

**WAR DIARY OF THE V CORPS CYCLIST REGIMENT (NORTH IRISH HORSE)<sup>1</sup>  
1 APRIL 1918 TO 9 JUNE 1919**

<b>April 1918</b>	
1-11	Rubempre. Regiment chiefly employed as Corps guides, traffic control duties, and runners to V Corps Heavy Artillery. <sup>2</sup>
12-16	Naours. Regiment marched from Rubempre to Naours and continued duties as above.
17	Naours. All traffic control posts furnished by Regiment withdrawn.
18-30	Naours. Training in dismounted action, scouting, map reading, musketry, bombing, lectures, Lewis Gun, and tactical schemes in conjunction with 12 <sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Squadron.
	Extract from V Corps routine orders d/ 7 April 1918. The Corps Commander wishes to express his pleasure at the efficient manner in which the traffic has been controlled by the North Irish Horse (especially the Corps Traffic Detachment), under the difficult conditions of a retreat. He attributes the comparatively light losses in guns and transport suffered by the V Corps very largely to their self sacrificing devotion to duty.
	[Signed] A Hamilton Russell <sup>3</sup> Major V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)
<b>May 1918</b>	
1	Naours. Scheme with 12 <sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Squadron carried out. Five NCOs despatched to V Corps School for course on Lewis Gun.
2	Naours. Three Officers and 97 Other Ranks proceeded on working party to Varennes.
3-21	Course of Instruction in bombing and signalling.
22-26	Training continued, one hour each day being devoted to working with Box Respirator on.

<sup>1</sup> Official War Diaries (Ref. WO 95/761).

<sup>2</sup> On 9 April **Private William Alexander Morrow**, North Irish Horse (No.832), Corps of Hussars (No.71123), was killed in action, aged 38 years. Born at Drumnascamph; enlisted at Rathfriland, County Down; residence Rathfriland. Son of Mrs Agnes Jane Morrow of 1 Little Grosvenor Street Belfast. He is buried in grave C.41 at Hinges Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais. He had left for France on 17 August 1914 as part of A Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

<sup>3</sup> **Major the Honourable A Hamilton Russell**, arrived in France on 1 May 1915 in command of D Squadron North Irish Horse. Acting Lieutenant-Colonel while Commanding 1<sup>st</sup> North Irish Horse Regiment, 15 February to 14 March 1918. Transferred to Royal Field Artillery 24 September 1918.

27-31	Course of Instruction for Officer on Lewis Gun.
	[Signed] A Hamilton Russell Major V Cyclist Regiment
<b>June 1918</b>	
1-30	Naours. Three Officers and 95 Other Ranks employed on working party at Varennes. Remainder of Regiment employed on traffic duties, Corps guides, runners at Corps Headquarters, and with ammunition columns.  [Signed] A Hamilton Russell Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)
<b>July 1918</b>	
1-31	[1-31 July] Naours. Regiment chiefly employed on working party, with A.O Signals; traffic control duties, bridge guards, Corps guides, and orderlies at Corps Headquarters. [10-16 July] One hour each day being devoted to working with Box Respirators on. [28-31 July] Four classes of instruction on Lewis Guns.
	[Signed] A Hamilton Russell Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)
<b>August 1918</b>	
1-6	[1-6 July] Naours. Regiment employed on working parties and traffic control duties. [6 July] Regiment concentrated for training.
7	Regiment moved to Rubempre.
8-31	[8-23 August] Rubempre. Daily training – drill, physical and bayonet training, musketry, scouting signalling, tactical exercises under Company Commanders, patrolling. [11-18 August] Rubempre. Lewis Guns of the Regiment employed on the anti-aircraft defences of ammunition dumps.

[14 August] Rubempre. One Officer and 13 Other Ranks to 64<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 21<sup>st</sup> Division, for patrol duties, still employed as such.

[16 August] Rubempre. 10am. Inspection of Regiment by V Corps Commander, Lieutenant General Shute<sup>4</sup>. Lieutenant General Shute explained the role the Regiment would be called upon to fulfill in the coming advance, viz, vanguard to the Corps. One Squadron would be attached to each Division and they would be used entirely for tactical work, keeping touch with the enemy as he withdrew.

A Squadron under Captain J.C.G Kirkpatrick<sup>5</sup> allotted to 21<sup>st</sup> Division.

E Squadron under Major I.A Finlay<sup>6</sup> allotted to 38<sup>th</sup> Division.

D Squadron under Captain H.E.L Montgomery<sup>7</sup> allotted to 17<sup>th</sup> Division.

Commanding Officer to act as liaison officer between 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Divisions.

Adjutant to act as liaison officer between 17<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> Divisions.

[20-23 August] Rubempre. Two Officers and 67 Other Ranks with all Lewis Guns of the Regiment (viz, nine) to 62<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade to take part in attack by 21<sup>st</sup> Division on morning of 21<sup>st</sup> August.

[21-31 August] Rubempre. Thirteen Other Ranks with 64<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 21<sup>st</sup> Division, patrol duties.

[23 August] Rubempre. E Squadron under command of Major I.A Finlay to 38<sup>th</sup> Division. Headquarters and D Squadron moved to Toutencourt. D Squadron joined 17<sup>th</sup> Division under command of Captain H.E.L Montgomery.

[24 August] Toutencourt. A Squadron under command of Captain J.C.G Kirkpatrick joined 21<sup>st</sup> Division engaged on patrol duties to 31<sup>st</sup>. Headquarters moved to Beaussart. Lewis Guns of D & E [Squadrons] ordered to join their Squadrons with Divisions.

[26 August] Beaussart. [On 26<sup>th</sup>] Headquarters moved to Hamel, thence on 27<sup>th</sup> to Courcelette, thence on 30<sup>th</sup> to Martinpuich.

[21-31 August] Casualties: Killed, seven Other Ranks; missing believed killed, one Other Ranks; wounded, two Officers (2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant A.H Cleaver<sup>8</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant J.A O'Neill<sup>9</sup>), 25 Other Ranks.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>4</sup> **Sir Cameron Deane Shute**, Brigadier-General 59<sup>th</sup> Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Division, then Major-General 63<sup>rd</sup> Naval Division from 17 October 1916, then Lieutenant-General 32<sup>nd</sup> Division from 19 February 1917.

<sup>5</sup> **Captain James Cunningham Gordon Kirkpatrick**, arrived France on 2 May 1915 as a Lieutenant with D Squadron North Irish Horse.

<sup>6</sup> **Major Ian Archibald Finlay**, North Irish Horse, arrived in France as Captain with E Squadron North Irish Horse on 12 January 1916.

<sup>7</sup> Possibly **Captain (formerly 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant then Lieutenant) Walter Ashley Montgomery**, arrived in France on 2 May 1915 with D Squadron North Irish Horse.

<sup>8</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Albert Henry Cleaver**, Sergeant in 2/6 Royal Warwickshire Regiment (No.1898), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Army Cyclist Corps, Lieutenant and Captain 25<sup>th</sup> Prince of Wales Company.

<sup>9</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James A O'Neill** (later Lieutenant), North Irish Horse.

<sup>10</sup> Killed this month:

**Private Wesley McClelland**, North Irish Horse (No.663), Corps of Hussars (No.71062), killed in action 16 August. Born at Derryloran, Cookstown; enlisted at place or residence, Cookstown. Buried at Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, Grave VII.E.56. He had left for France on 17 August 1914 as part of A Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

**Private Thomas Bryson**, North Irish Horse (No.613), Corps of Hussars (No.71045), killed in action 21 August, aged 28 years. Born Carrigallen, Leitrim; enlisted Cavan; residence Newtongove. Son of Francis W and Penny Bryson of Newtongore, County Leitrim. Buried in the Queens Cemetery, Bucquoy, grave IV.E.17. He had left for France on 17 August 1914 as part of A Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

	[Signed] A Hamilton Russell Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)		
<b>September 1918</b>			
	<b>A Squadron</b>	<b>D Squadron</b>	<b>E Squadron</b>
1	Map reference 57c 1/40000. Beaulincourt <sup>11</sup> . Squadron assisted in capture of village of Beaulincourt. Attached 21 <sup>st</sup> Division.	Map reference 57c 1/40000. Squadron attached to 17 <sup>th</sup> Division for patrol work. Useful information obtained.	Map reference 57c 1/40000. T.9.b.9.9. Attached 38 <sup>th</sup> Division in reserve.
2	Patrols pushed forward and found ridge east of Beaulincourt to be strongly held by enemy.	–	Joined 113 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. Three patrols sent out to reconnoitre Saily-Saillisel, report position of enemy troops. Each patrol obtained information required. Squadron withdrew to Hebule for the night.
3	[3-4 September] Resting at N.13.d.3.3.	–	T.12.d.9.1. 2.30am. Occupied North Copse to

**Private John Roberts**, North Irish Horse (No.464?), Corps of Hussars (No.71027), killed in action 21 August. Born Shlowgan; enlisted Downpatrick; residence Antrim. No known grave. Commemorated at Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, Panel 3. He had probably left for France on 17 August 1914 as part of A Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

**Private Robert Ross**, North Irish Horse and Corps of Hussars (No.71579), killed in action 21 August, aged 25 years. Enlisted Antrim; residence Belfast. Son of John and Elizabeth Ross, 318 Springfield Road, Belfast. Buried at Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, grave VII.F.34.

**Private George Gill**, North Irish Horse (No.1692) and Corps of Hussars (No.H/71502), killed in action 26 August, aged 24 years. Born at Windsor; enlisted Antrim; residence Belfast. Son of John and Sarah Jane Gill, 106 Belmont Road, Strandtown, Belfast. Buried at Flatiron Copse Cemetery, Mametz, grave IX.H.7.

**Private Adam Gordon Kelly**, North Irish Horse (No.923), Corps of Hussars (No.71162), killed in action 26 August, aged 28 years. Born Armagh, Crague; enlisted Newtown; residence Keady, County Armagh. Son of Adam and Cecilia Maria Kelly of Armaghbreague, Keady, County Armagh. Buried at Orvillers Military Cemetery, grave XIII.W.10.

**Private Frederick Livingstone**, North Irish Horse (No.861), Corps of Hussars (No.H/71134), killed in action 26 August. Born, enlisted and place of residence Cavan. Buried at Flatiron Copse Cemetery, Mametz, grave XI.A.1. He had left for France on 17 August 1914 as part of A Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

**Private John Mc Vea**, North Irish Horse (No.1617), Corps of Hussars (No.71473), killed in action 26 August, aged 23 years. Born Shankhill; enlisted and residence, Antrim. Son of James and Mary J McVea, 28 Cedar Avenue Belfast. No known grave. Commemorated at Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, Panel 3.

<sup>11</sup> Beaulencourt.

			prevent enemy from approaching up valley. 10.55am. Mesnil <sup>12</sup> reported clear. Attached 114 <sup>th</sup> Brigade. Runners detailed to keep up communication between 13 <sup>th</sup> Welsh Battalion and 14 <sup>th</sup> Welsh Battalion during advance. Moved to U.10.d.9.7 for night.
4	[4-15 September] Attached to Brigades of Division by Troops for reconnaissance and runners.	Squadron attached to 50 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade situated at O.30.c.0.0. Still employed on reconnaissance. Patrols to Ytres and Etricourt. Desired information re position of enemy obtained.	Runners with Battalions, Headquarters. Squadron detailed to carry ammunition to 14 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Welsh Regiment and assist in holding the line.
5		6.00am. Attached to 51 <sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade at P.31.c.6.6. One Section employed in keeping 7 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Lincolns in touch with Brigade. Various patrols sent out and useful work done.	V.29.a.2.6. Advanced our line as far as V.29.a.2.6 to V.14.c.2.3 then held up by machine-gun fire from V.16 and V.22. Withdrawn to Brigade Headquarters at 5.00pm. Later to Divisional Headquarters at 10.00pm.
6		Location same as 5 <sup>th</sup> inst. Squadron has been used frequently for various patrols.	T.9. Moved to Quarry in T.9 for rest. Resting until 10 September 1918.
7		One Troop detailed as orderlies to General Officer Commanding Brigade. Squadron moved to P.31.c.2.6.	–
8		Various patrols were sent out and runners supplied to Division and Brigade Headquarters.	–
9		Attached to 50 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. Work being carried out as before.	–
10		One Troop reported to Brigade Headquarters for duty.	–
11		–	Moved to 38 <sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters at Etricourt. Five Other Ranks awarded Military Medal, V Corps Order No.827.
12		Lechelle. Division in rest. Squadron resting at Lechelle.	Moved to 114 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Headquarters. Squadron employed as runners and establishing touch

<sup>12</sup> le Mesnil-en-Arrouaise.

			between Battalions. Ammunition and ration carriers until 15 September 1918. Letters of appreciation of good work done received from General Officer Commanding 38 <sup>th</sup> Division.
13		–	–
14		–	–
15		–	–
16	Squadron resting at W.22.c. Letter of appreciation of good work done received from General Officer Commanding 21 <sup>st</sup> Division.	–	One Troop left at Brigade Headquarters. Remainder of Squadron moved to Etricourt where training was carried out.
17		–	–
18	Moved to advanced Brigade Headquarters of 64 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade at W.18.c.9.6. One Troop went forward with orders to find out if Villers Guislain was held by the enemy. Report received at 3.00pm, enemy machine-guns in south-west corner of village. Patrols sent out to gain touch with 51 <sup>st</sup> Brigade, which they did. 4.45pm. Advance troops reported unable to enter Villers Guislain. Party detailed to carry ammunition for King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and East Yorks.	[18-24 September] Training in bombing, Lewis Gun, map reading, etc.  [24-26 September] Supplied working party for C.R.E. [Commander Royal Engineers?] 17 <sup>th</sup> Division.	–
19	[19 September] Troop with Brigade Headquarters. Remainder of Squadron withdrawn to Equancourt.		–
20	[19-26 September] Training in bombing, Lewis Gun, and map reading.		Troop withdrawn. Division in rest. Squadron training in bombing, Lewis Gun, map reading carried out till 27 September 1918.
21			–
22			–
23			–
24			–
25			–

26			–
27	Attached to 38 <sup>th</sup> Division for reconnaissance.	–	–
28	Three Other Ranks awarded the Military Medal, V Corps Routine Order No.838.	Squadron reported to 21 <sup>st</sup> Division Headquarters for duty with Division. Location W.8.d.5.3 for the night.	Squadron attached to 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division for duty.
29	–	Squadron reported to 110 <sup>th</sup> Brigade for reconnaissance at Gouzeaucourt. Enemy in strength east of village.	–
30	–	Location of Squadron R.21.c.8.5. Letter of appreciation of good work done received from General Officer Commanding 17 <sup>th</sup> Division.	–
	[Signed] A.E Phillips <sup>13</sup> Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)	[Signed] A.E Phillips Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)	[Signed] A.E Phillips Major Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)
	<p>Copy 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Headquarters 17<sup>th</sup> Division 6<sup>th</sup> September 1918</p> <p>I wish to place on record my appreciation of the good work done by the detachment of the North Irish Horse (Corps Cyclists) under Captain Plum, attached to this Brigade during the recent operations especially on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1918. The patrolling done by the Cyclists and the information which they obtained has proved invaluable and largely contributed to the success of the operations.</p> <p>(Signed) G Gwyn Thomas, Brigadier General Commanding 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade</p>		
	<p>Copy 17<sup>th</sup> Division 25<sup>th</sup> September 1918</p>		

<sup>13</sup> **Major Arthur Edward Phillips** (formerly Captain in Royal West Kent Regiment).

	<p>V Corps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Squadron of Cyclists (NIH) attached to this Division proved invaluable. They were employed on the following tasks:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Patrolling</li> <li>(b) Communications</li> <li>(c) Liaison.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. During the advance from Rocquigny to the Canal-du-Nord, sections patrolled ahead of the Infantry and sent back most useful reports as to the position of the enemy. One patrol on arrival at Etricourt dismounted and came into action against an enemy Machine Gun Nest on the East bank of the Canal-du-Nord and compelled it to withdraw. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) When all the forward telephone wires were cut and the Power Buzzer out of action, the cyclists riding down the Fins-Gouzeaucourt road maintained communication from the forward Battalions to the Dessart Wood Report Centre.</li> <li>(c) During the check along the Canal-du-Nord they were used to maintain Liaison with troops on Right and Left, and were most useful.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. The Cyclists were of the greatest use, their keenness was most marked, and they carried out the tasks allotted to them in a most competent manner.</li> </ol> <p>(Signed) G M Bird, Colonel for Major General Commanding 17<sup>th</sup> Division</p>
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**October 1918**

	<b>A Squadron</b>	<b>D Squadron</b>	<b>E Squadron</b>
1-2	[Map reference] 57C. V.17.a.5.4. One Troop attached Headquarters 38 <sup>th</sup> Division. Two Sections with each Brigade – 113 <sup>th</sup> , 114 <sup>th</sup> , and 115 <sup>th</sup> . Employed as runners with signals and D.R [despatch rider?] work. Officers employed on reconnaissance with Division Headquarters.	57C R25a75. Attached to 110 <sup>th</sup> Brigade 21 <sup>st</sup> Division. Patrols sent out to reconnoitre crossings of Canal de L'Escaut. Reported Bantouzelle occupied by enemy. Bridges burning. Enemy holding Canal with machine-guns. West bank clear of enemy.	(57)x22c31. Attached 100 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division. Sent out a patrol under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Downey <sup>14</sup> to reconnoitre Canal de St Quentin (S13a 57B)) preparatory to small raiding operations on following night which, however, never took place.
3	V.17.a.5.4. One Troop in line with Headquarters 38 <sup>th</sup> Division. Sections with Brigades. Lewis Gun Sections carrying out training.	Not required by Brigade. Training in Lewis Gun and map reading.	Fifteen Other Ranks gassed by gas shelling. Squadron moved forward to Battalion Headquarters owing to report that enemy were retiring. This did not prove to be the case, so

<sup>14</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Robert James Downey, North Irish Horse (No.41).

			Squadron moved back to previous location and were engaged in afternoon on salvage work.
4	–		Salvage work.
5	Squadron moved to F.1.d.5.2 (Sheet 62C NE).	Moved forward to Gouzecourt under orders of 64 Infantry Brigade 21 <sup>st</sup> Division to M32a24 (57B) and sent out patrols under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Blanden <sup>15</sup> to Bonne Enfance Farm and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Austin to Montecouvez Farm. Sergeant Rainey <sup>16</sup> to Gratte Panche Farm. The first and third reported clear but Montecouvez strongly held by enemy. Patrols rejoined Squadron at M35a where they remained nights of 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> .	
6	Sheet 62C NE. F.1.d.5.2. Squadron employed as above.	–	Patrols in front of Hindenberg Line as far as village of Aubengheul Aux Boix and Mortho Wood. At both point patrols being held up by enemy machine-guns. In the evening enemy held line just in front of village. 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division were then relieved and Squadron remained in trench S22d (57B) for three days.
7	Sheet 57B. S.21.cent. Squadron employed as above. Three Lewis Gun Sections with Headquarters. One off on reconnaissance for 38 <sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters.	–	–
8	Sheet 57B. S.21.cent. Distribution as before.	Squadron marched to Ardissart Farm at 9am and became transferred to 17 <sup>th</sup> Division. Remained there for day and night. Patrols under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Austin, Lieutenant Montgomery sent out to Wallincourt, Selvigny and Caullery.	–

<sup>15</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant William Wertley Blanden**, North Irish Reserve, formerly of Suffolk Regiment, as Acting Corporal (No.3018), then 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.

<sup>16</sup> **Sergeant Samuel Rainey**, North Irish Horse (No.H/71343).

		Reported clear.	
9	Squadron Headquarters moved to Villars Outreax <sup>17</sup> and remained in rest, men employed on communication between Battalions and Brigades.	–	–
10	–	Squadron billeted for night in Tronquoy.	Moved up with 19 <sup>th</sup> Brigade to just behind Malincourt. One Troop under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Downey being attached to 1 <sup>st</sup> Queens. One Troop under Lieutenant Hodson MC <sup>18</sup> to 1 <sup>st</sup> Royal Scots for patrol work. Third Troop remaining at Brigade Headquarters for runners. Two advanced Troops reached Clary and Troisvilles. That night Lieutenant Hodson's Troop being transferred to Cameronians.
11	Headquarters moved to Clary on Division being brought into reserve. Disposition as before.	Moved to rest billets in Inchy. Few men runners with Infantry Battalion and Brigade. Remainder standing to.	Remained in Troisvilles two nights.
12	–	–	Moved back to Hurtevent Farm for rest.
13	Headquarters moved to Bretry. Lewis Gun teams training.	–	–
14	–	Moved back to Montigny. Cleaning up and training.	–
15	–	–	–
16	Headquarters moved to Le Fayt. Two Troops and Squadron Headquarters attached 115 Infantry Brigade. One Troop 38 <sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters. Men employed as despatch riders for Brigade Headquarters.	–	–
17	–	Standing to ready to move at 45 minutes notice.	Moved up to Bertry. Remained there two days.
18	–	Moved to Inchy under orders of 52 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade.	–

<sup>17</sup> Villars Outréaux.

<sup>18</sup> **Lieutenant Donald O'Neill Hodson**, later Captain, North Irish Horse. Also Driver, Honourable Artillery Company (No.1396108).

19	–	Standing to but no move (21 <sup>st</sup> ) transferred to 51 <sup>st</sup> Brigade.	–
20	–		–
21	–		–
22	–	Transferred to 21 <sup>st</sup> Division.	–
23	Squadron concentrated at Le Fayt (Troisvilles) and placed under orders of Officer Commanding Regiment.	Moved to Neuilly.	Squadron attached to 100 Infantry Brigade for attack. Moved to F21c8.5 (57B). Remained there for night. Patrols were sent out to ascertain dispositions of our troops in front.
24	Lewis Gun training.	–	The Squadron moved to Paul Jacques Farm, whence to Wagonville, when a patrol under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Austin was sent out to reconnoitre Englefontaine. Patrol rode through village and located enemy on far side. Later two Lewis Gun teams were sent to occupy posts on east side of village, these being taken over by infantry shortly afterwards.
25 <sup>19</sup>	Moved to Forest on becoming attached to 38 <sup>th</sup> Division. Stood to at Forest.	Two Troops moved to Poix du Nord at 7am and became attached to 62 <sup>nd</sup> and 64 <sup>th</sup> Brigades. Squadron Headquarters and No.1 Troop moved to Vendegies at 7am and became attached to 110 <sup>th</sup> Brigade (21 <sup>st</sup> Division). This Troop remained with Brigade Headquarters at F.13.a.8.6 and Squadron Headquarters went into billets at F.7.a.7.3. The situation did not admit of any of these Troops being used according to plan of operations. At 1800 hours Squadron concentrated in billets at Poix du Nord under 110 <sup>th</sup> Brigade.	Squadron moved from Wagonville to Poix du Nord owing to heavy shelling.
26	Moved to Poix du Nord under orders of 115 Brigade.	Transferred to 52 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade. Standing to but no move.	Relieved by 38 <sup>th</sup> Division and marched back to Troisvilles, coming under orders of Officer Commanding Regiment.

<sup>19</sup> Died of wounds this day: **Private John Evans**, North Irish Horse and Corps of Hussars (No.81230), aged 25 years. Born Welshpool, enlisted Wrexham, husband of Alice McTavish (formerly Evans) of 7 Raven Street, Welshpool. Buried at Awoingt British Cemetery, Nord, grave I.C.16.

27	–	–	Training and Corps reserve.
28	–	Squadron employed on salvage.	
29	–	Transferred to 21 <sup>st</sup> Division on salvage work as before and Divisional mobile reserve.	
30	Moved back to Forest less one Troop remained in Poix du Nord with 114 Infantry Brigade.		
31	Squadron less one Troop resting in Forest.		
	[Signed] (..?) Elliot <sup>20</sup> Captain Commanding North Irish Horse V Cyclist Regiment	[Signed] (..?) Elliot Captain Commanding North Irish Horse V Cyclist Regiment	[Signed] (..?) Elliot Captain Commanding North Irish Horse V Cyclist Regiment
<b>November 1918</b>			
	<b>A Squadron</b>	<b>D Squadron</b>	<b>E Squadron</b>
1-3 <sup>21</sup>	Map sheet 57B 1/40000. Forest. Half Squadron with 113 Brigade and half with 114 Brigade engaged on patrol and liaison with leading Battalions and between Battalions and Brigade.	Map sheet 57B 1/40000. Poix du Nord. Squadron employed on salvage work.	Sheet 57B 1/40000. Troisvilles. Squadron resting at Troisvilles.
4 <sup>22</sup>	Map sheet 57A 1/40000. Englefontaine. Two Troops on patrol work with 38 <sup>th</sup> Division in Foret de Mormal.	Englefontaine. Squadron joined 50 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade and were employed as runners between leading Battalions and Brigade Headquarters. Returned to Englefontaine for the night.	Poix du Nord. Squadron moved to Poix du Nord with Regimental Headquarters.
5	Map sheet 57A 1/40000. Grandes Patures. Squadron moved to Grandes Patures and joined 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division.	Sheet 51 1/40000. Patrols sent out through Foret de Mormal. First patrol reached Berlaimont at 09.00 hours, where enemy were engaged until leading infantry took over. Squadron returned to	Half Squadron sent 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division and half to 21 <sup>st</sup> Division.

<sup>20</sup> **Captain Herbert Gordon Elliot**, North Irish Horse.

<sup>21</sup> Died this day: **Private Herbert Brennan**, North Irish Horse (No.1357), Corps of Hussars (No.H/71349), born and residence Guildford, County Down, enlisted Antrim. Buried at Awoingt British Cemetery, Nord, grave II.C.13.

<sup>22</sup> Died of wounds this day: **Private John Cully**, North Irish Horse (No.884), Corps of Hussars (No.71146), born Loughgilly, Armagh, enlisted Newry, residence Glennane. Buried Forest Communal Cemetery, Nord, grave B.6. He had left for France on 20 August 1914 as part of C Squadron North Irish Horse (based on date of qualification of 1914 Star).

		La Tete Noire at 16 hours and rested there for the night.	
6	Sarbaras. Squadron moved to Sarbaras.	La Tete Noire. Left Tete Noire at 07.00 hours and arrived Berlaimont 09.00 hours.	Sheet 51 1/40000. Squadron Headquarters moved to Loquinol and rejoined half Squadron with 21 <sup>st</sup> Division and returned to Englefontaine where Squadron concentrated and rested for the night.
7	Squadron was employed as advance guard to 19 Brigade 33 <sup>rd</sup> Division from Petit Maubeuge to Pot du Vin where Squadron [w]as heavily engaged with the enemy. <sup>23</sup>	Left Berlaimont at 08.00 hours and passing through Aulnoye arrived at outskirts of Limont Fontaine. Squadron was held up by heavy enemy rifle and machine-gun fire. When leading infantry took over, patrols were sent out to locate two machine-gun positions which they did, reporting location to General Officer Commanding 62 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade. Squadron then returned to Bachant for the night.	Berlaimont. Squadron moved from Englefontaine to Berlaimont and reported to 51 <sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade, moving same evening to Bachant, from which place two Sections were sent out to act as runners to the two advanced Battalions.
8 <sup>24</sup>	Sarbaras. Returned to Sarbaras with Divisional Headquarters for rest.	Berlaimont. Squadron moved from Bachant to Berlaimont and returned to rest with 21 <sup>st</sup> Division at Berlaimont.	Limont-Fontaine. Squadron moved from Bachant to V22.c.38 near Limont-Fontaine (Sheet 51 1/40000). On the night of the 8 <sup>th</sup> two patrols were sent out to Beaufort to ascertain if village was held by the enemy. Patrols returned and reported village clear of enemy.
9 <sup>25</sup>	Dimechaux. Squadron moved up and joined 113 Brigade of 38 <sup>th</sup> Division at Demechaux.	Beaufort. Left Berlaimont at 16.00 hours and reported to leading Brigade at Beaufort.	Damousies. Patrol was sent to reconnoitre the village of Damousies and report on situation. This patrol took one prisoner and reported village clear of enemy. Squadron then moved to Damousies where a report centre was established to receive reports from cavalry patrols and take them back to Headquarters III Hussars, and Brigade Headquarters at Beaufort. Squadron

<sup>23</sup> Killed in action this day: **Private Charles Elder**, North Irish Horse (A Squadron), Corps of Hussars (No.71585), aged 23 years, enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, son of James Elder of Mullartown, Annalong, County Down. Buried in Dourlers Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, grave I.D.17.

<sup>24</sup> Died this day: **Private Charles Richard Woodside**, North Irish Horse (No.1795), Corps of Hussars (No.71563), enlisted Antrim, residence Belfast, buried Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt, grave XIII.B.4.

			took over outposts in the evening from cavalry. Relieved later by infantry and returned to billets for the night at Beaufort.
10 <sup>26</sup>	Sheet 52 1/40000. Hestrud. Squadron moved to Hestrud and thence to Eccles where outpost line was formed on the general line Hestrud – Cousoire. Outposts withdrawn on cessation of hostilities on 11 November 1918.	Outpost line established by Squadron on general line Obrechies, Choicies and Quievelon.	Beaufort. Squadron moved to Beaufort.
11		Squadron still on outpost line when hostilities ceased at 11.00 hours.	
12-18 <sup>27</sup>	Sheet 51 1/40000. Dimechoux. Squadron withdrawn to Dimechoux. Examining posts established.	Squadron moved to Choicies and established examining posts at Obrechies, Quievelon, crossroads at X20.a.2.8 Sheet 51 1/40000.	Sheet 51 1/40000. Choicies. Squadron moved to Choicies and examining posts were organised in accordance with orders.
19	Sheet 57B 1/40000. Berlaimont. Squadron joined Regimental Headquarters at Berlaimont and thence marched with Regiment to Poix du Nord.	Squadron joined Regimental Headquarters at Berlaimont.	Berlaimont. Squadron joined Regimental Headquarters at Berlaimont.
20	–	Moved to Poix du Nord with Regiment.	Sheet 57B 1/40000. Poix du Nord. Squadron moved with Regiment to Poix du Nord.
21-30	Poix du Nord. Engaged in salvage work in Poix du Nord area.	Engaged on salvage work in V Corps area.	Squadron employed on salvage work in V Corps area.

<sup>25</sup> Died at home this day: **Private Robert Evans**, North Irish Horse (No.1842), Corps of Hussars (No.71586), aged 27 years, son of Thomas Evans of Suffolk, Dunmurry, Belfast, buried at Derryaghy (Christ Church) Church of Ireland Churchyard, County Antrim, grave 50.

<sup>26</sup> Died of wounds this day:

**Lance Corporal Robert Henry Hill**, North Irish Horse (No.1157), Corps of Hussars (No.71255), aged 21 years, son of Robert Henry and Mary Jane Hill of Londonderry, born, enlisted and residence, Londonderry, buried at Mount Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, grave VIII.O.9A.

**Trooper William Hillocks**, North Irish Horse (No.2442), Dragoon Guards and Corps of Hussars (No.71830), born Cerragby, Antrim, enlisted Antrim, residence Lisburn, buried at Mount Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, grave VIII.O.9B.

<sup>27</sup> Died of wounds on 14 November: **Private James Adair**, North Irish Horse (No.1991), Corps of Hussars (No.H/71669). Buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, grave S.III.AA.21.

	[Signed] A.E Phillips Major Commanding North Irish Horse	[Signed] A.E Phillips Major Commanding North Irish Horse	[Signed] A.E Phillips Major Commanding North Irish Horse
<b>December 1918</b>			
1-31	–		
<b>January 1919</b>			
1	Vignacourt. Regiment in course of demobilisation, chief employment recreation.		
2-10	–		
11	Vignacourt. Four Other Ranks awarded Military Medal for gallantry in the field. Authority Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General V Corps. MM/3928/3931 dated 28 December 1918.		
12-24	–		
25	Vignacourt. Lieutenant D O'N Hodson awarded Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while in command of a Squadron. Supplement to Gazette d/- 11 January 1919. <sup>28</sup>		
26-31	–		
<b>February 1919</b>			
1	Vignacourt. Major A.E Phillips mentioned in despatches 8 November 1918. Gazette Supplement 28 December 1918. Major A.E Phillips awarded Distinguished Service Order. Supplement Gazette 1 January 1919.		
2-7	–		
8	Vignacourt. One Other Rank awarded Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of valuable services rendered with Armies in France. Gazette Supplement 18 January 1919 <sup>29</sup>		
9-28	–		
<b>March 1919</b>			

<sup>28</sup> **Temporary Lieutenant Donald O'Neill Hodson**, Reserve Regiment of Cavalry, attached to the North Irish Horse, awarded the Military Cross for "conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in command of a squadron. On coming under heavy fire from a party of the enemy in concealed positions, he at once attacked them, capturing eighteen, and killing the remainder. Later, during an attack, he organised three Lewis-gun teams to protect the flank, and thus caused a flanking movement by the enemy to be repulsed. He rendered very valuable service." (London Gazette Supplement, 11 January 1919)

<sup>29</sup> H/71343 **Sergeant S Rainey**, Irish Horse (North Lisburn).

1	Vignacourt. Lieutenant E.A Atkinson awarded Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry and good leadership during the advance 22 August to 1 September 1918, especially 23 August 1918 near Le Burgue. Gazette 1 February 1919. <sup>30</sup>
2-18	–
19	Vignacourt. Regiment reduced to Cadre.
20-21	–
22	Vignacourt. Four Other Ranks awarded Military Medal 21 February 1919. Authority V Corps MM/1118 dated 21 February 1919.
23-31	–
	[Signed (for 1 January to 31 March)] G Austin, Lieutenant V <sup>th</sup> Corps Cyclist (North Irish Horse)
<b>April 1919</b>	
1-30	Vignacourt. Regiment reduced to Cadre strength and awaiting orders for dispersal.
	[Signed] G Austin Lieutenant, Captain & Adjutant North Irish Horse
<b>May 1919</b>	
1-31	–
<b>June 1919</b>	
1-6	–
7	Vignacourt. Retainable Other Ranks posted to IV Cyclist Battalion, Army of Rhine.
8	–
9	Vignacourt. Cadre of unit proceeding to U.K, 11 June 1919 (Pembroke Docks) with V Corps Headquarters Cadre.
	[Signed] R.J Downey, Lieutenant Commanding V Cyclist Regiment (North Irish Horse)

<sup>30</sup> **Lieutenant Edward Arthur Atkinson**, North Irish Horse, S.H., attached V<sup>th</sup> Cyclist Battalion, awarded the Military Cross for "conspicuous gallantry and good leadership during the advance from 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1918, to 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1918; especially on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 1818, near Le Burgue. When the left flank of a battalion was severely threatened, realising the situation, he, of his own initiative, led forward three Lewis gun teams under heavy fire and brought them into action, nullifying the attempts of the enemy, and enabling the battalion to hold its position. (London Gazette Supplement, 1 February 1919)

