On 7 May 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion of the Sussex Regiment (Harold’s battalion) received orders for an assault on the German lines which were facing Aubers Ridge. They arrived there on the evening of 8 May. During the night, the ditches in ‘No Man’s Land’ and those between the front and support trenches were prepared for the attack the following morning. Eager to show the French that the British could provide effective support, General Haig, Commander of the 1\textsuperscript{st} Army, decided to launch a pincer attack against the German line to the north and south of Neuve Chapelle. The 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment was in the first wave of troops to leave the trenches in the southern attack at Aubers Ridge. The day started with a welcome issue of tea and rum at 3.30am...

\textbf{Clue 13:} Background to the attack on Aubers Ridge