

Trench Activity Itinerary

This program is designed to mimic the battle at Courcellette/Ancre Heights - Nov 10, 1916.

4:00 pm: Meet at Ridgevalley School. Get acquainted. Divide up into companies A, B, C, D
Each Company will have two C.O.s, general infantry, and a ratio of medics.

We will have two sapper units for companies A and C

5:00 pm at the latest: We will march to the trench site located north of the school on Ridgevalley Road.

5:30 pm: Companies will divide up and begin digging their trenches. We will have time to visit with the Canadian Rangers.

9:00 pm: Trenches should be complete and I will conduct a trench inspection.

9-10:00 pm: Eat at the school. We have a fine selection of bully beef (black beans for our vegetarian friends) and curried rice. Tea and water will also be served.

10:00 pm: Back to the trenches

10:15 pm: Stand to.

10:18-20 pm: Canadian artillery barrage

10:20 pm: Main Advance

- Coy. B and D advance first (rear trenches) Take up advanced positions beyond A and C Coy.
- A and C Coy advance 10 yards.
- **Bear Bangers and gunfire sound effects (on repeat until we make it to the grass dugout ditch).**
- Advance continues and casualties mount.
- Medics deploy.
- Retire to A and C Coy trenches.
- Regroup.
- Begin withdrawal to rear trenches.
- Regroup.
- Begin withdrawal to dugout ditch.
- **Gunfire sound effects stop.**
- Deploy platoons to go around the dugout to retake rear trench (Black shoe polish)
- Rear trench taken. Begin General assault with mortar strike
- **Mortars and guns sound effects (on repeat until we retake both trenches).**
- Advance to rear trench and begin assault on forward trench.
- Take forward trench.

- **Mortars and guns sound effects stop**
- Advance on sapper trenches (more black shoe polish)
- Take sapper trenches. Call out German mortar attack.
- **Mortar strike sound effects play 3 times (volunteers toss dirt for effect) More Bear bangers.**
- Hold the line.

11:00 pm: Trench inspection. Roll call, and begin hunkering down for the night.

12:00 pm: Begin sleeping shifts and patrols. At this point, students can opt to go to the school to warm up, but must be accompanied by an adult. We will try to limit the amount of time spent inside, unless the student is in dire straits.

1-4:00 am: Students can get rest. We will have small raiding parties into no-man's land but nothing fully organized.

4-8:00 am: No activity. Students are to remain in their trenches unless they require something from their C.O.

8:00 am: Wake up and prepare for stand-to.

8:05 am: Stand-to.

8:10 am: Breakfast.

9:00 am: Return and begin filling in trenches.

10:00 am: Pictures, recitation of Owen and McCrae poetry. Two contingents formed: one for DeBolt ceremony and one for Valleyview Ceremony.

10:15 am: O Canada, and departure.