

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and References to Appendices |
|-----------|----------|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Sherborne | May 10th | 1900 | Warning Order received placing Bn on 24 hrs notice to move. All leave stopped. | |
| " | 11 | 0400 | Patrols out on outskirts of Sherborne in case of parachute landing. | |
| " | 22 | 1630 | Warning Order received that Div. would move to Salisbury area tomorrow. | |
| " | 23 | 1900 | Bn arrived at Sydmonton, Newbury. Move completed by M.T. | |
| Sydmonton | 28 | 1900 | Warning Order received to move on 1/2 June to Aldershot area. | |
| " | 30 | 2000 | Warning Order above cancelled. | |
| " | June 4 | 1800 2200 | Bn warned for duty overseas. To be ready to move on 9th June. Message received putting forward date by which mobilization must be completed from 15th to 7th June. | |
| France | 12 | 0200 | Marched out of Sydmonton Camp and entrained for S'hampton. Sailed 1415 hrs. | |
| " | 13 | 0900 1600 | Disembarked St. Malo and marched 6 miles to Rest Camp. Marched 4 miles to station and entrained for Sille Le Guillaume. | |
| " | 14 | 0600 | Detrained Le Guillaume and marched 12 miles to a tactical R.V. at Forest of Mezieres. Bivouacked. | |
| France | 15 | 0130 | Conference at Bde. HQ and received orders that Bn. would embus in troop carrying RASC lorries with destination Cherbourg. Defence of Cherbourg to be undertaken with a view to embarking all transport first. Adv. recce party to leave at once. 29 RASC lorries allotted to us. By 0830 hrs only 21 lorries had reported of which two were full of petrol and rations and two were L.A.D. workshops. At 0830 hrs a message from Bde saying no more lorries available and ordering us to jettison material to make room for personnel on unit tpt. S.P. to be passed at 0910 hrs. S.P. at Sille Le Guillaume approx. 12 miles distant. It was appreciated that time did not permit of piecemeal jettisoning so orders given to discard all material except fighting kit, food and petrol. Cookers, if possible, to be saved. No food to be expected at Cherbourg. Convoy moved off at 0859 hrs and passed S.P. 45 minutes late. M.I.H. 12½ V.T.M. 10. | |
| " | 16 | 0300 | Bn. HQ arrived R.V. at Helville but convoy split and lost after a day and a night of exhausting driving after passing Brique Bec. Bn. collected again by 0800 hrs and Coys disposed in defensive posts immediately S of Vasteville. At 2300 hrs orders received to withdraw to Cherbourg and embark at 0900 hrs. | |

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| | 17 | 1100 | Sailed from Cherbourg. All tpt. left behind. Docked S'hampton 1700 hrs and entrained in two trains for March area. Arrived March about 0100 hrs 18th and embussed for St. Ives. | |
| | 18 | 0400 | Arrived St. Ives. Coys sent on to Houghton, Somersham and Earith with two Coys in St. Ives. | |
| St. Ives | 18-21 | | Reorganisation. Most of our kit lost but we have all our weapons except for 2" Mortars and one 3" Mortar. Only tpt. saved is water carts, motorcycles and 6 15 cwts. Order and counter order as to our role in this area but nothing clear and definite. | |
| " | 22 | | Coys distributed as follows: Somersham "C" and "B". Houghton "D". Earith 1st reinforcements of "C" and "D". St. Ives H.Q. Coy and 1st reinforcements of "A" and "B" Coys. "A" Coy standing by to garrison Wyton Aerodrome. | |
| " | 23 | 2030 | "A" Coy to Wyton as inf. garrison in conjunction with 150 men of Beds & Herts. Parachutist reported drifted down in vicinity of Houghton. D Coy and 1 Pl from St. Ives sent to look for him. No success. This was later discovered to be a meteorological balloon. | |
| " | 25 | 0030 | Air Raid Warning. All clear 0430 hrs. | |
| " | 26 | 0045 | " " " " " 0330 hrs. B Coy shifted from Somersham to Huntingdon today. | |
| " | 28 | 0900 | C Coy shifted from Somersham to Buckden with one Pl. at St. Neets. | |
| " | 29 | 1600 | 24 Civilian Busses arrived. We are now mobile. | |
| " | 30 | 1300 | Adv. party left for new area. | |
| Oxburgh Hall | July 2 | | Arrived Oxburgh. Bn HQ in Oxborough Castle. Coys accommodated in tents in surrounding woods. | |