

WAR DIARY OF THE 9TH (NORTH IRISH HORSE) BATTALION, ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS¹
1 SEPTEMBER 1917 TO 9 JUNE 1919

September 1917	
1	Havrincourt Wood. K.31.c.0.0 Sheet 57C. Working parties supplied to 12 th Rifles for front line areas.
2	Working parties as above and for tunnelling, camouflaging etc.
3	Ruyaulcourt. P.10.c.8.4. Headquarters and D.C. [Divisional Command?] moved to Ruyaulcourt at 8pm and accommodated in tents and Nissen huts. Captain J.E Gibson Officer Commanding details at Havrincourt Wood. Working parties as usual.
4	Ruyaulcourt. Working parties as usual.
5	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion took over line from 12 Rifles and disposed as follows. A Company – Battalion Reserve at K.31.c (Broken House Dump), 2 Platoon to reserve trench at Q.2.a.4.8; B Company – Headquarters at K.32.c.8.4, two Platoons front line trench from Hubert Avenue K.32.c.8.5 to K.32.a.6.8. One Platoon at Yorkshire Bank; C Company – Headquarters K.32.a.2.4, front trench on Yorkshire Bank, also the four forward posts; D Company at K.26.a.6.3. Locality R.3. Relief completed before midnight. No casualties.
6	Havrincourt Wood. Day very quiet. Situation normal and no casualties. We constructed wire entanglements in front of our advanced outpost line and improved our communication trenches on Yorkshire Bank.
7	Havrincourt Wood. Enemy fired a few small minnen werfers (pineapples) around Yorkshire Bank. Our trench mortars retaliating with good effect. Our own and enemy machine guns quiet. Work – our wire entanglements and trenches improved at Yorkshire Bank. Patrols – nothing to report. No casualties.
8	Havrincourt Wood. Very quiet day. There was little trench mortar or machine gun fire during the day. A German called across to our men "Jock, have you been here before"? He got no reply however. 2 nd Lieutenant Partridge and four men went out on a patrol. They did not come in contact with enemy. Wire entanglements and deepening of communication trench on Yorkshire Bank continued.
9	Havrincourt Wood. A quiet day in the trenches. Some enemy trench mortars fired around Yorkshire Bank, and a plane of his flew very low over the Bank. We carried out work on the Bank, wiring and improving trenches and deepening new trenches at R.3. No casualties. ²
10	Havrincourt Wood. Enemy fired a few light minen werfers about R.3 and the cage. Also a few pineapples at junction of front line and Henley Avenue. We fired with Vesuvius and Wigan Copse and also dispersed enemy working party or patrol at Etna. Work on trenches and wiring carried out. No casualties. ³

¹ Official War Diaries (Ref. WO 95/2505)

² Died of wounds this day: **Private Anthony McKinlay** (23318) of Bridgeton (Glasgow), born and enlisted at Glasgow, aged 23, brother of James McKinlay of 8 Mount Pleasant, Level, Fife, buried at Mendinghem Military Cemetery, grave VII.F.32.

³ Died of wounds this day: **Private William Hanna** (14281) of Bessbrook (County Armagh), born Newry (County Down), enlisted at Armagh, aged 21, son of Mary Hanna of 56 Fountain Street, Bessbrook, County Armagh, and the late William Henry Hanna, buried at Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, grave VIII.I.31; **Lance Corporal Edgar Cecil Rose** (43380), formerly Private in the London Regiment (2924 [or 390644]), of Borough, SE, Surrey, born Paddington, W., Middlesex, enlisted Davies Street, W., Middlesex, buried at Wimereux Communal Cemetery, grave VI.A.23.

11	Havrincourt Wood. At 3.30am an enemy patrol (7) approached our line south of Yorkshire Bank and were driven off, but without casualties. R.3 shelled late in the evening. Lieutenant J.A.L Johnston (D Company) was severely wounded in jaw, leg and foot, and had to go to hospital. The day generally was somewhat more lively than usual.
12	Havrincourt Wood. A patrol under 2 nd Lieutenant Partridge which went out at 10pm on 11 th inst for purpose of ambushing an enemy patrol lay out at K.32.b.5.4 until 4am without having seen the enemy. This patrol worked in conjunction with one of 13 th Royal Irish Rifles. A number of 5.9 high explosives were fired by the enemy around R.3 (D Company) resulting in blocking of communication trench. One Other Rank (B Company) was badly wounded in the left eye.
13	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. Battalion moved in to Divisional Reserve at about 8pm on being relieved in the front line by 12 th Royal Irish Rifles. Earlier in the day about 3pm the enemy shelled Yorkshire Bank. We had no casualties.
14	Ruyaulcourt. Morning spent cleaning up. Working parties in afternoon.
15	Ruyaulcourt. Parades under Company arrangements. The Brigadier visited the Transport for whom lines are in course of construction. Hutting in progress under 2 nd Lieutenant Bennet (Works Officer). Works party of ten Other Ranks working after dusk at new Company Headquarters in line at R.3.
16	Ruyaulcourt. Church Parades. Reverend. F.J Halahan, Senior Chaplain to the Forces, preached and conducted service for Church of England, combined Bands of 1 st and 9 th Battalions attended. Football match in afternoon versus 13 th Royal Irish Rifles, whom we beat by 6 – 0. Working party of twenty Other Ranks at R.3 after dusk.
17	Ruyaulcourt. Battalion paraded at 10.30am for inspection by the Corps Commander who expressed his satisfaction in generous terms of the appearance of the Battalion and the Transport. Working parties carried on in afternoon and evening.
18	Ruyaulcourt. Parades and working parties as usual.
19	Ruyaulcourt. Parades, bathing and working parties as usual. The Battalion football team beat the 108 th Brigade team by two goals to one after a good tussle.
20	Ruyaulcourt. Parades as usual and working parties. Cross-country run in the afternoon, all available Officers and men taking part.
21	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Battalion relieved 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in the line, relief completed at 9.45pm. Dispositions: A Company – Headquarters at K.32.c.8.4, two Platoons in front line trench from Hubert Avenue K.32.c.8.5 to K.32.a.6.8, one Platoon on Yorkshire Bank; B Company in Battalion Reserve at K.31.c (Broken House Dump); C Company – Headquarters K.32.a.2.4 Garrison – Yorkshire Bank; D Company at K.26.a.6.3 locality R.3. No casualties. Night quiet.
22	Havrincourt Wood. A quiet day in trenches and no casualties. 2 nd Lieutenant T.E Crosbie and seven Other Ranks patrolled right front of Slagheap from 10pm to 12 midnight.
23	Havrincourt Wood. Another very quiet day. 2 nd Lieutenant G.H Richardson and seven Other Ranks patrolled vicinity of Wigan Copse, and brought back useful information re German wire. Enemy not encountered and no casualties.
24	Havrincourt Wood. Day very fine and quiet in trenches. German plane brought down by one of ours apparently in our lines near Hermies. 2 nd Lieutenant Gilliard and seven Other Ranks patrolled between 10pm and 12.10am 24/25 th near Dean Copse. No casualties.
25	Havrincourt Wood. Our guns very active all early morning. No enemy retaliation until about 10am when Slag Heap was heavily shelled, one direct hit on

	front line causing four casualties to our men. Three Other Ranks were killed and one mortally wounded and died same afternoon. ⁴ Three-hundred and four Other Ranks from North Irish Horse joined Battalion today, our Band playing them in to Ruyaulcourt where they were toasted right royally.															
26	Havrincourt Wood. Uneventful day. Ten Other Ranks proceeded to Divisional Signalling School for course. Football match in afternoon at Transport lines. We defeated a team picked from the North Irish Horse draft by 2-1.															
27	Havrincourt Wood. Some desultory shelling indulged in during the day by enemy and our artillery. Situation quiet. Weather continues fine.															
28	Havrincourt Wood. Our aeroplanes active. Enemy shelling along Canal bank and clear of Faugh-A-Ballagh Bridge. More active than usual. He did us [no] damage whatever. Draft of 42 Other Ranks rejoined at Transport lines.															
29	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. Battalion moved in to Brigade Reserve, relief by 12 th Royal Irish Rifles being completed at about 10pm. Very quiet day. One Other Rank was slightly wounded during the day. Total casualties for tour – three killed, one died of wounds, one wounded.															
30	<p>Ruyaulcourt. Church of England and Presbyterians paraded for Divine Service at 12 noon. The Corps Commander attended the former service. The following Officers reported for duty: Major V.G Whitla, Captain F.G Uprichard, Captain John Grant, 2nd Lieutenant R.A Orr, 2nd Lieutenant John Scott, 2nd Lieutenant R.L Smith. Football match in afternoon. Battalion team versus North Irish Horse draft. Battalion team won by 2 – 1.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Strength:</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>Other Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Effective</td> <td>51</td> <td>970</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Fighting</td> <td>44</td> <td>881</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Ration</td> <td>34</td> <td>731</td> </tr> </table> <p>Appendix No.I attached.</p> <p>[Signed] P Kelly Lieutenant Colonel</p>	Strength:	Officers	Other Ranks		Effective	51	970		Fighting	44	881		Ration	34	731
Strength:	Officers	Other Ranks														
	Effective	51	970													
	Fighting	44	881													
	Ration	34	731													
<p>9th (Service) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers Roll of Officers</p> <p><u>Command</u> Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly</p>																

⁴ Killed this day were: **Lance Corporal John Edward Black** (18862), formerly Hussars of the Line (19532), born and enlisted at Sunderland, County Durham, aged 27 husband of Florence Dunn Black of 5 Brunton Terrace Sunderland, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.24; **Lance Corporal John Stratton** (20351), formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (23195), born Oban, Argyle, enlisted Glasgow, aged 43, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.23; **Private John Campbell** (14097) of Richhill, born at Richhill, County Armagh, enlisted at Armagh, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.22; **Private James [or W] McDowell** (14527 [or G/14527]), born Shankill, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.27.

Major

Whitla V.G

Captains

Menaul W.J Command

Gibson J.E

Ferguson A (Adjutant)

Henehan M

Flood R.S

Uprichard F.G

Grant J

Lieutenants

Godson E.A Command

Mitchel F.D

Barcroft G.E

2nd Lieutenants

Richardson G.H

Joshnston [sic] G.I.O'F

Crothers A.V Command

Woods J

Hamilton E Command

Cooke J.A

Partridge F.C

McCausland I.E

Bennet J.C

Turner E.J.L

Young J.B.A

Partridge J.H

Davidson A Command

Smith J.I Command

Crosbie T.E.C

Maxwell A.F

Gilmer E.H Command

Kerr C.H

Galloway A.J Command
 Irvine W.F Command
 Connar H.P Command
 Connor J.H Command
 Montgomery E.M Command
 Gilliard T.A
 Brady H.J Command
 Martin L.H
 Dobbyn A.L
 Graham W.G
 Prenter D
 Murphy J.J
 Orr R.A
 Scott J
 Smith R.L

Quartermaster

Hony Lieutenant Wilson G.W

Attached

Lieutenant Richman S.H, Royal Army Medical Corps, U.S.A.

Captain Mayes S, Chaplain to the Forces

[Signed] P Kelly
 Lieutenant Colonel
 Commanding 9th (Service) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 30 September 1917

October 1917

1	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. Parades, working parties and sports carried on. Brigadier-General R.J Kentish D.S.O visited the Battalion.
2	Ruyaulcourt. Brigadier-General R.J Kentish D.S.O again visited the Battalion and lunched at Headquarters Mess. Training etc carried on as usual. The under-named Officers from North Irish Horse joined Battalion for duty today: 2 nd Lieutenants W.H Hutchinson, F.J Whalen, H.S Dean, C.B Larter.
3	Ruyaulcourt. Training per programme, and preparation for sports. Battalion football team drew with 108 th F.A (1 goal all) after a keen tussle. Major G.J

	Brew rejoined from Senior Officers' Course, Aldershot, and assumed Second-in-Command of Battalion.
4	Ruyaulcourt. Parades, working parties and recreational training as usual.
5	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. Holiday for the Battalion, and sports carried on from 10am all day. There were various inter-Regimental, Brigade and Divisional contests. Our 1 st Battalion (107 th Brigade) attended in large numbers and in our competitions with them we secured fifteen 'firsts' and seven 'seconds' to their seven 'firsts' and five 'seconds'.
6	Ruyaulcourt. Very wet day until late in afternoon and all parades had to be cancelled. Captain Hulse reported for duty.
7	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Church Parades in morning. Battalion relieved 12 th Royal Irish Rifles at night and are disposed as follows: A Company on right (two Platoons in front line, one Platoon in reserve line); B Company in reserve (at Broken House Dump); C Company Yorkshire Bank (one Platoon in reserve at Cheetham Switch north of Henley Avenue); D Company R.3 (One Platoon in Mine Dugout at J.36.b.10.2). Very wet afternoon and evening, and working parties in line were cancelled.
8	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Corps have ordered all Battalions to be continually on the offensive while holding the line. Consequently the Battalion will organize patrols nightly (weather permitting) and raids will be carried out at fixed periods. Owing to very bad weather no patrols went out on night of 7/8. Very quiet in the line, afternoon and night very wet and men got special issue of rum.
9	Havrincourt Wood. Generally quiet day on our front and weather broken and cold. Three Other Ranks were slightly wounded by shell-fire. Headquarters Officers gallantly led by the C.O & C.O.2 started on the sand-bagging of Headquarters mess. The Padre and Doctor claimed they did the lion's share of the work, but evidently they never worked before! Thirty-three Other Ranks joined from reinforcement camp.
10	Havrincourt Wood. Another very quiet day. Nothing of note occurred.
11	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Quiet day. Major Ferguson left Headquarters to go to Rouen to check Battalion Records at 3 rd Echelon. B Company relieved D Company at R.3, and A Company relieved C Company on Yorkshire Bank.
12	Havrincourt Wood. Quiet day. The Divisional Commander and Brigadier visited Headquarters. Captain A Hulse detailed as member of Court Martial today at Neuville. Draft ninety Other Ranks joined from Divisional Reinforcement Camp, eighteen being old hands, and 72 North Irish Horse. The Commanding Officer busy over details re North Irish Horse amalgamation with this Battalion. 2 nd Lieutenant J.A Cooke acting Adjutant pending arrival of Captain G.W.N Barefoot MC of the 1 st Battalion.
13	Havrincourt Wood. Quiet day in front line. The news of mutiny in the German Navy was received with much interest in the Battalion.
14	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Fine day and quiet in the line. Nothing of note happened. The Commanding Officer proceeded on leave, and Major Brew assumed Command.
15	Ruyaulcourt P.10.c.8.4. Battalion relieved in the line by 12 th Royal Irish Rifles, after a tour in which our casualties were particularly low, viz: three slightly wounded. We are now in our new Battalion Headquarters – Nissen huts, and have quite a good Mess room. A recreation room for Officers is under construction. We are in Divisional Reserve during this tour out.

16	Ruyaulcourt. Morning spent cleaning up, kit inspection etc. Usual working parties here and in the line. Captain G.W.N Barefoot reported for duty (from 1 st Battalion).
17	Ruyaulcourt. Captain Barefoot assumed the duties of Adjutant. The enemy shelled this village this morning from 8am to 9.30am. He sent over about twenty shells (4.2) and slightly wounded one man of the Battalion and one Other Rank of Labour Battalion. Captain Despard C.B and Lieutenant Vesey G.W having reported for duty were taken on the strength.
18	Ruyaulcourt. Improvements being carried out in our reserve billets. Pathway to Battalion Headquarters levelled, and Officers' Ante-room nearing completion. The following 2 nd Lieutenants are granted permission to wear badges of Lieutenant pending Gazette: E.J.L Turner, J Woods, J.A Cooke, E Hamilton, and I.E McCausland. The 8/9 Rifles beat our Soccer team at Equancourt by one goal to nil after an excellent game.
19	Ruyaulcourt. Parades and working parties as usual and good progress is being made improvements in the billets and village generally. The weather continues good. Captain R.S Flood granted one month's special leave and proceeded today.
20	Ruyaulcourt P.10.c.8.4. Very fine day. Divisional Steeplechase held in the area. Eighty Other Ranks and many of the Officers attended and the sport was very good. The following Officers joined the Battalion today: 2 nd Lieutenants G.T.L Bayliff, S.F Moran, H.D Jack.
21	Church Parades in morning and Rugby football in the afternoon (first practice). A very fine day. The following decorations have been awarded for gallantry in the field at Ypres on 16 th August 1917: Military Cross – Captain T.F Given, Captain R.S Flood, Captain O.V Burrows Royal Army Medical Corps, Regimental Sergeant Major C.H Turner; Distinguished Conduct Medal – 17545 Sergeant S Carvell; Military Medal – 13971 Sergeant J Adams, 14555 Sergeant J McCullough, 14720 Sergeant A Jurkington, 16117 Acting Corporal R.W Knaggs, 14748 Lance Corporal Whiteside S, 23926 Private Shanks C, 20353 Private Rogers J, 24174 Lance Corporal Jackson E, 22562 Private Steele G, 14154 Private Elliott J, 14566 Private McCormick R.J, 15864 Private Lynn W.J, 14447 Private Morton J. These awards were announced on 4 th October 1917.
22	Ruyaulcourt P.10.c.8.4. Usual parades and working parties. Our 'Soccer' team defeated 108 th Brigade team today by 8-1. Major Ferguson reported back from Rouen.
23	Ruyaulcourt. Very wet morning. Nothing of note occurred today.
24	Havrincourt Wood, K.31.c.0.0. Battalion relieved 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in line. Relief completed 10.30pm. Dispositions: A Company Yorkshire Bank, one Platoon in reserve in Cheetham Switch, north of Henley Avenue; B Company on right, two Platoons in front line, one Platoon in reserve line; C Company in reserve; D Company in R3, with one Platoon in mined dugout at J.36.b.10.20. No casualties. Quiet night.

25	Havrincourt Wood. Quiet day in line. Night 25/26 our fighting patrols dislodged enemy from Wigan Copse and rifle pits to north of it at 2am.															
26	Havrincourt Wood. Quiet during day. At night enemy again occupied Wigan Copse and was definitely driven out again at 9pm. Our fighting patrol suffered two casualties – one man killed and one slightly injured. At 10pm enemy obtained a direct hit on our right Lewis Gun post on Yorkshire Bank with a heavy trench mortar, killing three men. ⁵															
27	Havrincourt Wood, K.31.c.0.0. Our machine guns active during day, and night 27/28. Enemy machine guns also active. Artillery on both sides active. Commanding Officer returned from leave. Enemy did not attempt to reoccupy Wigan Copse tonight.															
28	Havrincourt Wood. A quiet day in the line. Our artillery active during day and night. Bosches seen in Dean Copse dispersed by our Lewis Gun fire. Weather good with bright moonlight nights.															
29	Havrincourt Wood. Our artillery active during day, firing on usual targets. Enemy very quiet. At night ten enemy left Etna and entered Dean Copse (5.15pm). At 11pm patrol of about twenty enemy seen relieving sentries at Etna and Dean. They came by way of Wigan and along wire to Etna. Heavily fired on by our Lewis Guns and rifles, and it is believed they suffered casualties.															
30	Havrincourt Wood. Enemy more active with his machine guns. Single shots fired from enemy fixed rifle or machine gun on duckboard track leading to central Company Headquarters from Henley Lane. Enemy machine gun firing at No.I Lewis Gun post in R3 5.15pm. A Bosche seen going from Dean to Etna, which looks as if he had been in Dean all day.															
31	<p>Havrincourt Wood, K.31.c.0.0. Our artillery and machine guns active. Enemy machine guns more active than usual, especially from 10.15pm to 12.30am. Machine guns seen firing from Etna, Boggart Hole and from approx K.26.d.05.90. Our trench mortars dispersed an enemy patrol seen coming out of Etna. Medium enemy trench mortar located at Vesuvius. Enemy working party opposite R3 sector scattered by our Lewis Gun fire. Wounded heard crying out 1am.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Strength:</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>Other Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Effective</td> <td>74</td> <td>1 291</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Fighting</td> <td>62</td> <td>1 110</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Ration</td> <td>35</td> <td>713</td> </tr> </table> <p>Appendix No.I attached.</p> <p>[Signed] P Kelly</p>	Strength:	Officers	Other Ranks		Effective	74	1 291		Fighting	62	1 110		Ration	35	713
Strength:	Officers	Other Ranks														
	Effective	74	1 291													
	Fighting	62	1 110													
	Ration	35	713													

⁵ Killed in action this day were: **Private Victor Nelson Bell** (41254) formerly North Irish Horse (No.1154), born Templemore, County Londonderry, enlisted September 1914 at Londonderry, aged 20, son of Robert and Margaret Elizabeth Bell of 11 Westland Avenue, Londonderry, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.19; **Private Thomas Dickinson** (41078) formerly Dragoons of the Line (6214), of Galashiels, Selkirk, born Melrose, Roxburgh, enlisted Melrose, aged 28, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Dickinson, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.21; **Private John Dunn** (41077) formerly Dragoons of the Line (11390) and Inniskilling Dragoons (4390), of Hackney, NE, Middlesex, born London, enlisted Ammanford, Carmarthenshire, aged 26, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.20; **Private George Christopher Reid** (41529) formerly Corporal in 6th Inniskilling Dragoons [or Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers] (14116), of Springfield, County Fermanagh, born Boho, County Fermanagh, enlisted Enniskillen, aged 32, son of William and Elizabeth Reid of Farnaconnell, Boho, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.18.

Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding 9th Service Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Appendix No.I
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers

Command

Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly

Major, 2nd in Command

Major J.G Brew

Major

Captains

Hulse A

Menaul W.J Command

Grant J Command

Uprichard J.G Command

Despard C.B

Barefoot G.W.N Command

Gibson J.E

Ferguson A

Henehan M (M.C)

Flood R.S Leave

Godson E.A (M.C) Command

Lieutenants

Vesey G.W

Mitchel F.D

Wilson G.W

Barcroft G.E Leave

Richardson G.H

Dobbyn A.L (M.C)

Johnstone G.I O'F

Hutchinson W.H	
Dean H.S	
Crothers A.V	Command
Whalen F.J	Command
<u>2nd Lieutenants</u>	
Cooke J.A	Leave
Hamilton E	Command
Woods J	Command
Hartness F.C	
McCausland I.E	Command
Bennett J.C	
Young J.B.A	
Connar H.P	Command
Turner E.J.L	
Maxwell A.F	
Crosbie T.E.C	
Davidson A	Command
Smith J.I	Command
Gilmer E.H	Command
Kerr C.H	
Orr R.A	
Larter C.B	
Partridge J.H	Command
Irvine W.F	Command
Galloway A.J	
Connor J.H	Command
Gillard T.A	Command
Martin C.H	
Graham W.G	
Prenter D	
Murphy J.J	
Scott J	
Smith R.L	
Barrett E.J St C	Command
Clarke N	Command
Pollock J.J McE	Command

Auber G	Command
Perkins C.T.J	Command
Henry A.W	Command
Poole F	Command
Bailie J	Command
Leader T.M	Command
Jack H.D	Command
Moran S.F	Command
Bayliff C.T.L	
Garnham W	Command

Quartermaster

Hony Lieutenant Wilson G.W

Attached

Captain Burrows O.V, Royal Army Medical Corps

Captain Mayes S, Chaplain to the Forces

[Signed] A Ferguson
 Major, for Lieutenant-Colonel
 Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 31 October 1917

November 1917

1	Havrincourt Wood, K.31.c.0.0. A quiet day in the line. This night we were relieved by the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles. Relief was complete at 9pm. Battalion marched back to billets in Ruyaulcourt.
2	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. Day spent mainly in cleaning up. Clothing and equipment of Companies inspected during the morning. Football in the afternoon.
3	Ruyaulcourt. A & B Companies on working parties today. At 4.30pm C Company left Ruyaulcourt and marched up to the line to carry out a raid. The enemy's front line was successfully penetrated from the Canal (K.26.d.05.95) to about 150 yards east of it. The fighting was very severe as the enemy refused to surrender. Our men stayed in the enemy trenches for twenty minutes and bayoneted and shot at least forty Germans. We suffered some

	casualties, mostly from bombs: one Officer severely wounded, one Officer slightly wounded; one NCO killed, three Other Ranks missing believed killed, thirteen Other Ranks wounded, one R.E [Royal Engineer?] (NCO) severely wounded. ⁶
4	Ruyaulcourt P.15.b.9.8. The General Officer Commanding 36 th Division inspected the men of C Company who took part in the raid. A, B and D Companies were on working parties. Four new Officers joined Battalion from Rocquigny.
5	Ruyaulcourt. The new ante-room at Battalion Headquarters was lined with canvas and made more comfortable. The whole Battalion with exception of C Company were on working parties.
6	Ruyaulcourt. The 'Officers' played 'the Rest' of the Battalion at Rugby in the afternoon. Match took place on the Battalion football ground. Result 'Officers' 10 points, 'Rest' 9 points.
7	Ruyaulcourt. A and B Companies carried out scale of parades. C and D Companies were on working parties.
8	Ruyaulcourt. Morning spent in preparing to go into line. This night the Battalion relieved the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in the line. A Company on Yorkshire Bank with one Platoon in Cheetham Switch, B Company in R.3, C Company in Locality 5, and D Company in Battalion Reserve.
9	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. The night of the relief rain fell and continued until almost 12 noon today. The trenches especially in Yorkshire Bank were very badly flooded. All available men in line turned on to repairing them.
10	Havrincourt Wood. Trenches still bad owing to continued bad weather. Much work done by the men in the line towards improving and draining them today.
11	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion in the line. Quiet day. No enemy activity.
12	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion in the line.
13	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion in the line. Yorkshire Bank shelled by 5.9 and trench mortars.
14	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion in the line. Enemy trench mortar fire on Yorkshire Bank in reply to our pigs who were firing on front line and Havrincourt. Casualties: Three Other Ranks killed, one Other Rank severely wounded. ⁷
15	Havrincourt Wood. Battalion in the line. Several heavy machine gun Officers reconnoitering Battalion left sub-sector. Quiet day.
16	Havrincourt Wood K.31.c.0.0. Battalion in the line. No enemy activity. Several heavy machine gun Officers reconnoitering round line. Our heavy trench mortars very active firing on enemy front line and west of Havrincourt. ⁸

⁶ The four men killed this day were: **Sergeant Richard Irwin** (41268), formerly North Irish Horse (398), of Lurgan (County Armagh), born Donagheloney (County Down), enlisted Waringstown (County Down), qualified for 1914 Star on 17 August 1914, aged 32, husband of Margaret Irwin of Clougher, Maralin, Lurgan, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.17; **Private John Ford** (41535), formerly North Irish Horse (772), born and enlisted at Lisbellaw, County Fermanagh, qualified for 1914 Star on 20 August 1914, buried at Cambrai East Military Cemetery, grave VII.B.3; **Private Robert Heathwood** (41285), formerly North Irish Horse (1135), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 15.A; **Private John Donaldson King** (41302), formerly North Irish Horse (864), of Whitecross (County Armagh), born at Whitecross, enlisted at Newry (County Down), qualified for 1914 Star on 20 August 1914, aged 25, son of John and Mary J King of Lurgand House, Whitecross, County Armagh, buried at Cambrai East Military Cemetery, grave VII.B.2.

⁷ The Soldiers Died in the Great War reference does not list any men of the 9th Battalion as casualties on this day.

17	Relieved by 2/5 th King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry at 10pm. Battalion marched to Bertincourt less one Platoon of C Company who were left behind to form an outpost for 2/5 King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry on Yorkshire Bank.
18	Barastre O.16 (centre). Battalion moved from Bertincourt and is comfortably encamped in Adrian and Nissen Huts and tents.
19	Velu Wood J.31.c (centre). Battalion inspected in the morning by the Commanding Officer at Barastre. Moved at 4.30pm to Headquarters in Velu Wood (on eve of push). The following 'immediate awards' have been notified by Brigade as result of our Havrincourt raid on 3 rd inst. Military Medal – 18869 Corporal Mackinson, Henry, 41327 Private Morrison, John, 41256 Private Chambers, Thomas, 41534 Private Averell, Robert, 23438 Corporal Craig, George.
20	Maxwell Avenue K.25.d.9.9. The Division (109 th Brigade) moved to the attack at 6.20am ⁹ . 107 th and 108 th Brigades in support. Battalion 'details' remain in Velu Wood under command of Major J.G Brew. Transport at Hermies Slag Heap. 2 nd Lieutenant E.J.L Turner, Transport Officer, returned from leave. The Battalion moved to a position 500 yards north-east of Velu Wood at 8.20am. At 2pm the Battalion moved from this position to Broken Bridge for dinner. At 3.30pm moved to R.3. The Battalion went into dugouts at 8.40pm for the night.
21	The Battalion moved from R.3 at 3pm to enemies old lines near Lock 7 where it slept for the night in dugouts.
22	Moeuvres. The Battalion moved up at 6.30am to a position north of Bapaume and Cambrai Road arriving at 8.30am. Here the Battalion waited for an order to attack Inchi when Moeuvres was taken by the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles. At 11.45am the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles captured village of Moeuvres. It was unable to clear trenches east of village. At 5.30pm Battalion moved up to support 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in the village of Moeuvres. At 5.45pm 12 th Royal Irish Rifles reported driven out of village. At 8.30pm Battalion less D Company counter attacked village of Moeuvres but was driven back to trenches immediately south of the village, where it took up a defensive position for the night. ¹⁰
23	Moeuvres. Battalion attacked Moeuvres at 10.30am. At 11am Battalion reported in village. At 11.45am enemy counter attacked from trenches west of village. 12.15pm counter attack driven off. At 4.30pm village evacuated by Battalion on account of supports not coming up. 5pm C and D Companies took up position on Sunken Road south of village and A and B companies went back to trenches north of Bapaume and Cambrai Road. Casualties for 22 nd and 23 rd : Officers killed one; Officers wounded six; Other Ranks 82 casualties. ¹¹

⁸ Killed in action this day: **Private Daniel Sturgeon** (23207) of Glasslough (County Monaghan), born Donagh (County Monaghan), enlisted Lurgan (County Armagh), aged 25, son of John and Rebecca Sturgeon of Mullapike, Glasslough, County Monaghan, buried at Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, grave E.15.

⁹ Battle of Cambrai.

¹⁰ Killed in action this day: **Sergeant Thomas Clements MM** (17151) of Ahorey (County Armagh), born Ahorey, enlisted Belfast, aged 20, son of Thomas and Jane Clements of Ahorey, Portadown, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Lance Corporal Hugh Flanagan** (41229), formerly North Irish Horse (1508), of Belfast, born Ballymena (County Antrim), enlisted Antrim, aged 21, son of R.H and Martha Flanagan of 129 Dunluce Avenue Belfast, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private William Joseph Petty** (41406), formerly North Irish Horse (1944), of Belfast, born in Belfast, enlisted at Antrim, aged 26, son of Francis Petty of 32 Agincourt Avenue Belfast, and the late Marion Petty, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10.

¹¹ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Lawrence Henry Martin**, aged 20, son of the Reverend Richard O'Olier Martin and Mrs Catherine Mary Martin of The Rectory, Killeshandra, County Cavan, buried at Moeuvres Communal Cemetery Extension, grave III.A.9; **Sergeant Thomas Ballantine** (18322), born and enlisted at Armagh, aged 33, husband of Rebecca Ballantine of Ballinahone, Armagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private David Bryans** (14043), born and enlisted at Armagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private Samuel**

24	Battalion relieved in the trenches by the 11 th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at dawn. Proceeded to Hermies for rest and reorganisation. ¹²
25	Hermies. Battalion resting at Hermies.
26	Hermies. At 6.30pm Battalion moved from Hermies to Beaumetz. At 8.30pm Battalion arrived at Beaumetz and was put in tents for the night.
27	Beaumetz. Battalion moved to Rocquigny, arriving at 8.30pm.
28	Rocquigny. Battalion resting in Rocquigny. 'A' Company was bathed and had a clean change.
29	Rocquigny. Battalion entrained at Ytres at 8.30pm for Beaumetz south of Arras. Battalion detrained at Beaumetz at 2.45am on November 30 th and marched to billets at Simencourt, arriving at 3.20am.
30	Simencourt. Battalion left Simencourt at 2pm for Goincourt, arriving at 7.30pm. [Signed] P Kelly Lieutenant Colonel Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Malco(l)mson (14454), B Company, born and enlisted at Portadown, aged 23, son of Joseph and Caroline Malcolmsen of 56 Jervis Street, Portadown, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private Christopher McWilliams** (41085), formerly Inniskilling Dragoons (268), enlisted at Enniskillen, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private Henry Orr** (41091) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/62) of Brookeborough, born Brookeborough (County Fermanagh), enlisted Enniskillen, aged 22, son of John and Rebecca Orr of Munmurry, Brookeborough, County Fermanagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private Samuel Price** (41167) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ 6th Dragoons (UD/118), born Ballymacarrett, County Down, enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Lance Corporal Fred Scanlon** (41482) formerly North Irish Horse (1460), of Bagnalstown, born Bagnalstown (County Carlow), enlisted Antrim in 1915, aged 28, son of James and Sophia Scanlon of Bohermore, Bagenalstown, County Carlow, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private James Sleator** (41418) formerly North Irish Horse (1870), of Keady (County Armagh), born Enniskillen, enlisted Antrim, aged 22, son of James and Elizabeth Sleator of 6 Cappy Street, Ravenhill Road, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private William James Turkington** (41173) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/207), born Killygarvin (County Tyrone), enlisted Belfast, aged 26, son of William James and Hannah Turkington of 19 University Avenue, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10; **Private William Williamson** (14766) of Bessbrook (County Armagh), born and enlisted Armagh, aged 22, son of James and Elizabeth Williamson (nee McConnell) of 7 College Square, Bessbrook, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Panel 10.

¹² Died of wounds this day – **Captain Frederick David Mitchel** (*shown on the CWGC database and Officers Died list as 10th Battalion RIF, but probably the same person as the Lieutenant F.D Mitchel shown on the Roll of Officers for September and October 1917 for the 9th Battalion*), aged 28, son of the Reverend S.C and Mrs I Mitchel of Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried at Grevillers British Cemetery, grave VIII.E.4; **Private George Galbraith** (41188) formerly North Irish Horse (1601) of Belfast, born Dunadry (County Antrim), enlisted Antrim, son of Sam and Susanah Galbraith of Bellevue, Glengormley, Belfast, buried at Grevillers British Cemetery, grave VIII.B.2.

December 1917	
1	Gomincourt. Battalion left Gomincourt at 12pm for Rocquigny, arrived at 7.30pm. ¹³
2	Rocquigny. Battalion left Rocquigny for Metz-le-Coutre, arrived Metz 2.30pm, billeted for night.
3	Metz-le-Coutre. Battalion left Metz at 8pm. Moved up to the line to support 88 th Brigade south of Marcoing. Arrived in support trenches at 5.30am the 4 th [December].
4	Trenches south of Marcoing. Battalion in the trenches south of Marcoing in support of 88 th Brigade. Relieved Essex and Hants Battalions in front line at 4.30am.
5	Trenches south of Marcoing. Battalion in the line. Captain Flood killed at 9am by shrapnel. ¹⁴
6	Trenches south of Marcoing. Battalion in the line. Two Companies in front line, one in support and one in reserve for use as Battalion counter-attack Company. Enemy shelling position very heavily. Five casualties – four Other Ranks. ¹⁵
7	Trenches south of Marcoing. Battalion in line as above. Enemy artillery very active, particularly at 2.30pm when he attacked on our right. Eight casualties to Other Ranks.
8	Trenches south of Marcoing. Battalion in line as above. Heavy shelling by enemy. Enemy aeroplanes very active over our lines, flying very low. Relieved by 12 th Royal Irish Rifles at 10.30pm. Fine day. N.B: While in front line Battalion improved trenches, made latrines, wired in front of trenches, and salvaged several articles of war. Five casualties to Other Ranks. Battalion goes into Brigade support on being relieved, less D Company who relieved Buffs and King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in communication trench running north and south from front line.
9	South of Marcoing. Battalion in Brigade support.
10	South of Marcoing. As above. One-hundred and sixty Other Ranks and four Officers for a working party, carrying up wire to front line.
11	South of Marcoing. Battalion in Brigade support. Four Officers and 100 Other Ranks on a carrying party from 4.30pm to 2am (12 December 1917).
12	South of Marcoing. Battalion in Brigade support. Relieved by [sic] 2 nd Battalion Royal Irish Rifles in the line at dusk. C Company on right. B Company on outpost line. A Company on left. D Company in support.
13	South of Marcoing. Captured a prisoner at 4.30am of the 6 th (Reserve Infantry Regiment). Battalion stood to at 5.30am to meet a rumoured attack at 6.30am. Word received from Division Headquarters at 3.30am that enemy was to attack in great force at 6.30am. No attack however took place.
14	South of Marcoing. Battalion in the line. Two Other Ranks casualties.

¹³ Died of wounds this day – **Private John Smyth** (41205), formerly North Irish Horse (1435) of Portgleneone (County Antrim), born Tamlaght O'Crilly, County Londonderry, enlisted Antirm, buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave P.V.C.6B.

¹⁴ Killed in action this day – **Captain Robert Samuel Flood MC**, aged 26, born at Ashfield, Cootehill, son of Robert I and Mrs M.O Flood of Milhale, Tullyvin, Cootehill, County Cavan, buried at Ribecourt British Cemetery, grave I.E.1.

¹⁵ Died of wounds this day – **Private William Thom(p)son** (41407) formerly North Irish Horse (2037), born and enlisted Ballymoney, County Antrim, aged 28, son of James and Martha Thomson of Conagher, Ballymoney, County Antrim, buried at Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt, grave VI.D.13.

15	South of Marcoing. Battalion in the line. D Company relieved B Company in the outpost line. One Officer 2 nd Lieutenant Bray and three Other Ranks casualties.
16	South of Marcoing. German post stormed by our patrol at 5pm. Gunner bayoneted and machine gun captured; identification secured (6 th Division Reserve Infantry Regiment). Lieutenant Caulfield, 7 th Somersets, buried by our Battalion ¹⁶ . Trench very much improved and more wire put out. Relieved by 7 th Royal Fusiliers at 9pm and march to Metz. Fifty rifles salvaged and several thousand rounds of small arms ammunition, also boxes of grenades salvaged, cleaned and put under cover.
17	Metz-le-Coutre. Left Metz at 12 noon for Etricourt. Billeted in tents at Etricourt.
18	Etricourt. Entrain Etricourt for Mondicourt. Detrain at Mondicourt and march through deep snow to our billets in the village of Coullemont. The heavy snow delayed our transport, which did not arrive till midnight.
19	Coullemont. Working parties out. Forty Other Ranks and one Officer from each Company clearing road from Coullemont to Couterelle of snow. This work continued to 4.30pm.
20	Coullemont. Under Company arrangements. Cleaning up.
21	Coullemont. Under Company arrangements. Inspection of arms and equipment.
22	Coullemont. Battalion Parade by Companies. Scale of parades from 9.15am to 12.30pm. 'A' Company bathed in afternoon.
23	Coullemont. Battalion paraded at 10.30am for Divine Service at Humbercourt.
24	Coullemont. Battalion Parade by Companies. Scale of parades as on the 22 nd . B Company bathed during the afternoon.
25	Coullemont. Battalion paraded for Divine Services at 10am. Christmas dinners by Companies between 1pm and 3pm. The Commanding Officer was present at each Company dinner. Snowed heavily during the evening.
26	–
27	Coullemont. Each Company furnished a working party of forty Other Ranks and one Officer from A and D Companies to sandbag airdrome near Mondicourt.
28	Coullemont. Battalion leaves Coullemont, march off at 5.30am. Entrain Mondicourt 9am. Arrive Boves 1.30pm. March to billets in village. Snow fell during the evening.
29	Boves. Working party in afternoon clearing snow off road from Boves station to cross roads at St Nicholas. Train loaded with Battalion transport snowed up and did not arrive till midnight. The unloading party consisting of A Company did not arrive in billets till 2am 30/12/17. Captain Despard and an NCO proceed to 5 th Army Infantry School at Toutencourt.
30	Boves. Battalion paraded at 11.45am for Divine Service in the 4 th Corps School Cinema hall.
31	Boves. Battalion paraded under Company arrangements at 9.30am. Principally kit inspections. Demonstration by 4 th Corps School of the improved musketry instruction at 10am. One Officer and one NCO per Company attend, also Intelligence Officer. Route march in afternoon, parade ready to move

¹⁶ **2nd Lieutenant Gordon Caulfield**, 3rd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry (attached 7th Battalion), killed in action 30 November 1917. Caulfield's burial site must have been lost or forgotten, as he is now commemorated on the list of those missing at the Cambrai Memorial, Louveral (Panels 4 and 5).

	off at 2pm. [Signed] P Kelly Lieutenant Colonel Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
January 1918	
1-6	Boves. In rest billets, carrying out training programme.
7	Marcelcave. Moved from Boves to Marcelcave, 14 kilometres, over ground thickly covered with snow. The following decorations have been awarded by the Field Marshal, Commander-in-Chief, under authority delegated him by the King: The Military Cross – Temporary Captain C.B Despard, D Company, 2 nd Lieutenant J.H Partridge B Company (Intelligence Officer); ¹⁷ Distinguished Conduct Medal – Corporal H Roe, A Company, Company Quartermaster Sergeant G Robinson, D Company, Company Sergeant Major T Vennard, B Company. ¹⁸
8-9	–
10	Marcelcave. Moved to Rosieres, 11 kilometres.
11	Rosieres. Moved to Carrèpuit, 15 kilometres, through shell-shattered country.
12	Strength: 39 Officers, 868 Other Ranks, 39 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Lieutenant R.I McCrum, 2 nd Lieutenant Pollock, 2 nd Lieutenant Leahy, 2 nd Lieutenant Donaldson.
13	Moved to Villeselve, 20 kilometres. Lieutenant G.W Vesey, A Company, awarded Military Cross; ¹⁹ 2 nd Lieutenant A.A Andrews struck of[f] strength; Sergeant J.A Henry, C Company, and Lance Corporal A.G.H Clarke, C Company, both awarded Military Medal. 36 th Division relieved 6 th French Division, 108 th Brigade in reserve.

¹⁷ London Gazette 1 February 1918 No.30507.

¹⁸ **Corporal Hubert Roe** (41147) of Harrow, formerly Lance Corporal in the Dragoon Guards "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his platoon commander was wounded he took command of the left flank, and secured it against counter-attacks. He held up the enemy's advance with great determination, and was responsible for bringing into our lines several wounded men." **Company Quartermaster Sergeant John Robinson** (14642) of Portadown, "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when acting as company serjeant major in an attack on a village. He took command when his officers were wounded, and displayed initiative and boldness in leading the advance, and in clearing the enemy from houses and cellars when the village was reached. He rendered valuable assistance in repelling an enemy counter-attack." **Company Sergeant Major Thomas Vennard** (14746) of Portadown "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He took command of a reserve platoon and led it into action under intense fire. He collected and reorganised scattered men of several units and led them forward, setting a splendid example of initiative and leadership throughout the action. (London Gazette 26 March 1918 No.30601)

14-16	_20
17	Villeselve. 8am. Moved to Grand Seraucourt, 13 kilometres, to reserve billets, 4 kilometres behind line. Carrying out wiring and intensive digging training.
18	–
19	Grand Seraucourt. Sheet 66cNW 1/20,000. Strength: 39 Officers, 866 Other Ranks, 39 horses, 16 mules. Decrease: Two Other Ranks.
20	–
21	Grand Seraucourt. Major A Ferguson awarded Military Cross. No.14040 Sergeant Barton, H, C Company, awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal.
22-24	Grand Seraucourt. Four-hundred men digging cable trench between Artemps and Grand Seraucourt.
25-28	[25-28 January] Grand Seraucourt. Battalion digging reserve trench between Contescourt and Essigny le Grand. [26 January] Strength: Forty Officers, 849 Other Ranks, 39 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Chaplain H.S Bally, Church of England (vice Chaplain S Mayes, Church of England, returned to England). Decrease: Seventeen Other Ranks. [27 January] 10am. Divisional Commander presented ribbons of decoration awarded from the recent operations at Moeuvres. 2pm. Beat 16 Royal Irish Rifles at football, 5 goals to 1. [28 January] 5pm. 108 th Infantry Brigade relieves 109 th Infantry Brigade in the right sector on January 28-30 th . Boundaries of Right Brigade Sector: Right B.17.c.6.7 – B.22.a.5.0 to Essigny Station. Left – Boyau de Moulins (inclusive to Left Brigade) Boyau de Contescourt (inclusive to Left Brigade). Boundary between Battalions B.9.c.9.5 to B.15.a.7.5. Brigade on right flank – 41 st Infantry Brigade; left, 107 th Infantry Brigade. B.25.a/26.a. Battalion moves to Brigade support in relief of 9 Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Transport to Artemps.
29	B.22.a centre. 5pm. Battalion moves to line in relief of 14 th Royal Irish Rifles (Y.O) in R. Bn Sector. Boundaries: Right B.16.d.5.4, left B.9.c.8.1. Dispositions: A and C Companies in line. Boundary between Companies B.10.c.6.3; B Company Counter attack in dugouts, Headquarters, B.16.d.1.4; D Company Passive defence in dugouts, Headquarters, B.22.a Central. Relief carried out successfully, notwithstanding condition of trenches very bad, having fallen in partly owing to weather and partly to want of attention. Wiring plentiful. Distance between enemy and our front line averages 1,000 yards.
30	Situation quiet, apart from enemy aircraft, during the night bombing.
31	B.9.d.9.1. 5.30am. German shot about fifty yards in front of A Company. He belonged to 5 th Grenadier Regiment, 36 th Division. 2/4pm. Battalion and Company Headquarters were fired on with 105mms. [Signed] J.G Brew Major

¹⁹ London Gazette 1 March 1918 No.30555.

²⁰ Died of wounds on 15 January 1918 – **Private Victor Charles Watson** (22988), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, aged 22, son of Mr T.C Watson of 63 Avenue Road, Lurgan, buried at Etrepat Churchyard Extension, grave II.A.9.

	Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
February 1918	
1	Sheet 66cNW 1/20,000 App.101. Line. 10.30pm. Patrol left our line at B.17.a.3.2. No enemy encountered. Another one left at B.8.c.91.25 and found old front line filled in in many places.
2	Strength: Forty Officers, 846 Other Ranks, 38 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Three Other Ranks. Decrease: One horse.
3	Our heavies fired on enemy reserve lines during afternoon. Enemy – Fourteen 105mm high explosives fired on B14c & d, wounding two men, one man wounded by Lewis Gun fire in B16a, during night.
4	10.30am. Six enemy 105mm high explosives fired on B13d. We made a reconnaissance of our wire from B.17.a.1.2 to B.17.a.4.2 and found it in good order. Emplacement at B.17.a.8.7 destroyed by our shelling. 5.30pm. Relieved by 12 Royal Irish Rifles and moved to Brigade support B.20.c with one Company at B.15.c.
5	Awards: Croix de Guerre (Belgian) to Corporal E.A Godeon (MC) and Acting Corporal W Knaggs (MM), D Company. Decoration Militaire to 14388 Private Stewart, T, B Company.
6-9	[6-9 February] Occasional enemy shelling. Casualties – two wounded. [9 February] Strength: 37 Officers, 853 Other Ranks, 36 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Seven Other Ranks. Decrease: 2 nd Lieutenant Galloway (Medical Board, England), 2 nd Lieutenant J.I McCausland (6 months duty, England), 2 nd Lieutenant E.V Crothers (transferred Indian Army) and two horses. Support B.20.c line, left sub-sector. 5.30pm. Relieved by 1 st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers. After relief, proceeded to relieve 11/13 Royal Irish Rifles in left sub-sector. Dispositions: B Company in right sector, D Company in left sector, A and C Companies, ½ each counter attack and passive resistance.
10	Front quiet except for occasional shelling. One man wounded by enemy sniper.
11	5.30pm. Major Brew, Commanding, Padre and Orderly Room Staff moved to B.20.c.1.1. Captain M Henehan MC remaining as acting second-in-command. ²¹
12	–
13-15	Activity mostly in artillery, air and sniping. Occasional bursts of 5.9mms on rear Battalion Headquarters at B.20.c.1.1. Large numbers of enemy aircraft passed over during nights and bombed back areas. Four men wounded by enemy snipers.
16	Effective strength: 46 Officers, 1,066 Other Ranks, 36 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Draft from 78 th Battalion on disbandment – A Company, 2 nd Lieutenant W.G Greenaway, 2 nd Lieutenant A Wilding MC, 2 nd Lieutenant T Bremner; B Company, 2 nd Lieutenant W.F Reid, 2 nd Lieutenant D Miller; C Company, 2 nd Lieutenant G Hardy, 2 nd Lieutenant J Darling, 2 nd Lieutenant J Benson; D Company, 2 nd Lieutenant W.H Roche; Other Ranks, 213.
17-18	Patrols nightly in Nomanland. No enemy encountered and wire found good. Officers in enemy front line seen observing our lines through glasses.

²¹ Died of wounds this day – **Private John Johnston** (41107) formerly Inniskilling Dragoons (84) [or Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (14073)] of Enniskillen, born Enniskillen, enlisted Finner Camp, County Donegal, aged 22, son of John and Sarah Johnston, buried at Grand-Seraucourt British Cemetery, grave V.G.4.

19	Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly returned from leave and resumed command. Major Brew at three days conference, President Corps Commander Sir Ivor H Maxse. One man killed and one wounded.
20	–
21	2 nd Lieutenant G.E Scott wounded with small splinter and remained at duty.
22	On night 22/23 rd the Division Front was reorganised, with one Battalion of each Brigade in the line. Brigade boundaries as follows: Right as at present, (c) between left and centre Brigades: junction of Cabal Trench and old front line (B.8.c.90.60) – B.14.a.15.77 – A.18.c.10.00 – A.16.c.05.70. (b) between right and centre Brigades: Junction of Borellier Trench and St Quentin – Vendeuil Road (B.10.c.60.40) – B.15.a.70.00 – A.29.a.9.6 – G.4 Central. (d) left boundary: Canal. Dispositions: The disposition of Brigades from right to left: 108 – 107 – 109 th . 108 Brigade Garrisons 'C' Subsector of the Battle Zone. Left sub-sector. 5.30pm. The Battalion was relieved as follows: All posts west of boundary between centre and left Brigades, by 9 th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Remainder of Battalion (including) C Company (passive resistance) by 15 th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles about 7pm. The Battalion on relief moved to Brigade Reserve at Grand Seraucourt.
23-28	[23-28 February] Grand Seraucourt. Training and working on cable and other trenches in Battle Zone. [23 February] Effective strength: 47 Officers, 1,071 Other Ranks, 36 horses, 16 mules. Increase: Captain C.J Brennan (from 10 th Reserve Battalion), 2 nd Lieutenant Slatter, T (from 7/8 th Battalion), 5 Other Ranks. Decrease: Major A Ferguson MC (ordered Medical Board, England). App.102. [Signed] P Kelly Lieutenant Colonel Officer Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion The Royal Irish Fusiliers

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Seniority</u>	
Lieutenant-Colonel	Kelly P.E	31.8.17	
Major	Brew J.E	28.11.16	
Captain	Menaul W.J (MC)	26.6.17	Command
Captain	Despard C.B (MC)	30.10.16	
Captain	Henehan M (MC)	19.2.17	Command
Lieutenant (Temp. Capt)	Vesey G.W (MC)	18.11.15	
Lieutenant	Wilson G.W	15.9.16	
Lieutenant (A.Cp.A.)	Dean H.S	1.7.17	Command

Lieutenant	Richardson G.H	1.7.17	Command
Lieutenant	O'Flaherty Johnstone G.I	1.7.17	
Lieutenant	McCrum R.I	6.7.17	
Lieutenant	Cooke J.A	7.1.18	Command
Lieutenant	Woods J	7.1.18	Command
Lieutenant	Hartness F.C	5.2.18	
2 nd Lieutenant	Reid W.F	22.5.18 [sic]	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Turner E.J.L	26.9.16	
2 nd Lieutenant	Maxwell A.F	19.12.16	
2 nd Lieutenant (A/Cpt.A.)	Crosbie T.E.C (MC)	19.12.16	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Davidson A	19.12.16	
2 nd Lieutenant	Smith J.I	19.12.16	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Gilmer E.H	19.12.16	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Orr R.A	19.12.16	
2 nd Lieutenant (T.Cpt)	Partridge J.H (MC)	27.12.16	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Perkins C.J.T	17.2.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Henry A.W	17.2.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Irvine W.F	1.3.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Connor J.H	28.3.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Scott J	30.5.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Graham W.G	27.6.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Prenter D	27.6.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Smith R.L	27.6.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Clarke N	27.6.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Pollock J.J.McE	1.8.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Greenaway W.G	1.8.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Wilding A (MC)	1.8.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Davies H.L	28.8.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Roche W.H	29.8.17	Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Hardy G	29.8.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Bremner T	29.8.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Darling J	26.9.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Benson J	26.9.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Slatter T	29.8.17	Hospital
2 nd Lieutenant	Miller D.J	30.10.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Leahy T.C	16.11.17	
2 nd Lieutenant	Donaldson F.L.H	30.11.17	

2 nd Lieutenant	O'Donovan F.J		Posted, not joined
2 nd Lieutenant	Oecken C.A.J	21.12.16	Posted, not joined
Lieutenant	McWilliams T.A	8.3.17	Posted, not joined
Captain	Brennan C.J	20.3.16	Posted, not joined

Attached

Lieutenant	Morgan H.S	U.S.A	Medical Officer
Captain	Bally H		Chaplain to the Forces

[Signed] P Kelly
 Lieutenant-Colonel
 Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 28 February 1918

[Attached]

TRENCH MAP (British)

62BSW }
 } PARTS OF
 66CNW }

SCALE 1/20,000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 METRES

28 February 1918

March 1918

1	Sheet 66CNW 1/20,000. Grand Seraucourt. 5.30pm. Battalion moved to support at Essigny Station in relief of 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers.
2-8	[2-7 March] Essigny Station. Working on defences of Battle Zone daily. [2 March] Effective strength: Officers 46, Other Ranks 1083, horses 36, mules 16. Decrease: Captain J Grant (Medical Board, England). Increase: Twelve Other Ranks. [7-8 March] 6pm. Relieved 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers in line, with 2 nd Royal Irish Rifles on left and 8 King's Royal Rifles on right.

9-15	[9-14 March] Patrolling and wiring nightly. Our artillery lively cutting enemy wire and sweeping likely places of assembly for enemy attack. Enemy artillery unusually quiet. Great aerial activity owing to fine weather and visibility. One enemy aircraft brought down on enemy line opposite left Battalion front. [9 March] 3pm. Enemy machine gun captured without opposition by 2 nd Lieutenant W.G Greenaway and three Other Ranks from position at B.17.a.9.8. Effective strength: Officers 46, Other Ranks 1076, horses 36, mules 16. Decrease: Seven Other Ranks. [14-15 March] 8pm. Relieved by 12 th Royal Irish Rifles and moved to Grand Seraucourt in reserve. ²²
16	Effective strength: Officers 45, Other Ranks 1058, horses 37, mules 18. Increase: Horses 1, mules 2. Decrease: Officer 1, 2 nd Lieutenant W.G Greenaway transferred to Royal Flying Corps, England; Other Ranks 18.
17	Grand Seraucourt. St Patrick's Day. Sunday. Church Parade in morning and sports in evening.
18-20	Intensive training, by Platoons, in morning. Specialist training in evening.
21	2am. Intensive enemy barrage opened on our positions, for a depth of from 4 to 6 kilometres. At 6am enemy attacked. ²³ Battalion moved to Brigade Headquarters just east of village. 2 nd Lieutenant Prenter and four Other Ranks killed. 2 nd Lieutenant Perkins and 16 Platoon missing. Part of 2 Platoons of A Company missing. ²⁴
22	Battalion fell back on Halpincourt, where we remained during the day, falling back on Ollizey in the evening.
23	At Ollizey all day, fell back on farm house in front of Fleuesele.
24	Remained at Fleuesle for the day, and fell back on Guiscard, remaining there for the night. Captain Partridge MC killed and Captain Vesey MC wounded during night. ²⁵
25-26	Fell back through Busse to AvriLCourt and then marched via Tilloloy, Popincourt, Grivillers, Marquivillers, Guerbigny to Erches, arriving at 11am on

²² Killed in action on 14 March 1918 – **Lance Corporal James Dunne** (9210), born and enlisted in Dublin, no known grave, his name is inscribed on Pier and Face 15.A, Thiepval Memorial.

²³ Beginning of German Offensive – Operation Michael.

²⁴ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Dalton Prenter**, formerly Private in Royal Irish Rifles (14/16946). aged 27, son of James B and Clara E.A Prenter of 123 Fitzroy Avenue, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Ernest Sydney Campkin** (43362), formerly 7th London Regiment (3236 [or 351079]), born Poplar, E., Middlesex, enlisted Sun Street, E.C., Middlesex, born Poplar, buried St Souplet British Cemetery, grave I.G.27; **Private Thomas Conlon** (43041) formerly Connaught Rangers (7050), born Sligo, enlisted Liverpool, residence Geevagh, County Sligo, aged 37, son of Thomas and Mary Conlon of Killamy Geevagh, County Sligo, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Thomas Sittlington** (41627) formerly North Irish Horse (2007), born Larne, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Larne, aged 24, son of Samuel Sittlington of Droagh Cottage, Larne, County Antrim, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Frank Tate** (41195) formerly North Irish Horse (2119), born Belfast, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, buried at Noyon New British Cemetery, grave II.B.5.

²⁵ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant James Henry Partridge MC**, 1st Battalion RIF, attached 9th Battalion (shown on CWGC database as formerly North Irish Horse, and probably the Captain J.H Partridge formerly Private (5075) in the 20th Hussars listed on the National Archives medal index), no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Vincent McCaffery** (3556), born and enlisted Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77.

	morning of 26 th . Lewis Guns were sent by lorry previous night. Major Brew and details went into line in front of Erches. Remainder of Battalion under Captain Despard MC formed reserves west of Erches. ²⁶
27	Enemy attacked and the Royal Irish Rifles fell back on 9 th Battalion reserve who fell back with same to a position south of Arvillers, and then south of the village, where they remained the night. ²⁷
28	This party under Captains Despard, Crosbie and Dean, and 2 nd Lieutenant Davison, fell back, by orders, through Hangesy-en-Santerre, Plessier, Rosainvillers, Moreuil, Mailly-Raineval, Sourdon, remaining there the night. ²⁸
29	Marched from Sourdon, via Ailly-sur-Noye, Jumel to Taisnil. ²⁹

²⁶ Died of wounds on 25th March 1918 – **Private James Frazer Johnston** (41126) formerly Dragoons of the Line, 6th Inniskilling Dragoons (UD/229), enlisted Enniskillen, residence Blacklion, County Cavan, aged 20, son of Joseph and Mary T Johnston of Blacklion, County Cavan, buried at Roye New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.3.

Died of wounds 26th March 1918 – **Captain George Walter [or Waller] Vesey MC**, aged 34, formerly Lieutenant in the North Irish Horse, arrived France 18 November 1915, presumably with F Squadron NIH, of Derrabard, Fintona, County Tyrone, son of G Lendrum JP DL and Mrs Lendrum, of Corkill, Kilskeery, County Tyrone; husband of Sybilla S Vesey, of Down Lodge, East Harting, Petersfield, Hants, buried at Vignemont French National Cemetery, grave F.3; **Lance Sergeant George Adams Henry MM** (41401) formerly North Irish Horse (683), born and enlisted Cookstown, County Tyrone, qualified for 1914 Star on 20 August 1914, awarded Military Medal for bravery in the field on London Gazette 15 March 1918 issue 30585 p.8, buried St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave P.VI.H.12B.

Killed in action 26 March 1918 – **Private Frederick James Welsh** (17933), born Cloncs, County Monaghan, enlisted Monaghan, residence Smithborough, County Monaghan, aged 36, son of James Cochrane Welsh and Catherine Ann Welsh of Carnowen, Smithborough, County Monaghan, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77.

²⁷ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant William Henry Roche**, formerly Corporal in the Royal Dublin Fusiliers (26580) (shown in *Soldiers Died* and the CWGC database as belonging to the 10th RIF), buried at Roye New British Cemetery, grave IV.D.19; **Private George Gilroy** (15258), born Ballymacarrett, County Down, enlisted Belfast, aged 31, son of William and Mary Ann Gilroy, husband of Mary Jane Gilroy, of 50 Stanhope Street Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Thomas John Gerald Haire** (21645), born Stewartstown, County Tyrone, enlisted Cavan, residence Colverhill, County Cavan, aged 20, son of David and Sara Jane Haire of Trew and Moy Station, County Tyrone, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77.

²⁸ Died of wounds this day – **Private Thomas Maloney** (22734), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave P.VII.H.2B.

²⁹ Died of wounds this day – **Lance Corporal Alexander Ernest O'Reilly** (27874), born Grangeburt, County Donegal, enlisted Newcastle-on-Tyne, residence Speenogue, County Donegal, buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave P.VIII.L.1A.

Killed in action this day – **Private Richard Burns** (14030), born Lurgan, County Armagh, enlisted Belfast, residence Lurgan, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Lance Corporal Alexander Butters** (43275) formerly Private in Notts and Derby Regiment (14064), born and enlisted Nottingham, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Thomas Cartmill** (41523) formerly North Irish Horse (1387), born Killeavy, County Down, enlisted Antrim, residence Newry, County Down, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Robert Cochrane** (24397), born Loughgilly, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Mountorris, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Lance Sergeant George Craig MM** (23438), formerly Royal Field Artillery (101466), born Shankill, County Armagh,

enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Arthur Sidney Crawford** (41485) formerly North Irish Horse (1345), born Booterstown, County Dublin, enlisted Belfast, residence Blackrock, County Dublin, aged 21, son of Hugh and Jane Crawford of Mount Merrion, Blackrock, County Dublin, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Francis Duffy** (18393), born Castleblayney, County Monaghan, enlisted Armagh, residence Castleblayney, buried at Noyon New British Cemetery, grave III.B.6; **Private John Ferguson** (18607), born St James, County Antrim, enlisted Newtonards, County Down, residence Tandragee, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private John Forbes** (41453) formerly North Irish Horse (1924), born Dungall, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Ahoghill, County Antrim, aged 22, son of George Forbes of Moneydollog, Ahoghill, Ballymena, County Antrim, an Associate of Institute of Commerce, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Robert Foster** (15450) formerly Lancashire Fusiliers (5797), born Wigan, Lancashire, enlisted Wigan, residence Poolstock, Lancashire, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private James Gilkinson** (14235), born Derrytagh, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Sergeant James Hughes MM and DCM** (4517), born Portadown, County Armagh, enlisted Finner Camp, County Donegal, residence Portadown, aged 30, son of John and Elizabeth Hughes of 15 John Street, Portadown, husband of the late Isabella Hughes, buried at Roye New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.1 (*Hughes is shown as being killed on 21 March 1918 on the CWGC site*); **Private Mark Lee** (41642) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ Dragoon Guards (UD/42), born and enlisted Enniskillen, aged 20, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Lee of Wehall Cottage, Irvinstown, County Fermanagh, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Michael Lynch** (20592), born Knocklong, County Limerick, enlisted Tipperary, residence Knocklong, aged 24, son of Michael and Margaret Lynch of Middle Road, Crosshaven, County Cork, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Thomas Lyons** (41325) formerly North Irish Horse (1846), born Belfast, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private James Mather** (15542) formerly Lancashire Fusiliers (6157), born and enlisted Bury, Lancashire, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Corporal John Stewart Mitchell** (16127), born and enlisted Monaghan, aged 27, son of John and Margaret Mitchell of Latlurcan, Monaghan, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private John Moon** (41412) A Company, formerly North Irish Horse (1962), born Muff, County Donegal, enlisted Londonderry, aged 24, son of Henry A and Martha J Moon of 25 Marlborough Street, Londonderry, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private George McBride** (22029), born and enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private James McCaffery** (22851), born and enlisted Armagh, residence Strabane, County Tyrone, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Richard Ogden** (15518) formerly Lancashire Fusiliers (6146), born Salford, Manchester, enlisted Bury, Lancashire, residence Salford, Manchester, buried at Noyon New British Cemetery, grave II.B.6; **Private Alfred Ringrose** (40024) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (36092), born and enlisted York, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Corporal Thomas James Roberts** (43428) formerly Private in Royal Irish Rifles (5121 [or 14305]), born and enlisted Birmingham, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Alfred Stobbart Smith** (40027) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (31991), born and enlisted Selby, Yorkshire, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77; **Private Sydney George Wright** (43361) formerly London Regiment (6776 [or 6353151]), born Bermondsey, S.E, Surrey, enlisted London, residence Camberwell, S.E, Surrey, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, panel 76 and 77.

³⁰ Died of wounds this day – **Private William Patrick Stuart** (41598) formerly North Irish Horse (2312), born Ballymacarrett, County Down, enlisted Barrow, Lancashire, residence Belfast, aged 29, son of Andrew and Mary Stuart of 6 New Bond Street, Belfast, buried Ham British Cemetery, Muille-Villette, grave Villers St Christophe Chyd Memorial 29.

31 Entrained from Sauleux [Saleux] to Eu and marched to St Quentin-le-Mott.
Casualty report appended.
[Signed] G.M Forde, Major
Officer Commanding
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Appendix 103
Operation Orders by
Lieutenant-Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion, the Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.
15 March 1918

1. The Battalion will be relieved in the line on night of 15/16th. March by 12th. Bn. ROYAL IRISH RIFLES.
"A" Coy will be relieved by "A" Coy in Right Front.
"C" " " " " " "D" " " Left Front.
"D" " " " " " "C" " " Counter Attack line.
"B" " " " " " "B" " " Redoubt.
2. One guide per Lewis Gun and Signallers post of "A", "C" & "D" Coys will be at Advanced Battalion H.Q. at 6-30 p.m.
One guide per platoon and Coy. H.Q. from "A", "C", & "D" Coys will be at Advanced Bn. H.Q. at 8 p.m.
Same from "B" Coy. will be at Rear Bn. H.Q. at 7-30 p.m.
3. Transport will be arranged as follows:-
For Rear Bn. H.Q., "B" Coys. and M.O's stores (including Bn. Lewis guns) at Rear Battalion Headquarters about 8 p.m.
For "A", "C", & "D" Coys stores at Advanced Bn. H.Q. about 8-30 p.m. (stores including Battalion Lewis Guns).
One N.C.O. per Company will accompany Lewis Guns.
One Servant per Company and Battalion H.Q. will accompany kits.
4. Sector Defence schemes, secret maps, aeroplane photographs, patrol and Work Log and Trench Stores will be handed over and receipts obtained, which will be forwarded, in duplicate, to Battalion H.Q. by 12 noon, 16th. inst.
5. One officer and one N.C.O. per Company will parade at Rear Battalion H.Q. 2 p.m. and proceed to GD. SERAUCOURT to take over Billets previously occupied.
6. All dugout will be left in a clean and sanitary condition and certificates to this effect will be obtained and forwarded to Battalion H.Q. by 12 noon, 16th. inst.

7. Completion of reliefs will be reported by runner to Rear Bn. H.Q.
8. On Relief, platoons will move at an interval of not less than 100 yds to billets at GD.SERAUCOURT, vacated by 1st. Bn. Royal Irish Fusiliers.
9. Quartermaster will arrange to have blankets sent to Billets.
10. Arrival in Billets will be reported by runner to Battalion H.Q. GD. SERAUCOURT.
11. Attention is drawn to orders previously issued regarding procedure in Reserve Area.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(sd). _____ R.I McCrum _____ Lieut. A/Adjt.
 9th (N.I.H.) Bn. Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Copies to –

1. Bn. H.Q.
2. O.C. All Companies.
6. T.O & Q.M.
7. 12th. R.I.R.
8. Right Bn.
9. Left Bn.
10. File.

Issued at _____ a.m. _____ by runner.

APPENDIX 104

9th (N.I.H.) BATTALION ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS

CASUALTY REPORT Vide 108th Infantry Brigade Number S.C.X.3 of the 5th instant.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Casualty</u>
Major	Brew J.G	Missing (believed wounded) 26.3.18
Captain & Adjutant	Henehan M (MC)	Missing 21.3.18
Captain	Vesey G.W (MC)	Wounded 24.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant (Acting Captain)	Partridge J.H (MC)	Killed in action 24.3.18

Lieutenant	Johnstone G.I.O.F	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Reid W.F	Wounded 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Maxwell A.F	Wounded 24.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Gilmer E.H	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Perkins C.J.T	Missing 21.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Irvine W.F	Attached 1[2]th Royal Irish Rifles (believed missing)
2 nd Lieutenant	Connor J.H	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Scott J	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Prenter D	Killed in action 21.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Smith R.L	Wounded 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Clarke N	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Pollock J.J.McE	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Davies H.L	Wounded 24.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Roche W.H	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Bremner T	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Darling J	Wounded 24.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Slatter T	Missing 24.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Donaldson F.L.H	Missing 27.3.18
2 nd Lieutenant	Henry A.W	Missing 27.3.18

Other Ranks

Killed in action	15
Wounded	75
Missing	406
Wounded and missing	1
Total	497

[Signed] G.M Forde, Major
 Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 22.4.18

CASUALTY RETURN

A Company

<u>Regimental No</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Casualty</u>
4517	Sergeant	Hughes J	Wounded.
41543	"	Lockhart W	Missing.

14012	"	Breen J	Missing.
15192	"	McMorrow J	Missing.
15854	"	Palmer J	Missing. Admitted Hospital sick.
41876	"	Wilson T	Missing.
43427	"	Journet C	Missing.
22282	"	Jackson F	Missing.
13102	Corporal	Matthews H	Missing.
15848	"	Bryans J	Missing.
21216	"	Moraghan J	Missing.
14038	"	Brown J	Wounded.
41387	"	Black J	Missing.
8586	"	Bell F	Missing.
21005	"	O'Toole J	Wounded.
43333	"	Groves D.E	Missing. Wounded.
43428	"	Roberts T	Missing.
40113	Lance Corporal	Dunn F	Missing.
24320	"	Gageby J	Missing.
41481	"	Brown R	Missing.
43211	"	Hartropp W	Wounded.
8754	"	Lloyd A	Missing.
43416	"	Carman S	Missing.
25275	"	Railey J	Missing.
26101	"	Dunn A	Missing.
19128	"	Brown A	Missing.
14314	"	Hadden H	Wounded.
41151	"	Orr J	Missing.
40039	"	Linzey E	Missing.
22655	"	Proctor J	Missing.
10100	"	Loughlin D	Missing.
41064	"	Moran D	Missing.
18926	"	Graham H	Missing.
24164	Private	Allen G	Wounded.
41073	"	Atkins G	Missing.
24284	"	Alderdice T	Missing.
22986	"	Adamson J	Missing.
41404	"	Alexander W	Missing.
41123	"	Burke I	Missing.

22036	"	Boyle M	Missing.
27650	"	Baird H	Missing.
41411	"	Bell J	Missing.
21651	"	Bowman J	Missing.
41388	"	Biggart W	Missing.
41100	"	Brownlee H	Missing.
25943	"	Blake J	Missing.
26819	"	Burns T	Missing.
43352	"	Britten A	Missing.
14021	"	Buckley R	Missing.
27453	"	Buckley R	Missing.
40041	"	Blenkin J	Missing.
24672	"	Cullen G	Missing.
13454	"	Carbery P	Missing.
41523	"	Cartmill T	Killed in Action.
41395	"	Campbell B	Missing.
18566	"	Cooper F	Missing.
43197	"	Cooper E	Missing.
40007	"	Cooper A.T	Missing.
41486	"	Conway J	Missing.
41485	"	Crawford S	Missing.
22803	"	Clarke H	Missing.
41076	"	Carson C	Missing.
43041	"	Conlon T	Missing.
43353	"	Dixon G.J	Missing.
45278	"	Dickens F	Missing.
14141	"	Davidson R	Missing.
43325	"	Dyer H.E	Missing.
25169	"	Eade G	Missing.
16217	"	Egan J	Missing.
40150	"	Earl J	Missing.
41103	"	Emerson H	Missing.
22551	"	Forde J.H	Wounded.
11164	"	Fugard T	Missing.
14192	"	Frazer H	Wounded.
3897	"	Fitzpatrick A.C	Missing.
3017	"	Gilmore J	Missing.

41381	"	Gribben S	Missing.
22854	"	Hamilton J	Missing.
27871	"	Hanrahan N	Missing.
14295	"	Herron R	Missing.
43410	"	Henry E	Missing.
27613	"	Hogg H	Missing.
41079	"	Hack V	Missing.
14313	"	Hyde W	Missing.
41126	"	Johnston J	Wounded.
14386	"	Kennedy R	Missing.
22042	"	King T	Missing.
21674	"	Keown W	Missing.
24353	"	Lynn J	Missing.
20592	"	Lynch M	Killed in Action.
41082	"	Law R	Wounded.
17667	"	Lewis J	Missing.
41549	"	McLellan A	Missing.
41392	"	McClellan W	Missing.
14519	"	McClellan W.J	Missing.
21604	"	McKeown W	Missing.
20994	"	McManus C	Missing.
21018	"	McKissick M	Missing.
43192	"	McGuinness P	Missing.
14499	"	McCreary T	Missing.
41410	"	Montgomery S	Wounded.
18252	"	Marshall J	Wounded.
18063	"	Moore J	Missing.
14433	"	Moore J	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.
41131	"	Martin W	Missing.
41412	"	Moon J	Killed in Action.
19752	"	McVeigh C	Missing.
40155	"	Pole F	Missing.
43214	"	Pickering G	Missing.
20359	"	Pickering G	Wounded.
41548	"	Reid P	Wounded.
43217	"	Radford C.W	Missing.
41136	"	Sharpe F	Missing. Rejoined 7.4.18.

40027	"	Smith A.S	Missing.
14695	"	Smith S	Missing.
40029	"	Saunderson A	Missing.
12663	"	Spence T	Wounded.
43204	"	Simpson A	Missing.
19766	"	Simpson A	Wounded.
40044	"	Storey W	Missing.
27651	"	Sloss A	Missing.
14689	"	Simons W	Wounded.
17608	"	Smith J	Missing.
12900	"	Stevenson D	Missing.
22301	"	Tabrett W	Missing.
14715	"	Teggart J.G	Missing.
43335	"	Thurgut V	Missing.
41099	"	Thistlewaite H	Wounded.
22424	"	Tetley A	Missing.
24061	"	Thompson D	Missing.
22648	"	Vennard W	Wounded.
21973	"	Veale W	Missing.
41501	"	Wilson C	Missing.
41525	"	Wilson F	Missing.
41376	"	Ward F	Wounded.
41413	"	Gibson J	Missing.
13965	"	Anderson J	Missing.
27874	Lance Corporal	Reilly A	Wounded.
15418	"	Moore W	Missing.

CASUALTY RETURN

B Company

Regimental No	Rank	Name	Nature of Casualty
14746	Company Sergeant Major	Vennard T	Wounded.
14556	Sergeant	McClellan W.J	Wounded.
41522	"	Chambers J	Missing. Rejoined 3.4.18.
14108	"	Courtney H.W	Missing.
14180	Lance Sergeant	Farson D	Missing.
16424	Sergeant	Pentland J	Missing.

14017	"	Bratton J	Wounded.
40182	"	Porter V.M	Missing.
14605	Corporal	Porter J	Missing.
41384	"	Crozier G	Missing.
23286	Lance Corporal	Murray D	Missing.
28746	"	Harte D	Missing.
14052	"	Chambers J.H	Missing. Rejoined 3.4.18.
21601	"	Bell J	Wounded.
24726	Private	Briggs R.J	Missing.
41196	"	Buchanan W	Missing.
41475	"	Bratty T	Missing.
22683	"	Toomey J	Missing.
29033	"	Whitla J	Missing.
43357	Lance Corporal	Tuite W.J	Missing.
13960	Private	Atwell J	Missing.
41153	"	Baldwin A	Missing.
22635	"	Blair J	Missing.
41487	"	Cole G	Missing.
41515	"	Cherry W	Missing.
21762	"	Ewart D	Wounded.
14222	"	Gibson J.H	Missing.
27859	"	Greenless S	Missing. Rejoined 3.4.18.
43321	"	Gumble K	Missing.
41373	"	Higgins H	Missing.
41596	"	Kerr R	Missing.
41417	"	Lewis J	Missing.
41511	Lance Corporal	Moffitt W.T	Missing.
23302	Private	McKeown J	Missing.
41367	"	McDowell I.B	Missing.
23878	"	Morton D	Missing.
40183	"	Pettit F	Missing.
41416	"	Rutherford W	Missing.
41365	"	Steele T	Missing.
41355	"	Scott W	Missing.
14718	"	Trotter S	Missing.
40073	"	Thompson C.A	Missing.
21185	"	Tighe W	Missing.

24172	"	Wortley J	Missing.	
17280	"	Hargraves A.B	Missing.	
40169	"	Hoynes D	Missing.	
45054	"	Hunn R	Missing.	
11946	"	Lawler J	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
21411	"	McCready E	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
24813	"	McQuade P	Missing.	
13314	"	O'Hanlon J	Missing.	
22951	"	Reid H	Missing.	
18464	Lance Corporal	Whiteside J	Wounded.	
27841	"	Bishop V.E	Wounded.	
41360	Private	Baines W	Missing.	
41474	"	Beckett R	Missing.	
27903	"	Bowers J	Missing.	
41340	"	Childs E	Missing.	
27843	"	Carter W.H	Missing.	
14159	"	Elliott H	Missing.	
41362	"	Harvey N	Missing.	
41162	"	Kerr T	Missing.	
14490	"	Metcalf T	Missing.	
23222	"	Murphy I	Missing.	
23709	"	Magill W	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
22891	"	Murray M	Missing.	
41612	"	Nixon W.J	Missing.	
41168	"	Posnett G	Missing.	
40020	"	Ringrose A	Killed in Action.	
41334	"	Russell N	Wounded.	
41352	"	Topping R	Wounded.	
24371	"	Blevins G	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
22970	"	Caddell A	Missing.	
18607	"	Ferguson J	Missing.	
41463	"	Hamilton W	Missing.	
41348	"	Herron R	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
18671	"	Haddock T	Missing.	
41361	"	Kelly H.F	Missing.	
41642	"	Lee M	Missing.	
23690	"	Lynch P.J	Missing.	

41412	"	McIlraith J	Missing.	
22921	"	O'Brien T	Missing.	
15041	"	Plunkett J	Missing.	
24503	"	Roney T	Missing.	
17825	"	Sloan J.G	Missing.	
27727	"	Watson J	Missing.	
13900	"	Walls P	Missing.	
3952	"	Carson J	Wounded.	
27508	"	Maguire G	Wounded.	
22945	Lance Corporal	Mulholland J	Missing.	
21086	"	Mullin W	Missing.	
23568	Private	Coleman T	Missing.	
27800	"	Cartmill D	Missing.	
25172	"	Firth T	Missing.	
11500	"	Finlay R	Missing.	
3956	"	Fitzsimons J	Missing.	
20938	"	Gorman M	Missing.	
21401	"	Grimes J	Missing.	
41141	"	Webb F.W	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
41374	"	Watson T	Missing.	
40078	"	Wheedon R	Missing.	
18422	"	Whittam W	Missing.	
43239	"	Talbot F	Missing.	
41169	"	Johnston G	Missing.	
16421	"	Walker S.J	Missing.	
43245	"	Sharman C.H	Missing.	
41333	"	Bell J.A	Missing.	Rejoined 3.4.18.
40059	"	Child A	Missing.	
22619	"	Morton W	Missing.	

CASUALTY RETURN			
C Company			
Regimental No	Rank	Name	Nature of Casualty
14040	Sergeant	Barton H	Missing.
23438	Lance Sergeant	Craig G	Killed in Action
6328	"	Flynn B	Wounded.

17441	Corporal	Power S	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.
41269	"	Ferris E	Wounded.
41328	"	McIntosh A	Wounded.
41480	"	Patterson R	Wounded.
41502	"	Keys J.H	Missing.
19736	"	Murray B	Missing.
13655	Lance Corporal	Finnimore C.A	Wounded.
14724	"	Torrens J	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.
21399	"	Howard R	Missing.
22973	"	Baxter A	Wounded.
41308	"	Logan J.W	Missing.
41504	"	Copeland H.G	Missing.
41483	"	Clarke A.G.H	Missing. Rejoined 2.4.18.
20781	"	Lay L	Missing. Rejoined 2.4.18.
13860	"	Roache J	Wounded.
18061	Private (Lance Corporal)	Johnston W.J	Wounded.
43363	"	Hardington J	Missing.
18069	Private	Adams R	Missing.
25050	"	Allen W	Wounded.
24893	"	Anderson T.J	Wounded.
23657	"	Baxter F.G	Missing.
14030	"	Burns R	Killed in Action.
24618	"	Baird J	Wounded.
41451	"	Brown W	Missing.
41601	"	Britton J	Missing.
14945	"	Barrett P	Missing.
14103	"	Carson I	Missing.
41256	"	Chambers T	Wounded.
41291	"	Cathers J	Missing.
41292	"	Clements J	Wounded.
12469	"	Carson J	Missing.
24025	"	Cassidy J	Missing.
41446	"	Campbell R	Missing.
41274	"	Davidson W	Missing. Rejoined 2.4.18.
41461	"	Davis J	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.
41294	"	Elliott J	Wounded.
41310	"	Edwards R.J	Missing.

41431	"	Edgar M	Missing.
24759	"	Fry W.A	Killed in Action. ³¹
41312	"	Ferguson W.V	Missing.
41447	"	Foreman T	Missing.
41453	"	Forbes J	Killed in Action.
41491	"	Frazer R	Missing.
15450	"	Foster R	Missing.
18575	"	Findlay H	Missing.
19773	"	Farquhar P	Missing.
13771	"	Griffiths G	Missing.
43376	"	Gordon G.W	Wounded.
14214	"	Graham A	Missing.
6123	"	Gibson J	Missing.
18556	"	Glenn S	Wounded.
19732	"	Haire J	Missing.
18250	"	Hooks J	Missing.
14327	"	Hughes J	Wounded.
41296	"	Harkness A.J	Missing.
41322	"	Hill E	Missing.
41492	"	Hutchinson H	Missing.
41443	"	Harper T	Missing.
23344	"	Hauley R	Missing.
25284	"	Hewitt W	Missing.
20294	"	Irvine J	Missing.
11712	"	Irvine H	Missing.
41263	"	Jaminson R.W	Missing.
41442	"	Kennedy W	Missing.
26859	"	Kenny J.J	Missing.
43153	"	King P	Missing.
23705	"	Kerr S	Missing.
22801	"	Lyness T	Killed in Action. ³²
43332	"	Lamond R	Wounded.
41448	"	Linton A	Missing.

³¹ There is no record of the death of **Private Fry** in either the *Soldiers Died* or the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* databases.

³² There is no record of the death of **Private Lyness** in either the *Soldiers Died* or the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* databases.

22292	"	Linsell A.J	Missing.
41325	"	Lyons T	Killed in Action.
22734	"	Maloney T	Killed in Action.
41327	"	Morrison J	Missing.
41435	"	Magill J	Missing.
41437	"	Miller S	Missing. Rejoined 3.4.18.
41455	"	Miskimmon C	Missing.
41610	"	Morrison G	Missing.
41626	"	Mullen H	Missing.
16024	"	Moyles T	Missing.
23433	"	Mallon W	Missing.
22898	"	Murray P	Missing.
14525	"	McCleary W.J	Missing.
18249	"	McCready D	Missing.
23727	"	McGarrity J	Wounded.
24150	"	McElroy T	Missing.
41267	"	McCormack A	Missing.
41314	"	McMurray S	Missing.
41547	"	McKevitt N	Missing.
41606	"	McCurry T	Missing.
14511	"	McGeown J	Missing.
14548	"	McCleary J	Missing.
3556	"	McCaffrey V	Missing.
19823	"	McIvor J	Missing.
21450	"	McNamra J	Missing.
6403	"	McCann H	Missing.
23288	"	McClatchey G	Missing.
21078	"	McManus J	Missing. Rejoined 4.4.18.
17947	"	Neill W	Missing.
17948	"	Neill R	Missing.
20325	"	Neilson A	Wounded.
20026	"	Nesbitt T.A	Missing. Rejoined 2.4.18.
41258	"	Nelson W.A	Missing.
24411	"	Nesbitt J	Missing.
41611	"	Nichol J	Missing.
41276	"	O'Briwn J	Missing.
15341	"	Ogden R	Missing.

43259	"	Parker H	Missing. Rejoined 2.4.18.
41277	"	Pollock T	Missing.
41459	"	Parke W	Missing.
25184	"	Patterson D	Missing.
25110	"	Prtichard A	Missing.
24287	"	Richardson W.J	Missing.
43330	"	Rice S.P	Missing.
14975	"	Richardson W.L	Missing.
41260	"	Rollins T.H	Missing.
41278	"	Rooney J	Missing.
21283	"	Rafferty T	Missing.
41317	"	Ross J.A	Missing.
43227	"	Smith C	Missing.
23351	"	Smylie T	Missing.
41262	"	Shaw A	Missing.
41627	"	Sittlington T	Missing.
14848	"	Steele T	Missing.
26822	"	Sheridan P	Wounded.
41280	"	Tughan R	Missing.
41319	"	Todd W.D	Missing.
43361	"	Wright S.G	Killed in Action.
24704	"	Weir C	Missing.
27724	"	Watson J	Missing.
16173	"	Watson T	Missing.
21186	"	Walsh M	Missing.
15635	"	Walls G	Missing.
13439	"	Wall P	Missing.
29439	"	Weir W	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.

CASUALTY RETURN

D Company

<u>Regimental No</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Casualty</u>
41795	Company Sergeant Major	White A	Wounded and Missing.
14554	Sergeant	McCullough D	Missing.
14633	"	Redpath J	Missing.
41179	"	McFadden G	Missing.

41198	"	Nesbitt G	Wounded.
16111	Lance Sergeant	Johnston R	Missing.
41564	Corporal	Boyd J	Missing.
14673	"	Sherman R	Wounded.
16127	"	Mitchell S	Killed in Action.
41200	"	McKinley A	Missing.
41567	"	McMahon F.J	Wounded.
41877	"	Reid B	Wounded.
25133	"	Auston L	Wounded.
24600	"	Ramsey J	Wounded.
43275	Lance Corporal	Butters A	Missing.
23736	"	McCabe H	Missing.
41221	"	Waugh J	Missing.
27819	"	Greenwood R	Missing.
21735	"	Faul J.A	Missing.
25109	"	Potter F	Missing.
40049	Acting Lance Corporal	Alderson T	Missing.
43384	"	Escott H	Missing.
22935	"	McBride W	Missing.
41223	"	Mitchell R	Missing.
24817	"	Lacey J	Wounded.
22018	Private	Allen W.M	Missing.
40047	"	Andrews M.W	Missing.
41191	"	Angus T	Missing.
26098	"	Argue W.F	Missing.
25099	"	Adams A.R	Missing.
26091	"	Avington J	Missing.
41629	"	Bell W	Wounded.
24627	"	Bailie J	Missing.
41231	"	Berrell G	Missing.
16095	"	Black S	Missing.
41396	"	Best F.J	Missing.
40053	"	Brown W.H	Missing.
41210	"	Brown R	Missing.
41226	"	Burrows T	Missing.
24516	"	Byers J	Missing.
20925	"	Barkley P	Wounded.

27918	"	Bridge C	Missing.
41630	"	Chapman H	Missing.
41215	"	Cassells H	Missing.
24397	"	Cochrane R	Killed in Action.
41554	"	Craig D	Missing.
41616	"	Cullen T.G	Missing.
41553	"	Campbell W	Wounded.
18540	"	Cavanagh G	Missing.
41244	"	Derry J	Missing.
41551	"	Dowds J	Missing.
41570	"	Davis J	Missing.
45022	"	Donovin E	Missing.
18643	"	Doyle E	Missing.
27695	"	Egan A	Wounded.
40043	"	Farley J	Missing.
41574	"	Gordon W	Missing. Wounded.
14205	"	Gilliland J	Missing.
14235	"	Gilkinson J	Killed in Action.
20430	"	Galway P	Missing.
16212	"	Goggins J	Missing.
20340	"	Goodfellow H	Wounded.
43082	"	Healy P	Missing.
18507	"	Hale R	Missing.
41233	"	Hunter J	Missing.
41216	"	Hughes R	Missing.
21145	"	Haire T	Missing.
20349	"	Holbrook J	Missing.
41576	"	Hull R.J	Missing.
41575	"	Henry J	Missing.
41600	"	Jack G	Missing.
20547	"	Keegins M	Missing.
41217	"	Kelly H	Wounded.
41590	"	Kerr H	Missing.
20949	"	Kerr B	Missing.
41552	"	Lee A	Missing.
41108	"	Lenaghan J	Missing.
41239	"	Lamont A	Missing.

41204	"	Lewis H	Missing.
22969	"	Lyness F	Wounded.
23181	"	Lauley H	Wounded.
22987	"	Mackrell J	Missing.
15432	"	Mather J	Missing.
22981	"	Monaghan R	Missing.
41251	"	Montgomery W	Missing.
41562	"	Marks G.D	Missing.
18660	"	Morrow W	Missing.
20288	"	Murray J	Wounded.
22851	"	McCaffrey J	Missing.
24055	"	McCracken G	Missing.
26907	"	McGoldrick J	Missing.
14536	"	McCord W	Missing.
14564	"	McCabe S	Missing.
41194	"	McMaster J.S	Missing.
41512	"	McAllister J	Wounded.
41559	"	McClure J.G	Missing.
41593	"	McCleary R	Missing.
41599	"	McGaffin J	Wounded.
22940	"	McMullen R	Missing.
17660	"	McWhither J	Missing.
22029	"	McBride J	Missing.
3279	"	McConville P	Missing.
21227	"	McGlinchey J	Missing.
20627	"	McGorry J	Missing.
3885	"	McConville E	Missing.
21170	"	McNeill J	Missing.
21010	"	McDavid J	Missing.
21152	"	McKeever J	Missing.
41594	"	Owens T	Missing.
17134	"	Patterson R	Missing.
14602	"	Preston T	Missing.
27687	"	Russell J	Missing.
43280	"	Rodgers W.K	Missing.
43392	"	Rout F.G	Missing.
27827	"	Roberts A	Missing.

43035	"	Risebrook V	Missing.
41598	"	Stewart P	Missing.
41202	"	Smith S	Missing.
41595	"	Sands D	Missing.
41246	"	Simms H	Missing.
24785	"	Spence D.C	Missing. Rejoined 6.4.18.
40070	"	Standing C	Missing.
41561	"	Stronge G.E	Missing.
26826	"	Sinclair J	Missing.
21155	"	Sherrington T	Wounded.
23505	"	Stevenson W	Missing.
20767	"	Sanders A	Missing. Wounded.
41195	"	Tute F	Missing.
43282	"	Travis J	Missing.
41499	"	Thompson F	Missing.
19794	"	Todd A	Missing.
22759	"	Willis S	Missing.
41631	"	Watt G	Missing.
17933	"	Welch F	Missing.
41597	"	Wilson J	Missing.
5898	"	Wilson W.J	Missing.

April 1918

1	St Quentain-Le-Mott. Marched to Ault and had general clean up, some bathing. ³³
2-3	Training parades. ³⁴
4	Entrained at Eu for Rexpoede at 2am by motor lorries to Herzeele.
5	Training parades; two Companies at baths in morning and two in afternoon. Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly returned from Hospital to Battalion.
6	Inspection of Brigade by II Corps Commander. ³⁵

³³ Died of wounds this day – **Corporal Richard Sherman** (14673), born and enlisted Portadown, County Armagh, aged 27, son of Isabel Sherman of Portadown, County Armagh, buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave P.VII.E.9A.

³⁴ Died of wounds on 3 April 1918 – **Private William Biggart** (41388), formerly North Irish Horse (1932), born and enlisted Ballymoney, County Antrim, aged 23, son of John and Mary Anne Biggart of Bendooragh, Balleymoney, County Antrim, no known grave, commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, Panel 76 and 77.

7-8	[7-8 April] Effective strength: 22 Officers, 728 Other Ranks, 37 horses, 22 mules. Ration strength: 16 Officers, 547 Other Ranks, 41 horses, 22 mules. [7 April] Church Parade. [8 April] Training parades.
9	Entrained at Herzelee 9am for Poperinghe. March to Siege Camp No.IV. ³⁶
10	By motor lorries to Kemmel. Man Kemmel defenses at Lindenhoek Corner.
11	Kemmel to Messines Ridge. Headquarters at Stinking Farm. Heavy enemy shelling. ³⁷
12	2am. Moved to near Wulverghem. Headquarters at N Midland Farm. Enemy attacked, pressing back our line. Counter attack completely restored position. Casualties heavy, including Medical Officer, Lieutenants Hamilton, Hardy and Miller killed. Captain Dean, Lieutenants Turner and Orr wounded. ³⁸
13	12 midnight. Relieved by Sherwood Foresters.
14	Moved back to Kemmel defences. ³⁹
15	9am. Moved to Regent Street dugouts. C Company manned outpost positions and was attacked. Captain Crosbie wounded and died same day. ⁴⁰

³⁵ Died of wounds this day while a prisoner of war – **Major John George Brew**, aged 41, husband of Annie Moffat Brew of 'Rathlin', Portadown, buried at Roye New British Cemetery, grave IV.D.9.

³⁶ Killed in action this day – **Private Patrick Behan** (27637), born and enlisted Dublin, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140-141; **Private Dominick Livingstone** (24692), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140-141.

³⁷ Died of wounds this day – **Lance Sergeant Harry Mackinson MM** (18869), formerly Hussars of the Line (19522), born Burnley, Lancashire, enlisted Accrington, Lancashire, residence Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire, buried in Loche Hospice Cemetery, grave II.C.21; **Private William John McAuley** (41556) formerly North Irish Horse (1759), born Randalstown, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Randalstown, son of John McAuley of Tamlaght, Randalstown, County Antrim, buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, grave XXVI.H.11.

³⁸ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant David Joseph Miller**, 3rd Battalion RIF, attached to 9th Battalion, formerly Corporal in North Irish Horse (1567), no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Lieutenant Edward Hamilton**, formerly Lance Corporal in the Royal Irish Rifles (17/1059) (shown in *Soldiers Died* and CWGC as attached to 9th Royal Irish Rifles, and as killed on 14 April 1918), no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 161; **Private Bernard Kerr** (20949) formerly Connaught Rangers (3652), born and enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; see note under 30 April 1918 for death of Lieutenant Hardy.

Died of wounds this day – **Private Leonard Furnell White** (45789), formerly Royal Flying Corps (59391), born Christchurch, Hants, enlisted Winchester, aged 19, son of Charles and Fanny White of The Cottage, West Highlands, Winchester, buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, grave XXVI.H.19.

³⁹ Died of wounds this day – **Private William Kiddy Rodgers** (43280) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (35831), born Milford, Derbyshire, enlisted Derby, residence Milford, aged 27, son of George and Ann Rodgers of 10 Sunny Hill, Milford, Derby, buried at Avesnes-sur-Helpe Communal Cemetery, grave D.2. Killed in action this day – **Private Robert Irwin** (41080) formerly Inniskilling Dragoons/ Dragoons of the Line (UD/153), born and enlisted Londonderry, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141.

⁴⁰ Died of wounds this day – **2nd Lieutenant Acting Captain Thomas Edward Chapman Crosbie MC and Bar**, aged 20, son of Francis E Crosbie of Mahon House, Portadown, County Armagh, and the late Elizabeth Crosbie, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Percy**

16	12 midnight. Moved back to Clydesdale Camp for rest and reorganisation.
17	–
18	2am. Moved to Kemmel as composite Battalion with 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly. Heavy casualties, while moving into position, from enemy shelling. Captain Despard wounded and died soon after. 8pm. Relieved by French troops and marched to Siege Camp. Sheet 27 NW. ⁴¹
19	– ⁴²

John Harris (45766) formerly London Regiment (684222), born Lambeth, SE, Surrey, enlisted Lambeth, residence Kennington, SE, Surrey, aged 33, husband of Lydia Elizabeth Harris of 16 Durham Street, Upper Kennington Lane, London, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave II.D.12.

⁴¹ Killed in action this day – **Captain Charles Beauclerk Despard DSO MC**, formerly of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, aged 37, son of William and Mary Despard of 'Sheelagh' Malone Park, Belfast, husband of Josephine Despard of The Acacias, Portarlington, Queens County, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 3.

Died of wounds this day – **Private John Bales** (43229) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (36090), born and enlisted Nottingham, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave II.F.23 (*Soldiers Died* shows Bales' date of death as 18 July 1918, the CWGC database as 18 April); **Private Edward Morton** (28773), born Kilmore, County Cavan, enlisted Armagh, aged 17, son of Mr R Morton of 6 Lonsdale Street, Armagh, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave II.F.19; **Private Walter Henry Smyth** (23793), born Ballinderry, County Antrim, enlisted Newtonards, County Down, residence Ballinderry, aged 21, son of James Smyth of Lakeview House, Ballinderry, Lisburn, County Antrim, buried at Mendinghem Military Cemetery, grave X.A.41.

⁴² Died of wounds this day – **Private Thomas John Ingram Dickson** (23697), born Madden, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, residence Madden, aged 19, son of David and Rachel Dickson of Drumhillery, Madden, Keady, County Armagh, native of Drumhillery, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave I.F.10; **Private Joseph Seeley** (5978), born Shankill, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141.

Killed in action this day – **Private Herbert Ruddick Bark** (43431) formerly 1/24th London Regiment (721539), born Peckham, SE, Surrey, enlisted Surrey, Kennington, aged 27, son of Edward John Bark, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private John A Bell** (41333) formerly North Irish Horse (2245), born Loughbrickland, County Down, enlisted Antrim, residence Newry, County Down, buried at Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery, grave V.C.23; **Private Joseph Arthur Bowden** (41287) formerly North Irish Horse (1965), aged 21, born Cootehill, County Cavan, enlisted Antrim, residence Cootehill, son of Joseph and Lydia S Bowden of Cortober House, Cootehill, County Cavan, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Frederick St George Cooke** (41694) formerly North Irish Horse (2182), born Carrigallen, County Leitrim, enlisted Belfast, residence Lisburn, County Antrim, son of the late Francis and Anne Cooke of Gortermone House, Carrigallen, County Leitrim, husband of Jeannie C Cooke of 'Norton', 6 Hawthornden Road, Knock, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Leonard Walter Crook** (45754) formerly Royal West Surrey Regiment (67320), born West Ham, E, Essex, enlisted Stratford, E, Essex, residence West Ham, aged 18, son of Julia Eliza Crook of 82 Gladstone Road, West Ham, London, and the late Henry John Crook, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Allan Davey** (41589) formerly North Irish Horse (1312), born Carrickfergus, County Antrim, enlisted Belfast, residence Carrickfergus, aged 30, son of Mr and Mrs W.J Davey of Dunloskin, Carrickfergus, husband of Sarah E Davey of 1 Lancasterian Street, Carrickfergus, County Antrim, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Thomas Elliott** (41159) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/284), enlisted Enniskillen, residence Letterbreen, County Fermanagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Sergeant Herbert Firth**

(43469) formerly London Regiment (721651), enlisted Kennington, SE, Surrey, residence Brixton Hill, SW, Surrey, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private James Gillespie** (14242), A Company, born and enlisted Armagh, aged 33, son of Thomas and Jane Gillespie of 83 Callan Street, Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Patrick John Glass** (3428), born and enlisted Ballemoney, County Antrim, residence, Hordle, Hants, aged 26, son of Sarah and the late James Glass, husband of Annie May Glass of 8 Council House, Hordle, Lymington, Hants, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Gribben** (20986) formerly Connaught Rangers (4358), born Loughinisland, County Down, enlisted Belfast, residence Clough, County Down, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Arthur Gribbin** (23011), born Dromore, County Down, enlisted Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Arthur James Hall** (45745) formerly 24th London Regiment (5615), enlisted Highbury, N, Middlesex, residence Finsbury Park, N, Middlesex, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Robert Hamilton** (18259), born Clabby, County Fermanagh, enlisted March 1915 at Monaghan, residence Ballinode, County Monaghan, aged 24, son of Mary Hamilton of Kilmore East, Ballinode, Monaghan, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Henry Harper** (21119) formerly Connaught Rangers (2306), enlisted Belfast, residence Hollywood, County Down, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Albert Gordon Keller** (25103) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (T/S/3482), born Staveley, Derbyshire, enlisted Leicester, residence Staveley, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Henry Lavery** (26841), born Lurgan, County Armagh, enlisted Glasgow, residence Lurgan, aged 32, husband of Analsia Lavery of 31 North Street, Lurgan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Edward Lawley** (40016) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (33932), born and enlisted Leeds, aged 35, son of Mr and Mrs R Lawley of 12 Armenia Place, Sheepscar, Leeds, husband of Edith Nicholson (formerly Lawley) [sic] of 128 Bayswater Road, Leeds, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William George Leinster** (41266) formerly North Irish Horse (1469), born and enlisted Cavan, residence Belfast, aged 26, son of George and Elizabeth Leinster of Drummullen, Farnham, Cavan, husband of Georgina Leinster of 123A Longstone Street, Lisburn, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Lindsay** (41084) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ Inniskilling Dragoons (UD/60), born Lisbellaw, County Fermanagh, enlisted Enniskillen, residence Letterbreen, County Fermanagh, aged 31, son of James and Margaret Lindsay of Raholland, Letterbreen, County Fermanagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Sergeant Ernest Charles Miles** (43449) formerly London Regiment (721582), enlisted Kennington, SE, Surrey, residence Feckham, SE, Surrey, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Robert McConnell** (41445) formerly North Irish Horse (1859), born Cloughfin, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, aged 23, son of Mary McConnell of 11 High Street, Greencastle, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William McGahey** (41609) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/292), enlisted Enniskillen, residence Blacklion, County Cavan, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William McGrane** (10752), born Stamullen, County Meath, enlisted Drogheda, County Louth, residence Julianstown, aged 27, son of Denis McGrane of Julianstown, Drogheda, County Meath, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Lance Corporal Randal Edmund McManus** (41505) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/88), born and enlisted Dungannon, County Tyrone, aged 26, son of Jane McManus of 6 Howard Terrace, Dungannon, County Tyrone, and the late Samuel McManus, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Nowell** (45746) formerly London Regiment (722363), A Company RIF, born and enlisted, Battersea, SW, Surrey, aged 26, son of William and Martha Nowell of 54 Theatre Street, Lavendar Hill, London, husband of Charlotte Ann Nowell of 13 Kassala Road, Battersea Park, London, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Robert Park** (41353) formerly North Irish Horse (2325), born Magherafelt, County Londonderry, enlisted Antrim, residence Magherafelt, aged 29, son of John Park JP and Margaret Park of Grange, Magherafelt, County Londonderry, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Pilkington** (45817), formerly Royal West Surrey Regiment (66613), born and enlisted Camberwell, SE, Surrey, aged 20, son of Mrs Emma Pilkington of 7 Avenue Road, Camberwell, London, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to

20	Colonel Kelly evacuated to (Hospital?) with shrapnel wound. Reorganisation and training parades. Ration strength: 11 Officers, 489 Other Ranks, 40 horses, 22 mules. ⁴³
21	–
22	Major G.M Forde MC assumed command. ⁴⁴
23	Four Officers and about thirty Other Ranks reinforce.
24- 26 ⁴⁵	–
27	4am. Move to Yellow Line, Headquarters at Border Camp. Working on defences and training till end of month. Effective strength: 29 Officers, 651 Other Ranks, 35 horses, 22 mules. Ration strength: 24 Officers, 507 Other Ranks, 35 horses, 22 mules. [Signed] G.M Forde, Major Officer Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers. List of Officers, Appendix 105.
28- 30 ⁴⁶	[See 27 April above.]

141; **Private John James Raynor** (43273) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (22385), born and enlisted Ikeston, Derbyshire, aged 33, son of the late Aaron and Catherine Raynor, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Clifford Skee** (40082) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (11251), born South Shields, County Durham, enlisted Newcastle-on-Tyne, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private George Soper** (45739) formerly London Regiment (722478 [or 5571]), born Southwark, SE, Surrey, enlisted Surrey, aged 26, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Soper of 73 Crampton Street, Newington Butts, London, husband of Elizabeth Soper of 37 Newport Street, Lambeth, London, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141.

⁴³ Died of wounds this day - **Private Herbert Robb** (22804), born Shankill, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, residence Bolton, Lancashire, aged 24, son of Richard John and Martha Robb of Abbey Street, Armagh, buried at Mendinghem Military Cemetery, grave X.B.23.

⁴⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private George Morrison** (41610) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/266), enlisted Coleraine, County Londonderry, residence Macosquin, County Londonderry, aged 24, son of Hugh and Elizabeth Morrison of Camm Macosquin, Coleraine, County Londonderry, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave I.A.20.

⁴⁵ Died of wounds on 25 April 1918 – **Private Edward George Phillips** (43364) formerly London Regiment (352947 [or 6421]), born Hoxton, N, Middlesex, enlisted Bethnall Green, E, Middlesex, aged 34, husband of Mrs Phillips of 86 Quilter Street, Bethnall Green, London, buried at Etaples Military Cemetery, grave XXXII.C.9.

Appendix No.105

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Roll of Officers

Command

Lieutenant-Colonel P.E.Kelly Command

Major, 2nd in Command

Major

Major G.M. Forde (MC)

Captains

Menaul W.J (MC) Command

Brennan, C.J Command

Lieutenants

Wilson G.W

Richardson G.H

McCrum R.I

Cooke J.A

Woods J Command

Clarke St.G.H.L Command

Godson E.A (MC) Command

2nd Lieutenants

Davidson A

Smith J.I

⁴⁶ Died of wounds on 28 April 1918 – **Private James McManus** (14504), born Beragh, County Tyrone, enlisted Armagh, aged 25, son of William and Mary Ann McManus of 18 Lonsdale Street, Armagh, buried at St Sever Military Extension, Rouen, grave P.XI.H.12A; **Private Arthur Simpson** (43204) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (42024), born Boston, Lincolnshire, enlisted Newark, Notts, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave I.A.11.

Died of wounds on 30 April 1918 – **2nd Lieutenant Gathorne Hardy** (shown as belonging to the 10th Battalion RIF in CWGC and *Soldiers Died*), aged 19, son of the late William Hardy and of Geraldine Hardy of the White Lodge, St Vincents Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, buried at Kortrijk (St Jan) Communal Cemetery, grave C.23 (see reference to Hardy's death in the Diary entry for 12 April 1918).

Kerr C.H	
Robinson G	
Reynolds E.W	
Mateer N.C	
Murphy J.J	
Graham W.G	
Wilding A (MC)	Command
Greenwood C.F.W	
Ross C.A	
Benson J	
Smith C	
Davis V.A	
Leahy T.C	
Burrows M.C	
White T.F	
Boyd J	
Fitzsimon M.O'C	
Midgley B.H	
Barnes R.V	Command
Young J.B	Command
Ratcliffe C.S	
Caldwell J.E	Command
Baker J.D	Command
Tweedie R (MM)	Command
Webb R.J	Command
Baker F (MM)	Command

Adjutant

Captain I Sparks (MC)

Quartermaster

Honorary Lieutenant Wilson G.W

Attached

Captain Bally H.S Chaplain

3 May 1918

[Signed] R.I McCrum, Lieutenant and Adjutant
for Major Commanding
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

May 1918

1-4	[1-4 May] Sheet 28 NW E.6.b, 1/20,000. Yellow Line. Working on defences and training specialists during day. Line manned by skeleton forces by night. Dispositions: two Corps in line, one support and one reserve. Right boundary Dirty Bucket Corner, left Alexandra Farm. Flanking units: right 12 Royal Irish Rifles, left Belgian Cyclist Battalion. [3 May] Battalion team beat Belgian team at football by four goals to nil. [4 May] 5pm. Moved to Green Line, in relief of 12 Royal Irish Rifles.
5	Defences worked on by day and manned by night. Brigade specialist classes commenced at transport lines, International Corner. Effective strength: 32 Officers, 673 Other Ranks, 35 horses and 20 mules. Ration strength: 27 Officers, 530 Other Ranks, 39 horses and 20 mules. Dispositions: Four Companies in line, Middlesex Battalion on right and Belgian Battalion on left.
6-9	–
10	5pm. Battalion relieved by 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers and moved back to Yellow Line. Billets in (Steentje?) Camp. Headquarters at Fa(?). Work and training continued. ⁴⁷
11	–
12	Church Parades in evening. Effective strength: 34 Officers, 678 Other Ranks, 33 horses and 21 mules. Ration strength: 39 Officers, 609 Other Ranks, 37 horses and 21 mules. Increase: Lieutenant E.A Godson (MC), Lieutenant K Morrow (TO).
13-16	–
17	Sheet 28NW E.6.b 1/20,000. Yellow Line. 8pm. Relieved 2 nd Royal Irish Rifles in Brigade Reserve in front system Left Brigade Sector. Dispositions: right front, C Company; left front, B Company; support, A and D Companies; with Headquarters in Canal bank. Flanking units: right, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; left, Belgian Battalion. Relief completed about 12 midnight. Working on defences by night only, to avoid observation. Enemy activity confined to shelling, probably meant for batteries west of canal. One fatal casualty in A Company. Brilliant sunshine and intense heat during six-day tour. (Appendix 106.)
18 ⁴⁸	Effective strength: 34 Officers, 935 Other Ranks, 32 horses, 21 mules.

⁴⁷ Died of wounds this day (at Home) – **Private John McCleary** (14548), born and enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, buried at Donaghcloney (Holy Trinity) Church of Ireland Churchyard, grave 156 (north-west of Church).

	Ration strength: 27 Officers, 646 Other Ranks, 36 horses, 21 mules. Increase: – , 235 Other Ranks. Decrease: 1 horse.
19-22	–
23	Sheet St Julian 6(a?). Brigade Reserve, Canal Bank. 9pm. Relieved 12 th Royal Irish Rifles, in right sub-sector, front system. Dispositions: right front, A Company; left front, C Company and one Platoon D Company. C.A: D Company (three Platoons). Reserve: B Company. Headquarters: Hill Top Farm. Flanking units: Right, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; left, 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers. Relieve passed off satisfactorily. At 11.30pm the enemy put down a heavy barrage on the 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers and raided one of their posts. Otherwise the night passed quietly. (Appendix 107.)
24	Ref Special Sheet, St Julien 6B 1/10,000. Right sector front line. Owing to bad observation the day passed very quietly. During the night our patrols investigated the vicinity of Von Hugel Farm and Cheddar Villa. No signs of enemy were encountered. The night passed unusually quietly, probably owing to a suspected relief.
25	The day passed quietly. At 3.30am and 4.30pm C.22.e was lightly shelled by 4.5 howitzers east (...?) our lines at 11.15am and were unsuccessfully engaged. Nothing of importance occurred during the day. ⁴⁹
26	Our own artillery showed increased activity throughout the day without drawing hostile retaliation. A fighting patrol of two Officers and twelve Other Ranks failed to discover any trace of the enemy between Jasper and Rat Farms. Enemy machine-guns were (s?)lightly active during the night on roads and tracks.
27	At 2.30am hostile bombardment commenced on left of Brigade front and spread north where the enemy attempted to raid the Belgians 3000 on our left. With the exception of a few shells on Wietje at about 3am, hostile artillery inactive on this front. Our own artillery was active during the day and replied vigorously to enemy bombardment in the morning. A fighting patrol failed to discover traces of the enemy west of Jasper Farm. At 11.10pm the 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers on our left raided an enemy post near C.17.c.45.45, but found the garrison had cleared. Our artillery continued the bombardment till 11.40pm. 6" Stokes Mortar assisted. During the operation a fire was (observed?) in Rat Farm. Absence of hostile machine-gun fire, artillery retaliation and Very Lights was marked. ⁵⁰
28	Right sub-sector front line Hill Top. At 5.30am hostile artillery shelled the Battalion on our left, apparently in retaliation for the raid. Owing to excellent visibility there was great aerial activity during the morning and many observation balloons were up. The day passed quietly.
29	The day passed quietly on this front. The Battalion was relieved in the right sub-sector by the 2 nd Royal Irish Rifles, 107 th Infantry Brigade, and on relief

⁴⁸ Died of wounds this day – **Private Thompson Harpur** (41433) C Company, formerly North Irish Horse (1084), born and enlisted Londonderry, residence Belfast, aged 21, son of John James and Jeannie Harpur of 10 Glandore Street, Belfast, native of County Donegal [sic], buried at Avesnes-Sur-Helpe Communal Cemetery, Nord, grave D.12, possibly the man listed as a fatal casualty on 17 May.

⁴⁹ Died of wounds this day – **Private Francis James Morrison** (41112) formerly Inniskilling Dragoons/ Dragoons of the Line (UD/198), born Brookeborough, County Fermanagh, enlisted Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh, residence Brookeborough, aged 22, son of Alexander and Margaret Morrison of Drumhoy, Brookeborough, County Fermanagh, buried at Gwalia Cemetery, grave II.C.29.

⁵⁰ Died of wounds this day – **Private William John Withers** (28900), born Milford, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, buried at Gwalia Cemetery, grave II.C.31.

	<p>moved by light railway to Hospital Farm Camp. In spite of hostile shelling on the entraining point, no casualties were suffered during the relief. Total casualties during this tour: 3 Other Ranks died of wounds, 2 wounded, 1 self-inflicted, 1 W-(?)-D. Fighting strength: 34 Officers, 974 Other Ranks. On relief the 108th Infantry Brigade moved into Divisional Reserve.</p>
30	<p>Hospital Farm. The day was spent in cleaning up etc.</p>
31	<p>Hospital Farm. Divisional Reserve. Provided working party of two Companies on Green Line. Two Companies training. The whole Battalion was bathed during the day. Major R.G Kerr MC⁵¹ reported his arrival and assumed duties of Second-in-Command.</p>
<p>Operation Order No.3 by Major G.M Forde MC Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers B.E.F. 16 May 1918</p> <p>Reference Sheet 28 NW Ed.6b 1/20,000</p> <p>No.1 The Battalion will relieve the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles in Brigade Reserve in the Front System Left Brigade Sector on the night of 17/18th inst.</p> <p>No.2 (a) Companies will relieve opposite numbers. (b) Advance Parties. One Officer per Company, one NCO per Platoon and one NCO from Battalion Headquarters will leave Camp at 4.30pm. (c) Transport. One limber will follow the leading Platoon of each Company for Lewis Guns, magazines, Camp Kettles and Officers Mess Kit. Limbres will be at Steenje Camp at 7pm. At 8.30pm one G.S. Wagon and one Maltese Cart will report at Battalion Headquarters for Mess Kit, Signallers Stores and Medical Officer's Stores. (d) Blankets. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of ten and to be clearly marked, to be stacked outside the Guard Room at 10am. All Officers Kits etc, for the Quartermaster Stores, will be stacked in a separate dump outside the Guard Room, at 5pm. Transport Officer will arrange to collect these as well as Battalion Headquarters kits. (e) Companies will lead off: C Company 8.00pm; B Company 8.15pm; A Company 8.30pm; D Company 8.45pm; Battalion Headquarters 9.00pm. Three minutes between Platoons and 200 yards when halted. (f) Guides. One Guide per Platoon and for Battalion Headquarters will be at Essex Farm C.25.a.35.85 at 10.30pm. (g) Taking over. All trench stores, ammunition and defence schemes, work in progress proposed, will be taken over. Copies of all stores taken over to be sent to Battalion Headquarters by 12 noon 18th inst. (h) Relief Complete to be reported by wire in BAB Code and by Runner, who will be retained at Battalion Headquarters over night. (i) Route: Dirty Bucket Corner – Railway Junction – Siege Junction – Dawsons Corner – Cross Roads B.29.d.7.5 – Essex Farm. (j) Rations. Rations for B and C Companies will be sent to Zouave Villa. Rations for Battalion Headquarters, A and D Companies will be dumped on the road at a point opposite the small bridge across the Canal, near Battalion Headquarters (about C.25.c.75.60). (k) Water. Watercart for B and C Companies Zouave Farm. Battalion Headquarters, A and C Companies, near C.25.c.75.60. Watercarts are filled at</p>	

⁵¹ **Major Robert Goodman Kerr**, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, attached to Royal Irish Fusiliers, later Lieutenant Colonel.

nights.

No.3 Liaison. 2nd Lieutenant Mateer and two Runners from Battalion Headquarters will be attached to the Belgian Battalion Headquarters on the left. Officer Commanding C and B Companies will detail two good Runners (each) to report to 2nd Lieutenant Mateer at Battalion Headquarters at 9.30am for Liaison Work. Instructions will be issued to all Runners on reporting.

Acknowledged.

Issued through Signals at 9pm.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

16 May 1918

Copy No.1 to Officer Commanding A Company
Copy No.2 to Officer Commanding B Company
Copy No.3 to Officer Commanding C Company
Copy No.4 to Officer Commanding D Company
Copy No.5 to Officer Commanding 2nd Royal Irish Rifles
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Quartermaster & Transport Officer
Copy No.8 to Medical Officer

Operation Order No.4
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC, commanding
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Reference Sheet special St Julian 6a.

1. The Battalion will relieve the 12th Royal Irish Rifles in the right sub sector of the front Line, on the night of the 23/24th inst.
2. (a) Companies will relieve like Companies, on relief will be disposed:
A Company – Right Front Line. Headquarters Wieltje.
C Company and one Platoon of D Company – Left Front Line. Headquarters Caliban Trench.

D Company (minus one Platoon) – Counter Attack Company. Headquarters about Wieltje Farm.
B Company – Reserve Company. Headquarters Irish Farm.

(b) A Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will take over from B Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in Support.
B Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will take over from A Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in Support.
C Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will take over from C Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in Support.
D Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will take over from D Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in Support.

(c) All stores, defence schemes, work in progress and proposed to be carefully handed over and copies sent to Battalion Headquarters after dusk on 24 May 1918. No taking over parties except Signallers, will be sent up. Two Signallers from each Company and two from Battalion Headquarters will rendezvous at Cross Roads Burnt Farm at 5.30pm and proceed to Battalion Headquarters Hill Top at 200 yards interval between pairs.

(d) Platoons will pass starting points and pick up Guides as per attached March table.

(e) Rations will be sent up to Battalion Dump for A, C and D Companies and Battalion Headquarters at C.21.d.3.6 at 11.30pm. B Company's rations will be sent direct to Irish Farm. The Transport Officer will arrange for the empty Limbers to pick up the kits of Officers of the 12th Royal Irish Rifles at these dumps, and take same back to the Reserve Position, evacuated by Companies of this Battalion.

Water. Water Cart fills tank at Battalion Headquarters, refills and fills tank at Irish Farm, then refills again and returns to Battalion Headquarters, when the horses will be sent back. Water for C and A Companies is sent in Petrol Tins.

3. No.13 Platoon D Company will be attached to C Company. Quartermaster will make necessary arrangements about rations.

4. Officer Commanding B Company will arrange that one complete Platoon always remains in reserve for defence, and is not taken for carrying parties etc.

5. R.A.P. [Regimental Aid Post] Hill Top Farm.

6. Completion of relief will be reported by Runner, he will report to Adjutant, and will remain at Battalion Headquarters overnight. Relief Complete will also be reported by wire in Code.

A Company "Nil Return"

B Company "None Required"

C Company "Six Required"

D Company "Four Required"

[Signed] W Sparks

Captain & Adjutant

9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

22 May 1918

Issued at Signals 10.15pm

Distribution:

Copy No.1 to Brigade

Copy No.2 to A Company

Copy No.3 to B Company

Copy No.4 to C Company

Copy No.5 to D Company

Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer

Copy No.7 to Transport Officer

Copy No.8 to Quartermaster

Copy No.9 to Medical Officer

Copy No.10 to) War Diary

Copy No.11 to)

Copy No.12 to Regimental Sergeant Major

Copy No.13 to File

MARCH TABLE

	Pass starting point at	Pick up guides at	Time
<u>C Company</u>			
No.9 Platoon	9.20pm	C.21.c.3.3	9.30pm
No.10 Platoon	9.23	C.21.c.3.3	
No.11 Platoon	9.26	C.21.c.3.3	
No.12 Platoon	9.29	C.21.c.3.3	
No.13 Platoon	9.32	C.21.c.3.3	
<u>A Company</u>			
No.1 Platoon	9.35pm	C.26.a.7.6	9.30pm
No.2 Platoon	9.38	C.26.a.7.6	
No.3 Platoon	9.41	C.26.a.7.6	
No.4 Platoon	9.44	C.26.a.7.6	

D Company

No.14 Platoon	9.50pm	C.26.a.7.6
No.15 Platoon	9.53	C.26.a.7.6
No.16 Platoon	9.56	C.26.a.7.6

B Company

No.5 Platoon	10.05pm	C.26.a.7.6
No.6 Platoon	10.08	C.26.a.7.6
No.7 Platoon	10.11	C.26.a.7.6
No.8 Platoon	10.14	C.26.a.7.6

<u>Battalion Headquarters</u>	10.20pm	C.21.d.2.4
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200 yards between Platoons. Punctuality in passing starting points is essential.

Start point Cross Roads C.20.c.6.2.

Operation Order No.5

by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC Commanding
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Reference Special Sheet St Julian 1/10,000

1. The 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Rifles will relieve the Battalion in the Right Sub-Sector on the night of the 29th/30th May 1918. On relief the Battalion will move into Reserve at Hospital Farm Camp.

2. D Company 2nd Royal Irish Rifles will relieve A Company 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers.

C Company 2nd Royal Irish Rifles with one Platoon of A Company will relieve C Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers with one Platoon of D Company.

A Company 2nd Royal Irish Rifles will relieve D Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers.

B Company 2nd Royal Irish Rifles will relieve B Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers.

3. (a) One Guide per Platoon and Battalion Headquarters under an Officer from B Company will meet the incoming Platoons at Zouave Siding at 9.15pm. This Officer will be responsible for seeing that Guides know what Platoon of incoming Battalion they are to Guide. Guides will rendezvous at Battalion Headquarters at 8.45pm under this Officer.

(b) All Trench Kits, Officers Mess Boxes etc, will be at Battalion Headquarters Ration Dump at 10.30pm. The Transport Officer will arrange to send up a

G.S. Wagon at 11pm to collect same.

(c) The Quartermaster will arrange to take over Hospital Camp on the 29th inst., and will arrange a Guide to be on duty at detraining point.

(d) Reverend H.F Bally C.F., will hand over Canteen to 107th Infantry Brigade.

(e) Meals. Hot tea will be sent up as soon as possible after dusk 29th. Officer Commanding B and D Companies will arrange to send four men each to carry for A and C Companies. Petrol tins will be carried out. Dinners will be served on arrival at Hospital Camp.

(f) Handing over. All Trench stores, Work in Progress, and proposed, Defence schemes, Aeroplane Photographs etc, to be carefully handed over and copy of receipt sent to Battalion Headquarters by 12 noon 30th inst.

(g) Officer Commanding Companies will report their arrival in Camp.

(h) Completion of relief to be reported by wire by code word Surnames of Company Commanders.

4. Entraining. The Battalion will entrain at Zouave Siding. 2nd Lieutenant Davis will superintend the entraining. Detraining Point Culloden.
Trains. 1.30am B and D Companies and two Companies 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers. 2.00am A and C Companies and two Companies of 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Acknowledge.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 to A Company
Copy No.3 to B Company
Copy No.4 to C Company
Copy No.5 to D Company
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Transport Officer & Quartermaster
Copy No.8 to 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers
Copy No.9 to 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Copy No.10 to War Diary

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers

Command

Lieutenant-Colonel P.E Kelly Command

Major, 2nd in Command

Major

Major G.M Forde MC

Captains

Menaul W.J. (MC) Command

Brennan C.J. Command

Lieutenants

Wilson G.W.

Richardson G.H.

McCrum R.I.

Cooke J.A.

Woods J. Command

Clarke St.G.H.L. Command

Godson E.A. (MC) Command

2nd Lieutenants

Davidson A.

Smith J.I.

Kerr C.H.

Robinson G.

Reynolds E.W.

Mateer N.C.

Murphy J.J.

Graham W.G.

Wilding A. (MC) Command

Greenwood C.F.W.

Ross C.A.

Benson J.

Smith C.
 Davis V.A.
 Leahy T.C.
 Burrows M.C.
 White T.F.
 Boyd J.
 Fitzsimon M.O'C.
 Midgley B.H.
 Barnes R.V. Command
 Young J.B. Command
 Ratcliffe C.S.
 Caldwell J.E. Command
 Baker J.D. Command
 Tweedie R. (MM) Command
 Webb R.J. Command
 Baker F (MM) Command

Adjutant

Captain I Sparks (MC)

Quartermaster

Honorary Lieutenant Wilson G.W.

Attached

Captain Bally H.S. Chaplain

[Signed] G.M Forde
 Major Commanding
 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

June 1918

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Ref sheet, local sheet, 27 NE 3A 1/20000. Hospital Farm. Divisional Reserve. Specialists classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers and Section (..?). Remainder of Battalion working on Green Line from 6am to 12 noon under Royal Engineers. The afternoon and evening spent in recreation. |
| 2 | Hospital Farm. Divisional Reserve. Church Parades in the morning followed by a cleaning up parade for every man in the Battalion. |

3	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. The Battalion was relieved in Divisional Reserve by a Battalion of a Belgian Division. On relief the Battalion moved to Proven. Battalion Headquarters at F.1.d.1.5.
4	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. Battalion remained at Proven. Company training in the morning. 2pm Commanding Officer's parade.
5	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. The whole Battalion with the exception of specialist classes entrained at 4.30am for work on the East Poperinge [sic] line, returning at 2.30pm. The afternoon was spent in recreation. Lieutenant McCausland reported his arrival.
6	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. Battalion working parties as usual entrained at 4.30am. ⁵²
7	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. Battalion working parties as usual entrained at 4.30am. Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Barbour awarded the Military Cross for good work since the Division came to France.
8	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. Battalion working parties as usual.
9	Proven. F.1.d.1.5. Church Parades during the morning. At 11.30am the General Officer Commanding 36 th Division inspected the Battalion in drill order and presented medal ribbons. A portion of the camp was also inspected. A draft of 127 Other Ranks was received during the last two days. The afternoon was spent in recreation.
10	Battalion working parties entrained as usual at 4.30am. Strength: 34 Officers, 974 Other Ranks Ration strength: 23 Officers, 781 Other Ranks.
11	Working parties as usual.
12	Working parties as usual.
13	Road Camp. E.25.d.2.5. The Battalion moved to Road Camp.
14	The Army Commander inspected the 108 th Infantry Brigade at 11.30am. Parade strength of the Battalion was 21 Officers, 568 Other Ranks. The Companies bathed during the afternoon. The Divisional Commander gave a lecture to all Officers in the 108 th Infantry Brigade at 5pm.
15	Bois St Acaire. The Battalion moved to Bois St Acaire training area, each Company (working?) as an advance guard to a Battalion.
16	Church Parade. Details of the Battalion bathed. Afternoon was spent in recreation.
17-19	Company training including bayonet fighting and musketry. One Company each morning on the range. Specialists classes in the afternoon for Lewis Gunners, Scouts, Signallers, Section Commanders, etc. The range open for voluntary shooting (practice?) the evening.
20	Ref Local Sheet 27 NE 1/10000. Bois St Acaire. Training continued as on previous days,
21	Training continued as on previous days, each Company carrying out a flag attack. A successful Battalion concert held in the evening. ⁵³

⁵² Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private James Magill** (41435) formerly North Irish Horse (1805), born Ballymena, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Ballymena, aged 25, son of Dyas and Catherine Magill of 25 Springwell Street, Ballymena, County Antrim, buried at Ham British Cemetery, Muille-Villette, grave II.E.27. (Killed by friendly fire – a French air raid.)

⁵³ Died of wounds this day – **Private Henry Nicholson** (40069) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (12382 [12406 in *Soldiers Died*]), born Leeds, enlisted York, residence Bradford, Yorkshire, buried at Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, grave III.B.30.

22	During the morning a practice attack was carried out by the Battalion. The Battalion during the afternoon moved to Road Camp. ⁵⁴
23	Road Camp. Church Parades. Lecture to all Officers on aerial photography. Afternoon was spent in recreation.
24	During the morning a practice flagged attack was carried out by the Battalion on Flying Ground at Proven. During the afternoon Battalion bathed.
25	The Battalion moved to the musketry camp, Cormette, by train from Proven to St Omer. Strength 30 Officers, 670 Other Ranks.
26	Cormette. Battalion paraded at 9am for physical drill. Lecture by Commanding Officer to all Officers and Section Commanders from 9-10am. From 11am to 2pm on range for firing. Gas lecture by Division Gas Officer in afternoon.
27	In the morning Battalion carried out a tactical scheme on 'C' training area from 8am to 12 hours. Football match at 2pm against 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers. From 4-7 hours Battalion on the range. A successful concert was held in the evening. ⁵⁵
28	Ref Hazebrouck 5A. Special Sheet 27 NE local ed. 5A 1/20000. Cormette. Battalion tactical exercise in the morning from 8am to 1pm. Three Companies attacked the enemy outpost line on the Zudausques – St Martin-au-Laert Road. One Company represented the enemy. From 9.30pm to 1am to Battalion carried out a night outpost scheme., with three Companies holding an outpost line outside Leuline and Etrehem, ⁵⁶ one Company attacking. Lieutenants Dobbyn MC and A.S Galloway, 2 nd Lieutenant F.S Bale reported for duty.
29	Battalion parade from 8.30am to 10am for drill. On the range from 11am until 2pm. All details carried out a snap shooting practice at 3.00. At 2.25pm the Battalion paraded in walking out order and marched into St Omer, where they were dismissed until 8.30pm. Teas were provided and the outing proved a great success. 2 nd Lieutenant McFarland reported for duty.
30	The 108 th Infantry Brigade moved back [to] the Proven area, entraining at St Omer at 9am. (...?) transport moved by road. On arrival the Battalion was billeted in Peterborough Camp. Battalion Headquarters F.1.c.80.30. Strength: 30 Officers, 957 Other Ranks Ration strength 29 Officers, 800 Other Ranks. Awards during the month: Distinguished Conduct Medal - 23566 Sergeant R.J McBride. Military Medal - 41414 Private B Wasson, 41329 Private B McCarley, 14474 Sergeant W.J Mitchell, 14393 Private W Kelly, 43201 Private G.F Miller. [Signed] G.M Forde Officer Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers.

⁵⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private Joseph Frederick Houston** (17150), born Glasgow, enlisted Belfast, residence Armagh, aged 25, son of John and A Houston of 41 Lonsdale Street, Armagh, buried at Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, grave III.B.32.

⁵⁵ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Robert Henry Forrest** (42271) formerly Housekeeper in Army Veterinary Corps (10766), born Lowerhouse, Lancashire, enlisted Burnley, Lancashire, residence Padiham, Lancashire, aged 31, son of Joseph and Susannah Forrest of Lowerhouse, Burnley, husband of Emily Forrest of 14 Shakespeare Street, Padiham, Lancashire, buried at Bleue-Maison Military Cemetery, Eperlecques, grave A.5.

⁵⁶ Lauline and Etreghem.

Order No.5

By Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Ref Sheets 28NW Ed.6B 27NE Ed.3A

1. The Battalion on relief by a Belgian Battalion will move to the Proven Area today 3rd inst.
2. All rifles and equipment will be out of huts and stacked ready to move off at 7am if necessary.
3.
 - (a) Kits Arrangements as (notified?).
 - (b) Dress Full marching order, steel helmets on packs, water bottles full.
 - (c) Route Cross-roads A.23.a.35.05 – International Corner via Chemin Militaire to cross roads F.10.d.9.1 – cross roads F.4.d.5.2.
 - (d) Intervals 500 yards between bus, 100 yards between Companies, Company Headquarters to march in front of leading Platoon.
 - (e) Order of march Band, Battalion Headquarters, A-B-C-D, transport.
 - (f) Dinners will be served on arrival.
4. Particular attention is to be paid to march discipline, dressing, men taking off their packs during rest.

Issued at 6.10am

1 June 1918

[Signed] W Sparks

Captain and Adjutant

9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Operation Order No.7

Copy No.12

by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
British Expeditionary Force
12 June 1918
Reference Sheet 27NE Local Ed 3.A

No.1 The Battalion will move to Road Camp – F.25.d.2.5 on the 13th inst.

- No.2
 - (a) Order of march. Band, Battalion Headquarters, B, C, D & A Companies and transport.
 - (b) Intervals. 100 yards between Companies and between Battalion Headquarters and B Company.
 - (c) Head of column will pass starting point F.1.c.40.05 at 9.30am.

- (d) Route. Cross Roads E.12.d.1.4 – F.25.c.3.2.
- (e) Kits. Officers' Valises and Mess Boxes of B Company and D Company will be stacked outside the Company Mess by 8am; those of Battalion Headquarters, A and C Companies together with Orderly Room Boxes will be stacked outside the Quartermaster Stores by 8.30am. The Transport Officer will arrange to send a G.S Wagon to collect B and D Companies and the remainder.
- (f) Dress. Full marching order, steel helmets to be strapped to the pack. Caps will be worn.
- (g) Halt. There will be a halt at 9.50am to 10am.
- (h) Lewis Guns will be packed tonight.

No.3 The Orderly Officer will hand over the Camp to the incoming Unit and obtain a certificate of cleanliness. Billeting Parties of the Quartermaster, [the] four Company Quartermaster Sergeants and No.13995 Corporal Brown from Battalion Headquarters will be at Road Camp at 6.30am on the 13th inst. to take over from the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles. Lists of stores handed and taken over will be sent to the Orderly Room.

No.4 Strict attention is to be paid to march discipline. There will be no smoking on the march, except at the halt.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain and Adjutant
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
12 June 1918

Acknowledge

(..?..) at:
No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
No.2 to A Company
No.3 to B Company
No.4 to C Company
No.5 to D Company
No.6 to Commanding Officer
No.7 to Quartermaster
No.8 to Transport Officer
No.9 to Medical Officer
No.10 to Orderly Officer
No.11 to Regimental Sergeant-Major
No.12 to War Diary
No.13 to 2nd in Command
No.14 to file.

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Program of Training from 13 June 1918 to 15 June 1918

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>
13.6.18	Morning	Move to Roud Camp
"	2.30pm	Lecture by Commanding Officer, to all Officers and NCOs, on 'Principles to be aimed at in training'.
14.6.18	7.20am to 7.50am	Reading of Orders, Company roll call, 5 minutes rapid march.
"	8am to 1pm	Quartermaster to inspect clothing, kit, and equipment of Battalion by Companies. Companies not being inspected will be at disposal of Officers Commanding Companies.
"	Afternoon	Officers Commanding Companies to explain in detail their advance guard scheme to Platoon Officers and NCOs who in turn will pass it on to the men.
15.6.18		Each Company will move to Bois St Acaire independently acting as advance guard to a Battalion. Times for moving to be notified later.
16.6.18		Divine Service. After service, Companies to be paraded under Commanding Officers Companies, for scrubbing equipment.

(Signed) W.Sparks, Captain and Adjutant
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
12 June 1918

Operation Order No.8
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
British Expeditionary Force
14 June 1918

Copy No.15

No.1 The Battalion will move to the Bois St Acaire tomorrow the 15th inst. and on arrival will be billeted at a Camp at D.30.d.9.9.

No.2 Each Company will move as an advance guard to a Battalion.

No.3 (a) Starting point. F.25.c.3.3.
(b) Route. F[or E].30.c30.45. – Watou – F.28.5.2 – K.2.a.50.80 – K.1.a.10.65 – K.1.a.10.10.
(c) Time of passing starting point.
Battalion Headquarters 9am.
C Company 9.15am.
D Company 9.35am.
A Company 9.55am.

- B Company 10.15am.
- (d) Officers Valises, Mess Stores and Orderly Room Boxes will be stacked on football ground at 9am. Medical Stores will be ready for removal by 9am.
 - (e) Transport will move as a unit, under arrangements to be made by the Transport Officer. Cookers and Watercarts will move with the Transport.
 - (f) Dinners, will be served on arrival.
 - (g) Halts, will be made for 10 minutes after every 50 minutes marching.
 - (h) Dress. Full marching order. Steel helmets to be strapped to the packs.
 - (i) Arrival in Camp will be reported to the Orderly Room.
 - (j) Each Company will detail a loading party of two men to remain with the Officers' Kits.

No.4 The Orderly Officer will arrange to hand over the Camp.

No.5 The four Company Quartermaster Sergeants will be at the Camp at Bous St Acaire by 9am. They will parade at Orderly Room at 8am with cycles.

[Signed] W Sparks

Captain and Adjutant

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

14 June 1918

Distribution

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade

Copy No.2 to A Company

Copy No.3 to B Company

Copy No.4 to C Company

Copy No.5 to D Company

Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer

Copy No.7 to Major Kerr R.G.

Copy No.8 to Transport Officer

Copy No.9 to Quartermaster

Copy No.10 to Medical Officer

Copy No.11 to Regimental Sergeant-Major

Copy No.12) War Diary

Copy No.13)

Copy No.14 File

Copy No. Spare.

Operation Orders No.10
by Lieutenant-Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
29th June 1918

No.1 The Battalion will move to the Proven Area tomorrow 30th inst. as under.

- (a) March route to St Omer Station.
Route. Cormette Road – Road junction 660 yards south-west of Church St Martin au Laert – St Martin au Laert. Battalion will parade on ground behind Nissen Hut ready to move off at 7.15am. Parties to be detailed off in forties for entraining purposes.
- (b) By rail from St Omer to Proven. Train leaves at 10am. Entraining to commence at 9am.
- (c) March route to Camp at Proven.

No.2 Transport will move by road and will leave at 7am 30th inst.

No.3 All Officers' Valises and one Mess Box per Company will be stacked near the Road outside Nissen Huts by 7am.

No.4 The Quartermaster will arrange to hand over the Camp to the Camp Warden. Copy of receipt to be sent to Battalion Headquarters.

No.5 Cooking arrangements to be made later.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain and Adjutant
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
29 June 1918

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers 30th June 1918

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>How employed</u>
Lieutenant-Colonel	Forde G.M. MC	
Major	Kerr R.G. MC	
Captain	Menaul W.J. MC	On Command
Captain	Brennan C.J.	On Command
Lieutenant	Morrow J.B.K.	
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Godson E.A. MC	On Command

Lieutenant, A/Captain	Sparks W. MC	
Lieutenant	Wilson G.W.	
Lieutenant	Bale F.S.	
Lieutenant	Baker J.D.	
Lieutenant	Richardson G.H.	
Lieutenant	McCrum R.I.	On Command
Lieutenant	McCausland I.E.	
Lieutenant	Dobbyn A.L. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	Davidson A.	
2 nd Lieutenant, A/Captain	Smith J.I.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Kerr C.H.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Robinson G.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Galloway A.J.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Reynolds G.W. [E.W]	
2 nd Lieutenant	Mateer N.C.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Murphy J.J. MC DCM	
2 nd Lieutenant	Graham W.G.	
2 nd Lieutenant	McFarland E.M. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	Greenwood C.F.W.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Davies H.L.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Ross C.A.	
2 nd Lieutenant, A/Captain	Benson J.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Leahy T.C.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Burrows M.C.	
2 nd Lieutenant	White F.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Ratcliffe C.S.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Boyd J.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Moran S.F.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Benson G.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Bryson J.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Baker F. MM)	Posted not joined, list 427
2 nd Lieutenant	Tweedie R. MM)	
<u>Adjutant</u>		
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Sparks W. MC	
<u>Quartermaster</u>		
Lieutenant	Wilson G.W.	
<u>Transport Officer</u>		

Lieutenant	Morrow J.B.K
<u>Attached</u>	
Captain	Allman W.G. (CF)
Lieutenant	McGuinness F.B. (RAMC)

[Signed] G.M Forde
 Lieutenant-Colonel
 Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 2 July 1918

July 1918

1	Map Ref 27 NE Local 1/20000 L Sheet 27 Sheet 28. Proven. Divisional Horse Show was held on the ground of the aerodrome at Proven on account of the fine weather and proved a great success. A large percentage of the Battalion attended.
2	Battalion on working parties. Four companies working on East Poperinghe Line. Approximate strength of working parties 430. Working parties on completion of work march to Road Camp E.25.d.20.50.
3	Road Camp. Battalion moves to Le Carreaux area, route St-Jan-Ter-Biezen – K.17 – K.16.b.8.6 – K.27 – Steenvoorde. Area taken over from the French 79 th Infantry Regiment, 3 rd Battalion, Nonebosche.
4	NoneBosche Area. Training continued under Company Commanders from 9am to 12.15pm. Afternoon recreational.
5	Training as on the 4 th inst. Specialist training under instructors. ⁵⁷
6	Battalion parade in morning at 9.30am. Echelon B in rear of each Company. 2 nd Lieutenant Ross C.Q. taken over duty as Battalion Intelligence Officer. Battalion in the evening relieved the Reserve Battalion of the 42 nd Infantry Regiment (French) in the vicinity of Piebrouck. Route Godewaerswelde – Q.18.a.50.7 – Piebrouck. Parade 11pm ready to move. Strength: Officers 19, Other Ranks 592. Battalion details move to Ecke area, billeted together with details of 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers and 12 th Royal Irish Rifles. Strength: Officers 6, Other Ranks 97.
7	Piebrouck (Reserve). Battalion in the evening relieved a Battalion of the 23 rd French Regiment in the Hoogenacker sector. Relief was completed without disturbance at about 2am. Remainder of night passed quietly.
8	Hoogenacker (Left sub-sector). The day was quiet, except for aircraft activity. At night enemy machine-guns were fairly active firing on reserve positions. Enemy transport heard quite plainly. ⁵⁸

⁵⁷ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Joseph [or Joss] Travis** (43282) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (35432), born Doncaster, Yorkshire, enlisted Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, aged 26, son of Henry and Sarah Jane Travis of Ivy Bank, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, buried at Chauny Communal Cemetery British Extension, grave I.B.13.

⁵⁸ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Arthur Dawson** (20344) formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (23903), born Northwich, Cheshire, enlisted Newcastle-on-Tyne, buried at Berlin South-Western Cemetery, grave I.B.3 (probably indicates that he died as a prisoner of war); **Private George William**

9	Aircraft very active. A paper gas balloon was dropped over enemy's lines. At night usual machine-gun firing with some trench mortars.
10	Day and night passed off quietly. Nothing else of importance.
11	Ordinary activity. While reconnoitering front line with Colonel Lowe, Major Kerr was killed at 1am. ⁵⁹
12	Slightly more activity of enemy artillery. Battalion was relieved by the 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers and moved into Brigade Reserve on Mont Noir (M.19.d.65.05). Sheet Kemmel 28 SW 1/10000. Total casualties: 1 Officer and 8 Other Ranks
13	Mont Noir. Men engaged on work parties on defence lines, working partly by day and by night.
14	Same programme as previous day. Small red balloon with propaganda matter dropped from enemy aeroplane.
15	Enemy guns active. Numerous shells dropping during day especially in Quarry causing two casualties. ⁶⁰
16	Everything normal. Enemy artillery active at Quarry. At 12 midnight 12 th Royal Irish Rifles attempted to raid enemy unsuccessfully. A heavy barrage was laid on enemy lines to which he replied feebly.
17-18	At 3am [17 July] enemy raided 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers. The relief intended to take place was cancelled. At midnight everybody stood to in anticipation of enemy attack which, however, did not happen. Our artillery were very active throughout the night. Major Tamplin joined the Battalion at Mont Noir. Relief took place at night of 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in right sector (Meulehouck). Strength: 19 Officers, 565 Other Ranks.
19	Meulehouck (right of left sub-sector). 8am. The 9 th Division on our right captured Meteren. Every retaliation was slight. One hit with small shell on Battalion Headquarters. The night was fairly quiet with slight artillery activity.
20	Artillery chiefly engaged on back areas. Day and night passed quietly.
21	Maps – 28 Bailleul & Berthen 1/10000 (Edition 1 B local). Meulehouck (right of left sub-sector). Day and night normal.
22	12.45am. B Company under Captain Murphy DCM MC and 2 nd Lieutenants Reynolds, Leahy, Radcliffe and McFarlane and No.15 Platoon of D Company raided Shoddy Farm. One prisoner was captured and thirty others were estimated to be killed. Our casualties: Two Officers and five Other Ranks missing with eleven slightly wounded. The enemy put down a machine-gun barrage followed by artillery support while the party was in No Man's Land. We also captured two light machine-guns, one of which was lost through the carrier becoming a casualty. During day and following night ordinary activity on

Stronge (41561) formerly North Irish Horse (2049), born Boho, County Fermanagh, enlisted Sligo, residence Boho, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave V.B.5.

⁵⁹ Killed in action this day – **Major Acting Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Goodman Kerr MC**, 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, attached to 9th Battalion RIF, aged 28, husband of Mrs C.J Kerr of 'Hillside', Delgany, County Wicklow, buried at Bertinacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave II.F.8.

⁶⁰ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Thomas Adams** (20035), born and enlisted Newry, County Down, buried at St Souplet British Cemetery, grave II.D.6.

⁶¹ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Clifford Stanley Ratcliffe** (shown as belonging to the 10th Battalion RIF in *Soldiers Died* and the CWGC database), aged 28, son of George and Agnes Ratcliffe of Bellair, Natal, South Africa, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **2nd Lieutenant Francis John Elliott McFarland MC** (shown as belonging to the 4th Battalion RIF in *Soldiers Died* and the CWGC database), formerly a Private in the North Irish Horse (2207), no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private William Frederick Christy Arthur** (41366) formerly

	either side. A Platoon patrolled at night in search of missing men with no success. ⁶¹
23	Day was quiet. Same patrol at night but no bodies were found. The Battalion was relieved by the 9 th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and moved with the remainder of Brigade into Divisional Reserve at Spotterke (R.15.d.10.70). Total casualties: 2 Officers and 4 Other Ranks missing, 11 wounded.
24	Ref sheet 28 Berthen 1/10000. Spotterke. No movement is made in daylight as camp is under observation. Battalion engaged on work at night on Berthen defences. Company Quartermaster Sergeant Kemp from 1 st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers joins the Battalion as 2 nd Lieutenant. ⁶²
25	Normal during day. At night the Battalions go to Baths at Berthen. ⁶³
26	Enemy guns more active especially at night. Lewis Gunners fire their guns for testing and practice. Between 11pm and 12 midnight, enemy shell camp, getting a direct hit on Medical tent.
27	Mont des Cats. Battalion shifted camp in small parties to R.13.d.85.75 which is not in view from enemy lines, and billeted in various houses, dugouts and tents and movement can be made in daylight. No work was done at night.
28	Church Parade was held in the afternoon and part of Battalion bathed at transport lines. Battalion engaged on usual work party at night.
29	Lewis Gun Section from each Company fire at improvised range in the morning. Lecture given by the Commanding Officer in the afternoon. One Company is all off usual work party in order to do some training on following day.
30	Mont des Cats. Different Lewis Gun Sections fire at range. 'A' Company carries on with training during day. Usual work party at night.
31	Usual parades and work parties. Men with revolvers are given instruction in use of same, carrying out firing practice. Awards during the month: Military Medal – 13658 Sergeant R Johnston, 43447 Private Pye, E; Bar to Military Medal – 13971 Sergeant J Adams. Strength: 35 Officers, 973 Other Ranks. Total casualties during the month: 1 Officer killed, 2 Officers missing; 3 Other Ranks killed, 40 Other Ranks wounded, 5 Other Ranks missing. [Signed] G.M Forde 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

North Irish Horse (1873), born Douglas Bridge, County Tyrone, enlisted Antrim, residence Douglas Bridge, buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, grave III.F.108; **Private William Herbert Lawrence [or Laurence]** (42155) formerly Army Veterinary Corps (29986), born Selsey, Sussex, enlisted Chichester, Sussex, aged 34, son of the late William and Lavinia Lawrence, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteet Memorial, Panel 9.

Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private John Nicholl** (41611) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/47), born Clones, County Monaghan, enlisted Enniskillen, residence Clones, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave V.B.10.

⁶² Killed in action this day – **Acting Corporal William Crozier** (24004), born Lisnadill, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, aged 24, son of Mrs Elizabeth Crozier of Drumard Downs, Armagh, buried at Bertenacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave I.B.5. (*The Soldiers Died list states that Crozier died on 25 July 1918.*)

⁶³ Killed in action this day – **Private John William Marshall MM** (18252), born Armagh, enlisted Belfast, residence Ahorey, County Armagh, aged 21, son of Joseph A and Mary Marshall of 71 Manningtree Road, Hawthorn, Melbourne, Australia, buried at Bertenacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave I.B.6.

Operation Orders No.11
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.
1st July 1918

Reference Sheet 27. N.E. 1/20,000. Local Ed. 1 A.

No.1 The Battalion will move to Road Camp on the 2nd July 1918.

No.2 The working parties on the Blue Line and Battery positions will rejoin the Battalion at Road Camp on completion of the day's work.

No.3 The remainder of the Battalion will form up in A Company's Lines ready to move off as one party at 9.5am [sic]. Transport will move in rear of the Battalion, 100 yards between Battalion and Transport, 25 yards between every six vehicles.

Route: Proven Poperinghe Road – cross roads F.21.a.2[.]6 – cross roads F.25.a.3[.]9.

No.4 (a) The Packs of the Working Party will be stacked as under by 8am:

B and D Companies outside Cookhouses.

C and Battalion Headquarters outside Guard Room.

A Company outside Company store.

Officer Commanding Companies will arrange for a guard to be placed on these kits.

(b) Officers' Valises and Mess Boxes will be stacked with the men's kits ready for removal by 8am.

(c) The Transport Officer will arrange to collect Medical Stores and Battalion Headquarters Mess Boxes at 8.30am.

(d) The Quartermaster and four Company Quartermaster Sergeants will arrange to be taken over Road Camp. The Orderly Officer will hand over the Camp to the Camp Warden and obtain receipts.

No.5 Arrangements as to dinners for the working parties on their return will be notified later.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
1 July 1918

Acknowledge

Issued at:

Distribution

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 to A Company
Copy No.3 to B Company
Copy No.4 to C Company
Copy No.5 to D Company
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Second in Command
Copy No.8 to Transport Officer
Copy No.9 to Quartermaster
Copy No.10 to Medical Officer
Copy No.11 to Regimental Sergeant Major

Operation Orders No.12
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.
2nd July 1918

Reference Sheet 27. N.E. 3 A Local 1/20,000 & Sheet 27.

No.1 The Battalion will move to the Le Carreaux Area on the 3rd July 1918.

No.2 (a) Companies and Battalion Headquarters will be formed up on their Parade Grounds ready to move off at 8.35am in the following order:

Drums

Battalion Headquarters

D Company

A Company

B Company

C Company

Transport

(b) Distance: 100 yards between Battalion Headquarters and Companies and Transport and rear Company. Fifty yards between every six vehicles.

(c) Route: St Jan-Ter-Biezen – K.17 – K.18.b.8.(8?) – K.27 Steenvoorde.

(d) All Officers' Valises, Mess Boxes, Signalling Stores and Orderly Room Boxes will be stacked on the Football Ground by 7.30am. Officer Commanding Companies will arrange to put as much Mess Kit on the Cookers as possible.

(e) Billeting Party. The Quartermaster, four Company Quartermaster Sergeants and Corporal Brown D. will take over the new Camp. Bicycles will be drawn.

(f) The Orderly Officer will arrange to hand over the Camp to the Camp Warden and obtain a certificate of cleanliness. He will also arrange for all furniture to be collected into the Canteen.

(g) Battalion time will be sent to all concerned.

(h) Dinners will be served on arrival.

(i) Dress. Full Marching Order, caps to be worn.

No.3 Strict attention is to be paid to March Discipline. Water Bottles to be filled.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
2 July 1918

Acknowledge

Issued at:

Copy No.1 sent to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 sent to A Company
Copy No.3 sent to B Company
Copy No.4 sent to C Company
Copy No.5 sent to D Company
Copy No.6 sent to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 sent to Second in Command
Copy No.8 to Transport Officer
Copy No.9 to Quartermaster
Copy No.10 to Medical Officer
Copy No.11 to Regimental Sergeant Major
Copy No.12 War Diary
Copy No.13 War Diary

Operation Orders No.13
by Major Kerr R.G. MC
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

B.E.F.
5th June 1918

Reference Sheet 27 & Local Sheets.

No.1 The Battalion will relieve the Reserve Battalion of the 42nd Infantry Regiment (French) on the night of the 6/7th inst. and on relief will be disposed in the vicinity of Piebrouck.

No.2

- (a) The Battalion less Echelon B will be formed up ready to move off from Ground in Front of Battalion Headquarters at 8.15pm.
- (b) Guides. One Guide per Company will meet the Battalion at Codewaerswelde at 9.0pm.
- (c) Route. Codewaerswelde – Q.18.a.50.7 – Piebrouck.
- (d) Distances. 50 yards between Platoons, 100 yards between Companies. Officer Commanding Companies will arrange to keep careful touch.
- (e) Officers' Trench Kits and Trench Mess Box will be ready stacked by 7.0pm by Company Field Kitchens.
- (f) Orders as to Personnel and Kits of Echelon B will be notified later.
- (g) Lewis Gun Limbers containing all Company Kits and rations will follow the leading Platoon of each Company.
- (h) Dress. Battle Order. Water bottles must be filled. The greatcoats, haversacks and surplus kits of all men going up the line will be placed in sandbags with Regimental No., rank, name, platoon, and Regiment clearly marked on the outside.
- (i) All surplus kits to be stacked at Company Stores (except from 2 Platoons B Company). ~~Further orders will be issued.~~
- (j) One water cart will accompany the Battalion.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
6 July 1918

Operation Order No.14
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC

1. The 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers will relieve the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in the left sub sector on the night 12/13th July 1918.
2. On relief the Battalion will move into Brigade reserve relieving the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.
3. A Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieve B Company 9th.
B Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieve A Company 9th.
C Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieve D Company 9th.

D Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieve C Company 9th.

4. The five NCOs sent down tonight will take over as under:

A Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers relieves A Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.

B Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers relieves B Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.

C Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers relieves C Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.

D Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers relieves D Company 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.

5. Guides. The five NCOs sent down tonight will bring in Companies of the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers relieving their own Companies. They will then guide back their Platoons on relief to the new positions.

6. Handing over. All trench stores, maps, defence schemes and aeroplane photos, work in progress, work proposed will be carefully handed over and receipts sent to Battalion Headquarters by 6pm 13th inst. Fuller phones, Lucas lamps will also be handed over.

7. An interval of 200 yards will be kept between Platoons on moving out.

8. Completion of relief to be reported by runner in the cases of A and C Companies, by phone by B and D Companies. Code name of Company Commander.

9. All liaison posts will be carefully handed over.

10. All petrol tins must be carried out by Companies as Companies depend upon these tins to draw water in Company areas.

11. Arrangements are trying to [be] made to give men a hot meal on arrival.

12. Acknowledge.

(sgd) W Sparkes

Captain & Adjutant

9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Issued at 1am, 12 July 1918

Copy No.

1 108 Brigade

2 A Company

3 B Company

4 C Company

- 5 D Company
- 6 Quartermaster, Transport Officer
- 7 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers
- 8 Commanding Officer
- 9 War Diary

Operation Order No.15
 by Lieutenant Colonel Forde MC
 Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 B.E.F.

Sheet 28 NW 1 1/10,000

1. The Battalion will relieve the 12th Royal Irish Rifles in the right sub sector on the night of the 17/18th inst.
2. A Company will relieve A Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles in right front line.
 C Company will relieve B Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles in left front line.
 D Company will relieve D Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles as CA Company.
 B Company will relieve C Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles in Reserve.
3. Guides. The 12th Royal Irish Rifles are sending one Guide per Platoon, Company Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters to House at M.31.b.80.75 at 11pm on night of 17th inst. Each Company and Battalion Headquarters will send one Guide to Headquarters 12th Royal Irish Rifles at 1.45am on night of 16/17th inst. to guide back taking over parties of 12th Royal Irish Rifles. Taking over parties of 1 NCO, 1 Signaller, 2 Runners per Company, 1 Signaller, 2 Runners and 1 Scout from Battalion Headquarters will rendezvous at A Company's Headquarters at 1.0am on night 16/17 inst. and will proceed to report at Battalion Headquarters 12th Royal Irish Rifles to take over.
4. Order of March. Companies will be at M.31.b.30.75 at following times on night 17/18th inst:

B	11pm)
A	11.15pm) 200 yard
C	11.30pm) intervals
D	11.45pm) between
Battalion HQ	12 midnight) Platoons
5. Battalion Headquarters and R.A.P. [Regimental Aid Post?] situated at Chateau M.32.a.00.10.
6. Completion of relief to be reported by code word "James".

Acknowledge.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
M.O.K.I.

Issued at 7pm, 16 July 1918

Copy No.1	108 th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2	A Company
Copy No.3	B Company
Copy No.4	C Company
Copy No.5	D Company
Copy No.6	Quartermaster & Transport Officer
Copy No.7	12 th Royal Irish Rifles
Copy No.8	File
Copy No.9	War Diary

Operation Order No.16
by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Ref. Sheet 28 SW 1/10,000
20 July 1918

- (1) Intention To raid enemy strong point about S.8.a.70.50.
- (2) Object
 - (a) Gain identifications.
 - (b) Inflict loss on the enemy.
 - (c) Definitely locate enemy positions opposite right Company front.
- (3) Strength One Company plus one Platoon.
- (4) Assembly point S.8.a.20.70 to S.8.a.20.20.
- (5) Plan At zero hour sweep across in a north easterly direction keeping on the forward slope of the spur. Clear the houses in S.8.a and also two suspected machine-gun posts, and return to our lines at S.2.d.25.80.
One Platoon with four Lewis Guns will act as Southern Flank Guard; one Lewis Gun section was western guard.
- (6) Barrage Barrage of High Explosives will come down at zero hour along wall north west of the Asylum and also on the Asylum.
- (7) Arms Rifle and bayonet; ten Lewis Guns; one Section carrying rifle grenades; one Section in each Platoon to carry two Mills No.5 Bombs to clear cellars.

- (8) Signals One Green Very Light – lengthen range.
Two Green Very Lights (sent up in succession) – stop shooting.
One Red Very Light (sent up by raiding party) – signal for detached posts to withdraw.
- (9) Watches Watches will be synchronised at 8pm.
- (10) Zero Zero hour – 1 a.m. (one a.m.).
Company four Platoons will be in position at the assembly point at 12.30am.
One Platoon will be at the assembly point by 11.15pm and act as covering party.
- (11) Date Night 21st/ 22nd July 1918.
- (12) General Officer Commanding raiding party (Captain J.J Murphy MC DCM) will keep one Platoon in reserve.
Flank guards will keep about 60 yards in rear of reserves.
On withdrawal being ordered if the situation demands it, all five Lewis Gun Teams will withdraw by rushes, not more than two teams at once, covered by the fire from the rest, and enter our lines at S.2.d.25.80 and to have one man stationed on enemy side of each gap to guide party in.
- Identifications All letters and badges etc will be taken off all ranks taking part in the raid.

(Signed) G.M Forde, Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding, 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Issued by runner at
12 midnight 20/ 21st July 1918

Copy: No.1 108th Infantry Brigade
No.2 Officer Commanding B Company
No.3 Officer Commanding C Company
No.4 Officer Commanding
No.5 War Diary

Secret

Copy No.8

Potter Group Order No.8

1. The 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers will carry out a raid on enemy posts in square S.8.a tomorrow night 21/22nd inst.
2. Zero hour will be 1.0 a.m.
3. The party, strength one Company, will leave our line at about S.2.c.20.30 and will be formed up facing east on the line S.8.a.20.20 – S.8.a.20.90 by zero hour. At zero they will advance east, mop up the enemy posts at S.8.a.55.71, S.8.a.70.48, and S.8.a.98.22, and any other post they may encounter and return to our lines at S.2.d.60.35.
The raiders will be protected by a flank guard put out along the road S.8.b.05.17 – S.8.c.42.91.

4. The Artillery of the Potter Group will co-operate as follows.
 At zero put down a barrage as follows:
A/153 1 gun on House S.14.b.08.97.
 5 guns S.8.d.30.07 – S.8.d.47.30.
B/153 (6 guns) S.8.d.47.30 – S.8.d.73.57.
C/153 (6 guns) S.8.d.73.57 – S.8.d.98.82.
D/153 Search area S.8.d.88.43 – S.14.b.45.93 – S.14.b.75.68 – S.9.c.26.20.
Rates of fire
 18-pounders: ~~Zero to Zero plus 10 minutes 3 rounds per gun per minute. Zero plus 10 minutes until Stop 2 round per gun per minute.~~
 4.5" Howitzers Zero to Zero plus 10 minutes 2 rounds per gun per minute. Zero plus 10 minutes until Stop 1½ round per gun per minute.
 (N.B. It is anticipated that the operation should be complete by Zero plus 40 minutes.)
Ammunition
 18-pounders and 4.5" Howitzers: High Explosive (not 106 fuze) with 50% delay action fuzes if the latter are available.
5. The Battalion Liaison Officer will be located with the Officer Commanding Battalion at S.2.d.60.35, and will arrange with the latter for direct telephone communication from that point to Group Headquarters.
6. The following light signals have been arranged:
 1 Green Very Light. Lengthen range. On this signal all guns will add 200 yards to their range.
 2 Green Very Lights fired in rapid succession. Stop firing.
 These signals will be repeated from the rocket guard Observation Post at Ernest, and batteries must keep a sharp look-out for them.
 The stop firing signal will also be fired to indicate that the raiding party have re-entered our lines.
7. Barrage lines will be registered tomorrow 21st inst. This must be done as unostentatiously as possible.
8. To avoid arousing the enemy's suspicions, a preliminary barrage exactly as in para 4 will be fired at 10 pm on the night of the raid, and will be continued for 5 minutes only.
 Rates of fire for preliminary barrage:
 18-pounders – 3 round per gun per minute.
 4.5" Howitzers – 2 rounds per gun per minute.
9. Watches will be synchronised at midnight on the night of the raid.
10. Acknowledge.

[Signed] C Potter
 Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Field Artillery
 Commanding Potter Group
 20th July 1918

Copy No.1 Officer Commanding, A/153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery
 No.2 Officer Commanding, B/153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery
 No.3 Officer Commanding, C/153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery

- No.4 Officer Commanding, D/153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery
- No.5 Headquarters, 108th Infantry Brigade (for information)
- No.6 Headquarters, 36th Divisional Artillery (for information)
- No.7 Officer Commanding, Simpson Group (for information)
- No.8 Headquarters, 108th Infantry Brigade (for Officer Commanding 9th Royal Irish Rifles)

Secret

Amendments to Potter Group Order No.8 dated 20/7/18

Para 4 Amend rates of fire and ammunition to read as follows:

- 18-pounders. Zero to Zero plus five minutes. 3 rounds per gun per minute.
Zero plus 5 to Zero plus 15 minutes. 2 rounds per gun per minute.
Zero plus 15 to Stop firing. 1 round per gun per minute.
- 4.5" Howitzers. Zero to Stop firing. 1½ rounds per Howitzer throughout.

Ammunition

- 18-pounders. C/153, Shrapnel fuze 80 – 50% on graze.
A/153) High explosives (not fuze 106) with 50% delay action fuzes if the latter are available.
B/153)
- 4.5" Howitzers. As previously ordered.

Para 8. Erase. The preliminary bombardment will not now take place.

[Signed] (J?) Cartwright
Lieutenant, Royal Field Artillery
Adjutant 153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery
21/7/18

To: All recipients of Potter Group Order No.8.

Secret

108th Brigade No.186
108th Brigade

Reference your No.186 of 22.7.18, the Divisional Commander considers the raid was well planned and that the raiding party carried out its task with determination and fought well.

(Sd) A.G. Thomson, Lt-Col. G.S.

23rd July 1918

-2-

To Officer Commanding

9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Forwarded for your information with reference to the Raid carried out by you on 22nd inst.

[Signed] (?) B. Rogers, Captain

A/Brigade Major

108th Infantry Brigade

24.7.18

Officer Commanding B Company

For your information and return please

[Signed] W Sparks

(...?)

9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Operation Orders No.17

by Lieutenant Colonel G.M Forde MC

Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

B.E.F. 22 July 1918

Reference Sheets 27 SE & 28 SW 1/20,000

1. The Battalion will be relieved in the right sub sector by the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on the night of the 23/24th July 1918. On relief, the Battalion will move to Spotterke area R.15.d.

2.

(a) 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

No.1 Company relieves

No.3 Company relieves

No.4 Company relieves

9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

A Company right front

C Company left front

D Company CA position

No.2 Company relieves

B company reserve

- (b) Taking over parties. 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers will report to Companies tonight 22/23rd inst.
- (c) Taking over parties of 2nd Lieutenant Rose, one NCO per Company and Battalion Headquarters will report at Battalion Headquarters at 1.30am 23rd inst and proceed to take over billets from 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. They will meet the Battalion at R.15.d.3.3.
- (d) Guides. One NCO per Platoon, Company Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters will report at Battalion Headquarters at 10.15pm 23rd inst and will meet the incoming Battalion at houses M.31.b.80.80 at 10.30pm. Each guide is to be given a slip of paper stating the relieving Platoon he is to guide. Order of march of relieving Companies: 2,3,1,4.
- (e) One limber per Company and one limber for Headquarters will be for Lewis Guns and Company mess boxes. Time and place will be notified later.
- (f) Handing over. All defence schemes, photos, work in progress and proposed, trench stores, will be handed over and copy of receipt sent to Battalion Headquarters by 6pm 24 inst. Bugler posts will be handed over.
- (g) Route. Berthen – Spotterke (R.15). 100 yards to be maintained between Platoons.
- (h) The Quartermaster will arrange for a hot meal on arrival.
- (i) Completion of relief to be reported by code word of Company Commander's name.

3. Arrival in Billets is to be reported in Orderly Room.

Acknowledge

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant

Issued at 9.30pm by Runner.

Copy No.

- 1 108th Infantry Brigade
- 2 A Company
- 3 B Company
- 4 C Company
- 5 D Company

- 6 Commanding Officer
- 7 Quartermaster
- 8 Transport Officer
- 9 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
- 10 File
- 11) War Diary
- 12)

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>How employed</u>
Lieutenant-Colonel	Kelly P.E.	On Command
Lieutenant-Colonel	Forde G.M. MC	In Command
Major	Tamplin R.J.A. DSO	2 nd In Command
Captain	Menaul W.J. MC	On Command
Captain	Brennan C.J.	On Command
Captain	Godson E.A. MC	On Command
Captain	Sparks W. MC	Adjutant
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Morrow J.B.K.	Transport Officer
Lieutenant	Wilson G.W.	Quartermaster
Lieutenant	Bale F.S.	Platoon Commander
Lieutenant	Richardson G.H.	Assistant Adjutant
Lieutenant	McCrum R.I.	Platoon Commander
Lieutenant	Dobbyn A.L. MC	Platoon Commander
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Lindsay R.H.	Officer Commanding D Company
Lieutenant	Tees E.S.L.	On Command
Lieutenant	Davidson A.	Leave
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Kerr C.H.	Officer Commanding A Company
Lieutenant	Robinson G.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Galloway A.J.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Reynolds E.W.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Mateer N.C.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant, A/Captain	Murphy J.J. MC DCM	Officer Commanding B Company
2 nd Lieutenant	Graham W.G.	Platoon Commander

2 nd Lieutenant	Greenwood C.F.W.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Davies H.L.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Ross C.A.	Intelligence Officer
2 nd Lieutenant, A/Captain	Benson J.	Officer Commanding C Company
2 nd Lieutenant	Leahy T.C.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Burrows H.C.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	White T.W.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Boyd J.	Platoon Commander
2 nd Lieutenant	Wilson C.R.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Moran S.F.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Bryson J.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Kemp H. MM	Platoon Commander

Adjutant: Captain Sparks W. MC

Quartermaster: Lieutenant Wilson G.W.

Transport Officer: Lieutenant A/Captain Morrow J.B.K

Attached: Captain Allman W.S. (C.F.)

Captain Brown C.R. (Royal Army Medical Corps)

Lieutenant-Colonel

Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

2 August 1918

August 1918

1	Map Reference Sheet 28 Berthen 1/10000. Mont des Cats. One Company carried on with training. Lewis Gun Sections from each Company fired at range and men with revolvers had parade for instruction. At night three Companies were working on Berthen defences. Two men were slightly wounded. In afternoon the Division Band played for two hours. Captain J Gibson joined the Battalion from transport lines. Two men were wounded on working party.
2	Usual firing of Lewis Guns. Day was wet; causing parades took form of lectures. At night work was done by five Platoons (C Company and No.13 of D).

	Casualties, two killed, four wounded.
3	Training was carried out in forenoon by those Companies who were not working during night and by the whole Battalion in the afternoon from 1-3pm. Companies arranged their own programmes of work. At night the usual work party took place. ⁶⁴
4	The Commanding Officer and Adjutant visited details, Divisional Reception and Reinforcement Camps. Major Tamplin DSO and Lieutenant Richardson with nine Other Ranks attend special Intercessory Service held at Terdeghem in commemoration of the 4 th anniversary of the outbreak of war. Usual Lewis Gun firing took place in the morning.
5	Mont des Cats. Wesleyan and Presbyterians paraded at 2.30pm for Church with 12 th Royal Irish Rifles. Church of Ireland service was held at 6pm. No work was done at night.
6	Battalion was inspected by the Commanding Officer at 1pm. At 3pm a lecture was given by Captain Bless on the war. The lecture was good but the weather bad. Work was done as usual.
7	Ordinary parades took place. Between 11.30pm and 12 midnight enemy fired about 50 rounds (about 6") on battery positions immediately in rear of Battalion area. Our guns retaliated. The usual work was done at night.
8	No training done. At night Battalion relieved the 2 nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in right of left sub-sector (Meulehouck). Relief done satisfactorily by 1.30am, only one casualty through enemy shelling. Remainder of night passed quietly. Strength [blank]
9	Reference Sheet 28 Bailleul 1/10000. Meulehouck. Enemy shelled St Jans Cappel with 5.9 throughout day while our guns replied on Bailleul. Our planes very active. Enemy planes seldom crossed our lines. One fired into our trench early in morning. Slight machine gun activity at night. Two patrols were out during night. One was detected at S.2.c.15.20 and fired on. The other under 2 nd Lieutenant J Boyd was fired at and bombed from house at S.3.c.10.10, two men being wounded.
10	At 3.15am enemy detected at our wire at S.2.d.35.60 but disappeared on fire being opened. Three blasts of whistle were heard from enemy trench soon after. Enemy guns were active on front line in morning. Twenty (5.9) on S.1.d.6.6, our guns active day and night on enemy rear area. Usual aircraft activity. At 8.30pm one enemy aircraft was over our line while another was brought down by one of ours. Enemy balloon also brought down in flames south of Bailleul. Patrols were out under Captain J Benson and 2 nd Lieutenant Behannah, but did not come into contact with enemy. The latter estimated Shoddy Farm garrison to be forty. At 6.30pm Lieutenant Dobbyn MC got into enemy trench at S.3.c.8.5 but only found greatcoat and pack. Another patrol under 2 nd Lieutenant Burrowes at 4.30pm got to consolidated shell holes at S.3.c.05.05 where they fired at enemy party.

⁶⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private Samuel William Speers** (41579) formerly North Irish Horse (1453), born Cullyhanna, County Armagh, enlisted Antrim, residence Cullyhanna, aged 23, son of Mr and Mrs William Speers of Cullyhanna, Crossmaglen, County Armagh, buried at Bertenaere Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave I.C.5.

Killed in action this day – **Private John Edward Riddell** (41403) formerly North Irish Horse (1603), born Portrush, county Antrim, enlisted Ballymoney, County Antrim, residence Portrush, aged 21, son of John and Mary Ann Riddell of Dunluce Street, Portrush, County Antrim, buried at Bertenaere Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave I.C.7; **Acting Corporal John Roland Seymour** (43262) formerly Notts and Derby Regiment (31336), born Hucknall Tonkard, Notts, enlisted Nottingham, residence Basford, Nottingham, buried at Bertenaere Military Cemetery, Fletre, grave I.C.6.

Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Joseph Groves** (27746), born Clontibret, County Monaghan, enlisted Waterford, residence Drumakill, County Monaghan, husband of Martha Margaret Groves of Castleblayney, County Monaghan, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave V.B.17.

11	Usual activity on either side. At 4am twenty rounds of heavy Trench Mortars were fired on left of sector. At 11pm patrol of 32 Other Ranks under Captain J Benson and 2 nd Lieutenant Behannah attempted to raid Shoddy Farm but were attacked in rear and after hand-to-hand fight in which casualties were inflicted on either side, returned. Our casualties, Captain Benson missing, two Other Ranks killed, two wounded. ⁶⁵
12	Enemy artillery very quiet, ours active. Usual enemy plane at 5am and 8.30pm. Night passed quietly. ⁶⁶
13	At 3.10am heavy bombardment by our guns in direction of Locre. The day passed as usual. Between 10 and 10.30pm enemy put up ten lights bursting into orange rain, but no apparent result or action. Enemy appeared to be working actively in front lines. Our patrols obtained nothing. Our planes very active bombing at night.
14	At 1.30am heavy concentrated bombardment on Bailleul. During day enemy artillery slightly more active. Two of his planes crossed our line at 8.30pm. One returned to his own line, the other surrendered to four of ours, putting out a red flare. He was then escorted back to our own aerodrome. Lieutenant Dobbyn MC with two others got into enemy line at 5.15pm at S.3.c.9.5, where they killed a German and wounded another. Six others fled. Patrol at night under 2 nd Lieutenant C.A Ross was fired on by Machine Guns and bombs. Three Other Ranks were wounded. Remainder of night passed as usual. 2 nd Lieutenant H.L Davies joined from transport lines. ⁶⁷
15	Enemy artillery fairly active, shelling St Jans Cappel with 5.9 from 2.40am to 3am and S.2.c.20.50 from 10.15am to 10.45am with 43 shells of (77 (...?..)). Our artillery were active. At night they fired eight rockets over Bailleul. These are like ordinary Very lights but much stronger light. From experience it is found that enemy sometimes put up red flares bursting into rain when our patrols are out, as if he has discovered them and so gives warning to sentries.
16	Day was ordinary. At night the Battalion was relieved by the 2 nd Royal Irish Rifles and on relief moved into Brigade reserve at Mont Noir. Relief was completed by 1.30am. Disposition of Companies: A & D in wood near Woelfhoek, B in Quarry and C in Blue Line. Strength [blank]. ⁶⁸
17	Reference Sheet 28 Kemmel 1/10000. Mont Noir. Day was spent in cleaning and inspections. At 10pm two Companies bathed at R.26.d. central. Work was done at tunnel at Battalion Headquarters and salvage at Berthen.
18	Mont Noir. About 11am the 9 th Division attacked on our right and appeared to get their objectives from observation at Mont Noir. Two Companies bathed at night, while one worked. Number of fires were seen behind enemy lines.
19	At intervals enemy shelled battery positions behind Mont Noir with 5.9 calibre guns. At night one and a half Platoons worked from 9pm to 12 midnight on communication trench to left Battalion Headquarters, two Platoons daily from 6 to 12 midday on Blue Line.

⁶⁵ Died of wounds between 11 and 12 August 1918 – **Private William Brown** (41451) formerly North Irish Horse (1839), born Belfast, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, aged 23, son of John and Sarah Brown of 51 Lichfield Avenue, Bloomfield, Belfast, Assistant Librarian, Central Library, Belfast, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave I.E.3.

⁶⁶ Killed in action this day – **Private Andrew Pepper** (41427) formerly North Irish Horse (1797), born Banbridge, County Down, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, aged 34, son of James and Mary Pepper of 21 Greenville Terrace, Bloomfield, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9.

⁶⁷ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Lance Corporal Joseph James Hardington** (43363) formerly 7th London Regiment (353177 [or 6809]), born Leytonstone, NE, Essex, enlisted Leyton, NE, Essex, buried at Hautmont Communal Cemetery, grave V.C.4.

⁶⁸ Died of wounds this day – **Private Willoughby Frazer** (9852), born Portadown, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh, residence Belfast, aged 30, son of David and Elizabeth Frazer of 12 Windsor Road, Lisburn Road, Belfast, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave III.C.13.

20	Enemy artillery were active, shelling behind Mont Noir with 5.9 and field guns. The usual work was done. At night the two Platoons on left of Blue Line were relieved by two of D Company. The Brigade on the left made a slight advance, capturing about 70 prisoners.
21	The day passed as usual. Our relief of the 1 st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers was cancelled and orders given for an attack to be made by the Brigade. The 15 th Royal Irish Rifles (107 th Brigade) captured Mural and Wirral Farms, capturing 17 prisoners, at 12.30am, with 40 (wounded) casualties.
22	Preparations are made for attack by us on road from S.3.c to S.8.a at night the Company in Blue Line was relieved by a Company of the 1 st Royal Irish Rifles. At 11.30pm the front line was bombarded with shells of various calibre and gas. Enemy made an unsuccessful counter-attack on Mural Farm. Working parties at night made dumps of material for consolidating purposes in front line.
23	Meulehouck. All NCOs and men instructed in method of attack and final preparations for same were made. At 8.30pm Battalion moved into the line on right of left sub-sector (Meulehouck) and cut gaps in wire. The night was very quiet on our front but towards Locre the enemy shelled heavily and appeared to attack about 11pm. Our artillery opened fire in reply to SOS.
24	2.30am. Enemy re-opened shelling on left for an hour. Our front was very quiet. The morning opened dull and rain fell. Three of our planes flew over the line and one enemy. At 7am the Companies were in position, A on left, B in centre and D on right. Our barrage opened with machine gun fire and trench mortars. After one minute the artillery barrage started and the Companies moved forward to the attack. After a few minutes the enemy put up lights which were replied to by artillery fire. This fell first upon the 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers front but then worked across our own, the shelling being particularly heavy in S.2.d central. Some of our own 18-pounder shells fell very short at S.2.d.80.50. Our smoke barrage was not very heavy, especially on the right. The enemy seemed to be taken by surprise and were more inclined to run than fight. The objectives were reached without much opposition. A and D overran their objectives and had to retire to conform with the line. 'A' Company put up white Very light at 7.20am to signal objective reached. At 8am the whole objective was taken and consolidation was carried on until 10am. C Company followed on behind B and D as second wave and mopped up. They also helped in consolidation, after which three Platoons came back to our old front line trench as support Company while the other Platoon stayed with B Company. At 9.30 our shelling ceased but the smoke barrage continued until 10am. The enemy artillery quietened down considerably. At 10am contact aeroplane came along while another plane dropped two boxes of Small Arms Ammunition near Soot Farm. There was slight enemy shelling throughout the day on front line area and on the Meulehouck. The 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers obtained their objective also and liaison was established along our line and with the 1 st Royal Irish Rifles on our right. At 3pm our artillery opened fire on S.8.a where the enemy were reported to be massing. Enemy planes came over the line and threw out signal lights over the front line position, when the enemy shelling got heavier. At 6.30pm the enemy put down a smoke barrage behind their front line and in front of Bailleul where they were seen to mass. SOS signalled from front was not seen but one of our planes signalled, upon which our artillery opened fire. The enemy massing had, however, been broken up by Lewis Gun and rifle fire. There was slight enemy shelling during night but nothing further happened. Our own artillery put down counter-preparation at 11pm. At night the Battalion was relieved by the 2 nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and moved into Divisional Reserve at Mont des Cats. Our total casualties in the attack were four Officers wounded, five Other Ranks killed and one believed killed, 53 Other Ranks wounded. We captured 48 prisoners including ten wounded and estimated to have killed at least 70

⁶⁹ Killed in action this day – **Lance Corporal Albert George Bailey** (25250) formerly Private/ Acting Corporal in 11th Hussars (15745), born Saham Toney, Norfolk, enlisted London, residence Newcastle-on-Tyne, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave III.C.8; **Private [or Lance Corporal] Alfred Camlin** (14091), born and enlisted Armagh, buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), grave III.G.13; **Private William George Clifton** (42280) formerly Housekeeper in Army Veterinary Corps (11282), born Bexhill, Sussex, enlisted Hastings, Sussex, residence Bexhill, aged 39, husband of Anna

	including one Officer. ⁶⁹
25	Mont des Cats. The day was spent in cleaning up. Men were paid. Church service was held at 4pm. Lieutenant-Colonel P Kelly took over command of Battalion. ⁷⁰
26	Companies did training from 9am to 12 midday and from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. The "Merry Mauves" gave a performance at 2.30pm in the open air but it was curtailed owing to rain. 11.30pm. At night C Company went on work party to Blue Line but there were no tools available. Enemy put 60 gas shells into Godewaersvelde. ⁷¹
27	Companies did usual training from 9am to 12 midday and 1.30pm to 2.30pm. Performance was given by the Divisional Concert Party at 2.30pm. D Company formed the work party at night and were engaged deepening communication trench between Meulehouck and front line. While passing through gas from enemy shells several men were "gassed".
28	The usual training was done, and concert performance. No work was done at night.
29	Training under Company arrangements in the forenoon and Colonel Kelly addressed the Battalion, congratulating it on the recent success. In the afternoon he addressed the Officers on the training for the coming fortnight when the Division would be out resting. At night the Battalion was relieved by the 15 th Sherwood Foresters and moved into Corps Reserve at P.20.a.60.27 via Godewaersvelde, Eecke, and crossroads at P.30.a.05.22.
30	Reference Sheet 27 Belgium and France 1/40000. St Sylvestre Capelle. Arrival was complete at 4am. Companies were paid and inspections were held. Equipment was cleaned. Battalion standing-to all day. Battalion move at 7pm by light railway to Godewaersvelde, thence by march route to billets at Mont

Lavinia Clifton of 54 Western Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private John Kelly** (27583) formerly Manchester Regiment (48306), born Wigan, Lancs, enlisted Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs, residence Wigan, aged 19, son of Francis and Ellen Kelly of 34 McCormick Street, Wigan, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave II.C.14; **Private William Wilfred Russell** (22447) formerly Bedfordshire Regiment (17851), born and enlisted St Pancras, NW, Middlesex, residence Tottenham, N, Middlesex, aged 26, husband of Mabel Russell of 23 Highweek Road, High Road Tottenham, London, buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), grave III.G.14; **Private Philip Schwenk** (45756) formerly London Regiment (683833), born St George's-in-the-East, Middlesex, enlisted Stepney, E, Middlesex, residence Limehouse, E, Middlesex, aged 19, son of Philip and Frances Victoria Schwenk of 12 East India Road, Limehouse, London, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Frederick Webb** (42108) formerly Army Veterinary Corps (27084), born Tysoe, Warwickshire, enlisted Birmingham, residence Small Heath, Birmingham, aged 24, son of Emma Webb of 233 St Andrew's Road, Small Heath, Birmingham, and the late Thomas Webb, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave II.E.1; **Private George Wilson** (42124) formerly Army Veterinary Corps (16975), born Kinglassie, Fife, enlisted Kirkcaldy, Fife, aged 21, son of Mrs A Wilson of 202 Links Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife, buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), grave III.F.107.

⁷⁰ Died of wounds this day – **Private Francis Ernest Browning** (42127) formerly Royal Field Artillery (2277) [or Army Veterinary Corps (TT/03760)], born Slough, Buckinghamshire, enlisted Fulham, SW, Middlesex, aged 22, son of Francis Henry and Elizabeth Nora Browning of 28 Clonmel Road, Fulham, London, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave III.E.24.

Killed in action this day – **Corporal Wilson Smyth** (42167) formerly Royal Field Artillery (48755) [or Royal Army Service Corps (S4/064598)], born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, aged 25, husband of Elizabeth Smyth of 6 Brenda Street, Belfast, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave I.A.13.

⁷¹ Died of wounds this day – **Sergeant William Garnett Wolsley Irwin** (41146) of A Company RIF, formerly Lance Corporal in the Inniskilling Dragoons (UD/83), born and enlisted, Dungannon, County Tyrone, aged 22, son of Charleton and Margaret Irwin of Castle Hill, Dungannon, County Tyrone, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave III.D.2.

des Cats. Relieve 15th Battalion Sherwood Foresters, relief completed by 12 midnight.

31 Mont des Cats. Orders for Battalion to move in support of 109th Infantry Brigade. Position taken up our front line trenches of the 24th inst. in front of Moulhouck. Battalion Headquarters at Sammy Farm S.2.a.80.80.

[Signed] G.H Richardson, Lieutenant, A/Adjutant
for Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers, 31st August 1918

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	
Lieutenant-Colonel	Kelly P.E.	
Major	Tamplin R.J.A. DSO	
Captain	Menaul W.J. MC	Command
Captain	Cross G.H.	
Captain	Brennan C.J.	Command
Captain	MacClean P.E.	
Captain	Gibson G.H.	
Captain	Godson E.A. MC	Command
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Lindsay R.H.	
Lieutenant, A/Captain	Kerr C.H.	
Lieutenant	Murphy W.A.	
Lieutenant	Bale F.S.	
Lieutenant	Richardson G.H.	
Lieutenant	Barnett J.B.	
Lieutenant	Bell A.G.F.	
Lieutenant	Lyons S.	
Lieutenant	Dobbyn A.L. MC	Command
Lieutenant	McCrum R.I.	Command
Lieutenant	Davidson A.	
Lieutenant	Wilson C.R.	
2 nd Lieutenant, A/Captain	Murphy J.J. MC DCM	
2 nd Lieutenant	Reynolds E.W.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Mateer N.C.	Command

along hedge running south through T.6.d.4.0 to (rise?) in T.12.b then along breastwork trench from T.12.c.50.35 – T.18.a.80.90, with the gap between B and A Companies D Company was put in support along road running south through T.6.c and T.12.a. The enemy were not very numerous but their machine gun fire was heavy. The shelling was fairly heavy but was confined to vicinity of St Quentin Cabaret. During the operation Battle Headquarters was moved to T.5.d.80.40. Six prisoners were made, four of whom were sent through 29th Division on the right. Some of our men on the right were cut off and are thought to be made prisoners. The 29th Division took Hill 63 but did not come up far enough to cover our right flank. During the day there was an amount of sniping and machine gun fire and the enemy shelled St Quentin Cabaret and T.12.a with 5.9. In the afternoon he attempted a counter-attack by coming up along railway between B and A Companies, but was driven back by machine gun and rifle fire. At dusk our patrols were pushed forward to get the line behind Bristol Castle but were unable to do so owing to machine gun.⁷²

⁷² Died of wounds this day – **Private [or Driver] Harold Reece** (42261) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (T/4/252864), born and enlisted Southport, Lancashire, residence Birkdale, Lancashire, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9. Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Vivian Alfred Davis**, attached Leinster Regiment, aged 18, only son of Mr and Mrs Albert E Davis of 17 Oaklands Park, Ballsbridge, County Dublin, buried at Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery, grave V.F.6 (it is likely that Davis was with the Leinster Regiment at the time of his death. He had not been shown on the Officer Rolls of the 9th RIF since May 1918, and is buried next to another Leinster man); **Private Samuel Broomfield** (28687), born Temple, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Lislea, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private William Cunningham** (19093) formerly Royal Field Artillery (146783), born Edmonton, N, Middlesex, enlisted Stratford, E, Essex, residence Walthamstow, E, Essex, buried at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, grave I.E.10; **Private Ernest Charles Fisher** (43503) formerly King's Royal Rifle Corps (16942), born Kennington, SE, Surrey, enlisted Camberwell, SE, Surrey, residence Peckham, SE, Surrey, buried at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, grave I.D.1; **Private George Francis Gaston** (50016) formerly London Regiment (5571788), born and enlisted Battersea, SW, Surrey, aged 18, son of Mr and Mrs George Gaston of 14 Middleton Road, Battersea Rise, London, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Charles Stephen Hummerstone** (42188) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (T/4/142275), born West Norwood, SE, Surrey, enlisted Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, residence Norbury, SW, Surrey, buried at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, grave I.D.11; **Private George Mark** (41562) formerly North Irish Horse (2251), born Ballymena, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Ballymena, aged 22, son of Sam and Mark J Mark of 40 Casement Street, Ballymena, County Antrim, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private William Miller** (29555), born and enlisted Cavan, residence Killeshandra, County Cavan, aged 20, son of Mrs Margaret Clay of Drumbullion, Derry Lane, County Cavan, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Henry Morton** (42151) formerly Army Veterinary Corps (19631), born Bedale, Yorkshire, enlisted Sunderland, residence West Hartlepool, County Durham, buried Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave I.E.14; **Sergeant Robert Morton** (18064), enlisted Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Thomas Mowbray** (20301) formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (23838), born South Shields, County Durham, enlisted Newcastle-on-Tyne, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private John McNaye** (27798), born Killylea, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Killylea, aged 35, no known grave, commemorated at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, Bristol Castle Cemetery Memorial 4; **Private Samuel Pinkerton** (41133) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/158), born and enlisted Londonderry, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Henry John Roberts** (45769) formerly London Regiment (084098), born and enlisted, Bermondsey, SE, Surrey, buried at Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, grave I.F.2; **Sergeant Denis Roddy** (29590), born Londonderry, enlisted Armagh, residence Londonderry, buried at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, grave II.B.13; **Private Terence Rooney** (18332), born and enlisted Dublin, aged 30, son of the late Terence and Mary Rooney (nee O'Tool), husband of Christina Rooney of 65 Bridgefoot Street, Dublin, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Sergeant Thomas Scott MM** (22556), D Company, born Tynan, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Tynan, aged 21,

5	<p>Reference Sheet 28 SW 1/20000. Wulverghem. During the night [of 4/5 August] enemy patrols were out and signs of work were heard. A Company of the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers was ordered to fill up gap between B and A Companies. At 5am under a very light barrage two Platoons of C Company, two of B, and the Company of the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers were to attack the line Hanbury Support down to Irish Farm. The 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers were not in position, in time for the attack. B Company were held up by barbed wire and had to retire. C Company got into King Edward Trench, but being unsupported on either flank had to retire to jumping-off trench after holding out for an hour. The enemy artillery did not reply but his machine guns were active. The remainder of the day was quiet; occasional bursts of shelling near St Quentin Cabaret and farm at T.12.a.40.40. The Battalion was relieved at night by the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles on the line from road at T.6.d.40.80 along hedge running south through T.6.d.4.0 to river in T.12.b and from T.12.c.50.95 – T.18.a.80.90. The Company of 1st Battalion were holding line T.12.b.35.30 – T.12.b.20.10 and part of Plum Duff Street. Our casualties since coming into line were four Officers wounded (Lieutenants Murphy, Bell, Laird and Lyons), twenty Other Ranks killed, twenty Other Ranks missing and 103 Other Ranks wounded. We captured one anti-tank rifle, one light trench mortar, and three machine guns including a Vickers. On relief the</p>
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son of Thomas and Elizabeth Scott of Derryhaw, Tynan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private James William Sharpe** (5851), D Company, born Laurelvale, County Armagh, enlisted Newry, County Down, residence Portadown, County Armagh, aged 26, son of John Sharpe of 30 James Street, Portadown, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Lance Corporal Hugh Smyth** (14696), born and enlisted Armagh, aged 21, son of Hugh and Maria Smyth of Lisnally Cottage, Armagh, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Ernest Terry** (49840) formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (22629), born and enlisted St Helens, Lancashire, buried at Kandahar Farm Cemetery, grave I.A.10, **Private William Fairbairn Timbey** (41232) formerly North Irish Horse (1547), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, aged 22, son of John and Eliza Jane Timbey of 18 Athol Street, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private [or Driver] Edward Wickes** (42252) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (T/4/070631), born Southwark, SE, Surrey, enlisted Surrey, aged 27, son of Henry Wickes of 53 Stanhope Buildings, Red Cross Street, Borough, London, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9; **Private Harold Edwin Woolford** (42250) formerly Driver in Royal Army Service Corps (T4/084736), born Marylebone, NW, Middlesex, enlisted St Pancras, NW, Middlesex, residence Camden Town, NW, Middlesex, no known grave, commemorated at Messines Ridge British Cemetery, Bristol Castle Cemetery Memorial 1; **Private Nicholas Wright** (42216) formerly York and Lancaster Regiment (678), Royal Army Service Corps (T/387023), born Normanton, Yorkshire, enlisted Barnsley, Yorkshire, residence Little Houghton, Yorkshire, aged 26, son of Mr and Mrs J Wright, husband of Mrs Elizabeth Ellen Wright of 22 Carter Street, Sunderland, no known grave, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial, Panel 9.

⁷³ Died of wounds this day – **Private James Kelly** (41577) formerly North Irish Horse (1444), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, aged 24, son of Sampson and Ellen Kelly of 137 Manor Street, Belfast, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave III.D.28.

Killed in action this day – **Acting Colour Sergeant Charles Ingledeu** (13080), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, buried at Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery, grave IV.B.26.

Died this day (as a prisoner of war) – **Private William Henry Brown** (40053) formerly West Yorkshire Regiment (14466), born Diss, Norfolk, enlisted York, aged 25, son of William and Emma Brown, buried at Cologne Southern Cemetery, grave XIII.B.1.

	Battalion moved to Divisional support at Cyprian Farm. The enemy shelled the roads during relief and the Battalion had to pass through gas shelling. ⁷³
6	Keersebrom. Arrival at billets was complete at 2am. Strength of Battalion [blank].The day was spent in cleaning up and organisation. Billets were made more habitable. Day was cold and wet. ⁷⁴
7	A complete change of clothing was made by whole Battalion. Inspections of clothing and equipment were held.
8	Berthen. At 2pm move was made to Berthen. Battalion Headquarters and A Company at R.16.d.60.50, B and D at Sutton Farm and C Company in Berthen. Route via S.17.c.75.80 – Bailleul – St Jans Cappel – Schaexhen.
9	Day was spent in cleaning up equipment and settling billets. Church of Ireland service was held at 11am. The Corps Commander visited the Companies in the afternoon. ⁷⁵
10	Battalion Headquarters moved to Chateau at R.22.d.10.95. Battalion bathed at Piebrouck and trained by Companies.
11	Companies did ordinary training. Remainder of Battalion bathed.
12	Berthen. Companies trained from 8am to 1 pm and in afternoon Officers and NCOs discussed the day's work and the work for the following day. At 11pm enemy put a few shells near Chateau.
13	Ordinary training by Companies. Commanding Officer inspected A and C Companies. Rifles were inspected by Armourer Sergeant. ⁷⁶
14	Ordinary training. Lieutenant F.W.Vint and 2 nd Lieutenants Richey R.A, Hall F.H, Logan S, Humphreys F.D.R, joined the Battalion for duty.
15	Roman Catholic Church Parade at 10am and Church of England Parade at 11am.
16	Battalion moved to Asylum in Bailleul at 6.54pm and were all in billets by 10pm. Route by Schaaxen – St Jans Cappell.
17	Bailleul. Companies employed in cleaning up billets. Ordinary training also carried out by Companies. Battalion bathed at St Jans Cappell.
18	Training by companies. Sergeant Ferguson (D Company) awarded Military Medal. Signalling competition (C Company winners) and Lewis Gun competition (D Company winners).
19	Battalion moved to Berthen at 7.30pm, route by St Jans Cappel – Shaaxen. Platoon competitions (stretcher bearing and drill). Winners of stretcher bearing A Company, winners of Platoon competition (14 Platoon D Company).
20	Berthen. Battalion moved to Terdegem. Route by Mont-des-Cats – Godwaersvelde – Steenvorde. The Brigadier 108 th Brigade reviewed Battalion marching through Godwaersvelde. Arrived in billets by 10pm.
21	Terdegem. Battalion moved to Watou at 7.16pm, route by Steenvorde. Arrived in billets at 9.30pm. Joined the Battalion, 2 nd Lieutenants Steele J.H, Inglis

⁷⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private Samuel Albert Paine** (45775) formerly London Regiment (684341 [or 5420]), born Marylebone, NW, Middlesex, enlisted London, residence Kilburn Lane, W, Middlesex, aged 21, son of Mr C.A Paine of 315 Kilburn Lane, Maida Hill, London, buried at Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, grave V.E.16.

⁷⁵ Died of wounds this day – **Lance Corporal William Johnston** (18061), born Liverpool, enlisted Armagh, residence Tassagh, County Armagh, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave VII.A.6.

⁷⁶ Died of wounds this day – **Private Joseph Henry McClean** (29536 [or 14548]), born Lisburn, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, aged 19, son of William and Catherine McClean of 78 Frome Street, Belfast, native of Brookhill, Lisburn, County Antrim, buried at Arneke British Cemetery, grave VII.A.13.

	J.M, Duncan R.S, and Kernaghan J.
22	Watou. Roman Catholic Church Parade at 11am. Church of England Church Parade with band at 11am. Court Martials of Privates Smith and Crockin promulgated. Football in afternoon.
23	Training. The Commanding Officer inspected the Battalion in the afternoon.
24	Adjutants' parade at 8.30am. Training by Companies, six men per Company instructed in German machine-gun by Machine Gun Company Sergeant. Football in afternoon, 9 th Royal Irish Fusiliers beat 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers, A Company beat B Company, C Company beat D Company.
25	Company route marches in morning. Further instructions in German machine gun. 2 nd Lieutenants H.C Burrows and Bryson awarded Military Cross and Lance Corporal Gracey (D Company) awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal for operations on 4 th September 1918.
26	Battalion moved from Watou to Road Camp (St Jan-ter-Beizan) at 8pm. Arrived in camp 9.30pm.
27	Road Camp (St Jan-ter-Beizan). Battalion parade at 10am. All surplus kits stored and preparations made for move to Siege Camp (near Vlamertinge). ⁷⁷
28	Ypres. Battalion moved from St Jan-ter-Biezen by rail to Vlamertinge thence by road [or rail?] to Salvation Road, Ypres. Accommodation was very poor.
29	Battalion moved to Rifle Farm on Menin Road at 4am then to Glen Corse Wood at 7am and later to Reutel. Position was taken up at J.17.b and d with 12 th Royal Irish Rifles on left. At 7pm Battalion moved to west of Becelaere in J.18.a and c. The Commanding Officer received verbal orders at Brigade Headquarters for an advance on Moorseele to begin at dawn. The evening and night were very wet and no rations arrived.
30	<p>Becelaere. At 5.30am the Battalion, covered by an advance guard, moved forward through J.18.b, K.13 central to K.16.c. Information was received from Brigade to the effect that the 109th Brigade held Terhand and Dadizeele. Battalion was to pass through 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at 7am. 12th Royal Irish Rifles to advance on our left, Terhand – Vijfwegen Road the inter-Battalion boundary, the first objective to be a line roughly north and south through Vijfwegen (K.24.a); second objective to be railway running north and south (K.20 and K.26 central); third objective to be Mooreseele. The 29th Division was on our right.</p> <p>7am. 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was on a line running south-west through K.21.a and c. 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were facing south with posts along Terhand – Vinwegen Road. The 1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were held up by machine gun fire and had lost touch with the 29th Division. A patrol discovered the 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers holding line running south from K.19.a.9.6 through K.19 central, i.e. 2000 yards in rear. B Company were sent to move along line of enemy wire through K.21.b, K.22.c and K.29.c to occupy high ground in K.30.a. C Company to move to right rear of B Company to protect flank, to get and keep in touch with 29th Division. A Company to move through K.22 central, K.23 central to K.24.c and to keep touch with 12th Royal Irish Rifles. D Company to move in support along Terhand – Vijfwegen Road. B and C Companies came under machine gun fire almost at once after moving through the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but A Company met with no opposition until they reached the east side of Methuen Wood, when they came under machine gun fire from houses in K.23.d about 9.30am. About this time the reserve Company came under machine gun fire from a pill box on K.24.b.0.3 and Leadenhall Copse which were cleared in spite of stiff resistance by 12.30. Twelve prisoners and two machine guns were captured in this operation, and an Officer with twenty Other Ranks of the enemy being killed. All further attempts to advance our line beyond the general line of this pill box and Leadenhall Copse were prevented by very heavy machine gun fire from fortified farms on our right flank which was still hanging</p>

⁷⁷ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Henry Walter Hammond** (45740) formerly 24th London Regiment (722589 [or 5723]), born London, enlisted Stepney, aged 21, son of Henry and Harriett Hammond of 21 Arbour Square, Stepney, London, buried at Le Cateau Military Cemetery, grave I.B.133.

back. At about 1800 when the (2nd?) Royal Irish Rifles passed through the line to attack, the general line ran K.24.b.0.3 – Leadenhall Copse – K.23.d.2.5 – K.29.b.2.8. Our casualties during the day were six Officers (130?) Other Ranks.⁷⁸

[Signed] R.J Tamplin

Major

Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Operation Orders No.24

by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly

Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

B.E.F.

⁷⁸ Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Francis Henry Hall**, 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers, attached 9th Battalion, formerly a Sergeant in the Royal Irish Rifles (20/75), aged 25, son of John and Margaret Hall (nee Lytle) of Glenanne, County Armagh, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.21; **Captain George Herbert Cross**, Royal Army Service Corps, attached 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers, aged 25, son of Mr W.H and Mrs E Cross of 1 Effra Road, Rathmines, Dublin, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.27; **Private William James Abercrombie** (41507) formerly 6th Inniskilling Dragoons (279), enlisted Enniskillen, residence Blacklion, County Cavan, aged 30, son of Emily Brownlee (formerly Abercrombie) of Deerines, Florence Court, County Fermanagh, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.24 [CWGC shows his date of death as 30 September 1918, Soldiers Died shows it as 3 October 1918.]; **Corporal (Acting Sergeant) Reginald Percy Collins** (10054), born Chatham, Kent, enlisted Dublin, residence Baldock, Herts, buried at Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, grave IX.E.10; **Private Rodger Devine** (43285) formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (2278_), born Ardstraw, County Tyrone, enlisted Castleberg, County Tyrone, aged 34, son of Mrs Bridget Devine of Meenachirin, Castleberg, County Tyrone, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.2924 [CWGC shows his date of death as 30 September 1918, Soldiers Died shows it as 3 October 1918]; **Private Thomas George Dixon** (24019), born Ballymoney, County Antrim, enlisted Belfast, aged 20, son of William and Mary J Dixon of 67 Delhi Street, Belfast, buried at Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, grave IX.E.9; **Private George Lally** (42509) [shown as 1st Battalion RIF on CWGC], formerly Royal Irish Rifles (22569), born and residence Enniskillen, enlisted Belfast, aged 18, son of Mr R Lally of Belmore Street, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, no known grave, commemorated at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Special Memorial 7 [CWGC shows his date of death as 30 September 1918, Soldiers Died shows it as 3 October 1918]; **Lance Corporal Stanley Hastings Mellor** (27820) formerly Royal Army Ordnance Corps (912104), born and enlisted Liverpool, aged 26, son of Emily Mellor of 24 Burwen Drive, Orrell Park, Liverpool, and the late Thomas Mellor, buried at Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, grave VIII.D.30; **Private Francis William Milligan** (42218) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (S4/140215 [or 146215]), born Walton, Lancashire, enlisted Southport, Lancashire, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Felix Murphy** (11737), born Newry, County Down, enlisted Dundalk, County Louth, residence Newry, aged 30, son of Eliza Murphy of 36 North Street, Newry, County Down, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Walter McClean Murray** (22891), born Rockcorry, County Monaghan, enlisted Armagh, residence Rockcorry, aged 21, son of J and M Murray of Rockcorry, County Monaghan, buried at Hooge Crater Cemetery, grave VI.J.1 [CWGC shows his date of death as 30 September 1918, Soldiers Died shows it as 3 October 1918]; **Private Albert Oglesby** (42448) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (10948), born and enlisted Dublin, aged 34, husband of Mary Oglesby of 112 Capel Street, Dublin, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.18.

Map Reference Belgium and Part of France Sheet 7b.

1. Relief Battalion will relieve 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers and 12th Royal Irish Rifles tonight from T.16.c.7.8 (on right) to left Brigade boundary in T.6.c.
2. Four Companies will be in the line.
A Company in touch with 12th Royal Irish Rifles on the right to T.11.c.4.5.
B Company from T.11.c.4.5 to T.11.c.8.0.
C Company from T.11.c.8.0 to T.12.a.5.7.
D Company from T.12.a.5.7 to left Brigade boundary T.6.c.6.5.
3. Each Company will have two Platoons forward at first.
4. C and D Companies will find Guide at T.10.a.9.4 who will shew them where 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers are. A Company will move to T.10.d.5.3 where a Company of the 12th Royal Irish Rifles are. B Company will move to T.11.a.4.2 where a Company Headquarters of the 12th Royal Irish Rifles are.
5. Companies will be ready to move at 6.30pm. D Company leading they will not start until they receive orders.
6. Rations are expected to arrive before the move.
7. Battalion Headquarters at Farm at T.9.d.6.3.
8. Companies will report by Runner as soon as they are in their new position.
9. C and D Companies will relieve 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers who are already on their objective. A and B Companies will endeavour to push forward as soon as possible and seize cottage T.11.c.6.3 and T.11.c.9.0 and T.11.d.3.3 and when Brigade on our right advance will seize objective T.19.a.4.8 to T.12.a.5.1.
10. One Trench Mortar will move with A Company and will report to Officer Commanding A Company at 6pm.
11. R.A.P. [Regimental Aid Post] will be at Battalion Headquarters. R.A.P. of 12th Royal Irish Rifles is at Church in Neuveglise (T.15.a.central).
12. Acknowledge.
13. Issued at 6.10pm.

[Signed] (...?)
Captain & Acting Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

3 September 1918

Operation Orders No.26
by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.

Map Reference Sheet 28 SW 1/20,000

1. The Battalion will be relieved by the 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Rifles tonight 5/6th September 1918.
2. The incoming Companies will occupy the same relative positions as the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers.
3. All trench stores will be handed over.
4. Completion of relief will be reported by Company Commander's name to Battalion Headquarters.
5. Companies when relieved will march independently to new area at S.17.b.3.3 and will report arrival by Company Commander's name.
6. Interval of 100 yards will be maintained between platoons.
7. Rations will be dumped in new area.
8. Limbers for Lewis Guns will be at advanced Battalion Headquarters if possible.
9. Company Commanders horses will be at advanced Battalion Headquarters.
10. Duplicates of receipts for trench stores handed over, to be sent to Battalion Headquarters by 3pm 6 September 1918.
11. Guides will meet Companies in new area on road at S.18.a.6.2.
12. Bailleul – Ravelsburg road may be used as far as Crucifix Corner S.18.a.6.2 west of this point the road is out of bounds and Companies will then proceed north of this road.
13. Care will be taken that liaison will be carefully handed over.

14. Acknowledge.

[Signed] (...)

Captain & Acting Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

5 September 1918

No.27 Operation Orders by
Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F. 8 September 1918

Reference Sheet 27 SE and 28 SW 1/20,000

1. The Battalion will move today to Berthen area as under:

Battalion Headquarters) to Cato Copse R.16.d.6.5

A Company)

B and D Companies to Sutton Farm R.22.b.6.5

C Company to Berthen

2. Order of march, Battalion Headquarters, A, B, C and D Companies, 200 yards between Companies, 50 yards between Platoons.

3. Route. Bailleul – St Jans Cappel. Strict march discipline will be observed.

4. All Officers valises, mess kit, Company stores and Lewis Guns will be dumped on Road opposite Companies at 1pm.

5. All tents and shelters will be dumped at Battalion Headquarters by 1pm.

6. Dinners at 11.30am.

7. Companies will leave two men per Company behind to clean up Camp. C Company to detail one NCO to take charge of this party.

8. Arrival in new area will be reported to Battalion Headquarters by runner.

9. Acknowledge.

[Signed] (...)

Captain & Acting Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

8 September 1918

Copies to A Company, B, Company, C Company, D Company, Commanding Officer, 108th Infantry Brigade, War Diary, File.

Operation Orders No.28

by Lieutenant Colonel P.E. Kelly

Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

B.E.F. 14th September 1918

Reference Sheet 27 SE and 28 SW 1/20,000

No.1 The Battalion will move into Divisional Support on the 15th September 1918 and will be billeted in the Asylum.

No.2 (a) The Battalion will pass the starting point (R.22.a.40.00) at the following times:

Band and Battalion Headquarters	6.54pm	7.24pm [handwritten]
C Company	6.56pm	7.26pm [handwritten]
B Company	6.59pm	7.29pm [handwritten]
D Company	7.02pm	7.32pm [handwritten]
A Company	7.05pm	7.35pm [handwritten]

Transport.

Intervals of 200 yards between Companies and 30 yards between Platoons.

(b) The following Transport has been allotted:

One G.S Wagon for Battalion Headquarters.

One G.S Limber per Company for Lewis Guns and Mess Boxes.

One G.S Wagon for Company Officers Kits.

Maltese Cart for medical stores.

All Kits, Mess Boxes and Lewis Guns must be stacked on the road near Company Headquarters by 5.45pm.

(c) Advance parties consisting of Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO, Lieutenant A.L Dobbyn MC, and one NCO per Platoon and Battalion Headquarters will rendezvous at Battalion Headquarters at 2.30pm (15th inst.)

(d) Teas will be served at 4.30pm. The Quartermaster will arrange for a hot meal after arrival.

(e) The Quartermaster will arrange to hand over present billets to the incoming Unit.

No.3 The strictest attention is to be paid to march discipline.

No.4 Billets will be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition.

Acknowledge.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

14 September 1918

Issued through Signals at 6.15pm.

Copy No.

- 1 108th Infantry Brigade
- 2 A Company
- 3 B Company
- 4 C Company
- 5 D Company
- 6 Commanding Officer
- 7 Second in Command
- 8 Quartermaster
- 9 Transport Officer
- 10 Regimental Sergeant Major
- 11 War Diary
- 12 Cook Sergeant

No.28 Operation Orders

by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F. 19 September 1918

Reference Sheet 27 SE and 28 SW 1/20,000

No.1 The Battalion will move to the Berthen Area tonight 19th September 1918.

No.2 (1) Starting Point (S.14.b.2.8) will be passed:

Battalion Headquarters 8pm

B Company 8.03pm

A Company 8.07pm

D Company 8.11pm

C Company 8.15pm

(2) Route. St Jans Capel.

(3) Advance Parties. The Quartermaster will arrange to take over billets this afternoon. NCOs at present with Echelon B will assist him if required. Billets to be taken over will be the same as those vacated on 16 September 1918.

(4) All blankets will be rolled in bundles of ten and stacked at Company Ration Dump at 5pm. Each bundle will be clearly marked with the Company and Platoon's number.

(5) All Officers Valises, Lewis Guns etc, will be stacked at Company Ration Dump 5.30pm. The Transport Officer will arrange for the necessary transport at that hour. He will also arrange to send on all Cookers immediately after tea. Officers Mess Boxes will be sent on in advance in Cookers.

(6) Lieutenant A.L Dobbyn MC will hand over present billets to the Area Commandant.

(7) Echelon B will rejoin their Companies tonight, but in the event of the Battalion moving into the line at any time, they will remain behind.

[Signed] A L Dobbyn, Lieutenant for
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
19 September 1918

Issued through Signals, at

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 to A Company
Copy No.3 to B Company
Copy No.4 to C Company
Copy No 5 to D Company
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Second in Command
Copy No.8 to Captain Kerr C.H.
Copy No.9 to Quartermaster
Copy No.10 to Transport Officer
Copy No.11 to Medical Officer
Copy No.12 to War Diary
Copy No.13 to War Diary

No.31 Operation Orders
by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F. 21 September 1918

Sheet 27 1/40,000

No.1 The Battalion will march to the Watou Area tonight 21st September 1918.

No.2 (a) Order of march:
Band
Battalion Headquarters
B Company
C Company
D Company
A Company
Guard
Transport

Twenty-five yards between every group of six vehicles. Intervals must be strictly kept.

(b) Route. Steenvoorde – Cross Roads J.34.b – Road junction P.5.a.90.60 – K.3.d.

(c) The Battalion will be formed up ready to pass Cross Roads P.4.b.50.30 in above order at 7.16pm. A and D Companies will march to starting point via Cassel – Steenvoorde Road.

(d) On arrival the Battalion will be billeted in Borden and Endersley Camps K.3.d.8.5. Transport Lines at K.10.b.4.9. Billeting parties have been sent forward.

(e) No halt will be made until the Battalion is clear of Steenvoorde.

(f) Dress. Full marching order, Steel Helmets will be worn by all ranks, Waterbottles filled.

(g) All Officers Mess kit will be placed in Company Cookers.

No.3 Every precaution is to be taken against observation from the air and the necessity for the utmost secrecy is to be impressed on all ranks to whom these orders have to be communicated. In case of Enemy Aircraft flying over the column, Companies will at once get into cover at the side of the road.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
21 September 1918

Issued through Signals at

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 to A Company
Copy No.3 to B Company
Copy No.4 to C Company
Copy No 5 to D Company
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Second in Command
Copy No.8 to Transport Officer
Copy No.9 to Quartermaster
Copy No.10 to Cook Sergeant
Copy No.11 to Medical Officer
Copy No.12 to War Diary
Copy No.13 to War Diary

No.31 Operation Orders
by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F. 26 September 1918

Reference Sheet 27

No.1 The Battalion will move to Road Camp today 26th September 1918.

No.2 (a) The Battalion will parade ready to move off at 8pm in the following order:
Battalion Headquarters
C Company
D Company
B Company
A Company
Transport

Intervals 50 yards between Companies.
 50 yards between read Company and Transport
 25 yards between every six vehicles.

(b) Route. Road Junction K.4.d.30.70 – Watou Square – road junction K.5.a.5.6.

(c) After passing road junction K.5.a.5.6 Companies will march in file.

(d) All Officers Valises will be sent to Quartermaster Stores by 2pm. Officers Mess Boxes will be carried on cookers.

(e) Echelon B personnel will parade at Battalion Headquarters at 2.30pm under Captain C.H Kerr and will move to Headquarters 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles E.25.c.0.9. Blankets, Officers Kits, dixies etc will be stacked at Orderly Room at 2pm. This party will carry rations for consumption on 27th inst. Transport Officer will arrange for necessary transport at 2pm.

(f) Lieutenant F.W Vint with a guard of six men will remain at Transport Lines in charge of surplus kits. Men will be selected from Echelon B and must not be due for leave or rest camp.

2 Other Ranks A Company
2 Other Ranks B Company
1 Other Rank C Company
1 Other Rank D Company.

(g) Dress. Full Marching order, waterbottles must be filled.

(h) 2nd Lieutenant Inglis J.M. will report at Brigade Headquarters at Houtkerque at 4pm today to synchronise watches. He will report to the Adjutant at 3pm.

(i) The Quartermaster will arrange for a hot tea to be served on arrival.

(j) The Quartermaster will hand over billets to incoming Unit.

Captain & Adjutant
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

26 September 1918

Acknowledge.

Issued through Signals at

Copy No.1 to 108th Infantry Brigade
Copy No.2 to A Company
Copy No.3 to B Company
Copy No.4 to C Company
Copy No 5 to D Company
Copy No.6 to Commanding Officer
Copy No.7 to Second in Command
Copy No.8 to Quartermaster
Copy No.9 to Transport Officer
Copy No.10 to Medical Officer
Copy No.11 to War Diary
Copy No.12 to War Diary

Operations, September 28th to October 2nd

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

September 28th. The Battalion moved from St Jean D'Bizen to rail to Flammertinge, thence by road to Salvation Corner, Ypres. Accommodation poor.

September 29th. Moved 4am to Rifle Farm on Menin Road.

7am to Glencorse Wood and later to Reutel. Battalion took up a position J.17.b & d with 12th Royal Irish Rifles on our left.

About 7pm the Battalion took up a position west of Becelaere in J.18.a & c.

At 7pm Commanding Officers were sent for to report at Brigade and had verbal order issued for an advance on Moorseele to begin at dawn 30th September. Very wet evening and night. Rations not received.

September 30th. Moved forward at 5.30am. Battalion covered by an advance guard through J.18.b, K.13 central to K.16.c.

Latest information from Brigade to the effect that the 109th Brigade held Terhand and Dadizeele. Battalion to pass through 1st Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers at 7am.

12th Royal Irish Rifles advancing on our left. Terhand – Vijfwegen Road the inter Battalion boundary.

1st Objective – A line roughly north and south through Vijfwegen.

2nd Objective – Railway running north and south J.20 central K.26 central.

3rd Objective – Moorseele. /29th Division on our right.

7am found 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on a line running south-west through K.21 a & c.

9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were facing south with posts along the Terhand – Vijfwegen Road.

1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers told me they were held up owing to machine gun fire and had lost all touch with the 29th Division. I sent an Officer's patrol to get touch with 29th Division. They found the 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers on a line running south from K.19.a.9.6 through K.19 central, i.e. 2000 yards in rear.

I sent B Company to move along line of enemy wire through K.21.b, K.22.c and K.29.c.0.0 to occupy high ground in K.30.a. C Company to move along (...?) to right rear of B Company to protect my flank and get and keep touch with 29th Division. A Company to move through K.22 central, K.23 central to K.24.c and to keep touch with 12th Royal Irish Rifles. D Company to move in support along Terhand – Vijfwegen Road (the only road really existing in the area).

I reported the situation at 7.10am and sent message to 12th Royal Irish Rifles that I could not keep up with their advance which was unopposed to Dadizeele. B and C Companies came under machine gun fire almost at once after moving through the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, but A Company on the left met with no opposition until they reached the east side of Methuen Wood, when they came under machine gun fire from houses in K.23.d about 9.30am.

Finding the 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers along the Terhand – Vijfwegen Road and being told by them that their line ran to two kilometres east of the latter village and that they had posts down the road running south-west from it, I decided to push forward my reserve Company to Vijfwegen so as to keep touch with the Royal Irish Rifles, who were now well in advance of my left and then by pushing south to K.24.c help the other Companies to advance.

At 9.30am on reaching K.23.b.5.6, D Company came under machine gun fire from Leadhall Copse to houses in K.23.d.

The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were standing about the road and were unaware of the proximity of the enemy. One of their Officers now told me that his Battalion had been in Vijfwegen but had withdrawn and so the enemy had apparently advanced again.

At about 10am I ordered A and D Companies to attack and clear the ground to the railway to the railway [sic] from Vijfwegen to K.23.d(?). This was done with slight casualties, the enemy retiring from house to house as we approached them.

By 10.30am B Company had cleared Walpole Copse, Turnbull Farm, Goldsmith Farm and Pawn Farm, but were held up by heavy fire from from [sic] the south-east and south. C Company were facing south along a line through K.28 central, K.28.a.3.4 from which they could see the 29th Division to the south-west and were in touch with them by patrols. The 29th Division were held up and so my right could not push on further.

At 11am I now found my left held up by a strong point and pill box at K.24.a.9.4 and by the enemy in Sandsfield Farm and another farm at K.24.c.4.2. I arranged a joint attack on these two so as to assist the 12th Royal Irish Rifles, who reported that they were attacking on my left.

By 12.30pm the strong point at K.24.a.9.4 was captured with twelve prisoners and two machine guns, an Officer and twenty Other Ranks being killed. The remainder of the garrison, which numbered nearly 100, were pursued up the hill for 300 or 400 yards, but our men had to return to the strong point owing to heavy machine gun fire from flanks. The strong point was held and Dimehouse occupied and touch established with the 12th Royal Irish Rifles. The attack on Sandsfield House failed owing to enemy counter-attack which was launched from Carton House. The enemy crept down hedges between Denbenham House and Sandfield Farm and took our attack in flank just as they reached the farms.

At 1.30pm a second attack was attempted but could not progress owing to heavy crossfire from the south and from Cheviot Corner.
 4.00pm. During the whole day the machine gun fire kept increasing and was by now very heavy and all movement was very difficult. The shellfire was becoming very heavy, especially about Leadhall Copse.
 The 29th Division were not coming up, and my front was already very extended, 2,500 yards. I had lost five Officers and about 100 Other Ranks so I decided not to attack further but reorganise the Companies until the right began to come up.
 At 4.30pm an attack by the 12th Royal Irish Rifles on my left failed and they retired to Dime House by 5.30pm.
 At 6.00pm the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles moved up and advanced through C and D Companies. they appear to have reached the farm immediately south-west of Sansfield Farm but I was never able to find where their front was. One Officer and part of a Company reached my extreme left at K.24.a.9.4.
 At about 10pm I received instructions to take my right Companies back into reserve. A patrol was sent forward at night to keep touch with 2nd Royal Irish Rifles but was cut off and did not get back until the following night.
October 1st. At 6.15am 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers were to attack on my left, capture Hill 41 and advance, my Battalion to follow in reserve. The attacking troops reached Cheviot Corner and Twig Farm.
 At 9.30am I was informed by Brigade that machine gun fire from Sandsfield Farm was bothering them. I organised an attack on this farm but could get no definite news as to where the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles were. An Officer's patrol sent out to Farm at K.24.c.4.3 was held up by machine gun fire.
 At 11am just as attack was about to start I received orders to stop attack as enemy were counter-attacking 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers and I must hold my men in reserve. The attack was stopped. I was told to preserve my men in case the enemy broke through to the left and therefore did not attack again. My line ran K.29.b.2.9 – K.2(3?).d.9.3 – House K.23.d.25.50 – House K.23.d.3.8 – Pill Box K.23.(?).3.1 – K.23.d.9.9 – along edge of wood to K.22.a.4.4 – Pill Box K.2(4?).a.9.4. This remained my front until the Battalion was relieved.
 At 5pm a patrol reported Stansfield House occupied by 2ns Royal Irish Rifles. It is possible they mistook house at K.24.c.4.2 as enemy still seemed to fire from Stansfield House.
 At 9.15pm 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles moved through my front and Companies were gradually withdrawn.
 At 5am Battalion moved back west of Terhand.

Our casualties

Officers

3 killed

1 died of wounds

4 wounded

Other Ranks

139 killed, wounded and missing

Nearly all by
 machine gun fire
 and sniping

Enemy casualties

Difficult to say. Not heavy.

Enemy fighting qualities

Good. Farms etc strongly held. No desire to surrender. Advanced whenever possible. Prisoners of a good type.

Artillery fire

Ours negligible.

Enemy's – slight at first, increasing constantly, heavy on the 1st. Enemy trench mortar fire also heavy. Enemy was very quick at picking out his front and kept his

shelling very close in front of his line.

Machine gun fire

Very heavy indeed throughout until (...?) of October 1st when it quietened on our front.

Communication

With Companies by Lucas Lamps.

With rear, through (?) (C.R.E.?) (line?) during advance, afternoon (ditto?) by telephone.

Smoke Grenades

Were used with success. Enemy sometimes ran from the smoke, presumably fearing Gas.

Medical arrangements

Wheeled stretchers would have been of great assistance.

Wire

Most of the wire marked on maps is very strong, but plenty of gaps.

Most of the roads have disappeared.

Condition of ground

Good, marshy in places.

Stokes Gun

Useless owing to cartridges getting wet and none were forthcoming until October 1st.

Machine Guns

Did not arrive until afternoon of the 30th September, suffered heavily from shell fire.

Weather

Rain on September 30th heavy and continuous, made all observation difficult and added greatly to the hardships of the men.

No rations received for the 30th September and Battalion had to attack without breakfast, after spending all night in heavy rain and muddy trenches without cover. In spite of this they fought with considerable (distinction?).

[Signed] P Kelly

Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

October 1918

1	Dadizeele. Ref Sheet 28. The 2 nd Royal Irish Rifles relieved the Battalion in the line south of Hill 41. On relief the Battalion moved into Divisional Reserve in K.14.a. One Officer and fifteen Other Ranks casualties were incurred during relief. Remainder of day spent in checking casualty lists, deficiencies, etc. ⁷⁹
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⁷⁹ Died of wounds this day – 2nd **Lieutenant Samuel Frederick Moran**, formerly a Corporal in the South Irish Horse (1177), aged 29, son of Robert and Maria Moran of Dublin, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave III.B.12; 2nd **Lieutenant John Kernaghan**, formerly a Sergeant in the Royal Irish

2	Battalion remained in K.14.a. ⁸⁰
3	Battalion remained in K.14.a. ⁸¹

Rifles (M/19583), buried at Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, grave II.E.15; **Lance Corporal William Gregg DCM** (11216), born Ballymacarrett, County Down, enlisted Belfast, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.D.21.

Killed in action this day – **Lieutenant William Rennie Graham**, formerly a Private in the RIF (24914), aged 26, son of John C and Elizabeth Graham of 43 Malone Avenue, Belfast, husband of Kathleen Graham of 123 Fitzroy Avenue, Belfast, buried in Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.C.10; **Private Andrew McAleer** (42433) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (9726), born Omagh, County Tyrone, enlisted Belfast, residence Dungloe, County Donegal, aged 24, son of Edward McAleer of Ballyhottie, Omagh, County Tyrone, husband of Annie McAleer (nee Brennan) of Arthur, Ontario, Canada, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141.

⁸⁰ Killed in action this day – **Private William Holland Kennedy Ellison** (49736) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (671), born Comber, County Down, enlisted Belfast, son of John and Agnes Ellison of Lisburn Street, Ballynahinch, County Down, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Patrick Kinsella** (42506) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (22581), born Ferns, County Wexford, enlisted Glasgow, residence Parkhead, Glasgow, aged 30, son of John and Mary Kinsella of Ballycooge, Woodenbridge, County Wicklow, husband of Mary Kinsella of 129 Brook Arklow, County Wicklow, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Michael O'Donnell** (29667), enlisted Newton, Glasgow, aged 29, son of Patrick O'Donnell of 73 Westburn Rows, Hallside, Glasgow, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141.

⁸¹ Died of wounds this day – **Private James [or Frank] Best** (41396) formerly North Irish Horse (1115), born Richhill, County Armagh, enlisted Portadown, County Armagh, residence Richhill, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.D.4.

Killed in action this day – **Private George Allen** (41982) formerly 22nd London Regiment (685514), born and enlisted Fulham, SW, Middlesex, aged 19, son of the late Harry Allen and of Helen Allen of 24 Lindrop Street, Fulham, London, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Joseph Brien** (42455) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (4451), born Bray, County Wicklow, enlisted Dublin, residence Bray, aged 20, son of Michael and Mary Brien of 11 Ravenswell Row, Bray, Wicklow, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.26; **Private Clarence Walter Edward Cooke** (45795) [shown as 2nd Battalion RIF on CWGC], formerly Royal West Surrey Regiment (66989), born Lambeth, SE, Surrey, enlisted Lambeth, residence Brixton, SW, Surrey, son of Mr H.W Cook of 26 Cloudesley Square, Islington, London, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.23; **Sergeant George Henry Hooker** (43390) D Company, formerly London Regiment (392580 [or 6199]), born Newington, SE, Surrey, enlisted St Paul's Churchyard, EC, Middlesex, residence Earlsfield, SW, Surrey, aged 31, Husband of Lily Hooker of 1 Kennington Park Gardens, London, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.22; **Private [or Driver] Percy Charles Poolman** (42263) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (T/27520), born Dorney, Berkshire, enlisted Aldershot, Hampshire, residence Dorney, aged 27, son of William and Mary Poolman of 67 Westboro Road., Maidenhead, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.F.23; **Sergeant Robert Slator** (18345) D Company, born Tynan, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Tynan, aged 23, son of Robert and Margaret Slator of Mullahard, Tynan, County Armagh, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Lance Sergeant Herbert George Williams MM** (42157) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (S4/041830), born and enlisted Shepton Mallet, Somerset, residence Reading, Berkshire, husband of Mrs A.L Williams of 20 Franklin Street, Reading, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Lance Corporal Marshall Wright** (22990), born and enlisted Portadown, County Armagh, aged 28, son of Marshall and Jane Wright of 29 Jervis Street, Portadown, County Armagh, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.26.

4	The Battalion relieved the 9 th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on Hill 41. Battalion Headquarters at K.18.c.10.60. Strength 13 Officers, 390 Other Ranks. The night passed quietly except for harassing fire on roads behind our lines. ⁸²
5	The enemy put down harassing fire for one hour before dawn and dusk, but barrage line was well behind our line and no casualties were incurred. Northern boundary of Battalion adjusted to L.13.c.25.00. ⁸³
6	The day passed quietly except for heavy enemy counter preparation in which only 4.2 and 77mm were used. During the night Mansard Farm and copse K.24.b.5.3 were occupied without opposition. Few casualties suffered during the night from machine-gun fire. 2 nd Lieutenant Bryson was killed on patrol whilst reconnoitering Goldflake Farm which was found to be occupied in force by the enemy. ⁸⁴
7-9	Nothing of interest to note. Battalion continued to hold the line. Hostile counter preparation was intense at periods, especially before dawn and at dusk. About twenty casualties suffered. Aerial activity greatly increased on the 9 th . Each night all wire behind our line was cut in order to facilitate the advance of attacking troops in the near future. ⁸⁵
10	Enemy counter preparation at dusk and dawn became very heavy. Our heavies commenced wire cutting in front of Martell Farm. Enemy E.A. very active during the day. Plans for the capture and consolidation of Goldflake Farm were made. Our post at Mansard Farm had been evacuated during the day owing to wire cutting operations and had been reoccupied by the enemy. At dusk a small party rushed the farm under cover of a smoke barrage, capturing one

Killed in action between 30 September and 3 October 1918 – **Private Francis William Berry** (42491) formerly Rifle Brigade (S/35926) [or Royal Irish Rifles 54224], born and enlisted Gloucester, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.21; **Private Michael Bloomfield** (42451) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (20241), born and enlisted Dublin, son of Mrs K Bloomfield of 3 Henrietta Lane, Dublin, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.14.

⁸² Died of wounds this day – **Private Charles Greer** (49744) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (527), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, aged 19, son of Charles Greer of 4 Wallace Row, Ravinhill Road, Belfast, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave III.A.2.

⁸³ Died of wounds this day – **Private William McMullan** (42464) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (20553), born Ballycastle, County Antrim, enlisted Ballymoney, County Antrim, residence Ballycastle, aged 20, son of John and Nancy McMullan of Ballycastle, County Antrim, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.D.29.

⁸⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private Samuel Meeke** (42492) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (9949 [or 9049]), born Ahoghill, County Antrim, enlisted Ballymena, County Antrim, aged 19, son of John and Margaret Meeke of Slatt, Ballymena, County Antrim, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave III.A.27.

Killed in action this day – **2nd Lieutenant Joseph Bryson MC, Croix de Guerre (Belgium)**, 1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers, attached 9th Battalion, aged 27, son of Francis W and Fanny Bryson of Newtowngore, County Leitrim, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141, possibly the Joseph Bryson listed as Sergeant in the 8th Hussars and 2nd British Columbian Regiment (820) prior to joining the RIF.

⁸⁵ Died of wounds on 7 October 1918 – **Private [Lance Corporal] Richard Hathaway** (43436) formerly London Regiment (721822 [or 4565]), born Lambeth, SE, Surrey, enlisted Kennington, SE, Surrey, residence Borough, SE, Surrey, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave III.A.34.

Killed in action between 1 and 7 October 1918 – **Private Joseph Coulter MM** (41530) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ 6th Inniskilling Dragoons (150), born Fivemiletown, County Tyrone, enlisted Fivemiletown, aged 24, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Coulter of Mullaghfad, Cooneen, Fivemiletown, County Tyrone, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.12.

Died of wounds on 8 October 1918 – **Private David Currie** (42513) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (22571), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, aged 19, son of Richard and Agnes Currie of 6 Dickson Street, Belfast, buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, grave XXX.C.1.

	machine-gun. The garrison ran back to their own lines, leaving identifications. A patrol during the night heard enemy digging in the vicinity of Martell Farm. ⁸⁶
11	Hill 41. At dawn a party of thirty Other Ranks under 2 nd Lieutenant Darling MC formed up in Twig Farm. (See Appendix No.1.) At 10.00 under cover of a barrage and smoke screen, they rushed Goldflake Farm, capturing fourteen prisoners, three machine-guns, and killing about ten of the enemy. A position about 100 yards south-west of the farm was consolidated. The hostile barrage was extremely heavy and (?) were (retired?) for the first time. Our casualties were one killed and two wounded. At about 17.50 the enemy counter-attacked heavily on Goldflake, Mansard and Twig Farms. The garrison in Goldflake Farm withdrew after inflicting very heavy casualties on the enemy, who were caught in (f...?) on the road. The garrison of Mansard Farm was surrounded and fought their way back. The enemy succeeded in reaching Twig Farm but was held up by a small party which still held out in front of the farm. The enemy was finally cleared from Twig Farm by a counter attack. Mansard and Goldflake Farms remained in his hands. Lieutenant-Colonel P.E Kelly was killed during the day by a shell. Our casualties during the day were two Officers and 25 Other Ranks. The Battalion was relieved by the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles and on relief moved into Brigade reserve in vicinity of Pease Corner. (See Appendix No.2.) ⁸⁷
12	Dadizeele. Day spent in reserve reorganizing and checking, making up deficiencies. Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO took over command of the Battalion.
13	Dadizeele. Remained in reserve. At 17pm [sic] 12 th Royal Irish Rifles recaptured Goldflake Farm. ⁸⁸

⁸⁶ Died (at home) this day – **Private Samuel Shiels** (41622) formerly North Irish Horse (1459), born Crosskeys, County Cavan, enlisted Cavan, residence Bally Bay, County Monaghan, aged 26, son of Andrew Shiels of 10 Glenfield Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow, buried at Ballybay First Presbyterian Churchyard. Died of wounds this day – **Lance Corporal Alexander Erskine** (41235) formerly Private in the North Irish Horse (1284), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast on 5 October 1914, aged 22, son of E.J Erskine of 111 Cavehill Road, Belfast, and the late Alec Erskine, buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, grave XXX.B.10.

⁸⁷ Killed in action this day – **Private Leopold Ernest William Blake** (42500) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (45573), born Fulham, SW, Middlesex, enlisted Battersea, SW, Surrey, aged 19, son of William and Amelia Carrie Blake of 29 Surrey Lane, Battersea London, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.D.25; **Lance Corporal Joseph Deery** (41244) formerly North Irish Horse (2013), born Castlederg, County Tyrone, enlisted Dublin, residence Castlederg, aged 24, son of Andrew and Catherine Deery of Goland, Castlederg, County Tyrone, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave IV.B.16; **Private Robert John Hull** (41576), D Company RIF, formerly North Irish Horse (1519), born Lambeg, County Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Lisburn, County Antrim, aged 21, son of George and Harriet Hull of 7 Eagle Terrace, Lisburn, County Antrim, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave I.D.10; **Private William Alfred Mattock** (42194) formerly Wiltshire Regiment (4227), born Seend, Wiltshire, enlisted Melksham, Wiltshire, residence Seend, aged 34, son of Alfred Mattock of 6 Innox Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, husband of Nellie Mattock of Seend View, Seend, Melksham, Wiltshire, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private Ernest Mellor** (43278) formerly Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment (19906) [or Leinster Regiment (12891)], born Nottingham, enlisted Chesterfield, Derbyshire, husband of Mrs H.M Mellor of 33 St Thomas Street, Brampton, Chesterfield, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.C.6; **Private Frederick Streather** (43501) formerly Royal Warwickshire Regiment (41272) [or Royal Irish Rifles (52632)], born Northampton, enlisted Warwick, residence Four Oaks, Birmingham, aged 19, son of Charles Herbert and Elizabeth Streather of Heathfield Cottage, Walsall Road, Four Oaks Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave II.C.18.

⁸⁸ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private George Johnston** (41169) formerly Dragoons of the Line (UD/39), born and enlisted Enniskillen, aged 27, son of Mrs Martha Johnston of Drumgarrow, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried at Perreuse Chateau Franco British National Cemetery, grave I.C.9; **Private John Stevenson** (31417) formerly Royal Army Service Corps (TRS/53899) [or Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (41537)], born and enlisted Glasgow, aged 25, son of William Stevenson of Salmond Cottage, Cross Lee, Johnstone, Renfrewshire, buried at Etaples Military Cemetery, grave XVIII.J.25.

14	Terhand. At 2am Battalion moved to area K.15.a, our position in the line being taken over by the 9 th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. At 05.35 under a very heavy artillery barrage the whole Army attacked, the 107 th and 109 th Brigades being in the front line, the 108 th in support. At 09.00 we followed up the advance and took up position in L.20.c. (See Appendix No.3.) ⁸⁹
15	Moorseele. 09.00. The advance was resumed and we moved to Copper Corner (L.23.a).
16	Heule. Courtrai. 02.00. Moved to Heule via Moorseele and Gullegghem. Battalion formed up between G.23.d.6.5 and G.24.a.30.00. A and B Companies in front line, A on right, C in support, and D in reserve in readiness for attack. Enemy artillery was very quiet. Patrols of the 9 th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers informed us that country was clear of enemy up to River Lys but under artillery barrage we attacked at 05.35. (See Appendix No.4.) The Barrage was poor and short, causing three casualties. No opposition was met with except one machine-gun on railway at H.25.d, which was dealt with. Battalion reached the river, taking up positions commanding the opposite bank. The bridge at H.25.d.3.6 was destroyed and the railway bridge at H.25.a partially so at the opposite bank. C Company formed a defensive flank along railway in G.30.b, and D stayed at G.24.d. The houses contained numbers of civilians. Touch was kept with 12 th Royal Irish Rifles on our left. At 14.00 under cover of smoke screen from rifle smoke bombs and artillery supported by trench mortars a section of Royal Engineers bridged the river and 2 nd Lieutenants Steele and Logan with party thirty Other Ranks (D Company) crossed and took up positions at H.25.d.30.50 and on the main street and near the bank to cover the bridge. The smoke screen did not last long enough, however, and the bridge being detected, came under machine-gun fire from railway about H.31.a.80.60 and was partly destroyed. The Royal Engineers section had three Officers and about a dozen casualties and were unable to complete the bridge, leaving our men cut off on the opposite side. This party knocked out two machine-guns and captured six prisoners. At 6pm under cover of night it withdrew, coming across by one of the boats. C Company was moved up and relieved B Company. At 7pm Battalion was relieved by the 23 rd Middlesex and on relief moved to area Drie-Masten (L.12.c.05.55). Total casualties for the day were 2 nd Lieutenant Inglis wounded, one Other Ranks killed and 24 Other Ranks wounded. Strength of Battalion on relief: Officers, Other Ranks. (See Appendix No.5.) ⁹⁰
17	Drie Masten. Morning was spent in cleaning, reorganization and inspections. ⁹¹
18	Battalion paraded at 10am for presentation of medal ribbons by the Divisional Commander at which he gave a short address. ⁹²

⁸⁹ Died of wounds this day – **Lance Corporal Albert Robert Jennings** (43435) formerly Private in London Regiment (720646 [or 2507]), enlisted Kennington, SE, Surrey, residence Walworth, SE, Surrey, aged 21, son of John Henry and Elizabeth Emily Jennings of 43 Elsted Street, Walworth, London, buried at Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, grave III.A.50.

Killed in action this day – **Private Edward Ferguson** (27534), born Manghan, County Londonderry, enlisted Greenock, Renfrewshire, residence Cookstown, County Tyrone, aged 20, son of Michael and Elizabeth Ferguson of New Cottages, Coolanfranky, Cookstown, County Tyrone, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, III.D.5.

⁹⁰ Killed in action this day – **Lance Corporal Charles Edward Ditton** (43387) formerly County of London Rifles (5711), born Truro, Cornwall, enlisted Oxford Street, W, Middlesex, residence Penzance, Cornwall, aged 32, husband of Nora L.P Ditton of 9 Dartmouth Park Avenue, Kentish Town, London, buried at Dadizeele New British Cemetery, grave III.A.8.

⁹¹ Died this day (as a prisoner of war) – **Private William Morton** (22619), born and enlisted Armagh, buried at Dietkirchen Prisoner of War Cemetery, gravesite not found when graves of Commonwealth servicemen were moved to Niederzwheren Cemetery after the War, commemorated at Niederzwheren Cemetery on Dietkirchen POW Cemetery Memorial 1.

19	Ordinary inspections and Church Parades in morning.
20	Battalion moved at 08.00 via Drie Masten, Winkle St Eloi, Lendeledede to area B.19.c.25.20. In the afternoon Battalion bathes at Lendeledede in German baths. Moved at 22.30 via Hulste to area B.24.a. (See Appendix No.6.)
21	At 7.30am the 108 th Infantry Brigade (1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers in front line) attacked in conjunction with 107 th Infantry Brigade on right flank and French on left without artillery preparation. 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers advanced to railway line in C.28 and later got to Spitaal due south through C.29.d – I.5.c and d to road at I.6.c.00.70 getting into (trench?) with 107 th Infantry Brigade on right. French were held up on left by machine-gun fire from area C.23.a. At 09.00 Battalion moved to C.19.d.92.94 via Step Bridge at C.9.a.20.00. During day pontoon bridge at C.14.c.70.60 was shelled at intervals.
22	Enemy bombardment on French at 08.45 seemed to be counter-preparation. Attack by 107 th Infantry Brigade and 9 th Division at 09.20. Enemy shelled Desselghem fairly heavily.
23	1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers reached Heinweg [Heirweg?] but French were held up on railway. At 13.30 Battalion moved to Leemput (I.4.b). Strength of Battalion: 15 Officers, 350 Other Ranks. (See Appendix No.7.) ⁹³
24	At 18.00 Battalion relieved 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in support and moved to area I.4.b. (See Appendix No.8.)
25	Weather fine but dull towards midday. Battalion in support to 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in attack on line J.36.c.0.4 – J.36.a.3.2 through G in Bergstraat through N in Ansegham to northern boundary at J.24.c.0.0. Heavy machine-gun opposition was encountered and an advance of about 1,000 yards was made. Strength of Battalion going into action: 12 Officers and 276 Other Ranks. Casualties: Lieutenant F.W Vint and 2 nd Lieutenant J Darling MC

⁹² Died this day (while a prisoner of war) – **Private Joseph Gilmore** (3017), born Enniskillen, enlisted Clones, County Monaghan, residence Enniskillen, aged 26, son of John and Susan Gilmore of Dame Street, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried at Berlin South-Western Cemetery, grave XVI.D.6.

⁹³ Killed in action this day – **Private William John Wallace** (41096) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ Inniskilling Dragoon Guards (UD/53), born Boho, County Fermanagh, enlisted Enniskillen, aged 26, husband of Mary Wallace of Queen Street, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.18.

⁹⁴ Died of wounds this day – **Private Thomas William Hogg Halligan** (14335), B Company, born Loughgall, County Armagh, enlisted Armagh, residence Loughgall, aged 28, son of Robert and Jane Halligan of Loughgall, County Armagh, buried at Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, grave IV.I.27; **Private Robert Templeton** (16138), attached 108th Trench Mortar Battery, born Cornasoo, County Monaghan, enlisted Monaghan, residence Ballybay, County Monaghan, aged 26, son of James and Maggie Templeton of Ednaferkin, Ballybay, County Monaghan, buried at Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, grave IV.I.31.

Killed in action this day – **Private James Thomas Arnell** (45797) formerly Royal West Surrey Regiment (67146), born Canning Town, enlisted Essex, E, Stratford, aged 19, son of George and Amelia Arnell of 44 Agate Street, Tidal Basin, London, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.14; **Private Thomas Harrison Briggs** (42092), A Company RIF, formerly Lance Corporal in Royal Army Veterinary Corps (9676), born Stanwix, Cumberland, enlisted Carlisle, residence Stanwix, aged 31, son of Catherine Briggs of 10 Cheviot Road, Stanwix, Carlisle, and the late William Briggs, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.A.9; **Private William John Fitzsimmons** (42551) formerly Royal Irish Rifles (22093), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.10; **Company Sergeant Major [Warrant Officer Class 2] Joseph Hamilton** (14271), C Company, born Shankill, County Armagh, enlisted Lurgan, aged 26, husband of the late S Hamilton of 50 Victoria Street, Lurgan, County Armagh, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.3; **Private Robert James Mack** (42493) formerly King's Royal Rifle Corps (26043) [or Royal Irish Rifles (54194)], born and

	wounded, 7 Other Ranks killed and 37 Other Ranks wounded. ⁹⁴
26	Weather very fine. Positions captured during 25 th consolidated. German observation balloon brought down by our aeroplanes near Worteghem. (See Appendix No.9.) ⁹⁵
27	Weather fine in morning but dull towards evening. Battalion was relieved in the line by 4 th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, 34 th Division, and proceeded to billets in Hulste. (See Appendix No.10.) ⁹⁶
28	Hulste. Weather fine. Men in good spirits after night's rest, received kindly attention from civil population who cooked the men's food etc.
29	Weather fine. Battalion moved at 08.30 via Bisseghem to Lawe where they were billeted for the night. (See Appendix No.11.)
30	Lawe. Weather continues fine. Service for Roman Catholics held in Lawe church at 08.00. Usual inspections and reorganisation carried out during morning. Company Commanders lectured their Companies on 'The Course of the War'.
31	Lawe. Weather fine. Usual parades and inspections carried out in morning. In the evening the civil population were invited to a dance held in the School Room Lawe and a pleasant evening was spent.
During the month the Battalion was engaged in almost continuous fighting. Congratulatory messages etc attached. (see Appendix No.12.) Roll of Officers present with Battalion on 31.10.18. (See Appendix No.13.)	

enlisted Bethnal Green, buried at Ingoyghem Military Cemetery, grave B.6; **Private Joseph McAllister** (27558), born Shankill, Belfast, enlisted Belfast, aged 21, son of William and Matilda McAllister of 92 Argyle Street, Shankill Road, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private John McAuley [or McCauley]** (42466) formerly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (31032) [or Royal Irish Rifles (381)], born Londonderry, enlisted Coleraine, County Londonderry, residence, County Londonderry, aged 20, son of James and Elizabeth McAuley of Daisy Hill, Upper Articlave, Castlerock, County Derry, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave IV.C.4; **Private James McGaughey** (24606) formerly Suffolk Regiment (34436), born Lurgan, County Armagh, enlisted Belfast, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.7; **Private Michael McVeigh** (41456) formerly North Irish Horse (1013), born and enlisted Londonderry, aged 28, son of Annie McVeigh of 51 Great James Street, Londonderry and the late Thomas McVeigh, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.12; **Private George Pennell** (42531), C Company RIF, formerly Royal Irish Rifles (22669), born Crewe, Cheshire, enlisted Belfast, aged 19, son of Thomas and Mary Pennell of Pernau Street, Belfast, no known grave, commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 140 to 141; **Private George Moorhead Shannon** (41428), C Company RIF, formerly North Irish Horse (1734), born Belfast, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, aged 25, son of Francis and Rebecca Shannon of Belfast, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.13.

⁹⁵ Died of wounds this day – **2nd Lieutenant Jack [or John] Darling MC**, listed in *Soldiers Died* and the CWGC database as belonging to the 4th Battalion RIF, aged 20, son of James and Mary E Darling, of Erne View, Enniskillen, buried at Kezelberg Military Cemetery, grave I.A.13; **2nd Lieutenant James Malcolm Inglis**, aged 19, son of Clara M and the late Mr W.M Inglis of Cultra, County Down, buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, grave VI.D.2.

Killed in action this day – **Private Horace Baden Worth** (45800) formerly Royal West Surrey Regiment (66952), born Brixton, SW, Surrey, enlisted Camberwell, SE, Surrey, residence Brixton, aged 19, son of Mr O.J and Minnie Worth of 37 Portland Road, Hove, Brighton, buried at Harlebeke New British Cemetery, grave VI.B.6.

⁹⁶ Died this day (while a prisoner of war) – **Private John Ernest Partridge** (45788) formerly West Surrey Regiment (67088), born and enlisted Wandsworth, SW, Surrey, residence Streatham, SW, Surrey, aged 19, son of Henry Starr Partridge and Alice Charlotte Partridge of 83 Pendle Road, Streatham, London, buried at Heilsberg Prisoner of War Cemetery and commemorated at Malbork Memorial, Poland.

During the month the Battalion received five Military Crosses, three Distinguished Conduct Medals, ten Military Medals, two Bars to Military Medals. The Commanding Officer heartily congratulates, roll of which is given in Appendix 14.

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
List of Appendices to War Diary, 1 – 31 October 1918

<u>No of Appendix</u>	<u>Purport</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
No.1	Operation order for attack on Goldflake Farm [10 October 1918]	
No.2	Operation order – 12 th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles relieve Battalion in line [11 October 1918]	
No.3	Operation order for continuation of advance [13 October 1918]	Barrage table attached
No.4	Operation order for attack and capture of crossings of Lys Canal [16 October 1918]	
No.5	Operation order – 22 nd Middlesex Regiment relieve Battalion at Courtrai [16 October 1918]	
No.6	Operation order – Battalion move from Drie Masten to Lendeledede [19 October 1918 – <i>not transcribed</i>]	
No.7	Operation order – Battalion move to Leemput [23 October 1918 – <i>not transcribed</i>]	
No.8	Operation order – Battalion relieve 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in support [24 October 1918]	
No.9	Operation order – Readjustment of line after the attack [26 October 1918]	
No.10	Operation order – Battalion relieved in line by 4 th Royal Sussex Regiment [27 October 1918]	
No.11	Operation order – Battalion move from Hulste to Lawe [29 October 1918 – <i>not transcribed</i>]	
No.12	Congratulatory messages etc [6 & 26 October 1918]	
No.13	Nominal Roll of Officers present with Battalion, on 31.10.18	
[No.14]	[Decorations awarded during the month of October 1918]	

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding 9th Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

[Appendix] No.1 Copy No.6
Operation Order No.1
by Lieutenant Colonel P.E Kelly
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Ref. Dadizeele 1/10000
10 October 1918

1. On 11th October 1918 the Battalion will capture and hold Goldflake Farm (L.19.d.0.9) and structures in vicinity.
2. Officer Commanding C Company will detail two Platoons for this operation. Officer Commanding B Company will have one Platoon in readiness in copse K.24.b.50.35 to assist if necessary (in addition to assembly normal garrison).
3. At 10.00 two Platoons of C Company will be formed up in trench at south-east corner of Twig Farm. They will move to position before dawn. Officer Commanding C and B Companies will report when their parties are in position and ready.
4. At 10.00 when barrage the attacking Platoons will move forward in line E. Cheviot Corner – Twig Farm Road to as [close to?] Goldflake Farm as possible. At 10.05 when bombardment of Goldflake Farm will cease party will rush the Farm. One Section will be detailed to deal with pill-box at K.24.d.90.85. At 10.05 Officer Commanding B Company will send forward one Section from copse K.24.d.5.3 and occupy houses K.24.b.7.2.
5. Consolidation. Position when occupied will be immediately consolidated. Care will be taken that cellars etc are checked by (..?..) while remainder consolidate. In the event of attack failing the Platoon of B Company detailed in para 2 will at once rush Farm from west.
6. Equipment. Battle order:
 - One shovel to every two men to be carried on pack.
 - Two R.7 discharges per Platoon.
 - One No.36 per man.
 - Ten No.37s per man.
 - Wirecutters
 - One Very pistol and cartridge to be carried per Platoon Commander.
7. Signals. A Very light will be sent up when farm is captured. Two SOS rifle grenade must be carried.
8. Officer Commanding C Company will send (..?..) Lucas Lamp when objective has been taken.
9. Prisoners will be sent back immediately to copse K.24.b.5.3 and passed by B Company to Battalion Headquarters.
10. Officer Commanding A and D Companies will evacuate posts east of line L.18.c.5.0 – L.19.a.15.85 by 05.00 (dawn). Posts will be reoccupied at dusk.
11. Officer Commanding attacking party will send sketch of dispositions to Battalion Headquarters after consolidation if possible.
12. Artillery.

Night 10th/11th October till 5.00, salvos high explosives by 4.5 howitzers on Goldflake Farm every half hour.
05.15 to 05.30, heavy bombardment Goldflake and Martell Farms.
05.30 to 10.00, no firing.
10.00 to 10.10, 6" trench mortar and howitzers on objectives including smoke.
10.10 to 10.40, guns will fire on Martell Farm. L.T.M. [large trench mortar?] fires on houses K.24.b.70.15.
10.00 to 10.40, smoke barrage west Martell Farm, east and south of Goldflake Farm.
Artillery Forward Observation Officer will be at Twig Farm, to whom any message re artillery are to be sent.

15.[sic] Medical arrangements. C Company's stretcher bearers to accompany raiding party. A and D Company's will evacuate from Twig Farm to aid post. B Company will evacuate from their area to (..?) post. One wheeled stretcher and two Ret(?) available at rear Battalion Headquarters Bass Farm.

Synchronisation. Watch will be (..?) from Battalion Headquarters.

Advanced Battalion Headquarters at A Company's Headquarters from 10.00.

Acknowledge.

(..?) Captain and Adjutant
(i) 20.20 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

Copies: 1. 108th Infantry Brigade
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. D
6. 108th Trench Mortar Battery
7. Officer Commanding 18th Highland Light Infantry
8. War Diaries
9. War Diaries

[Appendix] No.2
Operation Order No.2
9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.
11 October 1918

1. The 12th Royal Irish Rifles will relieve the Battalion tonight 11/12th October 1918.
2. (...?) Companies relieve:
 - C Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles relieve B Company Royal Irish Fusiliers
 - D Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles relieve D Company Royal Irish Fusiliers
 - A Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles relieve A Company Royal Irish Fusiliers in reserve position.
 - B Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles relieve C Company Royal Irish Fusiliers, taking up position occupied by B Company night 10/11th October.
3. One guide per Platoon (...?) from Company Headquarters will report (...?) Headquarters at 5.30pm and will meet incoming Companies at Gilbey Farm.
4. Liaison posts. A Company will hand over liaison post with (1st?) Royal Irish Fusiliers on our (left?) (...?) B Company liaison post at K.24.d.50.70 with 18th Highland Light Infantry.
5. Particular care is to be taken on handing over to explain method of defence.
6. On relief the Battalion will be disposed:
 - Battalion Headquarters – K.17.b.5.7
 - A Company – Gilbey Farm
 - B Company – Palmer Farm, Blinkel Farm
 - C Company – K.17.c.9.9
 - D Company – Lanka Farm (K.17.b.5.9)

Guides will be picked up at Gilbey Farm as Companies move out.

7. Completion of relief will be reported by code word "Finish". Arrival in new billets will be reported to Headquarters.
8. All petrol tins, dixies etc must be brought out.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain and Adjutant
HODO
11.10.18

Copy No 1: to 108th Infantry Brigade
2: to A
3: to B
4: to C

5: to D
6: to 12th Royal Irish Rifles
7: to War Diary

[Appendix] No.3
Operation Order No.3
by Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
B.E.F.
13 October 1918
Reference Sheets 28 and 29

1. On J day at 11 hour the 36th Division will resume the advance in conjunction with troops on either flank and will attack with 107th Infantry Brigade on the right, 109th Infantry Brigade on the left and 108th Infantry Brigade in reserve. (..?.) are as marked on map issued. Barrage map enclosed.
2. On the morning of J day the Battalion will move to assembly position in K.15.a.8.0 and will pass starting point K.16.b.5.5 at following times:
 - B Company 02.00
 - D Company 02.05
 - C Company 02.10
 - A Company 02.15
 - Battalion Headquarters 02.20Battalion Headquarters will be situated in Pill Box K.15.d.4.4.
3. After H hour on J day the Battalion will be prepared to move at 15 minutes notice. Men must not leave their Platoons. Emergency and position will be road running through K.14.c and K.15.c. Head of column at K.14.d.9.7 in following order – Battalion Headquarters, B, A, C, D.
4. Lewis Gun limbers and ammunition pack animals will accompany the Battalion after moving from K.15.d.4.4. Special orders have been issued to Transport Officer.
5. The Transport Officer will arrange to have eight shovels and four picks per Company dumped at assembly positions. Each Platoon will carry two shovels and one pick. Water bottles must be filled. Full equipment as issued will be carried.
6. Rations. A hot meal will be served on arrival in assembly positions. Rations for J day will be issued at assembly positions.

7. Machine Gun Companies will report arrival in assembly positions.

8. Divisional Bomb Stores is situated at K.14.b.5.1.

9. Advanced Dressing Station will be at J.12.d.7.8.

10. J day and H hour will be notified later.

Acknowledge.

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain and Adjutant
HODO

Copy No 1: to A Company
2: to B Company
3: to C Company
4: to D Company
5: to 108th Infantry Brigade
6: to Transport Officer
7: to Quartermaster
8: to War Diary
9: to War Diary
10: to Medical Officer

[Barrage map attached]

[Appendix] No.4
Order No.5 by
Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
Commanding 9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Reference Sheet 29 NW 1/20,000
16 October 1918

1. The Battalion will attack, capture and hold the crossing over the River Lys from railway bridge from H.25.c.40.15 (inclusive) to bridge H.26.c.50.60 (exclusive). The 12th Royal Irish Rifles are cooperating on our left.

2. The Battalion will attack with two Companies in the firing line, one Company in support, one Company in reserve. A Company will attack on right along railway running through G.30.b – H.25.c. B Company will attack on left astride road running through G.24.d – H.25.a. After passing road at G.30.b.5.2 A Company will (adjust?) with their right on the (...). Touch will be maintained as far as possible between attacking Companies.

3. Boundary. Inter Company boundary G.24.c.2.6 – H.25.c.7.5. C Company will follow A Company at 50 yard interval and form defensive flank on right along railway through G.30.b.20.70 to G.30.(‘d’ or ‘a’).95.56. D Company will remain in reserve in G.24.c.

4. Assembly. Forming up line G.24.c.0.2 G.24.a.4.0.

5. One Sub-section Machine Gun, one Sub-section Royal Engineers will be attached to A Company and one Sub-section (sister?) Company Royal Engineers to B [Company]. One Sub-section (R.E.?) (...?) and one Trench Mortar team will operate along road running G.24.d – H.25.a under orders of Commanding Officer.

6. On reaching River Lys, A Company will direct a Platoon to cross and hold post on southern side of bridge, B Company will similarly hold bridge at H.25.d.

Barrage. Artillery arrangements as (...?) 0530 (...?) on the right (...?) on left (...?) 15 minutes. Barrage will then move forward at rate of 300 yards in 3 minutes and will halt 200 yards south of River Lys.

Guides will meet (Battalion?) G.27.d.6.2 to guide them to nearest point to (moving?) up line. Guides will not (...?) relied on.

Battalion Headquarters will be established at G.24.c.0.3.

(RHQ?) (?) G.24.c.6.6.

(...?) 01.50.

Copies	1	1 st Battalion
	2	A
	3	B
	4	C
	5	D
	6	T.M.P.
	7	M.G.
	8	12 th R.I.R
	9	(...?)
	10,11	War Diary.

[Appendix] No.5
Operation Order No.6
by Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
Commanding 9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Reference Sheet 28 & 29
16 October 1918

1. The 23rd Middlesex Regiment will relieve the Battalion tonight. (..?) relief (..?) will move to place to be notified later.
2. Like Companies to relieve each other.
3. Guides. 3 guides per Company and one for (Company?) Headquarters will rendezvous at (..?) Headquarters at 5.30pm.
4. Completion of relief is to be reported by messenger. Arrival at billets will be notified to Battalion Headquarters.
5. Lewis Gun limbers will meet the Battalion at G.24.c.5.6.
6. Advance parties of 2 NCOs per Company will report at once to Battalion Headquarters.
7. Companies will move out with interval 100 yards between Platoons.

Acknowledge

16 October 1918

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain
HODO

[Appendix]No.8
Operation Order No.9
9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Reference Sheet 29
24 October 1918

1. The Battalion will relieve the 12th Royal Irish Rifles tonight 24th October.

2. Battalion will pass starting point I.4.b.6.2 as under:

- A 1800) 200 yards
- B 1806) between Companies,
- C 1812) 100 yards
- D 1818) between
- Bn HQ 1824) Platoons

Route. Cross roads I.4.b.6.2 – road junction I.11.a.1.7 – I.5.c.9.2 – I.5.c.2.7 – I.12.central – J.7.c.5.6, where guides will meet Battalion.

3. Battalion Headquarters will be at J.7.d.0.4.

4. Arrival in new position will be reported to Brigade Headquarters immediately.

5. Rations will be sent up on arrival in new position. Ration parties will be sent to Battalion Headquarters immediately on arrival.

Acknowledge.

24 October 1918

[Signed] W Sparks
Captain
9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers

[Appendix] No.9
Operation Order No.9A
by Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
Commanding 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

1. The line now held by the 108th Infantry Brigade will be held tonight by two Battalions, the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers on right from railway at J.27.b.6.0 to railway at J.22.c.9.9, 12th Royal Irish Rifles on left from that point to road in J.22.D J.22.D [sic] hence back on railway to Halt at Heirweg.

2. A and B Companies will hold front line B on right from railway at J.27.b.6.0 to hedge at J.22.c.1.1, A Company on left from that point to railway at J.22.c.9.9.

3. Guides from D Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will put B Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in position. Guides from B Company 12th Royal Irish Rifles will put A Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers in positions. These Companies are now in liaison and will make arrangements for move at dusk.

4. C Company will be withdrawn from their present position when relieved by 12th Royal Irish Rifles to farm at J.21.d.9.9. D Company will withdraw to farm at J.21.d.3.4 at dusk.
5. Battalion Headquarters will remain at J.21.a.2.7.
6. A Company will send ration parties to C Company Headquarters at J.21.d.9.9. B Company rations will be sent to D Company Headquarters at J.21.d.3.(4?).
7. Movements to be reported when complete.

Acknowledge.

Signed W Sparks
Captain and Adjutant
9th Royal Irish Fusiliers.

[Appendix] No.10
Operation Order No.10
By Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers
Ref Sheet 29
27 October 1918

1. The 4th Royal Sussex Regiment 101 Infantry Brigade will relieve the Battalion in the right sector tonight 27/28 October 1918.
2. On relief the Battalion will move to Hulste (Squares 21 & 22).
3.
 - (a) Guides: Arrangements have already been made to (...?) Battalion at 17.00.
 - (b) (Lewis Gun?) limbers: One limber for B and D Companies will be at rations dump and one limber for A and C Companies at C Company's Headquarters at 19.00. Officers' chargers will also be sent up to above places.
 - (c) All dixies etc must be sent back in limbers.
 - (d) A Company 4th Royal Sussex relieves A 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers
B Company 4th Royal Sussex relieves B 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers
C Company 4th Royal Sussex relieves C 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers
D Company 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers will not be relieved but will start moving (...?) on arrival of B Company 4th Royal Sussex Regiment.

4. Route: (?) 7.c by trench to (...?) (...?) 0.0 – (?) (16?) a.2.7 Driesch – bridge (?) 19.b.9.1 Hulste. 100 yards between Platoons. Arrival in billets will be (?) to Battalion Headquarters

5. All S(?) (rockets?) will be (handed in?) and receipts obtained.

Issued at 10.00
(Major Tamplin Commanding?)
9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

[Appendix] No.12

Circular Memorandum No. A.4.

36th (Ulster) Division Circular

To be read out by Platoon Commanders to their Platoons

The whole British Army throughout the world is now attacking the enemy, in conjunction with our Allies.

The enemy is tottering on the edge of the precipice, and by determination we may push him over before the winter sets in and stops operations.

In war it is the side which shows the greatest determination and sticking power which wins. This we have already learnt in boxing, football and other sports.

I feel confident that all ranks of the 36th (Ulster) Division will show by their bearing and fortitude that they are in every way superior to the enemy and that they will hold on to our present positions though our numbers are depleted; and that when the time comes for a fresh attack on the enemy the Division will overcome all opposition, remembering the crimes committed by our enemies, and that our comrades throughout the world are also pushing on with dauntless courage.

6/10/1918.

[Signed] Clifford Coffin

Major-General

Commanding 36th (Ulster) Division

36th Division G.T. 382

All Divisional Units

The Army Commander has sent a message through the Corps Commander to all ranks of the 36th Division expressing his satisfaction with the way the Division fought on 25/10/18.

In transmitting this message I congratulate the Division on the way they fought yesterday, attacking a strong position held by a force numerically greater than the attackers, and by their bearing earning the message of approval from the Army Commander.

26th Oct., 1918.

[Signed] Clifford Coffin

Major-General

Commanding 36th (Ulster) Division

[Appendix] No.13

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Roll of Officers

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	
Major	R.J.A Tamplin DSO	
Captain	P.E MacClean	
Captain	W Sparks MC	
Captain	W.J Menaul MC	On Command
Captain	C.J Brennan	On Command
Captain	E.A Godson MC	On Command
Captain	G.H Gibson	
Lieutenant/ Acting Captain	J.B.K Morrow	
Lieutenant/ Acting Captain	C.H Kerr	On Command
Lieutenant	G.W Wilson	
Lieutenant	J.B Barnett	
Lieutenant	F.S Bale	On Command
Lieutenant	R.I McCrum	
Lieutenant	T.F.H Graves	
Lieutenant	J.R Gregory	
2 nd Lieutenant	H Kemp MM	
2 nd Lieutenant	C.H Steele MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	R.S Duncan	
2 nd Lieutenant	T.C Leahy MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	J Boyd	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	J.J Murphy MC DCM	
2 nd Lieutenant	S Logan MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	H.C Burrows MC	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	W.G Graham	
2 nd Lieutenant	R.L Lees	
2 nd Lieutenant	A.H Warren	
2 nd Lieutenant	C.A Ross	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	E.W Reynolds MC	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	J.H Johnston	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	M.T Sheehan	
2 nd Lieutenant	A.G Harvey	Posted not joined vide A.G. List 451

Major	W McC Crosbie DSO	Posted not joined vide Wax sht. 5530
2 nd Lieutenant	A McMurtrey	Posted not joined vide Wax sht. 5636
[Appendix] No.14 [Decorations awarded during the month of October 1918]		
2 nd Lieutenant J Bryson	MC	
2 nd Lieutenant H Burrows	MC	
[41]572 Lance Corporal J Gracey	DCM	
43461 Corporal B Atkins	MM	
16105 Private R Gillanders	MM	
43346 Lance Corporal R Eden	MM	
45807 Private/ Lance Corporal F Homersham	MM	
43464 Lance Corporal/ Corporal J.E Long	MM	
42447 Private L Le Burne	MM	
20441 Private/ Lance Corporal I Dick	MM	
42057 Corporal H.G Williams ⁹⁷	MM	
2 nd Lieutenant S Logan	MC	
2 nd Lieutenant C.H Steele	MC	
2 nd Lieutenant E.W Reynolds	MC	
11316 Sergeant W Gregg MM ⁹⁸	DCM	
18240 Company Quartermaster Sergeant H Selby	DCM	
45807 Lance Corporal (A/g Sergeant) F Homersham	Bar to MM	
43346 Lance Corporal R Eden	Bar to MM	
14482 Sergeant W Moorehead	MM	
13442 Private R Norris ⁹⁹	MM	
November 1918		
1	Lauwe. Reference Sheet 29 Belgium 1/40,000. Spell of fine weather continues. Usual parades and inspections carried out in morning. Battalion bathed by Companies at M.21 central. In the evening the civilian population entertained the Battalion, at the School, to a dance. A very pleasant evening was spent.	

⁹⁷ The National Archives Medal Index Cards record **Corporal Williams** as No.42157.

⁹⁸ The National Archives Medal Index Cards record **Sergeant Gregg** as No.11216.

⁹⁹ The National Archives Medal Index Cards record **Private Norris** as No.13447.

	At 20.00 the Battalion gave a dinner at which Major R.J Tamplin DSO presided. Among the guests were the Officer Commanding, 12 th Royal Irish Rifles, Brigade Major and Staff Captain, 108 th Infantry Brigade, and representatives from 1 st Battalion, 108 th Trench Mortar Battery, etc. etc. A very jolly night was spent notwithstanding the fact that a very strenuous day has preceded it, including a Rugby match between 12 th Rifles and 9 th Battalion team in which 12 th Rifles won by two goals to nil. ¹⁰⁰
2	Weather fine. Battalion moved at 21.00 to billets in Luigne south east of Mouscron. In the afternoon a concert was given by the civil inhabitants to the British soldiers and at 4.30pm the massed drums of the 1 st and 9 th Battalions played selections in the Grand Place, Mouscron, where a large and interested gathering gave them a rousing reception. (See Appendix No.1.)
3	Luigne. Weather continues fine. Inspection parades carried out and training continued throughout morning. ¹⁰¹
4	Spell of fine weather broken. Rain fell continuously throughout morning. Usual inspection parades and training carried out during day.
5	Little rain in morning. Usual parades and training continued.
6	Wet in morning. Battalion moved at 3.30pm to billets in Mouscron. (See Appendix No.2.)
7	Mouscron. Rain fell throughout the day. Men of the Battalion inoculated.
8	Dull morning and rain towards midday. Captain R.L Emerson joined for duty from 1 st Battalion and assumed the duties of Second-in-Command of the Battalion. ¹⁰²
9	Very bright morning. Usual parades carried out in afternoon. 2 nd Lieutenant E.W Reynolds MC proceeded to UK prior to taking up appointment in Indian Army.
10	Mouscron. Reference Sheet 29 Belgium 1/40,000 and Tournai 1/100,000. Fine in morning. Church of England parade service in St Joseph's College Mouscron at 11.00 hours. Roman Catholic parade service in St Charles Convent Mouscron at 10.30 hours. News of signature of Armistice received during night 10/11 and great jubilations ensued. Fife & Drum Bands played in the streets and flares and rockets of all description illuminated the sky.
11	Fine morning. News of signature of Armistice confirmed. Civilian population of town very enthusiastically applaud us as their deliverers. Usual parades and training carried on throughout day.
12	Fine morning. Battalion paraded at 9.30am and marched to Brigade parade ground for inspection by Divisional Commander who expressed his pleasure at

¹⁰⁰ Died of wounds this day – **Private Leonard William Martin** (45062) formerly East Kent Regiment (9965), born Willesborough, Kent, enlisted Ashford, Kent, residence Willesborough, husband of F.L Martin of 16 The Street, Wellesborough, Ashford, Kent, buried at Kezelberg Military Cemetery, grave I.C.21; **Acting Sergeant Reginald Edward [or Edwin] Matthews** (43342) formerly London Regiment (352110), born Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex, enlisted Hammersmith, W, Middlesex, residence Moreton, Essex, aged 24, son of James and Susannah Matthews of New House Farm, Bovinger, Ongar, Essex, buried at Kezelberg Military Cemetery, grave I.C.20.

¹⁰¹ Died of wounds this day – **Private William McCormick** (41607) formerly Dragoons of the Line/ Dragoon Guards (UD/208), enlisted Belfast, son of Mr M McCormick of 77 Tennant Street, Belfast, buried at Kezelberg Military Cemetery, grave II.A.14.

¹⁰² Died of wounds this day – **Corporal Sydney [or Sidney] Gilbert Young** (43429) formerly Private in Royal Irish Rifles (8390), born and enlisted Bournemouth, Hants, aged 27, son of Sidney Young of Ensburry Park, Bournemouth, husband of Ethel May Young of 'The Kennels', West Howe, Kinson, near Bournemouth, buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, grave VII.D.27.

	the excellent 'turn out' of the Battalion. Captain A.P Faris joined for duty and posted to D Company.
13	Fine morning. Training continued throughout the day. Included in day's programme was firing practice on 30 th range. Lieutenant A.L Dobbin MC rejoined from [hospital?].
14	Fine morning with touch of frost in the air. Battalion participated in a Brigade exercise in the morning and afternoon was given up to inter-Company football matches etc. (See Appendix No.3.) Lieutenant K Coomb-Jones joined for duty as Signalling Officer.
15	Fine morning. Training continued. Inter-Company football matches in afternoon.
16	Moescron. Bright morning with touch of frost in the air. Battalion route marched in morning. Afternoon was given up to inter-Company football matches.
17	Bright frosty morning. Special Thanksgiving Service of 2 nd Army held in Roubaix attended by four Officers and 65 Other Ranks followed by a march past of troops before Lieutenant-General Sir C Jacob KCB. The usual Church services were held.
18	Brigade Thanksgiving Service held at 10.00 at St Joseph's College Mouscron. No further parades.
19	Ordinary training from 09.00 to 12.00 when a Battalion parade was held, which included an address from the Commanding Officer, a few exercises with march past. Battalion concert was given at 18.00.
20	Route march took place, Battalions going independently. The school arranged by the Battalion Education Committee was opened at 12.00 at the civilian school but nobody turned up. Officers Riding School in afternoon.
21	Ordinary training in usual hours. School was held at 11.00 when 43 men paraded. The school situated in Convent Schools.
22	Mouscron. Brigade Inspection was held at T.19.d at 10.00. Usual riding class in afternoon. Lieutenant G Robinson MC joins the Battalion.
23	Photos of Battalion were taken in Companies but camera was unfortunately broken before Officers group was taken. Remainder of morning was spent in cleaning equipment and billets. Afternoon was devoted to football and riding class.
24	Usual services were held at Cinema and Roman Catholic Chapel Luinge.
25	Battalion route marched via Luinge, Aelbeke. Preliminary heats of 'V.C.' and Mule Race for Battalion. Sports were run in the afternoon.
26	Battalion, headed by bands of 1 st and 9 th , paraded at 09.00 and marched to football ground at Tourcoing, where Battalion sports were held. The events included ordinary flat races, tugs-of-war, mule and 'V.C.' races with wrestling on horseback. A most enjoyable day was spent, the proceedings being also enlivened by selections from the Divisional Brass Band and the drolleries of two clowns. A goodly number of the civilian population were in attendance. The Battalion returned to billets by 17.00. A concert was held at 19.00 when the prizes were distributed. Captain J.E Gibson and Lieutenant F.C Hartness joined Battalion.
27	Mouscron. Ordinary training by Companies and riding class. Billeting parties went to Luinge
28	Luinge. Battalion route marched at 09.10. Day turned out very wet. In the afternoon a move was made to Luinge. Battalion Headquarters was made at Chateau at S.23.b.3.0. Good billets were obtained.
29	Ordinary training was held, and settling of billets. Cross country run was held in afternoon. Association football match with 12 th Royal Irish Rifles resulted in a draw of two goals each.
30	Inspection of billets was held by Commanding Officer. Ordinary parades were held in remainder of forenoon. Rugby match in afternoon against 1 st Royal

Irish Fusiliers in which we won by six tries to one try.

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Royal Irish Fusiliers

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
War Diary 1st/ 30th November. Index to Appendices.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Purport</u>
1	Brigade orders for move to Mouscron area
2	Battalion order for move south west of Mouscron
3	Brigade order for Brigade Exercise on 14 th November
4	Nominal Roll of Officers present with Battalion on 30 th November
5	list of Honours and Awards

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

[Appendix No.1]

SECRET

108th INFANTRY BRIGADE

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

For Move to Mouscron Area on 3rd November 1918

Reference Sheet 29 1/40,000

1. ACCOMMODATION

Units will be accommodated as follows:

108th Infantry Brigade Headquarters – LUINGNE S.23.d.3.9.

12th Royal Irish Rifles – will take over billets of 20th Battalion Middlesex Regiment S.24 and T.10 a & c.

1st Royal Irish Fusiliers – will take over billets occupied by 6th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment in factory S.23.central.

9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers – will be billeted in area south of the Church S.23.d.

108th Trench Mortar Battery – will arrange billets with Billeting Officer 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers in that Battalion's Area.

122nd Field Company Royal Engineers – S.18.d.5.0.

No.3 Company Divisional Train – Le Compas S.18.a.

2. ADVANCED PARTIES

Units will send advanced billeting parties to arrive in Luigne by 0700 so as to take over billets before they are vacated by troops at present occupying them. The Staff Captain will be in Luigne after 0900 and any queries should be referred to him there.

3. TRANSPORT

Two lorries per Battalion will be available for transport of blankets, etc. Each Battalion must send a guide to be at Brigade Headquarters at 0700 to guide lorry to Battalion Quartermaster Stores.

[Signed] (V?) B Rogers
CAPTAIN
Staff Captain
108th Infantry Brigade
2 November 1918

Copies to:

12th Royal Irish Rifles
1st Royal Irish Fusiliers
9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers
108th Trench Mortar Battery
122nd Field Company Royal Engineers
No.3 Company Divisional Train
36th Division "G" for information.

SECRET

Copy No.3

108th INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.205

Reference Map Sheet 29 1/40,000

2nd November 1918

1. 108th Infantry Brigade Group will move tomorrow 3rd November 1918 in accordance with March Table attached.
2. 108th Infantry Brigade Group consists of:
 - 108th Infantry Brigade
 - 16th Royal Irish Rifles (P) – who will not move
 - 122nd Field Company Royal Engineers
 - No.3 Company Divisional Train
3. Dress – Marching Order – steel helmets will be worn

4. Details of billets and billeting arrangements as notified by Staff Captain.
5. Particular attention will be paid to clean turn out of troops, transport and discipline on the march.
6. Brigade Signal Officer will arrange to synchronise watches of 108th Infantry Brigade Group before 8am 3rd inst.
7. Transport will accompany units.
8. Arrival in billets will be reported. Location of Headquarters will be stated.
- 8(a) Brigade Headquarters will close at 8am and open on arrival in new area.
9. Units of Brigade Group ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signed] C.(F?) Wilkins
 CAPTAIN
 Brigade Major
 108th Infantry Brigade
 Issued at 20.30

Copies to:

1. 12th Royal Irish Rifles
2. 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers
3. 9th (NIH) Royal Irish Fusiliers
4. 108th Trench Mortar Battery
5. 36th Division "G"
6. 107th Infantry Brigade
7. 109th Infantry Brigade
8. Commander Royal Engineers
9. Commander Royal Artillery
10. Assistant Director Medical Services
11. 122nd Field Company Royal Engineers
12. 16th Royal Irish Rifles (P)
13. No.3 Section 36th Division Signals
14. No.3 Company Divisional Train
15. War Diary
16. File

March Table to Accompany 108th Infantry Brigade Order No.205

Serial No.	Unit	Starting Point	Time	Route	To	Remarks
------------	------	----------------	------	-------	----	---------

1.	108 th Infantry Bde HQ	Cross Roads M.15.c.1.3	09.35		Luingne	Distance: 100 yards between units and its Transport. 25 yards between every 6 vehicles. Brigade Group must be clear of Aelbeke by 1100 and not enter Mouscron before 1100
2.	9 th Royal Irish Fusiliers	do.	09.05	LHOCK –	do.	
3.	1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers	do.	09.15	AELBEKE –	do.	
4.	12 th Royal Irish Rifles	do.	09.25	STERHOEK –	do.	
5.	108 th Trench Mortar Battery	do.	09.36	S.17.	do.	
6.	122 nd Fld Coy Royal Engineers	do.	09.37		S.18.d.5.0	
7.	No.3 Company Divisional Train	do.	09.44		Le Compas S.18.a	
		Kits 7.30am		Mess Cars 8am		
		Lewis Gun (Units?) 7am		(Breakfast?) 7.15am		
		(..?..)		Reveille 6.30am		

[Appendix No.2]

Operation Orders No.13 by
Major R.J.A Tamplin DSO
9th (NIH) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
BEF 6 November 1918

No.1 The Battalion will move to the Area south west of Mouscron today 6th November 1918.

No.2 (a) The Battalion will be formed up along the road from Church S.23.d.4.7 through S.29.b head of column at Battalion Headquarters ready to move off at 15.25 in the following order:

Band
Battalion Headquarters
A Company
B Company
C Company
D Company
Transport

(b) Billeting parties have been sent on and will report back to Officer Commanding Companies as soon as possible.

(c) One G.S. wagon for B and D Companies and one G.S. wagon for A and C Companies will be allotted for Officer's kits and men's blankets. Kits and blankets will be ready for removal at billets and Company Headquarters at 1400. Greatcoats will be worn.

(d) Billets must be left clean.

No.3 ACKNOWLEDGE

[Signed] (...)

Captain and Adjutant

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

6 November 1918

Copy No.

1. to 108th Infantry Brigade
2. to A Company
3. to B Company
4. to C Company
5. to D Company
6. to Commanding Officer
7. to The Medical Officer
8. to The Transport Officer
9. to The Quartermaster
10. to Regimental Sergeant Major
11.) War Diary
12.) War Diary

[Appendix No.3]

To Officer Commanding:

12th Royal Irish Rifles

1st Royal Irish Fusiliers

9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

108th Trench Mortar Battery

36th Division "G" (for information)

Reference Map Sheet Tournai 1/100,000

1. 108th Infantry Brigade will carry out a Brigade Exercise tomorrow, 14th inst., weather permitting.
2. The Brigade will move to assembly points as under:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Head of column to be</u>	<u>Route</u>
12 th Royal Irish Rifles	At 3km, stone on Main DOTTIGNIES – ROUBAIX Road at 10.30 hours.	LUIGNE – HERSEAUX – Road junction north, of <u>A</u> in HERSEAUX – STATION south east of HERSEAUX
9 th Royal Irish Fusiliers	At WINDMILL south of <u>Q</u> in DOTTIGNIES at 10.50	do.
1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers	South of second <u>I</u> in DOTTIGNIES – ROUBAIX Road at 10.30 hours	LUIGNE – DOTTIGNIES
108 th Trench Mortar Battery will be attached to 9 th Royal Irish Fusiliers.		

3. (a) All military precautions will be taken while en route.
 - (b) Strict march discipline will be maintained.
 - (c) Dress – Marching Order (Service Dress caps will be worn).
 - (d) Transport will not attend.
4. Details of further movements and exercises will be issued at assembly points.

[Signed] C.(F?) Wilkins
 CAPTAIN
 Brigade Major
 108th Infantry Brigade
 13 November 1918

[Appendix No.4]
 Roll of Officers

Lieutenant Colonel R.J.A Tamplin DSO
 Captain W. Sparks MC
 Captain R.L Emerson
 Captain E.A Godson MC On Command
 Captain P.E MacLean On Command
 Captain C.J Brennan On Command
 Captain J.E Gibson
 Captain A.P Faris On Command
 Captain G.H Gibson On Command
 Lieutenant/ A/g Captain J.B.K Morrow
 Lieutenant/ A/g Captain C.H Kerr
 Lieutenant T.F.H Graves

Lieutenant K Coombs-Jones
 Lieutenant G Robinson MC
 Lieutenant G.W Wilson
 Lieutenant R.I McCrum
 Lieutenant J.B Barnett
 Lieutenant A.L Dobbyn MC
 Lieutenant F.C Hartness
 Lieutenant A Carr
 Lieutenant E.W Reynolds MC
 2nd Lieutenant/ A/g Captain H.C Burrows MC
 2nd Lieutenant/ A/g Captain W.G Graham
 2nd Lieutenant J.R Gregory
 2nd Lieutenant J Boyd
 2nd Lieutenant J.J Murphy MC DCM
 2nd Lieutenant R.S Duncan
 2nd Lieutenant A.H Warren
 2nd Lieutenant W Mahoney
 2nd Lieutenant W Elliott
 2nd Lieutenant C.A Ross
 2nd Lieutenant H Kemp MM On Command
 2nd Lieutenant R.L Lees
 2nd Lieutenant A Wightman
 2nd Lieutenant T.C Leahy MC
 2nd Lieutenant S Logan MC
 2nd Lieutenant C.H Steele MC
 2nd Lieutenant M.T Sheehan

[Appendix No.5]

9th Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
 Roll of Recipients of Honours and Awards

<u>Regimental No.</u>	<u>Ranks & Name</u>	<u>Honour or Award</u>
	Captain E.A Godson MC	Bar to MC
	Lieutenant J Darling MC	Bar to MC
	Lieutenant C.H Steele MC	Bar to MC
	Lieutenant S Logan MC	Bar to MC

23566	Sergeant R.J McBride DCM	Medaille Militaire
45807	Sergeant F Homersham MM	DCM
45807	Sergeant F Homersham DCM MM	Bar to MM
41696	Lance Corporal R Armstrong ¹⁰³	DCM
13501	Sergeant J Campbell	MM
21059	Corporal J Fegan	MM
20947	Private J Kennedy	MM
49947	Private J Anderson ¹⁰⁴	MM
22735	Private J Neeson	MM
8895	Private J Moran	MM

The Army, Corps, Divisional and Brigade Commanders heartily congratulate the above recipients.

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

December 1918

1	Luingne. Reference Sheet 1/40,000 Belgium and France 28 & 29. 10.00. Photos were taken of Officers and Regimental Football (Association) Team. Usual services were held at Cinema and Mass at Roman Catholic Chapel Luingne. Battalion defeated 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers by six goals to nil in afternoon.
2	Ordinary Company parades, training and school in morning with a short Battalion route march. Cross country run and practice rugby match in afternoon. 17.30. Lecture by Commanding Officer to Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants on the inspection by Divisional Commander to be held in the near future.
3	Battalion bathed. Lectures with training indoors owing to wet weather. Association match against 108 Brigade Trench Mortar Battery in which we won by nine goals to one.
4	Ordinary Company parades and training with school in morning. Battalion cross country runners trained in afternoon. ¹⁰⁵
5	Luingne. Battalion route marched through Mouscron but orders having been received for a Divisional March Past on the morrow the march was curtailed

¹⁰³ The National Archives Medal Index Cards record **Corporal Armstrong** as No.41965.

¹⁰⁴ The National Archives Medal Index Cards record **Private Anderson** as No.49974.

¹⁰⁵ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Robert William Kerr** (41696) formerly Inniskilling Dragoons [or Dragoons of the Line, or Dragoon Guards] (175), born and enlisted Enniskillen, residence Derrygonnelly, County Fermanagh, aged 30 years, son of William John and Catherine Kerr of Beag, Derrygonnelly, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, buried Hamburg Cemetery, grave I.D.8.

	and we returned to billets, the remainder of morning being spent in cleaning equipment and inspections of same. Football match against 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in afternoon which resulted in a scoreless draw.
6	Battalion paraded at 7.40 hours and marched to aviation ground at Halluin (R.21 a & b) where Divisional Review and March Past was held. The cooks accompanied Battalion and dinners were eaten at Reckem; arrival back in Luigne at 15.15 hours.
7	Commanding Officer inspected billets. Medical and kit inspections were held and men paid. Six Officers and 150 Other Ranks went to Roubaix in afternoon where His Majesty the King paid a visit.
8	Usual Church services. In afternoon Rugby team beat the remainder of Brigade by 18 points to 8 points.
9	Ordinary Company training with school. ¹⁰⁶
10	Ordinary Company training with school. In afternoon Brigade cross-country run was held in which 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers won, 9 th Royal Irish Fusiliers came second and 12 th Royal Irish Rifles third.
11	Day was wet and training was done indoors. Battalion Boxing Tournament was held in Mouscron and was very successful.
12	Ref sheet 29 & 29 1/40000 Belgium – France. Luigne. Wet day. The Divisional parade for inspection by the Corps Commander to be held today was cancelled. Training was done indoors. The first man, a coalminer, was sent home today for demobilisation.
13	Lecture was held at Mouscron at 10.30 hours on 'Reconstruction' and was attended by six Officers and 100 Other Ranks. Ordinary training was done by remainder of Battalion. Four more coalminers were sent away.
14	Commanding Officer inspected billets. Medical and kit inspections were also held and men paid. Brigade Boxing Tournament held at Mouscron but none of our entrants were successful.
15	Usual Church parades and services at Cinema and Roman Catholic Chapel at Luigne. We beat 108 th Brigade football team by 3 to 1.
16	The Battalion paraded at 08.00 hours and marched to aviation ground at Halluin (R.21 a & b) where the Division was inspected by the Corps Commander. It was followed by a march past and an advance in review order. The Battalion lunched on the ground and arrived in billets at 14.45.
17	Wet day. Training was done indoors and consisted of recreational physical exercises with lectures. In the afternoon C beat A Company by 3 to 1 goals in football.
18	Battalion riding class for Officers formed. It took the form of a lecture on parts of the head and bridle with fitting of same. Ordinary training was done by Battalion. D beat B in football by 5 to nil.
19	Riding class for Officers with practical work was held in morning. Training of Battalion consisted of physical recreational training, ceremonial drill etc. The NCOs were drilled by the Regimental Sergeant Major.
20	Usual riding class and ordinary training were held. The Divisional Commander visited the Battalion and wished us all a Happy Xmas. The Battalion Rugby team beat the 1 st Royal Irish Rifles by 8 points to nil.
21	Usual billet inspections were held by the Commanding Officer and also transport were inspected. Riding class was held. In football D Company beat C by

¹⁰⁶ Died of wounds this day (at Home) – **Private Patrick Sheridan** (41581) formerly North Irish Horse (1466) of Drumconnick, born Drumconnick, County Cavan, enlisted Cavan, aged 22 years, son of James Sheridan of Drummuellin, Farnham, County Cavan, buried Drumcor Catholic Churchyard, County Cavan.

	5 goals to 1. C Company held a Whist Drive and B Company a concert.
22	Usual Church services. Men were paid. In the afternoon a practice Rugby match was held.
23	First hour of parade was spent in physical training. At 11.00 Battalion paraded for route march but it was curtailed owing to inclement weather. Officers' riding class took place.
24	Ordinary training. There was a Battalion Whist Drive at (?).30.
25	Church parades were held similar to Sunday. Good dinners were provided for the men, the different messes being tastefully decorated. The Commanding Officer visited the men at meals and drank their health. The Sergeants and NCOs had dinner at 19.00 and appeared to enjoy it thoroughly. The Officers had a Battalion dinner at 20.00 in C Company's Mess, the proceedings being of a merry nature.
26	The day was observed as a holiday, or a day of rest.
27	Ref sheet 29 & 29 1/40000 Belgium – France. Luigne. The weather was bad. Training was done indoors, physical recreation forming part of the programme. Practical lecture on horseshoeing was given to riding class.
28	Usual inspection of billets by Commanding Officer and medical inspection of the men. D Company held a whist drive.
29	Usual Church services.
30	Training consisted of physical recreation, ceremonial drill etc.
31	Usual training in morning. Afternoon observed as a holiday and games were indulged in by Companies. [Signed] R.L Emerson Major for Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers

Index to Appendixes

No. of Appendix Purport

1. Divisional Commander's congratulations on turnout of Battalion at Divisional Commanders inspection.
2. Roll of Officers with Battalion.
3. List of Awards to Battalion.

[Signed] R.L Emerson
Major
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
31 December 1918

36th Div. No. 129A

I congratulate all ranks of the Division on their smart turnout and soldierly bearing and marching at the Corps Commander's inspection today. The Corps Commander was extremely pleased with the appearance of the Division and with the whole parade.

[Signed] Clifford Coffin
Major-General
Commanding 36th (Ulster) Division

16 December 1918

9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
Roll of Officers 31st December 1918

Lieutenant-Colonel	Tamplin R.J.A. DSO	On Command
Captain (A/Major)	Emerson R.L.	
Captain	Faris A.P.	On Command
Captain	Brennan C.J.	On Command
Captain	Gibson J.E.	
Captain	MacClean P.E.	On Command
Captain	Godson E.A. MC	On Command
Captain	Sparks W. MC	
Lieutenant A/Captain	Morrow J.B.K.	
Lieutenant A/Captain	Kerr C.H.	
Lieutenant	Wilson G.W.	
Lieutenant	Graves T.F.H.	
Lieutenant	Dobbyn A.L. MC	
Lieutenant	Coombe-Jones K.	
Lieutenant	McCrum R.I.	
Lieutenant	Hartness F.C.	
Lieutenant	Robinson G. MC	
Lieutenant	Reynolds E.W. MC	
Lieutenant	Carr A.	
2 nd Lieutenant A/Captain	Burrows H.C. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant A/Captain	Graham W.G.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Warren A.H.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Ross C.A.	

2 nd Lieutenant	Leahy T.C. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	Boyd J.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Mahoney W.	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Steele C.H. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	Kemp H. MM	
2 nd Lieutenant	Gregory J.R.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Logan S. MC	
2 nd Lieutenant	Lees R.L.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Wightman A.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Elliott W. MM	On Command
2 nd Lieutenant	Sheehan M.T.	
2 nd Lieutenant	Duncan R.S.	

[Signed] R.L Emerson
Major
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
31 December 1918.

Awards during month of December 1918

Regimental No.	Rank	Name	Award
	Lieutenant-Colonel	R.J.A. Tamplin DSO	French Croix de Guerre l'ordre Division (Silver Star).
	Captain	C.H. Kerr	French Croix de Guerre l'ordre Brigade (Bronze Star).
13507	Sergeant	J. Campbell	French Croix de Guerre l'ordre Regiment (Bronze Star).
8895	Private	J. Moran	French Croix de Guerre l'ordre Regiment (Bronze Star).

The Army, Corps, Divisional and Brigade Commanders congratulate the above recipients.

[Signed] R.L Emerson
Major
Commanding 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers
31 December 1918.

January 1919

1 Ref Sheet 1/40000 28-29 Belgium and France. Luingne. Service was held for Roman Catholics at 9.00 hours at Convent of St Charles, Luingne. There

	were no other parades, the day being observed as a holiday.
2	Battalion paraded at 9.15 hours in the square and route marched through Petit-Voisinage – Rollegem – Torpentoek. The 107 th Infantry Brigade beat the 108 th in Rugby by one try to nil.
3	Battalion had ordinary training. Fatigue of 30 Other Ranks sent to Brigade for purpose of drawing huts from Roubaix. A practice fire alarm was tried. Regimental censorship of letters discontinued.
4	Inspection of billets by Adjutant. Kits were inspected and men paid.
5	Ordinary Church services were held at Mouscron and Luingne.
6	Roman Catholic service at Luingne at 9.00 hours. The remainder of Battalion had a cross-country paper chase through Herseaux district in which the Second-in-Command and padre joined in.
7	Battalion bathed at Mouscron. Remainder of morning spent in Lewis Gun instruction with physical training. The 108 th Brigade beat Divisional Engineers Rugby team by ten point. Six men were sent away for demobilisation. All men (about 40) desirous of re-enlisting were examined by the Medical Officer.
8	Training consisted of physical recreation, ceremonial drill and instruction in the Lewis Gun. Lieutenant T Graves and 2 nd Lieutenant C.H Steele MC cross-posted to the 1 st Battalion.
9	Day was spent in ordinary training. Battalion Headquarters held a Whist Drive for the men.
10	Party of four Officers and 40 Other Ranks were instructed in use of the fire pump at Mouscron Fire Station. Remainder of Battalion had ordinary training. Men had bath today who did not bathe on 7 th inst.
11	Ordinary weekly billet inspection held by Commanding Officer and Medical Officer with pay parade. Battalion tug-of-war team defeated team of 1 st Royal Irish Rifles in Mouscron Square.
12	A special Church service was held at Roubaix by the Archbishop of Canterbury at which a party of Officers and Other Ranks from the Battalion attended. Ordinary Church services were also held at Mouscron and Luingne.
13	Battalion paraded at 9.15 hours and did a few exercises in ceremonial drill. After an hour's physical training the Battalion witnessed a tug-of-war pull against the 12 th Royal Irish Rifles in which our boys were successful. Officers' riding class was held in afternoon.
14	Battalion bathed. C Company had cross-country run. Usual riding class for the Officers was held. One Platoon of B Company was inspected by the Commanding Officer.
15	Morning was spent in ceremonial drill and training under Company arrangements. The Battalion concert troupe 'The Sandbags' gave an entertainment in D Company's Mess at 17.30 hours which was very enjoyable.
16	The Battalion attended a lecture on 'Venereal Disease' given by the Assistant Director Medical Services at Mouscron. The Battalion tug-of-war team defeated the 1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers team at the railway station. The concert troupe gave a performance again at 17.30 hours.
17	Lecture by Commanding Officer on Platoon drill. Battalion was drilled by the Regimental Sergeant-Major. Other parades consisted of physical recreation, etc with school.
18	Ordinary weekly inspection of billets by Commanding Officer, inspection of men by Commanding Officer and pay. Lecture by Major Lowe DSO on

	'Physical Recreation'. Captain F MacClean appointed Demobilisation Officer. The French interpreter, M Valin, leaves Battalion. The tug-of-war team easily defeated an Artillery team in the Divisional tug-of-war competition at Mouscron Square. ¹⁰⁷
19	Captain J Morrow left for demobilisation. Church services were held at Luvingne except Presbyterian section at Mouscron at 10.00 hours. Lieutenant A Carr takes over duty as Battalion Transport Officer.
20	First hour of parade was spent in physical drill. At 11.00 hours the Battalion witnessed a game of basket ball between two American teams in Mouscron Square. This was followed by a tug-of-war competition between A and C Companies in which the former was victorious. In the afternoon the same Companies engaged in a Rugby contest in which the same Company won.
21	Battalion bathed but water was cold owing to scarcity of fuel for heating. 'A' Company had a cross-country run. Remainder of morning was spent in ordinary training and school.
22	Battalion paraded in morning and had a few exercises in ceremonial drill. Physical training with an hour's compulsory education took up remainder of morning. The Sergeants held a Whist Drive at night to which all Officers were invited. In football the Sergeants were beaten by a team of Officers.
23	Ordinary training was done under Company arrangements and school. The tug-of-war and football teams spent the day in Lille, being conveyed there in a lorry. One Officer and six Other Ranks went as train escort.
24	First hour was spent in physical training. Battalion paraded afterwards for an hour's practice in ceremonial drill and also had compulsory education. In the afternoon a cross-country competition was held of which A Company were the winner.
25	Battalion paraded at 9.30 hours and marched to aviation ground at Herseaux where with the other Battalions of the Brigade a practice presentation of colours was gone through. Men were paid in afternoon and D Company beat C in football match.
26	Usual Church services were held in Mouscron and Luvingne.
27	First hour in morning was spent in physical training. Owing to fall of snow the contemplated route march was cancelled and the men cleared the streets instead. They also had an hour's compulsory education. Commanding Officer gave lecture on 'Demobilisation' to Officers.
28	The Battalion paraded at 9.30 hours and marched to Herseaux aviation ground with the other Battalions of the Brigade. The colours which consisted of a silk Union Jack were consecrated and presented to the Battalion by the Corps Commander. The Battalion concert party gave a performance at 17.30 hours.
29	The Battalion was employed chiefly in clearing the streets of snow. Men desirous of going before the Divisional Advisory Board were interviewed by the Commanding Officer. The Battalion concert party 'The Sandbags' gave a performance at 17.30 hours.
30	Battalion Headquarters and the concert party went to Lille on two motor lorries where the day was spent. The remainder of Battalion did suitable training. Those seeking information as to their future calling in life were interviewed by the Divisional Advisory Board.
31	Ordinary training was done. During the month schools classes have been conducted under 2 nd Lieutenant Kemp on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Subjects taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, history and geography; bookkeeping, shorthand and commercial subjects are also taught by 2 nd Lieutenant L Lees. Demobilisation has speeded up during the last few days, the total number now away being one Officer 104 Other Ranks.

¹⁰⁷ Died this day (France and Flanders) – **Private Patrick McHugh** (20993), formerly Connaught Rangers (4250) of Claremorris, born Claremorris, County Mayo, enlisted Galway, buried at Anor Communal Cemetery, grave at south end, near entrance. *Note: The CWGC database lists McHugh's death as occurring on 21 October 1918.*

[Signed] R.J Tamplin
 Lieutenant-Colonel
 Commanding 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

February 1919

1	Reference sheet 1/40000 28 29 Belgium France. Luingne. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited the Battalion in their billets. Rifles and Lewis Guns were inspected by an Officer from the Army Ordnance Corps. The men also were inspected by the Medical Officer and were afterwards paid.
2	Usual Church services were held in Luingne and Mouscron.
3	Training was composed of one hour's physical training, tactical exercise, drill, guard mounting and compulsory education.
4	The Battalion bathed. The remainder of time the Companies were at the disposal of Company Commanders. Captain P.E Maclean took over duties of Adjutant temporarily.
5	Companies carried out ordinary training. Officers and men wishing information re future careers were interviewed by the Civil Advisory Board at Lille.
6	First hour was spent in physical training, two hours in cleaning snow from streets and an hour in compulsory education.
7	Training consisted of physical recreation, compulsory education with ordinary Company training.
8	Billets were inspected by the Commanding Officer. The usual medical inspection and pay parades were also held.
9	Ref sheet 1/40000 28 29 Belgium France. Luingne. Ordinary Church services were held in Mouscron.
10	Battalion was inspected by the Brigade Commander who afterwards visited them in the billets for inspection of kit. Battalion bathed in the afternoon.
11	Battalion was reorganised into two Companies (Nos 1 & 2), No.1 being composed of men for the Post Bellum Army or Army of Occupation, No.2 consisting of all others except those under the control of Transport Officer and Quartermaster.
12	Reorganisation of Battalion was continued today.
13	Ordinary training was done.
14	Ordinary training was done.
15	Usual weekly inspections were held by the Commanding Officer and Medical Officer and men were paid.
16	Usual Church services were held.
17	Training consisted of physical recreation.
18	Training consisted of physical recreation. At 17.30 hours the Battalion concert party 'The Sandbags' gave a performance in the Convent.
19	One hour was spent in physical training after which no men were available for further training.
20	Usual hour for physical training. Battalion bathed.

21	A Court of Enquiry was held re deficiency of blankets and oil sheets.
22	Usual inspections were held by Commanding Officer and Medical Officer and men paid. Surplus horses of transport were sent away for dispersal.
23	Usual Church services.
24	Training was done under Company arrangements. The Officers held a dinner in the Officers' Club in Tourcoing.
25	Training under Company arrangements.
26	Training under Company arrangements.
27	First hour was spent in physical training followed by a route march.
28	Luingne. Training under Company arrangements. The total number demobilized up to end of months is eight Officers and 402 Other Ranks. The Battalion school has been closed. [Signed] R.J Tamplin Lieutenant Colonel Commanding 9 th (North Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers.
March 1919	
1-7	Mouscron. Battalion remained at Mouscron.
8-18	[8 March] Mouscron. Remaining men for dispersal (20) sent away. [8-18 March] Battalion remained at Mouscron.
19	1 st Royal Irish Fusiliers cadre proceeded home. Surplus personnel attached to this Battalion.
20	Two Officers 27 Other Ranks despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment on the Rhine.
21	–
22	Three Officers 60 Other Ranks despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment. One Officer to Concentration Camp for dispersal and 22 Other Ranks.
23-26	–
27	Nine Other Ranks to Concentration Camp for dispersal. Two Officers despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
28-30	–
31	Nineteen Other Ranks despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
April 1919	

1	Twenty-three Other Ranks despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
2	–
3	One Officer despatched to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
4	Two Officers to Concentration Camp for dispersal.
5-6	–
7	Twelve Other Ranks to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
8	–
9	Mouscron. One Royal Army Medical Corps Officer (attached) to Concentration Camp for dispersal.
10	–
11	One Officer to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
12-13	–
14	Two Other Ranks to Concentration Camp for dispersal.
15-16	–
17	Eight Other Ranks to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment. * One Officer Royal Irish Rifles attached to Battalion.
18	–
19-30	[19 April] Five Other Ranks to Concentration Camp for dispersal. [19 April] Two Officers (including * above) to Concentration Camp for dispersal. [19-30 April] Remained at Mouscron pending dispersal.
May 1919	
	[1-31 May] Remained at Mouscron pending dispersal.
1-8	–
9	One Officer and 10 Other Ranks to Concentration Camp for dispersal.
10-18	–
19	One Other Rank to Concentration Camp for dispersal.
20-21	–
22	Four Other Ranks to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
23-25	–

26	One Other Rank to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
27-31	–
June 1919	
1-6	–
7	One Other Rank to 5 th Royal Irish Regiment.
8	–
9	<p>Mouscron. Three Officers and 23 Other Ranks (cadre) to Concentration Camp for dispersal. Of the party for dispersal on this date, one Officer and five Other Ranks are detailed as Colour Guard, charged with handing over King's Colour to the authorities of Armagh Cathedral. An Equipment Guard of two Officers and twelve Other Ranks remain pending orders for shipment of Battalion equipment to UK.</p> <p>FINIS</p> <p>[Signed] R.J Tamplin Lieutenant Colonel Commanding 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers 9th June 1919</p>