

War Diary – 50th Battalion Canadian Light Infantry 10th April 1917

Lt-Col FJ Page reconnoitred ground in the vicinity of HILL 145 and orders for attack signed. Disposition of Companies as follows:

Major JF [?] "A" Coy, left salient [?]; Capt WJ [?] "B" Coy left support; Capt LJ [?] "C" Coy right salient; Major [?] right support.

12 noon: The battalion moved to assembly point DASSO trench road junction S18 d.7.3 to junction of BASSO and BILLY trenches arriving at 2.45 pm.

3.15 pm: Zero hour and companies were in position at BEER trench at that hour. The enemy put up strong resistance but objectives were reached and consolidation commenced at 3.45 pm. Took 125 prisoners belonging to 18th and 261st regiments. Also captured 2 machine guns and 1 [?] mortar.

11.00 pm: The battalion was relieved by the 47th battalion and moved back to the MUSIC HALL line. Relief being completed by 1.00 a.m. April 11th.

Casualties were heavy, as follows:

Officers killed (5 names), officers wounded (6 names), ORs (other ranks) killed 57, ORs wounded 129, ORs wounded [?] 1, ORs missing 31. Total 218 ORs.

Although not mentioned on 10th April, the diary records the weather on days before and after as cold and showery.

[Scroll down for facsimiles of diaries for April 9 and 19](#)

Original.
50th Battalion Canadian Infantry
Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erasing heading not required.)

Volume 9. April 1917. Sheet 2.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. G. Regs., Part II and the Staff Manual respectively. This page will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Vancouver Camp: CHATEAU DE LA HAIE.	6.	11 AM	Major-General D. Watson, G.P. commencing 4 th Canadian Division from the front for medals recently awarded. The Brigade was drawn up in square formation under the command of Prince George, G.P. Williams D.S.O. Two less than one D.C.M. and eight M.M.s were awarded to M.C.C.s and men of our Battalion as follows - 434109. Lt. S. H. MacCallum. J. I. D.C.M. 425575. Pk. Lomas. A. M.M. 435697. Sgt. Keland. J. H. M.M. 142755. Packer. W. H. M.M. 434174. " Barkell. P. R. M.M. 625152. Pk. Sec. T. J. M.M. 219292. Lt. P. Patterson. J. M.M. 427506. Tally. R. J. M.M. 160296. " Cameron. J. M.M.	
do.	7.	2 PM	The Brigade Sports were held.	
do.	8.		Special training resumed. Weather - fine and clear, cool breeze. Weather moderately fine but cold.	
In front of SOURHEZ	7.	7 PM	The Battalion proceeded to the line, the 15 th Co. I.R. in support of 11 th and 12 th Co. I.R. Companies were located in the Quarries S.E. of 30.95. SOUTHER TUNNEL S.E. of E.O. Assembly completed at 11 ³⁰ PM. Casualties - nil. Marching in strength - Officers 26. O.P.s. 675.	See Appendix 9 - 20.2.17 48-4-17

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Original.
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WAR DIARY
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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Volume 9. April 1917. Sheet 3.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In front of SOURHEZ HILL 145.	9.	10 ³⁰ PM	Weather - cold and stormy. The Battalion remained in the QUARRIES until orders were received to move to the MUSIC HALL Support line. This movement was completed before midnight. Casualties 2 O.R.s killed. 4 O.R.s wounded.	See Appendix 9 - 20.2.17 48-4-17 17.4.17 48-4-17
HILL 145.	10.	12 noon	Lt-Col. L. F. Page reconnoitered ground in the vicinity of HILL 145. and orders for attack were issued. Disposition of Companies as follows - Major J. F. Gavigan "A" Coy - Left Summit. Capt. W. J. Mudge "B" Coy - Left Support. Capt. L. W. Anderson "C" Coy - Right Summit. Major L. G. Sawmill "D" Coy - Right Support.	
		2.45 PM	The Battalion moved to assembly point 20350 Trunk Road junction S. 15 d. 7. 3. to junction of 20350 and 21127 trenches. arriving at 2.45 PM. Zero hour and Companies were in position at BEER trench at that hour. The enemy put up strong resistance but objectives were reached and consolidation commenced at 3.45 PM. Over 125 prisoners belonging to 18 th and 261 st Regiments were captured also 2 Machine guns and 1 Lewis Machine.	See Appendix 9 - 20.2.17 48-4-17
		11 PM	The Battalion was relieved by the 47 th Battalion and moved back to the MUSIC HALL line. Relief being completed by 1 AM. April 11 th .	See Appendix 9 - 20.2.17 48-4-17

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WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Volume 9, April 1917, Sheet 4.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NEEL PAS	10 <i>Contd.</i>		<p>Casualties were very heavy as follows:-</p> <p>Officers - Killed Capt. W. G. Corrygan Capt. W. G. Pennington Capt. W. G. Pennington Capt. W. G. Pennington Capt. W. G. Pennington Capt. W. G. Pennington</p>	<p>Weather - dense mist, cold and windy</p> <p>O.R.'s - Killed 57 - Wounded 129 - (as above) 1 - Missing 21 Total 218 O.R.'s</p>
BULLE HALL	11		<p>Weather - cold and showery</p> <p>The Battalion was re-organized into two companies - Capt. L. O. Sanderson in command No 1 Coy. with fighting strength of 150. Major L. B. Casswell " " " " " " " " 150.</p> <p>The following officers reported - Major R. P. Eaton, Major H. L. Keegan, Capt. J. Allen, Lt. G. E. Aubrey, Lt. L. A. Moore and Capt. D. Macmillan.</p>	
du fond of	12		<p>Orders were issued for the attack on the "PIMPLE" <i>H.V.</i></p>	<p>Temperature 25-30°C 75-85°F at 10:00 AM 7/10/17</p>
SOUCHEZ	14:30		<p>Weather - Blowing snow storm and strong S.W. wind, and mist deep in places.</p> <p>The Battalion moved to Assembly point and took up positions at 14:50 AM, with Battⁿ HQ in SOUCHEZ TUNNEL.</p>	
	5 AM		<p>Zora here. Battalion moved forward but could only go very slowly. <i>H.V.</i></p>	

AG 65 War Diary Form 550000 2276 D. D. & L. 20/11/17