

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If
this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1st Bn The K.O.S.B.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year JUNE 44

Commanding Officer Lt-Col G.D. Renny

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------|------|---------|--|--------------------------|
| | 1-3 | | Bn in marshalling area | |
| | 4-5 | | Serials commenced embarkation and the operation was postponed for 24 hrs. | |
| | 6 | (D Day) | Bn assault scale landed between 1145 hrs and 1445 hrs. The move to the assembly area just North of HERMANVILLE SUR MER was carried out without incident. At 1735 the 'R' group moved off to COLLEVILLE SUR ORNE followed by the Bn main body. After about half an hour the Bn moved to ST. AUBIN D'ARQUENAY where the night was spent. Several prisoners were brought in and many papers & documents from enemy dug-outs, etc. were sent back. | |
| | [7. | | At 0830 the Bn moved to PERIERS SUR LE DAN where the attack on CAZELLE was prepared but at 1210 CAZELLE was reported clear of enemy. Led by 'C' Coy the move to the wood just to the North East of LE MESNIL was accomplished. Consolidation was carried out. In the evening some casualties were caused by enemy mortar fire. Patrols were sent out during the night, during which Lieut Cranston's patrol ran up against an enemy heavy tank, inflicting casualties on the crew. | |
| | 8 | | At 0715 hrs 2/RUR took over R. end of wood and the Bn moved over to L. end where further consolidation was carried out. Enemy continued sporadic mortar fire without further casualties to us. | |
| | 9 | | In the morning the advance party from the S. Lancs arrive to prepare to take over the position, this being commenced at 1530 hrs. Bn moved to the assembly area near LE MESNIL whilst 2/RUR put in the attack on CAMBES. The Bde Comdr was forward with 2/RUR with whom communication became difficult and the Div. Comdr. placed the Commanding Officer in command of the Bde. On getting news that that RUR had got so far but were pinned down, the Bn put in an attack with two Coys forward. This met with a certain amount of M.G. fire and in the later stages enemy mortar fire which caused some casualties. Following the success of the attack, contact was made with 2/RUR and mopping up & consolidation was carried out immediately. | |

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| | 10 | | Further consolidation was carried out. During the day spasmodic M.G. fire and enemy mortar fire occurred. There was also still some enemy snipers active. Capt Roynon-Jones with two O.Rs went out on patrol into enemy lines but failed to return. | |
| | 11 | | Bn area shelled from S.W. Enemy tanks seen in LA BIJUDE area and a small number to 'B' Coys front. Small number of enemy located in A/TK ditch area (0713). 'D' Coy captured a prisoner identified as a Cpl of 12 SS Div (Hitler Jugend) & killed two others of a patrol that was near their forward posns. | |
| | 12 | | Patrols were sent out to A/TK ditch area (0173) and towards LA BIJUDE. Bn area was shelled by 88 mm gun in LA BIJUDE area causing casualties. Sniping & sporadic shelling continued at intervals. About 20 tanks including Tigers were spotted at 023733 - these were later shelled by med. arty. Shortly afterwards there was a short severe airburst shelling near Bn HQ, Capt T.D. Sanderson & 5 ORs being wounded and 1 OR killed. Towards midnight tank movement & shouting came from LA BIJUDE area. | |
| | 13 | | Report of heavy enemy guns near LA BIJUDE believed to be shelling beaches. Further movements reported from area of enemy tanks, and a patrol returned after successfully blowing railway lines. Lt Drinkall was wounded. Two fighting patrols were organised but cancelled owing to inability to get arty support. | |
| | 14 | | Patrols sent out. One was fired on by enemy sentry wounding the Sec Comdr but no prisoners were captured. Shells again fell in Bn area from direction of the beaches. 'D' Coy reported landing of paratroops (unidentified). Reinforcements arrived from 'A' Echelon. Occasional shelling, but enemy sniping practically disappeared. | |
| | 15 | | Patrol was sent out to A/TK ditch area (0173), encountered enemy, there was an exchange of fire, several of the enemy believed wounded. Patrol returned safely. 'D' Coy brought in a prisoner, shot at whilst passing in motor-cycle combination. Valuable documents were found & sent to Div. The prisoner's companion was killed. | |
| | 16 | | Enemy intr in 'C' Coy area early in morning. Own arty laid barrage on area forward of 'C' Coy and later a low flying attack was made by enemy plane. Later in evening 2 ORs were wounded by a burst from a Spandau which fired into trees near Bn HQ. Patrols were sent out at night. | |
| | 17 | | Two heavy explosions, probably shells, were heard early in morning, followed by more just before first light. Origin unidentified. Area of village church was shelled by enemy about 0540 hrs. Lorry loads of enemy were seen in wood 013731 moving in Southerly direction. 1 O.R. was wounded by enemy sniper. Own Med Arty knocked out enemy mtr posn in LA BIJUDE area after a heavy barrage. | |

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| | 18 | | Own mortar shoot at enemy M.G. and mtr posns fell well on target but damage not known. The Pnr officer, Lt Duncan & 1 OR were wounded whilst working on minefield. Patrols were again sent out and the one from LA BIJUDE reported having wounded several enemy. | |
| | 19 | | Bn prepared to go into Bde reserve and the advance left for LE MESNIL in preparation for the take over. Enemy movement was still reported from posns forward of LA BIJUDE but on small scale. Two ORs were killed and 1 wounded during shelling by enemy. | |
| | 20 | | The take over from 2/RUR was completed and by 0640 hrs all tracked vehicles were in position. An M.E. 109 flying low & fast was shot down by A/A fire. 'C' Coy O.P. reported 6 heavy lorries in wood near BURON (9972). | |
| | 21 | | Approx 15 enemy shells fell in Bn area damaging buildings and causing casualties. 5 ORs were killed and 11 wounded. All buildings were evacuated and trenches manned. | |
| | 22 | | Bn 'I' section made model of ST CONTEST area which was later used for briefing by Coys. Enemy shelling during day fell behind our area near wood (029755). 2 Mx M.G.s began shoot at 1540 hrs. Large force of Allied heavy and med bombers flew over going in direction of CAEN. Lieut Cranston went out on recce patrol to ST CONTEST area. | APPX. "A" |
| | 23 | | Move to take over from 2/LINCS was cancelled. Own arty was active in morning. Pnr Pl laid a minefield (025747). Lieut Cranston again went on recce in ST CONTEST area. | APPX. "B" |
| | 24 | | 2 Bn snipers went to Div HQ for practical training. In the evening enemy shelling just outside Bn area continued at intervals until dark. One Mtr Pl carrier was hit. | |
| | 25 | | Own arty very active in early morning followed by enemy shelling. In the evening a patrol was sent out from LES BUISSONS to ST CONTEST area. Enemy shelling recommenced towards midnight. | |
| | 26 | | An O.P. was manned by 'I' section in the Canadian sector (North Nova Scotia area). Own arty was active all day and in the evening about a dozen enemy shells fell in Bn area, but no casualties occurred. | |
| | 27 | | Apart from enemy shelling, which caused four casualties, three fatal, nothing of importance to report. The Padre held his usual Family Worship in the R.A.P. in the evening. | |
| | 28 | | Bn prepared for operation ABERLOUR. A section of the Carrier Pl was sent with tanks to help 8th Bde attack. The above operation was later cancelled. Intermittent enemy shelling during the day caused four casualties at 'A' Echelon area. Two of these were fatal. Five prisoners were sent in from E.Y. | APPX. "C" |
| | 29 | | Advance party for the take over from 2/LINCS at CAMBES left in morning. | As APPX. "B" |

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| | | | Bn commenced take over from midnight. 2 deserters gave themselves up to 'B' Coy O.P. | |
| | 30 | | Take over completed. Intermittent shelling by enemy & some mortar fire. Patrols sent out to area of GALMANCHE. | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year JULY 44

Commanding Officer Lt-Col G.D. Renny

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|---|--------------------------|
| | 1 | | Enemy shelling at periodic intervals and spasmodic fire from MGs 42. Own artillery was active throughout the day. At night a patrol under Sgt Grant was sent to area of GALMANCHE. | |
| | 2 | | In the early morning enemy MG fire continued in spasmodic bursts and shelling at intermittent intervals. In the evening about 20 shells fell in and around Bn area causing a few casualties. Sgt Grant's patrol returned with a detailed log of the enemy's activity at GALMANCHE and pinpoints of several mortar and MG posts. | |
| | 3 | | Just before dawn a short but fierce shelling by enemy occurred round "B" Coy area. Our own artillery continued its activity throughout the day. A patrol from "B" Coy went into the GALMANCHE area at night. Officers from a Bn of S. Staffs visited Bn area. | |
| | 4 | | Enemy shelled Bn area in the afternoon, followed by spasmodic mortar fire in "B" Coy area causing one casualty. The rain continued in showers and after several days had made ground conditions bad. "C" Coy sent out raid to GALMANCHE. Party A was successful and overran an enemy platoon or section posn. Lieut Raines the officer commanding this party was killed. The party was rallied and brought back very ably by Cpl Cameron. No prisoners taken as enemy ran away but several enemy casualties claimed. Party B ran into what was at first thought to be a minefield, and withdrew. Later it was thought that this was some form of warning device as the explosion on trip wires caused no casualties but MGs all along the GALMANCHE defences opened up. | APPX. "A" |
| | 5 | | Enemy shelling again at intervals, many unexploded shells reported. Preparations for move. Patrol sent out at night encountered enemy and Capt JT Skinner, MM, was wounded. | |
| | 6 | | Allied aircraft were seen over CAEN area. Advance party move out in morning to area of BENOUVILLE. Bn HQ area was subjected to severe shelling but no casualties occurred. Patrol was sent out under Lieut Robertson, and succeeded in killing enemy machine gunner, identified as PGR from 12 SS Div. Bn commence moving out to new area towards | APPX "B" APPX "C" |

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| | | midnight. | |
| | 7 | Bn arrived at BENOUVILLE. Four enemy fighters flew over and set fire to an oil dump. Advance party moved off to area LE HOMME (0575) to take over from 2 KSLI, this started late in the evening. A large force of Allied heavy bombers raided CAEN and the dust and smoke covered the area for several miles. | APPX "D" |
| | 8 | Take over completed in morning. Later the Bn moved forward to rear of LEBISEY and later to high ground forward of village (037710) with rear Bn HQ remaining behind. Patrols reported few enemy forward, but roads blocked with debris. | |
| | 9 | The attack on CAEN. The plan. The Canadians were to attack from the West. The RUR's in the centre from the North and 1 KOSB from the EAST. The Bn moved off at about 0930 hrs over ring contour "60", which was under shell fire, to FUP on the Eastern outskirts of CAEN. The ghostlike houses slowly came to life as civilians began to realize we were entering the town. They came rushing out with glasses and bottles of wine. As the Bn was forming up on the start line and trying to re-establish wireless contact with companies and Bde, four Boche were seen to withdraw towards the centre of the town. Soon afterwards our HQ was mortared leaving 1 killed and 1 wounded. The Bn then proceeded to clear the town. Little opposition was met. Progress was slowed down by snipers and an occasional MG. Much assistance and information was offered by eager civilians. Debris and cratered streets also made progress extremely difficult. We eventually reached the RV in the Old Town and established contact with the RUR and pushed forward patrols to the river. Patrols met quite heavy fire from across the river and a number of casualties were sustained. | |
| | 10 | An OP was established overlooking the river. "C" & "D" Coys patrolled forward to the river ORNE and met heavy fire from South bank. Later in the day "B" Coy occupied the Barracks, which had been previously an enemy HQ of some size. Slight enemy shelling during the day. | |
| | 11 | The Bn left CAEN for rest area with the pipers playing. The advance party left early in the morning for an area round PLUMETOT, the main body moving out later by Companies after handing over to a Canadian Unit. | |
| | 12 | Rest period commenced. General cleaning up and check of kit. A platoon football game was played and several parties were organised to visit pictures, swimming, etc. Pipe band played Retreat in the evening. | |
| | 13 | More entertainments were available and in the evening the Bn received the first bread ration since landing. The Div Commander paid a short visit later in the evening. Church Service held near Bn HQ in open air, conducted by Capt WIG Wilson. | |

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| | 14 | | In the afternoon 2 ME's flew over the area, both were hit by our A/A and one was seen to crash in flames. The Pipe Band played at LUC SUR MER in the Bastille Day Celebrations. | |
| | 15 | | The Commanding Officer held a Bn parade. The advance party left just after midday for area near BREVILLE (1374). The remainder of Bn prepared for the move, and the move commenced just before midnight. | |
| | 16 | | The Bn arrived in new area about 0100 hrs. Remainder of the day spent settling in and digging additional trenches. A few enemy aircraft flew over and were engaged by our A/A. | |
| | 17 | | Preparations for operation GOODWOOD. Several enemy aircraft flew over, but no attack by them in our area. | APPX "E" |
| | 18 | | Bn left for assembly area near LE MESNIL (133727). After waiting there for a short time the move to FUP was commenced. Route - HEROUVILLE and mostly cross country, almost due South to position West of TOUFREVILLE. Enemy mortar fire was encountered on route. The Commanding Officer was wounded but carried on in command, and other casualties occurred. The advance to TROARN was commenced and after reaching SANNERVILLE "D" & "B" Companies pushed forward encountering enemy MGs, whilst enemy shelling continued. After an attack by "B" Company the Bn occupied a position in orchard 150678. Consolidation was carried out. The advance and attack were carried out in very hot weather over dusty roads and through villages rendered almost impassable by heavy bombing by the RAF. By darkness it was evident that the enemy snipers had been pushed in and that the Bn was up against a strong def position. | |
| | 19 | | The attack on enemy positions forward of TROARN was continued. "C" Coy were to take Station at 158677 and "A" Coy the X roads 161676. Both attacks were met with heavy cross fire from MG's and though supported by tanks had to withdraw with heavy casualties. Bn resumed former positions and later in day heavy shelling and mortaring caused casualties. The Commanding Officer having been previously wounded, left under orders from Brigadier and Major TG Coverdale took over command of the Bn. Casualties in the Bn during these two days fighting were 12 Officers and 140 Other Ranks. | |
| | 20 | | Enemy continued shelling and mortaring during the day. Heavy rain and thunder continued from afternoon onwards making conditions very difficult for everyone. Contact was made with 2 Lincolns after their move to our Right flank. | |
| | 21 | | Heavy rain continued but the men withstood the mud and wet with good spirits. Intermittent shelling continued with occasional mortar fire. | |
| | 22 | | Enemy shelling and mortaring throughout the day at irregular intervals, with a heavier concentration in evening. Own artillery was active in early morning and just before dusk. Patrols sent out to locate forward | |

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| | | | enemy MG posts and to cover RE mine laying party. | |
| | 23 | | Own artillery active at first light. About ten shells fell to rear of Bn HQ area from SE direction. Two enemy stretcher bearers approached "A" Company forward positions and asked to bury their dead. After finding it was genuine our stretcher bearers and party went out. One platoon of "D" Company moved forward towards 2 RUR to take up position North of railway line. Enemy shelling continued at intervals. Four deserters from 346 Fus Bn came in through "D" Company lines. | APPX "F" |
| | 24 | | Movements of enemy tracked vehicles were heard in morning by forward Company. Enemy shelling and mortaring continued at intervals with a heavy concentration in the afternoon. Recce patrols went out in daylight and at night. PW brought in by "C" Company. One shell falling near Bn HQ caused 4 casualties. Reinforcements arrived at night. Most sent to "B" and "C" Companies. | |
| | 25 | | Another two PW brought in by "C" Company. Both identified as II/192 PGR. Enemy shelling and occasional mortar fire continued at intervals. Enemy aircraft were over at night and yellow very lights were sent up from area of enemy forward positions. Some reinforcements for "S" Company arrived. Recce patrol sent out and established that enemy were active to our left front. Enemy were thought to be digging and wiring, possibly laying mines. | |
| | 26 | | Recce patrol returned with report of a possible enemy listening post at 156679. Enemy shelling and mortaring was more severe than usual, especially between midday and tea time. Lt Col JFM MacDonald arrived to take over command of the Bn. | |
| | 27 | | In the early hours of the morning enemy aircraft flew above area and dropped flares and bombs in and around the Bn area. Later, towards first light an exchange of small arms fire took place. Lieut Robertson took over the duties of Intelligence Officer. Enemy aircraft again over in the evening after dark, together with slight shelling to rear of area. "D" & "B" Companies sent out patrols. | |
| | 28 | | Practically no enemy shelling by day. At about 1700 hrs OPs reported two parties of enemy approaching, one to left flank, strength about 5 men, and one to right flank, strength about 3 men. Party on left was engaged by LMG fire and ran away. The enemy then opened up with 5cm mortar and LMG fire on our left forward positions, especially that over the road. A vigorous reply was made to this fire first by our own small arms and 2" mortars and later by one battery of artillery. Several enemy casualties were observed and 3 dead bodies seen. A patrol was sent out at night to obtain identifications from these. It could not reach the bodies owing to enemy opposition but retrieved a Spandau which had been left by the enemy in his flight. | |

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| | 29 | | Enemy shelling at intervals during the day. Bn snipers were sent forward to "B" Company area to observe and pick off enemy in forward positions. Enemy aircraft came over just before dark and dropped a few bombs around Bn area. | |
| | 30 | | Preparations were made for the Bn to move back to CAZELLE area for a rest, the present positions to be taken over by KSLI. This was later cancelled. An OP was established in "D" Company area to report on enemy shelling and mortar fire. Enemy shelling occurred late in the afternoon, but at night no aircraft came over. | |
| | 31 | | The Bn moved to area of BIEVILLE with the Div., going into Army reserve. Companies marched, and the vehicle party leaving in the afternoon arrived about half an hour after the marching troops. During the night some enemy shelling occurred round the area. | |

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Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Month and Year August 44

Commanding Officer Lt-Col J.F.M. MacDonald

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------|------|------|--|--------------------------|
| France | 1 | | Minden Day. The day was spent settling in at the new area. A party went off to spend the day at 3 Div Club, and the Pipe Band played in the afternoon. In the evening a percentage of the Bn attended an ENSA concert at Bde HQ. A draft of 3 Offrs and 100 ORs chiefly from the Border Regt. arrived. The Bn was standing by to move, but later word came through that this would not take place before the next day. | |
| | 2 | | The Bn moved by transport to area S.W. of LONGRAYE (7766) and arrived about 2030 hrs. A quiet night was spent. | APPX "A" |
| | 3 | | The Bn was at short notice to move but late in the evening orders were received to move the following morning. Our own arty were active during the day, and allied aircraft continuously passed over the area. | |
| | 4 | | Bn moved by TCV to area N of FORET D'EVEQUE (644511) and remained at short notice to move. This area was quiet with no enemy shelling or bombing. | APPX "B" |
| | 5 | | No enemy activity in area. Reinforcements (21 ORs) arrived in the afternoon. Recce party left and preparations for capture of MONTISANGER were made. | |
| | 6 | | Bn moved out in TCVs at 0500 hrs and arrived at assembly area 672379 at 0700 hrs. The 'O' Group moved to S.L. at 0815 and the attack with "C" Coy on left and "D" Coy on right commenced at 0845 hrs. By 0955 hrs MONTISANGER was occupied without opposition. Patrols were sent out to the main road and river S of PISSOT. Two bridges (675340 - 666340) reported blown. An attack on positions S of the river (sqs 6734, 6735) was ordered at 1700 hrs to start at 1800 hrs. This attack was carried out with "C" Coy on the right and "A" Coy on the left. The two coys reached their first objective and pushed on but were pinned down by enemy MG fire from flanks when approaching the railway (sq 6737). These two coys made this adv against fairly heavy opposition, almost completely unsupported. Owing to the blowing of the br (675340) and the speed with which the attack had to be prepared, it was not possible to get any sp arms to them except one tp of tanks which got over later in | |

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| | | | the evening, and, by a very gallant attack, saved the situation on "C" Coy front. One complete pl of "A" Coy is missing from this operation and many offrs and ORs of both coys were killed and wounded. Late that night orders were received from Bde that the Bn was to consolidate - if necessary withdrawing. The withdrawal of the two fwd coys was carried out and by first light the Bn was in position astride the bridge at 675340. | |
| | 7 | | Patrols were sent out and reported enemy still occupying position of previous day. Enemy shelling and mortaring of Bn area occurred at midday. A later patrol reported no enemy in wood 684335. Further shelling and mortar fire occurred later in the day. One casualty. Bn left for conc area after advance party from the Suffolk Regt arrived, and the take over was done Coy by Coy. | |
| | 8 | | Bn HQ was established in LA GROUDIERE 663342 with Coys in a fairly small area. Apart from a short shelling in the early evening a quiet day was spent. The Bn moved out to assembly area at 2130 hrs. 2 Lincolns moved in to take over. By midnight Bn HQ was established at LA PLANCHE (648338). | |
| | 9 | | With 2 RUR on our left a two Bn attack on main road from VIRE was commenced at 0600 hrs. By 0755 all Coys had taken their objectives and shortly after the Bn consolidated in area just W of YAUDRY (655316). A patrol by "B" Coy captured four enemy, identified as belonging to a motorised Pnr Bn on special service. Two patrols sent out. The first was fired on when approaching ROULLOURS and MG fire and mortar increased as it neared the village. The MG fire was located in area of pt 262 (673303). The second patrol reported enemy in LA BOIVINIERE 6531, possibly a tank or SP gun. A later patrol reported the above village deserted and pin pointed SP gun at 656309. A further patrol was sent out to knock out the SP gun. This patrol failed to find the gun. | |
| | 10 | | Early in the morning enemy shelling just outside area occurred at intervals for about an hour and a half. Towards midday splinters from two rounds fired by an enemy S.P. set fire to the farm building at Bn HQ. This blazed rapidly and was soon completely burnt out. Practically no kit or equipment was lost. Slight enemy shelling continued at intervals. At 1700 hrs two patrols were sent out each pl strength, under arty and mortar covering fire. The first reported the orchard at LE FAY 657307 clear of enemy. The second patrol came under heavy mortar fire on route to ROULLOURS and did not enter the village. This patrol had one casualty. | |
| | 11 | | An attack towards TINCHEBRAY by 3 Br Inf Div with Gds Armd Div on the left and the 2nd US Div on the right started at 0900 hrs. 9 Inf Bde was in reserve and the Bn remained in its area at 4 hrs notice to move. | |

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| | | | Towards the end of the day it became apparent that the 8th and 185 Inf Bdes had not got on as far as they had expected owing chiefly to mines and the difficult nature of the bocage country. By the evening 185 Inf Bde were definitely held up by strong enemy MG and Mortar positions on Hill 312 6929. The Bn received a warning order that it would have to attack this the next morning if it had not yet been taken. | |
| | 12 | | By 0900 hrs it was reported that Pt 312 had already been taken and that 8 and 185 Inf Bdes were pushing on towards TINCHEBRAY. The Bn therefore remained in reserve at short notice to move. Several enemy shells fell around area about midday, but apart from these the day was quiet. | |
| | 13 | | The Bn was ordered to take over the village and the high ground at VIESSOIX, which protected the left flank of the Bde, from two Coys of 1 Gren Gds who had had a hard fight to take it two days before. The advance party for the move to VIESSOIX left at 0630 hrs and the remainder of the Bn followed an hour later. Bn HQ was established at 698317. Slight enemy shelling after midday but otherwise a quiet day. At night 3 deserters came into our positions. Patrols were sent out. | |
| | 14 | | Patrols reported no enemy except at 707316 where two sentries were heard. Towards evening a prisoner was taken at 693320, identified as 10 Coy 21 SS Pgr (10 SS Pz Div). Patrols were sent out at night and one reported tank movement in wood 722312. | |
| | 15 | | Night patrols reported small arms fire at 728323 and movement of MT at 732310. Extensive patrols during the day found a wide area clear of enemy. Three casualties were caused by an enemy A/P mine in the Carrier Pl area. No enemy shelling of area. | |
| | 16 | | It has now become evident that the enemy rearguards (composed of 3 Para Div) who have been opposing us have completely withdrawn. Early in the morning the Bde was moved up towards TINCHEBRAY to be ready to move fwd behind the Div Recce Regt which was directed on FLERS. By 1100 hrs the Recce Regt had reached the outskirts of FLERS which they reported held only by very small rearguards. The Bn moved up to an area just WEST of LANDISACQ where it took up a def posn, although it was evident that all enemy tps had already withdrawn well beyond this area. | |
| | 17 | | The Bn was ordered to sweep a large area of country SOUTH of FLERS. Companies were taken out in 3 ton lorries and at 1100 hrs the sweeping started. A holiday atmosphere was obvious ahead, and the men and vehicles were soon covered with flowers pressed on them by the French. Five prisoners only were found although the area included the large FORET D'HALOUZE. An enemy gun park and three tks - one of them a Panther in good condition were found. It was evident that a fairly large proportion of German armour had used this area in its retreat | |

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| | | towards the gap between FALAISE and ARGENTAN. | |
| | 18 | A quiet day. In the evening the pipe band played retreat. | |
| | 19 | All Coys went out on a short route march along with Coy pipers. The rest of the day was quiet. | |
| | 20 | Advance party left to recce new area in the vicinity of LA CHAPELLE AU MOINE at 0645 hrs. Main body arrived at Bn HQ 851161 at 1215 hrs. The rest of the day was spent getting the troops settled in the new area. An invitation was extended to all RCs in the Battalion to attend Church Service at the local church. | |
| | 21 | The Bn carried out special training for an assault river crossing operation, using the equipment as follows :- (a) Class 9 FBE Bridge (b) " 9 Close Support Raft (c) Storm boats. This trg was designed for an assault crossing of the SEINE. Owing to recent news bulletins, however, it does not appear probable that this will be necessary. | APPX "C" |
| | 22 | General training under Coy arrangements was carried out. The Div Concert Party performed at 'A' Echelon. A party left for a 3 day stay at the Corps Rest Camp. | |
| | 23 | Pl and Section trg. A draft of 3 officers and 60 ORs arrived. Some of these were members of this Bn who had been wounded. The majority however were from the Royal Scots, and were posted to "A" Coy. | |
| | 24-27 | The Bn Intelligence Section under the IO left to carry out a search for destroyed enemy equipment in an area round FALAISE. The Bn remained in the same position and carried out Coy and Pl training under Coy arrangements. Training with tanks was also carried out. The 4th Gren Gds co-operating. Bn Church Parade was held on Sunday followed by a march past with the Pipe Band. The Bn I Sec returned from their search with good results. | |
| | 28 | CO, Coy and Pl Comds carried out a recce for a night attack exercise. | |
| | 29 | Reinforcement draft arrived of 3 offrs and 7 ORs. Night attack exercise was carried out. | |
| | 30 | Bn still static. More reinforcements arrived making the Bn up to strength in ORs. Training under Coy arrangements. | |
| | 31 | Recce party left for new area believed to be in the vicinity of EVREUX north west of the SEINE. HAQUEVILLE NORTH EAST of ROUEN. | |

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WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Month and Year Sep 44

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
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| | 1 | | The Bn went for an all day route march covering 20 miles. The men all returned in good shape. The 2IC returned from reconnoitring the new Bn area. | |
| | 2 | | MT inspection by the CO. The Bn prepared to move to new area. | |
| | 3 | | The Bn left at 0525 hrs arriving at the new area in HACQUEVILLE, South West of ROUEN (5094) at 2100 hrs. The journey of approximately 147 miles was uneventful and with the exception of one carrier all vehicles arrived without mishap. The Bn is still in reserve and on short notice to move. The country in this area shows very little signs of battle and the enemy has shown very little or no opposition in his quick withdrawal. | APPX 'A' |
| | 4 | | The morning was spent getting adjusted in our new position. The afternoon was taken up with weapon inspections and recreational training. | |
| | 5 | | Another draft of 30 ORs arrived, mostly from the 59 Div. "A" & "B" Coys moved to new position at ETREPAGNY, a village 5 kilometres distant. | |
| | 6 | | Bn went on a 23 mile route march. The troops are now rounding into shape again and take everything in their stride. Remainder of the Bn moved to new location at ETREPAGNY. Bn HQ 552959. Intelligence Section attended a course at Bde HQ. | |
| | 7 | | Major TG COVERDALE, 2IC Bn left to take up a post as GSOI MO(3) at the War Office. | |
| | 8 | | The Bn still in the same area. Training by Coys was carried out. Counter Mortar Course started at Bde HQ. | |
| | 9 | | CO held admin inspection of Coys in the morning. In the afternoon Bn drill parade was held in anticipation of a visit by Maj Gen Whistler, the Div Comd. | |
| | 10 | | Sunday. The day was given over to recreation. In the afternoon a soccer match between the Bn and the local French team attracted a large attendance. The Pipe Band performed before and after the game. The GOC 3 Br Inf Div was a guest for lunch. In the evening a Bn Dance was held | |

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| | | in the local hall. | |
| | 11 | Counter Mortar Course continues at Bde HQ. General training throughout the Bn. | APPX 'B' |
| | 12 | Quiet day. Training continues throughout Bn. | |
| | 13 | Bn received warning order to be on 24 hours notice from first light, 15th. | |
| | 14 | An officers' day was held, chiefly on general adm subjects. Bn received orders to move on Saturday 16 to an area East of Brussels. | APPX 'C' |
| | 15 | Advance party left to recce the new Bn area. | |
| | 16 | The Bn left for a staging area in the neighbourhood of SOIGNIES, travelling in two parties. The wheeled veh party incl the marching troops travelling in TCVs left ETREPAGNY at 0720 hrs and arrived at the Staging area at about 1930 hrs. Tracks left at 1740 hrs and arrived at about 0800 hrs, 17 Sep. The Bn had a clear run through very interesting country including the last war battle fields. The Bn got a great welcome from the people of all towns through which it passed. | APPX 'D' |
| | 17 | The Bn left the staging area at 0635 hrs and arrived at about 1400 hrs in an area South of the MEUSE ESCAUT CANAL near LILLE ST HUBERT. The Bn had a quick run by-passing BRUSSELS and passing through LOUVAIN a town which to those few of the Bn who were serving with the original 1st Bn during the campaign in 1940, brought back memories. Fwd Coys were in contact with the enemy who were holding the line of the NORTH bank of the canal. The enemy however had little arty and only a few mortars so the posn was a very quiet one. | |
| | 18 | Recces were made for assault crossing of MEUSE ESCAUT Canal by 9 Br Inf Bde. Tracks arrived in Bn area at 1700 hrs. At 1800 hrs orders were received for the Bn to conc near the river in the area LILLE ST HUBERT and to provide carrying and rowing parties for 2 RUR and 2 LINCOLNS who were to be assault Bns during this crossing. Major RC Macdonald arrived to take over the appointment of 2i/c. | |
| | 19 | H hour was 2400 hrs and the two assault Bns made a successful crossing of the river. Some mortar and MG fire was directed on the crossing places, and the parties provided by the Bn received casualties. Lieut JW Skelly and approx 7 ORs were wounded. 2 ORs were killed. At approx 0430 hrs the Bn was ordered to start crossing the canal on 2 LINCOLN's (the rt bn) front where enemy opposition was strongest. Coys crossed in the order A, C, B, D. The first task of the two fwd Coys was to protect the right flank of 2 LINCOLNS who had suffered considerable casualties during the crossing. The Bn was fortunate in completing its crossing under cover of a heavy ground mist and suffered very few casualties. The advance was continued at about 0700 hrs with right C Coy and left A Coy, the first objective being the rly line crossing the main rd | |

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| | | <p>running NORTH from the canal at 427960. The Plan was to establish a firm base on the rly line with A and C Coys, and then to adv with D Coy up to the village of ACHEL 4297. Opposition from MGs sited with good fields of fire over open ground was encountered and the two fwd Coys had some casualties. Lieut BL Taylor of A Coy was killed. The advance to the rly line was slow and support from arty and mortars was called for on several occasions. B Coy provided a right flank guard to C Coy in their final attack and D Coy was pushed through between A and C with the HALT 426960 as objective. By 1330 hrs fwd Coys were established on the rly line, and shortly after that time infm was received that an armoured thrust was expected from the NORTH. The Bn therefore remained on the rly line. At 1600 hrs infm was received that the armd thrust would not now materialize and the Bn was ordered to push on to ACHEL. Further opposition from MGs from the right flank was encountered, and the mortar pl put down an effective smoke screen. Under cover of this D Coy entered the SOUTH of ACHEL and by nightfall the Bn was established with two Coys B and D in the SOUTHERN half of ACHEL, and A and C Coys with Bn HQ in the area of the HALT. Patrols during the night found that the enemy had withdrawn.</p> | |
| | 20 | <p>The enemy has now definitely withdrawn in an Easterly direction and by 0900 hrs Bn HQ was set up in ACHEL with Coys in the village. At this time 11th Armd Div started to pass through going NORTH into HOLLAND. This movement of armour continued throughout the day. At midday orders were received for the Bn to move up to the area of ACHEL rly station 419998 to make room for other trps of the Bde in ACHEL, and this move was carried out during the afternoon. An unusual feature of this battle was that the Belgian civilians remained in the area throughout the fighting which was very localised, and the inhabitants of ACHEL came out and welcomed the troops as they marched in.</p> | APPX 'E' |
| | 21 | <p>Orders were received that the Bn was to move SOUTH EAST to the area HAMONT 4697 and thence NORTH EAST to BUDEL 4999. The Bde was to follow up the armour of 11 Armd Div travelling in a NE direction. C Coy sent out a patrol with carriers to Beverbeek Fm area. The Bn left by march route for BUDEL and crossed the Dutch border before entering BUDEL, where the troops were given a great welcome by the inhabitants.</p> | |
| | 22 | <p>Patrols were sent out by B and C Coys, the former with nothing to report. C Coy brought back one prisoner. The Pipe Band played in BUDEL in the evening. Later preparations were made for a move the following day. Patrols were sent out at night.</p> | |
| | 23 | <p>Recce and Harbour parties left in the morning in preparation for move to area of DEURNE, following up the 11 Armd Div. Two prisoners were brought in during the day. Later in the evening the recce party</p> | |

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| | | returned as move was postponed. | |
| | 24 | The recce party left again in the morning while the Bn stood by to move. The Bn left in TCVs at 1730 hrs and arrived in the area LIESEL 666145 at about 2000 hrs. Considering the bad conditions with rain and darkness, the move went well. | APPX 'F' |
| | 25 | B Coy sent out a patrol of 1 Pl strength to area of SLOT. Two prisoners were brought into B Coy by civilians. C Coy sent out a patrol to the farm buildings in area of ZAND and reported them clear of enemy. D Coy recce patrol reports LOON 6615 clear of enemy, also suspected 88mm gun at 696155. This was found to be incorrect. | |
| | 26 | A Coy patrols reported LOONSCHE BAAN to the East of LIESEL clear of enemy for the first thousand yards, but also a small number of enemy wandering about on the West of the Canal looking for food of which it seems they are somewhat short. Later on 2/Lt McKenzie and patrol reported half the house in area 698120 abandoned and five or six of the enemy wandering about looking for food. A further A Coy recce patrol drew fire from post at 714101, both MG and rifle fire. B Coy on carriers went down the main road, drawing Mortar fire, probably from 720090, and reported MEIJEL clear of enemy, also that the Church there had been destroyed. C Coy recce patrols reported enemy posts at 705133 and 707129 with possibly an MG on the west of the canal at 706128. Lt McCreath and patrols captured two German POW at BROEK 701098, then went due EAST to canal but were unable to give get definite information as to enemy posns. D Coy again sent a patrol under Lt AJM Brown to the area of the suspected gun 696155 - they reported that there was definitely no gun, but that there were some enemy in trenches on the far side of the canal in this area, probably about one section strong. A carrier patrol of 2 sections between 1600 and 1900 hrs penetrated through MEIJEL, where they were cheered by the inhabitants much to their annoyance, and got as far as DONK 709057 where they cut East down a track to within 500 yards of the Canal. The enemy as well as holding the South East bank and having blown the bridge, have burned down all houses and trees obstructing their view, thus obtaining a very good field of view and fire from the South East side of the Canal. At 1700 hrs the enemy shelled the Church in LEISEL and wounded Capt Huggan of "A" Coy. During the night there were inter-coy patrols. Two POW were captured by "B" Coy. | |
| | 27 | At 0130 hrs contact was established by patrol between the Royal Warwickshire Regt and ourselves at road-track-junc 645139. Patrolling on similar lines to preceding day. Reports indicate that the drawbridge at HOGGEBRUG 708122 has been blown. Carrier patrols went to MEIJEL in the morning and at dusk. No enemy were observed. A and D Coys cleared | |

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| | | | area 682128 - 702122 - 703078 - 720079. No enemy encountered. C and D Coy recce patrols to 695156 and 697153. No enemy movement seen. B Coy night recce patrol to HOGGEBRUG challenged by enemy. This was the most northerly point on the canal in our unit sector that showed any sign of enemy. Warning order to move received 1915 hrs. Nightly contact patrol with the Warwicks cancelled. | |
| | 28 | | Advance party under 2IC, Maj RC MacDonald leaves at 0730 hrs for new location, which was to be B and D Coys fwd on X rds at MILHEESE. A and C Coys with Bn HQ and S Coy in rear in area BAKEL. Later the plan was changed and the whole Bn took up posns covering X rds at MILHEESE, with Bn HQ in the centre. Two patrols went out during the night to obtain details of the ground and of the Canal due East of the Bn posn. The patrol under Sgt Batey got to within 20 yards of the Canal, but on observing the enemy on the near bank had to withdraw. Lieut Vaughan's patrol reached the Canal bank but had to withdraw owing to MG fire. It seems that the enemy are ensconced in the wood at 7128 and that he sends patrols across the bogs and canal for food and information. B Coy moved up to a posn forward of the X rds, so we have the rifle coys round the X rds and forward of it, with Bn HQ just behind with S Coy protecting the rear and left rear flanks. B Coy put out a standing patrol consisting of one sec carriers and one sec inf 300 yards in front of their own posn at 663246, during the hours of darkness. D Coy provided contact patrol to 1st Suffolks on our left at 0100 at X tracks 653263. | |
| | 29 | | To our intense relief the Bath Unit eventually arrived and the whole Bn felt clean again for the first time since Etrepagny. Clean laundry was also provided. Elements of the US forces moved into DEURNE. Patrols during the day had nothing to report. O.Ps are very scarce in this part of the country as the ground is flat and there are innumerable pine trees woods. None of our O.Ps observed anything. The Bde was allotted the Officers' Shop in HELMOND for the day. During the hours of darkness a patrol of 1 sec of Carriers made contact with US troops in WASBURG just North of DEURNE at 1900 hrs, 0100 hrs and 0600 hrs. No enemy were seen. "B" Coy standing patrol at 663246 consisted of two sections of infantry. | |
| | 30 | | Contact was made with 1 Suffolks at X tracks 653263 at 0100 hrs. Owing to the expected American sweep South across our front from ST ANTONIS, we were prepared to deal with anything driven across our front. Celanese triangles were displayed to assist our fighter planes to locate the enemy. Preparations were made for expected move. Inter-coy patrols as usual. | |

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If
this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Oct 1944

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
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| MILHEEZE " " " " " ST HUBERT " " | 1 | | Contact was again established with 1st SUFFOLKS at 0100 hrs. The morning and afternoon were spent in preparation for the evening move. The advance party under the 2IC left at 0800 hrs for the area of ST. HUBERT 6744., 8th and 185 Inf Bdes went into concentration areas EAST of MAIDEN 7055, and the 9th Inf Bde in area CUYK 7149, HAPS 7044, ST HUBERT 6744, VOGELSHOEK 6349, with ourselves in area ST HUBERT. The Bn convoy left MILHEEZE 6424 at 1900 hrs arriving at ST HUBERT at shortly after 2300 hrs. This is a semi-tactical concentration area with everyone under cover as far as is reasonably tactical. Inter-coy contact patrols at 2300 hrs and 0300 hrs. | |
| " " " | 2 | | Coys settled themselves in their localities. The Bn was very well received by the inhabitants. Pte Howes of B Coy was accidentally shot, and was buried at 667443. Inter-coy patrols as for yesterday. | |
| " " " ST HUBERT " " | 3 | | Bn NCOs cadre started under Capt JB Cranston and Capt JC Macaulay. Training programme (Appendix 'A') Bn training programme started (Appendix 'B'). In future the Divisional Commander is awarding cards with the Divisional sign, in colour on the top, for deeds of gallantry done by men of the Division, whether they receive an award for their deeds or not. The first list of awards of this card to the Bn will be found under Appendix 'C'. Patrols between coys as for Oct 1st. | |
| " " | 4 | | Bn training. Several German rifle ranges were found, and are to be used by Coys. Patrols as usual. | |
| " " | 5 | | A soccer match was arranged against our 6th Bn on St Hubert's football field. We lost 4 - 1. The Pipe Band played at halftime and at the end of the match. CSM MELVIN of the 6th Bn, lately RSM of this Bn was killed in the recent fighting. Patrols as usual. | |
| " " | 6 | | Training as per programme. The Pipe Band played retreat at 1700 hrs. A conference for all officers and Pl Comds on the assault of a large and strongly held wood was held at 2030 hrs. Capt Corbean arrived with the first of the Armd Carriers. Patrols as usual. | |
| " | 7 | | Bn 'O' Gp Conference and Discussion on Op 'FRATERNISE' with cloth | |

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| " | | | model. Detailed notes will be found at Appendix 'D'. Inter-coy patrols as usual. | |
| " | 8 | | Op 'FRATERNISE' cancelled in the meantime. The Bn makes preparation for a move. The move is cancelled for the present. Training as per Coy Training Programme. Patrols as usual. | |
| " | 9 | | Training as per Coy Trg Programme. Conference for 'O' Gp at 1730 hrs. Patrols as usual. | |
| " ST HUBERT | 10 | | Preparations were made for moving on Oct 11th. The Bn recce party left at 1330 hrs. The move was postponed for 24 hrs. The recce party returned. A film show was held in S Coy office at 1500 hrs. Inter-coy contact patrols at 2300 hrs and 0300 hrs. | |
| " | 11 | | Capt K Taylor took over the duties of Adjutant from Capt JB Boyd, who went to 'A' Coy as 2i/c. As yesterday, a film show was given in S Coy office at 1500 hrs. The PRI account was audited. An 'O' Group Conference was held at 1800 hrs. Contact patrols as usual. | |
| " ST ANTONIS | 12 | | The whole Bn left St Hubert at 0930 hrs, after a pleasant stay of ten days, and moved with 'F' Echelon to an Assembly Area just WEST of ST ANTONIS. The rifle coys moved by march route. The whole Bn moved by route X rds to the South of HILL - WANROIJ - ST ANTONIS - to area 707383. Bn dispositions as follows : Bn HQ 707382, 'A' Coy 706380, 'B' Coy 709383, 'C' Coy 706383, 'D' Coy 705383, 'S' Coy 709381. At 1200 hrs the 8th Bde attacked towards OVERLOON, the start line being 743330 to 767340. By 1700 hrs 1st SUFFOLKS had captured OVERLOON and had taken up position just to the South of the town. Various recces had been made in unsuitable country in the area 731324, with a view to making a dawn attack with tanks. However this was cancelled and the attack was planned to take place in daylight. 'O' Group Conference at 2230 hrs. Coys made contact with each other by patrol during the night. | |
| FIELD " | 13 | | At 0530 hrs the marching troops of the Bn proceeded to WOOD at 728338, and concentrated there on arrival with 'F' Echelon transport. At 1000 hrs the 'R' Group went forward to select an Assembly Area and decided on F.U.P. The Second in Command brought up the Bn at 1030 hrs to the Assembly Area in the area 745323. Bde 'O' Group Conference at 1150 hrs. Zero is fixed for 1300 hrs provisionally subject to unit comds discretion. Bn 'O' Group at 1220 hrs. Attack on WESTERN part of Wood 743305, supported by one Sqn Churchill Tanks (4th Grenadier Guards), one sqn of Flails, and one Sqn of Flamethrowers. Zero fixed finally for 1320 hrs. The Sqn of Churchill Tanks followed closely by the flails crossed the Start Line, the main X rds running WEST - EAST due north of PEELKANT 745317, at 1320 hrs, and made for cover of wood 742313 with two sections of the Carrier Pl as mobile small arms support. D and B | |

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| " | | | Coys then crossed the start line at 746318 and proceeded up track and entered wood at 744312, followed closely by Tac Bn HQ. Both Coys passed through a Coy of South Lancs, who were holding the rear edge of the wood, and secured their first objectives on our line 745308 to 742308. A and C Coys were passed through and secured objectives some 300 yards further South. Coys were leapfrogged forward till the leading troops were about 200 yards from the Southern end of the wood, where the Bn consolidated, dug in and sent forward patrols to the forward edge of the wood at approx 1700 hrs. No enemy were encountered till the forward Coys got into position, and then isolated MGs opened up occasionally mostly on fixed lines and continued to do so till an hour after nightfall. From the time that the whole Bn was in the wood, the enemy put down fairly heavy Artillery, Mortar, and Nebelwerfer fire on the wood. Final positions were as follows:- Forward, left C Coy., centre D Coy., right A Coy., rear right B Coy, left S Coy, with Bn HQ in the centre at 745305. C and D Coys sent standing patrols to South edge of wood. A Coy patrol in area of 740299 heard enemy digging to the South. B Coy patrol got to within 20 yards of the ditch at 741295 when fired on. During the morning the RUR had attacked the woods to the EAST of the Bn, and had consolidated in the area of 754304. | |
| " | 14 | | At 0730 hrs the Lincolns passing through the RUR put in an attack on the wood at 751294. The enemy DF came down on top of them, and the MGs fired on them from their objective and after suffering some casualties they had to withdraw to the RUR positions. The enemy put down a large amount of fire on the Bde area for the rest of the day, quite a large proportion of which was from Nebelwerfers. At 1400 hrs with heavy supporting Arty and MG fire the Lincolns again attacked the wood (751294) with two Coys of the RUR under command, and secured a foothold, and at 1630 hrs pushed on to the line 746286 - 752286. The Bn had three killed and twelve wounded, from shelling and mortaring. A and D Coys exploited further to the South and B Coy to the West corner of the wood, two MG posts being destroyed on the way killing six of the enemy and wounding others. A Coy sent out a recce patrol, which established that there were enemy in the wood at the South at 741293, and reported movements of vehicles in that area, and that the stream at 741294 was a tank obstacle. B Coy fighting patrol ascertained that there were no enemy in Wood at 737298. | |
| " | 15 | | At 1015 hrs B, C and D Coys cleared the wood to the South to the right of a line 740292 to 741284. No enemy were found but two 88mm guns, plenty of mines and some equipment were discovered. It is supposed that the enemy had withdrawn the night before. The 185 Inf Bde took up position along line 757294 to 776304. There had been some rather heavy | |

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| " | | | mortaring during the day. Inter-Coy contact patrols. Total casualties 13-15 Oct: 3 killed 12 wounded | |
| " | 16 | | At 0800 hrs in the morning B and C Coys started to move through the LAAG HEIDE. C Coy forward objectives being the X tracks at 739283. B Coy first objective being track junction at 731285. Two routes were cleared by Sappers and pioneers. C Coy route being the track running South from 739298 to their first objective. Following C Coy were A Coy and main Bn HQ. B Coy route, the right hand one, was track from 736298 South to 737291 from there West to 732289 and then due South to B Coy first objective. The Bn HQ and D Coy also followed this route. There was no sign of the enemy in the wood but there was spasmodic and unaimed Mortar and Nebelwerfer fire some of which fell fairly near C Coy. Sappers and the Bn Pioneers preceded the two forward Coys and cleared a large number of mines from the tracks. When the first objective had been taken at 0930 hrs. A and D Coys pushed forward and took up position in the area of DALLAND WOOD 733280. At 1000 hrs a message came through stating that the 11th Armd Division on our right were doing well and that we should soon be able to link up with them. Soon after this B, C and D Coys pushed forward leaving C Coy to protect the left flank. At this juncture at 1135 hrs the Bn was ordered to form up where it was. At 1245 hrs positions were HQ 734279, A Coy 733278, B Coy 733274, C Coy 738282, D Coy 737277. The 'F' Echelon was moving up and we were prepared to remain static for the night, when the Bn was ordered to take over the positions of the 4th KSLI EAST of OVERLOON in the SMAKT area. The marching troops left with the transport soon after 1615 hrs and arrived in area 783323 at about 1830 hrs. The Recce party had hardly had time to see their positions before dark, and it was raining hard. The Bn finally took over at about 1930 hrs in the following positions:- Bn HQ 785321, A Coy 795348, B Coy 794316, C Coy 794324, D Coy 787318. During the take over the Nebelwerfers were busy and S Coy suffered 4 casualties (1 killed 3 wounded). Contact was attempted with the NORFOLKS on the right and with B Sqn 3 Recce Regt on the left by patrol at 0200 hrs, but owing to the darkness both parties went slightly astray and contact was not finally established until day light. | |
| " | 17 | | During the morning rifle Coys were constantly and accurately mortared, shelled and Nebelwerfered. Few casualties caused. Coys spent all day in improving their slit trenches, which were not as yet very habitable. 2/Lt Simpson of A Coy took out a small patrol to the railway and then back by way of the orchard 798318 where they found two dead Germans. They also saw two of the enemy walking northwards along the railway line in the area 798318. B Coy sent out a patrol towards the railway | |

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| " | | | but the patrol leader Cpl Pritchard was killed while observing from the railway. C Coy sent out a patrol which observed from the railway between 797329 and 798324. They observed three houses occupied by the enemy, one of which was flying a red cross flag, and looked rather like an OP. During the afternoon B Coy had sent out a patrol to recce the stream and bridge at 793313. After three attempts to approach, they had to withdraw owing to accurate mortar fire. This was the worst shelling and mortaring the Bn has experienced so far. Sixteen of our Shell and Mortar Reps were dealt with by the Artillery. During the night contact was made with 3 Recce Regt on the left and with 2 RUR on left right. A Coy patrol reported Schu mines on the level crossing and heard voices in the village. B Coy sent a patrol out to orchard at 796310 via the bridge and the houses. There were no enemy there. | |
| " | 18 | | The Bn was very heavily shelled and mortared all day. Three Pls of MMGs fired into the woods to our right front, and caused some return fire. During the afternoon Typhoons attacked the railway three times in different places. C Coy sent out a standing patrol to 797327 which brought in two PW from Bn GREVING, who were on patrol on this side of the railway. An A Coy patrol went out and reported enemy in the village on the far side of the railway. B Coy patrol went out via the stream and houses and to the orchard at 796310, which was occupied by the enemy. Contact patrols with 3 Recce Regt on the left and a Coy KSLI on left right were made. | |
| " | 19 | | Again heavily shelled and mortared all day. Up till today the forward Pl of C Coy and the standing patrols of A Coy were under constant observation from the railway or from just behind it. We stopped this by Arty fire put down just over the railway, and then the rapid occupation of forward positions before the enemy had recovered from the effect of the shelling. This was accomplished with success and C Coy established an OP in house at 795325, which observed across the railway but was rather restricted in its all round observation. There was slight enemy activity or movement to the East of the railway. Enemy strongpoint at 810320 established by OP and engaged by 25 pdr Bty. A Coy provided a fighting patrol and C Coy two recce patrols which established that the enemy were in positions at 789331, 800324 and at 799321. B Coy recce patrol heard the enemy in the South East corner of orchard 799310. Several harassing targets were engaged by our 25 pdr Bty during the night usually bring back answering fire to some extent. Contact patrols to the right and left. | |
| " | 20 | | Shelling and Mortaring as usual. German reinforcements had arrived opposite our front on the 19th and we took advantage of their incautious behaviour, and shelled them in various different places with | |

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| " | | | some success. The OP reported slight enemy movement during daylight in the vicinity of the railway, but at dusk there was considerably more enemy movement. B and C Coy patrols both reported enemy holding only some of his usual positions, and C Coy patrol reported a good railway crossing by the signal box which did not appear to be mined. A Coy listening patrol reported sounds of marching and talking from the far side of the railway. Artillery fire was brought to bear on the target immediately. Contact patrols as usual to 3 Recce Regt on the left, and a coy of KSLI on the right. Patrols confirmed that enemy were still holding their forward positions. | |
| " | 21 | | Less shelling and mortaring than on any previous day here. The OP established that the enemy were still holding their forward positions to the East of the railway. There was little movement seen, probably owing to our recent policy of putting down Artillery wherever enemy movement was seen. The enemy obviously did not like this. The enemy were shelled and mortared several times on this programme. A, B and C Coys' patrols went out to find out if the enemy were still holding their forward positions to the East of the railway. With few exceptions he was holding them. A fighting patrol from D Coy under Lt AJM Brown went to investigate along the railway between 799312 and 800305. The outward route, two members of the patrol were wounded by a Schu mine on the road at 794312. After the explosion the patrol made a noise but they were not fired on. The patrol then withdrew owing to the mines. Ten minutes later the enemy put down heavy mortar fire on both the place where the mine had blown up and also on the objective along the railway line. From this it was deduced that there were mines but no enemy in both places. | |
| " | 22 | | There was some shelling and mortaring during the early hours of the morning. Very little enemy movement was seen. A patrol of A Coy reported at mid-day that the enemy had withdrawn his outposts just East of the railway line to the South of the village at the level crossing. During this time five 3-inch Mortars were shooting at targets selected by C Coy on their front. At 1400 hrs a platoon of A Coy tried to penetrate over the level crossing to the village, but were held up by Schu mines at the crossing. B Coy sent out 12 platoon under command of Capt TJ Young, who were to find out if the enemy had withdrawn from the houses in SMAKT. They penetrated into SMAKT without first clearing the houses, and were surprised by enemy MGs well concealed in the houses. Three men only managed to escape, and two more came back an hour or two later. The remainder (1 officer and 19 ORs) are presumed killed or prisoners. This confirmed that the enemy had not withdrawn. No patrols were carried out by us during the night. We were prepared to give the | |

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| | | | enemy a very bloody nose if he attempted a patrol. | |
| " | 23 | | Intermittent shelling and mortaring during the early hours of the morning. Patrols to the railway line during the day reported very little enemy movement. C Coy patrol to the NW of the MOLENBEEK were held up by the light from a burning haystack, but could see no signs of the suspected positions on this side of the MOLENBEEK. The enemy were firing MG rifles and grenades in the direction of VIERLINGSBEEK from the far side of the MOLENBEEK. Noise of voices and tracked vehicles moving was also heard. B Coy patrol heard tracks moving in the area of HOTEL VICTORIA (HOEVE VICTOR). Other patrols reported nothing of consequence. (Sgt Clark of B Coy was killed). | |
| " | 24 | | One deserter was brought in by A Coy from Regt MENZEL II Bn BODENRADER and No. 5 Coy. This was interesting as a deserter from 6 Coy of the same Bn was brought in by C Sqn 3 Recce Regt on the previous day. The II Bn only having two coys. Deserter's pl position was pinpointed. During the day the Bn was shelled and mortared occasionally by heavy calibre weapons. (CSM McLeish was mortally wounded). A 'C' Coy patrol under Lt AM Young went up this side of the railway line and crossed over to the East side at the level crossing at 796334. After crossing the railway the patrol could not go more than 150 yards N.E. as there was a house burning, which lit up the whole country side. The patrol could see no sign of enemy positions to the N.W. of the MOLENBEEK, but observed rifle MG and grenades being fired from the South bank of the stream in a Northern direction. Otherwise patrols reported enemy holding usual positions on the East side of the railway. | |
| " | 25 | | No change in enemy dispositions observed during the day. Very little enemy movement was seen on our front. PW stated that they had been ordered not to move from their trenches during daylight, and that they were not to dig trenches in orchards or woods. The usual shelling and mortaring took place. Nebelwerfers appeared on our front during the hours of darkness and fired several charges. Both 3-inch and 4.2-inch Mortars fired on various targets along our front. A Coy standing patrol was stationed during the day just this side of the level crossing. They reported at 1815 hrs that stakes were being driven into the ground in the area 799324, and the sound of marching and tracked vehicles on the East of the railway. D Coy patrols reported three of the enemy in the farm in the North corner of the orchard 798317. C Coy patrols established that enemy were still in the STEEL FACTORY and still behind the MOLENBEEK. At 1930 hrs A Coy reported sounds of enemy digging in just to the East of the level crossing 798319. During the afternoon twenty representatives from the Bn were visited by the Equerry of HRH The Duke of Gloucester. | |

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| " | 26 | | Little shelling and mortaring during the day. What there were was of a large calibre. A Coy standing patrol reported an enemy patrol of six men coming up the railway. Except for this little enemy movement was seen during the day. Patrols as usual reported nothing unusual except two houses on fire on D Coy's right flank in area 793312, which lit up the surrounding country side. A nebelwerfer fired one charge from the East side of the railway at the 3-inch mortars. One man was shaken and subsequently evacuated. | |
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| " | 27 | | The usual amount of shelling and mortaring during the day. Little activity was seen of the enemy during daylight, but at dusk several enemy were seen walking about, one of them half dressed in civilian clothes. Between 1815 hrs and 1830 hrs the enemy were heard driving stakes into the ground in area 799324, and there were sounds of men marching, and vehicles moving in an Easterly direction at about 800321. Areas 803325, 802323 and 803320 were engaged by 33 Fd Regt at 1845 hrs. A and D standing patrols were out during the day, but saw and heard very little movement. D Coy recce patrol reported three of the enemy coming out of the house in the North-East corner of the orchard at 789317. At 2135 hrs a platoon of C Coy under Sgt Robertson reported shooting up an enemy patrol of six or seven men coming out of the wood at 796324, probably wounding one of them. D Coy patrol reported two of the enemy in orchard at 798317. | |
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| " | 28 | | At 0600 hrs an enemy fighting patrol of 9 men was shot up by a Pl of C Coy while approaching the Farm 795325 from the North. They were driven off after throwing grenades into the farm. Early in the morning there was some shelling and mortaring but it lasted a short time. There was very little enemy movement throughout the day. During the afternoon a big long range gun from the East of the MEUSE started shelling the OVERLOON - VENREIJ road. This particular gun was also active till about 0300 hrs on the 29th. Enemy mediums also shelled C Coy positions and OVERLOON and the 33 Fd Regt gun positions during the night and early the next morning. The usual A and D Coy standing patrols were out during the day and had nothing to report. A and D Coy recce patrols had nothing to add to in the way of information. The enemy were in occupation of the usual positions. | |
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| " | 29 | | No enemy movement reported by standing patrols during daylight. Civilians were seen shortly before mid-day walking along the railway waving white flags. Shortly after 1800 hrs there were several reports of movement of enemy vehicles in the village at 800321, Eastwards and in SMAKT 800316. These targets were quickly engaged by 33 Fd Regt. A Coy recce patrol reported enemy in the orchard on the East of the railway at 799320. Fires were reported in the area of the signal box | |

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| " | | | 796334 and in area of houses 793312. Nebelwerfers were active on our front at 1620 hrs and at 2050 hrs. Capt H Henderson was wounded and evacuated. Major AJ Rennie returned from the FDS and took over D Coy again. | |
| " | 30 | | Nebelwerfers fired twice into our area shortly after 0300 hrs. At 0700 hrs C Coy recce patrol reported having heard and seen nothing in the area of the STEEL FACTORY 798330. Little enemy movement was seen during the morning. At about 1500 hrs an enemy MG firing from the vicinity of the railway into C Coy forward Pl killed one man. A Coy reported vehicles moving in the village, and C Coy patrol shouting and confusion on the East of the railway at 799325. At 1800 hrs D Coy standing patrol reported searching all houses West of the railway and North of MOLENBEEK and finding no signs of enemy. No enemy were seen to East of railway. Suspected gun positions were seen and then stonked. At 1930 hrs C Coy reported having seen a white very fired by the enemy in the direction of the STEEL FACTORY; shortly afterwards a stonk of Nebelwerfer landed in the area of the STEEL FACTORY on the railway. Shortly after this another very light was fired in the same direction. None of the other patrols reported any movement seen. | |
| " | 31 | | Little mortaring during the morning. At 1145 hrs C Coy saw a tracked vehicle moving in area of STEEL FACTORY, and also shouting from the same area. This place was engaged by RA and 4.2 mortars, eventually setting fire to the buildings, and small arms ammunition was heard exploding. Targets at 800326 were also engaged by the RA shortly afterwards. At 1850 hrs a cross section on an enemy mortar at 807330 was obtained, and duly stonked by one regiment of Artillery and a Coy of 4.2 mortars. A Coy standing patrol had nothing to report. D Coy standing patrol reported having heard sounds of movement in the houses opposite them on the East of the railway at 799316, and one bosche was seen walking from the Church at 799315 into a house opposite them. A Coy recce patrol from 1830-2100 reported no sign of the enemy on the West of the railway, but heard a metallic sound as of a shovel from just over the railway at approximately 799319, and the sound of a woman and a child weeping 200 yards further East. D Coy recce patrol reported road-river bridge intact but rail-river bridge blown at 799316, the water in the river at that point being 5 to 6 feet deep. They also saw several of the enemy walking about in the houses opposite them at 799316. C Coy patrol which lay up in the wood at 797324 for half an hour heard movement on the railway and in the bushes near the railway immediately to their front. Total casualties from 14 Oct: Offrs: Maj AJ Rennie wounded (since rejoined) Capt TJ Young missing (PW). Other Ranks: 32 wounded 10 killed 20 missing. | |

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If
this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Nov 1944

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
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| | 1 | | At 0320 C Coy asked for Q3 to be put down (steel factory). An enemy patrol of six or seven men was pinned down by fire from 14 Pl in the area just North of the strip of trees 796323. The patrol fired a white and then a green very light from the area of the rly in front of 14 Pl farm, where upon 14 Pl were heavily stonked by 8.1 mortar. Our 3" mortars then fired 50 rounds on area of the rly at 799325. Then Q3 followed by the Southern half of 943 DF task by 33 Fd Regt. At 0620 C Coy heard enemy movement on the East of rly and asked for Q3 and Q1. The 33 Fd Regt obliged us promptly. C Coy reported that they had heard moaning coming from the area where they had shot up the enemy patrol. A short time afterwards C Coy fired on two of the enemy seen dragging a third with them. Shortly after mid-day A Coy reported hearing movement of heavy tracked vehicles at 800322. As we had been told to expect a counter attack, this sounded ominous. We stonked the spot heavily however and the movement ceased. At 1630 A Coy standing patrol reported one explosion 200 yards to the East of the level crossing at 799320. There was no report as of a gun so we concluded that it was a demolition. At 1845 a rapid stonk was put down on HOEVE VICTOR. Several sentries reported having seen a machine like a glider going from North to South across our front at about 1930 hrs. D Coy standing patrol during daylight reported occasional signs of enemy movement, however there was nothing new of importance. D Coy recce patrol under Sgt Batey were fired on by five of the enemy in the South East corner of orchard forward of D Coy. | |
| | 2 | | During the earlier part of the morning there was very occasional spandau fire up the rly from the South. Otherwise everything was exceptionally quiet. During the day A and D standing patrols saw and heard nothing unusual, just the occasional enemy vehicle moving S.E. of SMAKT and voices in SMAKT itself. During the afternoon A Sqn 3 Recce Regt had stonked the MOLENBEEK heavily with all kinds of calibre of weapons. The return fire was put down between 1800 and 1830 very heavily by Nebelwerfers, heavy mortars, medium and heavy guns coming | |

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| | | from N.E. East and S.E. from the far side of the MEUSE. It was the most concentrated stonk of heavy enemy weapons that most of us had ever heard. Patrols during darkness had nothing to report. Publication of 1/KOSB Operation Order No. 1. | Appx. 'B' |
| | 3 | A very quiet morning with little shelling and mortaring. Representatives from 2 RUR went round our Coy positions during the afternoon, preparatory to taking over the posns the next day. The afternoon was also quiet. Shortly after 1900 hrs the enemy started shelling the railway in front of C Coy. The enemy had been firing a Bren from the area of the Steel Factory just to the East of the rly to the North East of C Coy posn. About 1930 hrs we stonked Q5 with 3" mortars and 25 pdrs. Except for this there was nothing of interest. List of Arty Targets will be found in Appx 'A'. | |
| | 4 | A very quiet morning spent in handing over to 2 RUR and A Coy 2 Lincolns. The hand over was completed by 1530 hrs. At 1430 Bn HQ opened at 7253138 just outside ST ANTONIS. The whole Bn were under cover and were all comfortable. The whole Bn were under cover and were all comfortable, but billets were not as good as at ST HUBERT. Coy areas were as follows:- A Coy 740358, B Coy 728374, C Coy 731376, D Coy 735364, S Coy 724372. The routine for this area was 48 hours rest and sleep, and the remaining 72 hours spent in cleaning weapons, ammunition and kit and checking G.1098 stores and equipment. The Bn was at three hours notice. | |
| | 5 | Quiet and peaceful. A stream of civilian refugees from BOXMEER to ST ANTONIS all day. R.C. Church parade in ST ANTONIS church. Parties from each Coy attended entertainments such as the Cinema in MILL and the STAGE DOOR CANTEEN in OPLoo, others went to the Div Club in HELMOND. | |
| | 6 | As yesterday. Colder than usual - winter is approaching. Party sets out for 48 hours in BRUSSELS. | |
| | 7 | Cold and wet. Activities as for Nov 5th. Lt Col JFM Macdonald left the Bn to be G.1 at Division. Lt Col RC Macdonald took over command of the Bn. Major HS Gillies took over second-in-command. Capt Pullman took over "C" Coy. Capt JB Boyd took over "A" Coy, with Capt EM Dishington as 2nd IC. Major Waldie, MC was appointed OC "S" Coy. Capt FF Andrews 2IC "B" Coy and Capt AM Brown 2IC "D" Coy. | |
| | 8 | Usual entertainments and activities. Recce parties left for area 770330 preparatory to taking over from 2 Lincolns. | |
| | 9 | Bn moved to OVERLOON area and was settled in by 1200 hrs. The Bn had tactical posns and in most cases a separate billeting area. Locations were as follows:- Tactical alarm posns Bn HQ 771324. A Coy 772325. B Coy 776328. C Coy 770328. D Coy 777334. Billetting area as follows:- Bn HQ same. A Coy 767329. B Coy 763333. C Coy same. D Coy 765334. S Coy | |

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| | | | from 756334 to 762334. One Pl of C Coy went out as protection and link between C Sqn 3 Recce Regt and the Bn. They had a quiet night except for an occasional enemy MG firing at random in various different directions from the area of the tall poplars South East of the MOLENBEEK, and just North of the Steel Factory. The Padre, Rev W.I.G. Wilson was posted away pending a staff appointment after having been with the Bn for over four years. The new Padre is the Rev E.S. Eastman. | |
| | 10 | | A quiet wet day, spent mostly in improving billets and trying to make them waterproof. Nothing of interest to report. | |
| | 11 | | Armistice Day. No celebrations. The first number of the "Borderline" the Bn daily newspaper, was produced, and well received. One Pl of C Coy went out to protect the SP Anti-Tank guns of a troop of 45 A.Tk Bty. 2 Secs of Carriers went out to form a rd block in the area West of the houses at SCHOFFERDEN. The Carriers reported one enemy SP firing from East of the MEUSE and several MGs firing tracer from South East of the MOLENBEEK into the woods in area 794327. | |
| | 12 | | Quiet and uneventful. An enemy foraging party of 2 offrs and 30 ORs entered VIERLINGSBEEK 805346 and went back to the South of the MOLENBEEK laden with sacks. 3 Recce Regt had no one in VIERLINGSBEEK at the time. A plot however was hatched for the next day. | |
| | 13 | | A Coy with an FOO of 7 Fd Regt moved into VIERLINGSBEEK before first light and lay up for enemy patrols. During the day a MG did fire on one occasion in front of our troops, but beyond that all was quiet and no enemy came into the village. Preparations were made for the move the next day into the posns West of the rly in the area of SMAKT, at present held by 2 LINC.S. | |
| | 14 | | The take over began before first light when we took over exposed fwd posns and standing patrols thought to be under enemy observation. HQ opened at 783323 at 1100 hrs. The take over was completed by 1415 hrs. Cpl Drummond of C Coy was killed by a sniper in the Farm at 794328. The patrols were similar to those done by 2 Lincs the night before, that is D Coy standing patrol, by day and night at 797316 and C Coy Recce patrol to area of Steel Factory. Patrols reported enemy in Farm at 794328. | |
| | 15 | | A little shelling and mortaring. D Coy standing patrol at 1000 hrs heard movement of track vehicles moving some distance East of village at 799321 - then a gun fired SW from the area of the movement, shortly afterwards the firing stopped and there was renewed track vehicle movement from the same area, followed by the sound of a M/C. During the day there was intermittent H.F. by enemy mortars and 88s. D Coy standing patrols as usual. It was decided to occupy the farm at 794328. | |

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| | | | <p>C Coy sent out a Recce patrol to the farm at 2330 hrs which reported the sound of muffled voices from the buildings. A fighting patrol went out and the farm was stonked at 0300 hrs. The fighting patrol found no enemy in the buildings and stayed there till first light. A Coy sent out a combined recce and fighting patrol at 0300 hrs. The Recce patrol reported at 0345 hrs that the house at 798319 was occupied by the enemy. The fighting patrol then went in and engaged the enemy as soon as they opened fire with brens, stens and grenades. They also threw grenades at the enemy sentries in the orchard before withdrawing. Unfortunately it was impossible to estimate enemy casualties.</p> | |
| | 16 | | <p>The early morning was cold and uneventful. At 1215 it was reported that HOEVE VICTOR was on fire. This proved to be false, but next to the level crossing the enemy burnt down two houses to the West of the rly and one to the East. At 1327 an explosion was seen and heard near the level crossing, this was thought possibly to be a mine near one of the burning houses being set off by heat or falling masonry. At 1335 hrs 3 Germans were seen moving West in area of the level crossing. Shortly afterwards A Coy sent out a two man recce patrol which was fired on from the railway in the crossing area by a MG as it approached the nearest burning house. The patrol withdrew having seen no enemy, and was fired on while on its way back by a schmeisser from the area of the broken church 799315. D Coy standing patrol during daylight reported enemy during the morning in the houses East of the railway at 799316 and moving about from house to house. At 2135 hrs the Carrier Sec at 790313 reported dogs barking near house at 794313. They put up a white flare but could see nothing. Patrols at night produced no fresh information.</p> | |
| | 17 | | <p>There was a certain amount of shelling during the morning. D Coy standing patrol reported two houses at the corner of the orchard smouldering. There was a sniper on the rly but little movement to the East of it. C Coy Recce patrol fired at two or three Germans retreating East towards the rly. A Coy recce patrol saw four enemy scrambling about on their hands and knees in the area of the red roofed house, probably laying or lifting mines. Carriers dismounted patrol reported wood at 793313 showing signs of recent enemy occupation but nothing more. Sgt L Bucksey MM was granted a Commission and posted to HQ Coy as Signal Officer. Sgt W Grant was also granted a Commission and posted to A Coy.</p> | |
| | 18 | | <p>A fairly quiet morning. During the afternoon the forward Coys were heavily mortared, Cpl Tannock of A Coy being killed. Shortly after 1600 hrs a patrol of 4 enemy came across the rly crossing and into orchard to the SW of it, whereupon A Coy shot at them with 2" Mortar. This</p> | |

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| | | | effectively scattered the patrol and one man was captured by C Coy. He had belonged to the G.A.F. but was in 7 Coy II Bn BODENRAEDER. His Coy location and Bn and Coy were all extracted from him. He talked freely. During the evening flares were dropped by our aircraft. We eventually discovered that they were taking photos. | |
| | 19 | | During the morning the 2nd East Yorks took over from us. By 1330 hrs the take over was completed, and the Bn settled into posns just East of OVERLOON. Disposns were the same as from Nov 9 - 14th. The remainder of the day was quiet, and was spent in general maintenance. | |
| | 20 | | Recce parties left for the WEVERSLO area just to the West of VENRAIJ during the morning. Being the last Bn in the Bde to move, we had great difficulty in finding enough cover. Eventually locations were as follows:- HQ 756257, A Coy 762254, B Coy 755245, D Coy 763247 and S Coy 743263. The wet afternoon was spent in settling in. | |
| | 21 | | Preliminary recces for a future attack from the VEULEN Area. It rained solidly all day. There was intermittent harassing fire from enemy guns and mortars at intervals throughout the day, mostly falling in the area of the RUR and the Lincs. O Group in the evening with a model for the attack towards KASTENRAIJ, with a start line running due South from the Western end of VEULEN 2276. | |
| | 22 | | Recce for Coy and Pl Comds of area South of VEULEN for the attack. Preparations made for the attack in which 2 LINCS were also to participate, pushing forward due East of their posns in VEULEN supported by Churchill tanks. During the hours of darkness the VEULEN area was heavily shelled by enemy guns, some of them firing from a considerable distance away. Patrols of 2 LINCS reported enemy still in posn up till 2000 hrs, but at 2400 hrs reported no sign of enemy. | |
| | 23 | | At 0300 hrs the Bn marching personnel started moving from the WEVERSLO area to the assembly area just to the West of VEULEN, arriving at about 0415 hrs. The Bn was formed up in the order B Coy, A Coy, D Coy with Tac Bn HQ and one sec of Pnrs in the rear. At 0445 hrs this party moved due South along a taped route to the Start Line, which was also taped, across muddy ground with numerous ditches full of water. At 0600 hrs, Zero hour, the Bn crossed the start line, ploughed through bogs towards the first objectives which were as follows:- B Coy Orchard at 775214, A and D Coys wood at 783217 and 782219. By 0815 hrs all Coys had reached their first objectives and reported no sign of the enemy. After this Coys leapfrogged forward till they reached the wood at 800226. Then shortly after 1600 hrs patrols forward on the main VENRAIJ - VENLO Rd made contact with 2 LINCS at 795235. After this the Bn moved into area of 800223 and into the houses round about. At this point the enemy had blown down a number of trees across the road, and had planted mines and | |

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| | | <p>booby traps round them. One man was wounded by these contrivances and the remainder were cleared away by the RE by last light. Locations of the Bn were as follows:- HQ at 800233, A Coy at 798233, B Coy at 799239, D Coy at 805232, S Coy in wood at 798229. S Coy were in enemy dugouts, and the remainder were in billets. It rained solidly all afternoon, as well as intermittently during the morning, so everyone was soaked through. Although everyone was under cover there was little chance of drying clothing during the night. The 15(S) Div were in occupation of HORST and the enemy were all East of the MOLENBEEK. We spent a quiet night.</p> | |
| | 24 | <p>In the morning A Coy went out to inspect the MOLENBEEK and its bridges in the area of TIENRAIJ 8523. The Coy set out at 0900 hrs, reporting KASTENRAIJ 8122 clear of enemy at 0930 hrs. From KLEINOORLOO 8223, reported clear at 0945 hrs then moved by tracks to the wood at 850233. At about 840231 a civilian approached a stretcher bearer, Pte Cope, and he went with him to attend to a wounded civilian in a nearby farm. While he was there three Germans came in and took him prisoner, whereupon the civilians informed the Coy and a patrol was sent out at once to try and intercept them, but without success. When the Coy entered the wood they were mortared and fired on by MGs from the area of the Concrete Works 857228. Fortunately most of it fell behind them and there were no casualties. From the wood a patrol under Cpl Hartle went down to the river at 856232 and found the bridge blown and the river fairly full. The patrol was fired on from the area of the Concrete Works several times during the day. During the afternoon the RUR arrived to take over the posn. The CSM of A Coy was fired on while trying to get to the patrol. Eventually the patrol was withdrawn after dark. During the day elements of 227 Bde 15(S) Div were contacted moving North from HORST. S Coy moved to KASTENRAIJ at 815224.</p> | |
| | 25 | <p>In the morning 227 Bde supported by the Scots Guards of the independent Armd Bde captured TIENRAIJ 8523, and entered EIKELENBOSCH and by the end of the day had taken SWOLGEN 8722. Lt AM Young started an NCO's Cadre. Programme will be found under Appendix B. Today was spent in cleaning up and making billets more comfortable.</p> | |
| | 26 | <p>Quiet day. Training as for 25th. At about 1000 hrs two bombs were dropped in our area. Otherwise there was nothing of interest.</p> | |
| | 27 | <p>Another quiet day except for a great deal of traffic on the VENRAIJ - VENLO road. In the evening at 2000 hrs an officers dinner was held in celebration of St. Andrews Day on the 30th.</p> | |
| | 28 | <p>The CO reced the GEIJSTEREN, OOSTRUM, OORLOO and VENRAIJ areas, which were to be in our next Bn area. The KASTEEL at 834299 was still occupied by the enemy and there was a small enemy pocket between</p> | |

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| | | | WANSSUM 852279 and HELLING 853269, which showed no signs of wanting to give in. The RUR moved into BLITTERSWIJK 8727 - WASSUM 8527 - MEGELSOM 8625. | |
| | 29 | | The 2nd-in-Comd and Coy Comds reced the new Bn area. In the late afternoon B Coy moved into WANSSUM on the West of the MOLENBEEK relieving a Coy of 1st Norfolks, to assist the RUR in clearing the WANSSUM - HELLING pocket. The remainder of the Bn received orders to move the next day. | |
| | 30 | | <p>The Bn moved at 1000 hrs to the new area except for B Coy which remained in WANSSUM. The move was completed by 1500 hrs and locations were as follows :- Bn HQ 808274, A Coy ZANDHOEK 814249, D Coy OOSTRUM 808271, S Coy OORLOO 821250. During the previous night the Suffolks had assaulted the KASTEEL at 834299 but had found it clear of enemy. During the afternoon one Coy of the RUR failed to clear the WANSSUM - HELLING pocket from the South. At 2200 hrs the pocket was stonked by 2" and 3" mortars.</p> <p>Casualties for month of Nov - Killed Officers Nil Other Ranks 6 Wounded Officers Nil Other Ranks 15 Missing Officers Nil Other Ranks 1</p> | |

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this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Dec 1944

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|--|--------------------------|
| | 1 | | At 0100 hrs the WANSSUM - HELLING pocket was again stonked and the RUR again tried to assault from the South, but again they were heavily shelled and mortared and held up by MG fire. At 2130 hrs orders were given for the move the next day to the TIENRAY area (8523), in preparation for an attack with the RUR and a Bn of Churchill Tanks on the WANSSUM - HELLING pocket. | |
| | 2 | | Recce and orders all morning for Coy and Pl Comds. The Bn were all settled in the TIENRAY area by 1430 hrs. At 1400 hrs a message was received to the effect that during the morning the Carrier Pl were ordered to send a patrol across the MOLENBEEK to the Eastern half of WANSSUM, as civilian reports indicated that the enemy had cleared out the night before. The patrol found the place empty, so the RUR sent a Coy to occupy it. The plan for the attack was then called off and by 1700 hrs the Bn was back in the same billets, with B Coy in OOSTRUM, and the Carrier Pl in the Western half of WANSSUM. Arrangements were made for B Coy to take over GEIJSTEREN 8529 and the KASTEEL area the next day. Major CG Stonor, Lieut HA Richardson and Lieut GA Duncan and 50 ORs returned to the Bn after being wounded and in hospital in England. | |
| | 3 | | Quiet night. At 0900 hrs B Coy Comd and Pl Comds went to the GEIJSTEREN area to recce their new positions in that area. At 1100 hrs B Coy moved off to the GEIJSTEREN area and by 1400 hrs the take over was complete. An OP party from B Coy had relieved a Pl of 2 Lincolns in the KASTEEL before first light, however, by last light they had nothing to report. During the hours of darkness Capt Sturgeon and 1 OR of 2 RUR were removed from a house in WANSSUM by an enemy patrol. It is presumed that they are prisoners. | |
| | 4 | | A very quiet day. The OP in the KASTEEL had nothing to report. The 33 Fd Regt OP in the house at 833291 saw a fair amount of movement during the day in the WELL - ELSTEREN area, and also smoke coming from some of the houses there. The flooding was fairly extensive in that area on the | |

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| | | | Eastern bank especially, sometimes to a depth of over a thousand yards. | |
| | 5 | | Another quiet day. D Coy moved into the Coy position at GEIJSTEREN taking over from B Coy completely. Slightly more movement than yesterday reported in area ELSTEREN and WELL. The OP in the KASTEEL had nothing of particular interest to report. During the hours of darkness A coy moved into WANSSUM and took over from 2 RUR. | |
| | 6 | | Quiet day. The right hand inter bn boundary was changed to include WANSSUM (8527) and wood at 857285. OPs reported smoke in ELSTEREN - WELL - SEVEN TREES (856301) areas. In ELSTEREN and WELL there was more movement than on the previous day. Patrols at night made no contact with the enemy. | |
| | 7 | | Another quiet day. German soldiers were definitely identified digging in the area of SEVEN TREES. The enemy, on the East of the MEUSE in our sector seemed determined to lie low and complete their defences; at present they seem to have no offensive intentions. For the moment the nature of the floods preclude any possibility of the enemy being able to cross the river in boats. Less movement than usual reported in the same places by OPs. | |
| | 8 | | Quiet and uneventful. OPs reported movement in the same places as usual, i.e. ELSTEREN - WELL - PAPENBEEK area. More of the movement is gradually being established as enemy as the collated reports of the OPs all along the front take shape. Digging activity reported in area SEVEN TREES 856301. | |
| | 9 | | Quiet day except for two mortar bombs which landed in WANSSUM, wounding Capt JB Boyd, OC A Coy. Capt EM Dishington took over Command of A Coy. More movement than usual in the PAPENBEEK area. Nothing further of interest. | |
| | 10 | | The enemy seem to be getting more careless about movement every day. At 1125 hrs OP reported 6 men thought to be German soldiers carrying stores at 854302. 1 man did a recce of the area and then all six started work in the area laying mines or putting up wire. At 1150 they were engaged by one bty of 33 Fd Regt - they all disappeared hurriedly and did not reappear for the rest of the day. At about 1600 hrs one ambulance was seen moving up into the area of the working party. | |
| | 11 | | The C-in-C, Field Marshal Montgomery presented decorations to Cpl Harmon (DCM) and Cpl Forrest (MM). Digging was seen to be taking place at 854301 in the same area as the wiring had taken place the day before. Staff car and DR seen moving South down LEUKEN - ELSTEREN road at 1150. At 1240 the car was seen moving North along the PAPENBEEK - LEUKEN road. A quiet day and nothing else of interest to report. | |
| | 12 | | Officers Day held in house next to OOSTRUM Church. Coys changed over as follows : C Coy having been reconstructed in the meantime with Capt GC | |

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| | | | Stonor as Coy Comd and Capt AJM Brown as 2IC, Platoon Comds being Sgt Robertson, Lieut AM Young, Lieut JR Walker :- C to A (WANSSUM) A to B (OOSTRUM) B to D (GEIJSTEREN) D to VENRAIJ. Under Appendix A find change over instructions, and under Appendix B Officers Day programme. During the morning Capt Wildblood gave an interesting lecture on conditions we may find inside Germany. | |
| | 13 | | A quiet day. Civilians proved to be something of a problem, flocking back into WANSSUM. Some with and some without passes. Visibility bad in the middle of the day. OPs had nothing of interest to report. | |
| | 14 | | The enemy were thought to have crossed the MEUSE in the GEIJSTEREN area in the early morning. At 0615 trip flare went up at 823303 whereupon B Coy stood to, and at 0645 the sound of a motor boat was heard, but nothing further happened. At daylight a patrol went up to the area of the flare and found a number of enemy propaganda leaflets lying about, one schmeisser magazine and one stick grenade, all of which were not there on the previous day. Shortly after 2000 hrs a Dutchman swam the MEUSE and came into C Coy area. He was brought in and gave some valuable information before going back to higher formation. | |
| | 15 | | Enemy movement on East bank of MEUSE confirmed by OPs. Nothing further of interest on our front. Further south a German fighting patrol, some 15 men in strength came across the MEUSE and assaulted a position of the INNS of COURT with supporting weapons. They were driven off. The INNS OF COURT sustained one casualty, but found three dead Germans the next day. | |
| | 16 | | At about 0300 hrs a contact patrol between 11 and 12 Pls B Coy bumped an enemy patrol of approximately seven men at 825294. The Germans shouted "Hands up" and our patrol opened fire, and at once split up and made their way back to their Pl - one was missing. B Coy stood to but nothing further happened. At first light a patrol went out and found Pte Connolly, the missing man, lying dead, and in the area of the shooting were found one schmeisser magazine, one German forage cap and one pole charge composed of stick grenade charges. 33 Fd Regt started to harass one or two targets in the PAPENBEEK - ELSTEREN - WELL area during the day. 4.2 Mortars DF tasks laid on as follows :- DF 1 at 835317, DF 2 block of houses in WELL at 859291, DF 3 at area 845292. | |
| | 17 | | A great deal of air activity over the Bn area during the day, some of it being enemy aircraft, which did drop bombs some distance away during the day. Two snipers were posted in the house at 845290 but saw very little movement - none of it fresh news. In the evening one sentry of 12 Pl B Coy reported hearing movement but a patrol of two secs went out into the area of the movement but could find nothing. RA fired several targets during the day. OPs had less than usual to report. | |

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| | 18 | | Officers Day. Morning in Convent School in VENRAIJ. Lectures by CRA and by Comd 6th Gds Armd Tk Bde. In the afternoon discussion of Forest Fighting on model in OOSTRUM. Programme will be found under Appendix C. Otherwise a quiet day. | |
| | 19 | | A good day. During the morning B Coy reported that 3 Germans had been seen in the GEIJSTEREN area. A search was immediately organised and was eventually rewarded at about 1300 hrs by the capture of a patrol of six. They seemed a goodish type but proved quite talkative when interrogated. Amongst other information they gave what they said was their method of getting a boat over to collect them should they lose their own. Based on this information a trap was laid at night along the banks of the river but unfortunately did not lure the enemy into our bank tho' there was reason to believe that he came a certain distance over. C Coy however made up for the disappointment on B Coys front by bagging a couple of civilians in WANSSUM in the evening, who later broke down completely under interrogation and confessed that they were short term agents who had crossed the river at WELL. They also gave information re other agents who had crossed and once again a signal to get a boat over to pick them up two days later. This information was passed on to our friends. | |
| | 20 | | A quiet day apart from an early morning skirmish in C Coy OP in WANSSUM. A small German patrol must have occupied the OP during the hours of darkness and when the OP party went to occupy it next morning they were met with SA fire. The encounter was a short one - one casualty to C Coy, but unfortunately the Boche made good his escape in the very thick ground mist. A further extensive search failed to trace the intruders but wherever they went they produced no further trouble. | |
| | 21 | | Today the Bn moved to the METERIK area and we handed over our old area to the S Lan R. Billets in the new area, where we are to spend Xmas, are rather a mixed bag but will no doubt soon be put right. The Bn moved to new area in TCV's with the exception of D Coy who went by march route from VENRAIJ. A Coy at SCHADIJK and S Coy at X rds 812178 are rather separated from the remainder who are all at METERIK. A Coy however are quite happy and it is hoped to be possible to move S Coy in with other Coys in the village. | |
| | 22 | | S Coy move into METERIK. A good programme of entertainment was drawn up for Xmas and began today with a liberal allotment of vacancies for film shows at both METERIK and HORST. | |
| | 23 | | Another cold day. The Div Comd, Major General Whistler talked to the Bde in the morning. There was a generous allotment of seats for Cinema shows in METERIK and HORST. Capt LW McKay arranged a Bn Variety Concert in METERIK which was a great success. | |

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| | 24 | | A Bn Church Parade was held in HORST CINEMA for HQ and S Coys at 1100 hrs and for Rifle Coys at 1430 hrs. The Pipe Band played both parties to HORST. Orders for the Bn counter attack role were produced, see Appendix D. Owing to a certain amount of apprehension in some quarters we were to be at 2 hours notice to move, from the evening of the 24th until 1200 hrs on the 26th, therefore the Officers Xmas Dinner Party was postponed till the evening of Boxing Day. | |
| | 25 | | Christmas Day. Holy Communion for C of E at HORST Cinema 0800 hrs and for C of S at 1100 hrs at Bn HQ. Xmas dinner was served for the men, a huge and most appetising meal, including turkey, pork and apple sauce, and plum pudding and plenty of beer. The 2nd in Comd visited all Coys and said a few words to each in turn and drank their health. The CO had been away to Paris but returned in time to take part in the Officers and Sgts soccer match which ended in a victory for the Sgts of 3 goals to one. Lt Col JFM Macdonald and Major AJ Rennie came to watch the match. Publication of 1/KOSB O.O. No2 (C/ATTACK ROLE) | Appx. D. |
| | 26 | | A quiet cold day. During the morning the CO made a preliminary recce of our new area at present held by the 2 WARWICKSHIRE Regt between GRUBBENVORST and HOUTHUIZEN. In the evening the Officers Christmas Dinner was held in "HQ" Coy Dining Hall. An excellent dinner and plenty of wine were produced and enjoyed by all. The guests were Lt Col JFM Macdonald, Major AJ Rennie, and Major NG Gillies and Capt Palmer of 33rd Fd Regt RA. | |
| | 27 | | In the morning Coy and Pl Comds reced the new area. In the afternoon a cross country run was held just north of METERIK, some 2½ miles in length. D Coy secured the first two places, Major GE Barker coming in first, and won the race. In the evening the Sgts' Mess held their Xmas dinner in HQ Coy Dining Hall. The CO 2IC, Adjt and Coy Comds were invited to the dinner, the remaining officers being invited in later, and a hilarious evening ensued. Publication Amendment No1, 1/KOSB, O.O. No2. | Appx. E. |
| | 28 | | Preparations were made for the move into the new area, and orders were given for the take over. See Appendix E | |
| | 29 | | The Bn started moving at 0900 hrs and the take over was complete by 1300 hrs, dispositions being as follows :- Bn HQ in GRUBBENVORST - LOTTUM Station 885167, A Coy HOUTHUIZEN 898178, B Coy in reserve in area 8617, C Coy at 885162, D Coy 890150, S Coy 888173. A few mortar bombs landed in A Coy area at midday. Very poor visibility. Sounds of stakes being driven into the ground were heard at 904154 and a vehicle in the same area during the night. | |
| | 30 | | A quiet day. D Coy moved into the town of GRUBBENVORST. OPs were | |

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| | | <p>established at 899178, 897164, 896147 as well as two RA OPs at 889151. Visibility was restricted to about 1000 yards, during the day, but enemy movement was seen, including a suspected enemy OP at 912164 and a suspected HQ in the house at 911165. Besides this various enemy trenches, positions and dug-outs were seen to be manned between HASSELT 9015 and LOMM 9117. Standing patrols at night were at LOVENDAAL 896154, 897164 and in WIELDER 901183. A Coy patrol found a boat at 903177 frozen into the ground but could find no cable, as had been reported by 2nd Warwickshires.</p> | |
| | 31 | <p>At 0515 hrs a bomb was dropped by an aircraft somewhere to the North of the Bn area. Patrol had nothing of interest to report. There was more enemy mortar and gun activity during the day than yesterday. A number of rounds fell on GRUBBENVORST and some in front of 13 Pl C Coy. During the morning medium guns attempted to demolish the Water Tower just West of STRAELEN at 971170 which was clearly visible even from the gun lines some distance West of the Bn position. No hits were observed however. During the afternoon 3" mortars with A Coy attempted to hit some boats on the East bank of the river, but without success.</p> <p>Casualties - Killed Nil and One OR Wounded Capt JB Boyd and One OR</p> | |

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If
this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year January 1945

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
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| | 1 | | The enemy celebrated the New Year by firing rifles and automatic weapons into the air. We stonked him which rather damped his enthusiasm. A good deal of movement was seen on the front during the day, mostly in 9015 area. The area of LOMM 9117 was also active though not to such a great extent. Visibility was good and a fair amount of detail was observed. Obstacles were observed on both sides of the river in the form of wire fences on the edge of the water from 901166 to 903174. This obstacle was at first thought to be continuous, but on a second examination this was found to be incorrect. Patrols had nothing of particular interest to report. Brigadier GD Renny, who was CO of the Bn from April to the end of July 1944, when he was wounded has taken over Command of 9th Brit Inf Bde. | |
| | 2 | | A clear cold day with fair visibility. A fair amount of movement was seen in areas 9016, 9116, 9117. Movement around LOMM was especially noticeable. One or two heavy shells fall in the Bn area shortly after 1900 hrs but otherwise there was nothing of particular interest during daylight. Patrols reported suitable launching site at 90301475 but the banks on both sides were very exposed. At 2230 hrs a horse and cart were heard in area 905147, and at 0230 in the same place the noise of hammering stakes was heard. The obstacle in the river MAAS from 901166 to 903174 was found to be two separate obstacles one on either bank. On the east bank a double apron fence on the beach itself with the Western extremities actually in the water. On the West bank two barbed wire and pole fences with two strands of wire, one being just at the edge of the river and the other 10 - 15 ft from the water just underneath the bank. An Officers' Day was held in the morning. Programme at Appx "A". | |
| | 3 | | A cold and misty day with very bad visibility. OPs observed one incident of movement at 911181 only. A quiet day spent in improving defences. However Nebelwerfers were heard at night - the first time for some weeks, in fact the beginning of December. A number of shells fall in the WANSSUM and BLITTERSWIJK areas. | |

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| | 4 | | At about 0840 hrs a flying bomb passed over the Bn area going West. Shortly afterwards it was engaged by AA fire, which turned it round and it disappeared in a South Easterly direction. Several V2s were seen going off during the early hours of the morning, but nothing much of interest happened during the hours of darkness. Visibility during the day was fair and OPs saw movement in 9018, 9118 and in the VELDEN area. Again there was Gun, Mortar and Nebelwerfer activity in the WANSSUM, BLITTERSWIJK area. One civilian was found in a house at 896153, who had just swum the MEUSE. He gave some fairly useful information about enemy positions, in HASSELT area. Shortly after 2000 hrs the Steam Tram was heard in LOMM. | |
| | 5 | | A slight increase of shelling in areas LOTTUM, GRUBBENVORST and LOVENDAAL. During the very early hours of the morning, two German patrols came across the MEUSE from WELL, and attacked the 1st S Lan Regt in WANSSUM. The first patrol was dealt with and the second finally driven off, but the next morning the enemy were found to have reoccupied the wood to the North East of WANSSUM. During the course of the morning during daylight a short preliminary barrage put down on the wood and one pl attacked it, but without success. The enemy had brought up a number of guns for this operation and the DF fire was heavy. Visibility was extremely clear during the day and the Water Tower, Church Tower and Factory chimneys in STRAELEN in the Siegfried Line could be clearly seen. OPs saw movement in 9015, 9016 and 9117. The steam tram and vehicle movement were heard in LOMM at 1900 hrs. | |
| | 6 | | During the morning all woods in the Bn area were searched and no trace of enemy found. However two Germans, thought to have been dead about a fortnight, were found at 891154. Unfortunately such documents as they had on them were in such a mutilated and frozen state as to be unfit for any intelligence purposes. During the day the enemy HQ at 914154 was engaged by Fd Arty. Visibility was somewhat restricted but OPs saw some movement in 9016. In the morning one Coy of S Lan R attacked the wood North East of WANSSUM but again without success. There was about one Coy of enemy in the wood with 4 HMGs and also in line communication with other troops in WELL. | |
| | 7 | | During the morning 2 WARWICK relieved 2 RUR. Enemy communications at 915154 engaged by Fd Regt and 3" Mortars engaged enemy movement at 917189 and steam tram crossing at 915180. The Bn spent a comparatively quiet day. There was a certain amount of shelling and mortaring in the WANSSUM - BLITTERSWIJK area. Visibility was again poor but OPs observed an enemy working party of five men at 9016. Our Arty engaged a target some distance away and the party scattered and did not reappear. | |

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| | | | Instruction on Deception Plan under Appx 'B'. Sgt W Robertson was granted an immediate commission as a Lieut. | |
| | 8 | | During the early hours of the morning the Suffolks attacked the wood North East of WANSSUM, with a squadron of tanks and Kangaroos. 27 POW were taken during the complete operation. Apparently as soon as the enemy heard tanks they started pulling out of the wood. As for the last two days visibility was poor but OPs saw movement in VELDEN 9014, and enemy with handcarts at 9014 and 9116. Individual enemy movement was also seen at 9016. A few shells and mortar bombs landed in the area just North of GRUBBENVORST during the day. A quiet night. | |
| | 9 | | A fairly quiet day. About 12 Mortar bombs landed in the Bn area during the day. The RA engaged enemy dugouts, MG and mortar positions in the morning and afternoon. In the afternoon at 1500 the SP guns engaged a suspected enemy OP in HASSELT with delayed fuze HE. Results were satisfactory as far as could be judged. Sgts ERF Hutcheson and G Baitey were granted immediate commissions as 2nd Lieuts. | |
| | 10 | | During the very early morning, the 15(Sc) Div on our right reported two boats floating down the river towards GRUBBENVORST. Shortly before 0300 the standing patrol at Ferry 902147 heard sounds of boats and withdrew. The ferry area was engaged by 3" mortar and RA between 0310 and 0330. A "D" Coy patrol engaged a small party of enemy at 896164, two of whom ran away leaving a white sheet and two Schmeissers at about 0345 hrs. At 0930 "D" Coy in GRUBBENVORST had sent out a patrol to find and destroy the enemy boats, but without success. No further trace was seen of the enemy. "D" Coy suffered two casualties (1 killed and 1 wounded). Tracked vehicles were heard during the night moving Northwards. During the day OPs saw little movement but observed footprints in the snow from two barges 903159 to a dugout at 905159, but no footprints were seen leading down to the river itself. 3" Mortars engaged LOMM 9117, house at 916183 and road junction at 91174 during the day. In the afternoon one saloon car was seen moving South in area 908147. | |
| | 11 | | A quiet night except for a small disturbance caused by the 15(S) shooting at some boats sailing down the river. At 1500 hrs Bofors guns engaged the suspect HQ at 911165 and the crossing at 913166 and MMGs harassed the VELDEN area 907145. 3" mortars engaged the cross roads at 907145 in VELDEN and the road junction at 913179. Visibility was bad throughout the day but movement was observed to the South of LOMM 9117. Enemy were again seen to be in occupation of dugout 904158. A boat was seen at 903157 with a ladder and a plank over the wire in the same area. Patrols at night produced three Dutch civilians who had crossed the river in a canoe. They gave a certain amount of useful information including the report of a company of enemy being VELDEN and a Coy in | |

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| | | | SCHANDELO 9215, and the position of two 7.5cm A.tk guns in 9214. | |
| | 12 | | <p>A quiet morning. At 1245 one German was seen moving about and a truck was seen to stop in the area 912160. They were promptly engaged by RA. This drew a certain amount of fire on to the dummy positions at 801157. 3" Mortars engaged enemy seen digging at 908147. There was an increase in enemy shelling and mortaring particularly during the afternoon, mostly at 8918, 8816, 8915, 8917. Visibility was good up to 2000 yards and OPs saw a fair amount of movement particularly in the area VELDEN 9014.</p> <p>Between 1100 and 1200 there was continual enemy movement round house at 911149 and all day in area 912152. The enemy were seen on several occasions to be using sledges on the steam tramway. A staff car seen going from 909148 to house at 907153 in HASSELT and later going North at 916154 an hour later. Recently little movement has been seen at 9016, 9017 whereas there has been greatly increased movement in the VELDEN area and at 9115. This may be due to the attention we have paid to LOMM and 9016. This tendency seems to confirm civilian statements of one Coy in VELDEN and one in SCHANDELO.</p> | |
| | 13 | | <p>A quiet night. Bad visibility sometimes as restricted as 1000 yards hindered observed shooting and the OPs. In the morning the heavy guns attempted to range on 912152, which was a suspected admin area but observation of shot was extremely difficult and they eventually gave up. Medium guns during the day did a shoot onto the Regimental Rear Admin Area just South of STRAELEN. Clouds of white smoke were seen coming from the area. The Fd Arty engaged enemy movement 916187. Some shelling at 8914 during the morning otherwise a quiet day.</p> | |
| | 14 | | <p>During the night several flares were seen (green and white) coming from the area of LOMM 9017 and shortly afterwards a two stroke motor was heard in the same area. Fd Arty and MMG fire was immediately put down in the area and the noises stopped and nothing further happened. In the early morning two Dutch civilians crossed the MAAS in the GRUBBENVORST area. They had been ferried across by canoe, and unfortunately another five has been caught by the enemy on the East bank before they had time to get across. They could only produce rather vague information which included the fact that there were mines in HASSELT, just East of the perimeter wire. They also stated that the enemy were evacuating all civilians within a mile or so of the MAAS on the same day. The Bde harassing fire plan started today. Enemy mortar and gun positions were engaged during the morning and enemy movement and dugouts during the afternoon. There was less shelling and mortaring than usual. OPs saw continuous enemy movement in VELDEN throughout the day. A RAP and a suspected HQ were located respectively at 908146 and 908143. Some enemy</p> | |

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| | | on the front were wearing snow camouflage suits, others were seen carrying them about. Suspected stand to positions in trenches were observed being occupied at dusk by five enemy at 908146. During the night movement of vehicles was again heard in VELDEN. OP Instr No.1 under Appx 'C'. | |
| | 15 | A very quiet day with very little enemy shelling indeed. During the day 4.2" mortars engaged LOMM and area of wood and track junction 915187, otherwise there was nothing of interest. | |
| | 16 | Another quiet day, with the enemy showing no signs of feeling the slightest bit aggressive. 33rd Fd Regt, 3" Mortars and MMGs engaged suspected Admin areas during the day which included positions at 911166 and 912152 and areas 911152, 911159 and track junction 912157. There was no appreciable reaction to this except for a slight increase in shelling at 8915 in the afternoon and evening. At 2100 one enemy aircraft flying North East dropped 3 red flares over the Bn area, otherwise a quiet night. An Offrs' Day was held in the morning. Programme under Appx 'D'. | |
| | 17 | During the morning 2 RUR relieved 2 Lincolns on our Left. During the day RA engaged enemy mortars at 9217 and 9216 and targets in LOMM and 9115. Poor visibility restricted vision of OPs who saw only occasional movement at 9014, 9016 and 9017. In the evening one 88mm gun fired from VELDEN area, and some slight vehicle movement seen and heard at 9015. | |
| | 18 | A quiet night. Occasional movement seen at 9014 otherwise very still. Enemy mortars from 914178 and 927178 were again active, and were duly engaged by our Arty. RA also engaged movement and truck seen at 920155. Shortly after 2000 hrs a demonstration was staged in the deception area 8915, which included firing of weapons and very lights and a bogus DF Task. No reaction was reported. At 1900 hrs RA engaged dugouts on East bank of River MEUSE, in rotation but there was no reaction. | |
| | 19 | A peaceful night followed by a quiet day. An Officers' Period was held in the morning from 1000 hrs to 1300 hrs; programme under Appx 'E'. During the day OPs saw considerable movement at 9015, 9116 and houses occupied at 9014, 9117, 9118. In the morning at 0930 the RA laid a smoke screen from 908154 to 909149 for half an hour. At 1000 hrs a fair amount of individual movement was seen in HASSELT and LOMM as if the enemy were manning stand to positions. At 1015 hrs enemy Arty started firing mostly into 'EDINBURGH', the Coy deception area at 892155, on "C" Coy fwd pl at 891165, and in the HOUTHUIZEN 8917 area. When the enemy started moving in HASSELT and LOMM the 3" Mortars shot them up, and the RA engaged retaliatory targets, when enemy guns opened up. At 1400 hrs one detachment of A.Tk shot at LOMM Church and observed two hits. This caused a certain amount of enemy mortar fire in the | |

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| | | | HOUTHUIZEN area. | |
| | 20 | | <p>A quiet night. As before vehicle movement was heard in the VELDEN area at 0400, and earlier one heavy tracked vehicle was heard moving N.E. from LOMM.</p> <p>During the day movement was seen at 9015, 9016 and one enemy section moving from barn to trenches at 9117. Little enemy Arty and mortar fire during the day.</p> | |
| | 21 | | <p>Another quiet cold night. One patrol located enemy riflemen firing from 904172. The enemy shelled the Coy deception area 'EDINBURGH' during the morning, and at 1400 hrs there was a fair amount of enemy mortar fire. A fix was obtained by Coy bearings at 932170 and engaged by one Bty RA. The mortaring ceased, otherwise a quiet and unexciting day.</p> | |
| | 22 | | <p>Uneventful night. At 1530 the 2 RUR on the left discovered tracks of a small party of enemy near the railway, from civilian reports. Eventually 2 white ration bags and a loaf of bread were discovered near a haystack, which looked as if it had been slept in. The track led from the river at 902158 30 yards to the North of Bn HQ and up the railway. No return tracks were found. During the afternoon the advance party of Ox & Bucks L.I. of the 6th Airlanding Bde arrived. At 2015 Sgt Ferguson took a patrol and followed the tracks down to the river, where they lay for about ten minutes, but could hear no noise. While returning by the same route, the patrol had reached 893166, when through "C" Coy fwd pl at KALDENBROEK came three men, answering the challenge with a few words of English. The patrol at once went to KALDENBROEK and eventually discovered that none of our patrols were anywhere near "C" Coy at the time, so they chased these men and followed them down to the river bank where there were marks of boats. About an hour later an enemy patrol 20 strong attacked KALDENBROEK with panzerfausts, schmeissers and grenades but were driven off, having at least two of their number wounded, one of whom was dragged back with them screaming. The other wounded man was captured and among other things disclosed his regt (1226) his coy positions and other useful information.</p> <p>Again movement of tpt was heard in the VELDEN area. In daylight OPs saw movement 9015, 9017, 9117.</p> | |
| | 23 | | <p>All woods in the Bn area were searched without result. There was some shelling during the day in 'EDINBURGH'. OPs saw movement at 9015, 9016, 9116, 9117 and large truck in trees at 913161. Patrols at night heard movement of transport in HASSELT - VELDEN area. Patrol at 904182 saw a patrol of approximately 40 Germans in the area 905181 moving North. Arty engaged enemy and RUR Patrol did not contact enemy. Very little shelling in Bn area but some mortaring during the day.</p> | |
| | 24 | | A very quiet day. During the afternoon the Army and Corps Commanders, | |

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| | | General Dempsey and General Barker came into GRUBBENVORST to look South East across the river from the OPs. Less movement than usual was seen from OPs and only at 9117. Just after dark some persons were seen between the Mortar Pl and "B" Coy. They were thought at the time to be enemy, but no trace of them could be found, otherwise a quiet night. During the afternoon 2 Lincolns moved into the area to the North of 2 RUR in place of 2 WARWICKS. | |
| | 25 | The hand-over to 2 Ox & Bucks of 6 Airlanding Bde started at first light and was completed by 1600 hrs. The Bn moved into the HORST 8318 - HEGELSOM area. Dispositions as follows :- Bn HQ 822169, "A" Coy 830180, "B" Coy 835181, "C" Coy 825164, "D" Coy 821158, "S" Coy 823168. A training directive, dated 18 Jan will be found under Appx 'F'. This provided for cleaning up and checking of kit on the 26th and 27th. This included an organised training programme for Coys till 2 Feb which also included a junior NCOs' Cadre under Capt LW McKay and 2/Lt G Batey. | |
| | 26 | Major General Galloway, Acting Div Commander in the absence of Major General LG Whistler, visited the Bn during the afternoon and stayed for tea. The Pipe Band beat retreat at 1530 hrs. A large allotment of seats at Entertainments in HORST. | |
| | 27 | Cleaning and checking of kit and stores. The NCOs' Cadre started. Programme under Appx 'G'. Operation Order No.3 which is for our counter attack role while in HEGELSOM area, was issued and can be found under Appx 'H'. | |
| | 28 | Separate Services for different denominations in the Church Hall. The Corps Comd, Lieut General Barker paid the Bn a visit, was introduced to Coy Comds and stayed to lunch. | |
| | 29 | An Officers' Day was held being a TEWT on our counter attack role, in the RUR area at 9020. Capt Sturrocks of 3/4 CLY attended as an advisor on the question of cooperation with tanks. Programme will be found under Appx 'J'. | |
| | 30 | Entertainments as usual. Training by Coys as usual. "C" Coy held a Dance. | |
| | 31 | A definite thaw making roads practically impassable. A large allotment of Entertainments as usual. "D" Coy held a Dance in HEGELSOM. Casualties during the month numbered :- <div style="text-align: center;"> Killed Officers Nil Other Ranks One Wounded Officers One Other Ranks Six </div> | |

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this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Feb 1945

Commanding Officer _____

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|--|--------------------------|
| | 1 | | Still training. Coy training as usual. Entertainments as usual. | |
| | 2 | | Demonstration and lecture on 17 pounder Gun mounted on Valentine Chassis. Otherwise nothing of interest to report. | |
| | 3 | | Coys on boating practice. Lt Walker to lead a patrol across the MAAS to recce enemy defences in area 904150. | |
| | 4 | | Trg and entertainments as usual. 2 Lincs sent a patrol across the MAAS in the ARCEN area, which came back having encountered no enemy. The RUR captured two prisoners who were wounded in a minefield. Lt Walker was wounded while making a recce for the patrol. | |
| | 5 | | Preparations were made for the unexpected move to the LOUVAIN area. The advance party under the 2IC left at mid-day. Movement Order No.2 was issued and can be found under Appx 'A'. The cross river patrol led by L/Sgt Scott of "O" Coy crossed the river, but on coming back drifted a long way down stream and so lay up in the WEST bank till daylight, when they found that they were in the RUR sector. Account of this patrol may be found under Appx 'B'. | |
| | 6 | | The Bn moved in MT to the LOUVAIN area, starting at 0600 hrs. The Route was as follows:- HORST - VENRAY - DEURNE - HELMOND - EINDHOVEN - HECHTEL - BOURG LEOPOLD - DIEST - LOUVAIN. The Bn area was in HERENT just NORTH of LOUVAIN. The wheeled vehicles arrived at about 1600 hrs and the tracked vehicles from 2000 hrs onwards. Locations were as follows: Bn HQ 848606, "A" Coy 845608, "B" Coy 843610, "C" Coy 849610, "D" Coy 839610, and 'A' and 'B' Echelons at 818637. The whole Bn was in civilian billets. | |
| | 7 | | All day was spent in cleaning up kit and equipment and settling into billets. Everyone appreciated very much the welcome given us by the inhabitants and the comfort and luxury of the billets. | |
| | 8 | | All day spent in checking G1098 equipment. Training Directive No.3 will be found under Appx 'C' and instruction on Ex 'BAGPIPE' under Appx 'D'. A flying bomb was blown up by AA fire during the morning. | |
| | 9 | | Coy training started with individual and later section training. | |

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| | 10 | | Instruction on training areas and Range will be found under Appx 'E'. Coy training as per programme. Entertainments in DIEST and LOUVAIN. | |
| | 11 | | River crossing. Notes will be found under APPX 'F'. Church parade in HERENT at 1030 hrs. | |
| | 12 | | Officers Day held from 1000 hrs to 1800 hrs on Bn Assault river crossing. Snipers trg programme will be found under Appx 'G'. | |
| | 13 | | Trg by Coys as per programme. The Pipe Band beat Retreat at 1600 hrs. | |
| | 14 | | Trg as per programme. | |
| | 15 | | Ex 'Bagpipe' performed by "A" & "B" Coys in the HAECHT area at 8269. | |
| | 16 | | Ex 'Bagpipe' carried out by "C" & "D" Coys. "HQ" Coy held a dance in the local Hall. | |
| | 17 | | Trg as usual. Capt (QM) Lymers came to the Bn as QM. Capt JW Lewin having broken his leg while proceeding on leave to the UK. Night river crossing exercise by "A" & "B" Coys. | |
| | 18 | | Rev WIG Wilson took the Church Service in the morning having come to the Bn for the weekend. | |
| | 19 | | Officers Study Day No9 (Details under Appx 'H') was held in the morning in the form of a Treasure Hunt which was won by "A" Coy. Night river crossing exercise done by "C" & "D" Coys. | |
| | 20 | | Coy training as usual. A dance was held by "A" & "B" Coys in the local hall. A Bde Int Day was held for 'I' personnel in the Bde at Bde HQ. | |
| | 21 | | Nothing of interest to report. Coy training as usual. | |
| | 22 | | "C" & "D" Coys held a joint dance in the local hall, otherwise nothing to report. CO returned from leave in the UK. Publication of 1/K.O.S.B. Movement Order No.3 (Details under Appx 'J'). | |
| | 23 | | Rev ES Easton left us and the Rev WIG Wilson returned to us. The 'R' group left for 15 (S) Div HQ in the GOCH area at 2400 hrs arriving at a point just north of GOCH at 0900 hrs to meet the Bde Comd. Publication of Movement Order No.4 - 1/K.O.S.B. (Details under Appx 'K'). | |
| | 24 | | The Bn 'O' Group left for the GOCH area at 0200 hrs, arriving at HEIDHAUSEN 944445 at about mid-day. The plan was to take over posns from 10 HLI of 15(5) Div as soon as the Bn arrived. The 2IC arrived with the Bn at 1730 hrs and take over was completed by 2330 hrs. Posns were as follows :- HQ 944445, "A" Coy 951432, "B" Coy 949436, "C" Coy 953435, "D" Coy 949439. | |
| | 25 | | A fairly quiet day. "C" Coy were in rather an exposed posn and were subjected to a certain amount of mortar fire during the day. Lt Simpson of "B" Coy took out a fighting patrol to the farm at 959431 and inflicted several casualties on the enemy in the ensuing battle. "D" Coy sent out a recce patrol to HERRINGSCHENHOF 963430, which was found | |

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| | | | to be unoccupied. | |
| | 26 | | <p>A little mortaring and shelling of the fwd coys and in the woods on our right. The attack of the 4 Armd Bde which was to have taken place at 1400 hrs through our posns finally went in at 1800 hrs and shortly afterwards PW started coming in.</p> <p>By first light they had captured and occupied STEIN 968416.</p> | |
| | 27 | | <p>9 Bde was ordered to attack and secure the line of the WEEZE-UDEM RD between 965403 and the bridge at 974409. The operation was carried out in 2 phases and coincided with the similar operations of 8 Bde on our left flank. Phase I 2 Lincolns cleared and captured wood at 960418, with a dawn attack and were on their final objective by 0830 hrs. Phase II on the right 1 KOSB and on the left 2 RUR were to clear and capture woods at final objective and if possible secure bridge and buildings at 973398. The Bn cleared the woods and was astride the road at 1345 hrs having advanced directly behind the barrage and captured 4 Officers and 180 ORs. The Bn was supported by 2 Tps of Churchill tanks of the Scots Guards. An attack on the buildings and bridge at 973398 failed owing to an SP gun which knocked out two tanks, and heavy MG fire from the objective. During the whole day there was intermittent heavy mortar harassing fire at various points. The Bn suffered few casualties considering the opposition. The PW belonged to II and III Bn 7 Para Regt for the most part. The 8 Bde on our right had been held up by enemy in the woods at 959403 so our right flank was open. The enemy did not counter attack and we spent a quiet night. Dispositions were as follows :- HQ at 966404, "A" Coy 968402, "B" Coy 965404, "C" Coy 967405, "D" Coy 972402.</p> | |
| | 28 | | <p>In the early morning 8 Bde cleared the remainder of the wood on our right thus closing our right flank. During the afternoon 185 Bde passed through and secured a foot hold over the Muhlen Fleuth in the area 970390 and the approaches to KERVENHEIM. At about 1700 hrs the 2 Lincolns under command 185 Bde passed through and attacked KERVENHEIM and eventually managed to penetrate nearly halfway into the town.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Casualties Killed :- Nil and 8 Wounded:- 4 and 48 Missing:- Nil and 1 </p> <p>Under Appx 'L' will be found a detailed report on Operation "HEATHER".</p> | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1st Bn K.O.S.B.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year March 1945.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. W.F.R. Turner

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------|------|------|---|--------------------------|
| Field. | 1 | | In the early hours of the morning the enemy pulled out of KERVENHEIM and later on 2 LINCOLNS secured the remainder of the town. Otherwise a quiet day. | |
| | 2 | | In the morning 9 Bde started an attack from the area 975386 with WINNEKENDONK as the final objective. The Bn crossed the start line - the road SOUTH WEST from RENNINGSHOF 978387 - at 0715 and by 1000 hrs the leading coys were on the final objective - on the Right A Coy in area of REYSHOF 979371, and on the Left B Coy at 984379. Shortly afterwards 2 RUR passed through and by 1400 hrs had secured their objective of the main road running NORTH-SOUTH in the area 993364. At about 1600 hrs the Bn passed through 2 RUR in Kangaroos and had cleared the wood up to the Southernmost edge at 002354 by 1700 hrs with no opposition except for a certain amount of mortar and shell fire. The Comd Offr went forward to plan for the attack on BRUCH and RAHMEHOF in area 3360. The attack was laid on for 1830 hrs with one Sqn of Churchill tanks, but had to be postponed as 2 LINCOLNS had arranged all the arty support for their attack on WINNEKENDONK. The enemy must have seen some of the forward troops on the edge of the wood and heard the tanks as he shelled and mortared the SOUTHERN half of the wood fairly heavily till dusk. The tanks and Kangaroos withdrew to the NORTH of the wood. At 2115 a concentration was laid on BRUCH and RAHMEHOF, and A and B Coys moved up to the forward edge of the wood taking over C and D Coys positions. At 2130 C and D Coys attacked RAHMEHOF and BRUCH respectively and in silence. Both coys achieved total surprise and captured several prisoners. In the morning the positions were visited by several enemy who were unaware of the situation. The 2 LINCOLNS having captured and consolidated WINNEKENDONK during the night, an armoured div was due to pass through and break through to the RHINE. At about 1000 hrs the Bn changed dispositions, which were then as follows:- HQ 001367, A Coy 008362, B Coy 007359, C Coy 004351, D Coy 002350 and the RAP remained where it had been throughout the battle, at 991367. Civilians encountered were all farmer type and interested in | |

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| | | | nothing much else. During the morning the RUR passed through WINNEKENDONK and took up position in the woods to the SOUTH. | |
| Field. | 4 | | The day was spent in cleaning up and recuperating after the battle, and everyone was very glad of the rest. The civilians were confined to one part of the houses occupied by the troops, and gave little trouble. | |
| | 5 | | A Coy and B Coy were given the job of guarding at bridges in their areas against possible saboteurs. A quiet day. | |
| | 6 | | Another quiet day much appreciated. | |
| | 7 | | Nothing to report. | |
| | 8 | | Conference at Bde HQ on lessons learned from operation "HEATHER." | |
| | 9 | | At 1000 hrs a discussion was held for all officers of the Bn on lessons learned from operation "HEATHER." The Army Kinema Service showed some films in a barn in A Coy area. The Bn was told to be at 24 hrs notice to move. Points raised at the above discussion may be found under Appx "A". | Appx 'A' |
| | 10 | | A Bde Comd's 'O' Gp was held at Bde HQ. We were to take over a sector of the River RHINE from a troop of the 43rd Recce Regt. Our role was primarily to stop the enemy from even setting foot on this side of the River, and secondly but none the less important, the job of providing as much information as possible about the troops on the opposite bank, their dispositions and particularly their defences and any obstacles which they had erected. | |
| | 11 | | The recce party set off for the area of APPELDORN. This party consisted of the CO's 'R' Group and Pl Sjts who reced their Coy areas, which all contained a number of comparatively undamaged houses. The party spent the night in what was to be Bn HQ at 059491. | Movement Order No 4 under Appx 'B' |
| | 12 | | The Bn arrived shortly aver 0830 hrs and by 1030 hrs was completely established in positions as follows:- Bn HQ at 059491, A Coy HUSEN 086501, B Coy 072505, C Coy 075503, D Coy in reserve at 065487. One platoon from B Coy was in position at REESERSCHANZ 074513 during the day and the position was occupied by the whole Coy at night. OPs were established at various points covering the whole front. During the afternoon enemy movement was seen in the area of van WILLICHSHOF 095511. | |
| Field. | 13 | | OPs saw movement mostly at 1050 and 0951. A considerable amount of civilian movement was also seen round the farms on the EAST bank of the river. One section of German soldiers were seen at 094513 and engaged by 33 Fd Regt and also by 3 inch mortars. The steam tram was seen in the area of HALDERN 1153. The enemy were seen to be occupying positions in REES itself and also constructing positions both EAST and WEST of the town near the river bank. During the day a number of RE officers, and a few high ranking officers visited the OPs and looked across the | |

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| | | river. | |
| | 14 | There was a thick mist all day which restricted visibility to less than 100 yards, except for short intervals at midday when the right bank of the river could be seen. Individuals, probably civilians, were seen on the road from REES to HAFFEN 1149. Otherwise there was nothing of interest. | |
| | 15 | The Carrier Pl position in the Farms at 087493 was taken over by B Coy 2 LINCOLNS who came under command. Visibility was restricted during the day owing to smoke which was drifting across our front from the NORTH-WEST, but in the afternoon it was bright and clear and considerable movement was seen. Movement in the WEST edge of REES suggested a platoon position with its forward position along the BUND 200 yards from the edge of the river and extending EAST into REES and NORTH to the embankment at 072523. Civilians were seen in STEPENHOF 095501, but it is a suspected enemy section position. Otherwise slight movement in ESSERDEN 0653 and on the REES-HAFFEN road. | |
| | 16 | Visibility nil all day owing to continuous thick smoke screen, making it very unpleasant in the forward coy areas. Two secret agents came across the river and were brought in by C Coy. | |
| | 17 | At 0740 hrs ME 109 flew up the River at tree top height. The enemy seemed anxious to know what was going on on the left bank of the river. During the night the Pl at 075514 saw a small boat in the river at 075516 going down-stream, and about an hour afterwards two figures were challenged approaching along the bank from the WEST, who made off again without a word. Otherwise a quiet night. | |
| Field. | 18 | In the morning all buildings in the Bn area were searched, but no enemy were found. A recce was made to accommodate the whole Bn in NDR MORMTER area. Excellent visibility produced good results from the OPs, and considerable movement was seen on the whole front, especially in the ESSERDEN area. At 1610 hrs a party of about 80 enemy were seen approaching ESSERDEN from the SOUTH and were engaged by 33 Fd Regt with good results. The enemy tried to lay a smoke screen, which only brought another concentration down on top of him. Altogether 200 rounds were fired into the ESSERDEN area during the day. The enemy were still building a strong-point position in the ESSERDEN end of REES round a brick tower, which had already been observed as a MG position. Just before dark a light track vehicle was seen moving from a house at 066528 and engaged - unfortunately results could not be observed. Lt Col R.C. Macdonald, DSO, left us to command 2 R. WARWICK Regt in 185 Bde. Lt Col W.F.R. Turner, formerly commanding 5th Bn The KOSB took over command. B Coy was relieved by D Coy. The Pl at 075503 had a clash with a patrol of five enemy, who made off | |

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| | | | when fired on. Nothing further was heard of them. | |
| | 19 | | <p>The Bn moved to the forward positions in NDR MORMTER. Bn HQ to 069504, and Coys to 068512, 075514 and 082508 at night. Owing to future operations it was essential to stop any enemy coming across the river, and standing patrols 200 yards apart lined the bank of the river at night.</p> <p>Smoke was laid and visibility was nil. During the night 4 enemy were found lying up in a haystack. They had been there over 24 hours and were getting ready to re-cross the river. Identification was of 3 Coy 7 Para Eng Bn. This was the first identification of 7 Para Div.</p> | |
| Field. | 20 | | <p>Visibility was restricted owing to slight fog and smoke drifting from some distance away to the NW. However, enemy movement was seen at 069521, 072521, 070524, mostly being odd soldiers walking about. At night vehicle movement was heard in REES from 2000 hrs to 0430 hrs. During the night the 2 LINCOLNS captured 11 Prisoners, whose identification confirmed the presence of 7 Para Div in the area.</p> | |
| | 21 | | <p>Concentrated smoke was emitted all day in the Bn area, causing considerable discomfort to the forward coys, and cutting out all observation from OPs. During the night 2 RUR captured two PW and killed one other as they were attempting to land from a boat. The interrogation confirmed 7 Para Div as being in the REES area. Slight enemy arty activity.</p> | |
| | 22 | | <p>Again smoke was laid and visibility was nil. A slight increase in enemy arty activity.</p> | |
| | 23 | | <p>During the previous few days a large number of Fd, Med and Heavy Regts had moved into the sector. H hour for operation "PLUNDER", which was the crossing of the RHINE and the breakthrough into Central GERMANY, was 2100 hrs. The CB programme was fired from 1900 to 2000 hrs. The answering fire was light. At 2000 the 51 (H) Div passed through us, crossing the RHINE at 2030 hrs in buffaloes and amphibious craft, aided by searchlights on General Grant tanks, and with a terrific barrage. There was a little shelling and some mortaring on the forward coys and especially on the Ferry House 075514, and an enemy aircraft dropped three bombs in that area at 2245 hrs.</p> | |
| Field. | 24 | | <p>In the early morning there was considerable mortar and spandau fire in the area 0751 and two bombs were dropped in that area by enemy aircraft at 0600 hrs.</p> <p>The glider-borne troops passed over the Bn area shortly after 1015 hrs. During the day there was occasional shelling in the Ferry House area. Owing to an enemy strong point holding out in the WESTERN end of REES a bridge could not be built from the Ferry House to the town, but one Cl 15 bridge was built 500 yards further WEST. The Bn occupied day</p> | |

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| | | | positions permanently except for a D Coy Pl at the Ferry House. There was MG fire from the strong point in REES during the night. | |
| | 25 | | Task of the Bn to protect RHINE crossings in case of serious threat. Nothing of interest to report. | |
| | 26. | | A quiet day with nothing to report. | |
| | 27 | | At 1700 hrs the Bn crossed the River at REES over LONDON Bridge (Cl 40) and concentrated in the area EAST of REES and NORTH of the ALTER RHINE. Dispositions as follows:- Bn HQ 095524 and Coys at 095523, 099525, 100522 and 100524. A quiet night. | |
| | 28 | | Preparation for the attack on HALDERN. Patrols were sent out at midday and found HALDERN unoccupied. The Bn moved at 1600 hrs and was settled in the "F" Echelon transport by 1900 hrs. The 2 LINCOLNS passed through. Orders were given at 2100 hrs for the move forward to capture WERTH 1558. | |
| | 29 | | At 0100 hrs the Bn set off with a Pl of 253 Fd Coy RE moving in front of B Coy, the advance guard, clearing the mines. The Bn reached WERTH 1558 at 0400 hrs and was complete by 0530 hrs. Capt MacKay of "A" Coy was wounded by a trip wire mechanism. The civilians were a surly and hostile crowd. 7 PW were captured during the day, all stragglers of odd units sleeping in barns. Orders were given out at 1900 hrs for the Bn to carry out Phase III of the Bde attack and capture the bridge at 182628. | |
| Field. | 30 | | The Bn did the attack as planned and found that the enemy had gone. The Bn formed up with positions as follows:- Bn HQ at 183631 and Coys at 178635, 178628, 188631 and 185635. The Guards Armd Division passed through the forward Coys shortly after 0900 hrs. By 1130 hrs the route was opened and the transport came up under Capt Pullman, OC HQ Coy. While waiting for a bridge to be built Capt Palmer of 33 Fd Regt blew himself up by treading on a schu mine. The Bn settled down to rest and refitting. | |
| | 31 | | A quiet day. The Bn task was to protect the L of C of the Guards Armd Div. Casualties were:- Killed Nil and 8 Wounded 4 and 34 of which 3 and 5 have since rejoined. | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1st Bn K.O.S.B.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year April 1945.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. W.F.R. Turner

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------|------|------|--|--------------------------|
| Field. | 1 | | Another day of rest. Easter Sunday was celebrated with a Church Parade for all denominations at 1030 hrs and then a march past with the Pipe Band in attendance. Brigadier G.D. Renny took the salute. There were Holy Communion Services at 1130 hrs and 1200 hrs for members of the Church of Scotland and the Church of England respectively. In the afternoon Brigadier G.D. Renny came to say goodbye to the Bn before going to take over 156 Bde in 52nd Division. Brigadier J.S. Kempster came as our Brigadier. | |
| | 2 | | During the morning preparations were made for the move in our role as L of C protection for 30 Corps. At 1400 hrs advance parties left for GROENLO in HOLLAND. The Bn left with the Bde convoy at 2100 hrs arriving some two hours later. The Bn task was to protect the exits from GROENLO to the NORTH which was done with three companies forward and one company in reserve. It was a peaceful though damp night. | |
| | 3 | | A quiet morning. At 1200 hrs advance parties left for ENSCHEDE, where we took over the NORTHERN exits of the town, with the 2 RUR on the Right. The Bn arrived shortly after 1800 hrs and was settled in by last light in the positions left by 2 R. WARWICK Regt. A quiet and peaceful night. | |
| | 4 | | At 0630 hrs advance parties left for the area between LINGEN and NORDHORN. The Bn left soon after 0900 hrs, arriving in the concentration area at 1300 hrs. Positions were as follows - Bn HQ 621345, Coys at 623344, 622343, 629345 and 642345. Meanwhile 185 Bde had put in a dawn attack across the DORTMUND - EMS Canal and were fighting the GROSSDEUTSCHELAND SS Bn in LINGEN. Just after midnight the 2 LINCOLNS were directed through the 185 Bde to help to firm up the bridgehead and progress was extremely slow and difficult in the dark. | |
| Field. | 5 | | A plan was made during the morning for 2/Lincs to close up to the line of the railway at 717355 and for us to pass through and hold the Southern approaches to the town. Accordingly by 1230 hrs the Bn was concentrated in the area 712370 and the attack started at 1500 hrs. Few | |

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| | | enemy were encountered and there was spasmodic shelling. Ten P.W. were taken and one Officer P.W. wounded on a patrol. Final positions were Bn HQ 714358 and Coys at 714347, 717347, 723347, 717353. During the afternoon a patrol of "B" Coy went out on carriers down main road to 714358 where they were effectively halted by S.A. and Mortar fire. One P.W. was brought in during the night. All P.W. taken knew nothing of what was really happening and a large percentage of them were under 20 years old. | |
| | 6. | A carrier patrol went down the line of the canal towards the railway bridge but were finally stopped by MG and Mortar fire from the farm at 715344. During the afternoon "B" Coy moved down to 719345 which had been found empty by patrols in the morning. They were withdrawn at 1800 hrs as an Arty fire plan was to be executed on the wood just to the East. At 1900 hrs the Bn was relieved by one Bn 185 Bde and moved to concentration area 715356. At 2100 hrs after Arty barrage the Bn moved down and occupied the position PEACH in area 6924 astride main road. | |
| | 7. | At first light the 2/Lincolns passed through and occupied the area, then the R.U.R. went through and captured the proposed canal and the high ground immediately SOUTH of it. During the afternoon the Bn went through on tanks and armd carriers but were held up by 37m.m. A.A. fire from ESTRINGEN. One carrier of the Advanced Guard was damaged but the crew got back. "A" Coy attempted to attack but were unsuccessful. MAJOR F. HOLDEN and several O.R.s were wounded. A Bn attack was laid on with fire support and went in about 1800 hrs, and was immediately successful. The Bn took 6 (six) Offrs and 118 (One Hundred and Eighteen) O.Rs. P.W. and captured at least 10 (Ten) and possibly as many as 15 (Fifteen) enemy 37 m.m. A.A. Guns intact, a FLAK COY practically complete. "B" Coy sent patrols as far as 746296. At 2000 hrs the 2nd Lincolns moved in and occupied ESTRINGEN and the Bn went to ROTTUM protecting the left flank. Patrols during the night went as far as the main road. | |
| | 8 | The Div came under command 1st Corps, the Bn moved from the LINGEN area at about 2130 hrs in TCVs and travelled at night to an area NORTH of OSNABRUCK. | |
| | 9 | Most of the Bn had arrived in the area WERBLECK 648 by 1036 hrs except for the bulk of "S" Coy. At 1300 hrs tactical recce parties went to HEILEGENLO and found it unoccupied. The Bn arrived at 1630 hrs and settled in as follows :- HQ at 550644 and Coys at 553643, 549641, 548647, 547642. About 20 enemy shells fell during the afternoon but otherwise it was peaceful. The electricity, telephones and water were still in working order. | |
| | 10 | A quiet morning. At mid-day the Bn moved hurriedly to the TWISTRINGEN | |

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| | | | area. The task was to protect the left flank of 12th Corps. | |
| | 11 | | A quiet day with nothing of interest to report. "B" Coy came under command of 8th Bde and held the rd junc at RECKUM. | |
| Field | 12 | | The morning was spent preparing for the move. At 1600 hrs the Bn left TWISTRINGEN in TCVs. Arriving in WILDESHAUSEN at about 1900 hrs. The enemy shelled the rd leading into the town just as the Bn tpt was beginning to come out of the wood at 485775 so the tpt was led into the town in blobs just as it got dark. The Bn took over from the 1/S. Lancs R. with posns as follows :- Bn HQ at 477784, "A" Coy 469781, "B" Coy 474783, "C" Coy 477786, "D" Coy 470784. There was an intermittent shelling throughout the night, especially in the centre of the town. | |
| | 13 | | During the morning there was intermittent shelling of the town and several O.Rs were wounded. At 1020 hrs the enemy launched a counter attack down the line of the rly from 472793 and from 467784 simultaneously on "D" Coy in posn in the sta area. Fd Arty followed by Med Arty dispersed the attack from the WEST before it had time to form up properly. The attack down the rly was shelled by Fd Arty and smoke was fired at fairly close range. 3 P.W. captured came from 7/2/115 P.G.R. and from their statements, enemy casualties were at least 1 Offr ORs killed and 3 wounded. The remainder of the enemy withdrew in some confusion and at great speed, harassed by Fd and Med Arty fire. During the afternoon the town was bombed by Spitfires as far as we could see, killing 1 and wounding 4 ORs and writing off 1 Carrier. During the afternoon "C" Coy cleared the houses in the area 480788, inflicting several casualties on the enemy. | |
| | 14 | | A quiet morning. At 1200 hrs the CO and Recce parties of the 5/7 GORDONS of 51st Div came to prepare to relieve us. The relief was complete by 1800 hrs and the Bn concentrated in the area SOUTH of HAPSTEDT as follows :- Bn HQ 564756, "A" Coy 558755, "B" Coy 563771, "C" Coy 566752, "D" Coy 563753, "S" Coy 572767. A quiet night. | |
| Field | 15 | | A peaceful day. 27 reinforcements arrived and were posted to Coys after being inspected by the C.O. | |
| | 16 | | Another peaceful day, preparations for the move. | |
| | 17 | | The Bn moved via BARRIEN 7383 and relieved the 1st Bn SUFFOLKS with posns as follows:- Bn H.Q. 687886, "A" Coy 684893, "B" Coy 682895, "C" Coy 688897, "D" Coy 694895. Patrols during the afternoon by "B" Coy established that the enemy were covering a rd block at 680897. The enemy were thought to be in Coy strength from the rd block to X rds at 675707. At night Lt SIMPSON and Sgt DORIS both attempted to oust the enemy from their posns round houses in the area WEST and EAST of the block respectively but without success. | |
| | 18 | | Just before first light Lt WEST and patrol managed to remove about two | |

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| | | | thirds of the block but had to withdraw when light came. At 0600 hrs the 2/LINCS attack started, but they were held up by the enemy covering the rd block for about two hrs. Eventually they captured STUHR 6872 in the evening. | |
| | 19 | | The 2/R.U.R. passed through 2/LINCS and attacked at 0600 hr eventually securing their objectives at 6692 by 1200 hrs. At mid-day the Bn moved up to the R.U.R. area, and at 16 0 hrs the attack started with "C" Coy and 1 Tp of Tanks from 661943 to 6 8946 then NORTH EAST into MITTELSHUCHTING 6695. "A" Coy and 1 Tp of Tanks followed "C" Coy intending to follow a parallel route from 655949 to 659959, but owing to the enemy disposns along the line of the stream, the Coy followed the track up the side of the stream. The enemy were not numerous but house and garden had to be searched and cleared, which proved to be slow work. There was intermittent shelling by enemy guns. Shortly after 2000 hrs. "C" Coy reached their final objective at 665964 and "D" Coy following "C" Coy route occupied the rd jct at 661959. Meanwhile "A" Coy after some slow but productive work on the left reached 653959 by last light and formed up there for the night. Bn H.Q. and "B" Coy then moved to the area 661953. The total of P.W.s till last light was 3 Offrs and 70 O.R.s. During the night a further 30 P.W.s were brought in. "A" Coy patrol had a lively time during the night disturbing the enemy with grenades. | |
| | 20 | | At first light "A" Coy moved forward and occupied the rd jct at 654962 with only light opposition. At about 0600 hrs "B" Coy moved up through "D" Coy and captured the rd and rail crossing at 660966 after some sharp fighting, taking some 20 p.w.s. Final posns were:- Bn H.Q. 661959, "A" Coy 654962, "B" Coy 660966, "C" Coy 665964, "D" Coy 661963. At 1000 hrs the 2/LINCS launched an attack on KIRCHHUCHTING 6795 from the area 667942. The Bn supporting arms carried out a diversionary fire plan for the attack. The remainder of the day was quiet and uneventful. | |
| | 21 | | A quiet morning. During the afternoon the 1st B.W. of 51(H) DIV took over from us. The relief was completed by 1830 hrs and the Bn moved to the area SYKE 7380 with posns as follows:- Bn H.Q. 736806, "A" Coy 729805, "B" Coy 736803, "C" Coy 728805, "D" Coy 736801. A quiet restful place. | |
| | 22 | | A peaceful day. A Sunday Service for C of E and Pres was held in the local church at 1030 hrs. The Pipe Band beat "Retreat" at 1730 hrs. The guests included the Div Comdr GEN L.G. WHISTLER C.B. D.S.O. and the Bde Comdr BRIG KEMPSTER and other friends of the Bn. | |
| Field | 23 | | Preparations for the coming operation which was the capturing of the SOUTH WESTERN half of BREMEN. Otherwise a quiet day. | |
| | 24 | | Further preparations in the morning and afternoon. The Bn moved to a | |

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| | | | fwd Assembly Area in the area 706885 at 1830 hrs. The operation was to begin at midnight. | |
| Field | 25 | | <p>At 0001 hrs the 2/R.U.R. in Buffaloes assaulted KATTENTURM 7293 from the EAST capturing the bridge at 721935 intact, destroying 1 88m.m. gun and taking a number of P.W. The Bn moved from the fwd Assembly Area at 0715 moving through BRINKUM 7091 and over the bridge at KATTENTURM at 0830 hrs. The attack was postponed for 15 mins and eventually started at 0915 hrs with "B" Coy left and "D" Coy right from 723943 with the main rd running NORTH EAST as the inter-Coy boundary. There was no opposition to the two leading Coys and they reached their objectives, "D" Coy at 727952 and "B" Coy at 728954 shortly after 1000 hrs. Then "A" Coy right and "C" Coy left passed through and at 1045 hrs had secured their objectives, "A" Coy at 729957 and "C" Coy at 727958. All Coys had taken P.W. and the total up to 1100 hrs was 1 Offr and 41 O.R.s. all from different units and different arms. Bn H.Q. was established at 727954. Patrols at once went out and reached the Barracks 730960 but found no enemy. A Camp of several thousand Russian P.W. was found at 729956, and several more P.W. were brought in. At 1200 hrs the 2/LINCS went through to capture the FOCKER-WOLFE aircraft factory and the airfield 7095, which had been subjected to seven hours of heavy arty fire, as well as bombing and rocketting by Typhoons. At 1800 hrs the Bn was ordered to capture the X rds at 702974 and the area SOUTH EAST of it on relief by 2/R.U.R. and 2/K.S.L.I. who were to relieve "A" Coy. Unfortunately the 2/K.S.L.I. took longer to arrive than we had anticipated and "A" Coy were attacked by some enemy who had crept back into the Barracks. A fierce battle ensued in which the enemy made three attempts to oust "A" Coy. Finally the K.S.L.I. arrived and took over by attack through "A" Coy at 2100 hrs. Meanwhile the Bn had attacked through the 2/LINCS and against dislocated opposition had reached the following posns:-</p> <p>"B" Coy 705975, "C" Coy 702974, "D" Coy and Bn H.Q. 707971. "A" Coy finally arrived at 2200 hrs and took up posns at 705975 round the football field covering the main rds. "C" Coy sent a patrol to 700978 and reported it clear. During the night Lt LOGIE was accidentally wounded in the foot.</p> | |
| | 26 | | <p>At 0125 hrs a "C" Coy patrol reported hearing sounds of enemy activity in the area 698969. At 0200 hrs an "A" Coy patrol reported sounds of enemy digging at 702979. At 0600 hrs "B" Coy and "D" Coy moved fwd and secured the line of the rly from 701979 to 696976. At 0800 hrs the 2/R.U.R. passed through to secure the line of the rd in the area 691978. At 1130 hrs "B" and "D" Coys withdrew to their former posns. The remainder of the day was spent in resting and dealing with</p> | |

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| | | | civilians. | |
| Field | 27 | | At 0700 hrs Recce parties set off under the 2nd in Command to the DELMENHORST area. The Bn arrived just after 1200 hrs to relieve the 1st GORDON HIGHLANDERS of 51st (H) DIV. Relief was completed by 1630 hrs and the Bn disposns were as follows:- Bn H.Q. 602960, "A" Coy 605966, "B" Coy 599967, "C" Coy 614964, "D" Coy 601965. During the late afternoon patrols went out to the area and found BUNGERHOF clear of enemy and a crater in the main rd at 606977 and the bridge at 601989 blown. A "D" Coy patrol went out to the area 601989 and brought in 1 Offr and 47 O.R.s. P.W. They were all G.A.F. Ground Staff and could give us no recent infm at all. | |
| | 28 | | Patrols during darkness found HORST 592995 clear of enemy. Otherwise a quiet day. | |
| | 29 | | A combined Bde Church Service was held in DELMENHORST PROTESTANT CHURCH at 1100 hrs. There was a march past afterwards and Brigadier Kempster took the salute. | |
| | 30 | | A quiet day - nothing of interest to report. Casualties were:- Killed NIL and 12 Wounded 1 and 59, of whom 1 and 4 have since rejoined. | |

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1.
Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If
this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries,
the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1st Bn K.O.S.B.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year May 1945

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. W.F.R. Turner

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------|------|------|---|--------------------------|
| Field. | 1 | | Nothing to report. A quiet day. | |
| | 2 | | Nothing to report. | |
| | 3 | | Major G.E. BARKER as acting second in command went to IBBENBUREN to recce the future Bn area. | |
| | 4 | | A quiet day. Major G.E. BARKER returned from IBBENBUREN during the afternoon. | |
| | 5 | | Harbour parties consisting of second in command of Coys set out under Major G.E. BARKER for the IBBENBUREN area at 0745. During the afternoon Major A.J. RENNIE came back to us after a stay of several months at Divisional HQ and elsewhere. | |
| | 6 | | Capt J.B. MARSHALL (QM) arrived in the morning to take over Quartermaster. Otherwise nothing to report. | |
| | 7 | | The Bn moved to IBBENBUREN leaving DELMENHORST at 0715 and arriving at 1430. The tracked column arrived three hours later and the Bn was settled in by 1800 hrs with positions as follows:- Bn HQ 988091; "A" Coy 991095; "B" Coy 997101; "C" Coy 988088; "D" Coy 990083; "S" Coy 038072. The Bn was comfortably established in billets and settled down to cleaning up and smartening up after eleven months and two days of fighting on the Continent. In the evening it was announced that the next day would be celebrated as "Victory in Europe" day as all GERMAN armed forces in Europe had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies. | Appx "A" |
| Field | 8 | | "Victory in Europe" day. A Thanksgiving Service was held in IBBENBUREN Protestant Church at 0930 conducted by the Rev W.I.G. WILSON. The rest of the day was spent quietly as a holiday. | |
| | 9 | | Quarter Guards have now commenced. A guard is also provided at the Hospital, IBBENBUREN, which contains German wounded PW. | |
| | 10 | | The Commanding Officer inspected Coys on the Bn Car Park at the following times:- 'A' Coy 1415 hrs; 'B' Coy 1445 hrs; 'C' Coy 1515 hrs; 'D' Coy 1545 hrs and 'HQ' 1615 hrs. | |
| | 11 | | Nothing to report. | |

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| | 12 | | Major A.J. RENNIE took over command of 'A' Coy. Major G.A. DUNCAN reverted to Capt and took over Bn Welfare and Administration Officer. | |
| | 13 | | National Day of Prayer. A combined Church of Scotland and Church of England Voluntary Service was held in the Protestant Church, IBBENBUREN. In the afternoon the first match of the Inter-Coy Football League was played. | |
| | 14 | | Nothing to report. | |
| | 15 | | Nothing to report. | |
| | 16 | | The Commanding Officer inspected 'A' and 'B' Coy billets and Coy areas at 1000 hrs and 1130 hrs respectively. At 1800 hrs the Pipe Band played Retreat on the main street. | |
| Field | 17 | | The Commanding Officer held his billet inspection of 'C' and 'D' Coys at 1000 and 1130 hrs respectively. | |
| | 18 | | The Commanding Officer held his billet inspection of 'S' Coy at 1100 hrs. | |
| | 19 | | The RSM held a drill parade for 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' Coys at 0930 hrs on the football field. The Commanding Officer inspected 'HQ' Coy billets including PRI, QM and Sjts' Mess during the morning. | |
| | 20 | | Voluntary Church Service for Church of Scotland Church of England in the Protestant Church, IBBENBUREN. In the evening the Bn football team played 299 Coy, RASC, winning 3 - 2. | |
| | 21 | | The evening saw the opening of a cinema which was named the 'CALEY'. Two shows were given nightly except Thursday when there was an ENSA show. | |
| | 22 | | RSM's drill parade on the football field for all Coys. This is the first of a series of RSM's and Adj't's parades culminating in a Commanding Officer's parade on the 30th. | |
| | 23 | | RSM's drill parade on the football field. All Coys attended. ENSA Concert in the evening - "Male Call". | |
| | 24 | | A recce party was warned to stand by to move within the next few days to an area in the North of the RUHR. | |
| | 25 | | Adj't's drill parade at 1000 hrs on the football field, all Coys attended. In the evening the Pipe Band beat Retreat - the Div Commander Major General L.G. WHISTLER, CB, DSO attended. After Retreat an "At Home" was held in the Officers' Mess and was attended by many Officers who have served in the Bn in the past. | |
| | 26 | | Nothing to report. | |
| | 27 | | The second in command Major H.S. GILLIES and representatives from each Coy left for the new Bn area near DORTMUND, where the Bn is to take over from the Americans on the 30th. In the evening a football match between the Bn and HQ 9th Brit Infantry Brigade ended in a win for the | |

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| | | Bn 7 - 1. | |
| | 28 | Adj't's parade in the morning for all Coys. Major F. HOLDEN, MC rejoined the Bn after being in hospital wounded. | |
| | 29 | Bn busy packing up in readiness for the move. The Pipe Band left for the new area to play to the Americans before their departure. | |
| | 30 | The Bn moved by MT to the new area. The move was completed by 1700 hrs approx and Coys were located as follows:- 'A' Coy 634328; 'B' Coy 564414; 'C' Coy 673382; 'D' Coy 774362; 'S' Coy 616355 and Bn HQ 778363. The Americans were still occupying the area but were expected to move in a day or two. | Appx 'B' |
| | 31 | Bn busy settling and taking over from the Americans. Casualties:- Killed - NIL and NIL. Wounded - NIL and NIL. | |