

**WAR DIARY OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> REGIMENT NORTH IRISH HORSE<sup>1</sup>  
1 JULY 1916 TO 31 AUGUST 1917**

**X Corps Cavalry Regiment**

**July 1916**

1-3	–
4	Senlis. Headquarters arrived from England.
5	<p>Headquarters and three troops B Squadron North Irish Horse marched to Toutencourt, where C Squadron North Irish Horse were encamped. The concentration of the Regiment was carried out by 12 noon. One troop North Irish Horse at Acheux. 'A' Squadron Inniskilling Dragoons – two troops attached to 49 Division at Forceville, two troops with 25<sup>th</sup> Division at Senlis. One troop came under artillery fire at Aveluy Wood. Horses stampeded five wounded. 'A' Squadron concentrated at Senlis. See Appendix 'A'.</p> <p>[Appendix 'A'] Senlis. Orders were received from Assistant Provost Marshall 36<sup>th</sup> Division at 9am for the two troops dismounted to report to Captain O'Neill at Lancashire Dump for salvage duty. They carried out this duty, bringing in equipment, rifles etc till 1pm. The men had dinner and were just turning out again when Lieutenant Seymour received orders from 36<sup>th</sup> Division to return to Regimental Headquarters. The men had just started to saddle up when a heavy bombardment of both high explosive, shrapnel and machine guns was concentrated on the Wood. The intensity of the fire necessitated Lieutenant Seymour giving orders for the men to take shelter in some old dugouts and trenches close by. The bombardment lasted for three-quarters of an hour and then slackened but did not entirely stop. Up to now one horse was killed and four wounded. The men were then ordered to saddle up and lead their horses through Wood out on to the road and were waiting for the others to join up when the bombardment opened much heavier than previously, especially on that part of the road where the men were waiting. Lieutenant Seymour moved off up the road leaving 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Matthews<sup>2</sup> and Sergeant McIlvoy<sup>3</sup> to round up the stragglers in the wood, as by this time horses were very restive and almost unmanageable. Lieutenant Seymour with his party had reached about one mile along the road and turned down a lane leaving the horses in charge of Sergeant Quinn<sup>4</sup>. Almost immediately a heavy fire was</p>

<sup>1</sup> Official War Diaries (Ref. WO 95/874) signed by **Colonel W.Goring**, Commanding X Corps Cavalry Regiment, except for December 1916, signed in Goring's absence by **Major C.V Foster**.

<sup>2</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Ernest George Matthews**, formerly of Service Squadron 6<sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Fusiliers, later Captain in Labour Corps.

<sup>3</sup> **Sergeant James McIlroy** [sic] (North Irish Horse No.51).

<sup>4</sup> Probably **Sergeant W.A Quinn** (North Irish Horse No.18), formerly of Service Squadron 6<sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Dragoons, later (No.41097) Company Quartermaster Sergeant Royal Irish Fusiliers.

<sup>5</sup> Probably **Private Leonard Downes** (Inniskilling Dragoon Guards No.UD/267, Corps of Dragoons No.D/21276).

<sup>6</sup> Probably **Private John Nicholl** (Dragoons No.47, Royal Irish Fusiliers No.41611).

<sup>7</sup> Probably **Private Joseph Gourley** (6<sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Dragoon Guards No.UD/250, Corps of Dragoons D/21273), later 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 2/25<sup>th</sup> Punjabis.

<sup>8</sup> Likely to be **Private William Buchanan** (6<sup>th</sup> Dragoons No.31, Royal Irish Fusiliers No.41196).

	brought to bear on the horses and Sergeant Quinn was wounded. The horses stampeded in every direction, some back to Aveluy Wood. Eventually Lieutenant Seymour was able to round up most of this party and got to Senlis. [2 <sup>nd</sup> ] Lieutenant Matthews and Sergeant McIlroy remained behind. Our losses numbered sixteen horses killed or wounded and two missing. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Matthews was wounded severely in the knee from high explosives and Privates Downes <sup>5</sup> , Nicholl <sup>6</sup> , Gourley <sup>7</sup> wounded (hospital) and Privates Buchanan <sup>8</sup> , 195 Campbell <sup>9</sup> , (Bu?)tton, 105 Craig <sup>10</sup> , Corporal Dickson <sup>11</sup> , 209 Robinson <sup>12</sup> slightly wounded (duty).
6	The Regiment remained at Toutencourt. [Appendix 'A'] Today was spent in cleaning up and collecting horses, only one horse now being unaccounted for. The Squadron is at Senlis, Nos 1 and 4 Troops being attached to the 25 <sup>th</sup> Division, Nos 2 and 3 Troops to the 49 <sup>th</sup> Division. Headquarters of the Regiment has been formed, all staff etc coming from home, the command being under Colonel Goring <sup>13</sup> . 7pm. The following orders have been received: One NCO and four men to act as escort to the 25 <sup>th</sup> Divisional Commander; two NCOs and ten men for road control in area held by 25 <sup>th</sup> Division.
7	The Regiment concentrated at Senlis at 8.30am. One officer and ten men went on patrol duty to watch the crossings of the River Ancre between cemetery south of Authville and Albert. This patrol was recalled at 8pm. The XIIth Motor Machine Gun Battery and Corps Company Cyclists also concentrated. The whole of the Regiment was now concentrated less A: One officer and three men on X Corps observation post; five men unit General Officer Commanding 25 <sup>th</sup> Division; three men unit General Officer Commanding 36 <sup>th</sup> Division; twelve men on road control; three Signallers with 36 <sup>th</sup> Division; one man with Interpreter 36 <sup>th</sup> Division.
8	Routine work. The weather has been very wet but shows signs of improving.
9	AM. Routine work. 6pm. The services of the Regiment having been given to the 32 <sup>nd</sup> Division, the Regiment was ordered to stand to for the purpose of burying the dead. 7.40. Orders were issued by 32 <sup>nd</sup> for the Regiment to turn out as strong as possible and proceed to Crucifix Corner east of Aveluy. Considerable delay occurred owing to traffic on road. Horses were left some distance behind (Dogs legs) picketed and off saddled. 'A' Squadron (Inniskilling) were detailed to the 97 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. Owing to the guide failing to turn up and the difficulty of obtaining tools it was only with great difficulty the Squadron reached its destination where a telephone message was received ordering them back to camp which was reached at 3am. The party came under shell fire during march up to trenches. B and C Squadrons (North Irish Horse) proceeded to 14 <sup>th</sup> Headquarters and commenced work at 11.15pm. This party came under shell fire during their work, 'whiz bangs' being particularly active. There were no casualties however. Work being finished at 4am the squadrons returned to camp which was reached at 6.30am.
10	Two officers' patrols were sent out in the afternoon to report on camping grounds for two cavalry regiments which were coming in. The services of the Regiment were detailed to 25 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. 7pm. The regiment under Major Waring <sup>14</sup> , strength eighty per squadron, proceeded to clear up the battlefield in La-Boisselle. Horses were left west of Albert. The squadrons were attached to 7 <sup>th</sup> and 75 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigades. During work they came under continual heavy shell fire. Work was discontinued

<sup>9</sup> **Private Thomas Campbell** (6<sup>th</sup> Dragoons No.195, Royal Irish Fusiliers Lance Corporal No.41155).

<sup>10</sup> **Private John Craig** (6<sup>th</sup> Dragoons No.105, Royal Irish Fusiliers No.41377).

<sup>11</sup> Possibly **Lance Corporal Thomas Dickson** (Dragoons No.166, Royal Irish Fusiliers Sergeant No.41120).

<sup>12</sup> **Private George D Robinson** (Dragoons No.209, Royal Irish Fusiliers Sergeant N0.41133).

<sup>13</sup> **Walter Goring**, Brevet Colonel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Hussars

	just before dawn. The Regiment arrived back in camp at 6am. Casualties: wounded – 790 Private Ramsay J, B Squadron North Irish Horse <sup>15</sup> ; 991 Private Williamson T.J, C Squadron North Irish Horse. <sup>16</sup>
11	6pm. A party of 35 men proceeded to Achieux to bring in remounts for X Corps. 7.15pm. A party of three troops, one from each squadron, proceeded mounted to Albert where horses were left and working party of 75 proceeded on foot. Bodies of 41 British and 55 Germans were collected and buried. There was intermittent shelling by the enemy of the area but no casualties occurred. Work finished at 1.30 and camp was reached by 3.45am.
12	Two parties proceeded to clear up battlefield. Seventy-five working men to east of Albert and sixty to Crucifix Corner. After the parties had started a party of fifty Cyclists arrived under orders to help the Xth Corps Cavalry clear up. This party was sent to join up at Crucifix Corner but returned stating that the Cavalry had already gone up and that guides could not be found to take them up to 96 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. A British attack was made at 11.30 and the men came under heavy fire from German Artillery 11.30pm – 1.30am. Shelter was taken wherever it could be found. The party then continued work which was finished at 2.30. No casualties occurred. Camp was reached at 3am.
13	7.30. Parties of same strength were sent to the points as per yesterday's events. Twenty-five Cyclists accompanied the Crucifix Corner party but were recalled by order of General Officer Commanding. On arrival at points where guides were met they were told owing to an attack to be made by the Corps that they would only be blocking up the available passages for troops moving up. A return was made to camp which was reached at 11.30pm. Senlis. Major Chamberlayne <sup>17</sup> (has?) received orders to proceed as Second-in-Command to the 11 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Border Regiment. He handed over duties as Squadron Leader to Captain A Hulse <sup>18</sup> . One NCO and six men were sent to Assistant Provost Marshall as escort to German prisoners, returning to camp on handing over at Achieux.
14	Senlis. 7pm. Parties same strength and same destination. Fifty Cyclists accompanied the party which proceeded to Albert-Pozieres Road. The cyclists worked at salvage operations. The Xth Corps Cavalry forming burial party. Thirty-four British were buried, very few affects found. Only fourteen shovels were available for this work, a very creditable performance. Sixteen-hundred sand bags were taken up to first line. The Crucifix Corner party buried 62 bodies and collected one waggon load of salvage which was dumped at Ovilliers Post. Returned to camp 4.30. No shelling.
15	Senlis. 2.00pm. Two parties left for same areas, thirty and sixty strong. The Albert-Pozieres Road party buried 28 British and one German and collected 25 rifles and some equipment which was taken to salvage dump. The Crucifix Corner party buried 83 bodies, all British. 6.30pm. Orders came from Deputy (Assistant?) Adjutant & Quartermaster General relieving Xth Corps Cavalry from clearing up battlefield and issuing

<sup>14</sup> **Major Holt Waring** (later Lieutenant Colonel in Royal Irish Rifles) arrived in France on 1 May 1915 with the North Irish Horse and died of wounds on 15 April 1918, aged 41. Husband of Margaret Waring, of Waringstown, County Down, Ireland, he is buried at Wulvergehm-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery.

<sup>15</sup> **Private James Ramsey** (North Irish Horse No.790, Home Service Labour Corps (No.333719).

<sup>16</sup> **Private Thomas J Williamson** (North Irish Horse No.991, Home Service Labour Company (No.33372\_), Staffordshire Yeomanry (No.33272\_), Corps of Hussars (71988).

<sup>17</sup> **Major A Chamberlayne**, formerly commanding Service Squadron 6<sup>th</sup> Iniskilling Dragoons. Later Major, Acting Lieutenant Colonel, 20<sup>th</sup> Deccan Horse. (Possibly Athelstan Chamberlayne of the 76<sup>th</sup> Punjabis, served in the South Africa Campaign and France 1915-17, died 14 January 1920 aged 41, buried Janola Cemetery.)

<sup>18</sup> **Captain Adrian Hulse**, formerly of the Iniskilling Dragoons, later a Major in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

	<p>instructions for 200 men to go on unloading stone daily for Xth Corps. 8.45pm. Twenty Cyclists reported at point 75 but were ordered back, their services not being required.</p>
16	<p>Senlis. 10am. Church parade. 2pm. A working party of one Officer and fifty men total strength one Officer and 61 men proceeded to Contay for unloading stone daily at Contay Station, billeting there. Instructions issued: The officer to get into touch with Railway Transport Officer and find out what time trucks will arrive daily. This party was formed from C Squadron. 6pm. Orders received to collect all Cyclists who with remaining party of the Regiment will continue the work of clearing the battlefield.</p>
17	<p>Senlis. 7.00am. One hundred men under an Officer went to Achieux to unload stone. This party made up from all squadrons returned to camp at 6pm. 8.00am. Rain. A party of 36 from all squadrons and Headquarters left camp returning at 5pm. Twenty-four British and twenty German bodies were buried, only effects of three being recovered. A large amount of salvage including forty rifles were collected at the 48<sup>th</sup> Division salvage dump. All quiet. Forty of Cyclists Battalion gave assistance and collected a large quantity of salvage in the Mash Valley.</p>
18	<p>Senlis. 7.00am. Rain. Same party left to do unloading stone fatigue, at Acheux. The party (30) told to hold itself in readiness to go in p.m to Martinsart for the same work. This work should have been carried out by this party yesterday as well but owing to the Huns have broken the line with their shells the trucks containing the stone could not be brought up. Reported that squares X13d and X14c up to a line north and south through La Boisselle Church was now clear of bodies and salvage. 8.00am. Orders received that the party at Contay would be relieved, the party at Acheux would be reduced to fifty, and probably only thirty men would be required at Martinsart. The 100 men saved by this arrangement to be used in the cleaning up operations. 10.00am. Orders issued to Officer Commanding Contay party to return to Senlis this afternoon. From tomorrow the following arrangements have been made: One squadron to unload stones, one squadron to clear by day, one squadron to clear by night. This arrangement to hold good for three days, squadron then changing their duties. This arrangement should work out satisfactorily. The squadron on night duty only to work the first two nights, resting the third, so as to be able to go on the unloading fatigue work the fourth morning, i.e, the first morning of the new rounds. 'A' Squadron men from 25 Brigade returned to Headquarters. 7.00am [sic]. A party of 36, Headquarters, A and C Squadrons cleared up battlefield. Burial work was carried out between the Albert-Poizieres and the Albert-Contalmaison road[s] and south-west of these roads. Thirty-three British (including one officer) and seven German bodies were buried. A large quantity of British equipment, steel helmets etc etc were salvaged besides 88 British and 17 German rifles, and 95 Mills hand grenades. The Cyclists buried six British bodies west of la-Boisselle. Owing to a misunderstanding the party detailed for Martinsart failed to go.</p>
19	<p>Senlis. Fine. Fifty men on unloading stone at Acheux ('B'). Two troops of cavalry having been placed at the disposal of each division of 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup>, this rather upset the arrangements made to ensure the Squadrons having a rest from clearing operations. It having been decided in order to carry out the programme as far as possible the night party was struck out and told to hold itself in readiness forthwith: 'A'. Cyclists continued to clear up rifles and equipment. An issue (special) of rum for the Squadrons was asked for. C Squadron cleared up battlefield. Sixty-three British and 36 German bodies were buried. More than 300 rifles and various equipment were collected. Communication trench from X14c28 to X9a25 is now clear of dead but a lot of equipment still remains to be salvaged. There is a quantity of ammunition still lying about; this seems to have been freely scattered about, also numerous bombs and it appears almost as if bombs intended for front line never got there. The party got back about 5pm. The Cyclists also cleared up a lot of salvage. The party for Martinsart unloaded stone from 7.30pm [sic] to 3pm. The Huns indulging in shell fire most of the time but all shells going just over.</p>
20	<p>Senlis. Fine. Sanction for a special issue of rum received. Another alteration of orders (a daily occurrence). The fifty men working at Acheux to be</p>

	<p>withdrawn. This party will do clearing work tonight.</p> <p>7.30am. C Squadron found the day fatigue on battleground. There was some shelling. Captain F.G Uprichard<sup>19</sup> being slightly wounded very early in the proceedings. Seventeen British and three Germans were buried. One hundred and ninety-seven rifles and a quantity of equipment were salvaged. The following areas were reported to be now clear – X14d, X15c and X8d.</p> <p>8pm. B Squadron buried 76 British in X7b to X8c. The remainder of this squadron unloaded stone at Martinsart. All quiet. The Cyclists also did night work.</p> <p>12.30 night. Orders were received for two troops to proceed to 49<sup>th</sup> under arrangements between Officer Commanding X<sup>th</sup> Corps and 49<sup>th</sup>. 'A' Squadron on seeing this order immediately indulged in a little practice of turning out by night.</p>
21	<p>Senlis. C Squadron cleared up battlefield, burying one British and salvaging 160 rifles and a considerable number of bombs, small arms ammunition and equipment.</p> <p>6pm. The change of rounds took place at 6pm. Two troops C proceeded to Hedauville for duty with 49<sup>th</sup> Division.</p> <p>7.30. 'A' Squadron were proceeding for night salvage operations (65) when more orders were received detailing a party of 36 men to proceed to brickworks just north of Albert to unload stone, same work to be finished before dawn. Thirty men proceeded to battle field, burying three Officers, 48 Other Ranks, and two Germans. The stone fatigue party reported at Martinsart at 10.30pm and at 12.45 were informed that an accident had happened to the train load of stones which in consequence would not arrive so the party returned to Camp.</p>
22	<p>Senlis. Fine. The remaining two troops of C reported at Bouzincourt for duty with 48<sup>th</sup> Division. B Squadron cleared up battlefield. The German artillery was pretty active, No.1582 Private T Wright<sup>20</sup> getting wounded very early in the proceedings. A quantity of ammunition, rifles and other equipment was salvaged. The officer commanding this party reported that there were two dug outs were full of ammunition etc etc and had apparently been forgotten since 1<sup>st</sup> July. 'A' Squadron sent a stone fatigue party to Martinsart.</p>
23	<p>Senlis. 10.00. Cloudy but fine. Church Parade. During night 22/23<sup>rd</sup> Orders were received ordering all Corps Cavalry available to hold themselves in readiness to proceed at an hours notice. Information was sent to the Squadrons. 'A' Squadron sent a fatigue party to clear nine trucks stone at brickfields between Aveluy and Albert where railway crosses the road.</p>
24	<p>Senlis. Fine. Orders given for the Corps to go into Reserve Area. The Regiment was informed that the Cavalry of the incoming Corps would relieve the Regiment about 12 noon and that all 2<sup>nd</sup> line transport might be sent on in advance at 10.30am. The transport was all packed and just as it was about to move off 'news' came down that the Cavalry were remaining behind and would follow the next day.</p> <p>11pm. A party of fifty were sent to brickfields north of Albert to unload stone.</p> <p>During the day a quantity of clothing etc was sent to the Regiment for issue: It was pointed out to Ordnance that there was no transport available to take the issues on to the next camp and a request was made that these issues might be made on reaching new area. This was promptly refused and the Regiment was told that all stores were being left behind and handed over to new Corps. (It is more than likely that same articles might have been issued three weeks ago.) A hurried visit to Headquarters procured the loan of a motor lorry which left Senlis at 3pm under charge of eleven men.</p>
25	<p>Senlis. 12 noon. Fine. Hot day. The Cavalry of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps duly arrived and took over the Camp. A and B Squadrons marched to Domart at 12.30pm, 2<sup>nd</sup></p>

<sup>19</sup> **Captain Forster Green Uprichard**, North Irish Horse then Royal Irish Rifles, arrived France 3 October 1915 (as Lieutenant, North Irish Horse).

<sup>20</sup> **Private Thomas Wright** (North Irish Horse No.1582) died on 28 July 1916. Aged 22, he was the son of Mary and the late William Wright of Damhead Cottages, Coleraine, Ireland. He is buried at Etaples Military Cemetery.

	line transport having left at 8.30am. Domart was reached at 6.30pm where it was found that the Squadrons' billets or camps had been scattered to the corners of the town. Headquarters and A Squadron were quartered near the watering place, the other two Squadrons being three-quarters of a mile distant. C Squadron remained with 48 <sup>th</sup> and 49 <sup>th</sup> Divisions under orders to join the Regiment with the least possible delay.
26	Domart. Fine. Rest. Arms inspection ordered and a report as to state of arms to be sent in to Orderly Room. Arrangements made for a parade ground at Chateau de la Haye.
27	Domart. Fine. A and B Squadrons paraded on their own grounds at 8.30am and marched independently to parade ground. Troop drill. It was found that A Squadron drill according to drill book. B Squadron did troop drill under some different arrangement. The Adjutant and the Regimental Sergeant Major took two troops each, shewed them how to form troop etc in accordance with principles laid down in drill book. The troop commanders then took their own troops. The squadrons were then worked for half an hour as squadrons, returning to Camp at 12 noon. Following instructions were issued: 'To Squadron leaders – The drill of the Regiment will be carried on according to Cavalry Training 1914. Squadron leaders will please ensure that Troop and Section leaders are acquainted with the principles there laid down. This preliminary instruction should be given by lecture and foot drill, usually in the afternoon. The Adjutant and Regimental Sergeant-Major will visit the squadrons during foot drill and give assistance.'
28	Domart. Fine. A and B [Squadrons] - routine work, morning and afternoon parades. 12 noon. The General Officer Commanding X <sup>th</sup> Corps came round the lines and inspected the Camp. 5pm. C Squadron marched in on relief from 48 <sup>th</sup> and 49 <sup>th</sup> Divisions.
29	Domart. Fine. A and B [Squadrons] - routine work. C [Squadron] – Veterinary Officer inspected horses at 11.00. Arms inspection.
30	Domart. Fine. Church Parade at 10am. Assistant Director Veterinary Services inspected Regimental horses at 12 noon.
31	Domart. Fine. Routine work.
<b>August 1916</b>	
1	Domart. Fine. Routine work. Twenty-five men arrived for A Squadron Sunday.
2	Flesselles. Fine. 8.30. A Squadron left Domart for Flesselles. This Squadron has been given orders to hold 100 dismounted men as a daily fatigue. It is understood that these men will be required for guard duties and unloading and reloading ammunition. Officer Commanding Squadron to report to Officer Commanding Ammunition Details. B Squadron proceeded for work under Provost Marshall 4 <sup>th</sup> Army: One troop to be attached to Provost Marshall 4 <sup>th</sup> Army One troop to be attached to Assistant Provost Marshall 3 <sup>rd</sup> Corps One troop to be attached to Assistant Provost Marshall 13 <sup>th</sup> Corps One troop to be attached to Assistant Provost Marshall 15 <sup>th</sup> Corps. One troop C Squadron proceed to Villers Bocage for traffic control duty on Amiens–Doullens Road to report to Assistant Provost Marshall 10 <sup>th</sup> Corps. 9am. Headquarters and C Squadron less one troop marched to Flesselles, a distance of about 10 miles. This place was reached at 11.15am and the troops went into billets. 4.30pm. The Adjutant Cyclists Battalion arrived from Albert and stated that twelve Officers and 63 men were coming in. Whilst he was in the Office

	<p>Officer Commanding Communication Details called in and asked that the 100 men detailed for fatigue duties might be placed permanently in his camp as had been done previously by all fatigues. It was pointed out to him that this was impossible as the horses had to be looked after. It was then arranged that fifty men of A Squadron and fifty Cyclists would proceed to his camp tomorrow where they might be billeted.</p> <p>5pm. Reported to 'Q' arrival at Flesselles. The camping grounds taken over by me here were left in a very dirty condition, manure etc being left behind; this entails extra fatigues on the troops marching in. There is sufficient water here for horses, but it is of bad quality from stagnant ponds.</p> <p>7.30pm. Officer Commanding C Squadron reported that the Assistant Provost Marshall 10<sup>th</sup> Corps had returned most of the troop, keeping two NCOs and eight men at Poulainville, one NCO and four men at Talmas and one NCO and four men at Vert Galand.</p>
3	Flesselles. Sanction having been obtained, C Squadron left at 3pm for Havernas. Officer Commanding B Squadron reports that his Squadron is split up into small parties.
4	Flesselles. Routine. A draft of six Signallers for North Irish Horse arrived from Rouen. Major Holt Waring transferred to 13 Battalion Royal Irish Rifles.
5	Flesselles. Fine. Routine. Orders received from General Staff 10 <sup>th</sup> Corps that the Commanding Officer will take charge of the advanced training of all the Corps Mounted Troops, and will arrange to carry out with such Officers and NCOs as are available schemes and exercises which combine the tactical use of cavalry, cyclists and machine guns. A scheme was sent out to all units with general and special ideas requiring all of the rank of Captain and above to appreciate the situation and write orders.
6	Flesselles. Fine. Routine.
7	<p>Flesselles. Fine. Routine. Orders received from Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General that in order to curtail work done by IX<sup>th</sup> Corps, all available troops were to be used in filling in trenches in area 'Z'; i.e. south of Flesselles and north and east of Vignacourt–Amiens Railway. A report of work done to be sent in every Saturday.</p> <p>2.15pm. All Officers met and discussed the appreciations and orders sent in. It was arranged that C Squadron should remain at Havernas, sending in working parties each day to fill in the trenches.</p>
8	Flesselles. Fine. A party of A [Squadron] from those not on ammunition fatigue and C Squadron commenced filling in trenches.
9	<p>Flesselles. Fine. Routine work.</p> <p>8.45. Staff ride for Officers of mounted troops. One Squadron's work on scheme was taken, various situations created and discussed. Patrols sent out. Officers concerned sending in statement of operations with Officer Commanding units criticisms.</p>
10	Flesselles. Some rain. Owing to slight rain in morning filling in of trenches was postponed until afternoon. A draft of 55 NCOs and men arrived – ten for A [Squadron], 24 for B [Squadron], 21 for C [Squadron].
11	Flesselles. Staff ride continued. Routine work. The following Officers reported their arrival and were posted to Squadrons – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hesketh <sup>21</sup> A [Squadron], 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Auber <sup>22</sup> A [Squadron], 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Whalen C [Squadron] <sup>23</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hutchinson <sup>24</sup> C [Squadron].

<sup>21</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>22</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Joseph Auber** (liverpool Regiment), Lieutenant (5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Indian Army).

<sup>23</sup> **Frederick Joseph Whalen** (Surrey Yeomanry Private No.1849, North Irish Horse attached Tank Corps Lieutenant).

<sup>24</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant W.H Hutchinson**. Identity uncertain.

12	Flesselles. Routine work.
13	Flesselles. Routine. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Dean, <sup>25</sup> Hancock <sup>26</sup> and Kirkbride <sup>27</sup> joined from 10 <sup>th</sup> Reserve Cavalry, Curragh, and were posted as follows: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Dean and Hancock to B Squadron, and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Kirkbride to A [Squadron].
14	Flesselles. Routine work. A scheme was sent to all units. All Officers of rank of Captain and upwards to write 'Appreciations of the situation.'
15	Flesselles. Routine work. Five Privates (Signallers) joined from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reserve Cavalry and were posted to A Squadron. 'Appreciations of the situation' in scheme referred to yesterday rendered by the Officers and checked by the Commanding Officer.
16	Flesselles. 9am. Staff ride for all Officers and NCOs not otherwise employed. The scheme referred to on 15 <sup>th</sup> inst. was worked out on the ground. Routine work, filling in trenches etc.
17	9am. Light rain. Staff ride for all Officers and NCOs not otherwise employed. The scheme referred to on 15 <sup>th</sup> inst. was worked out on the ground from another point of view. Routine work. Captain Foster <sup>28</sup> , Privates Corbett <sup>29</sup> and Greer <sup>30</sup> (North Irish Horse) proceeded to 95 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade for duty.
18	Light rain, heavy rain at night. Routine work. Field General Court Martial held on Sergeant Ashcroft <sup>31</sup> North Irish Horse. Accused was acquitted.
19	Heavy rain in forenoon interfered with all work. Trench filling and routine work in afternoon.
20	Routine.
21	Routine. Twenty-four riding horses arrived.
22	Routine.
23	Routine. Twelve Officers attached for instruction to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Indian Cavalry Division. Captain Foster rejoined.
24	Routine.
25	Routine.
26	Routine. The Commanding Officer visited B Squadron posts.
27	Flesselles. Routine work.
28	Flesselles. Routine work. Captain Foster joined 91 <sup>st</sup> Brigade, Lieutenant Seymour taking up Acting Adjutant.
29	Routine work. Five horses X Corps Cavalry Regiment and three Artillery horses evacuated, one man from C Squadron taking them to Abbeville by train.

<sup>25</sup> **Herbert Shelton Dean**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant North Irish Horse, Captain Royal Ulster Rifles.

<sup>26</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>27</sup> **Clarence Donovan Kirkbride**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Reserve Regiment of Cavalry attached Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.

<sup>28</sup> Possibly **C.S Foster**, Major Lancers Baluch Horse then Staff.

<sup>29</sup> Possibly **Private George Corbett** (6<sup>th</sup> Dragoons No.1275).

<sup>30</sup> Either **Private J.K Greer** (North Irish Horse No.1006, later Lieutenant Irish Guards), or **Private T Greer** (6<sup>th</sup> Dragoon Guards No.130, Royal Irish Fusiliers Lance Corporal No.41105).

<sup>31</sup> **Sergeant Hugh Ashcroft** (North Irish Horse No.137, Corps of Hussars No.71007).

30	Routine work.
31	Wet, showery. Five Officers and 108 Other Ranks Cyclists sent to relieve B Squadron at Pont Nivelles. Instructions received from Headquarters X Corps that B Squadron remain until 3 <sup>rd</sup> (September?) to instruct Cyclists in road duties. Corporal Reagh's <sup>32</sup> horse exchanged from Provost Marshall 4 <sup>th</sup> Army. One man C Squadron returned from Abbeville. Filling in of trenches completed and report sent to Headquarters.
<b>September 1916</b>	
1	Flesselles. 9am. Wet. Routine work. Brushwood all cleared from ground work all completed.
2	Flesselles. 9am. Fine. A and C Squadrons had Squadron parades. They drill under Commanding Officer. Revolver course for NCOs and further training for Hotchkiss Gun sections. Arrangement made with 71 <sup>st</sup> Brigade for baths for men of A and B [Squadrons] and Headquarters staff.
3	9am. Fine. Church parade A Squadron and Headquarters Staff at 10.30am Band of Norfolk Regiment played during Service. B Squadron marched in at 12.40pm and settled into quarters, they came from Pont Noyelles.
4	Very wet. Regimental parade ordered for 9am cancelled on account of rain, which commenced about 7.30am. An order cancelling move to training ground arrived 1 o'clock.
5	Fine. The Regiment had a field scheme with 71 <sup>st</sup> Brigade acting as left flank protection to a force of infantry attacking Bois de (Leggart?), getting back to lines at 1 o'clock.
6	Fine. Regimental drill under Commanding Officer. Back in lines at 12.30. 71 <sup>st</sup> Brigade marched out. Major Whitla <sup>33</sup> took over duties of Town Major from 5 <sup>th</sup> inst.
7	Flesselles. 9am. Weather fine. Horse inspection 10.30am of whole Regiment. Lecture by Commanding Officer 2pm on Regimental drill. Captain Uprichard rejoined C Squadron on being relieved at Contay by 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Vesey <sup>34</sup> . Nine Officers who were attached to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Indian Cavalry rejoined their Squadrons in the course of the day. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Dean and Hancock have yet to rejoin from Le Mazis where they are attached to 18 <sup>th</sup> Lancers. Every available man in Regiment had a hot shower bath.
8	Fine. Regimental drill under Commanding Officer and had a small scheme manoeuvre on way back to lines but found crops to be too thick yet. The

<sup>32</sup> Probably **Lance Corporal S Reagh** (North Irish Horse No.676), later No.P/4907 of the Military Mounted Police. Alternatively, **Private James Reagh** (North Irish Horse No.566).

<sup>33</sup> **Valentine George Whitla**, Major 10<sup>th</sup> Corps Cavalry Regiment and Hussars.

<sup>34</sup> **Lieutenant George Waller Vesey** (North Irish Horse), later Captain, attached to 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers. Arrived in France 18 November 1915. Awarded Military Cross. Died 26 March 1918, aged 34. Vesey was from Derrabard, Fintona, Co. Tyrone. Son of G. Lendrum, J.P., D.L., and Mrs. Lendrum, of Corkill, Kilskeery, Co. Tyrone; husband of Sybilla S. Vesey, of Down Lodge, East Harting, Petersfield, Hants. He is buried at Vignemont French National Cemetery.

	Regimental Sergeant-Major gave a lecture with blackboard diagrams on drill to the NCOs of Regiment.
9	Fine. Routine work. There was a Regimental race meeting at Contay and Captain Henry <sup>35</sup> of B Squadron had a horse entered in 'The New Derby' so a good many of the Regiment rode over to the meeting. Unfortunately 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Smart <sup>36</sup> who rode the horse made a mistake and rode the wrong course after he practically had won.
10	Fine. In the morning Colonel Goring, Major Whitla and the Acting Adjutant rode over the ground of a proposed scheme for Monday. Orders came from Headquarters Corps at 12.30pm for B Squadron to move to Querrieu to perform road control under Provost Marshall 4 <sup>th</sup> Army. Church Parade 10.30am. Inspection of (cart?) horses by Veterinary Officer-in-charge at 11.30am.
11	Fine. B Squadron moved off at 9.15 for Querrieu and C Squadron marched in from Havernas at 12 noon. On account of B Squadron move the proposed scheme had to be postponed. Inspection of remount cases by Deputy Director of Remounts 4 <sup>th</sup> Army 5.45pm.
12	Flesselles. Damp. The scheme as explained to Squadron leaders having been postponed from previous day the two Squadrons A and C paraded as strong as possible and had two hours skeleton drill under Second-in-Command (Major Whitla) and on completion of drill the Commanding Officer drilled the Squadron in forming on markers. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hancock and two servants are attached temporarily to C Squadron.
13	Damp. The scheme as explained to Squadron Leaders on the 10 <sup>th</sup> inst was carried out. The Corps Commander and Brigadier were present. At 3pm all Squadron Leaders, Troop Leaders and Patrol Leaders were present at a lecture in Orderly Room by the Commanding Officer on the day's work. Ten horses were evacuated (?) veterinary cases.
14	Fine. Two Squadrons and a skeleton Squadron took part in scheme arranged by Commanding Officer over practically same ground as yesterday, parade being taken by Commanding Officer on completion of scheme, Commanding Officer saw Squadron, Troop and Patrol Leaders. Three horses of the Regiment and one Artillery horse handed over were evacuated, authority for evacuation of Artillery horse Captain F.S Clay <sup>37</sup> , Army Veterinary Corps. All messages received and sent and a report by patrol leaders on day's work handed in to Commanding Officer. Field Cashier came at 3.50pm. An order came at 8pm over the phone from Q to supply 32 more men for ammunition dump at Contay. 'A' Squadron found eighteen and C Squadron twelve of the 32 men required.
15	Flesselles. Fine. 10am. A and C Squadrons paraded under the Commanding Officer at 9am to carry out a scheme of convoy protection work. A party of thirty men, eighteen from A Squadron and twelve from C Squadron, proceeded to Contay at 8.30am in charge of Sergeant Davis <sup>38</sup> A Squadron one horse from C and four from A Squadron were evacuated to M[obile?] Veterinary station Querrieu, Farrier Quartermaster Sergeant in charge. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant C.B Despard <sup>39</sup> was a member of a Field General Court Martial assembled at Headquarters 12 <sup>th</sup> Motor Machine Gun Battery. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants J Auber and W.H Hutchinson attended for instruction.
16	Flesselles. Fine. 10am. All Squadron Sergeant Majors and Sergeants of the two Squadrons were practiced in skeleton drill under the Regimental Sergeant-Major from 8.30am, returning to lines at 11am. During the day the whole Regiment had the use of the town baths. A scheme to be carried out by the

<sup>35</sup> **Richard Alexander Baitlee Henry**, Lieutenant then Captain, North Irish Horse (but see also **Captain R.A.B Filgate**, 4 August 1917).

<sup>36</sup> **Richard Reginald Smart**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant then Captain, North Irish Horse, arrived in France on 9 November 1915.

<sup>37</sup> **Captain Frank Septimus Clay**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant then Captain, Army Veterinary Corps.

<sup>38</sup> Identity uncertain, as a large number of men in the North Irish Horse bore this name.

<sup>39</sup> **C.B Despard**, Lieutenant then Captain, Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.

	Regiment on one day during the week was received from Corps Command, X Corps, in which all available guns of Motor Machine Gun Company should attend. Corporal Wherry <sup>40</sup> takes over charge of the baths from this date. A Court of Enquiry to enquire into damage done to barns in the village was ordered to assemble at a date to be named later. President Major Arthur <sup>41</sup> 12 Motor Machine Gun Battery, members one Officer X Corps Cavalry and one Officer X Corps Cyclist Battallion.
17	Flesselles. 10am. Fine. A and C Squadrons attended Divine Service as strong as possible at 10.30am. 'A' Squadron relieved thirteen men of C Squadron at the ammunition dump Flesselles Station. Major Scobell <sup>42</sup> from Corps Headquarters interviewed Officer Commanding X Corps Cavalry re proposed scheme. Captain F Uprichard started for Amiens on seven day leave to Ireland W.P.A.
18	Flesselles. 10am. Very wet. On account of the continued rain the staff ride under Commanding Officer was put off to 2pm and from same cause finally postponed to Tuesday. Four men from A Squadron were transferred to Regimental Headquarters and two men from C [Squadron].
19	Flesselles. Morning wet, afternoon fine. Staff ride under Commanding Officer, Officers and Sergeants, over the ground of proposed scheme took place at 2.15pm instead of 9.00 on account of the morning being wet.
20	Wet and cold. Corps Headquarters telephoned at 8.15am again putting off the scheme arranged for today as the weather was bad and threatening. Lieutenant Leader <sup>43</sup> C Squadron left at 8.30am to take charge of the working party at Contay. Thirty-two remounts were brought from Hengest and held over for allotment to Squadrons until next morning, being late when they arrived.
21	Fine. Two Squadrons under Commanding Officer had 2½ hours advance and flack guard exercise. The Commanding Officer allotted the 32 remounts to the three Squadrons in the morning. The 90 <sup>th</sup> Brigade of 30 <sup>th</sup> Division marched into Flesselles.
22	Flesselles. 8.30pm. Very fine. Scheme originally worked out by Brigadier-General General Staff Headquarters was carried out by Regiment today under Officer Commanding and on his appreciation. The Motor Machine Gun Battery cooperated with Regiment. The General Officer Commanding attended, and after the operations saw all the Officers and remarked on the work done. Major Scobell Headquarters also was present.
23	Flesselles. 9am. Fine. Revolver practice for Officers, Sergeants and Hotchkiss gun men at a range between here and Wargnies. Shooting very good on an average. Lieutenant Auber A Squadron returning a card of 98 out of a possible 120.
24	9am. Football match between the Regiment and Motor Machine Gun Battalion resulted in one goal each (association). Sunday, no Church Parade.
25	6pm. Scheme under Commanding Officer to find and bring in a disabled convoy waggon. Hostile planes flew over Flesselles at 10.40pm but did no damage. Lieutenant Coey <sup>44</sup> , C Squadron, having been transferred to 10 <sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Rifles left to join that Regiment today.
26	8.45am. Fine. Revolver practice for Officers and Sergeants was carried out during the morning. Commanding Officer visited B Squadron also their several posts of road control and found everything well. This date marks the capture of Theipval and Combles. Lieutenant Leader rejoined the Squadron with

<sup>40</sup> **James Malcolm Wherry** (North Irish Horse No.558, Staff Quartermaster Sergeant and then 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant).

<sup>41</sup> Probably **B Arthur**, Temporary Major, Machine Gun Corps.

<sup>42</sup> **S.J.P Scobell**, Major and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, Norfolk Regiment and Staff.

<sup>43</sup> **Lieutenant Thomas Henry Mowbrey Leader**, arrived France 18 November 1915, with North Irish Horse. Later Captain, Tank Battalion.

<sup>44</sup> Probably **James Arthur Coey**, Private (No.962) then Lieutenant and Captain, North Irish Horse; or possibly **George Hamilton Coey**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Royal Irish Rifles, or **Edward Coey**, Lieutenant Royal Irish Rifles then Captain Machine Gun Corps.

	dismounted party of ammunition dump fatigue from Contay.
27	Flesselles. 9am. Fine. Flag scheme for two Squadrons A and C was carried out under supervision of Commanding Officer.
28	Fine. All Sergeants and Officers and Hotchkiss gunners fired off mounted course. Revolver shooting in the morning.
29	5pm. Fine. A reconnaissance scheme by A and C Squadrons was carried out under supervision of Commanding Officer. The Regiment had use of the town baths all day up to 5pm.
30	Fine. Routine work.
<b>October 1916</b>	
1	Flesselles. Fine. Divine Service was held on usual Church of England parade ground at 9.15am. There was a boxing tournament in the afternoon given by the Manchester Regiment. On this date Winter time came into force, clocks were put back one hour at 1am (Summer time).
2	Flesselles. Fine up to 11am then wet. The scheme arranged by Commanding Officer today had to be postponed to tomorrow as the Brigade arranged to work over the ground on which the scheme was to have been carried out. The two Squadrons with one skeleton Squadron did Regimental drill under Commanding Officer from 8.45am till 11am.
3	Flesselles. Wet in the morning. The scheme postponed yesterday morning had again to be put off owing to rain. A and C Squadrons did Squadron drill for two hours as the rain stopped before 2pm. Country was very heavy. Officer Commanding was present.
4	Flesselles. Morning wet. The scheme arranged for 2 <sup>nd</sup> inst had to be postponed for a 3 <sup>rd</sup> time on account of bad weather, and A and C Squadrons had two hours Squadron drill under Squadron Leaders. Commanding Officer inspected C Squadron drilling. Five horses for the Regiment and one draught horse for Cyclist Battalion were brought from Hengest.
5	Flesselles. 2.30pm. Fine. A scheme dealing with patrol work, proper wording and transmission of despatches was carried out under Commanding Officer, credit or otherwise being given for condition of despatch rider's horse. A meeting of all Officers and Patrol Leaders and NCOs in charge of posts was afterwards held in Orderly Room and mistakes pointed out by Commanding Officer.
6	Flesselles. 10am. Fine. Squadron drill by A and C Squadrons was carried out in the morning, the Commanding Officer and Major Whitla supervising. A fatigue party of twelve men and a Sergeant started reed cutting at Torancourt.
7	10am. Fine. Routine duty. A Field General Court Martial assembled at 10am to try Corporal McIntosh <sup>45</sup> , A Squadron, on a charge of absent from duty and drunk. A Board consisting of Captains Dimes <sup>46</sup> , Uprichard and Lieutenant Despard examined five candidates for certificates in cold shoeing. The five passed successfully.
8	5am. Very wet. There was no Divine Service. The Officer Commanding and Acting Adjutant visited the control posts of B Squadron.
9	Flesselles. 12 noon. Fine. Scheme reconnaissance and patrol work by A and C Squadrons commenced 8.30. Troops returned to lines 1pm. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant

<sup>45</sup> Probably **Corporal John McIntosh** (Dragoons No.45, Royal Irish Fusiliers Private No.41086). Alternatively, **Private Albert McIntosh** (North Irish Horse No.734, Royal Irish Fusiliers No.9/41328).

<sup>46</sup> Probably **C.H Dimes**, Lieutenant Divisional Ammunition Column Army Veterinary Corps, then Captain Heavy Battery.

	Birch Reynaldson <sup>47</sup> had a Regimental signalling scheme in conjunction with Signallers of Cyclist Battalion from 8.30am to 4.30pm. Finding of Field General Court Martial on Corporal McIntosh was promulgated.
10	Flesselles. Noon. Fine. Squadron drill under Squadron Leaders. Officer Commanding went into Lóng to Corps Headquarters. Regimental Signallers under Lieutenant Birch-Reynaldson did three hours telephone work in morning and 2½ night work with lamps from 6pm to 8.30.
11	10am. Misty. Scheme for reconnaissance and patrol and dispatch riding was carried out by A and C Squadrons under Officer Commanding and Major Whitla. A conference was held in Orderly Room at 3.30. Major Whitla pointed where mistakes etc had occurred. 7 & 8 Battalions Middlesex Regiment both belonging to 167 <sup>th</sup> Brigade were billeted in the town this day. Brigade Headquarters being at Signal Chatteau.
12	Fine. Regimental drill by Commanding Officer was carried on for two hours this morning, a third Squadron being represented by skeleton formation. Colonel Goring took over the duties of Local Commandant.
13	Fine. A and C Squadrons paraded as strong as possible and took part in a reconnaissance scheme under Commanding Officer.
14	Flesselles. 2.30pm. Fine and cold. The Commanding Officer held an inspection of all horses and transport animals in the Regiment. Ten dismounted men from A Squadron proceeded to Frehencourt to be attached to B Squadron which was short handed.
15	Fine. Church Parade was held on usual Church parade ground.
16	Fine. A and C Squadrons had Regimental drill under Commanding Officer, a skeleton Squadron led by Captain Grant <sup>48</sup> was utilised. Reveille was altered from this date to six o'clock and usual trumpet calls were restarted.
17	Morning fine, evening wet. A scheme which arrived from Headquarters was carried out today for the purpose of reconnaissance training, and a full report of all work done in connection with scheme was forwarded to Headquarters this day.
18	Wet. Parade for Regimental drill had to be cancelled this morning on account of rain.
19	Wet. Parade again had to be cancelled on account of heavy rain. 167 <sup>th</sup> Brigade marched out at 5am this morning. Instruction for Corps Mounted Troops to move north were received this morning 12 midnight. 60 <sup>th</sup> Brigade marched into Flesselles.
20	Flesselles. 8.30pm. Fine. A and C Squadrons 2½ hours tactical exercise under Commanding Officer. Headquarters and Transport had use of baths for two hours in the morning. Definite orders came in last evening, Regiment to move to unknown area on 27 <sup>th</sup> inst.
21	Flesselles. 5pm. Fine and frosty. Routine work. Under orders from Headquarters 10 <sup>th</sup> Corps, a party of fifty men and one Officer, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hesketh, proceeded to Abeele to take over road control from Canadians. Captain C.S Foster rejoined Headquarters this day.
22	5pm. Fine and frosty. Routine work.
23	8.30pm. Fine. Routine work. After all packing had been finished for our move tomorrow and our billeting party had gone on they found out that there were no billets available and move was eventually cancelled or postponed by 4 <sup>th</sup> Army. A small party of 15 <sup>th</sup> Corps Cavalry marched in and are to relieve [a] like number of our men on road control in immediate neighbourhood.
24	Wet. Routine work.

<sup>47</sup> **Morgan Henry Birch Reynardson**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Dragoons, Lieutenant Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, Captain Lancers, Indian Army.

<sup>48</sup> Probably **John Grant**, Lieutenant North Irish Horse, Captain 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, Royal Engineers.

25	Wet. Routine work. Report sent in that all work as far as cutting and binding rushes at La Chaussè has been completed. Party returned to Flesselles.
26	Flesselles. 8pm. Fine. Secret operation order relative to our move to new area were published.
27	8pm. Fine but cold and threatening. The Regiment marched from Flesselles at 8.30am arriving at Outredois at 12.45. The Cyclist Battalion moved off from starting point 8.20am and proceeded to Occohes where they billeted for the night. Both Cavalry and Cyclists appeared to have good billets.
28	2.30. Wet and cold. Cavalry marched at 9.15, transport and sick horses having preceded them by half an hour, and reached Conchy sur Canche at 1.20pm. Cyclist Battalion going to Boubers sur Canche. No mishaps occurred.
29	8pm. Wet and cold. Moved off at 9.15 and marched to Monchy Cayeux, eleven miles, arriving at 12.20. Cyclists going to Anyin. Billets in this halt were very bad both for men and horses.
30	Wet. Cavalry marched to Therouanne, starting at 8.50 and arriving at about 12.30. Billets were excellent. Previous to starting the Veterinary Officer who was in charge [of] sick horses had to shoot a horse of B Squadron, ulcerated co(?)t. B Squadron also lost one horse that night.
31	Showery. Cavalry marched to Wallon Cappel, fifteen miles, started 8.35am and arriving at 1pm. Very good billets but Squadrons were scattered among farms.
<b>November 1916</b>	
1	Wallon Cappel. Showers between sunshine. Marched via Hazebrouck and Abeele to our new area L7D starting at 8.35, sick horses leading off, and arriving at our destination about 1.45. The area consists of farms among which Squadrons are billeted in very bad billets. Headquarters consists of two wooden huts and country in a very soft and muddy state. Captain Foster went on ten days leave to U.K.
2	Thorè Farm. Wet. Routine. Squadrons handed to Squadron Leaders in order to improve billets etc and horse standing.
3	Thorè Farm. Wet. Routine work.
4	Thorè Farm. Showery morning. Horse inspection by Deputy Director Remounts 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army at 2.30.
5	Thorè Farm. Dry but cold. Twenty dismounted men went by buss to 23 <sup>rd</sup> Division, twenty to 41 <sup>st</sup> Division, and twenty to 47 <sup>th</sup> , all for road control work.
6	Very wet. Routine work. Bathing parade had to be abandoned on account of rain and also digging party.
7	Very wet. Routine work.
8	Thore Farm. 6pm. Wet cold. Routine work. Two hundred and twenty-eight men had baths at Poperinghe and at 3.30pm 120 men, two Sergeants and three Officers went up to a certain point in Busses to do night digging of trenches. Commanding Officer (?) toothache.
9	Wet. Routine work. Usual digging party under Captain Grant was working to 11pm.
10	Fine. Routine work. Digging [party] of 120 men three NCOs under Captain Henry as usual.
11	Very fine. Routine work. Usual digging party under Captain Uprichard. The Commanding Officer departed on short leave to U.K and Captain Foster rejoined from short leave.
12	Fine. Routine.
13	Routine. Working party started work during day instead of at night. This is to continue to further notice.

14-17	Routine.
18	Wet and cold. Marched to Boeshepe and went into quarters.
19	Routine.
20	Boeschepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work.
21	Boeschepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work.
22	Boeschepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work.
23	Boeschepe. 9am. Fine and frosty. Routine work. Captain V.S Foster was promoted temporary Major and took over command of 10 <sup>th</sup> Corps Cavalry School.
24	Boeschepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work.
25	Boeschepe. 9am. Wet. Routine work.
26	9am. Fine. Routine work. Regiment had use of town baths all day. The Medical Officer held an inspection of whole Regiment.
27	9am. Fine. Routine work.
28	9am. Fine and frosty. Routine work. Corps Cavalry School was started today under Major Foster and a class of eight Officers and eight NCOs. Lectured on ..... Colonel Goring resumed command on return from leave.
29	Fine and frosty. Routine work.
30	Fine and frosty. Routine work.
<b>December 1916</b>	
1	Boescheepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work. Digging party went up as usual under Captain Henry.
2	9am. Fine. Routine work. Digging party went up as usual under Lieutenant Leader.
3	9am. Fine and frosty. Divine Service was celebrated at 11.30am. The Regimental recreation room and canteen were opened on 2 <sup>nd</sup> inst. The Divisional baths were at the disposal of Squadrons today.
4	9am. Fine. Routine work. Lieutenant Vesey was in charge of digging party.
5	10am. Wet. Regimental Signallers paraded for practice under Lieutenant Birch-Reynaldson. Lieutenant Despard went up in command of digging party.
6	10am. Wet. Routine work. Lieutenant Smart was in command of digging party.
7	Showery. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Kirkbride was in command of digging party.
8	Wet. Routine work. All Signallers paraded for signalling practice. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hancock was in charge of digging party.
9	Routine work. Signallers paraded mounted. The usual trench digging party was in charge of Captain Hulse.
10	Fine. Divine Service (opt) followed by Holy Communion was celebrated in Girls School on (..?) road.

11	Boescheepe. 9am. Fine. Routine work. Digging party under Captain Henry.
12	Boescheepe. 9am. Heavy snow. Routine work. Signallers paraded for practice. Usual party for trench digging under Captain Uprichard.
13	Boescheepe. 9am. Misty. Routine work. Signallers paraded for work with flags. Usual digging party under Lieutenant Despard.
14	Boescheepe. 9.30am. Fine. Routine work. Signallers paraded for flag practice. Brigadier-General Cameron from 10 <sup>th</sup> Corps Headquarters inspected the Corps School of Instruction. Usual working party under Lieutenant Smart.
15	10am. Wet. Routine work. Lieutenant T Leader was in charge of usual trench digging party.
16	10am. Fine. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Kirkbride.
17	10am. Very foggy. Routine work. Divine Service at 9.30am. The Squadron had the use of Divisional baths from 8am until 4pm.
18	12 noon. Fine. Routine work. The trench digging party under Major Newman <sup>49</sup> was shelled and had to stop work.
19	Boescheepe. 2.30pm. Snowing. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Despard.
20	Boescheepe. 2.30pm. Frosty. Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Captain Grant.
21	Boescheepe. 10am. Very wet. Routine work. The Commander-in-Chief made a tour of inspection of this front. Usual working party under Lieutenant Despard was heavily shelled.
22	10am. Cold and damp. Routine work. Regimental Signallers paraded for flag work. Usual working party went to the trenches under Lieutenant Smart.
23	9am. Fine. Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Vesey.
24	Fine. Routine work. The Squadrons had use of Divisional baths all day. Squadron Sergeant-Major Waldron <sup>50</sup> promoted Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major dated 13 October 1916.
25	Fine. Routine work. Draft of twenty men and Lieutenant Pallant <sup>51</sup> and Lieutenant Day <sup>52</sup> joined the Regiment from Base. Squadrons had a very enjoyable Xmas.
26	Fine. Routine work. Usual digging party under Major B Newman. Trench party of six Officers and six NCOs went up to the trenches for one week.
27	Frosty. Routine work. Usual digging party under Captain Hulse. Regimental Signallers paraded for signalling exercise.
28	Fine. Routine work. Usual working party under Captain Grant.
29	Boescheepe. 9.15am. Wet. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Despard. Colonel Goring and Major Newman went Questrecques to Cavalry Division (1 <sup>st</sup> ) for one week. Working party were shelled again today.
30	10am. Wet. Routine work. Working party under Lieutenant Leader were again shelled.

<sup>49</sup> **Major Richard Griffith Oliver Bramston Newman**, formerly Officer Commanding F Squadron, North Irish Horse (later Lieutenant Colonel, attached to the Labour Corps), arrived in France 18 November 1915.

<sup>50</sup> Possibly **Sergeant Joseph Waldron** (Dragoon Guards No.D/6768, Corps of Dragoons No.D/6768).

<sup>51</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>52</sup> Probably **Hemey Vivian Day**, Corporal Leicestershire Yeomanry (No.1741), Lieutenant Reserve Cavalry Inskilling Dragoons.

31	10am. Fine. Routine work. Divine Service at 9.30am in Girls school. The Squadrons had use of Divisional baths all day. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Birch-Reynardson left to rejoin 6 <sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Dragoons vice 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Day who joined this Regiment on 25 <sup>th</sup> inst.
<b>January 1917</b>	
1	Boescheepe. 11am. Fine. Routine work. Usual digging party under Lieutenant Smart.
2	11am. Fine. Routine work. Lieutenant Vesey was in charge of working party. The party was shelled heavily for half an hour. X Corps Cavalry School reopened today.
3	11am. Wet. Routine work. Usual working [party] under Lieutenant Pallant. The party was again shelled today but no one hit.
4	11am. Fine. Routine work. Captain Hulse was in charge of working party which was shelled but no casualties occurred.
5	9am. Fine. Routine work. Lieutenant-Colonel Hobday <sup>53</sup> gave a lecture in Poperinghe on horse management which was attended by a large number of our Officers. The working party of which Lieutenant Leader was in charge was again shelled.
6	9am. Wet. Routine. Trench digging party under Lieutenant Vesey was again shelled.
7	9am. Fine. Routine work. Vet inspection of B Squadron horses at 11am.
8	9.30am. Fine. Routine work. Lieutenant Hutchinson reports that trench party were heavily shelled when returning to their busses.
9	12 noon. Wet. Routine work. Colonel Goring rejoined the Regiment from the 1 <sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division at Questrecques. The working party under Lieutenant Jack <sup>54</sup> had a quiet day free from shelling.
10	Boescheepe. 9am. Wet. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Pallant. The night party for brick fetching from Ypres discontinued from this date.
11	9am. Fine. Routine work. Usual working party under Captain Henry.
12	9am. Wet. Routine work. Usual trench party under Lieutenant Leader.
13	2.30pm. Wet. Routine work. Usual trench party under Lieutenant Vesey.
14	2.30pm. Fine. Divine Service was held at 9.30am. Regiment had use of Divisional baths for whole of the day.
15	Snowy. Routine work. A musketry class of instruction for NCOs was started by Assistant Adjutant.
16	Snowy. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Hutchinson.
17	Fine. Routine work. The working party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Auber was slightly shelled.
18	Frosty, snowy. Routine work. The working party under Lieutenant Whalen was not interfered with.
19	Frosty, snowy. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Dean brought up the working party to the trenches.

<sup>53</sup> **Colonel Edmond Arthur P Hobday**, Royal Field Artillery.

<sup>54</sup> **Henry Dallas Jack**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Inniskilling Dragoons; Lieutenant, Staff.

20	Frosty. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jack brought the working party up to the trenches.
21	Frosty. Routine work. Divine Service was held at 9.30am.
22	Frosty. Routine work. Usual working party was cut down by 45 men from B Squadron who were put to build their stables.
23	Boescheepe. 9am. Frosty. Routine work. Usual working party went up to the trenches under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Dean.
24	9am. Frosty. Routine work. Usual working party under Lieutenant Leader. They were shelled but no casualties.
25	11.30am. Frosty. Routine work. Trench party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Matthews were shelled but had no casualties.
26	11.30am. Routine work. Over 30(%?) of frost last night. The trench party went up under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Auber.
27	2.45pm. Frosty. Routine work. Usual working party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Whalan, no shelling reported.
28	2.45pm. Frosty. Routine work. Church Parade at 9.30. All box respirators were tested by Gas Officer of 41 <sup>st</sup> Division.
29	Frosty. Routine work. Trench party under Captain Henry.
30	9.30am. Snowing. Routine work. Trench party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jack.
31	9.30. Snowing. Routine work. Trench party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Pallant. Major Foster proceeded on leave. Lieutenant Seymour doing Acting Adjutant in his absence.
<b>February 1917</b>	
1	Boescheepe. Clear and frosty. Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Major Newman.
2	Clear and frosty. Routine work. Captain Hulse was in command of trench digging party and reports all quiet.
3	2pm. Routine work. Captain Grant reported no shelling of the working party.
4	2pm. Clear and frosty. Routine work. Divine Service Church of England 9.30am and Non-Conformists in the Canteen at 9.30am. Medical inspection of Regiment took place today.
5	Clear and frosty. Routine work. Captain Henry was in charge of trench digging party.
6	2.10pm. Frosty. Routine work.
7	Frosty. Routine work. Captain Uprichard was in charge of working party.
8	Frosty. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Matthews reports a quiet day with the working party.
9	11am. Frosty. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hesketh reports heavy shelling in vicinity of working party.
10	11am. Frosty. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Auber was in charge of working party.
11	Fine. Routine work. No Church Parade. General inspection of kits and saddlery.
12	10.45am. Fine. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Whalen was in charge of trench party.
13	Frosty. Routine work. Captain Hulse was in command of usual trench party.

14	6pm. Fine. Routine work. Major B Newman took over command of Regiment during Colonel Goring's absence on leave in U.K.
15	Boeschepe. 9.45am. Fine. Routine work. Captain Uprichard, who was in charge of trench party, reported all quiet. Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major Crouch <sup>55</sup> was taken on strength.
16	Fine. Routine work. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hesketh was in charge of trench working party.
17	Fine. Routine work. Owing to thaw setting there were no busses for trench party.
18	Fine. Routine work. Church of England Service 9.30am. Non-Conformists 9.30am.
19	Fine. Routine work. The thaw has evidently come permanently.
20	Fine, rain 23 <sup>rd</sup> . Routine. Owing to thaw restrictions no working parties sent up to trenches. A party of four NCOs and fifteen men proceeded to Abeele daily to take charge of prisoners captured in raids of 20 <sup>th</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> . <sup>56</sup>
21-28	
<b>March 1917</b>	
1	Boeschepe. Carting bricks for completion of stables.
2	Routine work. No trench party found.
3	Carting bricks for completion of stables.
4	Divine Service.
5-6	Routine work. No trench party found.
7	Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Whalen.
8	Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Dean.
9	Routine work. Usual trench digging party under Captain Uprichard. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant H.V Day took over duties as Acting Adjutant vice Major Foster appointed Staff Captain 70 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. One man of trench digging party injured accidentally by a Lorry.
10	Routine work. Trench digging party under Captain Despard.
11	Routine. Baths. Divine Service.
12	Routine. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Leader.
13	Routine. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Vesey. Board of Officers convened to test men under Para 1218 King's Regulations.
14	Routine. Usual trench digging party under Lieutenant Hill-Lowe <sup>57</sup> . Eight Signallers left for instruction with 41 <sup>st</sup> Division Signal Company.

<sup>55</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>56</sup> On 19 February, a large British raid east of Ypres took 114 enemy prisoners. On 27 February, a British raid east of Armentieres took 17 prisoners.

<sup>57</sup> **Lieutenant Arthur Noel Vernon Hill-Lowe**, who arrived in France with F Squadron on 18 November 1915 as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. He had been with the Malay States Volunteer Rifles and King Edward's Horse.

15	Boeschepe. 10am. Fine weather. Routine work. Usual digging party under Lieutenant Whelan.
16	Boeschepe. 10am. Routine work. Usual trench digging party.
17	Boeschepe. 10am. Routine work. Usual trench digging party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Hesketh.
18	Boeschepe. 10am. Fine. Routine work. Divine Service was held at 9.30am, usual place. Baths going all day.
19	Boeschepe. 10am. Fine. Routine work. Usual digging party under Lieutenant Hutchinson.
20	Boeschepe. 10am. Snowing. Routine work. Trench digging party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jack. Colonel Goring went to Central School of Inspection – duty. Major V.G Whitla assumes command. A fire broke out in 'B' lines.
21	Boeschepe. 10am. Snowing. Routine work. Trench digging party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Pallant.
22	Boeschepe. 10am. Snowing. Routine work. Trench digging party under Captain Hulse. All quiet.
23	Boeschepe. 10am. Court of Enquiry was held at B Squadron Officers' Mess as to cause of fire in that Squadron's lines on 20 <sup>th</sup> inst. Court postponed to 10am 24 <sup>th</sup> for pertinent witness. Usual digging party went up to the General Headquarters 2 <sup>nd</sup> line trenches under Captain Uprichard who reported all quiet.
24	Fine. Routine. Trench party under Captain Despard who reported quiet day.
25	Fine. Divine Service. Summer Time was brought into force from midnight.
26	Wet. No trench party today as no Lorries were available.
27	Boeschepe. Snowing. Routine. There was no working party today, no Lorries being available.
28	Boeschepe. Fine. Routine. Working party under Lieutenant Vesey. There was no shelling.
29	Wet. Routine work. Working party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Auber. Party was shelled leaving trenches.
30	Fine. Routine work. No Lorries available for working party. The Corps Commandant accompanied by Colonel Goring inspected the horses and stables.
31	Wet. Routine work. Working party under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Whalen went up to trenches 6.30pm for night work. This is the last working party to be found as the Regiment is going for a course of training. During this month a scheme was carried out by Commanding Officer comprising a staff ride by Squadrons in turn all Officers and available NCOs attending.
<b>April 1917</b>	
1	Boeschepe. Wet. Divine Service and baths.
2	Boeschepe. Wet and cold. Squadrons working as per training programme handed in by Squadron Leaders.
3	Boeschepe. Heavy snow. Training under Squadron and Troop Leaders.
4	Boeschepe. Wet. Training under Squadron Leaders as per programme laid down.
5	Boeschepe. Fine. Training as per programme laid down.

6	Boeschepe. Showery. Training under Squadron Leaders as per programme. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Baillie (P.) <sup>58</sup> to A Squadron. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Eighteen W.T <sup>59</sup> and Stephens (F.?) <sup>60</sup> to B Squadron. Lieutenant T.P.D Sherston <sup>61</sup> to C Squadron. These four Officers are taken on strength from this date.
7	Wet, snow. Routine training. Major Neuman, Captain Henry, Lieutenant Vesey and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Dean having been appointed to road control Squadrons in 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Armies, proceeded to take up their new duties and are struck off strength.
8	Fine. Routine work. Divine Service and bathing. The Medical Officer had an inspection of the Regiment.
9	Snow. Training as per programme.
10	Cold and heavy snow. Training as per programme.
11	Boeschepe. Noon. Fine and cold. Training as per programme. The Deputy Director Veterinary Services inspected 100 horses of the Regiment with a view to recommendations for extra forage.
12	Boeschepe. Noon. Snowy afternoon. No morning training, a visit expected from Deputy Director Remounts. Afternoon parade as usual.
13	Noon. Fine. Training as per programme. Moving to Artillery horse troughs north of Poperinghe having had poison placed in them, a permanent Corporal Guard was put on our troughs.
14	Noon. Wet. Training as per programme. A Board of Officers, Captain Despard presiding, sat to examine cold shoers for promotion to the rank of Shoeing Smith.
15	Noon. Wet. Divine Service and bathing.
16	Noon. Wet. Training as per programme. Three Officers and 23 Other Ranks joined the Regiment today from the Base. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Adam <sup>62</sup> and Larter <sup>63</sup> were posted to B Squadron and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Poole <sup>64</sup> was posted to C Squadron.
17	Noon. Wet. The Deputy Director Remounts 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army inspected the horse of the Regiment today, his opinion of them was not 1 <sup>st</sup> Class.
18	8.40am. Fine. Training as per programme. Information from Headquarters Xth Corps that move to training area was postponed for the present.
19	Wet. Training continued as per usual.
20	Boeschepe. 9am. Misty. Training as per syllabus laid down. Major G.V Whitla went to Hospital yesterday suffering from German Measles. Commanding Officer held an inspection of certain horses with the object of bringing them to the notice of Deputy Director Remounts 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army.
21	2.30pm. Fine. The Squadrons carried on training under Squadron programme. The Commanding Officer visited them while out. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Henry <sup>65</sup>

<sup>58</sup> Identity uncertain. Possibly **Peter Baillie**, Private in Lowland Mounted Brigade (No.2007), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in 3<sup>rd</sup> Lothian and Border Horse, Lieutenant in Indian Army Reserve of Officers.

<sup>59</sup> **William George Eighteen**, Private Natal Light Horse (No.60), Private (No.GS/19569) 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant then Lieutenant Reserve Regiment of Cavalry.

<sup>60</sup> **Frederick William Stephens**, Sub Major South African Mounted Rifles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant North Irish Horse, Lieutenant then Captain Labour Corps.

<sup>61</sup> **Thomas Peter Davis Sherston**, arrived France 7 September 1915, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant North Irish Horse, Lieutenant Royal Irish Fusiliers.

<sup>62</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Graham Adam**, North Irish Horse (later Lieutenant).

<sup>63</sup> **P.J Larter** Lieutenant, Temporary Captain and Acting Major, Dragoon Guards/ Commands and Staff.

<sup>64</sup> Identity uncertain.

	joined and was taken on strength of C Squadron.
22	Fine. Divine Service as usual. Regiment had the use of Divisional baths from 7am to noon. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Forsyth-Forest <sup>66</sup> joined and was taken on the strength of the Regiment.
23	Fine. Training carried on by Squadrons.
24	Fine. Training by Squadrons in morning and lecture by Squadron Leaders afternoon.
25	Training as per programme in morning and afternoon.
26	Fine. Training as per programme.
27	Fine. Training as per programme.
28	Fine. Training as per programme.
29	Boeschepe. Fine. Divine Service in the morning. The Squadrons had the use of the Divisional baths until noon. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Decker, <sup>67</sup> Perkins <sup>68</sup> and Lane-Bayliff <sup>69</sup> arrived today and are taken on strength of the Regiment.
30	Fine. The Deputy Director Remounts 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army had an inspection of the horses this day at 3pm. Training carried on as per programme.
<b>May 1917</b>	
1	Boeschepe. 5.30pm. Fine. Routine. Training as per weekly programme.
2	Boeschepe. Fine. Training as per weekly programme. Corps Commander inspected the horses.
3	Fine. Training as per programme. The Squadrons had use of Divisional baths.
4	Fine. Training as per weekly programme.
5	Fine. Training as per weekly programme.
6	Fine. Divine Service in Girls' School for Church of England. There was no Service for Non-Conformists.
7	Fine. Training as per weekly programme.
8	Fine. Training as per laid down programme in the morning. The Squadrons had the use of Divisional baths up to 1pm.
9	Fine. Training in accordance with weekly programme. Major Whitle returned from Hospital and sick leave to U.K.
10	Fine. Training under Squadron Leaders as per weekly programme. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Garnham G <sup>70</sup> , and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Bray H.E., <sup>71</sup> arrived today from U.K.

<sup>65</sup> **Albert William Henry**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant North Irish Horse, Lieutenant Reserve Regiment of Cavalry.

<sup>66</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>67</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>68</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>69</sup> **Gabriel Thomas Lane Bayliff**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, Royal Irish Fusiliers, and Tank Corps.

	and are taken on strength of the Regiment.
11	Fine. Squadron Leaders have been given the next three days in order to get everything ready for march to training area on 15 <sup>th</sup> inst.
12	Boesheepe. Fine. Squadrons preparing for march to Samer.
13	Fine. Divine Service usual hour. Squadrons had the use of Divisional baths.
14	Routine work.
15	Fine. Regiment marched out of Boesheepe at 9.30am en route to Wallon Cappel. The Corps Commander saw the Regiment marching at Gadeswaerstelde. Arrived Wallon Cappel at 12.30pm (15 miles).
16	Wet. Left Wallon Cappel for Hallines via Ebblingham and Arques at 9.30am arriving at Hallines at 12 noon (12 miles). No casualties on the route, horses standing it well.
17	Cold dry. Left Hallines 9.30 en route for Lottinghem via Bayenghem and Coulomby, arriving at 12 noon. No casualties. (14 miles).
18	Fine. Left Lottinghem at 9.30 and marched via Destres to Samer (9 miles), arriving at latter place at 11am. Squadrons and Headquarters are comfortably billeted but are rather far apart.
19	Squadrons at disposal of Squadron Leaders.
20	Fine. Squadrons at disposal of Squadron Leaders. Major Gurney DSO <sup>72</sup> reported for duty today, also a Corporal of Horse from 2 <sup>nd</sup> L.G.
21	Fine. C Squadron out with Major Gurney DSO doing tactical scheme. Remaining two Squadrons under Squadron Leaders.
22	Samer. Fine. Training (tactical) taking and holding positions was practised by Squadrons under Commanding Officer assisted by Major Gurney.
23	Fine. Three Squadrons carried out a tactical scheme on the high ground near Brucquedal in conjunction with Signallers. Captain Sir E De La Rue <sup>73</sup> reported for Regimental duty this day from 39 <sup>th</sup> Division, he is posted to C Squadron. Usual lecture was given by Major Gurney to Officers at 5pm.
24	Fine. Regiment again were in the neighbourhood of Bruquedal training. Major Gurney gave a lecture to Officers and Corps of Horse Taylor to NCO C Squadron.
25	Fine. Commanding Officer assisted by Major Gurney had whole Regiment working on scheme.
26	Commanding Officer assisted by Major Gurney carried out a tactical scheme.
27	Fine. Regiment under Commanding Officer marched to the sea doing flack and advance guard patrols etc. On the march down horses and men had a dip in the sea and returned to camp about 5.30pm.
28	Fine. Tactical scheme on high ground north of Samer.
29	Regiment took part in scheme. B Squadron Major B Newman took up a position, A and C Squadrons under Major Whitla had to locate and move them.

<sup>70</sup> Identity uncertain.

<sup>71</sup> **Harold Edward Bray**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 1<sup>st</sup> Reserve Regiment of Cavalry.

<sup>72</sup> Possibly **Major C.H Gurney DSO**, York and Lancaster Regiment.

<sup>73</sup> **Sir E De La Rue, Bart**, Captain Yeomanry.

	Commanding Officer and Major Gurney acted as umpires.
30	Fine. Prizes were allotted for best turned out Transport sections and Gun teams.
31	Samer. Fine. Regiment marched out of Samer to Alquines on its return to Boeschepe, reaching Alquines 12.30pm. Dusty.
<b>June 1917</b>	
1	To Boeschepe. Very hot. Regiment continued its march to Boeschepe, leaving Alquines at 9.30 and billeted in Broxeele on night 1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> June.
2	To Boeschepe. Very hot. Left Broxeele 9.15 marched via Cassel and Steehvoorde, reaching Boeschepe at 2pm.
3	At Boeschepe. Hot. Church of England Parade 9.30.
4	At Boeschepe. Very hot. Three troops of A Squadron reported to 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 41 <sup>st</sup> and 47 <sup>th</sup> Divisions for duty.
5	At Boeschepe. Fine. One troop under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Decker reported Assistant Provost Marshall X <sup>th</sup> Corps for conducting of prisoner work.
6	At Boeschepe. Fine. Routine. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Bray reported to X Corps Headquarters as observation Officer. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Henry reported to Company FE [Field Engineers?] with party of sixteen Other Ranks for purpose of clearing Cavalry track on Zero day.
7	Fine. Heavy thunderstorm in the evening. Big Push on Ypres salient commenced today. <sup>74</sup> Regiment except two Troops taking part. B Squadron waiting to get through if opportunity occurs. A and C Squadrons at various jobs under different Divisions scattered over Corps front. Got through the day without any casualties. Captain F Uprichard rejoined from road control yesterday.
8	Boeschepe. Fine. Routine. B Squadron returned to its billets 5pm from being attached to 24 <sup>th</sup> Division.
9	Fine. Routine. Squadron Quartermaster Sergeant Moore <sup>75</sup> A Squadron promoted Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant vice Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Tucker <sup>76</sup> to U.K.
10	Fine. Routine. Divine Service as usual. Divisional baths at disposal of Regiment.
11	Routine. Horse inspection by Commanding Officer 9.30 to noon. Very heavy rain 5pm.
12	—
13	Fine. Regiment vacated its billets in Boeschepe, having been there seven months, and marched Kenora Camp (Sheet 28 M3 C6.5), partly in huts and partly tents.
14	Fine. Routine parties to Central School Wisques and and Musketry School T.Lques.
15	Fine. Routine. Conducting party 108 Other Ranks and one Officer to Calais.
16	Fine. Scheme for all Officers by Commanding Officer except Squadron Leaders.

<sup>74</sup> Battles of Messines.

<sup>75</sup> Possibly **Staff Sergeant Major William Moore** (North Irish Horse No.1, Corps of Hussars Staff Sergeant Major No.71000, Army Service Corps 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant).

<sup>76</sup> Possibly **Staff Quartermaster Sergeant John S Tucker** (Dragoon Guards No.5042, Corps of Dragoons No.D/19720).

17	Fine. Divine Service for Non-Conformists. No Church of England Service.
18	Heavy rain. Two 8-inch shells dropped in horse lines but no damage done. Moved horses to M.2.b.5/7.
19	Wet. The whole Regiment moved into M.2.b.5/7 on account of being shelled in Kenora.
20	Wet. Routine work. Colonel had all Officers out on Staff Ride but had to postpone it.
21	Wet. Routine. Postponed staff ride took place.
22	Wet. Staff ride over same country took place today. Regiment had use of Division baths in Westoutre.
23	M2b 5/7. Routine.
24	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine. Assistant Director Veterinary Services X Corps held an inspection of horses of the Regiment. Divine Service 9.30am.
25	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine.
26	Fine. Routine. Court of Enquiry into loss of Government bicycle and saddlery. Major G.V Whitla presided.
27	Wet. Routine. Privates Johnson <sup>77</sup> and Todd <sup>78</sup> , A Squadron, wounded in trenches.
28	Wet. Routine. Court of Enquiry dated 26 <sup>th</sup> inst finished today.
29	Wet. Routine. Conducting party of 128 Other Ranks under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants Pallant and Eighteen to Calais for horses.
30	Very wet. Routine.
<b>July 1917</b>	
1	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Divine Service for Non-Conformists.
2	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine.
3	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Wet. Routine.
4	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Baillie and his party returned from attachment to 47 <sup>th</sup> Division in the trenches reports having had a very rough time. His Majesty King George passed through today.
5	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Forsyth-Forest and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Deker with sixteen Other Ranks and one Hotchkiss Gun went up to the line for trench work attached 124 Brigade.
6	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine.
7	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine. Captain Hulse rejoined the Regiment today.
8	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Wet. Divine Service for Non-Conformists.

<sup>77</sup> Identity uncertain, as a large number of men in the North Irish Horse bore this name.

<sup>78</sup> Probably either **Private William D Todd** (North Irish Horse No.1684, Royal Irish Fusiliers No.41319), or **Private Thomas Todd** (North Irish Horse No.1031).

9	M2b 5.7. 6pm. Fine. Routine. Squadrons did preliminary musketry practice from 2pm to 4pm.
10	M2b 5.7. Fine. Routine. All Squadrons doing contact practice with Aeroplane.
11	M2b 5.7. Fine. Routine. Musketry drill in afternoon.
12	M2b 5.7. Fine. Routine. Musketry drill in afternoon.
13	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine. The Regiment put in the afternoon range firing at IX Corps range near Berthen.
14	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine.
15	M2b 5/7. Fine. Divine Service for Non-Conformists. Assistant Director Veterinary Services inspected the horses.
16	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine.
17	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine. Squadrons had the use of Divisional baths in Westoutre from 2pm to 4pm. Sword exercise one hour in the evening.
18	M2b 5/7. Wet. Routine.
19	M2b 5/7. Fine. Routine. Orders received today to proceed to Morbecque.
20	M2b 5/7. The Regiment marched to Morbecque via Godewaersvelde, Caestre and Hazebroucke. The party at Wisques School under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Stephens rejoined Regiment this evening 9pm. Lieutenant Leader took dismounted party by train to Headquarters. General Headquarters troops Hesden.
21	Regiment marched to Coyecque via Aire and Therouannis.
22	Coyecque. Fine. Marched to General Headquarters troops area via Dennebroeucq, Bellvue St Michel, Humbert and Sempy, arriving at 2pm. Headquarters at Aix-en-Issart, A Squadron at Marles, B Squadron at Marenla, C Squadron at Marant.
23	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. All horses in Regiment were malleined today by a Veterinary Officer from General Headquarters troops.
24	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. Sixty-seven horses were sent away today from Regiment to Mobile Veterinary Section as not suitable for overseas work.
25	Aix-en-Issart. Wet morning, fine afternoon. Routine. Leave allotment increased to 25 men per day.
26	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. Routine.
27	Aix-en-Issart. Wet. Routine. Major Whitla presided over Court of Enquiry held at C Squadron.
28	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. Routine. Saddler Corporal Russell <sup>79</sup> was acquitted by Field General Court Martial of a charge of drunkenness.
29	Aix-en-Issart. Wet. Routine. Exceptionally heavy rain, thunderstorm and lightning.
30	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. Routine. Twenty-five men proceeding on leave to U.K.
31	Wet. Routine.
<b>August 1917</b>	

<sup>79</sup> Identity uncertain, as a large number of men in the North Irish Horse bore this name.

1	Aix-en-Issart. Very wet. Routine. Owing to heavy rain a rifle (..?.) which was being got ready by A Squadron had to be abandoned for the time being.
2	Aix-en-Issart. Very wet. Routine.
3	Aix-en-Issart. Very wet. Routine. B Squadron horses camped on the river bank Marenla were flooded out, and had to be put in a new field. A and C Squadrons have their horses under cover.
4	Very wet. Routine. Captain Filgate <sup>80</sup> , member of Field General Court Martial at Maresques. Deputy Director Remounts inspected all horses.
5	Routine. Voluntary Service in YMCA Hut at Marant.
6	Wet. Routine. Range at Marrant completed ready for use.
7	Very wet. Routine.
8	Fine. One hundred and thirty-one horses R.1 taken away to Boulogne and replaced by 131 R.2.
9	Wet. Routine.
10	Wet. Routine.
11	Showery. Routine.
12	Wet. Routine.
13	Routine.
14	Fine. Routine. Two hundred and sixty-five horses Classes R.II were despatched today by rail from Beaurainville to Marseilles, Lieutenant Leader being in charge.
15	Wet. Regiment commenced a range shooting competition. All saddlery was handed in to stores today. All officers medically s(?) with an (?) to (?) for infantry.
16	Aix-en-Issart. Fine. Routine. The whole of the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> line Regimental transport went away to General Headquarters troop, leaving the Regiment without a horse or waggon of any kind.
17	Fine. Routine. The second stage of the rifle competition was brought off today.
18	Fine. Routine. A Parade of Squadron under Squadron Leaders took place dismounted marching order.
19	Fine. Routine.
20	Fine. Orders from General Headquarters, Troops proceed to 36 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Base Depot Havre, probably on 23 <sup>rd</sup> .
21	Routine. Received orders from General Headquarters that the Regiment entrains for Havre.
22	Routine. Packing up preparatory to move.
23	Entrained at Beaurainville for Havre 2.30pm.

<sup>80</sup> **Richard Alexander Baillie Filgate**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant then Captain North Irish Horse, arrived in France on 16 July 1915.

24	Arrived Harfleur and marched to 36 <sup>th</sup> .
25	Wet. Camp routine.
26	Wet. All Cavalry equipment handed in to store and replaced by infantry equipment.
27	Wet. Still engaged in changing equipment.
28	Wet. All Other Ranks of three Squadrons were transferred to infantry today.
29	Men of late X Corps Cavalry undergoing training in infantry work.
30	Camp routine.
31	Fine. All officers, with exception of Commanding Officer, Adjutant and Quartermaster come under orders of Commanding Officer 36 Battalion. <sup>81</sup>

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<sup>81</sup> During August, X Corps Cavalry Regiment was broken up. The Squadrons were attached to the 36<sup>th</sup> Division and moved to base depot for infantry training. One group of men was ordered to take the horses to Egypt (see entries 24 July and 14 August) before returning for infantry training.