

SECRET
PATROL ORDER

On August 6th, as soon after 8:00 a.m. as possible a Fighting Patrol consisting of 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON and four Other Ranks will enter the O.B.L. about its junction with LLOYD'S AVENUE and search Northwards for any enemy post. Any enemy encountered will be killed or captured and every effort made to secure an identification. Patrol will not search further Northward than A.2.b.32.40

Patrol will have an immediate Supporting Party consisting of one Officer and with Other Ranks (with a Lewis Gun). This party will take up a position about A.2.d.10.90 and will be prepared to either move to the assistance of the Patrol or to cover its withdrawal. Great care must be taken to keep this party screened from the enemy's view, but the Officer must take up a position so that he can follow the movements of the Patrol.

In addition two parties will take up positions, one about A.2.d.10.35 and the other about A.2.a.50.55. The function of these parties will be to cover the flanks of the Patrol. They will each consist of one N.C.O. and four Men with a Lewis Gun. If necessary they will open flanking fire to cover the withdrawal of the Patrol. The exact limits of their fire will be pointed out to them on the ground.

The two flanking parties will not withdraw until the Patrol with its immediate support has returned to our lines.

The Supporting Party and Flanking Parties will take up their positions just before dawn breaks. The Patrol will move out with the supporting party and will remain with it about A.2.d.10.90. As soon after 8:00 a.m. as the Patrol Commander decides, the patrol will crawl forward and enter the O.B.L.

If the O.B.L. is found to be unoccupied, patrol plus the immediate supporting party, will occupy O.B.L. about A.2.b.43.15 and will lie in wait for enemy moving forward at dusk to occupy his forward posts.

In this event, the Lewis Gun at A.2.a.50.55 will move across to A.2.d.10.90 and replace the immediate supporting party which is to move forward.

"Z" House O.P. will be in direct communication by wire to the immediate supporting party at A.2.d.10.190

In the event of the fighting patrol being heavily attacked the artillery will barrage according to the barrage lines marked on attached map. The signal for the barrage will be ONE WHITE VERY LIGHT fired from the O.B.L. due East over enemy lines. On this signal the Signaller with the immediate supporting party will send "COD" to "Z" HOUSE O.P. and gunner will transmit to the batteries.

If enemy do not come forward after dusk, the patrol will return to our lines at 11:00 p.m.

Any prisoners secured will be sent down at once under escort to Battalion Headquarters.

DRESS FOR PATROL. Rile with bayonet fixed and dimmed with mud, 30 rounds of ammunition in pocket and soft cap worn. The Officer and two Sergeants will carry two bombs each.

Password for patrol – "Luck"

Headquarters, 166th Infantry Brigade

Attached are narratives from Sergeant CARR with 2nd Lt. WALLINGTON'S patrol and the Officer in command of the immediate support.

Our casualties were 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON killed and two other ranks wounded, all of whom have been brought into our lines.

From speaking personally to both the Patrol and Supporting Party it is evident that considerable damage was done to the enemy, as he deliberately came over the top bunched, and had no idea that supporting party with a Lewis Gun was in the vicinity.

The patrol and supporting party are being sent down to the Divisional Reception Camp tonight for a rest.

MAJOR

Comdg: 5th. S. LAN. R.

REPORT BY SERGEANT CARR

The part consisted of 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON, myself and three men.

We left the supporting party at 8:00 a.m. and entered the O.B.L. at its junction with LLOYD'S AVENUE at 8:15 a.m. and moved North-wards 150 yards examining shelters. The shelters had the remains of British kit in them, but there were no signs of any German kit.

At about 8:40 a.m. a German bomb dropped six yards ahead of me. I was at the head of the party and 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON was behind me looking towards Boscheland. More bombs fell at 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON gave the order to go back.

We went back along the O.B.L. and got out where the wire was poor to a shell hole at about A.2.b.46.00. Here we stayed five minutes and saw two parties of Bosche, 10 or 12 strong each, come over the O.B.L. While here 2nd. Lieut. DODDS' party on our left opened out with Lewis Gun and Rifle fire. The fire must have had good effect as the Bosche were coming over the top and presented a good target.

We retired again to the end of hedge on LLOYD'S AVENUE. As we retired another party appeared from South of LLOYD'S AVENUE and O.B.L. We opened fire from here also and after 10 minutes moved back to the post in LLOYD'S AVENUE. 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON was leading and was hit when near the right covering post about 120 yards from LE PLANTIN Breastworks. A sniper was also slightly wounded. 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON was brought in to the Bombing Post.

2nd. Lieut. DODDS Report

At 4:00 a.m. I took up my position. I had with me Sergt. BAKER and six other ranks with a Lewis Gun. There was no sign or sound in the O.B.L.

2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON and party moved forward at 8:00 a.m. I saw them enter the O.B.L. at its junction with LLOYD'S AVENUE and saw them work Northwards about 120 yards.

At 8:40 a.m. I saw a good number of Stick Bombs come over where 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON'S party had reached. I then saw the party work its way back and out of the O.B.L. to a shell-hole.

As they came out I saw two parties of Bosche, about 10 or 12 each, come over the top – one party from WILLOW ROAD and the other from midway between WILLOW ROAD and LLOYD'S AVENUE.

We opened fire with Lewis Gun and Rifles on the left party and then when 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON'S party had cleared we fired at both parties alternatively. The left party was completely dispersed and as we concentrated on the 2nd party, which was chasing WALLINGTON, a third party of Bosche then came over the O.B.L. and fired on us.

When I saw that 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON and party had got well behind us I withdrew my party. I found Sgt. CARR and all the party except 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON in the breastworks and heard that 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON had been killed about 100 yards from our lines.

I sent out two stretchers, one for 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON and one for Rifleman ANDERTON of my party who had been wounded. 2nd. Lieut. WALLINGTON must have been killed by Machine Gun Fire.

The Lewis Gun did great execution, especially amongst the first party of enemy fired on.

From the time of going out until 8:40 a.m. we received messages from O.P. that no movement was observed in or behind the O.B.L.