

1st Battalion The Leicestershire Regiment.

October 1914

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A few shells at 6 a.m. Quiet all day.

Oct 2. Complimentary letter from Maj: Gen: Hamilton on the state of the entrenchments of the Bn. Pontoon extended to left to relieve one coy Y & L Regt. Cos distributed as under A coy as before

B " extended 25<sup>x</sup> to left

C " occupied trenches on

Halla in addition to previous sets

D " one platoon at CHATEAU & CAVE. One platoon in Valley in reserve. One platoon on VAILLE - HAUBERGUE ROAD.

One platoon B de H.Q.

3<sup>rd</sup> Oct Quiet all day some shelling at night.

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4<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet all day. Heavy shelling by our own guns about 5 p.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet day. Shelling late afternoon. Casualties 1 Private killed 2 Privates wounded.

6<sup>th</sup> Oct. Casualty 1 Private accidental rifle shot wound.

7<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet all day. Casualty 1 private accidental injury. Reference patrol work by Lewis Bayfield & Waller 1<sup>st</sup> Corps wires congratulations and appreciation of work.

8<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet day. Heavy shelling by our guns.

9<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet day. Heavy artillery duel during morning.

10<sup>th</sup> Oct. Quiet day. Shelling by our guns.

11<sup>th</sup> Oct. Still in occupation of trenches <sup>in morning.</sup>

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- 12<sup>th</sup> Oct: Quiet all day except for 3 shells. One drummer wounded.
- | Night 8/12: Relaxed in trenches by 100<sup>th</sup> French Infantry.
- | 13<sup>th</sup> Oct: Marched from near BAZOCHES to entrench at FISMES. Left FISMES at 12.20 night by train.
- | 14<sup>th</sup> Oct: Left train morning. Detrained at CASSEL: 3.0 am night of 14/15<sup>th</sup>
- | 15<sup>th</sup> Oct: Marched [from CASSEL] to OULTERSTEENE where we were billeted
- | 16<sup>th</sup> Oct: Marched at 6.0 am [from OULTERSTEENE] to LE CRUZO BEAU where billeted
- | 17<sup>th</sup> Oct: Marched at 9.0 am [from LE CRUZO BEAU] to CROIX BLANCHE
- | 18<sup>th</sup> Oct: Night of 17/18<sup>th</sup> took up defensive positions in vicinity of CROIX BLANCHE.
- | 19<sup>th</sup>: Marched at 2.0 PM to RUE DU BOIS and billeted for night 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>.
- | 19<sup>th</sup> Marched to ARMENTIERES STN. Left at 5.0 PM for Bois GRENIER and billeted there night of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>.

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20<sup>th</sup> Oct. Left BOIS GRENIER at 10:0 am.  
Took up a defensive position on line  
RUE DU BOIS - RUE Bridge over river  
immediately by L of LE MAR DE FE  
Received orders at 4:30 pm. to go to E of  
BOULOGNE & come under orders of  
17 I.B., ordered to prepare a position  
CH. D'HANNARDRY - PORTE EGAL EM.  
at 11 pm. ordered to entrench from  
E of BOULOGNE to PORTE EGAL  
~~counterorder to~~

21 Oct. (red) At 1 am.  
Counterorder to return to original  
16<sup>th</sup> Bde. trenches of yesterday which  
was again counterordered to take  
up line of 17<sup>th</sup> Bde. from E of  
BOULOGNE to RUE DE BOIS at 8 am.  
Took up position line RUE DE BOIS  
- M of MARQUART & entrenched  
quiet all day except heavy shelling  
on right in evening.

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- 21 Oct wed. Ordered to relieve W. YORKS  
in CHEMICAL FACTORY - RUE DE BOIS line  
at 8 p.m. Casualties 1 killed, 1 wounded.
- 22 Oct (Thurs.) Field trenches. Heavily  
shelled by Shrapnel & Heavy Howitzers all day  
Casualties, Lt Prauni & Lt Dods killed  
Lt Smeathman wounded & died.  
11 other ranks killed & 25 wounded.
- 23 Oct (Fri) Field trenches, attacked at dawn  
and at 4.30 p.m. both attacks beaten off.  
Heavily shelled all day.  
Casualties. Capt Gruchy killed. Lt Bayfield  
wounded. Other ranks killed, 21 wounded.
- 24 Oct (Sat.) Quiet till 4 p.m. when heavy  
shell fire opened on trenches in front of  
factory, compelling evacuation of that  
portion about 5.15 p.m. so threw back  
1 platoon B. Coy from R. of B. Coy to  
H.Q. & hence extruded new line along  
railway, about 200 yds in rear of old  
line, & entrenched it with help of E. YORKS