

## THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

### Their First World War 'Story' – May 1917

#### The 'Bigger' Picture

- Liberia severs diplomatic relations with Germany
- Honduras severs diplomatic relations with Germany
- Nicaragua severs diplomatic relations with Germany
- Professor Lambros, Greek Premier, resigns and is succeeded by M Zaimis
- Anglo-French Conference assembles in London to discuss the deposition of King Constantine of Greece and the occupation of Athens and Thessaly
- Gen Foch succeeds Gen Petain as Chief of the French General Staff of French Ministry of War
- Gen Petain succeeds Gen Nivelle as Commander-in-Chief of French Northern and North-Eastern Groups of Armies
- Russian Provisional Government issue declaration repudiating a separate peace
- M Kerenski succeeds Gen Guchkov as Russian Minister for War. M Tereshchenko succeeds M Milyukov as Russian Foreign Minister
- Serbian Government transferred from Corfu to Salonika
- Count Tisza, Hungarian Premier, resigns
- Vossuq ed Douleh, Persian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, resigns
- Compulsory Service Act becomes law in the United States of America.
- Maj Gen J Pershing appointed to command United States Expeditionary Force
- United States Government announce decision to send a Division of the United States Army to France *at once*.

#### The Home Front

- First night air raid on London. Single aeroplane by moonlight
- First great aeroplane raid on England (Kent and Folkestone) to cause heavy casualties. Total 290, over half civilians
- The British Admiralty, following on a Cabinet decision, appoint a Committee, in conjunction with the Ministry of Shipping, to draw up a plan to convoy merchant ships

#### The Western Front

- Third Battle of the Scarpe (Arras).
- Battle of Bullecourt (Arras).
- Craonne (Aisne) retaken by French forces

#### Other Fronts

##### BALKAN FRONT

- Tenth Battle of the Isonzo

## EAST AFRICA

- Gen van Deventer succeeds Gen Hoskins in command of British Forces in East Africa

## In The Air

- German airship L-22 destroyed in North Sea by British warships.

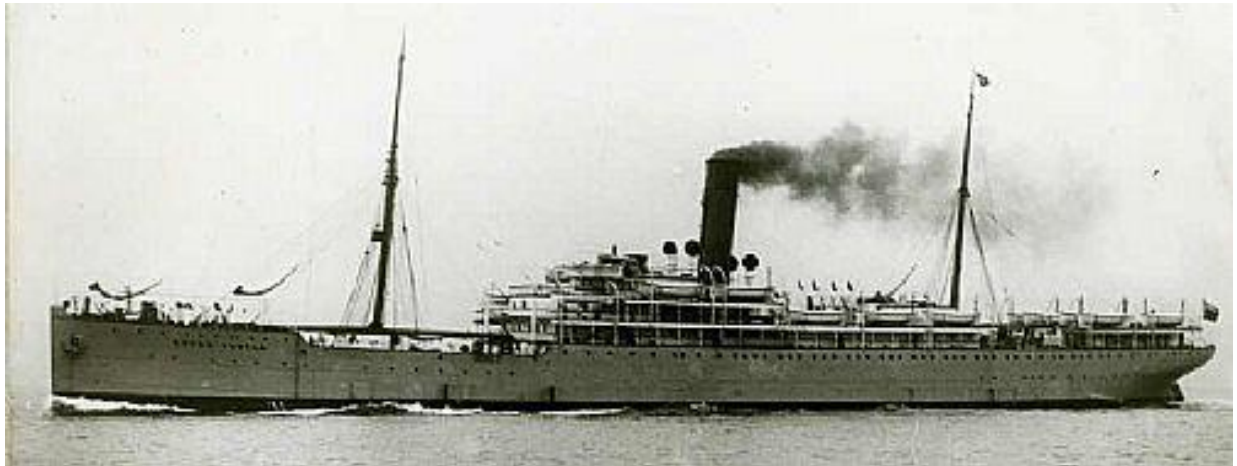
## At Sea

- First United States destroyer flotilla arrives at Queenstown
- Action between Austrian and British naval light forces in the Straits of Otranto: 14 British drifters sunk

## Mine & U Boat Warfare

- British hospital ship Dover Castle torpedoed by the German U-boat UC-67, while 50 miles north of Bône on passage from Malta to Gibraltar. The initial explosion killed seven boiler stokers, but the crew was able to evacuate the wounded onto HMS Cameleon. The captain and a small crew tried to save the ship, but she was hit by a second torpedo an hour later and sank in three minutes.

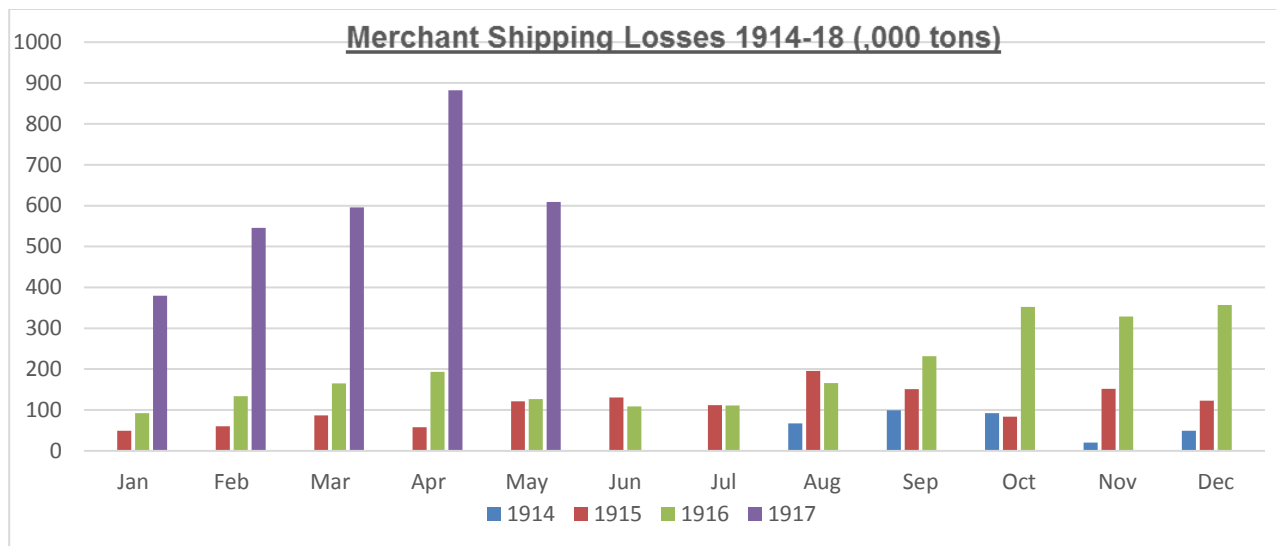
The Dover Castle (pre-war)



- SS Transylvania, troopship, sunk in Mediterranean – see later account.

## MERCHANT SHIPPING

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month – 374 ships of 609,000 tons gross; the second highest monthly amount of the war to date.



### **The 'Herefords'**

#### **Casualties (other than 1<sup>st</sup> Bn)**

NAME	INIT	RANK	No1	No2	DATE	HOW	WHERE	HOMETOWN	Notes (Serving with)
LEWIS	EDWARD	PTE		238931	08/05/17	DIED	HOME	HEREFORD	
WEAVER	MF	PTE	8497		31/05/17	DIED	HOME		
DAVIES	DAVID	PTE	4572		21/05/17	DOW	F&F	BUILTH W	BORDER 11
PERKINS	ALBERT GEORGE	PTE	4257		28/05/17	DOW	F&F	ROSS	BORDER 11
PRINCE	JAMES WILLIAM	PTE	2841		05/05/17	KIA	F&F	LEOMINSTER	GLOS 12
WEAVER	FREDERICK CONCERT	PTE	3180	236074	03/05/17	KIA	F&F	TILLINGTON	KSLI 5
WOOD	JAMES	PTE	5377	238455	08/05/17	KIA	F&F	SALFORD	GLOS 12
GIRLING	SYDNEY GORDON	PTE	2015	235554	04/05/17	At Sea	Italy	SWAINSHILL	
GRIFFITHS	WILLIAM	PTE	1129		04/05/17	At Sea	Italy	BROMYARD	WELSH
HILL	THOMAS	PTE		236823	04/05/17	At Sea	Italy	ST PETERS	
JAY	HENRY SAMUEL	PTE	1545	235310	04/05/17	At Sea	Italy	Leominster/ Mordiford	

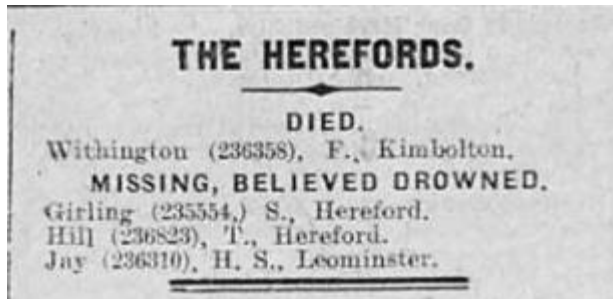


**Pte. JAMES PRINCE,**  
Gloucestershire Regt., killed  
in action in France, on May  
5th, 1917. Son of Mr. Harry  
Prince, Lucton Lane, Kings-  
land.

## HEREFORDSHIRE TERRITORIAL'S SUICIDE.

### Funeral at Hereford.

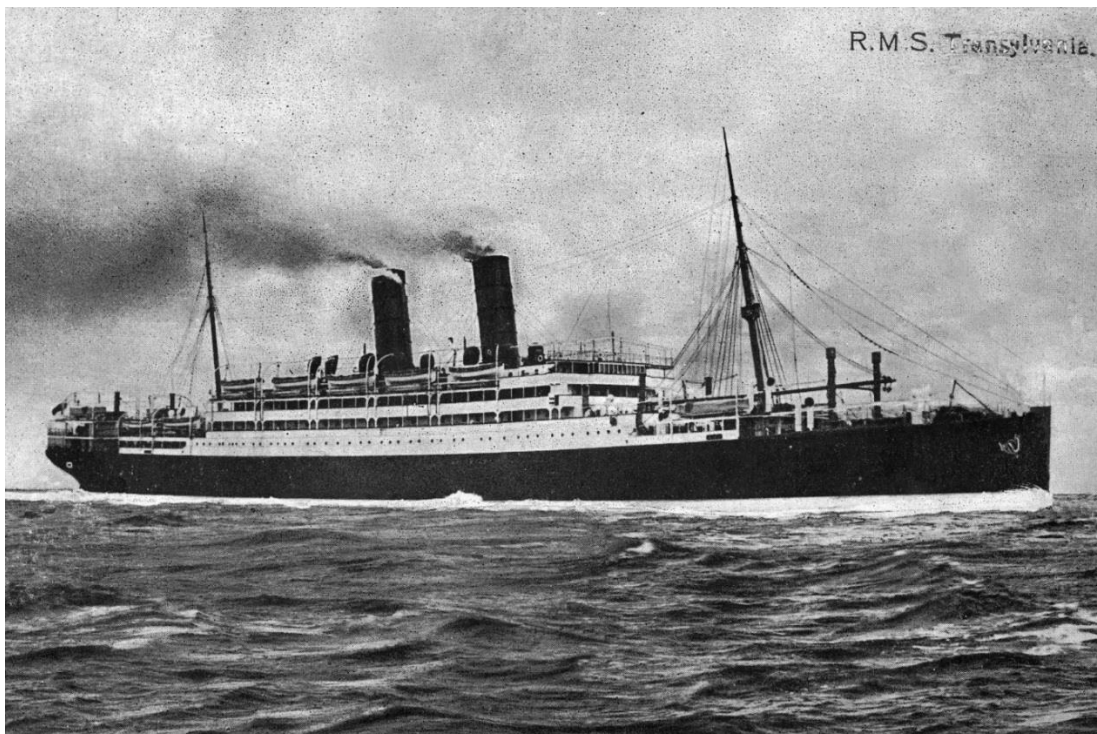
On Friday afternoon at the Cemetery, Hereford, the funeral took place of Private Edward Lewis, of the Herefordshire Regiment, a Hereford man, who was found dead at Oswestry Camp on Tuesday. Private Lewis, who had been in the army only a few months, having been called up since Christmas, was formerly employed by Messrs. Herrons, and had a wife and five children, and he lived at 60, Widemarsh Street. Seven weeks ago one of his little children died, and this seems to have preyed on his mind, for on Tuesday, as stated, it was found that he had cut his throat, and at the inquest on Wednesday a verdict of "committed suicide whilst temporary insane" was returned. He was the son of Mr. G. Lewis, who for a long time has been in the employ of Messrs. Beavan and Hodges. The body was removed to Hereford. At the funeral there was a bearing party from the Hereford Barracks, and two comrades from the Herefordshire Regiment at Oswestry, Bugler Taylor, of St. Martin's Street, and Bugler R. Goode, of Tupsley, attended the funeral as a mark of his comrades' respect and sounded the "Last Post." Much sympathy is felt for the widow and children.



The SS *Transylvania* was taken over for service as a troopship with a capacity of 200 officers and 2,860 men, besides crew, when she was commissioned in May 1915. On May 3 1917, the *Transylvania* sailed from Marseille to Alexandria with a full complement of troops, escorted by the Japanese destroyers *Matsu* and *Sakaki*. At 10 am on May 4 the *Transylvania* was struck in the port engine room by a torpedo fired by the German U-boat *U-63* under the command of Otto Schultze. At the time the ship was about 2.5 miles south of Cape Vado near Savona, in the Gulf of Genoa. The *Matsu* came alongside the *Transylvania* and began to take on board troops while the *Sakaki* circled to force the submarine to remain submerged.

Twenty minutes later a second torpedo was seen coming straight for the *Matsu*, which saved herself by going astern at full speed. The torpedo hit the *Transylvania* instead, which sank immediately. Ten crew members, 29 army officers and 373 soldiers lost their lives.

Many bodies of victims were recovered at Savona and buried two days later, in a special plot in the town cemetery. Others are buried elsewhere in Italy, France, Monaco and Spain. Savona Town Cemetery contains 85 Commonwealth burials from the First World War, all but two of them casualties from the *Transylvania*. Within the cemetery is the Savona Memorial which commemorates a further 275 casualties who died when the *Transylvania* sank, but whose graves are unknown.



## BELIEVED DROWNED ON TORPEDOED TROOPSHIP.

### Hereford Man Missing.

We regret to state that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hill, of the Kerry Arms Hotel, Commercial Square, have received official notification from the War Office that their youngest son, Pte. Thomas Hill, of the Herefordshire Regiment, has been posted as "Missing and believed drowned, on the 4th instant."

Private Hill, who was 32 and single and was engaged in the business of the hotel with his father, joined in March last year, and left Oswestry for France in April of this year. His last letter home took eight days to come from France, and was received on the very day the boat went down. He was in Hereford shortly before leaving England.

Private T. Hills' elder brother, William, who after having lived in Canada for eleven years, joined the Canadian Mounted Rifles, was, it will be remembered, killed in action in France in March.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Hill in their severe and double bereavement.

Driver Herbert James Brain, son of Mr. A. B. Brain, corn merchant, of Eign Street, Hereford, who is in the Motor Transport, A.S.C., was on board the transport which was sunk, and in a letter recently received in Hereford, he relates how for many hours after the tragedy, he was floating in the sea and holding on to wreckage with a pal; tossed twelve feet high by the waves. He thought each moment would be his last, but was rescued by a destroyer. In a letter he wrote: "Just fancy, Hill, of the Kerry Arms, walked up and spoke to me just before the boat was struck. Poor fellow, he was very unlucky." That letter was received in Hereford some days ago.

### HEREFORD MOTORIST ON TORPEDOED LINER.

Besides Pte. Tom Hill, Herefordshire Regiment, a native of Hereford, who is officially reported missing, believed drowned, as stated in last week's *Hereford Times*, there was on board the troopship *Transylvania*, when it was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on the 4th May, another Hereford man, Driver Herbert James Brain, of the A.S.C. Motor Transport, son of Mr. A. D. Brain, a well-known corn merchant. In a letter home conveying the good news of his safety, Driver Brain, who, like his brothers, is a keen motor cyclist, states that for hours after the vessel took its final plunge he and a comrade were tossed about in a heavy sea, sometimes floating and at other times grasping wreckage. The waves rolled about 12 feet high, and Mr. Brain thought every moment would be his last, but he was happily rescued by a destroyer. "Just fancy," he says, "Hill, of the Kerry Arms, walked up and spoke to me just before the boat was struck. Poor fellow, he was very unlucky." The *Transylvania* was an Anchor

### DEATH AT "ATTENTION."

The *Transylvania*, a fine Anchor liner of 11,500 tons, was launched in 1914. Her turbines were of the latest pattern and her speed was 15½ knots. She had on board about 4,000 troops and also hospital nurses.

At ten o'clock in the morning she was struck by a torpedo. At first it was believed that it might be possible to beach the vessel, the nearest land being 20 miles distant. Before this could be done another torpedo struck the liner in a vital part and she began to sink.

"Keep cool!" was the captain's advice. The precaution was scarcely necessary for all behaved with the utmost coolness and gallantry.

The boats were quickly swung out. "Women first!" was the order. When all the nurses had been rowed to a safe distance the men took their places.

Owing to the lumpy sea and the dangerous position of the steamer a party of about 150 soldiers could not be rescued. When the vessel went from under them they stood to attention, said one of the crew to an interviewer. Survivors who have reached Glasgow are unable to say definitely what regiments suffered most.

There was an interval of 20 minutes between the two attacks. After the first torpedo the *Transylvania* began to go down by the stern, but the second shot re-established an even keel. Then her bows dipped and she gradually heeled over.

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The London Gazette

Honours & Awards      None published in London Gazette

Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)

Publication Date			Detail	Effective Date
02/05/1917	Pettigrew	GTR	seconded to RFC	12/04/17
02/05/1917	Price	CSM Thomas S	to be second lieutenant	13/03/17
04/05/1917	Burlton	RF	seconded Labour Corps	20/02/17
04/05/1917	Carver	FT	reverts to captain	01/05/17
04/05/1917	Edwards	CR	to be lieutenant	13/03/17
04/05/1917	Llewellyn	EAR	reverts to second lieutenant	13/03/17
04/05/1917	Lloyd	GP	to be lieutenant	13/03/17
04/05/1917	mith	MV	seconded Labour Corps	20/02/17
04/05/1917	Rickets	FT	resigns commission	05/05/17
04/05/1917	Smith	MV	reverts to lieutenant	20/02/17
04/05/1917	Spall	LA	to be lieutenant seconded Mons Regt	24/03/17
04/05/1917	White	SG	to be lieutenant	13/03/17
05/05/1917	Capel	EA	appointed brigade major	23/03/17
07/05/1917	Gardiner	LH	to RWK	22/04/17
14/05/1917	Ashton	P	to be captain and adjutant	14/05/17
14/05/1917	Baily	REH	to be captain (seconded)	14/05/17
14/05/1917	Barker	FG	to be captain	26/03/17
14/05/1917	Carver	WL	to be captain	14/05/17
14/05/1917	Sale	RC	to be captain	28/06/16
14/05/1917	Smith	MV	to be captain	09/01/17
14/05/1917	Whitehouse	AGR	to be captain (seconded)	09/01/17
15/05/1917	Berkeley	WE	to be lieutenant <i>Volunteer Bn</i>	30/04/17
15/05/1917	Lewis	R	to be quartermaster honorary lieutenant	11/05/17
15/05/1917	Morton	GM	to be lieutenant <i>Volunteer Bn</i>	30/04/17
15/05/1917	Smith	Dudley M	to be major <i>Herefordshire Motor Volunteer Corps</i>	20/04/17
24/05/1917	Berney	GN	to be captain	11/04/17
24/05/1917	Meehan	CF	reverts to lieutenant	04/05/17
24/05/1917	Meehan	CF	seconded Indian Army	04/05/17
24/05/1917	Russell	ES	to be captain	10/04/17
29/05/1917	Challis	FG	to be adjutant	15/03/17
29/05/1917	Chipp	WF	to be adjutant	28/03/17
30/05/1917	Smith	MV	seconded Labour Corps Liverpool Regt	17/02/17

HEREFORD

Depot functions continue, including the administration of sick and wounded soldiers and those awaiting disciplinary procedures - including:

Enlisted:

NAME	INIT	RANK	No	HOMETOWN	Notes
TOONEY	WS	PTE	238686		

Some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	NO2	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
BAXENDALE	P	PTE		237234	xvi		
CARTER	HARRY	PTE	1272		unfit	Bromyard	Serving with ASC
COOKE	EDWIN JOHN	CSGT	22	235003	Overage	HEREFORD	Aged 50. Served Suvla Bay
CRYER	JOHN	PTE		238283	TO TF RES		
HALL	CHARLES	PTE	6354	237835	xvi		Served overseas
PREECE	JH	LCPL		236394	xvi		
STEPHENS	JAMES ARTHUR	PTE	3773	236403	xvi		Served overseas

xvi - unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc - unlikely to become an efficient soldier

timex - Territorial soldier whose time of commitment has expired.

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Herefordshire Regt.

Regimental No. 217005 Rank C. 2.M.S. Name Cooke, E.

Enlisted (a) 4/4/08 Terms of Service (a) 4 years Service reckons from (a) 1. 4. 08

Date of promotion to 30. 1. 15 Date of appointment to lance rank \_\_\_\_\_ Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.s \_\_\_\_\_

Extended \_\_\_\_\_ Re-engaged \_\_\_\_\_ Qualification (b) \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Report From whom received	Reason of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 103, Army Form A, 58, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 103, Army Form A. 58, or other official documents.
26/7/15	G.O.C. 1/1st Bn	Embarked TSS Euripides	Devonport	16/7/15	Menial roll
2. 12. 15	G.O.C. 1/1st Bn	Admitted class of Ammunition	Leam	2. 12. 15	2176.
10/12/15	Hosptl	Transferred to Convalescent Home	Boulao	10/12/15	A36
1/1/16	Base	Taken on Strength	Alexandria	31/12/15	B213.
13. 2. 16	Unit	Rejoined	London	12. 2. 16	6103.
26. 4. 16	Unit	In Abs. for leave U.K. (5 weeks)	St. Jordan	26. 4. 16	Aus. 340
27. 4. 16	Ship	Embarked T.S. Euripides	Alexandria	27. 4. 16	P. 16824. 210
28. 12. 16	G.O.C. 1/1st Bn	Granted 14 days sick leave, for delay en route	St. Eshelton	28. 12. 16	In. 76/7570/A. 210
28. 12. 16	Unit	Admitted to Army Bd. for Ammunition	Field	28. 12. 16	P. 213
9. 2. 17	Hosptl	Rejoined	London	9. 2. 17	01834.
17. 2. 17	Unit	Rejoined	Field	17. 2. 17	0213.

In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered. (P.T.O.)



Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 212, Army Form A. 21, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 212, Army Form A. 21, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
10 2 17	Unit	Granted 6 <sup>3</sup> Co. Detachment	T. 212	1 3 16	B. 212
		Number from 1 3 16 to 25 11 16		25 11 16	
10 3 17	Unit	In Memorandum for Discharge per Age and 2121 Enfield A. 21/12357/A1.	2	7 3 17	B. 212
9 4 17	Unit	Submitted for AX CVX3 Number for Discharge	Remission	9 4 17	A. 21/12357
11 5 17	Unit	Submitted for Discharge per 102-741237-11.3.17/A1, 3 7	Remission		B. 212
6 7 17	1 B	Submitted in duplicate by per 102-741237-11.3.17/A1, 3 7		11 3 17	11 3 17

OFFICER 1/0 INFANTRY RECORDS  
 NO 2 SECTION  
 3<sup>RD</sup> ECHELON E. E. F.

T. of C. Para 392 (X XI) T. R.  
 3. 5. 17

7761/25945

The entries on this page only require to be made from time to time as they occur.  
 STATEMENT of the SERVICES of No. 1272 Name Navy Carter  
 Showing preliminary training, other special courses of training, Annual Training,† and when mobilized, etc.

Corps	Unit	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Rank	From	To	Signature of Officers certifying correctness of Entries
	Service towards engagement reckons from					
	13 <sup>th</sup> January	1913	Pvt	13. 1. 13		In Rec
	Hereford	13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Training	Pvt	3. 8. 13	14. 8. 13	In Rec Sale 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt
		Embodied		5. 8. 13		Sa 16 <sup>th</sup> Hunt Cap
		Posted		14. 11. 13		Sa 16 <sup>th</sup> Hunt Cap
Provisional	Bakewell	Transferred		19. 6. 13		In 16 <sup>th</sup> Hunt Cap
A.S.C.		Transferred				
		Auth: 1st Lt. C. C. Clegg		27. 12. 16		Manufact Cap
		976 (S.) 12. 12. 16				
A.S.C.		Transferred		29. 12. 16		
		Auth: Lt. J. J. J.				
A.S.C.	A.S.M.	Transferred to 69 <sup>th</sup> Training Res Batt				Carter Capt
		Auth: W.O. 21/1/17				
		former rates of pay				
		Discharged no longer physically fit for War Service				
		Wah service para 292 (XIV) R.R.		18-5-17		Carter Capt

CERTIFICATE

TF 1 1/2  
 Umb 2 1/2 = 4 1/2  
 Net TF 1 1/2  
 2 1/2

Total service towards engagement in the Territorial Force to 18-5-17 (date of discharge) 4 years 120 days.

CHARACTER

Discharged in consequence of being no longer physically fit for War Service

The discharge of the above-named man is hereby approved.

Station Preston

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date 3-5-17 1917

† In the case of Annual Training it will be sufficient to state if "Present," or "Absent" and the year.

The people of Herefordshire were very supportive of the troops and regularly collected and sent 'comfort' (books, writing materials, clothing (socks, gloves, jerseys), soap, tobacco and food) items to them. The Battalion had been plagued with flies and fleas and anti vermin treatments had been supplied.

**Hereford Territorial Forces' Comforts**

To the Editor of the "Hereford Journal."

Sir.—The Executive Committee of the above Fund, considering that it may now be possible to dispense with a paid secretary, whose services hitherto have been indispensable, I have agreed to act as honorary secretary, and therefore communications should in future be addressed to me at Byletts.

Your readers will be interested to know that in accordance with Colonel Drage's requests we have during the last two months, amongst other things, sent out 800 anti-vermin sachets and 1,000 fly veils.

Our monthly expenditure in respect of the 1st Herefords alone is £60.

For the present we do not require any more articles of clothing as Units can indent on Sir Edward Ward's Central Depot, to which working parties may send socks, etc.—Yours faithfully,

ELLIOTT WOOD,  
Chairman.

Byletts, Pembridge.

**URGENT.**

From Herefordshire Territorial Forces Comforts Fund.  
**DRILL HALL, HEREFORD.**

*Contents*

**The Officer Commanding  
1/1st Herefordshire Regiment,  
158th Brigade,  
53rd Welsh Division,  
MEDITERRANEAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.**

**C/o. The Military Forwarding Officer,  
H.M. Keyham Dockyard, DEVONPORT.**

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

The Volunteer Battalion remained busy:

**1st BATT. HEREFORDSHIRE  
VOLUNTEER REGIMENT.**

**"A" COMPANY.**

May 5th, Saturday.—2.30—5 p.m., Holmer range, class firing and practice.

May 6th, Sunday.—2.30—4.30 p.m., Weobley Detachment, Drill Hall, Weobley, drill and shooting practice; 2.30—4.30 p.m., No. 5 Platoon, Birch School, drill; 3—5 p.m., No. 6 Platoon, Dormington, drill and musketry.

May 7th, Monday.—7.15 p.m., ambulance class; 7.30 p.m., Drill Hall, class by Staff-Sergt.-Inst. Austin for officers and N.C.O.'s; 7.30 p.m., No. 6 Platoon, Mordiford School, drill and rifle exercises; 7.30 p.m., Weobley Detachment, Drill Hall, Weobley, drill and shooting practice.

May 8th, Tuesday.—7.30 p.m., Drill Hall, class by Staff-Sergt.-Inst. Austin for officers and N.C.O.'s; 8 p.m., No. 5 Platoon, Birch School, drill and musketry.

May 10th.—Thursday, 2.30—5.30 p.m., Holmer range, class firing and practice; 7 p.m., Drill Hall, Nos. 1 and 2 Platoons will parade for open order drill and rifle exercises, recruits will attend; 7.30 p.m., Weobley Detachment, Drill Hall, Weobley, drill and shooting practice; 8—9 p.m., No. 5 Platoon, Birch School, drill; 7—9 p.m., No. 6 Platoon, Withington, shooting practice.

May 12th, Saturday.—2.30—5 p.m., Holmer range, class firing and practice.

(Signed) G. A. C. THYNNE,  
Comdg A Co., 1st Batt., H.V.R.  
Headquarters, Hereford.

**1st BATTALION HEREFORDSHIRE  
VOLUNTEER REGIMENT.**

**"A" Company.**

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 19th.

Sunday.—2.30 p.m., Company parade, Drill Hall. 2.30-4.30 p.m., Weobley Detachment, Drill Hall, Weobley. Drill and shooting practice.

Monday.—7.15 p.m., Ambulance Class. 7.30-9 p.m., Holmer Range. Class firing and practice. For duty: Platoon-Sergt. J. C. F. Stephens. 7.30 p.m., Weobley Detachment, Drill Hall, Weobley, drill. 7.30 p.m., No. 6 Platoon, Mordiford School. Drill and musketry.

Tuesday.—8 p.m., No. 5 Platoon, Birch School, drill.

Thursday.—6.30 p.m., Drill Hall Nos. 1 and 2 Platoons will parade for route march. Recruits will attend. 8-9 p.m., No. 5 Platoon, Birch School. Drill and musketry. 7-9 p.m., No. 6 Platoon, Withington. Shooting practice.

Saturday.—2.30-5 p.m., Holmer Range. Class firing.

There will be an extra Platoon Drill every Monday night, commencing May 14th, at 7.30, Drill Hall.

(Signed) G. A. C. THYNNE, Capt.,  
Commanding "A" Coy., H.V.R.  
Headquarters, Hereford.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

### Casualties

NAME	INIT	RANK	No 1	No 2	DATE	HOW	PLACE	HOMETOWN
WITHINGTON	FREDERICK	PTE	3703	236358	07/05/17	DOW	EGYPT	KIMBOLTON
CROSSLEY	ALAN HASTINGS	LT			10/05/17	DOW	EGYPT	HEREFORD
AMOS	JAMES	PTE	4218	236708	12/05/17	DOW	EGYPT	M COWARNE
TIPPINS	FREDERICK	PTE	1908	235503	12/05/17	KIA	MEF	SUTTON

After the high casualty lists of recent months, the relief of the relatively low casualty list was reported in the local paper. Pte Evans had died as a POW in Turkish hands in December 1916 – it had taken 4 months for official notification.

**WEEK'S LIGHT CASUALTY LIST.**

The number of new casualties reported this week in the 1st Herefords is the lightest for nearly two months, a fact which will afford relief throughout the city and county.

The official lists confirm the news already published in the *Hereford Times* that Sec. Lieut. A. H. Crossley, of Old Letton Court, and Pte. W. Morgan (236730), of Leominster, have died of wounds.

New losses authentically notified since Friday in last week are as follow:

**DIED AS PRISONER OF WAR.**  
P te. L. C. Evans, 45, Nursery Road, Ross.

**WOUNDED.**  
Pte. W. E. Webb (3275), Cwmdaiddwr, Rhayader (severely).  
Pte. W. J. Gossett, 30, Ryelands Road, Leominster.

*Duplicate*

# FIELD SERVICE.

G. 3. (A. L.)

REPORT of Death of an Officer to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213, or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

TF

Unit 1/1st HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

Rank 2/Lieutenant.

Name CROSSLEY A. H.

By whom reported O.C. Nasrieh Schools Hospital Cairo. Egypt.

Date of death 10/5/17.

Died

Place or Hospital Nasrieh Schools Hospital Cairo. Egypt

Cause of Death Died of Wounds received in Action.

Place of Burial Cairo Cemetery No. 239 F.

State whether he leaves a will or not Not known.

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased Officer of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

Signature of Officer in charge of Section } *H. M. D. W. K.*  
Adjutant-General's Office at the Base. } Lieut.

1/c No 2 Records Section.  
3rd Echelon G.H.Q.E.E.F.

Station and date Alexandria 16/6/17.

Copy sent to W.O. 10/7/17.

\* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation, or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

#### STAUNTON-ON-WYE MAN KILLED.

Private Frederick Tippins, of the Herefordshire Regiment, who was killed on May 12th, in Syria, was the son of Mrs. Amos, of Staunton-on-Wye. His father, the late Mr. Jonathan Tippins, was an old soldier, and served for many years in India. Previous to joining up, Private Tippins was in the employ of Mr. Edwards, of Byton. He served through the Dardanelles campaign. His brother, Private W. Tippins, R.E., has been in France for three Christmas Days, and a younger brother has now been called up.

#### KIMBOLTON MAN DEAD.

It is recorded in the "Leominster Deanery Magazine" with deep sorrow that Private Frederick Withington, Herefordshire Regiment, has died on active service. He was so wonderfully "straight," and was not afraid to do the thing that was right. He was a most loyal and devoted member of the Kimbolton choir. When his country called for volunteers he responded readily, even though his health had never been very good. "May he rest in peace." We sympathise most sincerely with Mrs. Withington and her family in the double sorrow that has come to them, for Tom is reported "wounded and missing" since the Battle of Gaza on March 26th. Like his brother Fred, he too was a faithful and earnest chorister.

From the 5 Div History:

53 Div then proceeded to make the new line across the sand dunes secure, second line works were made, and a careful siting of machine guns, Stokes trench mortars and artillery. There were rumours of a great Turkish counter stroke, but it did not materialise. The enemy, whose losses had been comparatively slight, were brought up to strength, and reinforced by additional troops – but the Turkish command was content to defend.

Both sides settled down to trench warfare. The right of the British line was away at Shellal, thence to Sharta, and the Sheik Abbas Ridge. There was a wild stretch of country dividing this section of the line, and the Turkish line Hureira-Beersheba. But from the Sheik Abbas Ridge to Sheik Ajlin, a distance of some 14,000 yards, the 2 forces were in close contact.

Sir A Murray made arrangements for the construction of a new branch railway from Rafa to Shellal.

In order to establish a regular system of reliefs, the line was divided in to 2 sections, and on 8 May 53 Div moved into the back area, 52 Div taking their place in the line. It was during this relief, that the Turks, who at this period held the supremacy in the air, having the better machines, carried on a great deal of bombing in the back areas. The West Kents were on the march, during one of these attacks and a bomb fell in the middle of a company killing 31 and injuring 38. It happened in the middle of a moonlit night. The scene can be imagined.

The rest area behind the Mansura Line, was very dusty, the light soil being churned up by traffic, and was infested by flies and fleas – mostly flies! Rest meant innumerable fatigue parties, and a certain amount of training, also reorganisation on the new platoon system, with Rifle, Lewis Gun, Bomb and Rifle Grenade sections. The Div was not long in this uncomfortable area; they moved to el Israain on the 18 and 19. The march eastwards – into the dusty and arid plains that lie between Gaza and Beersheba, wide expanses of undulating, almost treeless country, broken by little, deep dry wadis – and was hot and dusty.

Gen Chetwode assumed command of the Eastern Force; Gen Chauvel of the Desert Column and Gen Chaytor of the ANZAC Mounted Div.

On 23 & 24 May an ANZAC brigade carried out a successful raid on the Beersheba-Auja railway, with the object of destroying material which the Turks might be using in the construction of the Branch Line they were building between El Tine and Mejdal.

On 26, 53 Div took over the Right Sector of the British Line.

The Line, which followed the south eastern bend of the Wadi Ghuzee, consisted of a series of redoubts on the right bank, covering the water and crossings at Gamli, el Fara, el Shellal and Hiseia. It was the Desert Column's Sector, and by day mounted troops made wide sweeps into the rolling country towards the distant Turkish lines; at night, they had standing patrols at important points. These mounted patrols sometimes got in touch with enemy parties, but the infantry were so little troubled that they were able to supervise gangs of natives who were allowed to harvest their crops beyond the line of redoubts. The line was considered rather pleasant, sited on the far lip of the broken ground beyond the wadi with Bn HQs and reserve companies back in the crevices and crannies of the wadi itself. It was over 7 miles from end to end and brigadiers did their rounds in Ford cars – 'a marvellous car which consisted of the chassis, a box for the driver to sit on, and a flat tray behind. It used to grind though the foot thick dust at 4 miles an hour, and boiling so fiercely as to be in danger of spontaneous combustion. Still it was better than miles of riding in that heat.'

In the wadi there were a number of long pools of water and the whole line of the Wadi Ghuzee became a busy thoroughfare which, as Engineers constructed pumping stations and wells, railways and pipelines assumed an air of permanency – the camps may have been a series of villages.

In spite of the extreme heat, training was carried out persistently by the brigades in reserve. Gen Mott was *very addicted* to night ops. The usual procedure is – 'a wire, about 1800hrs to stand by to move at a moments notice, followed by another to march out and take up a certain position and dig in after dark. We get back to camp in the middle of the night.'

The long period of uninterrupted routine was not contemplated with equal satisfaction by all the officers and troops of the Div. 'The long spell without leave, the bitterness of 2 defeats, heat, flies, scorpions, all played havoc with liver and temper. The fleas from nearby native villages added a somewhat unlooked for burden to the discomfort. To such straits were we reduced that among the so called amusements was the indulgence in anthems and hymns based on famous advertisements. In the evenings we might be heard proclaiming in harmony that 'Hudson's soap is best' etc. Occasionally, we were pleasantly stirred by a thrilling air fight. Then came leave. Cairo: clean linen, lashings of beer, motors, clubs, books, new clothes, Shepheard's Grill – how good they seemed after that 7 months away from civilisation'.

This activity is reflected in the Battalion War Diary.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Detail</i>
1 May	Battalion still in reserve bivouac; companies washed clothes. Night disposition as previous.
2 May	Company parades A&B working on Caernarvon Redoubt 0700 – 1100; one man wounded by a stray shot. Night as usual. 130 men on fatigues for pumping and guards. Midnight relieved by 2/4 West Surrey Regt and moved to their bivouac. Capt Trumper wounded in No. 3 reserve position at dawn.
3 May	Companies working on Nos 2,3 & 5 reserve positions. 2Lt CB Levason and 4 other ranks rejoined from hospital.

4 May	Bn to post in a gas demonstration under EFHQ supervision, underwent gas and smoke tests with helmets on. During night enemy aircraft found our bivouac area and fired a number of rounds – no damage.
5 May	2Lt Haynes and Levason sent back to hospital unfit.
6 May	Lt Burdass to Bde as Liaison Officer
7 May	Bn moved 1930 to R33 (Dorset House) arriving 2300hrs.
8 May	Construction of dugouts in Wadi, Draft of 3 Officers and 13 ORs arrived – Capts Barker and Whitehouse and Lt Evelyn and 13 ORs from hospital.
9 May	Capt Watts gazetted as 2Lt. Capt Barker took over 2iC; Capt Whitehouse to B Coy, Lt Evelyn to C Coy.
10 May	Lt Pilkington rejoined with Dump Guard; dump removed from St James Park.
11 May	Bn proceeded to railhead at Belah to fumigate blankets and clothes.
12 May	A & C Coys proceeded to work on No 7 Reserve – Mansura Ridge.
13 May	A& C Coys again worked on No 7; Turkish deserter surrendered and reported that an attack was to be expected; all ranks slept fully equipped.
14 May	B & D Coys worked on Reserve positions 0700 – 1100. One officer and 6 ORs attended anti-gas course at Bde HQ, Four attended course on water duties. 2Lt Horth and 11 ORs went to Div Trench Mortar School.
15 May	Heavy thunderstorm; A & B Coys worked on crossing 19 1400 – 1800.
16 May	No working parties. Capt Whitehouse detailed to attend FGCM (Field General Court Martial) at 1/6 RWF.
17 May	2Lt Berney appointed Bde Grenade Officer; 2Lt Williams appointed Dge Lewis Gun Officer.
18 May	200 Men worked on Nos 2,3 & 5 Defences
19 May	200 Men worked on No 7 Defences. Four ORs rejoined from hospital. 2Lt Collins rejoined from ELC (Egyptian Labour Corps).
20 May	Training of 80 new bombers and Lewis Gunners. Church Parade 0800.
21 May	200 men working on defences 1430 – 1630. Inspection of arms by Coy Armourers.
22 May	A & B Coys working on defences
23 May	C & D Coys working on defences. The following honours and decorations in GRO No. 26 dated 17 May 17: DSO – Maj A L B Green MC - Capt F G Barker MC – ACapt E S Russell DCM – CSM C Vaughan DCM – LCpl James MM – Sgt SH Farmer MM – LCpl Wheeler MM – Pte C Brain. These awards would not be published in the London Gazette until July and August
24 May	A & B Coys working on defences. CO proceeded to El Shellah to inspect new line of posts to be taken over by Bn.
25 May	All Coys worked on defences
26 May	Bn moved out of bivouac to new area, guided on five compass bearings and pacings to Tel Jemmi, thence guided by Capt Jeffson, Bde Int Offr to El Shellah – arrived 0600hrs.
27 May	C & D Coys took over pots 10 – 17 inclusive from 10th Buffs and Sussex. A & B Coys in support (K27)
28 May	Reorganisation of defence posts; Lt Col Drage proceeded on 7 days leave; Capt Barker assumed command of Bn.
29 May	Improving defences; field cookers arrived.
30 May	Continued work on defences; A Coy washed near Wadi Guzze.



31 May	Work continued on defences and communications.
	<p>Complimentary – East Force Commander.</p> <p>During the past fortnight as a rule it has been necessary to call on all ranks for hard and continuous work to effectively and safely consolidate the positions which we occupy. The GOC wishes to thank all ranks for the unsparing way in which they have responded to the call. He is confident that no effort will be spared until the position is strong enough to enable him to hold it with the minimum of force, thereby making it possible to institute regular reliefs and periods of rest for formations and at the same time to establish an impregnable pivot for future offensive operations.</p> <p>HQEF 6/5/1917</p>
	<p>Divisional Letter – 9 May 1917</p> <p>The GOC 53 Div wishes to thank all officers and soldiers of 53 Div for the strenuous hard work they have performed in sand dunes, both during operations on 16 and 19 and since that period. The bulk of the work has been carried out by the infantry, but all will agree that a large share of the credit is due to the Royal Engineers who have worked unceasingly in close union with the infantry whilst the Artillery have supported the line by night and day during consolidation. The result is evidenced by the fact that on a front of 5,000 yards, a good front line, well wired has been handed over to 52 Div. In addition a second line has been constructed, already in a defensible state. What has been most pleasing is the unity with which the various arms and units have worked, each with the other for the good and whole. Officers and men are asked to retain and cultivate this spirit which is a large asset to any fighting formation.</p>

*Appendix to War Diary.*  
*May. 1917.*  
*1/1 Herefordshire Regt.*

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*Appendix I Effective & Ration Strength*

	STRENGTH			
	EFFECTIVE		RATION	
	O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.
5/5/17.	22	791	20	667
12/5/17.	26	491	21	655
19/5/17.	26	813	20	619
26/5/17.	26	818	20	639

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*Appendix II Casualties*

	Killed		Wounded		Missing		Sick Admitted	
	O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.
5/5/17.	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	21
12/5/17.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	16
19/5/17.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
26/5/17.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10

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*Appendix III Reinforcements*

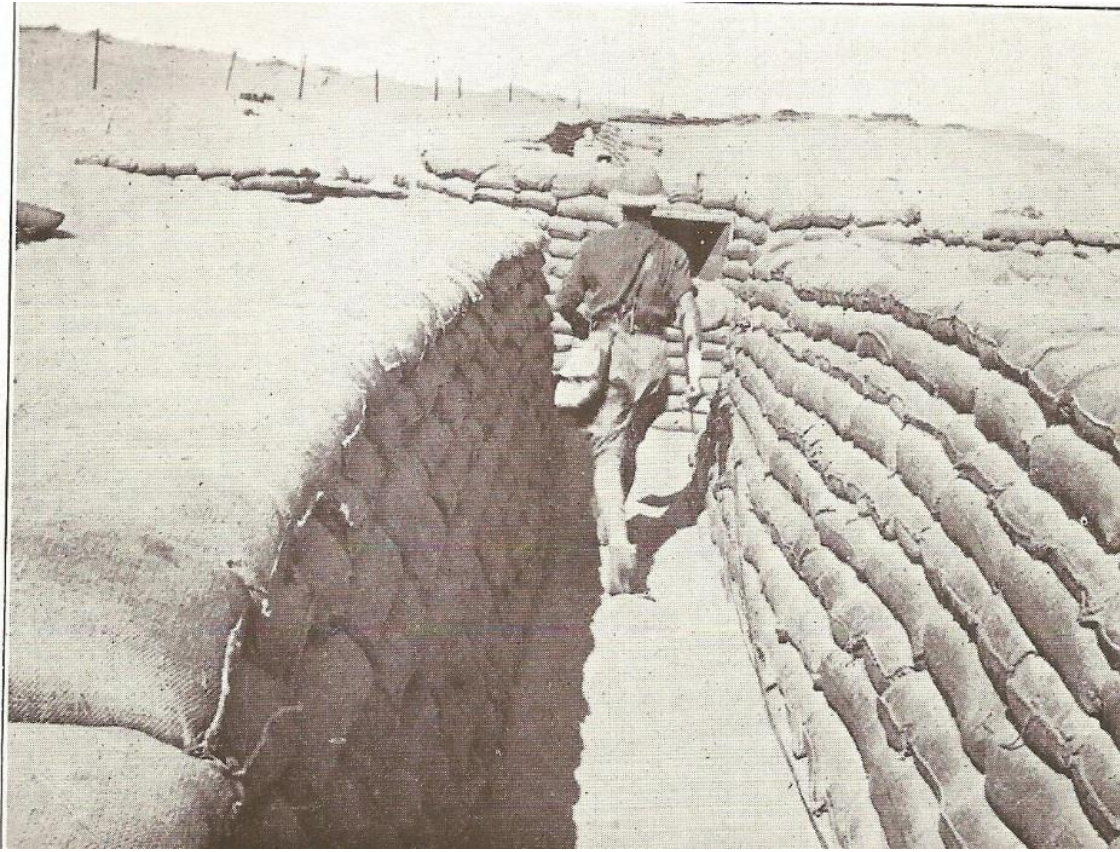
	O.	O.R.
week ending 5-5-17.	3.	30.
" " 12-5-17.	3	13
" " 19-5-17.	-	33
" " 26-5-17.	-	31

## Maj ALB Green

Date	Detail
1 May	Slept a bit better last night – thank goodness, but still nothing to boast about. Ned Wilmot and Drake (Wk Yeo) went off the Alexandria to convalesce at 0800. Much warmer today. Finished reading HG Wells 'Wonderful Visit' today and rather liked it. Think there must be a native cemetery near here from the number of funerals passing here every day. From the noise made they must be weird affairs.
2 May	Quiet day. Dm Sgt Maj Faulner and a man from C Coy came up to see me and brought Hereford Times. Merry and a lot of others pushed off to Sirdasieh at short notice this afternoon so suppose convoy is expected shortly. Read The Valley Of The Kings by Marmaduke Pickthall today – quite like it.
3 May	Long tedious day – nothing doing. Readjusted splint for me.
4 May	Another bad night last night. Seem to have lost the knack of sleep. I have a sort of constant gnawing pain in my foot showing, I suppose, returning vitality in the nerve. Letter from Do dated 8 Apr and one from Margaret, auntie and Percy Rogers. Hope to get some more in a day or two as the staffs have an English mail in today.
5 May	Bobbie Reeve looked in to see me last night about 21.30 having just come up from Moascar on short leave. He is instructor in flying now. Mail in with one from Do dated Apr 13 with account of Francis' wedding which seems to have been a success bar the weather which must have been vile.
6 May	Leg very uncomfortable last night. Reeve and Job came to see me in the afternoon. Latter getting on OK after shrapnel bullet to knee. Trumper came in with afternoon convoy having been hit in the arm by chance bullet while standing to in reserve last Thursday. Merry came round from Sirdasieh to tea. Leg very bad in evening. Had splint readjusted, 2 extra 10lbs on to overcome spasm.
7 May	Had beastly night. Still keeping on the 20lbs weight but spasm persists. Had a beastly day – can't move.
8 May	Had a dope of Bromide Chloral last night about midnight and got 3 hours uninterrupted blessed sleep, the first I have had for 3 weeks. Feeling better and spasm better. Had parcel from Do and letter from Guy Barker who is rejoining with Whitehouse and Evelyn. Trumper to Alexandria today. Parcel contained book, flynets, toilet paper and a cake was ruined and uneatable.
9 May	Did not have a very good night in spite of draught. A bit of skin is working out through skin is a bit uncomfortable. Am to be put out on balcony to see if I can sleep better. Man in next bed to me sent off today with measles.
10 May	Very pleasant out but did not sleep much better as my foot was troublesome. They have put me up in a heygroves splint today which I hope will be more comfortable than the thomas. Poor Crossley died this morning.
11 May	Had a quiet and comfortable night, thanks to ¼ gram morphine but not very refreshing. Mrs Collins very kindly came to see me and had tea thanks to Lewis who wrote and asked her to do it. She brought me a beautiful bunch of carnations and says she will ask some friends to come in and see me. Very hot.
12 May	Heat bad again today. Had a bad night and hardly slept a wink although I had not so much pain as discomfort. Started massage on leg and foot today which is a good deal swollen in spite of being cocked up in the air. Am getting a bit worried about the nerve, there is so little improvement. Mr Burton came round to see me after tea. Mrs B couldn't come. Bennet came in to see me – he is on a course at Zeitoun.
13 May	Letters from Ashton and Lewis. Former has got my belt and revolver which was picked up by the Middlesex. Heat trying again today. Had rather better night last night but nothing to boast about. Hulton came to see me in the afternoon. He has no news.
14 May	Got a bit of sleep off and on after 1am with the aid of hot milk and aspirin. Very hot and stuffy day.
15 May	Still not much sleep. Had extention apparatus looked to and found big blisters over each condyle. No wonder I had had pain. Mr & Mrs Burton looked in for short time after tea. Mail in but only one letter for me from Mr Riecke. Can't make out why none from Do.
16 May	Parcel from Singleton and Coles, which I am sending on to CO as I haven't opened up last one yet. Had very bad night – blisters painful also foot. Have taken all extention apparatus off pro tem as I am full of blisters. Capt Rooke from GHQ, a friend of Lewis came to see me.
17 May	Shocking bad night. Without extention I kept slipping off splint and starting spasms in thigh. This morning had it put on long listor till the skin is sound enough to replace extention. Letters from Do of 22, 23 & 25

	Apr. She heard of my second hit on 23rd so would have to wait several days for my cable. Mrs Collins came to see me after tea.
18 May	Had very bad night with spasm of muscles which settled down a bit by morning. Letter from Mater and Pater of May 1st arrived addressed hospital Cairo, so it came straight through. Had a comparatively comfortable day.
19 May	Had a perfectly beastly night till Dugan came up about midnight and ordered me morphia. This morning they put me back on heygrove splint with extention below the knee which is a bit of a strain on the knee but better than none. Maj Ricket came round this morning and told me I had been granted a DSO and I hear Barker has the MC. Beastly Khamsin blowing dust so bad we are all moved back into wards.
20 May	Didn't sleep well in spite of ¼ gr morphia. Foot very jumpy. Poor fellow who was bombed in CCS died this morning from int haemorrhage and exhaustion. Had line of congratulation from Hulton enclosing GRO which I am glad to have. Hot day but wind dropped so am moved out to balcony again. Maj Ricket gave me piece of DSO ribbon. Job (going to Alexandria Tuesday) called and Lady Clowes came and had a chat.
21 May	The usual bad night last night. Extention very painful. Had it off this morning to find the usual crop of blisters. Spent afternoon trying to devise new scheme of attachment of extention. A band of strapping like garter above knee the best we could do. Mrs Collins came in at tea time for a short chat.
22 May	One of my worst nights. Everything wrong – blisters painful and extention band cut into patella and prominences. Had to remove garter after breakfast. Col Wade came to see me with Duggan and suggests leaving it about a week without an extention and attending to skin and blisters and then putting pin through condyles to get a pull on. Padre Jones looked in and Maj Armstrong.
23 May	Had a fairly comfortable but sleepless night thanks to ¼ gr. Formentings and dressings every 3 hours. Spasm baddish.
24 May	Another rotten night. New night sister who has not yet learnt all my little ways. No sleep before 3am when I had 15 grs Bromide which soothed me a bit and got an hours unbroken sleep. Leg now so bent it looks like Geo Robey's wish bone. They are going to operate tomorrow and put a pin through lower part of ?? to get traction on. Mrs Burton to see me.
25 May	Had a goodish night with ¼ gr. Went down to the theatre at 9.30 and went off with CH CL3 which was evidently changed for ether afterwards from taste in my mouth. Spent a pretty unpleasant day from thirst. Muscular spasm very persistent but leg is now straight. Extention pin not nearly so painful as I expected. Letter from Do of Apr 29 and auntie of May 4.
26 May	Had a quiet night but not too much sleep. My leg considering all things, is wonderfully comfortable though some spasm still persists. Letters from Do of May 4 and mater and Charlie of May 8. Hulton came to see me.
27 May	Baddish night last night. Pain and discomfort in foot, spike not much trouble. Had gas this morning while they tried to reduce a deformity in leg but they found it was mostly due to muscular spasm which still persists worse luck. Bennet came in this morning and Mrs Collins and Lady Clowes this afternoon.
28 May	Had ¼ gr last night but didn't get much sound sleep owing to incessant shooting and jumping pains in foot and ankle. Nerves seem to be waking up well now. Dosed most of today which augurs badly for tonight's sleep. Leg otherwise satisfactory.
29 May	Not too grand a night last night but might have been worse. Had extra weight put on extention. The CO and Ashton turned up on leave and came to see me – a great surprise. They are going on to Alexandria tomorrow. Ashton brought me my revolver and belt.
30 May	Slept badly last night in spite of ¼ gr morphia. Pain and discomfort in foot and leg. However break sees to be going all right and keeping straight. K Taylor of 1/5 RWF came and had a chat (down on leave), Dr MacCarthy Monogh and a friend came to see me and brought me book and punches (Friends of Hultons he is a civilian doctor in Egypt).
31 May	Another bad night but got a little sleep towards morning. Australian hospital concert party gave a concert last night which sounded very bright from here. Beastly hot again today.

Trenches in the coastal sector





Filling sandbags



Making use of the newly constructed desert light railway



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

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion remained at Lowestoft on Home Defence duties; their numbers had been depleted by reinforcement drafts to units in France.

## Reserve Battalion (formerly 3 Bn) – Oswestry

Concerns over the conditions in the camps at Oswestry and Whitchurch over the winter period continued to be an area of concern

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**OSWESTRY CAMP.**

*To the Editor of the Hereford Times.*

Sir,—I wonder at Captain Roger Rowden rushing into print without answering the questions at issue. He has ignored the questions in point entirely, and has gone on the food problem, and provided us with an admirable menu, which, he says, he partook of for ten days. I have no doubt he spent a very pleasant time there, the weather conditions being very different from those of the preceding six months. The cook-house (he says) would do credit to many of our country mansions, so I conclude the other offices are on a par with it. The line I have taken in this matter can be borne out by facts. I have no personal feeling against any individual concerned, but against the authorities, whoever they may be. As our boys are giving their best in this world for the defence of the country, every consideration should be shown them, even if the civilian population are put to little or much inconvenience. I have many expressions of gratitude and thanks—personally and by letter—from parents and others, which is a great consolation to me for the course I have taken.—Yours faithfully,

W. S. LANE.

The Farm, Bosbury, May 3rd, 1917.

**PARK HALL CAMP.**

*To the Editor of the Hereford Times.*

Sir,—I was glad to see Mr. Chancellor's letter to the Under-Secretary of State for War published in your columns. Mr. Macpherson has assured him that "pneumonia does not supervene following inoculation." This is one of the most amazing pronouncements that have been made in defence of inoculation. Sergt. Nichols, of East Finchley, died on November 4th, 1914, and his death certificate gives the following, under "Cause of death." (1) Anti-typhoid vaccination, (2) pneumonia. It is seldom that a statement which incriminates inoculation is allowed to appear upon a death certificate, but here, at least, is one.

Whatever the War Office officials may say, a large body of men know that pneumonia does "supervene following inoculation," for they have frequently seen their comrades stricken down by it within a few days of inoculation, previous to which they were in full health and strength.—Yours faithfully,

B. E. KIDD.

May 1st, 1916.

'Normal' activities continues

## RESERVE BATTALION IN CAMP.

(From a Correspondent.)

With the improvement in the weather, great activity in the athletic line has set in. We have had several football matches, chief of which in attractiveness being that between representative teams from the two Sergeants' Huts. No. 1 Team had the advantage of years, their aggregate ages being more than a hundred years ahead of those of No. 2 Team. The former team, which included all the Sergeant Majors and Company Quartermasters, had the support of the crowd throughout. C-S-M. Jennings' remarkable pace was greatly admired, and he was most unlucky in not scoring, one of his shots hitting the post. The game was fast and furious all through, but no score resulted on either side. The veterans, however, had decidedly the best of the game, and displayed a maturity of form which made it a most enjoyable game for the spectators. We have also played and won a match against the Welsh R.A.M.C., the score being 4 goals to 1. The returned Expeditionary Force men of the Monmouths challenged our team on Tuesday, and a most interesting game resulted in a score of two goals all. Cricket has been begun, and a Garrison League is to be started shortly. Skittles and shooting matches on the miniature range are in full swing. It must not be supposed, however, that training is neglected, as parade hours are longer than ever, and are supplemented by much gardening work at odd times.

A fair number of recruits have come in, mostly from the Chester district, and, judging

by their rapid improvement, are likely to be a useful addition to the Regiment.

Last week we sent out a draft of reinforcements to Egypt, and another party is now awaiting orders for France. Of the officers, Lieut. Bulmer and Lieut. Nayler have left us for Egypt, and Lieut. Howells, of Ledbury, for France, while Lieut. Walmesley has returned here, having been invalided from France. Lieut. and Q-M. Chubb left us to go to Egypt, but we understand he was stopped en route and is now in Hereford.

## GAMES AT OSWESTRY.

A number of games have been contested in Camp during the last week or so, and the following accounts will no doubt be read with interest:—

**Whist Drive.**—A most enjoyable whist drive was held on the 26th April in the sergeants' mess, and after some very close games the prizes were won by the following: 1, C-S-M. Harris; mystery prizes, R-S-M. Alford, R-Q-M-S. Taylor, Sergt. Bennett, Sergt. Farrington; booby, Sergt. F. Smith. The M.C.'s were C-Q-M-S.'s Parker and Herriotta. The games were played under novel conditions, and some splendid fun took place when the booby prize was presented.

**Skittle Match.**—A skittle match took place on May 1st between the sergeants and staff-sergeants, which resulted in a win for the latter by seven points. The scores were as follow:—Sergeants: C-Sergt. F. A. Davies, 14; Sergt. C. Parry, 16; Sergt. T. Griffiths, 23; Sergt. T. J. Owen, 26; Sergt. A. E. Musto, 17; Sergt. J. George, 16; Sergt. C. Stallard, 15; Sergt. T. Sanderson, 15; Sergt. H. L. Lewis, 22; Sergt. A. Spragg, 16; total, 186. Staff-Sergts.: R-S-M. T. Alford, 21; K-Q-M-S. F. N. Taylor, 26; C-S-M. C. Harris, 14; C-Q-M-S. J. Parker, 19; C-Q-M-S. T. Herriotta, 19; C-Q-M-S. H. Bishop, 21; Sergt. Dmr. R. J. Evans, 15; Sergt. H. Salisbury, 25; Sergt. C. Faulkner, 16; Sergt. J. Cuthbertson, 19; total, 187.

**Football Match.**—The sergeants' challenged the staff-sergts. to a game of football on May 3rd, and were promptly accepted for a match of 40 minutes, 20 minutes to be played each way. Great interest was taken in the event, and when the game commenced a very large crowd of officers and men were present. The teams lined up as follows:—Staff-Sergts.: Goal, Sergt. J. Cuthbertson; backs, R-S-M. T. Alford and Sergt. Dmr. Evans; halves, Sergt. Major Geil Jones, C-Q-M-S. J. Parker, and C-S-M. C. Harris; forwards, C-S-M. H. Jennings, Sergt. H. Salisbury, C-Q-M-S. T. Herriotta, C-S-M-S. H. Bishop, Ord.-E.-Sgt. G. H. Tylor. Sergts.: Goal, Sergt. C. Parry; backs, Sergt. T. Griffiths and Sergt. R. Lewis; halves, Sergt. T. Sanderson, Sergt. A. E. Musto, and Sergt. C. Stallard; forwards, Sergt. J. Green, Sergt. J. George, Sergt. T. J. Owen, Sergt. C. R. Mapp, and C-Sergt. F. A. Davies, Referee, C-Q-M-S. Owens (R.W.F.). The game was very hotly contested, some splendid football being witnessed, and much to everyone's surprise the "old crocks" had the better of the exchanges. Just prior to half-time Sergt. Parry did well to fist out a very hot shot

from C-S-M. Jennings. The interval arrived with a blank score sheet. After the resumption the "old crocks" gradually assumed the upper hand, and C-S-M. Jennings and C-Q-M-S.'s Parker and Herriotta all had bad luck with good efforts. However, they had to be content with a draw, for the final whistle blew with the score sheet still blank. For the "old crocks" Sergt. Cuthbertson was quite safe in goal, R-S-M. Alford played a good sporting game at right back, and used his weight with great effect. Sergt. Dmr. Evans played the game of his life at left back, "Old Jeff," "Little Jim," and C-S-M. Harris were three plodding and never-beaten halves. Of the forwards, C-S-M. Jennings was the pick, showing an extraordinary fine turn of speed. For the sergeants, Sergt. Parry was a useful goalie, Sergt. Griffiths the pick of the backs, and Sergt. Musto worked like a Trojan at centre half. Sergt. Owen played a dashing game, but spoilt an otherwise good display by being continually pulled up for infringing the offside rule. The teams were given a great reception on leaving the field.



