

Cite St. Laurent, as well as Bois Rae and the western half of Bois Hugo, are now in our possession.

All objectives captured. Our casualties were slight.

The attack was carried out by two Divisions, and began at 4.25 a.m., the 13th Battalion being in the centre of the 3rd Brigade with the 16th Battalion on the right, the 15th Battalion on the left, and the 14th in support. Every man was in position in the jumping-off trenches by 2.40 a.m. Precisely at 4.25 a.m. our machine gun barrage opened, followed five seconds later by the artillery. In the wake of the artillery went the waves of men across No Man's Land in perfect formation. There was no fighting in the German front line system, and the number of prisoners here taken by the 13th was only about 25.

"C" Company, on the right, had gone a little too far to their left, and Captain Bennett, who was in command, had been killed by a bursting shell. Major Mathewson, commanding "B" Company, then took charge of "C" and led them to their second and final objective, Hugo trench. By 6.10 a.m. reports had been received from all the companies that the objectives had been reached and were being consolidated.

Shortly afterwards the assaulting troops for the remainder of the objectives passed through, and the attack was resumed. Hill 70 was carried by assault, and less than an hour later the whole of the objectives were in our hands.

The Germans attempted several counter-attacks, but were driven back on every occasion and the positions were held. The casualties inflicted on the enemy, both in the attack itself and in the minor operations which followed, were exceptionally heavy. The entire number of prisoners taken by the Canadians was 1,378, with a large number of machine guns and trench mortars. Four German Divisions had been put out of action, and despite the enemy assertions to the contrary, the casualties incurred by our troops were light.

In the 13th Battalion the losses were one officer killed