

10th Cheshire Regiment War Diary
June 1917

1st to 5th June spent digging trenches and dug outs. Voluntary Church of England service held on the 3rd. 5th June all available officers and men were shown a model of the MESSINES RIDGE and trenches likely to be attacked by the battalion at T27 day. During the 6th the battalion rested until 8 p.m. when they moved to the assembly trench (MARTIN TRENCH). The enemy shelled the position but no casualties; battalion in position at 12.40 p.m.

Zero hour was 3.10 a.m. At 2.15 a.m. tea and rum issued to all ranks. At 3.10 the battalion left their trenches to begin the attack. The men kept close to our barrage and our objectives OCCUR TRENCH, OCCUR SUPPORT, NATHAN AVENUE, NATHAN DRIVE, HELL FARM and STYX FARM were taken without much opposition. The total number of captures made by the battalion were 1 officer, 117 ORs and 14 MACHINE GUNS. We got in touch with the 14th ROYAL IRISH RIFLES on our left flank and the 11TH LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS on our right. The rest of the day was spent consolidating our position.

Our total casualties were: 1 officer died of wounds, 7 officers wounded, other ranks killed 26 [*one would have been Kettleband*], wounded 141, missing 7. The battalion was thanked and congratulated by Army Corps, Division and Brigade.

The morning of the 8th was spent consolidating their position until the battalion and relieved the Loyal North Lancashire Regt. and two companies of the 13th Cheshire. The rest of the week was spent improving trenches.

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10th Bn Cheshm Regt.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Par. II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

7/25 of 21

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
T 1 d 9.9 (Camp)	1.6.17		Trench dug during the night of 30/31 May named <u>ONSLOW TRENCH</u> . Working parties as previously supplied. 6 boys took over the left supporting point.	
	2.6.17		Working parties as previously supplied.	
	3.6.17		Working parties employed in digging trenches making dugouts, carrying stores etc. Voluntary church of England service was held during the morning in camp. The battalion moved into bivouacs at 5.17 a 5.7 (sheet 22 S.W.).	order att?
S 17 a 5.7 (Camp)	4.6.17		The usual working parties were supplied.	
	5.6.17		Working parties as previously supplied. All available officers N.C. Co and men visited a model of the <u>MESSINES RIDGE</u> and trenches to be attacked by this battalion at T 27 d.	
	6.6.17		The battalion rested in camp during the morning and afternoon.	
		8 pm.	At 8 pm the Battalion moved off to its assembly trenches [<u>MARTIN TRENCH</u>]. The enemy shelled us en route with lacrymatory shells there were no casualties however. The battalion reported in position at 12.40 pm.	Order N° 61 att?
MARTIN TRENCH	7.6.17	^{ZERO HOUR} 8.10 AM	At 2.15 AM tea and rum were issued to all ranks. At 3.10 AM the Battalion left their trenches and advanced to the attack, they got away very well the arrangements made by RE. for paths or being excellent. The men kept close up to our barage and our objectives occur TRENCH, OCCUR SUPPORT NATHAN AVENUE, NATHAN DRIVE HELL FARM (O 31.6 5.6) and	See appendices marked / O 31 a O 31 b

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BN HQS O 31 a 9.45 DANTE FARM.	7.6.17		STYX FARM (O 31 6.80.88) were taken without much opposition. The total number of captures made by the battalion were 1 officer, 117 O.Rs and 14 MACHINE GUNS. We got into touch with the 12 th ROYAL IRISH RIFLES on our left flank and the 11 th LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS on our right. The rest of the day was spent in consolidating our positions. Our total casualties were 1 officer died of wounds, 7 officers wounded. Other ranks killed 26 wounded 141 missing.	See appendix A and appendix B Orders No J 71 J 55 Preliminary instructions attached.
do			The Bn was thanked & congratulated very heartily by Army Gp. Dir. + Bde Comdr.	
do	8.6.17		The morning and afternoon was spent in consolidating, carrying and digging a C.T. from OCCUR SUPPORT to the line held by the 3 rd WORCESTER REGT. In the evening the Battalion relieved two companies of the 9 th LOYAL NORTH LANCASHIRE REGT. and two companies of the 13 th CHESHIRE in OCTOBER TRENCH. Very little hostile shelling during the day.	See orders attached
BN HQS. at O 32 a 5.5				See Order No 81 att ²
do	9.6.17		The day was spent in improving our trenches and carrying up stores etc. A number of rounds of shrapnel were sent over by the enemy but very little damage was done. It was arranged that the Battalion should relieve the 50 th BATTALION AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY at night but this was cancelled.	See Order No 91 attached
do	10.6.17		The day was spent in improving our trenches etc. etc. It was again arranged to relieve the 50 th BATTALION AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY but this was also cancelled.	See Orders H. 91 and 101 also copy of Message VL 336
do	11.6.17		The Battalion rested most of the day, carrying parties however proceeded as usual. The Battalion moved into bivouacs at WULVERSEM (T 9.6 and T 10.2) commencing at 10 am.	See Bn Order and H 60 attached also B 13 435

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NULVERGHEM (CAMP)	12.6.17		The Battalion rested all day, everyone being thoroughly tired out after their exertions of the previous 5 days. The B TEAM rejoined the Battalion here.	
NEUVE EGLISE (CAMP)	13.6.17		The Battalion moved into camp at NEUVE EGLISE (T 9 A) a working party of 4 Officers & 200 men was furnished for the purpose of carrying "trench rests" etc. The DIVISIONAL band visited the camp at 5.30 pm and played selections for an hour.	See movement Order No 121
do	14.6.17		The Bn rested during the day. At 5.30 PM we relieved the 11 th LANCES Fusiliers in HANBURY SUPPORT between Vid 36.15 and Vid 20.70 in support of the 75 th Inf Bde who held the line. A working party of 1 Officer and 100 other Ranks was furnished at 10 PM to bury cable.	See O.O. No 141
Tranches Vid 36.15 Vid 20.70 (HANBURY SUPPORT)	15.6.17		Rested most of the day. Officers reconnoitred outposts and positions 3 AM and 9 AM. We shelled the enemy during the day heavily towards evening. We retaliated at intervals. Casualties 3 wounded (other Ranks)	
do	16.6.17		Rested during the day. Intermittent shelling on both sides. We found carrying parties for the 75 th Inf Bde at night. Enemy sent gas shells over about 2 AM and it was necessary to wear Small Pore Respirators for an hour. Casualties 1 killed 2 wounded (other Ranks).	

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