

DOP/01/008

Hawtin Mundy
Born February 1894

- 000 Talks about making of tapes:
- 030 Tells of Sid Carroll, lived opposite in Thompson St. Both keen on sport.
- 046 Decided on Sunday after War had broken out, after a few drinks, to join up. Went on following day to Aylesbury.
- 087 Sid Carroll's Number was 1979 (actually 1918 – R.K.). HM;s 1980 – “Oh hell, he said, “I wonder what we shall look like if we're still alive then”. Pubs open all day – a few went into “Three Cups” in Chelmsford. Called there in morning before going on a run, had a lot of whiskey and some hot milk. After Capt. Birchall – really brave man – came along ranks and looked at you – very strong eye-glasses – looked you up and down and to see if you'd shaved properly.
- 120 One day Sid had cut himself shaving Capt. Said to him “You're not clean but you've certainly made an effort”. HM bubbling with laughter said HM O.K. Next door was another Bradwell chap Dick Twigg – long thin face, big nose. HM could see out of corner of eye a fly running up and down Dick;s nose. Capt. Birchall stood back and said, “There you are, Sergeant, there's a soldier for you. Doesn't even flinch with a fly on his nose”. Too much for HM, he burst out laughing. Capt. Said to Sergeant, “Take this man's name, take his name.” Seven nor eight days C.B.
- 137 CB a laugh. Head of guard and Sergeant Major put you through paces. One hour's hard training between seven and eight each evening. Pack drill, marching, running, mates stood along railings laughing at you. Just as you were leaving “About turn” run around the field.
- 150 Talks of going to France
- 179 Sid and he still together at Armentieres. 48th South Midland Division. 20,000 men, 4 brigades of 4 infantry regiments, each one a battalion 1000. Rest were artillery and transport.
- 204 Regt. They relieved said Germans were only about 100 yards away. Said “Don't put your head and look around” – snipers all along. First day at Plugstreet Wood, Wolverton “old hand” in the Territorials got hit – Bertie Spong – he had a long look and he's still looking”. Issued with periscopes – didn't last long – after day or two snipers fired at glass and broke it.
- 240 Shouted across No Man's Land “Hallo Fritzzy”, “How are you Fritzzy”. They shouted back “Hallo Tommy”- during the day and evening.

248 One could speak good English “How would you like to be in Lackharts?” (a London eating house – similar to Wimpy’s) Said he was working in London prior to being called back just before outbreak of war. Little while later, he didn’t shout – perhaps killed.