

March 1918

George Derman

1918.

4.

Appendix.

March.

27th

Considerable artillery activity during previous night and early morning, 27th. About 2-45 a.m. a message came to move up the 2 Companies to 3rd System. This order was cancelled $\frac{1}{2}$ hour later. A raid had been attempted against the battalion on our left. The remainder of the day was quiet and men rested.

28th

At 3 a.m. a very heavy barrage fell North and South of the SCARPE, together with a considerable quantity of gas. 3 direct hits on STIRLING CAMP. About 6 a.m. orders came from Brigade to man the 3rd System with the remaining 2 Companies. Breakfasts were issued and the Companies moved off about 6-30 a.m. Shelling was very heavy on the FAMPoux Road, and a good deal of gas was being used. The Companies moved into position via Track "B", and got into position with 1 man killed. About 7-30 a.m. the Germans began their attack on our sector, but their progress was very slow. At 9-30 a.m. "C" Company were ordered to move down to the SCARPE to form a defensive flank facing South, holding from front line, 3rd System to Army Line, watching all bridges. At 12 noon the Hampshires still held CADIZ and COOT trenches. One Company, Rifle Brigade, was pushed forward to join up between them and the 12th Brigade. At 2 p.m. the situation was as follows:- 10th Brigade had withdrawn and the Seaforths held STOKK and Reserve Line, 3rd System. CADIZ was still held. 2-30 p.m. - The Seaforths withdrew to neighbourhood of ATHIES. During the night a readjustment of the line took place. Hampshires withdrew to trench running from EFFIE through H.9.b. to East of ATHIES. Rifle Brigade held new front line in STOKK from CAMEL to SCARPE. "Light" Company moved back into Reserve line, 3rd System. The remainder of Battalion remained the same. Casualties - 5 killed, 6 wounded, 1 missing.

29th

Heavy shelling early. About 7 a.m. a party of Germans were reported in STOKK Trench bombing down CAMEL. O/C "A" Company was ordered to send a bombing party down CAMEL to eject the enemy. As this was not successful Capt. Parsons ordered Lieut. Prince to counter-attack with 2 platoons from PORT. There was little time to give