

Operation Orders by Lieut Col J E Blackwell Comd
Left Sector.

16th April 1916

1. Mines will be exploded by the French at 12.0 midnight 16th/17th.
instants :-
 - (a) at head of BIRKIN C.T.
 - (b) at head of GRANGE C.T.
2. O.C. D Company, 8th S.S. will clear Outpost Line by 11.45pm. between GRANGE and DUFFIELD, also GRANGE Retrenchment between GRANGE and GRANGE Retrenchment C.T.
3. He will find a raiding party of One Officer (Lieut A. BEDFORD) and 12 Other Ranks, namely, 4 Bayonet men and 5 Bombers who will be stationed in GRANGE facing East with head at QUERIN, bayonet men being in front and will immediately on explosion of the mine(s) rush up GRANGE round left flank of crater formed to new forward German trench and will capture any German found there, or in the German sap in the continuation of GRANGE. A live specimen will be brought back the remainder being killed and the party returning as quickly as possible, the Bombers covering their withdrawal. The party ~~will~~ must not, however, become so involved as to be unable to extricate itself quickly.
4. O.C. D Company will find a covering party of half a platoon in GRANGE behind the raiding party to hold near left of crater formed.
5. a party of 4 Baltr Bombers from the junction of QUERIN & GRANGE will be stationed in Retrenchment South of GRANGE at point 40yds South of TIDSA and will immediately after the explosion move up TIDSA and along the observation line towards the crater to operate against any possible attack

on the right flank of the crater.

- b. A Party of 4 Baller Bombers from the right of P. 74 will be stationed at the head of DUFFIELD and will immediately after the explosion move along the observation line to left of flank of crater to repel possible German counter attack, and assist in covering withdrawal of raiding party.
7. O.C. "D" Company will find a Digging party of half a platoon to be stationed in GRANGE in rear of covering party provided with sandbags, shovels and picks, who will follow the covering party to crater formed and proceed to clear Outpost bunk or, where that is completely destroyed, dig new trench in solid ground as close as possible to the rear left of the crater to connect up with outpost line to right and left and with communication trench in rear. One or two forward posts will be constructed to overlook interior of crater.
8. A carrying party will follow above with further supply of sandbags, 2 reels barbed wire, 40 corkscrews, wire palisades, trench ladders and loophole plates.
9. O.C. "D" Company will find flanking party of 2 Lewis Guns and detachments (to be detailed by L.M.G. officer) 2 Rifle Grenadiers, 4 Bombers and 12 Rifles under an officer to be posted in Retrenchment South of GRANGE at a point South of party of Bombers mentioned in para. 5 above. They will follow these Bombers into the Outpost Line and cover with fire the right flank of the crater.
10. O.C. "D" Company will find a second flanking party similar to above in Outpost Line NORTH of DUFFIELD.
11. O.C. "D" Company will place a post in GRANGE at junction with P 76 to prevent stragglers from getting to the rear.
12. Battalion Scouts under Scout Officer will keep up communication between forward operations and Battalion Headquarters.

13. The working party found by 7th Batta S. Troop will be in Support in QUERIN, P. 76.
14. Battalion Grenade Officer will refill forward stores of grenades, and send forward supplies to bombers as required.
15. Lewis Gun Officer and 2 Reserve Lewis Guns, and Teams will be stationed in the right of P. 76.
16. The West Thrower in DOFFIELD and Rifle Grenade Stands will be operated by Brigade Grenade Officer, teams being provided by Batta Grenade Officer.
17. One gun of the Stokes Battery near GRANGE will fire on German front line North of the crater formed.
18. 'B' 'C' & 'A' Companies will cease work and "stand to" at 11-45pm, resuming work at discretion of O.C. Companies.
19. Reports to Sergeants Dugout in P. 76, 20 yds from GRANGE.

W. W. Selman

Capt Adjutant
8/Sheewood Foresters

Issued at 7-45pm to:-

No. 1.	Copy	-	War Diary.
" 2 "	"	-	134 th Inf. Bde.
" 3 "	"	-	C.R.A.
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" 5 "	"	-	" "B" "
" 6 "	"	-	" "C" "
" 7 "	"	-	" "D" "
" 8 "	"	-	Compny of Support Batta.
" 9 "	"	-	6 th S. 4
" 10 "	"	-	7 th S. 4
" 11 "	"	-	Left Compny. Right Sector.
" 12 "	"	-	Grenade Officer.
" 13 "	"	-	Lewis Gun Officer.