

## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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(3)  
Army Form C. 2118.

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| Place                     | Date                  | Hour | Summary of Events and Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Houchin }<br>LES BREBIS } | Sept 19 <sup>th</sup> |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                      |
|                           | 22                    |      | Houchin. moved in Evening to LES BREBIS by BUS Route.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | W                                    |
|                           | 23                    |      | LES BREBIS men resting all day.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | W                                    |
| LES BREBIS                | 24                    |      | <del>LES BREBIS</del> . The Battalion moved from LES BREBIS at 11.15 am for Pt. Tremblay W.S. to take up a position prior to the attack on the following day. All final instructions were issued during the day.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | W                                    |
| LOOS                      | 25 <sup>th</sup>      |      | <p>By 2 am the Battalion was assembled in the 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Line Trenches between Saps 6 &amp; 18. ndi. Preliminary Instructions Sheet 2 &amp; 3. [The hour of zero (commencement of Gas attack) was ordered for 5.50 am. Time for assault 6.30 am. For objectives, order of Battle etc, see Preliminary Instructions Sheet 1.] — Punctually at 5.50 am the gas &amp; smoke attack started &amp; was soon answered by a heavy fire from the enemy, but during this extremely wild shooting of the enemy &amp; the splendid trench the men occupied practically no casualties occurred during the 40 minutes gas &amp; smoke attack. but a certain number of men suffered from the effect of gas. The wind was very light &amp; it was raining slightly &amp; the gas &amp; smoke appeared to hang heavily in front of our own trenches &amp; proceeded very slowly towards the enemy's lines. Many of them in our front line said that it did not appear to reach the enemy's front line for a considerable period. — At 6.30 am the leading platoons</p> | W                                    |



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|-------|-----------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Loos  | Sept 25 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>cleared our parapet. &amp; moved off in quick time towards the enemy front line. Although not more than 300 yards away it was not to be seen owing to the dense cloud of smoke which now enveloped it. In the space of a few minutes the front line had reached the enemy's wire, which was well cut. But a heavy rifle fire from the enemy being met with many casualties occurred. Which included many NCOs &amp; the officers commanding the line. But this in no way checked the survivors who, without a halt passed quickly over the German trench &amp; pushed on towards their final objective. The 2<sup>nd</sup> German Line. The 1<sup>st</sup> Line operation was closely followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Lines. as per scheduled time. each line suffering casualties at the German front line. as the lines passed over &amp; moved towards their final objective the enemy's fire followed them till the 5<sup>th</sup> Line arrived. This line consisting of Company 100 20 50 20 20 20 20 20 &amp; some German units. The German Trench &amp; in a very short space of time the trench was clear of the enemy. &amp; both had been gained with the 1400 Boys on the right &amp; the 10<sup>th</sup> Division on the left. In the mean time the 10<sup>th</sup> Division was pushing on to the German 2<sup>nd</sup> Line &amp; this was gained with very little loss. as the enemy had been taken completely by surprise &amp; had not occupied the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line Trench West of Loos.</p> |                                      |



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|-------|-----------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Loos  | Sept 25 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>They were however holding the houses on the West side of the town. but the leading line of the 20<sup>th</sup> Bn on our right &amp; the 19<sup>th</sup> Bn on our left were sweeping through us &amp; very soon the town was in our hands. The remarkable feature of the attack was the manner in which direction was maintained throughout. The whole of the enemy's position was enveloped in a dense cloud of smoke, but with the single exception of two platoons of Alog who <del>were</del> <sup>had</sup> about 300 yards <sup>to the</sup> left. All <del>the</del> <sup>the</sup> attacking Corps arrived within the boundaries of the objective according to plan. This was due to the carefully prepared instructions issued before hand. &amp; to the fact that a careful reconnaissance of the ground had been made by all officers &amp; also the day previous to the attack. The scheme for the attack, the objective etc was carefully explained to every man of the attacking force the day before the assault, and as all ranks were well acquainted with the position of the country, the Bn having occupied these trenches for a considerable period, every man in the Battalion knew what was required of him. By 6.55 am the leading platoon had reached the German Second line &amp; CEMETERY. which was found unoccupied and by 7 am the Bn consisting of 12 officers &amp; <sup>about</sup> 300 other ranks had occupied a line from the LENS Road on the right at a point G 35 C. 62 to a point 50 yards North of the CEMETERY. Consolidation was</p> | <p>1577 Wt. W10791/1773 500,000 1/15 D. D. &amp; L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.</p> |



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|-------|-----------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| LOOS  | Sept 25 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>immediately started &amp; Machine guns got into position near the LENS Road. By mid day every man had constructed a sufficiently serviceable fire step for himself but in many places the trench was much too shallow &amp; the process of deepening it could not be started till well on in the afternoon owing to the shortage of heavy entrenching tools. A fresh supply of tools arrived during the afternoon &amp; by dark the trench was in a serviceable condition. During the first 2 hours of consolidation the working parties were practically unmolested by the enemy but after this period any exposure on the part of the working parties drew a heavy rifle &amp; machine gun fire from the enemy occupying Force 11. Casualties: - Our casualties for the day. Officers killed 4 &amp; wounded 5. Other ranks killed 66. Wounded 144. Missing 27. Practically all our casualties occurred in front of the German front line trench after this was crossed, although the attacking line had about 1000 yards of open country to move over, practically no casualties occurred. Enemy's Casualties. It is difficult to estimate this accurately. Between 20 &amp; 30 prisoners were captured in the town by the German 2<sup>nd</sup> Line near the CEMETERY by the Bn. but a large number of Germans were killed in their own front line by 2 platoons of B Company &amp; a section of Canadians dropped by the Bn. en route. The bulk of the prisoners</p> |                                      |



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| LOOS  | Sept 9/18<br>26 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>appeared to be in a very demoralized condition. Though none were suffering from the effects of gas. There appeared to have been taken completely by surprise in LOOS as a number of them were found sleeping in the cellars when the first troops entered. There 2<sup>nd</sup> this was an occupied which was indeed fortunate as the were in front of it was very strong &amp; well intent.</p> <p>8pm As it was quite dark at this hour a party was sent out from each Coy to collect chickens, geese &amp; cut the German wire. This was hampered across the front by an obstacle from front.</p>                                                                              | My                                   |
| LOOS  | Sept 10/18                    |      | <p>Night passed fairly quietly, enemy's light artillery action during the early part of the night but no damage was done. As much rest as possible was given to the men. Work of consolidating positions during the morning. Between 9 am &amp; 11pm during the temporary evacuation of North West of Hill 70 our left flank became exposed but as the enemy did not assume the offensive the ground was soon reoccupied by our troops. At dusk Machine &amp; water were sent up. Brigade Head Q<sup>r</sup> was established at the VALLÉE Cross Roads about 200 yards behind our line. At dusk more wire was put in front of our line. This was taken from German entanglements.</p> | My                                   |



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| LOOS       | Sep 27 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>Silent occupation of and consolidating German trench west of LOOS. Fighting continued to our left front for possession of Hill 70. LOOS shelled during the night. In spite of a heavy shrapnel &amp; machine gun fire throughout the day, practically no casualties have occurred among our men. The trench is now very deep &amp; well fire trapped. A column amongst of old German wire was transferred across to our front during the night. German domain attacked during the afternoon on our left - Ogerinc CHACK PIT - PUTS 14. 2 of 22<sup>nd</sup> Bn inspected line this afternoon with a view to taking over.</p>                                                                                                                                                        | <p>My 1401</p>                       |
| LES BREBIS | Sep 28 <sup>th</sup> |      | <p>All quiet last night. No manual shrapnel &amp; machine gun fire during the day. Battalion relieved by 22<sup>nd</sup> Bn. [Orders were received early in the day for the Bn to occupy W3 on relief. but this was cancelled about 7.30 pm. &amp; orders to proceed to billets at LES BREBIS. Entrenched] By 9 pm the relief started and as the Bn was clear of German trench by 9.45 pm. The relief was different owing to there being one trench the communication trenches. in order to prevent congestion as each man was relieved he was ordered out of the trench &amp; to face in with his bayonet on the open behind the trench. The relief was carried out in the open. no casualties occurred. By 10.30 pm the whole of the Bn were assembled in billets at LES BREBIS.</p> | <p>My 1401</p>                       |