

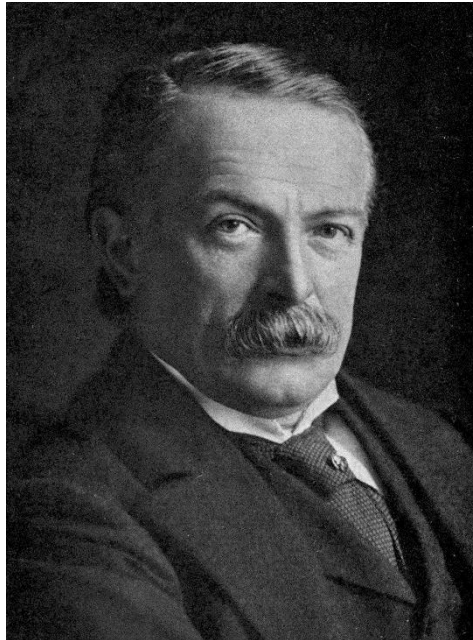
## THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

### Their First World War 'Story' – June 1916

#### The 'Bigger' Picture

##### The Home Front

- Lloyd George succeeds Lord Kitchener as Secretary of State for War, Great Britain



- Seaham harbour (on coast of Durham) shelled by German submarine.

##### Diplomatic

- Russian and Japanese Governments conclude treaty with regard to future policy in the Far East.
- Inter-Allied Conference, on finance held in London
- Treaty with Ibn Sa'ud, Emir of Nejd, ratified by British Government
- Greek Government conclude new loan with the Entente (£800,000)
- M Sazonov, Russian Foreign Minister, resigns (appointed in 1910) and is succeeded by M Sturmer
- British Government issue Order in Council rescinding Declaration of London of 1909 (Laws of Naval War). French Government issue similar order
- German commercial submarine Deutschland (*below*) arrives at Norfolk (Va.), from Bremen



- United States Government formally protest to British Government against Black List policy
- German Government send note to United States Government rejecting British offer to permit passage of foodstuffs to Poland from United States of America.
- Captain Fryatt, of British SS Brussels, shot by order of a German court-martial in Belgium for attempting to ram a U Boat.

### The Western Front

- Battles of the Somme begins on 1 July.

### Other Fronts

#### EASTERN FRONT

- Battle of Baranovichi
- Mamakhatun (Armenia) again taken by Russian forces
- Erzinjan (Armenia) captured by Russian forces. (This was the furthest point west reached by Russian forces. It was evacuated subsequently without further fighting.)

#### BALKANS

- Reconstituted Serbian army goes into action on Salonika front
- Russian troops from France land at Salonika and join Allied force

#### EAST AFRICA

- Tanga (German East Africa) occupied by British forces
- Mwanza, on Victoria Nyanza (German East Africa) taken by British forces
- Kilimatinde (German East Africa) taken by British forces.

## ARABIA

- Yenbo, port of Medina, surrenders to Arab forces

## PERSIA

- Kirmanshah reoccupied by Turkish forces

## ITALY

- Counter-offensive in the Trentino

## MIDDLE EAST

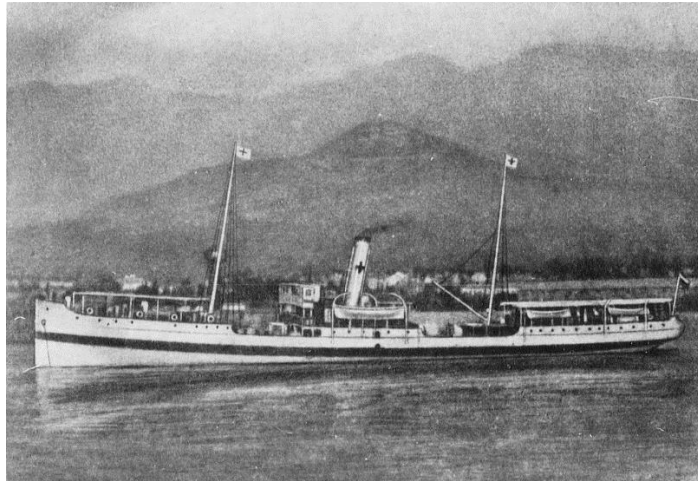
- Turkish offensive from Oghratina against the Suez Canal

### In the Air

- Contact patrol, or liaison with infantry, first instituted in the Royal Flying Corps
- First aerial operations carried out, by combined French and British air services on French Western front.

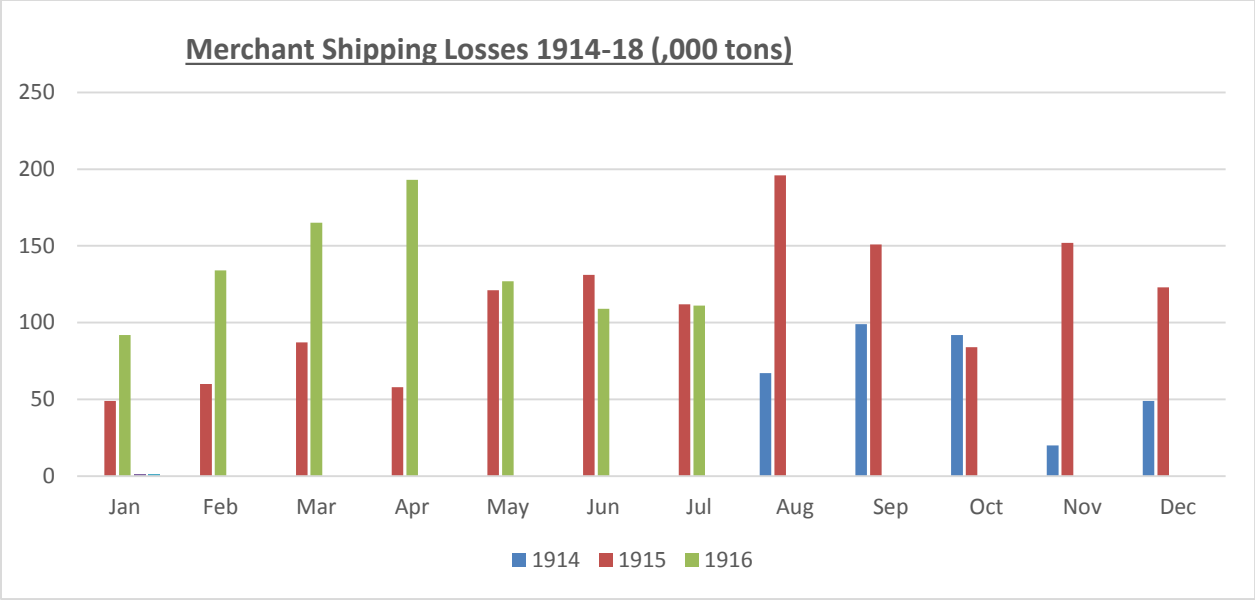
### At Sea

- Russian hospital ship Vpered (below) sunk by German submarine in the Black Sea.



## MERCHANT SHIPPING

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month - 98 ships of 111,000 tons gross.



**The 'Herefords'**

The long military association between Herefordshire and Shropshire was formalised as explained in the Hereford Times:

## HEREFORD REGIMENT.

JOINED WITH THE K.S.L.I. BY  
ARMY ORDER.

TRAINING TO GO ON AS USUAL.

[From Our Own Correspondents.]

"The Herefordshire Regiment is included with that of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry for definition of 'Corps' for the purposes of the Army Act."

This is the latest Army Order, published in battalion orders, and it caused a good deal of comment in camp. All sorts of ideas became circulated, because the Order was not thoroughly understood, and some of the men at once thought that they were now members of the K.S.L.I. Not that they were not anxious to belong to such a regiment, for the honours it has gained in the present war are enough to make anyone proud of being attached to it. And there are a large number of Herefordshire men already in the ranks of the Shropshires who have played their part in the victories that have been won.

Every man should be proud of his regiment, and the men of the Reserve Herefordshires are as proud of their battalion as any soldiers in the British Army. They would naturally like to go into action, when their turn comes, with their own regiment, and with their own officers.

Under the Army Act, however, it was laid down that Territorial units could be included in any line or regular regiment, and as Herefordshire has not a regular regiment of its own its Territorial unit has to be included in the regiment of another county.

Herefordshire is more interested in the K.S.L.I. than in any other line regiment, and the men are glad that they have been included with it rather than with any other, merely for local association's sake.

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The order does not mean that the Herefordshire Regiment ceases to exist. The training will go on just the same as in the past, and the present officers will remain just as in the days before the Order came into effect. All it means is that when men are required for France from the ranks of the Herefordshire Regiment they will probably be attached to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

It seems a pity that the attempt made some time ago to get the name "King's Shropshire Light Infantry" changed into the "King's Shropshire and Herefordshire Light Infantry" was not successful. Perhaps if it was taken up again now it would meet with better results.

The men of the Herefordshire Regiment are as ready to serve in France if need be as in any other part of the war theatre. They are working hard to fit themselves for the service of their country, and whether they fight in France with the K.S.L.I. or with any other regiment, or whether they go to another part of the globe, they can be relied upon to do good work.

### BAND BROKEN UP.

In consequence of a recent order, the Band of the Battalion, in common with those of other regiments, has been disbanded, and the men now take their places in the ranks and go through all the Battalion training. The Bugle Band supplies the "martial air," accompanied by two cornet players, who take the lead during the playing of the Regimental March. The "bugle and cornet band" played for the singing at the church parade this week. The brass band has been highly appreciated by the men. On the march they have played lively selections and have given weekly concerts in the open—either outside the Regimental Institute or on the parade ground—and their selections will be missed.

## Casualties

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	Bn	Coy	DATE	HOW	WHERE	HOMETOWN	Notes
BARBER	ALFRED OSWALD	PTE	1973	1		09/07/1916	Illness	UK	Hay On Wye	Ex Suvla Bay Died aged 21, buried Hereford (All Saints) cemetery
BOWKETT	JAMES WILLIAM	PTE	3806	1		21/07/1916	Illness	Egypt	Acton Beauchamp	
MUTLOW	CHARLES JAMES	LCPL	3850	3		05/07/1916	Illness	UK	Brimfield	Age 23

1973 Pte AO Barber



### MILITARY FUNERAL.

#### HEREFORD PRIVATE WHO WENT THROUGH GALLIPOLI.

A military funeral took place at Hereford on Wednesday, when Pte. A. O. Barber, of the 1st Herefords, was buried at the Cemetery with full honours. Pte. Barber was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Barber, of Allison Villa, Whitcross Street, and before war broke out was employed at Messrs. Wm. Evans and Co.'s office, at Widechurch Common. He was among the first batch of recruits to join the Herefords in August of 1914, and in due course went out with the battalion to Serbia Bay. He was one of the many who unfortunately were caught in the great and disastrous storm just before the evacuation, and suffered from frost-bite and exposure, followed by pneumonia. For some months he had been in the Maxwell and Trench Hospitals at Malta, but in June was sent to England, arriving at Netley about a fortnight before his death, which was caused by double pneumonia. During the fortnight he was visited by his parents, while his sister remained with him till he passed away. He kept a cheerful spirit in spite of great weakness and pain, and had a peaceful end. He was only 21 years of age. Another brother, Pte. C. W. Barber, joined at the same time and is now with the 2nd Battalion. Pte. A. O. Barber was at first rejected for foreign service, but volunteered again and was passed. Mr. Barber has two sons-in-law in the forces also: One is Motor Dispatch Rider F. J. Irwin, who sustained injuries at Alexandria and is now in hospital at Hampstead; and the other is Wireless Telegraphist Hugh Sperring, of the R.F.C.

The coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack, arrived from Netley on Tuesday morning, when it was met at the station by six men of the Hereford Regiment and taken to Allison Villa. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. M. Fowler, vicar of Holy Trinity. The mourners included Mr. and Mrs. Barber (father and mother), and the deceased's sister and two brothers; while among a number of sympathisers present at the graveside was Mr. J. W. Rider, his schoolmaster. A singing party was present, composed of members of the 1st Herefords, and the "Last Post" was sounded. Wreaths were sent from his father and mother, sister and brothers; sheafs of lilacs from Mr. and Mrs. Sperring (sister and brother-in-law); Mr. W. H. and H. Powell and family (cousins); Mr. Fred and L. Powell and family (cousins); wreaths and crosses from Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stephens, Hay; Mr. Alfred Greenham, Hereford; Messrs. Wm. Evans and Co., Hereford; his colleagues of the above firm; from three friends, Hereford; from a friend, Hereford; from two friends, Northampton; to Fred, from R. H. E., Hereford; from Mrs. Jones and family, Turpley; from Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Gardner, Hereford; Mr. J. W. Rider, Lord Sudamore's School, Hereford.

Pte Mutlow's headstone in the church yard of St Peter & St Paul Eye Brimfield Leominster.



## The London Gazette

### Honours & Awards

Mentioned In Despatches General Sir Charles Monro, Middle Eastern Expeditionary Force – for services at Suvla Bay

Ashton	Phillip	Lt
Drage	Geoffrey	Lt Col
Whitehouse	Augustus George Richard	Lt

Mention In Despatches (MID) certificate for Lt P Ashton:





*The War of 1914-1918.*

*Herefordshire Regt. [I.F.]*

*2 [Lt. [I] Capt.] P. Ashton,*

*was mentioned in a Despatch from  
General Sir Charles Monro K.C.B.*

*dated 6<sup>th</sup> March 1916.*

*for gallant and distinguished services in the Field.*

*I have it in command from the King to record His Majesty's  
high appreciation of the services rendered.*

*Christmas. Churchill*

*Secretary of State for War.*

*War Office  
Whitehall, S.W.  
1<sup>st</sup> March 1916.*

#### LIEUT.-COLONEL G. DRAGE.

Lieut. Colonel Gilbert Drage has held the command of the 1st Herefords since September 1914, and was one of the first officers of his regiment to fall wounded. The injury, which was to an arm, was not serious, and he happily soon recovered and resumed command. The popular O.C. is the younger son of Major W. H. Drage, late of the 52nd Oxfordshire I.L., and brother of Major Godfrey Drage, Royal Munster Fusiliers, who also went through the Gallipoli campaign. Colonel Gilbert Drage joined the Royal Marine I.L. in 1889, and after being in different foreign stations, ashore and afloat, served in the Naval Intelligence Department of the Admiralty in London, 1901-6, and at Malta 1906-10. He was subsequently on the China station, where his ship won the prize for gunnery, and at Plymouth. He was gazetted Major in 1908 and retired in October, 1913. He then joined the 1st Herefords as Major, and assumed command about nine months before the battalion sailed for Gallipoli.

#### CAPTAIN WHITEHOUSE.

Captain A. G. R. Whitehouse is a son of the Rev. G. Whitehouse, Vicar of Sellack. He was gazetted on September 1st, 1914, and as Lieutenant had command of "A" Company of the 1st Herefords. His letters descriptive of the Herefords' life in the Dardanelles published in the *Hereford Times* last autumn and in the early part of this year, created much attention at the time.

#### LIEUT. ASHTON.

Lieut. P. Ashton's commission dates from September 1st, 1914. A son of the late Mr. Edmund Ashton, of Hatfield, Herts, his grandfather had associations with Herefordshire, being the owner of Hatfield Court, near Leominster. He is a nephew of the Rev. A. N. Cope, Dormington, Chaplain to the Forces, and of Captain and Acting Adjutant R. P. Haden Cope, Bartestree. It will be remembered that in November, 1914, he married under romantic circumstances a Hertfordshire lady; he was on leave in Hertfordshire making arrangements for his wedding, when he received orders to at once report himself for active service. The next day the marriage was solemnised at 8.30 a.m. at St. Nicholas Church, Hereford, and in less than two hours afterwards the bridegroom was on his way back to military duty.



Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)

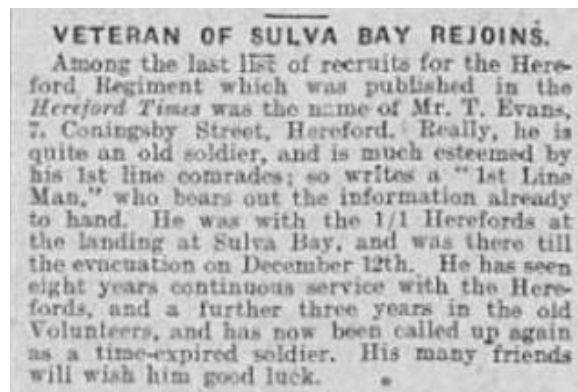
Publication Date			Detail	Effective Date	Remarks
10/07/1916	Trumper	FA	reverts to lieutenant	20/02/16	
12/07/1916	Greenly	JHM	relinquishes appointment of staff captain	28/06/16	
25/07/1916	Llewellyn	EAR	to be captain	04/04/16	
25/07/1916	Parker	P	to be captain	28/04/16	
25/07/1916	Parker	P	reverts to second lieutenant	01/06/16	
25/07/1916	Pilkington	CEG	reverts to lieutenant	22/04/16	
25/07/1916	Russell	ES	reverts to second lieutenant	10/04/16	
25/07/1916	Williams	GJ	to be captain	27/04/16	

HEREFORD

Depot functions continue:

Some of those enlisted were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	No2	Remarks
BOWERS	GEORGE	CPL		237037	
CLARKSON	R	PTE	5867		
DAVIES	THOMAS	PTE	5413		
DAVIES	WILLIAM GORDON	PTE		238875	
EVANS	TTOMAS	PTE	116		Re-enlistment
HARTLEY	ABBOTT	PTE		237337	
PARRY	GEORGE EDWARD	PTE		201997	
PILLING	HARRY	PTE		237315	
WADE	JOHN	PTE		237331	



And some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
ARCHER	WJ	PTE	3117	xvi SICK	Preston Wynne	
BUFTON	WILLIAM HENRY	PTE	2376	Illness	Llandrindod Wells	Ex Suvla Bay
BUTTERWORTH	HARRY	PTE	5185	iiicc	Rochdale	
DEW	ALBERT	PTE	2012	xvi	Burghill	
DRAKELEY	THOMAS	PTE	5197	iiicc		
GARDEN	B	PTE	5295	SICK		
GOODE	FREDERICK CHARLES	PTE	4668	unfit	Fownhope	
GURNEY	HENRY	PTE	4469	iii(cc)		
HATHAWAY	ALBERT	PTE	4146	UNDERAGE	Ledbury	
JONES	HAROLD	PTE	5302	iiic		
JONES	THOMAS	PTE	4960			
LANE	SYDNEY MATTHEW	PTE	4529		Pembridge	
LEWIS	ALBERT	PTE	3740	xvi	Kington	
LEWIS	CHARLES ALBERT	PTE	3740	xvi	Kingsland	
LLOYD	JAMES	PTE	4467	xvi	Llangattock	
MARTIN	HORACE WALTER	PTE	3167	underage	British Camp	
MEEHAN	PATRICK	PTE	5158	ciii		
MORRIS	PERCIVAL HARVEY	LCPL	2430	xvi	Monmouth	Ex Suvla Bay
MORRIS	ARTHUR GEORGE	PTE	1626	2B	Hereford	Ex Suvla Bay
MOSS	C	PTE	5040	IIIC		
NOTLEY	ARTHUR GEORGE	PTE	1604	xvi		
PHILPOTTS	EVELYN THOMAS	PTE	2938	xvi	Bromyard	Ex Suvla Bay
PRITCHARD	JOSEPH	PTE	4487	unfit	Leominster	
PURCELL	SN	PTE	5128	IIIC		
ROBERTSON	GERALD LLEWELLYN	PYE	4371		Garway Hill	
ROBINSON	ARTHUR	PTE	5321	iii(cc)		
RUSSELL	HENRY	PTE	4155		Blakemere	
SHANNON	JOHN	PTE	5321	iii(cc)		
SHAPIRA	E	PTE	5070	iiicc		
THACKWAY	FREDERICK WILLIAM	PTE	1615	xvi WOUNDS	Ross	Ex Suvla Bay
WILLIAMS	ARTHUR J	PTE	2373		Leddington	Ex Suvla Bay

xvi – unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc – unlikely to become an efficient soldier

LCpl Thackway discharged as a result of wounds suffered at Suvla Bay.

Name	Corps	Reg. No.	Rank	Date of Discharge	Cause of Discharge
Thackway Frederick William	Hereford R.	1615	Pte	6-7-16 Enlistment 8-8-14	Para. 397 XVI R. R. Wounds.
Date of application	(a) Medal	(b) Budget	(c) Page	(d) Medal	
No. of File	VICTORY	8/1/06-19	30		
Address of applicant	BRITISH	do do	do		
Action taken	List	T. J.	24	(alt) 9/8/15	

W5658-8783 60,000 8/16 HWY(P1346) G16/1202



Pte A J Williams discharged as a result of illness (frostbite) suffered at Suvla Bay

Pte Williams' ID disc as worn at Suvla Bay



It is reported that following the death of Mrs J Symonds-Taylor, Miss Armitage has taken on the books and magazine fund for the Herefordshire Regiment.

**BOOKS AND MAGAZINES FOR THE  
HEREFORDS.**

We are asked to state that the work of collecting and sending out magazines and newspapers to the men of the 1st Herefordshire Regiment, which was carried on with great success by the late Mrs. Jackson-Taylor, is to be carried on by Miss Armitage, 5, The Harton, Hereford, who will be glad to receive contributions either in the shape of money, magazines, or newspapers to forward to the men of the county regiment. Private H. C. Watkins, A Company, 1st Herefordshire Regiment, writing from Egypt to Mrs. Jackson-Taylor on April 17th (some time before her death) expresses the thanks of the men of the signal section for a parcel of papers and magazines sent on March 27th last.

The Volunteer Training Corps (VTC) continued to evolve:

**SUCCESSFUL HOUSE TO HOUSE  
CANVASS IN HEREFORD.**

—

**TAKING THE OATH.**

—

The Volunteer Training Corps of the country has entered upon a new phase of their existence. In order to release more men for the firing lines, the War Office are at present considering a scheme whereby Regulars and Territorials, at present engaged on home defence duties, will be superseded by members of the Volunteer Training Corps, and in this connection the county of Hereford, and especially the city, is called upon to play its part.

The majority of the members have already taken the oath of allegiance—a further batch did so at the highly successful public meeting and smoking concert held at the Hereford Shirehall on Thursday night—and it is satisfactory to note that as a result of a house-to-house canvass in the city, a number of recruits have been obtained, but more are required, and it behoves all men above military age and physically fit to throw in their lot with this patriotic movement. The Herefordshire Tribunals are making it a condition of exemption that men should join the Volunteers. This is a step in the right direction. Important guard duties will have to be undertaken almost immediately, and there must be complete readiness for any German invasion of this country, which the military authorities declare is still a possibility, notwithstanding the recent sea battle. A motor transport is now being organised in the county, and a return to former enthusiasm on the part of the men is distinctly noticeable.

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

The Battalion continued to consolidate and train; the Battalion was almost up to strength and was towards the end of the month deployed to the East of the Suez Canal to Romani to counter a Turkish threat to the Suez Canal.

July 1916

WAR DIARY  
1<sup>ST</sup> HEREFORDSHIRE REGT

APPENDIX I Weekly State

Week Ending	Officers	Other Ranks
8.7.16	34	450
15.7.16	33	811
22.7.16	31	813
29.7.16	31	802

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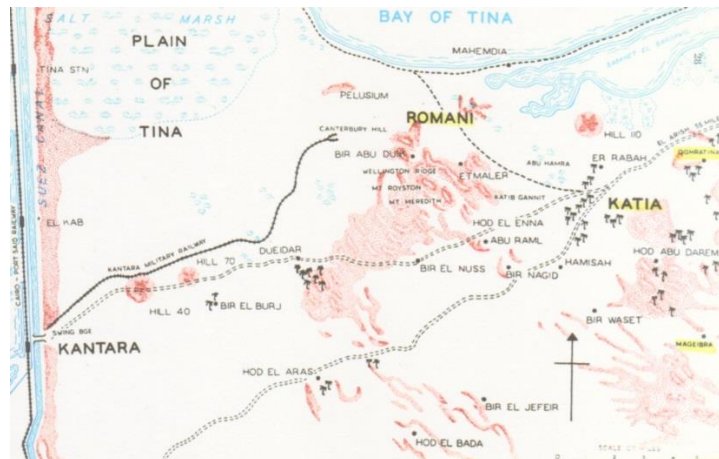
APPENDIX II Weekly Casualty Return

Week ending	Officers	Other Ranks
8.7.16	2	20
15.7.16	1	16
22.7.16	1	26
29.7.16		15

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APPENDIX III Reinforcements

14.7.16 Draft of 65 Other Ranks arrived  
 19.7.16 " " 52 " " "  
 28.7.16 " " 10 Officers + 26 Other Ranks arrived



## The Battalion War Diary:

Date	Location	Detail
1 – 3 Jul	Ismailia	Bn Training
4 Jul		Bn Training; 2Lt FJ Ricketts rejoined from hospital.
5 Jul		Brigade marched out at 1900hrs and bivouacked 3 miles out on Tel El Kebir road; attacked towards camp at dawn.
6 Jul		Bn training
7 Jul		Lt Trumper and 2Lt Wilson left Battalion en route for England for 5 week course.
8 Jul		Lt Pilkington rejoined from hospital.
9 Jul		Paulson to hospital.
12 Jul		Lt Parker rejoined from England.
17 Jul		Training bomb accident; Capt E T P Rogers, OC Bde Bomb Squad admitted to hospital wounded in face, arm and leg broken. One private 6RWF killed and 2 other officers wounded.
19 Jul		Draft of 52 men joined Battalion. Lt S H Harries RAMC left Battalion en route for England on 5 weeks leave. At 10.30pm orders received that the whole brigade was to stand by to move early tonight. Packed up and stood by, finally entraining at 2.30am for Qantara, taking 1st Line transport and all animals – some to follow. Reported Turkish offensive expected.
20 Jul	Qantara	Arrived 5.30am and marched out far side of camp and bivouacked for day. At 6pm brigade marched to Hill 40 arriving 7.30pm and bivouacked.
21 Jul		<p>At 12.30 am received orders for the brigade to move at 3am. Paraded and marched to Hill 70 arriving about 4.30am; heat intense. Tents arrived about 5pm and camp was pitched. Great hospitality was shown by 1/7 Manchesters' OC Maj Cronshaw. At 1.30am received orders to entrain at 6am. Stood to at 3.30am, breakfast etc. HQ, A, B &amp; C Coys entrained for Romani about 6.20am. D Coy followed 7.10am. Transport returned to Qantara. Arrived Romani about 7.30am, met by GSO2 52 Div. Battalion immediately split up to form 5 garrisons for posts as follows:</p> <p>No 6 Post - Qatia View, about 175 men under Capt EA Capel.            No 7 Post - 42K South, 85 men under Lt R C Sale.            No 7a Post - 42K North, 150 men under Lt W L Carver.            No 8 Post - North Post, 150 men under Capt AV Holman.            No 9 Post - Blairs Post, 150 men under Lt EHL Evelyn</p> <p>Turkish aeroplane flew over about 8am, fire at, but not hit. About 3pm HQ established at No 7a Post.</p>

23-29 Jul	Romani	Consolidated posts. The following officers attached for duty: No 6 Post – 2Lt A L Wallis and 3 guns of the Machine Gun Company. Also 2Lt Roberts with 2 Lewis guns No 7 Post - 2Lt Barker and 2 guns. No 7a Post - 2Lt E J Hughes-Davies and 2 guns. No 8 Post - 2Lt W A Jones and 5 guns. No 9 Post - 2Lt W A Hewins and 4 guns. Turkish aeroplane over the posts most days. One reported brought down by our battle plane.
25 Jul		Draft of 2Lt H R North and 26 men joined from England.

### Maj ALB Green

2 Jul	Went fishing with Holman, Rogers and Ashton. No fish, only the former rather sea sick.
5 Jul	Marched out at 0700 for brigade bivouac. Close to swamp full of mosquitoes and bull frogs.
6 Jul	Did an attack back to camp over rather swampy country with large patches of cultivation, chiefly melons.
8 Jul	Dined at club with Ashton.
12 Jul	Brigade night ops, got back midnight.
14 Jul	Went round front line of sector 11A (Ferdan and Bally Bunyan). Tiring day but very interesting.
15 Jul	Dined at club with Percy ( <i>Rogers(?)</i> ).
16 Jul	Anniversary of Regiment sailing from England; CO, Lewis and Pateshall dined in Mess.
18 Jul	Dined in club with Lewis and Ashton.
19 Jul	Notice at 2230 to pack up for early move.
20 Jul	Left Moascar at 0400 and arrived Kantara 0530. Detrained and crossed canal, marched 2 miles and bivouaced until 1800pm when we marched to hill 40 where we arrived at 1800 and bivouaced. Heat awful and no shelter from sun. All kits left behind at Moascar.
21 Jul	We wakwd at 1230 and told to be ready at 0300, which we did and arrived at Hill 70 at 0430. Another very hot day. The HQ of 7 Manchesters were very kind, especially their CO, Major Cronshaw. Got tents up in evening.
22 Jul	At 0130 was called up and told to entrain at 0630 at Sidnir, 1 1/2 miles away. Stood to arms 0330 – 0500. Arrived Romani 0730 where we took over 5 posts in front line. Had a taube over, which was fired on.
23 Jul	Began settling down in posts. Works very incomplete, rode round them. Still no kit and nothing but what I stand up in. One gallon of water a day only allowed.
24 Jul	Settling down. Jolly spot rather. Can see the sea from Nos 6 & 9 posts.
26 Jul	Got some beer up from Kantana, very welcome, also a few tinned stores for the larder.



29 Jul	Was to have gone on recce round Katia and Hill 110 but was stopped by report that enemy had been in collision with our mounted patrols around the latter place.
30 Jul	Early celebration – usual routine.
31 Jul	Two taubes came round about 0730 and dropped bombs. One fell in No 6 post while I was there, did no damage. One piece stuck in wooden wall of shed I was in. Hear 2 men of 1/6 RWF were hit.

Post 6 under the command of Capt EA Capel



Capt P Ashton wrote of digging trenches in the desert sand: .... We began serious training in the digging of soft sand trenches, and found what immense labour was involved in throwing out enough sand to get any sort of depth. A trench had to be 18 feet wide to get down 5 feet. When the required depth had been reached the walls of the trench, whether of hurdles or sandbags, were built, and then the sand was all shoveled back against them. The pressure of the sand would then, frequently, crush the whole thing inwards, and it all had to be done afresh, supplemented with heavy cross pieces (strutting) at the top and bottom.

#### **2563 Pte Percy & 1357 Sgt Herbert Wilkins**

July 1-3 The Herefords train.

5 The Brigade march at 1900 & bivouac 3 miles out in Tel El Kebir Rd returning to camp at dawn.

6-11 Battalion training.

12 Brigade night operation. March across desert near Ez El Sahhara.  
13-15 The Herefords continue training.  
17 A bomb accident in training. 1 private killed & 3 wounded.  
19 At 2230 Herefords receive orders that Brigade was to move early tonight. Packed up & stood by entraining at 0230 for Kantara. Turkish attack is expected.  
20 Herefords arrive at Kantara at 0530, march to camp & bivouac for the day. At 1800 brigade move to Hill 40 arriving at 1930 & bivouac.  
21 At 0030 Herefords receive orders to move at 0300. Paraded & march to Hill 70 arriving at 0430. Intense heat today. Tents arrive at 1700 & camp pitched.  
22 At 0130 receive orders to move at 0600. Stood to at 0330, breakfast & Percy entrains for Rumani at 0620. Herbert & D Co at 0710. Herefords split up to form 5 posts. Turkish plane passing over about 0800 is fired at but not hit. Rumani is a high range of sand dunes with scattered oasis's 30km from Port Said.  
23-29 Herefords consolidate posts, Turkish planes pass overhead but only one gets shot down.

## **2Lt Parker**

### **1st July**

Started meals in our new quarters, which used to belong to the 54th Division. Our CO is Col Godding he is CO of the whole lot, but the adjutant is Luscomb of 54th an awful old ass. Very busy, we put in for leave but at three there was no sign of it, we cleared off - it came through later. Drew £5 from the field Cashier. Game of pills with Collins in Sultan Hussai-Club & we both had haircuts. Went to see the Pops at the Alhambra at 9.15 very moderate show.

### **2nd July**

Was officer to assist the armourer, which was a nuisance as it is a Sunday. Went down to Alex with some men and got an indent from ADOS. and a motor lorry and drove down in it Ordnance at Gabarri, where I drew rifles, slings etc, then to Moustafa, where I drew more rifles and then back to Sidi Bishr. Slept in tent in afternoon, missing tea. Stroll with Collins & Bridge with two Scotsmen of the KOSB.

### **3rd July**

Was too late for early morning parade and consequently stayed in bed, but funnily enough was not straffed. Got a new servant today in place of Bums, named Rollo of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. We turned our tent round to face the sea, which took a long time. It is fearfully hot. Heard of a big offensive in France. Went to San Stefano with Collins and on to Summer Palace Hotel

### **4th July**

Parade at 5.45, but not duty for the rest of the day. Slept in the morning, and then had a bathe before three and then went down town with Collins. Bought an inlaid brass box for Mother and a gold ring (I don't know why) and sent former home. American Cosmograph at 9.P.M.

### **5<sup>th</sup> July**

Not on parade all day. Wrote to Father. I developed rather a rotten gippy tummy in afternoon. Collins and I turned in early.

### **6<sup>th</sup> July**

Was straffed after breakfast for not being on early parade. I censored letters at 9.AM. Attended but did not do anything on

4.45 parade. Tummy better. Had a bathe at 3PM.

### **7th July**

On early parade and again for a short time at 9.AM. Had a jolly fine bathe and played Bridge until 1; I lost 12 Pt. Went own town by myself, had an omelette at RAMLEH and then saw THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL at the Alhambra. It was done by English people and was very good. Collins was not in tent when I returned

### **8th July**

Was informed that Collins had gone to hospital with tonsillitis. Attended early parade, but did nothing as I was censoring letters at 9am. Had to take OO. at 10. Signed 150 passes. Received letters from Father and my brother Geoff, and as there were three for Collins I sallied forth to the 19th General hospital and saw him and also Bob Reeve, whose knee is better. Reeve came back with me as far as Hinkley. Turned in At 10.15PM. I have to conduct a draft down the canal tomorrow

### **9th July**

Got under way at 8.10 with my draft after a lot of messing about at camp and inspection by CO. Trained from Sidi Gaber Station and went via Benha to Ismailia, which is a very pretty French or mostly French town on lake Timsch in the middle of the canal. At Ismailia station I met Tug Wilson (Now a LCpl) of the Herefords (of Suvla Brandy Bottle fame) He told me the Herefords were encamped at Moascar camp about 2 miles from here. We then went on due south down canal towards Suez, which is breaking new ground for me. We travelled close to the canal all the way, which is a fine sight, but very barren. Before getting to Ismailia you pass the old battlefield of Tel-el-Kebir, where at present there is a large Australian camp. Old Barker's Brother was killed at this battle years ago

My draft is composed entirely of men 54th division. I dropped them in little parties all the way to the canal, according where their unit was. I finally got to Suez, which looked an awful spot, and went on to Port Trufik, the port of Suez

I reported on arrival of drafts to 54 Division HQ The GOC seemed a very nice chap, but I am afraid I did not recognise him as he had not got a coat on. I had tea and dinner at this place at the Sinai Hotel, but they hadn't got a bed to spare, so I walked back to Suez & put up at the Belle-air Hotel I parted with my last gold coin (a 10 shilling piece) and haven't had another since.

### **10th July**

I left Suez at 6.45 this morning & reached Ismailia at 9.40. I then took a garry up to the Batt'n. at Moascar camp I saw Cyril, my brother-in-law, Job, Whittaker etc. and left at 12, catching the 1.55 train for Alexandria. On this journey you travel through the land of Gochen, which is, I suppose, one of the most fertile spots in Egypt now that the delta is properly drained. Arrived at Sidi Bishr, where I immediately got orders warning me to join my Batt'n. tomorrow. Haynes who is here, also Hebro is going to the Welsh. Bed early.

### **11th July**

Got leave and went down town at 9. Drew £5 at the field cashier. 2 bottles of Eno's and safety razor blades. Paid off my servant Rollo. Caught the 2.30 train at Sidi Gaber. I had to change at Benha and of course caught the wrong train and found myself back at Tanta, where I appeared to be the only European. It was lovely. Everybody waving their hands and shouting (they don't talk) at the same time. I finally reached the Batt'n. at 10 p.m. which was confoundedly late. Percy Rogers rushed round and found me a tent.

### **12th July**

I slept last night in an EP tent with Rickets, who is seedy. Feeling rather giddy today. I did not go on parade, and also got myself off night operations as I have not yet been posted to a company. In the evening I was posted to a C Coy Capt. Rogers. Col Drage is away as he is in command of the Brigade. Major Green is in charge of the Batt'n. Carver has A Coy, Holman B Coy & Capel D Coy. Temp today 121degrees.

### **13th July**

Temperature 114

This camp is called Moascar. Dose of Eno's this morning and got a sedlitz from Cyril. Was put in command of No 11 platoon. I moved from the EP tent into tent recently occupied by Telfer, who left yesterday. I have taken his place in the Batt'n. as he was an attached officer. Letters from Father and Geoff, also Hereford Times and Punch. On bathing parade at 5PM.

### **14th July**

Temperature 119 degrees

Parade at 5AM. and went with Coy on digging a specimen Breastwork. Half the men bathed half the time. Pontoon bridge across the Sweetwater canal open so late for breakfast. Wrote to Sgt. Hughes (Sidi Bishr) for my new slacks. PC to father. Parade 5 to 6pm.

### **15<sup>th</sup> July**

Temp 105

Cooler today Batt'n. parade at 5.30am for march etc. We did a lot of echelon movements and finished up with a bathe in Lake Timsa. Received Punch and the Tatler, which had been to Sidi-Bishr previously. Messed about the lines in the morning and found out where my "nun" (No 11 platoon) hung out. Got leave and went into Ismailia with Cyril and had dinner at the club, where I saw Col Drage at a distance. Sundry drinks. This evening I proceeded to lose a gold ring.

### **16<sup>th</sup> July**

Cooler - not more than 100 degrees

Was C company orderly officer. Attended Church parade, made out leave passes and attended meals. Received a letter from home and wrote in reply. It is the anniversary of the Batt'n. leaving England, so Col Drage, Major Patteshall and Capt. Lewis came to dinner and we had a sing-song etc., and speeches.

### **19<sup>th</sup> July**

Temperature 106 outside

Received a letter from Gery. Wiring at 6.30 this morning, and Capt Holman, Chipp and I sailed up the sweet water canal in a Gippy boat back into camp. All the country is intersected by canals, which were made when the Nile basin and delta were properly drained. It was beastly slow going and we were late for breakfast, but it was certainly a change of locomotion. Wiring again at 5PM. I was just going to sleep at 10 when I received orders to pack up, as a Turkish straffe was on, consequently everything was soon very much alive in the camp. Made up the men's ammunition to 200 rounds per man and afterwards found we should have to carry more. Dished out rations, sand bags etc.

### **20<sup>th</sup> July**

We move off at 1AM this morning. We trained from Moascar camp station to Kantara, in a particularly bad brand of open truck. Before starting I was on fatigue with my platoon loading the Batt'n limbers on to the train, which was pretty strenuous, but very well done. We marched from Kantara station to our bivouac ground about 1 and a half miles distant, and unfortunately had no grub until 3.30 in the afternoon. I was more fortunate and got a piece of bread given me at 8. It was a boiling hot day and as there *was* no cover of any description a good many got a touch of the sun. Major Green was particularly bad and Cyril was pretty dicky.

This was the first occasion I had been to Kantara and didn't see much of course. In those days there were a few horse lines and very few tents, and the whole was about as barren desert as you could find anywhere.

We moved off at 6PM. and marched to hill 40 about 5 miles away, where we slept under the sky. No grub. This march was along a metalled road. I think the authorities originally thought of building right out into the heart of the desert, but gave up the idea after about 7 miles and commenced what became the trans -Sinai railway. Just before commencing this railway, which was of full gauge, a couple of light railways were built but were soon disused.

### **21<sup>st</sup> July**

Reveille at 2.30a.m when I was feeling moderately refreshed. We moved off at 3pm in full marching order and marched to hill 70.

I was pretty done up and a great number of men fell out. Marching with about 60lb on your back isn't the easiest thing in the world and to really appreciate what I say, you want to try it. When we got to hill 70 we were all glad to hear we were stopping the night. Pitched the tents and inspected the platoon at 7. We had grub after inspection. The 7th Manchesters of the 42nd division are holding a redoubt here. At this place I came across a meteorite. Coming down it sounded just like the nose cap of a shell (and was about the size of a 3 inch shell). I wrote home.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> July**

We moved off in full marching order to the railway where we travelled in a very bumpy train to Romani, which is the best part of 30 miles from Kantara & the canal.

It (Romani) was the railhead in those days. We had to disperse directly we got off the train owing to enemy aircraft. Funnily enough there was a Railway construction Coy of R.E.s (L & N W Rly. men) & Sgt. Farmer of Knighton who is in C Coy pointed out several local men to me.

We the Herefords form part of a flying column although I felt far from bird-like coming through the confounded sand in the early hours of the morning. We are being pushed up on account of an unexpected Turkish attack. They are reported to have 2 or three Divisions at El Arish, while 8,000 were supposed to be at our immediate front. They are apparently crossing the desert in large waves, each one day behind the other.

Left Romani at 11.15 marching to No 9 (Blair's) post which is NNE of Romani towards the sea. We took over from the 7th HLI of the 52nd division. The Commissariat Dept did not distinguish itself once again and there was no grub till 4. I was on duty all night. Stand to was not dismissed till late.

### **23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Was not feeling very sleepy despite last night. Our position consists of three redoubts, linked together. Pop Lloyd has No. 1, Cyril No.2 and myself No.3. Personally I like mine best & it is in the best state. Cyril's is smaller and not finished. Lloyd's is the largest but wants a lot attending to. We are getting that done at present. We have hundreds of ELC (Egyptian Labour Corps) working here.

### **July 30**

Wired the other side into 10A - At 3 30 had all the men of my redoubt on fatigues raising the durbar (reception area) and making head cover over the parapet. Capt. Tate (Middlesex MGO) Watson (7th RWF) & Stokes joined us. Fighting reported South round Katia and our patrol was in contact with the enemy. One of our planes came down behind our lines, but the pilot escaped. Washed all over.

### **July 31**

On watch in redoubt 12 to 2AM Got fatigue party at 7AM raising the wires for No3 again. Had a wash all over. Took men out digging for water, which we found. Had an inspection of the wire 230 yards to the left, which I posted. On watch 10 to 12 midnight, but was late owing to falling asleep. ANZAC patrol attacked, which ended the lull. Took party out to make water connections. While doing so 3 Taubes made an air-raid dropping 14 bombs mostly near Romani. Not many casualties only hear of two RWF killed and 7 wounded. Another up headed bath wash. Cyril again went to Port Said for supplies, but could not stay there, owing to part of the railway line being washed away. Kept watch 2 till 10.

### **Lt LM Wilmot**

July 17<sup>th</sup> Percy Rogers wounded by bomb.

July 19<sup>th</sup> By train to Kantara (20 miles) and then marched 4 miles to Hill 40, then 3 miles to hill 70 and next day to Romani 18<sup>th</sup> miles from Kantara arrived 22<sup>nd</sup>

3820 Pte L Griffiths

A Soldier's Travels from  
the time leaving England  
till return after the war.

I left England on  
I sailed from Devonport  
on the S.S. Northland on  
June 26<sup>th</sup> 1916. and proceeded  
to Egypt arriving at Alexandria  
on July 8<sup>th</sup>. had a very good  
sea voyage all the way also  
the S.S. Northland was a good  
boat for traveling with.  
after arriving at Alexandria  
The draft that I was with  
marched through the  
Town to a rest camp called  
Sidi. Baki. close by the sea  
stayed there till July 13<sup>th</sup>  
when I joined the Battalion  
at Moascar traveling by train  
stayed there seven days.  
It was very hot especially

to the one that had just  
arrived from England. on  
July 20<sup>th</sup>. we proceeded to  
Hantara by train at night  
July 23<sup>rd</sup>. marched to  
Hill. seventy in the heat  
and were loaded up with  
ammunition as we were  
expecting an attack by the  
Turks. July 24<sup>th</sup>. marched  
to Romahia to our post line  
to wait for the Turks to  
attack. which I did on  
August 4<sup>th</sup>. and got a rather  
bad time of it too. but of  
course we lost some men  
as well. Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>. proceeded  
by train to Hantara. where  
we stayed till Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>.  
when we went through  
Moascar. Ismailia to our post  
Ferry Post. to do our post

1262 Pte Charles Langford of Kington; he had served at Suvla Bay recovered and was eventually discharged in April 1919.

**PTE. C. LANGFORD SERIOUSLY ILL.**  
We regret to learn that Pte. C. Langford,  
(1262), 1st Herefordshire Regiment, whose  
home is in the Garden City, Hereford, is lying  
seriously ill in hospital from the effects of  
submersion at Moascar, Ismailia.



A soldier of The  
Herefordshire Regiment



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion

The Battle of the Somme and the high casualty rate meant fit soldiers from UK based units were being drafted to France as reinforcements.

**DRAFT FOR FRANCE.**  
A draft of nearly all the train men in the 2nd, 1st Battalion Hereford Regt., except specialists, that is, signallers, scouts, machine gunners, etc., has been made up and will leave shortly for the Front. On Saturday the men were inoculated and arrived in Herefordshire on six days' leave on Monday. The men are all very keen and excited at the prospect of seeing service after nearly two years' training. The disappointment among the specialists is very keen.



## 2nd HEREFORDS.

### AN APPEAL FOR DARNING WOOL.

The Mayor of Hereford (Mr. G. E. Greenland) has just received the following appeal from Miss Florence E. Smith, hon. manageress of the Laundry Department, Corn Exchange, Bedford, on behalf of the Bedford Borough Recreation Committee for the Troops:—

"Dear Sir,—I have just undertaken to arrange for the washing and mending, etc., to be done for the 2/1st Herefordshire Battalion, now at Old Warden Camp, near by. This department has been in existence some 15 months, and we are, as far as the mending is concerned, practically all voluntary workers, and the boys only pay for their washing. Materials, however, cost money, and I wondered if any of the Hereford ladies could or would turn over their piece bags and see if they have any stray balls or cards of darning wool, old woven underwear to cut up for patching, or any donation either in kind or coin towards this really useful department. Anything that a mother knows is useful in a family mending basket will be most gratefully received and used for the Hereford boys. I have been manageress of this department for many months, having started it when the Highlanders were here in the early days of the war, and have known and still know some hundreds of the lads, and am glad to be able to do all I can for them. Mr. Machin, the hon. secretary of our committee, the Mayor of Bedford, and many other leading residents will guarantee my responsibility, as I am well known in the town."

We are asked to state that if contributions of cards of darning wool and other gifts are sent to Mr. W. J. Gurney, Drill Hall, Hereford, they will be duly forwarded to Bedford.

## 3rd Battalion

Routine continues:

### COL. SYMONDS-TAYLER RETURNING.

We understand that Colonel Symonds-Taylor, in command of the 3rd/1st Herefordshire Regiment, is returning to Hereford for a short time to supervise the arrangements by which the farmers of the county will be enabled to secure help from the military for the harvest. His office for that purpose will be at the Shire Hall.

### REINFORCEMENTS.

On Tuesday night over eighty men from the Provisional Battalion, who in the first instance belonged to the 2nd Battalion, arrived in camp.

The training of the men in the Reserve Battalion 1st Herefordshire Regiment is going on smoothly and rapidly. Of late the weather has been none too warm, but work is all the more pleasant in consequence. It is when the sun is blazing down that drills and the various practices that have to be carried out are so trying.

Recently a large number of men have left from various regiments in the vicinity of the Herefords' camp to help their comrades in France. It does one good to see them marching off, and whenever they pass the Herefordshire camp they always get a hearty send off. It augurs well for the ultimate success of the present offensive when you see men marching away in such high spirits. And such fine men they are too.

## Overseas Draft.

Another draft of men left the 3rd/1st Batt. Herefordshire Regt. on Monday morning and as usual they had a splendid send-off. The majority were men from the 3rd Line, but a number of 1st Battalion men were also included in the number. The men breakfasted early and after parading in front of the orderly room marched off just after seven a.m., headed by the brass band under Bandmaster Wheeler.

## A HEREFORD ABSENTEE.

### INSISTS ON SEEING HIS WIFE BEFORE DEPARTURE.

A Hereford soldier who insisted on taking leave after refusal to grant it was arrested to-day (Monday) as an absentee. He was Albert Lawson, of the 3/1 Herefords, at —, and was taken into custody from his home in Canonmoor Street. P.S. Munn, at a special Police Court the same afternoon, stated that Lawson made this statement: "I applied for leave to go home and see my wife and children before going out with a draft. They refused me, and I took it." The officer added that Lawson arrived at Hereford on Saturday. Lawson confirmed the officer's statement, and was remanded to await an escort.

## MARCHING COMPETITION.

An inter-battalion marching competition for teams representing units in the Division took place on Friday afternoon. The Herefords were represented by a team of 1st Line men from E Co., in charge of Sergt. Williams. The men all wore full marching order and had to carry in their packs a full kit comprising hold-all, housewife, pants, shirts, socks, vests, etc., together with 100 rounds of ball ammunition. The course was between seven and eight miles long, and the rules stipulated that the prize, which was a cup with medals, would be awarded to the team who turned out the smartest, marched the distance in the shortest time, and returned the freshest. Colonel Symonds-Taylor offered an additional prize of 5s. per man should his men pull off the prize. The Hereford men marched splendidly, and had exceedingly hard lines in not bringing home the cup. They finished only a few seconds behind the winning team, which represented the 7th Batt. Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The Colonel, however, showed his keen approval of the way the men acquitted themselves by giving them a consolation prize.

## THE GARDEN PRIZES.

The second of the monthly competitions for the best Hut Gardens was decided on Sunday. The first prize was awarded to No. 19 Hut, occupied by 1st Line men, who won the third prize last month, with 44 points. The second prize was tied for by "D" Coy Orderly Room and No. 5 Hut, both having 43 points. Mrs. Spier, however, who was called upon to vote, chose Hut 5, and the second prize was thus given to them, and the third to the Orderly Room. The prettiest and best gardens in the camp still belong to the band huts (brass and bugle), but having taken first and second prizes previously they were barred from the monthly competition. They were, however, awarded points, which will count in the final aggregate of points at the end of the year, when an additional prize is offered to the hut with the most points. The brass band hut got 50 points (the maximum) and the bugle band 49 points.

Many of the huts boast a kitchen garden in addition to the flower garden and are cultivating various kinds of vegetables, such as kidney beans, radishes and lettuce, and the two latter have already provided a good feed for tea.

### FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

The final of the Battalion football competition was played off on Monday evening amid great excitement. The finalists were No. 14 platoon of "D" Coy. and No. 17 platoon of "E" Company. The latter team was composed entirely of overseas men of the 1st Line, who had played off all their matches without having a goal registered against them. "D" Company, however, also had a very good team and as was expected, a splendidly contested game ensued. The "E" Company men were without doubt the cleverer team and at times their forwards played sparkling football, but the opposing defence stuck to their guns like Trojans and although the play was almost entirely in their territory in the first half only one goal was registered against them. This was the outcome of a pretty bit of combination and at last Lance-Corpl. Counsell getting the sphere he sent in a lovely centre which was converted in irresistible style by Sergt. Llewellyn. In the second half the First Line men were the aggressors from the commencement, and it was not long before Tanwell increased their lead with a pretty goal. "D" Coy. seemed to buck up at this and pressed for a while, but it proved to be only a flash in the pan, and it was not long before their goal was again besieged. Their defence was good, however, and try as they would "E" Coy. could not find the net, although they had "hard lines" galore. Just before the final whistle, however, Counsell sent in a lovely drive which beat the goalie soundly, and thus brought off the prize by three clear goals.

"E" Company's team was as follows:—Goal, Pte. Smith; backs, Pte. Lloyd and Dmr. Rogers; halves, Pte. Lock, Corpl. Worthing, and Lucas; forwards, Lance-Corpl. Counsell, Lance-Corpl. Watkins, Pte. Snowsall, Sergeant Llewellyn, and Tanwell.

"D" Coy. was represented by: Goal, Lieut. Melbourne; backs, Ptes. Fuller and Elmore; halves, Ptes. E. Edwards, G. H. Williams, and Glee; forwards, Pte. Herbert, Pte. Mille, Lance-Corpl. H. A. Mapp, Pte. Yates, and Pte. S. F. Lloyd. Lieut. Banks acted as referee.

### DIVISIONAL CRICKET MATCH.

Two well-known Herefordshire cricketers were chosen to take part in a cricket match—Welsh Division versus the Lancashire Division—during the week-end. Lieut. Dagger, of Colwall, and Pte. A. R. W. Skipp (Withington), who at one time captained the Helmer Cricket Club. There were also representatives of the Welsh Fusiliers, the Monmouthshire Regiment, and the Cheshire Regiment in the Welsh divisional team, and Captain Butler (2nd Monmouthshire Regiment) was the skipper. The Welsh Division batted first, and scored a total of 121 runs. Lieut. Dagger was clean bowled for a "duck," and Skipp got four runs before a ball beat him. Lance-Corpl. Berrick (2nd Monmouth) was the best scorer with 21 to his credit. The Lancashire Division scored 31 for 5 wickets, and so the match ended in a draw. Berrick took two wickets for two runs. The Lancashire team included Lieut. Tydesley, the famous Lancashire player, and he was got out for three runs when stumps were drawn.

### NEW MINIATURE RANGE.

The battalion has now an open 25 yards' range of its own, which the men have made. It is quite near to the parade ground, and is naturally frequently used. The men will be allowed to fire after parades—quite apart from the instructional shooting they get when they are employed on a musketry course—and prizes will be offered for the best shooting. The range was opened during the week-end. Lieut. Colonel Symonds-Taylor firing the first shot. A team of 18 also shot, and the first prize was won by Regimental-Sergt.-Major Alford, who registered 19 points out of a possible 20. There were four 15's—Lieut. Pettigrew, Co-Sergt.-Major Jennings, Co-Quartermaster-Sergt. Gunstone, and Co-Quartermaster-Sergt. Bishop. On a shoot off Co-Quartermaster-Sergt. Bishop qualified for the second prize, and Lieut. Pettigrew the third.

### CONCERT.

A most enjoyable concert given by the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of D Coy. was held on Thursday evening in the Regimental Institute. There was a large company present and the contributions were highly appreciated. Lieut. Banks, in coster's costume, delighted his audience with a couple of fine songs, "If there wasn't any houses in between" and "Down the Old Kent Road," and as an encore he gave "Pack all your troubles in your old kit bag." Lieut. Ashbee showed himself a clever impersonator, and Lieuts. Knapp and Pettigrew contributed some fine items. Some good character songs were given by Coy-Sergt.-Major Jennings, viz., "We all live at No. 24," and "Pride of the Prairie," and as an encore "Old King Cole" (military version), "My Old Kentucky Home" and "The Village Pump" were well rendered by Sergt. Goss, who was deservedly encored. Corpl. Ekins was "on form" in his recitations "Army Rations in the Dardanelles," and "Nurse Cavell," and Lance-Corpl. Knapp gave two good banjo solos—"Love and Beauty" and selected. Lance-Corpl. Johns sang "Until" and "Come sing to me," for which he was loudly applauded. Privates B. and D. C. Jones rendered the duet "Larboard Watch" and the following men also contributed: Pte. Duncombe (comic song), and Pte. J. R. Williams (Welsh song). The accompaniments were played by Lieut. Munn and Pte. E. L. Phillips.

### CONCERT.

The officers of the Battalion helped to provide the programme for an enjoyable concert, which was held at the 3rd Monmouths Y.M.C.A. tent. The Misses Lovatt were responsible for the arrangements, and all the items were received with enthusiasm by a large audience.

Second-Lieut. S. S. Munn opened the concert with a splendidly executed pianoforte solo. Lieut. T. W. Dillow followed, and he was in good voice in his two songs "Galloping Duck" and "The Deathless Army," and was loudly applauded.

Lieut. A. V. Banks, as usual, brought down the house in his coster character songs, "Knocked 'em in the Old Kent Road" and "If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between." He made a typical coster in his "pearlies," and his items ranked amongst the best received of the evening's programme. After one of his songs the officer was presented with a buttonhole by one of the ladies of the audience. Later in the evening Lieut. Banks gave the soldiers' popular marching tune, "Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag."

Second-Lieut. E. H. Pochin gave good renderings of the songs, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" and "Edna." Other items were "When Irish Eyes are Smiling," Mrs. Harrington; "When I was a boy" and "So did I," Capt. Gravell (Regt. Chaplain); "My Little Gray Home in the West," Capt. Butler.

#### HEREFORD MEN ON LEAVE.

During the past week-end a good number of men of the Hereford Regiment enjoyed special leave from the camp north-west. They returned on Saturday and Monday, and were accorded a rousing send-off from Barr's Court Station, Hereford. Among the men were many of the 1st line who have been training with the Reserves since recovery from illness or wounds.

#### CHANGE OF COMPANY.

There has recently been a partial reshuffling of the men of "D" Co., although in nearly every case the platoons have been kept together. It will be remembered that "D" Company was formed at Hereford of men who were called up under Lord Derby's scheme, and came to this camp at the end of April, when it was taken over by Captain Winters. "D" Company has now been transferred to "B" Company, and is under the command of Captain Crossley. "D" Company, therefore, has ceased to exist—for the time being at any rate.

Some of the officers who have been in charge of the training of the old "D" Company platoons have been posted to platoons of other companies, but the change into "B" Company has made little alteration in the grouping of the men. Co.-Sergt.-Major Jennings has gone to another company, and the position in "B" Company is held by Co.-Sergt.-Major Harris.