

“J” Special Company RE
Appendix No 22b

ERVILLERS 24/8/17

Last night the 180 cylinders were taken to the forward dump for the MOBILE CYLINDER ATTACK and 160 of them were discharged at 3.15 am this morning.

Carrying parties arrived very well in spite of muddy duck boarding, caused by a very heavy shower of rain which fell about 7 pm.

175 Cylinders arrived in the line, and were handed over to our parties, the remaining 5 having been left at various places along the route.

Zero was to have been at 1.0. am, but on account of the slippery nature of the trenches, the carrying parties could not keep up to their estimated time, and 2/LT ALLCHIN sent a message postponing the operation until 3.15. At 3.15, everything being ready, gas was discharged. Of 175 Cylinders in the line 160 were discharged. The remainder were undischarged on account of:-

- (a) Cut rubber pipe 5. (3 in one emplacement gassed the man working the emplacement, and he turned off)
- (b) Dome cap refused to unscrew 1. (thought to have fallen off the G.S. Wagon)
- (c) Stuffing box unscrewed 2.
- (d) Broken Syphon tube 2.

and five others for which the cause is not yet quite clear up to the present.

These 15 Cylinders will be brought back to our dug-outs tonight, and a further report will be forwarded you when they have been examined.

The enemy sent up no distinctive flares, and there was no retaliation with the exception of a certain amount of rifle fire.