

THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

Their First World War 'Story' – January 1917

The 'Bigger' Picture

The Home Front

- General Sir Douglas Haig promoted Field-Marshal
- Southwold and Wangford on the Suffolk coast shelled by German destroyers.

Diplomatic

- Inter-Allied Conference assembles in Rome to discuss co-operation, and the questions of Macedonia, Greece, the command of the Salonika expedition, and to convene a shipping conference.
- Greek Government make formal apology to the Allies for the occurrences of December 1st, 1916.
- Inter-Allied Conference (Commission de Ravitaillement) (Russia, France, Great Britain and Italy represented) assembled at Petrograd to discuss war policy, finance, supplies and co-operation
- Entente Governments send joint reply to President Wilson's Note. Allied war aims outlined
- Belgian Government reply to President Wilson's Note placing themselves in hands of Allies
- Austro-Hungarian and German Governments issue Note repudiating responsibility for continuance of war, and declaring that they will prosecute the war to successful end
- German Government send instructions to German Minister in Mexico (von Eckhardt) to negotiate alliance with Mexico and Japan against the United States
- M Tropov, Russian Premier, resigns and is succeeded by Prince Golitsin
- M Pokrovski, Russian Foreign Minister resigns
- Inter-Allied Chartering Committee established for chartering shipping
- Allied Naval Conference held in London as to policy in Mediterranean

The Western Front

Winter sets in with a commensurate reduction in operations.

- First units of Portuguese Expeditionary Force land in France

Other Fronts

EASTERN FRONT

RUMANIA

- Focsani taken by German forces.
- Braila taken by German forces.
- Last Russian and Rumanian forces evacuate Dobrudja.

EGYPT/PALESTINE

- Action of Rafah. Last Turkish troops in Sinai recross the frontier

ARABIA

- Wejh captured by Arab forces

MESOPOTAMIA

- Battle of Kut, 1917, begins

EAST AFRICA

- General Hoskins succeeds General Smuts in command of British Forces, East Africa
- Action of Beho-Beho

At Sea

North Sea

- Harwich flotilla action with German 6th torpedo boat flotilla in the North Sea: HMS Simoom sunk.
- Italy accedes to Franco-British Convention as to naval prizes
- Russian battleship Peresvyet (*below*) sunk by mine off Port Said.



- Japanese battle cruiser Tsukuba (*below*) sunk by internal explosion in Yokosuka harbour (Japan), with the loss of 305 crewmen.

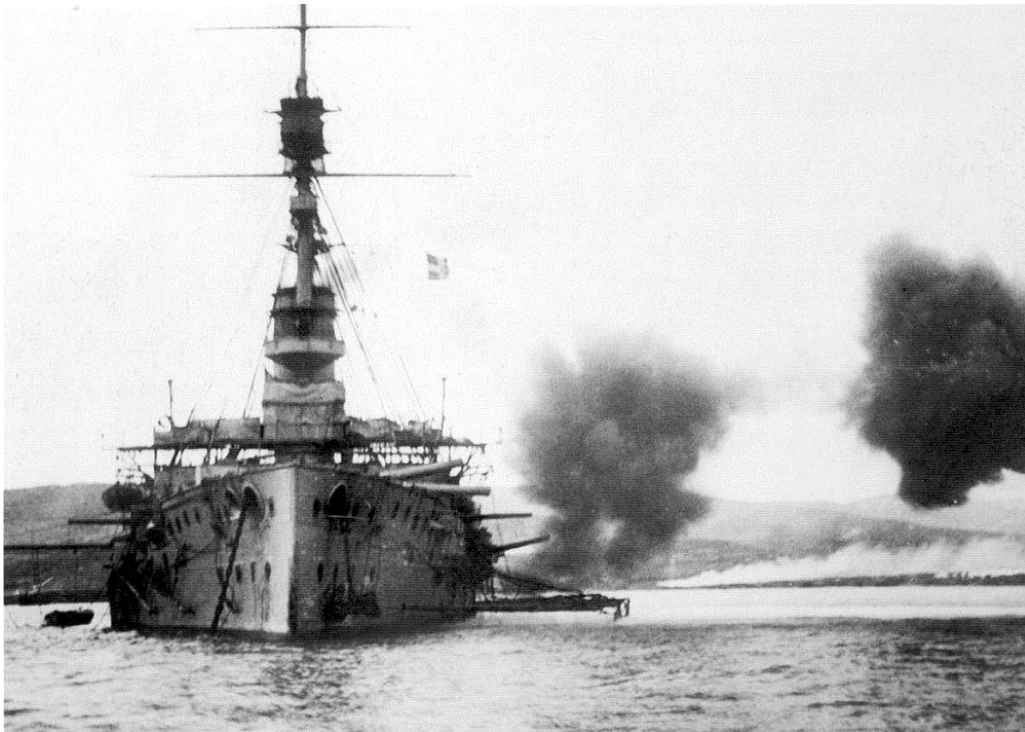


U Boat Warfare

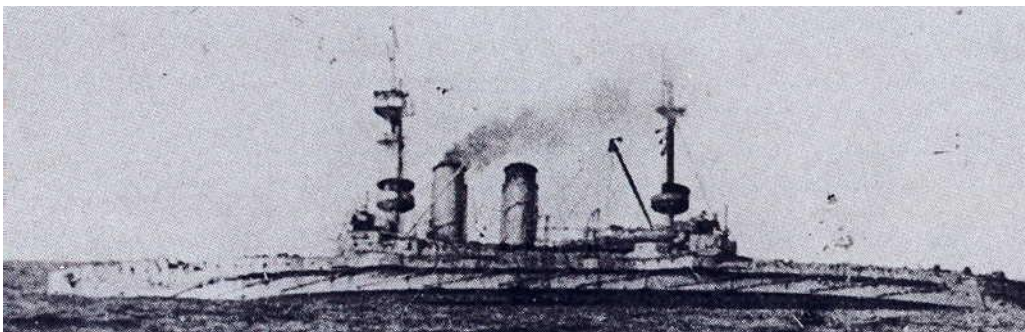
- German Government announce forthcoming unrestricted submarine warfare and threaten to sink hospital ships

- HMS Cornwallis sunk by German submarine U-32 in Mediterranean 60 miles east of Malta. Some of her stokeholds flooded, causing her to list about ten degrees to starboard, but counterflooding corrected the list. About 75 minutes after the first torpedo hit, another did, also on the starboard side, and *Cornwallis* rolled quickly to starboard. Fifteen men were killed in the torpedo explosions, but she stayed afloat long enough to get the rest of the crew off. She sank about 30 minutes after the second torpedo hit.

HMS Cornwallis had supported the landings and subsequent operations at Suvla Bay.



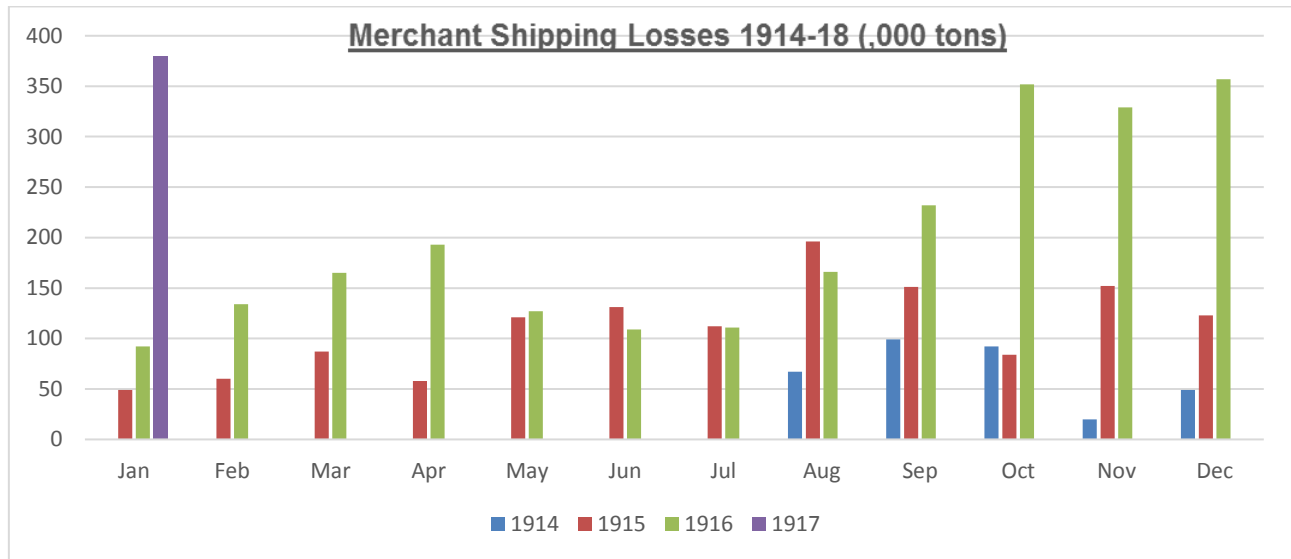
HMS Cornwallis firing a broadside at Suvla Bay



HMS Cornwallis 'rolling' before sinking.

MERCHANT SHIPPING

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month - 211 ships of 380,000 tons gross; the highest monthly amount of the war to date.



The 'Herefords'

Casualties

Whilst operations were light in the Middle East 2 members of the 1st Bn were killed; both were serving with, and had been in action with the Imperial Camel Corps (ICC).

The confusion of the ex Hereford men who had served with the 11 Border Regt on The Somme continued to become more clear with the fate of missing soldiers being realised.



FURTHER NEWS OF HEREFORDSHIRE MEN AS PRISONERS.

Further news of Herefordshire Regiment men who have suffered casualties in France after being transferred to the Border Regiment continues to reach the *Hereford Times*.

PTE. G. G. PERKINS, OF ROSS.

Mrs. Perkins, of 5, Corps-Cross Street, Ross, has received official news that her husband, Pte. G. G. Perkins, of the Border Regiment, was missing after an engagement in France on November 18th. On Friday last, however, Mrs. Perkins was delighted to receive a postcard from him, which stated that he was now a prisoner in German hands, but quite well. The postcard was written on November 29th, but not posted until December 31st.

PTE. H. FRANCIS, OF EGGLETON.

Pte. Harry Francis, of the Border Regiment, who was transferred from the Herefords, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Francis, of Eggleton, was in the charge on the Ancre on November 18th. Afterwards he was reported missing, but it is now found that he is a prisoner of war in Germany, and is suffering from a shrapnel wound in his hand and leg. Writing to his parents, he says he is going on all right, and would like his friends through the *Hereford Times* to know that he has not gone under. He is 22 years of age, single, and before joining up was in the employ of Mr. Arthur Hill, farmer, of Eggleton.

PTE. C. MANN, OF ULLINGSWICK.

Pte. C. Mann, of the Border Regiment, is amongst the prisoners of war. His wife, Mrs. Mann, of Woodhill, Ullingswick, Pencombe, received a postcard from Giessen on the 8th to say that he was very comfortable in the hospital and kindly treated. He joined the Herefords at the beginning of last March, when his group was called up, and was transferred to the K.S.L.I. in September. He went to France at the beginning of October, and was then transferred into the Border Regiment.

PTE. C. WALL, OF LEOMINSTER.

Pte. Geo. Wall, of 21, Bridge Street, Leominster, and Lee-Corpl. Geo. Millship, of Stockton, were both taken prisoners by the Germans on November 18th. Both men were in the Hereford Regt., but were attached to the 11th Border Regt.

PTE. A. JONES, OF HAY.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Jones, of Post Office, Whitminster, Stonehouse, Glos., have this week heard from their son, Pte. Alfred Jones, of the Border Regt., who has been missing since November 18th, after an engagement in France. He is a prisoner of war in Germany and well. For the last three years he was boots at the Crown Hotel, Hay. He joined the Herefords and went to France the end of September.

HEREFORDIAN IN HOSPITAL IN BERLIN.

Friends of Pte. Percy J. Edmunds, of 6, Clifford Street, Hereford, formerly of the Herefordshire Regiment and afterwards attached to the Border Regiment, who was some time ago officially reported missing, will be glad to hear that a postcard has been received from him stating that he is in hospital in Berlin. The postcard also conveys the information that he was wounded by shrapnel in the hip and taken prisoner on November 18th last. Pte. Edmunds, who is a brother of Mr. A. R. Edmunds, assistant secretary of the Herefordshire Automobile Club, is, so far as is known in this country, the first Herefordshire soldier to reach the capital of Hunland.

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO	DATE	HOW	WHERE	HOMETOWN	Notes (Serving with)
Bevan	James	PTE	4514	12/01/17	KIA	F&F	Walford	BORDER 11
Chant	Herbert	PTE	4569	12/01/17	KIA	F&F	Bridgnorth	BORDER 11
Clayton	William	PTE	3256	09/01/17	KIA	EGYPT	Hay on Wye	ICC 5
Davies	Arthur Henry	PTE	3480	23/01/17	DOW	EGYPT	Burghill	ICC 5
Davies	George Henry	PTE	4383	03/01/17	D	F&F	Hereford	BORDER 11
Dutton	Horace Frederick	PTE	2673	31/01/17	D	F&F	Hereford	BORDER 11
Holman	Arthur Vincent	CAPT		09/01/17	D	HOME		
Maddox	Thomas Edmund	PTE	3186	12/01/17	KIA	F&F	Canon Pyon	BORDER 11
Stokes	Albert Edward	PTE	2591	12/01/17	KIA	F&F	Wellington	BORDER 11
Walker	Alan	PTE	2863	12/01/17	KIA	F&F	Ledbury	BORDER 11

The 11 Border men, were ex Herefords who had fought in the last phase of The Somme battle at Redan Ridge.

E.L. 9.5
 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. Army Form W. 3372.
GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.
 Third Area Serial No. W/1545
 REPORT No. 2. SCHEDULE No. 39c.
 Commune :- COLINCAMPS.
 PLACE OF BURIAL EUSTON ROAD MILITARY CEMETERY.
 Map Reference 57d.K.26.c.9.3. 23 AUG 1920
 The following are buried here :- PLOT 1. ROW "H" Gr. No.

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
11th. Borders.	19243	VEDYVEAN	L/Cpl. J.T.	14-1-17.	All crosses erected.	29 ✓
do.	17517	MESSENGER	L/Cpl. G.	do.		30 ✓
do.	26114	CHAMBERS	Pte. T.	do.		31 ✓
do.	4911	KILLEY	Cpl. W.	4-1-17.		32 ✓
do.	28028	FOX	Pte. F.	do.		33 ✓
do.	30167	KELLY	Pte. F.	do.		34 ✓
do.	27718	CHANT	Pte. H.	do.		35 ✓
do.	3153	BURKETT	Pte. D.J.	do.		36 ✓
do.	27683	MADDOX	Pte. T.	do.		37 ✓
92nd. M. G. C.	14886	MARRINT	Pte. S. A.	10-1-17	17 S.D.G.W. & Burial Return 22788. Rv/30963	38 ✓
8th. E. Yorks.	19102	FENBY	Sgt. W.	7-1-17.	YR/515025	39 ✓
do.	27934	BOOK	Pte. F.T.	do.		40 ✓
do.	27957	FREEMAN	Pte. H.J.	do.		41 ✓
1st. R.S. Fusrs.	40986	BRAND	Pte. J.	5-1-17.		42 ✓
do.	40188	CLOSE	Pte. W.	do.		43 ✓
do.	40967	OLIPHANT	Sgt. W.	do.		44 ✓

(6 31 5) W3160-P2723 100,000 9/19 HWV.11024/ Form W3372/3
 Card "Fenby" A 610.4.25
 ENTERED M. 7. 11. 10. 20.

The following lists show the burial of soldiers in Kantara and Port Said Cemeteries:

Grave No.	Name.	Rank	Regtl.No.	Date of Death	Regiment
Plot.					
CD. 84.	CAINES	Pte.H.	2038	4.8.16	1/1st Hereford Regt.
C.138.	CALDWELL	Tpr. D.R.	11/1419	27.12.17	Well. Mtd. Rifs.N.Z.
CF.137.	CAMERON	Cpl. C.A.	859	9.1.17	2/Aust.L.H. Regt.A.I.F.
CF.41.	CAMPBELL	Capt. A.W.		13.12.17	AVC.6/Mtd. Bde.
E.101.	CAMPBELL	Pte. C.	S/3754	18.10.18	1st Seaforth Hrs.
CB.63.	CAMPBELL	Tpr. D.D.	797	4.8.16	2/A.L.H.Regt. A.I.F
CF.413.	CAMPBELL	Tpr. J.	2167	11.1.17	5/Aust.L.H. att 12/Co.I.C.O
CF.401.	Campbell	Pte. G.	2533	10.8.16	1/7 Highland Lt. Inf.
CD.65.	Campbell	Pte. J.	27972	23.4.17	4/att 1/8 Sco Rifles.
F.75.	CAMPBELL	Cpl. J.B.	13/1013	21.10.18	Auck.Mtd. Rifles N.Z.
A.138.	CANDLIN	Pte. P.N.	108335	13.1.20	25/Kings L'pools.
C.69.	CANSDALE	Dvr. H.F.	36486	2.6.17	RE.att ADW.Pal.L.of C.
F.11.	CARNAGHAN	Dvr. F.C.	626437	8.10.18	H.A.C. A. Batty.
C.73	CARTER	Cpl. S/S G.	935	4.6.17	R. Bucks. Hussars.
E.109	CARVER	Dvr. A.E.	955867	21.10.18	R.F.A. 301st Bde.
F.85.	CASEY	Tpr. W.R.	35803	22.10.18	6/Well. Mtd. Rifs. N.Z.
CB.163	CASKEY	Tpr. T.J.	7/318	23.12.16	8/sqd.Cant. Mtd. Rifs. N.Z.
D.156	CATTAN	L/Cpl. E.Y.	792	17.8.18	F.L.C. (Jew)
D.133	CAVEY	Pte. J.	5/31089	6.2.18	5/R.Innis Fus.
F.369	CHAINEDY	Pte. R.J.	230354	1.1.19	1/1st Dorset Yeo.
F.270.	CHALMERS	Pte. D.	310047	16.12.18	107/H'land.San. Sec.RAMC.TI
D.10	CHAMBERS	2/Lt. A.J.F.		11.8.16	1/1st Warwick Yeo.
CA.83	CHAMBERS	Tpr. A.L.	1552	9.8.16	8th A.L.H.
CB.256	CHANCE	Pte. E.J.	492876	11.3.18	2/13th Bn. London Regt.
CF.263	CHAPMAN	Tpr. F.T.	1800	1.1.17	8/Aust.Lt.Horae Regt.
E.425	CHARD	Pte. E.	200198	31.12.18	1/4th D.C.L.I.
C.14.	CHANHILL	Tpr. G.	1485	10.6.16.	1st A.L.H.
C.91	CHERRY	Pte. G.	28642	30.6.19	1st Bn.R.S.
E. 42.	CHICK	Spr.W.X.	WR/287880	12.2.19.	R.O.D. R.E. (Amended 21/35 JDU)
E.44.	CHURCHILL	Pte.J.	358241.	8.2.19.	1/Garr.Bn.Northants.809/ A.E.Coy.Labour Corps.
C.58.	CLARK	2/Lt.A.S.D.		22.4.17.	1/4th R.Scots.Fus.
F.31Q.	CLARK	Pte.C	201914	9.1.17.	1/4th R.Sussex Regt.
D.90.	CLARK	Pte.S.	240772.	17.11.17.	1/5th.Bn.K.O.S.B.
CF.53.	CLARK	Tpr. J.	11/1779	9.1.17	9/Sqd.Well.Mtd.R.NZEF
D.97	CLARK	Capt. A.L.		4.12.17	Sherwood Fors.
C.48	CLARKE	L/Cpl. F.B.	201337	3.4.17	1/4th D.C.L.I.
D.60	CLARKE	Pte. H.A.	4881	11.8.17	2 Bn.B.W.I. Regt.
CB.129	CLASSEN	L/Cpl. E.L.	19650	22.4.17	52/Div.Cycle Corps
CF.30.	CLAYE	Lt. G.W.		29.3.17	1/7th Cheshire Regt.
CB.152.	CLAYTON	Pte. W.T.	3256	9.1.17	1/1 Hereford Regt.att 5/CoJOC
CB.21	CLIFFORD	Tpr G.	929	5.8.16	7/Regt.2/A.L.H.Bde.
C.40.	CLIFFORD	Mjr. H.F.		9.1.17	R. Gloucester Hussars
B.54	CLYNE	Tpr. W.L.	886	10.8.16.	8th A.L.H.
E.204	COATH	Spr. R.	541570	27.1.19	RE.360/Water Co.
CC.11.	COBBLEDICK	Pte A.H.	2349	4.8.16.	1/1st Hereford Regt
CF.109	COCHRANE	Pte. H.	9110	23.4.16	1/4th R.S.F.
E.263	COLE	Capt. A/Mjr. H.M.		4.12.18	4/Devons R.att 1/4 Wilts.R.
D.68	COLE	Dvr.W.	T2/12461	3.10.17	ASC.475/Co.10/Dvl.Train
E.284	COLES	Dvr. H.	524501	26.1.19	RE.360th Water Co.
C.76.	COLLISON	Pte. G.E.	722874	11.7.17.	24/Lond.R. "The Queens"
F.175	CONAGHAN	Tpr. C.J.	1116	4.1.19	AIF.Canteens(Kantara West)
CF.141	COOK	Tpr. A.C.	16073	9.1.17	6/Sqd.9/Well.M.Rifs. N.Z.
G.174	COOK	Gnr. G.	631979	4.7.18	SEA.375th Bty.
E.420	COOKE	Pte. W.	265240	10.10.17	12/Bn.Roy.North Lencs.
E.94	COOKE	Tpr. A.J.	46	9.8.16.	3/ALH.M.C.late 10/A.L.H.
D.104	COOKE	Pte. B.	240746	7.12.17	1/5 Bn.Suffolk Regt
EA.189	COOKE	Sgt. R.G.	7/703	23.12.16	1/Cent. Rif N.Z. F.F.
C.146	COONEY	T2/Lt.P.A.		22.2.18	1/Cent. Rif N.Z. F.F.
C.157	COOPER	Pte. A.	3/22508	21.3.18	1/Seaforth Hrs.
C.46	COOPER	2/Lt.C.P.		2.4.17	1/4 Essex Regt.
CA.31	COOPER	Pte. F.S.	2831	19.4.16	1/1st Warwick Yeo.
C.144	COOPER	Gnr P.J.	1800	25.3.19	S. African Fld. Artv
CF.326	COOPER	Pte.P.R.	263828	16.11.17	4 R.W.Kent Regt.
E.460.	COOPER	Cpl. W.	28607	6.11.17	1/4 R. Scots.
E.217	COPE	Pte. S.	345668	1.2.18	24/Welch Fus.

EGYPT 14-4.

PORT SAID WAR MEMORIAL CEMETERY.

Grave No.	Name.	Rank & Initials.	Regt. No.	Regiment.	Date of Death.
PILOT.					
C. 43.	✓ DADLEY	CSM. W.	200035	1/4th Bn. N'tn. Rgt.	14. 1.18.
Q. 30.	✓ (DAKERSOR DAKARS)	A.B. W.	2nd Donkey- man.	S.S. 'GENERAL 'ROCH'	19. 1.17.
C. 38.	✓ DAVIDSON	Pte. T.	38858	1/4th Bn. N'tn. Rgt.	14.12.17.
C. 25.	✓ DAVIES	L/Cpl. W. J.	240939	1/5th Bn. Welsh Rgt.	12.12.17.
H. 19.	✓ DAVIES	Tpr. J. J.	2463	2nd Aust. M. G. Sqdn.	22.10.18.
K. 19.	✓ DAVIES	Pte. A. H.	3480	1/1st Herefordshire Regt. att. 5th I. C. C.	23. 1.17.
D. 15.	✓ DAVIES	Pte. H.	4111	1/6th R. W. F.	9. 3.17.
O. 10.	✓ DAVIES	Pte. J.	4061	1/6th R. W. F.	4. 8.16.
P. 10.	✓ ASHTON	Pte. X. D.	BZ/141.	R. N. V. R. Bristol	2/141 8.4.18.
N. 38.	✓ DAVIS	Pte. W. D.	2619	1/1st Montgomery Yeo.	31. 8.16.
F. 24.	✓ DAY	Pte. A. T.	201121	1/4th Bn. N'tn. Rgt.	9.11.17.
O. 30.	✓ De HERTZ	Pte. V.	4676	18/A. I. F.	23. 5.16.
N. 8.	✓ DENNY	Sgt. A.	201027	1/5th Hld. Lt. Inf.	16.5.17.
P. 24.	✓ DERBYSHIRE	STOREKEEPER W.		Manchester Spinner.	WAR GRAVE 3/4/37
E. 14.	✓ DILLON	Tpr. J. B.	3413.	9th A. L. H. Rgt. A. I. F.	16.10.18.
N. 27.	✓ DOCHERTY	Pte. W.	454	1/8th Scot. Rfls.	1.10.16.
R. 1.	✓ DOCHERTY	Pte. J.	33811	(1st H. L. I. att. 1/5th R. W. K. Regt.)	12. 1.20.
F. 5.	✓ DOUGLAS	Pte. J. S.	201410	1/4th Roy. Scots. Rgt.	10. 7.17.
Q. 21.	✓ DRAKE	Trimmer A.	WAR GRAVE 3/1/347	S.S. 'HUNTSPILL'.	30.12.18.
F. 17.	✓ DREW	L/Cpl. W. G.	201594	2/4th Bn. Hants. Rgt.	9.10.17.
Q. 12.	✓ DUNCAN	2/Eng. J.	WAR GRAVE 3/1/347	S.S. 'ARAGON'.	13.6.17.
Q. 2.	✓ DUNLOP	Surgeon P.	WAR GRAVE 3/1/347	S.S. Suffolk.	11-2-18
R. 9.	✓ DURRANT	Pte. C. E.	DM2/170210.	RASC. MT. Adv. Dpt.	18.12.19.
B. 181.	✓ DOBSON	Lt. E. F. T.		2/124 Baluchis.	8.6. 20.
C. S. 2.	✓ EBBS	A/B. S. C.	J. 39043	R.N. H.M.S. ENDEAVOUR	3/E/347. 10-8-18.
O. 16.	✓ EDMONDSON	Sgt. J. S.	5661	(1st 'B' Amman Col. 1/1st H. A. C., R. H. A. Bde.)	9. 7.16.
B. 15.	✓ EDMUNDSON	Pte. H.	1674	L/Lanos. Fus.	16. 5.15.
H. 1.	✓ EDWARDS	Tpr. H. J.	503	12th L. H. Rgt. A. I. F.	22. 5.18.
M. 8.	✓ EDWARDS	Dvr. R. T2/SR/03539		(ASC. 20th L. of C. Supply.)	21.10.18.
F. 20.	✓ EKINS	Pte. J.	17649	1/1st Herts Yeo.	23.10.17.
B. 22.	✓ ELKINGTON	L/Cpl. T.	10407	4th Worcester.	11. 5.15.
M. 30.	✓ ELLICK	Pte. H. J.	2608	4th A. I. F.	4. 2.19.
K. 12.	✓ ELLIOTT	Spr. W.	208817	276th Rly. Coy. R. E.	21. 1.17.
P. 20.	✓ ELLIS	F'mn. E.	WAR GRAVE 3/1/347	S.S. 'BIRCHLEAF'.	3. 2.19.
R. 23.	✓ ELLISDON	Pte. J.	24492	1st Gr. Bn. Bedford Rgt.	28.11.19.
F. 26.	✓ EVANS	Pte. J.	58920	1/5th Bn. Welsh Rgt.	10.11.17.
B. 9.	✓ EVANS	Pte. J.	548382	(811 Area Emp. Coy. Labour Corps.)	29. 8.18.
K. 4.	✓ FALLOW	L/S t. G. C.	1739	5/Royal Scots.	18. 8.15.
J. 20.	✓ FARMER	Pte. A. L.	15143	7/N. Staffs.	28. 2.16.
C. 4.	✓ FORD	Tpr. F. F.	1161. A.	7th A. L. H.	23.11.17.
R. 6.	✓ FORD	Pte. S. J.	205337	3rd Garr. Bn. Bedfords	26.12.19.
F. 38.	✓ FOX	2/Lt. J.		5th Coy. Conn. Rangers.	18.11.17.
J. 26.	✓ FRANCIS	Dvr. W. J.	T/35401	217th Coy. ASC.	11. 2.16.
G. 10.	✓ FRASER	I.	WAR GRAVE 3/1/347	S.S. 'CITY of VIENNA'.	25.11.14.
R. 15.	✓ FRENCHUM	Cpl. H.	MR/135762	RASC. MT. 693 Coy.	14.12.19.
H. 11.	✓ FROST	Tpr. C. H.	2333	7th A. L. H.	1.12.18.
B. 16.	✓ FULLER	Pte. A.	8462	2/Coy. 2/Hants. Rgt.	19. 6.15.
A. 23.	✓ FYFE	Pte. T.	10796	1st H. L. I.	14.10.14.

x Echmond at EZBET-EL-BOURG, near DAMIETTA 3/E/307.

Card made Dobson off 3.5.23
Ebbes off 12.11.23

ENTERED 3/70
LIST CHECKED 9/70

Capt Holman, who had commanded C (Ledbury) Coy in 1914, died 'at home'.

DEATH OF CAPT. A. V. HOLMAN.

LEDBURY AND COLWALL OFFICER'S FATAL RETURN FROM THE FRONT.

It is with great regret that we have to announce the death of Captain Arthur Vincent Holman, 1st Battalion Hereford Regiment. He had only recently been invalided home, suffering from severe strain, which affected the heart, and was sustained while serving with his regiment in Egypt. Unfortunately pneumonia supervened, and he passed away at the age of 39. The news of his demise, which took place at the residence of his uncle at Cheltenham, on Tuesday, will be sincerely regretted by the officers and men of his battalion. He was a popular officer, and one who took soldiering seriously, and by the men of his company in particular he was very highly respected. Capt. Holman was better known in the Colwall and Ledbury districts than in Hereford, his home being at The Stone, Colwall, and his Territorial duties prior to the war engaging him with the Ledbury Company. In fact, it was he who raised the Colwall detachment of "C" Company, of which he became captain in due course, being promoted to that rank in July of 1912. He took a keen interest in the welfare of his men, and on numerous occasions during the present war acknowledged the gifts of Ledburians to his company with much appreciation. He had seen a number of years' service with the Territorials and Volunteers, and was with the 1st Battalion of the Herefords on the East Coast after mobilisation. He proceeded with it to Gallipoli, and was one of the few officers to escape injury when the Herefords had to cross an open stretch from Suvla Bay to relieve the Sherwood Foresters. After the evacuation of the Peninsula he moved with the regiment to Egypt, and remained there until his breakdown. Capt. Holman was not new to active service, for as a member of the Volunteer Force he went through the last Boer War, serving with the 2nd V.B. Active Service Company of the Gloucester Regiment, an experience which made him a valuable officer in the present war. He joined the Herefordshire Regiment in the time of Colonel M. J. G. Scobie's long connection with it, and possessed a happy personality which made him many friends. Capt. Holman was of splendid physique, and subsequent to the Boer War had professional interests at Colwall in connection with an estate and land agency. He leaves a widow (née Miss Elsie Wilkins) and a daughter, with whom much sympathy will be felt, to mourn his untimely end.

THE LATE CAPT. HOLMAN.

TRIBUTE FROM HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT AT THE FUNERAL.

The funeral of Capt. A. V. Holman, 1st Herefords, of Colwall, whose death we had to record last week, took place at Prestbury, near Cheltenham, on Friday, with military honours. There was a guard of honour of 50 N.C.O.'s and men from the Gloucesters, Warwicks, Oxford and Bucks, and A.S.C. troops stationed in Cheltenham, and also a firing party from the Hereford Regiment, under Captain Reeve Smith. As bearers six officers acted: Captain E. T. P. Rogers (1st Herefords), Lieut. Wilkinson (Hereford Regt.), and four others belonging to the Gloucesters and Warwicks. The service, which was of the simplest character without music, and was very impressive, was conducted by the Vicar of Prestbury (Rev. H. Uring Smith), assisted by the Rev. D. Marshall (curate), while Col. J. C. Griffith (who was formerly in command of the 2nd Vol. B.G.R.) read the lesson. Captain Holman was originally a sergeant in one of the Cheltenham Companies of that Battalion, and was senior sergeant in its Service Company during the South African War, being one of the first to volunteer for active service, and taking temporary charge of the company when its captain fell ill during the campaign. The grave was near the spot where his father, Mr. George C. Holman, was buried. After the coffin, which had been covered by the Union Jack, was lowered into the grave, the firing party gave the three volleys, and the buglers from the Hereford Regiment sounded the "Last Post." The family and chief mourners present were: Mrs. A. V. Holman (widow), Mrs. G. Holman (mother), Miss Nora Holman (sister), Major Pottinger (uncle), Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Holman (uncle and aunt), Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Holman (uncle and aunt), Mr. John Holman (uncle), Mrs. W. F. Holman (wife of Lieut. W. F. Holman, cousin), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wilkins (father and mother-in-law), Mr. C. E. Wilkins (cousin), Misses D. and H. Wilkins (sisters-in-law), and Dr. Pribus, while among others present were ex-Sergt. Ford, who served with the deceased officer in the South African war; Provost-Sergt. Manton, an old employee of Captain Holman; and Pte. J. Vickersidge, who had been batman for the captain during his connection with the Hereford Regiment; the two latter were with the guard of honour. There were many beautiful floral tributes, including a notable one from the Officers and N.C.O.'s of the Hereford Regiment, and others (apart from the family ones) from Capt. Cornwall (Hereford Regiment), Lieut. H. H. Wilkins, Lieut. H. E. Owen, Lieut. and Mrs. E. H. Petebell, Lieut. H. Gordon Eales, the N.C.O.'s and men of A.S.C., Messrs. Young and Gilling, Lieut. Charles Villars, Major and Mrs. Chamberlain, and others.

Captain Holman, after going through Gallipoli and serving in Egypt, was invalided home some six weeks ago, being first sent to the hospital at Osborne. He made a fair recovery, and on New Year's Day was called to attend headquarters, it is understood with a view to promotion. In making the journey, however, he caught a chill, which brought on pneumonia. He had for many years been connected with the estate and auctioneering firm of Messrs. Young and Gilling at Cheltenham, of which his uncle, Major Pottinger, is a member. He came of a family the members of which are very well known in East Gloucestershire hunting circles, and Mrs. Holman, his widow, is also a Cheltenham lady.

The London Gazette

Honours & Awards

Publication Date			Detail
01/01/1917	Drage	G	DSO
12/01/1917	Povall	239253 Pte J	MM (attached KSLI)

The names of a number of officers with Herefordshire connections appeared in the "London Gazette" on New Year's Day, in a long list of promotions and awards for services rendered in the field. County and city people will be glad to know that among them is Lieut.-Colonel Gilbert Drage, commanding the 1st Herefords, who is appointed a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order. His brother, Captain (temp. Lieut.-Colonel) Godfrey Drage, Royal Munster Fusiliers, also gains that honour. It will interest city people especially to hear that two more brother officers closely connected with a well-known Hereford family are likewise made Companions of the D.S.O. They are Major Gordon Harry Gill, A.S.C., and Captain (temp. Major) Valentine Oakley Beuttler, both of the A.S.C., who, it will be remembered, married the second and third daughters of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Beddoe.

Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)

Publication Date			Detail	Effective Date	Remarks
26/01/1917	Baillie	RG	reverts to lieutenant	30/11/16	
26/01/1917	Banks	AV	reverts to lieutenant	30/11/16	
02/01/1917	Carver	WL	reverts to lieutenant	19/10/16	
26/01/1917	Crossley	AH	reverts to lieutenant	30/11/16	
24/01/1917	Greenly	JHM	correction to spelling of name 2 Jan 1918		
03/01/1917	Gurney	RG	seconded RE	20/12/16	
03/01/1917	Marshall	Alfred W	to be second lieutenant; seconded Mons Regt	19/12/16	
11/01/1917	Nott	FT	to be major	23/11/16	
02/01/1917	Pilkington	CEG	to be captain coy comd	01/11/16	
26/01/1917	Pilkington	CEG	reverts to lieutenant	02/12/16	
11/01/1917	Smith	MV	reverts to captain	23/11/16	
02/01/1917	Trumper	FA	to be captain coy comd	20/10/16	

HEREFORD

Depot functions continue.

Enlistments continue, but recruits are allocated to regionalised initial training Battalions and on completion of training are posted to units.

Some of those recruited in Hereford and allocated to the Battalion were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	HOMETOWN	Notes (later served with)
Eaton	Thomas	Pte	238962		
Edwards	David Ernest	Pte	239005	Llanguello	KSLI 4 & LAB C
Friend	Horace Richard	Pte	228815	Wellington	RE
Gomery	John	Pte	238951	W Bicknor	LAB C
Grass	Charles	Pte	238853	Wellington Salop	SUFFOLK
Kitson	Albert Edward	Pte	238862		LAB C
Maund	Charles	Pte	238884	Clun	KSLI 6 & 7

HEREFORD

ARMY FORM B. 178

recruits enlisting direct into the Regular Army, and (b) for the Territorial Force when they are admitted to Hospital. 178A to be used for Special Reserve recruits and Special Reservists enlisting into the Regular Army.

MEDICAL HISTORY of

Surname **FRIEND** Christian Name **HORACE RICHARD**

TABLE I.—GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace ... Parish **Pentley Dartmouth County East Devon**

Examined ... on **12th** day of **January** 191**8**
at **Exeter**

Declared Age ... **18** years **9 months** days.

Trade or Occupation ... **Baggins**

Height ... **5** feet **8 1/2** inches.

Weight ... **137** lbs.

Chest Measurement (Girth when fully Expanded) **38 1/2** inches.
(Range of Expansion) **38 1/2** inches.

Physical Development ... **Good**

Vaccination Marks (Arm ... Right ... Left) (Number) **Nil**

When Vaccinated ...

Vision ... (R.E. - V = **6/6**) (L.E. - V = **6/6**)

(a) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease ...

(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause rejection ...

Approved by (Signature) **Passed fit in Class**
(Rank) **Reserving Medical Board, Exeter.**

Medical Officer.

Enlisted ... **Joined** ... at **Hereford**

on **11** day of **January** 191**8**

Joined on Enlistment ... Corps ... Regt. No. **228815**

Transferred to ...

Became non-effective by **REF 27 JAN 1918**

on ... day of ... 191**8**

(Signature) (Rank)

45

SHIRE T.F.A.
THE BARRACKS, HEREFORD

RECORD OF SERVICE PAPER

For men deemed to be enlisted in H.M. Regular Forces for General Service with the Colour in the Reserve for the period of the War, or Ex-Soldiers recalled for Service with the Colour under the provisions of the Military Service Acts, 1916.

No. 2288/15 Christian Names HORACE RICHARD Surname FRIEND
Corps HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

Questions to be put to the Reservist on Joining.

- 1. What is your Name? ... { 1. Christian Names Horace Richard
Surname Friend
- 2. What is your full Address? ... { 2. C/o Edward Rice Farmer
Willington Hereford
- 3. Are you a British Subject? ... { 3. Yes
- 4. What is your Age? ... { 4. 18 Years 9 Months
- 5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... { 5. Wagoner
- 6. Are you Married? ... { 6. No
- 7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military? If so*, which? { 7. Artillery No.
- 8. Have you any preference for any particular branch of the service, if so, which? { 8. Artillery
- 9. Are you desirous of serving in the Royal Navy, if so, state your qualifications. { 9. /

I, Horace Richard Friend do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true.

Christian Names Horace Richard Surname Friend SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

Date January 11 1917
Place Hereford Herbert Cupper Signature of Witness.

EXEMPTION FROM COMBATANT SERVICE ON CONSCIENTIOUS GROUNDS.

If the Recruit has been exempted by a Tribunal on conscientious grounds from serving as a combatant it should be so stated here

MEDICAL CLASSIFICATION AS TO FITNESS FOR SERVICE ON JOINING.

Classification* _____

* To be filled in by the Recruiting Officer after Classification by the Medical Board.

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I approve the acceptance of the above-named man, and appoint him to the Res. 1st Herefordshire Regt.

Date Jan 14 1917 Friend } Approving Officer.
Place Hereford Captain

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
‡ Here insert the "Corps" to which the Recruit has been appointed.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz. (Name) _____ on the (Date) _____ enrolled in the (Regiment) _____

'Normal' administration took place and 4191 Pte PH Davies, who had enlisted in Jan 1916 was transferred to the Military Foot Police (MFP), during the process he had to make a pledge as indicated.

the SERVICES of No. 4191 Name *Phillip Harry Davies*

Corps	Battn. or Depot	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of Pension		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of Entries
					years	days	
General Service		Attested	<i>Pte</i>	<i>11.12.15</i>			
General Service		To Army Reserve		<i>11.12.15</i>			
SHERFORDSHIRE REGIMENT		Mobilized		<i>20.1.16</i>			<i>S. J. ...</i>
		Posted		<i>22.1.16</i>			
Military Police Corps		<i>Transferred</i>	<i>PO.</i>	<i>24.2.17</i>			<i>Stewart Capt.</i>
		<i>Appointed</i>	<i>abcp</i>	<i>24.2.17</i>			
		Disembodied on Demobilization.					
		Date <i>2.5.1919</i>					
		Signature for Officer i.c. Records					
		Place <i>Headquarters</i>					
		Home Address <i>6, Gal. Treforon</i>					

MAJOR COMDT MIL. DIST. 100

Provost Marshal

I have been made fully aware of the proud record of the Corps of Military Police. Commonly known as "Red Saps" and if selected for the temporary transfer to it for the period of the war the conditions of which I am fully acquainted with I will do my utmost to maintain its good name and record.

Your Obedient Servant

Harry P Davies (Pte)

No. 10th Sherfordshire
Acting Military Police No. 9 Area.

Jan 5th 1917

C. C. Toole
Captain.
Assistant Provost Marshal.
No. 9 Area.

Countersigned.

Major.
Supervising Provost Marshal Duties.
Western Command.

Head Quarters,
Chester.

Some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
Clarkson	R	PTE	5867	xvi		
Dent	John Hinde	PTE	6100	xvi		
Evans	R	PTE	5534	xvi		
Farmer	Charles	PTE	3788	xvi		
Gent	Thomas	PTE	5724	xvi		
Hargraves	J	PTE	5812	xvi		
Irwin	D	PTE	5695	xvi		
Lamb	Thomas	PTE	5697	xvi		
Lingard	D	PTE	6101	xvi		
Mccann	C	PTE	6004	xvi		
Merrick	FG	PTE	5589	xvi		
Sharratt	W	PTE	5809	xvi		
Smith	Arthur John	PTE	2764	xvi	Bromyard	
Summers	Charles	PTE	5532	xvi	Shawbury	
Tudge	Frederick Charles	LCpl	1794	xvi	Colwall	
White	Charles	PTE	5784	xvi		
Wilks	Solomon	PTE	5959	xvi		
Williams	LJ	LCPL	2649	xvi	Hereford	

xvi - unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc - unlikely to become an efficient soldier

timex - Territorial soldier whose time of commitment has expired.

The Volunteer Bn (Hereford - formerly the Volunteer Training Corps (VTC))

The Volunteer Bn continued to train and recruit throughout the County as indicated by the weekly orders for A (Hereford) Company as published in The Hereford Times



1st Battalion

German-led Ottoman forces had occupied the Sinai Peninsula, then part of the British Protectorate of Egypt in January 1915 in an attempt to 'take' or disrupt passage through the Suez Canal. The Battles of Romani in August 1916 and the Magdhaba in December enabled the Allied advance into the Sinai. In January 1917 the newly formed Desert Column completed the recapture of the Sinai at the Battle of Rafa. These three victories, resulting in the recapture of substantial Egyptian territory, heralded further advances into Turkish dominated southern Palestine

From the history of the 53 (Welsh) Division history:

On 20 January the Division marched from the Canal in 2 columns, and on the last day of the month HQ arrived at El Arish.

THE march across the desert "had nothing to relieve the monotony, so much in keeping with the surroundings; yet for some of us the desert grew to have a certain charm—the feeling of wide space, a horizon beyond which lay mystery, the amazing quiet and stillness around. It is not without a kind of wild beauty, especially at dawn and eventide, when the changing light catches the billowing sandhills, and shadows break up the burning waste. Then, when you come in from a ride which has taken you out of sight and hearing of human beings, there is something so homelike in the camp, something comforting about the twinkle of a fire and the snugness of tent or bivouac."—(Le Fleming.)

It was not always possible to see the scarce and welcome group of palm trees round a well. "We passed through three oases with date palms and wells, only about 200 yards square, and all completely hidden below the surface of the surrounding country. All the sand hereabouts is in ridges, all sloping the same way, N.W. to S.E., and one sees a huge sand dune and just below it, stuck away under the steep bank, the trees, or Hod, as it is called."—(H. E. P. Pateshall.)

Date	Location	Detail
1 Jan	El Ferdan	Field firing classification and company training. Bad weather prevented musketry and parades.
2 Jan		Capt Capel rejoined battalion on termination of 3 months attachment to brigade HQ. Capt P Ashton to brigade HQ for training as Brigade major.
3 Jan		Preparation for move
4 Jan	Kantara	Bn with remainder of Bde, 1/1 st Welsh Field Coy RE, 1/3 rd Welsh Field Ambulance commenced move by route march to El Arish leaving El Ferdan 10.30 arriving at Kantara 16.45. Sleeping accommodation was found for Bn in tents of rest camp and tents and mess huts of 19 th Rifle Bde.

5 Jan		Move postponed until 6 th in order that tents might be dried. Tents pitched and dried. Struck in afternoon and dumped ready to move tomorrow morning.
6 Jan		Column moved to Gilban starting at 10.00, arriving at 15.30. Lt Gen Sir Charles Dobell KCB, CMG, DSO GOC Eastern Force inspected column as it marched out of Kantara. 2Lt Baillie and 17 ORs to Romani to join Depot Bn.
7 Jan		Column moved to Pelusium starting at 09.00, arriving at 12.30. Water pipes, pumping gear out of order and no water was available until a water train from El Abt arrived at 4.30pm.
8 Jan		Column moved to Mehemdia starting at 08.00, arriving 3pm. Owing to condensing plant being out of order at Mehemdia, there was a shortage of water and all animals were ordered to remain at Romani. 2Lt ES Russell was left at Romani in command of Lewis Gun sections and with mules and riding horses. 2Lt HH Foster rejoined from leave in England.
9 Jan		General fatigues, all men bathed in sea in afternoon. The camp had previously been pitched by advance party under 2Lt Chipp. From Kantara to Mehemdia all ranks bivouacked, 2 blankets per man and officers valises carried daily on light railway.
10 Jan		Coy training; classes of instruction for subaltern officers & SNCOs. Water and ration fatigues. Camp inspected by BGC in forenoon.
11 Jan		Oy training. Officer and SNCO courses of instruction and bathing. News was received of thee successful recce in force against Rafa.
13 Jan		Training, bathing – same as yesterday.
14 Jan		Sunday. Church Parade, bathing. 5 ORs rejoined from England.
15 Jan		Coy training – subaltern officers and NCOs course of instruction; bathing.
16 Jan		Bn route march; bathing
17 Jan		Coy training – subaltern officers and NCOs course of instruction; bathing.
18 Jan		Maj ALB Green rejoined from England. News received that Lt Col Drage had been awarded DSO; supplement to London Gazette of 6 Jan 1917. Coy training, bathing etc. Capt EA Capel resumed command of D Coy.
19 Jan		Divisional exercises cancelled owing to orders for 158 Bde and 159 Bde to move to El Arish. 159 to move tomorrow and 158 on the 21 st .
20 Jan		Preparations for move. General fatigues. Kit bags and haversacks packed and taken to station dumps. Camp struck and tents taken to station dump.
21 Jan		158 Bde with 1/1 st Welsh Field Coy RE and 1/3 Welsh Field Ambulance moved by route march to Rabah starting at 09.00 and arriving at 14.10 en route for El Arish.
22 Jan		Column removed march at 10.30 arriving at Khirba 13.00. Rations arrived late due to breakdown on railway.
23 Jan		Column resumed march at 10.30, arriving at el Abd 13.00, where it will remain for a few days. Lt CEG Pilkington and 2Lt Crossley rejoined from Zeitoun School of Instruction.
24 Jan		Fatigues. Companies paid. Washing. Administration by companies. Lectures by Coy Comds on 'outposts'.

25 Jan		Coy training. Sgt P J Holt proceeded to England to join Cadet Corps.
26 Jan		Divisional ex
27 Jan		Medical inspection of Bn under arrangements by 1/3 WFA. Washing etc. 2Lts Collins, Mitchell & Court and 8 ORs proceeded to Zeitoun School of Instruction. CSM S Price proceeded to Zeitoun for officers' course prior to receiving Commission.
28 Jan		Sunday Church Parade
29 Jan		Column resumed march arriving at Bir Salmana at 12.40.
30 Jan		Column arrived at Tilul at 12.30.
31 Jan		Column set off 08.00 and arrived at Birelmazar at 12.30.

WAR DIARY

11th Newfordsshire Reg^t

Appendix I

Weekly State

Week Ending	Officers	Other Ranks
6-1-17	34	941
13-1-17	36	943
20-1-17	36	939
27-1-17	36	946

Appendix II

Weekly Casualty Return

Week ending	To Hospital	
	Officers	Other Ranks
6-1-17	.	7
13-1-17	.	3
20-1-17	.	2
27-1-17	.	9
		<u>21</u>

Maj ALB Green

Date	Location	Detail
1 Jan		Went to Hereford and saw old Wallis about Kingstone. Saw GL and OB Wallis – both on sick leave. The former still very deaf and ears still bad. Saw Holman {*} at station Hereford, on his way to Shrewsbury. Still seemed very dickey. Went down to Weir End to dinner. * My dear brother officer and intimate friend died a few months later. He had served in the S African War and ought to have been a regular – soldiering was his joy.
2 Jan		Went to Pybers to tea and dinner at weir end. Gave Mrs Walton notice to leave – very rude and annoyed.
3 Jan		Heard from Cooks that boat special does not leave til Saturday. Had tea and dinner at weir end.
4 Jan		Packed up; had tea in nursery with children and dinner at weir end.
5 Jan		Left 1027 train for town. Saw father at Mitcheldean Rd. Went to Berners then round shopping and paying bills. Had tea at Rumplemeyers and called on Powers. Dined at princes with Charles and went to Playhouse to see The Misleading Lady, including Gladys Cooper, Weedon Grossmith and Malcolm Cherry – quite good.
6 Jan		Left Charing Cross at 11.50 in Bombay Express. Dorothy saw me off. Manders and Blandy returning same boat. Saw Danielson, 6 R Warwicks on Channel boat. Train left Calais at 5.45.
7 Jan		Arrived Marseilles at 4pm after good journey. Went on board Nellone which doesn't sail till tomorrow. Went and saw Caledonia in dry dock before dinner – huge hole in her side.
8 Jan		Sailed soon after 10 am after little difficulty with MLD about travelling in uniform. As I hadn't got any I hid in my cabin til we sailed. Nellone old slow boat, about 12 knots, and escort slower still as we had to keep going slow for her. Wind very cold and rather rough. Had fiddles on for dinner.
9 Jan		Another dull cold day – rain and spray but not so rough.
10 Jan		Came on to roll pretty badly early this morning. Fiddles on table once more.
11 Jan		Got into Malta about 10.30am and went ashore about 11.30. Boat said to be sailing at 4pm. Had lunch at club and went to Cathedral with Blandy and Mander. Came back to ship and found was not sailing til 1pm tomorrow so after tea went on shore again and had dinner at club and on to opera to see La Fovourita: music good but acting poor. Had to buy mufti so got sports coat and flannel trousers.
12 Jan		Very cold wet morning with heavy thunder storms. Didn't get away till after 4 o clock. Heavy swell outside the harbour.
13 Jan		Strong following wind – a bit rough.
14 Jan		Escort left us at 8am and fresh escort from Port said failed to appear. Much warmer and calmer.
15 Jan		Fine warm day. Great farewell concert in evening.
16 Jan		Got into Port Said and tied up soon after noon. Went on shore and had lunch at Casino with Ward, Mander, Maggie May and Mrs Bradford. Found I could not get through to Regiment which is at Mahamdiza today, so stayed at Eastern Exchange Hotel.

17 Jan		Left Port said at 8.15 with Mander who was going to Romani. Was met at Romani by Davies and Turner, the latter with horses so we rode straight over to camp by the sea and very nice. Had a lively night celebrating the CO's DSO, which he had not heard about. Ashton at Bde and Capel returned.
18 Jan		Started work Football match in afternoon between Div and Bde staffs and officers of Bde over 35. The former won 3 – 0. Div Ex tomorrow at which I am chief umpire for 158 Bde.
19 Jan		Div Ex cancelled at 9am and told to be ready to move.
20 Jan		Received orders in morning to take charge of escorts with heavy baggage ro Romani. After hanging about all day the train eventually got off at 1600 and reached Romani at 1700 where we got off, loaded and handed stores over to Depot Bn. Stayed night at Depot Bn. 1/7 RWF won the Bde inter company football.
21 Jan		Joined Bde as it marched through Romani at 1015, and marched to El Rabah where we bivouaced. Strong westerly wind, cold and sand blowing about. March 10 miles.
22 Jan		Very cold last night and everything covered in sand when I awoke. Reveille 0600 and got away at 0930, beastly wind again. Marched to Khirba 71/2 miles where we arrived about 1300 and bivouaced – beastly wind swept plain. Daily train did not turn up until 1900 owing to break down on line. Found piece of timber so erected a part shelter for CO and myself and were much warmer.
23 Jan		Marched at 1030 for El Abd, 7 miles. I was in charge of brigaded camel transport – beastly job' finally reached camp at 1500. Tents pitched on very rough scrub desert. 159 Bde here saw Merry. We move to Mazar on Monday.
24 Jan		Coys spent day organising and washing. Rode round part of defences of Abd in afternoon. Letter from Do dated 7/1/17.
25 Jan		Bn organisation. In afternoon rode round NE sector of defences.
26 Jan		Divisional exercise. Very boring day, badly run marched out at 0800 and did not return until 1645 having learnt nothing. Saw King Power.
27 Jan		Coys on training outposts. Hear half brigade including ourselves to go straight to El Arish on Monday by route march 47 1/2 miles. I am to go in charge of train echelon. Met Ashton at station in afternoon to arrange dumping grounds. Had tea at Bde. Spent morning straightening out the mess a/cs.
28 Jan		Mail in. Letter from Do telling me of poor Holman's death. We are very sad. She enclosed telegram granting me a weeks extention of leave received on Jan 10 th . Not much use to me now. Hear I have to stay here with Bde details and dumps for some days.
29 Jan		Bde marched out at 1000 for Bir Salmana. I am left in command of column train echelon details, about 230 and 10 officers. After hauling tents etc to dump we pitched our camp. Came on to blow in the evening with sand storm. Made out standing orders for camp. Detailed guards for dumps etc.
30 Jan		Morning devoted to clearing out old areas and tidying up our new one. Sand storm came on towards midday which stopped all work. Trains very late coming up owing to sand on line and so got no rations.
31 Jan		A lot of wind during the night and again today. Some dead Turks uncovered beyond our old area. HQ 53 Div moving on today.

Wilmott

Jan 4th. Marched to Kantara
Jan 6th As part of East Force under General Dobell? Marched to Gilban
Jan 7th To Pelusium
Jan 8th Through Romani to kandiya (40 miles in all)
Jan 21st Back through Romani, past Katia to Rabah.
Jan 22nd to Khirba
Jan 23rd Bir el abd
Jan 29th Salmana
Jan 30th To Tillul

Sgt Colley

For 3 months at Ferdan we carried out every conceivable operation in our training and on 4 Jan 1917 we moved to Kantara. This was the beginning of an offensive against the Turks, who had been given a fairly good time by us, only being worried by occasional visits from our aircrafts. Three days marching brought us to Mohamidieh, to the north of Romani. We spent 3 weeks here. It was during our stay here that news came through that the enemy had been driven from RAFA by the mounted troops and camel Corps. Another 3 days march brought us to Elabo – not a village but just a spot on the desert, with a name. We rested 2 days here and then took another 6 days march to El Arish. A wire track had been laid cross the sand and this greatly assisted in overcoming the difficulties of rank marching with full pack etc.

El Arish is a native town of mud buildings. We were camped just outside and not allowed in the vicinity of the natives, owing to the fact, perhaps that fever and disease were rampant amongst them.

Pte Griffiths with 2 pals in 1917.



duty till Sept. 13th. when
 came back through Smeth's
 Moascar to El Furdan. East
 where we were in training
 and making reserve out post
 line trenches stronger.
 Nov. 15. cross the Suez Canal
 to El Furdan East. while
 we were at El Furdan we
 were in tents of course it
 was on the desert. Jan 1st 1917
 we left El Furdan to march
 to Romania to attack the Turks.
 on the 1st went marched to
 through Ballahits. Thantara
 where we slept in huts for
 two nights. Jan 6th. we went
 to Gilbran where we slept
 out in the open for the night
 we found it rather cold
 after the hot days. Jan 7th
 we got to Deherium which

we got too early in the day
 being Sunday we stayed there
 till the 8th. and then we marched
 on to Mo Hamadiis where we
 we stayed for a short time
 resting as we had tents to sleep
 in. also it was by the sea. which
 was a very good thing for us as
 we were able to get a bath every
 day while there. on the 21st
 we marched past Romania
 on to Rabia where we had the
 night out in the open. 22nd
 we carried on through a place
 called Hod Anders to Kerba
 Hod Anders was named after
 a big general that had died
 there. 23rd marched on to Dis-
 El-Abd. where again we had
 tents to sleep in for six days.
 and had a rest. 29th marched
 on to Falmana for the night.
 30th went on to Telul. 31st.

A selection of photographs of men of The Herefordshire Regiment in early 1917.





Across the Sinai. A halt
by the way.



Siniai. Spracklin. Tom Little.
George Lewis. Tom. Isherwood.



El Arish.

The following account of how the Battalion had spent Christmas was published in The Hereford Times:

1st HEREFORDS.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF HOW CHRISTMAS WAS SPENT.

The following interesting account of how Christmas was spent by the Herefordshire Regiment in Egypt was written by L.-Corpl. H. G. Hands (2176), of A Company, to a friend in Tredegar:—

“You will be pleased to know that we had an enjoyable Christmas. The officers took a great interest in our welfare. They instituted swimming competitions, football, and a competitive concert. The food also was good. For breakfast we had an extra half sausage; for dinner, roast beef and potatoes, Christmas puddings, etc., with lemonade and beer. For tea there was margarine, bread, and a little tinned fish. There was also an extra issue of cigarettes. One feature of interest was the log fire. For days before the event a load of logs had been carefully laid, and on the evening of Christmas Day it was lighted, and soon there was the nearest thing we could have to a ‘good old English log fire.’ Around this we had the concert which was a lively show. The officers moved freely about with the men, and the Colonel wished us ‘a safe return home before next Christmas.’ Tuesday we resumed duties in a half-hearted, though not unhappy, frame of mind.”

2nd Battalion - Lowestoft

The second battalion remained in Lowestoft as part of 205th Bde in 68 Div.

Reserve Battalion (formerly 3 Bn) – Oswestry

TIMES. SATURDAY, J

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

MORE DRAFTS LEAVE FOR SERVICE OVERSEAS.

[From our own Correspondent.]

Things have been very busy in camp this week, what with inspections and the sending out of drafts. For some time a number of men have been under orders, and the first intimation concerning a draft for the Gloucester Regiment came through on Friday afternoon. Arrangements had to be made hurriedly, for the men were to leave camp at 3 a.m. on the following morning. They had parades to attend for a final clearing up of accounts, and were given supper and breakfast in the Regimental Institute. Naturally things were somewhat lively all night, and the draft went away in the early hours of Saturday in fine spirit. They are hoping to join up with their comrades who went to the same regiment some time previously, and are looking forward to taking a hand in the fighting which will bring about the final overthrow of the German military machine.

On Wednesday another draft of non-commissioned officers and men left to join the 1st Bn. Herefordshire Regiment. For the most part it consisted of men who took part in the Gallipoli engagements, and have so far recovered from wounds and illness to be fit to man the trenches again. Naturally they were delighted to think that they were going back to their "old Battalion," as they call it, in which many of their comrades are still doing such splendid work. The others are "Third Liners" who have not yet seen active service. "But they are made of the right stuff, and we are glad they are coming with us," one of the 1st line men said. "We'll show 'em what the lads from Herefordshire can do." There is no doubt that the people who were downhearted were those who were left behind. The men of the draft went off splendidly, and were played to the station by the band, being followed by hearty cheers from their comrades.

On Thursday a draft of men was sent to the K.S.L.L. Again the notice was only a short one, but it did not take the men very long to complete arrangements. They left in as good spirits as did the men who went earlier in the week, for they too are hoping to go to the battalions to which the other Herefordshire drafts have been transferred.

ENTERTAINMENTS FOR THE MEN.

On Thursday in last week "The Cheshire Cats," a concert party from the Cheshire Regiment, gave a splendid programme in the Regimental Institute, which was highly appreciated by a crowded audience. On Thursday of this week a number of seats were booked by the battalion at the Garrison Theatre, where "Mr. Wu," a drama given by a full London company, was heartily enjoyed.

ANOTHER DRAFT PASS THROUGH HEREFORD.

On Wednesday afternoon another large draft of men, including a good number of the Herefordshire Regiment, passed through Barr's Court Station on their way to a port of embarkation in order to proceed on active service. The troop train remained at the station for a short interval, during which the men were regaled with refreshments by the members of the Y.M.C.A. Committee. The men, all of whom seemed to be in the highest spirits, greatly appreciated the kindness and hospitality shown them.

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

CORPL. BLANCH DOES WELL IN BOXING CONTEST.

[From our own Correspondent.]

Work is still going ahead with our battalion in spite of the changes that have been brought about by the number of men who have been sent overseas recently to strike their blow in the cause of freedom. Men come and go but the work goes on uninterrupted, and each branch of training is being dealt with efficiently by the staffs responsible for it.

Another draft has been selected and is ready to proceed overseas as soon as the call comes, and as other men finish their training they are placed on the "available for draft" list and may be sent for whenever they are required. So a constant stream of reinforcements is kept running, the men now coming up being passed through the various courses until they are ready for service.

On Saturday the Herefords played another league match and were beaten by the R.W.F. by 19-0. On first sight this score looks bad, but the Fusiliers have a fine team, and have frounceed other regiments quite as badly as they have ours. The Herefords did not have a ghost of a chance against them.

Great interest was taken in the boxing contest at Oswestry last week between Corpl. H. Blanch (1st Herefords) and Johnny Horan, of Preston. It was the chief item of an exceedingly good programme, and proved to be full of interest from start to finish. Horan is a boxer who has made a name for himself, and on the last occasion he gained the verdict against Blanch on points. Many of those who saw the contest were hardly satisfied with the result, and thought the game should have been a draw at the best. Blanch's supporters thought he would turn the tables last week, but they were fully aware that Horan, with his extensive experience, would take a lot of beating. The contest was one of 15 three-minute rounds, and Blanch led off in fine form, getting in some splendidly timed drives with his left. In the fifth round Horan began to pull himself together, and each bout was closely contested. Some really clever work was done by both men, and it soon became obvious that a knockout would be the only way of deciding the winner to the satisfaction of all. But there was very little chance of a knockout, so well did the contestants cover themselves, with the result that at the end of the 15th round the referee declared a draw.