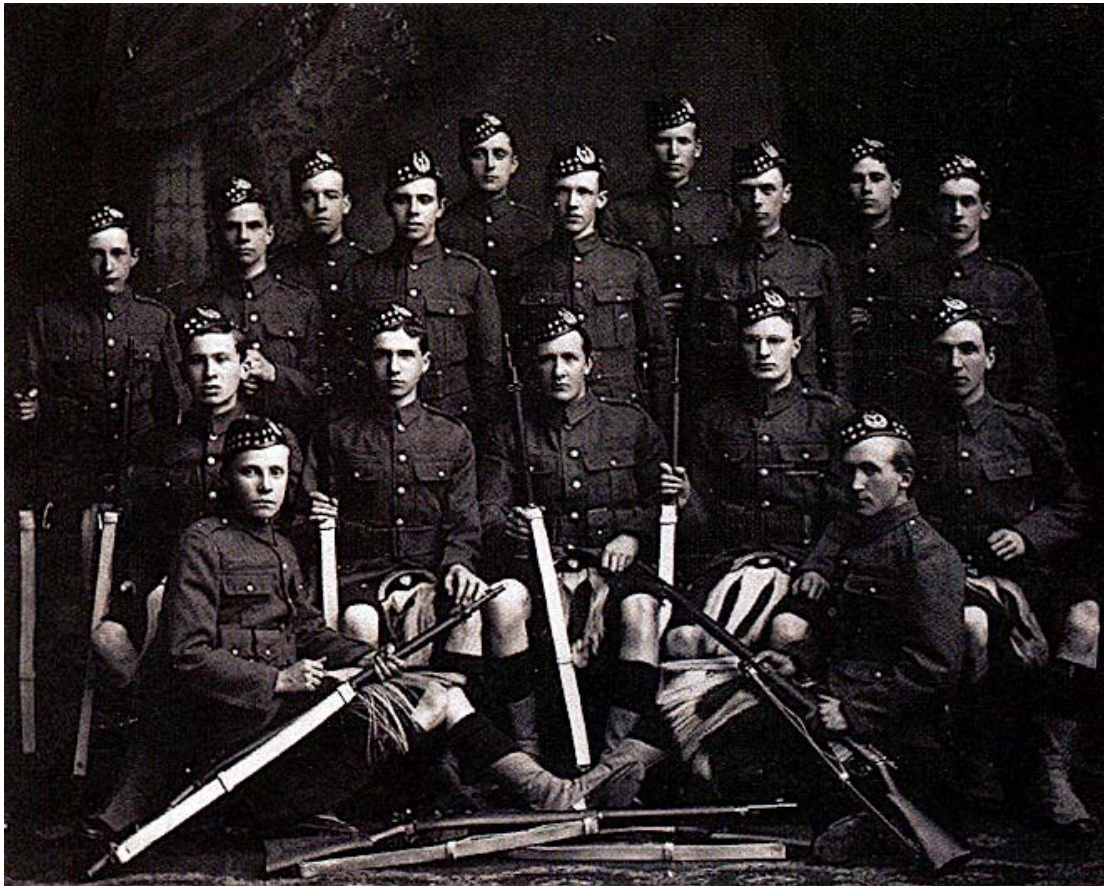


U Company, in the vanguard of this invasion, found temporary billets in the suburb of Honeyhill, and our first week there almost convinced the residents that we were semi-savages. They stood in their doorways and gaped at us when we danced an eightsome reel in the street to an accompaniment of hoochs and varsity yells...We revelled in our barbarian role and solemnly assured our hosts that the kilt was our normal civilian garb; we even had the effrontery to tell them that our wild hoochs represented the semi-articulate call of primitive ancestors, and were still used in communicating from one rocky Hielan' crag to another. 'But don't you wear longer kilts in winter'? The question came from a woman spectator and she was promptly enlightened on the point. Our landladies were equally ingenuous; they gravely showed us how to flush a lavatory and how to turn a gas-jet out- obviously fearing we might blow it out...[then to France] The boat we came over in was a cold storage boat converted at great expense into a transport. The boat alongside was a transport converted at great expense into a cold storage boat. We are a great nation."



Members of U Company, 4th Gordon Highlanders, courtesy of Aberdeen University OTC