

1917Appendix.January.3rd  
(Contd.)

The whole of the Steel Helmets of the Battalion were repainted with the red band.  
The Armourer Sergeant inspected the rifles of Headquarters Company during the morning.

4th

Companies at the disposal of Company Commanders for the usual Company Training, special attention being devoted to the following:- Bombing, Bayonet Fighting, Musketry, Physical Drill.  
Each Company paraded at the Gas Chamber at intervals of 1/2 hour between Companies to go through the gas chamber wearing the New Box Respirator.  
Signallers under instruction in visual Signalling by the Signalling Sergeant.  
Untrained Lewis Gunners under the Company Lewis Gun Sgts.  
In the afternoon all Officers who had joined since the recent fighting attended the Brigade Bombing Classes for Officers under Lieut. GOLD, the Brigade Bombing Officer.

5th

Companies at the disposal of Company Commanders for the usual Company Training, including Box Respirator Drill, Bayonet Fighting, Bombing and Musketry.  
Trained Lewis Gunners practised firing on the Divisional Range under Sgt. DE'ATH, the Battalion Lewis Gun Sergeant.  
C.S.M. LONGMUIR of the Army Gymnastic Staff, instructed all Junior Officers and Platoon Sergeants of the Battalion in Bayonet Fighting.  
The Bombing Sections of A. Company paraded at the Battalion Bombing Trenches for practice in throwing of Live Grenades.  
Unfortunately this practice resulted in the death of Private SHELLEY of A. Company and the wounding of Sgt. WILKMAN and SGT. EDWARDS. Private Shelley had already thrown three live grenades all of which burst satisfactorily. The 4th bomb however, exploded barely a foot away from his hand wounding himself in the neck from which he died in a few minutes, and also wounding the two instructors. A Court of Inquiry was held and a Finding of "Accidental" returned by the Court.  
Signallers under instruction by the Signalling Sgt.  
Lewis Gunners under instruction by the Company Lewis Gun Sgts.

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- 5th (Contd.) Junior Officers attended the Brigade Bombing School for Officers in the Afternoon.
- 6th The Battalion paraded at 8.30 a.m. in full marching order and went for a short route march via CRECY, MARCHVILLE, CANCHY and returning to FOREST L'ABBAYE. Untrained Lewis Gunners under the Company Lewis Gun Sergeant and Trained No. 1's. Signallers under the Signalling Sergeant for instruction in visual signalling, and the use of the aeroplane ground sheet. In the afternoon all Officers of the Battalion, other than Company Commanders and 2nd Cpts. attended a Demonstration in Bombing Tactics at the Brigade Bombing School at LE TITRE.
- 7th Voluntary Divine Services for various Denominations were held during the morning and evening. A. and D. Companies less Lewis Gunners and Signallers left FOREST L'ABBAYE and proceeded to LANNOY by motor lorry for loading fatigues under the 4th Corps. The undermentioned Officers, Warrant Officers and man appeared in FIELD MARSHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S List of "MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES" Published in the Times Newspaper.  
 LIEUT. COL. A. P. B. IRWIN, D.S.O.  
 MAJOR C. C. CLARE, M.C.  
 CAPTAIN C. W. JANION, D.S.O.  
 LIEUT. A. L. HOLBERTON.  
 LIEUT. J. J. THORLEY.  
 LIEUT. and QR. MR. G. BAINES.  
 691. RSM BRENNAN, C. 593 CSM THEEDON, G.  
 28158 PTE. H. C. MATTHEWS.
- 8th Companies at the disposal of Company Commanders for the usual Company Training. Sgt. DE'ATH instructed the Lewis Gunners in the use of the new Range Finder. All Junior Officers attended the Brigade Bombing School for Officers in the afternoon. The Regimental Football Team played the 55th Machine Gun Company in the afternoon at LA MOTTE BULEUX. Result. 55th M.G. Coy. 1 Goal  
 8th E. Surreys NIL.