Mike Mountain Horse: A Passchendaele Warrior's Diary
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Kainai First Nation's Mike "Miistatisomitai" Mountain Horse, of the 191st and 50th Battalions. Mountain Horse used the traditional Warrior's Robe, to record his service in World War I. His version is compared with the official 50th Battalion war diary, specifically during the Battle of Passchendaele.

Using traditional tools, Mike Mountain Horse and a fellow recruit Nick King, created a warrior's robe, detailing twelve of the most important events during Mike's time at the Front.

The official words of the 50th Battalion's Battle Diary contrast with Mountain Horse's own words describing the events from his diary. For instance, on August 21, 1917, during the ongoing Battle of Passchendaele, the 50th was ordered to attack the German trenches. As is reported the next day: "At night reconnoitering [sic] Patrols were out [...] Two of these patrols got in touch with enemy [...] One of the enemy was known to be killed." The casualties reported over August 21 and 22 were recorded: two officers killed (one died of wounds), nine wounded and two gassed. Other ranks suffered eight killed, one hundred and twenty seven wounded and fifty gassed."

It is impossible to determine where or if Corporal Mike Mountain Horse fit into these statistics.

His own account, shown through pictographs on his robe and in his own words, explains how, on August 21, he "led his machine gun section on an old building behind the German defence [and] heard noises in an old cellar. He called upon the enemy to surrender but received no answer [...] Looking down, he saw a Germany officer [...] fired at the officer [and] he himself was wounded. " According to his account, when he went down into the cellar to get out the enemy soldiers who then surrendered, a German shell hit the cellar roof. He was buried under the wreckage and left for dead for four days.

The Official Diary of the 50th does not specifically mention this incident. Was Mountain Horse originally one of those eight other ranks reported killed? His rescue and restoration to his Battalion is not mentioned specifically although the 50th Batalion's War Diary states that by August 25 "Men very weary" and the total number of Other Ranks wounded during this specific tour was 205.