

Sep 3rd - Headquarters of the battery were moved forward to Blangy occupying the old battery position On account of the prospect of further rapid moves the Q.M. stores and other heavy and bulky equipment were left behind at St. Nicholas.

During the day Bridges in D.27.d D.28.a and D.22.d. were engaged for destruction with satisfactory results, 150 Rounds being fired on these targets.

Good registration was obtained for all guns using Windmill at D.20.d. for target.

Several N.F. calls were received and responded to during the day and a total of 217 Rounds expended.

Sept 4th – Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the day.

A shoot with aeroplane observation was satisfactorily carried out during the forenoon on H.B. JA 50 at J.8.b.35.60. 150 Rounds being expended. 4 N.F. calls were also answered and a concentration of 60 Rounds placed on Moyelle at J.17.b. A total of 290 Rounds being fired throughout the day.

Sep 5th – Captain N.P MacLeod and Lieut D.A. Guildford went forward to reconnoitre a new position near Eterpigay in P.13.b.Positions for all guns were selected.

A shoot of 150 Rounds on N.22.d. was observed by Balloon, the remainder of the day being taken up with small targets, N.F. calls and targets of opportunity. A total of 295 Rounds being fired.



Sep 6th – Hows No 468 and 445 were pulled out this morning ready to be hauled to new position at Eterpigny. The guns were to be in action by 6,am. 7th. All guns were to be moved to this position, moving only two at a time. These two guns left Blangy at 5.p.m. and considerable difficulty was experienced in getting Guns and stores up as heavy rains had made the roads very heavy, 2 lorries were ditched and had to be pulled out with the aid of caterpillars. One lorry remained so badly ditched that it was impossible to remove it.

Dispite all obstacles and the very heavy going the guns reached the position and were in action on scheduled time. The guns remaining in old position fired a total of 184 Rounds for the day including a destructive shoot on H.B. at D.26.d and 30 Rounds harassing on Saily at D.27.a.

Sep 7th – Two guns in action at Eterpigny came under the 42nd Brigade R.G.A. for tactical purposes. During the afternoon the enemy opened up a destructive shoot on the new position with 5.9” and 8”. The shelling lasted from 2.15.p.m. to 3.30.p.m. during which over 300 shells were fired into or around the position. The position was quite open and very little cover for personnel but fortunately there were no casualties and no damage to material

During the day the three guns at Fampoux fired 260 Rounds on selected targets.

Sep 8th - The three guns at Fampoux were pulled out during the day and parked at Blangy ready for removal to Eterpigny. This appears to be an extremely exposed position for 9.2” Hows as the enemy has direct observation from both ground and balloon. A shoot was started in the afternoon but after 10 Rounds the Enemy came back with such intense shelling that our shoot had to be abandoned and the crews scatter and find what cover they could.

During the afternoon orders were received that the 2nd Brigade C.G.A. would effect an exchange with the 53rd Brigade, R.G.A. This Battery to exchange with 188th S.B. who were in position at Cagnicourt, and in continuation of this order two Sub Sections with stores left Blangy at 10.p.m. to take over the guns at 188 S.B. in situ. The 188th were to take over our 2 Guns in action at Eterpigny and 3 Guns parked at Blangy, the exchange was to take place by 8.p.m. 9th inst.

Sep 9th – Remainder of Battery personnel and stores left Blangy at 3.30.p.m for Cagbnicourt, travelling via Arras and Arras Cambrai Road to Cherisay and then across country to Cagnicourt. The guns were in position in a paddock adjoining the grounds of a Chateau and billets for the crews and also for the H.Q’s of the Battery were established in the Chateau. 188 S.B. had one gun in shops awaiting condemnation and 5 Guns in action. Location being in V.15.b.

Sep 10th – Quarter Masters Stores and remainder of heavy and bulky stores were brought up to the new position during the day thus completing the move.

A full days shooting was put in today and a total of 690 Rounds were expended. This included a destructive shoot on H.B. at X14.a.50.45, which was conducted by Lieut Glasmabar and observed by Lieut Ramsey R.A.F. Shoot was very successful, in 30 Rounds ranging we obtained ? O.K. 3 Y’s, 3 Z’s and 8 A’s. 1 O.K. duing ranging and another during Battery Fire. No 1 pit was completely destroyed, Southern pit received an O.K. followed by an explosion. During F.FE. there were three other explosions and a fire lasting five minutes.



20 N.F. calls were received and answered, Between 6.30.p.m and 7.p.m. the N.F. calls were being received so quickly that F.F.E. on aeroplane shoot had to be temporarily suspended and all guns used to answer the N.F. calls.

Harassing fire was kept up all night on roads and approaches and 85 Rounds fired in the early morning in support of the Infantry.

Sep 11th – Nil

Sep 12th – Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining ammunition. A destructive shoot on H.B. XA 85 in X.14.s. observed by No 20 Observation Group had to be abandoned by the 32nd Round as all ammunition in Battery position had been expended. Lorries were sent back as far as St Pol in an endeavour to procure enough ammunition to keep the guns in action.

The shoot on XA 85 would probably have been very successful as 2 Guns were well ranged. Several rounds fell close and 1 O.K. was observed.

Sep 13th – There was no firing done today on account of the Shortage of ammunition. During the night 300 Complete rounds were received.

Sep 14th – A total of 233 Rounds were fired during the day. A destructive shoot on H.B. XC 52 in X 26.b. was conducted by Lieut Payne and observed by Lieut Dutton R.A.F. The shoot was very successful. The gun crews were highly pleased and gratified when the observing plane flew low over the guns and dropped a message of congratulations. The message addressed to O.C. 5th C.S.B. from Observer No 31 was read to the crews and was as follows: -

“This is the best shoot I have observed for in 5 Months, you have caused two more explosions since starting B.F., two pits were absolutely done in.”

200 Rounds were fired in this shoot and in 28 Rounds ranging we obtained 1.O.K. 7 Y's, and 4 Z's, ranging pit destroyed. At 2.20.p.m. we obtained another O.K. followed by an explosion and fire lasting 5 minutes, also an O.K. on pit A.6. from ranging pit damaging it badly and causing another explosion. During the evening a further 24 Rounds were put over at intervals as harassing fire.

Sep 15th – A total of 215 Rounds were fired during the day including a destructive shoot on H.B. XA.85 with aeroplane observation with satisfactory results.

Sep 16th – A shoot on XA.80 of 200 Rounds was conducted during the afternoon by Lieut Bushell and observed by Lieut Dutton R.A.F. The shoot was successful, Airman reporting F.F.E. good and position well covered. 13 Rounds harassing fire was put over on the same target during the night.

I.O.M. inspected guns today, Hows No 409 and 425 will probably be condemned and How No 485 will also have to go to shops as inner “A” tube is protruding 1/8”.

Sep 17th – A total of 82 rounds were fired during the day, 70 of which were fired in answer to N.F. calls. A considerable amount of aerial activity took place during the evening and 2 Hun Bombing planes were brought down in flames close to Battery positions.



Sep 18th – No 1 Gun was registered during the day, using Bourlon Church as a target and a very satisfactory registration was obtained. The Gun was shooting plus and 2.25' left. Lieut Beecroft at Hopkins O.P. spotted Hostile Gun Battery actively shelling the back areas (probably 4.1 gun) 5 Rounds were put over on this Battery effectively neutralizing it. During the evening the Hostile Battery again opened fire but 2 Rounds were fired by us which completely silenced it and it was seen to fire no more during the remainder of the night. Harassing fire was kept up all night and a total of 85 Rounds expended throughout the day.

Sep 19th – During the day 8 N.F. Calls were received and answered and a total of 122 Rounds expended on these and one or two selected targets.

Sep 20th – Capt N.P. MacLeod and Lieut D.A. Guildford went forward this morning to reconnoitre new position, positions were found in D.10.d. between Pronville and Inchy-en-Artois. During the afternoon, an aeroplane shoot on XA 30 was started by Lieut Payne. Plane evidently called in error as the target pre-arranged for us was not the same as the plane was observing 27 Rounds were fired with the plane apparently giving observations for some other Battery's shots. After several unobserved rounds and obviously mistaken observations the shoot was stopped. 7 N.F. Calls were received and answered and neutralizations and Harassing Fire put over on orders from the Brigade. During the day a total of 142 Rounds were expended.

Sep 21st – There was nothing of special interest to report during the day. A total of 156 Rounds were expended, mostly on N.F. calls and neutralizations ordered by Brigade.

Sep 22nd – During the day Hows 579 and 585 were pulled out ready for removal to new positions at D.10.d Orders were received to get 200 rounds of ammunition per gun forward position and despite great difficulties this was done. Heavy rains fell all night making the ground heavy and boggy and each lorry of ammunition had to be assisted to the position with the aid of Caterpillars. The guns were put in and the munition dumped by 1.a.m. During the afternoon the position at Cagnicourt was subjected to considerable Harassing fire by H.V. Guns, but no casualties or damage to material were reported. At 9.p.m. several S.O.S. signals were received in response to which all the guns at Cagnicourt position came into action and 61 Rounds put over. Movement of troops seen in W.30.c. were engaged during the day and several targets of opportunity also taken on. 177 Rounds in all being expended.

Sep 23rd – Hows 409 and 425 were pulled out and hauled to new position during the night. These guns were to remain silent until the morning of the pending operation. Only 1 Gun was left in action at Cagnicourt and work was carried on with this gun. A pre-arranged shoot with aerial observation was carried out during the afternoon on XA 30 in X 3.a with satisfactory results. 60 Rounds being fired. Several neutralizations and C.B. work was also carried out and a total of 83 Rounds expended.

Sep 24th – Only 37 Rounds were expended during the day mostly on N.F. Calls. And nothing of unusual interest occurred.



Sep 25th – An S.O.S. was received at 6.a.m. in response to which we fired 23 Rounds. How No 434 was pulled out and taken to Forward position during the night.

Sep 26th – How No 434 was put into position and got ready for action during the day. Considerable harassing fire was being placed over this area by H.V. Guns and Gnr Wilson W. was wounded. This was fortunately the only casualty with the exception of Sgt Sheldon whose foot was crushed between Cradle and roller race when putting gun into position.

Sep 27th – Infantry attacked this morning in front of Canal du Nord in support of which we fired 690 Rds. The guns went out of action first at 2.30.p.m. on being out of range but came into action again at intervals during the afternoon on selected targets.

Sep 28th – All guns were finally out of range at 11.a.m this morning and went out of action.

Sep 29th – Crews all standing by awaiting orders.

Sep 30th – Hows Nos 434, 409 and 425 were withdrawn today and removed to 19 M.O.W. for condemnation or repairs, Hows No 409 and 425 were condemned. New How No 602 was brought from Shops today.

Cagnicourt

Oct 1st, 1918 - All guns being out of action, several parties were sent forward to assist other Batteries in the Brigade.1 party of each 1 N.C.O. and 20 Men were sent to 1st and 2nd Heavy Batteries and 4th and 6th Siege Batteries. Whilst attached to 2nd C.H.B. No 830269 Gnr Scott I.J. was severely wounded and died later in Hospital.

Oct 2nd - Preparations were made today to move 2 Guns forward to a new position at Haynecourt X.16.a. How No 600 received from shop..

Oct 3rd - 2 Guns and crews left for Haynecourt. Village was being shelled when party arrived but guns were put into action with only two casualties. No 51112 Gnr Duperow W.E. and No 2327549 Gnr Odell J.A being wounded. Gnr Duperow died later at dressing station.

Oct 4th - Hows No 579 and 585 were in action at Haynecourt at approximately x.16. a.70.00 7 N.F. was received during the evening in response to which we fired 6 Rounds on N.9.d.6

Oct 5th - A shoot with aeroplane observation on Bridge at N.22. a.7.7. was unsuccessful owing to bad visibility. Shoot was observed by Capt Stevenson R.A.F. and after 12 ranging rounds sent C.I. mist. Battery position was heavily shelled during the afternoon and Gnr Moore A and Gnr MacLeod D.J. were wounded. Cross Roads near guns and approaches to village were subjected to heavy harassing fire during the night.

Oct 6th - From 00.01 to 00.00 we fired 30 Rounds harassing fire on Cross roads at Marquett and Waverhain.



Oct 7th - Arrangements were to be made for exchange of Guns in situ with R.G.A. Battery who were in position east of Monehy. Captain N.P. MacLeod and Lieut B.A. Guildford went to look over the position and complete arrangements for transfer. This transfer however did not take place. A total of 124 Rounds were expended during the day. 30 Rounds of which were harassing fire on roads and approaches to Marquette and Wavrehain, the remainder being fired in support of special operations.

Oct 8th - Battery came into action at 00.00 in support of special operations and guns were kept busy all day answering N.F. calls, Harassing fire and special operations. Our targets being Cross roads at Marquette and Monchecourt. Courvillers, Bantigny, Paillencourt, Estrum and the Bastigny Valley. A total of 275 rounds being expended.

Oct 9th - 2 new Hows were drawn today to replace those already condemned. During the day we fired 276 rounds on Monchecourt, Marquette and Waverchain and all roads and approaches to these villages were kept under harassing fire.

Oct 10th – How No 585 condemned with cracked chamber was removed to No 20 M.O.W.

Oct 11th – All Headquarters personnel moved from Cagnicourt to Haynecourt today leaving only Q.M. stores and guards on gun stores on old billets.

90 Rounds were fired during the day and cross roads and approaches to Marquette, Marq and Wavrehain kept under harassing fire.

Oct 12th – Piece No 602 brought up from Cagnicourt and placed in cradle of 585, this gun was in action by 4.a.m. 13th. Harassing fire on approaches to Marq, and Marquette was kept up intermittently all day. A total of 145 rounds being expended.

Oct 13th – B. sub's gun went out of action for change of grid, new bed being dug a few yards ahead of old pit and gun shifted.

Piece No 434 received from shops.

During the day we fired 133 rounds harassing fire on Marq, Marquette and roads in G.28.a and 44 rounds on S.O.S. in R.12.a.5.0

Oct 14th – 138 Rounds harassing fire was put over on approaches to Marq and Marquette.

Oct 15th – 170 Rounds fired on Marq, Marquette and valley between and on Monchecourt tpd roads to the north.

Oct 16th – 170 Rounds harassing fire was put over on Cross Roads at Monchecourt during the day.

Oct 17th - Nil

Oct 18th - Nil



Oct 19th - Nil

Oct 20th – All 6” How Batteries were left behind when Brigade advance today and came under tactical control of Major Dobbie now O.C. of the new 9.2” How Brigade, all batteries still remained in 2nd Brigade CGA for administration.

Oct 21st to 31st – Guns were pulled out and hauled into the road ready for an immediate advance forward. In the meantime while waiting for orders parties of Gunners were sent forward to work at dump etc and the remainder of the gun crews left in old position were employed in cleaning up shells and component parts left behind by various batteries. New guns were received from shops and Battery complete with 6 Guns were standing by awaiting developments

Maynecourt

Nov 1st to 8th - Battery standing by for orders, all guns limbered ready for an immediate move were on roadside with cats’ parked nearby. The men were engaged in salving ammunition and thousands of rounds of all calibres were gathered in from the neighbourhood and piled in small dumps near the roadside where they could be easily loaded in lorries etc. Those men not engaged on fatigues indulged in various games and took full advantage of this quiet period.

Nov 8th to 22nd - Battery pulled out early this morning and left Maynecourt for Lerehes. The guns moved away immediately after breakfast, personnel and stores leaving later. One of the caterpillars had the misfortune to break a tread whilst crossing a light line railway and was consequently delayed two days in reaching Lerehes. Guns were parked in Railway Yard and armed guards mounted. The men being billeted in houses adjoining railway. Parades were held each morning and both men and guns held in readiness for immediate move.

The news of the signing of the armistice was received at 1.30 a.m. November 12th. Great enthusiasm being displayed by all ranks. The 9.2” Howitzer Brigade ceased to exist as from the 21st inst; this Unit being transferred to 91st Brigade R. G. A for administration.

Nov 23rd to 26th - Battery moved forward to Quivrechain where guns were parked in Town square. One gun was left at Lerehes on account of broken drawbar and was brought up some days later after the necessary repairs had been made. Excellent billeting accommodation was found for the men and a large room in the Chateau which contained a piano in good condition was used as a recreation room. The usual parades were held in the morning and the men, with the exception of small fatigue parties were allowed to indulge in various sports during the afternoon.

Nov 27th - On 27th inst, we were taken over by the 1st Brigade C.B. A for administration, 2nd Brigade CGA consisting of 1st and 2nd Heavy Batteries and 2nd, 6th and 5th Siege Batteries moved forward to the Rhine. A party of 2 Officers and approximately 40 Other ranks of this Unit desirous of proceeding to the Rhine were transferred to various batteries in 2nd Brigade CGA for this purpose.

Nov 28th - We were today reinforced by 4 Officers viz: Lieuts. E. A. Ware, O.R. Crewell and J. H. Mooney



Nov 30th - Battery left Quivrechain and proceeded to Jemappes. 1st Brigade CGA and all batteries administered by it also moved to same town. On account of the shortage of lorries, Batteries were moved one per day, all moves being completed by 30th. Guns were parked in square and good billets obtained for personnel.

Jemappes

December - The month of December was passed very quietly in Jemappes. Parades were held each morning at 9 a.m. and a syllabus of training which included Foot drill, Gun drill, and physical training was carried out. The afternoons being devoted to outdoor games and the evenings to concerts and entertainment.

Sightseeing trips to Brussels were arranged by on account of the difficulties in transportation, these trips were necessarily greatly curtailed and could not be indulged in as often as desired.

A very enjoyable time was spent at Christmas and an excellent dinner, consisting of Plum pudding, Turkey etc with as good supply of Fruit, nuts and beer, was thoroughly appreciated by all ranks. An entertainment given after dinner by various members of the Battery was assisted by a blind professor of music.

Dances were held in the evening and every endeavour was made to make Christmas as enjoyable as possible met with great success.

The usual parades etc were resumed on 26th inst.

Nothing of unusual interest occurred during the latter part of the month.

Demobilized at Vancouver in May 1919.

Disbanded by General Order 191 of 1 November 1920.

Perpetuated by 5th Medium Battery, Vancouver in 1920.

Currently perpetuated by 15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA in Vancouver, BC

