



# GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



2<sup>nd</sup> Special Edition

February 2011

**SPECIAL**



**EDITION**

**This is our second special edition – The story is about a Captain AC Frame who served with the Glasgow Highlanders during the Great War**

A request from a professor David Coldwell from the Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg South Africa has led to our second special edition—David was searching for information on his Great Uncle who served with the Glasgow Highlanders during WW1 and was also trying to trace the whereabouts of his relatives medals - the research was quick and swift with great results as you will read—it is not normal for the information to be at hand so quickly but with the aid of the internet—the GH webpage and Sandy from Home Headquarters we generally succeeded

David's relative was Capt AC Frame who was awarded a DSO and later a mention in despatches—was wounded twice and after short rest periods returned to France to continue to fight with the Battalion—He led the famous Mad Point Raid against the German forces and the story unfolds as you read on.

The main search was to try and locate his medals and by sheer luck and a chance conversation we discovered them safe and well at the Home HQ of 2 Scots museum in Sauchiehall Street Glasgow along with a lot of information on Captain Frame himself as the museum had been planning to set up a display and give the story—the display never happened so here is my opportunity to tell the story of this remarkable man



**Caoptain AC Frames Medals**

**CAPTAIN AC FRAME DSO MID TD**



*I wish to thank David for allowing us to publish this story on Captain Frame*

*Dinger*

A while ago I received an email from a David Coldwell who is a professor at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, asking if I could help trace the whereabouts of his Great Uncles medals.

Many years ago for whatever reason a family member of David's had sold the medals to a collector – his Great uncle was a Captain Andrew Carmichael Frame who served with the Glasgow Highlanders before and during the great war. This was a challenge and I started the search to find out what I could on his relative – then it struck me that his relative was none other than the officer who commanded the “perfect” trench raid at Mad Point on 27/28 June 1916 of which I had covered in a previous association newsletter.

Mad Point was a bulge in the German front line with two craters in front of it, a short distance north of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, in France and in front of our new Quinchy Right sector.

This raid saw him awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) for commanding and leading the raid – At the time he was a Lt – Acting Captain and the award of DSO was unusual award to be given to such a rank – normally this award would be given to Battalion Commanders or higher rank –for command and control of their troops - so brilliantly was the raid executed that it may have convinced General Sir Douglas Haig commander of the British Army France: at the time swaying wither or not to go ahead with his summer Somme plan.



It may have been the success of the raid that finally set his mind to launch the battle of the Somme 2 days after the raid – possibly feeling that the raid proved that his army would be victorious in the future battle, which sadly was not to be the case because when the battle for the Somme was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 some 60,000 UK and Commonwealth casualties resulted in the first day

David provided me with a picture of Captain Frame and his request was to try and find out the whereabouts of the DSO and other medals awarded to Captain Frame – all he knew at the time was that AC Frame served with the Glasgow Highlanders, had originally served with the battalion before the war and had left the service for employment in Egypt but as soon as war was announced he immediately applied for permission to rejoin his old battalion – he had left as a Captain and was re-enlisted as a Lt and later in the war got his captain rank returned to him – his commanding officer requesting that he be given his rank back had personally lettered the war office saying that the other officers serving who may have had Frame promoted over them stated that non of his officers objected to Frame being promoted to acting Captain.



Lt Frame served with D (No 4) Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Glasgow Highlanders (9<sup>th</sup> HLI) a Territorial Battalion and moved with the first draft to France in November 1914 – on new years eve in a mixture of

welcoming in the new year (1915) and letting the British know they were there – the Germans opened fire with small arms fire and during this event a bullet struck Frame on his right hand and it is thought this wound caused him to lose two fingers although his medical report mentions the hand wound it is not recorded about losing the fingers. The result of this injury earned him a short respite back to the UK and after a short period he was back with the battalion in France.

In June 1916 he was selected to lead the raid on Mad Point and through thorough preparation, planning and rehearsals prior to the raid executed what at the time was classed as the most successful raid of the war

Capt Frame was born on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1878 - He joined the Glasgow Highlanders as a private soldier and was later commissioned on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1901,

When the war broke out he was in Egypt, but on applying for leave, he returned home and rejoined his old battalion. He proceeded with the battalion overseas on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 1914 in command of H Coy and was wounded in the hand on New Years eve 1915 as mentioned earlier. After a short period he returned to the battalion.

In the battle for High Wood over the period 14/15 July 1916 he was again wounded and sent to England. Recuperating he was posted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion, but the old indomitable spirit again aspired to further service, and was soon he was back in France with his old battalion, with whom he served till 1917, when he was posted to the Egyptian Army and promoted to Major

In addition to his abilities as a soldier, he was well known on the rugby field in pre war days and had been classed as one of the best players in the Glasgow Academicals at half and centre, at the time, playing alongside Louis Grieg who was to become an international rugby star

He died 17 October 1930 at the age of 52 of a cerebral hemorrhage brought on, it is believed, by his earlier contraction of the “sleeping sickness” disease through a tsetse fly bite while in the Sudan, and his death is recorded on page 337 of the district of Hillhead in the burgh of Glasgow



Page 337

1930 DEATHS in the DISTRICT of HILLHEAD in the BURGH of GLASGOW

No.	Name and Surname. Rank or Profession, and whether Single, Married, or Widowed.	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature and Qualification of Informant and Residence, if out of the House in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
1009	Andrew Gammichael Frame.  Brysalter's Clark (Single)	1930. October Seventeenth 10h. 40m. AM 22 Claremont Terrace, Glasgow W. 29. Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.	M.	52 years	John Frame, Ironmonger. (deceased)  Maggie Frame Mrs. McKinlay (deceased)	General Haemorrhage.  Absent by K. Barclay M.B. M.B. Ch.B.	J. H. Thomson  Lousin  "Robertson" Airdrie.	1930. October 18 <sup>th</sup> at Glasgow.  R. R. Bell Assistant Registrar. F. W. H.

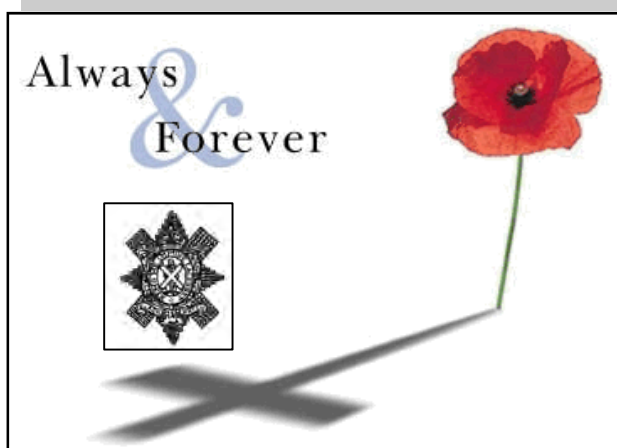


The picture on the left shows Captain Frame with his two nieces, the little girl holding his hand is David Coldwell's mother who lived in Ballachulish near Fort William in the Highlands of Scotland The other little girl is her sister David's Aunty Mona Wallace who died last year being over 100 years old she received a letter from the Queen congratulating her on reaching her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Mona had lived in Edinburgh before her passing. Her daughter Jean Hunter (nee Wallace) lives in Pollokshields, Glasgow, Scotland



The picture on the right shows him presumably whilst he was out in the Sudan , it is believed, when out in the Sudan he

developed "sleeping sickness" through a tsetse fly bite which may have contributed to his early death in 1930. His passing came as a great shock to both family members and those of the battalion who had knew and had served with him





Along with his Mentioned in Dispatches which he earned in 1917

FRAME 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt (temp Capt) A.C. D.S.O.  
 Highland Light Infy  
 M.S.D. Lg 4.1.17 Page 237

No.	Corps	Name		
	HIGHLAND L I	FRAME A C DSO		
		2nd Lt		
Operations	Vol.	Page	MID	
LGS				
4.1.17	29890	237		
File Nos. :-				

7869 / 4678L D068264 50M 10/79 TP Gp 3628/2

Knowing that the medals had been sold to a collector some 40 years ago by the family was all that I had to go on and a casual mention of the search to Sandy Leishman from the Home Headquarter Museum of 2 Scots (The Royal Highland Fusiliers) The Royal Regiment of Scotland at Sauchiehall Street Glasgow – Sandy emailed me to tell me that

the museum had Captain Frames medals at the museum and were at one point considering putting a display into the museum concerning him, but funding prevented the project from becoming a reality but at least my search was made easy knowing that his medals were in safe custody – Sandy sent me a photo of the medals



Sandy immediately contacted David to give him the good news that the medals had been found and were safe.



David sent a photo of the medal ribbons he had for Captain Frame (shown above)

It normally takes time and a lot of searching when I try to help people but on this occasion in a matter of a day after speaking to Sandy he produced the goods and had quite a lot of information on Captain Frame. Information on the Mad Point raid appears in a few publications:

Courage Past – Alex Aiken  
Come on Highlanders – Alec Weir  
Proud Heritage Vol III  
Shoulder to Shoulder  
The war diary of “The Glasgow Highlanders WW1”

**The following are extracts from Alec Aiken’s book –  
Courage Past concerning the raid....**

## CHAPTER 4

### THE RAID

On the 24th June, when the battalion was in billets, it was learned that *D* Company would carry out a raid on the enemy's trenches at Mad Point on the night of 27th/28th. Using sawdust, a trace of the trenches was marked out in a large field south of the Béthune-La Bassée road and a rehearsal took place. In the afternoon a magic-lantern slide of the area to be attacked was shown in the school billet, and the scheme explained.

24·6·16

The object of the raid was to advance as far as the German support trench behind Mad Point and hold this for 60 minutes, while craters were examined and any mines destroyed. Also to get as many live prisoners as possible, to capture enemy equipment, and to damage defences and dug-outs. Three parties of about 50 men were each sub-divided, making six sections in all. The leading section of each party would rush up to the support trench, form stops north and south, and establish themselves in this line. Those that followed would prolong the line and guard deep dugouts, while the remaining sections would clear the front line trench and collect prisoners and booty from the support line.<sup>90</sup>

Trench raids were unpopular with the infantry who had to carry them out, mainly because such raids were almost invariably unsuccessful and resulted in heavy casualties.<sup>254</sup> Most raids originated in orders from High Command, from a need for information regarding the enemy order of battle, and from the belief that continual aggressive activity was good for morale.<sup>247a</sup>

*D* Company practised the attack next morning, and again after dark; on the 26th the men were inspected by the Brigadier-General, before the battalion took over the front line from the Worcesters later in the day. The artillery

25·6·16

26·6·16



27·6·16      bombarded Mad Point at 11.05 p.m., and again at 3.15 a.m. – wire cutting, while the Lewis guns fired all night in the gaps in the enemy's wire. There was little retaliation, although two men of *A* Company were killed by trench mortar bombs.

Fatigue parties carried up hand-grenades. Special stores required for the raid included 150 smoke cannisters, 90 boxes of Mills grenades, 87 buckets to hold the grenades, wire-cutters and 27 electric torches.<sup>90</sup> It was intended to blow a small surface mine by exploding Bangalore torpedoes previously forced through the ground by hydraulic "pipe-pushers",<sup>74</sup> but the first attempts lost direction and the ends could be seen sticking up through the surface about half-way across – a warning to the Germans that something was afoot.<sup>32</sup> It was an uneventful afternoon; "zero" for the raid was to be 11.30 p.m.

10·45 p.m.      The night was very dark, with the sky overcast. All was very quiet<sup>90</sup> as the raiders waited in that state of mind peculiar to men suppressing their instinct of self-preservation.<sup>218</sup> Message from Lieutenant McLelland, "Can I have leave?" meaning, "Party beginning to go out."<sup>90</sup> The men moved forward along the sap. At the end, in the middle of No Man's Land and beyond the barbed wire, steps had been formed out of sandbags. Once on the surface they crawled in single file through the long damp grass; when the last man was out of the sap, they lay still and waited.<sup>218</sup> At two other points similar parties had emerged. From Lieutenant McLelland, "10 days" that is, "All quiet".<sup>90</sup>

11·24 p.m.      About 11.00 p.m., *A* and *C* Companies had pulled back, leaving the front trenches empty.<sup>36</sup> Now *C* Company sent, "Kelso" as the wind was favourable for the release of smoke on the left, opposite Mine Point. From the right opposite Railway Crater, however, *A* Company had to send, "Napu".<sup>90</sup>

11·30 p.m.      The earth shuddered, then heaved violently; there was a burst of yellow flame, a stunning roar and a tearing wind – followed by the thudding of heavy objects on the ground, and the patter of falling earth and debris<sup>218</sup> – as a mine was blown opposite *A* Company, leaving a high crater about two-thirds of the way across towards the German trenches.<sup>36</sup>

Immediately after the explosion of the mine, there was a shrieking overhead like a train braking violently, and the enemy trenches were lit up<sup>218</sup> as ten 18-pounder guns and six 4.5-inch howitzers flung nearly 150 shrapnel and high-explosive shells at the front line and Mad Point Crater; all in the short space of three minutes. Beyond the right, the artillery of the 15th Division also bombarded the front line trenches.

Meantime *C* Company started to send over smoke, and were intensely shelled and bombed by the Germans for their trouble; this counter-bombardment slackened a little later. Casualties at this time were one man killed and one wounded.

Lieutenant McLelland telephoned through, "Destination Glasgow" – party all out and ready<sup>90</sup> – as the raiders lay in the flickering twilight of bursting shells. The German guns were replying very vigorously, but their shells were passing over to burst in the first and second line of trenches. An order was passed along, saying to move further forward. This they did, until they were close to the hum and thud of falling splinters. The scene was now as light as day as star rockets soared and drifted and fell to earth in profusion.<sup>218</sup>

While the minutes passed the more imaginative may have been apprehensive; the others perhaps only excited.<sup>289</sup> All wished for action soon.<sup>21</sup> "Whump!" The surface mine exploded, immediately under the crater at Mad Point.<sup>90</sup> As soon as the flame shot upwards the men of *D* Company were on their feet<sup>216</sup> and, guided by Very lights,<sup>74</sup> were racing towards the German trenches, the debris of the mine showering down upon them as they ran.<sup>218</sup> The scheme of attack had allowed for time to let the fragments fall, but the surprise was all the more complete, the way it turned out.

Some loose concertina wire was encountered, but this was quickly pulled aside and presented no obstacle. Both craters were empty, but in the centre of each was a mine-shaft, which the Engineers took in hand, capturing about eight prisoners in the galleries. The boys swarmed into the German front trench – which was about 8 feet deep and in excellent condition – and a considerable amount of bayonet work

11.33 p.m.

took place;<sup>90</sup> but within two minutes it was theirs.

Steep flights of steps gave access to the underground chambers, thirty to forty feet below.<sup>218</sup> These dugouts were systematically bombed,<sup>74</sup> then Lieutenant Macnab called "Kamerad" down the entrances, saying in German who they were and telling the hapless occupants to come up or the treatment would be intensified. When one dugout was evacuated, the prisoners were used to talk to the others. This led to an excellent exodus;<sup>32</sup> they were only too ready to surrender. Others were dazed with the shock of the bomb explosions.<sup>90</sup>

A section of raiders darted up the communication trench clearing the way before them. Into the support trench, killing everyone who offered any resistance, taking prisoner those who surrendered themselves, and bombing dugouts.<sup>218</sup> Eventually all parties arrived at their destinations; the password "Sauchiehall" was found very useful,<sup>90</sup> although some of the R.E. party had difficulty pronouncing it. Barricades were made by blowing down the sides of the trenches with prepared charges placed by the sappers, and a steady fire of rifle-grenades from behind each blocking place kept any enemy beyond bombing distance.<sup>74</sup>

Fifteen minutes after the Highlanders had entered the enemy trenches they were in complete possession of the two lines isolated by the artillery. By this time the artillery support had changed and now formed a barrage around the area occupied. German reinforcements could only come in through a storm of shrapnel and high explosive<sup>218</sup> from four batteries of field guns and one howitzer battery,<sup>90</sup> augmented by trench mortars<sup>92</sup> and machine guns. The original defenders had mostly taken to their deep dugouts at the start of the action, leaving at least one machine gun in an otherwise empty emplacement waiting to be uplifted by the visiting Jocks. The duration of the enterprise may have helped to unnerve the Germans, who were more accustomed to raids lasting only a few minutes.<sup>32</sup> Enemy fire became very violent again at midnight when a mine was sprung at Mine Point.<sup>90</sup>

No Man's Land now had parties constantly passing between the two hostile lines of trenches, escorting batches of prisoners, carrying over captured material, or returning.<sup>218</sup> A number of Germans jumped into *A* Company's lines accompanied by some of *D* Company's boys.<sup>36</sup>

Minutes after all objectives had been reached the signallers had connected to battalion headquarters.<sup>218</sup> Captain Frame, in charge of the operation, remained in the crater with the telephonists and two buglers. At 12.30 a.m., coincident with another mine explosion 2 miles away,<sup>74</sup> he gave the signal to retire to the German front line: the note *G* repeated several times. A few minutes later, when all the forward parties were assembled in the front line and the craters, the blasts of a whistle – long, short, long<sup>90</sup> – set the raiders clambering back over the parapet, to return to their own trenches.<sup>218</sup>

28-6-16

Lieutenant Macnab was the last to come away, having bumped into a German in the communication trench. The prisoner had his hands up and was lugged across No Man's Land by his belt. He was quite terrified, so gave no trouble except that every shell passing overhead made him go flat.<sup>32</sup> Tapes had been laid down on the way in, to guide the men back to the gaps in the wire, and the artillery barrage now increased its intensity to cover the movement. Before leaving the craters the Royal Engineers had prepared the two mine-shafts for demolition and these blew up after the withdrawal; the infantry, for their part, similarly disposed of a bomb store.

The original instruction had been to crawl back on all fours, but this was disregarded;<sup>90</sup> there were no Germans left to fire on them. Instead the raiders' return resembled a football team after winning a vital match; they ran about excitedly, shaking each other by the hand, and all talking in high-pitched voices. On reaching the sap-heads they climbed in, and made their way back to their own trenches. Half an hour later, when they were displaying their souvenirs, the sound of bombing was heard from the German lines.

A volunteer party came up with dixies of hot tea.<sup>218</sup> *D*

Company's casualties were 11 wounded, all slight except one. The German losses amounted to 65, plus an unknown number killed and wounded in dugouts.<sup>90</sup> The first ten or twelve prisoners stood huddled together in a side trench, with sentries over them, waiting. A thin rain was falling, and in their wet clothes they looked cold, dejected and miserable. As they came down the trenches they were in a most fearful state, and shrank from the approach of every armed Highlander.<sup>218</sup> This diffidence wore off.<sup>90</sup> At battalion headquarters, a dugout between the support and reserve lines, the prisoners were searched and interrogated;<sup>218</sup> they belonged to the 242 Reserve Regiment (Saxons), 23rd Regiment (Bavarians) and 19th Pioneer Regiment. Among those taken were a sergeant and an officer-cadet. 38 unwounded prisoners were marched to brigade headquarters at Le Preol; 7 wounded prisoners were sent to No. 19 Field Ambulance. Two other prisoners were killed in the British lines by German shrapnel. Also captured: one machine-gun and part of another, rifles, smoke helmet cases, steel helmets and other loot: also a number of mining tools.

Rain began to fall very heavily in the early morning, making the trenches very wet and uncomfortable, and the support trenches<sup>90</sup> – knee deep in places<sup>36</sup> – almost impassable, as it was there the Germans concentrated a very violent barrage fire. By 2.30 a.m. the shelling had stopped, but the heavy rain had not. It was a quiet morning except for some heavy shelling of the support trenches behind *D* Company.<sup>90</sup> In this context “quiet” is a purely relative term.<sup>288</sup>

No less than twelve telegrams of congratulations were received: from units in the 33rd Division and others, from the Brigade, Divisional, Corps and Army Commanders, and from the Commander-in-Chief, General Haig himself. At 4.15 p.m. a mine exploded on the north side of Midnight Crater near Mine Point, partially destroying one of the saps there and killing the sentry. *C* Company started clearing up and repairing the damage. At 11.31 p.m. another enemy mine went up, about 30 yards south-west of Railway Crater and about 50 yards from the front line; part of *A* Company's

parapet was knocked in, three men wounded<sup>90</sup> and five miners killed.<sup>36</sup> A dugout where one Joe Middleton had been last seen was demolished; frantic digging until Joe appears from another direction.<sup>10</sup>

At 2.00 a.m. patrols discovered that a large German working party, with a covering party, was operating behind the mine crater to the north of Midnight Crater. The artillery was turned on them, giving the unfortunate Germans four salvoes, which must have disturbed them considerably. After a quiet afternoon, apart from more shelling of *D* Company's support trenches, the Glasgow Highlanders were relieved about 6.00 p.m. by the 2nd Worcesters and returned to billets in Annequin South, only to supply the usual working parties. An officer was wounded in the leg and foot while in command of one.

Apart from those on working party, *B* and *C* Companies were able to go to the shower-baths at Le Preol. Drying rooms at Annequin were placed at the battalion's disposal. Saturday 1st July 1916 was a fine day, with the working parties being supplied for the 251st Tunnelling Company and the 11th Field Company R.E. The remainder of the battalion was at the baths at Le Preol. Sunday was a working day, with a voluntary service in the billets.<sup>90</sup>

The billets at Annequin were overrun with rats; on one occasion a private of *A* Company went on parade to go bathing in the La Bassée Canal with a litter of newly-born rats between the lining and the outer casing of his steel helmet.<sup>10</sup> With the weather remaining fine, the 4-day spell of work ended on the Monday with relief at 10.00 p.m. by the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of 98th Brigade. The Glasgow Highlanders marched away to Montmorency Barracks, Béthune;<sup>90</sup> this tour of duty in the trenches was over.

## **The following are extracts from Proud Heritage Vol III concerning the raid**

### **Chapter XVIII**

#### **THE SOMME**

**The Glasgow Highlanders raid Mad Point 27 June 1916—opening of the Somme offensive 1 July 1916—the 16th and 17th H.L.I. at the Battle of Albert—the 15th H.L.I. in the Leipzig Redoubt.**

From the time Sir Douglas Haig took over command on the Western Front from Sir John French until midsummer 1916, no large battles were fought on the British Sector of the line. Elsewhere it was a different matter, and the French, whose heroic defence before Verdun received world-wide recognition, became very hard-pressed. It became quite essential for the British Army to make a major effort to relieve the mighty pressure upon their Allies, which they could but barely withstand. Arms, ammunition and reinforcements were pouring across the Channel to the British Expeditionary Force in quantities which, had they been at the disposal of Sir John French a year before, might well have saved Russia and shortened the war by a couple of years. Since the Battle of Loos however, the Germans had taken every advantage of the British exhaustion to strengthen and improve their defences, so that in 1916 Sir Douglas Haig was faced with the problem of breaking through a line of fortifications in comparison with which—though such comparisons are always relative—those with which Wellington had been confronted at Badajoz pale into insignificance.

The German defences consisted of the first and second line; each a maze of deep trenches protected by two belts of barbed wire of extraordinary thickness, with each belt forty yards in breadth. The woods and villages along the line had been turned into fortresses, in which the redoubts were connected by underground passages thirty feet below the earth. Each of the numerous salients along the line was itself a small fort, strengthened by concrete, from which both the approaches to the line, and the line itself—in case it should be taken—could be swept by machine-gun fire in enfilade. Behind the first and second lines many others were in course of preparation, so that the whole system became one of enormous strength and depth. In general also, the enemy had the best of the ground, being able to keep the British lines under constant observation.

To break through such defences on any significant scale could only be done by battering them into pulp with an immense weight of artillery; by securing the important tactical points with infantry, and then sending the cavalry through to prevent the enemy plugging the gap—the front was in such depth that only cavalry possessed the necessary speed to exploit any break-through. The preparations for an offensive of such magnitude occupied most of the first half of 1916. During this period therefore, as the Germans were fully occupied with the French, and the British in preparations, the ordinary routine of trench warfare prevailed in the British sector. This by no means meant that hostilities died down, or that life in the British trenches could conceivably be described as quiet. In between various local offensives the British and Germans passed the time lobbing lethal

missiles at one another, in endeavouring to blow each other up with mines, and in chasing one another up and down the communication trenches with bayonets and hand-grenades. These minor activities had no tactical value, and were therefore nothing more or less than plain murder and a regrettable denigration of the soldier's honourable calling. The trench raid however, a favourite British pastime, was a legitimate operation of war, undertaken for the important purpose of obtaining information and preventing the enemy from sapping forward with his infernal machines. As may well be imagined, to raid enemy trenches as well laid-out and protected as those described was certainly no child's play. Up to the summer of 1916, at any rate, they were very seldom successful, and more often than not resulted only in the production of some shattered Bavarian who had been dragged out of his trench by the ears, and frog-marched across no-man's land at the cost of some thirty men's' lives.

It happened to fall to the lot of the Glasgow Highlanders to make, in June 1916, one of the few raids which could definitely be described as a success, and which was, in fact, a model of how such an affair should be conducted. The Glasgow Highlanders had left the 5th Infantry Brigade three months previously for the L of C and were subsequently transferred to the 100th Brigade of the 33rd Division. The first of the H.L.I. Territorial battalions to go overseas, they had more than the average esprit de corps, and a particular pride in their turn-out and appearance. When they marched up the frost-bound road into Bailleul in 1914 between the cheering men of the 74th, they had certainly presented a sight for sore eyes to that battle-scarred gathering of the 5th Infantry Brigade, for they were up to strength, with a fine turn-out of pipers playing at their head, and they were still wearing brogues and Highland spats. These latter embellishments the Flanders mud soon obliged them to discard. They soon learned also, that the kilt could be a definite encumbrance when at close quarters in the enemy trench system. Consequently, when engaged in any affair of an athletic nature and limited duration—such as a raid—they became accustomed to discard it and fight in the apron. Although this accessory now fortunately went all the way round, covering the rear as well as the front, it was still a somewhat flimsy covering in which to be marched off to a prisoner-of-war camp, for anyone unlucky enough to be left in enemy hands. Still, the discarding of the kilt before advancing to close quarters was an old Highland custom after all—though not invariably followed.

In 1916 the Glasgow Highlanders were desperately struggling to preserve their individuality in the face of a decree that Territorial and Service battalions which dropped to below four hundred in strength and remained so, should be amalgamated. This fate had already fallen upon the 10th and 11th H.L.I. The Glasgow Highlanders appeared to think that the Territorial's in general, and themselves in particular were being deliberately starved of reinforcements as a preliminary to their dissolution. The fact was however, that at a time when new battalions were still being raised at home, to be sent all over the world, it had become most difficult to send drafts to any particular battalion. Consequently the Regulars had the first call on reinforcements, and the Territorials and Service battalions had to take their chance. At this stage of the war there was of course, little or no difference between Regular, Territorial or Service battalions as far as efficiency went, but every effort was made as a matter of policy, to keep the Regulars up to strength and to preserve their identity. In addition to their battle casualties, the Glasgow Highlanders had lost many of their best men to the commissioned ranks, for in peacetime a large



number of them whose education and background fitted them for commissions preferred, for one reason or another, to serve in the ranks. By 1916 therefore, the strength of the battalion had fallen below the danger level and, such is the moral force of a strong esprit de corps, those remaining were far more worried about this fact than about the course of the war or the probability of death, wounds or captivity. While on the L of C however they at last received reinforcements which brought them up to strength, and so they were once more their old selves when they returned to the line in June.

The trench raid referred to was carried out by a company of the Glasgow Highlanders led by **Captain A. C. Frame** during the night of 27—28 June 1916, and was directed against Mad Point, a bulge in the German front line a little to the north of the Hohenzollern Redoubt facing the Cuinchy Right Sector of the British line. **Captain Frame's** orders were to advance to the German Second line behind Mad Point, and hold this for 60 minutes, to enable old and new craters to be examined and any mines destroyed. Also to get as many live prisoners as possible, and any other articles, and to do damage to defences and dug-outs.'



The preparations for this affair were of the utmost thoroughness, as indeed they required to be, in the case of so formidable a proposition. Each man was individually instructed and carefully rehearsed in his particular role, with the aid of air photographs, maps and lantern slides. A full-scale plan of the enemy trench system was marked out, upon which the selected company carried out rehearsals by day and night. Co-operation by artillery - machine-guns and trench mortars was planned to the last detail. The password was the nostalgic-sounding one of Sauchiehall.'

The battalion went into the line on the night of 26 June, and shortly before midnight the guns put down a heavy bombardment on Mad Point for the purpose of cutting the wire. The resultant gaps in the wire were carefully observed during the following morning, and Lewis guns trained on them to prevent repairs being made. The raiding party, consisting of 4 Officers and 148 rank and file crept out of their trenches at 11 p.m. and formed up in three parties, each of which was organised into three similar groups of 2 bombers, 2 bayonet-men, 2 bomb-carriers and 8 bayonet-men, and was led by an officer. Captain Frame's headquarters party consisted of 2 buglers, 2 signalers and 3 runners, and a small demolition party was attached to deal with enemy mines and mine-shafts, and there was also a Gunner Major as forward observation officer.

Before the preliminary bombardment mines were exploded on the flanks to mislead the enemy. The guns then came down on Mad Point for three minutes, then lifted and put down a box barrage. A small mine was exploded at Mad Point and the infantry rushed in through the gaps in the wire, and the smoke and falling debris. They came on loose concertina wire, but 'quickly brushed it aside,' and leapt into the enemy front. To charge into manned enemy trenches eight feet deep, in the middle of a pitch-dark night in this manner was certainly no game for weaklings, as may be imagined. There was no time to

worry about bruises, or even sprained wrists and ankles. It was essential for the trenches to be cleared at high speed, and so within the trenches the screams of bayoneted Germans and the crash of exploding grenades rose above the roar of the barrage without. Leaving no German alive in the first line the Highlanders drove up the communication trenches and entered the second line at the bayonet point, overcoming all resistance. The area was sealed off by erecting sandbag barricades, pulling down the trench revetments and posting bombing parties, while guards were posted over each of the deep dug-outs. Thus the German first and second line trenches, on a frontage of 150 yards and to a depth of 85 yards were securely in the hands of one company of the Glasgow Highlanders. Officers went to the entrance of each dug-out and shouted Kamerad! If the occupants immediately came out with their hands up, they were escorted back over no-man's land; otherwise grenades were flung down upon them and any unwounded survivors similarly taken away.

The enemy was completely surprised and was apparently unable to grasp, in the general turmoil, exactly what was happening. His only reaction was to put down a ragged defensive fire which did no damage. The raiding party was accordingly able to hold the positions gained for the required sixty minutes, during which the enemy mines were demolished and his shafts and a bomb store blown up, 47 prisoners collected and sent back, and a large quantity of arms and material, including two machine-guns secured. An officer, whose papers were secured, and ten other Germans had been killed in the trenches, and an unknown number in the dugouts; while of his wounded 16 were counted of whom 9 were taken prisoner. At the end of the hour the buglers sounded the recall and the raiding party returned, its sole casualties being 11 men wounded, all but one slightly.

This very remarkable exploit, in which important results had been achieved at trifling cost by a combination of skill, gallantry and resolution, attracted the attention of the whole army. A spate of congratulatory signals including many from individual units, and from each commander in the chain of command up to Sir Douglas Haig himself whose telegram read:

*'Commander-in-Chief wishes his congratulations conveyed to 9th H.L.I. on the creditable achievement night of 27.6.16.'*

The Commander-in-Chief also wrote personally 'a most charming letter' to the Lord Provost of Glasgow.

It must of course be understood, that the success of an operation of this nature did not depend alone upon the quality of the troops taking part. It required the most detailed planning and a programme worked out to the second. This was not done by the troops nor even by battalion headquarters, but by the General Staff. The 33rd Division was well served in this respect, but in many other Divisions the lack of experienced staff officers was a most serious problem, and Sir Douglas Haig had been seriously worried by the fact that on the front, north of the Somme, where he intended to attack, no raid had succeeded in penetrating the enemy position. This he attributed to bad staff-work and cast no reflections on the troops, who had indeed paid with their lives for these failures. His concern is understandable, for the fact that repeated attempts to reach the enemy

trenches upon very narrow fronts, with the advantages of surprise and an elaborate artillery programme had failed, boded very ill for the success of the great offensive which was being planned. The Glasgow Highlanders, on the very eve of the Battle of the Somme, had proved to the Commander-in-Chief that the penetration of the enemy line was possible. This would explain the relief which prompted a man who commanded vast armies, to send a personal signal of congratulations on the achievement of one infantry company. It is only too apparent indeed, that the death in battle during the first year of war of so many of the potential commanders and staff officers, who belonged to the fighting units of the old regular army, was to cost the country dear, in blood and misery.

### **The following are extracts from Shoulder to Shoulder concerning the raid**

The battalion was ordered to carry out a raid on the night of 27th / 28th June. The honour of being chosen for this important duty fell to No. 4 Company (**Capt. A.C. Frame**). The object was: 'To advance to the German second line behind Mad Point, and hold this for 60 minutes, to enable old and new craters to be examined and any mine destroyed.' Also to get as many live prisoners as possible, and any other articles, and to do damage to defences and dug-outs.

Mad Point was a bulge in the German front line with two craters in front of it, a short distance north of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, and in front of our new Cuinchy Right sector. Trench maps and aeroplane photographs were carefully examined, and a plan of the trenches was marked out in a field near the billets, where the company carried out rehearsals both by day and by night; every section doing its allotted task, and each man his particular little bit.

Lantern slides of the area were exhibited in one of the billets, and the whole operation was thoroughly explained to everyone concerned. Minute instructions were issued for co-operation by artillery, machine guns and trench mortars, a telephone code was arranged — in short, General Baird, Col. Darling, and **Capt. Frame** did everything that forethought could suggest to provide against all eventualities, and arranged the plan down to the last detail. The password was 'Sauchiehall'.

On the forenoon of the 26th the Brigadier inspected No.4 Company, and said a final few words of encouragement. That night the battalion went into the line. At 11.30 p.m. our guns bombarded Mad Point. This was for the double purpose of wire cutting and accustoming the Germans to the idea of a sudden night bombardment. In the morning observations were made of gaps in the wire, and Lewis guns trained on the places, so that as soon as it was dark they might be kept under fire to prevent repairs.

During the day the equipment of the raiding parties completed. Among the special stores were 660 bombs, 150 sandbags, 8 heavy wire-cutters, 27 electric torches, 3 guiding tapes and 2 telephone instruments, complete with wires. All unnecessary equipment was discarded, and special care was taken that no one should have anything about him to jingle. Zero hour was fixed at 11.30 p.m.

At eleven o'clock the raiders, who were divided into three equal parties, crept out. The sky was overcast and the night was very dark, and quiet. No. 1 Party under 2nd Lieut. J.C. MacNab used the Sally Port, a short sap on the right. It consisted of three sections, the leading one made up of 2 bombers, 2 bayonet men (bombers), 2 bomb carriers, and 8 bayonet men. The support section was the same in composition, with the addition of 3 men with pickaxes and 1 man with a shovel. The rear section had 3 bomb carriers, 4 bayonet men (for prisoners), 4 bayonet men. (for machine guns), 3 destroyers (carrying patent explosive boxes) and 1 man laying out tape to show the way back.

No.2 Party under 2nd Lieut. W.W. Paterson used No.1 sap in the centre, and No.3 Party under 2nd. Lieut. D.S. Marchant No.2 sap on the left. These parties were the same strength and composition as No.1. **Captain Frame's** headquarters' party was 2 buglers, 2 telephonists, and 3 runners. The total strength of the raid was 4 officers and 148 other ranks, to which was attached a miners' party of 1 officer, 1 N.C.O. and 4 men, whose duty it was to demolish any mineshaft found. Lieut. R.C. MacLelland was posted in No.2 sap with a telephone, and with him was Major W.R. Bennett, R.F.A., forward artillery control officer.

At ten minutes past eleven Lieut. MacLelland 'phoned back "Can I have leave?" (Party going out), five minutes later "10 days" (All quiet), and just before zero "Destination Glasgow" (Party all out and ready). At 11.30 a large mine was exploded at Railway Crater, some distance to the left — to mislead the enemy as to our intention — and smoke was sent over by No.3 Company on the left. At the same time a hurricane bombardment was opened on the German front line and craters. Meanwhile the raiders were lying out in no-man's land, each party and section in its correct relative position. Thanks to the darkness, and the silent way they had moved, they had not apparently been either seen or heard by the enemy, and it was unnecessary to use the only code word no one wanted to hear — "Damn!" (Think the enemy have spotted party).

The bombardment lasted exactly three minutes. The guns then lifted and put down a 'box barrage' round the affected area. At the same moment a small mine was blown at Mad Point. Immediately the leading section rushed forward, through dust and smoke and falling debris. This was the only point where the strict letter of the orders was not carried out. The assault had been timed for zero plus 4 minutes, but the precipitation of the attack by one minute was more than justified, because only two men were slightly hurt by the falling debris, and the charge taking place when it did — almost simultaneously with the explosion — made the surprise more complete, and gave not a moment to the Germans to recover their wits.

Nos.1 and 2 parties broke through the gaps in the wire in front of the craters. They

encountered some loose 'concertina' wire, but quickly brushed it aside. The craters were empty, but in the centre of each was a mineshaft, and eight prisoners were captured in the galleries. Lieut. MacNab's party, keeping to the right rushed into the German front line, bayoneting all opposition, and started work along the trench towards the second line, at which they arrived. after doing considerable execution among the garrison. A bombing post was established to hold up any counter-attack from the south, and the support party proceeded to work along the second line towards the left.

Lieut. Paterson led his party through the large crater and so into the trenches, bombing and bayoneting down the communication trench 'till he established himself in the second line to wait for No1, party, using his support to work along towards the left.

Meanwhile, Lieut. Marchant's party had broken. through a gap in the wire on the left, overcame all opposition, and made its way down the left communication trench forming posts in the front and second lines to stop bombing attacks from the north.

In all cases man were left behind to guard deep dug-outs, the rear sections of each party having the duty of looking after the front line, **Capt. Frame** established his headquarters in one of the craters, and before long he got reports that the three parties had joined hands in the second line and established the flanks, This was done by pulling down the sides of the trenches to form barricades, and using the 150 sandbags for building.

Thus all the objectives had been taken and the German first and second lines were in our hands on a frontage of 120 yards and a depth of about 85. The enemy had put up quite a fair resistance, ten of them were killed, and about twice as many wounded. But the object of the raid was not so much to kill Boches as to catch them. Some were taken in the trenches, others were extracted from dug-outs. Lieut. MacNab went along shouting "Kamerad" into the entrances, and in most cases the occupants were quite willing to surrender, In others the dug-outs had to be bombed, As the prisoners were gathered in, they were escorted over no-man's land,

At midnight a second mine was put up on the left. This had the effect of drawing the enemy's shell-fire in that direction, It helped the raiders, but was not so satisfactory from No.3 Company's point of view, The barrage on their trenches was redoubled, and the company lost one man killed and another wounded. Considering the intensity of the fire these casualties were very light, but the trenches were being very thinly held, and needless to say full advantage was being taken of all the cover available.

The enemy made no organized attempt to counter-attack during our hour's occupation of his territory. Possibly the mine explosions on the left, and our general bombardment, made it difficult for him to realise what we were about. Our 'box barrage' too, must have made it very difficult for his local troops to do anything. His guns, however, kept up a wild bombardment all the time,

The miners meantime had been at work on their demolitions, and everything was in readiness for the withdrawal. It had been laid down that the signal for the evacuation of the second line would be a 'G' sounded on the bugle. The word "retire" was on no account to be used; if necessary, "C.I." was to be the command. Further, the No.3 sections in the front line and craters were not on any account to retire till the forward section had rejoined. At half-past twelve the signals were given, all the parties were collected, and on the final signal, "long-short-long" whistle blasts, the whole raid — less the men who had already gone back with prisoners and material — re-crossed no-man's land, No sooner was the last man clear of Mad Point than three explosions were heard, two being the mine-shafts in the craters and the third a bomb store, no-man's land was under shell-fire, but the whole company got back safely, the total casualties being 11 wounded, all but one comparatively slightly.

The enemy's losses were heavy, they comprised 38 unwounded prisoners, 9 wounded prisoners, 1 officer killed (papers secured), 10 other ranks killed and 7 wounded — these were known for certain — and an unknown number killed and wounded in dug-outs. Two machine guns were brought back, a number of rifles, smoke helmets, steel helmets, and other loot, including a quantity of mining timber — the Jocks probably thought it good business to secure wood that was at hand, and so save a long carry from Cambrin! Two mine-shafts and a bomb store had been blown up. The prisoners belonged to the 242nd Reserve Regiment (Saxons), the 23rd Regiment (Bavarians), and the 19th Pioneer Regiment. Among those taken was a cadet officer.

After the raid No.4 Company went back to the reserve trenches, where it was worried by shelling, but suffered no loss. The firing gradually died down along the whole front, and by half-past two conditions were 'normal' again. Rain was falling heavily, but probably in the cold grey dawn on June 28th 1916 there were in France no people better pleased with themselves than those weary, wet and muddy Highlanders.

There was soon plenty of evidence that others were pleased with them too. Shortly after one o' clock in the morning Colonel Darling received a message from General Baird, who had himself done so much to make the raid a success:

*'Heartiest congratulations to you and all ranks on your splendid success, which has exceeded all expectations. Please tell Frame, his officers, N.C.O.'s and men that I am more than delighted and proud of them.'*

**In the morning the 53rd Division wired:**

*'Convey to Glasgow Highlanders Major-General's appreciation and congratulations.'*

**Later General Haking (11th Corps) wired:**

*Corps Commander sends heartiest congratulations to troops 9th H.L.I. who took part in very successful raid last night, He is delighted with the excellent work done.'*

**In the afternoon a wire was received from General Sir Charles Munro (1st Army):**

'Army Commander wishes his congratulations conveyed to 9th H. L. I. for successful raid last night.'

**and in the evening Sir Douglas Haig wired:**

'Commander-in-Chief wishes his congratulations conveyed to 9th H.L.I. in the creditable achievement night of 27.6.16.'

**This one completed the chain of command, but many others were received.**

*The old 2nd Division said: 'Well done Glasgows.'*

*5th Brigade: 'Hearty congratulations on Good Show from your old Brigade.'*

*6th Brigade, which had given No.4 Company its first lesson in raiding, wired: 'Well done Glasgow Highlanders.'*

**Colonel Darling's old brigade the 19th wired to General Baird.: '**

'Congratulations to you and Glasgow Highlanders, Brigadier sends special ones to Colonel Darling.'

**Messages were also received from 1st Queens, 2nd Worcesters, 2nd Argylls and others,**

The day and night following the raid were lively. During the afternoon the enemy blew up a mine near 'Midnight Crater' — ours on the left on the night of the raid — killing a sentry and damaging our saps. No.3 Company got quickly to work repairing the damage. At night another German mine went up on No.3 Company's front, which did a good deal of damage although fifty yards away. Capt. Menzies' Company sapped out and consolidated the near lip of the crater.

In the early morning, one of his patrols having discovered a large German working party behind a crater, with a covering party in front, he got the guns on to them — with excellent results. That afternoon the battalion was relieved by the 2nd Worcesters and went into billets in Annequin South.

A day or two later, a copy of a communication issued by 11th Corps to 53rd Division was received:

53rd Division.

XI Corps  
H.H.S. 676/55.

**In forwarding your report on the raid carried out by the 9th Highland Light Infantry the Corps Commander has written as follows to the First Army:**

*'This is the most successful of the 40 raids carried out by the Corps since we came into this part of the line in November last. It was carried out by a Territorial Battalion that had only just joined the Division and in my opinion reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. Both the G.O.C., 33rd Division and the G.O.C. 100th Infantry brigade took the greatest pains to ensure that every detail was thought out and provided for beforehand, and the gallant and determined manner in which the operation was carried out by the 9th Bn. Highland Light Infantry (Glasgow Highlanders) will be a great encouragement to other units. Col, Darling who commanded the Battalion & Captain Frame who commanded the raid deserve great credit for inspiring their officers and men with a fine offensive spirit.'*

*XICorps.  
30th June 1916.*

*(Sgd.) W.H. Anderson,  
B.G.G.S.*

On 3rd July the 98th Brigade took over the line, the 2nd Argyll's relieving the Highlanders who marched to Bethune, arriving at the Montmorency Barracks about midnight. In the morning Major-General Landon visited the battalion and inspected No.4 Company, complimenting Capt. Frame and his men very highly. This was followed by an inspection of the battalion next day by Lieutenant-General Haking, who also spoke in very flattering terms, recalling the fact that he had been in command of the 5th Brigade when we had joined it in 1914.

Our raid had been officially reported in the press as one of the most successful that had ever been carried out, and as the work of one of the battalions of the Highland Light Infantry, but very much more important events had followed almost immediately, for the great Somme offensive began on 1st July. We heard of the fine advance our troops had made, but that they had been held up, and had suffered terrible losses. It did not therefore come as a surprise when on the 6th we received orders to hold ourselves in readiness to move, probably that evening.

The move was postponed for twenty-four hours however, and this enabled the battalion to take part in a parade for the presentation of British and French medals, which was held in the Grande Place, Bethune on the afternoon of 7th July. Two companies were present; turned out a la St. Omer. Sir Charles Munro warmly congratulated the battalion, saying he was proud of it.

The following were presented with the Military Medal for their gallantry during the raid:

No.1457 Sergt. W. Homer,  
No.2151 Sergt. A. Bennett,  
No.2592 Sergt. W.R. Douglas,  
No.1458 L/Sergt. J.McCaig,  
No.1676 L/Corpl. J.R. Wallace,



No.2952 L/Corpl. W. McFarlane,  
No.5255 .Pte. W. Falconer,  
No.1626 Pte. J. Hardie,  
No.1480 Bugler A. Johnston,  
No.1616 Bugler G.Kerr.

An order was issued that evening:

After Order by Lieut. Col. J.C. Stormonth Darling, Commanding Glasgow  
Highlanders,  
July 7th 1916.

The following letter has been received by the Commanding Officer, from the Lord  
Provost of Glasgow, dated 3rd instant:

*Sir Douglas Haig has sent me a most charming letter telling me of the brilliant work done by your battalion during the night of June 27th, when you brought back 46 prisoners and two machine guns besides destroying some mineshafts during your tour of the enemy trenches. Will you allow me, not only on own behalf but on behalf of the citizens of Glasgow, to congratulate you and your battalion most heartily on this notable feat, which is quite in keeping with the traditions of the Glasgow Highlanders and other troops from this city.*

*We always knew that when the opportunity occurred they would discharge with efficiency and distinction the task entrusted to them. We are proud of the Glasgow Highlanders and of what they have done, and feel sure that in the future they will display the same gallantry and courage as in the past.*

*With kind regards and best wishes, Yours very truly,*

(Sgd.) Thomas Dunlop.  
(Sgd.) W.F.M. Donald,  
Adj. Glasgow Highlanders.

## **Extracts from the war diary of the Glasgow Highlanders concerning the raid**

### **[26 June 1916: transit - about 1 mile - from Annequin to front line at Cuinchy]**

Usual working parties. The Brigadier-General inspected No.4 Coy at 12.30pm. In the afternoon and evening Battalion relieved 2nd WORCESTERS in CUINCHY RIGHT Section. Disposition as before. The new Draft to billets in BEUVRY for drill, but to be utilised on carrying fatigues each night at trenches. In trenches - on our Right - 15th DIV. as before, 11th A&SH, on our left, 16th KRRC. Our artillery bombarded MAD POINT at 11.5pm. Situation quiet.

### **[27 June 1916: front line at Cuinchy - raid on Mad Point]**

This morning at 3.15am our guns again bombarded MAD POINT - wire-cutting. All night our Lewis Guns have been firing on all gaps observed in Enemy's wire. There has been very little retaliation from Enemy. Two men (No.1 Coy) in Rifle Grenade Battery on our RIGHT were killed by Trench Mortar Bomb. Fatigue parties employed carrying up bombs to No.4 Coy. Quiet afternoon. "Zero" for raid this evening on MAD POINT is fixed for 11.30pm. The following codes for sending messages have been adopted:

(i) "Can I have leave?" = "Party beginning to go out"

(ii) "Ten Days" = "All quiet"

(iii) "Destination Glasgow" = "Party all out and ready"

(iv) "Damn" = "Think enemy have spotted party"

Advanced telephone dugout is M/G dugout No.3 at top of Sap 2. Lt RC McLELLAND will be here, with him is Major WR BENNETT, RFA. Scheme of attack (appendix "A" dated 27/6/16) was adhered to and carried out exactly, except that as soon as small mine was blown at +3 our men charged right through the falling debris. Only two casualties resulted from this and the surprise was all the more complete. The artillery arrangements (appendix "B" 27/6/16) were the means of putting an excellent box barrage round part affected in conjunction with Trench Mortar and Machine Guns. In order to distract the Enemy's attention a small mine is to be exploded at RAILWAY PT and another at MINE PT. If the wind is favourable Nos.1 & 3 Companies will send over smoke at these points. Codes - "KELSO" = "wind favourable", "NAPU" = "wind not favourable".

10.45pm: Night very dark, sky overcast. All very quiet.

11.10pm: From No.3 Coy "KELSO".

11.15pm: From Lieut McLELLAND "10 days (= "all quiet").

11.24pm: From No.1 Coy "NAPU".

11.30pm: Our artillery commenced barrage.

11.35pm: Lieut McLELLAND telephoned through "Destination Glasgow" (= "Party all out and ready").

As soon as mine at MAD POINT exploded, Party charged forward into craters. Some loose concertina wire was encountered which was quickly pulled aside and offered no obstacle. Both craters were empty. In the centre of each was a mine shaft which the engineers took in hand, capturing about eight prisoners in the galleries. Party passed on into trenches, CAPT FRAME remaining with telephone personnel and buglers in crater.

LIEUT MACNAB induced several Germans to come up from the Dugouts by shouting "Kamerad" down the entrance - they were only too ready to surrender. Prisoners were sent across in batches, as they were taken. In the meantime a considerable amount of bayonet work and bombing took place, but eventually parties all arrived at their destinations. The Pass-word "SAUCHIEHALL" was found very useful. A number of Dugouts were bombed, but without any indiscriminate throwing and consequent confusion and loss of time. The German trenches were found to be about 8ft deep and in excellent condition. The necessary barricades were made by parties tearing down the sides.

**[28 June 1916: front line at Cuinchy]**

12.30am: At 12.30am CAPT FRAME gave the signal to return; our Parties returned to our lines without any direct molestation. Our Casualties - 11 wounded, all slight but one. In the meantime, at 11.30 [27th] No.3 Coy commenced to send over smoke and were intensely shelled with artillery and trench mortars. This bombardment slackened a little later but became very violent again when mine at MINE PT was sprung at 12.0 midnight. Casualties here at this time - 1 killed, 1 wounded.

Prisoners were sent down to Battalion Headquarters, searched there and then marched to Brigade Headquarters in LE PREOL. Wounded prisoners sent to No.19 Field Ambulance. Rain began to fall very heavily in the early morning, making the trenches exceedingly uncomfortable, and support trenches, especially OLD BOOTS and HIGH ST, almost impassable, as it was on there that the enemy concentrated a very violent barrage fire.

The following enemy's losses ascertained :

- 38 unwounded prisoners
- 2 prisoners died in our trenches (one killed by Enemy's shrapnel)
- 7 wounded [illegible] to hospital
- 1 officer killed in German lines, papers secured
- 10 Germans killed (known for certain)
- 7 Germans wounded (known)

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65 German losses known.

This does not include a considerable number that must have been killed and wounded in Dugouts which were bombed.

Also, captured - one Machine Gun complete and part of another (taken by 2LIEUT MACNAB), a number of rifles, smoke-helmet cases, steel helmets and other loot; in addition, a quantity of mining tools.

Before leaving craters the RE prepared demolition of two mine shafts, which they blew up after clearing. Our party also blew up a bomb store, making three Demolitions.

2.30am: Situation quiet, very heavy rain.

Detail:

Note (i) Special stores for raid: 150 smoke-cases, 90 boxes MILLS Grenades, 87 buckets for Grenades, 8 heavy wire-cutters, 4 rifle wire-cutters per Section, 27 electric torches, Guiding tape, 2 telephones with wire.

Note (ii) Prisoners : Prisoners belonged to 242nd Res Regiment (Saxons), 23rd Regt (Bavarians) and 19th Pioneer Regiment. Amongst those taken were a Sergeant and

a Cadet (Offizier-Aspirant).

Telegrams of congratulation (Appendix "C" dated 28/6/16) have been arriving this morning. Received from - Brigadier-General; Major-General, 33rd Div; CORPS COMMANDER; ARMY COMMANDER IN CHIEF 2<sup>ND</sup> DIV; 5th Brigade; 6th Brigade; 19th Brigade; 1<sup>st</sup> QUEENS, 2nd WORCESTERS, 2nd A&SH.

Quiet morning except for some heavy shelling of support trenches behind No.4 Coy.

4.15pm: At 4.15pm enemy exploded a mine on North side of MIDNIGHT CRATER near MINE PT partially destroying one of our saps there, sentry in sap killed. No.3 Coy at once started clearing damage.

11.31pm: At 11.31pm Enemy sent up a mine about 30 yds SW of RAILWAY CRATER and about 50 yds from our line. Part of parapet of front trench knocked in, three men wounded. We started sapping out to lip of crater from sap S of it.

**[29 June 1916: transit - about 1 mile - from front line at Cuinchy to billets at Annequin]**

2.0am At 2.0am Major AH MENZIES discovered by means of his patrols that large enemy working party, with covering party, was operating behind crater to north of MIDNIGHT CRATER. Our guns were turned on and gave them four salvos, which must have disturbed them considerably. Quiet forenoon, except for some shelling of No.4 Coy's support trenches. This afternoon and evening Battalion was relieved by 2nd WORCESTERSHIRE and returned to billets in ANNEQUIN S. Usual working parties supplied for tunnelling Coy RE etc.

**[30 June 1916: billets/provision of fatigue parties at Annequin]**

Usual working parties. Baths at LE PREOL for Nos.2 & 3 Coys. Drying rooms here at ANNEQUIN placed at our disposal. 2LIEUT N EADIE wounded in leg and foot while in command of Working Party last night.

[Signed] JC Stormonth Darling Lieut. Col Commanding Glasgow Highlanders

**[1 July 1916: billets/provision of fatigue parties at Annequin]**

Usual working parties provided for 251st Tunnelling Coy RE and 11th Field Coy RE. Remainder of Battalion at Baths at LE PREOL. Fine day.

**[2 July 1916: billets/provision of fatigue parties at Annequin]**

Voluntary services in billets. Usual working parties.

**[3 July 1916: transit - about 5 miles - from Annequin to barracks at Béthune]**

Working parties. Relieved at 10.0pm by 2nd A&SH (98th Brigade) and marched to MONTMORENCY BARRACKS, BETHUNE. Weather remains fine.

**[4 July 1916: barracks at Béthune]**

Companies engaged generally cleaning up. No.4 Coy inspected at BARRACKS by GOC Div (General Landon) at 12.30 pm. The GOC addressed the Coy and complimented them on the way in which they had carried out the recent raid. Very wet afternoon.

**[5 July 1916: barracks at Béthune]**

Battalion inspected at 11.45 am by GOC XI CORPS (General Haking). The GOC addressed the Battalion, complimented the Battalion on the recent raid and welcomed it to the XI CORPS, recalling the fact that he was a Brigadier of the 5th BDE in 1914 when the Battalion joined that BDE. He afterwards inspected the Battalion in detail. No.1 Coy on range in afternoon.

**[6 July 1916: barracks at Béthune]**

Coys engaged in bayonet fighting, musketry, and gas-drill in morning. RSM's special class of instruction before breakfast for Subaltern officers and NCOs. At 3.0pm we received orders to hold ourselves in readiness to move, probably this evening, but later were told we were to remain here overnight.

**[7 July 1916: march - about 8 miles - from Béthune to billets at la Vallée (part way between Béthune and Lillers)]**

As the Battalion has to furnish the Companies to parade to the ceremony of presenting British & French medals in Grande Place this afternoon, a practice parade was carried out this morning. At 2.30 the ceremony took place. The Battalion was warmly congratulated by the GOC 1st ARMY (Gen Charles MUNRO) who said he was "proud of the men". The following NCOs of the Battalion were presented with the Military Medal –

No.1437 Sgt W HORNER,  
No.2131 Sgt A BENNETT,  
No.2592 Sgt WR DOUGLAS,  
No.1438 L/Sgt J McCAIG,  
No.1676 L/C JR WALLACE,  
No.2952 A/L/Cpl W McFARLANE,  
No.3253 Pte W FALCONER,  
No.1626 Pte J HARDIE,  
No.1480 Bugler A JOHNSTON,  
No.1616 Bugler G KERR,

All of the above were serving with No.4 Coy except Bugler KERR who is of No.2 Coy and all in connection with recent Raid.

At 5.45 pm the Battalion marched to LA VALLÉE and went into billets, arriving there about 8.0pm

The CO received letter of congratulation today from the Lord Provost of GLASGOW.

COPY.

XI Corps.  
RHS 676/55.

33rd Division.  
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In forwarding your report on the raid carried out by the 9th Highland Light Infantry, the Corps Commander has written as follows to First Army:-

"This is the most successful of the 40 raids carried out by the Corps since we came into this part of the line in the middle of November last.

It was carried out by a Territorial Battalion that had only just joined the Division and in my opinion reflects the greatest credit on all concerned.

Both the G.O.C. 33rd Division and the G.O.C. 100th Inf. Bde. took the greatest pains to ensure that every detail was thought out and provided for beforehand, and the gallant and determined manner in which the operation was carried out by the 9th Bn. Highland Light Infantry (Glasgow Highlanders) will be a great encouragement to other units.

Colonel DARLING who commanded the Battalion, and Captain FRAME who commanded the raid deserve great credit for inspiring their officers and men with a fine offensive spirit."

XI Corps.  
30th June 1916.

(Sgd.) W.H. ANDERSON.  
B.G., G.S.

Dear Frame,

15th Div. are gassing at 1 a.m.  
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Heartiest congratulations, its all simply splendid -  
you deserve a frightful lot of credit.

Congratulate your lads from me.

Let me know when you are occupying line normally  
again.

Yours,

(Sgd.) J.W. Darling.