

SECRET.

COPY.

12TH BN. K.O.Y.L.I.

Battalion Instructions No. 1.

1. The attack of the 31st Division will be carried out by two Brigades: the 93rd on the right and 94th on the left; one company Pioneers will be attached to each Brigade, viz:- A Co. to 94th Brigade and D Co to 93rd. These two companies will receive special instructions from the Brigades. 'B' & 'C' companies will undertake special Pioneering work details of which, with maps, will be issued separately.
2. The attack will be made in a series of bounds. The troops allotted each bound will be distinguished by a piece of cloth tied to the right shoulder strap: it is the duty of all ranks to see that no men belonging to a forward bound are allowed to stay in any trench behind the bound allotted to them. Colours are:- 1st Bound GREEN. 2nd Bound RED. 3rd Bound BROWN, and 4th Bound BLUE.
3. There will be a preliminary bombardment during which the line will be thinly held and assaulting troops will be assembled at specified points the night before the assault is delivered.
4. When called upon to clear communication trenches, O I/c companies must see that all available men are distributed over the whole of the length of trench to be cleared, as by this means the line of the trench is marked out, and direction not so liable to be lost owing to gaps caused by casualties, etc.
5. Five saps (named A.B.C.D. & E) have been made, running from our front line trenches towards the German line; these will be opened up one hour before the assault takes place, the openings being 30 to 40 yards from the enemy line. Communication trenches from these sap heads will be made by 'B' & 'C' Companies and work thereon will commence as soon as the first bound has succeeded.
6. Communication trenches will be used one way only; this will be strictly adhered to except by the following:- Staff Officers, R.A. observers, telephone linesmen and R.E. and Pioneers who are engaged on trench maintenance.
OUTWARD TRENCHES.
 WAGRAM - NORTHERN AVENUE - SOUTHERN AVENUE - NAIRNE - EXCEMA - WARLEY - FLAG.
HOMeward TRENCHES.
 CENTRAL AVENUE - RAILWAY AVENUE - JORDAN - CATEAU - GREY - BLIENEAU.
7. Special trench maps will be issued - it will be seen from these that many of our trenches have been re-named and the new name is always referred to in these instructions.
8. All reference made in operation orders and reports will be made to this map.
9. No orders, and only the specially issued maps of the German defences will be taken into the trenches.
10. Preliminary instructions regarding the training of RUNNERS have already been issued. Runners must have an intimate knowledge of the trenches and positions of Brigade, Battalion and Company Headquarters also positions of signal stations, dumps & water pipes.
11. Headquarter dug-out is situated at K 27 d 7.1. with entrance off SOUTHERN AVENUE.

12. The necessary facilities will be given to Pioneers by all signal stations for the receipt and despatch of messages. Runners handing in messages for transmission by telephone must remain at the station until advised that the message has got through.
13. Dress. Field Service order without packs or greatcoats. The following will be carried:-
 Waterproof sheet & cardigan.)
 Three (3) Sandbags) every N.C.O.
 Two (2) Mills Grenades) and man.
 170 rounds S.A.A.....)
- 1 pick or 1 shovel in the) every man.
 proportion of 1 pick to 2 shovels.)
- 4 flares every officer and N.C.O.
14. Wirecutters will be carried at the rate of two per platoon; they will be attached to the shoulder strap by a lanyard and carried in the belt. All men carrying wirecutters will wear a yellow band round the right arm.
15. Two Gas helmets will be carried by all ranks. One of these will be worn rolled up above the face ready to be lowered should troops enter trenches where there is gas. All ranks must be warned against entering any cellars without first lowering the helmet.
16. Every officer, N.C.O. and man will commence the attack with a full water bottle; the iron ration with 24 hours rations in addition will be carried in the haversack. Haversacks will be carried on the back, and ground sheets and cardigan rolled to a length of 12 inches will be fixed immediately below the haversack.
17. All troops must be warned to keep well down during the bombardment and wire-cutting. The strictest discipline will be maintained as regards silence and keeping down, (including rifles) previous to the assault.
18. The easiest place to cross the enemy's trenches is at the traverses as trenches usually narrow at these points.
19. If any screens are found in enemy trenches they must not be pulled down as they act as a sign to German Artillery not to fire on the trenches where they are placed.
20. All ranks must be warned against the probable misuse of the white flag and other signs of surrender by the enemy. They have been known to sham death and then to shoot into the back of our assault.
21. It must be impressed on all ranks that it is a serious crime to stay behind to assist a wounded comrade. R.A.M.C. are detailed for the care of these.
22. The hour of "ZERO" will be notified later. The day on which the preliminary bombardment commences will in future be known as "U" and the day of the assault known as "Z".
23. Officers duties. The following officers will go into action on the first day:-
- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Lt.Col. Chambers. |) Headquarters | (Major Charlesworth |
| Capt. Newton. |) | (Lieut. White. |
| Capt. Crawshaw |) F Co. | (Lieut. Welch. |
| 2nd Lieut. Bennett. |) | (2 Lieut. Atkinson. |
| Capt. Roberts. |) B Co. | (Lieut. H.D. Gaunt. |
| Lieut. Underhill. |) | (2 Lieut. Oliver. |
| | | (2 Lieut. Baird. |

Capt. Cooper.)	B Co.	(Lieut. Roberts
Lieut. Partridge)		(2 Lieut. Forsdike.
			(2 Lieut. Adams.
Capt. Chadwick)	D Co.	(Lieut. England.
Lieut. Crowther.)		(2nd Lieut. Mossop.

24. Company commanders will at all times communicate to their subordinate commanders all possible information and places, and arrange that the command of each unit down to the section can be immediately taken over by at least the first four seniors.
25. (Since cancelled by para. 34.)
26. The Quartermaster will proceed daily with the rations to the entrance to the trenches at EUSTON and will there personally hand over rations for 'B' & 'C' Companies to their respective Co.Qmr.Sergeants.
27. All officers, N.C.O's and men (unless detailed for special duty) not taking part in the assault will remain in BUS WOOD under orders of Capt. G.M.STOCKINGS; they will hold themselves in readiness to proceed as reinforcements at a moments notice.
28. The following articles will be carried in the haversack:-
 Mess tin (containing 12 ozs meat ration and tin containing tea, sugar & oxo cubes.)
 1 Pair Socks.
 1 Towel & soap.
 1 Hairbrush.
 1 Holdall, containing:- Knife, fork, spoon, razor, lather brush and tooth brush.
 1 House-wife.
 1 Ration bag containing 12 ozs biscuits.
 The cardigan jacket is to be folded and laid upon waterproof sheet, the edges of the latter to be folded inward and neatly rolled to a length of 12 inches: this will be fastened by the two pack straps round the belt, the haversack being fastened to the braces in exactly the same way as the pack is fastened.
29. Steel Helmets will be worn by all ranks.
30. All tools at present issued to companies will be returned to Headquarters.
 Tools will be drawn by all companies from the R.E. at a date to be notified later.
31. All headquarter and company signallers will receive special instructions; they will not be included in fighting strength of their companies. Company signallers will report to Capt. Stockings in BUS WOOD.
32. Assembly points are:- 'B' Co. 1 Platoon EDEN TRENCH between NAIRNE & JORDAN.
 3 Platoons SACKVILLE ST. between SOUTHERN AVENUE & EXCEMA.
 'C' Co.
 4 Platoons SACKVILLE ST. between CHEAPSIDE & GREY.
33. In case of necessity R.E. and Pioneers will draw rations, water and ammunition from any of the Brigade dumps.
34. Para. 25 Battalion Instructions is cancelled. Lieut. Walker will be responsible for traffic control in trenches between EUSTON & COLINCAMPS etc. Sgt. FRIEND and specially selected men will be detailed later for this work, when further particulars and orders will be issued. Para. 23. Add "2nd.Lieut. J.J. McGroarty to list of officers with 'C' Co.
35. In deciding on the strength of companies the following will not be taken into account. Police, Transport, Signallers (including company signallers), Pioneers, or Headquarter details unless otherwise

- ordered and Sanitary & water-cart duty N.C.O's & men.
36. Captured trophies are the property of the government and all ranks are warned that any man found in possession of a trophy will be deemed guilty of looting.
 37. Gas masks as used by the enemy are most urgently required at Home for experimental purposes. In the event of any of these being secured they will at once be taken to the nearest officer who will have them sent to Battalion Headquarters.
 38. Iron rations are only to be opened on orders from an officer. In the event of their having to be used, only one tin in four will be opened at a time, providing four meals. All waste must be scrupulously avoided.
 39. Trench police have strict orders regarding the keeping clear of traffic trenches etc: it is therefore most important that all ranks should be wearing both the red & white and green flashes. Officers commanding companies will take immediate steps to have these sewn on.
 40. Transport. All Regimental 1st Line Transport will be stationed at BUS: all vehicles will be packed and loaded as per mobilisation Store Table ready for immediate advance.
 41. Water. There will be two means of obtaining water when in the line, viz:- (a) from trench supply pipes and (b) from 4 gallon petrol tins which will be stored in various dumps. The latter will only be used in the event of the pipe supply failing and all tins emptied will be at once re-filled and returned to store immediately the pipe supply is renewed. In the event of water from tins being used the allowance will be one third of a gallon per man per day. All water stored in tins will be chlorinated. Before the assault all water bottles will be filled and inspected.
 42. Sergeant BURNS will be stationed at COURCELLES (Y.M.C.A.) and will be responsible for the identification & collection of all stragglers: further orders re this will be issued.
 43. MEDICAL. Wounded will be collected as far as possible by Regimental Stretcher bearers & brought back from the area covered by the first bound to our present front line trenches, where they will be taken over by two bearer sub-divisions of the Field Ambulance & removed to EUSTON.
 44. Signal Stations are to be found near Brigade Headquarters: these will move forward during the assault to stations in SAP 'A' & SAP 'D'. It is hoped to establish a station at point K.30d.7.5. as the assault succeeds.
 45. Signal wires must on no account be cut, it is probable that wires will be laid in the open along trenches to be cleared, in which case they will be covered as deep as possible for protection by excavated earth.
 46. Traffic. The 92nd Brigade have instructions to ensure that the following routes in the front line system of trenches are kept clear on the night of June 18/19 between the hour of 10 pm. to daylight:-
 - (A) SOUTHERN AVENUE - SACKVILLE STREET - EXCEMA - ROB ROY - WARLEY to front line - along front line to its junction with CATEAU - CATEAU - CENTRAL AVENUE.
 - (B) SOUTHERN AVENUE - SACKVILLE ST. - FLAG to front line - along front line to its junction with

WARLEY - WARLEY - ROB ROY - EXCEMA - RAILWAY AVENUE.

All working parties will be duly warned. (The date of this was subsequently cancelled).

47. MAPS. Para. 8 Battalion Instructions is cancelled. Maps are being issued today on following scale:-
 (A) $\frac{1}{10.000}$ Trench Map: 1 to each company commander.
 (B) $\frac{1}{20.000}$ 57D. N.E. 1 to each officer detailed in para. 23. All reference in operation orders, reports, etc. will be made to the map 57D. N.E. $\frac{1}{20.000}$.
48. Equipment. The attention of all ranks must be drawn to the grave results consequent on the abandoning of equipment, the replacement of which involves a serious tax on the resources of supply: an even more important factor is that deficiency of equipment impairs a man's fighting efficiency.
49. The quartermaster will arrange for safe storage of rangefinders and other valuable instruments which are not being taken into action.
50. The necessity of carefully conserving the water in water bottles must be impressed on all ranks: water should not be drunk but used to rinse out the mouth only.
51. Arrangements have been made whereby one sand-bag per man may be obtained in which he may store any articles of personal kit & leave it with his pack. Each sandbag must be labelled, giving name, number, etc. Os/c companies will send in numbers of sandbags they will require as soon as possible.
52. Reference Battalion Instructions para 46: the instructions contained therein will be observed on the night of the 21/22nd June so far as (A) is concerned, and on night 22/23rd June so far as both (A) and (B) are concerned.
53. The Lewis Gun detachment will be under the orders of the G.O.C. 92nd Brigade. Place of assembly will be JEREMIAH.

S. GUY NEWTON

Captain & Adjutant,
 12th Bn. K.O.Yorks.L.I.
 (Miners Pioneers).

20.6.16.

 12th BN. K.O.Y.L.I. Instructions (contd.)

54. Maps have been issued today to Os/c all companies giving revised nomenclature of our trenches. O/c companies will be responsible that these are returned on Y day before noon and the loss of one of these maps must be at once reported.
 All copies of the $\frac{1}{100,000}$ LENS 11 map are to be returned at once.

55. With reference to para. 26 Battalion Instructions. All rations will be taken up to EUSTON on field kitchens: the Transport officer and Quartermaster will accompany every convoy.
56. A simple method by which captured field guns may be put out of action is to elevate the gun as far as possible and then drop a couple of Mills Grenades down the muzzle.
57. MARCH ROUTE. On the night Y/Z 2 Sections 210 Co. R.E. followed by 'C' Co. & 3 platoons 'B' Co. K.O.Y.L.I. will join the rear of the 11th EAST YORKS Regt. at Cross Roads J.26.b.9.0. at 10.55 pm and proceed via tract to cross roads at Cemetery J 27 d 46 - COURCELLES - NORTH OF COLINCAMPS CROSS Roads J 30 d 87 (this point to be reached at midnight.) - track North of COLINCAMPS to entrance of RAILWAY AVENUE - RAILWAY AVENUE - Assembly trenches, via RAILWAY AVENUE and SACKVILLE ST. The platoon of 'B' Co assembling in EDEN and the Lewis Gun detachment will join the rear of the 13th E.Yorks. Regt. at Cross Roads J 26 b 90 at 10.45 p.m. and proceed with them (via COURCELLES NORTH ROAD) as far as PYLON AVENUE where 'B' Co platoon will proceed via CENTRAL AVENUE - SACKVILLE ST. - (RED COTTAGE) - JORDAN - EDEN. The L.G.O. will branch off into JEREMIAH at junction of CENTRAL and PYLON.

S. GUY NEWTON,
 Captain & Adjutant,
 12th Bn. K.O.Yorks.L.I. (Miners
 Pioneers).

21.6.16.

SECRET.

 12th Bn. K.O.Y.L.I. Battalion Instructions.

58. Box respirators will be retained in possession at all times, and never left behind. Helmets will be worn by all troops in any case where there is any doubt by way of precaution. This applies specially to unknown hun shells. It must be particularly impressed on all ranks that when wearing gas helmets they must not run or shout or do anything to cause the use of an unusual amount of air for breathing purposes. The attention of the officers is particularly called to this.
59. Officers' dress. All officers will be dressed as nearly as possible like their men: puttees will be worn by all. As soon as possible badges of rank will be worn on the shoulder straps instead of on the sleeves.
60. Each company will send one officer to the Signal Hut, Bus Wood, daily at 12.30 pm midday & 6 p.m. for synchronisation of watches. During operations watches will be synchronised as often as possible.
61. Officers Commanding companies will be held responsible that all copies of operation orders, Battalion Instructions and Maps of our own trenches issued to their subordinate commanders are destroyed before leaving billets.

S. Guy Newton,
 Capt. & Adjutant,
 12th Bn. K.O.Y.L.I.
 31st Divl. Pioneers.

27.6.16.