

1918Appendix.November

29th (Contd.)	<u>Other Ranks.</u>	7	"Killed".
		34	"Wounded".
		1	"Missing".

C. J. de B. SHERRINGHAM.
Lt. Colonel.
Commanding 8th (S) Bn Somerset Light
Infantry.

Report on Operations
for November 4th & 5th 1918.

The Battalion moved off from FERME BERNIER, SALESCHES at 06.30 hrs via X.20.b.4.2. - X.21.b.6.1. - Level Crossing X.15.b.1.3. - missing Cross Roads X.11.c.90.05 and moving across country by X.17.d. and X.11.d. so as to avoid shelling, to LOUVIGNIES - FUTOY Road at about S.7.d.2.3. thence through orchard to HAUTE FIVE FERRE S.7.d.8.9. where Battalion H.Q. remained, Companies moving on up. "A" & "B" Coys. to just this side of BYAU de PONT a'VACHE in S.9.b. & d. and S.3.c.

"D" Coy. to orchard in S.8.b. in touch with 10th Bn. Royal Fusiliers, "C" Coy; to vicinity of farm CROIX ROUGE until shelling situation made it advisable to move "C" Coy. further forward.

All Companies passed line of LOUVIGNIES - FUTOY Rd; between 08.10 and 08.30 hrs.

09.10 advance party sent forward to see if Battn. H.Q. could be established at PONT a'VACHE: no word being received by 10.00 I went forward, on the way instructing "C" Coy. at CROIX ROUGE to move forward. Shelling of S.8.b. & c. S.9.a. & c. heavy, found "D" Coy. and told them to push forward patrols and to establish touch with 13th Bn. Royal Fusiliers on flanks. I then found "A" & "B" Coys. in valley of BOYAN de PONT a'VACHE and learned that O.C. "A" Coy. had been killed.

Enemy sniping and Machine Gun fire was most active from orchard S.W. of JOLIMETZ and movement down into valley was difficult. I could not find O.C. "B" Coy. but learnt shortly afterwards that he must have been killed almost while I was visiting the companies in front line. Both these two company commanders lost their lives in reconnoitring forward with a view to merging with 1st/1st Herts Regt. in order to make a further attack.

At 13.00 hrs I ordered Companies to push out patrols and keep close touch with the enemy with a view to further advance. At 14.00 hrs I ordered two leading companies to push forward in conjunction with 1st/1st Herts as soon as possible.

Shortly after, report received that the Boche had retired.

Companies were immediately ordered (14.20 hrs) to push right on to JOLIMETZ and beyond.