

C.R. 9-217

Extract of daily Orders part I by Lieut. Col. A.L. Hadow C.M.G.
commanding Newfoundland Regiment. 21/12/177

Major J.R. Meiklejohn, D.S.O. ✓

takes over command of the Regt. vice Lieut. Col. A.L. Hadow, C.M.G.

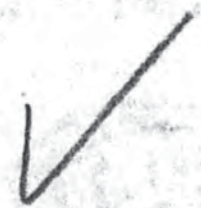
CP 0-219

Extract of Daily Orders part 11, from Unit 1st Nfld.
Regiment, 3rd Echelon, B.E.F., dated 26/1/18.

1 Copy

Major Meikle John.J.R.; D.S.O.,

Joined unit and takes over Command from 21/12/17.



Commanding the
 Newfoundland Battalion

—:0:—

A word or two regarding Lieut.-Colonel Meikle-
 John, D.S.O., Commanding "Ours" in
 France.

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The appointment of Major Meiklejohn, (D.S.O. and bar) of the Border Regiment, to the command of our Regiment on active service, is an event of considerable interest to those of "Ours" who were in France prior to March 3rd, 1917, for the Officer in question was then a prominent figure on the Brigade Staff.

His most conspicuous association with our unit was during the Somme operations when we had passed through the Christmas "rest" period, and were again in the firing line. In January, on the occasion of the Kaiser's Birthday, "Ours" were, unofficially, participants in the surprise attack launched at dawn on a snow-white sector. Four weeks later, a Sister Brigade delivered a thrust in the same locality, and one section of the newly occupied line was so badly infiltrated by the Boche artillery, and open to hostile bombing attacks, that the Battalion holding that flank was sorely reduced in numbers.

I received instructions about 10 am. to report to the Brigadier-General with 52 men. On proceeding there, with the detachment, the position was explained, and a few minutes

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later we were on our way to the firing line, with the Brigade Major, who had previously gone over the captured area, leading the way. The route to the new trenches lay through a shell-shattered wood, with fallen trees lying everywhere over the scarred and beaten ground, which was marked with water-filled shell-holes. It was a disagreeable passage at any time, but just as we reached it, the Germans let down a particularly heavy barrage, which made it decidedly unhealthy. Flare rockets and Vexey lights made a thrilling pyrotechnic display that was hardly discernible in the shower of shrapnel, tree-foliage and mud that filled the air.

The party split up into little groups, seeking shelter at any point, and after fully an hour's intense bombardment, I reached the trench, with Sgt.-Major F. DeGroot, Ptes. Euseo Kaldi, Kobaytor, Billard and nine other men out of the original party of 52 that left for the line. Heading the little group was the Brigade-Major and his runner, the former badly wounded in the head. He did not leave the position, however, until he had fully enquired into the trenches and the manner in which they were held. He then returned to Brigade Headquarters, and did not seek medical treatment until he had reported all details.

The Brigade Major was the Officer who is now Commanding our Regiment, and for his action in the foregoing incident he was awarded a bar to the D.S.O. It is also interesting to note that it was in the sector above referred

to that Lieut. Gerald Byrne, within twenty four hours of the affair chronicled, won the "M.C.", for an act that was exceptionally brilliant in point of initiative and prompt action.

The story of Lieut. Byrne's heroism - and that of Lance-corp. Lewis and Private Pico - was told in my "Eye Witness" article of April, 1917.

L. Murphy.

Lieut. Col. Micklejohn D.S.O. & Bar C.R. 0-219

P. & R. O.

Major Meikay John

Temporarily attached
to 1st Bn. in Command

21/12/17 to 21/12/17.

due Mess Allow 7 days

of Mess quarters &
Allowance raised
on the case

5/2/18. V. ^{The} ~~Notice~~ ^{WATB}

Hutchings ^{Mr}

The quarters of
Mess allowance

will not be
raised on this

matter
Ormal only

No information regarding this
Officer former Regiment has
been received by the Records
& No details stated in Daily
Orders -

Medical Report on an Invalid.

Station _____

Date _____

1. Unit

2. Regimental No.

3. Rank

4. Name

5. Age last birthday

6. Enlisted { on
at

7. Former Trade {
or Occupation }

8. Disability.

Statement of Case.

Note.—The answers to the following questions are to be filled in by the Officer in medical charge of the case. In answering them he will carefully discriminate between the man's unsupported statements and evidence recorded in his military and medical documents. He will also carefully distinguish cases entirely due to venereal disease.

Date of origin of disability.

Medical Report on an Invalid.

Station

Date

5. Age last birthday

6. Enlisted
on {
at {

7. Former Trade
or Occupation {

2/12/12

4. Name
27/12/17. 7 days @ 1/6

3. Rank

2. Regimental No. 8

1. Unit

MM

8. Disability.

Mess allce.

Major Nicholas J. R. D.S.C.
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