

## THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

### Their First World War 'Story' – November 1918

#### The 'Bigger' Picture

- An intense period of diplomacy leads to the Armistice on the Western Front. The Armistice between the Allied and Associated Powers and Germany is signed in Marshal Foch's special train at Rethondes Station in the Forest of Compiègne on the 11th.



- The German internal positions continues to become more unstable.

#### GERMANY/AUSTRIA-HUNGARY/ HUNGARY

- Allied Governments agree to Germany's proposal for an armistice and peace on basis of President Wilson's proposals of January 8th.
- President Wilson sends final Note to the German Government with Allies acceptance of armistice proposals
- German armistice delegates reach Allied General Headquarters.
- Revolution breaks out in Berlin
- Kaiser Wilhelm II crosses the frontier into Holland.
- German Imperial Chancellor (Prince Max) announces that the Kaiser has decided to abdicate. Prince Max becomes Regent. Herr Ebert becomes Imperial Chancellor
- Kaiser Wilhelm II signs abdication
- Bavaria proclaimed a Republic.
- Armistice between Austria-Hungary and the Entente signed; hostilities cease.
- Baron von Flotow succeeds Count Andrassy provisionally as Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister.
- Administration of Carniola taken over from the Austro-Hungarian authorities by Slovene leaders.
- German-Austrian Republic proclaimed
- Independent Hungarian Government formed. Count Karolyi appointed Premier.
- Hungarian Government concludes separate armistice with GOC Allied Army, Gen Henry, at Belgrade.
- Emperor of Austria abdicates
- Hungary declares Independence

#### FRANCE

- General Petain created Marshal of France.

#### BELGIUM

- Belgian Government reinstated at Brussels.
- ML Delacroix succeeds M Cooreman as Belgian Prime Minister and M Masson succeeds Lt Gen de Ceuninck as Minister for War. (M Delacroix was the first Minister to hold the title of Prime Minister.)

#### BULGARIA

King Boris of Bulgaria abdicates

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

- Czech forces at Ekaterinenburg proclaim national independence.
- Professor Masaryk elected First President of the Czecho-Slovak Republic

#### YUGOSLAVIA

- Yugo-Slav conference at Geneva decide to form a joint Yugo-Slav-Serbian Government to control military and foreign affairs.
- Yugo-Slav National Council at Agram protest against the Italian occupation of Fiume
- Yugo-Slav National Council vote for union with Serbia and formation of a common State with Serbia and Montenegro

#### SERBIA

- King Peter of Serbia re-enters Belgrade.
- Montenegrin National Assembly (Skupshtina) meet at Podgoritsa and vote for union with Serbia

#### RUMANIA

- King of Rumania announces that the Romanian nation have taken up arms again on the side of the Allies
- The General Congress of The Bukovina decide in favour of complete union with Rumania.
- Rumanian Government re-established at Bucharest.

- Greek, Serbian, and Rumanian Governments issue circular memorandum announcing their decision to strengthen the union between the three countries by all available means.

#### ESTONIA

- New National Government formed.
- New National Government in Estonia order general mobilization.

#### LATVIA

- British Government recognise Latvian Provisional Government as independent.

#### POLAND

- State of War begins between The Ukraine and Poland.
- M. Moraczewski appointed Polish Prime Minister
- Polish Government (M. Pilsudski) issue declaration proclaiming Poland an Independent and Sovereign State.

#### MESOPOTAMIA

- Joint Declaration by British and French Governments regarding future of Syria and Mesopotamia.

### The Home Front

Church Bells rang out on Monday 11 November to welcome the signing of the Armistice and the cessation of hostilities; there was an immediate atmosphere of relief and celebration. Many parties were held, but many reflected on 4 years of hardship and personal tragedy; many families had been destroyed by the death of loved ones and despite the euphoria of the Armistice, things would never be the same.

ALLIES' DRASTIC ARMISTICE TERMS TO HUNS

# The Daily Mirror

CERTIFIED CIRCULATION LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER DAILY PICTURE PAPER

No. 4,096.

Registered at the G.P.O.  
as a Newspaper.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1918

One Penny.

## HOW LONDON HAILED THE END OF WAR



**THE END OF THE WAR.**

**Germany Accepts Armistice Terms.**

**THE NEWS AT HEREFORD.**

**Public Celebrations and Thankgiving.**

**RECRUITING SUSPENDED.**

**All Calling-Up Notices Cancelled.**

The Secretary of the Local Government Board and the Ministry of National Service announce:—

The Government has decided that all recruiting under the Military Service Acts is to be suspended. All outstanding calling-up notices, whether for medical examination or service, are cancelled. All cases pending before tribunals should be suspended.

THE WESTERN FRONT

- Marshal Foch placed in supreme strategic direction of all forces operating against Germany on all fronts.
- Battle of Valenciennes, Valenciennes occupied by British forces
- Battle of the Sambre.
- Second Battle of Guise.
- Sedan taken by United States forces.
- Maubeuge retaken by British forces.
- Mezieres retaken by French forces.
- Ghent reoccupied by Belgian forces.
- Mons retaken by British forces.

**11th - Hostilities on the Western front cease at 1100hrs.**

- Mulhouse (*Alsace-Lorraine*) again occupied by French forces.
- Allied Armies begin march into Germany.
- Last German troops recross French frontier.
- Metz (*Alsace-Lorraine*) occupied by French forces.
- Brussels reoccupied by Belgian forces.
- Antwerp reoccupied by Belgian forces.
- Namur occupied by British forces .
- Luxembourg frontier crossed by United States forces.

**24th - British and United States troops reach German frontier.**

- Strasbourg (*Alsace-Lorraine*) occupied by French forces.
- Last German troops recross Belgian frontier.

**26th - French troops cross German frontier**

British POWs were soon released and Pte Taylor Herefordshire Regiment, taken POW with 1 KSLI on 21 Mar 18, was sailed from Calais on 22 Nov; he was eventually discharged in August 1919.

**BRITISH PRISONERS FREE.**  
**WALKING OVER THE GERMAN FRONTIER INTO HOLLAND.**

While nothing is officially known in London of any British prisoners having been released from German internment, some of them have already obtained their liberty, and are now in Holland, or on their way home.

A "Daily Chronicle" representative was on Tuesday informed that the authorities there had been agreeably surprised that some of them had "walked into Holland quite unexpectedly," and were being hospitably provided for by the Dutch Government. It is thought that they may have been told by German military authorities that they are at liberty to leave at any time, if they are able to make their own way home, or go to another country.

All parcels individually addressed to prisoners have been stopped as there is no chance of them reaching the men.

Lord Newton explained on Tuesday night that it was impossible to find out what was happening in the case of individual prisoners. It had therefore been decided to ask the public to send only unaddressed parcels, which will be dealt with by committees in Rotterdam, and probably Copenhagen, or some other centres. Those committees will find out the needs of individual prisoners, and will see that supplies forwarded are wisely distributed.

Vessels have already been sent to Holland, and were expected to bring back to England on Wednesday or Thursday the first 800 released prisoners.

LIST OF REPATRIATED PRISONERS OF WAR ARRIVED 22 NOVEMBER 1918.  
 NOTIFIED BY EMBARKATION OFFICER, CALAIS,

No. 1 RECORD OFFICE - SHREWSBURY. LIST NO. X. 89417.

64341	Pte. O Donohue J.	9/Welsh R.
46780	Pte. Davies T.	1/S.W.Bdrs.
44274	Pte. Crawford W.	2/-do-
58600	Pte. Davies H.K.	10/-do-
58715	Pte. Arnold A.	10/-do-
236052	Pte. Taylor C.P.	1/KSLI.
205071	Pte. Davies X.F.	1/-do-
27051	Pte. Hearty T.	1/-do-
31489	4/C. Cheatham E.E.	1/4 -do-
20809	Pte. Smith B.	7/-do-
19224	Pte. Moylan J.	2/S.Lanos.R.
241845	Pte. Webster J.	1/5 -do-
20591	Pte. Thorpe H.	11/-do-

#### BALKAN FRONT

- Belgrade retaken by Serbian forces.

#### ITALIAN FRONT

- Trieste occupied by Italian forces
- Battle of Vittorio Veneto ends.
- Italian troops reinforce naval detachment in Fiume
- United States force enters

#### RUMANIA

- Allied forces cross the Danube at Ruschuk and enter Rumania.

#### UKRAINE

- General Petlyura commences revolt against The Ukraine Government.
- Lemberg captured by Polish forces

#### ESTONIA

- Narva (Estonia) captured by Bolshevik forces

#### RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR

- Counter-revolutionary *coup d'etat* at Omsk. Russian Adml Kolchak proclaimed 'Dictator of all Russia.'
- Gen Marushevski appointed Governor-General and CinC of Russian forces in North Russia (Archangel).

#### TRANS-CASPIA

- Merv, Trans-Caspian, retaken by British and Russian forces.

#### EAST AFRICA

- German force in East Africa enters Rhodesia and attacks Fife.
- Kasama, Rhodesia taken by Colonel von Lettow-Vorbeck's force.
- German force in East Africa reaches the Chambezi River, Rhodesia. News of armistice received.

#### **14th - Hostilities in East Africa cease**

- German forces in East Africa surrender to Allied forces at Abercorn, Rhodesia.

#### MESOPOTAMIAN FRONT

- Mosul occupied by British forces

#### TURKEY

- POWs were being released:



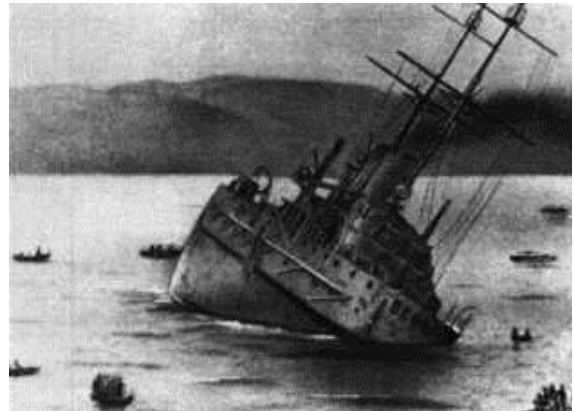
At Sea

GERMAN NAVY

- Mutiny breaks out in the German fleet at Kiel
- German cruiser Koenigsberg (*below*) with German naval delegates, enters Firth of Forth to arrange surrender of the German fleet.



- First contingent of German submarines surrender to the British Navy at Harwich.
- German High Seas Fleet arrives at Rosyth, en route for internment in Scapa Flow.
- Austrian battleship Viribus Unitis (*below*) sunk by *Italian frogmen* in Pola harbour.



- HMS Campania (*below*) a seaplane tender and aircraft carrier, sunk by collision after her anchor dragged in the Firth of Forth; there was no loss of life



HMS Cochrane wrecked at entrance to Liverpool – there was no loss of life



#### ADRIATIC

- Antivari, Montenegro occupied by Italian naval forces.
- Fiume occupied by Italian naval forces.

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

- Alexandretta, Syria occupied by Entente naval forces.

#### TURKEY

- Allied fleet passes through the Dardanelles and sails to Constantinople.

#### BLACK SEA

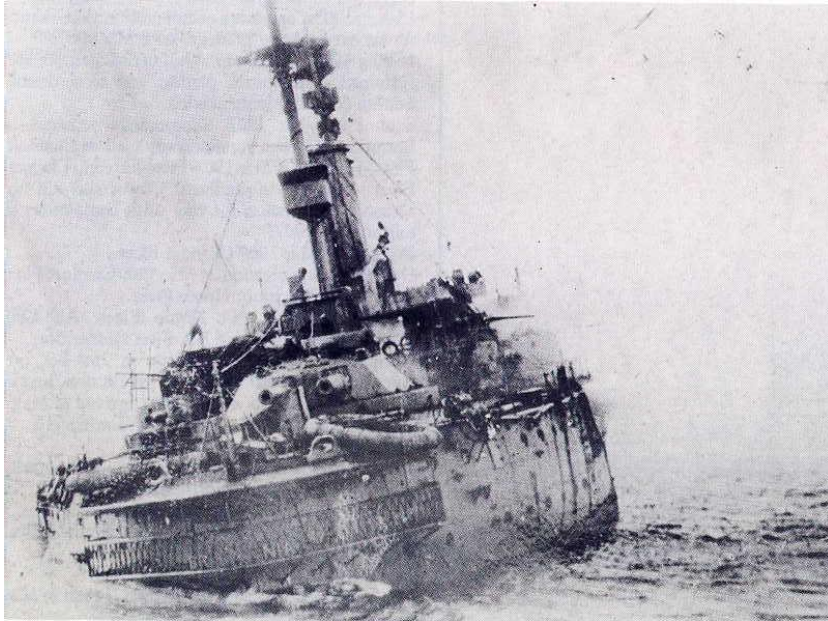
- Allied fleet arrives at Sevastopol and takes over remainder of the Russian Black Sea Fleet from the Germans.

#### CASPIAN SEA

- Baku again occupied by British forces

#### U-BOAT WARFARE

- Last British merchant vessels, SS Surada and Murcia, sunk by submarine.
- HMS Britannia sunk by submarine off Cape Trafalgar (last warship so lost). On 9 Nov 1918, *Britannia* was on a voyage in the western entrance to the Strait of Gibraltar when she was torpedoed by the German submarine *UB-50*. After the first explosion, the ship listed ten degrees to port. A few minutes later, a second explosion started a fire in a 9.2-inch (234-mm) magazine, which in turn caused a cordite explosion in the magazine. Darkness below decks made it virtually impossible to find the flooding valves for the magazines, and those the crew did find were poorly located and therefore hard to turn, and the resulting failure to properly flood the burning magazine probably doomed the ship. *Britannia* held her 10-degree list for 2½ hours before sinking, allowing most of the crew to be taken off. Most of the men who were lost were killed by toxic smoke from burning cordite; 50 men died and 80 were injured. In total, 39 officers and 673 men were saved.



- British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month (up to 11<sup>th</sup>) – 8 ships of 15,000 tons gross.



Grand total for war – 6,927 ships of 13,089,000 tons gross (Lloyd's War Losses)