

40/60

NIGHT PATROL "OVER THERE".

We've all heard so much about 'patrol activity' on the Western Front. Somewhat with particular pleasure we present these pictures, showing just what is meant by those oft recurring words in the news bulletins.

First, officers and men empty their pockets of all means of identification. Then the Captain explains with the aid of a map, the plans of the route, to be taken by the patrol.... Bear in mind, that these manoeuvres take place at night, hence extreme caution.

Tenights mission is to check up on one of the enemy's forward posts. And a good send off is a spot of rum...

Good health old man!

It serves to keep out the cold during the night hours, Here's a luck to you too old fellow.

Now, all is ready and, led by the officer, the patrol sets out...

Its wise to keep low in case you're spotted. So the patrol creeps along, almost on tip toe. Each man carries newly primed hand grenades... a present for the enemy, if he should attempt to interfere with the excursion.

The first obstacle is our own wire entanglements. These have to be cut, without the snap of the cutters betraying the presence of the patrol, to any sharp eared Jerry. Carefully bending back the barbed wire (Tommy Atkins hates to 'tear his Breeks' on the way back) the patrol steals forward, with even more caution.

Nearly there! All quiet on the Western front- up to now. Easy does it!

Maybe Jerry's just round the corner! He's very quiet! Tomorrow's communique would dispose of this as "Nothing to report" for the birds have flown. But it was thrilling while it lasted.