

1918APPENDIXOctober11th  
(Cont'd)

Word received that this Company on going forward came under Machine Gun fire from Railway. On this account and on further word being received later, confirming occupation of Railway by enemy near E.25 central and further north, it was decided to try and get troops over river and into railway further South near Cemetery NEUVILLY. This Plan was approved by Brigade and another Company FOZA was placed at our disposal at 12 noon. This Company under 2/Lt. FRYER was then sent and "B" Coy of this Battalion with One Mortar to cross River by crossing in K.l.c. They attempted to cross in very extended formation (Section in Worms) but came at once under heavy Machine Gun Fire not only from N.E. but also from direction of NEUVILLY and were forced to withdraw to Road in J.6.a.& b. Consequently this, which was the main effort to restore the situation on left flank failed and no word of this was received until about 16.00 hrs. Word was sent at 12.00 hours to C.C. "A" Coy to get his Company across river and take up a position from which he could cooperate with the advance northwards along railway by "B" Coy and FOZA Company. He at once went out to reconnoitre and getting across river obtained the disposition of 4th Middlesex and New Zealanders. Owing to the incessant Rifle fire and Machine Gun fire by the enemy from Railway he was not able to move quickly and only returned at about 14.00 hours when he reported it impossible to get any men out across river in daylight. Meantime at 14.00 hours Headquarters moved forward and three platoons "C" Company to BRIASTRE getting all 70 men over forward slopes and into cellar accommodation without casualties by trickling them down. At 15.15. hours the enemy counter attacked heavily and careful watch was kept of the railway and road in case enemy should attempt to debouch and move forward against BRIASTRE or attack our troops on East side of River. No enemy movement being seen, the two companies were kept in cellars until dusk and in spite of the heavy shelling suffered no