

## WAR DIARY OF L.D.V.

### P1.

**May 14** Anthony Eden called for volunteers to deal with parachutists.

Herbert Steward, Norman Dickinson & Bertram Gissing signed on.

**May 15** Open air meeting at 8.30 at St Edmunds Hall about fifty signatures.

### P3

#### **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

2.30 Colonel Connop called & asked me to take part in the scheme and organise Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Fressingfield with Wingfield.

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

10.30 to Mellis to receive list of volunteers from Col. Connop recruited from Syleham, Hoxne & Denham.

3 pm to Fressingfield to visit Capt. F Thurston & H C Brett to cooperate with Fressingfield & Wingfield.

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

Fixed up Denham squad with Risk.

Arranged for Squad Leader H.C. Brett to organise & collect full list of names from Fressingfield & Wingfield.

2.30 Lieut. Shackle called & discussed details combined operations at night.

### P4

3.30 Issue of rifles (38) Battledress (38) Forage caps (38) Ammunition 380 rounds  
Buckles 38 266 buttons & clips (less 4 buttons per suit) from police Station, Eye

7pm Issue of rifles to Denham Squad

James Risk

Clement Brett

Alfred Watling

Thomas Moss

Rifle returned to Eye Police Station as faulty July 3rd

George Lock  
Ernest Whatling

Major Wright R.A.O.C. [Royal Army Ordnance Corps ] & Mr W Edwards examined rifles & gave some preliminary instructions as to care & mechanism.

**10pm 5AM –21<sup>st</sup>**

Bridges & myself formed a guard at St Edmunds Hall.

**P5**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

2.30 Issued 14 rifles to H.C. Brett Leader of Fressingfield squads

4pm 4 rifles & equipment rec'd from Eye

7p.m. Rifles issued with equipment to

**Cross Street Squad**

George Howlett (Leader) 60 rds amm  
K Rush  
G Thirkettle  
R Watson  
George Witton  
Clifford Baldwin

**Low Street Squad**

W Banham (Leader) 60 rds amm  
W Dorling  
Alfred Tye  
Ernest Steward  
Edward Mills  
Arthur Brown

**P6**

7pm Rifles issued to

**Syleham & Chickering Squad**

Norman Dickinson (Leaders) 60 rds amm

R Cooke        }  
M. Colmer    } Depperhaugh

B Ruth           Depperhaugh Cottages

C Westrep }  
J Barber } Chickering Cottages  
A Warne }

9 pm W Edwards gave preliminary instructions in use & care rifles & explained mechanism.

Three remaining rifles & amm stored at St Edmunds during night.

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

11am Took list of riflemen (per Aspland) to P.C Brewer

2pm To see Major Wright- S.L. [Search Light] Party (Chickering)  
17 Battle suits & 140 rds of ammo to H.C. Brett  
Fressingfield (per Aspland)

**P7**

### **May 23-24**

10pm Watches posted on Church Tower 10-1 Wright F.T. & J Raven 1-4 Vincent F & Stokes

### **Friday May 24<sup>th</sup>**

Called at Eye Police Station at 6.15 & drew 6 rifles & uniforms & ammunition  
Issued May 25 to Ff H.C. Brett

6.30 Yaxley House

Notes from Zone & District organisers meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>

1. Uniforms to be worn only when wanted
2. Dummy ammunition for loading practice, has been indented for
3. Reserves to be kept in readiness
4. Organisers to wear Khaki coloured armband marked L.D.V (in blue)
5. Observers ditto

### Training

1. Rules for aiming to be typed & sent down (down crossed out and round noted in pencil instead)

On red warning (a) posts are to be manned  
(b) roads to be blocked  
(c) Concentration of enemy to be hindered

## P8

(3) Tin hats will be issued

Challenge "Halt, who goes there?"

"Friend"

"One of you come forward"

On opposite page is noted 'Einer von Euch Komm forwarts' german for 'One of you come forward'

On search search for identification card - which is carried by all our troops - as distinct from enemy

Roads are to be blocked by iron hurdles or wagons (but not cars) - make strong posts giving cover with good field of fire

There should be a Red Lamp on the hurdle to warn civilian population - Area Survey or might supply

Military cannot give orders to sections, but sections may co-operate e.g. on mopping up operations by watching one side of a wood or field

Observer posts are essential at & just before Dawn. The military camps have parties Standing to Arms from about 3-5

An A.R.P. siren will be sounded at Stradbroke on receipt of Red Warning

## P9

This can be heard at a distance of 4 miles. Anyone seeing a parachutist should call for military help through the nearest Police Station.

Suggested places for road blocks

- (1) near Police Station Hoxne,
- (2) Oakley Park Gates
- (3) Near School
- (4) Denham corner
- (5) Cross roads South Green

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** 12.30 by phone from Col Connop. Sporting guns and cartridges may be used but men so armed must wear L.D.V. armlet & either Tin Hat or Forage cap.

More rifles will be issued.

To Fressingfield - Issued to H.C. Brett rifles No. 265156, 9366, 150194, 265203, 247081, 312932 & ammn & uniforms.

## P10

- 1.15 Issued two rifles to H.E. Steward and J.P. Banham numbered 39601 Banham and 176161 (Stewards)

**May 26<sup>th</sup>**

12.30 Read over notes & instruction pages 7-10 to Section Leaders Howlett, Risk, Banham, Dickinson & P Last. Issued rifle amm & uniforms to P Last gave each leader an enrolment sheet of L.D.V. for signatures.

6.30 Talk with Hastings about making of 30 brassards on Khaki (L.D.V.) and the possibility of getting rifles for factory. He will confer with Emms & let me know in the morning.

May 27<sup>th</sup> Brett called & asked for details about making barricades.

8pm Hastings brought sample for 30 Brassards

**May 28<sup>th</sup>** phone out of action- reported.  
Man came twice

Browne from Depperhaugh called and took me to Wrights for talk about hours of observation. Still more observers wanted.

Risk informed me that Lines??? Refused to let him have red hurricane lamps without sanction from County Surveyor.

Lieut Shackle at 4.30 to check points at which barricades are to be placed.

7 pm to Wingfield

H.C. Brett, H Aldous, Ambrose, Foster-Clarke, Pipe, Leftley & Musketry Drill with dummies for loading

Wanted 20 more Forage Caps  
20 more Rifles for Ff (Fressingfield)

Men living more than a mile away should have ammunition?

**May 29** Issued 30 Armllets to Major F Wright. Took over 480 rounds of amm

Issued 60 rds to W. Banham  
60 J. Risk  
60 G. Howlett

**May 29<sup>th</sup>**

7.30 Addressed 40 L.D.V. Observers at Denham who asked to be enrolled for duty nightly in pairs at Denham Corner 9.30-1 & 1-4.30 Mr Norman to keep this roster.

**May 30<sup>th</sup>** Phone still out of action.

11.30 Went to Yaxley house. Received instructions re Molotoff bottle.

Leave given by Col. Connop to practise with 1 round per rifle.

Called on Postmaster at Diss re phone out of order. Informed him that Automatic Exchange would be covered by barricades near Hoxne Police Station.

Colonel Connop called at 5pm & reviewed maps & positions & arranged to go round Hoxne barricades at 3pm Friday 31<sup>st</sup>. All units informed.

7.30 To Fressingfield twenty on parade. Gave them all necessary instructions. Went with Roy Belderson to reconnoitre position of automatic exchange & agreed with Captain F Thurston & H.C. Brett that its installation made an armed guard impracticable.

Issued 200 rounds of ammunition to Brett.

Phone in order at 9 pm.

Message received per Brunger

Considered that an attack by sea on 55<sup>th</sup> Divl. Front is imminent. All defences will be manned forthwith during hours of darkness till 'Stand down'. Road Blocks will be manned at once but traffic will not be held up until alarm is given. Stand down an hour after dawn. Rec'd 1.35 by Brunger.

Delivered at St Edmunds by hand at 2. am passed to all units  
All clear reported at 4.am by Search Light Party Chickering.

### **May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Mr Browne drove me to South Green  
Miss Moore - Police Station - School & Denham Posts. Afterwards went to same & Search Light Party with Colonel Connop.  
Bell fixed in bedroom for phone.

Call at 9.45 Asking us to man Road Blocks for two or three days continuously day & night. Reported that with observer parties on duty all night did not consider this necessary.

No Action taken.

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** 4 pm Message by phone from General Deedes "I have consulted Area Organiser who agrees that night duty cannot be expected from L.D.V. in all cases, unless volunteers are available to do so. Please arrange therefore occupation of posts in case of alarm but not otherwise" 4pm

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** Rec'd Notes for Section Commanders. Sent with instructions for Molotoff Bottles to Section Commanders.

Secret & Urgent Orders about immobilisation of petrol supplies.

10 am Risk arranged to fire off 1 round per rifle at Banham's pit. Tuesday 7 pm.

Telephone for assistance to Brampton 208

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>** To see Banham - picked spot for rifle practice on Tuesday. Saw Edwards and asked him to meet us at 7 pm Banhams pit Tuesday.

J French called about immobilisation of Petrol Pumps.  
Brett called: in pm went to South Green to pick place for road barrier.

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** Walked up to see Banhams Barrier.  
Despatch rider Robinson South Lancs 164 Bde brought map to be marked with barriers in Ff (Fressingfield) & Wingfield.  
4.30 message from PC Brewer to say that 18 rolls of barbed wire ready on his lawn for sections.  
(in pencil) 16 taken round 2 in hand at Banham yard.

From Col Connop

Meeting Wednesday 6.30 postponed to 6.30 Thursday

7 pm Banhams Pit - Firing by section 1 rd per rifle

|                      |            |                  |
|----------------------|------------|------------------|
| <u>Denham</u> J Risk | A Watling  | wash out         |
|                      | G. Lock    | 3 o'clock 1" rt  |
|                      | E. Watling | wash out         |
|                      | C Brett    | 12 o'clock       |
|                      | O Archer   | 12 o'clock 1 1/2 |
|                      | T Moss     | 12 o'clock       |

Rounds 6

F Thurlow, R Riches, fired miniature rifle.

|                   |           |                 |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <u>Low Street</u> | W. Banham | 3 o'clock 3/4   |
|                   | Browne    | 8 o'clock 8 in  |
|                   | E Steward | 12 o'clock 9 in |
|                   | E Mills   | wash out        |
|                   | A Tye     | 12 o'clock 1 in |
|                   | H Steward | 6 o'clock 1 in  |
|                   | J Banham  | 11 o'clock 9 in |
|                   | W Dorling |                 |

Ammunition supplied by HPR

Rounds 7

Cross Street G Howlett

|              |                    |       |
|--------------|--------------------|-------|
| G Thirkettle | Bull               |       |
| K Rush       | 1 o'clock 1 1/2 in |       |
| G Witton     | 12 o'clock 8 in    |       |
| R Watson     | 1 o'clock 3 in     |       |
| C Baldwin    |                    | 4 rds |

## Chickering

|               |             |       |
|---------------|-------------|-------|
| N S Dickinson | 2 o'c 1 in  |       |
| B Ruth        | Bull        |       |
| C Westrepp    | 12 o'c 9 in |       |
| A Warne       | 1 o'c 8 in  |       |
| M Colmer      | 1 o'c 3 in  |       |
| R Cook        | 12 o'c 1 in |       |
| J Barber      | wash out    | 7 rds |

South Green Philip Last - wash out - Ammn by HPR 1 rd

General remarks- Range 80y Sight 200y Group just above Bull probably best- Total rounds used 25

Rounds supplied by HPR W Banham 7 rds  
P Last 1 rd

Total 8 rds

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** Corporal Clayton called for Risks rifle 63055 to take to Armourer.

6.30 Attended Parish organisers meeting at Yaxley House, Mellis

## Notes

L.D.V have power to arrest suspicious persons. To have two bicycle orderlies at each post to act as runners. Motor bike if possible.

Lethal bullets for shot guns will be issued.

Whistling bombs are not more dangerous than ordinary H.E.

Everyman who enrolls is to have a uniform.

Call Needham Market 87 for assistance for Hoxne, Syleham & Denham

Call Brampton 208 for Ff & Wingfield

Report to Col Connop

No of rifles for village

" Shotguns

" Unarmed volunteers

Sandbags wanted 500

Red Lamps one per post

Every Rifleman or watchers to wear L.D.V. Armlet.

Mills bombs will be issued.

## **June 7<sup>th</sup>**

12.37 "red warning" from J Risk - Passed to 206 verified by Brewer P.C.



All units warned  
No response "246" vicarage  
Flare seen from sky 1.40 crossing SE to NW

#### OBVERSE

Verified next day by Page, Bird, Hastings, Emms, Durrant as about central over Hoxne

Green 3.35 White 3.46 All units informed.

12.45 by phone with Col Connop "on all future occasions he will give us (Parish Organisers) "Red Warning" notices.

4.45 Howlett & Risk to ask whether the posts are to be manned on Red Warning - Yes Col Connop will give the order himself

5.30 Discussed with Wright possibility of manning posts each night with 1 rifle & 1 bicycle 10-12 and 2-4

#### **June 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup>**

11.10 Air Raid warning - Diss siren heard from Tower watchers - planes coming from Diss.

11.15 Passed to Col Connop - Two men to be at posts others to be ready by 11.25 all units warned.

Tower reports bombs dropping between Hoxne and coast - more heard later.  
Col Connop at Eye 61?? Police Station.

12.37 Two planes flying towards Diss without lights - one from Diss - no lights "From Tower".

1.48 Air raid sirens sounded in Diss direction further away from Tower.

1.50 All clear from Colonel Connop, Eye.

5 pm Brett called to protest that all his men were called out. Pointed out that the message " 1 rifle & 1 bicycle orderly" did not get through.

7pm Major F. Wright brought watcher list June 10-16.

9.45 Evans called up suggesting that points of the compass should be painted on the floor of the Tower.

Thought this was done already.

#### **June 9<sup>th</sup>**

2am Dick Onslow reported coloured flares & enemy aircraft. No action taken.

**June 10<sup>th</sup>** 6.30 pm

Message from Col. Connop.

“L.D.V. do not turn out on “Red Warning” but only when called upon by a Military Commander”.

In case of wires becoming useless – all will depend on observers, bicycle orderlies & passing on information from section to section.

Passed to Hoxne 235-244-242-201 Ff 237 Wingfield 241

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** correspondence from Col C passed to all sections re

- (1) No of shot guns
- (2) Mills bombers
- (3) Rifle training

**June 12<sup>th</sup>**

Rifle reported by Searchlight Company as faulty. Returned by Corporal Clayton.

**June 13<sup>th</sup>** 6 o'clock News - Church Bells only to be rung on arrival of parachutists or Air Bourne Troops,

7 pm P.C. Brewer reports 5 more uniforms at Police Station.

**June 14** Rifle 63055 sent to Eye Police Station by bus 5.30

Details of equipment received from Hoxne Police Station

5 uniforms  
20 slings  
90 L.D.V. Armlets  
21 Oil bottles  
42 Dummy cartridges .303  
170 rds of .22 ammn.  
20 pieces of gauze for pull throughs  
55 buttons  
5 buckles  
500 sandbags  
4 red lamps

For Ff 5 uniforms  
20 slings  
21 oil bottles  
42 dummy cartridges .303  
170 .22 ammn.  
21 pieces of gauze for pull throughs  
55 buttons  
5 metal buckles  
670 sand bags  
4 red lamps

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

Issued equipment to Risk & Howlett

Wright called with watchers list to Sunday June 23

Brown took 2<sup>nd</sup> gallon of petrol- no coupon & no payment.

Banham called for equipment.

2. pm Col Connop took me to Ff via Wingfield Searchlight Detachment. Saw five road blocks suggested various improvements. One at foot of Buckingham Hill to be moved to the top in corner of F. Thurstons field.

To Mendham Priory Shotford Bridge & Metfield.

Home by 7.15.

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

Went round posts in Hoxne & Denham with Wright. Issued equipment to Dickinson & Last.

**June 17<sup>th</sup>** Received issue of 45 Molotoff bottles.

Rec'd 2 3 E Units Petrol Coupons

F.Z. 87851 }

F.Z. 87852 } Ackd.

**June 16<sup>th</sup>** Issued 27 Molotoff Bottles to Risk, Howlett & Banham (9 each)

## **June 18<sup>th</sup>**

Lieut Melcome called to make liaison relative to watchers in Ff. Suggested Tower on High ground Harleston Rd

11.35 pm M Dixon Tower. Air Raid Siren Eye (Diss?) Plane over towards Diss. All searchlights on it.

11.38 2<sup>nd</sup> plane over - all searchlights on it

11.55 A.A.'s in action towards coast. Machine Gun two bursts. Reported to Colonel Connop.

Col Connop 'Turn out - in skeleton'

12.7- 12.15 called up units in skeleton

12.40 Tower – Heavy A.A. firing towards coast - another plane coming over.

1.15 T. Raven tracer bullets & machine gun fire in Eye direction

2.10 Risk - Light seen over Ff direction might be a crashed plane (reported at 2.40)

4.am Given All clear from Dickinson saw a plane (?) down S. of his post - long way away - explosion & flare

**On opposite page**

10 pm enrolled William Potter  
Victor Herbert Last  
Issued to each 1 uniform  
1 cap  
10 rounds of 12 bore Ball ammn.  
1 armlet

**June 19** 10 am J K Wood brought form for extension to phone to top of Tower to be signed.

**June 19**

Issue per Major Wright for Hoxne Pol(ice) Sta(tion)

5 caps  
29 Pull throughs  
118 armlets some for Ff  
200 rds of 303  
50 12 bore cartridges  
1 box of fuses

Major Wright took an issue of 9 Molotoff bottles for N.S. Dickinson.

**June 20**

12.15 Evans reported Stradbroke siren sounded. Told him if he did not have a call "man the post" in two minutes - to go to bed.

Col., Connop informed - told me 'raiders passed' signal had gone.

2.30 Issued Molotoff Bottles, pull throughs & 12 boreball cartridge to Risk (10) Howett (10) Banham (10) & P Last (20) (per Aspland).

**June 21.** To Dickinson 7 Pull through cords.

G. Howlett 50 sandbags for sentry post.

J Risk 50 sandbags.

8pm 22 Practice Banham's Pit

J. Thurlow S.G. [South Green] A. Thurlow Denham R Burrows C Chenery & K Chenery made poor practice.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Goddard, Cook, M Dixon, G Howlett             | 5 bulls |
| D Stokes, J Risk, Aspland                     | 4 bulls |
| Brett, A Whatling, Bishop, K Rush, C Baldwin, |         |
| T Raven, E Lawes                              | 3 bulls |
| M Colmer, H Knight, F Dorling, G Witton       | 2 bulls |

F Sowter , W Potter, R Watson, M C Butter 1 bull  
31 made practice 5 rds a piece 155 rds  
Empties 154 (the 4 written in pencil)

**June 21.** about 11pm two lots of bombs due North.

A.A. fire heard. Nothing from Tower.

11.20 Skeleton posts from Yaxley. passed to all units. No Air raid warning signal &

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>** No raiders passed. Asked Brown about 3am & twice subsequently. No reply.

Later heard Diss siren.

Further instructed Herbert Knights in passing on information. Sent in return Equipment.

### **Opposite page**

Heard Enemy (?) planes going over from 10 pm onwards.

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>** Inspected Post adjoining Automatic exchange & Police Station Post - which still wants 'Head cover'.

**June 24** Brett called. Reported 12 rifles received on June 12 & 650 rds of ammunition 303.

Issued 30 LDV armlets for Ff (Fressingfield) went by car on loan (minus petrol) N.G. 8573 21 miles - saw Dickinson, Wright, Howlett, Risk Eye Police Station (rifle not back from Bury) & to Yaxley House. Called at Col. Lauries office about Banham's post being taken over by his unit. Understood from Adjutant that it would be probably taken over with all duties.

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** 11.55. Col. Connop Air Raid Warning Red - Skeleton Posts to all units, except Banhams.

Nothing from town - from 10- 4 am

All clear at 4.15 from Col. Connop.

**June 26.** 12.03 Thomas M reported from Tower Diss siren sounded. Red flare seen to E.

12.10 Col Connop orders "skeleton posts"

12.10 to 12.20 Risk, Howlett, Banham, N.R., Saunders N.R., Belderson, Last, Aldous.

12.47 Plane dropped white flare over Debenham- Searchlights on it (Tower).

4.5 Connop reports "All clear" Risk said siren came through 3.53.

11.30 Heard Diss siren

11.35 Air Raid Warning Red – Col Connop

**27<sup>th</sup>** Units called 222. 244 St (Stradbroke?) 236 (Ruth) Ff 221 St. 241 (Eye 39) 235 J Banham & Herbert Steward. Stand down at 3.30 to all except Eye 39 (no reply).

Air Raid warning White 3.30

No report from Tower Col Connop

3.30 Brett called - issued 2 oil Bottles & 1 pull through.

**28<sup>th</sup>** 12.35 Farm Tower - Newton reports enemy plane over (with search lights on it - very high) bomb explosions West - 15 miles away (?)

12.37 Reported to Colonel Collop. No red warning yet - thought bomb was at Wattisham(?)

12.50 Dickinson 'Any red warning yet?'

**29<sup>th</sup>** 12.35 From Browns Tower - enemy plane from Lowestoft - turned off engine covered by searchlight to W. till 12.50 - No bombs reported.

2.50 All clear given by Hoxne Police. No red warning given.

5.45 Return of Molotoff Bottles to Col Connop by phone.

Hoxne 36

Ff & W 34

70

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** Nil

**July 1<sup>st</sup>** 3am Large no. of Aircraft thought to be German heading west from Tower - Evans

3.2 AM Reported to Col Connop

11.30 Brett called about phone

12.45 Police came to recall all 12 bore cartridges.

2.45 per Aspland issued 200 rounds of ammun & withdrew 50 rounds of 12 bore 10 from G. Howlett, J. Risk, W. Banham, V. Last & W. Potter. Returned to Eye Police Station at 3.30

**On Opposite page**

**80 rds to Banham**

**60 rds to Risk**

**60 rds to Howlett**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** 3.30 am from Col Connop "All L.D.V. posts are to be manned. Ch. Bells will not be rung by order of the Home Forces". All units informed. Lewis & Goldsmith as A.R.P.

Message to Col. Laurie per Ramsay.

4.30 "Stand down" all messages cancelled.

**On opposite page**

**This message was reported from Stradbroke (?) at 11.30 AM**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>** 3.54 From Col Connop

All troops & L.D.V. are to be warned that parachutists are expected & that special vigilance is necessary.

3.57 Rang Risk his men stay till 5. a.m. anyhow 4.0 Brett Howlett Banham Dickinson Last Depper (236) & 241 & to Adj. E.Y. per E.J.P.R.

Men to have their kits & rifles & ammn. with them wherever they are so as to go to their posts on hearing Church Bells rung.

11.30 Met Major Wright & Vicar & discussed New Times for watchers. Times suggested 9 – 12 & 2 – 5 am. This submitted to Col. Connop & agreed to. Pointed out that in Harvest Time practically all men available for manning posts were either farmers or labourers. At present only seven did not belong to one category or the other.

He told me I might expect to day 6 Rifles for Hoxne 6 for Ff 8 Corrugated sheets & 300 sandbags.

3.30 J Risk returned 352017 Rifle (A Whatling) spring of ejector out of order. Issued to J Risk 2 oil Bottles & 2 Gauzes.

6.15 To Eye with Wood to Eye to draw 6 rifles & returned 352017 as “out of action”. Issued 2 rifles to V. Last & W Potter. Ross 363-1916 & 211-1917 2 to Risk (O Archer R Riches) & six field dressings - Banham 8 field dressings & 2 slings - 1 Rifle to Putts & 10 rds.

Opposite Page - W.Potter & V. Last 20 rds ammn.

8.45 W Potter handed in 211 1917 LW issued to him 130-1916 KC Uniform & armllet issued to Putts & 2 buckles & button to Last - 3 field dressings to Last

#### **July 4<sup>th</sup>**

10.0 pm Revell rang through from the Tower - up till then Vicars phone had been used from his house

2pm per Aspland to Eye handed into Police Station Ross Rifle 211.L.W. (W Potter) which Captain Browning Smith, S.M. & Boast? spent over an hour on trying to move bolt.

5.55 pm Order from Col.Connop “Two rifles & a bicycle runner to be posted at each post from 10 pm to 5 AM & someone on duty on Tower all day (5. am - 10 pm) to watch for parachutists. Day watcher may be a lady. Order passed to all units & Col. Laurie’s orderly. Major Wright came along and rearranged duties from 10 - 1.30 & 1.30 - 5 - Day watchers arranged as follows.

On opposite page -

#### **Tower Day Watchers**

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Geoff Goddard | 5-7  |
| Frank Butler  | 7-9  |
| John Westrepp | 9-11 |
| G. Keebly     | 11-1 |
| E.J.P. Raven  | 1-3  |
| Major Wright  | 3-5  |
| Ena Thrower   | 5-7  |
| W. Bayles     | 7-9  |
| Mrs Chenery   | 9-10 |

**July 5<sup>th</sup>** 3.30 Up & dressed. 10.30 In woods car round parish till 12 getting watchers for Tower for Sat 6<sup>th</sup>. 12 Molotoff Bottles at Hoxne Police Station 7 Field Dressings

left at G Thirkettles for Cross Street post. 90 sandbags & 4 bayonets sent to Chickering & Automatic Posts.

5 pm Coupon 2 Two E units D.W. 19069 to Rodney Cook car No. PX 9538 for journeys round village & to & fro post & building new posts.

**On the reverse page appears a rota for the Tower Watch**

Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup>

Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup>

Tower Day Watchers

Armour (?) 5-7 am  
Keeble 7-9  
H Stevens 9-11  
E.J.P. Raven 11-1 pm

John Westrepp 1-3  
Laura Thirkettle } 3-5  
Mrs Shelley }  
H L Bridges 5-7  
P.O. Moller 7-9  
F Barrett 9-10

A. Knights 5-7  
S Birch 7-9  
G Hastings 9-11  
Miss D Witton } 11-1 pm  
Miss A Rush }  
Tom Lines 1-3

Major F Wright 3-5  
W W Baldwin 5-7  
H Stevens 7-9  
J Carter 9-10

Passed to all units

**July 6<sup>th</sup>** Arranged for Section Leaders Meeting at 9.30 on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> - Risk, Howlett, Banham, Brown, Dickinson & P Last informed. Major Wright invited to attend. Spent the afternoon in getting Day Watchers on the Tower - got home at 8pm. Found Conor had issued 1000 rounds 22 ammn.

11.45 R Cooke reported that he come 15 miles & found no post occupied. Evans reported that he come from Lowestoft & found no post occupied. Reported Col Connop.

**July 7<sup>th</sup>** Conference of Section leaders & told them to arrange eighteen men – 6 riflemen 6 Reserves 6 Runners & to put on three per night 10-5 two to rest one act as sentry.

More reserves to be trained.

3 pm Per Aspland to Yaxley. Fresh orders- "Posts to be manned 8-10 pm and 2-4 am."

Daylight watches to be suspended for a time.

**On the reverse page appears**

Cross Street Reserves

Leonard Chapman  
G Bryant  
F Mower  
W Hawes  
Pallett  
J Easey



Runners

Walter Abbott  
G Thirkettle

Garner undertook if phone breaks down to pass on orders to units - on receipt of message arriving from Tower by bicycle.  
All clear should go to Lewis 249 and not Coleman.

Lists will be kept open

New organisation.

Colonel E P Clarke, Huntingfield Arms, Huntingfield.  
Colonel T E Connop 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion L.D.V.

No 7 Company

O.C. Revillon J J Mendham Priory, Harleston Ff. 236.  
2<sup>nd</sup> in Comd H.P.R. Hoxne 203.

Parishes - Worlingworth, Bedingfield, Stradbroke, Horham, Wilby, Laxfield, Brundish, Syleham, Hoxne, Denham, Ff & Wingfield, Mendham, Metfield & Weybread.

July 8<sup>th</sup> O.C. J J Revillon called 10 am went through organisation gave him complete lists of personal & return of rifles, clothing etc issued & required. Went round all posts except Ff & W. Brett called & arranged to go round these with him next day.

2pm Rodney Cooke to take me round to Brown, Cross Street - to see G Bryant (brother in law) & five more to enrol. Brown 12 armlets.

6pm to South Green (P Last) to enrol C Knights, F Barfield, W Knights, J Turner and Cyril Thurlow.

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** J Risk. his men want to continue 10-5 watch & has enough men.

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** 1.15 AM F Brundle reported from Tower 21 bombs dropped to North about 10 miles.

Orders sent to section leaders - wearing of trousers & having rifle etc with them in fields. Medal ribbons - shot guns & enrolment forms. 22 rifle practice.  
Issued 60 sandbags to Banham.

## Opposite page

Bought 8 sheets of corrugated from A. Foster Clarke £2.6.8 for Chickering Post.

7pm Low Street section shoot- 6 reserves + Durrant, K Rush, W Banham, EJPR 90 rounds 22. Doling Goddard E. Lawes & M Butler - Bulls at 80 yards. Windy.

## Opposite page

W Doling, G Goddard, E Lawes, A Knights, G Baldwin & M Butler.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>** Resignation R.L. Browne (Temporary).

### Automatic post

N J Dickinson 201  
Vincent ?(in pencil)  
  
A Martin }  
F Brundle } 207  
  
A V Bishop }  
F Harper } 205  
  
H Revell }  
Westley Chambers } 207  
  
F Sowter }  
  
William Feavearyear } 207  
  
M Allard }  
Walter Sowter } 207  
  
B Gissing }  
D Boast } 201

### Chickering Post

Ben Ruth Stn. 236  
  
T. Raven }  
R. Onslow } Stn. 236  
  
C. Westrepp  
A. Warne  
J. Barber  
Ben Batley  
  
Below in pencil  
  
F.C. Wiles  
E. Newton  
  
J. Westrepp  
Farmer (John?) Page

Fred Souter 12 bore handed in for testing.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>** 12.15 3 Incendiary bombs in the direction of Bungay.

12.50 Bombs dropped in direction of Stowmarket.

Many due west.

9.45 from Col Connop by phone " 3 rifles/casualties will go to Bury St Eds today.

11-1.45 In Woods car 15 miles to see Wright, Ruth & Syleham. Reorganising two posts on basis of one with two men at each post - one to be a runner.

3pm Issue of 30 complete suits - Tr. jackets & caps. 35 field dressings.

5pm To Col E G Clarkes conference with Revillon, home 9.15. 1 Red lamp on loan from J.J.R.

90 Molitoff Bottles distributed by Major F Wright 15 per post.

J. Leaders 12 bore double barrelled gun. A Chamberlain Salisbury taken on strength & re-issued to A T Bishop.  
7pm South Green shoot 22 rifle. C Thurlow 2B, P Last, W Potter 3B, V Last 2B, J Turner 4B, W Knights 4B.

### **Opposite Page**

July 10<sup>th</sup>

Uniform & cap received (Mens own signatures)

A Martin  
F Harper  
F Brundle  
A.V. Bishop

July 11<sup>th</sup>

W Doling (jnr)  
G Baldwin  
A Pallett Heckfield Green  
B Hawes  
A Lawes  
W G Lawes  
E J P Raven  
H Palgrave Raven

July 12<sup>th</sup>

F Wiles  
H Page  
O J Archer  
F Knights  
L J Chapman  
R. Barfield  
W P ???

July 15<sup>th</sup>

D A Boast

**July 11** From Police A W Red 1.50 Green 2.45 White 2.48  
From Police A W Red 5.10 Green 7.8 White 7.37

No action taken of June 10<sup>th</sup> also June 25 & 26 July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Shuckburgh called up to postpone visit.

5.45 Police report that parachutists have landed at Botesdale & Mellis at 5.15. All units to man posts, two per post. Informed CO & told him to let me know if that was OK or if he wanted posts fully manned.

6.10 Police - Message red. Tower manned by 6 pm by Air raid Message Green (6.20)

6.26 Air Raid Message White 6.50 Cancel previous message. False Alarm.

7 pm stand down. All OK (201 - no reply)

8-9 pm Issued eight uniforms as overleaf.

### **July 12<sup>th</sup>**

Heard three Air raid warnings sirens, (Diss?). 2am 5am 7am. No orders received or message from Police.

10 am JJ Revillon "Did I get Air Raid Warning Red at 2am 5am 7am? Skeleton Posts." No.

No orders from a Military Commander or police message.

11am Received 20 Rifles Enfield - 20 Bayonets 400 rounds 303.

Separate issue to Brett - 5 rifles 5 bayonets 100 rounds 303

2.0 pm J Risk returned 2 rifles Howlett ERA 37019 & ERA 301236 (to Barber).

W Potter returned Ross rifle 130-1916 K C & bayonet.

3 pm Shuckburgh came.

7pm No's 2 & 4 Sections shot.

Issue of clothing & Rifles (as opposite)

8pm to Banhams post with W Banham & M Butler.

### **Opposite Page 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Distribution of Rifles July 12<sup>th</sup>

1/ 2712 + 3 Enfield bayonets

2/ 71178 } 1 sling, 6 armllets, 3 field dressings } J Risk (signature)

3/ 84603 }

4/ 43142 (signature) A J Knights + bayonet & 20 rounds

5/ 3027 (signature) W J Doling + bayonets & 20 rounds

6/ 4412 + bayonet (signature) H Page + 20 rounds } 2 Field dressings taken  
7/ 91(2)785 + bayonet (signature) F Wiles + 20 rounds } by E.J.P.R.  
+ ? rounds (10 each) to B Ruth.

8/ 3070H to W Potter (signature) W Potter + bayonet (exchange for Ross)  
9/ 2183W (signature) J Turner + 20 rounds + 1 Field dressing.  
10/ 55292H (signature) W J Knights + 20 rounds + 1 Field dressing  
(in pencil) Long Ross bayonets 2 (corrected later to 1) to S Green 2 to Risk 1 to  
Putts 1 spare for the casualty rifle. 1 returned by Potter.  
+ 30 rounds to P Last (who had only 10 per rifle).  
11/ 12107K (for W Hawes) + bayonet + 20 Rounds } and 2 Field Dressings  
12/ 55440 (to B Hawes) + bayonet + 20 rounds }  
(11&12 signed off by) A E Brown  
13/ 1/4560 to A Martin + bayonet + 10 rounds + Field dressings (signature) A  
Martin  
14/ B/47003 to F Brundle + bayonet + 10 rounds + Field dressings (signature) F  
Brundle

1 suit of uniform + cap B E Gissing

Night watchers on towers ceased.

### July 13<sup>th</sup>

2.5am Brown called up to say that M Butler & E Hawes had failed to parade at  
Tower.

2 to 4 am Edward to Chickering Post with J Barber

### July 13<sup>th</sup>

10 am per Aspland to Major F. Wright & Dickinson

6.30 Received per Lt Phillips from HQ  
Rifles No ERA 352017 (in pencil) A Whatling  
No ERA 63055 (in pencil) J Risk  
No LW 211 (in pencil) Wm Potter  
1917

7 pm Lt Phillips using afusing of Molotoff Bottles  
56 men on parade A.F.W. 3066 Forms signed  
Wanted cars?? M 2842  
MB 9533

### July 14<sup>th</sup>

12 noon out with Shuckburgh

2pm to Monewden Hall with Captain Revillon & A.H. Nelson to conference.

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

To W Putt 1 bayonet for Long Ross, 1 Field dressing  
W Banham returned Ross W 135283 & took Enfield  
N S Dickinson returned Ross 207281 + bayonet (for Long R(oss))  
To Depperhaugh, Wright & B Ruth  
Issue of 5 rifles & 50 rds of ammn to Syleham Post. Also clothing as opposite.

## Opposite Page

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

### Distribution of Rifles

Enfield no. 15/ D65220 + bayonet & 10 rds (signature) W E Feavearyear  
no. 16/ Q875 + bayonet, no ammn (signature) W. A. Banham  
no. 17/ H99350 + bayonet, no ammn (signature) N S Dickinson  
no. 18/ 2 7907 to Brown-see foot of page

### Long Ross

1. 130 1916 KE + bayonet 10 rds (signature) W Souter
2. 211 1917 LW + bayonet + 10 rds (signature) F Reeve

Short Ross 207281 + 10 rounds each (signature) F Chapman (no bayonet)  
Short Ross W 135283 + 10 rounds each (signature) B Chapman (no bayonet)

Uniform + cap (signature) P Duncan  
Uniform + cap (signature) F Chapman  
Uniform + cap (signature) W E Feavearyear.  
Cap only (signature) W Souter  
Cap only (signature) F Reeve  
Cap only sent to E Reeve

Short Ross ERA 352017 + 10 rds ammn (signature) G Baldwin

Issued to Enfield Z 7907 + bayonet } A E Brown  
Handed in 249879. }

## July 16

10.30 am Major Briggs-Constable (in pencil) & Captain Ruggles-Brise E.Y. (Essex Yeomanry) called on me at 10.30 & liaised as to Road Blocks 1-6 Pill Boxes - river Dove.

12.30 Lieut Olevi to liason about bridge-heads from Stuston Cm Bridge - Shotford.  
Wants L.D.V. in an emergency to cover bridge by Sailors Pool.

3-5 Out with Shuckburgh

5.30 Issuing rifles to Baldwin & Browne

6.30 Howlett returned his uniform & 20 rounds amm

7.0 per Aspland to inspect Wingfield, Chickering & Syleham posts. Called on Wright & Abbott. Home at 9 pm.

### **July 17<sup>th</sup>**

Went out per Aspland to Major F. Wright at 11 am

1.30 To Fressingfield to hand over FF (possible Fressingfield section of LDV) to A H Nelson on to o/c J J Revillon.

Issued order to all units. To Banham & enrolled A G Abbott. Newman (Bt Yorks & Lincs) called re Fressingfield.

**July 18<sup>th</sup>** Issued fresh orders for manning the posts as from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> in alternate pairs. Denham & X street Low Street & South Green Chickering & Syleham 10pm – 4 pm with 3 men - one only to be on guard at a time.

Arranged for section leaders to attend a parade at Major E Blackhouse's for musketry instruction & advice from his experiences in Belgium.

Received G Howlett's resignation - who reverts to A.R.P. in accordance with prearranged agreement with R Hayward, Air Chief Warden.

7pm Section leaders & six others paraded at Major Blackhouse's for instruction in care & use of rifle - drill - & points from his experience in Belgium and Dunkirk. Arranged for a Platoon parade at 2pm at Banham's Brickyard on Sunday.

**July 19<sup>th</sup>** Risk returned 3 cartons - Brundle signed enrolment form.

**July 20<sup>th</sup>** Walked up to Chickering post & left 20 sandbags - went on to see Major F Wright & Vincent. Down to Sailors Pool to reconnoitre positions for holding bridge with a small post.

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** 7th Company Parade No 1 Platoon 30 men present - deluge of rain - Major E Blackhouse (Buffs) gave instruction in aiming with rifle (on rest).

### **Opposite Page**

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** To H Aldous patt' 14 249879 in exch for Long Ross with bolt jammed (264/1918)

Uniform & cap, July 21<sup>st</sup> (signature) A Leftley

To Aldous, 6 armllets, 1 Field Dressing

11 am B Ruth reported "2 sheets of corrugated iron stolen from his dugout" passed by phone to PC Brewer & asked for a written report as it is Govt property.

To all units

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>** 11am To Revillon by phone "Coy Parades take place on Sundays at 2pm" Suggested that this should be dropped in Harvest.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>** Twenty rifle cartons (empty) to Eye Police Station. Two casualty rifles to Eye at 9.30: arrival verified by phone. Pattern 1914 ERA 63055 and Long Ross 264/1918 with bolt jammed.

With Edwards to reconnoitre positions E of Red Bridge to Herbert Bridges cottage (this was Waveney Lodge) - found two sand bagged positions facing to N over valley - nearing completion but not camouflaged.

From Revillon by phone "That barriers will not be put on roads except in the case of Red Warnings, State of Alarm or Emergency or anything that causes suspicion to men at the post"

**July 24<sup>th</sup>** Risk called about casualty rifle. Major F Wright went through a scheme for competitions & suggested

- (1) Markmanship
- (2) Squad drill 6?
- (3) Best turned out soldier in each section.
- (4) Best equipped & camouflaged dug out.
- (5) Most efficiently manned post.
- (6) Skirmishing from post-6-dealing with four Parachutists & sending in information.

**July 25<sup>th</sup>** Rifle training & drill in threes to Banham  
Rifle Training & drill & inf section leading to Brown

### **Opposite Page**

Saw Philips in Eye- enquired for chevrons - & heard that rifles would probably be exchanged in a few days for US pattern & 300 ammunition.

**July 26<sup>th</sup>** Completed rifle & ammunition returns in am.

**July 27<sup>th</sup>** To sub sectors conference with O/C 7<sup>th</sup> Company

- (1) To man pill box at Red Bridge on receiving code word B with No. 3 section.
- (2) Two guides to be detailed at each post - on pill box who can give map references - or at X roads.

To detail 1 man per post to be on duty at posts from 8am – 6 pm. Div . Ex. Haigh.



**July 28th** Col E. P. Clarke DSO TD inspected the 1<sup>st</sup> platoon with Major Wright & about sixty other ranks on parade.

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> sections did extended order exercises & the rounding up of five parachutists.

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sections Aiming practice with rifle

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> shot 22 rifle 10 recruits 5 shots each.

7<sup>th</sup> Section musketry instruction.

Map readings of posts

No 1 648-908

No 2 641-943

No 3 634-955

No 4 648-953

No 5 648-955

No 6 624-935

Red Bridge 628-961

### **Opposite Page**

Col. E.P. Clarke "that a dawn watch on Tower would be sufficient in Harvest month"  
Communicated to Major F Wright by phone 11.20 28/7/40-who said that he could easily arrange.

**July 29<sup>th</sup>** Received & sent out orders about the ringing of Church Bells.  
Arranged with Wright for a dawn watch on Church Tower 3am - 5am Ronnie Sheehan detailed to take next days tour.

**July 30<sup>th</sup>** 3 am Ronnie on Church Tower.  
Went round Hoxne in Woods car & arranged for posts to be manned with guides for Wed 31<sup>st</sup>. Browns post No3 still carry out a dawn patrol 3am – 5am on their post.

### **Opposite Page**

Received casualty rifle No Long Ross 264/1918 per Bailey 3 tin hats 70 Button & clips, 4 x 2, 40 field dressings 30 armlets. Issued to L Steward & R Wood LDV Armlet.

**July 31<sup>st</sup>** Divisional operations took place in Hoxne Area. Out with O/C Company (Revillon) but unable to find any trace of troops. Called up Monks Hall three times - each time no one had seen any of the military. Posted guides at each road block.

5.45 Phone message from Revillon - 150 rifles to be issued on Saturday. Booked St. Edmunds Hall with Aspland. Pointed out that it was necessary to comply with regulations by having some sort of uniform.

Arranged to meet Major F Wright & section leaders here at 7.30 Thursday to make plans for change over.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>** Photo taken at Malings- pass port size for identity card.

7.30 Major Wright & all Section Leaders.

Read correspondence of the last few days.

Orders for issue of Rifles 150 USA pattern

Platoon to parade at 6 pm Saturday Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> at St Edmunds Hall under Section Leaders.

Rifles (61) to be handed in with all 303 Ammn but no slings oil bottles or pull throughs.

USA pattern to be issued.

|       |           |    |
|-------|-----------|----|
| To No | 1 section | 35 |
|       | 2         | 15 |
|       | 3         | 11 |
|       | 4         | 14 |
|       | 5         | 17 |
|       | 6         | 11 |
|       | 7         | 17 |

Guards to be mounted at St Edmunds Hall.

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Saturday 10pm-5pm | Risk  |
|                   | Brown |
|                   | Ruth  |

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Sunday 10pm-5pm | Banham    |
|                 | Dickinson |
|                 | Potter    |

|  |      |        |
|--|------|--------|
| Volunteers to be called for for Sunday | 5-8  | 12 men |
|  | 8-11 |        |
|  | 11-2 |        |
|  | 2-5  |        |
|  | 5-8  |        |
|  | 8-10 |        |

To ask Lieut Shackle for an instructor to drill Section Leaders & probable N.C.O.'s at Chickering Sunday Aug 11<sup>th</sup> 2.30-4.30 in foot drill & musketry.

Competitions - marksmanship only.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>** Issued

6 Armlets for Syleham to Major F Wright  
33 Buttons & clips + 2 clips to N J Dickinson  
11 " " to A Brown  
100 rounds 22 ammn to H A Aldous  
4 X 2 to several  
Uniform (but no cap) to Major F Wright  
Uniform (but no cap) to B Norman taken by Risk.

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>** to St Edmunds Hall to make arrangement for handing in and taking over new rifles.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>** 2pm – 9pm

Handed in to B Philips for CO 4th Battn  
57 .303 rifles (20 Enfields 37 Ross)  
24 Bayonets  
2191 .303 Ammn

Received issue of 150 .300 Rifles US Pattern  
2400 .300 Ammn  
10 uniforms (less buttons & clips & buckles).  
2 caps

Issued Rifles to Section Leaders & those handing in + 10 rounds per rifle to those who have uniform.

### **Opposite Page**

**Aug 3** Received 10 uniforms (no buttons) 2 caps from B Phillips

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** Collected 3 rifles from H A Aldous + 1 from Martin.

Issued rifles & ammunition & ear marked clothing to be issued when buttons available.

**August 5<sup>th</sup>** Delivered to J F French 5 rifles .303 (Three Ross & 2 L Enfields + 2 bayonets) and 60 rounds of .303 Ammn.

Major Croft called to form Mobile Squad to work with road blocks. Ten to be detailed to meet him here at 8 pm Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>. 

**August 6<sup>th</sup>** With J W Revillon out on Divisional operations at 10 am. Ff, Laxfield, Aspall, Ff Fox and Goose.

### **Opposite Page**

Received 70 3066 Forms 50 LDV Armlets 9 boxes of Fuzees (Fuses?)  
Issued 20 rounds .300 to risk

**August 7** To Wingfield .22 shoot about 20 fired about 200 rds  
To Aldous 60 rounds for 7 section  
To F Wright 60 rounds 4 section  
Ditto 60 5 section

Handed back Fred Souters 12 bore not nitro-prove  
Sent 60 rounds to No 3 Section by Jack Banham  
Issued to Brown 60 rounds for No 2 Section

### **Opposite Page**

**Aug 7<sup>th</sup>** received 26 uniforms (no caps)


NB: DIARY IN A DIFFERENT HAND

**Aug 8<sup>th</sup>** To South Green, Sailor's Pool & Dickinson's pit. For site for Crofts demonstration & for Sailor's Pool post with Wright. 

Shoot (.22) in evening. No's 1 & Sections chiefly. Issued rifle to F R Goddard and uniforms to R. Jolly & G Watson (No2).

.22 Rifle sent over by Aldous for our use.  
600 rounds of .300 await us at J French's & will be sent. 540 of them drawn Aug 11 & 12 60 (of them drawn) Sep 2.

**Aug 9<sup>th</sup>** 3.30 Major Wright to discuss orders etc. He was to go to Lavenham for conference but might prefer to stay for Sunday parade. Neither Connop nor J French could take him. (Eventually Buck of Stradbroke went). Received 500 sandbags, 4 sergeant's stripes & saw specimen rifle with red band: informed Brown uniforms issued in evening.

**Aug 10<sup>th</sup>** Typed orders etc. After lunch Cpt Croft called wishing to advance time of demonstration from Thursday to Tuesday evening: he went on to see Wright: settled for Tuesday. Buck to bring over a contingent from Stradbroke too. 


**Aug 11<sup>th</sup>** Risk delivered 50 rounds from J French (keeping the other 20). I gave him a bandolier of 60. Risk took me to section leaders parade Chickering 3.30. 3 men per section + Wright & myself – 23. Arms drill & falling in in threes. Distributed orders etc. Arranged .22 shoot for next Sunday. Arrangements for Tuesday evening.

**Aug 12<sup>th</sup>** 480 rounds .300 ammn delivered from Halesworth. 1.30 pointed out that a further 60 was due to make up the full 600.  
Phoned and saw Wright in conv. re Tuesday's demonstration

Walked down to Sailor's Pool: no work begun yet. Saw another post on banks of Dove in park. Left by E.Y. (Essex Yeomanry) who had camped there, hitherto

unknown to me. Red Bridge pill box nearly complete. Banham's post camouflaged by net but imperfectly, its shape giving it away? Make net perfect with forked sticks etc. Put some green leaves etc in net. Rags do not blend well enough with background.

**Aug 13<sup>th</sup>** Round all the posts with M.M.R. delivering further supplies of ammn to make up to 20 per rifle.

7.30 Demonstration by Capt. Croft at Dickinsons attended by 4 regular capts., Revillon and contingent from Stradbroke under Buck besides our own. Arranged for a further practice next Tuesday 7.15 same place. 

Received from Revillon 200 .22 ammn & some receipt cards.

Brown informed me that he would begin painting rifles tonight.

**Opposite Page** (in pencil)

Croft left case of S.I.P. Bottles 12 in case, 9 on Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 

**Aug 14<sup>th</sup>** Spent some time in morning trying to camouflage Banham's post with boughs etc. Consulted Revillon about possibility of a Sunday shoot at Sizewell, but he pointed out that we should have to supply our own ammn & could not spare any of our own 20 per rifle. Wright called in evening with form & took pamphlet re Tuesday night. Consulted Wright after 9 o'clock news as to possibility of resuming all night Tower watching, which he thought feasible & agreed to ask some men to do it when needed.

**Aug 15<sup>th</sup>** Wright told me he was arranging for sand & sand bags for the new posts from Witton's pit.

**Aug 16<sup>th</sup>** Re-typed lists of men. All men to register with police.

12.0 Croft called to discuss new squad & leader etc. 

7.0 Wright called to discuss above. Gave him 100 rds. .22.

ORIGINAL HAND TAKES OVER DIARY

**Aug 17<sup>th</sup>** Did reconnaissance over Oakley Park north of the Goldbrook: found four sand bagged fire pits with head cover partially completed. Together with pill box (Red Bridge) and Banham's post (No 3) this should give ample defence from Oakley to Sailors Pool.

**Aug 18** Sections 4, 5 & 7 shot at Wingfield .22 rifle


J W Revillon went to Theberton.

**Aug 19<sup>th</sup>** Went to Theberton per Major F Wright. Left list of LDV with Sergeant Ruffles. Had instruction by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut Whitehouse RE. Left at 8.45 Home by 1 pm.

**Aug 19<sup>th</sup>** David Warley's rifle returned by Major F T Wright. This man has joined the Army. No ammn returned.

**Aug 20<sup>th</sup>** 12.35 Evans called up from the Depperhaugh. Bombs dropped - heard bugle sounded. Ask him to call Ruth. Ruth thought Bugle came from soldiers camped near Brockdish. No action taken. Arranged with No 1 to do extended order drill Sunday.

10.30 Risk's house. Nos 2 & 3 to do scouting on Oakley Park. Rendevous Miss Moores.

Captain Wills 2<sup>nd</sup> Kensingtons. Demonstration at Dickinsons - twelve present. Instructed G Thirkettle verbally that he would be put I/C of the mobile squad. To come & see me one night at about 9pm. 

Fitted out Arnold Richard Hart with uniform & field dressing, but no cap. He completed A.F.W. 3066. Evans called & left A.F.W. 3066 for himself.

**Aug 21** A.R.W. Red 9.30 - A.R.W. White 11 am.

21 Sent details (opposite page) of mobile squad to Croft.

ON OBVERSE

Mobile squad



Hoxne Thirkettle G I/C of

Witton G  
Steward H  
Banham J  
Rush K  
Kinghts H

Denham Brett C

Riches R  
Watling A

Syleham Page H

Gissing B  
Revell H

To Captain Croft  
The Vicarage  
Kelvedon Phone Kel 19  
Essex

Captain Wills  
2<sup>nd</sup> Kensingtons, Claydon (351)

**Aug 21** 12 .12pm phoning to Revillon about supply of small uniforms & ammunition 17,000 rnds at Eye. 12.15 Machine gun fire heard overhead. O/C 7<sup>th</sup> Coy. Aeroplane down - I'm off. Three baled out. 'Turn out your men.'

Banham, Brown, Wright, Aldous & Ruth all informed and given orders to hunt 3 parachutists in area Weybread Horse Shoes.

12.50 A.R.W. Red 12.52 warned Risk & Potter to stand by with armed men.

1.20 A.R.W. White told Risk & Potter to stand their men down.

1.30 Evans reported parachutists caught at Three Horse Shoes 1 dead 1 wounded 3<sup>rd</sup> caught in Farm. Plane at Starston.

1.30 Stevens Two prisoner taken at Weybread Horse Shoes.

1.40 Three prisoners taken by Mrs (Farmer) Youngs and Postman & 1 Weybread L.D.V. - back of Horse Shoes- one badly burned.

1.50 Dickinson 3 prisoners taken by military & police-officers in charge - Plane flattened out with pilot still intact. Confirmed by Major Wright.

#### NOTE RE CRASH

21st Aug 1940 Do. 17Z-3 From 2/KG2 was shot down by blue section of no.242 sqd (Flt .Lt G Powell-sheddon, sub -Lieut R E Gardner and Pilot Officer J B Latta) during a sortie over Norfolk. Attempted a forced landing but overshot and ploughed into a wood and exploded at Conifer hill Starston at 11.52 pm. approx.

Crew: 1 Killed, 2 wounded.

Lieut H. Ermecke was killed, Uffz. G-D Wulf, H Herman and war correspondent Sonderfuhrer Lt Kurt Rashe (of Lw. Kr. Ber. Komp. Mot.3) bailed out and were captured severely wounded. Aircraft U5+FK was a write off. This was the only German aircraft shot down on land in Norfolk during the battle of Britain.

2.35 Air Raid Warning Red 3.8 White.

3.40 Two bombs on Pulham


3.50 Air Raid warning Red

7.40 Issued Denim Trousers & jacket to R Riches, Denham

OPPOSITE PAGE - INCLUDED AS AN AFTER THOUGHT?

4. Went to Eye to ask for issue of ammun to 80 rnds per rifle from Colonel Connop.

6.30 Saw Mr Hall about right of way over White Bridge on behalf of 257 Field Coy R.E. Bury St Edmunds.

8pm Went through Calendar 1937 with George Thirkettle till 9.15 

9.15 pm Canon Shaw called. Stradbroke Tower is phone No. 211 (same as Police) Not to be used except in case of extreme emergency.

**Aug 22** Revised list of personnel & A.F. 3066 & typed forms - 9-12.30 pm.

In afternoon visited Shucks "Hidey Hole" all O.K. Saw War Savings cinema at X Street.

Philips left 2 cases S.I.P. Boxes (24 in each).

### **Opposite Page**

These cases are marked A. W. Bombs - same as S.I.P. Self Igniting Phosphorous.

H.A. Aldous brought A.W. Leftleys rifle No 1181175 in exchange for W Gardiners 267694.

1.30 Received Iron Rations for No. 1 Platoon 1/3 to Major F.T. Wright 1/3 to J. Risk & 1/3 here.

**Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>** Wrote report on capture of three prisoners 21.8.40 to O/C 7<sup>th</sup> Coy based on Conference with Platoon & Section Leaders the previous evening.

7.30 Issued suit of denim to W.T.C. Hoppit who signed 3066. Also field dressing.

7.40 Issued suit of denim to F.T. Thurlow.  
Issued food tinned as over leaf to J. Risk.

### ON OPPOSITE PAGE

3 crates of meat  
2 tins of Tea of 3lbs  
4 (tins) of sugar of 7lbs  
5 (tins) of cheese of 2lbs  
12 (tins) of jam of 2lbs  
14 (tins) of milk  
4 crates of Biscuits each 42 lbs  
1 (crate) of Biscuits (each) 32 lbs

**Aug 24** Revillon called up asking me to take some large suits - as many as can be spared (pencilled figure) 8

**Aug 24** Issued 1 suit & field dressing to W. Treen  
(Issued 1 suit & field dressing to) Philip Treen

**Aug 24** Went with Major F.T. Wright to 7th Company H.Q. Conference & Notes.  
Owls Green is Dennington Bell

S.I.P. Bottles are to be buried near posts in safe places - under water if possible.

Rations - iron - 1 unit is for 25 men for 1 week

6 units drawn - 2 to Wright - 2 to risk - 2 in Garage

Blanket issue shortly                      1 to 2 men



Ground sheets (issue shortly) 1 to 4 men

To be kept with iron rations.

Brown & Ruth to be sergeants.

Thirkettle & Brett to be Corporal and L/Corporal.

Appointments are to be entered at the back of A.F.W. 3066 which are to be sent to Ipswich.

Indents for R.E. Stores to be sent on Mondays

Corrugated iron for Sailors Pool Posts.

Return of sizes of Boots to be in by Sunday.

8 suits No. 9 size handed in to Revillon

A village Hall is required for winter work.

To shoot with gas masks.

**Aug 25** 10. a.m. to No.2's parade under Sgt Risk and Moss.

Major F. T. Wright & Sergeant Dickinson there.

Musketry & drill in extended order.

Issued H.G. Armllets

11. a.m. No 1 Parade. Anti tank measures. Molotoff bottle throwing. Picked out positions & men for dealing with Tanks & A.F.W.'s . To arrange for a complete display Sept 15<sup>th</sup>?

Issued H.G. Armllets.

2.30 Parade of No's 3 & 4 under Sgt Banham - guard duties - extended order & rounding up 3 parachutists.

Issued H.G. Armllets.

Issued suits & field dressings.

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Bannon & Banthorpe        | No. 1 section   |
| J Lawes                   | No. 2 (section) |
| G Goddard (Trousers only) | No. 3 (section) |
| A.G. Abbott               | No. 4 (section) |

10 pm Sent in return for boots.

Size 6 8

|    |     |
|----|-----|
| 7  | 34  |
| 8  | 48  |
| 9  | 47  |
| 10 | 25  |
| 11 | 3   |
| =  | 165 |

**Opposite Page**

Issued to J.W. Revillon

|                  |   |           |
|------------------|---|-----------|
| Great coats size | 5 | 5         |
| Great coats size | 3 | <u>15</u> |
|                  |   | 20        |

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Home Guard armlets         | 150 |
| Eye shields                | 30  |
| Anti gas ointment          | 152 |
| Yellow signals to aircraft | 5   |

**Opposite Page**

**Aug 26** Wrote to captain Willis 2<sup>nd</sup> Kensingtons, Claydon 

**Aug 27<sup>th</sup>** 100 sandbags to J Risk

Filled sandbags in afternoon for Sailors Pool

**Aug 28** Took ten filled sandbags to No 5 post  

|    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 20 | Sailors Pool top |
| 30 | lower position   |

per W. A. Banham (lorry) - 1 ½ tons.  
 Left bundle of 50 new sand bags with Major F T Wright  
 Drew up schemes for defending Waveney  
 Red Bridge to Needham Hill and Red Bridge to Oak Lawn Farm.

9pm Saw Gordon Witton 

**Opposite Page**

Issued 1 suit Denim to B. Easey.

**Aug 29** To see A Brown

4pm to Ubbeston per Col. Connop to Battn. Conference. Major General Fleming addressed the officers - Major General Wehouse (from WO) was most discouraging. Was asked whether Hoxne men would man Pill Box near Red Bridge. Asked Banham next morning. Answer was “yes”. Home by 9 pm

**Aug 30** Major Borrow spent from 6.30-8 pm here asking many questions about Hoxne, Denham, Syleham & Wingfield Sections to which we gave him helpful answers, I think.

**Aug 31** Filled in appointments for N.C.O.'s & returned to 7<sup>th</sup> Company H.Q.. Entered up all in A.F.W. 3066.

**Aug 31** Issued Denim serge suit & cap & field dressing to W. Kirk, Denham.

**Sept 1** Sent off J Easey 10.45 am on motor bike to Huntingfield Arms with scheme for "Nodal Point Oakley Park". Envelope received back 11.40 1/9/40 (signed) C.R.B. Draper.

Saw Brown in afternoon.

Paraded with men at 3 pm under instruction from Sergeant Winser. Drill in threes and marching etc.

### **Opposite Page**

|                      |             |            |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|
| Ammunition in charge | 2400        | Aug 2      |
|                      | 480         | Aug 12     |
|                      | 4560        | Sep 2      |
|                      | <u>60</u>   | Aug 8 & 11 |
|                      | <u>7500</u> |            |

150 Rifles 7500 rnds 50 rounds per rifle.

(pencil) J. Easey to the Huntingfield Arms 30 miles

**Sep 2<sup>nd</sup>** Evans called up from Tower at 4.15 am.

Two bombs dropped in direction of Thetford - no flash - no fire. More were heard later on.

4.30 Took over 4560 rounds of 300 ammunition from Absell for Revillon.

The odd 60 rounds I was told to collect from Eye by Philips on Aug 29<sup>th</sup>. Informed Revillon & Philips.

**Sep 8** Six denim suits to Major F T Wright for Syleham men as opposite. (12 noon).

Syleham (section)

M.C. Abbott?

B. Chapman

M. Randall.

H. Revell.

F. Souter?

W. Souter

Captail Croft called at 12.20.



Browns men No.2 drilling on Park 7.15-9 pm.

8 pm G. Thirkettle to see me - gave him details of mobile squad. Arranged to meet on Sat and dig up necessaries.



8.30 pm Major Borrow informed me that Col. Clarke had not yet got scheme for Nodal Point in Oakley Park. Informed him that receipt envelope was back at this house 11.40 pm 1/9/40 signed C.R.B. Draper.

**Sep 4** Issued ammunition all morning - 30 rounds per rifle bringing up the issue to 50 per rifle - 18 great coats & anti gas ointment. 1 per man.

4 pm To Sub Sectors conference with Revillon & Wright. Oakley Park Nodel Point washed out.

**Opposite Page** - in pencil

Issued 4000 rnds ammn 20 Grt coats & Gas ointment to all sections.  
20 miles

**Sep 5** Major Borrow to see me at 6.30 asking me if I would like to take on No 9 Coy or as 2<sup>nd</sup> in Command. Offered to help him in any way I could - particularly in paper work & drafting schemes - but not I/C of a company.

Sep 6 Did reconnaissance in Oakley Park.

**Sep 7** removed Box of tricks & handed over to G. Thirkettle.



**Opposite Page** - in pencil

Removal of H.E. to G Thirkettles Farm 4



**Sep 7** 9.48 pm Major Borrow reports "Action Stations "


10.20 All sections reported at posts. Roadblocks manned. Tower watchers on duty. No gun fire or flashes reported .

11.50 Tower reports – plane overhead SE. MG fire & tracer bullets.

**Sep 8<sup>th</sup>** 12.20 Tower reports big explosion in SW direction Mellis - followed by fire-also fire to N.E.

**Opposite Page** - in pencil

Yaxley? Stradishall

2.40 A very bright light over the whole sky - flares N.E. (Tower)  
 Sent Edward & George Thirkettle round with S.I.P. Bottles.   
 4.5 am "Special Vigilance must be used as men have landed on the east coast by sea and parachute - Smoke maybe employed & respirators must be ready". Borrow.  
 6.30 50% of men to go to breakfast & return to allow remainder to go - no one to get out of uniform & be otherwise than at call.  
 6.40 Skeleton posts for observation only.  
 7 am Gave order to stand down - observation would be continued on the Tower but men are asked to keep in uniform for a time & not to go far afield.  
 10 am Observation on Tower ceased.  
 1.30 pm From Borrow - Order of Divisional Commander is that everyone stands down but must be ready to man posts at half an hours notice. This looks as if we may have to man them tonight and men should be warned. A written note of the no. of men who were out 5 hours or more last night to be sent in for subsistence allowance.

**Opposite Page**

1<sup>st</sup> claim (in red crayon) Subsistence Allowance

|                          |              | £          | s         | d        |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Sep 7 <sup>th</sup> No 1 | 32 men @ 1/6 | 2          | 8         | 0        |
| No;s 2,3,4 & 6           | 54 men @ 1/6 | 4          | 1         | 0        |
| No 5                     | 15 men @ 1/6 | 1          | 2         | 6        |
| No 7                     | 16 men @ 1/6 | 1          | 4         | 0        |
|                          | <u>117</u>   | <u>£10</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>6</u> |

Cheque paid Barclays Bank Ltd Sep 30th

**Sep 9<sup>th</sup>** Revillon sent per Mrs Cuthebrt 15 cases of Eyeshields about 12 noon (6 in a case) i.e. 90 Eyeshields.

**Opposite Page**


Gave out uniforms to G. Goddard of Denham  
 Issued eyeshield - 42 to Wright for nos. 4,5,7; 30 to Risk, 18 to Brown, 11 to Banham, 7 to Potter. 1 box (= 6) spares.

**9<sup>th</sup>** Section leaders conference (in pencil) Risk, Banham, Brown, Potter Major F T Wright.

Explained Action Stations & posts to be manned with map references.  
 Sketched out scheme of patrols for dawn watching to commence Monday 16<sup>th</sup>.  
 Subsistence allowance.

**10<sup>th</sup>** Sent Major E Borrow list of 117 men who were on duty Sep 8<sup>th</sup> for 5 hours.

No of men who shot with .303 25  
 .22 89

**Sep 10<sup>th</sup>** 6.30 Parade on Thirkettles meadow - 27 men (Risk's, Banham's, Brown's) Nelson on scouting. 

**Sep 11<sup>th</sup>** Met Sergeants Risk & Banham & Cpl Brown at St Edmunds Hall at 6.30 & did reconnaissance of posts overlooking Waveney from Red Bridge to C. Borretts house - Major E Borrow joined us at Banham's Post. Afterwards went to Major F T Wrights & discussed disposition of posts from C. Borretts house to Needham Hill with Sergeants Dickinson & Aldous & Cpls Feavearyear & F Chapman. With Borrow until 9 pm.

**Sep 12** 9.30 am To French's garage to take over 30 Denham suits (less Buttons & Buckles) + 22 caps.

Issued clothing till 9pm.

### **Opposite Page**

For Bird 8 miles (ALT 517) 3 Three S Units W/2 J 28954 & 28955

**Sep 13** 11a.m. Arranged for shoot on Thornham Range for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. 2.30 – 4.30 went over with J F French to see range 100 yards - two targets - can do 30 men per hour firing 5 rounds apiece.

5.30 With Banham to reconnoitre new post 637 958.

6.30 Issued clothing.

8 pm With Risk- Sunday's shoot - Orders, Posts & Returns

### **Opposite Page**

**Sep 13** Borrow said 30 men could shoot per hour.

J French took casualty rifle - labelled.

**Sep 14** 4 am Air Raid Warning Red - Posts No. 1, 2 & Tower - White 5.30.

Prepared enlistment forms W3066 (in all 130) & sent them to Borrow with full list of men due to have allowance for duty on night of 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. Typed orders for Wright & took them up to him.

2.0 Wright phoned that only 20 men or so could shoot from Nos. 5 & 7 sections. Arranged therefore that No 6 should shoot at 11 & not at 1.

To Eye in am. J French told me he had 10 light automatics, some of which were for us, but they needed cleaning.

Borrow rang up in morning & said we were to hold a parade for demonstration of Light Automatics this week. 15 men. To tell him the day so he could send instructor.

Issued uniforms 6.30 – 7.30.

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>** Left with Banham 9.15 for Thornham range. Prepared targets etc. Nos. 2, 3, 4 sections shot from 10 onwards then Nos. 5 & 7, finally No 1. Major Borrow came for a time at the beginning in all 93 men shot. See type written record of scores.. Owing to congestion we did not finish by 2 o'clock. Denham contingent of 9 arriving very late and shooting at 2.30 – 3, some men from another platoon allowing them to do so.

Note that it is not possible for 30 men to shoot per hour as we were told. 20 is a more reasonable figure. & in future probably not more than 60 men should shoot on a day. Total rounds of ammn. expended 465 + 2 duds. (5 rounds each - group shooting)

Back with Banham by 3.30. Typed out shooting results.

### **Opposite Page**

Ammunition expended 465 rounds + 2 duds – 93 men shot

9.45 Borrow rang me about conference at his house 6.30 tomorrow.

**Sep 16<sup>th</sup>** 6.30 Major F T Wright attended Platoon conference at Major E Borrows house.

- 1) Mileage claims to be in by the 24<sup>th</sup> monthly.
- 2) Posts to be manned 10pm – 6am during period of emergency i.e. Sep 16 – Sep 30.
- 3) Map references of posts to be sent round.
- 4) 15 men to attend instruction on Browning Automatic Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Sgt Stark from Eye at St Edmunds Hall.

Major F T Wright drew from Eye (French's Garage)  
2 Browning Q.F. Guns  
2 Canvas carriers  
10 Magazines  
13 Bandoliers 780 rds + 20 (four separate clips) = 800 rds Box 1200 to come.

Issued to G Whatling

1 suit & buttons (No Buckle) 1 Field dressing 1 Rifle + 50 rnds in bandolier.

**Sep 17** Captain Croft to see me about Mobile Squad . 

**(Sep) 18** G Thirkettle wants to make a secret rendezvous of M.S. (Mobile Squad) on Rushes land. 

**(Sep) 19** 7pm St Edmunds Hall Instruction on Browning gun.

Sergeants Risk, Banham, Corporals Ruth, Potter, F Chapman, Thirkettle, Brett - 28 men in all.

Major F T Wright & self. Instructor from Eye. J Stark. The three guns taken to pieces & put together again three times each. (in pencil) 1 box ammn 1200 per Stark?

Arranged with S.Ls. to shoot at Park Farm pit if leave given by W H (W. High) on Saturday at 2pm.

**Sep 20** 10.30 Went with Major F T Wright & E. J. P. R. to reconnoitre Park Farm Pit for range. Got permission from W. High.

**Sep 22** 2 – 5 pm Shot at Park Farm Pit. Twenty three men shot five rounds each – seventeen for first time. Making 111 who have shot & 24 who have not shot. Tendency to shoot too high at 100 y on account of sight set for 400 y.

### **Opposite Page**

F Harper landed me his rifle as a casualty. I gave him mine (H.P.R.) in exchange & which Hubert Steward had shot 115 rounds.

**Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>** Banham building new post 637 958. Well built and protected. See that a traverse is made on the west side as a protection from Red Bridge Pill Box (1100y). Wants more camouflage.

**Sep 22** 9.15 pm by phone from Major E. Borrow Subsector Commander orders “patrols to be particularly vigilant tonight”.

Sent to all sections ex Eye 39 phone out of order. Banham undertook to tell South Green patrol.

**Sep 23** Casualty rifle to French’s depot. No 450894 - also empty cartridge cases 300 & .22.

6.30 To Major E. Borrows with Major F T Wright & Edwards to conference till 9 pm.

Brought back 7 ½ lbs of Tea & 7 ½ lbs of sugar as ration for men on duty all night. Repaid Wright 10/11 next morning by cheque.

Borrowed book on Browning Automatic Rifle from Starke.

**Sep 24** 3.45 am phone from Banham. Mr Hancock reports parachutists between Hoxne & Denham. Called up No’s 1 & 2 for report..

4.5 Banham reports parachute flares dropping towards Eye - definitely no men attached.

4.8 Denham reported 'had seen parachute flares S. of Denham long way off some time ago. No parachutists. Will get in touch with No. 2.'


4.20 No.2 “after a flare his men heard a thud about 100y S. of school; will hunt till dawn.

5.3 Risk “cannot find anything. Had a word with Brown at his post”.

??? Browns post thought it might have been a land mine dropped & reported to Police.




Went to see Brown about this scare in morning. Also with P.C. Paget to view the lane by the Leys. Woods & fields were searched but no sign of anything could be found - he thought it might be a delayed-action bomb.  
To see Wright about tea and sugar ration.

7pm G Thirkettle & R Rush to see whether a "hidey-hole" could be found for Mobile Squad. Wants a pass. 

**25** Sent out Corporals & L' Corporals chevrons.  
Sent Thirkettle a pass. 

**Sep 26** Sent to Battn. H.Q. A.F.P. 1922 194 & 195. A Legget £1.10.4 & Alan Foster Clarke £2.6.8 duly signed both front & back - as special purchase for settlement.

3-5 pm Did reconnaissance with Edward to points 622939 and 617938 and all along east bank of the Dove river from New Bridge to White Bridge.

**Sep 27** Corporal G Thirkettle to Mobile Squad's course with Croft. Major E Borrow supplied 8 petrol coupons to be refunded by Capt Croft. Received £1.17.3 by cheque from C.O. 4<sup>th</sup> Battn. Col E Percy Clarke for mileage allowance for shoot Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Thornham Range. 

Received 2 Instructional Notes on 300 Browning Automatic Rifle.

7.30 D Seaman & G J Barber signed 3066, subject to approval, & took suits, field dressings rifles and ammn (50 rds)  
Gave Aldous 20 rds .22 ammn.

**Sep 28** Did accounts in morning.

2 - 4.30 Shoot at Depperhaugh Pit Rifle F Knights R Barfield, W Kirk, D Mayhew & D Boast & R.L. Aspland 30 rounds.

**Sep 28<sup>th</sup>** Browning gun No 1 section P.J. Callan & G Lock No 5 W Feavearyear No 3 G Goddard & W Doling. No 2 B.W. Hawes & J Lawes. Mobile squad C Brett 160 rounds.

### **Opposite Page**

In pencil

|          |             |            |
|----------|-------------|------------|
| Browning | Thornham    | 470        |
|          | Depperhaugh | 115        |
|          | Ditto       | <u>190</u> |
|          |             | <u>775</u> |

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Ammun Expended    | 160 rds          |
| Overleaf (pencil) | <u>30</u>        |
|                   | <u>190</u> total |

Men who shot Browning    J Chapman  
    Brundle  
    Dorling  
    Goddard  
    Callan

Present Major F T Wright Sergeants Risk, Banham, Dickinson, Corporals Brett, Brown, Moss - 25 present.

H J Barber signed 3066 & signed for suit arm band Rifle & Ammn – 50 rounds.

Received 1000 snadbags from Claydon per 2<sup>nd</sup> West Kensingtons.

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** 3pm Colonel Clarke here, also Colonel Connop, Majors Borrow & Wright, French & Flatman to discuss 10-6 am patrols. Were informed that two men per village was all that was wanted at present & Col Clarke hoped that we should soon be back at a dawn patrol or shorter hours.

**Sept 30<sup>th</sup>** Did car mileage, subsistence allowances & Tea & Sugar rations in morning. Sent eight new A.F.W. 3066 to Borrow including D Seaman, G J Barber & H J Barber to be approved. Retained 8 for completion.

**30Sep (cont)** To company stores & drew stores as opposite.

**Opposite Page**

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Anklets     | 5       |
| Haversacks  | 15      |
| Slings      | 115     |
| Boot size 8 | 40      |
|             | 7    34 |
|             | 6    10 |

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Laces            | 84 |
| Waterproof capes | 15 |
| Badges           | 3  |

|            |     |             |
|------------|-----|-------------|
| Ammunition | 300 | 1000 rounds |
|            | .22 | 400 rounds  |

**BOOTS**

No 3 Platoon

No 9 Company 4<sup>th</sup> Batt H.G.

| Sections | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8  | 7  | 6 | Sizes |
|----------|----|----|---|----|----|---|-------|
| 1        | 1  | 5  | 9 | 17 | 11 | 3 | 46    |
| 2        | -  | 4  | 6 | 7  | 2  | 1 | 20    |
| 3        | -  | 2  | 6 | 2  | 2  | 3 | 15    |
| 4        | -  | 4  | 4 | 4  | 3  | 1 | 16    |

|       |   |    |    |    |    |   |     |
|-------|---|----|----|----|----|---|-----|
| 5     | 1 | 1  | 8  | 4  | 4  | - | 18  |
| 6     | - | 5  | 5  | 2  | 2  | - | 14  |
| 7     | 1 | 1  | 2  | 10 | 7  | - | 21  |
| <hr/> |   |    |    |    |    |   |     |
|       | 3 | 25 | 27 | 48 | 34 | 8 | 165 |
| Drawn |   |    | 40 | 34 | 10 |   |     |

8 pm . Leaders Conference all present.

- 1) Paid out the mileage claims & took receipts, accounts of future journeys to be kept.
- 2) Distribution of Tea & Sugar rations to all sections.
- 3) Discussion of dance

Date Oct 10<sup>th</sup> St Edmunds Hall 7.30 – 12 midnight

- Items (a) The invasion of Hoxne Ff Co  
 (b) Sketch Lord Haw Haw Mr G Mountain  
 songs by Mr Belderson A Foster Clarke & Mrs Brundle  
 (c) Dance- Walsh's Band

Doorkeepers G Thirkettle & K Rush  
 Subscription list & food to be dealt with by Four Sergeants.  
 Advertisement in Diss Express

Diss Express *04 October 1940*

Come to the Home Defence

**SOCIAL**

and

**DANCE**

St. Edmund's Hall - HOXNE

THURSDAY, OCT. 10th, 7.30-12

WALSH'S BAND. REFRESHMENTS

Tickets 1/- (including refreshments) - Members 1/6 at the door

Admission by ticket 1/6 Uniform 1/- from any member of Home Guard.

- 4) Subsistence allowance paid out by cheque Cf Sep 8<sup>th</sup> for details.
- 5) Night patrol to give a scheme of Guard Room & patrols & trial 6 per night to mount guard at Denham School, Hoxne Little Sunday School or Syleham School. Two to be out on tours of duty at a time. Present duties to continue until orders are received from Battalion H.Q. In an emergency in the Guard

Room Scheme two would at once go to the Tower & ring up 203 & 250.

- 6) Drills - Night drills to be given up on account of light - Sunday parades. Rendevous

No 1 Sundays 10.30 am J Risks Denham  
2 10.30 am Rushes Meadow, Hoxne  
3.4.6 2.30 pm Oakley Park  
5 Syleham 10.30 am Feavearyears Meadow  
7 Wingfield am & pm Filbys Meadow

**Oct 1<sup>st</sup>** Issued three Browning Automatic Rifles as opposite

**Opposite Page**

|                          |                       |        |          |                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------|-------------------|
| To No 3 Section (Banham) | 1 Browning Auto Rifle | 254727 | 600 rnds | 300 Ammn          |
| No 1                     | (Risk)                | " "    | 600 rnds | 300 Ammn          |
| No 5                     | (Feavearyear)         | " "    | 80013    | 600 rnds 300 Ammn |

Notes on instructions 1 to sections 1 & 2  
1 to sections 3 & 5

Boots issued

| No of section | Size 8 | size 7 | size 6 |      |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| No. 1         | 17     | 11     | 3      | = 31 |
| 2             | 7      | 2      | 1      | = 10 |
| 3             | 2      | 2      | 3      | = 7  |
| 4             | 4      | 3      | 1      | = 8  |
| 5             | 4      | 4      | 0      | = 8  |
| 6             | 2      | 2      | 0      | = 4  |
| 7             | 10     | 7      | 0      | = 17 |

Slings issued

No 5 18 slings No 6 wants 7 slings  
7 13 ditto

**Oct 2** Prepared Dance tickets & issued orders.

**Oct 3** Issued 19 slings to No 2 Section - Brown Returned 1 pair boots- Size 6 by Brown.

**Oct 4** Issued five magazines to Major F T Wright for Feavearyear's Browning.

**Oct 4** 5pm Captains Croft & Bush called about returning coupons for Mobile Squad - 8 Coupons to HQ.

7pm Issued to J Risk 600 rounds for his Browning gun 4 magazines – 35 slings & 5 buckles.

### **Opposite Page**

Buckles for Lewis FF Lewis V Mayhew D Lawes G Whatling G

**Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** By order of Major E Borrow 3 rifles as opposite sent to French's Garage.

### **Opposite Page**

No 73 Harpers 96205  
143 Spare 547170 (Dolings)  
136 E.J.P.R. 528755

Issued 5 magazines for Browning Gun to Sergeant Banham.

**Oct 6<sup>th</sup>** 8 slings to Banham 1 pr 7 Boots exchanged for 1 pr of 6.

2.30 pm Parade at Banhams Brickyard about a dozen men Nos. 3 & 4 sections. Sighting tests & Browning Gun. Very wet. Issued slings to A.J. Knights A. Abbott W. Putt F. Wiles W. Hammond G. Baldwin Souter A.V. J Barber. Col Connop attended parade and afterwards inspected Sailor Pool posts.

**Oct 6<sup>th</sup>** (cont) supplied a Hurricane Lamp to Banham in place of one burnt out in his post on Oct 4/5<sup>th</sup>. Got it from Goldsmith for 4/11.

**Oct 7<sup>th</sup>** Banham took over the Hoxne Sunday Schoolroom & began to make it ready as a Guardroom.

**Oct 8<sup>th</sup>** Issued one suit of denim to William Whatling No 1 section - non rifleman - who signed for it & one H.G. Armband.

To Banham & paid him 10s/- for H.P.R. & 5s/- E.J.P.R. for dance.

Risk returned all his men's 1/6d Subsistence Allowance - £2.8.0 which I have ear marked for the H.G. Fund.

To Brown & pointed out that F Moore & A. Abbott must take this subsistence allowance 1/6 each. He wants to keep extra sling for Browning Gun. Unable to obtain W. Abbott & F. Moore Subsistence forms sent unsigned - each man is due to have 1/6.

No 1 Section Issued to G. Bridges 1 Denim Suit 1 Rifle 834288 & 50 rds of ammn.

**Oct 9<sup>th</sup>** Rang up Youngman about Social & Dance made out claims for Subsistence Allowance for £15.15.0 (crossed and pencilled in) 14.9.6 + 7.6 omitted.  
Took from 9.30 - 12.55.

**Oct 9<sup>th</sup>** 7.30 Issued clothing to F.N. Goddard but no buckle.

9.0 pm Air Raid Warning Red.

9.40 Borrow promises 4 units of petrol for Wright's car if he will call tomorrow.

**Oct 10<sup>th</sup>** Received 24 Blankets from Company Stores. 8 re-issued to Major F. T. Wright for Syleham Patrol Post.

Also 2 Petrol Coupons A/1X 25349/50 from Major E. Borrow. Two to Wright No's.

### **Opposite Page**

Coupons supplied by H.Q. Huntingfield Arms A/1X 25371/2  
Ditto ditto Major E. Borrow A/1X 25349/50  
Drawn from Watson & Smith by Aspland 8/2d paid.  
Petrol supplied to PP 2061 29 gallons.

D.B.J. 12 2/3  
C.B.J. 568 2/3  
C.R.T. 804 2/3  
M.M.R. 1/2

7pm - 12 Social & Dance at St Edmunds Hall. The invasion of Hoxne by Youngman of Ff performed & his Ff's men. Sketch "Lord Haw Haw" by Mr E Mountain-Walsh's Band from Aldeburgh. A good crowd.

**Oct 11<sup>th</sup>** Did subsistence accounts 2<sup>nd</sup> Time.

**Oct 12<sup>th</sup>** To see new Guard Room at Hoxne.

Issued to Banham 8 Blankets 2 Ground Sheets. Driving? & his foreman of the East Anglian Electric came to see new Guard Room & said that one paint could be put on by Wed 10<sup>th</sup> for 25/-.

Banham G. Thirkettle, Knights, Doling & others worked at cleaning up all this afternoon.

**Oct 13<sup>th</sup>** No.1 Section drilled in morning.

Shooting at Depperhaugh Range (names in red Book) - nine men shot 5 rds each.

### **Opposite Page**

Ammunition expended 45 rds. .300

Sergeants Risk & Banham lent their cars & helped.

Issued to Sergeant J. Risk for recruit Huggins 1 Denim Blouse & an 8 or 9 trousers  
8 blankets & 2 ground sheets to B. Ruth 8 new slings rec'd 3 old slings  
To W. Potter 6 (new slings)  
Gave risk A.F.W. 3066 for Huggins & a car mileage claim: Cars M. Claims to  
Wright, Banham & Aldous.

**Oct 14<sup>th</sup>** Did Subsistence Allowance Claims all day.  
Went to Borrow's Conference

- (1) Carry on Subsistence Claims Oct 1<sup>st</sup> - Oct 14<sup>th</sup>
- (2) Abbott & Fred Moore of No. 2 Section will be discharged on account of age.
- (3) Major Wright has a recruit Catchpole awaiting enrolment.
- (4) To shoot at Bromeswell 27<sup>th</sup> - 20 men from No. 3 Platoon.

**Oct 14<sup>th</sup> (contd.)** Issued 1 Denim suit 1 rifle & 50 rds. of .300 to Robert Lewis Brett,  
No 1 Section - suit without Buckle but with buttons. Boots size 9 required.

**Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** Social & Dance Com. Meeting 8pm.  
Present Mrs Read, Mrs Risk, Major F.T. Wright, Sergeants Risk, Banham & Aldous,  
& Corporal Feavearyear.  
To write to Mr Walsh & Band, Mr Youngman & Co. & Mr Edward Mountain  
thanking them for their help towards the success of Oct 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Mrs Thirkettle, Mrs Read, Mrs Garner & Mrs Hawes & other donors to be thanked by  
word of mouth.  
Note of thanks to be sent to the Rev. J.K. Wood for Parish Magazine.  
Copy of accounts to be exhibited in each Guard Room.

To allot for coal £7.0.0  
for oil 2.10.0  
for lamps 14.0  
For wool bought 3.9.9 } Scarves not wanted but  
For wool to be bought 3.9.9 } gloves would be acceptable  
To each Parish for  
necessaries (cups 4.0.0  
Tea pot, kettle etc.) £1

**Opposite Page** (in pencil)

Wool bought by H.P.R. £1.12.1 Buntings  
" " " Mrs Raven 14.8 Buntings  
" " " " 1.3.0 Garlands

In the accounts Subscribers to be shown in one lot and not by Parish, ditto Tickets  
sold.  
Orders for men on Patrol Duties discussed : copies to be sent out to each Guard  
Room.

**Oct 16<sup>th</sup>** Major Wright drew 8 field Dressings  
5 pairs of Boots size 8  
also drew 11 Denim Suits

40 caps sizes 7 & 7 3/8

Issued to Wingfield - 4 caps size 7 + 2 Ground Sheet Capes

1 suit for Cundy

Syleham - 7 caps sizes 7 & 7 3/8

(4 to be sent back in exchange)

1 Tunic to M. Abbott in exchange

**Oct 17** Evans called up to say that Tony Kreyer would like to join H.G. To come to tea today at 4pm. to sign 3066 & Equipment form etc.

Sergeant Banham returned 5 old slings

### **Opposite Page**

Issued Rifle 161516 & 50 rds & equipt. to M.A. Kreyer } No. 4  
Denim Suit etc to W. Hammond } Section

Issued 1 cap Joseph Easey 7 3/8 }  
1 pr Boots size 8 & sling Gordon Witton } No. 2  
1 pr Boots size 8 George Nathan Bridges } Section

Issued 60 rounds to H. A. Aldous 22 Ammn.

**18<sup>th</sup>** Visited Guard Room at Hoxne. Electric light laid on today.

Message from Borrow - A bottle of oil is at French's Garage.

Explosives Course 21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> is cancelled.

Asked for copies of Equipment Returns.

No conference on Monday 21<sup>st</sup>.

Subsistence Allowance wanted 1<sup>st</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> ?

Stevens rang up to say that a R.A.M.C. Colonel would be lecturing next week on War Gases on Monday 7pm. Sancroft Memorial Hall. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lecture to follow later in week.

Would I like to take a party of four. Wright willing to come. (In pencil) Wright self G. Lawes & fray????

### **Opposite Page**

Issued to Risk

1 Rifle No 49669 W.F.G. Huggins and 50 rds of 300 Ammn. in Bandolier.

1 Rifle No 311711 to Harris + 50 rds 300

1 suit to Harris

1 pr of Boots 8. L. Easey

18 caps 15 size 7 7 size 7 3/8

Risk returned 1pr Trousers (9) 3 old pattern slings

2 pr Boots 7 m

Issued to Major F. T. Wright 1 field dressing

Issued 1 cap to Philip Truer?? size 7 3/8



**Oct 19<sup>th</sup>** Drew from 9<sup>th</sup> Company store

- 1 Serge Suit large size
- 42 Anklets
- 1 Laces
- 1 small cap (inside suit)
- 90 Badges, cap

Received £14.9.6 from Borrow for Subsistence Allowance Sep 16 - Sep 30.

Went to Guard Room Hoxne & found Banham, Doling, G. Goddard, J. Westrepp & others - white-washing & cleaning up.

Oct 20 Sent out cheques for Subsistence Allowance

2.30 P. Last, V. Last (Section 6) & W. Lawes (Sectn. 2)  
shot 300 W. Hammond 22. 1 Sling from Last, P.

### **Opposite Page**

Oct 20 3 Slings ret'd. H. Aldous

**Oct 21<sup>st</sup>** Drew 1 small Denim Suit for F. H. Robinson, Denham & 35 New Pattern

Kerr Slings. (in pencil) Buttons & Buckle sent 25.10.40.

Returned 16 old Slings & empty 300 cases & .22 empties.

No gauzes.

**Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>** Issued Kerr Slings

|            |   |   |                        |
|------------|---|---|------------------------|
| No. 1 Risk | 3 | } |                        |
| 3 Banham   | 5 | } |                        |
| 4 Ruth     | 3 | } | In lieu of old slings  |
| 6 P. Last  | 1 | } | (16) returned to store |
| E. Mills   | 1 | } |                        |
| 7 Aldous   | 3 | } |                        |

|            | No. 1 | No. 2, 3, 4 & 6 | No. 5 | No. 7 |      |
|------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|------|
| Cap Badges | 33    | 35              | 11    | 11    | = 90 |
| Anklets    | 17    | 17              | 6     | 6     | = 47 |

Visited Guard Room - 10pm - 11pm per Aspland.

**Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>** Major F. T. Wright drew a small quantity of oil, 125 pull through cords & weights, 3 Browning rods, brushes & brasses & books on Browning Gun.

Reissued for Sections 5 & 7 - 25 cords & weights

by Wright - 1 Browning rod 1 brush & 1 brass, also 1 book.

Reissued to Risk 40 cords & wts. 1 Browning rod Oil - 4 x 2

to Banham 45 cords & wts. & 4 x 2

1 Browning Rod & book on rifle

Risk returned 1 old sling for 1 new Kerr Sling.

**Oct 24** Sent in car Mileage Claim Forms taken personally to Brome by H.P.R.

**Oct 25** Drew much needed small quantity of buttons from Stores at Eye. P.O. to J.O. Youngman for 5/- to expenses of Belderson Oct 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Oct 26** At work on Equipment Returns & the Subsistence Forms till 11.5pm. Got names of wives at South Green.

**Oct 27<sup>th</sup>** Sent off returns by B. Easey, motorcycle, to Major E. Borrow, Brome at 11am.

Shortly after 12 noon heard from Borrow at Eye that no transport was available for Range at Bromeswell. Told by H.Q. none likely to come & we must get what lorries we could.

Banham volunteered his lorry. I supplied petrol for it and Risk's car - 10 gallons from H.P.R.

Major Wright went in charge of party.

Twenty-three men went in Banham's lorry & Risk's car. Shot 5 rounds each - 115 rds expended. Shooting poor. Marking bad. A dud show - would have done better at Eye or Depperhaugh.

**Oct 28** To Borrow's Conference with Wright

|                        |              |     |
|------------------------|--------------|-----|
| Strength of No. 9 Coy. | No.1 Platoon | 121 |
| " 2 "                  | "            | 79  |
| " 3 "                  | "            | 156 |

Equipment return should show 120 Eye shields & not 150

Postage, Phone & Petty Cash should be in 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

Car Mileage on 24<sup>th</sup> of each month

Subsistence 1 - 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

As many signatures as possible - no initials.

Equipment return 11<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

**Oct 29** To see Wright about iron rations.

Printed Subsistence Form for No. 1 (2,3,4 & 6) & (5 & 7) and sent them all out.

**Oct 30** Major Wright went through Iron Ration quantities & reported to Revillon.

Sent in claim for car mileage on Sunday to Borrow for Risk & Banham.

**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>** Sent out orders for Parades -

|        |        |          |           |          |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Sunday | Denham | 10.30am. | Syleham   | 10.30am. |
|        | Hoxne  | 2.30pm.  | Wingfield | 2.30pm.  |

No Parade on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>

Section Leaders Meeting Tuesday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 8pm. here.

Heard from French Great Coats are available

7pm. Lectured on War Gases at Denham, about 25 there. Risk handed me two more old slings.

### Opposite Page

|                               |                        |         |    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------|----|
| Received Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> | Lord Stradbroke's Fund | Scarves | 50 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------|----|

|          |             |         |    |
|----------|-------------|---------|----|
|          |             | Mittens | 65 |
|          |             | Helmets | 50 |
| Oct 31st | Mrs Simpson | Scarves | 2  |
|          |             | Gloves  | 1  |

**31st** Issued three bottles of Rangoon Oil to Major F.T. Wright, Sergeants Aldous & Banham. 1 Pull through & wt. to Major F.T. Wright.

**Opposite Page** Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

7.10am. Three loud explosions & flashes at (in pencil) Brome?

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup>** Received car mileage claim of 10/- for Oct 1<sup>st</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> by cheque from H.Q. ackd.

Work to thank Lord Stradbroke for his kind gift of 50 scarves 65 helmets and 50 gloves.

**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>** Made out Sectional Forms for sizes of clothing - Great Coats & Serge Suits. Sent round to all units. To be filled up on Sunday parades.

**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>** To Denham 10.30am. Parade 32 men & doing good marching & looking smart & efficient.

Sergeant Risk did good work at judging distances. G. Thirkettle came to see me about Hide out for Mobile Section.

At 2.30pm. Banham's Brickyard Nos. 2, 3, 4 & 6 - 38 men on Parade. Took all the measurements for Serge Suits & Great Coats.

**Opposite Page**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <u>Issued to</u> B. Chapman | 1 Field Dressing                                   |
| P. Duncan                   | 1 pr. Boots size 8                                 |
| J. Watson                   | 1 Field Dressing 1 A.G. Oint. (Anti-gas ointment)  |
| A. Abbott                   | 1 Pull Through & weight                            |
| W. Putt                     | 1 Pull Through & weight                            |
| W. G. Barfield              | 1 Eye Shield ( Note : this probably was Banthorpe) |
| F Knights                   | 1 Eye Shield                                       |

Change of Rifle

R. Jolly handed in No. 107463  
New issue No. 204703

**Nov 4<sup>th</sup>** Did Clothing Forms with Joan?? till 12.30pm. Major E. Borrow called & took with him Subsistence Forms Oct 16<sup>th</sup> - Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. He also took all 3066 Forms in my possession including 8 recruits not as yet officially approved.

3.30pm. Risk brought stores as opposite.

**Opposite Page**

From 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores-

|                |     |    |     |
|----------------|-----|----|-----|
| 40 Great Coats | Nos | 9. | 2}  |
| 37 Anklets     | "   | 7. | 5}  |
| 35 Haversacks  | "   | 5  | 33} |
| 60 Eye Shields |     |    |     |

Issued to Sergeant Risk

3 Kerr Slings to replace  
12 Eye Shields

From Lord Stradbroke's Fund

Issued to Section Leaders

|         |    |
|---------|----|
| Scarves | 50 |
| Mittens | 65 |
| Helmets | 50 |

4.30pm. Message from Major F.T. Wright of parachutist down 12 noon Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Bletchley in Bucks. - left all equipment in hedge - had eaten iron rations & moved off. All units to look for him - probably in Khaki complete with identity card. Notice sent to all Guard Rooms - as opposite

**Opposite Page**

N.C.O.'s to be held responsible that no one except the Vicar & Home Guardsmen enter the Guard Room. All other persons are to be rigidly refused permission to enter.

Signed H. Palgrave Raven

From Borrow Major Constable will give lecture on work in B.E.F. Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30 - 8.30 at Hoxne Guard Room.  
Suggest lecture on Suffolk Regiment Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** (in pencil - Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Heavy cold)

8pm. S.L.'s Read Secret order re parachutist dropped at Bletchley explaining need for special vigilance & order to keep Guard Rooms clear of all unauthorised persons.

Received 10/- from Risk & Banham

2/6 from Feavearyear & Aldous for Tea & Sugar Rations £1 5 6 October

**Nov 6<sup>th</sup>** Major Borrow brought Tea & Sugar Ration 6lbs of Tea 2/8  
7 ½ of Sugar 5<sup>d</sup> 19/2

Major Wright lectured on care of Arms at the Denham Guard Room 7.30pm.  
Lecture on War Gases Hoxne cancelled.

**Nov 7<sup>th</sup>** Stores as opposite

**Opposite Page**

|                   | Great Coats         | Anklets | Haversacks |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|
| No. 1             | 10                  | 10      | 11         |
| No. 2             | 3                   | 6       | 6          |
| No. 3             | 3                   | 3       | 3          |
| No. 4             | 3                   | 3       | 3          |
| No. 5 (1 No. 7 +) | 6 (5 <sup>5</sup> ) | 3       | 3          |
| No. 6             | 3                   | 3       | 3          |
| No. 7             | 8                   | 6       | 5          |

37

1 No. 9 H.P.R.

1 No. 5 Major F.T.W.

1 No. 5 E.J.P.R.

40 Recd. Nov 4<sup>th</sup>

1 Casualty Rifle - 107463 - R. Jolly to Company Store

3 Casualty Rifles returned to Store

660101 rusty & dirty

451580 full of grease

478624 clean

**Nov 8** Issued stores to all units

**Nov 9** Sent out orders about Church Parade  
Major Wright took No. 7 Stored from Aspland

**Nov 10** Church Parade 11 Chapel H.G. 8  
3pm. Church H.G. 25  
British Legion 10

**Nov 11** Iron rations collected here from Major F.T. Wright & Sergeant J. Risk : carted by J. French.

**Nov 12** Hoxne Sections held a Dance at St. Edmund's Hall 8-12. Walsh's Band.

**Nov 13** Worked all day at new Subsistence Allowance Ledger finished at 5pm.

**Nov 14** A No. 7 Great Coat recalled from No. 1 J. Risk for use of Major F.T. Wright.  
7.30 lecture on B.E.F. at Hoxne Guard Room by Major W. Briggs Constable M.C., R.A. about 40 present.

**Nov 15<sup>th</sup>** Wrote a letter to Col. E.P. Clarke on subject of phone account.

**Nov 16<sup>th</sup>** Subsistence Allowance forms (Purple) all in by 12 noon awaiting Territorial Assocn. Forms.  
Sent out list of weekly parades & lectures for 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>

### Opposite Page

From Risk 1 large Denim (9) Suit - wants a six for (in pencil - Harris?)  
Issued 1 six  
2 pairs Boots 1 seven }with  
1 six }laces  
2 Ointments Anti Gas  
1 Field Dressing  
1 Large Cap

Nov 17 Issued 1 cap 7 ¼ to Gordon Baldwin who had lost his (in pencil - since found)

**Nov 17** Borrow sent over 8 Subsistence Allowance Forms & 4 Car Mileage Forms. Filled up claims for No. 3 Platoon & sent by return.

Called up Dickinson & discussed question of his becoming Hon. Member of H.G. Quite agreeable. Will send in resignation if wanted.

3pm. Had to leave Parade to meet F.M. Sir Edmund Ironside at the Depperhaugh. 

**Nov 18** Talk with Major F.T. Wright about those who have attained 65. He is to ask about letters of resignation from 65's at Borrow's conference.

Accept enrolment J.B. Hambling No 7 Section to take over R.H.Gardiner's rifle equipment.

Began Equipment Book.

**Nov 19** Received No. 1's Equipment return making returns complete.

Risk brought leaflets as dropped in Denham night 18/19<sup>th</sup>. Informed Borrow. Two copies sent to him.

12 noon Stores removed by R.A.S.C. 42<sup>nd</sup> Division as overleaf:

### Overleaf

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| Meat     | 252}                  |
| Biscuits | 718}                  |
| Tea      | 18} cf? File Nov 19th |
| Sugar    | 112}                  |
| Cheese   | 378}                  |
| Jam      | 86}                   |
| Milk     | 42}                   |

**Nov 20<sup>th</sup>** Worked on Equipment Book. Received 7/- from Major Borrow for Stamp act. per Major F.T.Wright.

Made a Pro Forma for account of Guard Rooms under Scheme of Village Halls.

**Nov 21** Went on bike to X Street & gave 2/6 & Khaki Scarff each for W. Abbott & Fred Moore who are now ranked as Honorary Members of the H.G. Given to Corporal A.E. Brown for the above.

Brown reported that all rifles were now painted with the Red band.

Issue 3 slings to No. 5 Section - one for Browning Gun 1 bottle oil  
to No. 7 Section - one bottle of oil

Sent Dr. Sheehan's note to Colonel E.P. Clarke -

"As a result of my medical examination of you I am convinced that you are quite unfit to undertake the active duties of a Training Officer for the Home Guard. You would however be capable of acting as a quarter-master or doing work of a clerical nature"

W.J. Sheehan

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>** Worked at Equipment Book - Sent out orders for Nov 24<sup>th</sup> - Dec 1<sup>st</sup>

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>** 7.30 Lectured on War Gases Hoxne - 6 present

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** Stores drawn from 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores as opposite, by Risk.

### **Opposite Page**

Drawn from 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores per Risk

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Great Coats (one small) | 1         |
| No. 1                   | 5         |
| No. 2                   | 9         |
| No. 3                   | 7         |
| No. 4                   | 3         |
| No. 5                   | 22        |
| No. 11                  | 2         |
| No. 12                  | <u>2</u>  |
|                         | <u>51</u> |

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Haversacks      | 110                 |
| Anklets         | 4 + in store 8 = 12 |
| Cap Badges      | 6                   |
| <u>Bayonets</u> | <u>20</u>           |
| <u>Belts</u>    | <u>30</u>           |

Issued per Aspland sizes on file Nov. 23 1940

|                   |    |   |  |
|-------------------|----|---|--|
| No. 1 Great Coats | 19 | } |  |
| " 2 "             | 7  | } |  |
| " 3 "             | 5  | } |  |
| " 4 "             | 7  | } |  |
| " 5 "             | 6  | } |  |
| " 6 "             | 3  | } |  |
| " 7 "             | 6  | } |  |

Receipt on file Nov 23rd

Also No. 1 40 Haversacks  
 4 Anklets  
 2 Cap Badges  
 No. 5 10 Bayonets  
 " 7 10 Bayonets

**Nov 24** 10am. Issued 20 Belts to Major F.T. Wright  
 10.30 Church Parade at Denham - a smart turn out  
 2.30 Equipment Parade - 16 on Parade  
 Issued equipment as opposite.

**Opposite Page**

|                |                         |                                 |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| W. Doling jun. | Haversack               |                                 |
| J. Westrep     | "                       |                                 |
| G. Baldwin     | "                       | & No. 5 Coat & Pull Through Wt. |
| A. Souter      | "                       |                                 |
| J. Easey       | "                       |                                 |
| A. Pallett     | Badge - cap             |                                 |
| K. Rush        | Haversack               |                                 |
| J. Bridges     | Anklets                 |                                 |
| R. Watson      | Cap Badge & Eye Shields |                                 |
| L. Fellingham  | Haversack & Anklets     |                                 |
| W. Putt        | "                       |                                 |
| A.E.Brown      | "                       |                                 |
| E. Steward     | Great Coat No. 4        |                                 |

**Nov 25** Major F.T. Wright returned 14 Bayonets and Belts. Took 1 6<sup>3/4</sup> cap for Runner (in pencil - ? Feavearyear) at Wingfield.  
 In the afternoon visited Eye rifle range & found that it would be necessary to take our own targets. Range said to be 200 yards.

**Nov 26** Received from Borrow cheque for £13.1.0. as Subsistence Allowance for Nov 1 - 15. Paid out cheques to that amount to Risk, Banham, Feavearyear & Aldous.  
 Sent in Equipment return to Major E. Borrow.

**Nov 27** L/Corporal F. J. Vincent handed in his uniform & equipment on being called up for the Royal Navy.

**Nov 28** Issued one Great Coat No. 5 to W. Putt.  
 Sent out weekly orders.

**Opposite Page**

Drew from 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores - 12 Blankets

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 4 to Syleham   | } per               |
| 4 to Wingfield | } Major F.T. Wright |
| 4 to Hoxne     |                     |



**Nov 28** 7.30 Lectured on 'War Gases' to Nos. 5 & 7 at Syleham Guard Room - Fourteen present.

**Nov 29** Sent copy of Weekly Orders to Major E. Borrow.  
Lectured on Suffolk Regiment at Hoxne Guard Room - about 14 - 16 present.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Risk <u>drew from 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores</u> | 20 Bayonets<br>4 H.G. Armlets<br>1 No.5 Great Coat |
| <u>Issued to Risk</u>                               | <u>10 Bayonets</u><br><u>10 Belts</u>              |

**Nov 30** Issued to Major F.T. Wright for Nos. 5 & 7 Sections  
12 Bayonets  
12 Belts

**Dec 1** One No. 5 Great Coat to G. Bridges No. 1 Section.

### **Opposite Page**

Issued 1 tin helmet to J. Risk

Left home at 10am. picked up Hart & 2 Lewises to Eye Range. Twenty four men shot - 29 present. J. Mayhew 1<sup>st</sup>, V.M.F.Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup>, G. Goddard 3<sup>rd</sup>  
121 Rds. shot - 1 dud.  
2.30 Nos. 2,3,4 & 6 Sections shot - 30 men - 150 rds.  
Doling W. Senr. 18, Jolly R. 17, Doling W. 17

**Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>** Issued to J. Risk 1 Box Respirator drawn from 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores same date.  
Lieut. Wallis Searchlights called to liaison with H.G. about Pill Boxes being taken over by H.G. at Brome & Palgrave. Passed on information to Major E. Brown at Conference.

All resignations to be in writing.

Mileage for Motor Bike at 2<sup>d</sup> per mile recognised for necessary journeys.

In view of changes in Searchlights - Night Patrols can be cut down.

Next three Sundays Aeroplane Spotting Course at Huntingfield - 10.30am. - 2 men to be picked up by J. French at St. Ed.'s Hall.

**Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** Issued to Sgt. H.A. Aldous 4 Slings 6 Haversacks 5 Pull Through Cards & Wts. 5 Anti Gas 3 Eye Shields.

All No. 7 have Great Coats except Ambrose.

1 pr No. 6 L. Boots for J. B. Hambling issued.

**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** Wrote to Borrow about payment for painting Red Bands on Rifle. Paid A.E. Brown £3.

Wrote to E.A.E.S.Co. about Ac £2.14.1 (in pencil - proved to be own private account)

**Dec 5<sup>th</sup>** Gave Lecture at Syleham Guard Room at 7.30 to Nos. 5 & 7 Sections on Suffolk Regiment. Bird took Major F.T. Wright & me.

**Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** To Lecture at Hoxne Guard Room at 7.30 to hear Lecture on Duties of a Home Guardsman by Major F.T. Wright - Nine present.

**Dec 7<sup>th</sup>** 2.30 To Depperhaugh Range & with 9 helpers built & sandbagged position for firing at 150y.

### **Opposite Page**

Issued 1 cap badge for Catchpole per Major F.T. Wright.

**Dec 8<sup>th</sup>** 10.30 To Depperhaugh Range. Major F.T. Wright in charge at Firing point - Sergeant H. Aldous was loader & safety N.C.O., H.P.R. Marker & Scorer at Butts end - assisted by W. Seaman, R. Pipe & T. Feavearyear. H.A. Aldous - 5 bulls - getting max. 20. Twenty four shot. Ammunition expended 125 rounds - there were several duds - the cap misfiring & on extraction bullet remained in bore. Home by 1.30.

**Dec 9<sup>th</sup>** Sent out new Patrol Duties - Denham Monday & Thursday, Hoxne Tuesday & Friday & Syleham & Wingfield Wednesday & Saturdays. Denham & Hoxne to take alternate Sundays.  
Returned 3 rifles & slings - about 400 empty cartridge cases & clips to No. 9 Company Stores.

**Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Sent in Equipment Return.

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** Received & acknowledged Cheque £2.9.6. from Major E. Borrow - (19/8 paid to Major F.T. Wright 14/8 Car Mileage 5/- Stamps & Phone).

**Dec 12<sup>th</sup>** LECTURED to Denham men on Suffolk Regiment.

**Dec 13<sup>th</sup>** Rec<sup>d</sup>. Cheque £13.16.0. for Subsistence Allowance & distributed to the units.  
Major F.T. Wright drew from stores as opposite -

### **Opposite Page**

From 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores

|  |          |             |             |
|--|----------|-------------|-------------|
| 30 Bayonets  | } Making | 70 Bayonets | } on charge |
| 40 Belts   | }        | 70 Belts    | }           |
| 10 Respirators complete with Eye Shields               |          |             |             |
| 2 Great Coats size 2                                   |          |             |             |
| 4 Bayonets & Belts to Syleham making 10 at each post   |          |             |             |
| 4 Bayonets & Belts to Wingfield making 10 at each post |          |             |             |

Issued a No. 3 Great Coat to A. J. Knights

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>** Risk came to report on his course of instruction for Home Guards 'Denbies' Dorking Survey Dec 6 - 10<sup>th</sup>. Issued to him two Great Coats & 1 pr of 8 Boots.

Asked G. Bridges, Low Street to join H.G.

**Dec 15<sup>th</sup>** Lieut. Hammond called up to say that Sgt. Winser had gone on leave. No parade had been arranged for Wingfield & Syleham.

Major E. Borrow called at 6.30 & showed me Battalion Orders - giving resignations & appointments.

Major F.T. Wright Platoon Leader via Major H.P. Raven resigned 1.12.40

L/Cpl. W.E. Feavearyear Sgt. Section Leader via Sgt. N.S. Dickinson resigned 1.12.40

Issued Kit & rifle to G. Bridges 44 Low Street Hoxne

**Dec 16<sup>th</sup>** Major F.T. Wright here to take over - left the Quartermaster Books & Subsistence Allowance Books to make up.

To 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores & delivered 120 rounds of Ammunition for three rifles sent in on Dec 9<sup>th</sup> (received Nov 11<sup>th</sup>) 660101, 451580 & 478624.

Took equipment to G. Bridges Low Street, No. 44.

Sent 1 Haversack by G Kebb to A. Knights.

**Dec 17** Issued to Wright for No. 5 Section Martin & F. Chapman 1 Gt. Coat, 1pr Boots.

Drew from No 9 Company Stores 1 pr of Anklets (3's) for G. Bridges & 3 prs (8 size boots)

**Dec 18<sup>th</sup>** Issued to Section Leaders as opposite per Aspland Citroen A.L.T. (Avant Light Traction)

### Opposite Page

|          | Bayonets | Belts | Haversacks | Respirators |
|----------|----------|-------|------------|-------------|
| To No. 2 | 10       | 10    | 18         | 1           |
| 3        | 10       | 10    | 8          | 1           |
| 4        | 10       | 10    | 9          | 1           |
| 6        | 9        | 9     | 9          | 1           |

**Dec 19<sup>th</sup>** Wright called & took 2 Respirators - for Aldous & Feavearyear.  
Brought Cheque for £3 for Borrow's account.

**Dec 20<sup>th</sup>** Drew from Company Stores as opposite & issued to various units.

Took in 1 Denim Suit 1 pr. boots 1 cap handed in by Bishop.

Returned 1 Great Coat to 9<sup>th</sup> Company Stores - Size 2.

Stores & issue as opposite.

### Next Page

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Great Coats 1 size 9 5 size 11 25 size 5 | = 37 |
| Field Dressings                          | = 30 |
| Boots size 9's                           | = 20 |
| Respirators                              | = 25 |
| Gloves                                   | 30   |

|             |    |
|-------------|----|
| Bayonets    | 20 |
| Belts       | 20 |
| Badges, cap | 20 |

|                            |   |                   |   |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Issue to Major F.T. Wright | 1 | Great Coat size 9 | - A Martin  |
|                            | 1 | "                 | 11 - G. Chapman   |
| Sergeant J. Risk           | 2 | "                 | 11 - R.L. Brett, B. Easey   |
|                            | 5 | "                 | 5 - Banthorpe, Goddard  |
| Corporal A.E. Brown        | 1 | "                 | 11 - P. Duncan  |
|                            | 5 | "                 | 5 - Chapman, Basil, Hawes, B.,<br>Lawes, A.E., Lawes, W.,<br>Witton, G.L. |
| Sergeant H. Aldous         | 1 | "                 | 11 - to Ambrose   |

To Sergeant J. Risk 10 Bayonets & 10 Belts  
 To Corporal A.E. Brown 10 Bayonets & 10 Belts

**Dec 21** Issued to Major F.T. Wright for Nos. 5 & 7

To No. 5 Boots prs 4 Size 9 m.  
 7 " " 2 " 9 m  
 No. 5 Haversacks 4  
 5 Badges cap 4  
 5 Pull Through Cords & Wts. 3

**Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>** Major E. Borrow held a conference here at 2pm. - Present Major F.T. Wright, J. French, J. Risk, self, & Edward.

Informed that the enemy may land light & medium tanks on coast. To make all arrangements for dealing with them. Posts to be manned on "Action Stations". Guides called for who know the district. H.W. Knights named sent in.

Two Great Coats 3 & 2 returned per J. French to No. 9 Company Stores.

Issued Boots No. 9 size to :

|        |                                    |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| Risk   | - 4 prs. & laces                   |
| Brown  | }                                  |
| Banham | } per Wright 2prs. each plus laces |
| Ruth   | }                                  |

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup>** Corporal A.E. Brown returned 1 Great Coat No. 5 & 12 Haversacks & 1 old sling

**Dec 30<sup>th</sup>** From 9<sup>th</sup> Coy. Stores 1 Belt

To Catchpole 1 pr. Boots size 7

**Dec 31<sup>st</sup>** Wright left file for me to see - Battn., Coy. & Platoon Orders.

**Opposite Page**

|                     |         |                          |      |
|---------------------|---------|--------------------------|------|
| Jan 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Syleham | Use of Bayonet           | 7.30 |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>     | Denham  | Signaling                | "    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>     | Hoxne   | Respirator & Challenging | "    |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>     | Denham  | Anti-tank Tactics        | "    |

|                  |       |                |   |
|------------------|-------|----------------|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | "     | Fire Control   | " |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Hoxne | Use of Bayonet | " |

#### Platoon Orders

|                     |                 |           |        |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------|
| Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> | Hoxne School    | 10.30 am. | Scheme |
|                     | Wingfield Green | 10.30am   | "      |

Risk reported 30 Blankets drawn from No. 9 Coy. Stores.  
 15 Blankets to Risk.  
 15 Blankets to Banham.

Sergeant Ruffles approves of G. Bridges (Low Street) - Charles Hawes (X Street) to send in written resignation to P.C. Brewer & Tom Lines.

C. Hawes to have No. 12 Great Coat from Risk & fresh A.F.W. 3066 & full equipment from Platoon Store.  
 Query sent to Major E. Borrow as to whether Corporal Callan can buy his boots on resignation.

**Jan 1** Major F.T. Wright sent copy of various Orders & Lectures - Battn. Orders Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> put down as "enrolled 1.12.40 W.J. Banham" should be G. Bridges, Low Street (as No. 1 Section)

**Jan 2** Lecture at Eye

**Jan 3** Received Subsistence Allowance from Risk  
 Sent in Claim for Car Mileage, Stamps & Phone

**Jan 4<sup>th</sup>** Received Subsistence Allowance (Purple Forms) from No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 by 4pm.  
 New recruit, C.E. Hawes, filled in A.F.W. 3066 & equipment Form. Wants Boots 9, Great Coat 7, Trousers 9.

**Jan 5<sup>th</sup>** Took Subsistence Claims to Major E. Borrow at Yellow Cottage.

**Jan 6<sup>th</sup>** Sergeant W.A. Banham paid me 6/7 owing for tea & sugar.

**Jan 7<sup>th</sup>** Called at No. 9 Company Stores for stores required for Denham & C.E. Hawes, nothing obtainable.

**Jan 8<sup>th</sup>** Sent Subsistence Claim Forms (purple) to Major F.T. Wright. Also A.F.W. 3066 for C.E. Hawes.

**Jan 9<sup>th</sup>** Issued a No. 5 Great Coat to G. Bridges, No. 3 Section in exchange for a No. 3 & a No. 5 to A.J. Knights for a No. 3 to be sent up.

**Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** Nine No. 5 Great Coats returned to No. 9 Store.

**Jan 16** Nine respirators to No. 1 per Risk.

Gave Risk 54 copies of Equipment forms to be filled in & returned when completed.

**Jan 17** To W.A. Banham - equipment forms for Nos. 2, 3, 4 & 6 for signature.

**Jan 18** To Major F.T. Wright - equipment forms for Nos. 5 & 7 for signature.  
To Eye with Risk & drew Serge Suits surplus to be returned on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>.

|             |    |         |    |
|-------------|----|---------|----|
| Jackets     | 91 | Trouser | 91 |
| Respirators | 90 |         |    |

Removed same to Hoxne Guard Room & distributed to:

|             |      |          |            |    |
|-------------|------|----------|------------|----|
| Sections    | No.1 | Nos. 2-6 | Nos. 5 & 7 |    |
| Jackets     | 29   | 33       | 29         | 91 |
| Trousers    | 29   | 33       | 29         | 91 |
| Respirators | 30   | 30       | 30         | 90 |

**Jan 19** Exchanged

1 pr 9 Trousers for a 7 to Risk  
7 prs (12-16 & 17) for 7 No. 9 Trousers to Banham

**Jan 20** Took all surplus back to No. 9 Company Stores & signed for 91 Tunics & 91 Trousers & 90 Respirators.

**Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>** Issued 9 Respirators to Sgt. W.A. Banham.

**Jan 24<sup>th</sup>** Major F.T. Wright called & paid me 11/4 in cash for Tea & Sugar 6/ & stamps and phone claim 5/

**Jan 25** Risk drew 35 Bayonets from No. 9 Company Stores and 30 Belts

**Jan 27** Risk issued Bayonets as opposite. By phone - asks for caps 7 & 7 ¼.  
Lawes G. to be struck off.

### Opposite Page

25.1.41 Per Major F.T. Wright

4 Bayonets & Scabbards & Belts have been issued each to Sections 5 & 7

|                 |                         |    |   |    |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----|---|----|
| Bayonets issued | Banham - 2 - 4 Sections | 15 | } |    |
|                 | Denham No. 1 Section    | 12 | } | 35 |
|                 | Wingfield No. 7 Section | 8  | } |    |

Bayonets & Belts drawn & Issued

|                      | Bayonets | Belts | Section  | Bayonets | Belts    |
|----------------------|----------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 20       | 20    | Nov 23 5 | 10 } rtd | 10 } rtd |
|                      |          |       | 7        | 10 } 6   | 10 } 6   |
| Nov 29               | 20       |       | Nov 29 1 | 10       | 10       |
|                      |          |       | 5        | 6        | 6        |

|        |            |            |        |   |            |            |
|--------|------------|------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| Dec 13 | 30         | 40         | Dec 18 | 7 | 6          | 6          |
|        |            |            |        | 2 | 10         | 10         |
|        |            |            |        | 3 | 10         | 10         |
| Dec 20 | 20         | 20         |        | 4 | 10         | 10         |
| Jan 25 | 35         | 30         |        | 6 | 9          | 9          |
|        |            |            |        |   |            |            |
|        | <u>125</u> | <u>120</u> |        |   | <u>87</u>  | <u>87</u>  |
|        |            |            | Jan 25 | 1 | 35         | 30         |
|        |            |            |        |   | <u>122</u> | <u>117</u> |

**Feb 1** Risk called at 12 noon with Subsistence allowance Claims.  
 Issued to No. 1 two caps 7 & 7 ¼.

**Feb 8** Issued to Sgt. W.A. Banham  
 2 pairs Anklets  
 2 No. 5 Great Coats  
 2 Caps & Badges  
 2 Respirators  
 1 Rifle 673994            Archibald Blunt  
 1 "                              J. Walter

Issued to Risk  
 2 Cap Badges

**Feb 11** Issued to Sgt. W.A. Banham  
 4 Respirators  
 4 Eye Shields  
 4 Field Dressings  
 4 Anti-Gas Ointments

**Feb 14** Issued to Sgt. W.A. Banham  
 5 Overcoats Lees Smith Dixon  
 2 Tunics Serge No. 7  
 2 Anti- Gas Ointment  
 2 Field Dressings  
 2 Eye Shields

### **Opposite Page**

Feb - J. Risk returned 2 Denim Suits  
 F.T. Wright returned 2 Serge Tunics & 1 Trousers

**Feb 15** Made out complete list of personnel up to date for Major F.T. Wright.   
 Strength 134 excluding Dickinson, E.J.P.R. & H.P.R. & mobile squad of seven.

**Feb 18** 1 pr. Serge Trousers sent to Major F.T. Wright per Keble.

**Feb 19** Went through Equipment accounts all the am.

**Feb 20** Major F.T. Wright drew from Company Stores as opposite.

### **Opposite Page**

From No. 9 Company Stores

|        |          |                        |                        |
|--------|----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Feb 20 | Browning | L.A. Magazine Fillers  | 3 (1 Syleham 1 Deham)  |
|        |          | L.A. Combination Tools | 2 (1 Syleham 1 Denham) |
|        |          | L.A. Cleaning Tool     | 1 (1 Denham)           |
|        |          | L.A. Spare Parts Boxes | 2 (1 Syleham 1 Denham) |
|        |          | L.A. Slings Leather    | 3 (1 Syleham 1 Denham) |

1 Filler L.A. 1 Sling 1 Striker Pin to Arthur Knights, Hoxne.

Gloves - 4 (in pencil - Distributed by Wright to Risk, Aldous, Feavearyear and himself over the phone)

Eyeshields - 24

Anti-Gas ointment - 3

Respirators - 6 (2 sent to Wingfield)

Belts Leather - 5

**Feb 21** Did Ammunition returns all day. Sent Wright a list of men mostly recruits who have not yet shot with .300.

**Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>** Risk reported that he drew 10 prs. of Anklets No. 3 from No. 9 Company Store.

3 prs to Pipe, H.R., Goddard, A.S., Mayhew, R. No. 1.

1 pr. to E. Steward 6 prs. to Wright for Nos. 5 & 7 Sections.

**Feb 24** Sent in Equipment Return.

**Feb 25<sup>th</sup>** No. 5 Section reported short of Field Dressings.

**Feb 26<sup>th</sup>** Received in cash from Major F.T. Wright £2. 14s. 0d. for Bromeswell Car Mileage Account October 27<sup>th</sup>.

|                | Miles |      | £  | s   | d |
|----------------|-------|------|----|-----|---|
| Banham's Lorry | 54    | @ 9d | 2. | 0.  | 6 |
| Risk's Morris  | 54    | @ 3d | 0. | 13. | 6 |

**Feb 27<sup>th</sup>** Sent out Subsistence Allowance Claims for February to all Sections with covering letter asking for dates of tours of duty. cf. (?) File.

Paid W.A. Banham £2.0s.6d. for Bromeswell journey 54 miles @ 9d. He owes me 16/- for petrol.

### **Opposite Page**

1 Field Dressing to Maurice Randall

**Feb 28<sup>th</sup>** John Walter called for clothing



**March 1<sup>st</sup>** Risk brought stores as entered in Equipment Book. Paid him 13/6 for Bromeswell ac. He paid me 4/- for 2 gallons of Petrol.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** Major F.T. Wright handed in clothing & equipment for Cundy, K. (No. 7) left the district.

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>** Drew 10 Respirators from No. 9 Company Stores - Issued No. 5 Great Coat to N.S. Dickinson.

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** Sent in Subsistence Allowance Claims.  
Issued Clothing to K. Potter (No. 6).

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** Received Equipment Forms from W.A. Banham for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Sections. 4<sup>th</sup> still with Ruth.

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** Issued to N.S. Dickinson 1 Respirator, 1 Ointment, 1 Cap Badge per Major F.T. Wright.

Wrote to Connop about non-issue of Boots 9, 10, 11 & 12. Great Coats 7, 9 & Large Serge Blouses & Small Trousers.

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** Return to Majors Borrow & Wright as to Equipment issued to Mobile Squad from Platoon Stores & that issued by Captain Croft of Mobile Unit.

Issued 1 Denim Trousers 1 Haversack & 1 Arm Band to Anthony Dacres Dixon.

### Opposite Page

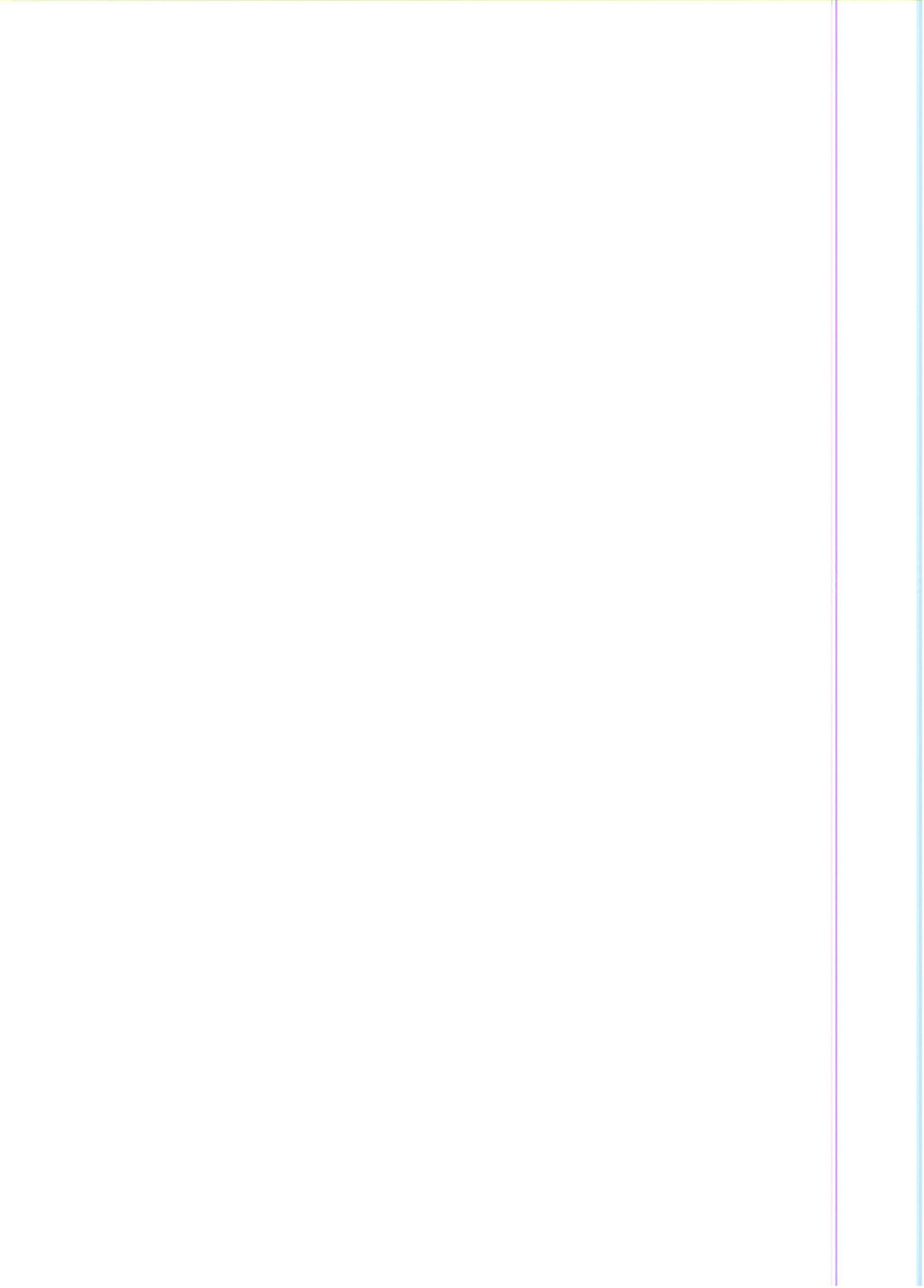
March 8<sup>th</sup> Issued to W.A. Banham

- 2 prs. Anklets
- 2 No. 5 Great Coats
- 2 Caps & Badges
- 2 Respirators
- 1 Rifle 673994 Archibald Blunt
- 1 Wallin Doling J????? Rifle
- 2 Cap Badges for Risk

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** Shoot at Depperhaugh at 3pm. The men named on opposite page shot - all used their own ammn. & Brownings fired 15 rounds apiece from their own supply.

### Opposite Page

|                       |               |                |                |                |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| March 9 <sup>th</sup> |               | Brownings      | rds.           |                |
|                       | Kryer, A.     | Bridges, G.    | Knights, A.J.  | 10             |
|                       | Dixon, A.J.D. | Huggins, F.G.  | Riches, W.N.   | 5              |
|                       | Reeve, E.     | Brett, R.L.    | Thurlow, F.T.  | 10             |
|                       | Catchpole, G. | Blunt, A.      | Whatling, E.E. | 5              |
|                       | Lees Smith    | Walter, J.     | Revell, H.J.   | 10             |
|                       | Baldwin, G.   | Easey, J.      | Randall, M.    | 5              |
|                       | Steward, E.   | Fellingham, L. |                |                |
|                       | Bannon, T.    | Potter, K.     |                | <u>45 rds.</u> |



all 5 apiece = 80 rounds

**March 10<sup>th</sup>** Banham drew 2 Service Respirators  
10 Eye Shields  
4 Haversacks  
4 Field Dressings

**March 11<sup>th</sup>** Returned to Company Stores 10 Kerr Slings

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** Sent four Field Dressings to Major F.T. Wright for Syleham

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** Sent in Equipment return

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** Received orders to send Battle Dress special measurements.

**March 19<sup>th</sup>** Sent out forms to Section Leaders to complete for Battle Dress. To be returned by 24<sup>th</sup>.

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** S.A.A. return to No. 9 Company Stores

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** Found ac. 4/- for Mileage Jan 18 returned by Borrow.

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>** Day of National Prayer ordered by the King.  
Church Parade Denham 24 - I went in Mufti  
Hoxne 38 - E.J.P.R. in uniform  
Wingfield 18

J. Risk gave me Battle Dress return 5pm.

### **Opposite Page**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** Received from No. 9 Company Store  
1 pair Battle Dress Trousers to Dacres Dixon  
12 clips Dummy Ammn. No. 1 - 4, No. 3 - 4, No. 5 - 2, No. 7 - 2  
2 Sgts. Stripes } Banham &  
2 Corporal Stripes } Feavearyear  
8 L/Corpl. Stripes to Sergeant Moss

**March 25<sup>th</sup>** E. Borrow sent me 5/- per Major F.T. Wright for Jan & Feb Stamp & Phone accounts.

**March 26<sup>th</sup>** Completed Battle Dress returns & informed by 2.30 by J. French that it was not wanted. Informed Major Wright.

**March 27** French received two Rifles 2 Slings & 4 Suits Denim from J. Risk.

### **Opposite Page**

Rifles numbered 106281 & 339859

**March 28** Battle Dress return required by not by measurement but by sizes as in October. Thus sent in except for Brett & Hoppitt both being outside.

**March 29<sup>th</sup>** S.A.A. return to No. 9 Company Stores - by phone.

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** Received orders re resignation of Corporal A.E. Brown & B.W. Hawes. Discharges of Volunteers Flowerdew, R., Goddard, F.N., Gower, F.R., Foster Clark, A., Last, P., Last, V.H., Potter, W.E. & Butler, M.C.

Transfer of F. Wiles to No. 1 Section.

Rejoined for duty with No. 1 Corporal C.L. Brett, A.R. Riches & A.J. Whatling. 

**April 8<sup>th</sup>** Sent out notices to Mr Risk, Sgts. Banham & Aldous asking them to return equipment to Store.

**April 9<sup>th</sup>** Major F.T. Wright brought Iron Rations as opposite (not written opposite) also 1 pr. No. 7 Serge Trousers

4 Caps

Returned to No. 9 Company Stores six Rifles as opposite & 8 Denim No. 9 Blouses.

### Opposite Page

|                |        |            |   |         |
|----------------|--------|------------|---|---------|
| April 9 Rifles | 10903  | No sling   | } |         |
|                | 533121 | with sling | } |         |
|                | 85402  | no sling   | } | No oil  |
|                | 435367 | no sling   | } | Bottles |
|                | 310626 | with sling | } |         |
|                | 284373 | with sling | } |         |

**April 15<sup>th</sup>** Sent off Equipment return to F.F.French

**April 16<sup>th</sup>** Major F.T. Wright called in am. & removed ten Respirators.

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** Major F.T. Wright called at 11am. & removed all surplus stores.

### AT END OF DIARY

#### Rifles Issue of

|     |        |            |                   |         |                     |
|-----|--------|------------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|
| 1.  | May 20 | No. 63055  | James Risk        | 23.7.40 | to Eye P.S casualty |
| 2.  | "      | 167762     | Clement Brett     |         |                     |
| 3.  | "      | ERA 352017 | Alfred Whatling   | 16.7.40 | to G. Baldwin       |
| 4.  | "      | 26143      | Thomas Moss       |         |                     |
| 5.  | "      | 12250      | George Lock       |         |                     |
| 6.  | "      | W108378    | Ernest Whatling   |         |                     |
| 7.  | "      | 37019      | George F. Howlett | 26.7.40 | spare               |
| 8.  | "      | 56194      | W. Doling         |         |                     |
| 9.  | "      | 249879     | A.E. Brown        | 21.7.40 | to H.A. Aldous      |
| 10. | "      | 170275     | K.E. Rush         |         |                     |

|     |                      |          |                 |   |
|-----|----------------------|----------|-----------------|---|
| 11. | "                    | W32926   | G.W. Thirkettle |   |
| 12. | "                    | 380388   | R.M. Watson     |   |
| 13. | "                    | 158855   | E. Mills        |   |
| 14. | "                    | W154795  | C. Baldwin      |   |
| 15. | "                    | 207281   | N.S. Dickinson  | 16.7.40 F. Chapman                      |
| 16. | "                    | 221650   | G.L. Witton     |   |
| 17. | "                    | 176161   | H.E. Steward    |   |
| 18. | "                    | 39601    | J.P. Banham     |   |
| 19. | "                    | 116494   | P. Last         |   |
| 20. | "                    | 189545   | R. Cooke        | 21.7.40 B.F. Chapman                    |
| 21. | "                    | 513194   | M. Colmer       | 21.7.40 A. Abbott                       |
| 22. | "                    | W76248   | C. Westrep      |   |
| 23. | "                    | 141985   | B. Ruth         |   |
| 24. | "                    | 469371   | A. Warne        |   |
| 25. | "                    | 301236   | J. Barber       |   |
| 26. | "                    | W135283  | W.A. Banham     | 16.7.40 to B. Chapman -<br>Syleham Post |
| 27. | "                    | 239365   | A.W. Tye        |   |
| 28. | "                    | 179066   | E. Steward      |   |
| 29. | July 3 <sup>rd</sup> | V. 944   | A. Whatling     | }                                       |
| 30. | "                    | Z.8833   | R. Riches       | }                                       |
| 31. | "                    | 1597     | W. Putts        | } Long                                  |
| 32. | "                    | 130/1916 | W. Souter       | } Ross                                  |
| 33. | "                    | 211/1917 | F. Reeve        | }                                       |
| 34. | "                    | 363/1916 | V. Last         | }                                       |

Enfields

|     |                       |          |                  |                                |
|-----|-----------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 35. | July 12 <sup>th</sup> | 2712     | J. Risk          |                                |
| 36. | "                     | H.71178  | B. Norman        |                                |
| 37. | "                     | F.84603  | O. Archer        |                                |
| 38. | "                     | Z.7907   | A.E. Brown       |                                |
| 39. | "                     | K.12107  | W. Lawes         |                                |
| 40. | "                     | 55440    | B. Hawes         |                                |
| 41. | "                     | Q875     | W.A. Banham      |                                |
| 42. | "                     | 8037     | W.J. Doling      |                                |
| 43. | "                     | 43142    | A.J. Knights     |                                |
| 44. | "                     | 4412     | H. Page          |                                |
| 45. | "                     | Z91785   | F. Wiles         |                                |
| 46. | "                     | H99350   | N.S. Dickinson   |                                |
| 47. | "                     | I.4560   | A. Martin        |                                |
| 48. | "                     | B.47003  | F. Brundle       |                                |
| 49. | "                     | D.65220  | W. Feavearyear   |                                |
| 50. | "                     | H.3070   | W. Potter        |                                |
| 51. | "                     | W.2183   | J. Turner        |                                |
| 52. | "                     | H55292   | W. Knights       |                                |
| 53. | "                     | D.5440   | E.J.P. Raven     |                                |
| 54. | "                     | B.2951   | H.P. Raven       |                                |
| 55. | Long Ross             | 268/1918 |                  | a casualty 23.7.40 to Eye P.S. |
| 56. | Pattern 1914          | 179984   | A. Foster Clarke |                                |

|     |   |   |        |              |
|-----|---|---|--------|--------------|
| 57. | " | " | 131080 | G.E. Ambrose |
| 58. | " | " | 599634 | R.J. Pipe    |
| 59. | " | " | 9366   | E.A. Tye     |
| 60. | " | " | 105716 | F.R. Gower   |
| 61. | " | " | 12447  | J. Rumsby    |
| 62. | " | " | 89418  | C.C. Barber  |

