

REPORT ON ENEMY ENTERPRISE  
AGAINST HILL 60.  
AUGUST 12th. 1916.

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At about 8.30AM. on the 12th. August the enemy commenced to shell heavily our trenches from 38-43, held by the 60th. Battalion. The front trenches were bombarded with heavy Minenwerfer and the back trenches with 5.9's and guns of smaller calibre.

At about 9.45AM. this fire lifted from our front trenches and at the same time several parties of Germans left their front trenches and advanced towards our trenches 38-42. Lewis and Colt guns were used to good advantage, and combined with rifle fire enabled the garrison to drive the raiders back. Two parties only effected a lodgment in our trenches, one at the eastern end of trench 38, and one, (of one H.C.O. and one man) in trench 41. In the first instance the party was bombed out by No.406482, A/Sergeant Bryant and No.441854, Pte. C. Mann both of the 60th. Battalion. No.139543, Pte. J. Jann (60th. Bn) jumped over the parapet and bayoneted one of the raiders but the body was not recovered. In the second case Sergeant McDowell of the 60th. Battalion, although wounded in the hand, threw a bomb at the H.C.O. and man, killing them instantly.

Another party of about 15 Germans came up the sap into the crater outside of trench 42 where on account of the dead ground, they were able to bomb our post, holding the craters, and killed the occupants. This party was fired upon by machine gun and rifle fire from trench 42 with good effect, as only a few of them were seen to crawl back into the German line. A party went out last night to see if they could find any bodies for identification purposes, but none could be found.

At 8.30AM. the enemy also bombarded trenches 55-56, on HOUET SORREL and placed a barrage from the centre of SQUARE WOOD across KHOLL HOUSE to ZILLEBEKE VILLAGE. This was followed about 9.30AM. by a bombing attack against our post in sap "D". About 25 bombs were thrown, but the enemy did not attempt to come out at this point.

The conduct of the 60th. Battalion holding trenches 38-46 was all that could be desired; and their task was rendered more difficult by the fact that they had only taken over the trenches the previous night. Particularly good work was done by Major I.S. Ralston commanding "B" company, which was holding trenches 41-46 inclusive. This Officer showed great coolness and although buried twice by shell fire, carried out his work throughout the day.

The Lewis Guns of this battalion appear to have been well handled and instrumental in repelling the raiders.

Our Stokes Guns were also most effective firing a total number of 296 rounds, between 8.30AM. and 1.00PM.

Too much praise cannot be given to the 1st. Canadian Divisional Artillery which was covering our front, and also to the Corps Heavy Artillery whose fire was both prompt and effective. The information furnished by Lieut. H.R. Blake of the 6th. Canadian Battery from his O.P. on the Dump was excellent. When this Officer found that he could not keep in touch with his battery from the Dump, he moved under heavy fire to VERHAGENMOLEN where he tapped in on a line there.