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E.J.H.Orchard and all went well during the day. 2nd Lt. D. Blore relieved 2nd Lt. E. Halstead at 3 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m. the enemy raided the left post for the second time but was driven off with L.G. fire. The enemy persistently threatened the left flank and I asked the Adjutant for support from "C" Co. as owing to the flood they could not render any assistance from the S.W. side of the river. At 8 p.m. Capt. G.N.Stange M.C., sent a patrol across the bridge at J.26.c.65.40 and they patrolled during the night from my left post at J.26.c.5.5. to the sluice gate at J.26.a.343. This patrol was withdrawn at daylight.

2nd Lt. E.J.H.Orchard relieved 2nd Lt. D.Blora at 8 p.m. and 2nd Lt. E.Halstead relieved 2nd E.J.H.Orchard at 3 a.m. the 5th. At 5:15 a.m. a heavy bombardment started and at 5:45 a.m. the barrage lifted and the right post was raided, but was successfully repulsed, the Bosche scattering before our L.G. fire in disorder, leaving behind rifles equipment and an automatic raiding gun.

In repelling this attack Pte. Turner showed great coolness when about to be bayoneted, grasping the bayonet with his hand and warding off the point. One man threw bomb with good effect from A A Post. Pte. Beardmore got his L.G. into action by climbing out of his post and placing his gun on the bank side.

The above was an attempt by the Hun to cut off the post by attacking from under the bank. 2nd Lt. D.Blora relieved 2nd Lt. E.Halstead at 8 a.m. At 9 A.m. a steady bombardment started and was kept up throughout the whole day. At 2 p.m. 2nd Lt.E.J.H.Orchard relieved 2nd Lt. D. Blora and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. the bombardment was increased to drum fire. During this period all communication between the forward positions and Company H.Q. were cut off. Judging from the intensity of the bombardment I thought an attack was imminent, so ordered a stand to at Company H.Q. and prepared to deal with any attack.

At 7:15 p.m. the barrage lifted into Meadow Lane. 2nd Lt. E.J.H.Orchard thinking the time had come, stood to, and had no sooner done so, when two Huns were seen approaching from the wire around Sally. Fire was opened on them and directly after an enemy M.G. opened fire from our right flank, at the same time a party of Huns were seen approaching under cover of the bank.

Another party was observed creeping forward with the intention of a frontal attack, they were in extended order. 2nd. Lt. E.J.H.Orchard fired the S.O.S. and instantly the artillery put down a good barrage. All L.G.s opened fire and 2nd Lt. D. Blore with 15 Platoon moved across the valley in extended order, having a heavy barrage to pass through. He successfully reinforced 2nd. Lt. E.J.H.Orchard on the far side of the river. 2nd Lt. E.Halstead with 13 Platoon moved across the valley and took up a position in shell holes in close support to 2nd Lt. E.J.H.Orchard and 2nd Lt. D.Blöre.

During this attack Pte<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Boyd, 2nd Lt. Orchard's runner did very good service, and though badly shaken and suffering slightly from gas, he refused to leave his Officer, finally he brought a message back to Co.H.Q. reporting that the attack had been repulsed, without the enemy having gained a foothold in the positions.

After the attack when things had been reorganised, the forward positions were held by three platoons and on our left Capt. F.G.N.Stange, M.C. sent 2nd Lt. D.A.Nickson with No.9nPlatoon to establish posts on either side of the sluice gate. When in position the 9th Field Co. R.E. endeavoured to erect a bridge across the sluice gates, but owing to the rough state of the sluice walls and the depth of the water it was found impossible to complete the work that night. At daybreak the posts were withdrawn by the bridge at J.26.c.65.40.

I also had one L.G. Section sent from Capt. G.N.

Stange, M.C. and placed them on the road at J.26.d.3.2. They were to deal with any of the enemy approaching under the bank at J.26.d.2.4. to d.5.6.

When things had quietened down 2nd Lt. D.Blöre and 2nd Lt. E.Halstead took over.

The bombardment ceased after the attack, but during the night enemy patrols twice attempted to raid the left post, but were driven off.

My men having had little rest and ~~no~~ sleep during the tour and having suffered terrific bombardments were very fatigued, so I asked H.Q. for a relief. The Adjutant's cheery reply was to hang on for that night as we knew the situation and it would not be any good putting new troops into that position in the dark, - he would send up two platoons from "A" Co. to help next day.

At 5 a.m. 6th 2nd Lt. E.J.H.Orchard and W.E.Ashley from "A" Co. along with two fresh platoons from "A" Co. relieved 2nd Lts. D.Blöre and E.Halstead.

At 7:30 a.m. the Brigadier visited the forward posts and expressed his appreciation for the way the men had held on to the position.

At 8 a.m. 2nd Lt. E.J.H.Orchard crawled out and secured identification from a Besche M.C.O. who had been killed during the attack.

At 11 a.m. 2nd. Lts.D.Blöre and E.Halstead relieved 2nd Lts. E.J.H.Orchard and W.E.Ashley. At the same time a heavy bombardment started and it was not until two hours later that they were able to cross the bridge and then at great risk.

At 11:30 a.m. 2nd Lt. D.Blöre was severely wounded and only with great difficulty and risk was he safely taken to the aid post.

The bombardment was kept up until 7 p.m. when it ceased. The intensity of the bombardment can be judged from the number of shells all of a heavy calibre.

From 1 - 1:30 p.m.	76 shells burst.
From 1:30 - 2:5 p.m.	119 " "
From 2:5 - 4 p.m.	140 " "

The heaviest concentration was 35 in 5 minutes.

2nd Lt. E. Halstead during the bombardment showed great coolness and cheerfulness, and throughout kept communication by visual with Company H.Q.

At 7 p.m. 2nd Lt. E.J.H. Orchard relieved E. Halstead and successfully handed over the outposts line to the Canadian Scottish.

During the three days in this position the bridges were damaged repeatedly and much can be said for the way in which the R.E's carried out their work under such trying conditions.

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4th Div. G.A. 38/26.

12th Infantry Brigade.

The following wire was received from XXII Corps on 6th October 1918 :-

"The Corps Commander wishes you to convey his congratulations to all Officers, N.C.O's and men of the posts which have been established North and East of the Trinquis Brook Canal on their successful repulse of various enemy attacks AAA Their bold action and tenacity in sticking to these posts has been of the greatest value in deceiving the enemy as to our intentions."

(Signed) J. Stanley Rogers, Capt.  
for Lt. Colonel. General Staff, 4th Division.  
6th October 1918.

MOJO (2nd Lancashire Fusiliers.)  
G.137 6th.

Following received from ZIZO timed 1115 begins AAA Following addressed G.O.C. ZIZO timed 0920 has been received from Corps. AAA The Corps Commander wishes you to convey his congratulations to all Officers N.C.O's and men of the posts which has been established N. and E. of the Trinquis Brook Canal on their successful repulse of enemy attacks AAA Their bold action and tenacity in sticking to their posts has been of the great value in deceiving the enemy as to our intentions AAA ends. Addressed Units Peno.

Quake (12th Infantry Brigade). 1310.

MOJO. (2nd Lancashire Fusiliers).  
G.130. 5th.

Please convey to all ranks concerned Brigade Commanders congratulations for splendid endurance and defence shown by the garrisons of the posts North of the Trinquis Brook.

Quake. (12th Infantry Brigade).

4th Div. No.G.C. 7/25.

12th Infantry Brigade.

Please convey to the O.C. 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers and those who took part in establishing posts across the river in J.26.c. my appreciation of their good work.

It is a very valuable position to gain and showed very considerable enterprise on the part of those concerned.

4th October 1918. (signed) G. Lipsett, Major General.  
Commanding 4th Division.

2nd Lan. Fus.

The Brigade Commander has much pleasure in forwarding the above message from the Divisional Commander.

(signed) D. McCallum, Capt. Bde. Major,  
12th Infantry Brigade.

5/10/18.