History of 1/K.O.S.B. during period 10th May to 1st. June 1940.

Date.	Event.
May 10th.	Battalion moved to concentration area at WATIGNIES from its normal location at FRETIN.
May 10/11.	Moved into Belgium.
May 11th.	Battalion Bivouacs.
May 12th. 0600 hrs.	Bn. moved up to Louvain and took up a position on the left of the 9th I.B. front. The 9th I.B. had all three Bns. up, the 2 R.U.R. being on our right, and 2 Lincs. being on the right of the Brigade front.
May 12th. 1800 hrs.	Bn. relieved by the 7th Guards Brigade and went into Bde. reserve 4 miles back.
May 12th. 2000 hrs.	"D" Coy, were sent to the right of the 2 Lincs. to fill the gap between 1st. & 2nd. Corps.
May 13th.	"A" Coy, were sent up to the left of "D" Coy, and "B" & "C" Coys, came up as reserve to "A" and "D" Coys. "A" and "D" Coys, had frontages of respectively 1½ & 1 mile, but even then there remained a gap between "D" Coy, on the right and left hand elements of 2 Corps, who were the South Staffs. This gap was never completely filled only mined and patrolled.
May 16/17.	Bn. withdrew through Brussels from Louvain to concentration area by march route.
May 17th.	Bn. moved by M.T. to rest area 4 miles east of R. DENDE.
May 18th.	Bn. moved back to defensive positions on the R. DENDE. The Bn. was forward with 2 Lincs. on our right and we were the left hand troops of 3 Div.
May 19th.	Bn. carried out delayed withdrawal to the line of the river ESCAUT. Bn. was forward with 2 R.U.R. on our right and the 4 Div. on our left. (2 Beds and Herts).
May 23rd.	Night withdrawal by march route to TOURCOING. Troops on right and left of Bn. the same as in the previous position.
May 27/28.	Withdrawal by M.T. to the line of the WASSIGNTES CANAL. Bn. in Brigade reserve.
May 28th.	Bn. moved to WORRTON to form Bn. perimeter Camp.
May 29th.	Bn. moved by M.T. to FERNES. The Bn. had the Guards Bde. on their left and the 50th Div. (D.L.I.) on their right.
May 31st.	Above line held until 2300 hrs, when the Bn. started thinning out and moving to the beaches at LA PANNE.
June 1st.	Rear party clear of defensive line, and majority of Bn. embarked at LA PANNE.

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

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

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.	

	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.	

	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"

			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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

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"

			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.	

	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 - HEROUVILLETTE 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	

			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 verey 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.	

	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

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	

			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.	

			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	

			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.	

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**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

Month and Year Sep 44

Commanding Officer _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	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	

			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	

			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.	
	20		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.	APPX 'E'
	21		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.	
	22		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.	
	23		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	

			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	

			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 MILHEEZE, 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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

Month and Year Oct 1944

Commanding Officer

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
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	

"			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.	
"	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.	
"				
ST HUBERT			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.	
"				
"	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.	
"				
ST ANTONIS				
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"				
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	

"			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	

" " " " " "			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	

" " " " "			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	

			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.	

" " " "	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.	
" " " " " "	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.	
" " " " " "	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.	
" " " "	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	

" "			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 verey 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 verey 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.	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

Month and Year Nov 1944

Commanding Officer

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	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 verey 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	

			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 billetting 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	

			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 LINCS.	
	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.	

			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.	
	16		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.	
	17		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.	
	18		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	

			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	

			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.	
	24		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.	
	25		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.	
	26		Quiet day. Training as for 25th. At about 1000 hrs two bombs were dropped in our area. Otherwise there was nothing of interest.	
	27		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.	
	28		The CO recced 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	

			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 recced 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		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. Casualties for month of Nov - Killed Officers Nil Other Ranks 6 Wounded Officers Nil Other Ranks 15 Missing Officers Nil Other Ranks 1	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

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	

			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	

			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.	

	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.	

	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 recced 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	

			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.	
	31		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. Casualties - Killed Nil and One OR Wounded Capt JB Boyd and One OR	

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

Month and Year January 1945

Commanding Officer

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	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.	

	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 Fast 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.	

			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	

			SCHANDELO 9215, and the position of two 7.5cm A.tk guns in 9214.	
	12		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. 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.	
	13		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.	
	14		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	

			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 ad 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 verey 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	

			HOUTHUIZEN area.	
	20		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. 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.	
	21		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.	
	22		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. Again movement of tpt was heard in the VELDEN area. In daylight OPs saw movement 9015, 9017, 9117.	
	23		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.	
	24		A very quiet day. During the afternoon the Army and Corps Commanders,	

			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 :- Killed Officers Nil Other Ranks One Wounded Officers One Other Ranks Six	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 1 KOSB

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.	

	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	

			to be unoccupied.	
	26		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. By first light they had captured and occupied STEIN 968416.	
	27		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.	
	28		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. Casualties Killed :- Nil and 8 Wounded:- 4 and 48 Missing:- Nil and 1 Under Appx 'L' will be found a detailed report on Operation "HEATHER".	

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

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

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	

			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 recced 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	

			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	

			when fired on. Nothing further was heard of them.	
	19		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. 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.	
Field.	20		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.	
	21		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.	
	22		Again smoke was laid and visibility was nil. A slight increase in enemy arty activity.	
	23		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.	
Field.	24		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. 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	

			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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

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

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	

			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	

			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	

			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	

			fwd Assembly Area in the area 706885 at 1830 hrs. The operation was to begin at midnight.	
Field	25		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:- "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.	
	26		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	

			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.	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

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

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

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.	

	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 Adjt'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		Adjt'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	

			Bn 7 - 1.	
	28		Adjt'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.	

2nd. Bn. The KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY

~~or~~

~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~

(Erase heading not required)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
Sept 4th 1943. (Sat)	"C" Coy left PISKA by M.T. and arrived at railhead BARKAKHANA. Two N.C.O.s evacuated to Hospital at BARKAKHANA.	
Sept 5th 1943. (Sun)	"C" Coy entrained at BARKAKHANA for MADRAS. One B.O.R. absented himself at TATANAGAR.	
Sept 6th 1943. (Mon)	Bn less "C" Coy left PISKA 0930 hrs by M.T. arrived BARKAKHANA 1115 hrs.	
Sept 7th 1943. (Tues)	Bn less "C" Coy left BARKAKHANA by Train at 1030 hrs. One Pte "C" Coy evacuated to Hospital WALTAIR.	
Sept 8th 1943. (Wed)	One N.C.O. and two Ptes evacuated at CUTTACK. 4 Ptes evacuated to Hospital HERAMPUR.	
Sept 9th 1943. (Thur)	"C" Coy arrived at MADRAS and marched to Rest Camp. 1 N.C.O. evacuated to Hospital at WALTAIR.	
Sept 10th 1943. (Fri)	2 N.C.O.s and 9 Ptes evacuated to Hospital at MADRAS from "C" Coy.	
Sept 11th 1943. (Sat)	Bn less "C" Coy arrived in MADRAS at 0600 hrs and marched to Rest Camp, WILLINGDON CLUB.	
Sept 12th 1943. (Sun)	IN REST CAMP.	
Sept 13th 1943. (Mon)	3 N.C.O.s and 5 Ptes evacuated to Hospital MADRAS. 2 Ptes absented themselves at MADRAS.	
Sept 14th 1943. (Tues)	Bn embarked on T.S.S. ETHIOPIA at 1400 hrs MADRAS. 1 B.O. and Followers EMBARKED ON (NAME OF SHIP UNKNOWN)	
Sept 15th 1943. (Wed)	T.S.S. ETHIOPIA sailed 1740 hrs.	
Sept 16th 1943. (Thur)	At SEA.	
Sept 17th 1943. (Fri)	Arrived VIZAGAPATAM 1000 hrs. Took on supplies. Sailed 1845 hrs.	
Sept 18th 1943. (Sat)	AT SEA.	
Sept 19th 1943. (Sun)	AT SEA.	
Sept 20th 1943. (Mon)	Arrived at CHITTAGONG at 0600 hrs. Remained on Ship overnight.	
Sept 21st 1943. (Tues)	Disembarked 0915 hrs. Proceeded by march route to REST CAMP No. 60.	
Sept 22nd 1943. (Wed)	Bn proceeded by march route to CHITTAGONG Rly Stn and entrained for DOZHARAI at 1330 hrs. Arrived DOZHARAI 1500 hrs and marched to staging Camp No. 1.	
Sept 23rd 1943. (Thur)	Proceeded to staging Camp No. 3 by march route at 0630 hrs. Arrived in Camp 1315 hrs.	
Sept 24th 1943. (Fri)	Left Staging Camp No. 3 at 0645 hrs.	

	Arrived Staging Camp No. 6 at 1100 hrs.	
Sept 25th 1943. (Sat)	Marched from Camp No. 6 at 0700 hrs and arrived at Camp No. 8 1400 hrs.	
Sept 26th 1943. (Sun)	Marched from Camp No. 8 at 0630 hrs and arrived at Camp No. 12 1340 hrs.	
Sept 27th 1943. (Mon)	Marched from Camp No. 12 to JETTY (TUMBRU GHAT) at 0430 hrs. Embarked on S.S. CHINDWIN and BARGE at 0600 hrs. Sailed at 0815 hrs. Arrived at BAWLI SOUTH 1300 hrs. Disembarked and marched to Camp. Arrived Camp 1400 hrs. Unloaded all Baggage and carried it to Camp.	
Sept 28th 1943. (Tues)	IN CAMP. Collecting and sorting of baggage.	
Sept 29th 1943. (Wed)	"D" Coy left Bn for WABYIN by march route at 1100 hrs. Remainder of Bn Resting.	
Sept 30th 1943. (Thur)	Bn left for WABYIN by march route at 0900 hrs arrived 1400 hrs.	
	GR Nimmo Capt for, Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding, 2nd Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers, T.W.	

2nd. Bn. The KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY

~~or~~

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Burma & India M.S. D/1 & D/5 O.S. 1934 - 35

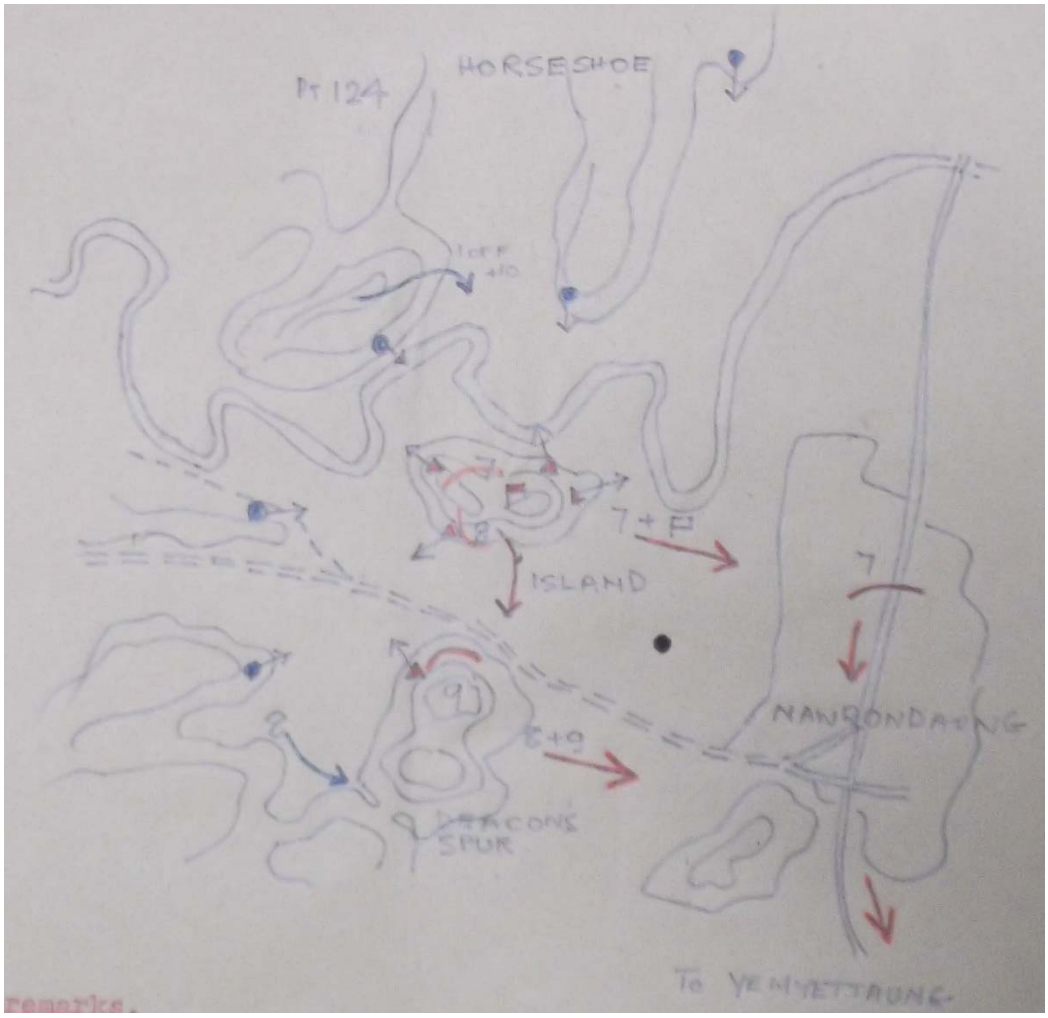
Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 Oct. 43. Wabyin.	Bn in new area. Collecting kit from AMINPARA Jetty 367634. "D" Coy sited O.P's and found recce patrol NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2 Oct. 43. Wabyin.	Allocation of Coy Areas. Local patrols No. 1 patrol to ULUBANNA 344503 NIL Report.	
	No. 2 patrol to 361448 NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1100 hrs. 3 Oct. 43 Wabyin.	12 Japs reported moving from NAYA MAGHPARA 3644 to foothills 3745. One Platoon sent to Recce. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0330 hrs. 4 Oct. 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (1 Officer, 5 Full Ranks, 12 B.O.Rs) to 385505 returned 1805 hrs. NIL Report.	
0800 hrs. " " " "	No. 2 patrol (1 Officer, 2 Full Ranks, 4 B.O.Rs) left area to form O.P. on pt 1749.	KA Capt.
0800 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left area to relieve O.P. on pt 1749 (1 Officer 1 F.R. 6 B.O.Rs.	
1730 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (Capt Knox) left area for NAWRONDAUNG 3444 BAKKAGONNA 3542 and HABIBPARA (3242) 1 Officer 6 B.O.Rs.	
1830 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (4 Oct 43) returned. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1200 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left to relieve O.P. on pt 1749 and push forward to pt 1619 (1 Officer, 1 F.R. 5 B.O.Rs.	
1500 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (5 Oct Capt Knox) reached ANUAK SHWEZA 315400. Nothing seen in MAUNGDAW.	
1400 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (5 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1600 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	1 C.S.M. 2 B.O.Rs returned from HABIBPARA asking for reinforcements in order to lay ambush in LETTHA 3240.	
1200 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (Capt Newcome) left to relieve O.P. at Pt 1619 (1 Officer & 20 B.O.Rs.	
1630 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (6 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	
1800 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (Lt. Erskine) left for HABIBPARA to support Capt Knox (1 Officer 21 B.O.Rs)	KA Capt.
0930 hrs. 8 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left area to recce 3644. Returned 1630 hrs, NIL Report.	
0200 hrs. (approx) "	Ambush Party in LETTHA attacked - patrol withdrew.	As per Appendix "A"

1315 hrs. 8 Oct "	Part of No. 2 patrol (5 Oct Capt Knox) and reinforcements returned and reported ambush successful - Casualties inflicted - 24 killed many wounded.	
1400 hrs. 8 Oct "	Remainder of Capt Knox's patrol returned. Casualties sustained Lt. Erskine wounded, 1 B.O.R. killed, 1 B.O.R. drowned, 1 wounded missing, 2 believed captured.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 8 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (7 Oct - Capt Newcome) reported being fired on from Pt 1301 which was found to be wired and occupied by JAPS. Patrol withdrew to Pt 1749.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 9 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol ("B" Coy) left to relieve O.P. on Pt 1749 (1 Officer, 4 F.R. & 18 B.O.Rs).	
1730 hrs 9 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (7 Oct - Capt Newcome) returned to area less 3 men lost.	KA Capt.
0640 hrs 10 Oct 43 Wabyin	Bn provided escort for I. ARTY who shelled Pts 124 & 141.	
1800 hrs 10 Oct 43 Wabyin	3 missing men from Capt Newcome's patrol returned to camp.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 11 Oct 43 Wabyin	No.1 patrol left area to relieve O.P. on Pt 1619 (2 Officers, 4 F.R. 30 B.O.Rs).	
1400 hrs 11 Oct 43 Wabyin	No.2 patrol left area for 372438. Returned 1730 hrs. NIL Report.	
1415 hrs 11 Oct 43 Wabyin	No.3 patrol left area for Pt 1749. Returned 1915 his. NIL Report.	
1615 hrs 11 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (9 Oct) returned to area. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 12 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left area for NAWRONDAUNG (3444). Enemy encountered at ISLAND (352441). Enemy casualties - 8 kil1ed, 2 wounded. Own casualties - 1 killed, 2 wounded. (Lt Shaw 39 BORs).	Appendix "B" KA Capt.
0920 hrs 13 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (11 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	
0230 hrs 13 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left area on recce (1 Officer, 20 B.0.Rs) returned 1800 hrs. NIL Report.	
1700 hrs 13 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (12 Oct) returned to area.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 14 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left on recce (1 Officer 20 BORs) Returned 1700 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 15 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left for area 3645 (1 Officer 21 BORs) returned 1850 hrs NIL Report.	
0600 hrs 15 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 2 patrol left for spur 352445 (1 Officer, 20 BORs) returned 1640 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2350 hrs 15 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 3 patrol left area for NORTH ISLAND (315401) (1 Officer 1 F.R. 21 BORs) Deception move	
1430 hrs 16 Oct 43 Wabyin	No. 3 patrol (15 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	
1850 hrs 16 Oct 43 Wabyin	Bn moved forward to ZEGANBYIN (3647) No incidents occurred.	
2115 hrs 16 Oct 43 "	Bn arrived ZEGANBYIN. Digging in of new positions during night 16/17 Oct.	KA Capt.
0805 hrs 17 Oct43 Zeganbyin (3647)	R.A.F. bombed HORSESHOE (3543) 1 VENGEANCE crashed area KWELA-BINGA. 1 Pilot's body recovered by villagers.	
1440 hrs " "	R.A.F. strafed RAZABIL (365395)	KA Capt.

1930 hrs 18 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left area for ISLAND (352442) (1 Officer 1 B.O.R.)	
0300 hrs " " "	No.1 patrol left for Pt 124 (3543) (1 Officer 1 F.R. 3 BORs) returned 1930 hrs. NIL Report.	
0330 hrs " " "	No.2 patrol left for 372437 (1 Officer 4 BORs) returned 1925 hrs. NIL Report.	
2130 hrs " " "	No.1 patrol (18 Oct) returned NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0500 hrs 20 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left for KWELA-BINGA (355433) (1 Officer 6 BORs)	
0850 hrs " " "	No.2 patrol left for 372438. Returned 1900 hrs. (1 Officer 3 BORs). NIL Report.	
2300 hrs " " "	No.3 patrol left for BAKKAGONA (352433) (1 Officer, 10 BORs.) NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1900 hrs 21 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol (20 Oct) returned NIL Report.	
2100 hrs " " "	No.3 patrol (20 Oct) returned NIL Report.	
0300 hrs 22 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left area for 372438 (1 Officer 4 BORs) returned 1930 hrs NIL Report.	
2000 hrs " " "	No.2 patrol left area for 372438 (1 Officer 18 BORs)	KA Capt.
0330 hrs 23 Oct 43 "	No.2 patrol (22 Oct) returned NIL Report.	
1820 hrs 24 Oct 43 "	JAPS mortared "B" Coy area. NO casualties NOR damage.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 25 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left area for 363434 (1 Officer 4 F.R. 9 BORs).	KA Capt.
0430 hrs 26 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol (25 Oct) returned. Reported sounds of enemy digging in area 3643.	KA Capt.
0345 hrs 27 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left area for 352434. Returned 1615 hrs. Claim 5 casualties inflicted on JAPS in area 352438. (1 Officer 3 F.R. 10 BORs).	KA Capt.
1845 hrs 28 Oct 43 "	No.2 patrol left area for 362431. (1 Officer 15 BORs)	
" " " " " "	No.1 patrol (Capt Bell) left area for Pt 124 (3543) (1 Officer, 6 F.R. 29 BORs). Contacted enemy wired position. Own casualties - 2 killed, 4 wounded, 1 Officer (Capt Bell) missing believed captured, 1 captured/escaped, 10 missing believed wounded.	Appendix "C" KA Capt.
0800 hrs 29 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol (28 Oct - Capt Bell) returned.	KA Capt.
0130 hrs 30 Oct 43 "	No.1 patrol left area to try and locate missing men (1 Officer 11 BORs) returned 0730 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0015 hrs 31 Oct43 Zeganbyin	No. 1 patrol left area to try and locate missing men. (1 Officer, 3 F.R. 10 BORs) returned 0700 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0710 hrs " "	No. 2 patrol left area for 353434 (1 Officer 3 BORs).	KA Capt.
~~0530 hrs 1 Nov 43 "~~	~~No. 2 patrol (31 Oct) returned. NIL Report.~~	KA Capt.

PATROL NO. JAM 1.

1) Patrol Comdr. Lieut. L.W. Shaw.
2) Composition. 1 Offr. 4 Full Ranks, 34 B.O.Rs., 1 B.I.C., 1 Native Guide.
3) Orders. To occupy ISLAND 351442 with covering section on spur 352445, to observe movement on Pt.124 and harass them.
4) Time out. 2100 hrs. 12 Oct.
5) Time in. 1700 hrs. 13 Oct.
6) Route. ZEGANBYIN - 2230 hrs left in sampans - 2310 hrs arrived YEMYETTAUNG - track S.W. to NAWRONDAUNG.
7) Enemy encountered or located. At Pt.124 strength 12 0915 hrs.
Spur 352445 strength 8 0945 hrs.
Area - L.M.Gs as shown.
8) Casualties inflicted on enemy. 8 killed - 2 wounded.
9) Own casualties. 1 killed - 3 wounded (2 very slightly).
10) Inf. from locals. 1 "V" Force killed in action. One native brought in Pte. McLeod's body.
11) Amn. expended. As per appendix "A".
12) Losses of equipt. " " "
13) Brief Topographical report. Landing stage at YEMYETTAUNG usable at low water, good mule-able track leading to NAWRONDAUNG. Jungle on island - spur very thick scrub interlaced with creepers - bamboos - trees - several large mango trees on N. end island - banana grove. Island surrounded by paddy (not low lying).



14) General remarks.

Reached NAWRONDAUNG 2359 hrs took up defensive positions on X roads, sent 9 section up on to spur 352445. 7,8 and Pl H.Q. covered themselves across paddy to ISLAND at 0545 hrs and occupied it as shown on sketch map - No opposition - only old slit trenches 0835. Pl Comdr and 5 went back to village to contact "V" force for information. 0915 hrs - 7 section saw 1 Officer and 1 man, later followed by 10 men, come out of position on hill NORTH of Pt. 124 and came down track to bathe - gave them burst of 7 L.M.G. - Gun jammed - estimate 2 Killed 2 wounded - riflemen accounted for 2 more, then Jap L.M.G. opened up on them.

Pln Comd returned across paddy with "V" Force man who whilst showing position of Jap L.M.G. was shot through stomach, 8 Sec then ordered to withdraw to Spur and reinforce 9 Sec - heavy L.M.G. fire crossing paddy and some men had to remain with Pln H.Q. Cpl. Deacon (9) was lying amongst Sec and was hit in the arm and Pte. McLeod was killed. 9 and 8 Secs covered themselves back to village. Sgt. Duffy with one man was covering last man over paddy when eight Japs appeared round back of Spur. He killed four with hand grenade, other four withdrew but covered paddy with fire, so L.M.G. had to be left. 7 Sec then covered Pln H.Q. off Island to village then withdrew as shown taking up covering positions back to jetty. Pln H.Q. remained in NAWRONDAUNG for 15 mins - Japs did not follow up - 3 mortar shells were fired as patrol withdrew. Amn dump on inner (W) face of Pt. 124.

JAP INFORMATION.

Small men - greenish jackets, long slacks, peaked hats and helmets. One gun looked like "STEN".

Signed.

Remarks by C.O.

APPENDIX "A" S E C R E T .

PATROL REPORT - CAPTAIN K. KNOX M.C. - K.O.S.B.
****

5 October.

1730 hrs Left Camp 1 B.O. 9 B.O.Rs, one B.O.R. sent back with fever from ZEGANBYIN.
Route KWINSARABIL-KWELA BINGA.
2115 hrs heard of 5 Japs in LETTHA, moved to HABIBPARA and stayed night in V force H.Q. in school.

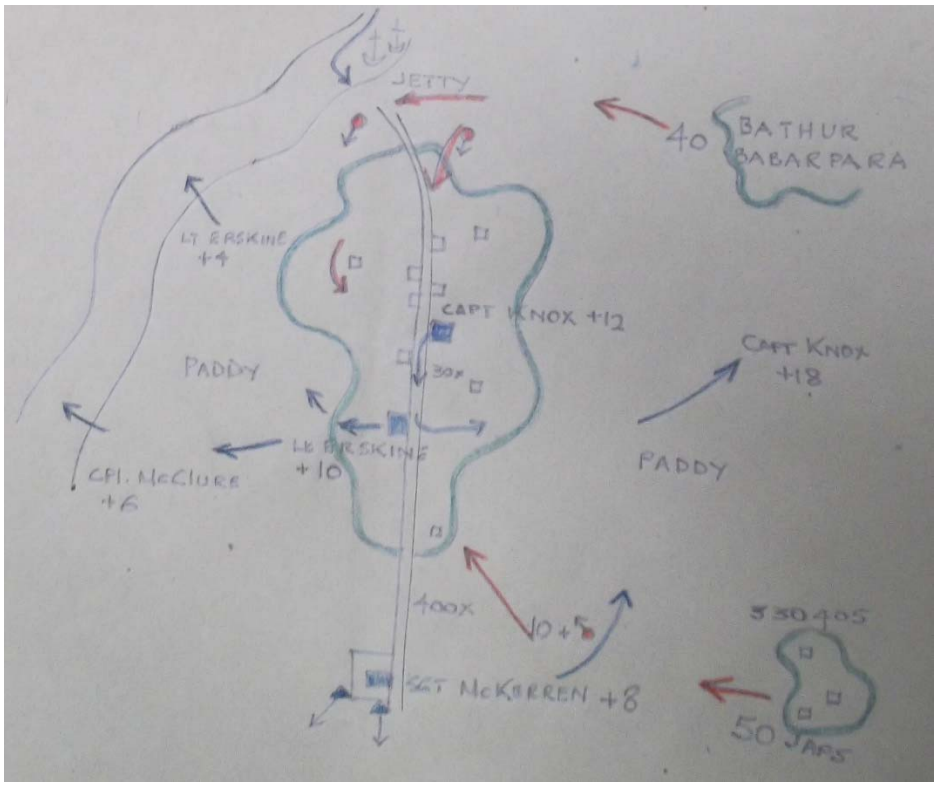
6 October.

Conference with headman of LETTHA, and "V" force agent "BUDWOODIN" reported patrols 5-10 Japs come often to LETTHA. Crossed chaung to GINNAPARA 3143 KAPPAGAUNG 3042 and moved down to ANAUK SHWEZA 3140. Studied MAUNGDAW at 1500 hrs but saw NO signs of digging reported on jetty nor any movement. Returned same route to HABIBPARA and stayed night.

7 October.

Report by headman LETTHA, 16 Japs and small guard outside, had come to village at 0800 hrs and ordered him to produce 50 coolies to carry away scrap iron dump in LETTHA to MAUNGDAW, 2 trips were made. Capt. Knox wanted to ambush them, but natives would not provide sampans as they considered force inadequate. Asked for 30 men. Capt. Knox and 3 B.O.Rs stayed in HABIBPARA, C.S.M. Miles, Cpl. McClure and Pte. Bell(60) came back to ZEGANBYIN by sampan in 1½ hrs and reached camp at 1600 hrs approx.
Lieutenant J.D. Erskine with 23 B.O.Rs left at 1915 hrs and moved from ZEGANBYIN to HABIBPARA by sampan, arriving 2300 hrs. Headman arranged to clear some houses for an ambush and "V" force laid on sampans. Whole party under Capt. Knox moved down to LETTHA at 0400 hrs, arriving 0500 hrs.

SKETCH OF LETTHA.



ORDERS.
Capt. Knox had stationed Sgt. McKerron and 8 men with 2 L.M.Gs in a compound 400 yards SOUTH of village with orders to allow all through, to be dealt with by main body and to prevent any reinforcement.
Lieutenant Erskine was posted in a hut with 10 men near market place with orders to rush out and assist main Body when firing started.
Capt. Knox with 12 was in a house 30 yards NORTH.
Orders for withdrawal were if successful, back by sampan. If attacked in force, by sampan or alternatively across country, keeping to low ground on EAST.
Party under Sgt. McKerron saw 10 Japs come from S.E. through the paddy and up through village, but did not open fire as per orders. Moved out to covering positions, astride road.
The firing continued for 35 mins, so they went round the flank to assist main body. They then saw 50 Japs in extended order, coming from small village 330405. They met Capt. Knox retiring and returned with him.
No Casualties - 1 T.S.M.C. and 1 L.M.G. lost in chaung when boat sank, but native later brought in L.M.G.
Main Body first saw 40 Japs coming from N.E., slipping forward in threes and fours, obviously knowing of presence of patrol.
1 section with L.M.G. went straight to jetty, but sampans had left, 1 section with L.M.G. came down road and 1 section worked through village on WEST. 1 section came up road from SOUTH in front of Jap Company Comdr.(?) and L.M.G. When this section came opposite the hut the main body opened up with T.S.M.C., rifles, grenades and revolvers and the officer, runner, 2 L.M.G. gunners and medical orderly were killed. Many more were killed in paddy and village. The villagers by this time had all vanished, except some little boys. With the intention of concentrating his forces, Capt. Knox moved down to Lieut. Erskine's section. Lieut. Erskine's section, after killing the remainder of the section on the road had made for the jetty. Lieut. Erskine made for the jetty and after swimming chaung, crossed the NAAF and reached TEKNAAF with 4 B.O.Rs - further information to follow. Cpl. McClure cut away from this party with 6 men and crossed the paddy and tried to swim the chaung. They had to return and left their arms behind with L/C Clements wounded in the arm and Pte. Dalrymple who could not swim - L/C Lough was lost in Midstream (believed drowned). Cpl. McClure and 3 B.O.Rs returned via DALIADARA 3141 - ASHE SHWEZA 3042 - and across country to ZEGANBYIN.
Capt. Knox shouted to Lieut. Erskine's section, to come back but was not heard, so he moved back through village to join up with L.M.G. section. Just then 50 Japs were seen advancing in extended order, so after being joined by Sgt. McKerron's party they made way across marsh to chaung near HABIBPARA, crossed in sampans then back via ZINBAINGNYA 3247.

Casualties - Enemy.
MINIMUM estimate seen dead 24 - Many more killed and wounded in paddy and village.

Casualties - Own.
Vide our 10/3 dated 8 October.
Lieut. Erskine wounded in leg - 1 B.O.R. Killed - 1 Believed drowned - 1 Wounded Missing and 2 Believed Captured.

Information from Locals.
As per above, Headman of LETTHA and "BUDWOODIN" very helpful indeed, provided sampans, food etc. All villagers on way back showed routes and tracks and were friendly.
Someone in HABIBPARA must be JAPANESE AGENT, as whole ambush was known to the enemy. Local report, reinforcements came KANYANDIN

Information - Japanese.
TACTICS - When fired on, Japs made for trees and several shot whilst climbing. Japs did not follow up. All very bad shots and fired wildly.
DRESS - L.M.G. gunners were dressed in Dark Green and BLACK (repeat BLACK) uniforms. Remainder in Green or Brown material, good like American uniforms.

Senior Officer of two, wore WHITE shirt and Bush-hat, did not look like Japanese - more like Burmese - JIF ?, also carried stick and not sword.
HEADRESS - Mainly peaked cap, also steel helmets and some with black leather helmets like a crash helmet with 2 iron bands on top.
SIZE - Many were very big Japs over 6 feet, but mostly average 5 feet 6 inches.
WEAPONS - "96" type L.M.G., "86" type grenade discharger, rifles long, LEE ENFIELD rifles and bayonets and grenades. One man carried small dark green box on back, possibly wireless or Amn Box.
MORALE - Obviously expecting and knowing presence of enemy - did not get to close quarters and fired very wildly as soon as fired upon.
OWN TROOPS - Favoured T.S.M.C. and LEE ENFIELD rifle. Many Japs shot at long range with these but few with New Type. Grenades very useful.
95% men returned barefooted, as impossible to swim with boots - few men with "Patrol Boots" found them very Satisfactory.
MORALE OF TROOPS - very high indeed and high Standard of fitness.

Signed:- K.R. KNOX. Capt.

Report from Captain K.R. Knox and Patrol, less Lieut. Erskine and party.

Signed:- J.A.K. HOPE. Lieut. (I.O.).

PATROL NO. BULL 1.

Patrol Comdr :- CAPTAIN D.M. BELL.

Composition :- 4 Full Ranks, 30 B.O.Rs.

Orders :- To approach rear of Pt. 124 via re-entrant 357437, find out whether Pt. 124 was occupied and if so attack it.

Time Out :- 2000 hrs 27 Oct 43.

Time In :- 0600 hrs 28 Oct 43.

Route :- HATHIPAUK 357441 (deserted) re-entrant 357437.

Enemy Located :- Pt. 124 & Spur 357438 at 0220 hrs - Strongly held and wired.
Spur 356441 at 0730 hrs - Strength - L.M.G.

Casualties inflicted on Enemy

:- Unknown.

Own Casualties :- 1 Officer & 10 B.O.Rs MISSING. 6 B.O.Rs WOUNDED (1 since died of wounds). SEE APPENDIX A

Information from Locals
:- Information from Capt. Strong "V" Force - Japs had withdrawn to line of KWEZA-BINGA gap, leaving standing Patrol of 10 men on Pt. 124.

Amn. Expenditure :- As per Appendix "A".

Losses of Equipment " " " " .

Brief Topographical Report
:- Chaung 358440 fordable - Hill slopes, very thick scrub and very steep.

APPENDIX "A".
****

Patrol crossed CHAUNG and moved up re-entrant 358437 and on to SPUR 357438, where they encountered wire and a fox-hole which they found to be unoccupied but a shovel lying beside it. They moved forward through the wire until they came across several strands of wire with tins attached. The Patrol Comdr put his Pln in an all-round defensive position and decided to wait until first light to decide on any further action. After half an hour (0220 hrs) three L.M.Gs opened up from short range and hand grenades were thrown (discharger cups were believed to have been used). Patrol returned fire with L.M.G. and Grenades and several Japs were seen to fall. Jap Grenades fell on 2 sections, inflicting casualties. The Patrol Comdr then gave the orders to withdraw down the hill. As they moved down the hill, several grenades were thrown at them inflicting further casualties - some of these were Bakelite and the splintering caused little damage. During the withdrawal through thick scrub and darkness, several men were separated from their sections.

CASUALTIES - ENEMY :- NOT KNOWN.

CASUALTIES - OWN TPS :- SIX WOUNDED, EVACUATED TO A.D.S.
2 POSSIBLY KILLED.
1 OFFICER AND 3 B.O.Rs BELIEVED WOUNDED.
6 B.O.Rs NOT YET RETURNED.

As the Patrol withdrew to own positions, they were fired at by L.M.Gs on the foremost edge of SPUR 356441.

Pte. Green returned. He had seen Jap Officer with a T.S.M.C. shoot Pte. Mawston, who was wounded. Whilst crossing CHAUNG he was fired on by L.M.Gs. on SPUR 355441. Our own Brens replied and silenced Jap L.M.G.

1300 hrs Pte. Bonnar returned, he had been taken prisoner and taken to what he thought to be H. Q. where he was asked questions which he could not understand and kicked in the stomach and beaten up. As he was being escorted away, he dived down the hillside, dropping 2 Grenades behind him. He then made his way back across the CHAUNG.

JAP INFORMATION.

Officer very short, bush hat, Tommy Gun, NO sword.
NO non-japs seen.
Several men with RED badges on arms.
Grenades H.E. and Bakelite used - also grenade dischargers.

2nd Bn The KOSB

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

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

Map ref. MAUNGDAW NORTH No. 2, 3 & 4 1:25000. September 43.

Map Ref. BURMA & INDIA O.S. 84 D.1 and D.5

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1800 hrs. 1 Nov 43. Mon. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	No.1 Patrol. Lieut. Hunter (SUFFOLK Regt attached for training) 7 BORs mixed K.O.S.B. and SUFFOLK to KWELA BINGA 351433.	KA
0600 hrs. 2 Nov 43. Tues. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	No.1 Patrol. Returns - Nil Report.	
2300 hrs. Tues. " "___	No.2 PATROL. Lieut. Laurie and 23 B.O.Rs to track 361432. Cut Jap telephone wire, withdrew on approach of larger JAP Patrol.	KA
0430 hrs. 3 Nov 43. Wed. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	No.2 PATROL returns. Situation normal.	KA
0930 hrs. 4 Nov 43. Thur. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	Pte. Clark, "D" Coy died after explosion of hand grenade he was cleaning.	KA
5 Nov 43. Fri. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	Situation normal.	KA
0600 hrs. 6 Nov 43. Sat. ZEGANBYIN. 350468	Bn relieved by 2/1 PUNJAB REGT 123 Bde. 5 Div. Moved back by Coys independently to rest area MAUNGHNAMA 336563. "D", "HQ", "C", & "B" Coys.	KA
7 Nov 43. Sun. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Rest Camp.	)
8 Nov 43. Mon. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Rest Camp.	) KA
9 Nov 43. Tues. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Rest Camp. Coy Football competition.	)
10 Nov 43. Wed. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	1 Pl "D" Coy on guard duties AMINPARA Jetty 3253.	KA

1000 hrs. 11 Nov 43. Thur. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Church services. Pres in Bn area. C.of.E. in Bde area. Lieut. Connolly injured by explosion of Gun Cotton, evacuated to MDS on D.I.list. Lieut. Shaw took over from Lieut. Connolly at AMINPARA.	KA
12 Nov 43. Fri. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Field Firing.	KA
13 Nov 43. Sat. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Field Firing. BESA Concert 1700 hrs.	KA
1400 hrs. 14 Nov 43. Sun. MAUNGHNAMA.336563	Bn move independently by coys in M.T. to WABYIN 366497. 2100 hrs. Bn moved over NGAKYEDAUK Pass.	KA
0030 hrs. 15 Nov 43. Mon. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Bn harboured in area of CHAUNG 420515. Reccd Bn area.	
1000 hrs. " " "___	Bn H.Q. moved to 425511. "B" coy less 1 pl 425512. 10 Pl 437517. "C" coy 422513. "D" Coy 433512.	KA
16 Nov 43. Tues.NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Bn digging in, clearing tracks.	KA
0500 hrs. 17 Nov 43. Wed. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Recce Patrol to PALANGYWA. Nil report. 442486. "C" coy moved to new posns. HQ 429500. 13 Pl 430499. 14 Pl 428498. 15 Pl 428500. 16 Pl "D" Coy cut track & mvd fwd to 436496. "D" coy less 1 Pl mvd into area 4350 after relief by 7/2 PUNJAB Coy.	KA
1900 hrs. 18 Nov 43. Thur.NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	18 Pl relieved by Pl 7/2 PUNJAB 435495. Recce PATROL 1 NCO + 3 men to 433485 N.E.S.	KA
0070 hrs. 19 Nov 43. Fri. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Recce PATROL 2 N.C.O. + 3 men to PALANGYWA 441485	KA
0700 hrs. " " " *1300 " " " " 1330 " " " " 1800 " " " "	Recce PATROL 3 N.C.O. + 3 men to 439485. * Patrol 2 returned NES. Patrol 3 returned NES. "C" coy mvd fwd to area 4249. "D" coy mvd fwd to area 4349. Patrol 1 returned. Small parties Japs seen SOUTH of TATMIN CHAUNG.	KA
0300 hrs. 20 Nov 43. Sat. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Fighting PATROL 1. Lieut. Shaw 10 men to 441482.	KA
1145 hrs. " " "___	Patrol 1 returned N E S.	KA
0800 hrs. 21 Nov 43. Sun. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Recce Patrol 1. 1 W.O. 3 BORs to 431486, reported Jap posns SOUTH Bank TATMIN CHAUNG TWIN TREE HILL 428484.	
1600 hrs. " " "___	Patrol 1 returned. "C" Coy O.P. established 430488.	KA

22 Nov 43. Mon. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511	Sitrep normal.	KA
0830 hrs. 23 Nov 43. Tues. TATMIN CH. 432501	Bn mvd to new area. "B" Coy less 1 Pl mvd to 432500. 6 B.O.Rs left for U.K.	KA
1130 hrs. 24 Nov 43. Wed. TATMIN CH. 432501	6 Vengeances dive bombed BROAD HILL 4347.	KA
25 Nov 43. Thur. TATMIN CH. 432501	Sitrep normal.	KA
1800 hrs. 26 Nov 43. Fri. TATMIN CH. 432501	Recce Patrol 1. N.C.O. and 4 BORs to 438483.	KA
1900 hrs. " " "___	Recce Patrol 2. N.C.O. and 3 BORs to 453472.	KA
0030 hrs. 27 Nov 43. Sat. TATMIN CH. 432501	Patrol 1 returned N E S.	
0630 hrs. " " "	Patrol 2 returned. Enemy reported TATMIN CH. 437481.	KA
0330 hrs. 28 Nov 43. Sun. TATMIN CH. 432501	Fighting Patrol 1. Lieut. Russell (3 B.Os. 24 BORs. 1 BIC.) to TATMINKALI	
0800 hrs *	* Captured 4 enemy agents (A D C) ambushed 3 JAPS in O.P. 2 killed one wounded, captured, died in R.A.P. 0815 hrs.	KA
0800 hrs. 29 Nov 43. Mon. TATMIN CH. 432501	C.O.s conference O.O. 7.	KA
2000 hrs. " " "___	Recce Patrol 1. (1 W.O. 2 BORs 1 BIC) to TATMINKALI.	KA
0630 hrs. 30 Nov 43. Tues. TATMIN CH. 432501	Patrol 1 returned. Enemy heard SOUTH Bank TATMIN CH. 4447. 4547.	KA
1730 hrs. " " "___	Recce patrol 1. Lieut. Shaw. 3 BORs to TATMINKALI.	
1900 hrs " " "___	Pte. Bowers "C" Coy accidentally shot, evacuated to A.D.S.	KA
	Lieut-Col. Commanding, 2/K.O.S.Borderers. 3/12/43. TW.	

Army Form C.2118

2nd Bn The K.O.S.B.

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

(a) Ref Burma & India M/S D & D5 O.S. 1934 - 35 1" = 1 Mile.
(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4: 1: 25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
0600 hrs 1 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lt Shaw returned from recce to TATMINKHALI reported 4 Japs seen moving EAST 450482.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 1 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	52 reinforcements arrived.	KA Capt.
1015 hrs 2 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Capt Hope & 6 B.O.Rs on contact patrol to 4/1 GR 460505 returned 1415 hrs.	KA Capt.
0330 hrs 3 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lieut. Turnbull & 20 BORs "B" Coy with demolition party Cpl Anderson & 6 BORs HQ Coy to TATMINKHALI 443481 to blow Japs O.P. up. Returned O.K. with papers and leaflets.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 3 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt Topham & 10 B.O.Rs Wilts Regt left for 443481	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 4 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt Topham returned. Nil Report	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 5 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol Pansy I Cpl Robertson & 3 BORs to recce wire fence 439479. Sitreps Normal.	Very excellent detailed report by Cpl Robertson
0600 hrs 6 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Pansy I returned. NES.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 6 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Peony I INCO 2 BORs "C" Coy to recce wire near BROAD HILL 437479 NES	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 6 Dec 43.	Returned to camp.	KA Capt.
7 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 8 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol Dandelion I Sgt Armstrong & 1 BOR to recce CHOTABIL and observe Pt. 182 4548.	KA Capt.
1720 hrs 8 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol returned NES but information received from locals about Jap sentries.	KA Capt.
9 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	15 men repatriated to U.K.	KA Capt.
	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
10 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
11 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.

0330 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lily 1 (Capt Knox, 1 B.O. & 30 BORs) left to raid house of Moti Rahman Jap agent and headman of TATMINGYANGYWA.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lily 1 returned to area NES but 4 jap agents captured and many incriminating documents. 5 men repatriated to the U.K.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lily II Cpl Robertson & 1 BOR left to recce EAST HILL 4447.	Excellent detailed report from patrol.
2130 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Returned. Enemy occupied BUNKER positions and foxholes found 44154775.	KA Capt.
12 Dec. 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1500 hrs 12 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Leave party left also 7 men to broadcast to U.K. from Dacca.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 13 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Bn visited by new Brigadier Crowther. Sitreps normal. 2/Lt Cuthbertson (KOSB) posted to KOSB. TOS w.e.f. 13/12/43.	KA Capt. KA Capt.
14 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1900 hrs 14 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Nasturtium 1 Capt Gillespie left to recce SOUTH & EAST HILL. Fired at by sentry 442473 returned 2330 hrs.	KA Capt.
0800 hrs 15 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt-Col W.G. Mattingley, Lt Russell, Sgt Armstrong, Cpl Roberts, L/Cpl Walker, Ptes Braggins, Parfitt and Ball presented to Commander-in-Chief S.E. Asia Command, Lord Louis Mountbatten at Bde H.Q.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 15 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Anemone 1 (Lt Russell 2 B.Os 48 BORs, 2 B.I.C. to TATMINGYANGYWA to ambush Jap patrol. Lt Coupland (R.S.) posted to KOSB T.O.S. w.e.f. 16/12/43.	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 16 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Anemone 1 returned NES. Enemy documents taken from headman's house.	KA Capt.
1830 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snapdragon l (Wilts 1 Officer 2 BORs) to rear of EAST HILL NES.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snapdragon II (1 N.C.O. & 1 BOR) to NORTH spur EAST HILL. Fired on and returned 2330 hrs.	KA Capt.
1730 hrs 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Japs opened MMG fire and Mortars onto TATMINGYAUNGYWA from EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
17 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 18 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500 " " " " "	Snowdrop 1 (Capt Nimmo 3 BORs, 1 B.I.C.) to rear EAST HILL NES. Snowdrop ii (1 N.C.O. 3 BORs) to south TATMINGYAUNGYWA NES.	KA Capt. KA Capt.
2100 hrs 18 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Jap propaganda broadcast in Urdu & Gurkhali from EAST HILL.	KA Capt.

0330 hrs 19 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snowdrop 1 returned from EAST HILL having located sentry positions 444476.	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus 1 (Capt Knox 34 BORs 1 B.I.C.) occupied TATMINKHALI village 450480 and tank 454478 to cut off retreat of Japs from Pt. 182 when attacked by 1 Queens.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus ii (Lt McIntosh & 2 BORs) left for EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
1950 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus 1 returned. NO contact made with enemy seen during capture of Pt 182.	KA Capt.
0830 hrs 20 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Draft of 83 B.O.Rs at Bn from Deolali. Reformed "A" Coy. Major Bacchus appointed "A" Coy commander.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 20 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Iris 1 (Lt Chisholm and 4 left to recce main re-entrant and South Spur of EAST HILL after receipt of "V" Force report that Japs had evacuated it at 0700 hrs. 0030 hrs 21 Dec 43 IRIS 1 returned NES.	KA Capt.
" " " " " "	Iris ii (1 N.C.O. & 4 B.O.Rs) to north spur EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Iris ii returned NES.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Crocus 1 (Lt Cuthbertson and 17 Pln) left to occupy EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
0700 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	17 Pln in position 441475. Much enemy material and many documents found on EAST HILL, collected and returned to Div.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 22 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Violet 1 (Lt Wood and 3 B.O.Rs) to KYAUK PYUDAUNG 4546. Returned 2350 hrs NES.	KA Capt.
" " " " " "	Violet ii (Cpl Forsyth & 1 B.O.R.) to MIDDLE HILL 4446.	KA Capt.
0045 hrs 23 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Violet ii returned NTR.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 23 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	NARCISSUS 1 (Lt Wood & 1 BOR) to KIDNEY HILL 460460.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	NARCISSUS 1 returned NES.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1 (Sgt Armstrong & 1 B.I.C.) to 3 pimples 460453.	KA Capt.
1500 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1. Fired on by LMG from 458453. Attacked by 8 Japs.	KA Capt.
1515 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Patrol returned fire 7 Jap casualties.	KA Capt.
1945 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1 returned.	KA Capt.
0830 hrs 24 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Bn HQ moved to 431491. "A" Coy 432490. "B" Coy 430492.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 25 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Divine Service.	KA Capt.

1300 hrs 25 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Troops Christmas Dinner, including Poultry, Pudding, Beer and Rum.	KA Capt.
0930 hrs 26 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Cpl McClure & Pte McCrone presented with the M.M. by the Div Commander for their part in the LETTHA raid 8 October 43.	
1530 hrs 26 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Enemy shell landed in 13 Pln "C" Coy. Ptes. Horton, Studholme & Bowden wounded.	Pte Horton since lost sight. ~~Pte Studholme lost foot.~~ KA
0300 hrs 27 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BUTTERCUP 1. (Sgt Young & 2 BORs) to 461453. Returned 1525 hrs N.T.R.	
0300 hrs 27 Dec 43.	Lieutenant T.J. Connolly died in Calcutta Hospital - Diagnosis amputation Right Forearm and multiple injuries.	KA Capt.
0230 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BLUEBELL 1 (Lt Turnbull & 2 B.O.Rs) to hill 461452.	KA Capt. KA Capt.
1730 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491.	T/Major McConnel KOSB posted to 2/K.O.S.B. T.O.S. w.e.f. 16.12.43. Broadcasting party returned from Dacca.	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BLUEBELL 1 returned with information concerning Japs on feature 4544.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 29 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION 1 (Sgt Douglas & 1 Sniper) to 455455. Returned 1500 hrs NES.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 29 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION ii (Sgt Gibson & 1 BOR) 455453	KA Capt. KA Capt.
0200 hrs 30 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION ii returned NES.	KA Capt.
1730 hrs 30 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	SUNFLOWER 1 (Cpl Murray & 1 B.O.R.) across MAUNGDAW-BUTHIDAUNG Road to 465442.	
2100 hrs 31 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Cpl Murray returned with information re enemy on features 4544, 4644. NOTE. "Pansy", "Carnation", "Sunflower" etc are code names for patrols.	KA Capt. KA Capt.

Army Form C.2118

2 KOSB

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WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required)

(a) Ref. Burma & India M/S D & D5 O.S. 1934 - 35 1" = 1 Mile.
(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4 1-25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
2300 18 Jan 44	Bn start out to attack ABLE at area 4545 and 4544	K.A. Major
19 Jan 44	Bn attack ABLE 4544 and gain footing on NE corner 455454	
	2 BORs killed 7 wounded 1 BO wounded.	K.A. Major
20 Jan 44	Bn moved SW against opposition and took up positions area 454446.	
	Casualties 2 BORs killed 5 wounded.	K.A. Major
1600 20 Jan 44	Shelling of Bn area. Commanding Officer killed 2 BO's wounded 3 BORs killed and 7 wounded. After dark Japs counter attacked C and D Coys 458446. Attack beaten off. 6 Jap bodies recovered next morning. Own casualties nil.	K.A. Major
21 Jan 44	Local Patrol - situation normal.	K.A. Major
22 Jan 44	Patrol to SOUTH PIMPLE 463448 met Jap grenade and LMG fire and withdrew. 4 BORs wounded.	K.A. Major
23 Jan 44	A Coy attacked NORTH PIMPLE 461454 and CENTRE PIMPLE 462451 via LETWEDET HILL 465453. Heavy Jap fire from PIMPLES and shell fire from area 162. 2 BO's killed 1 BO wounded. Company reformed and reached pt 461453.	K.A. Major
24 Jan 44	Local patrolling. Reformed A Coy with Coy of 7/2 P.R. cleared PIMPLE 462451. 12 Jap bodies recovered. 1 Coy 1/11 SIKH took over features 4645 and 463448.	K.A. Major
25 Jan 44	4/1 GR attacked positions NW ABLE 453455 and withdrew evening 26 Jan. Fighting patrol of C Coy encountered strong Jap post on ridge 455448 and withdrew. 1 BO killed. 5 BORs wounded. 4 BORs missing.	K.A. Major
25/26 Jan 44	Enemy grenade fire on Bn area.	K.A. Major
26 Jan 44	B Coy area 452445 shelled by Jap regimental gun.	
	Patrols to NW ABLE 453455 found no enemy but tracks made by Japs.	K.A. Major
27 Jan 44	A, C and D Coys moved back to area 430497 leaving skeleton Bn HQ and B Coy area 459445. 4/1 GR took over positions vacated without incident.	K.A. Major
28 Jan 44	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
29 Jan 44	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
2000 30 Jan 44	Situation normal. B Coy and Bn HQ moved back to area 430497 without incident.	K.A. Major
31 Jan 44	Rest day. Situation normal.	K.A. Major

	No details for the period 1-17 Jan 44 are available owing to loss of documents through enemy action. During this period intensive patrolling of the areas ABLE, PIMPLES and LETWEDET was carried out. K Abrahams Major A/Adjt.	

Army Form C.2118

2 KOSB

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(a) Ref. Burma & India M/S D & D5 O.S. 1934 - 35 1" = 1 Mile.
(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4 1-25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn packed ready to move - move cancelled.	K.A. Major
1800 2 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn moved to area 464506 - Bn arrived new area 2100 hrs.	K.A. Major
3 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
1300 4 Feb 1944	Bn moved to area 9256. Bn object to stop infiltration of enemy from area TAUNG BAZAAR. Enemy reported 1000 strong.	K.A. Major
5 Feb 1944	Enemy attacked Bn position 4756 and 4755. Enemy almost reached Bde.	K.A. Major
6 Feb 1944	Enemy again attacked Bn positions. 2 Pls B Coy sent to assist Bde. Night 6/7 C and D Coys attacked enemy area 4756.	K.A. Major
7 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol of 1 BO and 6 BORs to pass area 457545 discovered enemy astride L of C. Night 7/8 Bn moved to area 489531 and established defensive positions for protection of artillery.	
8 Feb 1944	Situation normal - active patrolling.	K.A. Major
9 Feb 1944	Situation normal. 1 Prisoner taken by C Coy 0900 hrs. Another taken but shot while trying to escape.	K.A. Major
10 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling day and night. Supplies dropped by RAF.	K.A. Major
11 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling throughout day and night. A Coy patrol met enemy at Pt. 206 (484412). 1 Jap badly wounded, 1 LMG and Regimental flag captured.	K.A. Major
12 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol reported 1 casualty on enemy party. Patrolling still active. 2200 hrs C Coy went out on 48 hrs fighting patrol leaving Bn area 4853.	K.A. Major
	C Coy met party of Japs and killed 6. Own casualties 1 BOR killed 2 BO's and 7 BOR's wounded.	K.A. Major
13 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling carried out during day. Recce patrol to area 166 (481545) ran into enemy. 1 BO and 2 BOR's killed.	K.A. Major
14 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Four bodies taken from chaung 492540 by C Coy, 1 native woman, 1 Jap and 2 IORs. Patrolling carried out day and night.	K.A. Major
15 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn moved to new area 4251 at 2130 hrs.	K.A. Major
0315 16 Feb 1944	Bn arrived new area 4251. Situation normal.	K.A. Major

	17 Feb 1944	Situation normal. A Coy moved 1 mile into NGAKYEDAUK PASS. No enemy seen.	K.A. Major
	18 Feb 1944	Situation normal. C Coy attacked and cleared feature 422507 and linked up with W YORKS. Enemy shelled Div area 4251.	
	19 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Two patrols to SAUSAGE feature 423508 - one to the north - the other to the south. Patrol to N end contacted enemy 1 BOR killed. NES by other patrol.	K.A. Major
	20 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol to old Bn area 4259 to observe HAMBONE 431470 and BROAD HILL 4347 report NES. Contact patrol sent out from D Coy to contact patrol from 33 Bde. C Coy attack SAUSAGE 423508 with tank support.	K.A. Major
	21 Feb 1944	Patrols carried out by day and night. SAUSAGE 423508 again attacked with tank support.	K.A. Major
1100	22 Feb 1944	Bn moved to open NGAKYEDAUK PASS. Bn established in pass. Contact made with tps coming from WEST end of pass. 1 BO and 1 BOR killed. 2 BO's and 2 BOR's wounded.	K.A. Major
	23 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Pass not yet open to convoys.	K.A. Major
	24 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Pass open to convoys. A Coy relieved by D Coy in pass.	K.A. Major
	25 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
1400	26 Feb 1944	Bn moved back to old area 4251. Situation normal.	K.A. Major
	27 Feb 1944	Bn moved to area 129 feature 4650.	
	28 Feb 1944	Bn moved to take over positions from QUEEN'S REGT. 4648, 4647, 4749.	K.A. Major K.A. Major
	29 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major

2nd BN THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.

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WAR DIARY
OR
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF.: MAUNGDAW NORTH SHEET 4
2.53 ins to 1 ml.
BURMA & INDIA SHEET 84C/8
1 in to 1 ml.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st March 1944	Sitrep normal.	K.A. Maj
2nd March 1944	4 enemy shells landed area Bn H.Q. 468472. No casualties. (1000 hrs).	K.A. Maj
3rd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	K.A. Maj
4th March 1944	Own patrols fired on from PUNKORI (490475). Premature 3" Mortar bomb explosion at "O" Gp H.Q. 1 B.O.R. killed, 1 B.O. & 1 B.O.R. wounded. 2 enemy 105 mm shells in Bn H.Q. 1 B.O. & 2 B.O.R.'s wounded.	K.A. Maj
5th March 1944	4 24 hrs Patrols to Eastern edges of Pt. 162 Massif (area 4946).	K.A. Maj
6th March 1944	0420 hrs. 4 shells own Arty landed in "A" Coy area. 1 B.O.R. wounded. 24 hrs Patrols returned with good results.	K.A. Maj
7th March 1944	Own Arty carried out harassing fire on Pt. 162 area throughout day and night.	K.A. Maj
8th DAY OF MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. ARTILLERY FIRED DURING DAY. PATROL OUT DURING DAY & NIGHT.	KA
9th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. Patrolling carried out during day & night. AIR STRIKE at 1600 hrs, SOUTH of BUTHIDAUNG.	KA
10th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. ARTY FIRE during day and night. Patrols out during day and night, patrol out to N.E. of 162, 479467.	KA
11th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. Patrolling of N.E. of pt. 162 feature continued. ARTY Fire during day and night.	KA
12th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrolling of N.E. of pt. 162 continues.	KA
13th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep NORMAL.	KA
14th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrol to Northern edge of pt. 162, 479467.	KA
15th " " MARCH, 1944	SITREP NORMAL. BN spent day preparing for attack on pt. 162.	KA
16th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrolling of Northern edges of pt. 162.	KA
17th " " MARCH, 1944	0415 hrs. Bn left area to attack pt 162. 0930 hrs. ARTY barrage put down on N.E. corner of pt. 162. TANKS, also, were in support. 1000 hrs. Barrage was stopped. C and B Coys went forward and took objectives. D and A followed, also obtaining objectives. BHQ moved on to feature and took over from D Coy. D Coy moved forward to feature covering TATMIN CHAUNG. 2 plns of B Coy went to N.E. of pt 162 and also to PUNKORI, report N.E.S.	

	OWN CASUALTIES: 6 BORs wounded (4 by own shrapnel, 2 by enemy shrapnel).	KA
18th March 1944	Patrols to N.E. features of Pt. 162 Massif brought back abandoned Jap kit and documents; incl respirators. Bn H.Q. area shelled by enemy 75 mm gun 1600-1620 hrs. No personnel casualties. 6 mules wounded.	KA
19th March 1944	"A" Coy moved by M.T. to GOPPE BAZAAR (422703 Coy area). Japs shelled Maungdaw-Buthidaung Rd at intervals between B.M. 75 and western approaches Buthidaung. Vengeances dive bombed 162 feature 1630 hrs. Bn less "A" Coy moved to "Admin Box" area 420515.	
20th March 1944	All quiet!	KA
21st March 1944	Bn moved to area GOPPE (4270).	KA
22nd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
23rd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
24th March 1944	Patrols through GOPPE BAZAAR, KANBU area. All quiet.	KA
25th DAY OF MARCH, 1944	PATROLS TO KYAUNDAUNG BAZAR and MAUNGNAMA - Nothing to report.	KA
26th " " MARCH, 1944	ONE FIVE-DAY PATROL left 0630 hrs in N.E. direction, visiting villages to N and NE in radius of 10-20 miles. 1930 hrs, patrol to MAUNGNAMA (recce).	KA
27th " " MARCH, 1944	Recce patrol to MAUNGNAMA returned - N.E.S. One 3-DAY patrol left for the EAST. On receipt of report that enemy had been seen E. of TAUNG BAZAR, two COYS "stood by" and a FIGHTING PATROL went to MAUNGNAMA. The night passed quietly.	KA
28th " " MARCH, 1944	Recce patrols to WARU, SANTI & KAILAUPHI. PARTY of 7 went to KYAUNDAUNG BAZAR to bring in a B.O.R. This man was part of 5-day patrol of 26th inst., who had been taken ill. 5-day patrol returned two days early, on 'V' Force suggestion that destination would take too long to reach. N.E.S. or heard. B Coy moved to WARU to establish "patrol base".	KA
29th " " MARCH, 1944	Contact patrol, CAPT YOUNG, went to WARU. D Coy on "mule escort" (convoy) to Brigade HQ, then under special orders from that HQ. 3-day patrol to AMILA - CHAUNGSHE - ALIGYAUNG returned - N.E.S. Reported uninhabited and deserted villages en route.	KA
30th " " MARCH, 1944	Contact patrol to B Coy returned; reports difficulties of movement through uninhabited jungle and hill-country (1" MAP, this area, extremely in-accurate!). 8-day patrol, CAPT Gillespie, left for PANZAI BAZAR - NGAHAN - NGOWFEWNGROWA. Local patrolling continued actively.	KA
31st " " MARCH, 1944	Local patrolling continued - KAILAUPHA - TINMAI - QUEN CHAUNG. ALL report N.E.S.	KA

2ND BN THE K.O.S.B.

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

Ref. Maps: Burma & India
84 C/8, 84 C/12, 84 C/7, 84 C/11

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st April 1944	1 Recce Patrol to KYAUNGDAUNG BAZAAR 4178. 1 RECCE Patrol OBRU area 4274 - Both patrols N.E.S.	KA
2nd April 1944	Recce patrol to NGOFEWNGROWA and TABRUGRI (5388 and 5482) (4 days).	KA
3rd April 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
4th April 1944	Recce patrol to TINMAI (4478). N.E.S.	KA
5th April 1944	8-day Recce patrol returned from NGOFEWNGROWA - NGAHAN - THARRETPOUKKYET ( ) - PANZAI BAZAAR (3988) - GOPPE. N.E.S.	
	4-day Recce patrol returned reporting N.E.S.	KA
6th April 1944	Recce patrol to QUEN CHAUNG area (4067) N.E.S.	
	"A" Coy moved to take up posns at head of GOPPE PASS (351701).	KA
7th April 1944	5-day Recce patrol to PANZAI BAZAAR - NGOFEWNGROWA areas.	KA
8th April 1944	Divisional Commander visited Battalion to make presentation of medal ribbons.	
	Patrol to recce route for mules and jeeps from GOPPE to BOGALE ( ).	
	Patrol to recce mule track BOGALE, LEILO ( ), BANDAT ( ) and KABUN ( ).	KA
9th April 1944	Sitrep normal. "A" Coy returned to Bn area.	
10th April 1944	Recce patrol to BOGALE returned.	
	" " " PANZAI BAZAAR & SHABE BAZAAR (2787)	
	Local patrolling continued.	KA
11th April 1944	Sitrep normal. 5-day recce patrol returned, reports route un-muleable. 1 Platoon "C" Coy to Patrol base at BOGALE.	KA
12th April 1944	Fighting patrol TAUNG BAZAAR (4961), MANJARI (5167), SAINGDIN chaung. N.E.S.	KA
13th April 1944	Local patrolling continued.	KA
14th April 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
15th April 1944	- " -	KA
16th April 1944	Recce patrol TAUNG - WARU (4971). N.E.S.	
	" " PRINKHAUNG (4361). N.E.S.	
	1 Pl "C" Coy relieved Pl at patrol base (BOGALE).	KA
17th April 1944	4-day Recce patrol KANDARU (4080) - NGOFEWNGROWA - PANZAI.	KA

18th April 1944	3-day Recce patrol to NGAHAN. Local patrolling.	KA
19th April 1944	"C" Coy Pl relieved at patrol base (BOGALE)	KA
20th April 1944	Patrol - PANZAI area report N.E.S. 3-day & 4-day Patrols returned NES.	KA
21st April 1944	Local patrolling.	KA
22nd April 1944	Recce patrol TINMAI (4478). N.E.S. Fighting patrol to TAUNG - MANJARI - SAINGDIN chaung. Returned 24th April. N.E.S.	KA
23rd April 1944	Local patrols.	KA
24th April 1944	Recce patrol to QUEN CHAUNG. N.E.S.	KA
25th April 1944 (1900 - 2230 hrs)	Bn marched across GOPPE PASS to BAWLI BAZAAR.	KA
26th April 1944	Bn concentrated near BAWLI (0900 hrs). Left in M.T. 1100 hrs for DOHAZARI. Arrvd DOHAZARI 1900-2200 hrs.	KA
27th April 1944	Moved by rail to SILCHAR (ASSAM).	KA
28th April 1944	Arrvd SILCHAR 1800 hrs.	KA
29th April 1944	Bn to Airfield to emplane for IMPHAL. Seven planes with personnel reached IMPHAL - remainder turned back owing to bad weather. No further flying this day.	KA
30th April 1944	Bn still encamped at SILCHAR. Airfield flooded.	KA
	K Abrahams Capt, Adjt. for Comdr 2 KOSB	

2ND BN THE K.O.S.B.

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF. MAPS:-
INDIA 83 H/N.E.
ASSAM N.G. - 46
MOLVOM

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st MAY - SILCHAR	Bn still waiting in camp for emplaning orders. Weather still holding up flying.	KA
2nd MAY - SILCHAR	Bn spent another day in camp. Weather still bad.	KA
3rd MAY - SILCHAR	Flying still not possible from SILCHAR Airstrip. Orders received to move to SYLHET.	KA
4th MAY -	Bn moved by train to SYLHET and arrived at 2100 hrs. Bn proceeded by M.T. to Airfield.	KA
5th MAY - SYLHET - IMPHAL	Bn flown by 27 DAKOTA Aircraft to IMPHAL and took up defensive posns in MAHARABI village (2977).	KA
6th MAY - MAHARABI	"D" Coy took over defence of hill feature 2976 from 3 Platoons Ghurkhas of 17 Division. Bn settling in.	KA
7th MAY - - " -	1 Section "D" Coy standing patrol based on SENJAM KHUNOU (2573). 1 Platoon "C" Coy established Patrol base (6th MAY) at LAIRENKABI (2465) with V Force personnel already working from here. Patrols from here to LAIRENSAJIK (2470), KHARAM KHUNOU (2171), NEPALI KHUTI (2009), PHAIYENG (2266), NATOP (1864), THENCHING (1861), SINGH BAGAN (1561), MANANCHING (0663), SHONGLUNG (1471), KHARAM (1873), IRENG (1772), all report N.E.S.	KA
8th MAY - MAHARABI	Bn spent quiet "administration" day.	KA
9th MAY - - " -	Standing patrol based on SENJAM KHUNOU, visited WAIPHET KHUL (2078) and SAMUK (1578) - N.E.S. and no reports of enemy from locals. LAIRENKABI Platoon actively patrolling foothills and villages to West, North & South but all quiet these areas. 1 Sec from the Platoon now based at KANGCHUP KHUL (1669) and patrolling SHONGLUNG (1471), SHONGJANG (1274), SAMUK (1578), WAIPHET KHUL, KHARAM, IRENG - N.E.S. and no interesting local reports. "D" Coy Sec based in SENJAM KHUNOU now withdrawn.	KA
10th MAY - - " -	Bn front all quiet throughout day. At night, 4 Recce patrols to ridge at 307832, 312831, 319827 and 322826. 1 Fighting Patrol to area 309819 to engage any enemy trying to molest our Recce patrols.	(Ref Map MOLVOM) KA
11th MAY - - " -	All above patrols returned safely and reported the following - ridge at 307832 - 2 Jap sentries covering the steep slope from	

	South, ridge at 312831 found no enemy or posns but reverse slope not searched. Patrols to 319827 and 322826 did not reach top of objectives due to great steepness and other physical difficulties but no enemy mvt heard above.	KA
	Fighting Patrol area 309819 scoured large area but failed to engage any enemy throughout night even after creating noises and occasional random firing. All patrols heard 4/8 G.R. patrols on their right being engaged by enemy L.M.G. & G.D. fire. Four other recce patrols set out after dark for above same areas and one recce to EKBAN EKWAN 322839.	KA
12th MAY - - " -	All patrols returned without loss and reported: 1) Ridge 307832 N.E.S. or mvt heard. 2) Ridge 313832 N.E.S. or mvt heard. 3) 2 Japs seen on ridge 315828. 4) Ridge 320827 talking and mvt heard - estimated at least an enemy section there. 5) Patrol reached outskirts EKBAN EKWAN where killed one Jap found shadowing them in scrub. No other enemy seen or heard in vicinity before or after the killing. Used track found leading into village from Southerly direction.	KA
13th MAY - - " -	LAIRENKABI Platoon has been actively patrolling all routes in villages in hills to the West in co-op with V-Force. No enemy seen and still no reports from locals about the Jap but in the evening a Manipuri villager picked up by V-Force in the hills was brought to Bn H.Q. thence Bde H.Q. for interrogation.	KA
	Villagers had been forced by Japs in KANGLATONBI area (2983) to guide I.N.A. personnel through hills towards HAOCHANG area (0770). Reported enemy doing much foraging in local villages and stated there were about 300 Japs in areas North of KANGLATONBI.	KA
14th MAY - - " -	Orders Group received final orders for attack on Pt. 3813 ridge (squares 3082 & 3182).	KA
15th MAY - - " -	0015hrs. Bn moved to F.U.P. area about 3182. A & B Coys moved onto lower slopes of objectives. 0445 hrs. Both Coys attacked objectives each with 2 Platoons up and one in reserve. (No Arty support). Left hand Pl & Coy H.Q. "B" Coy got to within 40 yds of objective but were held up by very heavy L.M.G., M.M.G. and grenade fire and had to fall back to an exposed posn just below objective after sustaining fairly heavy casualties. Right hand Platoon appeared to have reached objective at 314831 but were not seen or contacted throughout day. "A" Coy right hand Platoon also held up very close to objective by very heavy L.M.G., M.M.G. and Grenade fire from extensive enemy bunker posns at 322826 and 325825. Coy H.Q. and left hand Platoon with small elements of rt	

	hand and reserve Pl established themselves on precarious posn at 319827 and held on throughout day.	KA
15th MAY - PT. 3813 RIDGE	2 Platoons "D" Coy went up ridge to help "B" Coy but they were also pinned to ground area "B" Coy H.Q. (309829). 1 Pl "C" Coy sent up to assist "A" Coy. "B" Coy subjected to accurate enemy Mortar, 75 mm gun and sniper fire intermittently all day. "A" Coy also experienced sniping and L.M.C. fire at the slightest movement. 1400 hrs 2 Pls of "D" withdrawn to area Bn H.Q. (313815). Three "LEE" tanks blasted enemy bunkers overlooking "B" Coy - very good shoot which very probably caused the Jap casualties but failed to shift him. 1630 hrs "B" Coy ordered to withdraw to area Bn H.Q. This done without loss. Casualties to date were "A" Coy: 2 B.O.'s killed[X], 2 B.O.R.'s killed, 1 B.O.[°] wounded and 8 B.O.R.'s wounded. "B" Coy: Killed - 1 B.O.[+] & 5 B.O.R.'s. Wounded - 1 B.O.[⊙] & 11 B.O.R.s. "C" Coy: Killed - 1 B.O.R. Wounded 4 B.O.R.'s. "D" Coy: Killed - 1 B.O.[Z] & 1 B.O.R. Wounded - 5 B.O.R.'s. Area Bn H.Q. was shelled by 6 rds from 75 mm gun but no damage or casualties resulted.	KA [X] Major G.R. Nimmo M.C. [X] 2 Lieut A.J. Etherington [°] Capt T.R. Turnbull [+] Capt C.E.P. Coupland [⊙] Capt C.C.J. Russell [Z] Lieut A.S. Craig
16th MAY - - " -	Elements of missing Pl of "B" seen on top of ridge 315830 (confirmed by "A" Coy). Up to 1730 hrs quiet on Bn front with our forward troops holding on to gains within a few yards of the enemy. Arty had effectively shelled area vacated by "B" Coy. 1730 hrs 8 "Hurribombers" bombed Jap Bunkers at approx 322827 but observed to be only partly successful. This was immediately	KA
16th May - Pt. 3813 RIDGE	followed up by an attack by 1 Pl of "A" Coy which again got within a few yards of large enemy bunker and partly inside enemy wire. Again extremely heavy L.M.G., M.M.G., Grenade & Sniper's fire stopped this action from the immediate bunker and another higher up. Pl withdrew at dark under cover of our L.M.G., Mortar & Arty fire. Pl killed at least 7 Japs and probably killed or wounded others. Own casualties for the day (mainly in this above action!) were: Killed - 9 B.O.R.'s Wounded 1 B.O.[+] & 7 B.O.R.'s. 1930 hrs. Party with food, water & ammo set out to contact "B" Coy Pl still holding out on ridge. Withdrew when ambushed at foot of a spur leading to the Platoon (1 B.O. wounded). During night Bn front quiet.	[+] 2 Lt. R.C Golding
17th MAY - - " -	0100 hrs. Strong Pl "D" Coy set off to attack Jap posns at 310830 from the rear (North) but owing to extremely heavy and difficult going, withdrew without commitment, having reached just below enemy posns. This was now in broad daylight and the enemy had spotted the Platoon and was ready to open up his murderous fire	

	over knife-edged approaches. (These approaches were found on all the enemy posns concerning the Bn). 0900 hrs 2 B.O.R.'s from isolated Pl "B" Coy arrived Bn H.Q. to report. Pl still holding on in most precarious posn but badly in need of water, food and ammo.	
17th May - Pt. 3813 ridge	1915 hrs. Party with water, food & ammo set out for the "missing" pl but were forced to return unsuccessful due to very dark night and the terrible ascent made worse by very heavy rain. During the night Bn front quiet.	KA
18th May - "	0545 hrs. Verey light signals fired from Bn H.Q. in endeavour to get the B Coy Pl to withdraw. Unsuccessful. 1100 hrs. D Coy relieved A Coy on Ridge without incident. A Coy returned area Bn H.Q. One section D Coy crawled WEST along Ridge & contacted the "missing" Pl B Coy. This Pl withdrew to D Coy H.Q. and their vacated position eventually occupied by one Pl D Coy. During afternoon patrol to enemy trenches 312881 killed two japs in quick rush and withdrew. Patrol to 322827 drew automatic & grenade fire from enemy bunkers and withdrew without loss. Patrols during night to same enemy posns drew L.M.G, M.M.G. and grenade fire without loss to themselves. 2 man patrol to enemy trenches late afternoon (from Bn H.Q. area) made another quick rush & killed 3 japs before withdrawing.	KA KA
19th May - "	Own arty harassing fire throughout day on enemy bunkers. Cas probably inflicted. Quiet throughout night.	KA
20th May - "	By 1000 hrs C Coy relieved D Coy. D Coy returned Bn H.Q. area. Patrol to 312831 discovered extensive enemy bunkers unoccupied and very badly damaged by arty and mortar fire. These posns quickly occupied by B Coy. Enemy posns at 322827 reported clear of enemy. 1 Pl of C Coy moved onto 322827, 1 Pl area Pt. 3813 & 1 Pl A Coy to 318827.	KA KA
21ST May. PT. 3813 Ridge	Forward Coys spent day consolidating posns, collecting much enemy equipment & documents & burying our own dead. Over 30 jap bodies were found area 312831 & 6 more bodies at 322827. Many more enemy cas probably removed in previous 2 or 3 days.	KA
22ND May. "	A Coy now occupying ridge area Phaileng, ref 3180. During day & night a number of standing patrols were put round Coy areas. All report N.E.S.	KA KA
23RD May. "	Quiet day & night. Nothing to report.	KA
24TH May. "	All Coys standing patrols report quiet night. A Coy took over posns at 347829 from one Coy. I/11 Sikhs. B Coy took over Phaileng positions.	KA

25TH May.	"	Bn front quiet throughout night. All Coy standing patrols N.T.R. D Coy took up posns on Sengmai Bastion, approx 3079 (ref. map 83 H/N.E.)	KA
26TH May.	"	Standing patrols from all Coy areas N.T.R. Bn mainly engaged with feeding & maintaining Coys in heavy rain over most difficult ground & hills.	KA
27TH May.	"	All patrols N.T.R. Another quiet day & night. Heavy rain continues.	KA
28TH May.	"	Own air activity observed over strongly held jap posns to our EAST on 9 BDE's front. Intermittent fire to our WEST on 123 BDE's front.	KA
29TH May.	PT. 3813 Ridge	All patrols from Coys N.T.R. Bde Commander visited Bn areas.	KA
30TH May.	"	Bn front quiet during night. All patrols N.T.R. Approx 0900 hrs. A Coy small patrol went up ridge area "HUMP" 363832 killed 1 jap, withdrew without loss on being fired upon from top of ridge.	KA
31ST May.	"	Bn front quiet during night. N.T.R. Patrolling continues all round Bn positions.	KA

2ND BN THE K.O.S.B. 1st-30th JUNE 1944 Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

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

REF. MAPS:-
INDIA 83 H/NE
MOLVOM
INDIA L/NW
MOLVOM APPLIQUE SLIP
INDIA 83 G/SE
INDIA 83 K/SW
KANGPOKPI SOUTH & AISHAN

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st June Pt. 3813 Ridge	Uneventful day and night on Bn front. All our local patrols nothing to report.	JR Stewart Capt
2nd June --- " ---	1400 hrs: "C" Coy Pt. 3813 relieved by 1 Coy 4/8 Gurkha Rifles. "C" Coy new area Bn H.Q. 315815. All patrols report N.E.S. "D" Coy commenced moving to Pt. 3938 (sq 3981).	JR Stewart Capt
3rd June --- " ---	Bn less "A" & "D" Coys moving to area MAPAO ridge (3579). Locations 1700 hrs:- Bn H.Q. & "B" Coy MAPAO. "C" Coy – WOOD PT. (355809). "D" Coy Pt. 3938 – "A" Coy 347829. Admin Coy - UMDAPOKPI (3379).	JR Stewart Capt
4th June - MAPAO	"A" Coy Standing patrol established approx. (354825) put 2 men onto enemy bunker posns on HUMP (354829), confirmed occupation and killed 1 Jap. Ambush party with 2 Detachments 3" Mortars established on track 1400 yds South of Hump. Number of H.E. rounds fired onto HUMP in hope of bringing enemy down to investigate (at approx. 2230 hrs). Up to 0230 hrs (5th June), no enemy appeared and party withdrew.	JR Stewart Capt
5th June - --- " ---	"C" Coy took over Standing Patrol duties at (354825). This is a permanent patrol relieved on ground. "D" Coy established similar patrol at approx.	JR Stewart Capt
	"C" Coy establishes night Standing Patrol track junc. 354806. "B" Coy similar patrol at 351800. 2 man patrol to HUMP confirms enemy bunkers occpd. 1100-1200 hrs and 1600-1700 hrs IFBU broadcast news of Pacific and some music to Japs on HUMP from about 200 yds distance. A number of Japs were seen taking interest in the programme.	JR Stewart Capt
6th June - --- " ---	Patrols night 5th/6th:- Patrol to CLUMP (359830) found enemy sentries covering approaches. Patrols tried to reach CLUMP from South and HUMP from North but failed owing to sheer nature of	

	ridge. 2 man patrol to HUMP 0600 hrs found enemy posns on forward and reverse slopes still occpd. Patrol to col 370826 N.E.S. IFBU morning broadcast again successful with "keen" audience hearing about the plight of their 15 Division, their lack of food etc and the hopelessness of their task. Afternoon show did not produce visible audience as a Jap came up to HUMP (probably an Officer) from SOUTH PEAK (363831) and kept the enemy inside posns.	JR Stewart Capt
7th JUNE - MAPAO	0500 hrs. 2 man patrol to HUMP wounded 1 Jap and probably another and grenaded a dug out then withdrew. IFBU broadcasts 200 yds from enemy posns on HUMP again did not get much audience, probably due to yesterday's visit by Jap N.C.O. or Officer. Second broadcast gave the Jap news of Second Front. 1900 hrs. Tac H.Q. established at WOOD PT. (355809). Between 2000-2130 hrs. 1 Pl "B" Coy, Coy H.Q. and 2 Pls "C" Coy moved to approx. 355826 prior to an attack on HUMP and CLUMP (361830). 2 Detachments 3" Mortars in posn below objective with a D.F. task on both objectives.	JR Stewart Capt
8th June - MAPAO	0215 hrs. "C" Coy less 1 Pl established on CLUMP without opposition. 1 Pl then moved West along ridge to attack HUMP simultaneously with 1 Pl "B" Coy coming up spur from South. 1 Pl "A" Coy established 200 North West and below HUMP to prevent enemy reinforcing or getting away in that direction. Pl of "C" Coy advancing West on a razor edged track came under heavy automatic and grenade fire from bunkers on JHOND (357829) and sustained casualties. Two attempts were made to get forward in this very restricted area but pl was obliged to withdraw to CLUMP. Approx 0300 hrs. "C" Coy posns on CLUMP were mortared in cooperation with automatic fire, causing a forward Section casualties and forcing its withdrawal. Immediately, some Japs occpd this posn and much enemy movement was heard on both flanks. As Coy now lay exposed on a posn dominated by the enemy on both sides of track and not dug in, withdrawal was ordered back to WOOD PT. via (355826). Casualties were got away under great ground difficulties. From 0245 hrs heavy rain had made the ops most difficult. At approx 0215 hrs "B" Coy Pl reached just below crest of HUMP and came under heavy automatic and grenade fire, suffering casualties of 1 B.O. killed and 4 B.O.R.s wounded. Pl could not find an access to this small posn honey-combed with bunkers and withdrew down South slope at 0300 hrs. Further attempts to take objective from the Western approach again held by heavy fire from the top. Pl withdrew again approx 0500 hrs to 355826. "C" Coy	JR Stewart Capt

	casualties 1 B.O.R. killed 9 B.O.R.s wounded. 1000 hrs. "C" Coy again established WOOD PT. and the extremely difficult evacuation of casualties being completed. "B" Coy Pl relieved after dark returned to posns on MAPAO.	JR Stewart Capt
9th June - MAPAO	0630 hrs. Patrol to HUMP found Jap sentry disappear into bunkers and two others on feature 200 yds to the EAST. Patrol to HUMP 2200 hrs fired upon from left hand bunkers and withdrew without loss. Remainder Bn area N.T.R.	JR Stewart Capt
10th June - MAPAO	Patrol this morning got within 40 yds of SOUTH PEAK and killed 1 Jap coming out of enemy posns. Tracks leading to NORTH & SOUTH PEAK showed signs of extensive use recently. Patrol to HUMP after dark killed 1 Jap and drew L.M.G. fire. 1930 hrs. Enemy fired a few rounds of Mortar vicinity "A" Coy posns from direction SOUTH PEAK causing no damage or casualties. 2200 hrs. Our own 3" Mortars fired 16 very accurate rounds onto HUMP. "D" Coy patrol tried to reach S. PEAK from the East but failed owing to extreme ground difficulties.	JR Stewart Capt
11th June - MAPAO	Night 10/11th. Patrol to CLUMP found no enemy there but twice visited by 2 Japs from TWIN PEAKS. SIKH patrol to CLUMP in afternoon found 1 Jap sentry covering track.	JR Stewart Capt
12th June - MAPAO	1500 hrs. Section from Standing Patrol posn below HUMP (SIKHS) confirmed Six Japs on HUMP who ran away, suffering 2 wounded. This Sec. was quickly relieved by 2 Pls "A" Coy who sent patrols EAST along MOLVOM RIDGE to contact enemy. Jap found to have vacated all posns on the RIDGE. Area quiet throughout night.	JR Stewart Capt
13th JUNE - MAPAO	Locations – 1 Pl "C" Coy MOLVOM. 1 Pl NORTH PEAK with Coy H.Q. & 1 Pl WOOD PT. "A" Coy H.Q. & 1 Pl HUMP 1 Pl SOUTH PEAK & 1 Pl 347829. "B" Coy H.Q. & 1 Pl WOOD PT. 2 Pls MAPAO with Bn H.Q. "D" Coy Pt. 3938. Bn area quiet. Enemy posns on MOLVOM RIDGE being demolished and wire drawn in.	JR Stewart Capt
14th June - MAPAO	"B" & "D" Coys commenced moving to new area. "A" & "C" Coys continued clearing up on MOLVOM RIDGE. 4 Jap bodies recovered on HUMP with no identifications. Others believed buried in debris.	JR Stewart Capt
15th June - MAPAO	"A" Coy moving with elements of Tac H.Q. to IMPHAL-KOHIMA road. Heavy rain slowing down mvt considerably.	JR Stewart Capt
16th June - MAPAO	Bn H.Q., H.Q. Coy & "C" Coy still on MAPAO & WOOD PT., no mvt possible. A.T. unable to reach us due to intensity of monsoon.	JR Stewart Capt
17th June - MAPAO	"D" Coy in posns at WAKAN (4183). "A" Coy in posn 325902. "B" Coy & Tac H.Q. (310856). Improvement in weather allowed attached Gunners to get down from MAPAO.	JR Stewart Capt
18th June - MAPAO	More heavy rain again held up transport arrangements for move from MAPAO.	JR Stewart Capt

19th June - MAPAO	Majority of Bn H.Q., H.Q. Coy and all "C" Coy moved off MAPAO via MAHARABI Village (2977) to area road at 310856.	JR Stewart Capt
20th JUNE - Area 310856	Remaining personnel vacated MAPAO and joined Bn H.Q. before dark. 1 B.O.R. drowned whilst crossing the IMPHAL TUREL near MAHARABI.	
21st June - --- " ---	Bn area N.T.R. Day spent in fitting in to new area.	JR Stewart Capt
22nd June - --- " ---	Recce patrol (2 days) to SENGMAI – KHURKHUL (2675). LEIMAKONG R to nala junc 201840. Returned 24th June. Reports N.E.S. Locals gave no reports on enemy. "D" Coy now located area 308305. Troops of 5 Div made contact with fwd elements 2 Div on IMPHAL-KOHIMA ROAD (at approx. M.S. 109) and traffic now able to use road freely without enemy interference.	JR Stewart Capt
23rd June - --- " ---	Patrol to SAITU (3989) reports N.E.S.	JR Stewart Capt
24th June - --- " ---	Bn area N.T.R. Operation Order received entailing cross country march to UKHRUL and object of clearing up remaining enemy opposition EAST of MANIPUR ROAD.	JR Stewart Capt
25th June - --- " ---	Bn making final preparations for UKHRUL march.	JR Stewart Capt
26th June - --- " ---	Bn moved to concentration area KANGPOKPI (at 369026).	JR Stewart Capt
27th June - --- " ---	0900 hrs. Bn column with A.D.S. and Surgical team and 1 Pl SAPPERS started march to THUMION KHULEN (4004). Reached here by approx. 1400 hrs and settled in alongside the Royal Welch Fusiliers. Spent uneventful night. Many dead Japs strewn all along route followed showing signs of frantic withdrawal before	
- THUMION KHULEN	advance 2 Div troops.	JR Stewart Capt
28th June - --- " ---	Column continued march at 0730 hrs EAST towards SHUMLONG LOK, finding many more signs of hasty enemy evacuation of this area (THUMION KHULEN – AISHAN (4603). Many more bodies on track and much abandoned equipment. 1530 hrs approx. Bn had reached bridge at 496015. "C" Coy crossed and continued to area 515017 where spent night. Remainder column camped on spur 493013.	JR Stewart Capt
29th June - IRIL RIVER	Collapsed bridge over river in spate held column back until approx. 1100 hrs when march was continued towards CHAWAI (5201). "C" Coy pushed past and spent night at MOLLEN (5799). "D" Coy spent night at river 555005 after collecting air drop rations for column. Remainder column situated CHAWAI. March today extremely difficult due to mud & rain.	JR Stewart Capt
30th June – CHAWAI- LEISHAN	Column made long march through difficult country to LEISHAN (6101), picked up air drop rations and spent a comfortable night in very friendly NAGA village. Many transport aircraft seen dropping rations to other columns.	JR Stewart Capt

2ND BN THE K.O.S.B.

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF. MAPS:-
INDIA 83 K/SW, 83 L/NW
UKHRUL
SANGSHAK

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st July - LEISHAN - TOINEM	0730 hrs. Bn column proceeded via track East to LUINEM (6901). Long march with extremely steep gradients and flooded "paddy" crossings to negotiate. Arrived LUINEM approx 1400 hrs. "B" Coy remained at LEISHAN. Weather again making movement and administration difficult. Remainder Bde column situated this area and continuing march to UKHRUL tomorrow. Information received of 40 Japs holding LAMLANG (7593) against the attentions of the 1/11 Sikhs. N.T.R. throughout night.	JR Stewart Capt
2nd July - TOINEM	1400 hrs "B" Coy rejoined Bn. "D" Coy moved out with Bde H.Q. towards THOUBAL RIVER. Remainder Bn spent day resting apart from recce patrolling. Recce patrol to THOUBAL R. at approx 737050 N.E.S. Recce patrol to PHADANG (7204) N.E.S. Patrol to APHUNG (6504) received report from locals of 10 armed Japs at MAICHON (6708) and a large number of sick and wounded enemy at KHOKAN (7111). Locals say Japs at LAMLANG making every possible effort to get food in locality (NAGAS most un-cooperative to the Jap!).	JR Stewart Capt JR Stewart Capt
3rd July - LUINEM	0730 hrs. Bn less "D" Coy moved down to THOUBAL R. (square 7100) thence East up hill to approx 767010 and dug in in torrential rain. Track to hill had been almost impassable to men or mules because of knee deep mud and no detours. Orders received at 1700 hrs to march on UKHRUL next morning to reinforce 4/8 G.R. who with 2 Coys had taken small part of South end of village. Japs holding strong posns in Fort, Hospital, P.O. area and all Northern half of village. D Coy remaining at THOUBAL R. to assist with rations from air drops.	JR Stewart Capt
4th July - UKHRUL	0500 hrs. "B" Coy moved to 793003 to establish Admin box for Bn. Tac H.Q., "A" & "C" Coys with Tac H.Q. 4/8 G.R. moved at 0700 hrs towards UKHRUL and by 0900 hrs were established in P.O. area opposite the FORT. 4/8 G.R. already there were endeavouring to move North through village against determined Jap L.M.G. & M.M.G. fire from the FORT and posns to the East & North. Slightest movement by our troops brought down automatic and sniper fire.	JR Stewart Capt

	1300 hrs. "C" Coy relieved 1 Coy 4/8 G.R. on Eastern perimeter of base. "A" Coy & Tac H.Q. situated just below "C" Coy's small ridge but perimeter very small and confined among huts and broken down buildings. Received reports of enemy Gun situated about 1500 yds to the South. Reports received of elements 33 Bde column about 4 mls to North of UKHRUL. In the afternoon, "C" Coy had 1 B.O.R. killed and 1 wounded by snipers from the FORT. 1900 hrs 4 enemy grenade discharger shells caused slight wounds to 4 B.O.R.'s in "A" Coy. Slight Jap movement observed during day on jungle clad ridge approx 2000 yds to the South. All quiet throughout night in our sector.	JR Stewart Capt
5th July - - " -	Fighting Patrol from "A" Coy reached a posn on rd approx 1000 yds to the South of our posns, lay in ambush for some time but N.E.S. Reported enemy gun remains un-discovered. Another "A" Coy patrol moving via rd and track junc 807925 surprised small Jap party, killing three, probably wounding one and took one very sick and hungry prisoner, without loss to themselves.	JR Stewart Capt
UKHRUL	From brief interrogation prisoner appeared to be a straggler from enemy unit withdrawing from Kohima.	JR Stewart Capt
	1400 hrs. An enemy gun firing from a posn approx 2500 yds due South fired four shells in our area causing slight wounds to 2 B.O.R.'s. Between 1600 hrs & 1715 hrs, one 75 mm gun firing from approx same posn heavily shelled area Bde H.Q. and Mountain Bty posn (squares 7601 & 7701), causing a few casualties but no damage to our guns caused. Mtn Bty replied to enemy fire and for a period a gun dual was in progress. (A second enemy gun was discovered firing during above period from vicinity HUMPUM (Sq. 7995). 1800 hrs. Jap sniper engaged our posns from a well concealed tree posn at range of about 80 yds. No casualties suffered and a Sec of "A" Coy claims to have killed this sniper. Successful air drop took place today which relieved our ration situation after being 1½ days short.	JR Stewart Capt
6th JULY - UKHRUL	0700 hrs. 1 Pl "A" Coy set out and established themselves approx 806995. 0800 hrs. Our 3" mortars engaged area in which some fire smoke was seen rising on ridge about 2000 yds due South. 1300 hrs. Remainder "A" Coy joined their leading Pl area 806995. Coy's object to prevent enemy mvt in or out of South end UKHRUL. Enemy were holding strong posns on ridges and defiles to the EAST & SOUTH areas of rd preventing any further mvt of "A" Coy. Patrol to area 793977 killed two Japs in some old bashas. (Both in starved condition, one rifle between them). Night 6/7th July	JR Stewart Capt JR Stewart Capt

	recce patrol to FORT found it occpd by estimated 15 men. Much noise of digging and moving of timber etc. Another Recce patrol found HOSPITAL (807998) also occpd and digging and work going on. Small enemy party approx 0100 hrs moving near "D" Coy. Posns fired on and chased off. Search in morning produced Jap Officer's sword and equipment and bloodstains where one Bren gunner claimed a kill. Proposed Air Strike on FORT was cancelled due to rain and mist over area.	JR Stewart Capt NOTE. "D" Coy had re-joined Bn and took over "A" Coy's posns evening 5th July.
7th JULY - UKHRUL	0900 hrs. "B" Coy established area 785987 in base to prevent enemy mvt EAST or WEST. One of their patrols to rd & track junc (805978) was fired on by L.M.C. and Grenade Discharger and estimated enemy at weak Coy strength holding strong commanding posns. "A" Coy still held up in their restricted posn. 33 Bde elements reported in North end of UKHRUL.	JR Stewart Capt * It was considered that the enemy shelling was a cover to allow remaining Jap elements in FORT, HOSPITAL and other strong points in UKHRUL to withdraw to the EAST and SOUTH EAST. Probably the Jap was giving us the benefit of his last shells before dismantling his Gun and withdrawing.
8th JULY - - " -	Between 1000-1100 hrs and 1130-1230 hrs enemy 75 mm gun from same undiscovered posn to the South heavily shelled our confined area, firing between 50 and 60 shells at very close range. We suffered 2 B.O.R.'s killed and 12 B.O.R.'s wounded. Approx 1330 hrs "D" Coy patrol to FORT found it unoccupied and 1 Pl "C" Coy searched the area.* Fort was extensively damaged by bomb, mortar and shell fire. It had a most commanding posn over open ground with perfect nests for sniping activities. 1 Pl "D" Coy reached HOSPITAL area by 1800 hrs with no enemy opposition and had patrols pushing forward to rd & track junc 807995 finding enemy still in occpn	JR Stewart Capt
UKHRUL	there. 1900 hrs "D" Coy less 1 Pl established area Hosp. (807998), remaining Pl area just North of rd & track junc (808995). This Pl had a few exchanges of shots here and continuing to probe en. posns. All UKHRUL now clear of en. with elements 33 Bde holding North half and 89 Bde the Southern positions.	JR Stewart Capt
9th JULY - - " -	0430 hrs. "D" Coy occpd without opposition Jap posn at 808995. 0800 hrs. "A" Coy pushed through to occupy ridge 806990 and patrol fwd. Area cleared up to rd & track junc 807982. Remainder Bn now pushed through to occupy HUMPUM village killing 2 Japs (stragglers). "A" Coy established rd block west of WANTUNG (7994). 1 lone Jap wounded 2 I.O.R.'s in attached Mule Coy moving through village during the night. Villagers confirmed Jap withdrawal East with many sick and wounded.	JR Stewart Capt
10th JULY - UKHRUL	0730 hrs. Bn moving by bounds, established on rd area sq. 4991 and FINCH's CORNER 753889 by 1400 hrs with no enemy seen except 1 Jap killed during march. Patrol contacted 1st DEVONS near M.S. 34 (732882). In new area many signs of hasty Jap evacuation. Much	JR Stewart Capt * This area probably

	valuable Signal equipment found plus an assortment of ammo, saddlery and clothing.* Quiet night spent in our area.	housed a Jap H.Q. Vehicle marks seen on
11th July - FINCH'S CORNER	Patrol to contact 1/11 Sikh at SANGSHAK (7887). Killed 4 Japs en route. Bn had patrols out in all directions trying to contact & destroy enemy remnants. Further contact made with DEVONS who report contact with our troops further South. IMPHAL-UKHRUL now open and free of enemy, apart from isolated elements to the West. 1300 hrs. First M.T. convoy arrived from South carrying G.O.C. 7th Ind. Div who congratulated Bn on their recent work. 1600 hrs. Ambulance Jeep convoy passed on to UKHRUL to evacuate Bde wounded. Quiet uneventful night spent.	rd to South and on rd to SANGSHAK. JR Stewart Capt
12th July - - " -	Fighting patrol to valley area sqs. 7487 & 7486 could not discover any Japs to kill in very thick country. 15 cwt convoy arrvd from Imphal with rations but rd becoming almost impassable due to heavy rain. Jap elements west of rd seem to be avoiding our sector in their attempts to straggle East. Main en. mvt taking place between THOUBAL R. & rd further South.	JR Stewart Capt
13th July - - " -	Another patrol working in close country to the South-East found no traces of enemy. Heavy rains restricting ground mvts.	JR Stewart Capt
14th July - FINCH'S CORNER	Our Patrols EAST & NORTH still unable to contact any Jap parties.	
15th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area. Devons report engaging small Jap parties engaged trying to cross rd in their area.	JR Stewart Capt
16th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area day & night. Rd now useable only by Jeeps with chains. Heavy rain unabating.	JR Stewart Capt
17th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area. Columns of 23 Bde passing through each day on way to rest area (a number of very bedraggled prisoners going through each day. NOTE. Not the slightest semblance of any of the "all-conquering, invincible Jap super-men"!!).	
18th July - - " -	Another quiet, uneventful day. Our patrols still searching adjacent areas (NOTE:- Our patrol area is very limited indeed). Jap ammo dump discovered nr FINCH'S CORNER - 140 75 mm shells with fuses and 8 105 mm.	JR Stewart Capt
19th July - - " -	During night 18th/19th 3 Japs approached our posts but quickly made off on fire being opened. One Jap probably wounded.	JR Stewart Capt
20th July - FINCH'S CORNER	1 Jap with extensive wounds found near area "D" Coy post which had engaged 3 enemy previous night. Evacuated after treatment in A.D.S.	JR Stewart Capt
21st July - - " -	0745 hrs. Bn moved to area M.S. 25 (657818). Strenuous march through terrific mud & rain. M.T. bogged at various places en route.	JR Stewart Capt JR Stewart Capt

22nd July - Area 657818	Bn marched to area M.S. 16 under better road conditions. Reached our camping site 1430 hrs. Bde of 2 Div in area preparing to move up rd to SANGSHAK area.	JR Stewart Capt
23rd July - M.S. 16 IMPHAL-UKHRUL Rd	Bn moved complete by M.T. to KOHIMA, where we became established in a tented camp area 508755 by 1800 hrs.	JR Stewart Capt
24th July - KOHIMA	Bn spent day removing a month of filth and dirt from bodies & clothes. New kit issued and a day spent in organising our area.	
25th - 31st JULY - KOHIMA	Week spent in refitting and general smartening-up with various Coy & Bn parades. On 30th July memorial service was held in memory of our dead of the past 10 months on active service.	JR Stewart Capt

2nd. BN. THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
KOHIMA		
1st Aug 1944.	Minden Day celebrated with a holiday for the whole Bn. Inter-Coy Sport held in the afternoon.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
2nd " "	Normal routine duties were carried out. Capt REV A.M. CAMPBELL joined Bn. Camp was repitched and area cleaned up in drive against flies	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
3rd " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt. Col. H.R.R. CONDER O.B.E. joined the Bn and assumed command.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
4th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
5th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
6th " "	Observed as Sunday. Normal Church Services held.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
7th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
8th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3194237 Sgt PATTERSON R. proceeded to BABINA to attend a hygiene course.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
9th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
10th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
11th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
KOHIMA	2883393 Pte FRAZER M died of Typhus at 13th IND. C.C.S.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
12th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. T/Major F.A.W. COURTENAY-HOOD rejoined BN.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
13th " "	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services were held. No. 15001644 A/U/L/SGT SYLVESTER J proceeded to SHILLONG to attend an Intelligence Course. D Coy finds guard for DIV. H.Q.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
14th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Members of the Bn attended E.N.S.A. Concert at KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
15th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Another party from Bn attended same concert at KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
16th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No 4534972 Pte Walker R. died of Typhus at No. 8 I.M.F.T.U. 1 Sgt, 3 Cpls and 17 Ptes from B Coy proceeded to IMPHAL to undertake guard duties at 115 P.O.W. Cage.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
17th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
18th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN

19th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3184899 Sgt AITKEN P. proceeded to SAUGOR on a small arms course prior to joining	
KOHIMA	14th ARMY Training School at SHILLONG.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
20th Aug 1944	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services carried out. Guard returned from DIV. H.Q.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
21st " "	)	
22nd " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
23rd " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
24th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training directions by the Commanding Officer issued to Coys.	Training directions attached at Appendix
25th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	"A"
26th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt W.F. McNISH proceeded on Course to Army VET SCHOOL, AMBALA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN C Calderbank CAPTAIN
27th " "	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services carried out in camp. No. 2932850 Pte Stevenson J. and No. 3186456 Pte Hart M. proceeded on Cooks Refresher Course at POONA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
28th " "	)	
29th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
30th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
31st " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3194927 Pte DICKSON J. died of Typhus at 8 I.M.F.T.U. KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN

2nd Bn The K.O.S.B.

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
KOHIMA. 1st September 1944.	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt D.M. BOOTH, 1 NCO + 4 Ptes attend a local First Aid Vet Course.	
" 2nd " "	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Special attention being paid to hygiene & sanitation of camp site and anti-fly drive which continues throughout month.	
" 3rd " "	Church Services held for National Day of Prayer. Guard returns from 115 POW CAGE at IMPHAL.	
" 4th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in Camp. Training continues on a very limited scale owing to the acute shortage of men arising from the large number of men on leave and in hospital. Main causes of sickness are from Dysentery & diarrhoea - malaria & NYD fever. No fresh cases of Typhus have been experienced. Training Cadre for all Officers and senior NCOs commences.	Programme of Officers' & NCOs' Cadre attached at app. A.
" 5th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp - training continued.	
" 6th " "	Bde TEWT is held to consider the defence of KOHIMA. Lt. Col. H.R.R. CONDER O.B.E., MAJOR GILLESPIE, MAJOR SULIS, CAPT TURNBULL & Capt WHYBORN were representative of the Bn. Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
" 7th " "	) Training and normal routine duties carried out in Camp.	
" 8th " "	)	
" 9th " "	No. 3196237 Sgt Pattenson R & 15001644 Sgt Sylvester I return from Hygiene Course at BABINA & Intelligence course at SHILLONG, respectively.	
" 10th " "	Normal Church Services celebrated in camp.	
" 11th " "	MAJOR F.A.W. COURTENAY-HOOD, Lt NFG COOPER, 1 L/Cpl & 3 Ptes attend local Assault Engineering Course. 3 Ptes attend local Driver Mech's course. Capt M FERGUSON attends 3" MORTAR COURSE at DEHRA DHUN. Capt H.O. YOUNG attends Intelligence Course at SHILLONG. No. 5392723 Cpl SCOTT J. attends local MT Course.	
KOHIMA. 12. September 1944.	Training and normal routine duties carried out in Camp. Picture show given by Mobile Film Unit in Bde Concert Hall. Picture show was "THE LADY FROM PARIS".	

" 13 " ") " 14 " ") " 15 " ")	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
" 16 " "	No. 14283236 Pte Gray R. attends driver mech's course at ARAGOAN. Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training continues but still on a limited scale.	
" 17. " "	Church Services celebrated in Camp.	
" 18. " "	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Mobile film unit gives cinema show in Bde Concert Hall. The same film is shown as on 12 Sept 1944.	
" 19. " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
" 20. " "	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3191904 L/Sgt CAMPBELL proceeds to SAUGAR to attend Inf course.	
" 21. " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training continues.	
" 22. " "	Normal routine duties and training carried out in camp. BESA Concert party visit Bde and give show in Bde Concert Hall in the evening. The show is called "The ROOSTERS".	
" 23. " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
" 24th " "	Church Services celebrated in Camp. No. 3606846 Cpl BUCKINGHAM J. proceeds to SHILLONG to attend intelligence course.	
" 25. " "	Cadre of 1 weeks duration commences for Junior NCOs.	Cadre programme attached at Appendix B.
" 26. " "	Normal routine duties and training carried out in camp.	
" 27. " "	Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp. Members of the Bn attend ENSA Show called GAY & CONTINENTAL given in 114 Bde Concert Hall in the evening.	
KOHIMA. 28. Sep. 1944.	Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp. Training still on limited scale although position improves a little as men return from leave. Hospital admissions still very high, a large proportion occurring amongst men whilst on leave.	
" 29. " "	Bde exercise carried out in defence of KOHIMA. 2nd KOSB find composite company from Bn to take part in Exercise. Object of exercise to co-ordinate section positions and fire plan, decided upon from TEWT held on 6th Sept 44.	
" 30. " "	Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp.	

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
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REF. MAPS
INDIA 83 K/NW

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1ST OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service. 2 men entered hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
2ND OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with weekly individual training programmes. 2nd Junior N.C.O. Cadre started. 7 men entered hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 21 reinforcements joined Bn. 3188789 Pte Johnson proceeded to Veterinary Course to Army Vet School AMBALA. A picture show was held at Bde Concert Hall called "Thousands Cheer".	J.P. Culpin Lt
3rd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man entered hospital. 14 men returned from hospital. 7 men returned from leave. 3194184 L/Sgt Forrester proceeded on Light Automatic Course at 14th Army School of Training, SHILLONG. 1 reinforcement joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
4th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. 1 man proceeded on leave. Bn football team played S. LANCS, 114 Bde and won 4-3.	J.P. Culpin Lt
5th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	15 BOR's left Bn to proceed to U.K. on repatriation. 4 men returned from leave. 5 men entered hospital. 7 men returned from hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
6th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. C.O's conference was held on training and general matters.	J.P. Culpin Lt
7th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	8 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Bn football team played 53 I.G.H. at KOHIMA and won 2-1. Junior N.C.O's Cadre finished.	J.P. Culpin Lt
8th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service. 3 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. 3195833 L/Cpl Mullany H., 3196231 Pte Niven W., 14587663 Pte Houston represented Bn in 7th Div football team which played 2nd Div team at KOHIMA and lost 0-3.	J.P. Culpin Lt
9th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continue with their weekly individual training programmes. 4 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Capt C.E. Wyburn, 3193178 Pte Earnshaw G., 3252329 Pte Lafferty J. proceeded to DIMAPUR on a Watermanship Course also 14627933 Pte Hughes J. A picture show was held at the Bde Concert Hall called "The Man in Gray". 14510862 Pte Chaney	J.P. Culpin Lt

	H., 14595827 Pte Miller C., 4770335 Pte Porter E., 3131490 Cpl Skilling G., 14382985 Pte Taylor W., 3195300 Pte Shaw J., 14587740 Pte Martin G. were regraded and left Bn to proceed to COMILLA.	J.P. Culpin Lt
10th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 21 men returned from hospital. 3 men returned from leave. 4 men joined Bn as reinforcements. 3189999 L/Sgt Adamson proceeded to U.K. on repatriation.	J.P. Culpin Lt
11th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 1 officer and 4 men returned from hospital. 3195833 L/Cpl Mullany H., 3196231 Pte Niven W., 14587633 Pte Houston, represented the Bn in an Army team which played a touring professional team at KOHIMA. The latter won 4-1.	J.P. Culpin Lt
12th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	A Coy, C Coy and the Defence Pl of H.Q. Coy took part in a tactical exercise. The remainder of the Bn continued with their individual training programmes. 2 men entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital and 1 man returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
13th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	C.O. attended and later held a conference on training and general matters. 2 men entered hospital, 2 men returned from hospital, 2 men returned from leave. 29 reinforcements joined Bn. Bn football team played 7/2 PUNJAB and won 4-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
14th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men entered hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. 6 reinforcements joined Bn. In a five-a-side football match H.Q. Coy beat B Coy 3-0. C Coy beat Adm Coy 2-0, A Coy beat D Coy 3-1.	J.P. Culpin Lt
15th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service held. 2 men entered hospital. 1 man returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. Capt Mann and Lieut Prooth returned from leave. Sgt Erichson returned from CALCUTTA where he had been on duty. Notification was received that 3192832 Sgt Gallacher of B Coy died in B.M.H. LAHORE on 15 OCT 44.	J.P. Culpin Lt
16th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 3rd Junior N.C.O. Cadre started. 11 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital. 25 men returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
17th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men were admitted to hospital. 12 men returned from hospital. 2 reinforcements joined Bn. Capt Wyburn and 3 B.O.R's returned from Watermanship Course at DIMAPUR. 3192069 Cpl Slater, an original K.O.S.B., joined Bn having been transferred from the SEAFORTHS.	J.P. Culpin Lt
18th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Bn football team played the NORFOLKS and won 2-0. Personnel of Bn attended a Band concert given by the band of the N. STAFFS at KOHIMA.	J.P. Culpin Lt

19th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	5 men were admitted to hospital. 15 men returned from hospital. 4 men proceeded on leave. Capt Young and 3 men returned from leave. 7 reinforcements joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
20th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	A coy went on long route march. Other coys carried on with individual training programmes. Capt Stevens returned to Bn from Bde where he was acting as L.O. Cpl Nicols proceeded to U.K. on repatriation. 4 men were admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 9 men proceeded on leave. 1 man returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
21st OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men were admitted to hospital. 1 man returned from hospital. In five-a-side football matches H.Q. Coy beat Adm Coy 2-1, D Coy beat A Coy 1-0, C Coy beat B Coy 3-2.	J.P. Culpin Lt
22nd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service held. Lieut McNish returned from AT and veterinary first aid course at AMBALA. 14 reinforcements joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
23rd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 5 men were admitted to hospital. 9 men returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. 12 reinforcements joined Bn. 4th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced. 14213969 Pte Hawkin H. returned to Bn after attending a course on equipment repairing at 226 A.O.D. DIMAPUR. A picture show was held at the Bde Concert Hall called "Millions Like Us".	J.P. Culpin Lt
24th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Lieut Culpin (Signal Officer) returned from hospital. Bn football team played 89 Bde team and won 3-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
25th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men were admitted to hospital. 6 men returned from hospital. C.O. attended conference held at Div H.Q. on training and general matters. Bn attended an F.S. lecture delivered by the Div F.S. Sgt.	J.P. Culpin Lt
26th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	5 men were admitted to hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 3 men returned from leave. The Mortar Pl gave a mortar demonstration at Div H.Q. Massed Pipe bands of the GORDONS, R.S., CAMERONS, KOSB played selections to Bn. Cpl Mullany and Pte Houston played for 7th Div football team against 2nd Div. The latter won 3-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
27th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Lt. Col. of the "V" Force gave a very interesting lecture to the Bn. 30 reinforcements joined Bn. Lieut Henderson and Sgt Miller left for POONA to attend a Signal Course. 3139859 Pte Johnstone C. left Bn to attend a Saddlers Course at CAWNPORE. L/Sgt Cuthbertson left Bn to take charge of kit dump at RANCHI. Personnel of Bn attended a concert called "Gay and Continental" held at KOHIMA. 446270 Pte Denty J., 14623410 Pte Griffin D., 6351537 Pte Warner C., 3311946 Pte Carter C. were tried by Field	J.P. Culpin Lt

	General Court Martial. Lieut Arnott, Lieut Munro, Lieut Playle, Lieut Geddes joined Bn as reinforcements.	
28th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Personnel of Bn attended 2nd Night of "Gay and Continental" at KOHIMA. Inter-coy five-a-side football matches were played. 3 men returned to Bn from escort duty. 25 men proceeded on leave. 4 men returned from leave. Sgt Cooper, L/Sgt Guthrie, Ptes Lachan, James, McCormick, Aitken, L/Cpl Reid, Ptes McLaren, England, McDonald, Hughes, Salter, Woods, Nicolson left Bn graded to take charge of kit dump at ATTOCK. Lieut Booth also left Bn graded. An R.S.M's drill parade was held.	J.P. Culpin Lt
29th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service held. 2 men were admitted to hospital. 11 men returned from hospital. 6 men returned from leave. L/Cpl Galbraith returned from duty with 2nd Div. Lieut McGill, Lieut Brazier joined Bn as reinforcements. Cpl Johnstone returned to Bn from a Signal Course at POONA.	J.P. Culpin Lt
30th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 8 men were admitted to hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. Lieut Dale joined Bn as a reinforcement. Senior Cadre for Officers and Sgts commenced. 5th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced.	J.P. Culpin Lt
31st OCT '44 - KOHIMA	5 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital. 3194184 L/Sgt Forrester returned from a Light Automatic Course at SHILLONG. Bn Officers attended a lecture at KOHIMA given by General Slim, Army Commander, on the War in Burma from Sept 43 to present date. 2nd Div Concert Party held a concert at the Bde concert hall.	J.P. Culpin Lt

2ND BN THE K.O.S.B. 1st-30th NOV. 1944 Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY
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REF. MAPS:-

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	2 men were admitted to hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. 149 reinforcements joined Bn. Cpl Johnstone returned from a Signal Course at POONA. 3606846 Cpl Buckingham returned from an Intelligence Course at SHILLONG.	J.P. Culpin Lt
2nd NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	2 men were admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 3186458 Pte. Hart W. returned from a Cook's Course at POONA. 16 reinforcements joined Bn. A conjuring concert was held at the Bde Concert Hall.	J.P. Culpin Lt
3rd NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	3 men were admitted to hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. 41 reinforcements joined Bn. 14389227 Cpl Davies returned from a Signal Course at POONA.	J.P. Culpin Lt
4th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	6 men were admitted to hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
5th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Rest day with Church Service held. 2 men were admitted to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
6th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 2nd Senior N.C.O. Cadre commenced. 6th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced. 4 men were admitted to hospital. 7 men returned from hospital. Capt Ferguson returned from a Mortar Course. Major Courtney-Hood returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
7th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	2 men entered hospital. 13 men returned from hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
8th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	18 graded men left Bn for COMILLA. 11 men were admitted to hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. Capt Campbell (Padre) returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
9th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	10 men were admitted to hospital. 6 men returned from hospital. 3 men returned from leave. 5 reinforcements joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
10th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Training was carried out in preparation for Bn Exercise. 9 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
11th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	2 minutes silence was observed throughout the Bn. 3 men were admitted to hospital. 10 men returned from hospital. 13 men proceeded on leave. 10 men returned from leave. 3194678 Cpl. McDonald left Bn to proceed to U.K. on repatriation. 3191904 L/Sgt. Campbell returned to Bn from a Mortar Course.	J.P. Culpin Lt

12th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Rest day with Church Service held. L/Cpl Brown and Cpl. Mullany represented Bn in a football match of 7th Div versus 2nd Div. The latter won 4-1. A picture show was held at Bde Concert Hall called "Northern Pursuit".	J.P. Culpin Lt
13th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 3rd Senior Cadre commenced. 7th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced. 5 men were admitted to hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. 5884382 Sgt. H Jolly returned from kit dump at RANCHI.	J.P. Culpin Lt
14th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	1 man was admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 4 men proceeded on leave. 24 men proceeded to U.K. on repatriation. Major Browning, Capt Stevens, Capt Turnbull, Major Russell and 9 B.O.R's proceeded on attachment to GORDONS for infantry & tank co-operation training. 4 men proceeded on Escort Duty. An inter-coy boxing tournament was held.	J.P. Culpin Lt
15th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	1 man was admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 4 men proceeded on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
16th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	3 men were admitted to hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. 4 men proceeded on leave. 1 cook and 5 drivers proceeded on attachment to GORDONS for infantry and tank co-operation training.	J.P. Culpin Lt
17th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	4 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
18th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	2 men were admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. A mobile cinema visited Bn and gave a show called "Two Heavenly Bodies". 1 man proceeded on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
19th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Rest day with Church Service held. 3 men were admitted to hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 5 B.O.R's proceeded on attachment to GORDONS for tank and infantry co-operation training. 1 reinforcement joined Bn. Gunners Concert Party gave a show at Bde Concert Hall.	J.P. Culpin Lt
20th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Bn prepared for 5 days Bn Exercise "Trek". 4 men were admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 14283256 Pte Gray J returned from a Drivers-Mechanics Course at AMINGAON. 15 men returned from leave. B Coy and Pioneers Pl moved out to NERHEMA to act as enemy on Bn Exercise "Trek".	J.P. Culpin Lt
21st NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Bn moved out on Exercise "Trek". The object of which was to practice (a) Bn Battle Drill, (b) Patrolling, (c) Routine of living during operations. Movements were carried out on AT basis supplemented by Bn Jeeps. Around 0900 hrs D Coy contacted enemy at Iron Bridge (522774). Attempted envelopment from WEST and failed. A Coy successfully enveloped enemy from SOUTH-EAST and occupied area track junction	J.P. Culpin Lt

	(524778) and enemy was cleaned up from Iron Bridge area and on ridge to NORTH covering it. C Coy resumed advance to area M.S. 16 (521814) and contacted enemy. A Coy reached area WEST of NERHEMA and fighting patrol opened track after a short action to M.S. 14 (495800). Q.M's party moved forward and joined Bn who were in a defensive bivouac area SOUTH of C Coy. Patrol activity by C Coy enemy continued throughout night.	J.P. Culpin Lt
22nd NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Patrolling by C Coy continued. Enemy posns and flanks pin-pointed EAST and WEST of track area M.S. 16 (521814). D Coy enveloped from WEST and dominated enemy L of C, area M.S. 17 (523825). Small action fought. Numbers of casualties inflicted on enemy whilst thinning-out. A Coy passed through C and D Coys and advanced NORTH of CHECHAMA and small pl. actions were fought against enemy patrols between CHECHAMA and NACHAMA in area MS 20 (546863). A Coy in further advance bumped and dispersed further enemy patrols. A Coy consolidated on high ground area MS 20 for the night with patrols forward to regain contact with enemy. Remainder of Bn bivouaced close up behind A Coy just SOUTH of MS 20 for night. Own and enemy patrols active throughout night and much information as to enemy positions and movement gained by O.P's. Enemy found to be in position astride MS 22 ~~(886543)~~(543886) and track-junction (549874) with fighting patrols forward.	J.P. Culpin Lt J.P. Culpin Lt
23rd NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Detailed patrolling and observation by all coys. C and D Coys patrolling with view to a night-march and envelopment from EAST. Enemy counter-patrolling. During day A Coy move forward and after successful battle secured track-junction (549874). 1800 hrs C and D Coys and Tac H.Q. move forward to forming up area track junction (549874) and pressure exerted by A Coy throughout night in attempt to winkle any isolated positions under cover of Bn fire plan and in order to hold enemy frontally. Throughout night enveloping attack on enemy left rear was carried out C and D Coys. Important enemy stronghold on O.P. Hill (550882) successfully attacked and captured with prisoners approx. 0130	J.P. Culpin Lt J.P. Culpin Lt
24th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	hrs 24th NOV after arduous march through trackless country and very steep hills. C Coy meanwhile had dominated more high ground to EAST. By 0800 hrs last remaining enemy positions, vicinity MS 24 (557905), were pinpointed and dominated and finally C Coy successfully attacked and destroyed enemy under cover of Bn fire plan. 1000 hrs Exercise ends. C.O's conference for all ranks down to section-commanders. 1100 hrs Bn marched to "peace" bivouac area near MS 17 (523825).	J.P. Culpin Lt

25th NOV '44 – KOHIMA.	Bn marches back to camp. During the Exercise 3 men had been admitted to hospital. On the 24th NOV. officers and B.O.R's returned from Tank Course with GORDONS. [Probable page(s) missing in original]	J.P. Culpin Lt

2nd Bn K.O.S.B.

Army Form C.2118

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

MAP REFS
83 K/NW
KOHIMA
NORTH

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	Court Martial of 4615174 Pte Callaghan F. resumed at 53 IGH KOHIMA and completed. C.O. recces area for two company camp along Jessami track.	
	C.O. attends Brigade Conference at 1700 hrs re Brigade Scheme 2-6 Dec 44.	J.P. Culpin Lt
	Capt J.R. Stewart takes up Staff attachment at 7 Ind Inf Div. 7 BORs went on leave.	
	1915 hrs O Gp Conference on Bde Exercise "Hope" at which A & B Coys were ordered to find two recce patrols to RV at Pt 486721 South of Merema at 1030 hrs and C & D Coys to provide two to RV at the same point at 1400 hrs. Rest of Bn to RV South of Merema by 1200 hrs on 3rd Dec 44.	
2nd Dec 44 - KOHIMA	0830 hrs C.O. and IO go to pt 486721 for recce	
	Patrols of A B C D Coys out all day in areas 480760 474766 468766. Reports collated by I Section at patrol bases by 0800 hrs 3 Dec 44. Bn prepare for move to concentration area. 1500 hrs CO returns from Recce.	J.P. Culpin Lt
3rd Dec 44 - KOHIMA	0745 C.O. leaves for concentration area. 0815 R and O Gps leave to meet C.O. 0900 hrs Bn marches out to concentration area. 0900 hrs Patrols report no enemy in Cheswema but enemy a Coy strong hold small feature running S.W. down ridge from CHESWEMA. Dug in posn found at 470765 with L.M.G. firing South. Section of enemy located at 481766. 1200 hrs Bn concentrated as follows:- Bn HQ 482742 A Coy 483743 B Coy 481742 C Coy 478741 D Coy 482732. O.P. established 485741 patrol base 482742. 1230 hrs Patrols report 800 Japs approx at CHESWEMA but considerable number North of Keruma. Enemy identified as 51 Regt but reduced by 50%. No early reinforcement likely. No enemy South of Cheswema. No excessive movement on BOKAJAN track. Probably 1 full strength Bn there. 1500 hrs C.O. calls R & O Gps and gives following orders ⊙ Intention to capture CHESWEMA A & B Coys to form up S.E. of CHESWEMA A Coy left B Coy right and drive fwd on to CHESWEMA.	J.P. Culpin Lt

	Probable time of start 0930 hrs. D Coy RHQ C Coy to be ready to move along BOKAJAN track at 1015 hrs. Fire Plan:- 4 Squadrons Hurri-bombers and whole of 139 Regt RA to blast CHESWEMA H-30 to H. H - H+5 2 Bties of Mountain Artillery to engage NW of CHESWEMA.	
4th Dec 44 - MEREMA	0001 hrs Patrols of A & C Coys report enemy thinning out and evacuating CHESWEMA. 0030 hrs O Gp called and attack ordered for 0700 hrs A & B Coys to attack from S.E. C Coy to push along BOKAJAN TRACK on to pt 465775 and then to send out a fighting patrol to contact a fighting patrol to be sent out by B Coy on reaching the objective to the BOKAJAN track. BHQ and D Coy to be ready to move when these patrols meet and report the road open. 0545 hrs Patrols report further enemy withdrawals 0700 hrs CO's plan put into action 0930 hrs Road opened by junction of C and B Coy patrols and BHQ and D Coy move as ordered.	J.P. Culpin Lt
	Main body reach 492773 at 1015 hrs. 1100 hrs O Gp called and ordered to advance with the intention of re-gaining contact with enemy reported 2,000 strong in area Phekekriema. 1115 Bn advances along Bokajan track. Order of March C B Mortars BHQ A D. 1400 hrs D Coy reach 4563. No contact. 1430 hrs Enemy one section strong reported one mile along track from 4563. Enemy destroyed 1450 hrs. 1530 hrs C Coy meet small arms fire at 435867 with assistance of Mortars. 1615 hrs One Platoon enemy contacted 435869 and destroyed. 1630 hrs Bn established itself for the night 435867. 1915 hrs Enemy patrol active against A Coy perimeter positions. 2000 hrs Jeep ration convoy ambushed at 440853. 7 Jeeps destroyed rations lost. 0530 hrs Patrols report several verey lights fired by enemy. 0600 hrs P/W Captain	J.P. Culpin Lt
5th Dec 44 - KERUMA	captured. On interrogation reveals he comes from 5 Coy 2 Bn 51 Regt. Said enemy on feature 3339 one Coy strong but main body withdrawn. 0700 hrs Fighting patrol of A Coy capture point 3339. 0900 hrs Bn moves out to capture ring contour NE of pt 3339. 0920 hrs Leading tps held up by shelling. 0925 hrs Mortars go into action against ring contour NE 3339. Track east of 3339 shelled by enemy and impassable.	
	BHQ moves to foot of 3339 and digs in. Revealed enemy have 2 tps 105 mm's and two or more 75 mm's guns. Coys disposed around crest of 3339. 0945 hrs Bde Cmdr arrives 3339 for conference with C.O. and in order to formulate a plan. Air strike arranged for 1400 hrs. Decided C & D Coys would attack enemy by left flanking	J.P. Culpin Lt

	encircling attack and they move off at 1415 hrs with C.O. in command. The going is very difficult. 1530 hrs C & D Coys reach their position in caves below enemy position. Arty smoke enemy position. D attempts a frontal assault, are checked and C Coy attempts an encirclement from the West in an attempt to get to the rear of enemy. C Coy breaks into enemy position and exercise ends. Whole battalion bivouac at pt 3339 in non-tactical bivouac.	
6th DEC 44 - BOKAJAN TRACK	0630 hrs All bedding ferried back to barracks in MT. 0900 hrs Bn begin the march back to barracks, in order BHQ C B HQ A D Coys Mules. 1300 hrs Halt North of Mile 18 and have hot meal. 1400 hrs March resumed. 1630 hrs Bn arrives back in Camp.	J.P. Culpin Lt
- KOHIMA	1 man evacuated with Malaria to MDS. 2000 hrs ENSA concert at BDE THEATRE called "WHOOPEE".	J.P. Culpin Lt
7th DEC 44 - KOHIMA	Routine as per Sunday. 1000 hrs Company Comdrs' Conference ⊙ 1030 hrs Conference of all officers, WO's and NCO's down to section comdrs on EXERCISE HOPE.	
	2 men to hospital. 12 men return from hospital. Bn detailed to find guard of honour at IMPHAL on 15th DEC 44 and at KOHIMA on the 18th. 100 men to be selected from A & D Coys.	J.P. Culpin Lt
8th DEC 44 - KOHIMA	Lt F.J.G. Macdonald joins the Bn. Training of Ceremonial Guard begins. 0900 hrs OC's B & C Coys and Mortar Officer recce field firing area at CHAKHABAMA. 6165 Lt/QM Macdonald leaves for 28 days leave in UK. Pioneers go out to CHAKHABAMA. Lt A.C. Thomas, 2/LT F Dale and two NCO's attend course on "Close Quarter Battle" given locally. 2 men returned from hospital. 2 men admitted. 1400 hrs Conference for CO and Company Cmdrs at HQ 89 Ind Inf BDE on exercise HOPE. 1800 hrs All available officers attend a lecture by Lt Col H. Grant Taylor on "Close quarter combat".	J.P. Culpin Lt
9th DEC 44 - KOHIMA	Visit by team of Psychologists 120 tested between 0930 hrs and 1100 hrs. 6 BOR's leave for 28 days UK leave. 2 discharged from hospital and 5 admitted. 16 graded BOR's posted away. Sgt Kennedy leaves for CHAKALA as an instructor. 1510 hrs 2i/c holds conference on welfare and UK leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
10th DEC 44 - KOHIMA	REST DAY with Church parade. Team of psychologists again visit Bn to continue tests. 2 BO's and 209 BOR's tested in the two visits. 6 BOR's return from hospital. 2000 hrs Mobile Cinema visits Unit. B and C Coys move out to CHAKHABAMA field firing area.	J.P. Culpin Lt
11 Dec - KOHIMA	0830 hrs HQ Coy, Cadre, move out to CHAKHABAMA.	

	3 men admitted to hospital. 1 man discharged. A & D Coys practise for ceremonial guard.	
12 Dec - KOHIMA	Visit by DDOS 7 DIV. CO moves to CHAKHABAMA. Advance Party for Ceremonial Guard moves to Imphal. 3 men admitted to hospital. 8 men discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
13 Dec - KOHIMA	C.O. remains at CHAKHABAMA. Guard leaves for IMPHAL. Three men admitted to hospital and 7 discharged. 2000 hrs ENSA show at KOHIMA GARRISON THEATRE. 7 men go on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
14 DEC - KOHIMA	BRIGADIER visits CO at CHAKHABAMA. 1100 hrs A Coy moves to 7 DIV HQ to dig demonstration defensive posns. 3 men admitted to hospital, 8 discharged, 1 man goes on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
15 DEC KOHIMA	C.O. at CHAKHABAMA. 1415 Demonstration of defensive positions at 7 DIV HQ. 2i/c, Capts Charlier and Hayes attend. Ceremonial Guard at IMPHAL under Major Newcome at which medal presentation takes place.	J.P. Culpin Lt
16 DEC KOHIMA	Capt Wyburn posted to JAMSHEDPUR and S.O.S. accordingly. CO returns from CHAKHABAMA. Guard returns from IMPHAL. Orders received for Bn to move to area TAMU.	J.P. Culpin Lt
17 DEC - KOHIMA	REST DAY with Church service. B & C Coys march from CHAKHABAMA during night. Rehearsals for Medal presentation on KOHIMA AIRSTRIP on 18 DEC. CO attends. 0815 hrs 50 men of D Coy form part of cordon round airstrip. 5 men admitted to hospital, 2 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
18 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	0900 hrs Presentation of Medals and awards on KOHIMA AIRSTRIP by Supreme Allied Commander Lord Louis Mountbatten. Cpl Walls receives Certificate of Gallantry and Sgt Michie the D.C.M. HQ Coy march in from CHAKHABAMA. 2 men admitted to hospital, 5 discharged, 4 return from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
19 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	0900 hrs Court Martial of Ptes Bonnar, Brand and Simpson. 1430 C.O.'s company cmdrs conference re Bn Move. Bn to move in M.T. on 28 DEC 44. Mules by road on 21 DEC. 4 men to hospital, 6 discharged, 4 return from leave. 1 B.O.R. re-inforcement. C.S.M. Douglas repatriated on compassionate grounds.	J.P. Culpin Lt
20 Dec - KOHIMA	Rest Day for B C & HQ Coys. Lt Prooth to hospital. 4 BORs admitted to hospital, 6 discharged. 2 BORs despatched on leave. 1 returns from leave. C.O. visits Animal Transport section at CHAKHABAMA where they celebrate Christmas.	J.P. Culpin Lt
21 DEC KOHIMA	Lt AC Thomas takes over duties as BDE L.O. and is struck off strength accordingly. Capt M Ferguson despatched on leave with 1	J.P. Culpin Lt

		BOR. 2 BORs to hospital, 3 discharged. C/Sgt Fulton despatched to ENSA.	
22 DEC	KOHIMA	0900 hrs Summary Trial of Lt DM McGill on charge under Sect 40 neglect to take adequate safety precautions whilst on the range. Reprimanded. 3 BORs admitted to hospital, 4 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
23 Dec -	KOHIMA	4 BORs despatched on UK 28 days leave. Day spent in sports with visit from mobile Cinema at 2000 hrs.	J.P. Culpin Lt
24 Dec	KOHIMA	REST DAY. 0930 Voluntary church parade. 1100 hrs to 1630 hrs P.R.I. runs a horse-racing meeting. 1830 hrs Voluntary Church service round a bonfire.	J.P. Culpin Lt
25 DEC	KOHIMA	Xmas Day. 1000 hrs Drum head service. 1230 hrs C.O. visits company messes & Sgt Mess with Adjutant 2i/c RQMS RSM and two pipers.	J.P. Culpin Lt
26 Dec	KOHIMA	Capt W. Sulis (graded) posted to Deolali. Preparations for Bn Move.	J.P. Culpin Lt
27 Dec	KOHIMA	0700 hrs B & D Coys leave for TAMU in M.T. 0730 hrs C.O. leave for TAMU.	J.P. Culpin Lt
28 DEC	KOHIMA	0715 hrs BHQ HQ Coy A & C Coys leave for Palel via IMPHAL. Arrive PALEL 1600 hrs.	J.P. Culpin Lt
29 DEC	PALEL	0100 hrs Bn leaves for TAMU. 0740 hrs Arrive staging area South of TAMU. 1 man evacuated to hospital. C.O. recces training areas.	J.P. Culpin Lt
30 DEC	TAMU	Bn prepares Camp. Routine kit and equipment inspections. 30 BORs sent on leave. 2i/c & Adjutant recce range areas.	J.P. Culpin Lt
31 DEC	TAMU	REST DAY with drum head service at 0930 hrs. 2100 hrs Visit of Mobile Cinema 1600 hrs Major Rose, Black Watch, joined the Bn as 2i/c.	J.P. Culpin Lt

2 / K.O.S.BORDERERS 1st to 31st JANUARY 1945

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF MAPS
1/25,000
TAMU NORTH
TAMU SOUTH
84 J/1

(a) ORIGINAL
~~(b) DUPLICATE~~
~~(C) TRIPLICATE~~

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st JANUARY - TAMU.	General Holiday for New Years Day. C.O. 2i/c & A/Adj visited companies.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd JANUARY - TAMU.	B & D Companies left base camp for 2 days river crossing practice on the YU River approximate reference Square 8176. Capt (Adj) J.R. STEWART returned from 7th Indian Division HQ & resumed appointment of Adjutant. 2 men admitted to hospital today. 2 BORs joined as reinforcements.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd JANUARY - TAMU.	Bn carried out normal training i.e. Open country warfare, & thick jungle warfare, compass & navigation in close country. One man admitted to hospital & seven arrived back in the Bn from hospital. 1 BOR returned from leave.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
4th JANUARY - TAMU.	MAJOR Browning leaves Bn to take new appointment as 2/I/C 1st Queens at Shillong. Companies carried out training as above. Summary of Evidence taken by the Adjutant in the case of No 3316450 Pte Arnott J.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
5th JANUARY - TAMU.	Advance party under command of Captain T.R. Turnbull ie 1 Officer & 9 men left TAMU area map 791776 (TAMU-SOUTH) to proceed to Bn concentration area INTHE - MYITTHA River Valley. M/R 589168 (ref map 84 J/1). B & D Companies returned to Bn Base Camp. Admin instructions issued to Coys for move to Bn concentration area. Two BORs returned from hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
6th JANUARY - TAMU.	After a very wet night, due to "CHRISTMAS MONSOONS", the Bn remained under cover of bivouacs & spent the morning clearing & maintaining weapons. Bn camp area turned into a "quagmire" and water had to be drained into a nearby chaung. A F.G.C.M. was held at Bn HQ in the case of Pte Arnott. Major Rose was President, Capt Stewart - Prosecutor, Capt Calderbank - Defending Officer &	

	Lieut Geddes as a member of the court. The Bn was inoculated with T.A.B. and anti-Tetanus today.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
7th JANUARY - TAMU.	Extremely heavy rain continued throughout the night, but at about 0900 hrs the sun broke through. The remainder of the day was spent in drying clothes, erecting new shelters & cleaning weapons. All roads are closed & the move to the concentration area was indefinitely postponed. 3 BORs were admitted to hospital. Holy Communion & Morning Service was cancelled due to the rain.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
8th JANUARY - TAMU.	Weather is back to normal again & training resumed. B Company went out on a route march to the YU RIVER (TAMU-SOUTH) where zeroing of weapons, river crossing practice & swimming took place. They returned to camp at 1300 hrs. The Padre, Rev AM Campbell, held his usual Padres hour and the subject of repatriation for BORs was widely discussed. One man was admitted to hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
9th JANUARY - TAMU	Transport to move the Bn has still not arrived, due to the roads being closed with the 2 days rain. The Bn was put on a "4 hours notice", & companies marched to the River camp area to continue "Watermanship" training. See YU River (TAMU-SOUTH). Three BORs were admitted to hospital and 1 discharged. 1 BOR rejoined the Bn from leave. Pte Bell (No. 3190416) rejoined us having completed a Motor Mechanics Course at Rawalpindi.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
10th JANUARY - TAMU.	The Commanding Officer held an R+O Group & explained that transport would arrive to move the Bn. Since no exact time was obtainable the Bn was to be ready to move at 0900 hrs. At 1045 hrs, word was received that our transport had been diverted to some other unit, & that there would be no more before the 12th January. The C.O. then gave orders to re-erect bivouacs etc, & put the Bn on 4 hours notice to move. Since it was into the afternoon before the camp was put in order & meals prepared, the remainder of the afternoon was spent in sports & "Housey-Housey". The companies challenged each other at Basketball & provided plenty of amusement to the Bn. Weather has now changed & the roads are now nearly back to normal. 5 men were admitted to hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj

11th JANUARY - TAMU.	Lieut Brazier with 2 jeeps & trailers left at 0700 hrs this morning for TAUKKYAN ( ) taking with him mail which had been held up for 4 days. He was ordered to bring back the mail for the whole Brigade, & to purchase as many cigarettes as possible. Cigarettes have been very short & we have completely exhausted our meagre reserves. Incoming mail for the past 4 days still unlocated. 1 man admitted to hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
12th JANUARY - TAMU.	Corps transport arrived at 1830 hrs and was allotted to Companies. Trucks loaded up & lined up ready for the move out at 0330 hrs on 13 JAN. Bn then rested or slept until 0200 hrs 13 JAN. Lieut Brazier arrived back to Bn area at 2345 hrs having been unsuccessful in obtaining any incoming mail. This is the 5th day without mail & already there are signs of discontent amongst the men.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
13th JANUARY - TAMU. - INTHE	Reveille was at 0200 hrs, & the Bn had tea served which was made by the baggage party. At 0330 hrs the Bn moved out in Corps transport for destination at Bde concentration area at INTHE (ref map 84J/1 - 589168). At 0715 hrs the Bn arrived at YAZAGYO - mile 61 (RP 5705 - map 84I (Eastwards) & halted for breakfast. At 0950 hrs the Bn moved on to Stage No.6 TAUKKYAN - 84I (RP 5055 on Quarter inch map) which was to be our destination for that day. On arrival there our Bde L.O. Lieut Thomas informed us that we were to proceed to INTHE (ref map 84J/1 - 589168) by transport. Bn arrived in area INTHE at 1600 hrs & was met by Capt Turnbull and guides who directed companies to their respective areas. The C.O. held an "O" Group at 1700 hrs & informed Coy Commanders as to the Tactical Situation. "Stand-to" was at 1800 hrs, & all lights, fires, smoking & talking were to be restricted to a minimum. 1 man to hospital & 5 men rejoined from hospital, also 4 men from leave.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
14th JANUARY - INTHE.	2/Lieut Hewitt joined the Bn today & was posted to D Company. Stand-to at 0600 hrs started the day for us & the Bn proceeded to improve positions. Brigade Operation Order No2 received at 0800 hrs. The C.O. held R&O Group, giving orders for onward move of Bn to area 1000x SE of KINYANTAUNG (near MYINTHA 628960 (84J/2). This was on an all pack basis & we received 50 extra mules to lift blankets, mosquito nets & groundsheets. The C.O. & the Adj attended a conference at Bde HQ on future operations. The remainder of the day was spent in rope-loading kit & washing	

	clothes etc. The Bn marched out at 1800 hrs to the skirl of the pipes playing the regimental march past on the following order of march. Bn HQ, HQ, D, C, B & A Coys followed by the mules.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
15th JANUARY - KINYANTAUNG.	The Bn arrived in the Stage No.1 area at (621960 - area MYINTHA (84J/2 one inch) after a gruelling 16 mile night march. Advance parties met the Bn & put people in their respective area. Stand-to was at 0600 hrs & thereafter the day was spent in resting & sleeping. The C.O. held an "O" Group at Bn HQ at 1400 hrs, giving details for the onward march of the Bn to KAN (363240 - 84J/3 one inch map). The Bn moved out at 1800 hrs in the following order of march. Mules, Bn HQ, C, B, HQ, A, D & Admin Coys. Still no sign of incoming mail. 2 men admitted to hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
16th JANUARY - KAN	Bn arrived in the area of KAN, Stage 2 (363240 - 84J/3 1" to 1 mile) at 1245 hrs on 15th January after another very hard 12 mile march. The roads were extremely dusty & very rough with the result a number of sprained ankles to some feet were involved. Since no moon was up it made the march very difficult. Bn rested as on the 16th JAN & the C.O. gave out orders for the move to Stage 3. The Bn moved out at 1800 hrs as follows. Mules, Bn HQ, D, HQ, A, B, C and Admin Coys. We arrived at our destination after 13½ miles of rough marching. Our destination was changed from area KAN to 4½ miles further on. Bn marched out at 1800 hrs & arrived at destination at 2310 hrs. Men received the usual hot tea and haversack rations on arrival.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
17th JANUARY - TEHLAW.	After having had approx 6 hours sleep the Bn "Stood-to" at 0600 hrs. The CO had a conference & informed us that there was a possibility of Japanese Long Range patrols operating in our area. The necessary precautions were taken. At 1200 hrs the C.O. attended a conference at Bde & gave out orders for Column "B" of which he was to command for the forward move of the Bde. The remainder of the day was spent in cutting down kit to a bare minimum & making final arrangements for rear & baggage parties. At 1830 hrs the CO held an "O" Group conference & gave orders for next move forward on the 19th. At 1835 the Adj received a message that 40 reinforcements were at KAN (363240 - 84J/3 1" to 1 mile) airfield. Trucks were despatched & returned with 2 officers & 26 ORs. Remainder of reinforcement were for the 1/11 Sikhs & 4/8 Gurkhas. Captain Ferguson & Lieut Killip were the 2 officers. Capt Ferguson assumed appointment of Mortar Officer. 9 BORs	

	admitted to hospital & 2 rejoined Bn from hospital. 1 man returned from a course & 3 from leave.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
18th JANUARY - TEHLAW.	Bn still resting & organising for the Column march which is to advance SOUTH to contact Japs who are withdrawing SOUTH. Bn area is TEHLAW (84J/3 - 349155 1" to 1 mile). The C.O. attended a conference at Div HQ near KAN. CO held an R&O Group & gave orders out for the move to area SAINGDU (388980 84J/4). Stand to now changed to 1815 hrs.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
19th JANUARY - SAINGDU	The Bn moved out from TEHLAW & marched 14 miles along a very dusty and rough road to our destination near SAINGDU (388980 - 84J/4). The going was very bad but the troops, although very tired came on in grand form. Guides met the respective groups and the Bn went into Protected Areas. Ten men were evacuated to the Bn base as unfit. COs "O" Group at 1700 hrs gave detail for onward march of Bn. Men engaged in refreshing wash & swim in a nearby river. The C.O., Lieut Radcliffe & the Rev Campbell were ordered to be evacuated by the M.O. on the 20th JAN.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
20th JANUARY - SAINGDU	The Bn had "stand-to" at 0600 hrs, breakfasts at 0645 hrs, moved out at 0800 hrs. Bn arrived at LENU (439891 - 84J/4) after a reasonable 12 mile march. We still have managed to bring up 6 Jeeps & trailers with us. Still no mail.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
21st JANUARY - TAZAN	Bn arrived at TAZAN ( ) after a good 14 mile march. Colonel Conder handed over command of B Column to Colonel Hamilton 1/11 Sikhs. Col Hamilton gave Major Rose orders that our Bn had to do an encircling march on its own. No jeeps & trailers can travel over our route & so we are now on an all pack basis. The men unfit to do the distance have been weeded out & were returned to base. MT under command Capt Stalker travel with Column B. We had an air-drop by Dakotas including 2 days F.S. rations. Kit now reduced to 1 Battledress, F.S.M.O. washing & shaving kit. C.O. gave orders for onward move to KYAW (630643 - 84J/5 1" to 1 mile).	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
22nd JANUARY - KYAW	Bn moved out in 3 groups. At 0600 hrs Major Courtenay-Hood now acting 2/i/c & Lieut Culpin with 1 Pl moved out as a Flying Column to go on ahead to arrange our disps & to get guides & coolies for next days march. C Coy plus R&O Groups under the C.O. left at 0630 hrs & the main body left at 0645 hrs under the Adj.	

	1 BIC bombardier & 1 Burmese guide went with the flying column & the Advance party respectively. Bn arrived at KYAW after a very gruelling march over a 16 mile elephant track & took up a defensive night position near KYAW (630643). C.O. made contact with CO Chin Hill Bn & got latest information on Japanese movements. Our air-drop did NOT materialise so now reduced to 1 days FS rations & emergency rations. Mules in good condition. C.O. gave out orders for onward move.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
23rd JANUARY - TANDAW	Bn moved out as above with guides with A Coy leading & after doing the 17 miles over the elephant track arrived at TANDAW (683465 84K/5 1" to 1 mile) with all the men in good heart. Natives gave us a good welcome & seemed very friendly. Had a successful air-drop today. No mail dropped. CO had R&O groups at 1600 hrs for onward move. Plenty water available from KYAW CHAUNG. No sick except blistered feet & sores.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
24th JANUARY - MAUK-KABAING	Bn "stood-to" at 0600 hrs, had breakfast at 0630 hrs & marched out as the 2 previous with D Coy leading & with B, Bn HQ & HQ Coy, C & A Coy escorting the mules. Travelling along the elephant track the Bn reached the village of MAUK-KABAING (633332 - 84K/6 1" to 1 mile) after an 8 mile march. Original intention had been to go to TAUNG-KABAING (630302 - 84K/6) but contact was made with B Column & the CO had orders to wait here. Air-drop successful & official mail was dropped by 2 AUSTERs on the Paddy field nearby.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
25th JANUARY - NYAUNGBINTHA	At 0700 hrs the main body left MAUK-KABIN with local guides & acted as Advance guard to B Column. At 1030 hrs Bn less D Coy & mules arrived at destination & proceeded to put a road-block across the TILIN-PAUK ROAD at MS 57-57½ (656205). Dispositions were as follows. A Coy - 655208. B Coy - 656212. C Coy 657213. D Coy area 664213 protecting Bn HQ, HQ Coy & Admin Coy. 1 Pl D Coy on high ground (664209), Bn HQ at 661211. Air strip & water points were secured. Bn dug in & settled down for the night. Capt Young & 5 men patrolled to NYAUNGBINTHA (679195 - 84K/6) but no enemy seen. Stand-to at 1815 hrs.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
26th JANUARY - NYAUNGBINTHA	Stand-to started day at 0600 hrs. At 0615 hrs message received to say 30 JAPS arrived NYAUNGBINTHA & about 10 JAPS in area (655200 - 84K/6). CO sent out D Coy plus 1 Pl of A Coy & 1 det Mortars to destroy the enemy. Later report, 20 to 30 JAPS withdrew into area SOUTH and from CHAUNG-U (6916 - 84K/6). D Coy met no opposition &	

	returned to base leaving 1 pl at NYAUNGBINTHA. Patrols to SATHEIN (710210) and PEBINSHIMA (685190) & reported N.E.S. Patrol to CHAUNG-U also saw no enemy.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
27th JANUARY - THAYETTAW	At 0600 hrs this morning firing broke out to the SOUTH of our position on the main road near our Bn positions at NYAUNGBINTHA. It turned out to be about 30 Japs who ran into the Gunners who were harboured on the main road. Fire was returned & the Japs retreated SOUTH towards THAYETTAW (706099 - 84K/7). Bn moved out at 0830 hrs having first sent out a Platoon under Lieut Geddes to clear road to MS 56. He reported N.E.S. but reported plenty of footprints. Bn arrived in area of THAYETTAW at about 1330 hrs after passing through 1/11 Sikhs at PAUK & cleared road to the high ground SOUTH of THAYETTAW. Bn HQ set up in the CHAUNG at (701099 - 84K/7) with COYS disposed of as follows. B Coy on ring contour (695099) to road running along chaung from WEST to EAST & tying in with D Coy at 695094 who were on the high ground & astride the track. A Coy sat astride the track near the village of THAYETTAW at about (705098 - 84J/7) linking up with C Coy on high ground at about (706093) thus forming all round defence. Distance marched was about 12 miles along very dusty earth track. Lt-Colonel Conder, Capt Rev Campbell & 10 men rejoined the Bn. Major Rose assumed 2/i/c and Major Courtenay-Hood took over command of B Coy. - 9 men evacuated sick to ADS today. The Brigadier arrived and gave the CO orders for onward move of Bn. We have 1 Bty (500 Bty of 136 Fd Regt in support who came into our "Box" at (702099). C.O. gave out verbal orders at 1800 hrs. Quiet night & our patrols & ambushes reported N.E.S.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
28th JANUARY - TANGEDAW.	Bn stand-to at 1600 hrs & moved out at 0730 hrs in the following order of march. A Coy, Tac HQ, "O" Group, Bty of 136 Fd Regt, REs, C Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, RAP, mules and D Coy. B Coy remained behind to protect a troop of guns which were in support, & followed on behind on being relieved by 4/8 GR. The objective was to be the high ground on the EAST bank of the YAW-CHAUNG in square (8705). Failing to make the high ground, the Bn was to establish itself near the area of THANBYA-AING (8504 - 84K/11). The Bn after crossing the YAW CHAUNG twice & clearing the high ground and villages eventually arrived at square (8404) without opposition. A Coy reported that enemy seen on high ground area (8705). The C.O. ordered the gunners & the Mortar Officer to tickle this up, & whilst this was going on A Coy crossed the	

	chaung & eventually secured objective. Bn took up a defended locality roughly as follows. A Coy on hill feature (862053) connecting up with C who were on high ground (873056). C Coy connected up with D Coy who established themselves on high ground at (876052) & in turn linked up with B Coy whose area was from 876048 to chaung then along chaung to connect up with A Coy. Brigadier arrived & gave the C.O. his orders for next days move which were passed on by the CO at R&O groups conference at 1745 hrs. Patrols reported N.E.S. but had information of Jap activities around the villages of YEBYADAW (8803) and THAMADAW (8903). Verey-lights presumably fired by Jap isolated parties seen at 2359 hrs to our NORTH & SOUTH. Rest of night very quiet. B Coy plus the Mortar Pl & 1 Gunner FOO moved out at midnight to secure our next days objective of Pt 997 near the village of YOZAYAT (024003 - 84K/11). Men are in good heart & morale is very high. Rations were brought up in our jeeps who now return to Bn command. The sick-rate is very low & is mostly due to blistered feet. Boots are getting in a bad state & we hope to get an air-drop of boots in a day or two.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
29th JANUARY - YOZAYAT	Bn arrived at YOZAYAT (024003) after an uneventful but gruelling & dusty 11 miles march. A Recce patrol through the village under Sgt Kennedy was fired on by 5 or 6 JAPS. B Coy put a road block on the road 3 miles to the EAST and encircled to the SOUTH, but met with no success. The Bn disposed themselves as follows on this the most tactical position in the area. Bn HQ area (025002) C Coy (025006 to astride road (028003) A Coy - 028003 to 025000. B Coy 025000 to & incl road 023003. D Coy 023003 to link up & complete defended locality at 025006. Standing patrols at pt 1127 square 0201. Track junction 029035. Track junction 018982. Patrols fighting to village of MAGYITHONBIN (045002) and via pt 1127 to track junction 029035 thence to village of HNAWBAUK (012043) thence by track back to pt 1127. Gunners with 1 Bty (500 Bty) are in our perimeter at 024002. Water shown on map at 022007 non-existent but 2 large pools of water in the Bn area suitable for washing & drinking. CO had orders group & informed us that we would likely stay in the position for 2 or 3 days to let other elements catch up with us. Washing of clothes, kit checks etc were to be put into force immediately. Some of our heavy baggage arrived at about 1700 hrs & we were able to make ourselves more comfortable for the night. Remainder of the night quiet & nothing to report.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj

30th JANUARY - YOZAYAT	Stand-to at 0600 hrs started the day. Then our ambush & standing patrols started returning to camp. They had been most unfortunate & just missed catching some Japs in each case. With a bottle of beer at stake for the first "dead" Nippon, presented by Col Conder, the rivalry is terrific, & the keenness shown by all ranks is worthy of the Regiment. At about 0915 hrs 2 signallers from Bde HQ on their DRLS run to us were shot up by a Jap ambush party with an LMG 2 miles to the WEST and our rear at approx 875 (square 9999). One signaller came on & reported this to us whilst the other returned to Bde. A patrol from B Coy circled to the SOUTH under Lieut Brazier to try & cut the Japs retreat. They were very unfortunate & missed bagging any, but saw plenty of footprints which they tracked for several miles. Evidence of cooking was abundant but they still had no success in meeting any Japs. Colonel Conder ordered Major Russell of C Coy to send out 20 men in jeeps to hare down the road to PYITAING (147965 - 84K/15) with the object of catching some Nippons unawares. This mobile jeep patrol under Lieut Scott dressed up as Burmans & armed to the teeth set out at 0910 hrs on their mission. They too had no luck & only missed a party of Japs by 10 minutes. The dust must have given the show away because the Japs hared out of it as fast as they could. Other patrols had N.T.R. & N.E.S. Remainder of the jeep patrol brought in 9 Burmans, 9 Bullock-carts & 18 Bullocks which we will use in lieu of mules to fetch water, carry rations etc, & save our petrol. It will also prevent the Jap procuring same for use on his "Whirlwind Retreat". Bn up to date has marched 168 miles, & the mule-leaders under Lieut McNish have traversed between 400 & 500 miles on foot since we left Kohima & still going strong. 4 men evacuated sick & Mr Munro admitted to hospital. The CO made some new NCO promotions to fill existing vacancies. Outgoing mail for the 1st time was taken to Bde. Mail is being received alright now. Rations are improving & are collected from the air-dropping zone at SINTHE (9201 - 84K/11) daily. Remainder of the day spent on interior economy. A very quiet night & nothing to report.	
31st JANUARY - YOZAYAT	After an uneventful night with the exception of fires burning 12 to 15 miles from our positions, to the SOUTH & to the EAST in the proximity of the IRRIWADDY RIVER (which we can see on a clear day from here), there was nothing else to report throughout the night. After stand-down Lieut Hewitt with 3 men went out on a 24 hrs patrol to observe movement of the enemy in the area of the	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj

	oilwells (squares 0683, 0682 & 0681 - 84K/15). Our standing patrols from point 1127 (0201), track junction 029035 and track junction at 018982 had nothing to report. The CO Colonel Conder decided that there was a possibility that the Bn may be called upon to take the oilwells & since we were the best placed troops for the job, he sent out recce patrols to report on the track as far as pt 1003 (square 0394 - 84K/11). Patrol reported track unsuitable, so the CO ordered out HQ Coy & D Coy, lock stock & barrel to make it jeepable. The CO being very keen to take the oilwells was preparing his plans well ahead, & by 1700 hrs HQ & D Coys returned reporting the track jeepable up to & beyond pt 547 (square 0591 - 84K/15). The remainder of the track was OK down to the plain. The Coys certainly did a marvellous job of work & spared no efforts to get the job done. Lieut Arnott of C Coy & 10 men left in 2 groups to go to KANDAW (2493 - 84K/15) & create a spot of trouble, also to find out whether there were any JAPS in that area as previously reported by Tac R. He left his jeeps in a hide-out in the area of YELA-ALE (1698 - 84K/15) & cut across to the high ground NORTH of KANDAW. Villagers reported 25 JAPS in the village & that 1 JAP had gone NORTH just before arrival of patrol. Investigation found no Nippons & the patrol returned to the jeeps by bounds along the main road, keeping it under observation, thence back to camp. Boots have been issued by the QM, so we are now equipped for our onward march to TOKYO. Cigarettes are more plentiful & mail is both going & coming alright. Men are eager to be at the Jap & we hope that Colonel Conder can persuade the higher-up to let us have our crack at the oil wells.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj

2 / K.O.S.BORDERERS 1st to 28th FEBRUARY 1945

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF MAPS
84K/11)
84K/15) 1" to 1 mile

(a) ORIGINAL
(b) DUPLICATE
(C) TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	After Stand-down our standing patrols started coming in, & in all cases had N.T.R. & N.E.S. The CO attended a conference at Bde & at his orders group we learned that 89 Bde had the job of holding ground already taken, & preventing Japs infiltrating thro' to the Corps Airhead which was being prepared at SINTHE (9201 - 84K/11). It also gives the remainder of the Division a chance to catch us up! The Bn is at present the furthest troops into Burma in the SOUTH. Lieut Hewitt & his patrol were several hours overdue in coming back but eventually turned up hale & hearty but very disappointed at not having succeeded in winning the much coveted bottle of beer for the first Jap. He saw no Japs during his 24 hour patrol but was able to give a good topographical report on the area of the oilwells (square 0683 - 84K/15). Mr Ellis and 3 men from D Coy left in jeeps to pt 547 (0689) where they were dropped to go on to the oilwells & make a more extensive patrol of that area. As a result of the Bde conference Colonel Conder ordered out A coy under Major Chisholm to establish a patrol base in the area of YELA-TAUNG (155965 - 84K/15) with the object of patrolling & clearing the village of KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15). They had 1 det of 3" Mortars under Capt Ferguson mounted on 2 jeeps & trailers with a fast supporting mobile role. D Coy took over A Coys positions that night, & B & Coys closed in to fill the D Coy position. Normal standing patrols were sent out just before dusk. - The men still are keen to draw first blood & competition is high. Rations are steadily improving & we hope to get up canteen rations in a day or so.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	After an uneventful night the Bn proceeded to improve dug-positions, fire lanes & camouflage same. For 3 nights roaming Japanese recce-planes have been over at night, although no signs have been seen of aircraft throughout the day. At 0400 hrs A Coy under Major Chisholm moved out with Mortars in support to establish a Patrol base at YELA-TAUNG (1596 - 84K/15). On arrival at YELA-TAUNG 12 JAPS were seem in the chaung at (170945 -	

	84K/15) moving EAST. Our patrol went out to intercept them but the Japs retreated to the WEST at a level 8 seconds per 100 yards. We engaged with 3" Mortars but failed to draw blood. A local report states that 10 JAPS hurriedly left the village towards the EAST on hearing the sounds of our jeep engines. This was the village of YELA-ALE (1597 - 84K/15). Captain Charlier (2/i/c A Coy) with 1 Platoon under command left to recce then enter the village of KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15) & secure same. The CO returned from A Coy at midday & left for Bde HQ to try & obtain anti-tank gunners support in case Japs had TANKETTES in the area. The attempt was unsuccessful as was his attempt to be allowed to take forward a troop of 25 pounders to brass the Japs up a bit. He was, however, successful in obtaining some transport to make 2 Platoons of A Coy mobile. This will assist them in their role when patrolling the areas of PAKOKKU (4389 - 84O/3) & KANHLA (3389 - 84O/3). At 2100 hrs firing from our lads broke out between B Coy & D Coy. Investigation showed that somebody had been snooping around the area but had bolted when firing broke out. Odd firing was heard throughout the night but was distant. A large fire to our SOUTH was reported again. Nothing else to report.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	The day dawns after a day of excitement & eventual success in drawing blood from the JAPS. The night 2/3rd proved very quiet & there is nothing to report. Colonel Conder with his escort & a patrol from B Coy under Sgt Jolley left in jeeps to go forward to KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15). At about 120967 - 84K/15 near TABYA, the C.O. & his party were ambushed by 6 or 7 JAPS equipped with L.M.Gs. They proved rotten shots these JAPS, & not one of the COs party were injured. The CO and party withdrew behind cover & encircled this ambush party. True to recent tradition the Japs had legged it to the EAST. The CO & party then proceeded to KANDAW to contact A Coy. The CO then went forward to NGAPAUNGGAN (2891 - 84K/15) to look at the country forward from the high ground. No enemy extracted this trip. The road from KANDAW onwards to PAKOKKU is tar-macked & we later discovered from Tac R reports that all roads to PAKOKKU are mined. Col Blackadder & 2 officers from the Gordon Highlanders (now converted to TANKS) visited us to get the lay out & to study the country to our front. Their recce group is expected to work with us from tomorrow onwards & will be in our protected locality. A patrol under Lieut Dale from A Coy set out after JAPS thirsting for	

	blood to the village of SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15) but returned with an NES report. The CO laid on a Patrol programme with A Coy since our recces to KANHLA (3389 - 84O/3) were held up 12 hrs due to an air-strike on it. A Coy established a patrol base on the high ground at (3495 - 84O/3) from whence night recce patrols left to cut the main road to PAKOKKU at these points. 1 Patrol to 3191 KANHLA and to LEYA (3589 - 84O/3) & 1 to PAUKIN (3989 - 84O/3). Fighting patrols based on results of these recce patrols will be sent out tomorrow. A Coy sent out a patrol to NGAPAUNGGAN (2891 - 84K/15) encountered 20 Japs in the Pagoda area 275913 & later report from A Coy said we had 1 slightly wounded man & that the patrol had inflicted 4 more casualties to the enemy.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
4th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	Another quiet night passed & we awoke with that good feeling that the Bn had drawn first blood in the Bde, & with success. We took them on at approx 5 to 1 & inflicted casualties at 5 to 1 to our credit. Last year in the Arakan our opening encounter was the same, so it promises to be a good omen for the Bn in the forthcoming campaign. Our Padre Capt Rev Campbell held Holy Communion this morning & a morning service at 0930 hrs in true Covenanter style with the surrounding features held by armed men. At 0830 the CO left with his mobile group to go out to A Coy & "lay on" the fighting programme for today & tonight. At 1130 hrs we received reports to the effect that (1) Patrols from A Coy report movement on the road going NORTH at (3087 - 84K/15) at 2300 hrs. No vehicles & NES at (3588 - 84O/3 & 3589 - 84O/3). They heard intermittent fire area 3091 - 84K/15) at 2300 hrs. A very large fire in area (3389 - 84O/3) at 0800 hrs this morning. The COs jeep group were fired on at area 1795, with only 1 vehicle getting through. The CO & the remainder had to stay on the WEST side of the chaung & fight it out. 1 Platoon from A Coy left KANDAW to help them out. A later report shows that the CO & his group got through & it transpired that the C.O. had succeeded in killing 1 Jap & wounding 1 other. He also managed to collect some Japanese kit & later reports when Colonel Conder arrives back to the Bn may have some details. Another patrol report shows that 3 recce patrols last night to 1890 - 84K/15 returned with an NES report. C Coy report that 1 Japanese officer & 12 Japs left village of SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15) on night 2/3rd FEB for village in square 1596 (84K/15) & another 12 went SOUTH down chaung with bullock carts. SEBINZU seems to be a patrol base for the JAPS & the C.O. is going to tickle them up a bit with B Coy tomorrow	

	when A Coy returns to the fold. At 1130 hrs - 114 Bde less 1 Bn started to move through us to harbour in the area of KANDAW prior to onward move to PAKOKKU. Their Brigadier is meeting Colonel Conder at KANDAW to get the latest information from him. The CO returned to the Bn at about 1630 hrs & verified about shooting the Japs in his little party. A Coy sent out fighting patrols last night as a final effort before returning to the Bn. 114 Bde are now responsible for KANDAW & onwards to the IRRAWADDY. B Coy under Major Courtenay-Hood shall be going out early tomorrow morning to mop up Japs & clear the Japs Patrol base which we suspect as being at SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15). A jeep & trailer load of Japanese equipment was brought in as a result of the CO & his party successfully dealing with the Jap ambush. This was sent on to Bde. D Coy patrols all returned with an NES report. At 2100 hrs our OPs reported a number of vehicles approaching our position from the EAST. On investigation they turned out to be a supply officer & party from 114 Bde returning to collect an air-drop. He was detained by us for the night since the road is very dangerous & subject to ambushes. Intermittent firing & blazing fires reported throughout the night, otherwise all quiet on our front.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
5th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	At 0200 hrs this morning B Coy moved out with 3" mortars on mules & 1 FOO from 500 Battery - 136 Fd Regt. The CO had laid on a plan whereby A Coy returning from the EAST worked in conjunction with B Coy from the WEST, whereby they combed the whole area from the main road PAUK - PAKOKKU, southwards to approx the 86 Horizontal grid line (84K/15). This should finally mop up the Jap isolated parties for once & for all. At 0615 hrs the detained supply officer was allowed to proceed to SINTHE. Up to 1400 hrs no reports from either A & B Coys, but Tac R report A Coy travelling WESTWARDS. At 1500 hrs A Coy returned triumphant & a very much more experienced Company to the Battalion. A report was received that a battle was taking place to the EAST from our positions at approximately the area squares (1393 - 1493 - 84 K/15). It later transpired that 1 Platoon of B Coy under Lieut Brazier had had a very successful encounter with the Japs. Lieut Brazier returned to the Bn at about 1715 hrs, bringing with him 4 of our own casualties. Apparently he had approached the village of NYAUNGGWEGYIT (145935 - 84 K/15) with his platoon plus B Coy HQ. As Lieut Brazier came through a clump of bamboo he came face to face with a Japanese officer. Brazier was quicker on the	

	draw & the Japanese officer is now on his way to his honourable ancestors. This officer had obviously had warning of the B Coy platoon's arrival & had been planning an ambush & siting his LMGs to prepare a welcome for them. This was foiled & the Japs got the worst of it. When their officer was killed, peace reigned for a period, then 6 or 7 Japs managed to put in a bayonet attack. This was fatal from their point of view, because they failed & suffered casualties. The Japs then fired blindly through bashas (huts) & swept the whole of the village with LMG fire. This is where we got our casualties. Lieut Brazier who had been isolated, gathered Coy HQ & 2 sections together & made a "Box" round the wounded. He then made a recce for his withdrawal, gathered some bullock-carts from the next village & made his way to the main road where the wounded were brought in to the Bn by jeeps. Meanwhile Lieut Braziers 3rd section was doing a chukker to the Japs rear, under command of Cpl Ralston. They had not been seen for quite a period & when Cpl Ralston reported to Bn HQ, it transpired that he had fun & games also. He had one casualty himself & had inflicted 2 certs (killed) & wounded either 1 or 2. This brought this Platoons total log up to 8 Japs killed & at least six wounded as opposed to our 5 wounded, only 1 of which was serious. It was a good piece of work, & once again we came out on top. The CO held an O group conference & told us his plan for mopping up the Japs in that area, for the next day. The Brigadier sent a signal expressing his pleasure at the Bns work. Jap parties in this area are obviously well organised & are equipped with Mortars, LMGs, & cup dischargers.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
6th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	As usual we had a very uneventful night & in fact the whole day was the same. A similar programme as for the 5th was "laid on" by the CO to sweep the whole area from the chaung junction (1785 - 84K/15) up to the main PAUK - PAKOKKU road then WEST back to the Bn area. C Coy under Major Russell left the Bn position at 0730 hrs & proceeded down the road to TABYA (1296 - 84K/15). They then proceeded SOUTHWARD in the following order. 1 Platoon was to sweep down the KYAT CHAUNG (1292 - 84K/15), 1 Pl & Coy HQ to sweep down the KU - CHAUNG (1691 - 84K/15) & the other platoon to come down the EAST bank of the CHAUNGMAGYI - CHAUNG so that the 3 columns converged on the village of CHAUNGGWA (1789 - 84K/15) where they were to contact B Company. They then swept back up to the main road then return to the Bn. This was a pretty hectic task irrespective of the distance & the heavy sandy going, since	

	it meant that every village had to be thoroughly searched. In actual fact, there are more villages than enough, & these are not shown on the map. C Coy were all keyed up & thirsting for blood, but after a long hard days hunting, they had to return having not even had a glance of a Jap. Naturally disappointment was rife, but spirits are high & they are keen to have another go. Word was received that Pte Lloyd of B Company had died in the ADS. He was buried near the village of TANDAWGON (9499 - 84K/15) at map reference 943997 - 84K/11. B Coy sent a fighting patrol to the village of SABE (1184 - 84K/15) but had no luck there. The 2/I/C of the 4/1st Gurkhas liaised with us, & informed us that 33 Bde was on its way up. He was the Adv party & was going to spend the night at YALE-TAUNG (1596 - 84/K15). B Coy was informed of this move since it was in their patrolling area. Throughout the day there was nothing else to report. At 2000 hrs 2 jeeps with 2 officers & 4 men from the Gordon Highlanders were detained for the night in C Coy area, since the road is dangerous for small parties at night.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
7th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	The plan for today was very similar to the 2 previous days, only this time in reverse, in the hope that the JAP would expect us to drive from the NORTH to the SOUTH. D Coy moved out at 0730 hrs after the road had been opened by armoured-cars (P.A.V.O. Regt) & they took up "stop" positions in a line as follows. THANBO (0501 - 84/K15) 1 Platoon. Coy HQ & 1 Platoon under Major Turnbull on the high ground at square (0802 - 84/K/15), & the remaining Pl at square (1504 - 84/K15). The Pl at THANBO found it clear of enemy & moved up to the alternative position at THABYEDON (0904 - 84K/15). B Coy then drove up the CHAUNGMAGYI CHAUNG, the KU-CHAUNG & the KYAT-CHAUNG with a Pl in each, the idea being to drive the japs NORTH, & into the lap of D Coy's stops, who were all prepared for them. - Although a thorough sweep was made, B Coy contacted D Coy without sighting even 1 Nippon. Similarly D Coy hadn't seen a sausage. Both Coys then returned to YOZAYAT very disappointed indeed. A Coy had put out a recce patrol to Pt 703 (0891 - 84K/15) just to keep their eye on the WEST side of the "beat" but had nothing to report. No. Pte Lloyd of B Coy died in the ADS as a result of wounds sustained in the battle with the Japs at ANAUKTAW (1191 - 84K/15) on the 6th FEB 1945. Although the patrolling has been hard, the men are very fit & it says a lot for our young Battalion, considering our patrolling	

	area was at one time 21 miles by 6 miles over something akin to desert country, cactus etc completing the picture. Mail is coming in OK, & the news that our letter cards can now go "FREE" has been received very well indeed.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
8th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	As usual we had a very quiet night. C Coy moved out under Major Russell, & with Capt Stalker as a guide. They were sent out to make a 15 cwt(able) road from the road & track junction at (114969 - 84K/15) near the village of TABYA, across country to the village of KYAT (133915 - 84K/15) & inclusive the KYAT-CHAUNG. Here they were to link up with a coy of the 1/11 Sikhs & 1 section of Indian Engineers. The C.O & the I.O. (Capt Young) accompanied with our new Signal Officer (Lt Killip) went out at 1330 hrs to see the progress that C Coy were making. At about 1600 hrs the CO & his party returned, bringing back the report that the road as far as our part was finished, & that C Coy were now on their way back to the Camp. The Bn has had a hard time of it, patrolling, so he decided to give the remainder of the Bn a rest, with the result there are no patrols out today. Lately we have had no brushes with the Jap, since 114 Bde have taken the burden on their shoulders now. An amusing incident has come to light, out of the B Coy battle. One bren gunner from B Coy was lying behind a Bren which had been put out of action. The CSM, knowing the gun was useless & seeing the man lying behind the gun, asked him if he knew his gun was out of action, where upon the individual replied "Aye fine a'ken its nae guid - but it's a guid bluff anyway"! - Click! Click! Considering they were under fire at the time, all keyed up for battle, it gives a rough indication of the type of man we've got in the Bn at present, & how high the morale is. At 0945 hrs the CO held a Coy Commanders Conference, put us all in the picture about other points, & discussed training of the men, now that things were more quiet. At 2000 hrs an officer reported to the Adjutant in the Command Post that he was bringing through 17 Sherman tanks. This was good news & before long we heard the tanks rumbling up the road. It really was music to hear these tanks & morale is up another 100%.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
9th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	D Coy sent out three recce patrols to the following places. 1st patrol went to the SW to pt 524 (9992 - 84K/11) returning by a different route. 2nd patrol went due SOUTH to pt 516 (9990 - 84K/11), & the third patrol went via pt 525 (0287 - 84K/11) to	

	destination at pt 1052 (0486 - 84K/15). All patrols on their return reported no enemy seen (NES) with the exception of one of the patrols who reported having seen Japanese footprints probably about 2 days old on the banks of the KALAPI CHAUNG (9996 - 84K/11) travelling in the direction of WEST to EAST. The remainder of the day was spent on training. The principal features being firing of all weapons & wiring practice. One mule died during the night 8/9th Feb due to Cholic & eventually "Twisted Gut". This now leaves us with only 48 working mules. At 1500 hrs we received a warning order from Bde, informing us that we were moving on the 11th FEB to the Bde concentration area of MYITCHE (1579 - 84K/16) on the banks of the IRRAWADDY RIVER. The Commanding Officer held an R&O group at 1745 hrs, & gave out orders for the back loading of surplus kit to Bde Admin area. Daily our air activity is increasing & formations of Liberators, Mitchells, Spitfires & Hurricanes are prominent. We can now hear the planes taking off at the Corps airhead at SINTHE (84K/11). The remainder of the day was very quiet, but everybody is bucked up by the news that once more we are on the move. The pipers are now putting in some practice & its grand to have them skirling a good going tune once more.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
10th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	There is nothing to report for the night 10/11th February. Back-loading of surplus kit started at 0900 hrs to the Bde dump. A message was received to say that 30 reinforcements are at the air-head for us, & badly we need them to swell our small numbers. The remainder of the day was quiet & there is nothing to report. 2 new officers, Lieut Walker & Lieut Temple plus 30 reinforcements arrived at 1600 hrs. Lieut Walker was posted to C Coy & Lieut Temple went to A Coy. Ninety-five percent of these reinforcements are old Bn hands, so they rejoined their original companies.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
11th FEBRUARY YOZAYAT - SABE.	The Battalion moved out of the YOZAYAT area at 0700 hrs in the following order of march. B Coy, Bn HQ + HQ Coy, A Coy, D Coy & C Coy less 1 Platoon. This Platoon stayed behind to protect our battery of 25 pounder which were in support of us. Our M/T proceed to SABE (115045 - 84K/15) where it was to meet the Bn prior to an onward move to MYITCHE (1679 - 1/25000 Pagan No 5) which is the Bns destination on the night of the 11/12th Feb. The Bn itself left YOZAYAT by the track running SOUTH through the hills, then across desert country via .547 (060912 - 84K/15) then	

- SABE	down the CHAUNGMAGYI - CHAUNG to SABE. By this route the distance was about 12 miles as the crow flies, but the country was very sandy & undulating, making the distance considerable. The 1" map is very inaccurate & in many cases villages which exist are NOT marked at all. Eventually the Bn rested in an oasis in the shade of Palm trees, where water was available. According to the map this position was on the WEST of the chaung at (098850 - 84K/15). The water was limited in this area, but the Adjutant Capt Stewart found plenty water close by at 094854 - 84K-15), so the Bn moved there & took up a defended locality position. The idea was this. Since we are now practically on the IRRAWADDY, all movement by day was abolished, then at night, all troops & M/T moved into MYITCHE under cover of darkness, so the Bn laid itself up at SABE, got as much rest as possible there prior to the night march onto MYITCHE. The Adjutant took a charger & went on a recce across country to the main MYITCHE road, to find the quickest route there, since the inaccuracy of the maps leads to unnecessary marching up & down the countryside. The CO received orders by wireless at 1700 hrs that we had to move as soon as possible, since we had to take over from another Bn before first light on the morning of the 12th FEB. The Bn left SABE (84K/15) & marched to MYITCHE (1679 - 1/25,000 PAGAN 5) where Major Rose our 2/i/c met us. He had more orders & it transpired that we were relieving the SOUTH LANCASHIRE REGT who were strung out along the road between MYITCHE - PAKOKKU in company positions. As we marched NORTHWARDS we met our Bn guides who had been placed there by the 2/i/c, & coys branched off accordingly to the respective positions. Bn HQ & A Coy eventually reached their destination near the village of BEYWATHIT (250819 - 84K/15) & took up temporary positions inside South Lancs position at approx (248814 - 84K/15). The men then slept until first light - proceeded to take over positions. The days marching was very gruelling & the Bn had covered between 28 to 30 miles over extremely bad country. The men stood up to it wonderfully & were very fresh after 5 or 6 hrs sleep.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
12th FEBRUARY - BEYWATHIT.	After stand-down was given, the Bn started digging-in, in temporary positions, since the Commanding Officer was NOT happy at having his Bn strung out over the country for a distance of 6 to 7 miles, so, having obtained permission from the Brigadier, proceeded to pull in C & B Coys, making the Bn dispositions as follows. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coy, A & B Coys in the area of	

- BEYWATHIT	squares (2581, 2481 - 84K/15). B Coy occupied the high ground in the area of the PAGODAS (2481) at the same time protecting the gunners who were concentrating in the area between the pagodas & the village. C & D Coys were in the same area; although dispersed at the village of NANGAT (2379 - 1/25000 PAGAN Sheet 5). The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ & the task given to the Battalion was to put out standing patrols at various points along the IRRAWADDY RIVER, & also to stop any person moving SOUTH to the river, or travelling NORTH from the river. The following villages & positions were occupied by us to stop all traffic, as follows. A Coy - YELEKYUN (3079), a standing patrol at (281784), another one at (273784) & one at KUKYUN (2577). All these references are on (1/25000 PAGAN SHEET). C Coy put out stops at ZIGYUN (241771), SHATAN (236782), TAUKSHABIN (235778) & ZIGYUM (241771). The last 4 references are on map 1/25,000 PAGAN SHEET 5. Remainder of the day was spent on patrolling. Twelve men were evacuated to the A.D.S. today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
13th FEBRUARY - BEYWATHIT.	Throughout the day the companies maintained a strict watch on all movements on both sides of the river, but had nothing to report on enemy movements. A portion of HQ Company were needed to thicken up the gaps in between company standing patrols. All through the day, men, women & children & bullock carts were continually being brought in for not complying with the regulations, & before long we had an assorted collection. These people were held for 48 hrs until the balloon went up for the crossing of the IRRAWADDY. The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ in MYITCHE & on his return supplied us with the following information. Thirty-Third Bde were doing the actual crossing on the night of 13/14th FEB, with 1 Bn from 114 Bde. This bn was the South Lancashire Regt. B Company under Major Courtenay-Hood were to be attached to 33 Bde, & were going across with them to look after the beach on SOUTH side of the IRRAWADDY. They have to join	
- BEYWATHIT	33 Bde in the area of BEYWATHIT (250820 - 84K/15) at 2330 hrs tonight. The bns job although not very interesting, but a most essential part, was a task of preparing the beaches for traffic & troops, so that no hitch occurred & the clearing of the beaches to ensure a quick turnaround of troops & materiel getting across the river. Although the men were a bit disappointed at not getting a chance at the initial crossing, they realized that the Battalions task was not an easy one, & prepared themselves for hard work. The Bn were to work under the supervision of the	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	Engineers, so the Adjutant liaised with the officer commanding them, & got the programme for the next days work. On the Adjutant's report, the C.O. decided to move the Bn to the village of LONBO (220774 - Pagan Sheet 5), so that we were right on the spot for work, & in the proximity of A beach which was at an area in square (2176 - Pagan No5). Accordingly, the C.O. gave out verbal orders for the Bns move to LONBO, starting at 0800 hrs on the morning of the 14th FEB.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
14th FEBRUARY - LONBO.	The Bn moved out of BEYWATHIT at 0800 hrs & moved to the village of LONBO (220774) where digging in immediately took place. Early lunch was laid on & the Bn were ready to commence work at 1200 hrs. The first thing that was required was material to make a foundation to be able to run tanks & vehicles onto A Beach, consequently the nearby villages had to be pulled to pieces to let us have the material. The whole day was spent in pulling down the villages, & after a very hard days work the Bn returned to camp at about 1830 hrs. Throughout the whole day, air-craft were very active bombing & straffing the enemy positions & villages across the IRRAWADDY. Nothing else to report throughout the night. Two men were evacuated to 76 M.D.S.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
15th FEBRUARY - LONBO.	Work had to continue on the work of obtaining materials for the river crossing, & the nearby villages were pulled to pieces. The few men who were left in were engaged in improving positions in the Bn area. In the afternoon the Brigadier arrived & informed the C.O. that we would probably move the following day, to cross over from B Beach in area of 2477 (Pagan Sheet 5). There was a possibility that our mules would have to leave from C Beach which was further up the river to the EAST, but this was not definite. 89 Bde were to enlarge the bridge-head made by 33 Bde, but details were not yet available as the plan. Accordingly, the C.O. held an R & O group as to the method, which we would adopt for our crossing. Load tables etc were prepared, & all arrangements keyed up, only requiring the detailed operation orders from Bde to complete the picture. At 2300 hrs, the Staff Captain arrived from Bde HQ with verbal orders, telling us that we, the Bn & all vehicles would cross from B Beach at 0830 hrs the following morning. The animals were to cross from C Beach, & were to be there by 0730 hrs. The C.O. then held an "O" Group, & gave out the timings & orders of march for the move. We have now our 1st Line attached mules with us, making our total 110 mules. The	

	Gunners, - 500 Bty - 130 Fd Regt, are now back under command again. Four men were evacuated to 76 MDS today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
16th FEBRUARY - ZIGYUM - WETKY	Reveille was at 0500 hrs for the Bn, less the mule-leaders & 20 men from HQ Coy, who started rope-loading ammunition, rations, & getting 3" mortars ready for mule loads at 0300 hrs. The mules under the ATO (Lieut McNish) left the Bn area at 0600 hrs, & proceeded to C Beach for transportation across the IRRAWADDY. The Bn moved out at 0730 hrs for B Beach in the following order of march. A Coy, Tac HQ, Mortar Pl, C Coy, Bn HQ & HQ Coy, D Coy (B Coy is still across the river under command of 33 Bde). The Bn & unit transport arrived at B Beach on time, & the U.L.Os party with Coy representatives, plus 1 jeep, under the 2/i/c (Major Rose) were embarked at about 0900 hrs, & proceeded across the river to make arrangements for the reception of the Bn. The Adjutant (Capt Stewart) acted as the Bn beachmaster, & at 0900 hrs the first 40 men of A Coy were on their way across. Things were going well, & by 1200 hrs all the personnel of the Bn had arrived safely on the other side, in the order as for the march to the beach head. The next thing was the luggage, which was duly transported in order of priority, ie, ammunition, rations, spare mortars, & bedding. The sun was glaring down on the sandy beach, making the work of handling heavy stores more unpleasant & more difficult, but the men went at their task with an eagerness that did the Bn credit. The jetties were hurriedly erected things, & were being used for MT, so the men had to wade out into the muddy river to load our ramps. In the midst of all this, the Supreme Commander, Lord Louis Mountbatten, accompanied by the Corps Commander Lieut-General Messervy & the Divisional Commander Major-General Evans, arrived on the scene. The "Supremo" talked to the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) for about 10 minutes & expressed his satisfaction at the way the men were working, piling the stuff across to the bridge head. After speaking with a few of the men, he left to go across himself. The Bn & all the luggage were completely across by 1500 hrs. All that remained now was the BN MT & we were held up by vehicles of 33 Bde, which had still to cross. Eventually the Adjutant managed to procure ramps, & got across 6 jeeps & tracks, the essential tactical vehicles, by 1700 hrs. The Bn meantime were harboured in the area of (260753 - PAGAN No7). Orders were received by the C.O. to take up positions near the village of WETKY in the area (203738 - Sheet 5). As the Bn moved out, the 2/i/c was ordered by 33 Bde to stop the Bn,	
- ZIGYUM - WETKY		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	since a threatened counter-attack by the Japs from the EAST was expected, & since 33 Bde were then on the ground, the Bn would be required for a counter-attack role. Since the attack never materialized the Bn less C Coy (who remained with 33 Bde) proceeded as originally ordered to area (203738 - sheet 5) where they contacted a company of 4/8th Gurkhas from our Bde. Temporary positions were allotted, & the Bn settled down after a good hot meal for the night. The CO & the Bty went to Bde HQ at 2000 hrs for orders for the next day. Throughout the crossing & the advance to our destination through the burning & bomb scarred villages of NYAUNGU (216743 - Sheet 5) no enemy were seen. Pte Nean of Admin Coy was repatriated to UK on Compassionate grounds, & 6 men from the Bn also left us today for 28 days leave in the UK. No sick evacuated today, & health seems to have improved, as morale goes higher & higher at our successive defeats & rapid advances over the Japanese into Burma.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
17th FEBRUARY - WETKY	Throughout the night battles could be heard on the 33 Bde front, but on our own perimeter all was quiet. The morning was spent on completing the digging-in, & tying up of fire plans, from the permanent company positions which were occupied at 0600 hrs, after the Commanding Officers recce. The Bn layout was as follows. Bn HQ command post was established in the Monastery & Kyaung area at (203737 - Sheet 5) with HQ Coy taking up its immediate perimeter, having also the river & chaung banks. Admin Coy & the mule lines occupied an area at approx (204733 - Sheet 5) C Coy - central point (202733) D Coy central point - (206727 - Sheet 5) A Coy central point - (210730 - Sheet 5) & B Coy central point - (211736 - Sheet 5). T Bde HQ established themselves at (204728 - Sheet 5) & 1 Coy of the Barodas in support & protecting Bde HQ at (198727 - Sheet 5). We have in support 1 Bty 25 pounders, 1 Bty (3" Mortars - A/T Regt). The I.O. (Capt Young) with the aid of a Burmese Intelligence Corps interpreter cleared all villagers out of the immediate vicinity. Coys on searching their neighbouring areas discovered ammunition dumps & QM dumps belonging to the I.N.A. (Indian National Army). Some useful documents were also discovered & sent to Bde. 2 I.N.A. men, 1 a Punjabi & one a Madrassy surrendered to us, complete with equipment & 1 Boys Anti-Tank Rifle with ammo. They had been captured at Singapore with that Bn, & seemed genuine cases. They too were sent to Bde. About 180 I.N.A. personnel have gladly given themselves up during the last 4 days. The CO held an R&O	

	group conference at 1600 hrs, & put us in the picture as to the Bn role whilst in this area. Bn tasks were as follows - (1) Counter-attack role with 1 troop Sherman tanks in support. (2) Protect bridge-head & Bde HQ (3) Active Patrolling. At about 1700 hrs, 6 Japanese ZERO fighters straffed the Bridgehead, & swept down the IRRAWADDY & over our area at approx 100 feet. Spitfires were hard on their heels as they went out of sight. Burmese villagers are very friendly & indeed very pleased to have us back with them. Peace offerings to the CO in the village included Turkey & will help the rations situation. Two men evacuated to the ADS.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
18th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	Distant battles were heard on our own front, but the Bn perimeter was unmolested by any prowling JAPS. Our patrols returned, having nothing to report & no enemy seen. The Commanding Officer took out a mobile column of jeeps, including the Gunner F.O.O. with a No 22 set, to recce possible positions & harbouring areas, should the Bn or some of the Companies be called out on a counter-attack role. The CO & his party returned at 1230 hrs having recced the WESTERN part of the area. At 1200 hrs they went out again to do the EAST side, eventually returning at 1630 hrs. At 1445 hrs the Brigade Major rang up the Adjutant, & ordered one of our companies to move as soon as possible to help the 1/11 SIKHS mop up 150 JAPS which they had bottled up, in the area of CHAUNG & PAGODAS at 160653 - Sheet 5. C Company under Major Russell was detailed for this job, & had his company embussed on borrowed M/T & within 50 minutes were away thirsting for blood. As it turned out, they were not involved in a battle, & returned to base 2 hours later. A & D Coys sent out fighting patrol & recce patrols all along our front, leaving the area at dusk & to return at first light. Word was received that the air-strip at MYITCHE - 1679 - Sheet 5 was now taking DAKOTAS, & fighters were also working from there. At 1700 hrs the CO held an R&O group, putting the Company Commanders in the picture as to the results of his recce. At 1720 hrs the CO was called to Bde HQ for a conference. Remainder of the day was quiet, & there is nothing else to report, with the exception that we found another dump, containing ammunition, 1 MMG & tripod, 1 Boys A/T rifle & some odds & ends. We had a rum ration tonight, the first for over a week. 5 men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

19th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	After another quiet night, our patrols returned with nothing to report, having seen no enemy. The Commanding Officer had a conference, & he told us that since we were no more or less static & likely to be here a few days longer he wanted to start some training. A summary of possible training was laid down, including patrolling, fieldcraft & general tightening up of things that needed improvement. Drill was also started & a general smartening up process began. Teaching non-swimmers to swim, & practising river-crossing in country craft were high on the priority of the training programme. Six country boats were obtained from the villagers in the afternoon & coys started immediately training in watermanship. Nothing else of interest happened throughout the day, except that at dusk we sent out patrols to cover our front, & to look for some enemy, who seem to be reluctant to contact us. Major Russell & 1 BOR were admitted to hospital today. Our aircraft are very active over the Bridge-head but the Jap Air Force seems also to be keeping out of our way.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
20th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	After stand-down C Coy who were finding all patrols returned with nothing to report. Training continued & the drill parades are remarkably good considering the time that has elapsed since they last had one. Capt Doyne-Ditmus joined the Bn today & was posted to B Company as second in command. Lieut Henderson rejoined us having been on the Signals Course at Poona where he qualified Q1. We received 10 reinforcements. Four men were tried by the Commanding Officer. One man was admitted to hospital today. B Coy found the fighting & recce patrols for tonight going out to track & road junction (221705 Sheet 5) track & chaung junction 213715 & one to the area SULAMANI Pg at 198702 - Sheet 5. Beer ration was issued to the men.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
21st FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	Except for the Gunners shooting off rounds of harassing fire throughout the night all was quiet as also with our patrols who returned at first light. The CO & the IO with 8 escort moved in a mobile jeep column down SOUTH to have a good recce of the ground forward. They had an FOO with them & places were registered for future reference. His party returned at 1230 hrs with very useful information. At 1630 hrs the Commanding Officer (Colonel Conder) was called to a conference at Bde HQ. On his return he held an R&O group conference & informed us that we would probably move SOUTHWARDS on the 24th or 25th February. The probable Bn task was	

	as he had anticipated, & his previous recces had been well spent. The Bn was to take the line TWINYWA (159636 - Sheet 4) - MONATKON (166633 - Sheet 4) - NAKYO-AING (189635 - Sheet 4), & the method, which the CO outlined for its capture was this. From our present position march SOUTH via & in between the lake (216666 - Sheet 5) & the village of THUHTEKAN (199669 - Sheet 5) thence to the 2 ponds in square (1963 Sheet 4) then advance on NAKYO-AING, having dropped 1 Coy to protect our flank & looking to the NW at approx 199645. This would be done, if the 4/8 advance on KANBAUK (2162 - Sheet 4) met with opposition. This move was subject to alteration according to the opposition met, & the following method as an alternative. From the 2 ponds move into the NALETAW-CHAUNG, continue along to the WEST, then turn NORTH & attack the village of NAKYO-AING from the SOUTH. This was the rough plan, & further details were to be given at a later date according to information received. Throughout the remainder of the day, all was quiet. At 2320 hrs, 2 ZERO Japanese fighter aircraft straffed our area with machine-guns & cannon-shells. No casualties & only some broken sleep resulted in this effort. The men had another beer ration today & stepped up morale another 100%. One man to hospital, 13 rejoined from hospital & 9 men rejoined from leave.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
22nd FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	The Bn patrols came in after stand-down & as for the past 3 days had nothing to report, having seen no enemy. The Bn visited the Gordon Highlanders, 1/3 of coys at a time throughout the day, so that our new men could get to know the men who would be supporting them in the tanks in our forthcoming attack. The tanks & the guns were thoroughly explained to our lads, & they were shown the best methods of riding on them, communicating with the tank Commander from the outside, etc. About lunch time the Welfare Officer from 7 Div HQ visited us & got our suggested list & ideas for amenities & canteens in the field. He was very helpful & we hope to see results in the near future. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) attended a co-ordinating conference at Bde HQ at 1430 hrs today. At 1500 the Commanding Officer tried 6 men, 3 of which were awarded field punishment. At 1600 hrs the CO saw all Coy Commanders & informed them that his original plan of attack still stood, & to substantiate this, he had 4 fighting & recce patrols ordered for this evening. Coy found 1 patrol & B Company the remaining three, 2 of which were Officer's patrols under Lieut Macdonald & Lieut Brazier. Sgt Hunt took the third one. The patrols covered the villages of NAKYO-	

	AING (1863 - Sheet 4) MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) & TWINYWA (1563 - Sheet 4). The NALETAW CHAUNG & the ground to the SOUTH was to be covered & the high ground had to have a thorough look for enemy positions. These patrols were taken out in MT to the village of BWASAN (2267 Sheet 5) from whence they proceeded on foot to do their task. One man was admitted to hospital. Six men rejoined the Bn today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
23rd FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN	After the patrols returned they were briefed by the CO & IO having brought back very useful information. We also heard that KANBAUK (2162 - Sheet 6) had been occupied by the 4/8 Gurkhas, & so the following action was taken. At 0830 hrs the 2/I/C (Major Rose) & all Coy 2/I/C with Pl representatives left to recce the Bn Admin Area for our next move forward, in the villages of BWASAN (2267 - Sheet 5) & KENTANGYI (2367 - Sheet 5). After their recce they returned to the Bn area & prepared the Bn for a move forward to this area at 1300 hrs. At 1000 hrs the CO (Lt-Col Conder) attended a conference at Bde HQ, & on his return at 1100 hrs, he took out his R&O groups to the village of KANBAUK, so that orders for the attack could be given on the ground. At the same time as R&O groups arrived at KANBAUK, 1 Pl from B Coy under Sgt Stockhill & 1 Recce patrol from C Coy under Lt Walker were sent forward from KANBAUK to do the following tasks. The B Coy pl (fighting) were sent forward to see what was in the village of NAKYO-AING. They moved off at 1230 hrs, & before long had encountered the enemy in the village. Sgt Stockhill was temporarily held up in the PAGODA area at (193635 - Sheet 4) & were told to hold fast until they were reinforced by the remainder of B Coy. The remainder of B Coy moved out from the BWASAN area under the Coy 2/I/C (Capt Doyne-Ditmus) & eventually arrived on the WEST side of the village of NAKYO-AING. This was entirely wrong, & since they couldn't see Major Courtenay-Hood who had now joined Sgt Stockhill, they proceeded to the SOUTH on the WEST side of the village & subsequently met heavy fire from this side of the village. 1 Pl under Lieut Brazier was completely pinned to the ground, whilst the other Platoon (Mr Macdonald's) & the Coy 2/I/C managed to withdraw & eventually form-up with Major Courtenay-Hood & the remainder of B Coy. Since they were in a very difficult position it made things very difficult for OC B Coy to try & get Mr Brazier & his platoon out of it. A plan was put into force but the opposition was so great that it proved unsuccessful. Since it was getting dark B Coy were ordered to	
- WETKY-IN		

	return to KANBAUK for the night. It was hoped that Lieut Brazier's Platoon would be able to slip away in the dark & get back to us. Meanwhile C Coys recce patrol had returned & reported NES & no dug positions along the NALETAW CHAUNG or on the high ground immediately to the SOUTH of it. The CO then ordered A Coy to join us at KANBAUK, making us up to 2 Coys, Tac HQ & Bn HQ, in the 4/8 Gurkha perimeter for the night. C & D Coys with HQ Coy, the M/T & some stores remained in the village of BWASAN for the night. The C.O. decided to attack NAKYO-AING direct from the EAST, with 1 Squadron of tanks, & artillery in support. A Coy were to do the initial attack & the rest of the plan would depend on how the situation was. D Coy were immediately behind A Coy & would probably be used next. Arrangements were also made for the remainder of the Bn to RV with A & B Coys & Bn HQ in the area of (207638 Sheet 6), from whence the Bn would go to a recced F.U.L. for the attack, in the area of (205635 - Sheet 6). Throughout the night all was quiet except for some JAPS with a cup-discharger who fired 20 bombs wildly into the village of KANBAUK. We sustained no casualties. Up to 2350 hrs, we have had no communication with Mr Brazier's Pl although we have heard a considerable amount of firing, which looks as if the platoon is trying to get out, or is being attacked.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
24th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING.	At 0630 hrs the 2 halves of the Bn set out for the Bn RV at (270638 - Sheet 6). The CO (Lt-Col Conder) & OC A Coy (Major Chisholm) went forward to check up on the Start line, & since this was the same as originally planned, at (205635 - Sheet 6), the Bn was moved up to the rear of the position ready for the start. When the tanks were in position the CO gave H-hour as 0840 hrs. The RA put down their chaps on NAKYO-AING, & the tanks preceded A Coy forward. When A Coy reached the Pagoda area (193634 - Sheet 4) D Coy with Bn HQ immediately followed by B Coy then C Coy moved forward to just behind the pagoda area. The Jap had opened up on A Coy by this time & the tanks had opened up on the bunker positions. The village was burning furiously & was a mass of flame & smoke. This made it difficult for the tanks since they were firing by observation in close support to our troops. A Coy were temporarily held up, but reorganised, & Major Chisholm decided to put in 1 Pl on the NORTH & one on the SOUTH side of the village, with the other Platoon giving covering fire from the village pagoda area. The platoon to the NORTH made headway after the tanks had considerably "brassed" up the bunkers, & managed to	

- NAKYO-AING	get a foothold in the village. The platoon to the south met more opposition, but again the tanks came to their help, & they too managed to get their noses into the village. The opposition was obviously great, so the CO ordered D Coy to take over the Pagoda area, thus relieving the lost platoon of A Coy. We were sustaining a lot of casualties by now, & so the Colonel reinforced A Coy with D Coy, B Coy closing in & holding the good foothold in the Pagoda area. A Coy meantime were still cracking on against stiff opposition, & at a great disadvantage since the flanks & smoke which was intense obscured their vision. D Coy also got a good footing & started making progress. Casualties were mounting & A Coy had lost all its Officers. Lieut Dale was killed, Major Chisholm, Capt Charlier, Lieut Geddes & Lieut Temple all being wounded. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) was able to get a tank, & so was able to see how his companies were doing. The battle in the south was going well against stiff opposition, so he decided to put C Coy into the NORTH and to push forward from the platoon who had established themselves there. It was obvious by now that the village was honey-combed with bunkers & foxhole positions, & was strongly held by at least 1 Japanese Company which is approximately 200 strong. We were still having heavy casualties ourselves, & now Major Russell & Lieut Walker were both casualties. Up to date no sign has been seen of Lieut Brazier & his platoon. A heavy Jap mortar opened up on us from the area of MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) so the CO ordered the RA to brass-up the village. No more mortar firing was heard. All committed companies were doing well & were beginning to look up. C Coy had to deal with 2 bunker positions on the NW corner of the village & with tank support eliminated them counting 20 plus dead Japs for that show. In the centre of the village a strong position was found, but the tanks entered the village & we, after they had shot the bunkers up, finished off the work. It had been a hectic job getting even this far, & mopping up operations now began. Sniping was intense, & the snipers were difficult to get at due to the closeness of the village & amount of smoke that was being given off by the fires. During all this, the Medical Officer (Captain Antonio) was doing excellent work with the wounded, & the stretcher bearers worked like horses. All our casualties were evacuated in good time & no wounded man was delayed in receiving the necessary attention. Any wounded man which we had difficulty in getting out from the village was picked up by tanks & brought	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	into Bn HQ. The heavy mortar or gun started again but the RA & the tanks went out to MONATKON & loosed off at the village. At about 1530 hrs, after nearly 7 hours hard fighting, the Bn was in possession of the village & all that remained to do was mopping up stragglers in bunkers & some snipers. Meanwhile, Bn HQ moved up on orders from the CO, & prepared positions for the night in the Pagoda area. The reason that he chose this place was because there was no water in the whole village area & for miles around except at the Pagoda, where we had found a storage tank with reasonable water in it. At 1620 hrs about ten Japs with an MMG came from the SOUTH & tried to hot up our southern flank. B Coy took these on & soon dealt with the situation. Now that things had quietened off a bit, the area was searched more thoroughly, & it was discovered that Lieut Brazier & about 20 men were lying dead out on the WEST side of the village. Several reports received by men of this platoon who had managed to escape. Apparently they had been pinned to the ground by Jap fire, the Jap having let in well into their positions. They had held the Jap off through the day but the Jap attacked with between 50-100 men, 50 of which made a bayonet attack. The story hasn't yet been clarified but nevertheless the 20 odd bodies were found dead & they must have put up a magnificent fight to the last. We buried 9 of our dead in the pagoda in a communal grave, the Padre officiating. DF tasks for the night were registered by the gunners to the COs satisfaction & the Bn settled down for a hectic night, expecting counter-attacks, & all that the Japs could give us. At about 1700 hrs the last of our transport returned to the Admin Base, having ferried up ammunition, tools, wire, bedding & water. At 2100 hrs firing broke out from A Coy area, & it turned out that 60 Japs had appeared on their flank. A Coy opened up & after inflicting casualties on them they withdrew to lick their wounds. The remainder of the night was quiet, with the exception of a small action on C Coy area, in which Sgt Drysdale was killed. A Japanese Officer had been hiding in a partially demolished bunker, had crept out, shot Sgt Drysdale & was killed himself for his trouble.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
25th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING	The day broke without having any further excitement, & we had the unpleasant task of finding our exact casualties & collecting & burying the dead. B Coy commander (Major Courtenay-Hood) & the Padre (Capt Rev Campbell) went out in front of D Company's positions to identify & arrange the burial of Lieut Brazier & 23	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	men who were definitely killed in an action with the enemy. The total casualties sustained including Lieut Brazier's platoon for their action & the Bn attack on the village was as follows. Officers Killed - 3, Officers Wounded - 5, BORs Killed - 31, BORs Wounded - 36. To counteract this casualty list of ours we put 75 Japs on the ground, 30 Japs were killed by Mr Brazier's platoon & we have made a very conservative estimate of Japs buried alive or dead in bunkers at 25. This is a very low estimate indeed but we haven't dug up the bodies & will leave it at that. This brings their total dead up to 130 plus, & their wounded must have been considerable. We identified 2 companies from 2 different Battalions of the Japanese 49th Division. This is a new division & has just recently been in action against our Bridgehead. They are fresh, determined troops, but we have given them something to think about for a long time. We collected a lot of Jap equipment including 3 MMGs, LMG, cup dischargers (like our 2" mortar), rifles & ammunition, diaries & lots of documents. 3 Recce patrols from D Company are being sent out to snoop around MONATKON (Sheet 4), & see what the position is there prior to our attack on it tomorrow. At 2000 hrs Cpl Gellard returned with his patrol & reported to the C.O. that he had seen some Burmans, had heard a lot of jabbering which sounded like Japanese, & that he suspected there was some Japs in the chaung at approx (178635 - Sheet 4). At 2310 hours, Cpl Turnbull returned & reported that he had gone through the village of MONATKON & saw no enemy. He then proceeded to the Pagodas on the high ground at (168635 - Sheet 4) & again saw no enemy. - The CO, in view of this information, decided to stick to his plan which he had given out at 1800 hrs.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
26th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING - MONATKON - TWINYWA	At 0545 hrs, we stood to as normal, & after stand-down the Bn had early breakfasts. Water is very scarce, & it has to be brought in local carts with barrels & chatties from KANBAUK 2162 Sheet 4. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder), working on the information that the recce patrols brought back, decided to let his original plan go into force for the attack on MONTAKON (1663 - Sheet 4) & phase II of his battle on the village of TWINYWA (1563 - Sheet 4). The plan was this! The Bn would advance on a 2 Company front with C & D Companies up & the tanks in front. D Company had 2 troops of tanks preceding them & C Coy had 1 troop. C Company was on the right flank, & D on the left. Immediately behind C Coy was A Coy, & on their left Bn & Tac HQs. B Coy stayed in the village of NYAKO-AING (1863 - Sheet 4) under Major	

- MONATKON - TWINYWA	Courtenay-Hood, to protect our Admin base & the M/T. It also gave us a good footing on the ground, & B Coy were able to look after our right & left flanks since they had our 3" mortars, & 2 sections of MMGs under command. A gunner F.O.O. also remained with them in case of trouble & so made this little party complete. The C.O. gave out his orders from a vantage point on the ground & then the H-hour was given as 1015 hrs. An Artillery programme with Mediums, 25 pounders & 3.7 hows was laid on & brought down on MONATKON at H hour onwards. The Bn started its advance on the village over desert country with cactus hedges scattered over it, hedges which could house bunker positions which would have a heavy toll on us if the Jap occupied them. The tanks ably looked after these, & so the advance went on smoothly. About 400[x] yards from the village C Coy halted & then the tanks pushed forward to the SOUTH end of the village followed by D Coy under Major Turnbull. The tanks went too much to the NORTH but eventually sorted themselves out, & the advance thro' the village started. The tanks advanced 25 yards looking for positions, blasting likely bunkers & foxholes on the way then halted. D Coy then closed up on them & so the advance through the village continued against no opposition. Where the Jap got to was puzzling everybody, since newly dug positions were obvious. The C.O. went forward on a tank to see how D Coy was faring & came back with the news that D Coy had got right through the village unopposed & were now on the main road. The C.O. then ordered C Coy forward & then followed that up with the remainder of the Bn. Meanwhile, B Coy had been ordered up from NYAKO-AING to rejoin the Bn, since it was now obvious that the JAP had taken a "run-out pill" or had been ordered to withdraw. The next phase of the battle was to take TWINYWA & so complete the job. For this phase, B Coy was pushed out to occupy the high ground at approx 165629 - Sheet 4, to watch to the SOUTH whilst C Coy under Major Mann did the final job of getting TWINYWA. The remainder of the Bn was disposed of as follows. D Coy in the NW of MONATKON, A Coy along the SOUTH end & partially along the main road with Bn HQ at road-track junction at 165633 Sheet 4. C Coy formed up on the high ground to the SOUTH of TWINYWA & with the CO in the leading tank of 2 troops started off to capture the final objective. As in the case of MONATKON, TWINYWA was clear of Japs & well it should be, since both villages were as flat as pancakes due to airstrikes & artillery bombardments. All that remained now was to search the area for odd Japs. This was done & the total bag only amounted to	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	4. D Coy were then ordered to clear the main road to the NORTH with 2 troops of tanks in support, & to contact the 1/11 SIKHS in the area of THIYIPYITSAYA (1666 - Sheet 4). This was done with NES. The Commanding Officer then went round the area, & decided to hold temporary positions for that night, disposed as above, with the exception of C Coy who occupied the high ground & pagoda area just SOUTH of TWINYWA. The Bde Commander visited us at about 1500 hrs & expressed his pleasure at us having secured this line. Digging in commenced immediately & hot meals were prepared for the men. The Admin base was moved up to MONATKON quickly & were distributed to Coys. Mail & SEACS also arrived & helped to boost up morale another 100%, as did the RUM ration that night. At 1900 hrs the CO held an R&O group & told Officers that he wanted ALL ranks to know that he was very pleased with the determination & boldness they had shown throughout the battle. The concluding incident of the day was a Japanese 70 mm gun which fired about 10 rounds at our area. All went wide & we settled down to a well earned night's rest.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
27th FEBRUARY - MONATKON - TWINYWA	The remainder of the night was quiet, & after stand-down our standing patrol which had been out at NYAKO-AING (1863 - Sheet 4) all night, under command of Lieut Hewitt, returned having seen no enemy. They had contacted the 1/11 Sikhs at KANBAUK (2162 Sheet 4), who had relieved the 4/8 Gurkhas at 0400 hrs this morning, but had no news of any enemy activity. At 0800 hrs the CO & the Coy Commanders recced new Bn positions in the TWINYWA area, & at 0900 hrs the Bn moved into these areas as follows. Bn HQ moved to the pagoda area at (159633 - Sheet 4). C Coy the high ground & with the left flank on the banks of the IRRAWADDY RIVER at (158629 - Sheet 4). C Coy linked up with B Coy who were also on the high ground to the SOUTH of the village at (168628 - Sheet 4). B Coy then linked up with A Coy who covered the SOUTH & SOUTHEAST end of the MONATKON village with their HQ at (166632 - Sheet 4). D Coy remained in the area of the NW end of MONATKON & extended across the chaung on to the high ground at approx (166637 Sheet 4). A Coy & B Coy both have 1 Pl of MMGs each & can cover the ground in front with excellent arcs & fields of fire. The Gunners & Bde HQ have moved into the area just behind us & we now have a nice strong perimeter protecting the new arrivals. Lieut Thomas has now rejoined us from Bde HQ, where he was an L.O. The remainder of the day was spent in cleaning & testing weapons, cleaning & repairing clothes & swimming in the River.	

	Our Admin base has not got across the bridgehead & we managed to get up all the office stuff before darkness set in. Patrols for tonight are being found from A & B Coys. 1 Patrol patrols main road to NALETAW CHAUNG & along same to track & nulla junction at (184623 - Sheet 4). The second patrol to NAKYO-AING to see the Japs don't slip through & continuing on to KANBAUK at first light to contact the 1/11 SIKHS. We had another rum issue tonight which was well received by the men. 1 man evacuated to hospital & 14 reinforcements joined us today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
28th FEBRUARY - TWINYWA - MONATKON	After first light our patrols returned & submitted a report of NES. One patrol had contacted the 4/8th Gurkhas in the village of KINKA (1559 - Sheet 4) thus clearing the main road between us. The Divisional Commander Major-General Evans DSO & Brigadier Crowther DSO visited us this morning & once again expressed their pleasure at the way the Bn had dealt with the enemy during our last task. The Div Commander then spoke with several men, then left after having been with the Bn for nearly an hour. Lieut Fleming rejoined us today after having been away from the Bn for nearly 9 months. He brought along 18 men with him which helped to swell our sorely depleted numbers. Remainder of the day was spent in improving positions & testing guns. The standing patrols are exactly the same as last night, but are being found by C Coy. Five men admitted to hospital & 1 man rejoined us from hospital. Lieut Playle rejoined us from hospital today & returned to B Coy.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

1st to 31st MARCH
1945

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF MAPS
1/25,000 PAGAN SHEET 4 (a) ORIGINAL
" " " 6 (b) DUPLICATE
" CHAUK " 3 (C) TRIPLICATE
1" to 1 mile 84L/13

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st MARCH - TWINYWA	Our normal patrols returned from KANBAUK (2162 Sheet 4) & NAKYO-AING (1865 Sheet 4) and also the contact patrol to meet the 4/8th Gurkhas at KINKA (1660 Sheet 4), all returning with reports of having seen no movements of the enemy at all. The pioneer pl were kept busy today, finishing off the crosses for the graves of our dead, & also trying to find any through channels between the sandbanks on the river, for craft with a draught of 3' to 6 feet. Our jeeps & 15 cwts are at last getting their much needed maintenance, & the mules now do the hard work bringing rations & water etc. At 1000hrs a message was received from Bde HQ saying that the Army Commander was coming to visit us. This was later cancelled due to something more urgent requiring the Army Commander's attention. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) went forward to see the 4/8 Gurkhas & took a look at the ground in front. On his return, he held an 'O' Group, during which he put his Officers in the picture as to what was happening on the other sectors of our Army front so that they, in turn, could pass it on to the men, & let them see, just how well other Divisions were doing, & to show them our rate of progress. Training has again started & the men are now fully recovered after the last hectic few days, with the inactivity we are now experiencing. There is still no sign of us moving. A lot of the men are suffering from Cactus sores, which have become poisoned. One man was admitted to hospital & 14 rejoined Bn from the hospital today. Six men returned from leave. Mr Prooth rejoined the Bn today, having finished his job of bringing up the Battalion's spare kit.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd MARCH - TWINYWA	After a very quiet night patrols started returning & once again had nothing to report, having seen no enemy. Training still continues, & the burnt out village of MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) is being used to practice coys to a drill in taking villages with tanks in support. This drill we hope will avoid unnecessary	

	casualties, & at the same time train our reinforcements to the safest & best method of tank & infantry co-operation. Major JAMES arrived bringing with him 28 OR reinforcements. Major James took over command of A Company, & Major HAYES, recently promoted after the battle, reverted to Captain & remained as his second in command. The reinforcements were distributed to the Rifle Companies & helped to bring their strengths up to the W/E. At 1500hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder) was called to Bde for an "O Group". On his return at 1620hrs he once more put his officers in the picture as to the general situation on the 14th Army front. The usual patrols for the night were found from B Company & they left at about 1945hrs. Five men were evacuated to hospital & 9 men returned from hospital. Two men returned from leave.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd MARCH - TWINYWA	After stand-down in the morning, our patrols returned with a negative report – Kit from our rear dump was ferried up to the Bn area today, so that companies could sort out the stuff they wanted to keep etc. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) went to Divisional HQ for canteen stores & to arrange amenities for the men. He returned at midday, bringing with him a W.A.S.Bie canteen. The Companies sent 1/3rd of their strength to this canteen at a time, & so the men stocked up with soap, razor blades, cigarettes etc. Our own PRT canteen had also obtained some stores making a hay-day of it. The 2/I/C also laid on a cinema show for the Bn at some future date, possibly in a day or two. A Toc H representative arrived, & toured the Companies giving them a gramophone recital. As per yesterday, the CO was called to Bde in the early afternoon, & on his return, held an R & O group at 1600 hrs.	
- TWINYWA	The Brigade Group was moving forward, & the Bn are to move to the area of the villages of NYAUNGHLA (1657 – Sheet 4) SHWEKYAUNG (1655 – Sheet 4). The Bn is still to remain in reserve & has the role of protecting Bde HQ & the guns. Our patrolling will be active & extends well to the EAST, whilst on the other hand our right hand patrol boundary, ie to the WEST, includes the west bank of the River Irrawaddy. This rather surprised everyone, but the explanation was forthcoming from the C.O. Since we are the foremost Bde in the Division, & furthest SOUTH, we have to hold hard until the Japs on the west bank of the Irrawaddy either withdraw to the SOUTH or clear out to the EAST across the river, otherwise we run past them, &, we being spread out, it would give	

	the Nippon an excellent opportunity to cross the river & slip in behind us. To support us with our patrols crossing the river we have a detachment of a Special Operations Group (S.O.G.) who will be responsible for our safe arrival on the WEST bank. The idea is, that our patrols probe & pinpoint the enemy positions, find out his approx strength, then go over to harass & as we say here – "To play silly buggers." It proves to be an interesting time in the future, & everybody is as keen as mustard to have first crack. The time given out for the Bn to start was 0800hrs, which leaves ample time for our patrols to return & be able to get washed & shaved & have a good breakfast before moving off. Throughout the day training & sorting out of kit was in full swing. One man only was evacuated to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
4th MARCH - TWINYWA - NYAUNGHLA.	At 0800 hrs the Bn moved out in the following order of march preceded by the CO (Lt-Col Conder) & his R&O group, who went on to our destination in jeeps. B Coy, A Coy, C Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coys, D Coy, followed up by the spare mules not with companies. Bn spare kit was to be ferried forward to NYAUNGHLA (159570 - Sheet 4). We had 5 - 3 tonners allotted to us for this purpose from the Divisional GPT Company. On arrival at NYAUNGHLA, the CO made another recce, putting the Coy Commanders in the picture, whilst on the ground. Company 2/I/C having been out the day previous with the CO knew where to lead their respective companies to, & so saved a lot of trouble. On arrival, the Bn was disposed on the ground as follows. (All references are on Sheet 4) Bn HQ - 159565, C Coy - 166568 & D Coy - 160562. In support we have the 136 Fd Regt with the guns disposed on our Bn area, & 2 sections of MMG. No 2 Section of SRU unit & 1 Pl of S.O.G. are under Command of us. The remainder of the day was spent on digging in, & improving positions. At 1700 hrs the CO held an R&O group & informed us D Coy would be the company used for the patrolling across the river & that they would work in conjunction with the S.O.G. people, & start practicing with boats etc, & get to know each other very well. Other companies would be responsible for the deep patrolling to the EAST, & would also practice watermanship & river-crossing patrol tactics. A Coy of Barodas also came under command of us & were located at 164572. Bde HQ was situated in the village of NYAUNGHLA as were Regimental HQ of 136 Field Regt at 158572 - Sheet 4. One man to hospital & 4 men rejoined from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

5th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA.	The usual contact & fighting patrols returned with negative reports on the enemy's movement. Reports of wells, tanks & chaungs with water in them were submitted to Bde HQ to pass on to other units so that they could make full use of the information. Water is extremely scarce & a tactical consideration these days. Improvement of positions, camouflaging, & making shades continues. Weapon testing & training is also in full swing since we are now in a static position. D Coy under Major Turnbull is in co-operation with the Special Operations Group, really getting down to this Commando business & are certainly tackling their new task with enthusiasm. The River IRRAWADDY has many sandbanks, & tricky currents which have to be overcome, & the question of getting patrols across this large river is going to be very tricky indeed. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder), if conditions are favourable tonight, is going to send 4 patrols across the river. If conditions are not suitable, D Coy patrols will continue to practice landings at night. Capt Denton joined us today & was accompanied with 4 BOR reinforcements. He took over from Captain Culpin as 2/I/C of D Coy. 1 Man was admitted to hospital, & 4 men rejoined from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
6th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA.	At 0800 hrs our usual jeep patrol set off on its cross-country round via the following route. To KINKA - 1659 Sheet 4, then to LENETT - 2560 Sheet 6, THEPYINTAW - 2757 - Sheet 6, KANGYIKON 2756 Sheet 6 then along the chaung, & so home to NYAUNGHLA (159570) Sheet 4, either cross country, or by coming up the main road through SHNEKYAUNG (160558) - Sheet 6). The main object of this patrol is to see that no japs are floating around that area, if so to deal with them, & also to locate any valuable water & report its location to higher authorities. Last night was not suitable for the patrols going across the river, but it looks more promising today, & with a spot of luck we may get the 4 patrols across. The Mobile cinema arrived this afternoon & we converted a stone building into a veritable "Pavilion". Shows will have to be given in daylight, & this is easily arranged since the Pioneer Platoon invented a blackout arrangement. In the early evening the CO (Lt-Colonel Conder) decided that conditions were suitable for the crossing, & so all preliminary arrangements were made in the way of food, water, ammo, engines & boat checks & the final instructions to the patrols. At 1900 hrs all was set for the journey & off they set. Now for the layout & object of those patrols - Very little	

- NYAUNGHLA	information is available about Japanese stragglers or locations on the WEST side of the IRRAWADDY, round about the LANYWA area ( ). Now, we on this side of the river cannot advance any further meantime, due to the fact that there is nothing to prevent the Japs also doing a river-crossing & cutting us off, not to mention, endangering our bridgehead. - To avoid this, the only thing to do is to probe the LANYWA area & get that urgently required information, thus the task was allotted to us, & so the patrol already detailed. The patrol commanders were as follows - from D Coy Capt Culpin, Lieut Hewitt, & Cpl Taylor. - The S.O.G. patrol commander was Lt. Comdr Strange (Canada) & his patrol consisted purely of S.O.G. personnel. This patrol, being specialists at the job, went across the river on surf-boards, the men themselves having "slippers" on their hands & feet, to help propel the board forward. Let's deal with this patrol first. Leaving from our beach at NYAUNGHLA (159570 - Sheet 4) they glided silently & swiftly into the darkness, & made for the West bank to a selected point we called OBAN (123498 - Sheet). From this point they were to go to a point 120479 - Sheet where they were to lie up & observe enemy movements etc. Unfortunately when approaching OBAN, this patrol on their surf-boards, were caught in a very swift current, with the result Lt Comdr Strange was the only one who managed to land. He stayed alone & continued to carry out his task unaided - An extremely good show. The remainder were whisked downstream until they eventually found an island, across which they walked & eventually made their way back to base at about 0100 hrs the following morning. Lieut Hewitt & his patrol were also to land at OBAN, but they too met the same current, & were lucky to get back to base. Capt Culpin & Cpl Taylor's boats managed with a lot of difficulty to land south of OBAN, at a place we called PERTH (124497 Sheet). Capt Culpin's patrol had to make their way across country to the high ground overlooking LANYWA, take up position there & to observe all enemy movements. Cpl Taylor's patrol also cut across country to high ground dominating the village & oilwells at LANYWA at approx (096467 - Sheet). Captain Culpin's objective was point 372, the high ground in the middle of cultivated ground at 095456 - Sheet). Up to midnight no communication was made, & all we know at present is that they managed to land safely. Their boats brought this message back when they returned at approximately 2300 hrs. Four men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

7th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	Normal cross-country patrols returned to Bn base area, having been unsuccessful in encountering any Nippons. Training still continues by all coys in watermanship, & since we have now collected a weird & varied amount of Burmese country craft there is no time lag on the training programme. So far, no news of our patrols on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY has been received, so we hope that good news will soon reach us. All arrangements are being made with S.O.G. for tonight's task of bringing our patrols back from the WEST bank of the River. A mobile cinema arrived yesterday & today the first performance was shown to about 180 men. The only house we have suitable in this area can only hold 90 men at a time, & so we ran a show in the morning, & one in the afternoon. Seven men were admitted to hospital today & eight men rejoined the Bn from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
8th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA - NYAUNGHLA	At about 0830 hrs Cpl Taylor's patrol returned from the other side of the river, & the briefing of his patrol produced excellent information. He maintained that LANYWA (1146 -) itself was like a deserted ghost town, & roughly speaking, was only occupied by a few Japs in the North end of the village near the river at (1247 -). At about 1000 hrs Lieu-Comdr Strange returned, having done an excellent one man patrol. He had not seen much in the way of movement, but reported that 3 Japs had gone to a shed & fed 5 mules, in approx the same area as Sgt Taylor thought to be held. Strange also reported that 2 & 3 man Jap recce patrols were operating in all the chaungs north of LANYWA, but did not appear to have any definite object in view, except probably to watch the river & see that we sent no patrols over to their side unopposed. Capt Culpin of D Coy & his patrol were not to hand by 1400 hrs, but our OP reported some BORs in a boat, being towed along the banks of the island at approx (135556 - Sheet 6). This later proved to be Capt Culpin & his patrol, avoiding the current, having acquired the services of a Burman to haul him back to the Bn base. Capt Culpin & his patrol did a very extensive patrol, having covered a wide area all round LANYWA. He confirmed about the village itself being deserted, or appearing to be so, & informed the CO (Lt Col Conder) that to the WEST & NW of LANYWA were defences well dug & in abundance. He had seen no actual Japs but confirmed about having seen footprints in all the chaungs leading to the river. He also reported having seen a steamer tied up at LANYWA but which had disappeared into some hideout on the WEST side of the river, not to be seen again	

	throughout that day. During the night 7th/8th he had seen what appeared to be a steamer with an electric arc-lamp & navigation lights, travelling across the river from West to East. The general deduction from these 3 patrols was that the Jap had held Lanywa in strength but in view of our advance from the EAST bank & the possibility of their being cut off by us, they had thinned out, & were probably making a strong defensive position in CHAUK (1138 - Sheet 84L/13), leaving only a small, well dug in detachment in LANYWA. The normal routine patrols were found by B Coys pl & sent out at dusk. The cinema is in full swing & the men are bucked at having some entertainments once more. Two men went to hospital today, & one rejoined from hospital. One reinforcement also joined us today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
9th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	Normal night & contact patrols returned at first light, & still had nothing to report. The thing that puzzles us is that the Jap hasn't yet tried to get round our Eastern flank &, although we send out nightly patrols to the EAST, there is absolutely no sense of his probing or patrolling our way. One of these days, we may strike lucky, & if we do meet him the patrols will certainly touch them up a bit, since they have been so disappointed so often. As a result of a report received, we discovered that on the night of the 8th/9th 10 Japs had set an ambush for a patrol of ours, which they thought were going to try & cross the river from a point at (122551 - Sheet 4). Actually we had only been enquiring into the possibility of leaving from that point in country craft, this information being passed on to the Japs by some Burmans. - The CO (Lieut Col Conder) decided that the thing to do was to get some Burmans into Bn HQ, &, with the co-operation of our BIC interpreter to make believe that we fully intended to send a recce patrol of 4 men over to the west bank that night ie 9th March. The Burmans agreed, & a time & RV at (122551 - Sheet 4) was arranged. We hoped that the Burmans would once again broadcast the news to the Jap, who we also hoped would lay another ambush. At 1900 hrs Lieut Macdonald & his platoon from B Coy went over to the island to lay an ambush for the ambushers. We also sent a section with 2 Brens down to (127537 - Sheet 4) to act as a stop gap in case the Jap managed to escape by the river to the SOUTH. An Arty programme was also laid on to support this platoon, & so all we need now is results. Up to midnight, reports came of light flicking on & off on the WEST bank of the river.	

	These we suspect are only villagers' fires, since they still occupy that area. Two men admitted to hospital, 2 men are charged, 2 men proceeded on 28 day UK leave, & 3 NCOs left to go as instructors to Comilla on a reinforcement camp.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
10th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	After a very quiet night, our contact & standing patrols returned with negative reports. Our ambush party under Lieut Macdonald of B Coy returned from Watch Island (1356 - Sheet 4) as we've now called it. He had no luck at all, & either the Japs hadn't received our bogus information, or else they twigged our little game. Lieut Macdonald left a recce patrol on the southern tip of Watch Island at approx (123552 - Sheet 4), to observe for enemy movements & see that no Japs landed on the island without our knowing it. This party withdrew at 1500 hrs as ordered, having seen nothing. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) went to a conference at Bde HQ today, & on his return held an R&O group. He put us thoroughly in the picture as to how we were faring on other fronts, also how the enemy was reacting to our successes. The Jap is having a hard time of it & from all accounts is withdrawing in our direction. We it appears are the anvil, on which the Japs will knock against before the hammer drive comes from the NORTH to knock him out of existence. As a result of the COs conference, 1 Pl of D Coy was established on Watch Island as a base for our patrols going to the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY, & also to prevent the Jap from occupying it. A Coy is finding the normal patrols tonight. - Training with the boats etc still continues, & over & above, drill, PT, & field training is in full swing to keep the men up to scratch. The men are in good heart, & are progressing favourably at Combined Ops! Six men were admitted to hospital & 3 returned from hospital today. One man returned from leave also.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
11th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	After our normal patrols had returned to base, C Coy were almost ready to send out a mobile patrol to tour around the country side to the EAST with the furthermost at the village of YWATHIT (2852 - Sheet 6) at the foothills. This patrol returned after an extensive tour having had no luck in meeting up with some Nippons. At 0900 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col Conder) went out on a recce to practically the same area, also looking over the high ground, with a view to having a clear picture of the topography & tactical ground, should we be called upon to counter-attack the Jap, should a threat arise. The CO returned to base at about 1345	

	hrs after a very successful recce. - Our own M/T personnel now man the country craft, fitted with Chore-horse engines, for the purpose of taking food etc across to our patrol base on WATCH ISLAND. - They are quite dab hands at manipulating these very temperamental engines. At 1430 hrs the CO held an R&O group, put us in the picture, explaining that we may remain in this area for as much as a month, & outlayed his plan for future patrolling on the West bank of the IRRAWADDY. For patrols operation across the river on the night 11th/12th, he made the following plan. Lieut Hewitt & his platoon from D Coy were to cross to WATCH Island in the early evening, & lie up prior to crossing to Oban (123498 - Sheet 3) tonight. At 1900 hrs he moved off in 2 country craft, & 4 assault boats (all power driven) with his pl + 1 Section from the Platoon on Watch Island for OBAN, with adequate facilities for communications, ie 2 48 sets. He also had Stretcher-bearers with him. A series of relays from OBAN to Watch Island thence to Bn HQ was laid on, so that he should be in touch with them at all times. Their departure went off OK, but at 2130 hrs, a very wet & bedraggled party of men under Sgt Brooks returned to the Bn area & reported that his boat had sunk with him at approx (124549 - Sheet 4) & that they had lost all their weapons. All the men returned safely. Since we had no more available boats at the time, he had to wait until the others returned from dropping the main body at OBAN. These did not return by midnight, & so the CO ordered Sgt Brooks' party to rest, & that he would make arrangements for their rejoining the patrol tomorrow. Three signallers with a 48 set, who were to act as a relay station, lost themselves on the island, & had not reported to the patrol base by midnight. So far, one or two mishaps have hindered us, but since we have been prepared for such things, we take them all on the chin OK. Two men were admitted to hospital today & 1 man discharged, rejoined us.	
- NYAUNGHLA		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
12th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	Sgt Brooks' party left this side of the river at first light, & proceeded to OBAN (123498 - Sheet 3) to rejoin Lieut Hewitt & his Platoon. 2 Platoons of C Coy proceeded over to Watch Island to relieve D Coys platoon, prior to their sending 1 Platoon & 1 Section over to the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY to relieve Lieut Hewitt's platoon on the night of the 13th/14th March. Our normal patrols returned with nothing to report. As a result of a report from Bde HQ, we sent out 1 Platoon to the village of CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) where it was reported that 25 JAPS had arrived	

	there the day before. This patrol left at 0800 hrs, & after reporting the village & areas round about clear were ordered to return to the Bn. Lt Thomas commanded this patrol. The C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) & the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) went over to watch island to have a look at the WEST side of the river with a view	
- NYAUNGHLA	to sending landing patrols across the river, slightly NORTH, at approximately (10~-109562 - Sheet 4). The Commanding Officer is now changing Companies around in view of the fact that each Company now takes its turn at patrolling across the river. D Company has now taken over C Coys area, & C Coy are now in reserve, but to the river patrols & patrols on the WEST bank of the river. Late in the afternoon, reports were received from Lieut Hewitt that his patrols had recced as far SOUTH as the chaung opposite the I.B.P. Depot at (124463 - Chauk 3) & had seen no enemy. No further word was received up to midnight from this patrol. We had intimation that No 3189859 Pte Johnstone of D Coy had died of smallpox. Two men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
13th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	Throughout the night all was quiet (except for the guns in our perimeter putting down harassing fire), & our normal patrols returned with NES reports. C Coy were busy making preparations for their Platoon to go over & relieve D Coy platoon tonight. Reports received from Lieut Hewitt showed that he had got right into LANYWA to a point at (115457 - 84L/13) & had seen no enemy movement at all, & that he was extending his patrols SOUTH & WEST. Our patrol to CHUNGSHI - (2952 Sheet 6) reached there OK & reported NES. Other villages were searched on road back with NTR.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- NYAUNGHLA	B Coy were busily training on the river all day, since they are next on the list for river patrols, & relieve C Coy in a day or two's time. Our 4 pipers returned from the Gordons today, having spent 2 days practicing with their pipe band & having partaken in playing "Retreat". Three men admitted to hospital, & 4 men rejoined the Bn having been discharged from hospital. Seventeen reinforcements joined the Bn today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
14th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	A Company sent out a mobile patrol of 1 Platoon strength, under command of Lieut Thomas, who set out to patrol the area round about the village of CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6), & see if they could contact any Nippons. Last night a platoon & 1 section commanded by Lieut Arnott of C Coy relieved the D Coy platoon of Lieut Hewitt. The C Coy lot were landed safely at OBAN (123498 - Chauk 3) at about 2130 hrs on the night 13th/14th, but	

- NYAUNGHLA	unfortunately, the people returning to the Bn base did not get back so easily. The boats when loaded have great difficulty in coming upstream of the IRRAWADDY due to the current, & periodically the men have to be dropped on the various little islands in mid-stream, & they have to walk as far as possible before having another lift in the boats. Two of the returning boats struck a sandbar, & this little lot were marooned for several hours. The whole party eventually arrived back at about 1100 hrs this morning after a very tiring journey back. - One man had to be treated for exposure on arrival. At about 1400 hrs Sgt Pendleton of A Coy, the Platoon Sgt with Lieut Thomas, returned, & reported to Bn HQ, complete with his transport & patrol, less Lieut Thomas, 2 men & 1 BIC bombardier. What had happened was this! Sgt Pendleton had been out on a recce patrol on the high ground at approx (3053 - Sheet 6) whilst Lieut Thomas & 3 men had gone on to the other side of the foothills to see if they could spot any enemy. The MT had been left at CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6). Pendleton saw between 40 or 50 Japs come from the South & travelling Northwards through CHAUNGSHI. Pendleton was about 1000[x] yards from these Japs, & since he saw they were proceeding towards the MT base & our 22 set, he thought he had better get Lieut Thomas & warn him. Lieut Thomas couldn't be found & so Pendleton, on previously arranged orders, withdrew, & got the patrol & the MT back to the Bn base. The CO (Lt Col Conder) then ordered out another patrol to go back with a view to getting Lieut Thomas & his men out, & also to watch this Jap party's movements, & to follow them. This party met Lieut Thomas half-way back, & it was then discussed that the Japs were none other than a Coy of Gurkhas from another Brigade, who were operating in our patrol area. This was a very easy mistake to make, since Japs & Gurkhas are similarly featured, & also of a similar stature, & also, since we hadn't been warned of the patrol operating in our area, it was only natural to assume that they were Japs. - Meanwhile, Lieut Arnott's people on the WEST bank of the river were having fun. He had sent a patrol down into LAYWA (1146 - Sheet 3), & had been fired on from a position at approx (117464 - Sheet 3) by 2 Machine guns & an unknown number of rifles. We sustained 1 Casualty, Pte Buchan being Killed in the clash. His body was not recoverable since it was in open ground & was covered by machine-gun fire. Unfortunately he had maps on him & a list of Bn code names that we use for these particular patrols. Later another patrol was sent out to recce the high ground at pt	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- NYAUNGHLA		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	372 (0945 Chauk Sheet 3) & its immediate area. The patrol found newly dug positions, but found them unoccupied. Small temporary Bashas that the Japs use were found in the open paddy ground to the SOUTH. These were new also since our previous patrols had been all over this area, & had seen nothing of this before. It was obvious that the Jap was preparing positions which could be used, if our troops advanced on LANYWA from the NORTH. - Previously no enemy activity was seen in this area, except for 2-3 men recce patrols, but it looks as if he is building up in this area for something. The patrol returned via the Pagoda at (123472 - Chauk - 3) & were immediately fired on by 2 grenade-cup dischargers, 2 LMGs & some rifles. Pte Taylor was killed in this outburst, & his body was recovered immediately. The queer thing about this enemy occupation was that the patrol had passed thro this area on their way out, a short time previously & there were NO enemy in the area then. The patrol returned to base after further investigation. We got the gunners onto this target & neutralised the area. It was later confirmed by S.O.G. that their patrol down the IRRAWADDY to CHAUK (- Sheet 3) had seen 100 Japs cross the river & land at LANYWA the night before. - Due to the fact that it takes so long to come upstream, we didn't receive the information until it was nearly too late. - It must have been these 100 Japs that C Coy patrols met. One man to hospital today & 3 rejoined Bn on being discharge from hospital. Seventeen reinforcements arrived today, being mostly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Up to midnight no further communication was had with C Coy platoon, although the CO wanted urgently to get word through to Lieut Arnott to withdraw to KYAUKSAUNG - 113534 Sheet 4 - & not get involved in a battle.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
15th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	A Coy sent out another mobile patrol to CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) to patrol the area of the foothills, since it is becoming more evident that the JAP is concentrating more & more & has forces to the EAST. So far we have had no luck in contacting any Nippons, but one of these days we may run into him. Normal fighting recce & standing patrols returned just after 1st light, with nothing to report. B Company are preparing to send a platoon under Lieut Playle to relieve Lieut Arnott of C Company platoon, at KYAUKSAUNG (113534 Sheet 4) at about 1800 hrs tonight. Remainder of the Companies are still practicing hard with the boats, & are speedily becoming more & more efficient at it. The COs (Lt Col Conder) idea is also to have every non-swimmer taught, so that by	

	the time we leave here, every man will be fully trained for river operations. At 1500 hrs, the Corps Commander - Lieut General F. Messervy, landed on the Bde airstrip at (165554 - Sheet 6) in an L5, with a view to visiting the Battalion. He visited A, B & D Coys & was very pleased with what he saw. At 1700 hrs, Lieut Playle & his men set out in power-driven assault boats, & eventually arrived at KYAUKSAUNG by 1900 hrs. The change over took place without a hitch, & by 1930 hrs, the last boat load of Lieut Arnott's Platoon had cleared the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. They landed on Watch Island at pt (123552 - Sheet 4), & stayed there till the following morning. No further communication was had with S18 (Lieut Playle) until the following morning. Two men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
16th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	At about 0630 hrs the usual Atmospheric depression lifted & we got communication with S18 (Lieut Playles platoon on WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY) & from their reports had spent a very quiet night. Normal patrols returned with NES reports. A platoon from D Company relieved A Coys from the task of sending out mobile patrols to CHAUNGWA (3050 Sheet 6). They left at 0800 hrs, & eventually returned in the afternoon, having discovered nothing in spite of a very extensive search. At 0900 hrs a message was received from our S18 patrol with a Sitrep. He had sent a patrol to ROSYTH NULLA (117521 - Sheet 4) but had seen no enemy. Another patrol to "GLASGOW" NULLAH (120501 - Sheet 4) saw no enemy. A further recce patrol to "MELROSE" (125479 - Sheet 4) met nothing at all. At 1400 hrs we also received a further sitrep which contained the following information. Patrols went further along the ROSYTH NULLA & found some old diggings, & also newly dug positions at (108508 - Sheet 4) consisting of 5 pits & a crawl trench. No activity was seen at the hill features which we called NEVIS (095484 - Sheet 4) & LOMOND (096473 - Sheet 4), but some movement was observed at point 117484 - Sheet 4, but since they were so far away they couldn't identify whether they were Burmans or JAPS. They were investigating. Later in the evening another report was received to say that their patrol near MELROSE had seen a boat with 7 Burmans on the island which we called SKYE (1349 - Sheet 4), who appeared unarmed. We always treat Burmans as Japs, since so many cases of JAPS dressed up as Burmans have ambushed our troops. Throughout the night no further reports were received from S18. At 2130 hrs we were informed that 500 Bty were moving out forward to snipe some JAP guns, & consequently B Coy	

	was warned to have a platoon standing by to go out with the guns as local protection, for 0630 hrs - 0700 hrs next morning. Two men were admitted to hospital today. Lieut Killip was repatriated today & Lieut Henderson relieved him & became Bn Signal Officer.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
17th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	After a very quiet night our standing patrols & road opening patrols returned with nothing to report. Communication was established with our S18 patrol who apparently had a very quiet night. He (Lieut Playle) had sent out some patrols but communications faded & we did not get their objectives. Sgt Bell & 7 men from D Coy went out on a mobile jeep patrol to CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) to investigate a report that some Japs had been seen there. This patrol approached CHAUNGWA from the South, having proceeded along the CHAUNGMAGYI-CHAUNG, which was an excellent covered approach. Sgt Bell left his jeeps in the chaung just SOUTH of the village & with his patrol advanced on the outskirts of the village. About 100 yards from the village there is a basha which is not marked on the map, & from this house, the Jap opened up on them at about 20 yards range. Sgt Bell who was in the lead nearly bought it, but managed to fire a shot at a Jap, which, although it went wide, allowed Bell to take up a decent fire position, & placed a well aimed shot through the Japs head. Somebody else was firing from inside the basha, so grenades (HE) & smoke were lobbed inside. Screams were heard coming from the inside, but nobody broke for open ground. The basha was well ablaze when Bell & his patrol looked inside it to discover 2 other dead bodies in the flames. He then scouted round a bit but couldn't find any more Nippons, so he started off for the village of CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6) which also proved empty. He then returned to the Bn to make his report. On the strength of this report & also a report that approx 7 Japs nightly visited the village of CHAUNGSHI, the C.O. (Lt Col Conder) decided to send out an ambush party under command of Lieut Fleming of A Coy to see if we could put this little party of Nippons in the bag.	
- NYAUNGHLA	The patrol party went out at dusk & returned about 2230 hrs, having seen no enemy. The CO (Lieut-Col Conder) went up in an L5 aircraft to reconnoitre across the river, & also to have a look at the area, which we were to take over from the 1/11 SIKHS in the course of a day or two. This area is approx at pt 464 (223496 - Sheet 6) with 2 Coys outlying near the village of TETMA (309450 - 84L/13). At 1500 hrs Major Courtenay-Hood, (B Coy), borrowed a motor-launch from the Indian Engineers, & took over rations &	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	wire to his patrol on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. Patrols were practically the same as yesterday, but had not yet returned by the time he left which was at 1700 hrs. The Commanding Officer held a NCOs Promotion Board today to make up our deficiencies. Two men were admitted to hospital, & 12 rejoined the Bn from hospital today. One reinforcement also rejoined, & Pte Clarke arrived back under escort.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
18th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	A battle was going to take place to our SOUTH, & so 2 Platoons of A Coy were picked up by the gunners at 0550 hrs this morning to act as local protection for them. B Coy already had sent a fighting patrol out at 0300 hrs to the area of the high ground SOUTH of the chaung at approximately (175535 - Sheet 4). This patrol cleared the area & awaited the arrival of A Coys 2 Platoons & the guns, before returning to the Battalion. Normal patrols returned at first light with N.E.S. reports. D Coy found the mobile jeep patrol to CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6) CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) & YWATHIT (2853 - Sheet 6) but returned at about 1500 hrs having seen nothing of interest.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- NYAUNGHLA	At 0900 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) & Captain Young the I.O. left with an escort in jeeps to go to the 1/11 Sikhs positions to arrange details of the hand over. The C.O. was not happy about having 2 of his companies at TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) since a company of 7/2nd Punjabis from 114 Bde had now been withdrawn from the high ground at (pt 1186 - 3247). The C.O. reckoned that the Jap could use this as an OP for his arty, & so he rung up the Brigadier & asked for permission to put his Coys somewhere else. His request was refused by the Brigadier, in spite of the CO pointing out that it was redundant, since every movement could be seen by the Jap. The 1/11 Sikhs were shelled that night in TETMA, fire having been directed from pt 1186, & now the Brigadier has given permission to recce new positions!! At 1300 hrs the R&O groups moved out to meet the CO & to liaise with their opposite numbers, regarding positions etc. The party returned at 1700 hrs, followed later by the C.O. who had been arranging with our gunner the D.F. tasks he required. Our S18 patrol was still doing extensive recce & patrols but had met no enemy opposition around LANYWA (1146 - CHAUK 3). Rations, wire & wireless batteries were taken over in the afternoon, & the QMs party reported them to be in good heart. Three men were admitted to hospital today, & 1 man returned from hospital. An issue of 6 air-letter cards per man was received today, & distributed to the	

	Companies. Divisional Amenities provided 5 bottles of Rum for the Battalion. The mail situation is not so good these days, but we had an explanation given that it was caused in the rear areas & had been attended to.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
19th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	Normal perimeter & standing patrols returned to the Bn having had a quiet unexciting night, & nothing to report. At 0300 hrs this morning a patrol went forward to search & clear the area of MY-U-BIN (1653 - Sheet 4) so that the guns could go forward to get the extra range for counter-battery work. They returned about 0930 hrs. The CO of the 1/11 Sikhs liaised with our CO (Lt-Col Conder) in our area about the change over, & the CO took Lt-Col Spinks round the area & over the WATCH ISLAND. Throughout the morning representatives arrived to look over our positions & to be put in the picture regarding the river-crossing & patrolling on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. During the course of the afternoon word was received from Bde HQ that the change-over was postponed for 24 hrs. This means that we move out on the 21st now & not the 20th as previously arranged. The Gordons (now Tanks) have one squadron harbouring in our area today, prior to moving out on the 20th to support the 4/8th Gurkhas in a battle. At 1330 hrs, our normal jeep patrol to the EAST returned with nothing to report. At 1400 hrs the General (Div Commander - Major General Evans DSO) paid us a visit & was pleased to see the men in good heart. At 1630 hrs a platoon of the 1/11th Sikhs moved out in boats to relieve our platoon under command of Lieut Playle on the WEST bank of the river at KYAUKSAUNG (1153 - Sheet 4). This move was carried out successfully & Lt Playle & his platoon arrived at the Bn Base at about 2000 hrs. Nine reinforcements arrived from Reinforcement Camp today, under Command of Lieut Munroe returned from hospital. Lieut Munroe was posted to C Company.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
20th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA	At 0600 hrs our normal patrols returned to the Bn area, having as normal had a quiet night. A mobile jeep patrol from D Coy left at 0815 hrs for an extreme corner of our patrol area at CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6). We are paying particular attention to this area, since the Jap is looking for a road through between our Brigade & 33rd Brigade who are on our left flank. The village of CHAUNGWA & the high ground immediately on its left dominate the gap through the hills & the possibility of the Jap coming through here is carefully observed. This patrol returned early in the afternoon having seen no movement in that area. Villagers report	

	small parties of JAPS appearing in this area, probably recce patrols, who come late in the afternoon & leave at dusk. So far only one of our patrols has struck anything, & so we will have to be patient & wait for him to fall into our noose. At 1700 hrs, the Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) held an R&O group to tie in all details regarding the change over with the 1/11 Sikhs, which is now definitely taking place tomorrow 21st March. Motor-boat engines, country craft & things appertaining to water craft were handed over this afternoon. - Ammunition in sealed boxes, wire & water-digies were handed over by mutual arrangements, to save the transport situation, & avoid needless moving of stores. Representatives from the 1/11 Sikhs came in for the purpose of checking final details for the change over. - The "liquor" ration arrived today, & an issue was made to the men. Cpl Coombes of HQ Coy was nearly drowned in the IRRAWADDY, but was hauled out by 2 or 3 of the men. He was evacuated that night to the ADS. One man was admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
21st MARCH 1945 NYAUNGHLA - SHWEKABYU	Reveille was at 0515 hrs this morning & after early breakfasts the Battalion prepared to move out to our new area. At 0700 hrs the M/T was sent out to the companies & by 0745 hrs the Bn was ready to move off. A platoon from the 1/11 Sikhs was put in each of our Company positions before we moved off. The Bn moved out in 2 parties. At 0745 hrs the C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) plus his R&O groups moved off on MT, followed by the Bn who were marching at 0800 hrs, under command of the 2/I/C (Major Rose). The R&O groups arrived at the Bn central point at (244488 - 84L/13) & the CO gave out dispositions on the ground, Companies being located as follows. Bn HQ - HQ Coy, & Admin Coys less the mules etc (248483 to chaung at 249487, also on high ground at (250483) (all 84L/13). D & C Coy were disposed round Bn HQ on the dominating ground, & A Coy HQ was about 100^{xs} from Bn HQ. A Coy was the main patrolling with only their Coy HQ in the Bn perimeter. B Coy was our outlying Company, & took up position near the village of PADAING, but on the WEST side of the chaung at (292481 - 84L/13). At 1700 hrs A Company moved out to the SOUTH to form a patrol base in the area of (250460 - Sheet 84L/13). From here 6 fighting patrols were sent out to the following places. A patrol pt 628 (221478). B patrol to pt 833 (244438). C patrol to pt 852 (277434 - 84L/13). D patrol to track junctions at (295451 - 84L/13). E patrol to pt 765 (269459 - 84L/13), & the last patrol around the southern end of the patrol base. B Coy had a patrol to TETMA	

	(3045 - 84L/13) & one to pt 1186 to stay out all next day & observe enemy movement from pt 1186 (323478 - 84L/13). By "Stand-to" (1830 hrs) the Bn was reasonably well dug in & a certain amount of wiring completed. At 1900 hrs reports were received from B & C Coys, giving bearings on the sounds of a small battle. The cross-bearings indicated it to be one of A Coy patrols. One man to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
22nd MARCH - SHWEKABYU	After an extremely quiet night, reports started coming in from our various patrols. One of A Coys patrols had bumped some japs & had a successful action against them. This clash was the one that had been reported by B & C Coys the night before. This little patrol reported the fact that they had definitely killed 2 Japs & 2 people dressed in Burmese clothes. We later checked on this but found 5 bodies altogether. We had no casualties! The CO (Lieut Col Conder) went out to A Coy's patrol base which had now moved forward a bit to 260450 - 84L/13, to have a look at the ground forward. He was accompanied with Major Blair our Bty commander & the COs escort section. The CO was very keen to have a look at the village of TAUNGBI - YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13), since our patrols had reported MT movement in that village the night before. This village is also a midway house on the Jap L of C from WEST to EAST, & the C.O. thought that there might be good prospects of beating this place up a bit. After a thorough recce the CO returned to A Coys patrol base, & so back to the Bn area. Pte Farquhar, who was wounded on the patrol was brought into the RAP, & later taken to the MDS. Pte Black the other wounded man of the patrol, died of wounds on the way back to A Company HQ. A report from B Coy in the afternoon showed that 4 Japs had entered the village of PADAING (3047 - 84L/13) but these 4 Japs retired to the south before B Coy could send out a patrol to cut them off. B Coy also reported firing to their SW, & this transpired to be the clash that A Coys patrol had in the area of the water tank at 306436 - 84L/13, & the one in which Farquhar & Black were killed & wounded. This patrol was under command of Sgt Riding, who having been fired on by Jap mortars, successfully moved his wounded, got them back to base, then continued to probe at the	
- SHWEKABYU	Japs in this area, until he discovered a well dug enemy positions at pt 912 - 300447 - 84L/13. Sgt Ridings patrol was again fired on by mortars, so he withdrew round the north end of TETMA (3044 - 84L/13) & returned to A Coys patrol base. B Coys recce (24 hrs) patrol on pt 1186 (3247 - 84L/13) saw movements & approx 12 men	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	go to ground in the chaung at approx 333466 (84L/13). These 12 men were later seen going Southwards through TETMA, & were presumed to go to pt 912. Other than this there was little to report about. Throughout the day positions were improved upon, wiring thickened up, DFs for our 3" Mortars registered, & our 25 pounders properly surveyed & dug in also. The water situation is very tricky & has to be brought out by mules from NYAUNGHLA (1656 Sheet 4). We also have 1 water-cart from the 1/11 Sikhs under command, & our other source of water supply is brought in by villagers on bullock carts. It is difficult supplying A Coy with water, but we have now made a jeep track & get out fairly quickly now. The Indian Engineers brought up a boring plant, but although we bored down 28 feet in the chaung, we didn't strike any water. Patrols as for the 21st went out at dusk, & should have a good evenings hunting since the moon is now up half way, making the going easier, & enabling us to cover long distances before it gets too late. Five men went to hospital today, & one rejoined the Bn from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
23rd MARCH - SHWEKABYU	All our patrols returned safely, bringing back good topographical reports, but very little information of Japs movements. One of A Coys patrols to the SOUTH couldn't do very much, since the Jap was holding the high ground along the ridge near pt 833 (3443 - 84L/13). A Platoon of B Coys bumped some Japs when they were fired on by cup-dischargers, & after the JAPS had brassed off a bit, he slipped away to the SE, before our cut-off section could nab him. The IO (Capt Young), the R.M.O. (Capt Antonio) & the SO (Lieut Henderson) went out to B Coy at about 1000 hrs, & reported all well with them. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) took an escort & proceeded round a lot of villages procuring bullock carts to bring in water to us. - A very difficult but successful trip, since he acquired about 15 carts altogether. At 1400 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder) went out to A Coy patrol base, & gave Major Hayes instructions regarding patrols for this evening. The main patrols were to go to the following places - YWATHIT (2241, THEYAGYAUNG - 2540, TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740) TETMA - 3045 & to point 729 in search of water at approx (2337). Over & above this A Coy had local patrols off & B Coy had out their 3 similar patrols as per last night. At 1500 hrs Major Mann was evacuated to hospital. The Battalion had a beer issue today, 1 Bottle per man being issued with the evening meal. Water arrangements are not yet satisfactory but should be under control by tomorrow. At present	

	the Bn is going through approx 3000 gallons of water, & since it is difficult to obtain it takes a lot of supervision. Five men were admitted to hospital today. At 2000 hrs a report was received from B Company saying that their recce patrol on pt 1186 (3247) had been attacked by 8 JIFFS, but no details were available. Remainder of the night was quiet & nothing to report.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
24th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	An early report from B Coy gave us the information that their recce patrol on point 1186 (3247 84L/13) had been definitely attacked by 8 JIFFS (deserters from the Indian Army) & since they had orders from the C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) to withdraw the moment anybody showed any interest in them, they withdrew down the hill to SSW, & stopped their relieving patrol going any further. This patrol had withdrawn under fairly heavy fire & the party had split. 2 men & 1 gunner signaller had withdrawn to the NORTH & at the time of the report (0700 hrs) had not yet returned to B Coy, but it was believed that they got away safely. Later reports showed that all members of this patrol returned to Base camp OK. Patrol reports from A Coy showed that there was considerable activity in the village of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & definitely MT moving around the area. Another patrol to THEYAGYAUNG (2540 - 84L/13) heard Orders being shouted out, & the noise of troops forming up. A small recce patrol to point 729 (2337 - 84L/13) reported N.E.S. & no water in the vicinity. The next patrol which went to YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13) reported NES & no water. B Coys patrol to the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) met no enemy, & had NTR on returning. The B Coy swept through PADAING (3047 - 84L/13) & villages in the immediate vicinity, found nothing, & the stops to the South & South East had NTR. A recce patrol went up to pt 1186 (3247) & found it unoccupied. They stayed up on top all day, but saw nothing of interest. They were withdrawn at about 1630 hrs. At 0900 hrs, the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder) went up for a recce flight in an L5, & flew all over our patrol area paying particular attention to water holes, places for ambushes, observation points, the villages of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT, & all along the main tarred road from CHAUK - 84L/13 travelling EAST. This air-recce of the COs was very successful & he brought back the necessary information.	
- SHWEKABYU	Throughout the remainder of the day there was very little activity. Captain Doyne-Ditmus (2/I/C of B Coy) was promoted Major & assumed command of C Coy. Lieut Arnott of C Coy was promoted Captain & went as 2/I/C of B Coy. Our water arrangements	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	fell flat yesterday from the point of view of Bde sending out water carts to us, but the efforts of the 2/I/C (Major Rose) had produced 20 Burmese bullock water carts each of which carries 40 gallons. - This bumped our storage up by 800 gallons, & well we needed it, since Bde arrangements had let us down. The mules are still doing 1 trip per day which gave us another 700 or 800 gallons. Tomorrow 4 x 3 tonners will come out & bring 800 gallons with them, & take back 80 men to NYAUNGHLA (1556 - Sheet 4) to bathe & wash their clothes. They are then brought back by M/T, which goes back to NYAUNGHLA to fill up with water for the next days trip. Patrol programmes for tonights patrolling was laid on by the C.O. Five men admitted to hospital today & 2 rejoined the Bn from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
25th MARCH - SHWEKABYU - SHWEKA	After a very quiet night, patrols started coming in about 0600 hrs. B Coy's patrol had nothing to report. A Coy had 5 patrols out & they reported the following. Patrol No 50 went to YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13), & had nothing to report, except that there was bullock cart movement on the road & that the road was jeepable. Patrol No 52 to the Chaung in square (2139 - 84L/13) & to track in 2137 - 84L/13 - report NES. Patrol No 54 to village of THEYAGYAUNG (2440 - 84L/13) & Patrol No 55 to Chaung - 253388 - 84L/13, consolidated report as follows. Lots of cattle & locals carrying food went to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT, & Jap sentries seen on the WEST side of the village. Our BIC & local guides dressed in local dress discovered from the natives that they had all been ordered to collect & take enough food to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT for 500 Japs. On arrival there they were told that the cattle & food had to the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13). The Co (Lt Col Conder) on receiving this information confirmed it with other news he had received, & decided that the JAPS intention was not to take this food to TETMA at all, but to the village of TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13). Consequently the CO laid on a local registration by the Arty on the following positions with a view to making the Jap think that we thought TAUNGBI-YWATHIT was occupied by them. Registration & later harassing fire went down on .962 (2941 - 84L/13) UYINZU - 2741 (84L/13), Pagoda area at pt 725 (281409 - 84L/13) & on the village of THEYAGYAUNG (2440 - 84L/13). We hoped that during this registration etc, the Jap would be in TAUNGBI, & be under the impression that we didn't know his whereabouts. To deal with the Japs in TAUNGBI, the CO laid on an air-strike which consisted of 12 planes at 1200 hrs, 6 planes at 1315 hrs,	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	followed up by arty fire to catch any Nippons making for open country. A Patrol from B Coy returned at 1230 hrs having been right through TETMA & having seen NO enemy. Locals report no enemy in the area of the water-jeals to the SOUTH of TETMA. Four x 3 tonners arrived with 800 gallons of water this morning & 60 men of D Coy went back as previously arranged to bathe & wash clothes in the IRRAWADDY. C Coy less 1 pl left Bn area to relieve A Coy at the forward patrolling base at (260450 - 84L/13). Remainder of the day was quiet & there was no activity except that A Coy returned to the Battalion perimeter. Three men went back to hospital & one man rejoined from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
26th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	After a very quiet night patrols started to come at first light. B Coys patrols round PADAING (3047 - 84L/13), pt 1186 (3247 - 84L/13) & TETMA area (3045 - 84L/13) had nothing to report at 0600 hrs. C Coys patrol (fighting) to TAUNGBI - 2739 - 84L/13, had tried to enter the village to observe the damage caused by the airstrike & also to obtain identifications from JAP bodies. On approaching the village they saw it still burning fiercely, & were fired on by Japs from the village itself. This patrol had bad luck & couldn't enter the place, but managed to get some information from locals who informed them that a lot of damage had been done, & some Japs had been wounded. Villagers were also occupying the slit trenches round the village, presumably to be underground in case there was another airstrike. Their patrols to pt 729 (2337 - 84L/13) pt 709 (2136 - 84L/13) & pt 558 (1937 - 84L/13) were all NES. Another patrol to pt 890 (2844 - 84L/13) met no enemy & had nothing to report. At 0930 hrs B Coy had reports to say that 1 Pl of Japs were digging in on the SE corner of the hill feature - 1186. Two hundred Japs were reported by locals to be in the area of the chaung at (319455 - 84L/13). Eleven Japs were also seen coming from this area & going to the area of the pagoda at (316456 - 84L/13). B Coy sent out a patrol to investigate the Japs in the area of the foot of pt 1186 but saw none. Throughout the day no further reports or activity were received. The C.O. (Lieut-Colonel Conder) laid on a night sweep to be carried out by B Coy on the whole of this area. To thicken up B Coys base defences, the CO sent out 12 men from the Pioneer Pl to man this perimeter. The CO & the I.O. went out to C Coy to arrange their patrolling for that night. At 1845 hrs our troop of guns harassed the areas of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) -	

	UYINZU (2741 - 84L/13) - THEYAGYAUNG (2540 - 84L/13) pt 962 (2941 - 84L/13) & pt 725 (2840 - 84L13). A & D Coys sent bathing parties to the IRRAWADDY to let the men have a swim & laundry their clothes. Up to midnight there is nothing else to report. One man sent to hospital today. 3 men returned from hospital. We sent 10 men to our rear base for 4 days rest & to attend pictures, football matches etc. L/Sgt Hardy posted to Deolali today having been graded C2.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
27th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	Our patrols from C Coy returned to base camp, having patrolled the following areas. 1 Patrol No 82 to UYINZU (2741 - 84L/13) then to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13) reported NES, & that the villages of TAUNGBI & TAUNGBI-YWATHIT had been thoroughly searched & were unoccupied. Patrol No 83 proceeded to pt 962 (2942 - 84L/13) & saw nothing there. From 962 it proceeded to point 926 (3140 - 84L/13) with the same result. The patrol then visited the village of AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) but saw no enemy or any movements at all. Patrols No 80 & 81 left together, & proceeded to point 883 (2733 - 84L/13). Here they split & No 80 patrol investigated Danywa village (2835 - 84L/13). Patrol No 81 then proceeded to .951 (269319 - 84L/13), the high ground overlooking the main tarred road. No 80 & 81 patrols were 24 hrs patrols & don't return until 28th March. The Platoons of B Coy were out on a "sweep" looking for Japs, under Command of Major Courtenay-Hood, when a villager reported to them at (319455 - 84L/13) that 6 Japs were in the village of YWATHIT-PANGONBIN (3147 - 84L/13). OC B Coy then proceeded to investigate this report, & on approaching the village was fired on. The Japs were pinpointed & one of our 3" Mortars whistled up, which proceeded to plaster them. To cut a long story short after a lot of good field work on the part of B Coy the 6 Japs were killed off, including one Jap shot by Major Courtenay-Hood literally with his pants down. One L.M.G., one Grenade discharger cup & bombs, rifles & equipment were part of the booty. Identifications showed them to be the 3rd Bn of 61st Regt. The C.O. (Lt Col Conder) went out to B Coy in the afternoon, taking with him the Brigadier's congratulations on an excellent little show. Our new Padre the Rev Capt T Hawthorn MC arrived today, & RQMS Green returned to the Bn also. A Coy & D Coy sent to the IRRAWADDY for bathing & washing. A small party of Officers & the Pioneer Pl went to a demonstration on Jap Booby traps today at Bde HQ. Two men were admitted to hospital & 5 men rejoined from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

28th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	After "Stand-down" at about 0600 hrs, patrol reports started coming in. B Coys patrols had nothing to report & saw no enemy. C Coy Commander (Major Doyne-Ditmus) reported to the Commanding Officer as Patrol No 80 had met with an unfortunate action when drawing enemy fire round the area of DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13). A M9A1 bomb was being fired by L/Cpl McLachlan onto the area of the village when it exploded prematurely & severely wounded McLachlan & Cpl Rodgers the i/c patrol. Since it was only a 3 man recce patrol the only remaining man with the help of Cpl Rodgers carried McLachlan to the pagoda area (271371 - 84L/13) where they had to leave him. - The two men returned to base to obtain help but Cpl Rodgers had to fall out at approx 261431 - 84L/13. The other man then returned to base & reported his story. A patrol of 1 & 10 men went out to bring in McLachlan & eventually married up with Patrol No 81 under Sgt Hunter at the pagoda area (271371). McLachlan had died but his body was brought in & buried in the Bn perimeter, the service being taken by our new Padre Rev Capt Hawthorn MC. Patrol No 81 should not have left point 951 (269319 - 84L/13) until 2330 hrs tonight, but on arrival there, they bumped a strong Jap patrol where a short scuffle took place. - No casualties. Sgt Hunter temporarily withdrew to point 847 (269346 - 84L/13) where they laid up until daylight. They heard a lot of M/T movement & bullock cart movement travelling to the WEST, but couldn't see any troop movement. Whilst lying up at .847, some Burmese, or Japs dressed as Burmans, spotted them and then made off in the direction obviously going to pass the information on to the Japs at .951. In view of this he withdrew again to the chaung junction at (269368 - 84L/13) where they took up a defensive position. It was here that he met up with our other patrol & so assisted them to bring in L/Cpl McLachlan's body. B Company's patrolling programme was as follows. One patrol went to the village of TETMA (3645 - 84L/13) but saw no enemy, whilst their second patrol covered the water-hole areas in squares 3044-3043 - 84L/13 with the same result. HQ Coy sent 50 men to the river today for a bathing parade. Sixteen reinforcements arrived today all being newly arrived in the country. One man to hospital today & 12 returned from hospital today. Pte Woodfield of C Coy was wounded on Patrol No 80 but was not evacuated.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
29th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	After an exceedingly quiet night on all Company fronts, patrols from B & C Companies started coming in at about 0600 hrs. B Company's patrols were the same as the night before ie round &	

- SHWEKABYU	into the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) & the water hole area in squares 3043-3044 - 84L/13. These patrols saw nothing, & reported Tetma empty. Another patrol round the foothill of .1186 (3247 - 84L/13) discovered well concealed dug positions unoccupied. This bears out the report received from a local headman 2 or 3 days ago. A water point in the chaung at (319470 - 84L/13) was also investigated but saw no enemy. C Coy had out patrols once more to the villages of UYINZU - 2741 - 84L/13, TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13), found them unoccupied. A patrol to AYADAW (3039) entered the village where they met an English speaking headman. He told them no japs had been there since TAUNGBI had been bombed, but that 50 were there just before then. A good well was also discovered here. A patrol to DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13) saw nothing. One other patrol was sent out to find a suitable OP for observing CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) & SINGU (1543 - 84L/13). This OP was eventually decided upon at pt 746 (2141 - 84L/13), since it observed & overlooked the PYINMA CHAUNG, & although SINGU wouldn't actually be seen YWATHIT (1842 - 84L/13) was in full view & all movements in this area could be spotted. At 0800 hrs, A Coy changed over with B Company, B Company coming into the Bn perimeter. D Coy relieved C Coy to form another base a little further forward from the original one, & so do the long range patrolling. C Coy subsequently returned to the Bn perimeter. The CO (Lt Col Conder) had decided to move the patrolling base forward due to the fact that the Jap was obviously drawing out to the SOUTH, & also to cut down the mileage on long distance patrolling which will now be further to the SOUTH. A Coy will probably move forward to TETMA also, D Company's forward patrol base. In the afternoon at about 1430 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder) took his escort & went forward to see that Major Turnbull & his Company had got settled in alright. On his arrival at the old base he found a guide waiting for him, who took him to the new patrol base near the village of MONDAING at approximately (241437 - 84L/13). Having looked over this position the CO decided that it was not too good should they be attacked, but since they were settled in for the night, he decided they would stay there the night & move the following morning to an area with the central point at (241441 - 84L/13). The CO met one of our agents whilst he was out there, & received her report on a job she had been asked to do for Major Doyne-Ditmus the day before. (This agent is a Burmese woman, who was employed by Europeans in the oilfields at CHAUK, & is an	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	excellent informant). She was asked to visit the villages of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) and OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) & ascertain whether they were occupied by the Japs or not. These villages were unoccupied, & she reported that the locals were not allowed near SINGU (1542 - 84L/13) or CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) by the Japs. Three excellent wells were reported by her being in the village of OKMYA. No other movement was reported. B Coy & C Coy each sent out 40 men to the river to bathe & wash their clothes. Pte Leinster was returned to the unit under escort today, having absented himself from the Bn. Five men rejoined us today from hospital & 2 men from leave. Twelve men arrived as reinforcements today. Pte Lalley D Coy was sent to Ranchi under instructions of the CO to relieve Pte Greanan as Bn storeman there.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
30th MARCH - SHWEKABYU	After a quiet night the following patrols reported in between 0600 hrs & 0700 hrs to their respective companies. All patrols met no enemy & had nothing unusual to report. These patrols had been to the following places on the night 29th/30th March. Patrols Nos 1,2,3,4 and 5 left the base together to go to point 883 (273333 - 84L/13) & establish a base there. Patrol No 2 was to remain there as a standing patrol whilst the others spread out from here. Patrol No 1 was a 24 hour patrol & was to go to the area of 223327 - 84L/13, whilst No 3 went to the area point 864 (2434 - 84L/13). Patrol No 5 had to go to point 1042 (278316 - 84L/13) to lie up & observe enemy movements on the main road. Unfortunately, the five patrols under the senior N.C.O. got lost in the very difficult country & eventually ended up in the area of (278353 - 84L/13). Since time did not permit them to correct their mistake, the patrols then investigated the villages of HINGWEAING (301342 - 84L/13) & KYAUKTAN (301335 - 84L/13), & found no enemy in possession or anything unusual to report on. Although this was not what was ordered originally it served its purpose since the CO had intended sending patrols to investigate these villages tonight. D Coy sent an ambush party to the area .890 (2844 - 84L/13) but met with no luck. Two patrols were sent out area 977 (310428 - 84L/13) where they split, one going to pt 962 (294416 - 84L/13) & the other to point 926 (312406 - 84L/13) & the village of AYADAW (305397 - 84L/13). These patrols had nothing to report. B & C Coys sent another 40 mean each for bathing. Four men were evacuated today & two returned from hospital. Eight men returned from the Divisional "JAB CLUB", & ten men went to this rest area for 4 days.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

31st MARCH - SHWEKABYU	Patrol reports started coming in after Stand-down from A & D Coys. D Coys Patrols No 1,2,3 & 4 had nothing to report, but Patrol No 5 to point 1042 (278317 - 84L/13) heard a small party of Japs in the nullah at approx (277313 - 84L/13), so they observed them. After a considerable period of time they slid off to the EAST, & were suspected of being a standing patrol. No other movement was observed by this patrol. The ambush patrol to the area of .890 (2844 - 84L/13) saw nothing of the enemy & were very disappointed about it all. A Coys patrols to AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13), point 977 (309428 - 84L/13) & point 926 (313406 - 84L/13) had also nothing to report. At 1400 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lieut Col Conder) & the I.O. (Capt Young) made out the patrolling programme for tonights fun & was as follows. D Company are to send out patrols to .904 ridge (2939 - 84L/13), one to .845 & jeal area (288380 - 84L/13), one to the SW of YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13). An ambush party was to proceed to the track junction (275445 - 84L/13) and point 890 (283444 - 84L/13), whilst another patrol was to proceed to the 225330 - 84L/13. A Coy patrols had to have another sweep round the villages of PADAING (3047 - 84L/13), YWATHIT PANGONBIN (3147 - 84L/13) OKHLEGA (3146 - 84L/13) SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) and TETMA (3045 - 84L/13), water tank area at 3044 (84L/13) to ensure that none of these places had been occupied by the Jap. The Mobile Dental unit visited us today, & gave 30 odd men badly needed treatment. - Since companies & patrols were still out, all the men requiring dental attention were out, so this mobile unit is returning on the 2nd April to deal with the remaining cases. B & C Coys once again sent 40 men to the River for washing & bathing. Five men returned from hospital, & five reinforcements joined the Battalion today. The Brigade Major paid the Battalion a visit this afternoon & saw Company positions. Nothing else to report upon up to midnight.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

1st to 30th APRIL
1945

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

REF MAPS
1" to 1 mile 84L/13

Army Form C.2118
(a) ORIGINAL
(b) DUPLICATE
(C) TRIPLICATE

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st APRIL - SHWEKABYU	D Coys patrol reports started coming in at about 0630 hrs & the results were as follows. Patrol to the .904 ridge area (2989 - 84L/13) no enemy seen, whilst the patrol to .845 & jeal area (288380 - 84L/13) saw no enemy, but reported the water in the jeal to be salt water. The fighting patrol to the SW of YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13) - an NES report & similarly with the Ambush patrol to the track junction & .890 (283444 - 84L/13) no enemy seen - no unusual movements. The 24 hour patrol to 225330 (84L/13) didn't reach this objective, since they spotted a large party of Japs on the hollow ground at 245431 - 84L/13. They observed this party of Japs from a position at 225330 - 84L/13. These Japs made plenty of noise & chattered, & an order was heard being given, presumably to be quiet when an aircraft flew overhead. Our patrol from their position heard MT movements from WEST to EAST at about 0200 hrs. At this time a vehicle was heard dragging something behind it which was mounted on iron-rimmed wheels. This was thought to be a gun, & another Battalion reported the same thing near SINGU (1543 84L/13). During daylight the Jap party still remained, our chaps keeping low as ordered! Throughout the whole day the main road was not used at all, except by some bullock cart which continued in the direction of BOGON (1836 - 84L/13). At night when the patrol left to return to base, the patrol observed a semi-circle of forces round about the villages of BAGON, THWENET (1834 - 84L/13) OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), and BYIBIN (1832 - 84L/13). A Coy patrol to the village areas were all nothing to report & NES. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) attended a conference at Bde HQ & on his return held an R&O group, during which he informed us that he would probably attack CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) in 5 days or so. He gave out a few administrative problems for Officers to consider, prior to actual orders being given out. The CO visited A Company today. B Coy & D Coy changed over today, D Coy returning to the Bn area. Two men admitted to hospital today & 8 men rejoined us from hospital. Ten men went on leave today, & 1 reinforcement received.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

2nd APRIL - SHWEKABYU	Throughout the night there was nothing to report, except shelling on our western flank over by the 1/11 Sikhs area. The padre Capt Rev Hawthorn MC had been out at A Coy that afternoon before, & when returning to Bn base had his jeep break down on him, with the result he had to stay out all night. He returned to the Bn at 0730 hrs, having spent a night in the desert. Patrol reports started coming in & were as follows. A fighting patrol to the village of OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) found no enemy there, but found a good well about 20' deep in the village. They went into the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) & found locals who had been thrown out of SINGU by the Jap. Two waterholes were reported in the PYINMA CHAUNG at 173345 - 84L/13. The left hand patrol (recce) to the CHAUK RIDGE proceeded up a nullah & managed to reach approx 146398 - 84L/13. This patrol had great difficulty since the ridge is clear rock & almost perpendicular. They saw no enemy positions or movements at all. Recce patrol Y32 further to the west tried the nulla at 147404 - 84L/13 & managed to get half way up before they had to abandon the idea of getting to the top. The recce patrol took the nulla at 146407, & found sheer cliffs there. After a tremendous struggle, having abandoned their weapons, they managed to get ¼ way up, before time beat them. This patrol heard power-engines from the power station at about 2245 hrs, otherwise no enemy seen moving around, or anything unusual to report. A Coys patrols to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & the nearby villages submitted an NES & NTR report. At 1400 hrs, Pl Commanders & Pl Sgts RV'd at Bn HQ to receive a lecture from a gunner Officer on directing Arty fire. This idea is being tried out to eliminate the use of F.O.Os & tomorrow this party will go out & actually direct fire onto enemy targets. B Coy are now settled in at the new patrol base at 225424 - 84L/13. This base will eventually become the Bn base when we attack the CHAUK RIDGE, so we are stocking this base up with water & ammo for D Day. Two men admitted to hospital today & 3 men rejoined us from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd APRIL - SHWEKABYU	On all companies fronts there was nothing to report. Throughout the night & after Stand-down patrols from A & B Coys filtered back to their respective areas, submitting the following reports. A Coy had an ambush patrol at 322468 - 84L/13, which had no luck whatsoever, having seen no enemy. A Recce patrol to road & chaung junction at 309380 - 84L/13 saw nothing unusual & no enemy. A further recce to discover if the water in the lake in square 2838 - 84L/13 was good or not found a plentiful supply of water there but an element of	

- SHWEKABYU	doubt still exists since they reported it OK. Previous patrols reported it as salt water, villagers confirming this. This patrol also discovered 2 very good fresh water wells, filled to the top, on the chaung at 287404 - 84L/13. During this patrol they saw no enemy or anything unusual. B Companys patrols were all to the "CHAUK RIDGE". There were recce patrols to this Ridge which all proceeded together under command of Lieut Macdonald to 145414 - 84L/13 in the PYINMA CHAUNG. Actually they were originally ordered to go to 145413 - 84L/13, split up, 2 patrols to reach the top & get as much information as possible of numbers & to pinpoint positions, also find best route up the ridge. When they reached point 145413 - 84L/13, 2 Jap sentries fired at them from a ridge immediately above them, & so our patrol moved more to the WEST, & were welcomed by a volley of 15 rifle shots. Lieut Macdonald then withdrew his patrol to approx 150406 - 84L/13. He waited for a bit, then moved forward again to the approx area as before with a few men, leaving the remainder of the patrol to give them covering fire. On approaching the ridge again, they met Japs in the chaung & exchanged shots. Since time was short Lieut Macdonald decided to return to base, having been unable to carry out their task. At 0600 hrs the CO (Lieut Col HRR Conder) & the I.O. (Capt Young) went forward to point 569 (193407 - 84L/13) to have a real good look at the CHAUK RIDGE. They returned to Bn HQ at 0930 hrs, having had a good view of the ridge, & pinpointed features on the ground, & compared with air-photographs. At 1030 hrs the CO (Lieut Col Conder), Major Turnbull, Captain Scott, Lieut Thomas & the R.S.M. - Henry, proceeded to Brigade HQ, where they were introduced to Lieut-General Sir Montagu Stopford, our new Corps Commander. (We have now left 4th Corps & are under command of 33rd Corps again). At 1400 hrs the C.O. went for a flight in an L5, & had a very close inspection of the Chauk Ridge from the air. He pinpointed some trenches & foxholes. At 1415 hrs, we sent out some of our Subalterns & Platoon Sgts, under instruction of Major Blair, Bty Commander, in support of us, to practice actual fire control & acting as F.O.O. to the Gunners. - This was very successful indeed & our chaps did very well on it. Sometime tomorrow we will send out more representatives to practice fire control. We are also resuming an NCOs Cadre at present, a short one lasting only 3 days. D Coy & HQ Coy send 30 & 50 men respectively to the River today for bathing. At 2000 hrs we received a report from Bde that some Japs dressed as Burmans were hiding in the village of PYINGYAUNG (2144 - 84L/13). We sent out a	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	fighting patrol accompanied with a B.I.C. chap, to investigate this patrol of Japs, when the moon came up at 2100 hrs. Two men were admitted to hospital today. Six men were repatriated on long service grounds today, whilst 3 others were sent home on 28 days leave to the UK. Ten more men were sent to the Divisional rest "JAB Club" for 4 days, & 10 men returned from same. This Club is well run & the men get a complete rest out of the line. Football, swimming, ENSA concerts, indoor games, pictures etc being part of the amusements available. Up to 2359 hrs, there is nothing else to report.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
4th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After another peaceful night, our night recce & fighting patrols returned to their respective Company areas to make their reports. A Company patrols to the village areas ie TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13), THEYAGAUNG (2540 - 84L/13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13) & AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13), all these patrols having nothing to report & having seen no enemy. B Coys patrols under Lieut Playle all went out together with a view to patrolling the following places. 1 Patrol was to go up the nullah at 146407 - 84L/13, whilst another was to go up another opening near the telegraph line at 145412 - 84L/13. The third patrol was to go into the villages of MYENI - 185385 - 84L/13, & then to OKMYA - 165390 - 84L/13 to see if they were occupied or not by the Jap. All went well until the patrols got into the area of point 559 (193407 - 84L/13) where our boys run into approx 300 Japs. Our chaps froze & fortunately weren't spotted. Those Japs were just sitting around obviously waiting for the order to move which, when eventually given, showed this little lot moving up the track & roads SINGU (1542 - 84L/13). Before the party of Japs moved on, Lieut Playle & some men, & Sgt Stockhill & some men, started investigating & finding their flanks. Both little patrols found occupied dug positions here. Sgt Stockhill was milling around good style with his patrol & in actual fact became part of the Jap party. One Jap advanced towards him, saying something as he advanced so Stockhill casually retired a few paces. The Jap then laid down his rifle, vomited then had a drink out of his water bottle. Our 2 small patrols withdrew & rejoined the main patrol, & wisely skirted the Japs with a view to getting on with the job at Chauk Ridge. Unfortunately they met many Jap patrols in the PYINMA CHAUNG, had the devils own job dodging them & eventually withdrew to base. On the way back they saw about 20 Japs hauling a gun (all cursing & screaming), & a bullock coming from SINGU towards CHAUK. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder) visited B Coy with Major	

	Turnbull of D Coy, whose Company will relieve B Coy in the course of a few days time. Five men went sick & were evacuated to hospital today, 2 men returned from hospital today. Patrols for tonight are to the "Village area" & Chauk Ridge again. The Ridge patrols to probe & pinpoint enemy positions.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
5th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	Another quiet night passed on all fronts, the only disturbance being our 25 pounders who were doing a spot of harassing fire on YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13). Patrol reports started coming in from the Companies as follows. A Coys fighting to the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) produced no Nippons & no movement was observed at all. They had another fighting patrol to the track junction at 275445 - 84L/13 who met nothing & had a very quiet night scouting around. B Company had a recce patrol to the area of 145414 - 84L/13, which on reaching this point was fired on by at least 5 riflemen from a ledge on the high ground. This patrol withdrew to the area of the islands in the PYINMA CHAUNG at approx 145416 & let things quieten down a bit. They then proceeded towards the ridge, striking a little further south, but again were fired upon from the ridge, & also bumped Jap patrols in the chaung itself. - They tried again to get onto the ridge, but eventually had to give up since daylight wasn't far off. D Coy had 2 recce patrols to the CHAUK RIDGE also. 1 Patrol under Sgt Bell did an excellent patrol getting up on the ridge to 147394 - 84L/13, where he found heavily occupied positions. He then tried to the SOUTH & similarly found the ridge at 150378 - 84L/13 strongly held. He snooped around looking for more positions, & eventually returned between these 2 points unmolested & so home. This was the information required since it is now obviously strongly held, whereas a week ago it was not occupied. A further recce patrol under command of Sgt Copleton to the area of the Power Station (143391 - 84L/13) on their way there met trouble at approx 149386 - 84L/13, which confirmed Sgt Bell's report, but showed that the whole ridge was occupied. He met nothing else & eventually returned to Base at first light. At 0930 hrs the CO (Lt-Col Conder OBE) & Major Turnbull returned from the forward patrol base having interrogated the patrols personally as they came in. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) & Major Doyne-Ditmus (C Coy Commander) went out to A Coy at TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) to liaise,	
- SHWEKABYU	since C Coy will relieve A Company tomorrow. The Mortar Officer (Capt Ferguson) & Major Doyne-Ditmus (OC C Company) in the late afternoon went out with our Gunners to take part again in directing Arty fire, which was being fired by our troop under command. HQ Coy	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	sent 20 men to the river for bathing today, the numbers being cut due to the fact that we have now lost our 4 x 3 tonners. Three men were admitted to hospital today, & 2 rejoined the Bn from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
6th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After a quiet night our patrols returned between 0600 hrs & 0700 hrs bringing the following information. B Companys fighting patrol had gone out via point 559 (193408 - 84L/13) then along the NORTH bank of the PYINMA CHAUNG to point 232 (153408 - 84L/13) where they observed the ridge & CHAUK from. They heard & saw MT moving along the main tarred road travelling from EAST to WEST, & lights of MT moving in the North end of CHAUK itself, otherwise nothing to report, & no enemy movement in their vicinity. A recce patrol to the CHAUK RIDGE sent to 147394 - 84L/13, hearing & seeing enemy movement on the North ridge at 145379 - 84L/13 and also from the SOUTH feature at 146393 - 84L/13, this information confirming that Sgts Bell & Copletons reports of the ridge being strongly held is true. Another recce patrol was to investigate the area of the storage tanks at 143378 - 84L/13, & on getting to 153379 - 84L/13 heard & saw movement on a ridge to their right & also movement from the ring contour at 152376 - 84L/13. The 4th Recce patrol from B Coy had to go up the track at 152367 - 84L/13, but got slightly lost & eventually landed up a nullah at 156373, where they also heard movement & confirmed that the ring contour at 152376 - 84L/13 was heavily held, also position on a ridge at 156368 - 84L/13.	
- SHWEKABYU	A Coys patrols were Ambush ones. 1 Patrol went to the area of & into the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) but found nothing there of interest. Another ambush patrol went out to TETMA village (3045 - 84L/13) & to the jeals area at square 3044 - 84L/13. This patrol drew a blank & even although they searched extensively for Japs they found none. These were all the patrols for the night 5th/6th April, & from information brought in, it is obvious that the Jap is building up on the CHAUK RIDGE & aims to hold it at all costs. At 0730 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col Conder OBE) & Major Turnbull went forward to recce MYENI village (1838 - 84L/13) fighting patrols having been sent out previously to protect the CO & clear the area. After having had his second scout around, they eventually returned to Bn HQ, our troop of guns plastering the village as they left. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) accompanied by the Doctor (Capt Antonio), OC HQ Coy (Capt Stalker) & the Padre (Capt Hawthorn MC), visited A Coy. A Coy & C Coy changed over in the morning, A Coy coming into the Bn perimeter again. Our local spy - Merry, brought in a report that 50 Japs in newly erected Bashas, & a certain amount of MT & stores had	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	arrived in the area of the lake just SOUTH of point 845 (2837 - 84L/13). This was at 1600 hrs. At 1630 hrs the air-op was over the target, & reported again there. Unfortunately, an electric storm started at that time, & the pilot had only time to observe 1 shell landing & to give a correction. A Crump of 32 rounds was then brought down on it, & harassing fire was put on the target at 1800 hrs, 2000 hrs, 2100 hrs, & 2200 hrs. At 2200 hrs we sent out a platoon from C Coy to go out & eliminate this little party of Japs, but the birds had flown, possibly due to the shelling, which couldn't have been very pleasant since all shells were slap into the target, having been observed by Coy. Three men went to hospital today & 2 returned from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
7th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	All Companies reported a quiet night & by 0700 hrs all patrol reports for the night 6th/7th April had come in. Particulars of these patrols & reports results are as follows. The Brigadier rang up about 2000 hrs on the 6th April & asked for a patrol to go to GWEGYO (3325 - 84L/13) on a Divisional task. Captain Scott of C Coy was detailed for this job & he had to find out if GWEGYO was held or not & get as much information as possible from the locals. He was to return as soon as he had completed his task. B & D Coys both had patrols to CHAUK RIDGE. 1 Recce patrol proceeded to the power line on the Ridge, cut up the power line towards point 339 (156388 - 84L/13, then branched off NORTH to the area of the nullahs at (153385 - 84L/13) & after moving around in this general area for nearly 2 hours returned with a NES & NTR Report. The 2nd Recce Patrol got as far up the track as 155371, seeing no enemy but only MT lights from CHAUK itself. A 3rd Recce patrol on the Ridge proceeded up the track to about 153379 - 84L/13, & discovered that this track petered out. - They also scouted around for an hour & a half, & during that time saw no enemy. At 1000 hrs the CO (Lieut Col Conder) went to brigade to see some new air photographs of the ridge, & to make another flight over this area. He returned about midday & then went out to C Coy near TETMA (318455 - 84L/13) to see how things were with them. Harassing fire was put down on the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) at 1930 hrs & 2045 hrs. Three men went to hospital today, & 2 men rejoined us from hospital. Ten more men were sent to the Divisional "JAB CLUB" for 4 days, & 10 men returned from the club today. Pte Tilbury & Pte Browning were sent to Div to supervise the Indian labour in unloading planes at the air-head. Pte Hendrie of HQ Coy	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

8th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After another undisturbed night on all fronts, patrol reports started coming, the first one being Captain Scott of C Coys patrol which had returned from GWEGYO (3325 - 84L/13). He was immediately despatched to Bde HQ to make his report to the Brigadier, so that it could be passed on to the Divisional Commander immediately. It had been an excellent patrol & lots of information was got from it. GWEGYO itself was held, & the hills all round the lake at (343257 - 84L/13) had well dug positions all around, & bunkers large enough to hold 20 men. Locals report that the GWEGYO garrison have only 10 vehicles & sometimes less. Locals also report that on 3 successive nights, 500 Japs came from CHAUK (1139 - 84L/13) to GWEGYO, had a meal there then proceeded SOUTH to YENANGYAUNG which is about 27 miles distance. On his return journey Capt Scott & his patrol were fired on near the track-junction at (308281 - 84L/13). They exchanged shots & eventually returned to their Company base. Capt Scott arranged for the headman of TAUNGNAUK (322271 - 84L/13) to go into GWEGYO the following day to bring back details of numbers, movements, positions etc of the JAP garrison. C Coy had a fighting patrol to the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) which never saw a thing in the way of Japs. B Coys patrolling was a purely recce one to CHAUK RIDGE, as follows. No 1 Recce patrol went to the ring contour at (144403 - 84L/13), & saw no enemy or heard enemy movements. M/T was heard in Chauk itself otherwise nothing to report. No 2 Recce patrol proceed to point 144402 - 84L/13, & submitted a report as for patrol No 1 on their return. No 3 patrol recced the high ground at (152376 - 84L/13), & also the ridge at (152381 - 84L/13) & had nothing to report. The last recce patrol approached the ridge at (148386 - 84L/13) from a North Westerly direction & drew rifle & MMG fire from this position which was strongly held. They lay up for a bit, & a short time after the Jap started mortaring from 148386 - 84L/13 onto the paddy at 153393 - 84L/13, presumably assuming that a patrol had withdrawn that way & was trying to catch them on the hop. C Coy sent out two more fighting patrols one going to SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) which submitted an NES report. Their second fighting patrol proceeded to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L13) & DWANYA (2835 - 84L/13), & also submitted an NES report on their return.	
- SHWEKABYU	At 1000 hrs the CO (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) attended a conference at Bde HQ, & on his return informed all Officers that the attack on CHAUK RIDGE was temporarily postponed due to the fact that our troop on our left had been held up, thus being unable to partake in	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	the attack as originally arranged on the 14th April. The Mortar Platoon were once again made up to strength again, & we have once again 6 - 3" Mortars in support. A flame-throwing detachment arrived out with us today, but were immediately withdrawn again since they were required for another job elsewhere. C Coys patrols for tonight have all been cancelled due to a change in the boundary between us & 33rd Bde on our left. Six men were evacuated to hospital today & one man returned from hospital today. At 1400 hrs a man was cleaning a grenade (36) out at B Coy, which he suddenly threw to the ground since the firing pin had fallen & started the fuze off. About 20 people were in the immediate vicinity, & in the danger area. Sgt Jolly of B Coy without hesitation ran forward, picked the grenade up & was about to fling it into a nullah when it exploded, blowing his right hand completely off, & also causing multiple injuries to him. A Pte Ostle was also hit, & one of our followers, plus 2 Burmese guides. Undoubtedly Sgt Jolly's heroic action saved many people. Jeep ambulances were whisked up from the ADS, & the injured people were evacuated in the shortest space of time. A Court of Enquiry was held on the spot by Major Courtenay-Hood, & the evidence recorded.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
9th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After a very quiet night patrol reports started coming in from Companies, patrols and reports being as follows. B Coys patrol, a fighting patrol was to proceed to milestone 397 on the main Chauk-GWEGYO road. They were to lay an ambush at milestone 397 (map ref. 235315 - 84L/13). Unfortunately they got lost and did not reach their destination. The only movement they saw was M.T. headlights moving from East to West. No other patrols were out on night 8th-9th, as the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) had decided to give companies a rest. The C.O. and Major Hayes (O.C. 'A' Coy) recced the area of THEYAGYAUNG (map ref. 2440 84L/13) with a view to establishing 'A' Coy's patrol base there in the course of a few days. The Bde Comd and the C.O. went out to visit 'C' Coy at (map ref. 319453 - 84L/13) returning about 1100 hours. Five men were admitted to hospital, and one man returned from hospital. Cpl White, A Coy, having been selected as a potential officer, left the Bn today to be interviewed by a War Office Selection Board at Imphal.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
10th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	On all Company fronts there was nothing to report, & at 0700 hrs patrol reports came in giving the following information as a result of patrolling for the night 9th/10th April. A B Coy recce patrol	

- SHWEKABYU	under Lieut Macdonald once again paid a successful visit to CHAUK RIDGE, going out via the village of MYENI (84L/13) then across to pt 339 (84L/13) past the 2 huts at (151394 - Chauk 4) & so up onto the ridge itself at (147397 - 84L/13). He went up a path which isn't marked on the map & discovered a Jap sentry a little way back from the top. He also heard a squabble of some sort going on between some other Japs close by, & it was obvious that the Jap was occupying positions there. - He saw nothing more of interest, & since he had the required information returned to B Coy base. B Coy sent out an Ambush Patrol, strength 1 Platoon under command of Lieut Playle, which went down to the main tarred road where they intended to ambush some Japs in M/T. Before they arrived, a lot of MT was seen using this road, but, on arrival all was quiet, & MT movement seemed to have ceased. Undaunted they lay up for a while & along came a truck which halted 300 yards from where they were lying. It tooted its horn & a small party of Japs got in & it then proceeded towards CHAUK (84L/13) past our ambush. Convoys had been running frequently on the road, & it was a convoy that our chaps were after. After waiting for several hours, & no transport arrived, & since it was nearly daylight, they laid 10 mines across the road & left for base. After they had done 1½ miles they heard a truck going along the road, & a little later a loud explosion. It was obvious that a truck had hit the mines & bought it. - On this report we asked for an air-op to go up & see the damage, but none were available & so our ambush Patrols tonight may verify our beliefs. It is pretty obvious that a Jap standing patrol sticks around MS 397 to protect its convoys, then is being lifted by the last truck of the night. With a spot of luck our boys may put this little lot in the bag in the near future. C Coy had 2 fighting patrols out, one going to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 84L/13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13), AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) & so home. This patrol saw nothing in the way of enemy at all. Their No 2 patrol went out to TAUNGBI with the first patrol & proceeded to DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13) then to square (3034) area, then via square 3032 - 84L/13, & so home. Like the first patrol, they met nothing & saw nothing of interest throughout their tour. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) went out to see B Coy in the afternoon, to discuss patrolling on the Ridge. In the afternoon at about 1300 hrs we had a short rain & dust storm, the coolness being a welcome change from the awful heat that we are at present experiencing. Five men were admitted to hospital today & one man rejoined us from hospital. The	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	men have had a pretty hectic time patrolling of late, but morale is high & all the men are exceptionally fit on it. Sickness rate is falling off gradually, & is less than half what it was when we were in a back area. Very gratifying in spite of the amount of hard work that the Battalion is doing at present. Nothing further to report up to 2349 hrs.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
11th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	All was quiet throughout the night, & by 0730 hrs all patrol reports for the night 10th/11th April had arrived at Bn HQ & were as follows. C Coy had a fighting patrol to AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) then to area of water North of .845 (288379 - 84L/13), which submitted an NES report. This was the only patrol out last night, since the Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder OBE) wanted to give the Companies a rest after their extensive patrolling. The CO visited B Coy at their patrol base & tried 4 men there. D Company sent 40 men to the river today for bathing, since we have been loaned 2 - 15 cwts & 1 - 30 cwt by Bn HQ for the purpose. The mail situation is pretty bad just now, & so also the cigarette situation. Enquiries are being made by Higher authority & an explanation is expected soon. Cpl Pendleton of B Coy was sent to No 568 Field Security Section today on a temporary attachment. Two men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
12th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After Stand-down patrol reports for 11/12th April came in. 1 Recce Patrol from C Company went to the main road to the area of milestone 397 (251311 - 84L/13) to observe MT movements. As they were about to take up positions they were fired on from the SOUTH side of the road by riflemen. They withdrew a little but then approached the road a little further to the WEST, & were again fired on from the NORTH side of the road this time. Shots were exchanged, & since we had the necessary information, our patrol	
- SHWEKABYU	withdrew to C Coy base. They saw nothing more of enemy movements on the way back. No other patrols went out during 11/12th April. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) asked the Brigadier if he could have permission to move a Company forward to the village of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2940 - 84L/13), & was granted permission during the course of the afternoon. Since C Coy are due to change over with D Company soon, the CO decided to send D Coy out to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT tomorrow with a pl of MMGs from C Coy under command. C Coy to return to the Bn perimeter. B Company returned also to the Bn area, & A Company went out to a new patrol base at point 753 (243417 - 84L/13), thus relieving B Coy of the patrolling responsibility. The reason the CO	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	has his Companies so far forward is threefold. One, it shortens the patrolling distance, & since he now wants deception patrolling away from the CHAUK RIDGE, & more to the SOUTH, it lets us cut deeper into the enemy lines with less physical effort. His second reason is to gradually build up reserves in water, ammunition, & food for our move forward of the Bn to the village of OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) & MYENI (185385 - 84L/13) prior to the attack on CHAUK RIDGE by us. B Coy today sent 40 men to the River IRRAWADDY for bathing. The Roman Catholic Padre (Capt Rev Telfer) called on us today to make arrangements for a Mass Service tomorrow. At approx 1530 we experienced a very wild wind & sandstorm, followed immediately by a heavy shower of rain. This storm lasted over 2 hours & kept everybody busy keeping their shelters together. Our troop of guns harassed enemy positions on CHAUK RIDGE at an area at approx (139385 - 84L/13) at 1900-1930 hrs, 2115 hrs to 2130 hrs & the following morning at 0500 hrs to 0515 hrs. Two men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
13th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	Reveille was sounded by the gunners this morning, ie by finishing off the harassing fireplan, they fired a salvo at 0500 hrs, the normal sleepy head receiving a rude awakening for a change. Patrol reports for the night 12th/13th April are as follows. A Company sent a fighting patrol under command of Lieut Thomas down to the main road near milestone 397 (254313 - 84L/13) to see what damage they could do to any Japanese transport or troops. They laid mines on the road, & it wasn't long before a Jap convoy came along & blew itself up. There was nobody in the truck except a driver who escaped. The truck was carrying empty sacks in it, & nothing of value at all. Throughout the night no more trucks ventured out, so the patrol laid Hawkins grenades across the road & left for home. Once gone, as our previous patrols had experienced, when they were a considerable distance away from the scene of the crime, another lorry was seen travelling from EAST to WEST, & a loud explosion was heard. It is thought that yet another truck fell to us. A Coys other fighting patrol went to KYINI (1834 - 84L/13) & THWENET (84L/13) (1834) as a deception patrol away from "Chauk Ridge", with the idea of just "brassing off" to attract attention, & if possible draw fire. This they tried to do, but in spite of all their efforts there was no reply from the Nippons. This patrol only met locals & so no enemy at all. - They did find good drinking water in the jeal in square (1733 - 84L/13). Throughout the deception a fighting patrol from A Coy were doing the same thing in the area of the huts	

	(156363 - 84L/13), but had no luck either & saw no enemy. They also tried the village of BOGON (1836 84L/13) but met only locals. It again on these results seems as if the JAP is seriously concerned with holding the north end of CHAUK, on the ridge. This was all the patrols for the night 12/13th April. We sent out a section of 25 pounders to have a roving commission in an area near the village of MONDAING running from (238456 - 84L/13) to (353442 - 84L/13). The reason the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) ordered this was due to the	
- SHWEKABYU	fact that even on supercharge, the 25 pounders couldn't reach some of the targets we wanted engaged. A Platoon of B Company went out to protect the guns bringing them back at 1400 hrs. B Coy sent 40 men to the river for bathing today. Each man had a bottle of beer issued to him at 1700 hrs this evening. Five men were admitted to hospital today & 1 man rejoined us from hospital. Pte Leinster was tried by FGCM for desertion on the 12th April the 2/I/C (Major Rose) being the President, & Capt Denton (D Coy) was a member. Capt Ferguson was the Defending Officer & the Adjutant, Capt Stewart, the Prosecuting Officer. Sgt Mullaney & Pte Henderson were today repatriated to the UK on compassionate grounds. Our NCOs cadre is still going strong & producing the necessary results.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
14th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	After a quiet night, our 2 fighting Patrols from A Coy returned with the following information. One patrol went out via the PYINMA CHAUNG (1939 - 84L/13) passing between the villages of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) & BOGON (1836 - 84L/13), & so towards the high ground, & going up the track to approx (158374 - 84L/13). Two rifle shots not fired at them came from (150384 - 84L/13). This patrol continued up the track & got to (152367 - 84L/13) where they saw lights in 2 or 3 huts & 6 Japs in the area. They stayed for a bit, then "brassed off" at the 6 Japs & a general area round about intending to draw fire so that positions could be pinpointed. This produced no Japs or any movement whatsoever, so our chaps withdrew since it was beginning to get light by that time. - It is obvious that the Jap has standing patrols watching his EASTERN FLANK. The second patrol went to milestone 397 (234314 - 84L/13) to do a spot of ambushing, but even although they lay up on the main road from 2400 hrs - 0400 hrs, not one single vehicle was seen. It is thought that the Jap may be using another road since we started ambushing his transport.	
- SHWEKABYU	Before the patrol withdrew, they laid some mines on the main road & hoped that some stray truck would blow itself up. In the afternoon the C.O. (Lieut Colonel HRR Conder OBE) was granted permission to take his Battalion forward to the villages of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13)	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	& OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), on the 15th April, so to tie in details the CO held an R&O group at 1400 hrs, giving full details of the move forward. (See attached Operation Order No 6). The remainder of the day was spent on preparing for the move out. A Coy Commander was ordered to have 500 galls of water in his base at point 753 (243417 - 84L/13) so that the Bn could stage there & have a mid-day meal & refill water bottles & chagals prior to the onward march to destination.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
15th APRIL - SHWEKABYU	A Coy patrols reports came in about 0630 hrs, having been the only 2 patrols we had out last night. 1 Recce patrol under command of Capt Culpin visited the area of Chauk (1138 - 84L/13) eventually arriving on the high ground at approx (150375 - 84L/13) where he "brassed-off" all he had to give the impression that an attack was going in. They got no response to their antics & so no enemy movement at all, & so returned home. The other fighting-cum-deception patrol consisted of 8 men under command of Sgt Mellor of A Coy. This patrol got a little further to the north, when they were at approximately (152369 - 84L/13) they ran slap into a Jap standing patrol, who opened up on our boys with all they had. Since our patrols' primary job was to give the impression that an attack was coming in from the EAST, they promptly replied with everything, & had a real good battle. We sustained no casualties, & since it was very dark last night it cannot be estimated if we hit any JAPS or not. After doing a very satisfactory job of work, they returned	
- SHWEKABYU - .753 - MYENI - OKMYA	to their Company base at .753. At 0715 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder OBE) with Major Courtenay-Hood (OC B Coy) & Major Doyne-Ditmus (OC C Coy) went forward to .753 (2441 - 84L/13). Meanwhile A Coy had sent a platoon to OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) & MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) to find out if it was unoccupied. These villages were reported clear by 1030 hrs. At 0830 hrs the remainder of the Bn moved out in the following order of march. B Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coy & C Coy, & marched on a compass bearing across country to .753, where guides were waiting on them to show them into company positions. The Bn under command of the 2/I/C (Major Rose) eventually arrived at .753 by 1030 hrs. Our Bn transport plus 8 x 15 cwts were ferrying up Bn kit to .753, & eventually had all kit clear of our old area by 1500 hrs. D Company under command of Major Turnbull, moved complete, with the aid of 20 Bullock-carts from TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) to MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) where they took up positions west of the chaung at (189383 - 84L/13), & covered in the remainder of the Bn. They also left a pl under command of Lieut Hewitt to occupy	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

- SHWEKABYU - .753 - MYENI - OKMYA	the high ground at (225387 - 84L/13), & cover Bns advance. (For route see Operation Order No 6). The CO with his Tac HQ moved from .753 at 1130 hrs & went forward to MYENI, where he gave out Company dispositions. The remainder of the Bn left .753 in the same order of march as before & arrived at MYENI after a gruelling march, at approx 1445 hrs. Companies immediately started digging in, in the following positions. A Coy (centre point 189375 - 84L/13) linking up with D on their right as above, & linking up with C on their left with their centre point at (193379 - 84L/13). HQ took over from the chaung at (196384 - 84L/13), & so in a half circle to (195386 - 84L/13) on the EAST bank of the chaung, practically joining up with D Coy on the opposite bank at (194386 - 84L/13). Bn HQ - (195385 - 84L/13). We managed to bring up all our kit except 4 x 15 loads from .753, by moving our MT in the dark with escort up to 2030 hrs. Water was brought in by local bullock carts & by 1800 hrs the Bn was well dug in & ready for anything. Captain Calderbank (OC Admin Coy) & a small party of men plus of our followers were left at .753 (2441 - 84L/13) for the night. They were well covered in & quite safe for 1 night. Patrols were sent out at 2000 hrs, 1 from A & 1 from C Coy. Up to midnight all was quiet & B Coy who are under the nose of the Japs at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) had nothing to report throughout the night.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
16th APRIL - MYENI	After a quiet night, patrol reports started coming in, & were as follows. A Recce patrol from A Coy under command of Lieut Fleming visited CHAUK RIDGE again & managed to get up to practically the top at (145407 - 84L/13). When they got there a Jap sentry fired a burst of LMG at Sgt Banks, & he took the full burst in the chest. He managed to run back down the hill about 50 yards before he passed out. Lieut Fleming & the only remaining member of the patrol managed to carry Banks to (149408 - 84L/13). Lieut Fleming then sent his remaining man back to OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) to get stretcher-bearers from B Coy. He returned to Lieut Fleming with this party, & Sgt Banks was carried into B Coy area for the night. A Bullock cart & escort was sent out at 0545 hrs to collect our casualty, bringing him back to the Bn area, where he unfortunately died. We buried Sgt Banks between 2 Palm trees & erected a wooden cross over his grave, the grave being at map ref (194383 - 84L/13). A patrol from B Coy went up the nullah & eventually got on the high ground at approx (149405 - 84L/13) where they saw Japs in position. Since they were later than the A Coy patrol, & the fact that the Japs had heard our patrol & stretcher-bearers in the chaung below,	

- MYENI	the old Nippon was on the lookout, & since we had pinpointed his positions our patrol withdrew to base. The third & last patrol was a fighting patrol to BOGON (1836 - 84L/13) which saw absolutely nothing in the way of enemy or any suspicious movement at all. Early in the afternoon 6 Dakotas flew over CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) on their way EAST with supplies for our troops there, & Jap anti-aircraft opened up on them. This is the first time we have ever seen Jap "Ack-ack" in action, & the results were pitiful. His gun has not got anywhere near our ceiling & his aiming is very poor indeed. An air-op was sent up to spot this gun, & as a result of which we brought a salvo down on it. Results unknown. Digging in continuing & also wiring around the Bn area. A 4/8 Gurkha convoy on MT with rations for one of their companies on the NORTH bank of the chaung came down the PYINMA CHAUNG in full view of CHAUK RIDGE. The result of this foolishness was that a 75MM gun opened up on them as they crossed the chaung opposite our position at (195395 - 84L/13), as they made for the track & chaung junction at (195398 - 84L/13). He did no damage, but suddenly switched onto the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13), having probably seen bullock-carts moving around, & obviously thinking that we were in the village itself. We got our gunners to touch him up a bit with a bty of 25 pounders to make him think that we really are in the village. At 1130 hrs the Brigadier came out to see us & congratulated the C.O. (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) on the splendid move that the Bn had accomplished. In the evening the JAP started shelling the chaung near MYENI (1838 - 84L/13), but once again did no damage. - Bullock carts are bringing us water from TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & we are now stocking up for emergencies. Bullock carts are also used to take rations to B Coy at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), & also a pl of MM Gunners who are now under command. We have now been informed that D-Day for the attack on CHAUK is the 20th April, & so the C.O. gave out orders for the attack today. (See attached appendix).	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
17th APRIL - MYENI	After another quiet night our patrols returned & submitted the following reports. A fighting patrol to BOGON (1836 - 84L/13) saw no enemy & had nothing to report. A recce patrol went up onto CHAUK RIDGE to .559 (155356 - 84L/13) where they were fired on by some JAPS. Our chaps returned the fire & made scuffling noises as if they had run away. In actual fact they lay up for a bit, & before long the JAP standing patrol got up & made for CHAUK. Our boys stalked them & eventually found other parties of Japs chattering in a little hollow near some huts. Our patrol got onto the high	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	ground, pinpointed the Japs then let them have it with all they had. They heard screams & lots of scurrying around & we believe we certainly inflicted casualties on them. A Coy Patrol had the task of laying mines at the bridge at (139351 - 84L/13). When the patrol approached the bridge it was found to be occupied so the patrol commander Sgt Greeve withdrew down the road about 200 yards & laid his mines. On his travels back he heard our other patrol shooting up Japs, but never married up with them. The remainder of the day was spent in making preparations for the attack, & for storing up ammo, food & water with C Coy at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13). We received reports that the 4/8th GR of our Bde were in North SINGU at (1643 - 84L/13) & were pushing on to SOUTH SINGU. Further reports received showed that 33rd Bde had captured GWEGYO (3425 - 84L/13) & were pushing WESTWARDS along the main road towards CHAUK, with a view to cutting the Japs only road of withdrawal, except the river. The 114th Bde of our Division were advancing on the village of SEIKPYU (0839 - 84L/13) to shut off the Jap in case he tried to escape across the river. The net is tightening on CHAUK, & it won't be long now until the "Battle for the Oilfields". Five men were admitted to hospital & 2 men rejoined from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
18th APRIL - MYENI	Reports started coming in early, & our Burmese Agent - "Merry", came back from CHAUK, with a report that she thought that the Japs were going to pull out soon. She gave us the location of a gun, which we well & truly plastered, & some information about numbers of Japs which vary from 150 to 300. Another report from the headman of Chauk told that tonight he had driven practically round the whole of Chauk & saw very little movement in the way of Japs. He did see 20 Japs in caves on either side the track at (157381 - 84L/13), & noticed some booby traps on the path. The headman of MYENI (1839 - 84L/13) had been into SINGU SOUTH (1542 - 84L/13) for rice & informed us that although he had walked through all S. SINGU he had seen NO Japs & that the villagers there say that the Jap had pulled out. - All this showed that it was obvious that he was getting out. In accordance with this, the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) rang up the Brigadier & asked permission to speed up the move, ie by putting up our B Coy & D Coy onto the SOUTH RIDGE tonight instead of tomorrow night 19th April. Permission was granted & so we prepared for the whole Bn to move at 15 minutes notice the following morning. D Coy & the CO with his Tac HQ were going to move at 1900 hrs to OKMYA, to be ready for Phase I & Phase II of the battle. Meanwhile 33rd Bde were reported in the village of MOLA	

	(1530 - 84L/13) after a speedy advance along the main road, & had shoved out an advance battalion which was making for the river. - 33rd Bde was then given a boundary line & had to try & get up to the line TAMMA-ARK (132355 - 84L/13) - The River IRRAWADDY and .559 (154357 - 84L/13). By the late afternoon, 33 Bde had pushed up to grid line 40 & had met no opposition, so it was decided that 33rd Bde should continue right up to the North end of Chauk. This they did & by 1700 hrs Chauk complete was in our hands. The 4/8th moved into SOUTH SINGU & we remained at MYENI.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
19th APRIL - MYENI - CHAUK.	After a quiet night with no patrols, we had orders from Bde to move to a concentration area in CHAUK. At 0630 hrs the CO & his R&O groups left in jeeps to go down by the main road thro' MOLA (1531 - 84L/13), & so to the inspection bungalow in CHAUK at approx (119375 - 84L/13). The remainder of the Bn cut across country up the Ridge & so over to the Inspection bungalow where coy representatives were there to take Coys to their new concentration positions. Bn HQ were situated in a fine bungalow (as were all Coy HQs) at 106376 - 84L/13). A Coy at (109377 - 84L/13) B on high ground at (112375 - 84L/13) - C Coy at (106372 - 84L/13) D Coy (104373 - 84L/13). HQ Coy & Admin Coy were round the Bn HQ area. All our mules were brought up from LANGULYA area to our present area. Although there were masses of Jap positions beautifully dug, we prefer our own type of trenches & siting, & so the Coys immediately started digging in. At 1630 hrs, the CO (Lieut Col HRR Conder OBE) held an O group & gave out patrols for tonight as follows. A Coy sent a fighting patrol to .559 (154356 - 84L/13), B Coys patrol going to the bridge at 140357 - 84L/13. C Coy sent an F.P. to the Causeway at 119360 - 84L/13, whilst the remaining fighting patrol of D Coy went to the ring contour at 099361 - 84L/13. Arty DF tasks were as follows - ABLE - 102367 - 84L/13) astride track. BAKER - the nulla into the main chaung at 105361 - 84L/13. CHARLIE - Ring contour - 114359 - 84L/13. DOG - astride main road at 119864 - 84L/13 & the last Def task EASY on the high ground at 126365 - 84L/13. Three men went to hospital today & one man rejoined the Bn from hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
20th APRIL - CHAUK	All our fighting patrols returned by first light, having seen no enemy or heard any suspicious movement. The Bn took full advantage of being near the River once more & did a lot of washing of clothes & clobber. At 0800 hrs, we received word that our Corps Commander (33rd Corps) Lieut-General Sir Montagu Stopford was coming on an	

	informal visit to see the Battalion at 1130 hrs today. He was unfortunately held up somewhere & eventually arrived at Bn HQ at 1430 hrs. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col H.R.R. Conder OBE) met him, & took him on a conducted tour round the Coy areas. On this occasion he expressed his gratitude for the fine work put up by the Battalion & that he was very pleased to see everybody looking so healthy & cheery. He spoke to a number of the men, & told them the larger picture & how well the 14th Army were doing in driving the Jap out of Burma. At 1600 hrs the Colonel addressed the whole Battalion & thanked them for the splendid work they had done in our first phase of the "Battle for Central Burma". He reviewed all our experiences in the past, the lessons learnt from them, & went on to describe our future role which looked as if we will now become a bit more mobile in future, having received more MT for our establishment. - At 1500 hrs the CO attended a conference at Bde, & on his return held an R&O group at 1900 hrs, during which he gave out orders for a move forward on MT to MS 381 (312109 - 83L/13) where 89th Bde were to concentrate in the next 2 days. Our mules under Lieut McNish left at 2200 hrs to meet the Bde mule column, which Lieut McNish was to command & take them to GWEGYO (336256 - 84L/13) that night. Their next stage was to MS 381 the following night where they will meet the Battalion. No 2757428 Pte McIntosh of C Coy was drowned in the RIVER IRRAWADDY today & although he was given artificial respiration for nearly an hour after his body was recovered, he did not revive. He was buried in his Company area & the service was conducted by the Rev T Hawthorn MC our Padre. Four men were admitted to hospital today, & 2 returned from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
21st APRIL - CHAUK - ZIGYOBIN	After a quiet night the Battalion made final preparations for the move out to our new concentration area, near MS 381, at a village called ZIGYOBIN (3010 - 84L/13). At 1000 hrs the 2/I/C (Major Rose) left with a Recce party consisting of Coy 2/I/Cs & 2 Platoon representatives per Coy to go forward & lay out the Bn area. To assist us in this move forward we were supplemented with 30 x 15 cwts& 30 x 3 tonners from an RIASC G.P.T. Company. This transport arrived at 1300 hrs & was distributed to Coys by Capt Calderbank (OC Admin Coy). By 1400 hrs the Bn was embarked & ready to move off but unfortunately the petrol & oil for the lorries did not arrive until 1435 hrs. After a quick refill the Bn led by the Adjutant (Captain Stewart) started off for our new destination, the Commanding Officer (Lieut Col HRR Conder OBE) remaining back to see the Bn on the move. The Order of March was as follows. Bn HQ, HQ	

	Coy, A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, D Coy, & Admin Coy. At about 1610 hrs the Bn arrived at its destination where they were met on the main road by the 2/I/C & Coy representatives, who led them to their respective Company areas as follows. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, & Admin Coys in an area with the centre point at (30101 - 84P/2), A Coy - 298105 - 84P/2) - B Coy - 306103 - 84P/2, C Coy - 300093 - 84P/2 & D Coy overlooking the main road at 307094 - 84P/2. Our MT ferried our kit forward & had completed the job by 1730 hrs. The Bn started digging in & wired company areas immediately. 3" Mortar tasks for Defence was also done. Water was taken out to companies & after a good hearty evening meal, the Bn settled down for the night. Since the 33rd Bde & the 1/11 Sikhs are to our front we had only one standing patrol for the night 21/22nd April. During the night we had some rain, & it was a great change from the muggy damp atmosphere of CHAUK. Three men were admitted to hospital today. Our mules have not rejoined us yet but will arrive tomorrow morning.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
22nd APRIL - ZIGYOBIN	Throughout the night there was nothing to report. At 0900 hrs we held a Thanksgiving Service in the compound of the village, Capt Rev T Hawthorn MC officiating. At 0945 hrs, we received word from Bde HQ to supply 12 Carrier drivers with 5 days rations within an hour to go & collect 12 Bren Carriers for the Bde. Each Bn is apparently getting 3 Carriers each, & they will certainly be of great value to us now that we are operating on the plains of Burma. At 1000 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) held an R&O group at Bn HQ. He told us the general situation on our front & informed us that we may have to recross the River IRRAWADDY to the WEST BANK, to deal with the Japs being chased from the NORTH by our 114th Bde. At 1430 hrs the C.O. left for Bde HQ to see if there were any orders for the move available. Since none were ready at that time the C.O. went up for a flying recce in an L5 to have a look at the area which we will eventually take up positions in, at approx (940935 - 84L/10). On his return the CO brought orders for the move with him at 1800 hrs, & gave out orders for the move of the Bn to KYAUKYE (0999 - 84P/2). We were allotted from the Bde pool 8 x 15 cwts and 5 x 3 tonners, which with our own MT were distributed to Coys for this move. Our mules who are no with us again were also distributed to Coys. At 2015 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) & 2 reps per coys left on jeeps to recce our new area & to arrange the reception of the Bn at the other end. At 2115 hrs the Bn preceded by all our MT moved out in the following order. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, D Coy, RAP, Admin Coy & the mules	

	brought up the rear. After a very hard & gruelling march of about 16 miles over sand, the Bn arrived at KYAUKYE (0999 - 84P/2) & was ushered into a close box perimeter for the night. Since the Bn arrived at 0400 hrs there was no "stand-to" except for normal post. Four men were admitted to hospital today & three men returned from hospital to the Bn.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
23rd APRIL - KYAUKYE	The Bn spent today resting & preparing for the move across the River IRRAWADDY tonight. Orders for the crossing were received at 1100 hrs, & the gist of the orders was this. The 1/11 Sikhs were to secure a bridge head crossing at 2100 hrs, whilst we passed through them & proceeded across country to secure the canal & road crossing at (949936 - 84L/10), followed by the 4/8 GR & Bde HQ. Our trucks were loaded up & lined up for the move out, & the Bn were given orders in detail by the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) at 1700 hrs. At 2300 hrs the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) came back with orders that the Boats were ready for the first flight. The Bn went over the river unopposed & by the following morning at 0130 hrs were complete on the WEST bank of the River.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
24th APRIL - MAGYIGON	The Bn moved off from the WEST bank of the river in 2 parties, the first party going on ahead to secure the road & canal crossing at (949936 - 84L/10) by first light, & to be joined by the 2nd part of the Bn as soon after first light as possible. The C.O. with his Tac HQ, B & D Coys & Gunner OP were the composition of the first party, & they set off across country taking the following route. From (088989 - 84L/10) the party made its way through 12' high elephant grass to the village of KYABINZU (069983 - 84L/10) & from here forced its way through thick jungle to the village of KONTHA (038967 - 84L/10). From here onwards to the main road, the going was through a swamp, which was nearly waist deep & was very thick with elephant grass & scrub. It took about 3 hours to get through this swamps, & so, after this gruelling march the advance party eventually hit the main road at MS 3 (969929 - 84L/10). There they
- MAGYIGON	halted & had breakfast before going on. They then moved on to the canal & road crossing at (948937 - 84L/10) where they took up positions & awaited the remainder of the Bn who under command of the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) eventually joined the advance party, having come by the same route at 1030 hrs. After everybody had a meal the Bn moved on in the same order of march as before to take the road junction at (931959 - 84L/10) which we took by 1300 hrs. The Bn less B Coy took up defensive positions as follows. Bn HQ -	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

- MAGYIGON	(932956 - 84L/10) A Coy (934956 - 84L/10) stretching along the road to the NORTH to the cross roads. C Coy then took from the cross roads to (930952 - 84L/10). HQ Coy to the rear perimeter from 930952 - 934956 - 84L/10. D Coy took up a position at the track & road junction at 935952 - 84L10. B Coy were sent out to (890930 - 84L/10) to block the road running from NORTH to SOUTH. The Jap about 300-500 strong was reported in SALIN (8200 - 84L/10), who were opposing our 114th Bde who were slightly to the NORTH of SALIN. The object of our move was to cut the Japs road to the SOUTH, & help 114th Bde destroy them. The Bn then prepared themselves for a very hairy night, assuming that the Japs would be on us like a ton of bricks. To make matters worse we had to travel very light for this move, with a result we had only a limited amount of ammunition on the man & no tools with us, with the result we had to make the best use of ground that we could. Road blocks were established on all roads & so the Bn settled down for the night, & come what may. At 1930 hrs along comes a Jap 3 tonner from SALIN & runs slap into our road block at the road junction at 948937 - 84L/10. The result of this little party was 1 - 3 ton Japanese lorry, 1 Jap Lieutenant & 1 OR dead, an officers sword, some equipment & rations, & bedding. Later on & throughout the whole night we had patrols & jitter-parties probing our flanks, grenading & mortaring us. After daylight we discovered 2 dead bodies & 2 seriously wounded & signs of blood indicating a number of wounded. Our own casualties were 1 Killed & 4 wounded, which was very light considering we were not dug in.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
25th APRIL - SETHUSHINGON	After stand-down the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) sent out foraging parties to get food to feed the Bn, since we had consumed our 1 days ration & were preserving our emergency rations. We arranged to feed the Bn by 1700 hrs on rice & curried vegetables which was to be prepared by the villagers. By 1400 hrs the first 6 vehicles arrived bringing 2 sections of 2" Mortars, some wire & tools. These were distributed to Coys & the men started wiring & digging in with a will. Various vehicles filtered in during the day & by 1400 hrs we had been thickened-up by 1 Platoon of MMGs. At 1700 hrs 3 Lee tanks arrived & were placed in an excellent position to deal with vehicles coming up either road. Rations arrived by 1750 hrs & after a good evening meal, the Bn was ready for any amount of Japs who cared to look in & visit us. Throughout the day there was nothing else of interest to report.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

26th APRIL - SETHUSHINGON	At 0200 hrs tpt was heard approaching from the SOUTH, & 3 - 15 cwts (British) driven by Japs fell foul of our road blocks, & the result of this party was this. One truck managed to break through the road block but was very successfully dealt with by one of our patrols who were operating towards SALIN (9200 - 84L/10). The 2 other trucks were put in the bag, 3 bodies including a Captain, some rations, ammo & equipment.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- SETHUSHINGON	The Commanding Officer sent out 3 Patrols from D Coy to go & ascertain whether SALIN (9300 - 84L/10) was occupied or not since we had received reports that the Jap was pulling out. - Orders were received from Bde that 114th Bde were holding fast in the NORTH of SALIN, & that we had the job of capturing this small town. Patrols reached 935003 - 84L/10 & returned with an NES report. Another fighting patrol reached MS 38 at 924994 - 84L/10 & also returned with an NES report. The third patrol reached the Pagoda NORTH of MS 2 at (897986 - 84L/10) & here they saw a large number of Japs sitting around this area, with some in dug positions. Orders were given out at 0630 hrs for the attack on SALIN, & at 0815 hrs the Bn less A & HQ Coys, with 1 Tp of tanks in support moved off to complete the job. B Coy met the Bn at a pre-arranged RV at the chaung & track position at (900961 - 84L/10) where the C.O. got his Bn in position for the attack. Once more patrols from D Coy went forward & reported all clear to the Pagoda at (913981 - 84L/13). Accordingly the Bn advanced with D Coy as leading Coy, whilst C Coy crossed to the left flank, the tanks preceding D Coy. The Pagoda was reached safely & no enemy seen, so the CO moved through the village of PABEZU (910983 - 84L/10) & pushed onto the road near the lake at (906995 - 84L/13) & still no japs were seen. The next move was to the cross-roads at (910999 - 84L/10) which was also reached without opposition. An armoured column with B Coy pushed through SALIN searching for Japs, & married up with a patrol of South Lancs from 114 Bde. Salin had fallen without a shot being fired. The CO then sent out patrols to MS 2 (897986 - 84L/10) & reports by locals there showed that the Japs had pulled out in a great hurry early this morning. Troops from 114 Bde relieved us & the Bn returned to our base camp, with B Coy still out astride the road at (895930 - 84L/10). Another 3 tanks of the 3 Dragoon Guards joined our Bn here & harboured in our area, where we all awaited further orders.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- SETHUSHINGON	By 1400 hrs Orders for our move came through & at 1700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder OBE) gave out his orders for our armoured column's advance down the main road to the canal & road crossing (930808 - 84L/10). We had 1 Squadron of Lee tanks	

	preceding us from the 3rd Dragoon Guards. From 1700 hrs onwards the Bn was loading vehicles before it got dark to be ready for our advance at 0500 hrs the following morning. - Throughout the night peace reigned & we only had one stray Jap approach our area. - He was successfully dealt with & makes one more Nippon in the bag.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
27th APRIL - SETHUSHINGON Canal & road crossing (930808 - 84L/10)	At 0330 hrs the perimeter post only were manned & since we had experienced a quiet night, fires for cooking were lit, & breakfasts were prepared for the Bn. At 0500 hrs the Bn completely in MT, & supported by tanks, our 500 Bty of 25 Pounders & 1 Platoon of MMGs, get off down the road to our objective. The column moved fast & by 0830 hrs the Bn was ready to take up positions roughly along the canal bank. At 0840 hrs 3 Dakotas started circling over our area & were obviously searching for the Brigade dropping zone to drop supplies to us. Since the actual DZ was 3 miles away, & we didn't want to miss the air-drop, the C.O. & the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) laid code letters, improvising maps to make the letters, instead of signalling strips. Grenades 77 were used to indicate the direction of the wind, & in another 5 minutes a very successful air-drop by 6 Dakotas was in progress. One Platoon of D Company was organised to collect this drop, & the Adjutant got onto the 22 set & informed Bde that we had taken the drop, & to send the RIASC down to collect it. This was duly done & we were congratulated on our presence of mind by Bde since the air-drop would have been missed as all air-drop reception staff were at the original DZ. The CO then made a quick recce & the Bn area was laid out as follows - Cross roads (930808 - 84L/10) along canal bank to (919802 84L/10) then NORTH to (919808 - 84L/10) thence EAST to main road at (929812 - 84L/13) then SOUTH to Canal & road crossing at (930808 - 84L/13). This was the Bn close perimeter area, & the Companies occupied areas, taking them from EAST to WEST - C Company, D Company, Admin Coy, HQ Company & Bn HQ, A Company & B Company on the extreme WEST. Companies settled in areas & proceeded to dig in & wire the entire perimeter. By 1200 hrs all our admin base had been ferried forward & the Bn was complete including our mules who had cut across country to meet us from the river. At 1600 hrs the Brigade Commander (Brigadier WA Crowther DSO) came to see the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) to discuss the prospects of an armoured column to crash on SOUTH to cut the Japs completely off. - We were allotted enough transport to lift the Bn in one lift, less some odd kit which would come up with the Bde Administrative Staff. At 1830 hrs the CO held an R&O group & gave out his orders. The CO	
Canal & road crossing - 930808 - 84L/10		J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	was placed in charge of this armoured column which was to be known as "CONCOL". Representatives from the REs, MMGs, RAF, GUNNERS & tanks were included in the R&O group since we had the following under command. - 1 Section of REs with mine-detecting equipment & a "Bulldozer". 1 - VCP (Visual Control Post) with RAF & Army representatives in case we wanted air support at any time. 1 Platoon of machine-gunners, 1 Squadron of tanks, & our old friends the gunners - 25 pounders all under command. The gist of the orders was that the 1/11 Sikhs would secure LEGAING (0167 - 84L/10) & if they succeeded in this to push on to TANAUNGDAW (0261 - 84L/10) & to patrol forward to find out if town of SAGU (0256 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No1). We were to follow them up, pass through them & push on & capture SAINGAUNG (0345 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2). At 1830 hrs transport was allotted to the companies & loaded up ready for an early move SOUTH at 0600 hrs tomorrow morning. Major Chisholm MC, Captain Steven and Lt (QM) MacDonald rejoined the Bn today & Lieuts Craig, Mowatt & Hannah joined us today as reinforcements. Four men were evacuated to hospital today & 3 returned from hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
28th APRIL - CANAL & ROAD CROSSING - 930808 - 84L/10 - SAGU - SAINGAUNG	At 0400 hrs the Bn was up itching to be off in our armoured column, hoping that our second MT move would bring us some luck & let us put some Japs in the bag. By 0600 hrs, all our transport had been marshalled & was unleashed at 0605 hrs, & it really was grand to see over 160 vehicles, tanks & carriers & armoured vehicles rolling down the road. Information was received that the 1/11 SIKHS had reached TANAUNGDAW (0261 - 84L/10) OK & had patrols going into SAGU (0256 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG - No1), & as a result of this information we bowled along the road until we contacted the SIKHS at about 1000 hrs. The CO of the 1/11 SIKHS informed us that his patrols had been fired on, so our Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) ordered 2 troops of tanks of the 3rd Dragoons & C Coy forward to attack SAGU. A Coy were whisked up forward & held in readiness to help C Coy. The remainder of the column debussed & stood by in readiness for a battle. C Coy under command of (Major Doyne-Ditmus) crossed the chaung OK, met no opposition & started to clear the town from the EAST side. The CO ordered up A Coy to go in from the WEST & to clear the town & marry up with C Coy at the bridge at (025561 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No1). All went well & A & C Coys eventually linked up having only dealt with 10 Japs successfully. We later learned from the locals that the Japs had hurriedly departed to the SOUTH when they saw us coming, numbers approx 100. Since we wanted to crack on the CO gave orders to	

28th APRIL - SAINGAUNG	embuss, & by 1200 hrs the column was on the move towards the town of SAINGAUNG (0344 - 0346 - SAINGAUNG - No2 - 1/25,000). The going was bad since it was a dusty rough track, but by 1315 hrs the leading elements were within 150 yards of SAINGAUNG. Villagers reported Japs & vehicles in the village, & another 50 at approx (025450 - 1/25,000 - SAINGAUNG) near the water. The CO pushed A Coy less 1 Platoon with 1 troop of tanks round the EAST end of the town, & to cut in & push through from the EAST to the WEST. Meanwhile C Coy were despatched out to the water at (025450) to deal with the Japs there. They remained there in case they were required to come in from the WEST. 1 Troop of 500 Bty was ready on the ground to support if necessary. The remainder of the Bn was debussed & standing by awaiting orders. Surplus transport was sent back to SAGU to help the 1/11 SIKHS who were going to move tonight. A Coy were pushing on through the village & got right through to the SW corner of it before they bumped anything. A pitch battle took place & we got a bit of a shock when we discovered a Jap tankette firing at us from the area of the chaung at (031444 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG - No2). This tankette was soon eliminated, & A Coy less 1 Pl proceeded to chase odd snipers etc into the jungle nearby. The other Pl of A Coy was put on the road near the Inspection bungalow as a stop at (034455 - 1/25,000 - SAINGAUNG - No2). The odd Jap or so was shot at by us, & by 1415 - 1500 hrs the remainder of the column concentrated at the Inspection bungalow & the CO (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) put the Bn in a close perimeter round the tanks & guns temporarily. The odd skirmish & sniping went on until approx 1800 hrs, & by this time we had looked around & discovered our bag was as follows. Two tankettes working & in good condition, 1 Bren carrier in good condition, 1 Tankette which we had destroyed, 4 lorries, medical stores, rations, & bags of artillery & SA Ammunition, grenades, maps, documents, equipment, oil & petrol. It was a colourful bag & the largest we have ever made. - The CO decided that since it was getting so dark, he would hold his original perimeter for the night, except D Coy who would sit astride the cross-roads at (037458 - 1/25,000) to establish road blocks there. Water recces were sent out & during one of these Major Courtenay-Hood, OC B Coy & some men were ambushed by Japs, as a result of which we had 1 man killed & 4 wounded. Two platoons were required to get out our wounded we managed this by 1900 hrs. Digging in & wiring commenced, & so we settled down for the night expecting to be attacked throughout the night. Up to midnight all was quiet & nothing more to report. Our casualties were as follows.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	No 3189457 Pte E Bruce - KIA. Wounded No 14746663 Pte J Leece, No 14710581 Pte W Taylor, No 14710978 Pte H Hogben, & No 497980 Pte F Morgan, all of B Company.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
29th APRIL - SAINGAUNG	After a very quiet night the Bn ate breakfast, improved positions & wiring & sent out parties into SAINGAUNG (0344 - 0345 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2) to look for Japs primarily, & to see what other dumps could be found. Local labour was obtained for bringing in water to us, & bullock carts were on the trot the whole day bringing us this water. A jeep patrol from D Coy went out to MINBU (1550, 1551, 1552 - Minbu Sheet 3) where the 1/11 Sikhs had established themselves after a night march last night. Contact was made OK & we sent out our casualties to MINBU to the ADS there. Bde HQ had also established itself in MINBU. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) sent a patrol to MAUNGMAGAN (0741 - 1/25,000 - No2) to investigate a report of 20-30 Japs in the village & to liquidate them. The village was entered & NES. The CO sent out B Company under command of Major Courtenay-Hood to the village of ZIAING (980396 - 84L/12) to clear some Japs out of it, then to push on to the water at (956369 - 84L/12) with a view to the Bn moving there today & so ease the water situation. B Coy bumped Japs there but since it was about 1700 hrs the CO didn't want to have this Coy involved in a battle & so ordered them to withdraw to ZIAING & establish a firm base there, which they did. The Brigadier arrived at about 1700 hrs & informed the CO that he wanted us to push on to PYAWBWE (8732 - 84L/12) & establish ourselves there. At 1800 hrs the CO gave out orders for the onward move tomorrow, tanks preceding us & the Bty of 25 pounders moving in bounds in close support of us. No 3189407 Pte Boyce was buried near the Inspection bungalow, the service being conducted by Capt Rev T Hawthorn MC. The REs constructed a light air-strip for L5s to land on & evacuate our casualties at approx (038460 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2). At 1900 hrs transport was loaded up for tomorrow's move, & then the Bn settled down for the night which was a peaceful one. Fifteen men were evacuated sick to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
30th APRIL - SAINGAUNG	After an early rise the Bn formed up & moved off down the road towards ZAIAING (9739 - 84L/12) where they contacted B Coy. The Bn then passed through B Coy, who then had the job of protecting a troop of our guns who were dropped off at ZAIAING to give the main body close support. The Column "CONCOL" under command of (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) then advanced up the main road, & eventually made	

	contact with the Japs, who were occupying the high ground at approx (962376 & 960378 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No3). Leading troops of D Coy were held up temporarily, but Major Chisholm MC (OC D Coy) managed to get things moving very soon. The tanks were brought up to give close support to this coy, & the leading tank was about to go off the road when a 75mm gun opened up at 100 yds range & knocked it out. The Commanding Officer & the Squadron Commander were both near this tank & Major Dinsdale the Squadron Commander was unfortunately wounded. Two other tanks engaged the 75MM gun & eliminated it plus the crew of 4 Japs. The countryside has changed from open desert country to open jungle country, which meant that tactics had to be switched considerably to suit the ground. D Coy was being held up again by heavy fire & so the CO put C Coy under command of Major Hayes on a left flanking movement to cut the Japs off. This was very successful, & after a "ding-dong" battle these Japs had to withdraw leaving us in possession of the high ground & the precious water which was the real objective. By 1700 hrs the Jap was really on the run except for occasional sniping & mortaring. Our B echelon tpt was whisked up & the Bn took up defensive positions covering the road from the high ground, round the water area & settled in for the night. Our days loot consisted of 2 - 75MM guns, 1 - 105MM gun, 1 - 4" mortar, 22 bodies plus those still unlocated & some equipment. Our own casualties were 2 tanks, 3 killed & 4 wounded. Digging in & wiring went on until completed & up till 2349 hrs we had not been counter-attacked or shelled as we expected.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

1st to 31st MAY
1945

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF MAPS
1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2 (a) ORIGINAL
" " No3 (b) DUPLICATE
" " No4 (C) TRIPLICATE

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st MAY - MILESTONE 16 near ZIAING - PYAWBWE	After a very quiet but rainy night which the Bn spent with no cover at all. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) verbally gave out orders that the Bn plus all sub units under command ie tanks, RA, RE, VCP (RAF Visual Control Post) & MMGs would advance up the main road & take the village of PYAWBWE (869325 - 1/25,000 SINGAUNG No4). One troop of guns would remain in previous position with HQ Coy, Admin Coy, B Echelon & 1 Pl MMG to protect them, & to hold the area of the high ground & water (9536 - 1/25,000 No3). At 0700 hrs the Bn less the above elements move out with C Coy as advance guard troops, followed by 1 troop of tanks, A Coy & Tac HQ, Bn HQ, D Coy & Sappers. The advance had been preceded by B Coy who left our present area at 0300 hrs & who had orders to open the road & establish themselves at .571 (893322 - 1/25,000 No3). At 0715 hrs word was received that B Coy had surprised a small party of Japs having breakfast, who had run away at MS 20¼, & that B Coy was established at MS 20 (905343 - 1/25,000 No4). Patrols from B Coy had heard MT coming from the NORTH on the track that joined the main road at (901344 - 1/25,000 No3). They were investigating. By 0815 hrs the leading elements - C Coy had contacted B Coy & the Column started passing through B Coy on its advance to PYAWBWE. Due to the fact that the ground was undulating, & visibility extremely bad, the tanks could not be deployed & consequently the advance was slow since the tanks were road bound. The advance continued slowly, & by 1000 hrs we had reached point 571 without meeting any opposition. The CO decided to hold this dominating high ground & left A Coy under command of Major Chisholm MC to hold this area. B Coy was ordered up from MS 20 to join the Bn & to be in reserve on catching us up.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
- .571 - PYAWBWE	All went well until Milestone 23 (878324 - 1/25,000 - No4) when C Coy deployed right & left of the road & with a platoon covering the tanks on the road, arrived at this place. A 75mm Japanese gun opened up at point blank range - 50 yards to be exact & knocked out 1 tank immediately, killing 1 man & wounding another of the tanks	

- .571 - PYAWBWE	crew. Over & above all this hell seemed to be let loose & for a few minutes nobody quite knew what was going on. Another tank engaged this 75mm gun & eliminated it, but no sooner was this done than a 105mm gun opened up on us. Tac HQ with the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) was up in the midst of all this & the CO ordered C Coy to push on. During this battle the wounded tank Commander was unable to get out of his tank since he had his leg shattered, so Lieut Thomas & Pte Leigh of C Company, under extremely heavy fire & regardless of their own personal safety dashed across to the tank & brought the wounded man back to what cover was available. A fine job of work indeed & an excellent example to all under his command. - C Coy by this time had pushed on but were meeting stiff opposition & having a good battle. Lieut Hannah & Pte McEwan were both wounded at this stage. The Battle was dragging on with C Coy so the CO ordered Major Turnbull to take D Company round by the right flank & to come in from the track running from the NORTH to SOUTH & so onto the village itself. D Coy did this & had covering fire put down on the village to eliminate Japs who were also holding up C Coy. By 1445 hrs D Coy contacted C Coy, & then the CO pushed B Coy under Major Courtenay-Hood through C & D Coys to mop up the village itself. This was done successfully but the battle started up in C Coys area in the SOUTH of the village, during which action No 3193805 L/Cpl W Ferguson and No 14350349 Pte J McGuire were killed outright. Captain Ferguson was given a target from C Coy, & using his 3" Mortars as a Battery played havoc with some Japs in the valley. - The Jap started withdrawing & by 1700 hrs all was quiet except for the occasional bangs made by the troops mopping up. At 1715 hrs the Japs started shelling the area of the road near MS 23, but was off his mark, & as our transport was well dispersed, he caused no damage. Our artillery engaged this gun & it was thought to have been destroyed. A 25 arty OP later reported gun damaged. Another gun was later reported at the WEST side of the village being drawn away by horses. This was engaged & destroyed, including horses & limber & crew. PYAWBWE (869325 - 25,000 No4) now cleared wasn't tactically good to hold since it was overlooked by high ground all round, so the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) ordered the Bn & troops under command less Dog Coy who were to stay in the village back to .571 for the night. The Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) went back & laid out the Bn area & by 1800 hrs digging & wiring was in full swing. We lost one Lee tank, had 3 killed & 3 wounded, against a bag of 1 - 105mm gun, 2 horses, 1 limber, 1 - 75mm gun, possibly another 105mm out	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	of action & an estimated total of 51 Jap bodies. The Brigadier (WA Crowther DSO) visited us, & expressed his pleasure at the fine work put up by the Bn, & supporting arms. An order of the day issued by General Sir Oliver Leese was read out to the men today, which said we were taking Rangoon & how pleased he was with the work & spirit put in during our recent advance. He wished all ranks the best of luck in the last phase of the battle for Burma. No men were admitted to hospital today, & 1 man rejoined the Bn today. After this hard days fighting over torturous country, the Bn settled down to a well earned & peaceful night up to 2359 hrs at any rate.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd MAY - .571 - PYAWBWE	At 0445 hrs a report was received from Major Turnbull OC D Coy that jitter parties at long range were sniping & grenading his positions. No damage was being done by the Japs, & he was under the impression that the Jap was up to his usual tricks of giving covering fire to cover parties getting out wounded & dead bodies. - The Jap always takes great care to get away his dead. - Throughout the morning D Coy was popping off the odd Jap & got 6 in one party alone, otherwise all was quiet. At 1100 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) held an R&O group, informed us that 89th Bde was being relieved by 114th Bde, & that we were being relieved of our commitments on the 3rd May. The Bn was going to MINBU (1652 - ¼" 84L) on the 4th May, & was to have 2 days rest prior to the whole Brigade's advance to the SOUTH (details of this still unknown). Since our own transport was required for ferrying the 4/5th Gurkha Battalion up to .571 (892323 - 1/25,000 No4) the following day the CO decided to send all heavy kit direct to MINBU under command of the Bn 2/I/C Major Rose, so that only personnel & essentials for Battle needed to be moved on the 3rd May. At 2400 hrs our MT, plus colour parties & Coy 2/I/C left .571 for MINBU, taking tools, PRI, Officers Mess, Orderly Room, Rations, QM Stores, Reserve ammunition, Signal kit, MT Stores etc with them. On arrival at MINBU areas were allotted to Coys & the place prepared for the Bns arrival on the 4th May. Our transport returned to SAINGAUNG where it harboured for the night 2nd/3rd May, prior to lifting 4/5th GR up to relieve our Bn early on the morning of the 3rd May. Up to 2359 hrs all was quiet.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd MAY - .571 - PYAWBWE - SAINGAUNG - MINBU	At 0800 hrs the first lift of transport arrived at our HQs bringing the relieving Bn the 4/5th Gurkhas. These were unloaded & HQ Coy & B Coy were taken on our MT straight through to SAINGAUNG (0345 - 84L/16). D Coy at the village of PYAWBWE (869325 - 1/25,000 No4)	

	were relieved by 1 Company of 4/5th G Rifles, & after the hand over they (D Coy) marched up to Bn HQ area at .571 (893322 - 1/25,000 - No3), where they were lifted in transport & taken ahead to MINBU (1550 - 84L/16), along with A Coy where their 2/I/C of Companies met them & showed them into their respective areas. B Coy, C Coy & HQ Coy concentrated in the village SAINGAUNG, & stayed the night there, ready for a short march of 9 miles to MINBU the next day. The remainder of the day was spent in resting, in the case of B, C & HQ Coys, & A & D Coys, in cleaning out bungalows, making them habitable & clean for our short stay in MINBU. A mobile cinema & a recording van were obtained & arrangements for Toc H, & football was laid on now that the Bn could make full use of these amenities, when completely settled in. Eight men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
4th MAY - MINBU	After an excellent nights rest in comfortable houses the Bn had breakfast at 0800 hrs, & had obviously enjoyed a long lie in bed with boots off - the first time for months! B Coy, C Coy & HQ Coy marched in from SAINGAUNG, & arrived at our rest area at about 1130 hrs. The Bn settled down throughout the day, and bathing & washing parties were organised so that the men could get really clean once more. Torn clothes were repaired & the QM (Lt JF Macdonald) managed to obtain 500 bush-jackets, which he issued to the men. Arms & ammunition were carefully cleaned & checked, & deficiencies & spare parts issued where necessary. At 1400 hrs, there was inter-company	
- MINBU	football, matches were in full swing & thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. At 1600 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) had all the Company Commanders together, for the purpose of discussing domestic matters, such as learner cooks, reinforcements, dress & turnout, state of discipline & equipment etc. At 1830 hrs an ENSA show was broadcast to the men on the football ground & followed immediately by a picture show put on by the Mobile cinema. This show lasted until 2200 hrs, then the Bn returned for the night. The weather has now completely broken & we are experiencing heavy rains both during the day & the night. Every man is under cover now so the state of the weather doesn't matter meantime to us. Thirteen men were admitted to hospital today the majority suffering from jungle sores.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
5th MAY - MINBU	Reveille was at 0700 hrs this morning followed by breakfasts at 0800 hrs. This enabled the men to have another long lie & gave them a chance to recuperate. At 1000 hrs the CO held an R&O group, &	

- MINBU	informed us that we would be starting out tomorrow moving at 0700 hrs, to catch up the remainder of the Brigade who had made off to the SOUTH 2 days ahead of us. The first stage of the journey was for the Bn to march half the distance, to be ferried in MT the remainder of the distance to the small town of MINHLA (3325 - 85M/1) where we would harbour for the night, prior to pushing on in a SOUTH WESTERLY direction into the hills, the object of this move being to once more cut the Japs L of C, & put them in the bag as they were pushed from the NORTH by our 114th Bde & the BNA towards us, who would form a Brigade Block & mop him up. Timings & MT allotment were given out, then Coy Commanders returned to Companies to give out their orders. At 1400 hrs a draft of reinforcements, some 123 men, arrived for us, plus 32 men of the Bn who were either on UK Leave or ex-hospital. The draft was eagerly awaited & the necessary preparations for the arrival were made. When these men had been fed the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) spoke to them, welcomed them into the Bn, & put them in the picture as to our recent battles & what our future was to be as far as we know. After the CO had finished the men were detailed for Companies & taken to their respective Companies by the C.S.M. Once again at 1830 hrs a musical concert was broadcast to the men, followed by the news which was well received, ie the news of the capitulation of Holland, Denmark & NW Europe. The news that Rangoon has fallen was received in great cheering since it directly concerned the men more so than the European news. - This was followed by another Picture Show, & so to bed to have as much rest as possible for an early start on the 6th May. - Men are in good heart, & morale is up 100% these days. Ten men were admitted to hospital today, including Lieut Craig of B Company. Major Turnbull proceeded on 28 days UK leave today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
6th MAY - MINBU - KONGYI.	Reveille was at 0500 hrs this morning & breakfasts at 0600 hrs. At 0700 hrs the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, plus A & C Coys & a portion of HQ Comp, set off as advance party to MINHLA (3225 - 85M/1) to recce an area there for the Bn. On arrival at MINHLA, it was found that we had more time than we had allotted for our MT turn-round & so this party went forward to the village of KONGYI (2520 - 85I/13) & recced a Bn site there, beside the chaung. MT was sent back to pick up B & D Coys & our remaining HQ Coy, plus the Bn B Echelon, & by 1700 hrs the whole Bn was in the new area, a good 6 or 7 miles in advance of our timetable. The remainder of the Brigade had 2 days clear start & it was our task to catch them up.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	We had been very successful so far & hoped to be within striking distance of Bde the following day. The Bn made full use of the pools in the chaung & once more took the opportunity to bathe & wash all clothing. Since there was no immediate danger of Japs coming upon us, small slit trenches & bed scrapes were all that was prepared for the evening. No wire was put up tonight. At 1900 hrs the CO held an R&O group, gave us the latest information on the Bde disposition & gave out orders for the days march tomorrow, plus the transport allotment. Bde HQ plus the 4/8 GR & 136 Fd Regt were all at YENANMA (0402 - 85I/14), whilst the 1/11 Sikhs were to the WEST, positions not exactly known. The 4/8 & 1/11 Sikhs were in contact with the enemy. Our next destination for the Bn was in the area of the water at (095105 - 85I/13) where we would harbour for the night & await further orders from the Brigade Commander. Four men were admitted to hospital today, none returned from hospital. Sgt Hogg, Cpl Faulkner HQ Coy went off to escort back Cpl Munro to the Bn since he is required to be tried by Court Martial.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
7th MAY - KONGYI - WATERHOLE AT (095105 - 85I/13)	The Bn "stood-to" at 0500 hrs having spent a restful & quiet night. Breakfasts were at 0600 hrs & by 0700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, cookhouses, A & C Coys & a Portion of HQ Coy left for our new area about 16 miles away at the water (095105 - 85I/13). The remainder of the Bn spent a pleasant time bathing & washing & resting until the transport returned for them at 1000 hrs. - On this lift B & D Coys plus the remainder of HQ were lifted & taken forward to a debussing point at approximately (160159 - 85I/13). The Companies debussed & marched the remaining 4 to 5 miles to the new Bn area. The transport then returned to KONGYI (2520 - 85I/13) & lifted the remainder of the Bn & B Echelon. Our A/T personnel & mules marched from KONGYI to the new area, arriving at 1700 hrs in fine form. At 1645 hrs the monsoon rains descended upon us in all its might, & everybody was soaked to the skin, since we had no cover prepared in time. The QM (Lt Macdonald) when returning from Bde HQ with rations, found that the water in the chaung had risen by 2' to 3' in 20 minutes. A 15 cwt with bread on it slipped into the chaung which was then 2 to 3 feet deep. It bogged, & nothing would move it. After an hour the water level had risen so rapidly that the 15 cwt completely vanished from sight, & likewise our bread. The remainder of the rations were OK, & the rum & safely arrived back in camp at about 1900 hrs. Bn dispositions were round the water hole the road being the centre line. Starting from the WEST, C Coy from the road was	

	met by A Coy, the half circle continued on until B Coy who went round to meet D Coy who crossed astride the road & linked up with HQ Coy, who on the SOUTH of the road linked up with C Coy at the NORTH of the road, thus making a complete circle. Admin Coy, the tanks & the guns were inside the perimeter. 1 man to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
8th MAY - WATERHOLE (095105 - 85I/13)	An order was received at 0045 hrs from Bde HQ ordering us to remain in our present area until further orders. At 0500 hrs the Bn "Stood-to" & after stand-down started cleaning up clothes etc which had been soaked & made dirty by the night before's rain. Our MT got down to the badly needed day of maintenance, since our vehicles have practically been running non-stop for weeks now. The 15 cwt which was flooded yesterday was recovered after a hectic mornings work, & later our pioneer platoon went out & improved the road, preparatory to our moving on in the near future. At 1500 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) went to see the Brigadier at YENANMA (0402 - 85I/13). At 1700 hrs the CO returned & held an R&O group. We were given orders for the move on the 9th May & our destination was to be the village of LINKE (2091 - 85I/14). We were going off as a column of our own with our eventual destination as THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3). We were moving in MT for the move to LINKE, & for this were allotted 5 x 3 tonners & 8 x 16 cwts extra over our normal Bn transport. We are having under command - 1 Bty - 25 pounders, 1 Platoon Sappers with a Bulldozer, 1 Company (ADS) & 1 Section of L.A.D. Workshops. The ADS & Sappers are joining us at YENANMA tomorrow as we pass through Bde HQ. 1 Platoon of MMGs remains under command. News of war in Europe ending was received very casually by the men, & even though they did not express much enthusiasm, one could hear the odd sigh of relief, as the men realised that one milestone was really successfully passed. Everybody looking forward to more men, materials coming out soon, & repatriation period to be lowered.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
9th MAY - WATERHOLE AT (095105 - 85I/13) - LINKE	At 0400 hrs the Bn was up & about & by 0500 hrs had finished an excellent breakfast. At 0545 hrs the CO (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ went forward to meet C Company who had left slightly ahead to act as advance guard to the Bn. At 0600 hrs the Main Body in the following Order of March moved out in MT for our days objective, the village of LINKE (2091 - 85I/13). Bn HQ, HQ Coy, B Coy, D Coy. A Company with 1 Pl MMGs remained behind as rearguard for B Echelon until they could be ferried forward. The	

	road to YENANMA (0402 - 85I/13) from the water hole was quite good going, but from YENANMA onwards to MINDEGALE (1197 - 85I/14) was exceptionally twisty, narrow & rough, with the result that progress was very slow. All personnel debussed here & marched on to LINKE on foot since it was an advance to contact & it was not known whether the enemy were in occupation of the village or not. By 1600 hrs the advance guard had reached LINKE, secured it & found it empty. The main body arrived at about 1620 hrs & were given defensive areas making a close circle perimeter with the guns, sappers, ADS, LAD & Bn HQ, HQ Coy & Admin Coys as the inner defence. B Coy were not included in this defensive area, but were ordered to occupy the high ground across the chaung at (206913 - 85I/13), since they were moving out at first light the following morning. The CO held an R&O group at 1900 hrs & gave out orders for the advance on to the village of PUNNGE (2481 - 85I/13), & as all was going well on to LEWA (2878 - 85M3). The Bn was finally concentrated in LINKE by 2000 hrs, & would have been much quicker had the road not collapsed & a 3 tonner blocked the road. Nine men admitted to hospital today, - mostly fever cases.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
10th MAY - LINKE - PUNNGE - LEWA	We experienced another very wet & miserable night but at the crack of dawn, B Company were on their way southwards to establish themselves & consolidate on the high ground over the TANYAUNG CHAUNG at (240857 - 85I/14), & await the arrival of the main body. A Coy was advance guard to the main body, with D Coy bringing up the rear. The C.O. (Lieut Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ went forward to see B Company & get the latest picture. C Coy with the MMGs protected our B Echelon & were ready to gather in our supplies which are now being air-dropped to us. At 1230 hrs a very successful air-drop took place at LINKE (2091 - 85I/13), only sugar & bacon being short. - No cigarettes were dropped which is bad, since we are on short rations as it is. - Meanwhile the Bn had passed through B Company, & were marching well in spite of the terrible heat, which is about its peak. - Men are feeling it badly, & cases of exhaustion are becoming more frequent as we go SOUTHWARDS. - By 1400 hrs the main body was established in the village of PUNNGE (2481 - 85I/14) & no enemy contacted. The Commanding Officer then pushed A Company down the road, & by 1530 hrs had cleared & searched the village, only bagging 1 Jap in so doing. Since it was getting late the CO decided to keep A Coy where it was, & also the main body to stay at PUNNGE. Once again the Bn made a closely defended locality for the night with our guns, ADS,	

	Sappers etc as inner defence. A patrol from A Coy to the village of TALOKPIN (2674 - 85I/14) had a short pitch battle with some Jap, as a result of which we claim 5 bodies. Bn settled down for the night having dug themselves in & wire put up. At 1900 hrs the C.O. gave out verbal orders for tomorrow, our task being to establish ourselves at INLE (2969 - 85M/2). Ten men were evacuated to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
11th MAY - PUNNGE - LEWA - INLE	Topography - the type of country we are now passing through at present is back to thick jungle with bamboo & thick scrub. The countryside has small hill features on it, & to our EAST & WEST the hills average a height of 1600 feet to 2000 feet. Chaungs are plentiful, some containing water. Water is the big problem & is very scarce. Villages are few & far between & are always in a very dirty & unhealthy state. Climatic Conditions We are now in the dry belt of Burma, which makes marching very unpleasant for troops. We have experienced heavy monsoon rains for the past 4 or 5 days. Very cooling when it lasts but unpleasant when the sun comes out again. Humidity is high in this part of the world. Temperature is about 118 - 120°in the shade. General Health The men are physically fit, but find marching through this type of country in this hot weather extremely exhausting. Case of heat exhaustion is increasing. Malaria cases are about normal, but most of our hospital admissions are due to jungle sores which turn septic very quickly. At 0545 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) & his Tac HQ moved forward to contact Major Chisholm MC OC A Company, & await the arrival of the main body. The main body left PUNNGE at 0600 hrs, leaving behind B Company plus the MMG Platoon to protect the guns, B Echelon transport, & also to assist with the collection of the air drop. At 1200 hrs the main body had arrived at the village of INLE (2970 - 85M/2) & took up defensive locality there for the night. So far we haven't managed to catch up with the hastily retreating Japs, but we have definite knowledge that their main body is only 12 hours ahead of us. We discovered 2 x 105mm guns which had been abandoned by the Jap, & also 6 lorries & 4 Staff Cars. We also killed one lone Jap on our advance today. At 1700 hrs the CO gave out verbal orders for tomorrow's move, our objective being the village of TOKKAING (3531 - 85M/3). Up to	

	midnight no attacks or disturbances broke the peace. Four men were evacuated sick today to hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
12th MAY - TOKKAING - YEBWET.	After a very peaceful night the Bn "stood-to" at 0500 hrs, had breakfasts by 0545 hrs & the leading Company which was D Company was ready to move southwards by 0600 hrs. Following immediately behind D Coy was the CO (Lieut-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) & his Tac HQ. At 0615 hrs the Main body with B Coy in the van, HQ Coy with Bn HQ, RAP, 1 troop 500 Bty, Sappers, the mules - A Company followed on in the wake of D Company. C Company was left to guard our B Echelon tpt, 1 troop guns & had the Platoon of MMGs under command to help them. At 0830 hrs 6 Dakotas dropped our supplies (incl RUM) on INLE (2970 - 85M/2), which was collected & sorted ready to be transported forward to TOKKAING (3561 - 85M/2) when we had taken the place, if held by the Jap. All went well as normal & nothing in the way of Japs was seen, with the exception of 1 straggler who met an honourable death. In spite of the state of the road, our sappers with the aid of a bulldozer soon put things right & by 1300 hrs the Bn had arrived in the area of TOKKAING. On the road down the villages of THAPANGON (3563 - 85M/3), MYAUNGAING (3564 - 85M3) and KYIGAN (3663 - 85M/3) had been thoroughly searched, but no enemy were seen. On arrival at TOKKAING the Commanding Officer decided that it was not very good from a tactical point of view, & also that there was no water handy, so after preliminary recces the Bn eventually arrived & took up a defensive all round position at YEBWET (3859 - 85M/3). Water in the chaung was plentiful & good. B Echelon, MMGs, remainder of the guns & C Company were ordered up, & by 1800 hrs the Bn was well dug in & ready for anything. An order was received from Bde HQ that at 1200 hrs today we come under command of 268th Brigade. We established communications with them & awaited further orders. It had been a hard days march, but the men were in good heart & enjoyed their rum rations. Seven men to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
13th MAY - YEBWET.	Once more we had a peaceful but extremely wet night, since a terrific monsoon storm broke, blew away tarpaulins etc, with dramatic results. Orders were received from the Brigade Commander of 268th Bde, under whose command we now are, for a short period at any rate. On receipt of these orders, the gist of which was that we had to patrol & if possible occupy the villages of SAKANGYI (4050 - 85M/3) and PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), in which were reported 500 Japs & 300 Japs in each village respectively. The CO (Lt Col HRR	

	Conder OBE) had anticipated such orders, & D Company, with 1 Pl MMGs, & 1 Sec Mortars were actually on their way SOUTH to investigate the village of BAW (3954 - 85M/3) & if possible push on to the road & track junction at (385522 - 84N/3). The CO & his Tac HQ accompanied D Coy, & 1 Bty of 25 pounders were standing by to give them close support should they require it. B Company was also on ½ hours notice to assist or reinforce success, as the advance turned out. By 1200 hrs D Company were established at the road & track junction & proceeded to dig & wire themselves in. We had a good air drop today & mail was dropped on us by L5s. The C.O. ordered the Sappers to build a light air strip for L5s, this being sited on the paddy at approx (385595 - 85M/3). We asked 89 Bde HQ for a test plane at 1200 hrs, but it did not arrive until 1330 hrs. At 1400 hrs the Brigade Commander of 268 Bde landed & was met by the C.O. He put us in the picture regarding his Bdes dispositions, & gave the CO his orders for further operations. He was exceptionally pleased with the Bns quick movement & expressed his pleasure about this. We evacuated 26 men by plane today, sick men from the ADS. One L5 crashed due to the pilot's misjudgement, & we supplied a guard for watching the plane. Remainder of the day nothing to report. The CO held an R&O group & gave out orders for the Bn to concentrate on D Coy at the track & road junction. Nine men were admitted to ADS today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
14th MAY - YEBWET - NATHE	The weather has cleared up again & before the main body & tpt went up the road, the Sappers with their bulldozer finished off muddy parts & made the road usable again. B Company acted as advance guard to the Bn today, & with the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) & his Tac HQ, left YEBWET (3860 - 85M/3) at 0645 hrs. The main body followed at 0700 hrs in the following order of march. C Coy, Main HQ, HQ Coy, RAP & D Coy - A Company plus MMGs & the Bn HQ Pl were left behind to protect our tail ie - ADS, B Echelon tpt & the guns. At 0600 hrs 3 planes - Dakotas dropped our supplies & POL near D Coy's positions at the track & road junction at (385522 - 85M/3). - This was only a low drop & quite a number of items were lost in the jungle. D Coy sent out fighting patrols to SAKANGYI (4051 - 85M/3) and to PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3). The CO decided that since we had made good time, he would advance to NATHE (3350 - 85M/3). Advanced troops found 3 Japs near water hole there - wounded 2 probably killed the third member. - Bodies not yet recovered. B Coy got into NATHE OK, & so the CO whisked up D Coy & A Coy to this area. By 1630 hrs the dispositions along the main	

	road were as follows, the Bn remaining in these positions for the night 14th/15th May, C Coy protecting 1 troop of 25 pounders at PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), B Company at (343511 - 85M/3), Bn HQ & HQ Coy & Admin Coys centre point (339509 - 85M/3) with 1 troop 25 pounders inside the perimeter, D Company centre point at (336509 - 85M/3) and A Company at the area of the village of YEMYET (276503 - 85M/3), with 1 Pl MMGs under command. The Bn was well spread out, but certainly will be able to deal with any enemy who come from the NORTH. Nine men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
15th MAY - KYAUKKYI	Throughout the night we experienced very heavy rain, but we were not unduly perturbed about it, now that we have a metal road under our feet, & can move our transport & guns at lib. The Bn stood to at 0445 hrs, & at 0600 hrs had a late breakfast. We were all set to have a quiet days rest except for patrolling in NATHE (3350 - 85M/3), & so be able to patch up our clothes which are literally falling off our backs, & our weapons to be thoroughly cleaned up. This did not materialize since an order from 268 Bde arrived ordering us to move to KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) immediately. This order was originated at 1630 hrs on the 14th May, & had taken 15 hrs to get to us, since we only received it at 0730 hrs this morning. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) called for his R&O group & orders were given out for the Bn to move at 0830 hrs, that is the leading troops. B Coy acted as advance guard & set off on time, the main body leaving at 0900 hrs in the following order of march. Tac HQ, Main Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Sappers, mules & C Coy. D Coy sent a pl to collect the air drop in C Coys position & PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), thus relieving C Coy. D Coy remained at NATHE & protected the guns, ADS & B Echelon. A Coy was still forward at YEMYET (2650 - 85M/3) & had sent patrols up to MS 17½ (235523 - 85I/15) to clear the road for us. By 1500 hrs the Bn less C Coy who had relieved A Coy at YEMYET, arrived safely at KYAUKKYI, & had taken up an all round defensive position on the high ground around the village. Water from the PANI CHAUNG is plentiful & good, & the village itself is clean & undamaged by the retreating Japs. B Echelon & C Coy were ordered up & by 1730 hrs the whole Bn was concentrated & ready to settle down for the night. Nothing in the way of enemy was seen except 5 odd Japs 1 of whom was killed & 3 wounded. Five men were admitted to hospital today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
16th MAY - KYAUKKYI	Throughout the night there was nothing to report, & since communications were bad due to atmospheres, we assumed that we	

	remained here until further orders. - We now have to keep communication with both 89 Bde & 268 Bde on our 22 Sets. Ranges are long & the thick jungle does NOT lend itself to long range wireless communications. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) decided that since we are NOT moving as yet, he decided to do some patrolling to look for Japs, & also to get reports on tracks, bridges etc to the SOUTH & WEST from KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15). The following patrols were accordingly sent out. 1 Patrol from A Coy to PAZINDA (1848 - 85I/15) reported NES. Another patrol from A Coy went to PYINAING (1843) & had nothing to report. C Coy had a fighting patrol to YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15) & reported the village clear of enemy. D Coy sent out 2 fighting patrols to the villages of YAW-YWA (1148 - 85I/15) & one to THAKUTKYAW (140452 - 85I/15), which saw no enemy & reported the village clear. An operation Order was received from 268 Bde HQ, & the gist of the order was this. Our Bn with 1 Pl Sappers, 1 Coy ADS, 23 MTN Regt, & 50 mules from 63 AT Coy RIASC, to be known as "CONCOL", were to advance to KAMA (3710 - 85M/4) entirely on an all front basis & that the probable date of this move would be 20th May. The route to be taken was via SINGAW (1934 - 85I/15), & KYIMI (2430 - 85I/15) - WETTO (2820 - 85M/4) thence to KAMA. Load tables were prepared ready for the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) for his preliminary orders to his R&O group. Five men were evacuated to hospital today. - Our Sappers constructed a light airstrip today at (188499 - 85I/15) & an L5 landed at 1600 hrs & franked the strip as OK for planes. Up to midnight, there was nothing else to report.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
17th MAY - KYAUKKYI	Throughout the night there was nothing to report, & no parties of enemy came near us. Stand-to was at 0445 hrs & the Bn had late breakfasts at 0700 hrs. It is raining hard at present, but is only lasting about 1 hour. The ground dries up fairly quickly at present & shows no real signs of becoming a quagmire. At 0530 hrs Dakotas started dropping our supplies, & throughout the day at odd intervals, dropped supplies for 89 Bde. 89 Bde hope soon to strike the main road near YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15), & so make contact with us. An L5 dropped official mail to us, & gave us latest information of other troops movements over a loud speaking apparatus which is fixed to the undercarriage. In answer to their questions we reply by strips. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) held an R&O group at 1130 hrs today & gave out his preliminary orders for the move to KAMA (3710 - 85M/4). At 1400 hrs there was the CO Orderly Room & 10 ORs were summarily of by him. The Animal	

	Transport Officer (Lieut McNish) took a patrol of 10 men from the A/T Section, mounted on mules, to recce the state of the track to SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16), the chaung crossing there, & so this little cavalcade set off at 0800 hrs. On arriving at PYINAING (1843 - 85I/15) the track petered out, & by the time it took him to discover the correct road to SINGAW it was getting late & he had to return having failed to make his objective. Nothing else to report throughout the day. Lights of MT were reported travelling from NW to the SOUTH in the area of YEGYANZIN, & so we got in touch with 89 Bde & had it confirmed that they were using MT with lights. Two men were evacuated sick today to hospital.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
18th MAY - KYAUKKYI	Throughout the night we had no disturbances & there was nothing to report. Almost immediately after stand-down at 0530 hrs, Dakotas started dropping our supplies to us, also supplies for the remainder of the Bde. We have employed Burmese locals to help with the collection of these drops to save our manpower situation. At 0900 hrs an L5 with despatches landed on the strip, & we were able to send out some mail. Casualties were flown out, also our sick personnel. At 1030 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) went up for a flight to recce the area of SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16) & the chaung crossing, which he verified as crossable for mules. A Coy had also a 24 hrs patrol under command of Capt Culpin doing the same job, & also to ensure that the area to SINGAW is clear of enemy. Major-General GC Evans DSO Commander 77 Ind Division paid us a "Flying Visit" & expressed his pleasure with the Bn for the quickness they had shown in getting to the main road. At 1200 hrs we sent a pl from HQ to escort the 63rd Mule Coy to KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) & at 1330 hrs they had arrived & were given an area inside the Bn perimeter. - A patrol from C Company to YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15) contacted the 1/11 Sikhs & representatives of 89 Bde HQ. A representative from the 23rd Mtn Bty arrived, & was given an area into which his mules & guns would stay in, on their arrival here. 500 Bty now comes under command of 89 Bde again & remain in this area when we move out on the 20th May. Throughout the day there was nothing else to report. Nine men rejoined the Battalion from hospital today, & three men were admitted to hospital. Jungle sores are our main cause of high rate of sickness at present.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
19th MAY - KYAUKKYI - SINGAW	At 0430 hrs the Bn "stood-to" - manning gun-posts only, whilst the remainder of the Bn prepared for the move out. Breakfasts were at	

	0500 hrs. At 0630 hrs A Company with 1 Sec Mortars under command & the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, moved out across the chaung, & set off for SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16) which was our destination for the night. At 0700 hrs the Main body moved out in the following order of march. Bn HQ & O group, B Coy, HQ Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, Bn mules & B Echelon mules with D Coy bringing up the rear. The route taken was this. KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) across chaung up the track to track junction at (193484 - 85I/15) thence to main track at point 639 (176473 - 85L/15) SOUTH down main track to the village of (200400 - 85I/15) thence to KAZUNMYAUNG (201392 - 85I/15) thence to the village of AUKMANEIN (195367 - 85I/16) & so to SINGAW. On arrival at SINGAW A Coy contacted C Coy & got the latest information of the enemy. C Coy under command of Major Hayes then pushed on to our next days objective THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M). The Commanding Officer decided to cross the MINDON CHAUNG & take up defensive positions astride the track & on the high ground near THIGON (189339 - 85I/16). By 1300 hrs the main body had arrived & were disposed of as follows. A Coy from (191300 - 85I/16) to 189336 - 85I/16 linking up with D Coy who extended round to (191330 - 85I/16) & linked up with HQ Coy. HQ connected up with B Coy at (195333 - 85I/16) & so B Coys perimeter extended to the river bank at (197339 - 85I/16). B & A Coys then linked up along the chaung bank making a complete circle. At 1600 hrs the CO gave out orders for the following days march.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
21st MAY - SINGAW - THAMBAYAKYIN	After an undisturbed night & reports that C Coy was established at THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M), the Bn moved out in 2 parties for this objective. B Coy & the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ moved out at 0700 hrs, & was followed at 0730 hrs by the main body which moved out in the following order of march. Defence Platoon, Bn HQ & O group, D Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, HQ Coy, Bn mules & mule Coy, ADS, & A Coy in the rear. The Bn took the following route, led by local guides. YAMA (230324 - 85I/16) across the hills to the MINDON CHAUNG, across chaung to KYIMI (246300 - 85I/16) thence south past SANYE (243287 - 85I/16), SE to village of TAWMAKIN (2427 - 85M) & so to THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M) where the leading company B contacted C Company. The CO made a recce of the ground & the Bn took up a close defensive perimeter for the night on the high ground. C Company then pushed on to the village of OKPON (3217 - 85M) where they contacted a company of the MADRAS Regt of 268 Bde. They stayed the night at OKPON, & awaited further orders from the CO. At 1530 hrs the CO held an R&O group & gave out orders for	

	tomorrows march on KAMA (3711 - 85M) where it was reported that a large number of Japs were in possession of it. C Coy at 2000 hrs sent a report to say that 2 Coys of the CHAMARS were in KAMA & that the Jap occupied the high ground at (3611 - 85M) in some strength. Although we had only covered 10 miles today, the going had been extremely hard & the men were very tired. We got very wet since it rained heavily at 2030 hrs.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
22nd MAY - THAMBAYAKYIN - KAMA	After a quiet night & the Bn had stood-down, the Bn prepared for the days march on to KAMA (3711 - 85M). - The Commanding Officer ordered Major Hayes of C Coy to take his Company forward to the high ground near the village of WUTKON at (351151 - 85M) & to await our arrival there, & also to collect the air-drop which was to take place at WUTKON. At WUTKON the CO would give out further orders to the Bn when he had communicated with the Bde Commander of 268 Bde. The Bn moved out in the following order of march at 0630 hrs. D Coy, the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) & his Tac HQ, Bn HQ & O group, A Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, Bn & A/T Coy mules, ADS, B Coy. On arrival at WUTKON, the C.O. received orders to proceed to KAMA, & that we were going across the river with a view to rejoining 89 Bde back at THAYETMYO (4748 - 85M). At 1130 hrs the Bn arrived in KAMA, & we received orders that we couldn't cross the river that day but would have to stay the night here. The CO was then given an area to go into for the night with the centre point at approximately (348116 - 85M). The Bn moved on & dug in in a tactical position, & awaited further orders. At 1600 hrs orders were received that we were to relieve 1 Coy of the CHAMAR REGT on the ridge at (355110 - 85M) the following morning. The Jap was still up on the ridge in strength & even although we had not received orders, we anticipated that we would have to take the ridge completely. Throughout the night we were undisturbed but the CHAMAR Coy on the ridge was attacked by a heavy force which they repulsed.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
23rd MAY - KAMA.	We received orders from 268 Bde HQ that we had to relieve the Coy of the CHAMARS on the ridge at (355103 - 85M/4), & accordingly D Company under command of Major Doyne-Ditmus relieved them & was in position by 0830 hrs. The Jap was occupying the remainder of the ridge, his strongest positions being at (353106 - 85M/4) & (350110 - 85M/4) & the Bn was given the task of capturing the whole of the KAMA RIDGE north of the MADE CHAUNG. The C.O. (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) gave out his orders, the gist of them being as follows.	

	The CO decided to attack from the NW with A & B Coys & advance down the ridge from point 399 (328122 - 85M/4), driving along the ridge to the SE into D Coy. We were leaving C Coy, Bn HQ, ADS & mules in our present area at (361110 - 85M/4). The 23 Mountain Bty, & 1 Bty of the 2nd Ind Field Regt were to support us. The MADRAS Regt had taken the features 516 (365092 - 85M/4) & 560 (371081 - 85M/4). At 0645 hrs, D Coy, Tac HQ, RAP, Mortars, Pioneers & B Coy left our present positions & proceeded up the main road to approx (351143 - 85M/4) where they branched off on a compass bearing to bring them out at point 399. After an arduous 6 hours hacking through the jungle this body eventually arrived at point 399, having eliminated a Jap post on the way up. After half an hours rest this body advanced along the ridge, & when they got to approximately (331120 - 85M/4) they came under heavy fire from grenade dischargers, LMGs, MMGs & rifle fire, which enfiladed B Coy. The ridge was so narrow on top & sheer drop on both sides A & B Coys were definitely held up. A Coy pushed through to try & overcome this opposition but again met extremely heavy fire & luckily only had 2 casualties. No progress was made by 1600 hrs, & Major General Evans DSO 77 Div Commander & Brigadier Dyer 268 Bde Commander suggested that 1 Coy should be left at .399 & the remainder return to Admin area. B Coy & Tac HQ stayed out all night & A Coy returned to base. DF fire with the 25 pounders was laid on for B Coy. A Coy of the MADRAS Regt went out at night & took up ambush positions at (359101 - 85M/4) & in the chaung at (351107 - 85M/4). Throughout the night all was quiet with D & B Coys. Rain came down heavily at 2230 hrs and continued all night.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
24th MAY - KAMA	After a very wet, miserable & cold night, B Coy & Tac HQ got in communication with Bn HQ & reported a quiet night. D Coy also reported having had a quiet undisturbed night, & saw no enemy movement on the hill feature overlooking them. The Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) ordered B Coy to demonstrate in front of the enemy bunker position, to harass & to pinpoint position. This started at 0615 hrs. Meanwhile C Coy under command Major Hayes left Bn HQ area & proceeded to point 399 (329122 - 85M/4) to relieve B Coy. D Coy meanwhile sent a fighting patrol from the South side of the ridge, & succeeded in getting onto a feature called "HAWICK". Here the patrol found 3 Japs sound asleep with an LMG. The 3 Japs were duly killed, & the LMG sent back to D Coy HQ. This patrol then got onto another hill feature which we called KELSO (355105 - 85M/4) without opposition. Their objective	

	was a place called "PATROL HILL" (353106 - 85M/4) & they were well on their way to reaching the top of this when the Jap opened up from the top of the hill & also from their rear. A ding-dong battle took place, & although our troops were cut off they fought their way out bringing their wounded with them. We had 3 killed & 9 wounded. Jap casualties were unknown. - C Coy had meanwhile relieved B Coy who returned to Bn reserve. C Coy then established a strong point & although our L of C was bad our pioneers made a rough track right up to their Coy HQ. We built up their reserve rations & ammo & water & by nightfall they were well dug in & ready for anything. The CO & his Tac HQ returned to Bn HQ at 1600 hrs. We are still being supplied by air-drops & the QM (Lt JF Macdonald) has commandeered Bullock carts to collect these drops.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
25th MAY - KAMA	Throughout the night all was quiet & not a peep was heard from the enemy. C Coy & D Coy both reported an undisturbed night. At 0600 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) received orders from the Brigade Commander of 268 Brigade to maintain pressure on the enemy positions from the NORTH & SOUTH of KAMA RIDGE, & to take the ridge in our own time. Accordingly the CO ordered A Coy under command of Major Chisholm MC to push through D Coy to take the HAWICK feature firstly, then "KELSO" & so onto "Patrol Hill". C Coy was simultaneously to push from the NORTH onto the bunker positions that had held them up for 3 days. Zero hour was at 0700 hrs. The attacks were to be silent until anything started then we would plaster the enemy positions with 25 pounders & our own 3" Mortars. B Company remained at Bn HQ in reserve. At 0700 hrs both A & C Coys cracked off on their tasks. A Coy got onto "HAWICK" OK & consolidated. They then pushed on to the "KELSO" feature where they found the position unoccupied. This position was consolidated, & by 1100 hrs our men were in possession of PATROL HILL & had linked up with C Coy there. - The C.O. then went to Bde HQ (268 Bde) for orders & was ordered to occupy the following ground & close the gap leading into KAMA (3710 - 85M/4). Our commitments were incl. "PATROL HILL" (350110 - 85M/4) to excl point 516 (364092 - 85M/4). Accordingly the CO ordered B Coy to take over from .516 down the spur to the MADE CHAUNG. D Coy then took over from the chaung to (356103 - 85M/4) & from here A Coy linked up & were responsible to (352107 - 85M/4). C Coy took from here to (350110 - 85M/4). Bn HQ was established at (359103 - 85M/3) with the ADS, HQ Coy & Admin Coy forming a little perimeter on the low ground. This move was completed by 1600 hrs, & by nightfall the Bn was dug in in their	

	new positions. Bullock carts had to be used to transport our kit & we managed to collect about 100 carts in half an hour. No men were admitted to hospital today. Major Courtenay-Hood OC B Coy, & Captain Arnott - B Coy were admitted to ADS today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
26th MAY - KAMA	Throughout the night there was nothing to report. All through the morning Coys were engaged in bunker positions & preparing their own defensive positions. The CO of the 1/11 Sikhs & his Coy Commanders visited us in the afternoon, with a view to their taking over from us on the 27th. Coy Commanders liaised with our Coy Commanders & were shown round our positions. At 1700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) gave out orders for our move out across the river, & so back to THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3) for our next period in Monsoon Quarters. - At 1900 hrs a message was received to say that the 1/11 Sikhs would not relieve us until the 28th MAY. Major General Evans DSO & Brigadier Dyer paid us a visit today & went round all the Coy areas. - Nothing else to report throughout the day.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
27th MAY - KAMA.	After a quiet night the Bn settled down preparing loads for our move out tomorrow. One hundred bullock carts were ordered to report to us at 0600 hrs tomorrow morning since we had no M/T on this side of the river to assist us in the move. The C.O. held an R&O group at 1630 hrs & appointed his embarkation & disembarkation staffs for the River Crossing. Capt Steven liaised with the 44th HAA on the EAST bank of the river, & laid on tpt for ferrying the Bn back to YWATAUNG (5148 - 85M/3) where we were to debus prior to re-crossing the river to THAYETMYO. Nothing else to report for today.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
28th MAY - KAMA	At 0400 hrs the Bn was up & our gun posts were manned as the manning was post only. Breakfasts were at 0500 hrs & at 0630 hrs 1 Pl per Coy of the 1/11 SIKHS arrived to take over & relieve our Coys. These platoons were conducted to Coy areas by our Company guides. At 0645 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) & an advance party left to cross the river. The Adjutant (Captain Stewart) with the embarking & disembarking staff arrived at the river at 0700 hrs. The Bn was allotted 1 DUKW, 2 rafts & 10 assault boats from the I.W.T. to ferry themselves across. By 1115 hrs the Bn complete with mules was safely across the river & ready to be embussed in transport at KAMAGAIE (3911 - 85M/4). At 1200 hrs the Divisional Commander Major-General Evans DSO met the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE), & told him that the Bn would have to be diverted to deal with	

	some Japs who were reported in the village of LETPAGAN (4708 - 85M/4) & numbered approx 500. These Japs had broken through the Bridgehead held by 33 Bde & the General anticipated that they would break for the hills tonight. The CO was given the task of holding 5 miles of road from MS 198 (4610 - 85M/4) & MS 193 (5204 - 85 M/1) & to stop & destroy any enemy who tried to break through. The CO accordingly disposed his troops in a Thin Red line as follows. A Coy - MS 198 - MS 197. D Coy MS 197 - 196. Bn HQ & HQ Coy 196 - 195. C Coy 195 - 193 MS & B Coy MS 193 - 192. An Admin Box was established at the cross roads at (461142 - 85M/4). The Bn dug in & wired positions & waited for any Jap who came our way. Up to 2349 hrs we were not disturbed, but everyone was on his toes & eagerly awaiting the kill.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
29th MAY - MILESTONE 195½ (501076 85N/1)	Throughout the night all was very quiet except for small parties of Japs probing all along the Bn front looking for a way through. At 0615 hrs about 200-300 Japs broke out of the jungle onto the main road at milestone 195½ (501076 - 85N/1) right opposite Bn HQ & HQ Company positions. Hell broke loose & sharpshooters took full advantage of the initiative & let the Jap have all they had. A real ding-dong battle lasted for 3½ hours at the end of which 130 odd dead Japanese bodies were counted on the ground, including their Battalion Commander (111 Regt - 54 Div from the Arakan). We captured a fair amount of arms & equipment including 1 - 70mm gun, 8 LMGs, 8 Pistols, 8 Swords, Flags, plus ammunition, documents & equipment. C Coy accounted for 12 bodies even although they had been overrun. The 2/8th Punjabs at their rear however copped this little lot & accounted for 77 Bodies - dead. C Coy also got 1 POW. Our own casualties were 7 Killed & 7 Wounded which was light in comparison to the enemy. The road was declared open for traffic at 1000 hrs but on mopping up patrols were still popping off the odd Jap throughout the day. The score by nightfall was 138 bodies & 4 POWs. The remainder of the night was very quiet & up to midnight no more Japs had tried to break through us.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
30th MAY - MS 195½ (501076 85N/1)	At 0500 hrs firing broke out in the Pioneer Platoon area about 150 yds from Bn HQ, their position being at approximately (506097 - 85N/1) & after a skirmish counted 12 more bodies on the ground. The Defence Platoon also accounted for another two bodies & 1 P.O.W. At about 0900 hrs a Japanese Gunner Sergeant dressed in a white shirt & waving a large white piece of cloth, walked into Bn HQ & surrendered himself. He was only too glad to be out of the fighting	

	& seemed very happy to be in our hands as a prisoner. At 1200 hrs, Brigadier WA Crowther DSO Commanding Officer of 89 Bde arrived once more & informed the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) that the Bn was definitely going back to THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3) to our rest area. Transport to lift us would report at 1000 hrs on the 31st MAY & the Bn would move out. Remainder of the day was spent in mopping up odd Japs & another POW surrendered to Bn HQ. D Coy roped in another at 1800 hrs bringing our total POWs to 8. The total dead bodies counted on the ground is now up to 105. - These were buried by a bulldozer. At 1800 hrs the CO held an R&O group & gave out verbal orders for the move. Coys were to move independently to YWATAUNG (5248 - 85M/3) where they would be met by Bn representatives prior to crossing the river to THAYETMYO. Remainder of the night was very quiet & we were not disturbed at all by the Jap.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
31st MAY - MS 195½ (501076 85N/1) - THAYETMYO.	After Stand-down at 0630 hrs, breakfasts at 0700 hrs, the Companies prepared for the arrival of our transport. At 0930 hrs the transport started arriving & was allocated to Companies. At 0945 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose), the Adjutant (Captain Stewart) & the IO (Captain Young) with Company representatives left for YWATAUNG (5248 - 85M/3) to make the reception & river-crossing arrangements of the Bn. At 1200 hrs the Bn started to arrive at YWATAUNG & were debussed. The Bn then crossed the river in DUKWS & RAFTS, & were all across the river complete with heavy baggage by 1630 hrs. Our M/T & A/T were left behind with the Brigade M/T & mules & will remain there throughout our stay in THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3). The river crossing went very smoothly & the length of time was good in spite of the 40 minute turn-round. On the west bank of the river Captain Scott of C Coy met the Bn with nine Company guides, who led them to allotted Coy areas. Our heavy kit was ferried up in M/T & by 1800 hrs the Bn was complete in their new areas. After a good hot meal the Bn settled down to enjoy a good nights undisturbed rest & with the pleasant thought in their minds that there would be no disturbances through the night, & no Stand-to in the morning. The first time for 5 months. Two men were admitted to hospital today & one man rejoined from the ADS. Approximately 90 reinforcements, ex-hospital & on leave men were awaiting the Bn in this new area & will help swell our sorely depleted numbers.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

2nd KOSB | 1st - 30th June 1945 | Army Form C.2118

LT COL HRR CONDER O.B.E.
COMMANDING

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

MAP REF:
THAYETMYO M1
1" to 1 Mile

DUPLICATE
TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
THAYETMYO 1 JUN '45	Bn settles in to its new Monsoon Quarters. CO inspects areas and makes adjustments. Bn engaged on interior economy. Lieut J Dorrat Royal Scots and Lieut N. Burns Gordon Highlanders join the battalion. 1400 hrs CO conference at which future training policy laid down. Six men to hospital, two discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 2 Jun '45	Bn engaged in interior economy. Court Martial of 1529141 Pte Edwards resumed. Ten men admitted to hospital, ten discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 3 Jun '45	Rest day with Church Service. Major A J Rose goes on leave. 100 ORs under Lt Henderson proceed on leave. 3 men to hospital. Lt T.R. Mowatt re-joins unit.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 4 Jun 45	Lt J.D. Craig rejoins unit from hospital. Lt W Playle and 150 ORs proceed on leave. 4 men to hospital, 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO 5 JUN 45	2/Lieut J.D. Scott rejoins Bn from hospital Capt P Stalker Capt R Stewart proceed on leave 4 men to hospital 5 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 6 JUN 45	CO visits CCS at Allanmyo. 3 admitted to hospital 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 7 JUN 45	Lt A.C. Thomas returns from Shillong where the course which he was to attend had been withdrawn three weeks before he arrived. One man returns from leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 8 JUN 45	1400 CO attends Bde conference. One man to hospital one discharged 2 men return from UK leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO 9 JUN 45	WORK on the Bn area still continues Four men to hospital 3 discharged Lt A.C. Thomas Lt J.M. Hewitt Lt J.M. Macdonald proceed on leave	J.P. Culpin Capt

"	10 JUN 45	Rest Day with Church service. Four men to hospital three men discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	11 JUN 45	Major C.E.P. Doyne-Ditmus to hospital Lt McNish proceeds on leave. 4 BORs proceed on 28 days UK leave. 1 Man repatriated.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	12 JUN 45	Six men to hospital 3 discharged Visit of A/Q 7 Div. 1700 hrs C.O. called to 7 Div HQ	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	13 JUN 45	0700 hrs C.O. leaves for 7 Div HQ and receives orders as Acting Brigadier cmdg 89 Ind Inf Bde to concentrate the 1/11 Sikhs and 4/8 Gurkhas in Allanmyo for a move South not before the 19th JUN 45. The 2/KOSB were to stay in present position at Thayetmyo. Three men to hospital, 3 discharged. 1800 hrs C.O. holds conference at Bde.	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	14 JUN 45	0800 hrs C.O. holds Bn O. Gp and recces the billet areas of 1/11 Sikhs and 4/8 Gurkhas with a view to moving into their vacated area. It was decided that the Bn would move into a more concentrated area in the vacated lines of the other Bns as they moved out. The move would be staggered and would begin by D & part of HQ Coy on 17 Jun 45. Three men re-join unit from hospital. Three admitted. 1200 hrs C.O. holds conference at Brigade.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	15 JUN 45	Bn begins to prepare for move to new location One man to hospital one discharged. CO recces new training area and range site with Major JS Chisholm MC and Lt R.S. Scott. One man to hospital One discharged. Major E Courtenay-Hood returns from 14 CCS.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	16 JUN 45	14 Re-inforcements arrive and are interviewed by the C.O. Three men to hospital, three discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	17 JUN 45	Rest Day with Church service. D and part of HQ Coy move to new area. 1400 hrs C.O. leaves to Cmd 89 Ind Inf Bde. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	18 JUN 45	Major J.S. Chisholm MC assumes command vice Lt Col H.R.R. Conder OBE commanding 89 Ind Inf Bde. HQ Coy completes move to new area. 4 men from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt

	19 JUN 45	A Coy moves to new area. Major Courtenay-Hood and C.S.M. W Henry proceed on leave. Sgt Allan proceeds on Cooks' Re-fresher Course. Two to hospital one discharged from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	20th Jun 45	Bn passes under command 268 Independent Ind Inf Bde at 0900 hrs. Major J.S. Chisholm to ALLANMYO to see 268 Bde Cmd. Ordered to send one Coy to ALLANMYO. C Coy warned to be prepared to move at 0730 hrs on 21st June 45. Lieut Fleming and detachment 25 men return from Rangoon Victory Parade.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	21 Jun 45	C Coy moves to ALLANMYO. C.O. goes with them to recce. B Coy moves into new area THAYETMYO. Receives orders to move whole Bn less one Coy to ALLANMYO. Sgt Allan returns from Refresher course. 1 man to hospital two discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	22 Jun 45	2 officers 5 NCOs and 30 men sent to 7 Div for T.C.P. duties until 4th July. A Coy moves to ALLANMYO. Two men to hospital 3 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	23rd Jun 45	Bn prepares to move to ALLANMYO. 1 man discharged from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	24th Jun 45	D Coy cross to ALLANMYO. In the rest of the Bn REST DAY with a Church service. One man from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	25th Jun 45	Canteen, portion of ammunition and QM's baggage cross to ALLANMYO.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	26 Jun 45	BHQ, QM's store, portion of ammunition and canteen cross to ALLANMYO. 3 men despatched to 7 Div HQ as potential Clerks. 4 men to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	27 Jun 45	HQ Coy, Sergeants Mess, Officers Mess, ammunition and canteen stores cross to ALLANMYO. Two men to hospital, one discharged. Pte J Lauder 3132576 died on leave.	J.P. Culpin Capt
ALLANMYO	28 JUN 45	Major A.J. C. Rose returns from leave and assumes command vice Major J.S. Chisholm MC who re-assumes command of "A" Coy. Major Rose recces area and decides to ask Bde Cmd's permission to leave A & D Coys in ALLANMYO with Admin Coy to meet their commitments of the Supply Point Guard, 14 CCS Guard, Ammunition Point Guard, Ordnance Dump Guard and YWATAUNG AIR STRIP Guard and move the Rest of the Bn to THAYETMYO.	J.P. Culpin Capt

"	29 Jun 45	Permission granted by Bde and orders given by C.O. to move to THAYETMYO. 4 men to hospital. 2 discharged 7 men leave on 28 days U.K. leave, 5 men re-patriated, 1 repatriated on compassionate grounds.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	30 Jun 45	Canteen and Capt G.G. Steven move back to THAYETMYO. 1 man despatched to UK for release (A&S Gp 12)	J.P. Culpin Capt

2nd Bn KOSB | 1 - 31 JULY 45 | Army Form C.2118

MAJOR A.J.C. ROSE
COMMANDING

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WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

MAP REF:
THAYETMYO M1
1" to 1 Mile

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~
TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	B.H.Q. HQ Coy Officers' Mess and Sergeants Mess cross from ALLANMYO to THAYETMYO. ALLANMYO DETACHMENT (A D & Admin Coys) responsible for ALLANMYO commitments ie Sup Point, Ammunition Point, 14 CCS, YWATAUNG Air-Strip Guard. Major JS Chisholm appointed Det Cmd and given Det Cmd's powers.	J.P. Culpin Capt
2 JULY 45 "	Bn settles in, 4 to hospital, 1 returns from course	J.P. Culpin Capt
3 JULY 45 "	Letter from Lt Col HRR Conder OBE stating that he is Cmdg 89 Ind Inf Bde vice Brig WA Crowther DSO promoted Major General and given paid Acting Rank whilst so Commanding. Consequently Major AJC Rose assumes paid acting rank Lt Col whilst Commanding the Bn and Major JS Chisholm MC assumes appointment of 21/c.	J.P. Culpin Capt
4 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	Major DENTON prepares Junior Leaders' Cadre. Duration now 6 weeks instead of 2 weeks. Two admitted to hospital, one discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
5 JULY 45 "	CAPT H ARNOTT admitted to hospital. Major Denton assumes command of B Coy and crosses to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
6 JULY 45 "	One to hospital 2 discharged. Informed COMILLA party reached Comilla.	J.P. Culpin Capt
7 JULY 45 "	CO's inspection of Barracks accompanied by Q.M. Capt GG Steven, MO, Orderly Officer, R.S.M., Orderly Sergeant. Very high standard. Three to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
8 JULY 45 "	REST DAY. 1900 hrs visit by AREA COMMANDER 455 SUB-AREA. Agrees to Guards being taken over at ALLANMYO by newly arrived Coy of J&K's	J.P. Culpin Capt
9 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	Capt J.P. CULPIN meets AREA COMMANDER and goes to ALLANMYO where he meets DET CMD 2KOSB DETACHMENT and Company Cmd J&K's and arranges Guards to be taken over on the 10 JULY 45. Lieut Henderson Major	

		Turnbull return from leave. Lt Dowatt and 15 men return from TCP duties at 7 Div.	J.P. Culpin Capt
10 JULY 45	"	CO decides not to move A & D Coys in view of possible move to PROME. One man to hospital. Major Denton begins the Cadre training of instructors.	J.P. Culpin Capt
11 JULY 45	"	CO visits ALLANMYO DETACHMENT. Decides to move D Coy to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
12 JULY 45	"	Advance party of D Coy cross to THAYETMYO 15 return from leave. One to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
13 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Seven men return from leave. One to hospital 53 men return from leave from PROME. Two men to hospital. D Coy begins to move over from ALLANMYO. Case of cholera reported by Capt GG Steven. Lt Caird and 15 BORs return from TCP duties along PROME - RANGOON RD.	J.P. Culpin Capt
14 JULY 45	"	CO holds competition for best composite Platoon in turn-out, equipment & knowledge of individual loads and equipment. B Coy wins by 30 marks against C Coy. Competition also held between Signal and Mortar detachments. D Coy cross to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
15 JULY 45	"	REST DAY. Lt Dowatt to hospital. 5 men admitted, 3 discharged hospital. 57 return from leave via PROME. Brig HRR Conder OBE sends his driver and escort to visit unit with mail. Returns same day.	J.P. Culpin Capt
16 JULY 45	"	Junior Cadre commences under Major Denton. CO gives opening address. Capt JR Stewart Lt W Playle Lt AC Thomas Lt Macdonald Lt Hewitt return from leave and 20 men. One discharged hospital. Capt Stalker returns from leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
17 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	CO holds conference re NCO position as affected by RELEASE/REPAT and future policy and difficulties CO decides to go to see Brig Conder OBE for clarification of policy. Mortar and Signal Cadres commence. Two admitted 4 discharged hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt

18 JULY 45	"	Lt Carter to hospital. CO leaves to see Brig HRR Conder OBE at PEGU. Coys continue individual training and recreational training. 4 return from leave. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
19 JULY 45	"	Two men in Age and Service 14 leave for release in U.K. Two to hospital, one discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
20 JULY 45	"	1400 hrs CO returns from PEGU. Officers conference to co-ordinate CO's parade on Saturday 21st JULY 45. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
21 JULY 45	"	CO's parade at 1000 hrs. CO's inspection of all Company areas less D Coy. Major JS Chisholm MC instructed to re-assume all ALLANMYO guards and for the purpose 4 men from each Coy are attached to A Coy. 4 men from hospital. Lt AC Thomas Lt JB Craig Lt IJ Fleming promoted Acting Captains. CO leaves to meet South Burma Area Commander at PROME.	J.P. Culpin Capt
22 JULY 45	"	REST DAY. Three men to hospital, 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
23 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	The Bn passes under Cmd of newly formed 253 Sub-Area PROME	J.P. Culpin Capt
24 JULY 45	"	G.S.O. III Sub-Area visits the ALLANMYO Detachment and informs Major J.S. Chisholm M.C. that the Bn is to concentrate at Rangoon by the 30 JULY 45. Capt J.P. Culpin and Lt Caird cross to ALLANMYO to proceed to RANGOON for medical treatment. Two men to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
25 JULY 45	"	Capt J.P. Culpin decides to proceed to 253 Sub Area with Lt Caird to see what arrangements were to be made for the move. Estimated strength and maundages given to DAAQMG Lt Caird sent back to order Bn to concentrate forthwith at ALLANMYO and then proceed to RANGOON with details of Bn strength and maundages where he was to meet Capt J.P. Culpin who proceeded to RANGOON	J.P. Culpin Capt
26 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Capt J.P. Culpin reports to South Burma District RANGOON for instructions. Told date of embarkation 31 JULY 45. Arrangements made to house the Bn in Rangoon. Capt Culpin despatches strength of Bn and estimated maundages to Embarkation HQ RANGOON. Lt Caird reaches RANGOON. Bn prepares to concentrate at ALLANMYO. One man to hospital one discharged. 2 men return from leave.	J.P. Culpin Capt

27 JULY 45	"	Bn begins to concentrate at ALLANMYO. Rifle Coys prepare to move to PROME with a view to proceeding by rail to RANGOON. RSM Henry contacts Capt Culpin at RANGOON with leave party which he concentrates at Bn Transit Area. Capt Culpin despatches 2 Guides to contact Bn and given them latest position and ask for an advance party to be sent forward.	J.P. Culpin Capt
28 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Rifle Coys concentrate at PROME. TRANSPORT arrives to convey rest of Bn by Road to RANGOON. Guides from Capt Culpin reach Bn.	J.P. Culpin Capt
29 JULY 45	PROME	ABC&D Coys entrain for RANGOON under Cmd Major JS Chisholm MC. Rest of Bn embus for RANGOON. 4 rifle Coys arrive at RANGOON 1715 hrs and are met by Capt Culpin and Lt Caird and taken with stores to Transit area. Rest of Bn stayed night 29/30 JULY at ZIGON ⊙ C.O. Adjutant Q.M. and Orderly Room Staff arrive at RANGOON	J.P. Culpin Capt
30 JULY 45	RANGOON	CO holds conference. Bn ordered to embark on 31 July 45 with all its unit equipment and stores. HQ & Admin Coys arrive 1230 hrs. Normal rolls and baggage lists prepared and unit medically inspected. C.O. holds 'O' Gp at 1400 hrs and gives out orders for embarkation:- 1. Heavy Baggage to leave at 0645 hrs for docks. Capt Young and 26 ORs baggage party. 2. 0930 hrs Advance Party consisting of Lt Caird and Coy representatives to leave. 3. 1300 hrs Main body leaves for embarkation 4. Transport to be supplied by S Burma District All ranks to embark with full kit and personal arms and ammunition.	J.P. Culpin Capt
31 JULY 45	RANGOON	0600 hrs transport arrives for heavy baggage 0645 hrs heavy baggage leaves with baggage party 0930 hrs Lt Caird leaves with Advance Party 1000 hrs All men whose effective date of embarkation was Feb and March 42 and all men in A&S Group 15 left in RANGOON at 208 Reception Camp under orders from S Burma District 1300 hrs Main body embus to proceed to the docks to embark 1500 hrs 24 Officers and 631 ORs embarked on S.S. Egra for sailing to CALCUTTA.	J.P. Culpin Capt

LT. COL A.J. ROSE COMMANDING 1ST to 31ST AUGUST 1945

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

WAR DIARY
~~OR~~
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Erase heading not required)

REF MAPS
N.A.

Army Form C.2118
SECRET
(a) ORIGINAL
(b) DUPLICATE
(c) TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1ST AUGUST - RANGOON	Reveille was at 0350 hrs this morning, giving us an early start for the embarkation of the Bn. At 0500 hrs transport arrived for the Bn. Captain Ferguson and an escort of 20 men proceeded the Bn to Rangoon Docks to take over 200 JIFF prisoners which were under our command for the sea voyage to Calcutta. At 0945 hrs the Bn embussed & was taken to the Docks where 3 TLCs were waiting to ship the Bn to "HMS Egra". Our heavy baggage had been taken aboard previously at 0850 hrs. By 1200 hrs the Bn with all its Baggage was complete on board & the men were settled in on Mess-decks by 1300 hrs. The remainder of the day was spent in settling in, & issuing Ships Routine. We did NOT sail as was expected today.	J.R. Stewart Major
2ND AUGUST - RANGOON	At 0400 hrs the "HMS Egra" weighed anchor and sailed down the Rangoon River. - By 0800 hrs we had cleared the tail of the river & were not out at sea. - Ships inspection took place at 1000 hrs, with all ranks at Boat Stations. The result of this inspection was that the Ships Chief & the OC Troops congratulated the Bn on the cleanliness of the ship. The Mess-decks had never been so clean before. Amenities were laid on for BORs throughout the day. Ship was blacked out at 1700 hrs until 0500 hrs & No Smoking on deck allowed. Orderly Officers & Blackout Officers were appointed to see that this was complied with.	J.R. Stewart Major
3RD AUGUST - At Sea on "H.M.S. Egra"	Reveille was at 0600 hrs & after a good breakfast the troops tidied up their Mess Decks then were allowed up on deck before Ships inspection at 1000 hrs by OC Troops & Major Stewart. Ship was very clean. Jiffs and some of our men now sea-sick but the sea was comparatively calm. - Blackout at 1900 hrs till 0430 hrs tonight. Nothing else to report.	J.R. Stewart Major

4TH AUGUST - At Sea on "H.M.S. Egra"	Still at sea. - Routine as for previous day. Informed we may dock in Calcutta some time tomorrow. Men are still sea-sick, probably due to the ventilation which is bad in the lower decks.	J.R. Stewart Major
5TH AUGUST - At Sea on "H.M.S. Egra"	Routine as for 3rd & 4th August. We sighted 8 ships anchored & on catching them up, took up position to await arrival of a Hoogly Pilot to take us up to Calcutta. - Pilot came aboard at 1645 hrs & we weighed anchor at 1700 hrs. Blackout Restrictions lifted tonight, & smoking allowed on deck. Captain Antonio RAMC, our RMO, slipped down a gangway & fractured his wrist. Throughout the night we were sailing up the Hoogly River.	J.R. Stewart Major
6TH AUGUST - CALCUTTA	The "H.M.S. EGRA" docked in Calcutta Docks at 1200 hrs this morning. An Embarkation Staff Officer came aboard to give the Commanding Officer his disembarkation orders. The men completely disembarked (personnel only) by 1400 hrs & were taken by transport to Alipore Transit Camp which is commanded by Major Charlier M.C., who was wounded in Burma when serving with the Bn. Captain Young & a baggage party remained behind to supervise unloading of stores which was completed by 2330 hrs. Men were allowed out in Calcutta on pass.	J.R. Stewart Major

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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.	

	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. Neots.	
"	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.	

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Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 4th BN. K.O.S.B.

Month and Year SEP. 1944

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
AMERSHAM	1		Maps drawn for new Op. General principle was to create a formidable block of 1 Airborne Div, 82 + 101 U.S. Airborne Divs, Polish Para Bde and 52 Div in the area RENAIX, LESSINES and ATH.	See Appx 16
	4		Bn moved to new Conc Area at WOODHALL SPA, LINCS.	
WOODHALL SPA	5		Op postponed 48 hrs on account of bad weather. By this date the ops area was in Allied hands. "O" Gp. visited emplaning airfds at FOLKINGHAM, SALTBY, COTTESMORE.	
	6		Maps drawn on 1 Sep returned, new issue drawn. Bn allotment of DUTCH and GERMAN currency drawn.	
	7	0010	O.O. No 1 and O.O. No 2 issued Ops postponed 24 hrs.	See Appces 1 and 2
	8		GOC briefed all Coy Cmds in Div on most recent plans. Adjt, OC HQ Coy, I.O. and Atk Pl Cmd briefed by C.O.	" Appx 19
	9		Unofficial visit by the G.O.C. I.O. collected 1/25,000 map cover of Ops area from Div HQ.	
	10		Bde Cmd took salute at Bn Church Parade March Past. Further change of ops plan.	
	11		Leave up to 72 hrs started. Bn allotment of maps broken down into Army Block Serial Gps.	
	12			
	17		Official news received of 1st Airborne Army landings in HOLLAND.	
	18		G.O.C.'s briefing Conference for all Coy Comds and equivalent in the Div. He described plans and units involved in Airborne Army - same units as mentioned above under 1 Sep. 52 Div has several possible roles:- a) To assist 1 Div in holding ARNHEM bridgehead. b) To advance against Germany with the British Second Army. c) To clean up resistance down the SCHELDT to ANTWERP and the Estuary. d) To mop up units of German 65 Corps who are defending reprisal weapon sites north of AMSTERDAM.	

			Likely landing place : an airfd at DEELEN - no flying dates given.	
WOODHALL SPA	19.		Received 190700 SITREP of 1 Airborne Corps Capt COUTTS, Lt McMILLAN and their loading parties warned to move to airfd p.m. 20 Sep. Bn Exercise : a) To practice modified man loads - based on lightened rucksack, with excess kit wrapped in bedrolls which are all overloaded on to Bn tpt. Found that 2 IN MOR teams in particular are still too heavily loaded. Decided to plan redistribution of amn. b) Practised carrying one full strength Rifle Coy on 12 Jeeps and Trailers.	See Appx. 3. Seep Appx 18 GWH
	20	 2315	Move of a/m loading parties postponed 24 hrs. CO, 2i/c, Adjt summoned to Bde Conf.	GWH
	21	0200 1700 2045-2315 2045	CO's 'O' Gp called : New op. Bn on 4 hrs notice to move to an airfd as and from 0400 hrs. Strength of force 30 offrs 431 O.R's - force to be glider borne. D Coy and remainder of Bn not affected to be cmd by Major RAE - probably following up in Dakotas at later date. CO, 2i/c to Div Comd Conf. CO held Coy Confs to coordinate changes in load manifests Op postponed 24 hrs.	 GWH
	22	1000 1000 1400 1615 1700	All new load manifests recd by CO from Coys 210700 Sitrep recd. CO held further briefing Conf for Coy Cmd and equivalents : op to be known in Bn as YANK. Outline plan : 4 KOSB with similar force from 5 KOSB and skeleton Bde HQ, sp by modified Bty, Fd Arty, to land in gliders West of main NIJMEGEN - ARNHEM axis, and move up to southern bank of river near Arnhem to protect rear of 1st Airborne Div posns. Op cancelled. 211900 Sitrep recd.	See Appx 20 See Appx 4 See Appx 5 GWH
	23	1200 2000	221030 Sitrep recd. 230210 Sitrep recd.	" " 6 " " 7
	24	1315 2000	Warning order recd to move loading parties to airfd. Loading parties departed for FOLKINGHAM airfd : Capt COUTTS & ½ ATK PL, Lt McMILLAN & one pl D Coy, Lt Brebner (RAMC) and Bearer Sec.	GWH GWH
WOODHALL SPA	25	0900 1600	232230 Sitrep recd. 240729 Sitrep, 241600 Sitrep, 242300 Sitrep recd.	See Appx 8 See Appces 9,10,11. GWH
	26	1230	251200 Sitrep from Bde I.O. Draft of 44 O.R.'s posted from No 44 RHU - all Scottish Regts : many are 51 Div.	" " 12 GWH
	27	1130	261230 Sitrep recd.	See Appx 13.
	29	0930 1700	271200 Sitrep recd. Ref entry on 24 Sep., Loading Parties returned to unit locn.	" " 14 GWH

	30	1000	281900 Sitrep recd.	" " 15 GWH
		Notes	:- a) The following Appendices are fwd in connection with the various ops which have affected the Bn throughout the month. No. 16 - HQ Airborne Tps Planning Int. Summary No.1. 17 - Bn Standing Orders for Airtn 18 - Carriage of Kit and Eqpt. 19 - Situation - Enemy Order of Battle as on 8 Sep 1944 20 - "WACO" Operation - Aircraft Load Tables 21 - " " - Amn Statement b) Appendices are fwd only with Original War Diary. C.L. Melville Lt. Col. 3 Oct. 44.	GWH

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Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 4TH BN. K.O.S.B.

Month and Year OCTOBER 1944

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
WOODHALL SPA	2	0900 1200	291900 Sitrep recd. Int Report 30 Sep " 301900 Sitrep, and Int. Report to 011000 recd	)) See Appces 1,2,3 & 4.) GWH
	3	0900	301200 Sitrep recd late.	See Appx 5.
	3 to 6		Div Skeleton Ex HALFALOAF - to practice the efficiency of signal commn whilst on Airtn basis. Maj RAE and I.O. represented Bn HQ.	GWH
	7	1300 1700 2245	All leave cancelled - personnel on leave recalled. 071000 Sitrep recd Cipher message : Bn on 6 hours' notice to move wef 090100 to a Marshalling Area. Coys ordered to be loaded up by 081830 - on 3 hrs' notice from 082359	 See Appx 6. GWH
	8	2130	C.O. attended Bde Cmd 'O' Gp.	GWH
	9	0900 1000 1630	071200 Sitrep and Intrep recd C.O.'s "O" Gp - Fresh op being prepared. Div NOT now airtptd, but concentrating for a sea assault, destination and role unknown. Kit and order of "Fly-in" remains same as for Airtn role. 155 Bde likely to move 10 Oct. Op known as Exercise WHOLEMEAL Bn notified no move before 110600	See Appces 7 & 8 GWH
	10	1430 1745 1800 1930	C.O. attended Bde "O" Gp. 2nd Army Order of Battle, 155 Bde Gp Int Summary No.2 recd C.O.'s "O" Gp : Outline Div plan now seems to be that units move to Marshalling Area in four echelons :- I Personnel II Jeep & Trailer III Carriers IV 3-Tonners. On disembarking on Continent, Div will conc to allow units reorganise whilst small dets will be sent fwd into battle zones to build up picture of present type fighting etc. Destination still unknown. II Ech prepare to move as from 110600 under Lt ALEXANDER ; I Ech probably pm 13 or am 14 Oct. I.O. issued Ops Maps to Coys	 See Appces 9 & 10 GWH
	11	1045 1630	081200 & 091200 Sitreps recd Complete Bn placed on 12 hrs notice to move as from 1545 hrs.	See Appces 11 & 12 GWH
	12		101200 Sitrep recd : 52 Div passes from cmd FAA to cmd 21 Army Gp.	GWH - Appx 13
WOODHALL	13	1030	C.O.'s 'O' Gp : further admin details thrashed out : Bn changing to	

SPA			W.E. of normal Inf Div, but retains mountain kit and airborne tpt.	
		1800	I.O. drew maps to cover move from Port of Disembarkation to Div Conc Area. No move for Bn before 16 Oct.	GWH
	14	0700-	1st G.H. and 7/9 R.S. moved to their respective Marshalling Areas.	GWH
	16	1400	Warning Movement Order & timings recd. C.O. held Advance Conf for 'O' Gp	
TRANSIT CAMP SOUTHAMPTON	17	0330	Main Body Personnel Ech (HQ, SP, B & C Coys) entrained at WOODHALL SPA.	
		1355	" " " " arrived FAREHAM and proceeded to Transit Camp	A/17.
		0750	Remainder " " (A and D Coys) entrained WOODHALL SPA	
		1700	" " " arrived FAREHAM, thence to Transit Camp A/17.	GWH
	18	0730	Bn moved in TCV's from Transit Camp to SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS, arriving there 0830 hrs.	
		1030	Bn embarked on LSI(H) The LADY OF MANN, along with 241 Coy RE and 355 Lt AA R.A.	
		1200	Ship sailed and made way down to Convoy RV.	
		2045	Convoy sailed for OSTEND ; weather gale force 9 / fairly rough seas ; sickness remarkably limited.	GWH
	19	1030	Dropped anchor 3 miles out from OSTEND to await favourable tide.	
		1430	Seas too heavy to enter harbour which is rendered difficult by sunken German block ships.	
		1600	Convoy turned about and made for sheltered ENGLISH waters.	
		2100	Cast anchor off RAMSGATE where convoy waited during night.	GWH
OSTEND	20	0815	Convoy sailed once more for OSTEND ; sea very much calmer.	
		1430	Bn commenced disembarking, met by guides from 7/9 R.S. ; Bn marched to No 60 Transit Camp, an ex-German barracks ; C.O. & I.O. meantime recd orders for Conc Area by Acting GI Div.	
		1600	Bn Adv Party under 2i/c left for Conc Area.	GWH
VIVE ST ELOI	21	0845	Bn left Transit Camp in TCV's, except small Rear Party under Sgt Gray, Mor Pl who were left in charge of Bn cycles and handcarts.	
		1205	Main Body arrived Conc Area, met by Adv Party in VIVE ST ELOI (H9665)	
		1200	Tps billetted mainly with civilians. Task of settling in rendered easy by the wonderful hospitality of the townspeople. Local language Flemish, but intercourse by use of French and English. Owing to the fact that a few collaborators and disguised Germans still in area, certain routine security measures taken :- (1) All ranks carry personal wpns charged at all times, (2) No soldier permitted to walk anywhere alone, (3) Double sentries posted on all HQ's by night, (4) One pl, strength 1 offr 30 O.R.'s detailed daily as Bn Inlying Picquet, (5) All ranks to be in billets by 2230 hrs.	GWH
	22	1700	SP Coy moved from unsatisfactory billets to VIVE ST BAVON (H9170)	GWH
	24	0900	Coy Cmds & Spec Pl Cmds inspected Atlantic Wall at OSTEND.	

		1500 2325	Jeep and 3 tonner Ech under LT CARTNER arrived VIVE ST ELOI. Ech embarked TILBURY on 22 Oct and sailed in L.S.T.2, beaching near OSTEND on 23 Oct - completely off-loaded by 2300 hrs. Ech staged at 60 Transit Camp 23/24 Oct, and arrived VIVE ST ELOI 1500 hrs. Stray shot fired near area M.T. Compound - no damage done - local opinion holds that shot fired by collaborator or German probably from area ZULTE	GWH
	25	1500	C.O. left Bn HQ to meet Cmd 1st Canadian Army at GHENT.	
	26	0900 0900	Bn recce party under 2i/c to KLEIT - took over billets from 6 H.L.I. C.O. gave O Gp prelim briefing on imminent Op - INFATUATE I. 2/Lt J. DUHAMEL, late Belgian Army and Underground Army became attached to Bn HQ - to be employed for interpreting duties and liaison with civil population.	GWH
	27	0800 1230 0800	Move to KLEIT (J.0296) of Bn Adv Party. " " " " Main Body, arriving 1600 hrs. C.O., I.O. to Tac Bde HQ at BRUGES - present at following Confs. a) Bde Cmd & Cmd 4 Commando - Commando plan outlined and tied up with proposed 155 plan. b) Bde Cmd, BM, C.O., I.O. : details 4 KOSB plan discussed. c) As in b, + Cmd R.N. Gp : L.C.A. plan decided upon.	GWH
KLEIT	28	1300 1600 1830	C.O. & I.O. to HQ 4 Commando at DE HAAN (C.7307). Further details mutual sp discussed. Met Capt A. THORBURN, ex I.O. of this Bn, who will be leading Commando Tp Cmd in coming operation. C.O. & I.O. to Bde Tac HQ. C.O. outlined Bn plan - details of Sp Arms agreed upon. C.O.'s O Gp - Bn plan outlined to Coy Comds for attack on FLUSHING - issue of 1/10,000 Town Plans - sector objectives given. Broad outline of Op : Combined Op against FLUSHING launched from BRESKENS - Commando touch down 0545 hrs 1 Nov and seize the Southern part of town as bridgehead - 4 KOSB pass through and capture northern half. Bombing plan : 500 Hy Bombers on town during 48 hour period up to H-15. Arty : 282 pieces incl Fd, Med, Hy and Super Hy take over from H-15, thence as called upon. Sp Arms : 241 Fd Coy R.E., 452 Mtn Bty R.A., 4 Pl (4.2 Mor) A Coy 7 Manch, 2 Bearer Secs 155 Fd Amb.	GWH GWH
	29	1100 1500 1530 1600 1550	C.O. briefed all offrs. I.O. visited Sp Arms to obtain numbers for Adv Parties. 4.2 Mor Pl Cmd visited HQ - details of Mor sp decided. Additional Bearer Sec under Lt JONES arrived from 155 Fd Amb. Four F.O.O. parties arrived from 110 and 61 Fd Regts. O.C. 452 Mtn Bty visited HQ - Adv parties, F.O.O.'s, possible targets arranged.	

		1730 1800- 2230	C.O.'s 'O' Gp - further details mostly admin discussed. C.O., I.O., S.O. worked out exact details of LCA loads and flights. [2000 hrs. Bde Int Smy No 3 recd - no copy available for records]	 GWH
	30	0900 1730 2145	'O' Gp visited BRESKENS - recced area for conc night 31/10. Visibility poor so very little of FLUSHING seen. C.O. & I.O. to Bde Tac HQ - Canadians into WALCHEREN with objective EAST part of FLUSHING - if successful, bombing programme off - but 4 Commando & 4 KOSB carry out original plan. C.O.'s 'O' Gp - Admin orders for move 1000 hrs 31 Nov.	 [Bde Admin Instrs recd - no copy available] GWH
	31	0045	Order from Bde to move 0900 hrs to BRESKENS [Remaining entries will be incl in War Diary for NOV.] C.L. Melville Lt. Col.	

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol.I. and the Staff Manual respectively. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.219. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 4th BN. K.O.S.B.

Month and Year NOVEMBER 1944

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
KLEIT	OCT 31	0800	Bn, less L.O.B's, moved up to BRESKENS from KLEIT to conc for assault on FLUSHING. L.O.B. consisted in general of either OC or 2i/c in each Rifle Coy ; O.C. HQ Coy ; complete ATK Pl ; Bn 2i/c ; senior rep from each Specialist Pl or Sec.	
BRESKENS		1200	Bn arrived Breskens, accommodated in two or three large municipal buildings - whole town in ruins.	
		1500	"O" Gp - final plans for the morrow's assault discussed. No 4 Commando landing first to take South half of town ; followed by 4 KOSB who were to pass through and seize the Northern half - time allowed approx 12 hrs, i.e. before darkness 1 Nov. Air spt from 500 "Heavies" now doubtful on account of bad weather. G.O.C. visited HQ during Conf, and wished all ranks good fortune.	
		2000	Bn resting. C.O. 4 Cdo visited HQ and tied up last few details of liaison and mutual spt. Informed us that his leading Troop was commanded by Capt A. THORBURN, an ex-Int Offr of 4 KOSB.	GWH
	NOV 1	0500	Arty bombardment of shore line and Southern half of FLUSHING - 282 pieces firing incl Heavy, Med, Fd guns and Rocket guns.	
		0630	Commandos report that beachhead firmly established and held.	
		0755	C and B Coys touching down on UNCLE beach ; little enemy opposition.	
		0805 approx	Capt J.L. BENNETT seriously wounded in spine by small arms fire coming from area of BELLAMY PARK.	All codenames or Street names mentioned in this document will be easily found on the Town Map of Flushing attached as an Appx - with ref also to Trace 'A' attd to 155 Bde O.O. No1.
		0810	Second Flight (Bn HQ, A & D Coys) sailing into range of MG 42, Mortars and enemy Airburst.	
		0820	Enemy fire thickened up on beach, and was intense as Second Flight touched down. Both R/T links to Bde lost on muddy beach, also Bn Control Set which was completely torn by shrapnel.	
		0825	C.O. & I.O. at Cdo HQ - informed that Cdo had set up blocks in areas DOVER, BEXHILL and Block 46, but the town by no means cleared.	
		0900	C.O. & I.O. rejoined HQ, moving up through Cdo posns to establish permanent HQ in an Air Raid Shelter in GRAVE STRAAT (112241)	
		1000	C Coy held up on Start Line on the BEXHILL X Rds by 20mm and Hy MG fire from heavy pillbox firing directly along GOOSJE BUSKEN STRAAT,	

			and Hy MG fire from posn near Emergency Power Station (108245). C Coy and 2 Carr Secs consequently occupied the buildings on the South corner of BEXHILL X Rds, from which location of fire and further recce could be carried out.	
		1015	C.O. & I.O. moved fwd with B Coy up WAL STRAAT twds BEXHILL X Rds ; B Coy also checked by accurate single shot and automatic fire impossible to locate - later confirmed to be coming from corner of BADHUIS STRAAT (106244). Coy moved west out of WAL STRAAT and so up through buildings twds C Coy.	
		1045	Pl of 4.2 Mors touched down - L.C.A. carrying amn recd direct hit and became with its load a total loss.	
		1050	Smoked on both flanks by Carr Secs, one pl C Coy advanced under heavy fire across BEXHILL X Rds into buildings on north side. This entirely successful, since enemy fired high into protective smoke. Whole Coy then filtered across by same means.	
		1110	Bn 3" Mors conc on enemy posn at Pt 46 (108245)	
		1114	Med and Hy Arty shelled the town East of SCHELDE STRAAT and North of DEKEN STRAAT.	
		1130	Information recd from Cdo: PW taken up to now are either Navy personnel or 1019 Inf Regt, 70 Div ; Div Cmd General DASER has his HQ at MIDDELBURG where there are some 2000 troops. 2nd Bn, 1019 Inf Regt had its HQ at ARNEMUIDEN, and part of Bn reported to have entered Flushing on 31 Oct. Various of the factory buildings in shipyard reported prepared for demolition ; this never confirmed. Local police report presence of 3000 civilians in town. Civilians surprisingly quick in appearing between periods of shelling and other fire - impossible to control them to any great extent - however the necessity did not arise, since they disciplined themselves admirably. It was found very early that information and assistance from the Underground Army was erratic both in veracity and usefulness, though their help increased throughout the action.	
		1300	Reserve 22 set arrived from Bde ; direct contact re-established ; contact previously made through Cdo channels. General plan modified : 4 Cdo and 4 KOSB to hold and clear South half of town ; 5 KOSB to pass through and undertake original 4 KOSB task. Bn layout : C Coy and one pl B Coy occupying area SCHOOL - Block 9 ; remainder B Coy + Carriers occupying block on South corner BEXHILL X Rds ; D Coy in conjunction with French Tp, 4 Cdo, overlooking strong German pillbox posn near block 58 from buildings at junction of BOULEVARD and GOOSJE BUSKEN STRAAT ; A Coy in reserve round junction of GRAVE and EMMA STRAATS ; Bn HQ unchanged ; Mors in area Bn HQ.	

			All three fwd Coys out of wireless contact ; comns by runner rendered slow by unlocated snipers. This sniping, and resistance by isolated MG's, extremely difficult to combat owing to Germans' superior knowledge of ground, and the ease with which these small bodies could conceal themselves and change posn.	
		1317	5th Bn KOSB embarking at BRESKENS to reinforce in FLUSHING.	
		1435	TYPHOON aircraft recceing for strike on PICCADILLY.	
		1445	Typhoons blasting PICCADILLY with considerable success.	
		1500	Leading tps 5 KOSB landing on UNCLE beach.	
		1510	C.O. 5 KOSB visited HQ and recd latest infmn. 5 KOSB conc between HQ & beach.	
		1515	C Coy captured German QM and cook along with rations ; employed them for next ten hours as Coy cooks.	
		1630	A Coy moved up into Shipbuilding Yard - able to make visual and vocal contact across X Rds with B Coy, but any movement out of gates discouraged by prompt MG fire.	
		1645	R.E. Recce Party Offr reported that assault on pillbox (block 58) impossible for Infantry since nearest approach was a small window 50 yds from one of the 20 mm guns inside it - flamethrowers the answer but none available.	
		1700	D Coy withdrawn into SPUI STRAAT to clear way for Arty and Air attack on block 58. Meanwhile they are to clear towards TOWER, block 65.	
		1930-2130	C.O., I.O. & O.C. Carriers visited A and B Coys - met O.C. C Coy at B Coy HQ, where latest infm given & orders for night. Posn 58 still very much intact ; small arms fire active and accurate from Dock area, blocks 51 and 23. Still impossible to locate these posns accurately. Steady British shelling maintained throughout night. Occasional Boche mortaring & shelling twds Beach area.	
		2000	Infm recd that Schelde factories prepared for demolition and possibly to be blown during night ; A Coy pls to be withdrawn into West end of Dockyards ; Pnr Offr to take small recce party and investigate for charges - this task extremely difficult : very dark night and exact enemy locations not known ; no charges found within limits of search - no building in fact even blew up.	
		2105	D Coy report capture of blocks 8 and 23.	
		2130	C.O. to Bde : 4 KOSB to hold present posns ; 5 KOSB to pass through our BEXHILL posns at 0530 2 Nov, with intense preliminary Arty bombardment.	
		2300	C.O. briefed 'O' Gp on plan 2 Nov :- Infm : SS Bde have taken WESTKAPELLE ; 156 & 157 Bdes have passed through Canadian bridgehead across the BEVELAND Causeway. German Cmd of WALCHEREN Garrison has	

			broadcast on Canadian frequency his willingness to surrender the island ; reply given that this would be accepted provided all German posns show white flag. Corps policy is to respect white flag strictly ; this is to be accepted with provision that if any posn showing white flag fires upon any sub-unit, drastic action will be taken against it.	
		2359	Underground leader requested C.O. to ensure no shelling on Office Buildings blocks 43 & 44 since 1000 civilians sheltering there, many of them already injured. After consulting Bde Cmd, C.O. dictated that a) the offices would not be a concentration target, b) civilians be evacuated after daylight, c) German Tps there who were alleged willing to surrender should be encouraged to do so with promise of fair treatment.	GWH
	2 Nov	0300	7/9 R.S. reported disembarking on UNCLE beach.	
		0445	Arty concs commenced on North of town.	
		0505	Urgent message from B Coy to I.O. - own Arty falling on fwd coys - I.O. contacted Bde and arranged for all Arty to range up 200 yds.	
		0510	Message from Underground HQ reporting that ST JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL (block 44) had caught fire and that the place was full of civilian wounded.	
		0515	Leading elements 5 KOSB passed through Bn HQ area.	
		0515	O.C. Carriers reported Arty still falling on fwd Coys. I.O. again contacted Bde & asked for further lift of 200 yds.	
		0530	Shelling ceases - Fwd coys lost in casualties 3 killed and some 12 wounded. I.O. sent to Underground HQ to communicate Bde Cmd's orders - unless Germans surrendered unconditionally we could take no responsibility for civilian casualties.	
		0530	5 KOSB crossed BEXHILL X Rds, suffering casualties from conc Mor fire. 2/Lt M. NISBET of C Coy killed there whilst guiding 5 KOSB tps through enemy cross fire.	
		0600	I.O. sent with Underground L.O. to Bde HQ, and recd following orders from Bde Cmd : civilians were to start evacuating from north of town through A Coy area in Docks, and to be escorted by one pl 7/9 R.S. to Civilian Cage east of UNCLE beach.	
		0630	I.O. guided R.S. pl up to Docks through which hundreds of civilians were already streaming back - A Coy had already formed a segregation point at which all German soldiers were separated from civilians. Dock area being harassed by snipers located on cranes and in large ship in Building Yards.	
		0620	5 KOSB through COD, but area not completely cleared.	
		0630	5 KOSB moved into GROUSE.	
		0635	DOVER reported clear by Cdo ; this report cancelled five minutes	

			later.	
		0800	Commandant of District Dutch Civil Affairs visited HQ for infm concerning evacuation of civilians to mainland. British Civil Affairs not yet in WALCHEREN, so civilians must stay put.	
		0915	D Coy reported trouble from area blocks 54 and 65.	
		0930	3.7 Hows firing direct on to sniper hides in Dockyard Cranes - many direct hits scored.	
		0950	5 KOSB reported GROUSE completely cleared.	
		(0800	German wireless news admitted loss of FLUSHING)	
		1000	R.M.O. evacuating casualties across BEXHILL lane of fire, using German prisoners as S.B.'s.	
		1300	Warning order that block 58 was to become a Typhoon target - D Coy disposns withdrawn to facilitate this attack.	
		1315	5 KOSB reported DIKE nearly clear - also PARTRIDGE.	
		1350	Typhoons went in on block 58 - no direct hits, but post surrendered soon afterwards, thus allowing D Coy up into BOULEVARD BANKERT (see below)	
		1410	DIKE & PARTRIDGE definitely taken by 5 KOSB.	
		1435	13 PW taken by D Coy in area block 58.	
		1520	DOVER reported clear - D Coy reorganising.	
		1635	Two patriots reported to I.O. with a fairly recent map showing minefields which now were under water - map sent back to Bde.	
		1700	Warning Order for move : B and D Coys taking over Cdo commitments on sea front. Possibility of counter attack entertained ; two danger areas - a) North of DOVER with MG posns b) BRIGHTON with 2 MG pillboxes manned by German Marines.	
		1830	Bn HQ moved to GROOTE MARKT, adjoining block 8.	
		2000	3 POW of 5 Coy, II Bn, 1019 Inf Regt brought in by a Mortarman to whom they had surrendered - A/I.O. tried to squeeze infm about BRIGHTON from them, but they obviously knew little about the area.	
		2045	C.O. departed to RV with C.O. 4 Cdo prior to Bde Conf.	
		2100	Coy disposns for night 2/3 Nov : C Coy unchanged ; A Coy unchanged ; D Coy around corner SE of block 58 ; B Coy in block 19 with a close watch on BRIGHTON ; Carrs with C Coy ; Mors & Pnrs with Bn HQ.	
	3 Nov	0200	C.O. returned from Bde HQ - 7/9 R.S. to move up and attack area block 55 during 3 Nov.	
		0815	Carr Pl sent in civilian claiming to be a head waiter from Hotel Britannia (ex-German Offrs Mess). This man on being halted was found to have two German grenades in his pocket - escorted direct to Bde.	
		0900	3 PW taken in a neighbouring house to Bn HQ where they had been lying low since British landing. They and a few others were used to collect and evacuate dead Boches in the area.	

		0930	1 offr and 31 O.R.'s surrendered to B Coy in area block 19 - mixed Army & Marine personnel.	
		0935	A Coy 7/9 R.S. which had been under cmd during night reported FALMOUTH clear of enemy ; nor were their patrols harassed from STRAND and PICCADILLY areas.	
		1025	Intercept message from Fwd to Rear Bde gave first news of 7/9 R.S. attack - 200 PW taken.	
		1030	Final score PW taken by B Coy - 1 offr and 42 O.R.'s.	
		1115	Warning Order for A Coy to come under cmd 7/9 R.S.	
		1140	Bn casualties to date : 1 offr and 7 O.R.'s killed ; 1 offr and 56 O.R.'s wounded.	
		1150	Intercept message : 7/9 R.S. had captured enemy Colonel and were arranging surrender of remaining points of opposition. PW estimated about 900 in number.	
		1220	C.O. arrived at HQ with FLUSHING Garrison Chief of Staff - the latter ordered to accompany along with C.O. the fwd elements of D Coy, and call upon all German tps from blocks 54 to 56 to surrender.	
		1250	First batch of 30 PW arrived from D Coy.	
		1325	D Coy reported capture of blocks 55 and 56, but further progress barred by strong opposition West of 55.	?(54 & 54 ?) (W of 54)
		1330	Second batch of 34 PW from D Coy.	
		1400	A Coy moved up to area of junction KOUDEKERSCHE WEG and HOOGE WEG to hold themselves in readiness to support 7/9 R.S. who had in their action suffered fairly heavy casualties. This new area flooded ; problem of supplies very difficult particularly at high tide when weasel tpt was only possible means.	
		1500	C.O. returned and went personally to Bde HQ to report on situation on D Coy front.	
		1700	A and D Coys both now under cmd 7/9 R.S. ; all units consolidating day's gains.	
		2030	No enemy action reported during last two hours.	
		2130	2i/c & I.O. 7/9 R.S. visited HQ & compared infmn - C.O. 7/9 wounded earlier in day.	
	4 NOV	Up	to 0600 - Sitrep NTR.	
		0615	Intercept from 5 KOSB : 3 Coys across Canal - HAYMARKET, STRAND & PICCADILLY reported clear ; Canal bridge N.E. of block 47 reported damaged but passable ; two posns N. of Piccadilly troublesome.	
		To 1500	No enemy action in Bn area ; tps clearing areas of German dead, and centralising enemy stores.	
		1550	5 KOSB patrol reached 126277, just short of ATK obstacle ; casualties from mines, and opposition from embankment between rly and canal.	

		1615	Heavy Arty on 5 KOSB opposition.	
		1900	Warning from Bde - Bn to move on 5 Nov through 5 KOSB and so up to MIDDELBURG.	
		2100	Bn 'O' Gp - Bn to advance on Middelburg - B Coy on right of Canal with C Coy follow up, D Coy on left with A Coy follow up. No Arty sp on town itself since 40,000 civilians there. Appreciated that enemy ripe for surrender - close lookout to be kept for white flags which should be strictly respected.	
	5 NOV	0530	Leading tps moved off, passing SP bridge 116247 at 0630 hrs.	
		0710	B Coy contacted 5 KOSB at blown bridge between OOSTSOUBURG & WESTSOUBURG. C Coy conc in area 123256 ; Bn HQ at junction DEKEN STRAAT & KONINGS WEG, with D and A Coys close behind.	
		0720	Arty concs on area ATK obstacle ; with second shoot at 0800 hrs.	
		0820	TYPHOON attack on canal bend immediately South of MIDDELBURG.	
		0845	C.O. to B Coy - ordered Coy to advance one pl well spaced out and report enemy reaction.	
		0853	B Coy pl one third way up to ATK obstacle without incident.	
		0905	" " " approaching " " " "	
		0920	" " " under Mor fire from West of Canal bend ; MG fire from East of Canal bend ; sniped at close quarters from canal embankment. Little chance of cover - axis of advance narrow footpath with bad flooding on right ; rly on left probably mined ; embankment on other side rly definitely occupied.	
		0955	B Coy pl with 4 casualties withdrawn to White House 127278	
		1010	Arty called for fire on embankment area.	
		1050	Bde Cmd ordered C.O. to advance one Coy up West bank of canal - D Coy detailed.	
		1200	I.O. fwd to B Coy to pass on plan - D Coy to push fwd and try to bring B Coy opposition under direct S.A. fire.	
		1245	3 Germans surrendered from foxholes level with leading tps B Coy - interrogated by LT GJENDEMSJO, and told him there was a pillbox on embankment midway between B Coy and canal bend - this manned by about 30 strong commanded by a Major whose order has been "No surrender".	
		1315	O.C. B Coy, Mtn Regt F.O.O. and I.O. observing from White House - no sign of white flags - embankment evidently a warren of foxholes, with at least two well fortified, dug-in posns.	
		1430	I.O. reported back to C.O. & Bde Cmd. Decision taken to Typhoon both banks of canal.	
		1430	D Coy reported mined area commencing 125276 - Teller mines with booby appliances ; also Schu mines ; one man killed. Advance slowed down -	

		1530	Typhoon attack not successful, failing to pinpoint enemy opposition.	
		1600	Situation stabilised ; no movement fwd for B Coy ; D Coy prodding for limits of mines ; C Coy conc same area ; A Coy & Bn HQ in factory buildings block 47.	
		2100	Bn 'O' Gp : B Coy to organise a Night Piat Patrol against "The Major's" pillbox ; if unsuccessful, to attack at first light. This plan discussed with relation to ground, over which it was literally a single file advance.	
		2230	Plans altered - all patrols to be defensive only.	
	6 NOV	0600	Sitrep : no action during night.	
		1100	D Coy up to ATK obstacle - Tellermines encountered. Pnrs and Sappers clearing wider track from HQ to D Coy posn.	
		1200	6 HLI reported very close to MIDDELBURG, having approached from S.E.	
		1215	A Coy 7/9 R.S. loading up in L.V.T. for left hook on Middelburg.	
		1310	Typhoon attack on Canal bend. 3.7 Hows on Canal Embankment.	
		1500	7/9 R.S. proceeding well, with very little opposition.	
		1555	D Coy advanced 200 yd, taking 48 PW without casualties.	
		1609	B Coy collected 9 PW from foxholes - MG fire still active from their right.	
		1610	A Coy 7/9 RS into MIDDELBURG ; mass surrender of enemy ; civilian reaction strongly in British favour. Urgent requests for reinforcement.	
		1730	Bn HQ, A & C Coys on 15 minutes notice for move up to Middelburg.	
		1830	'O' Gp - plans given for night move up canal in L.V.T.	
		1920	Intercept from R.S. - 2000 PW in Middelburg, incl GENERAL DASER.	
		To2330	Bn fed and rested.	
		2345	Tps marshalled and loaded into LVT	
	7 NOV	0200	Leading LVT finally moved off - delay caused by soft canal banks causing LVT's to become bogged ; were in fact three short because of this.	
MIDDELBURG		0300	Beached in MIDDELBURG after a long, cold, wet sojourn in LVT - 5 HLI had entered town 10 minutes prior to Bn arrival	
		0330	C.O. held Conf with C.O. 5 HLI and O.C. A Coy 7/9 R.S. 4 KOSB to be resp for clearing North part of town, and blocking bridge exits.	
		0600	Tps all in reasonable billets - patrolling well under way.	
		0900	D Coy entering Middelburg. B Coy report the "Major's" pillbox still holding out.	
		1000	C.O. negotiated with German General, and arranged for a German Lieut, accompanied by an officer escort from Bn, to proceed by LVT to remaining strongpoint and call for surrender.	
		1125	Surrender party moved off. C.O. and I.O. observed from Church Tower	

		1300 onwds	; posn appeared already to have fallen - later discovered that "Mad Major" as he was called surrendered earlier to 6 HLI. Bn continued patrols as ordered ; also location & guarding of German stores.	
	8 NOV		Patrols and guards over German stores maintained.	
FLUSHING	9 NOV	1030 2030 2100	First Coy moved off back to FLUSHING:- complete Bn in by 1730 hrs. Warning Orders for return to BRESKENS OsC Coys handed in nominations for Immediate Awards	
	10 NOV	0730	Bn paraded for embarkation. Technical trouble with L.S.T.s ; and seas stormy - move postponed.	GWH
	11 NOV	1030	Bn sailed to BRESKENS, whence taken in M.T. back to KLEIT.	GWH
KLEIT	12 NOV	0700	Bn Adv Party under 2i/c left to recce new area near ROOSENDAAL ; on arrival found that 49 Div moving in. Amended order from Bde gave new location BERENDRECHT, Belgian village some 10 miles south of Bergen-op-Zoom.	GWH
BEREND-RECHT	14 NOV	1600	Bn moved into BERENDRECHT - continued to reorganise and check up eqpt. Liberty tpt organised daily for ANTWERP.	GWH
	17	0800	Adv Party left ; to recce new area between TILBURG & S'HERTOGENBOSCH.	GWH
CROMVOIRT BARRACKS	18	0700	Bn left BERENDRECHT ; new conc area an ex-German Barracks in woods a mile east of CROMVOIRT.	GWH
[GSGS 2541:- 5/284428]	19	1230	Recce parties under 2i/c moved up for a 48 hrs period to the front line near S'HERTOGENBOSCH, at present held by Canadians.	GWH
	7 NOV 15 NOV		<u>REINFORCEMENTS</u> No. 85583 Lieut C. CAVENDISH) 121666 " R.B. STEPHENSON) K.O.S.B. - posted to Bn from 38 303314 " E. KENDRA) R.H.U. + 25 O.R.'s. No. 323876 2/Lt F. McCOLL) 50877 " C.W. POWELL) BUFFS + 45 O.R.'s - posted to Bn from 38 R.H.U.	GWH
	22	2030	Org of Carr Pl changed to 2-sec basis ; surplus carriers for use of C.O. and Coy Cmds ; remainder personnel join with ATK Pl to form a small extra Rifle Coy - this a purely temporary and Bn arrangement. "O" Gp : for take over of sector of the MAAS line N.E. of S'HERTOGENBOSCH from 1st Motor Bn, Lake Superior Regt, 4 Cdn Armd	GWH

			Bde - posns to be taken over exactly as found. Take over commences 24 Nov, cmd passes to C.O. 241600, completed 250800. Moving up in sp - 79 Fd Regt, 2 pls M.G. 7 Manch ; 7/9 R.S. on left, 5 KOSB in res. 157 to take over sector left of 155 24 hrs later ; 154 to come into Div res after return from WALCHEREN. Div ATK Regt resp for sector right of Bn until relieved by Div Recce.	GWH
	23	1230	Adv parties left to prepare take-over.	
ROSMALEN-ORTEN SECTOR MAAS LINE (N and NE of S'HERTOGEN-BOSCH	24	1000 1015to 1330 1430 1500 1800 1900 1925 2200	Bn, less L.O.B., arrived new location. Coys settling in to Cdn posns except most fwd pls whose movement is confined to hours of darkness. C.O. and I.O. toured all Coy HQ's. Cmds 4 Cdn & 155 Bdes visited HQ - policy unchanged : Bn is to adopt exactly same locns and patrol routine as Cdn Bn. General activity to be kept quiet meantime. 'O' Gp : orders for completion take-over and night patrolling. D Coy reported slight mortaring in W. end of EMPEL. D Coy reported their line deliberately out 50 yds from rly br. D Coy take over complete - C Coy reporting likewise at 2010 hrs. Fwd posns reported all quiet - contact being made.	 Patrol proformas are attd in Appces. GWH
	25	0110 0900 1130 1500 1830 Up to 2359	C Coy contact patrol surprised by Boche patrol - Sgt W. LEES killed; later patrols took one PW & found 2 dead Boches. I.O. took PW to Bde where he was questioned by G3I, Div. Infm gained (1) Identification 1 Coy, 1409 Fortress Bn. (2) Disposns of Coys (3) Route of enemy patrol. (4) Patrol task to get a prisoner, civilian or soldier. Sniper Sgt reported numerous wpn pits fwd of dyke N of MAAS - not manned by day. 'O' Gp : patrols to clear road EMPEL - GEWANDE of civilians with Dutch L.O. assisting ; Capt COLVILLE to set up a Civil Control Centre in HINTHAM. Bde Cmd visited HQ - cancelled patrol programme and ordered normal patrolling meantime. Considerable horse drawn tpt heard N of enemy Dyke and digging on Dyke itself. Slight MMG fire over GEWANDE ; 6 Mor bombs landed in EMPEL ; D Coy found one Schumine there ; series of flares spotted far N of MAAS.	 GWH
	26	Up to 0800	Hy explosions heard in area MAAS rly br, probably improving demolitions. Hy explosions also heard far N of MAAS. Suspicious lights flashing from direction ORTEN, some of which were no doubt vehicles on main S'HERTOGENBOSCH axis. Small belt Tellermines encountered by SP control at 302494. Confirmed that Sgt Lees was carrying no compromising documents when killed - body was left for an hour before being brought in - Corps feared identification.	

		To1300 Up to 1800 To 2359	Bn Cmd visited Bn area, touring C and D coy rear locns. I.O. 21 Cdn Armd Regt called for permission to use Bn area as Tank Gun Range - this had to be refused. V2 report from Int O.P. - 50° mag. from Int OP situated in ROSMALEN Church Tower. 452 Mtn Bty moving into ORTEN area - under C.R.A. not Bn control. Personnel in both fwd posns sniped at within these villages during daylight - blitz on civilians very necessary. 5 KOSB Adv Parties arrived to spend 48 hrs in the line prior to probable take over. Road cleared of Tellermines at 302494. Considerable mortaring of EMPEL. D Coy patrol ran into trouble from E end enemy bridgehead : 2 men killed ; one seriously wounded ; Pl Cmd LT CLARK tried to carry this man back but was forced to abandon him and lead his patrol back out of heavy and accurate MG 42 and Mor fire. Further attempts to recover the three bodies impossible owing to a) distance from enemy 70 yds b) bright moonlight with visibility several hundred yards c) Enemy have the only approach accurately registered.	
	27	0100 0500 0630 1025 1130 1330 1450 1645 1700 1850 1850 1915 2046 2122	Mor OP established in house 299499. Patrol out N from ORTEN advanced to 303507 but halted by MG 42 fire from FORT CREVECOEUR and S area enemy bridgehead. Spasmodic mortaring of road W of EMPEL continued during night. Numerous bearings on Mor flashes and MG flashes reported - Int OP & Sniper OP's fwd. Small number enemy spotted 348538 : too far to engage with small arms - soon disappeared. C.O. 6th BN CAMERONIANS visited HQ, then toured rear O.P.'s. CO 79 Fd Regt arrived HQ to check Arty targets GSO 1, 52 Div, and CO 5 KOSB studied front from Int O.P. D Coy reported that they had cleared 15 civilians from houses between EMPEL & 336516. C Coy reported that Sniper Sgt had dispersed with Bren fire a digging party on Dyke 347540. WILD patrol left early in attempt to capture 5 enemy who, civilians had reported, were S of the river in that area - no result. Later established that civilians were referring to houses, not enemy. Document presented at HQ - authorisation for O.D. to draw wpns for their Watch Posts - C.O. forbade this and sent bearer to our Civil Centre to be interviewed by Cdn FSP. F.O.O. reported probable OP in house at 318518. Dutch L.O. and 2 Cdn FS Sgts arrived HQ & directed to Civil Centre. C and D Coys reported relief of one fwd pl achieved without incident.	

		2240	CO laid down following orders ref civilians cleared from fwd areas a) Allowed to clear livestock etc during daylight over next 48 [hr] period b) must not be in fwd area during hours of darkness, c) one O.D. unarmed allowed with our fwd posns to act as interpreter.	
	28	0140	Cdn FSP reported that 5 of the civilians taken by D Coy were suspect & being held for further questioning.	
		0700	All patrols reported very quiet night.	
		1055	Enemy seen entering OP or MG post in factory roof 357545.	
		1150	I.O. returned from recce of area KRUISSTRAAT and east to road GEFFEN - LITHOIEN and prepared trace showing widespread flooding and blown bridges found as result.	
		1300	Three bodies lost from patrol 25/26 Nov no longer visible - appreciated that enemy have them.	
		1435	GOC arrived HQ - general posn discussed - ref morning's recce A Coy to post 24 hrs standing Patrols at 379523 and 418530.	
		1930	Enemy patrol approaching GEWANDE from N - ambush prepared.	
		2026	D Coy patrol W of EMPEL tried to draw fire by engaging E of enemy bridgehead - Mor reaction after 18 mins - next time reaction comes, gunners to counter-mortar immediately.	
		2105	Sniper report from EMPEL - Sniper Cpl & his team spent whole day in house 336516 - 2 enemy spotted in tall house 334532 - house snipers using was spasmodically mortared all day, apparently from area 335531.	
		2220	54 ATK Regt patrol spotted boat crossing river - opened fire when occupants disembarking, wounding 3 - then found to be civilians.	
	29	0030	Enemy seemed nervous in area of RUM targets - putting up flares, intermittent bursts MG 42 etc - was given Arty stonk one minute after midnight.	GWH
		0100	Orders from GOC to lay on Arty spt for C Coy patrol out searching for Boche patrol.	
		0245	C Coy report no trace of enemy - seem to have withdrawn quickly after being spotted.	
		0700	Considerable MG activity from enemy bridgehead right up to first light.	
		1100	C.O. 6 CAMS visited HQ ; followed soon after by ADMS 52 Div and CO 155 Fd Amb.	
		1330	"O" Gp : 1. Orders for change over of Coys, 30 Nov. 2. Sniper OP to spend hours of daylight at WILD.	
		1415	G2 Div, G3 Bde and I.O. 5 KOSB visited HQ and proceeded to Int O.P.	
		1600	One assault boat arrived - for use in ferrying supplies from ROSMALEN to GEWANDE.	
		1730	Report from Sniper Sgt : 1. River 300 yd wide now. 2. Enemy trenches	

			S of his Dyke waterlogged. 3. Small digging party all morning 349548. 4. Factory 357545 still occupied.	
		2000	Weather permitting Bde I.O. flying in Air O.P. 30 Nov - asked to examine particular localities opposite Bn sector.	
		2150	Coy change over reported complete : B Coy now in EMPEL, A in GEWANDE.	
		2359	Heavy explosion area MAAS rly br - thought to be further demolition.	GWH
	30	0700	Very quiet night - enemy activity confined to two bursts spandau over EMPEL.	
		0847	Sniper and Int OP's both reported bearings taken on two V2's early evening 29 Nov.	
		1220	CO and I.O. visited C Coy post at 414544 - canal had risen 3 ft since a.m. 28 Nov.	
		1400	Adv Parties from 5 KOSB left Bn area after their 48 hr stay, leaving 4 snipers to assist in observation.	
		1415	Bde Cmd & CO 79 Fd Regt visited HQ to tie up fire programme for night : B Coy patrol W of EMPEL to open fire at fixed times ; Med, Fd & Mtn Arty, all MG's and Mors to stonk RUM areas if any reaction, wait 10 mins and lift on to known Mor posns, a further pause then back on to RUM targets.	
		1600	MG 42 from 346537 firing tracer over WILD.	
		2040	Spasmodic MG fire from RUM area on EMPEL.	
		2050	Lines giving trouble - CO went to B Coy HQ to direct course of fire battle.	
		2115	B Coy patrol opened fire as arranged - no reaction - stonk went on & was followed by short but violent MG fire from FORT. Second stonk missed enemy mor which opened up from new posns.	
		2215	OC A Coy spotted definite flashes from a house in ROSMALEN - threw cordon round - later investigation proved that by use of a mirror reflecting light through skylight it was possible to signal. Nothing could be proved against owners of house by F.S. - were asleep in shelters while lights were showing.	GWH
		2330	B Coy reported flooding worse on road to EMPEL - road being marked with tape.	
			APPENDICES	
			I No.4 Cdo Gp O.O. No.1 - 28 Oct II 155 Inf Bde Gp O.O. No.1 - 29 Oct III Trace A attd to Appx II - Key to objectives IV 155 Inf Bde Gp Adm. Instrs - 30 Oct V Craft Loads - 4 KOSB - 30 Oct VI 1/10,000 Def Overprint - FLUSHING VII 1/5000 Town Plan - FLUSHING VIII 1/25,000 Def Overprint - FLUSHING and MIDDELBURG IX 1/25,000 Cover S'HERTOGENBOSCH Sector X Trace - Lake Superior Regt-Situation 22/23 Nov. XI Specimen Patrolling Programmes - 26/27, 29/30 Nov.	

			C.L. Melville Lt. Col.	

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)

Unit 4TH BN. K.O.S.B.

Month and Year DECEMBER 1944

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
ROSMALEN - ORTEN Sector of MAAS Line, N and NE of S'HERTOGEN-BOSCH	1	0030	B Coy patrol again opened fire - no enemy reaction. CO arranged for stonk to come down on Mor posns first, then on RUM targets E of FORT.	For ref to locations, see copies of Nov War Diary - Original copy, Appx IV Duplicate " , Appx V
		0500	Third attempt by B Coy patrol to draw fire - no reaction - third stonk cancelled.	
		0800	Sniper Sgt reported a stretch 300 yd long of ROSMALEN - GEWANDE road now flooded.	
		0927	CO 4/5 RSF and Lt Col J. CARTER, GSO I (SD) toured Bn area.	
		1000	Snipers report from WILD : 1. 12 barges stationary at 360552. 2. Numerous civilians still in WILD. 3. EMPEL at present being mortared.	
		1010	OC ATK Pl reported that he had immobilised a coal barge at 320516 and shot up enemy OP at 321520, the latter without success ; his guns mortared while pulling out.	
		1440	MG Pl, 7 Manch, in spt of EMPEL, force being withdrawn at night into Div reserve.	
		1610	20 barges reported by Snipers to be lying at 360548 to 356552 - considerable animal movement on the island 3555 - civilians may be going to evacuate cattle from there on account of flooding.	
		1835	Flood water now 4 inches deep in some parts A Coy supply route fwd.	
		1915	CO left HQ for GEWANDE. Line to EMPEL cut under water by carriers. Comns now through Gunner wireless.	
		2043	Enemy MG fire on EMPEL - cross bearings gave intersection at 303509.	
		2125	Warning from Bde to watch out for two civilian-dressed members of Div BRANDENBURG - sabotage div. Names - KAYSER and ROSER - 3 others already captured by 7/9 R.S. at BOKHOVEN.	
		2135	CO returned HQ after visit to GEWANDE.	
		2240	More MG fire on EMPEL - from approx same area as at 2043 hrs.	
		2245	Civilian car failed to stop when warned by A Coy sentry in ROSMALEN - sentry opened fire, wounding one of the occupants, a Dutch policeman. Hereafter there were very few cases of civilians	

			prowling by night.	GWH
		2355	Both fwd posns reported all quiet.	
	2	0700	Generally a quiet night ; MG fire from FORT area at 0320 hrs answered by our own Mors.	
		1103	ATK party : 1. Partially demolished house 318518 which was used as OP. 2. Along with Polstens engaged OP's at 321525 and 322525 without success. 3. Blast from one 6 PR set alight a haystack on gun posn.	
		1117	20 enemy Mor bombs came down on EMPEL from 318527 - probably reply to our 6 PRs.	
		1600	I.O. to HQ 79 Fd Regt to study recent Div Cover - little difference except for flooding from cover already held.	
		1905	Snipers Report : 1. MG & Mor fire at present falling immediately N of GEWANDE. 2. Enemy occupying area 344535 all day. 3. WILD road flooded in places to 7 inches.	
		2035	Gunner Rep asked to try arrange Air OP to fly over suspected Mor posns while ATK guns shoot up OPs again on 3 Dec - this not possible, but 2 Btys to stand by on call.	
		2200	Owing to flooding, Pioneers unable to booby trap area at 337519.	
		2205	Orders recd to return 4/5 RSF Adv Party who had arrived at 1100 hrs.	
		2235	B Coy fired on RUM posns but no reaction followed.	
		2255	Our Mor fire on HEDEL started a large fire which burned all night.	GWH
	3	0115	Enemy Mors engaged EMPEL, but were silent when our own Mors replied on RUM areas.	
		0915	Visit from I.O. 4 Cdn Bde - recced area for Tank Range - gave news that L.S.R. returning to own area.	
		1030	Movement at N. end MAAS rly br stopped by EMPEL MMG ; GEWANDE MMG engaged under direction of Sniper Sgt posns on Dyke immediately N., but met with no response.	
		1035	ATK guns again unsuccessful with shoot on O.P's ; quick and accurate mortaring forced them to withdraw.	
		1045	Enemy AA gun heard firing from KERKDRIEL area.	
		1110	CO and party of offrs departed for lecture by Field Marshal MONTGOMERY to Offrs of 52 Div in S'HERTOGENBOSCH.	
		1350	CO of Lake Superior Regt visited HQ to check details of take over.	
		1700	One Coy 5 Bn SEAFORTHS billeting for night in ROSMALEN - 152 Bde of 51 Div pulling out of sector S. of ARNHEM on account of extensive flooding there.	
		2000	Road Report : a) 5 in flooding 358513 to 357518. b) 8-10 ins flooding 358502 to 356507.	
		2030	Own Mors started sharp exchange of fire : EMPEL hit by MG from W.	

			and Mors from N. Our Arty engaged mor areas ; Mtn Bty engaged RUM areas ; this silenced enemy.	
		2035	A and B Coys both out of line comn to fwd posns - comn gained through Gunner wireless.	
		2200	Flood report to Bde : a) River is lower b) Land flooding very bad - affected by very strong wind. Regtl line party reported GEWANDE road 2½ feet under water in places - patrols ordered to keep check.	GWH
	4	0030	Decrease in flooding reported on A Coy front.	
		0700	Both fwd Coys reported very quiet night.	
		1115	Lieut General O'CONNOR, Comd I British Corps arrived with Bde Cmd at HQ. They then visited A and C Coys, leaving Bn area 1200 hrs.	
		1205	Lt Col WALFORD and Maj GREEN of 5 Bn Seaforths visited HQ - their Bn being billeted in parts of our area.	
		1405	2 enemy Arty shells landed 357516 - first Arty shells to have been reported since taking over.	
		1415	GEWANDE line, which had been badly mauled by a weasel, now repaired and in working order.	
		1415	I.O. & I. Sgt, LSR, arrived HQ and were given general infmn prior to their takeover.	
		1500	C.O.'s Orders concerning control of civilians in Fwd Areas issued.	
		1730	Enemy Mors engaged posn which own Mors had vacated earlier in day - 15 mins accurate conc.	
		1820	BM visited HQ and gave Fire Plan for 0700 hrs 5 Dec : 1. Triangle 294523 engaged by 4.2 Mors 2. Triangle 290524 by 3.7 Mors 3. Selected targets in HEDEL by as much Fd Arty as may be available.	
		2015	WILD patrol has withdrawn through patrol midway between WILD and GEWANDE against Boche patrol strength 20 which had approached from North ; one man reported missing. CO confirmed OC A Coy's order to re-establish posn at WILD ; A Coy also to send one pl fwd to GEWANDE, C Coy to send one pl to A Coy HQ.	
		2038	Missing man came in slightly wounded to GEWANDE.	
		2245	News recd that 7/9 RS had skirmish with enemy patrol at BOKHOVEN ; RS lost 4 dead, 5 prisoners.	
	5	0040	CO returned from GEWANDE bringing a Dutch civilian who had crossed MAAS into A Coy area - he had made his way from AMSTERDAM with 27 others who crossed in 54 ATK Regt area - reported that German MGs were mounted in AMSTERDAM streets and were shooting any Dutch males between ages of 25 and 45, since no man in this age category had reported for forced labour in GERMANY. Civilian escorted to Civil Control Centre for the night for later questioning by Corps.	
		0215	News recd that 54 ATK Regt patrol captured a boat load of 9 of the Boche patrol which had attacked our WILD patrol ; identification	

			given as 37 MG BN - later corrected - actually GAF Ground Tps.	
		0220	Pl which went to restore situation in WILD reported back to base, leaving strong Standing Patrol in WILD.	
		0530	Situation confused at EMPEL - enemy patrol activity reported there, but comns cut.	
		1035	AA fire on Air OP coming from camouflaged posn on factory roof 357546.	
		1040	CO LSR arrived HQ - to take over cmd at 1600 hrs.	
		1050	B Coy reported enemy patrol about a dozen strong in action against their small standing patrol in 313513 at 0145 hrs ; patrol withdrawn without loss under cover Coy MMG ; enemy then withdrew to RUM area.	
		1300	Handover to LSR partially completed :- Rear elts A Coy left area 1235 hrs, rear elts B 1145 hrs, C Coy 1100 hrs, D 1203 hrs, SP 1150 hrs, HQ less Tac HQ 1240 hrs : all returning CROMVOIRT Barracks.	
		1830	Bde I.O. called at HQ - confirmed GAF identification of last night's enemy patrol ; passed on Air Report that roads W. of ARNHEM choked with German tps & tpt moving West.	
		2000	Slight MMG fire over EMPEL ; working party heard N. of GEWANDE.	
		2012	Remainder A Coy relieved and departed ROSMALEN.	
		2305	Remainder B Coy relieved and departed ORTEN.	
		2330	Strong Boche patrol forced Cdn patrol at 304513 to withdraw to 307495 where it was reinforced by Pl B Coy ; meanwhile D Coy stood to until enemy patrol withdrew to RUM area under B Coy fire.	GWH
CROMVOIRT BARRACKS	6	0150	All quiet on both flanks of front.	
		0800	Tac HQ closed down and returned CROMVOIRT BARRACKS.	
		0800	Bn Adv Party under Maj C.F. HOGG moved off for new locn at STEIN K6165	
		1230	Final Orders issued for Main Bn move to STEIN.	GWH
STEIN K 6165	7	0830	CO & IO started out for Bde RV near MAASTRICHT - no Bde rep there, so proceeded to STEIN, contacted OC Adv Party, then went to Bde HQ, arriving there 1700 hrs.	
		1100	Main Body moved off to STEIN, arriving there 2100 hrs.	
		1700	New Dutch Interpreter attached to Bn - KEES EGELIE ; to be given rank of Sgt.	
		2100	Bde Conf. : outline plan given for Operation SHEARS : Break through on D Day by 43 Div, N of GEILENKIRCHEN, followed by 157 Bde - main objective HEINSBERG and high ground SE of that, D+1 2nd Gds Armd Div pass through the newly made open door and clear enemy line NW to ECHT ; 52 Div Recce Bn fight through on WALDFEUCHT - MONTFORT axis ; 155 Bde pass through 157 : 5 KOSB to HAAREN, 7/9 RS to POSTERHOLT ; 4 KOSB to woods 7883. Relief by 7 Armd Div on night of	

			D+1. Arty spt from 450 pieces, some of which to screen SIEGFRIED LINE permanently with smoke. Air spt a bonus and not necessary for success. D Day provisionally 12 Dec, but wet weather may cause postponement.	GWH
		2300	Bn 'O' Gp : orders for move of Bn reps to Dem. by Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry on 8 Dec.	
	8	0900	'O' Gp : initial briefing on times of Bde Conf 072100.	
		1030	Bn party moved off to Dem. of Tank Spt - incl Flails and Flame-Throwing Churchills.	
		1800	'O' Gp : Bde I.O. enlarged upon briefing already done. Orders given for Coy Fd Firing Ex with Tanks 9 Dec.	GWH
	9	1300	Coy Fd Firing Exs.	
		1700	Bde Conf for C.O.'s and 2 i/c's	GWH
	10	a.m.	Coys attended Dem. of Kangaroos - Inf-carrying tanks.	
		1000	C.O. to Div Planning Conf - D Day postponed to 15 Dec - Armour requires frost to harden ground.	
		1100	I.O. attended Bde Int Conf - the enemy and ground picture enlarged.	GWH
		2200	Draft of 33 O.R.'s arrived from 6th Bn GREEN HOWARDS, ex 50-Div.	
	11	1300	2 i/c recced a Bde Defence Layout S. of STEIN - to block and counterattack any breakthrough by enemy.	
		2030	CO attended a Bde Panning Conf.	
		2100	Extract from 52 Div Planning Summary issued.	GWH
	12		Op SHEARS - 4 KOSB O.O. No.1 issued.	GWH
	13		Op SHEARS cancelled. 52 Div came under command 12 Corps	GWH
	14	1630	Bde Cmd visited HQ	
		1700	C.O. to Bde Conf.	GWH
	16	1000	I.O. to 5 Armd Bde HQ - SHINVELD 7664 - recd general layout of 1 Bn Welsh Guards area STAHE 8066.	
		1200	Bde Conf for C.O.'s - takeover to be completed by 172400 - no move timings yet.	
		1400	C.O., I.O., OC Atk Pl, Bde L.O. to HQ 1 Bn Welsh Gds - recd detailed layout Bn.	
		[0930]	Bn Adv Parties left STEIN for STAHE.	
		2100	'O' Gp : orders for takeover.	
		2300	I.O. to Bde for route & timings of move.	GWH
	17	1000	Pl Cmds and Spec Pl reps guided to STAHE by I.O.	
		1145	Main body Bn left STEIN ; arrived Dis P at X Rds 801662 1410 hrs ; HQ, SP Coy and Rifle Coy Carrs moved up to fwd posns.	
		1700	Rifle Coys moved up to ops locns and by 2000 hrs all reported takeover complete.	For layout see Appx XI
		1800	EA engaged over area by AA - later dropped bombs far S. of Bn area.	
		2040	C.O. and Sheldrake rep fixed up Gunner plan.	GWH

		2225	C.O. assumed comd of Bn area.	
	18	0730	Very quiet night - considerable air traffic during night frequently engaged by our AA. General request from Coys for sandbags + trip flares for improvement def security.	
		0930	C.O. + Sheldrake started tour of all fwd posns, returning HQ at 1230 hrs. Following visits made to HQ during morning : OC 9 MMG Pl, 7 Manch ; OC 304 Atk Bty ; Maj POLLOCK 186 Fd Regt, Maj CAMERON 472 Mtn Bty, LT COL PROUDFOOT 186 Fd Regt and Bde Cmd.	
		1540	B Coy mortared, and during afternoon spasmodic fire covered whole BIRGDEN area : D Coy mortared from 811698 approx, and C Coy shelled.	
		1730	A few bursts Spandau tracer on A Coy from 805699 or 808697.	
		2050	D Coy presented SCHIERWALDENRATH with 60 2in Mor HE - no reaction.	GWH
	19	1415	A Coy shelled - one hit on KREUZRATH church.	
		1820	7/9 RS reported enemy moving S. from 826678 twds B Coy posn ; engaged by gunners.	
		1930	Bde ordered special watch on a) parachutists b) mov of tracked vehs.	
		2030	A Coy reported veh mov at 807702 - engaged by Med Arty.	GWH
	20	0630	Lt. tracked vehs heard N. of D Coy.	
		1305	A Coy patrol recced village 808685 and found it clear of enemy and obstacles.	
		1635	D Coy mortared from 821707.	
		1720	Occasional mor bombs falling on Coy area.	
		1800	Both A and D reported vehs, probably half tracks immediately opposite their fronts.	
		2030	Foxhole 819696 occupied at night - D Coy planning to deal with this on night 21/22.	
		2100	Village 808685 occupied by composite pl from L.O.B.	GWH
	21	0600	Very quiet night - a little enemy digging & probably wiring heard opposite D Coy.	
		0845	Brief bout of MG fire swept A Coy area from LANGBROICH. Again at 1120 hrs.	
		1230	20mm fire on KREUZRATH ; gun posn not discovered.	
		1505	Hy Mor (12 cm?) engaging A Coy ; again at 1530 hrs - replied with own Arty.	
		1702	Spandau fire on A Coy seemed to be directed by sniper firing tracer.	
		2045	Enemy reported in BIRGDEN between C and D Coys ; also in gap between there and KREUZRATH	

		[a.m.]	Lt D. URQUHART wounded by calibre 2in Mor bomb whilst engaging sniper.	
		2130	A Coy heard vehs, prob'y half tracks, & m/c's at 808702 moving east.	
		2200	Still considerable traffic heard by A Coy.	GWH
	22	0300	Enemy patrol between 5 and 15 approached Carrier posn - withdraws when fired on, leaving one groaning wounded - under cover own mor fire a party went out to collect this man, but suffered 3 cas from enemy mors and came back.	
		0600	M.O. & party went to Carr posn & evacuated cas ; German now dead ; documents etc taken	
		1145	A Coy mortared from posn between LANGBROICH & SCHIERWALDENRATH.	
		1145	Windmill 811695 completely destroyed by our Atk guns.	
		1400	A Coy spotted movement of enemy cyclists and horse drawn ambulances at 806706.	
		1430	A Coy mortared ; one or two shells every three minutes from 1130 onwards.	
		1530	Airburst mor bombs over B, C & D Coys which discharged propaganda Xmas cards.	
		2145	Light traffic has been heard consistently opposite A Coy front.	
		2210	Report, originating OD, passing through Div, then gunner channels, recd by R.A.L.O. that paratps had dropped in area 7965 - this report later discredited.	
		2359	Considerable to and fro traffic heard during evening - much of it thought to be half track - opp B & D Coys	
		2335	13 enemy with soft hats, greatcoats and wpns slung passed A Coy Standing Patrol 799697 ; primary object our patrol was observation until much later hour, so fire was not opened.	GWH
	23	0035	A Coy intermittently mortared for half an hour.	
		1100	Lt Col ROSE, 5 HLI arrived HQ. At same time OC A Coy arrived with night patrol report, plus the news that his wire had been cut during night near haystacks 802685 ; also there had been taken from RAOP carrier an 18 set, satchel and greatcoat.	
		a.m.	C.O. fixed up inter Bn bdys with 7/9 RS and 5 KOSB.	
		1600	4.2 in Mor Pl came u/c.	
		2030	A Coy reported presence of enemy patrol close to their area ; A Coy patrol had gone out to ambush possible repetition of Boche patrol seen on night 22/23 ; almost immediately it started, it was pinned by fire, MG on its left, Mors on right - 3 cas from Mor ; patrol succeeded in disengaging and withdrawal successfully carried out, sp by Mtn Bty.	
		2055	One dud 75mm shell landed in cellar HQ of B Coy.	

		2100 2150	M.O. arranged to have 3 cas held in A Coy area until first light Area between C and D Coys shelled.	 GWH
	24	0030 0145 1110 1200 1250 1330 1820 2005 2145 2215 2315	D Coy confident in map spotting enemy mors, probably four, at 809698. This backed up by C Coy, so Mtn Bty stonked the posn - no more mortaring during night. Harassing mor fire on A Coy - a few shells every 5 mins - continued till 0440 hrs Warning recd that enemy bombers heading our way - nothing actually seen of them. Comd 52 Div and Comd 155 Bde visited HQ. OC Atk Pl handed in Boche identity disc found in KREUZRATH - 2 Coy, 137 Ers Bn - little value. CO ordered 4.2 Mors be prepared to engage LANGBROICH area by nightfall - OP set up in A Coy area. Boche carols commenced opposite A Coy - Hark the Herald Angels - with cornet accompaniment! On CO's order, our 3in Mors laid down 60 HE on rd LANGBROICH - S'WALDENRATH where tpt was heard. D Coy reported details of Boche carollers opposite them - Am Stillen Nacht, Last Post and cries of "Kamerad". Hy Spandau fire on BIRGDEN - from approx 813700. B Coy reported fierce duel between one Spandau and four others ; our own Arty tackled the group of four, and as a result the enemy brought down 30 mor HE on their own single Spandau - the feeling in our fwd areas was that the Boche was having too "spirited" an Xmas Eve.	 GWH
Christmas	Day	0100 0407 0500 0735 1015 1445 1825 2030	10 shells landed in village of STANZ Possible fire seen by A Coy in area 791702. A Coy shelled from area 808705 - C.O. ordered retaliation from Fd Regt. Our Xmas "hate" started : (1) 3in Mors smoked LANGBROICH (2) 4.2 Mors 80 HE on 796705 (3) 3 Fd Regts and Med Bty on two selected targets - no enemy reaction. Boche gave A Coy a miscellaneous programme of gramophone records ; and cries were heard of "Merry Christmas Tommy, or is it Yank?" Bde L.O. called at HQ to collate ATK layout within Bde ATK def plan. Fire in VINTELEN reported by Bde to have been accidentally started by 5 KOSB. Command Post Christmas Dinner - the first and last (?) to be celebrated in GERMANY.	 GWH
	26	0257	Bomb landed between C and D Coy area - aircraft not identified.	

		0815	Bde announced the seizing of GEBROEK 6575 by enemy.	
		1130	A Coy consistently mortared - Fd Regt turned on to two selected targets	
		1300	Shelling in A Coy area intermittent for an hour.	
		1730	Patrol of 15 observed by 7/9 RS at 828681 - caught by our gun fire - R.S. sending out three Bren Carrs to mop them up.	
		1830	C Coy reported a trk veh blown on minefd at 813672. This actually was one of the three RS carriers which had strayed - 3 cas not very serious sustained.	
		1952	CO returned from 13/18 Hussar Sqn ; CO & 2 i/c 4/5 RSF arrived HQ	
		2330	2 D Coy men wounded as result of inserting bomb into 2in Mor the wrong way up. Cas sustained whilst engaging enemy riflemen in foxholes 819657.	GWH
	27	0910	CO left HQ with RE and ATK reps on recce of areas to be mined.	
		1000	Bde Cmd arrived HQ and went to fwd coys with 2 i/c	
		1045	Herd of goats observed 831684 - these may have been the "German patrol" of previous night	
		2000	Digging heard at 816694 engaged by D Coy 2in Mor and Piat party.	GWH
	28	0510	Heavy mortaring - 12 cm - on A Coy ; two good Mortreps came in and provided Fd and Mtn Bty with good shoot. This mortaring continued for an hour.	
		0635	D Coy reported Spandau, 20mm and Mor fire covering BIRGDEN : volume of fire increasing on all Coy areas.	
		0640	5 KOSB being attacked in VINTELEN & KIEVELBERG : own Bn stood to 100%.	
		0817	Mortaring on A Coy still very active - CSM McTURK and Pte KING, dog-handler, both wounded. No news of attack against 5 KOSB.	
		0950	5 KOSB counter attack on VINTELEN with carriers held by intense Spandau fire. South end of KIEVELBERG held by enemy.	
		1100	I.O. to B, C and D Coys with Takeover orders. B Coy HQ mortared very accurately.	
		1145	Arty OP in KREUZRATH Church received direct shell hit - no cas.	
		1430	C.O. with C.O. 4/5 RSF commenced tour of Coys.	
		1500	Lloyd Carrier on tow from KREUZRATH skidded, mounted verge at 788682 and blew up on unrecorded American necklace - driver Pte T. HOGG Killed ; veh a total cas.	
		1900	156 Bde assumed comd our sector.	
		2025	Complete Bn, except Tac HQ, relieved by 4/5 RSF.	
		2100	" " " " , settled in to new area : HQ 804661, A 801662, B 811666, C 805669, D 808657, SP 808658 ; one pl A Coy 799672. Now in res to 156 Bde.	
		2210	C.O. assumed comd in new HQ.	GWH

NIEDERBUSCH	29	1045	Comd 156 Bde arrived HQ ; as result of Conf D Coy moved to GANGELT and came u/c 6 CAMS ; one pl B Coy took up posn vacated by D Coy ; one pl A Coy to prepare posn at 795664.	
		1225	Comd and BM 155 Bde visited HQ. Sit completely restored in KIEVELBERG and VINTELEN. Enemy : 84 PW ; many Killed & wounded. 5 KOSB : 8 Killed, 20 wounded ; 40 PW - incl Maj CAMERON OC 474 Mtn Bty RA, his Bty Capt and OP party.	
		1530	Lt Col TOD HUNTER, Comd 54 ATK Regt, visited HQ and transmitted Bde Comd's order for C.O. to place one pl at 799672 every night to protect ATK guns in that area.	GWH
	30	0715	Attack reported on "right sector" - no details known. Bn stood to.	
		0735	Area of enemy attack TRIPSRATH 8767	
		0740	CO ordered (1) B Coy Pl to rejoin Coy (2) A Coy to man old D Coy posns, leaving one pl to protect Bn ATK guns in their present posn.	
		0900	RSF reported enemy patrol of 15 has approached their Carrier posn 825687 early in morning, thrown one grenade from 20 yds away, and then withdrawn with no cas.	
		1100	I.O. 155 Bde visited HQ - Enemy holding south end TRIPSRATH, but G.H. blocking them at north end ; woods at 862680 being cleared.	
		1105	Bn stand to decreased to 50%.	
		1525	(1) D Coy returned under comd to original posn. (2) 2i/c & Int Sgt recced Int OP at 819668 to cover gap between BIRGDEN and 7 Cams in woods 834675.	
		1555	Pnr Sgt reported that a covered route was threequarters taped from 801668 to 795664. No booby traps found, but wood edges trip flared. Job to be completed when more tape available.	
		1740	TRIPSRATH reported clear.	GWH
	31	0830	Int OP in posn, but a) were fired on by undetermined unit own tps b) Infmd by Mtn Gunners that posn was registered by Spandaus ; so moved to hayshed 821664.	
		0930	I.O. to 156 Patrolling Conf. Infmn given to Bn reps about TRIPSRATH battle : 67 PW taken in the village, 17 in woods 8567, with more expected. PW stated they suffered hy cas. Attack was on Bn level, but broken up by initial Arty DF.	
		2300	C.O. summoned to 155 Bde HQ for orders. Bn had expected to relieve 6 HLI who were in res in TRIPSRATH sector ; but warning order conveyed news that we should definitely be up front, since defence was to be thickened up in that area.	GWH
			C.L. Melville Lt. Col. Comd. 4 K.O.S.B.	

			APPENDICES I 79 Fd Regt HM List No. 1 - 2 Dec II Control of Civs in Fwd Areas - 3 Dec III 155 Bde Int Smy No. 6 - 4 Dec IV Trace of 4 KOSB Sit as on 6 Dec V Extract 52 Div Int Smy - 11 Dec VI Op "SHEARS" - 4 KOSB O.O. No 1 - 12 Dec VII Maps 1/50,000 : Sheets 48, 27 and 37. VIII Op "SHEARS" : 52 Div Int Smy No. 6. IX 4 KOSB Patrol Programmes 23/24, 25/26, 26/27, 27/28 Dec. X 4 KOSB Int Smys Nos 1 & 2 XI Trace - Bn Def Layout on 19 Dec XII 4 KOSB Part I Orders of 26 Dec XIII 52 Div Int Smy No 22 XIV " " " " No 23	

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)

Unit 4th Bn KOSB

Month and Year JANUARY 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
NIEDERBUSCH 8065 and HOCHHEID	1	0025	"O" Gp : orders for takeover - 2 Coys from 1 G.H. ; 2 Coys & HQ from 5 HLI.	
		0145	C.O. left HQ for HQ 157 in TEVEREN 8362 and HQ 5 HLI to recce actual layout.	
		0630	C.O. returned from above and G.H. H.Q.'s.	
		0730	"O" Gp - detailed orders for takeover.	
		0900	FOCKE-WULF, crippled by AA, made good landing 809655. Pilot u/offz. THARAAN captured before he could destroy maps or plane - member of SQN. MAJOR SCHRODER which was engaged on low level strafing into BELGIUM. PW evac to 156 Bde HQ.	
		0937	Another similar fighter seen shot down by MUSTANG in direction WALDENRATH.	
		1100	Capt A.G.S. HILL decorated with MC by Field Marshall MONTGOMERY. Sgt ATKINSON, D Coy, decorated MM " " " " .	
		1545	C.O. 1 GH arrived at new HQ - conducted C.O. to TRIPSRATH posns.	
		1612	C.O. 5 HLI left HQ and C.O. assumed comd of area.	
		2034	Whole Bn completed takeover. HQ 873667, A Coy 877674, B Coy 881678, C Coy 870679, D Coy 870676 ; Carrs u/c D Coy ; ATK Pl split amongst Coy locns ; 2 Mors with D Coy ; SP HQ with Bn HQ.	
	2.	0100	C Coy reported enemy digging 867687 towards "KIDNEY BEAN" ridge 874685 - Arty engaged.	
		0930	The first of the Bde Patrol Conf held at Bde HQ - these continued as normal drill - Capt MILNE-HOME appointed Bn Patrol Master.	
		1120	Bde Cmd and C.O. 80 Fd Regt arrived - ATK layout discussed ; also strengthening of Coy localities.	
		1515	V slight shelling between A and B Coys - perhaps reaction to these Coys testing automatic wpns.	
		1530	I.O. to Bde Int Conf. New Div Master Minefd Trace issued : very unsatisfactory, but amendments being published when data has been checked. Returned HQ with Scout Car for C.O.'s use. Also 5 NCO's from 43 Div for 48 hrs' attachment to gain experience in our sector of line.	

	3	0220	Spasmodic MG fire over C Coy fwd area, with occasional mortaring in front.	
		0340	B Coy patrol observed small party enemy returning from SW to 879683 (SPANDAU CORNER)	
		1150	Bde Cmd arrived HQ - discussed with C.O. proposed increases in minefd defence of area.	
		1215	C.O. 54 ATK Regt visited HQ - decided with Capt COUTTS on changes to ATK layout.	
		1415	Gunners had a lucky strike on dugout in KONINGSHOF area : C Coy reported screaming from wounded.	
		1500	Mortaring on C Coy ; Sniper Sgt observed Mors at 880684 - Fd Regt gave this a Scale 1 Conc.	
		1510	15 dead enemy seen by Arty OP and C Coy on road to KONINGSHOF - more results of recent TRIPSRATH battle.	
		1955	Int OP reported steady searchlight on bearing 344° mag. from 874667.	
		2220	One mor bomb, later judged to be a shell, landing regularly every 10 mins in C Coy area, then switching to area 5 KOSB - this continued right up to midnight. C Coy and Gunner OP endeavouring to fix a bearing on the gun.	
	4	0005	Arty stonk on suspected gun posn troubling C Coy - enemy did not fire again.	
		0530	X Rds 866676 mortared ; D Coy patrol in that area judged locn of offending wpn to be 865686	
		1010	C.O. & OC A Coy recced altve posn for A Coy around Bn HQ ; also resited MMG Pl there too : this calculated to cover dead ground between HQ & TRIPSRATH ; also placed A Coy in better posn for CA on that village.	
		1100	C.O. 7/9 RS visited HQ - inter Bn bdy agreed upon.	
		1120	Mortaring on C Coy ; Arty retaliation unsuccessful until C Coy found accurate bearing.	
		1340	News that 7/9 RS took 3 PW from isolated wpn pit with one Sec during daylight.	
		1800	Horse and half track movement heard in KONINGSHOF - Arty gave them Scale 2 from Regt.	GWH
	5	0020	Enemy put up several flares 200 yd ahead of B Coy - prob'y heard B Coy patrol being relieved.	
		0030	C Coy reported intense Mor fire, SA and shouting to their left - this was actually taking place left of 5 KOSB where 7 Cams were doing a deceptive "attack."	
		1050	News that 7/9 captured 4 very talkative PW on 4 Jan, who gave away great detail of their Coy layout.	
		1050	3 minute Mor Conc on C Coy.	

		1155	CRA and C.O. 80 Fd Regt arrived HQ :(1) Fire sp for proposed C Coy patrol fixed up. (2) Details given of Corps Arty shoot on STRAETEN - KONIGSHOF area timed for 060800.	
		1205	O.C. 241 Fd Coy visited HQ after recce of proposed minefd TRIPSRATH to HQ area.	
		1400	C.O. and C.O. 7/9 R.S. toured localities of both Bn's fwd Coys.	
		1555	O.C. B Coy 7 Manch arrived HQ : impossible find suitable MMG posns in area HQ, so the Pl would move to area NIEDERHEIDE.	
		1600	3 in Mors registered 872673, 876680, 866676.	
		2020	Warning recd of possible attack on BIRGDEN - Bn therefore ordered to stand to 100% as from 060500.	
		2205	C Coy patrol, which went out to haystacks 872684 at 1800 hrs, returned : no enemy seen, but from marks on fresh snow it was possible to state that their OP's in haystacks had been occupied within last 36 hrs. Before leaving, the 2 Pnrs in patrol booby trapped enemy approaches.	GWH
	6	0430	BM reported enemy, 100 to 300, forming up opposite HONGEN on 7 Armd Div front.	
		0500	Bn stood to 100%	
		0750	NTR about possible or actual enemy offensive action - Bn stood down to normal degree alertness.	
		0750	Corps Arty shoot started with the laying of smoke screen opposite 5 KOSB - enemy replied with S.A.	
		0800	Shoot continued for 10 mins, with our own 3 in Mors joining in on KONIGSHOF.	
		1340	Lt Cols TAYLOR and DAMON, U.S. Arty, visited HQ with view to selecting targets for their 4.5 in and 8 in guns. American OP's are in Bn HQ also TRIPSRATH.	
		1400	Bde Cmd arrived HQ and toured area of A and B Coys.	
		1620	ADMS visited HQ	
		1635	Snipers reported fresh digging at 874685 and 873685 - latter possibly an OP.	
		1742	Bde ordered Bn to provide carrying party of 30 for mine laying on 7 Jan.	
		1748	Maj DARLING, B Sqn 52 Recce visited HQ - at present in posn in GEILENKIRCHEN.	
		1835	In addition to 2 dead Boches at 874667, 2 British dead (43 Div) seen by B Coy.	
		2248	Arty Airburst and MMG turned on to enemy digging party heard by C Coy at 874684.	
		2359	Flares reported in Carr Pl, C Coy and B Coy areas - prob'y action of frost and snow. Int OP also spotted WHITE - WHITE - RED Verey lights	

			in B Coy direction.	
	7	0012	Several more lights observed - one Coy accusing another of firing them - this business was never cleared up.	
		0055	Digging heard by C Coy on KIDNEY BEAN feature - also Spandau fire from there ; by 0115 our Arty and MMG had silenced both.	
		1120	Bde Cmd toured C and D Coy areas in TRIPSRATH.	
		1240	German cyclist moving slowly S on main road at 876675 - unfortunately both our and 5th Bns opened fire, missed, and the solitary cyclist disappeared into the ditch and was never again seen.	
		1300	D Coy reported R Mines laid across track TRIPSRATH Church to Bn HQ ; party of Pnrs were sent to examine a dump of 12 which had been found near the church.	
		1430	CRE and OC 241 Fd Coy arrived to supervise dumping of 75 grens prior to laying of minefield. Carrying party of 30 provided from one Pl A Coy and Bn HQ personnel.	
		1550	Unknown cause exploded nearly all 75 grens (2400 total) ; 32 Sappers Killed ; 17 of our own personnel ; of this total recognisable parts of only 14 bodies were eventually found. Among those killed were 5 batmen, incl C.O.'s. C.O.'s bodyguard and his Bren gunner. Damage was caused to Bn HQ and SP HQ buildings which were little more than 100 yds away. CRE and C.O. were only 100 yds from the explosion but were able to take cover in a ditch. Maj WILLIAMS, O.C. Fd Coy, was at the head of the Inf carrying party, but was unhurt ; claimed that enemy shells landed, but no confirmation from others on the scene.	
		1610	News received from C Coy that whilst investigating and removing dump of R Mines in TRIPSRATH, Sgt McALLAN and 3 other Pnrs were killed by one which exploded practically in their hands. Remainder still in Trailer on main street of the village.	
		1700	CRE and C.O. went to TRIPSRATH to supervise destruction of these.	
		1815	Pnr Offr successfully destroyed R Mines - force of explosion lifted a previously knocked out Sherman clean off the middle of the road into the side.	
		1900	B Coy complained that own Arty or Mors dropping short on their patrol - on checking, this found to be impossible :- instance of now common Boche habit of firing while our guns are busy.	
		1830	Fresh Pl of Sappers started taping minefd - adverse snowy conditions arrested further progress at 2015 hrs, and work not continued till 2215 hrs, at which time Inf carrying party started shifting 75 grens from new dump up to minefd.	
		1910	Sniper Cpl returned from B Coy (1) Found S Mines on our side enemy wire 881680 to 883680. (2) Two Boches seen at dusk in SPANDAU CORNER	

			(3) Identified one British corpse at 88236800 - 207302, BRYANT W.A.	
		2200	C.O. ordered cessation Mor HF in case enemy CM interfered with minelaying.	
		2210	One mor bomb landed in area of afternoon's explosion.	
		2235	156 Bde called for SOS in front of BIRGDEN - extra vigilance on our front, but no further action reported.	GWH
	8	0050	MG occasionally spraying TRIPSRATH located quarry 875682 - close to C Coy protective patrol.	
		0225	Work on minefd completed - band of 6 rows from 876674 to 871675.	
		0910	C.O. to Bde HQ via D Coy 7 CAMS in GEILENKIRCHEN where he confirmed arrangements for carrying party to function in completion of minefd.	
		1000	U.S. OP observed 40 enemy S of BAUMEN manhandling some heavy object - U.S. Arty Group came down on that village 50 mins later.	
		1120	D Coy reported that an American offr had lifted an R Mine from the small minefd reported on 7 Jan, had carried it to his HQ and disarmed it.	
		1235	Bde Cmd inspected scene of yesterday's explosion.	
		1400	Court of Enquiry held at Bde HQ under Bde Cmd into circumstances of the explosion.	
		1500	Pnr Offr commenced destruction of R Mines laid across track from TRIPSRATH, two at a time : as one pair exploded, others were thrown up off the ground without themselves going off.	
		1705	Series of light signals reported by D Coy ; other reports came in, and it appeared that enemy had put up three Red-over-Greens somewhere between N end TRIPSRATH and his posns at SPANDAU CORNER. Interesting to note that the alarm signal from our protective patrols the previous night was Red-over-Green-over-Red.	
		1800	B Coy heavily mortared.	
		1805	Taping and dumping started at minefd.	
		2000	C.O. and Maj WILLIAMS left Cmd Post for minefd via Sp HQ.	
		2055	Request via Bde from 7/9 RS to send small RE party to help them find cas lying out in Schu Minefd where in a raid sp by vast quantity of Arty during early evening they took 6 PW and lost 16 cas from Schu Mines. 2 PW offered guidance to find two cas, but they along with 7/9 Pnr Offr and Dutch Interpreter were killed by mines during the search ; and 2 Pnrs were wounded : all the latter still lying where they fell.	
		2130	Movement heard by Carr Sec near C Coy HQ - one trip flare went up - TRIPSRATH Coys stood to.	
		2145	Minefd completed - all Sappers and Inf clear.	
		2205	Maj WILLIAMS and small Sapper party left for HQ 7/9 RS to assist in recovery of cas from Schu minefd.	GWH

TEVEREN 8463	9	0030 1110 2020 2225	A Coy's patrol reliefs mortared since darkness - unable to locate source - mortaring ceased at 0030 hrs. 2i/c 4/5 RSF arrived to take over. CO 4/5 RSF took over comd of Bn area. Whole Bn settled in res area in TEVEREN 8463, with C Coy in GEILENKIRCHEN.	GWH
	10	1100 1700 2330	Memorial Service held for our men Killed by mine explosion on 8 Jan - Service in INDEMBODEN 7763 "O" Gp - prelim orders for recce of rest area in line, GILLRATH 8466 area. 2i/c came in from 156 Bde HQ with infmn that 43 Div taking over 52 sector.	GWH
	11	0030 0730 1330	L.O. arrived HQ with move forecast - Bde moving to area BUNDE 5957 on 12th. CO and IO left for Conf at 8 Armd Bde HQ - prelim planning forecast for Op "BLACKCOCK". CO and IO arrived HQ 4/7 D.G. to discuss general orders for Op.	GWH
BUNDE 5957	12	a.m. 1400 1800	Bn moved to BUNDE C.O. went to 4/7 D.G. at SCHINNEN 7062 for further liaison and discussion. "O" Gp - Prelim briefing of Coy Cmds.	GWH
	13	1730	First full "O" Gp	
	15	a.m. 1430 1530	Party from Bn saw dem of Sherman and Honey Tanks at HQ 4/7 D.G. Final "O" Gp for Op, covering move to Conc Area at SCHINNEN. Fd Marshall MONTGOMERY visited ATK Pl HQ, distributed newspapers and cigarettes to the men and wished them all good luck in the coming operation.	
	16	0700 0950 1330 1730 1745 1830	Head of Bn coln passed SP at x Rds 5956. Roads very icy - trouble with Kangaroos - going therefore slow. Arrived SCHINNEN and fitted into order of march by 4/7 D.G. Bn coln had advanced as far as GELEEN 6765 where whole coln held up. GOC visited HQ and gave news that 7 Armd Div had taken SUSTEREN 6776 with Inf sp by Flails Bn placed on 30 mins notice as from 170830 BBC programmes interrupted with announcement of our new offensive.	
	17	1030 1630 2000 2330	Bridging of main road S of SUSTEREN going slowly - trouble from SP guns. "O" Gp. Our move fwd dependent on bridging ops S of SUSTEREN. Bn now on 30 mins notice from 172330. Notice again changed - now one hour from 180200 Visit from I.O. 4/7 D.G. :- 7 Armd now in ECHT 8169.	GWH
	18	0820	"CROWN" phase has started - i.e. rem 52 Div opened attack on main	

GELEEN to HEIDE 6976			posns ISENBRUCH to STEIN.	
		1000	HONGEN reported captured by "CROWN" forces.	
		1335	Adv Coln moved - A Coy and one sqn 4/7.	
		1600	Main body started, and had smooth run up through SUSTEREN into HEIDE where A Coy took over from B Coy 5 KOSB and rem Bn conc.	
		2050	Two PW taken by A Coy - 8/1219 Inf Regt - PW thought that this area clear of enemy.	
		2226	Recce elts C Sqn 4/7 over bridge 700766.	
		2345	C Sqn in posn at SLEK 7077 - B and D Coys moved up to join the Sqn. In event of trouble from SLEK, C.O.'s made plan to clear it, using Petards and Crocodiles.	GWH
	19	0100	B Coy contacted C Sqn up in SLEK. C Coy made contact 20 mins later with Bn in HEIDE	
		0220	Bn, less A Coy and Main HQ, moved up to SLEK.	
To KONINGSBOSCH 7574		0420	Two tanks disabled by mines short of 729760 - enemy seen in that area, but tanks safely pulled out.	
		0500	Tac HQ set up 721763 - A Coy ordered up from SLEK : to pass through and continue advance - quick plan for attack on KONINGSBOSCH to be given to A and D later at 741748.	
		0620	A Coy passed through and advanced towards KONINGSBOSCH.	
		0745	Tac HQ arrived at farm 741748. A Coy not to be found - until there came a sudden request from OC A to discourage tanks from shooting his Coy up : the Coy having missed its route slightly and arrived X Rds 749748 where with a few bursts of Sten fire they had captured 53 PW and two 88mm S.P.'s. Situation was critical, and the C.O. had to regain control under very difficult circumstances : launching D Coy round into SE end of KONINGSBOSCH he went up and disposed A Coy favourably around their X Rds.	
		0900	Enemy 88's got the measure of us and for almost four hours plastered the area 741748 which was 4/7 RHQ, our Tac HQ, SP Coy HQ, RAP and PW Cage. In addition he dealt successfully with 3 of A Coy's Kangaroos, and narrowly missed the C.O.'s on many occasions.	
		1145	D Coy had cleared rest of village and was establ at X Rds 753740.	
		1245	C.O.'s wireless operator wounded slightly in head by 88 fire at 741748.	
		1252	C.O.'s bodyguard wounded in back at this same farmplace.	
		1315	Four Panthers and a Tiger observed at 754747, but they slipped back over a rise before our SP's could be brought up.	
		1317	C.O. & RA rep moved up to A Coy HQ.	
		1317	I.O. went back down to woods 730761 to bring up C Coy.	
		1400	Enemy patrol ambushed 3 C Coy men, one of whom escaped (patrol were fired on, one Boche wounded & fell down screaming ; C Coy man	
KONINGSBOSCH				

			imitated this and in ensuing disorder made his escape). C Coy started to beat their wood, but only came across 8 civilians, men, women and children whom Boches had driven out before them. A second attempt produced 4 PW, rem of patrol escaped.	
		1410	I.O. reported back to C.O., and was ordered back again to fetch up rest of Bn. Considerable 88 fire still coming down on axis, but no cas suffered on the march fwd to KONINGSBOSCH.	
		1730	Whole Bn establ in the village : A and D as before ; HQ 752742, B 752743, C 751745.	
		1830	4/7 DG HQ moved up into the monastery school.	
			A very quiet night ensued during which 11 more PW were prised up out of cellars : some 1220 Regt, some 56 Pion Bn incl a CSM. Total PW for day : 6 offrs 69 O.R's.	GWH
	20	0330	News that 7/9 RS coln up level further North - may be patrolling twds AAN DE SCHOOL 7675.	
		0750	C.O. 4/5 RSF visited HQ - his Bn deployed in area 758738.	
		1000	Various captured documents came in from A Coy, taken from kit of a Lieut FAHL :- traces of our ops area, code list of weapons, staff depts. etc, Order of Battle with codenames of 176 Div.	
		1300	Village shelled very accurately - this continued spasmodically all day.	
		1510	Bde Cmd arrived HQ.	
		1525	Captain VINEY SCOTT seriously wounded by a shell, and died shortly afterwards in the RAP.	
		1600	Bde Cmd set up his Tac HQ with ours - C Coy ordered to secure AAN DE SCHOOL as springboard for 5 KOSB attack on WALDFEUCHT	
		2000	Lt WILSON took out patrol to investigate the former.	
		2359	Patrol returned - no enemy - road block of felled trees at 759751.	GWH
	21	0130	C Coy set out for their AAN DE SCHOOL posn and secured it without incident.	
		0215	5 KOSB into WALDFEUCHT against very slight opposition.	
		0630	News of CA against 5 KOSB - enemy infantry penetration into SE of town with several Tigers also. Posn reported as being sticky. Bde Cmd planned reinforcement by one of our Coys.	
		1110	B Coy, sp by 3 SP's, a Wasp Sec and Arty smoke on flanks, moved quickly up in Kangaroos to WALDFEUCHT	
		1215	B Coy fighting to secure a firm base in the town - this successful and contact made with 5th Bn	
		1220	Comd 8 Armd Bde arrived HQ and discussed WALDFEUCHT situation with our own Bde Cmd - also possibility of pushing on through to HAAREN.	
		1400	Rem Bn to move up into WALDFEUCHT overnight.	
		1800	C.O. & I.O. departed after very sharp stonk to confer with C.O. 6	

			HLI in BOCKET 7874	
		2030	2i/c arrived BOCKET with rem Bn in Kangaroos. A Coy to lead up direct road to WALDFEUCHT, followed by D, HQ, then A Coy 6 HLI, under comd for this op.	
		2330	Advance started and not a shot fired. A Coy to 776756, D 776755, A Coy 6 HLI 771774 -	GWH
WALDFEUCHT 7775	22	0200	Posn consolidated and B Coy contacted.	
		0315	C.O. contacted O.C. 5 KOSB and fixed plan for thorough clean up of town.	
		0400	Slight mortaring of town - 2 slight cas.	
		0545	A Coy 6 HLI released and returned BOCKET.	
		a.m.	A and D Coys searched SE half of town - PW utilised in burying German dead. 2 PW from an Engr Bn, under direction of Pnr Offr, lifted 63 RIEGEL Mines in area.	
		1230	C Coy rejoined Bn from AAN DE SCHOOL.	
		1430	"O" Gp. : Bn to undertake capture of HEINSBERG along with 7/9 RS. B and D Coys join 7/9 RS in encirclement of town prior to clearing by rem 4 KOSB. Flails, Crocodiles, SP's, Shermans in sp.	
		2130	Bn moves off on foot from WALDFEUCHT for HEINSBERG via BOCKET, SELSTEN, APHOVEN.	GWH
	24	0100	Coln reached SELSTEN 8173 and came under continuous shell and mor	
		0235	fire all the way up. Bn halted in APHOVEN until 7/9 force in posn on the roads up Eastern & Western outskirts HEINSBERG.	
		0525	Advanced up sunken road 839738, through Community Trench 844742 and into square at 848747.	
HEINSBERG 8475		0930	Severe shelling & mortaring commenced.	
		1145	A Coy, with Crocodiles cleared W of town - hand to hand fighting ensued, to cost of enemy. D Coy cleared E of town with less opposition.	
		a.m.	7/9 RS disposed easily of two very badly attempted counter attacks.	
		1400	B Coy, W of orchards 847751, caught in shallow trenches by observed shell & mor fire - enemy located PLOSTERHOF 844749. Maj HOGG C.F. wounded, CSM wounded and Capt J. ELLIOTT Killed. L/Cpl LEITCH, Coy signaller, severely wounded in leg and buttocks, remained at Coy HQ and directed Arty smoke shoot to cover withdrawal of Coy to houses 847747.	
		1730	Carr Pl attacked PLOSTERHOF but repulsed - LT CAVENDISH wounded. This posn later cleared by 7/9 RS.	
		p.m.	During lull in fire, RMO organised PW to evac cas - this coln of 120 escorted by night by 5 snipers back down to APHOVEN. Large number of them were surrender party from 4 Coy 330 Regt	GWH
	25	1100	Enemy fire slackened and finally died out.	

LAFFELD 8272		1315 1615 1700 2000 2100	Bn ordered down into res in LAFFELD 8272. 7/9 RS taking over whole of HEINSBERG. C.O. 7/9 RS assumed comd of HEINSBERG area. Sharp shelling of main square, during which last veh (C.O.'s wireless Carrier) pulled out. Whole Bn into LAFFELD. "O" Gp - Bn to go into line at OBSPRINGEN for 5 days, then 5 days rest SITTARD area.	GWH
	27	0915 1500	C.O. recced OBSPRINGEN area with Bde Cmd. "O" Gp. - HQ, B, D and SP Coys to take over from 7 Cams area OBSPRINGEN ; A and C Coys from 4/5 RSF at VINN 8277 and HAASERDREISCH 8178 respectively.	GWH
OBSPRINGEN 8076	28	0900 1000 1100 1700 2210	Adv Parties left LAFFELD. C.O. went on further recce with G.O.C., CRA and Bde Cmd. This party had very narrow escape when American Hy Bombers dropped 30 to 50 bombs just N of OBSPRINGEN within a hundred yards of them. HQ established OBSPRINGEN 799762. Bn takeover completed.	
	29	0030 0930	A Coy patrolled to TREFELSBRIDGE 829783 but found no signs enemy. C Coy contacted Recce Sqn at ECHTERHEIDE 809788. "O" Gp - plans for def against major CA - A and C Coys withdraw to areas 796774 and 802765 only under orders C.O. Coy posns to be recced by OC Coys, then dug by B and D Coys later. Bn employed mainly on mine locating and improvement posns - neither mor bomb nor shell of any kind landed in Bn area during period in line.	GWH
	30	 1300	A Coy patrol to END 8380 via KARKEN planned. Object to find out how strongly END was held. Patrol, led by Lt SCOTT moved off. After investigating KARKEN church, Lt SCOTT went on to search village ; coming under automatic fire from N end of village and mor fire from END direction. One man presumed killed, two missing - attempt by SB to reach first man met with fire on his Red Cross flag. Later in evening all men turned up ; two men had gone to locate first man, finding him badly hit ; lying up until darkness, they collected 2 civilians who wheeled cas in a barrow back to A Coy area. These civs then evac through PW channels.	GWH
	31	0900	Two civs sent back evening 30 Jan both been called up for Volksturm - one had gone into hiding rather than report - other told his service would consist in helping man Siegfried Line. Both denied that any civs in KARKEN had been issued with arms - Lt SCOTT had been certain that civs had fired on his patrol from rear	

		1545	whilst he was engaged frontally by enemy soldiers. Lt D.J. URQUHART returned to Bn from Mil Hosp.	GWH
			POSTINGS IN.	
	12		9 O.R.'s rejoined from 34 RHU	
	14		17 O.R.'s, The Royal Scots, from 34 RHU.	
	20		12 O.R.'s, Green Howards, " 33 RHU.	
	21		15 " , Border Regt, " " .	
			6 O.R.'s rejoined Bn " 34 RHU.	
	31		4 " " " " "	
			26 " , King's Regt, " 33 RHU.	
			28 " , Loyal Regt, " 33 RHU.	
			Appendices	
			AF C 2118 A - Appx "A"	
			Patrol Data 1-9 Jan - " I	
			For Map Refs see Appx VII to Unit War Diary for December 1944	G.W. Halliburton, Capt for Lt Col, Comd, 4 K.O.S.B.

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)

Unit 4th BN K.O.S.B.

Month and Year FEB 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
OBSPRINGEN 8076	1	a.m. 1700	C Coy, with aid of CA, evac civs from farmplace 819793. "O" Gp : orders for handover to 4/5 RSF. Bearing taken on heavy gun which sent over occasional shell into area well to rear of Bn - probably Siegfried gun - active three or four times during night.	GWH
WALDFEUCHT 7775	2	0915 1125 1315 1600 2130	Bn ADV Party left for WALDFEUCHT, and ADV Party 4/5 RSF arrived Bn HQ. Civs streaming into C Coy area from KARKEN - they reported that Green Police had come across the ROER to evac KARKEN 8377, but many civs preferred to evac to British lines. About 100 Wehrmacht alleged to be mining KARKEN area. C.O. requested Bde Comd to get air and arty fire down on the village. B, D, SP and HQ Coys handed over and free of area CO 4/5 RSF assumed cmd - ordered A Coy send offr patrol up to KARKEN - Lt BEATTIE carried out this patrol, but found no enemy in village, nor any trace of mining. A and C Coys both settled in at WALDFEUCHT - delay due to very bad state of roads. - Period at WALDFEUCHT very quiet. Ops role twofold : a) def of the town ; perimeter naturally quadrilateral, each Coy responsible for one sector b) C.A - period so short that no one definite CA worked out in detail. Men given as much rest as possible, and parties attended Cinema Shows at Bde Cinema in BOCKET 7874. Working parties kept busy on road maintenance under Bde control.	GWH
	5		Following offr appointments and promotions approved by C.O. :- 1. Capt A.P. INNES promoted T/Maj and appointed O.C. B Coy. 2. Capt F.H. COUTTS " 2i/c B Coy. 3. Lt G.W. Halliburton " T/Capt " " O.C. Mor Pl. 4. Lt A.S. ROSS " T/Capt 5. Lt D.J. URQUHART " I.O. 6. Lt R. STEPHENSON promoted T/Capt and appointed 2i/c A Coy.	GWH
STOCKHEIM	6	1120	Lt Col BAIRD of 36 U.S. Inf Regt arrived with his Bn recce party	

6071			prior to takeover from us.	
		1330	Takeover by U.S. Bn complete and Bn on move to STOCKHEIM 6071 on W side of MAAS, S of MAESEYCK.	
		1800	Bn settled in at STOCKHEIM. Maj G.H. DAVIDSON in cmd while C.O. on 48 hrs leave.	GWH
	7	0930	Bn Adv Party moved off, arriving GUN 8724 at 1500 hrs.	GWH
	8	1700	A/I.O. returned to STOCKHEIM from GUN with infmn about that sector of MAAS line which Bn were to takeover from 2nd Bn K.S.L.I.	
		1730	"O" Gp : orders for move to GUN, and for takeover from 2 K.S.L.I.	GWH
	9	0630	Head of Bn coln moved off from STOCKHEIM, arriving GUN area 1335 hrs.	
GUN 8724 HQ: 873244		1700	C.O. arrived HQ and took over cmd from 2i/c.	
		1745	Admin HQ set up under Adjt at TIENRAIJ 8523	
		1915	2 Carr Secs and 2 Mor Dets badly bogged, causing some delay in takeover.	
		1945	Carrs and Mors both reported in posn.	
		2040	D Coy reported takeover complete : i.e. whole Bn in posn. Layout as follows: A Coy 888255 ; B (in res) 868251 with 4 mors & 2 ATK guns ; C Coy 895249 with 2 mors ; D Coy 883262 with 4 ATK guns ; under comd - 4 Dutch Coy (young soldiers in trg) 885237 ; 5 Dutch Coy TIENRAIJ. Capt COUTTS placed in charge of admin and trg of these Coys.	GWH
	10	1110	O.C. 80 Fd Regt visited HQ - discussed DF plan.	
		1200	Infmd by BM that Boches had blown the last ROER dam - floodwater expected in MAAS at VENLO by midday. Coys warned to be prepared for emergencies.	
		1240	Lt Col Turner 5 KOSB, Acting Bde Cmd visited C.O. at Bn HQ.	
		1812	RMO reported shelling in area 867229 - prob'y attempt at C.B.	GWH
	11	0535	MAAS risen very slightly, but no cause for alarm.	
		1145	6 Mor bombs landed in C Coy area - no cas.	
		1550	8 mor bombs, or 7.5 shells, landed just S of Bn HQ.	
		2000	Int OP report for the day : occupied dugouts observed at 894261, 892262, 891263.	GWH
	12	0015	Following flood report to be rendered to Bde each morning at 0700 hrs :- A. Is river overflowing. B. Is there an area of shallow water on WEST bank. C. Are the roads saturated. D. Has strength of current increased. E. Is there any flooding on enemy side of river.	
		0050	Veh mov reported by 156 Bde on Steam Train Road (main road running along E side of MAAS.) Warned Coys to make an immediate report on any such mov heard. Thought to be supplies and possibly reinforcements going North against tps of 1st Cdn Army on REICHSWALD front.	
		0135	D Coy reported mov on Steam Train Road - Gunners took much too long	

			in bringing DF down - T.O.T. was actually 0200 hrs.	
		0235	Mov heard again - DF fire much quicker this time.	
		0528	Fire again brought down on traffic mov.	
		0600	CO rendered flood report in accordance with demand earlier during night - answers were A. Yes B. Yes - 100 to 300 yds in width C. Very much so D. Not appreciably E. Yes - up to 100 yd.	
		1225	Spandau fire across A Coy front from 893264 - own mors replied.	
		1525	Capt COUTTS reported inter Coy relief complete between 4 and 5 Dutch Coys. One pl of 5 Coy to take up posn in A Coy area, one in C Coy.	GWH
	13	0450	Int OP reported lights and sounds of MT on Steam Train Road - no more seen or heard after an almost immediate gunner shoot.	
		0700	Flood water risen 6 inches during night.	
		1030	Acting Bde Comd visited HQ - 155 Bde ordered to obtain identification by first light 15 Feb : 7/9 RS to cross from BLITTERSWIJK 8727 ; 4 KOSB also to make a river crossing. CO nominated C Coy to find patrol under Lt KENDRA. I.O. contacted 5 Dutch Coy in search of local knowledge.	
		1200	D Coy reported further flood rise of 6 inches since daylight.	
		1400	Lt KENDRA, accompanied by Bde I.O., flew over enemy lines in R.A.A.O.P.	
		1625	All arrangements for identification patrol cancelled by Bde.	GWH
	14	0030	Recce party for move to Conc Area further north to stand by for further orders. Considerable flare activity during night - own AC towards the RUHR ; also gun flashes - REICHSWALD battle.	
		0740	Flood water risen approx 12 inches overnight.	
		1650	Flooding increased further 12 inches in D Coy area - position in process of becoming an island.	
		1700	Adv parties to be prepared as from midnight to move. Probable that we take over from Polish Forces W of S'HERTOGENBOSCH, while U.S. forces take over from us. This almost immediately contradicted - Bn to move on 15th to a posn behind 1st Cdn Army.	
		1450	U.S. Adv Party arrived, under Bn C.O., Lt Col MARUN. Identity of the Unit not given, since it was part of a security formation.	
		1600	Pnr Off reported that a suspect mine area between GUN and 5 Dutch Coy was clear of mines.	GWH
	15	0240	Tracked mov heard on Steam Train Road - gunners already pulled out, and contact with 79 Fd Regt through Bde too slow - engaged with own Mors.	
		0715	Bn recce party left for new locn.	
		0730	Further rise of 12 inches in flood water.	
		0900	"O" Gp : offrs of both our own and U.S. Bn were present. Final details of takeover settled.	

		1150	Lt Col TURNER left Bde to take over 5 KOSB. As result of Div reorganisation, 5 KOSB now in 157 Bde, 6 HLI taking their place in 155 Bde. Lt Col PERCIVAL, 6 HLI, now Acting Bde Cmd.	
		1600	Handover completed.	
		1830	Bn settled in to new Conc Area at WANROIJ	GWH
	16	1000	2i/c and small recce party went up to HEIJEN 7941 to look over Bn Assembly area along main road immediately N of that village.	
		1000	CO and I.O. to Bde for Conf on Op VERITABLE.	
		1400	C.O.'s Prelim "O" Gp for this Op.	
		2115	C.O. and I.O. left for Tac HQ, 155 Bde at GENNEP.	GWH
HEIJEN 7941	17	0400	A/I.O. and Coy guides preceded Bn to Assembly Area.	
		0815	Bn concentrated in Res Area.	
		1000	"O" Gp : Plan is as follows : H hr 1530 hrs. 6 HLI to capture GROOTE HORST 8639 ; 7/9 RS to take up posn in res around 840388 ; 4 KOSB to pass through 6 HLI and capture the area of X Rds 879404.	
		1100	C.O. summoned to Bde.	
			GOC passed through Bn locn and intimated change of plan.	
		1430	"O" Gp : 6 HLI as before ; 7/9 RS to capture ground overlooking SLUICE at ATK ditch at 835388 ; 4 KOSB to cross ATK ditch, capture, hold and clear woods in square 8437. Patrols to contact 6 HLI when posn firmly secured.	
		1830	Bn moved off on foot to fwd Ass Area 810412.	
		2000	Bn dug in on Assembly Area, which thereafter became F.U.P.	
		2200	6 H.L.I. passed through Bn 810414.	GWH
	18	0045	I.O. set off and contacted C Coy 7/9 RS 825392, whose Bn had been held up by enemy strongpoint around farmhouse 836395 then returned to report their locn to C.O.	
		0130	Bde Cmd arrived HQ to convey new orders - Bn to make good the line of main road REMPELD - BLIJENBEEK. I.O. departed to recce A and C Coy areas on that line, approx	
		0400	A and C Coys guided into posn by I.O. A. 825387 C. 830388.	
		0530	B, D and Tac HQ guided also into posn by I.O. Bn layout then as follows :-	
			HQ 825389, A 825387, B 826389, C 830388, D 826390.	
		0800	Half an hour's heavy arty fire on Bn objectives ; one Tp Crocodiles and AVRE's knocked out by SP guns. A and C Coys suffered heavy cas in this fire which continued throughout the day, thickened up by mortars.	
		0900	Lt T. GRAY wounded in the left foot.	
		1400	Capt D. COLVILLE fatally wounded by observed Spandau fire.	
			Evac of cas particularly difficult and dangerous, but extremely well carried out by Regtl SB and Bearer Sec under Capt HILL and Lt R.	

			MAJOR.	GWH
	19		Bn during the night were still under effective shelling and mortaring which however was less intense. A and C Coys put patrols fwd to Anti-Tank ditch, and gained the infmn that it was on an average 5ft deep with a width of 18/20 ft and had normal sloping banks.	
		0600	A and C Coys withdrawn by Bde order to wood edges at 825388. D and B to 826391. Bn HQ to 824391.	
			During day Bde Cmds 156 and 157 visited area on recce tasks.	
			Spasmodic shelling continued and cas mounted.	
		1115	Lt K. WILSON evac as a battle shock case.	
		2230	Very heavy shelling and mortaring, incl Nebelwerfer, of whole area until 0430 hrs. Many cas sustained.	GWH
	20		A and C occupied original fwd posns by night.	
			B Coy contacted 52 Recce on the left.	
		1500	Lt E. KENDRA severely wounded in the head by shell fragment.	
			Bn HQ moved again to 825393. B and D occupied the fwd posns	
		1730	KASTEEL BLIJENBEEK bombed and badly damaged by Typhoons.	GWH
	21		Bn occupied same areas and were still under heavy fire, though fewer cas were now being suffered - posns by this time being more shellproof.	
			Bde demanded report on battle exhaustion cases.	
			Quieter night with noticeable and welcome decrease in enemy shelling.	GWH
	22		D Coy patrolled to KASTEEL and found no sign enemy in outer buildings.	
		1030	Typhoons again dealt with KASTEEL : causing heavy damage.	
		1400	Relief by 6 HLI commenced ; Bn moving back into posns vacated by HLI area sq 8240. ATK and Mor Pls remained in posn under comd 6 HLI.	GWH
	23 &	24	Bn rested in a close area approx 821408 and rehabilitated.	
	25		Following offrs posted to Bn : Capt WILSON, 2/Lt J. ROSS, and 2/Lt TESKEY.	GWH
		1430	Maj Gen C.M. Barber D.S.O., G.O.C. 15 (S) Div visited C.O.	
	26		Bn placed on 10 minutes notice to move - destination or objective most obscure - probably to assist 6 HLI and 5 KOSB in their attack on .	GWH
			Lt Col C.L. MELVILLE, O.C. 4th Bn KOSB, was awarded the DSO.	
			Capt R STEPHENSON awarded the M.C.	
	27	0700	Bn still standing by. D.J. Urquhart Lieut	GWH
		1030	Bn stood down to one hour's notice. for O.C. 4th K.O.S.B.	

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Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 4 KOSB

Month and Year MAR 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
KASTEEL - BLIJBEEK AFFERDEN	2	0900 1000 1230 0200 1415 1715 1720 1905 2300 2330 2345	Warning order from Bde - Bn to take over from 6 H.L.I. at Ref 833397 Bn at 1 hrs notice to move. Recce parties to move immediately to H.L.I. area Mtr pln & A/TK pln revert to Bn command from 6 H.L.I. Main party move & take over from 6 H.L.I., coy locns as follows: H.Q. 833397 A. B. C. D. Coy of WELSH GUARDS under command locn at "B" Coy sent on patrol with orders to stop at 847397 & consol. 6 H.L.I. Bn H.Q. at 858396. Brig MacLaren & Capt Jones with change of plan for Bn - the Bn to move to new locn to be notified later & is put on 1 hr notice to move. "A" Ech vehicles move into area. Message from Bde - G.O. 3 of 02 2335A - state of readiness to move 3 Mar at 1000 hrs. Lt J. Beattie to battle school - to report rear Bde H.Q. by 1000 hrs 3 Mar 45. Padre Capt F. Findlay will report rear Bde H.Q. 3 Mar 45 & stay there 3/4 Mar then report to Chaplain General - Brussels.	
"KASTEEL" AFFERDEN TWISTEDEN 9429	3	0100 0830 1200 1300 1600 1700	P.O.W. in Div cage has given information that "KASTEEL" area is mined - No further details. Report 1 jeep & driver have been blown up on a mine on track area . Later found to be M.T.O. & Driver from 6 H.L.I. C.O. to "O" Group at Bde for instructions on Bn move. Bn "O" Group for move to TWISTEDEN via the following route. S.P. 836390 to rd junc 848390 right to rd junc 896362 left to rd junc at 919361 right to Bn location at squ. 9429 Capt ROSS with mine detectors advance in front of "C" Coy who are advance coy. Report rd clear but bridge at 929312 has (2) 500 KIL. bombs as demolitions. The bridge is safe for foot troops but not vehicles. I.O., Capt Ross proceed to TWISTEDEN & KLEINKEVELAER to recce coy	

KLEINKEVE-LAER			areas. 1730 "C" Coy in position - "A" Coy - "D" Coy take up defensive positions in areas & F KLEINKEVELAER "A" at 952286 "C" at 949288 "D" at 950295 Bn HQ at 951290 ⊙ "B" Coy to guard Bn transport along road 927316 ⊙ 1830 Maj Ross 317 Bty 80 Fd Regt & F.O.O. report in position. 1845 "A" Coy take 11 prisoners in barn in area. Identified as arty. 1900 R.E. party reports to clear bridge of charge. 1930 "A" Coy to send patrol to bridge at 952282 & report on condition. 2000 C.O. to Bde for orders. 2040 Bridge at 929312 clear & transport of "F" Ech to join company. 2110 C.O. call "O" group for 0700 hrs. 2130 Capt Jones Bde with route & instructions for move 04 Mar 45 Bn will move to GELDERN 0225.	
LULLINGEN 9627	4		0035 "A" Coy report patrol in - no opposition ⊙ Bridge at 952283 is blown. 0700 Coy Commanders "O" group for Bn move to GELDERN. 0800 Bn moves off with pioneers sweeping & clearing rds. "C" Coy advance coy. 0830 Pioneers report bridge at 968279 prepared for demolition with (1) 1000 KIL bomb & (2) 500 KIL bombs - Bn halted along rd & held up. 1000 Crater in rd at 965265 & anti-tank ditch. 1015 T.A.C. H.Q. & "C" coy in LULLINGER squ. 9627 where T.A.C. will be until further instructions. "C" Coy proceed along rd to 980262 where they take up position. 1140 Capt Jones with orders to remain at present position & concentrate Bn in area of LULLINGER until crater can be repaired. 1220 Bn in position "A" Coy at 975270. "D" coy 965276 "B" coy 968285 T.A.C. at 964277. 1400 R.E. party start on crater. 1700 C.O. to Bde for orders. 2100 C.O. calls "O" group - Bn will move at 0700 hrs to area sq 9819 VOSSUM	
VOSSUM 9720	5	0700	Bn moves to new area ⊙ Recce parties of Maj Davidson & 1 Offr - 1 N.C.O. per coy having gone ahead at 0500 hrs area sq. 9720-9819.	
	6&7		Bn resting, reorganising & administration. Warning order to move area of ISSUM at 0800 hrs 7 Mar 45	
ISSUM 0927	7	1100	Bn relieve the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at ISSUM sq 0927. Companies relieving companies - take over completed at 1200 hrs. 1400 C.O. to Bde for orders. 1830 Warning orders. Bn to relieve R.S.F. at 165304 8 Mar timings later.	
	8	0130	"O" group at Bde attended by Adjt Capt Bearpark. 0830 Advance & recce parties of 1 offr & 1 N.C.O. per coy to new location	

			at 139305 & area.	
		1500	Bn move from ISSUM to area with T.A.C. at 133302. "A" coy at 125294 - "B" coy at 134289 ⊙ "C" coy at 119298. "D" coy at 159302.	
		1630	Maj Ross & F.O.O. of 80 Fd Regt report.	
		1800	Col. Sulley O.C. Div Sigs calls.	
		1900	C.O. to Bde for orders.	
		2100	2i/c to Bde for conference.	
		2020	GOLD reported taken by R.S.F. "X" rds at 160325	
		2215	Capt Jones Bde - C.O. wishes "O" group at 2330 hrs. - This "O" group waited for 3 hrs while orders were changed many times.	
133302 HAUS-LOOS 160334	9	0130	"O" group & orders for attack on HAUS LOOS ref. 160334 interrupted occasionally by heavy shelling from mortars & 88's. Heavy arty barrage from our own arty in support of R.S.F. attack on ALPEN squ. 1531. Plan for 4 K.O.S.B. - "D" coy & "A" coy will secure HAUS LOOS 160334 then "B" coy & "A" coy pass through & secure area of "X" rds 168336. F.U.P. will be along track from 143320 to 140329. S.P. will be line of railway track from 168320 to 150330. Coys will cross S.P. at 0800 hrs. In support 2 sqdn TANKS from SCOTS GUARDS from area 152337. Arty support of (8) fld Regts & (3) MED Regts.	4 K.O.S.B. under command of 156 Bde.
		0230	Maj Davidson to SCOTS GUARDS for liaison - later reports that railway line is not held by this unit. G.O.C. has information that this line is secure.	
		0400	New route from Bde & information that all bridges in repair.	
		0430	Capt Erskine confirms time of 0800 hrs across S.P. & Bn will move from present location at 0500 hrs.	
		0445	I.O. to check companies at "X" rds 144310. Shelling is very heavy from 88 m.m. & mortars. The occasional NEBELWERFER ⊙ ALPEN is in flames from attack by R.S.F.	
		0545	Bn is on F.U.P. & digs in - TANKS are in position & a heavy barrage by enemy on ALPEN for 15 mins.	
		0600	ALL Quiet for the moment.	
		0610	Maj Rae sent to recce S.P. & contact 2i/c at Scots Guards.	
		0630	Shelling of area by 88 - mortars - nebelwerfers - "moaning minnies".	
		0700	Sqdn of tanks from WELSH GUARDS attack & shoot on HAUS LOOS	
		0720	WELSH GUARDS report (3) tanks knocked out by 88 from HAUS LOOS area, also S.A.A. from 168322 area.	
		0730	Arty barrage of (8) fld & (3) med Regts on HAUS LOOS & area for 30 mins. Communication very bad from all sets.	
		0735	Information that S.P. (railway line) is not held by Scots Guards or by British troops - this information passed to Bde for action.	

		0800	"D" coy leave F.U.P. for S.P. on the left - "A" coy leave F.U.P. for S.P. & are on the right.	
		0815	"D" coy report they are under S.A.A. fire from railway embankment.	
		0817	"A" coy report they are under spandau fire from factory at ALPEN	
		0820	"D" coy under heavy shell & mortar fire - approach to railway is or appears to be enemy D.F. task.	
		0825	"A" coy under heavy shell & mortar fire 1000 yds short of S.P.	
		0830	TANKS shooting HAUS LOO & giving covering fire to infantry with S.A. - (4) have been knocked out by 88 m.m.	
		0900	"A" & "D" coy call for Arty on HAUS LOO - communications & wireless out of order. C.O. asks for relay at "A" Ech. Throughout the day wireless was very poor & F.O.O. could not get to the guns.	
HAUS LOO		0915	Forward companies call for stretcher bearers - casualties are seriously wounded.	
		0930	WELSH GUARDS L.O. reports that they have reason to believe that at least (8) - 88 MM guns at HAUS LOOS.	
		0945	"A" coy SPANDAU & S.A.A. from factory at Alpen holding advance up. Want MED ARTY on this area - Shelldrake having great trouble with wireless - orders & communication impossible - guns on harassing fire & targets.	
		1000	Relay set up for Arty at "A" Ech & completed - Bde orders that HAUS LOOS is Bn objective. X rds at will be taken by 7/9 R.S.	
		1015	U.S.A. signal L.O. to plot exact position of our troops.	
		1030	Civilians start coming from forward areas - some are & have been wounded.	
		1045	"D" coy report (2) sections on railway embankment & in posn	
		1050	"A" coy report they are on railway line & digging in but the shelling & S.A.A. is very heavy.	
		1130	"B" coy & "C" coy prepare to move from F.U.P. & pass through forward companies onto obj.	
		1200	"B" coy passes thru "D" coy - "C" coy through "A" coy.	
		1330	"C" coy calls for MED ARTY on HAUS LOO - this is not possible because of the safety limit & our own troops would be in danger.	
HAUS LOO		1400	I.O. to recce new T.A.C. H.Q. & contact 2i/c at SCOTS GUARDS.	
		1410	Forward coys report heavy shelling & mortars, "Moaning Minnies" in Bn area.	
		1500	Coldstream Guards pass to left to put in attack on squ. 1534.	
		1502	"C" coy reported on objective & consolidating position.	
		1535	"B" coy reported on objective & consolidating position.	
		1600	Forward companies report heavy shelling - but consolidation complete - require stretcher bearers.	
		1605	C.O. reports to Bde that objectives taken.	

		1830 1900 1930 2000 to 2400	Bearer section under Lieut T. Jones start to clear wounded, report casualties very heavy. Maj Stuart to T.A.C. - requests rations forward. Bde suggest moving "A" & "D" coys forward - this considered impossible by C.O. - Bde cancel order. This was a costly battle in casualties as most were fatal. Lt L. Brown "C" coy wounded. Total of 80 casualties. The shelling continued until the following day. Company admin & rations were very difficult because of this & also the evacuation of wounded. Some were sent through 157 Bde medical channels.	
HAUS LOO	10	0500 0900 0930 1000 1500 1800	Shelling which has been heavy since 0600 grown considerably less & almost none in Bn area. T.A.C. moves to 152329 "D" coy to 162334 "A" coy to 160324. 7/9 R.S. pass through old area to MENZELEN 90 P.W.s from 6 H.L.I. who are in MENZELEN to be escorted to PW cage. Brig MacLaren & Capt Erskine call at T.A.C. re move to MARIENBAUM. Bn spent most of day resting & on admin. Shelling stops & area quieter.	
	11	0900 1300 1500 2100	Bn on admin - colour & recce parties preparing to move. Adm & Recce parties move off under Maj Davidson for MARIENBAUM. C.O. to Bde "O" Group. Bn on (2) hr notice to move. C.O. to Bde for further orders. Maj Rae to L.O.B. as ill.	
MARIENBAUM T.A.C. at 080440.	12	0300 1500 2100 2350	Move postponed 24 hrs. O.C. to Bde "O" group. Bn to move at 2100 hrs for new locn. Bn moves for MARIENBAUM via Alpen 1531 - Bonninghardt 1231 - Sonsbeck 0535 - Xanten 1141 to MARIENBAUM. Bn in new location with T.A.C. at 080440 - "A" coy at 085443 - "B" coy at MARIENBAUM - "C" coy at 072444. "D" coy at 088432.	
MARIENBAUM T.A.C. at 080440	13TH	0900 1030 1620 1700 2000 2245	C.O. to Bde conference 1000 hrs with 2i/c - all cattle to be rounded up. "O" Group all coy commanders - Admin points for Bn. "D" coy reports shelling of their H.Q. at 088432 by 88 MM. C.O. to conference at Bde. Conference at C.P. for Coy Commanders re setting up of traffic control points - 14 posts in area for checking traffic. Smoke screen will lift for 14-15 Mar - searchlights may shift direction if hindering movement of troops.	
	14	0900 to 2400	Bn man 14 traffic control points to stop & check & issue passes to essential traffic only. The north to south traffic to be stopped & only Recce parties were permitted forward. East & West traffic cut to minimum.	

	15		Maj Davidson is O.C. of rounding up & collecting all livestock in Bde area less pigs. Maj D.O. HOGG is O.C. of Bn area. Round-up & rodeo continued for three days with many queer sights & much amusement.	
MARIENBAUM T.A.C. H.Q. AT 080440	16	0240 0250 1000 1115 1300 1430 1610	For information - "B" coy 6 H.L.I. suspect (2) Germans have entered area at Ref. 110449, were fired on without success. Corps Commander will visit Bn at 1130 hrs. Smoke will lift at 1200 hrs. Visit at T.A.C. H.Q. of Barber & Brig MacLaren Col. McMinn R.A.M.C. for lunch. B.M. wishes T.C.P. established at 067447. Commandos to Recce area.	
	17	A.M. 1530 P.M. 1900 2330	N.T.R. Curfew patrol of 1 N.C.O. & 6 men plus (1) 15 cwt to report to #8 F.S.S. at 063391 - duty - to patrol during night. No. 1 T.C.P. shelled & had direct hit - vehicle hit & burning. Fire in "A" coy area - haystack hit by shell.	
	18		N.T.R.	
	19	0845 0930 0945 1200 1600 1900 1915	Bde & Bn area shelled during night. "B" coy shelled at 0400 hrs - 0650 hrs on rd junc 063454 by heavy cal guns, small crater in rd junc. "D" coy report rd between "D" coy H.Q. & XANTEN being shelled at ½ hr intervals. Bn war correspondent & photographer visits Bn for picture of Bn pipers - C.O., 2i/c, M.O., & QM - will be in paramount newsreel. Maj Madden 2i/c 5th B.W. visits C.O. Mortar bombs land in "D" coy H.Q. area - no casualties	
MARIENBAUM	20	1730 2000	"O" group at Bde - Carrier pln warned for Chinese* puzzle party 21 Mar at night. Bn supplies 1 offr 48 O.R. to unload "storm boats"* for sappers.	* FAKE Rhine Crossing is Chinese. * assault boats
	21	0430 1000 1315 1520 2000 2108	156 Bde put on Chinese party south of Xanten. Heavy Arty Conc starting at 0500 hrs for (1) hr - no retaliation in Bn area. Coy Comdrs conference. Capt Stevenson "A" coy brought in 3 suspicious Russians from 115360 area. Smoke being laid until 1900 hrs - was continued until 0130 hrs. Lt Col Bradford C.O. of 5th B.W. for dinner. (5) shells in "D" coy H.Q. area - (2) direct hits of H.Q. - no casualties.	
	22	0600 1050	No enemy reaction to "Chinese" in Bn area. Bn stood down. Shellrep from "B" coy - shells land Marienbaum area 1050 & 1052 hrs.	

		1210	"B" coy 88 mm shells landing in area of Marienbaum	
	23	1730 1800 1830 2145 2400 2400	Aircraft seen bombing WESEL mostly FORTS & some LANCS. All guns in area opened up in pre-crossing bombardment. C.O. to Bde "O" group. R.A. report enemy para-troop landing - investigated & found to be fake. Heavy bombardment & shelling - 15 DIV pass through Bn area on way to the river & crossing. P.W. cage established in rear of T.A.C. H.Q. for DIV & CORPS.	
MARIENBAUM TAC H.Q. at 080440	24	0240 0500 1000 1015 1930	15(S) DIV first flight cross Rhine at 0205 hrs without opposition. 51(H) DIV now at 085523 & 035545. 15(S) DIV 6 R.S.F. have one coy at 136428 - 8 R.S. have landed on other side, opposition still light. Mr Winston Churchill passes through Bn area. First phase of the Air-Borne Army 6 Airborne DIV & 17 U.S. AIR DIV pass over. This was a clear, bright day & the planes were about 500 ft altitude in perfect formation. First the Dakotas & the para troops & a short time later the glider borne troops. Dakotas towed (2) gliders each mostly HORSA type. On our RIGHT we could see the Americans & WACO gliders. Later the returning planes (2) Dakotas crashed in flames narrowly missing BN H.Q. - both crews escaped by parachute. Many gliders landed in the Bn area. Later Lancasters came over at tree-top level with supplies - the whole show was an inspiring, impressive sight. T.A.C. H.Q. strafed by enemy - NO casualties.	
	25	0430 0540 1030 "D" coy to " " " " " 210402 of (1) pln - OC Coy 1400	Patrol of (1) N.C.O. & (4) O.R. to investigate plane crash at 055435 in Hochwald Forest. Patrol returns after finding wreckage of German plane. "B" coy to provide guard for bridge at 086466 of (1) pln. Maj M. Bell 2i/c of 6 H.L.I. calls for C.O.	
MARIENBAUM TAC H.Q. at	26	0900 1900	"B" & "D" coy will continue to guard bridges. "A" coy have (1) wounded Russian woman who is sent through R.A.P. & normal channels.	
080440	27.	0645 0730 1000	Brig MacLaren orders 1 sec of carriers to 6 H.L.I. (2) sections of mortars report to 6 H.L.I. Bn will man (2) T.C.P. only one at MARIENBAUM - "B" coy - & the other at XANTEN to be manned by "D" coy.	
	28	1200 1640 2000	Warning Order - Bn at 3 hrs notice to move as of 1300 hrs & take over from 227 Bde. 2i/c & 1 offr per coy to be recce party for harbour area. Bn to cross S.P. at MARIENBAUM on foot for new area at BELLINGHOVEN.	

BELLINGHOVEN 134502		2140 2330	BN crosses the Rhine led by the C.O. & Maj Allen Innes who blew a very fine hunting horn - for the last hunt. Bn in new area TAC H.Q. at 134502.	
	29		N.T.R.	
	30	1100	C.O. conference re new move - Maj Ross 80 Fd Regt & F.O.O. report.	
	31	1500	Warning Order for move - Advance & Recce parties move at 1630. Main party at 0430 - D.P. at 325649. Bn move via "Star Route Up". D.J. Urquhart Lieut I.O. for Lt Col C.L. Melville O.C. 4 Bn K.O.S.B.	

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)

Unit 4th Bn K.O.S.B.

Month and Year APR 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
GRAF BURLO 351682	1	0430	Bn moves from BELLINGHOVEN via route DINGDEN - BOCHOLT - RHEDE - GR. BURLO.	
		0745	Bn in position at GRAF BURLO in more tactical role.	
		1230	LT. COL. CARTER G.1 of 52(L) DIV calls for C.O.	
		1800	C.O. to dine with G.O.C. 52(L) DIV.	
	2	1000	"O" Group held by C.O. for orders on move to new area with 304 L.A.A. Bty & (1) tp S.P. guns 54 A/T Regt under command.	
		1500	Bn moves off from Graf Burlo.	
AHLE 529901		1945	Bn in new location at 529901 AHLE.	
		2110	Capt Jones with movement warning orders for Bn - Brig. MacLaren will hold "O" Group at this H.Q. at 2200 hrs.	
AHLE 529901		2100	Large searchlight battery (German) in T.A.C. H.Q. area. Generators & all equip in operating order. (20) French P.W. at location as forced labour.	
		2300	Brig MacLaren & Capt Erskine & Capt Jones with orders for move to area 818944 where Bn comes under Command 7th ARM DIV.	
		2330	C.O. holds "O" group & issues orders for proposed move at 0600 hrs to R.V. at via route where they will take defensive positions & wait for further orders by C.O. who will go to H.Q. (7) DIV at 0800 hrs to receive same.	
AHLE 529901	3	0530	Bn move postponed 1 hr.	
		0600	Bn will not move until 160 Bde 53 (W) DIV pass through.	
		0720	Bn will move at 0800 hrs if road is clear.	
		0900	1 pln Manchesters report & are under command.	
		0910	Maj W. Ross reports - 317 Bty of 80 Fd Regt under command.	
		0935	Bde L.O. with orders & change of plan. Bn will now concentrate in area squ. 9605. Bn will move immediately via same route & then to	
	•	1500	C.O. "O" group for Coy Commanders then a recce of coy positions.	
IBBENBUREN 962050		1800	Bn takes over from (1) Bn Hereford Regt. A - B - C coy. "D" coy to guard bridge at 953054. TAC H.Q. at 962050. "A" coy 964055. "B" coy	

			967054. "C" coy 967048.	
		1900	Coy's report in position ⊙ "D" coy report 6 casualties from 88 MM air burst.	
		1920	4 sqn's tanks INNISKILLING Dg GUARDS under Maj Leavis report & come under command. (2) sqns to "A" coy & (2) sqns in support "B" coy.	
		2030	C.O. - to Bde "O" group.	
		2345	"C" coy to send recce patrol to recce rd to 973056 for rd blocks.	
	4	0545	"C" coy patrol report in. Encounter NO enemy. 1 rifle shot from area 9806 - 1 carrier with body in it at 974076 - no road blocks.	
IBBENBUREN		0615	"A" coy standing & listening patrols in N.T.R.	
962050		0600	7/9 R.S. attack wood & high ground at squ. 9507 ⊙ 6 H.L.I. high ground & wood sq. 9706.	
		1030	Press Correspondents at TAC for information & tea - mainly ⊙	
		1400	Capt Erskine for information of rd blocks.	
		1410	"C" coy to provide covering party of (2) pln for R.E. Recce party to road works at 973055 & 973557.	
		1500	Brig MacLaren with warning order of battle.	
		1540	C.O. - "O" group for the taking of the bridges at 982079 & 988079 IBBENBUREN. Bn to move off at 1800 hrs.	
IBBENBUREN		1540	Plan & orders :- "A" coy & "D" coy will be the forward coys ⊙ "B"	
962050			coy to pass through "A" coy & "C" through "D" coy on to objective.	
			"A" to proceed up track 968056 to "X" rds 979075 & secure while "B" coy passes on to objective bridge at 982079.	
			"A" coy obj will be code sign "PEN"	
			"B" coy obj " " " " "PENCIL"	
			"D" coy will go up main rd 972050 to rd junc 985073 to secure & hold while "C" coy pass through to secure objective bridge at 988079.	
			"D" coy objective will be code sign "INK"	
			"C" coy " " " " " " "CHALK"	
			In support (2) Fd Regts & (1) MED REGT.	
			Bridge heads to be secured & held ⊙	
IBBENBUREN		1540	Carrier pln will be under Command "D" coy.	
962050		1800	Bn moves over start line & into battle.	
		1900	Maj H. Rae comes back to TAC H.Q. to report his company is pinned down with heavy S.A.A. fire & SPANDAU fire, heavy casualties in lead pln. TAC HQ at 980061 ⊙ Coy held up at 985072.	
			Lieut T.J. Gardiner fatally wounded.	
		1915	"A" coy pinned down & held up by heavy S.A.A. fire - enemy in numbers in trenches & houses. Request Tanks if possible or flame throwers.	
		1920	"A" coy request more ammo.	
IBBENBUREN		2000	C.O. - orders "A" coy & "B" coy to close up "B" to "A" & consolidate	

TAC H.Q. at 981062			position, which is at 987070. "C" coy to move up to "D" coy & consolidate position at 985072 ⊙ TAC H.Q. at 981062 with mortars. Carriers to remain with "D" coy.	
		2005	Stretcher bearers needed by "D" coy.	
		2008	Carriers have gone around road block at 982064 & joining "D" coy.	
		2010	Stretcher bearers for (7) casualties at "A Coy. LIEUT F. THURGER wounded.	
		2015	"A" & "B" coys call for company carriers to come forward to their positions.	
		2040	"A" & "B" coys want to know carrier route & their stretchers. A route was later found & Recce'd by Pte F. Brown "B" coy - was highly commended by C.O.	
IBBENBUREN TAC H.Q. AT 981062		2040 2400	Coys consolidated & cleared wounded. Maj Ross put down harassing fire on various D.F. tasks but enemy quiet & N.T.R.	
	5	0430	C.O. orders trp of SP guns to engage UPMEYER at 981069 & clear of enemy.	
		0505	Offr i/c S.P. guns wants D.F. on UPMEYER & Reference - this could not be given as our own troops in locality.	
		0630	S.P. guns report on target & about to fire.	
		0640	Request for (1) pln for covering protection by S.P. GUNS as enemy sighted.	
IBBENBUREN TAC H.Q. AT 981062		0652 0654	"A" coy being fired on by our S.P. guns who have taken the wrong target & are firing at houses 981067. "B" coy positions being fired on by our own S.P. guns. Casualties reported at houses 981067.	
		0655	C.O. orders S.P. guns cease fire & return this H.Q.	
		0650	"B" coy report (5) casualties from our SP guns	
		0850	"D" coy send (1) P.W. to TAC H.Q. for questioning - identified as N.C.O. from HANNOVER O.C.T.U. who were sent to defend & hold IBBENBUREN, claims they withdrew over river at 0330 hrs. 4 Apr. -	
IBBENBUREN TAC H.Q. AT 981062		0920 0930 0931	"A" coy to send patrol to code sign "PEN" - "D" coy to send patrol to code sign "INK" & report any enemy action immediately ⊙ "A" coy report area being shelled by 88 MM & MORTAR. "D" coy report shelling of their area by 88 mm.	
		1012	"A" coy report white flags being raised in houses in IBBENBUREN.	
		1040	"A" coy patrol reports "PEN" clear of enemy.	
		1054	"D" coy reports "INK" clear - patrol was fired on from right & encountered some shelling.	
		1120	2i/c comes up from "B" Ech.	
IBBENBUREN TAC H.Q. AT		1230 1400	Sgt Scott & (1) man to Recce road & bridge from "PEN" 979075 to "PENCIL" 982079 & report on condition. C.O. "O" group coys prepare to move at 1445 - "A" to area 982078 -	

981062			"B" to area 979069 - "C" to area 988075. "D" coy remain in present position & TAC H.Q.	
		1700	I.O. to 4 R.W.F. for information & to turn over maps of area.	
		1750	Capt Erskine with information of attack on IBBENBUREN at 2100 hrs by 4 Bn R.W.F., 1 Bn H.L.I. & OX & BUCKS.	
		1900	Carrier pln to supply covering party for R.E. along road 979075 - 985073.	
IBBENBUREN		1912	Carriers report all road blocks clear.	
TAC H.Q.		1950	Bn is to halt & clear roads of all civilians who leave IBBENBUREN &	
AT			place in cage established at TAC H.Q.	
981062		1953	Col P. Percival 6 H.L.I. calls on C.O.	
		2003	4 R.W.F. & 1st H.L.I. pass through Bn area for attack on Ibbenburen which was launched at 2100 hrs with light opposition & by day break the Bde were firmly holding & clearing IBBENBUREN.	
	6	0015	Patrol of 6 H.L.I. sent out to contact "D" coy has not returned - thought to have met opposition - checked with "D" coy but no report or sound of enemy or patrol in area.	
IBBENBUREN		0030	Warning order for Bn move on 6 Apr but not before 0700 hrs. Bn placed at (1) hours notice as of 2400 hrs.	
		0400	Bde "O" group at 0430 hrs attended by 2i/c.	
		0500	C.O. & Recce party move off for new area at 415439 DIEPHOLZ.	
		0530	"O" group held by 2i/c for move to new area.	
		0900	Bn move off for DIEPHOLZ & is held up by 53(W) DIV convoys at 972046 for two hrs, after which the convoy moved slowly until 3.40 AM where it stopped on the outskirts of DIEPHOLZ for the night. The Bn sleeping in the vehicles.	
DIEPHOLZ	7	0900	Bn in position at DIEPHOLZ. TAC H.Q at 415439 ⊙ Take over completed from K.R.R.C. Bn of Rifle Bde.	
415439		1400	Bn to supply one pln as covering party for R.E. Recce patrol to bridges at . "C" coy 14 pln under Lt J. Ross to be covering party.	
		1410	C.O. orders 1 sec of carriers & (2) S.P. guns for patrol of RE & "C" coy.	
		1500	"C" coy report woods in area clear.	
		1530	Recce party moves off.	
		1535	Brig MacLaren calls with Capt Jones & Capt D Erskine for information & progress of Recce & decide to use T.A.C. H.Q. for H.Q. of Bde attack on by 7/9 R.S. & 6 H.L.I. - 4 K.O.S.B. reserve.	
DIEPHOLZ		1830	Recce party returns to make report. Party fired on by Spandau, SAA &	
415439			S.P. guns. (1) T.C.V. hit but no casualties. Bridge at blown but bridge at is O.K.	
		1905	2i/c of Russian P.W. camp is captured by Russians & beaten before	

			being turned over to Adjt & placed in Bn P.W. cage. Russian P.W. did much looting & the Bn were kept busy guarding stores & shops.	
		1930	Bn area strafed & (2) bombs dropped by enemy aircraft. No casualties.	
DIEPHOLZ 415439	8	0900 2000 2015 2130 2245 2330	 N.T.R. day spent on admin & rest. Bn area strafed by enemy aircraft. Warning order of Bn move. C.O. to "O" group at 2230 hrs. Recce party of 2 Bn Royal Ulster Rifles arrives Diepholz. 3 DIV. Lt Col Turner 1st K.O.S.B. calls at Bn H.Q.	
DIEPHOLZ 415439	9	0200 0600 0845	Bn "O" group called by C.O. Bn Recce party ordered to leave for new area. Handover to 2 Royal Ulster Rifles completed - less 1 pln Manchesters who follow at later timing.	
		0800	Manchesters will report at new area.	
EINSTE sq. 9281		0900	Bn move from Diepholz to Einste via Rehden - Wehrbleck - Sulingen - left to Schwalforden - Weseloher - Vilsen - Martfeld - Holtum & in area squ. 9281 - 9482. TAC H.Q. 925815 - "A" coy 935813, "B" coy 914798, "C" coy 938819, "D" coy 925816. Bn takes over from Durham Light Inf of 7 Armd Div & under Command of 7 Armd Div.	
		1330	C.O. to Bde conference.	
		1400	"C" coy ambushed by enemy patrol while getting into position - enemy infiltrate into area. (5) casualties.	
		1430	(2) carrier sections sent to assist (1) Royal Tank Regt in recovering tank. Recce party cut off by enemy.	
EINSTE sq. 9281		1500	Lt Col C.L. Melville appointed G.I. of 52 (L) DIV to take over immediately. Maj Davidson to take over Bn with Maj Rae acting as 2i/c.	
		1530	Recce harbour party to report to Bde.	
		1600	4 Bn K.O.S.B. come under direct Command of 7 ARMD DIV.	
		1630	Bn move cancelled, recce parties to return.	
		1700	(1) squadron 11th Hussars under command "A" squadron.	
		2145	"O" group for Coy Commanders & detach commander (1) trp A sqdn 11th Hussars to patrol at first light in area of Blender - Varste.	
EINSTE sq. 9281	10	0300	One sub-unit engage enemy at 945825 - enemy retire.	
		0402	Heavy explosion area of bridge 969821	
		0440	" " " " " "	
		0700	Patrol of 11 Hussars delayed because of tank breakdown. New party to patrol.	
		1120	(2) P.W. Marine Regt state bridge at 969821 blown & that their trps have withdrawn across river at 0300.	

		1445	Orste reported clear by - 2 trps & 1 sec of carriers stay in Orste.	
		1830	C.O. to Bde "O" group at 2030 hrs.	
		2145	"C" report spandau & air burst 88 mm over area from Amedorf.	
SUDWEYHE	11	0600	Recce & Harbour parties move for new location under Maj G.H. Rae.	
758884		0800	Bn moves for new location - no handover to Regt or group.	
		1200	Bn in position with T.A.C. H.Q. at 758884 "A" coy 754893 "B" coy 762892 "C" coy 745881 "D" coy 769888.	
		1210	"B" coy T.C.V. hit by air-burst 88mm - 1 killed 3 wounded.	
		1500	Bn takes over coy for coy from 1/5 Queens Regt 7 DIV.	
		1540	"B" & "D" coy areas were heavily shelled.	
		1630	(1) trp tanks VIII Hussars under command - Bn very light on ground compared to previous Regt & attachments.	
SUDWEYHE		1745	Recce parties from 2 Bn K.S.L.I. (3) DIV arrive.	
758884		1730	Bn under command of 180 Bde (3) DIV.	
		1740	Heavy shelling of Bn area by S.P. & 88mm guns - no casualties.	
		1930	Heavy shelling of area by 105 & 88m.m. guns - some casualties.	
		2000	VIII Hussars return to their Regt.	
		2030	Bde order Carrier pln patrol at first light of DREYE sq. 9277 - enemy believed to occupy this village at night.	
		2255	All coys will send out contact & scout patrols through-out night & report to Bde via duty officer.	
758884		2255	Civilians state Rhede is occupied by enemy at night. Inform 185 Bde who order carrier patrol to continue.	
		2258	"A" coy report enemy air-craft strafing area & also aiming at gun area.	
		2341	Patrols report to coys - NO contact with enemy N.T.R.	
	12	0030	T.C.V.s will be moved at least 3000 yds from village under cover of darkness & morning mist to prevent observation by enemy.	
		0100	Patrols from "A" & "C" coy return - no contact N.T.R.	
SUD.		0205	"A" coy standing patrol report sound of enemy transport moving north in LEESTE area.	
758884		0300	Section patrols move to investigate enemy movement in LEESTE area & if unoccupied will remain in area.	
		0415	Patrols return no contact with enemy N.T.R.	
		0615	"A" coy report small enemy patrol approaching ⊙ Patrol shot up with two enemy killed & one (1) P.W. identified as S.S. Panzer Grenadier Regt.	
		0800	Advance party & Recce parties leave for NIENBERG.	
SUD		1000	Shelling of Bn area by 88mm & 105mm guns - counter Battery being laid on by MED & FD Arty.	
758884		1200	Morning very quiet - no sign of ground troops.	
		1300	Advance party of (2) Bn K.S.L.I. report	

		1500	(2) Bn K.S.L.I. take over from Bn coy for coy at 1500 hrs.	
		1700	Bn order to proceed to Einste area sq. 9281 as enemy have counter-attacked. Take same area as before with T.A.C. H.Q. at 925815, coy positions to be the same.	
SUD 758884		1800	Bn move via T.C.V.s for Einste to take up position.	
		1902	Bn column is strafed by enemy aircraft - two (2) bombs dropped but no damage or casualties.	
		2000	Bn in position with coys at "A"	
		2359	Bn on stand-to from 2000 hrs till 0800 hrs & alert. No sign of enemy or counter attack. Area was shelled by 88mm airburst at intervals but no casualties. Enemy activity on the opposite side of river in Verden area.	
EINSTE 925815	13	0200 TO 0630	No sign of enemy counter attack & patrols N.T.R. All enemy seem to have withdrawn to their side of river. Shelling continues but no damage or casualties.	
		0815	Bn will be relieved by "B" Sqdn of 52 Recce Regt Maj Haines O.C.	
		0900	Advance party of Recce Regt arrive.	
		1030	Recce Regt take over from Bn under Maj Haines.	
		1100	Advance party of 7 Cameronians 52 DIV to take over from Bn instead of Recce Regt.	
		1230	Main Body of 7 Cameronians arrive & take over coy from coy under Col W. Forbes.	
EINSTE 925815		1330	Handover completed & Bn embussed for move to NIENBERG.	
		1400	Bn moves off for new area.	
		1630	Bn in new area at NIENBERG. All coy in city & under cover with orders for 48 hrs rest.	
NIENBERG	14	1000	M. General Lyons O.B.E. G.O.C. (7 ARMD DIV) calls at T.A.C. H.Q. to see C.O.	
		1100	Bn at (1) hours notice from 1700 hrs.	
		2210	C.O. & I.O. to attend Recce & "O" group at 0630 hrs at 135685 "Xrds" - 155 Bde under command of (7) ARMD DIV.	
GR. EILSDORF sq. 1570	15	0630	C.O. & I.O. to Bde "O" group.	
		0700	Bn put at 1 hours notice to move to Greater Eilsdorf squ. 1570.	
		1500	Bn move from NIENBERG to new location via T.C.V.s.	
		1700	Bn in position at Gr Eilsdorf A - B & C coys & T.A.C. H.Q. in village, Baker coy at area 148710	
		1715	(1) coy to patrol woods in area 148710.	
		1718	"B" coy to patrol woods.	
		1906	"B" coy meet enemy opposition at 149720, some casualties & company withdraws.	
		1910	"B" coy to attack & clear woods at first light.	
GR.	16	0715	"B" coy on S.P. for clearing of woods supported by one trp of 13-18	

EILSDORF sq. 1570		0730 0745 1030 1100 1600 1730 1730 1830 1900 1910	Hussars & 1 bty of 80 FD REGT. "B" coy progressing NO opposition "B" " on objective & woods cleared, no enemy left, small battle group of 9 enemy met, (2) killed six wounded, (1) P.W., no casualties to "B" coy. (1) offr & 12 O.R. surrender to "C" coy Bn at (1) hrs notice to move. Bn to move to WALSRODE at sq. 2575. Bn takes over fr (2) Bn DEVONS coy for coy at WALSRODE. Bn in posn & in support have 1 Bty of R.H.A. & (2) sect. 4.2 mtrs. Large wine cellar found in "C" coy area. Guards placed on (2) large German Mil Hospitals. "B" coy to go to FALLINGBOSTAL for guard on STALAG #11.	
WALSRODE sq. 2575	17	0845 1045 1100 1105 1110 1240 1400 1600 1900 2000	C.O. to Bde "O" group. "O" group for all coy O.C. at TAC H.Q. MAJ INNES requests (1) coy for reinforcement at P.W. camp at FALLINGBOSTALL - P.W.s looting & bothering civilian women. Large dump of enemy ammo found in school house at 248756. "A" coy move to FALLINGBOSTAL sq. 3276 to assist "B" coy in guarding STALAG 11. Bn will move to new location less "B" & "A" coy. Bn moves by coys to new conc area. Bn in conc area at MITTELSTENDORF sq. 3885 Recce & advance parties to move at first light to sq. 3704 SCHNEVERDINGEN 7/9 R SCOTS report attack on SOLTAU going well - stiff enemy opposition along railway embankment.	
SCHNEVER- DINGEN sq. 3904	18	0900 1130 1200 1400 1700 1700 2130	Bn moves to SCHNEVERDINGEN via SOLTAU "X" rds sq. 4200 to area. Bn takes over coy from coy of 1/5 Queens & is under command of 131 Bde (7) ARMD DIV. Carrier pln to occupy INSEL sq. 3507 - will be relieved by (1) pln of "B" coy. All coys in position. "C" coy have 1 pln at 344042 to guard large ammo dump. (1) pln carriers at 362006 to guard rd junctions (5) POWs taken in area. 52 P.O.W.s taken in area mostly in civilian clothes & surrendered on warning issue in morning. Recce & harbour parties to leave immediately for VERDEN area.	
	19	0700 1000 1100	Bn moves via T.C.V. for VERDEN under command of 52 (L) DIV. Coys to search all houses in area for soldiers. P.W. in civilian clothes warned to report to I.O. in uniform by 1700	

			hrs - or all not reporting will be shot.	
		1800	After considerable trouble Bn in position at VERDEN with coys at:- TAC H.Q. - 005841 - "A" coy 004849 - "C" coy 008845 - "B" coy 002831 "D" coy 001852.	
VERDEN	20	0900	Day spent in admin & reorganising.	
		1800		
		1930	Brig MacLaren & Capt Jones with orders for attack on UPHUSEN sq. 8282	
	21	0900	Bn moves to conc area at ETELSEN sq. 9389.	
		1100	C.O. holds "O" group for attack on UPHUSEN.	
		2100	Slight change in plan - "O" group & movement orders.	
	22	0100	Bn in conc area at BIERDEN sq. 8585.	
			Battle plan to be "A" coy will secure high ground at 849921 - "C" coy will move to wooded area & wood at 845926, "B" coy pass thru "A" to railway marshalling yds at 829937.	
UPHUSEN			"D" coy follow "B" coy & swing left to secure area 826935 - support by 1 trp tanks, 1 trp crocodiles & arty.	
		0400	"A" coy over start line.	
		0415	"C" coy cross start line.	
			Heavy Arty barrage by (1) bty MEDs	
			(1) Regt (80 FD) for 15 mins 0400-0415	
		0530	"A" coy nearing obj - opposition from snipers & well dug in positions at dummy A/A site.	
		0545	"C" coy meet heavy S.A. opposition.	
		0630	"B" coy move thru "A" coy supported by (1) trp tanks Royal Scots Greys & 1 trp of crocodiles R Armd CORPS & "D" coy to follow.	
		0900	"C" coy report they are surrounded & cut off.	
UPHUSEN		0950	Heavy Arty barrage for 10 mins on ACK ACK site by med & fld Arty.	
		1000	"B" coy & supporting Armd attack thru "A" coy.	
		1030	"B" coy report high ground cleared & are proceeding on to objective.	
		1135	"B" coy reported on objective & consolidating - no casualties.	
		1155	"D" coy nearing objective.	
		1156	"C" coy report on objective & consolidating.	
		1205	"D" coy report on objective & consolidating.	
		1210	"B" & "D" coy being shelled by 88MM.	
		1300	UPHUSEN secured & consolidated.	
UPHUSEN		1400	TAC H.Q. moves to UPHUSEN at 828935.	
		1400	- 1600 Bn area shelled heavily by 88M.M. & 155 guns from Bremen area - these were very heavy shells.	
	23	0900-1900	N.T.R. - Bn resting & reorganising.	
		2200	Bn area being shelled by 88 M.M.	

	24	1400 1700 2330	Carrier pln plus 1 pln of "A" coy to search & clear BOLLEN 813912. Capt Alexander & carrier pln report Bollen clear of enemy. 5 P.O.W.s C.O. holds "O" group for attack on Bremen. Bn Area being shelled by heavy arty - 155 MM, no casualties.	
UPHUSEN	25	0330 0430 0900 0905 1400 1500 1600 1600 1700 1910 2000 2030 2145 2210 2220 2240 2315 2350	Bde I.O. phones with references & information of enemy installations in BREMEN. Bde order that Bn will not move before 0800 hrs - will be ALERT at that time. C.O. holds "O" group 1 sqdn tanks R.S. Greys report 1 trp of Crocodiles report R.A.C. Brig MacLaren & Capt Jones with change of plan for Bremen attack. Bn moves to take over from 7/9 R.S. & to conc area at sq. 7796. Bn leaves conc for S.P. on foot passing thru 6 H.L.I. area. Bn leaves S.P. for attack on Bremen area "N" C.O. holds "O" group at TAC H.Q. situated at 73999858. "O" group for coy commanders & supporting arms report & final orders. Plan of battle was - "A" to secure area 723988. "B" to " " 718993 "C" coy to pass thru & secure the area of 715995 - "D" coy to secure area 715992. At first light "D" coy to clear from park to River & "A" coy to clear the area park to river of old Bremen. "B" & "D" coy start operation supported by (1) trp Crocodiles & 1 sect of RE per coy. "A" & "C" coy leave F.U.P. for S.P. Brig MacLaren & Capt Jones call at C.P. for battle particulars. "B" coy send 62 P.W. to Tac H.Q. taken in Post Office Area. "B" coy report on objective & consol. Light opposition. "D" coy report on #1 obj. "C" coy " " object & consol. "A" coy " " " " "	See "Bremen Town plan map.
BREMEN				
BREMEN				
	26	0140 0230 0700 0720 0800 1100	TAC H.Q. moves forward to post office German officer on Recce captured by "C" coy. States that they have been taken by surprise. 150 Bremen police (Admin & Traffic) surrender & are unarmed & made prisoners. Fire dept surrender & are permitted to stand by at posts. Prisoners from coys start arriving at Tac H.Q. in large numbers. C.O. sends police Major of force which surrendered to tell the police force of the city to surrender by 1400 hrs.	

		1130	More prisoners of war from C & D coy. Total number taken to date 692 - of various regts & services - mostly marines.	
BREMEN		1245	Police General of Bremen & 350 police surrender. They marched from the central police station in threes under a white flag. Were met by an officer who guided them to Tac H.Q. & informed the C.O. that they wished to surrender the force. The C.O. met the General who surrendered his force & the sword to the C.O. - The General was then ordered to disarm the force & to proceed under guard to the police station & remain there under guard.	
BREMEN		1255	Railway police & workers surrender arms & ammo & the railway force.	
		1400	Snipers are active from house on far side of railway not yet cleared.	
		1430	Support Coy report finding large wine cellar.	
		1445	"B" coy report finding large wine cellar.	
		1520	Carrier pln report telephone exchange found complete & guard placed on building.	
		1600	Civilians & D.P.s looting station & parcels - 1 pln "A" coy placed as guard.	
BREMEN		1630	"A" coy & "C" coy will send out contact patrols along R.R. tracks to 6 H.L.I.	
		1700	157 Bde pass thru to attack & take area "M" of Bremen.	
		1730	Brig MacLaren & Capt D. Jones call with patrol programme.	
		1800	All coys to have local protective patrols.	
		1900	The night was very quiet & other than local patrols no incident was reported. The total number of prisoners taken by the Bn for the Bremen battle number 1267 & 600 police fully armed surrendered to the Bn.	
Bremen	27	0900	Bde ordered that all air-raid shelters be checked for P.W.s & soldiers in civilian clothes.	
		1100	Shelters checked & (4) P.W.s found plus many D.P.s.	
		1200	Bn spent the afternoon consolidating posns & in administration. "D" coy move to police station for guard purposes. All "T" force targets under guard & some relieved by "T" force. 157 Bde reported on objective.	
		1800	43 DIV attack area "F" & Bremen Garrison General surrenders. Pte J. Reid, a prisoner, released by Durham Light Inf & returns to Bn.	
Bremen	28	0700	Bn H.Q. & "C" coy move to new location at TAC H.Q. - 72839945 - "C" coy at 72949951.	
		0930	G.O.C. Maj Gen Hakewell-Smith addresses Bn & congratulates them on the excellent spirit & work they have shown & done through-out the	

			N.W.E. campaign.	
		1400	TAC H.Q. & "C" coy in new posns.	
		1600	Patrols by "C" & "A" coy, see patrols	App. "B"
		2400	N.T.R.	
	29	1000	"D" coy moves to new location at 72709953 & report in posn.	
		1800	Bn on administration	
		2400	Patrols by "C" & "D" coy.	App. "B"
BREMEN	30	1600	Bn at 3 hrs notice to move to new area.	
		1800	Patrols. "C" & "D" coy.	App. "B"
		2400	Maj G.H. Davidson promoted to Lt Col Davidson C.O. 4th K.O.S.B. D.J. Urquhart Lieut for C.O. 4th Bn K.O.S.B.	

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol.I. and the Staff Manual respectively. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.219. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 4th Bn K.O.S.B.

Month and Year MAY 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL G.H. DAVIDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BREMEN	2	0711	Warning order - Recce parties will leave at 0830 hrs for new area 7915. Will be met by guides.	
		0810	Bn will move to new area, pass S.P. LEKE at 1200 hrs. Will have under command (1) trp 17 pds - 1 pln M.G. Manchesters - 80 Fd Regt.	
		1600	Bn in position in new area having taken over from 1st Bn Worcestershire Regt 214 Bde of 43 DIV. Coy locations at A - 817177 ⊙ B - 821163 - C 827170 D 845177 - H.Q. - 832167	
		1930	"A" coy report local protection patrols have N.T.R.	
		2400	N.T.R.	
832167	3	1240	Brigade report rds cratered at 789195 - Bridge blown at 789193.	
		1400	R.E. Recce party report to recce rds at 816188 816077 as soon as possible & will have covering party supplied by 4 K.O.S.B. - "A" coy to supply party.	
		1600	Brig & BM with order for Recce patrol to find condition of hedges and rds, also to search area North & an ISLAND for enemy.	
			"A" coy will supply first patrol.	
			"B" coy " " second party for island.	
		2145	"A" coy patrol returns N.T.R.	
			"D" " " " N.T.R.	
832167	4	0120	R.E. Recce & "A" coy recce return & report directly to Bde - Road found to be heavily cratered.	
		0230	Reported shelling of "A" coy area from 270° - no casualties.	
		0940	R.A. will reply to any shelling in area.	
		1015	"B" coy return from searching island & report no enemy at - 805200 - 850210 or 810230 or 850230.	
		2400	N.T.R.	
	5	A.M.	A.M. N.T.R.	
		P.M.	"D" coy to patrol as coy to stop all D.P. personnel from entering area. N.T.R.	
832167	6	A.M.	N.T.R.	
		P.M.	RUMOUR of peace & at 1900 hrs THE NEWS	
	7	1000	Church service held at TAC H.Q. with Bn present & a service for the	

		2300	fallen of the 4th Bn K.O.S.B. - this was a very impressive service & one of thanksgiving & prayer by & for all of the 4th Bn. SEE AT "O" group for C.O. at Bde.	APPEN. "C"
832167	8	0930 1000 1200 1400 TO 1600 1700 1700 1800 1830	"O" group at TAC H.Q. for coy Commands. Advance Recce party for Osterholz - O.P. of 80 Fd Regt will move with Regt. C.O. will attend DIV Conference at Bremen for area & occupational role of Bn. Prisoners & enemy begin to surrender in numbers to coy H.Q.'s & TAC H.Q., are told to report back to German Army. C.O.'s orders on occupational duties. Bn in new location at Osterholz - Scharnbeck after move via Bremen. P.M.'s speech broadcast to troops Bn Pipe band plays retreat in town square Osterholz - Scharnbeck.	
OSTERHOLZ-SCHARNBECK	9	0930 1330 1500 1810 2400	Coy Commands conference for patrols of area & location of enemy dumps & rd conditions in area. B.M. orders 1 pln & carriers to investigate report of S.S. trps at RITTENHUDE - who have about (9) Russians. RITTENHUDE clear of all enemy troops. Report of Russians being killed FALSE. 12 pln left to search village. Sgt Cowie 12 pln reports no S.S. in Rittenhude area, village clear. N.T.R.	
	10	0900 1000 2400	Reports of all enemy dumps & supplies in area sent to Bde. 1 pln "A" coy to report to LESUM for traffic control duties. (6) P.W. taken for day.	
	11	0900 1100 1800	"C" coy to relieve 80 Fd REGT at German D.P. Camp. 30 P.W. taken to hospital at Bremen. Various complaints of looting by Russians.	
OSTERHOLZ-SCHARNBECK	12	0930 1800	"O" group for O.C. coys. 12 P.W.s in civil clothing taken.	
	13	0900 0930 2300	2 P.W.s beaten by Russians. Bn church parade. "A" coy have smoker - C.O. 2i/c attend.	
	14	0900 1400 1800	C.O. to "C" coy for lecture & information to men - on NORWAY. Bn patrols to check civilian passes. H.Q. coy have smoker. C.O. - 2i/c attend.	
	15	0900 1200	C.O. Bde "O" group re orders on new location at Martfeld 8976. Advance Recce parties leave for MARTFELD 8976.	
	16		Normal Bn routine N.T.R.	
	17		" " " N.T.R.	

MARTFELD 8976	18	0900 1200 1530	Bn prepare to move to new area. " move to new area via BREMEN. " in new area. Locations - A B C D H.Q. at	
	19 TO 23	 0900	Bn on admin & reorganisation & coy sports & recreational training. Recce parties leave for new area at LETZLINGEN 549349.	
	24		Bn prepare to move to new area.	
	25	0900 1500	Bn move to new area. Bn arrive new area. H.Q. at 559345 A - 312212 B 312211 - C - 265185 D 495295 Sp at 420281	
LETZLINGEN 553345	27	1400	Ceremonial take over from the 379 Fd Regt U.S. Arty 102 DIV Lt Col DAMON at Oebisfelde by "A" coy & "B" coy. One bty of U.S. soldiers & 1 coy of 4th K.O.S.B. paraded to the town square led by the pipe band. Col Davidson & Col Damon led the parade. Maj G.H. Rae M.C. was O.C. K.O.S.B. coy & Maj P. Roach O.C. Arty Bty. The coy presented arms to respective C.O.s & the command of Oebisfelde to Lt Col G.H. Davidson after which the coy & Bty marched off the squ & back to the Barracks.	
LETZLINGEN GERMANY	28	2400	Bn officers to act as Military Govt in respective towns & areas. Maj A.R. Stewart M.C. to be Mil Govt for Oebisfelde with Capt F. Coutts as chief of police.	
LETZLINGEN GERMANY	29	 1830 2100	Ceremonial take over from 380 Fd Regt U.S. ARTY of 102 DIV. MAJ SWEENEY C.O. - at LETZLINGEN. (1) Bty of U.S. ARTY parade at the town square & (1) coy K.O.S.B. & the pipe band. The Stars & Stripes was lowered & the Union Jack raised while each coy Presented Arms. The respective C.O.s then took the salute from his opposite coy. Both coys were led by the pipe Band of the Bn. Pipe band plays retreat at LETZLINGEN. A large number of U.S. troops were present. Offrs of the Bn entertain the C.O. & offrs of the 380 Fd Arty U.S. at dinner & social evening.	
	30	1400	Take over from Americans completed in Bn area.	
	31		Maj G.H. Rae awarded M.C. Maj A.E. Stewart awarded M.C. Pte G. FINLAYSON "B" coy awarded M.M. Cpl T. KIRKHOPE "D" coy " M.M. Cpl E. WILSON "B" coy " M.M.	

W A R D I A R Y - of 5th Bn. The K.O.S.Borderers for June, 1940.

In Lieu of A.F.R. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
Kingsclere	1	0900	The main event of the day was a practice embussing scheme for the Bn. The difficulty of communications is being eased by sending cycle orderlies out to warn coys. It is found that this works more certainly than depending merely on Line. Five 39-seater buses were allotted to each rifle coy. Bicycles were taken in the personnel buses. The column had plenty time to pass the S.P. two miles off at 1030 hrs. The Transport followed behind at an interval - no Bn. transport moved in the personnel column. All men were debussed again by 1258 hrs. In the afternoon the Brigadier paid us a visit.	
Imber	2	1000	The Quartermaster and 2/Lt. K.M. McCall arrive at Imber to take over our camp for the trench schemes on 6/12 June.	
Kingsclere	3	0530	The Mobile pls. of all coys. were turned out for practice.	
"	4	--	This was the date when the Division was to be ready for war. And though for the last few days we have been GHQ. First Line Home Defence, and prepared to move to Aldershot; yet it was today we received notice to mobilize for a move overseas by 9 June. This necessitates some hectic work. We have 180 unfit category men still hanging round, a great many men lack respirators and rifles. Ammunition is short. Two carriers, two trucks and three M/C. need replacement. Men's (and officers') kits requiring cutting down to war scales. And we are nine officers short, in spite of repeated urgent application to the Depot. 130 O.Rs. are drafted down from the depot as re-placement and First Line Reserve. They need to be split up to companies and equipped. A new tactical movement table for an embussed column is drawn out by Division. The details will be found at Appendix 1. This news, of course, cancels the camp at Imber and we have been promised to remain in these billets till we move.	App. 1.
"	5		Mobilization now more or less cuts out any training. The Quartermaster is at work all day, and gets another officer to help. He has to issue most of the G.1098 stores and draw in all surplus stuff. It is difficult to find the proper distribution of tools and stores in H.Q. Coy. The War news to-day tells of a great German push on the Somme front especially on the lower Somme. This makes thoughts of immediate invasion seem rather pale. All the B.E.F. are now evacuated from Dunkirk. Our 1st Bn. would appear to have come off with fairly light casualties.	
"	6		A note to be mobilized and ready to move by tomorrow midnight, necessitates very swift moving. The vehicles have to be camouflaged, and paint is bought	

			locally. They have to be marked, with Divisional, Unit and Tactical signs. And the Embarkation sign (buff, green, buff) and number are put on all separate baggage. New capes anti-gas, respirators container, wallets anti-gas and boots are the most important present issues. It has been very difficult to obtain size 7 and 8 boots. A.Bs. 64 are to be completed.	
"	7	 2000 2340	Mobilization continues at a feverish pace. A lot of stores are still short, notably respirator haversacks. Motley mountings and other stores. Tommy Guns and compasses are very short. Payment is made on A.B.64 but money is still drawn from the company bank accounts. 50 more O.Rs. arrive in a draft from the depot. 5 officers are attached to us. 2/Lts. C.R. Watson & G.L. Spence from the Gordons - 2/Lts. R.D. MacLeod, R.B.G. Gray, and A.D. Macdonald from the Camerons. They were sent here at immediate notice and arrived complete with golf clubs and other accoutrements. They will have a busy time getting fitted up for the move. A warning move order is received. A picquet requires to be turned out to deal with disorder in the village. But this is presumably only consequent upon last pay-day before embarkation.	
Kingsclere	10	 0500	Coys. start seriously doing route marches with full packs in preparation for the future. Most of them take place in the early morning before the sun gets too hot, but even so tunics are discarded and "shirt order" is now general. - The whole of the Bn. Tpt. moves off under 2/Lts. A.B. Duncan, C.St.J.H. Parlby & J.H. Maxwell. The C.O. inspected them the night before and it was quite an amazing display to see all the transport on parade at once. Capt. K.H. Macalpine Leny had already gone in advance as liaison officer.	
	11		Route march practices are continued. 10 Worcesters' send their advance party to complicate matters. The final packing up, burning of papers and sorting of rubbish and stores is fairly hectic. The armourers work all night to remove numbers and regimental name from rifles end bayonets.	
Newbury Southampton	12	0815 0950 1230	The first train leaves with "B" & "D" Coys. The second train leaves with the remainder of the Bn. and baggage. About five or six men who had to march the whole way from Kingsclere fell out. Mrs. Stevens of the Y.M.C.A. canteen was there to give us tea. The second train arrives at Southampton. The men and baggage unload, and the men are drawn up on the platform. We remain there for some time until it is decided whether the boat can sail or not. It has just come in and the captain is ill. It is a Belgian boat called "Prince Baudouin". The 4th K.O.S.B. and 7/9th R.S. were already aboard their ships "Princess Astrid and Manxman" respectively, which sailed out about 1500 hrs. We eventually loaded about 1600 hrs. and sailed about 1730 hrs. joining the other two and our attendant destroyer outside in Southampton Water. The journey was uneventful. We sailed	

			at dusk and pursued a zig-zag course out to the channel. The men kept in good spirits despite the discomforts of the boat. The sanitation was limited, because there had been no time to water, so washing and even drinking became very difficult.	
S. Malo	13	1000 1915	We landed after being anchored outside for some time waiting for the tide. As soon as we could get the baggage off-loaded we formed up and marched at 150 yds. interval through the town to a rest billet near CANCALE. The march was about six miles, but the column persisted in halting at twenty minute intervals which was most tiring. The inhabitants showered flowers and cider upon us, and it was difficult to keep the troops off the cider. We were all into CANCALE, by 1515 hrs. and had tea and a meal. The last of our column left the billet to march four miles to the station at LA GUENIERE. The column was again halted at frequent-irregular intervals and the last files arrived too late to get their tea and biscuits before the train departed. We travelled through the night; the men did not get much sleep in the horse-boxes.	
SILLE	14	0930	We detrained at SILLE LE GUILLAUME - which was promptly renamed Silly Billy - - and found Capt. Leny and our interpreter, Marechal de Logis Mat Durfour, waiting for us. The second train was marching off out of the station when the "first" train with "A" Coy. arrived. We had fourteen miles to march before the men had anything to eat or drink. But they stuck it remarkably we11. About twenty men fell out, mostly from the Administrative P1. of H.Q. Coy. - people who do not march at all in normal circumstances - Luckily the transport was able to take the men's packs, and thus save them a good deal of weight. Tea and bread was provided eventually as the men reached DOMFORT. And then we marched on down into FORET where our billet was. We arrived about 1400 hrs. and the battalion settled down to get a meal and a rest. Rations and petrol were brought from D.I.D. and LE MANS, but pay was not forthcoming. There was an air-raid over LE MANS. Guards and sentries were posted all round the area very strongly.	
Domfort	14	 1145	It was hot and dry when we arrived, but a storm broke over the camp at 1700 hrs. and soaked everything. The men rigged up all sorts of bivouacs in the woods and got what little comfort they could. A message from Brigade summoned the C.O. and the Adjutant to Brigade H.Q. and the Bn. was ordered to be ready to move by 0030 hrs.	
	15	0700	After hectic packing the Bn. embussed and moved off in tactical column. The day became very hot; the drivers of the transport who had just driven across France from Cherbourg, and who had thereafter had a day of fetching and carrying at DOMFORT, were sleepy. We drove about 160 miles from DOMFORT, SILLE, AMBRIERES, LE TEILLEUL, MORTAIN, VILLEDIEU, PERRIERS, ST. SAUVEUR LE VICOMTE, BRICQUEBEC, and then up the CHERBOURG road to TALFARET, where we turned off to St. Martin Le Greard, arriving there 1800 hrs. H.Qs. was	

			immediately established in a small cafe in the main street. H.Q. Coy. and B Ech. were in the fields on either side of the lane running to HARDINVAST. B Coy. was nearby across the other side of the road TALFARET-DELASSE. D Coy. was on the right at the cross roads on the BRICQUEBEC road. C Coy. was on the left at the cross roads before DELASSE. We got settled down and spent a wet but quiet night.	
S. Martin	16		We are now rearguard to the B.E.F. and have to cover the withdrawal of all British Forces from CHERBOURG. We are part of the NORMAN Force under General MARSHALL-GORNWALL. The rest of the Division and Brigade are to retire through us. - We still have nearly all our equipment. We burned the spare gas clothing and dumped a lot of blankets at DOMFORT. Five trucks crashed on the way owing to the drivers falling asleep, but no-one was hurt. Only three carriers arrived - the rest found the going too hard. The only men who went missing were Sgt. Brodie, and a party of six who were last seen following a convoy numbered 8 into CHERBOURG. Everything in CHERBOURG is packing up. The N.A.A.F.I's., the Field Cashier, the D.A.P.M. and H.Q. But civilian life proceeds as usual apart from fairly constant air raids. The civilian morale of the French seems to vary considerably, between despondency and a desire to fight to the end. The latter word is considerably enhanced by a little wine. - Brigade was established at LA DIVETTERIE and Division at TOLLVAST CHU. 1700 All transport that could be spared and some unessential equipment was sent off to join the 4th Bn. who were to 1eave tonight. 87 First reinforcements left aboard the Princess Astrid, and were shortly followed by Lt. L.B. - Cobden Ramsay. 1730 The padre held a service in the orchard behind H.Q. Coy. and about 150 men stayed to communicate afterwards. The night passed quietly. - Capt. Leny joined Divisional Staff as Liaison Officer, and Capt. T.D. Stephen joined us.	
	17		We had attached to us 30 3-ton lorries of the 529 Petrol Coy. R.A.S.C. under 2/Lt. Russell; 1 troop 216 Anti-Tank Bty. 54 Fd. Regt. R.A. under 2/Lts. White and Bevoridge and 1 sec. 554 Fd. Coy. R.E. under Lt. Rougleton and we were to receive 6 scout cars of the 3 Ard. Bde. under Lt. Ashton. A thorough recce was made of the inner and outer perimeters of defence. The outer perimeter meant holding the line of the river west from CARENTAN. The inner perimeter was the immediate defence of CHERBOURG, and was concerned mainly with road blocks in and around the town. (The Battalion moved at 1600 hrs. to posns. on the outer perimeter. [Full details of subsequent events will be found in "Report of operations of 5 K.O.S.B. and attached Troops".]	App. 2.
S. Mere L'Eglise	18	1230	The Bn. was ordered to withdraw on CHERBOURG. By now the only passable road was the main VALOGNES road. The BRIQUEBEC road was blown and the lanes were barricaded at every turn. However, the convoy got down the road safely.	

CHERBOURG "		1430 1600	CHERBOURG was covered in a black pall of smoke from burning trucks. The French were still standing by their barricades in handfuls. The main body of the Bn, was in, and the road was to be blocked finally at 1500. But D Coy gave us same anxiety as they were not in till a while later and 2 Pls. of "A" Coy. were missing. We sailed suddenly after an air bombing attack from three enemy planes. It seemed violent because of the noise of A.A. fire and Brens. The bombers came over at a great height and stick bombed the harbour three times. Every available gun was firing at them although they were well out of L.M.G. range. The bombs did no damage. There was an unfortunate accident aboard the ship when an anti-tank rifle went off, as it was being carried aboard, and killed a man, 3189266 Pte. W. Wilson of the Carrier Platoon. - We left Cherbourg with a destroyer and seaplane escort, and the quay behind us was blown up. The journey across was quick and uneventful.	
Southampton	18	2300	We docked and immediately disembarked at Southampton. As soon as the men were paraded and the baggage was unloaded we entrained and the second train was away by 0200 hrs. A great many guns and a lot of ammunition were salvaged - but a lot of kit was missing and most of our fine new G.1098 equipment was lost including all our transport.	
Ramsey, (Hunts)	19	1330	We arrive at our destination RAMSEY, HUNTS. after a fifteen mile bus journey from MARCH station. Brigade H.Q. is in HUNTINGDON and DIVISION is in CAMBRIDGE. We settle down into our billets in RAMSEY. A Coy and D Coy move out to SUTTON. All ranks are considered at Battle Stations. We are fairly well equipped as regards armament. Rifles and ammunition are up to strength. Brens are three short and so are tommy guns. (This accounted for by the missing Platoons of A Coy.) We have 8 A/Tk. Rifles over establishment. We are several 2" Mortars short and our 3" mortars were sent on with the spare stuff to the 4th Bn. and left behind with it. We have no transport and very little kit. A great deal of time is spent finding blankets. Luckily there is a company of the Essex Searchlights just one mile North of RAMSEY with an excellently equipped cookhouse and they have arranged to draw our rations and feed us until we can draw some accommodation stores. This we hope to do from the 12th R.F. who are moving out of the area, and whose posts we expect to take over.	
	20		After two air-raids running, RAMSEY provides a quiet night for us. Bn. H.Q. established at BURY and then moved to ALSOP AND DAVIS'S YARD in the Great Whyte. The day is spent in checking deficiencies and settling in.	
	21		Four Officers and three O.Rs. arrive back who were missing. Capt. K.H. Macalpine Leny who had been acting as Liaison Officer with the staff, had been on board the escorting destroyer. 2/Lt. J.H. Maxwell joined him there later after missing the boat at the quay, and so did 2/Lt. C.St.J.H. Parlby.	

			Lt. Greenhalgh the M.O. had gone ashore to salvage some medical stores, and had to nail the destroyer to get aboard her. They were all landed at PORTSMOUTH, and joined us as soon as they received information of our destination. Our present tactical scheme is part of a Brigade Defence against an enemy thrust south from the WASH. The 7/9 R.S. are in the first line. We occupy the second line WHITTLESEA - CHATTERIS - ELY and the 4th Bn. are in reserve. We are due to take over road block positions from 12th R.F. and occupy them on the alarm.	
	22	1300	Coys must be re-organized owing to the continued absence and feared loss of two platoons of A Coy. Capt. Leny, 2/Lt. A.J. Jardine Paterson, 2/Lt. T.W. Kennedy Moffat and 2/Lt. J.G. Gladstone are to officer platoons from the first reinforcements and thus complete the strength. Orders for taking over 12th R.F. posns. are cancelled, though C Coy. are still on Guard at UPWOOD aerodrome. We are to occupy V.Ps. and embus the Bn. in 32 buses. But we are not informed what the V.Ps. are, and the buses never arrived. Capt. T.D. Stephens visited us from Division, and goes back to try to clear the matter up. 6 men of A Coy. arrive back from Dover where another two lie wounded. Cpl. Selkirk is senior. They were in a bus with 2/Lt. G.L. Spence travelling into CHERBOURG on the BRIQUEBEC road when they were attacked with shell fire and bullets. It is not clear whether this was a German ambush, which seems improbable as they appear to be within 3 Kilos. of CHERBOURG, or whether it was an unfortunate mistake and the French were firing on them, seeing the roads were closed. They lay in a wood in hiding, and on returning to the bus found it burned with the wounded they had placed there and no sign of Spence. They were later guided to the West coast by French marines, set off in a motor boat, and were picked up by a Dutch steamer and landed in England.	
	23	1900	Some transport arrives for the Bn: So far we have had two M/Cs. and one hired taxi. Now we have one four seater Austin and five lorries of various shapes and sizes. One was actually towed here and dumped - another uses l ga1. of oil in 40 miles. All is quiet as regards air-raids though there have been several in this district latterly. The Fifth Column here is said to be strong, and though there is no proof; evidence of its activity is not lacking. Verey lights flash out in the Fens during the night, and there seems to be no other explanation of them. Early this morning France signed an armistice with Germany. Mat. Dufour has left us to join General de Gaulles in LONDON. In the short time he was with us he became a friend of all of us. We are very sorry to lose him.	
	24	0830	2/Lt. A. Skene our Intelligence Officer has left to take up an appointment as Brigade Intelligence Officer. 2/Lt. A.D. Macdonald has taken his place here.	

			"A" Coy moved into RAMSEY from SUTTON today for re-organization and training. Capt. Leny becomes their 2nd i/c. and 2/Lt. Gray is transferred from the Pioneers.	
	25	0600	Last night a "Slipper" Patrol was sent out, and it was intended that we should patrol the area around RAMSEY nightly. At six o'clock this morning, however, 12th R.F. were moved from CHATTERIS. The result is that we have had to take over their defence posns. on the line ELY - CHATTERIS - WHITTLESEY. We will no longer have personnel here sufficient to provide a slipper patrol. A Coy. Cmdrs. conference was held and the Commanding Officer outlined the scheme which we have taken over from the 12 R.F. Slight changes have had to be made in it. Full details will be found in Appendix 3 All this has led to a reshuffle of company posns. Early this morning D Coy moved from SUTTON to CHATTERIS, but as this coy will have to be responsible for road blocks at ELY, it was decided at the conference to move them there, in spite of the difficulty of securing suitable billets there. H.Q. Coy. reconstituted as a Rifle Coy. move to CHATTERIS tomorrow, and B Coy have gone to WHITTLESEY. Bn. H.Q., the bulk of the signallers, a certain number of drivers and A Coy. are to remain at RAMSEY. Today we sent 2 Brens, 1 A/T Rifle, together with all spare parts, magazines and ammunition on full war scale to 155 Bde A/Tk Coy.	App. 3
		2200	We have replaced our Slipper Patrol by a motor patrol, consisting of one officer, a driver, and two other ranks. Its function is to report and observe upon any suspicious activities in the neighbourhood during the night. It can cover a large area in front of our posns.	
	26		Last night air-raid sirens sounded for the second night in succession. No bombs were dropped anywhere near here, but as on the previous night it was three hours or more before the "All Clear" was given. Air Raid Alarms during the night make very little difference to us now, for the bulk of the battalion is on duty from dusk to dawn, manning road blocks in our new posns,	
		2000	and so, is awake in any case. - H.Q. Coy. moved out to CHATTERIS; last night they manned their road blocks from here, but this arrangement was only temporary. The transformation of H.Q. Coy. has been simpler than might be supposed, since it has been without specialist gear since our return, and consequently has all the ingredients of a Rifle Company, and nothing more.	
	27	0830	A report from B Coy alluded to suspicious lights over WHITTLESEY. On further enquiry it emerged that a section on duty at a road block situated at the level crossing next to WHITTLESEY L.N.E.R. Station, saw a red and White verey light fired from the direction of the town or beyond it - i.e. approx. N.W. The time then was 2325. This is interesting because about 2330 hrs. German machines were over RAMSEY (Only 'Yellow' was given). We were told today that 52nd Div. is to be moved nearer the East Coast. Capt. Leny carried out a preliminary recce. of a suitable site for a camp for us at	

			COCKLEY CLEY near SWAFFHAM. - Further sundry transport arrived during the day, and now, although ours is a motley fleet of trucks and cars in various stages of dilapidation, the transport problem is greatly eased.	
Ramsey	28		A second recce. of COCKLEY CLEY was made, there was a BDE. Conference at CHATTERIS in the afternoon, and at a Conference held here late this evening we were told that our move was imminent. In fact, an advance party under Capt. Leny and Capt. Henderson goes tomorrow. How soon the whole bn. can be moved depends upon transport and upon the arrival of Area Commanders to relieve us in our present posns. Yesterday's entry should have contained the news that two further members of "A" Coy have turned up. These are Sgt. McSkimmings and Corporal Selkirk. They reached England with an R.A.S.C. driver of one of the three store trucks. Sgt. McSkimmings story will be found in Appendix 2 to this Diary	App. 2
	29		The Advance Party to COCKLEY CLEY went off this morning. It included the Pioneer Platoon and this involved a hasty reshuffle, since the Pioneers were part of the newly formed H.Q. Rifle Coy. Replacements from the Intelligence, Signals and Transport had to take their place at CHATTERIS at very short notice, and two officers here lost their batmen in the transaction.	
	30		Rather gloomy news filters through from CLEY. There seems to be a shortage of available drinking water there, and we have no water cart ourselves. The 4th K.O.S.B. have offered us a broken down water cart, and the M.T.O. hopes to get it fixed up. Everyone here is indulging in wishful thinking. We are losing two more officers. 2/Lt. C.St.J.H. Parlby goes to Bde. in charge of the Carrier Platoon of the Bde. Recce. Coy. which is now being formed. 2/Lt. J.H. Maxwell is going to the same Company in charge of the Tank Hunting Platoon whose personnel comes from this Unit. Last night we got 24 motor buses; today seven newer reconditioned cars and in all 28 motor bicycles. Seventeen of these are for our Tank Hunting Platoon.	

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Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 5/K.O.S.B.

Month and Year Sep. 44

Commanding Officer Lt.Col. WFR. Turner. K.O.S.B.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.	3 Sep		Bn leaves Vache Camp by rd & rail for Woodhall Spa, Lincs. Accommodated in KIRKBY MOOR CAMP with rear party 7/K.O.S.B. (of 1 Airborne Div).	Appx "A" WFRT
	8 Sep	1800	GOCs Briefing Conf Div HQ. All OsC Coys attend.	WFRT
	11 Sep		Op planned and briefed on 8 Sep cancelled.	WFRT Appx "B"
	17 Sep		Airborne Corps lands Holland.	WFRT Appx "C"
	18 Sep	1800	GOC Briefing Conference for Ex "Patience" with Airborne Corps.	WFRT Appx "D"
	20 Sep	2330	Conf at Brigade HQ to brief 4/K.O.S.B. and 5/K.O.S.B. for glider op. Object to reinforce 1 Airborne Div fighting heavy opposition at ARNHEM.	WFRT
	21 Sep		Planning for glider op completed.	WFRT
	22 Sep	1100	Glider op cancelled.	WFRT
	25 Sep	2330	Orders to prepare for move to airfds. First Div serials move on 26 Sep 44.	WFRT Appx "E"
	26 Sep		Move to airfd postponed. Part I Orders No.187/44 - 207/44 (incl) AFW 3008 Serial Nos 3 - 7 (incl) AFW 3009E Serial Nos 3 - 7 (incl)	WFRT Appx "F" Appx "G" Appx "H" Appx "I"

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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 5th.Bn.The King's Own Scottish Borderers

Month and Year October 1944.

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Woodhall Spa	1/10/44	1347	Exercise "Patience" postponed indefinitely.	Appx 'A' GB
" "	2/10/44		7 days leave starts for 5% of bn per day.	GB
" "	7/10/44	1700	Leave cancelled : all personnel recalled	GB
" "	9/10/44	1150	Move of Div to N.W. European Theatre to be known as Exercise "Wholemeal".	Appx 'B' GB
		1600	Move postponed until 11 Oct 44.	Appx 'C' GB
" "	11/10/44	1540	Bn at 12 hrs notice to move.	Appx 'D' GB
" "	12/10/44	1220	Further delay until 1200 hrs 13 Oct 44 due to bad weather in Channel.	Appx 'E' GB
" "	13/10/44		Move postponed until 16 Oct 44.	Appx 'F' GB
" "	17/10/44	0535	Bn leaves Woodhall Junc Sta for FAREHAM by two trains. "A", "C", "S", & "HQ" Coys in 1st train, "B" & "D" Coys in 2nd train.	GB
" "	18/10/44	0900	MT party of all wheeled vehs leave WOODHALL SPA for PURFLEET	GB
" "	19/10/44		Carrier party of 13 Carriers leave WOODHALL SPA by train for GRAVESEND.	
Fareham		0700	"A" & "C" Coys plus C.O. and Sig Offr leave FAREHAM transit Camp A.16 and embark at SOUTHAMPTON.	GB
	21/10/44	0630	Remainder of marching personnel leave FAREHAM and embark at SOUTHAMPTON in H.M.S. Princess Josephine Charlotte.	GB
Ostend	21/10/44	1500	"A" & "C" Coys disembark OSTEND. Stay night 21/22 Oct 44 in OSTEND transit camp.	GB
Desselghem	22/10/44	1200	"A" & "C" Coys arrive DESSELGHEM.	GB
Ostend		1600	Remainder of marching party disembark OSTEND. Remain night 22/23 Oct 44 at transit camp OSTEND.	GB
Tilbury	23/10/44	1000	MT & Carrier parties embark TILBURY.	GB
Ostend		1200	Remainder of marching personnel move by TCV from OSTEND to DESSELGHEM.	GB
Ostend	25/10/44	1400	MT & Carrier parties disembark OSTEND. Remain night 25/26 at transit camp.	GB
Desselghem	26/10/44	1200	MT & Carrier parties arrive DESSELGHEM. Bn complete in DESSELGHEM.	

"		1200	C.O.'s Conference for Os.C. Coys. Warns of conc of bn in MALDEGEM area preparatory to attack on WALCHEREN ISLAND.	GB
St. Georges	28/10/44	0845	Bn leaves DESSELGHEM in MT for ST. GEORGES.	GB
"	30/10/44	1730	C.O. and IO attend Bde briefing conference for Exercise "Infatuate" i.e. attack on WALCHEREN ISLAND.	Appx 'G' GB
St. Georges	31/10/44		Bn leaves to conc at BRESKENS. Bn Part I Orders No.208/44 - 221/44 (incl). A.F.W.3008 Serial Nos 8 - 11 (incl). A.F.W.3009E Serial Nos 8 - 11 (incl). Order of Battle. Summary of Events 1 May 44 - 16 Oct 44.	GB Appx 'H' Appx 'I' Appx 'J' Appx 'K' Appx 'L'

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WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.

Month and Year Nov 1944

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
St Georges	1 Nov	0800 1400 1500 1700 1730 2000	Bn (less LOB) leaves ST GEORGES in TCV for BRESKENS. "A" "C" & "D" coys embark in LCA. "A" & "C" coys leave BRESKENS but return as Naval Authorities think UNCLE BEACH under heavy enemy fire. "A" "C" & "D" coys disembark owing to enemy shelling of BRESKENS harbour. Bn re-embarks and crosses to FLUSHING landing at UNCLE BEACH without casualties. Bn HQ established. CO visits OC tps in FLUSHING and receives orders for 2 Nov 44. CO issues orders for 2 Nov.	Appx "J" - Folio No.1
FLUSHING FLUSHING	2 Nov	0530 1100 1600 1700	"A" & "C" coys cross into areas Grouse and Cod respectively under heavy fire from DOVER. Some casualties incl 3 offrs "C" coy. "C" coy complete clearance of GROUSE. "B" & "D" coys cross into GROUSE. Bn HQ now at SW corner of GROUSE. "A" coy complete clearance of COD. "B" & "D" coys now clearing PIKE, PARTRIDGE, TROUT and DUCK. "D" & "B" coys complete clearance of PIKE, PARTRIDGE, TROUT & DUCK. Some sniping from cranes BEXHILL area.	
	3 Nov		Bn holds gains of 2 Nov 44. "B" & "D" coys on banks of canal engage the enemy on HAYMARKET with small arms. Rocket and artillery attacks made on HAYMARKET, STRAND.	
FLUSHING FLUSHING FLUSHING	4 Nov	0230 0810 1100	Bn makes attack on area E of FLUSHING. Objectives B - area North of HAYMARKET and STRAND. D coy PICCADILLY and area North of CORNHILL. C coy area WATERLOO and KNIGHTSBRIDGE. All coy objectives captured : 200 prisoners taken. B coy push on along E bank of FLUSHING - MIDDLEBURG CANAL. Two casualties (1 offr 1 NCO) through mines. Coy HQ established at OOSTOUBURG level crossing. A coy takes over responsibility for WATERLOO and patrol along coast past KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Coy HQ established NE corner of dock basin (junc of CORNHILL & WATERLOO). C coy withdrawn to Bn res at NE corner of TROUT. Bn HQ established	

FLUSHING		1700	POWER STATION NW corner of TROUT. Bn consolidates in present posns	
FLUSHING	7 Nov	1100	Bn HQ moves from POWER STATION to German dug out in area FLUSHING STATION.	
FLUSHING	10 Nov	1100	Bde Church Parade in ST. JACOB'S CHURCH. No march past owing to heavy rain.	Appendix 'J' - Folio No 2.
FLUSHING	12 Nov	1300	Bn leaves FLUSHING in one LCT. Disembarks BRESKENS. Moves by MT to ST. GEORGES rejoins LOBs and MT.	
ST. GEORGES	14 Nov	1300	Bn less "D" Coy leaves ST. GEORGES in MT moves to OSSENDRECHT just over BELGIAN - DUTCH Frontier.	
OSSENDRECHT	15 Nov	1100	"D" Coy rejoins Bn at OSSENDRECHT.	
OSSENDRECHT	17 Nov	0930	Bn Church Parade for Service of Remembrance.	
OSSENDRECHT	18 Nov	0810	Bn leaves OSSENDRECHT and moves into 1(Brit) Corps Reserve area UDENHOUT near TILBURG.	
UDENHOUT	24 Nov		Bn leaves UDENHOUT moves to Infantry Barracks VUGHT. Becomes reserve bn of 155 Bde when Bde takes over positions on South bank of River MAAS from 10 Cdn Bde.	
VUGHT	26 Nov 30 Nov		44 Offrs and NCOs attached to 4 KOSB and 7/9 RS (fwd bns) as spectators.	WFR Turner Lt. Col. Comd 5 KOSB

APPENDIX 'J' FOLIO No 1

Summary of Events of 5 KOSB
from Mid-October 1944 to Mid-November 1944

To : Maj-Gen E.G. Miles CB., DSO., MC.,
Colonel The King's Own Scottish Borderers,
HQ Kent District,
Harrietsham,
Kent.

Through War Office (P.R. (C & P))
London

We left Woodhall Spa on 17 Oct and moved to a transit camp in the Fareham area. Shortly after that the bn sailed in two batches from Southampton and landed at Ostend. After one night in a staging camp there we moved to billets at Desselghem, a small village about midway between Courtrai and Ghent. After being there about a week we went to another billeting area at St Georges, a small village 10 miles east of Bruges. While there we were told that our job would be to clear up Flushing and in conjunction with other troops capture the whole of the island of Walcheren.

The landings at Flushing were carried out first by a Commando and it was followed by our brigade in the order 4 KOSB, 5 KOSB, 7/9 RS. We left St Georges at 0700 hrs on 1 Nov 44 and went to Breskens in MT and awaited orders to cross to Flushing in LCA. After a false start when the Navy brought us back to Breskens as they thought the landing beach at Flushing was under heavy enemy artillery fire, we eventually landed in Flushing about 1600 hrs. The battle, previous to our landing, had gone fairly well and most of the southern half of the town had been cleared. It was decided that we could not do much that night and plans were accordingly made for us to cross into the northern half of the town at 0530 hrs on 2 Nov 44 and our object was to clear the whole of the rest the town.

The plan was that after a 30 minute artillery bombardment A and C coys should cross the start line at 0530 hrs and clear the first two large blocks of the north half of the town. Both coys crossed the start line on time but both had an unfortunate incident shortly afterwards. A coy lost 14 men wounded out of their leading pl from enemy mortar fire and it took some time in the dark before the coy was re-organised to continue its job. Once re-organised the work of clearing the houses went on very satisfactorily though it was a slow business. A coy finally succeeded in clearing out the whole of its objective by about mid-day. The northern half of the town was badly flooded in some places and this made progress even slower. C company unfortunately had the coy comd and two platoon comds all wounded in the first 10 minutes and were commanded for all the 2nd, 3rd and 4th November by Lt Carmichael. In spite of these losses however they cleared their block of houses by about 1130 hrs and B and D coys were brought into the northern half of the town to clear the remaining blocks. Neither of these coys had much difficulty and the whole of the town to the west of Middleburg - Flushing canal was cleared of enemy except for a few snipers, by about 1600 hrs 2 Nov 44. The bn then consolidated its gains and held all the northern part of the town that night and all the next day. The two easterly coys, B and D, had some trouble with enemy MGs from across the canal and their posns were very slightly shelled. On the morning of 3rd Nov the bn received orders to cross the canal during the night and clear the whole of the dock area to the east of the Middleburg canal. Zero hour was fixed for 0230 hrs on 4 Nov and after a preliminary artillery bombardment B coy crossed the bridge over the canal under cover of smoke. Once B coy had captured their objectives D and C were sent across the bridge at about 0345 hrs and 0400 hrs respectively.

By 0800 hrs all three companies had captured all their objectives and had captured a total of about 400 prisoners. The enemy were nearly all in concrete pillboxes but fortunately they were not of first class fighting value and they had had a great hammering from RAF heavy bombers, rocket-firing Typhoons and our own artillery.

After capturing these objectives B coy were ordered to advance towards Middleburg to find out the state of affairs along the banks of the canal. Owing to sniping this was a slow process; many prisoners were captured and a point about half way between Oostonburg and Middleburg was reached by dusk 4 Nov 44 when one officer and one cpl were blown up on mines. The bn was then ordered to consolidate in its existing positions. The following morning (5 Nov) the 4th KOSB passed through this bn at 0700 hrs and this bn took no further part in the fighting on Walcheren. On 12 Nov 44 it returned to St Georges, its previous billet area. On 14 Nov it moved to a new billeting area at Ossendrecht in Holland about 10 miles south of Bergen-Op-Zoom. On 18 Nov it moved again to Udenhout, a village midway between Tilburg and 'S Hertogenbosch and the whole bde is now in reserve to 1 British Corps in that area.

To sum up the events of Nov 2, 3 and 4 there is no doubt that the bn did very well for its first time in action since June 1940. Admittedly the enemy were not stout hearted but they certainly gave us enough trouble in the early street fighting on 2 Nov. Morale was very high throughout the three days fighting and all are very anxious to have another battle soon. Casualties were very light indeed being 9 other ranks killed and 6 officers and 52 other ranks wounded.

An "Order of Battle of the Bn" both before and after the action are attached.

A reinforcement draft of 2 officers and 25 other ranks joined the bn on 17 Nov 44.

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Army Form C.2118

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

Unit 5th Bn K.O.S.B.

Month and Year December 1944

Commanding Officer Lt.Col. WFR. Turner.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
VUGHT	3 Dec	1100	Bn visited by C in C 21 AG Field Marshall Montgomery. 100 men march past on parade with 7 Cams, 6 Cams, and 4/5 RSF. C in C addresses all officers at Bde HQ at 1200 hrs. Bn told of impending move preparatory to fighting in Germany.	
VUGHT	7 Dec	0900	Bn moves by MT to area HULZEN to prepare for Op "Shears". Arrive HULZEN 2030 hrs. Billets satisfactory.	APPX D. FOLIO 1
HULZEN	7 Dec 13 Dec	 0855	Planning of Op "Shears" with 8 Armd Bde. Op "Shears" cancelled.	APPX E. FOLIOS 1,2 & 3 APPX E. FOLIO 3
HULZEN	17 Dec	1100	Move to GEILENKIRCHEN area in MT. Take over Bn posns from 7 Cams NEIDERHEIDE area.	APPX E. FOLIO 4
GANGELT GANGELT	21 Dec 24 Dec	1100	Bn moves to GANGELT area takes over line from 3 I.G. of Guard Armoured Div. Positions D coy HASTENRATH with under comd 1 tp tanks 13/18 H, 1 tp 17 pr A tk guns 86 A tk Bty, 1 Pl MMG B coy 7 Manch, 3 x 3" Mor, 2 x secs Carrier Pl. C coy VINTELEN with 1 tp 13/18 H, 1 P1 MMG, 3 x 3" mor. A coy GANGELT with 1 pl KEIVELBERG by night. B coy GANGELT with Sqn less 2 tps 13/18 H. Bn HQ GANGELT. A tk Pl, Pnr Pl GANGELT. Amn, Rations, Water dumped in HASTENRATH, GANGELT and VINTELEN to implement defensive plan of coy "hedgehog" positions.	
GANGELT	22 Dec	0200	Bn HQ area shelled by 210 mm gun. Total 15 shells landed.	
GANGELT	24 Dec	1600	B coy relieves C coy in VINTELEN.	
GANGELT	25 Dec	0500	HASTENRATH and VINTELEN heavily mortared.	
GANGELT "	28 Dec	0600 0800	Enemy starts attack on KIEVELBERG and VINTELEN. All communication with KIEVELBERG ceases 0615 hrs. Communication with VINTELEN maintained by R/T. Enemy captured KIEVELBERG. Enemy in VINTELEN infiltrate into centre of village. B coy stands fast in slit trenches to await daylight. One tp of SRY (relieved 13/18 H on 25 Dec 44) leave GANGELT and proceed up rd to VINTELEN. Enemy resistance pushed back in VINTELEN. Enemy in VINTELEN mopped up by B coy, 51 prisoners taken. Situation	

			in VINTELEN completely restored by 1100 hrs.	
GANGELT		1225	Counter attack with A coy (2 pls only) and C coy launched on axis rd GANGELT-KIEVELBERG with sp from 1 tp tanks on axis rd HASTENRATH-KIEVELBERG.	
GANGELT		1245	KIEVELBERG recaptured, 27 prisoners. Recovered 2 own dead from original garrison of 8 pl A coy.	
"		1300	OC 8 pl A coy with one man reports B coy having escaped after being taken prisoner.	
"		1500	KIEVELBERG consolidated with C coy occupying. A coy 6 Cams move in to replace C coy in defence GANGELT.	
GANGELT	29 Dec	0900 1600	6 Cams relieve 5 KOSB in Bn posn. This relief was originally to have taken place on 28 Dec but was postponed. Bn moves to res in SCHINVELD and forms Div mobile col with SRY.	
SCHINVELD	30 Dec	0715	Mob Col stand to to move at 1 hrs notice owing to enemy attack at TRIPSRATH.	
"	31 Dec	1300	Bn have Xmas and New Year Dinner at HENDRIK Colliery. D.J. Barron Capt Adjt for Lt. Col. Comd 5th.Bn.The K.O.S.B.	

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WAR DIARY
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Unit 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.

Month and Year January 1945

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
SCHINVELD	1 Jan	1200	Bn leaves SCHINVELD in MT. Moves to GEILENKIRCHEN in MT, marches to area RISCHDEN and takes over posns in line from 1 Glas H.	
RISCHDEN	2 Jan		Day devoted to selection of new coy areas and improvement of def works. Amn dumping programme started.	
RISCHDEN	4 Jan	1545	Bn HQ area RISCHDEN mortared - no cas.	
RISCHDEN	6 Jan	0530	50% of all coys stand to as a result of warning received from Div HQ that attack on Div Sector was imminent. No attack developed.	
RISCHDEN	8 Jan	0200 1815	Patrol "D" coy (Lt Fergusson patrol comd and 19 men) raid TORPEDO wood. No enemy found. 2 snipers placed in posn in wood 0700 hrs. Patrol "D" coy (Cp1 Anderson and 5 men) proceed to TORPEDO wood to relieve snipers. Patrol meets enemy, strength 6, who are taken prisoner after one burst of Sten fire. Snipers have been in this wood all day with 6 enemy.	
RISCHDEN	9 Jan	1600	Bn relieved by 7 Cams. Moves on foot to NEIDERBUSCH into 157 Bde res.	
NEIDERBUSCH	12 Jan	1100	Bn relieved by 4 Dorsets of 43 Div and moves to area HULZEN. "B" and "S" coys in same billets as one month previously.	
	13 Jan	1700	CO attends Bde briefing conf for Ex "Blackcock".	
HULZEN	14 Jan	1500	CO's preliminary briefing conf for Ex "Blackcock".	
HULZEN	15 Jan	-	Planning for Op "Blackcock".	
HULZEN	16 Jan	1500	CO's final conf for Op "BLACKCOCK".	
HULZEN	17 Jan	1300	Bn receives orders to come under comd 7 Armd Div 131 Lorried Inf Bde. CO proceeds to BORN with 'O' Gp and is ordered to proceed with Bn on foot and tracked vehs to DEITEREN 6777. One coy to attack OUD ROOSTEREN. After great difficulty owing to mud and traffic congestion, Bn, less "D" coy and tracks arrive DEITEREN and relieve 5 D.L.I. "D" coy capture OUD ROOSTEREN and contact 11 H. on left flank. Difficulty experienced in completely clearing village owing to darkness. Some shelling during night.	
DEITEREN	18 Jan	0630	"D" coy relieved by 11 H. and come into DIETEREN.	

		1000	"B" coy placed under comd 1/5 Queens and proceed to SUSTEREN to attack HEIDE 6976. Attack carried out successfully. "B" coy consolidate HEIDE. Bn remain DIETEREN.	
DIETEREN DIETEREN SLEK	19 Jan	0800 1100 1300 1600 2000	CO and Adjt meet GOC 7 Armd Div at SUSTEREN. Ordered to move to SLEK 7177. Bn (less "B" coy) moves by march route to SLEK. Bn takes up positions in SLEK to cover passage of 7/9 RS and SRY. This col held up by fire from KLOOSTER LIBOSCH area. "A" coy relieve one coy 7/9 RS in KLOOSTER LIBOSCH. Relief of Bn by 1/5 Queens starts. Great difficulty in moving as a result of decision to withdraw col of 7/9 RS and SRY. Single rd through SLEK blocked by traffic.	
SLEK SITTARD	20 Jan	0130 1300	Relief of 5 KOSB by 1/5 Queens complete. Bn (joined by "B" coy at 1800 hrs) moves by Kangaroo to SITTARD arrives 0500 – men sleep till 0800. Bn receives orders to move off to attack WALDFEUCHT 7776. Bn moves in KANGAROOS via KONINGBOSCH to AAN DE POPELAAR to conc. CO issued orders for attack on WALDFEUCHT. Two coys up astride track from AANDESCHOOL to WALDFEUCHT. "A" and "C" coys up, "D" and "B" coys following. 'H' Hour midnight.	
WALDFEUCHT WALDFEUCHT	21 Jan	Mid- night 0100 0300 0430 0530 0630 0700- 1100 1600 1630 1700	"A" and "C" coys cross start line, leading pls enter WALDFEUCHT with little opposition. All coys with Bn HQ now in WALDFEUCHT. NE quarter of town NOT yet cleared. "B" and "D" coys awaiting first light to do this. BN 'F' Ech and 1 Sqn 13/18 H. consolidating WALDFEUCHT fired on by SP guns when approaching from AANDESCHOOL. Several tanks knocked out. Enemy counter-attack develops. One Bn of Inf sp by 15 SP guns and 5 Tiger tanks. Two Tiger tanks knocked out by two Bn six pr guns 200 yds from Bn HQ. Range 80 yards and 110 yards respectively. Communications with "D" coy cease. "B" coy sections isolated by infiltrating enemy and tanks. Confused fighting. Tiger tank shells Bn HQ and RAP at intervals. "B" and "A" coy withdrawn to area round Bn HQ (77475) to shorten perimeter. "C" coy 4 KOSB sent from KONINGSBOSCH to assist. No cas evacuated during battle so far owing to enemy interference. All cas evacuated in Kangaroos which brought "C" coy 4 KOSB to WALDFEUCHT. One P1 "D" coy (Lt J. Fergusson) reports Bn HQ - still no word of remnants of "D" coy. 4 KOSB (less "C" coy) counter-attack WALDFEUCHT. Enemy by this time had retired. No opposition to 4 KOSB attack.	

		1830	4 KOSB and 5 KOSB consolidate WALDFEUCHT.	
WALDFEUCHT	22 Jan	0900 -1200	Search carried out for missing personnel of "B" and "D" coys. Only one body found - Pte Horner of "B" coy.	
WALDFEUCHT	23 Jan	1300	Bn relieved by 4/5 RSF - moves by march route to BRAUNSRATH and relieves 6 Cams in reserve of 155 Bde.	See Appx E Folio 5 (Original War Diary only)
BRAUNSRATH	25 Jan	1300	Bn moves to APHOVEN and relieves 6 HLI who move to BRAUNSRATH. Bn still in res 155 Bde.	
APHOVEN	26 Jan		Bn re-organises.	
APHOVEN	28 Jan	1100	Bn moves to BRAUNSRATH and KIRCHOVEN. 155 Bde now 3 Bns up. Garrison at KIRCHOVEN is 2IC, 1 Sec Carriers, 2 x 3" Mor, 4 x 6 prs guns, "C" coy, "D" coy. Remainder of Bn in BRAUNSRATH.	
BRAUNSRATH	29-31 Jan	-	Front very quiet. Bn continues to re-organise. Two drafts of 86 and 31 received by 'B' Ech now at HILLENSBURG. ---------- Andrew Hannay Capt for Lt. Col. Comd 5 K.O.S.B.	

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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY
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(Erase heading not required)

Unit 5 KOSB

Month and Year FEBRUARY 1945

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BRAUNSRATH	2 Feb 45	1400	Bn HQ "A" & "B" coys Carrier P1 moves to BOCKET. Fwd coys "C" & "D" relieved after dark in KIRCHOVEN. No enemy interference. BOCKET to be used as res area. Bn has op role def of BOCKET.	See Appx 'E' Folio 1 (Original War Diary only)
BOCKET	3 Feb 45		Bn reorganisation continued. Men bathed at MBU. MO starts typhus reinoculation and vaccination programme.	
	4 Feb 45		Bn now under comd Maj GGM Batchelor while Lt Col Turner acts as Bde Comd.	
EYSDEN	6 Feb	1400	Bn moves by MT to EYSDEN via MAESYCK br. Great difficulty experienced owing to breaking up of rd surfaces. Accn in BOCKET taken over by U.S. Army. B Ech joins Bn at EYSDEN from HILLENSBERG.	See Appx 'E' Folios 2 & 3 (Original War Diary only)
	7 Feb	1100	Bn moves by march route to OPGRIMBY just south of EYSDEN. Orders issued by Bde to rest and train in this area.	
OPGRIMBY	8 Feb	1800	Adv parties from 1/7 Warwicks arrive to take over area. Orders issued for move by MT to area HORST to take over from 1/7 Warwicks (3 Div) in Bde res.	
OPGRIMBY	9 Feb	0600 1600	Bn leaves OPGRIMBY in MT for HORST. Move extremely difficult owing to broken rd surfaces and mud. Bn arrive HORST. Op role counter attack of fwd areas on R MAAS.	
HORST	12 Feb	1000 1900	Bn move into line on R MAAS area LOTTUM relieve 6 HLI. 3 Coys fwd - "A" "B" & "C". Very little enemy activity. Patrolling restricted by flooding and swiftness of river current. Relief complete - Bn now part of 157 Bde. 6 HLI become part of 155 Bde	
LOTTUM	13 Feb	2300	Adv parties from U.S. Army arrive to take over def posns.	
	14 Feb	0300 1600 2130	Adv parties leave for MOLENHOEK. Handover to U.S. forces complete. Bn marches to HORST and embusses to move to MOLENHOEK. Bn move from HORST by MT enroute for MOLENHOEK.	
MOLENHOEK	15 Feb		Bn plans op VERITABLE.	
	16 Feb	0500	Bn moves off by MT to GENNEP and prepares for attack on wood NE of AFFERDEN.	

MOLENHOEK		1500 1800	Attack of wood begins "A" & "D" coys up "B" & C" coys in res. Wood completely cleared. Coys consolidated on edge of wood. Heavy enemy mortaring and shelling.	
Near AFFERDEN	18 Feb	1300	"A" "C" "D" coys withdraw from edge of wood and conc. "B" coy in REMPELD for 24 hrs	
BROEDERS BOSCH	19 Feb	2230	Very heavy shelling and mortaring.	
	20)		Bn remains in res conc area. Whole bn bathed at MBU ISSUM. Planning	
	21) Feb		for crossing of A tk ditch - but cancelled.	
	22)			
	23 Feb	pm	Relief of 6 HLI completed. No enemy activity.	See Appx E Folio 5 (Original War Diary only)
	24 Feb		Slight enemy shelling of bn area.	
	25 Feb)		Patrols along line of A tk ditch at night.	
	26 Feb)		Front very quiet.	
BROEDERS BOSCH	27 Feb	0500 1800	"B" coy support 6 HLI attack across ditch and move fwd to hold br area on edge of wood. No opposition - relieved by "D" coy	
"	28 Feb		Bn still holding line - move to take over from 1 Glas H. Andrew Hannay Capt for Lt Col Comd 5 KOSB.	

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WAR DIARY
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Unit 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.

Month and Year March 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col W.F.R. Turner

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BROEDERS BOSCH	1 Mar	 1500	Bn still holding line. Bn concentrated in reserve at rear of wood prior to move to new area.	
ROTTUM	2 Mar	1500	Bn moves by MT to GOCH to relieve 1st Bn HLI north of WEEZE - moves thence by march route to area ROTTUM - on arrival find that 1 HLI have captured WEEZE and the breakthrough to the RHINE has started.	See Appx H Folios 1 & 2 (original War Diary only)
ROTTUM	3 Mar		Bn remains in reserve area ROTTUM. Bn HQ moves to outskirts of WEEZE.	
ROTTUM	4 Mar		) Bn still in reserve - many mines found in area and cleared.	
	5 Mar		)	
	6 Mar		)	
LULLINGEN	7 Mar	0100	Bn move by MT to area LULLINGEN to div conc area. Arrive at 0300 hrs. Bn bathed during course of day at MBU. Bn receives orders to relieve 1/5 Welch Regt NE of ISSUM.	See Appx H Folio 3 (original War Diary only)
WOOD NORTH EAST of	) 8 Mar)	1000	Bn relieves 1/5 Welch Regt (53 (W) Div) in wood NE of ISSUM with rear Bn HQ at BRANDSHOF. Reserve Bde.	
ISSUM 'DIE LEUCHT'	) 9 Mar)	1000	Wood 'DIE LEUCHT' swept by Bn in conjunction with 1 GLAS H. No enemy found in wood. Move of 'B' Echelon to area BRANDSHOF from MOLENHOEK. Bn still in wood. Planning for elimination of WESEL pocket by 52 (L) Div - Reconnaissance by CO.	
GINDERICH & GEST	10 Mar	1000 1130 1430 1830	Resistance in WESEL pocket has ceased. Bn is ordered to proceed by march route and occupy GINDERICH. Bn moves by march route to area SW of MENZELEN preparatory to advance to GINDERICH. After occupation of MENZELEN Bn proceeds in 2 parties - "A" & "B" (2 A tk guns 2 mortars) to occupy GEST, remainder of bn to GINDERICH. After difficulty owing to blown bridges, craters and mines, whole bn complete on objectives including F Echelon. 37 PW.	
	Night 10/11	Mar	Patrols forward to banks of R RHINE found no signs of enemy.	

	11 Mar		Orders regarding evacuation of civilians etc, quiet day. OP established in GINDERICH CHURCH tower.	
GINDERICH	12 Mar	 1830	To fit in with BDE policy regarding the holding of the line, 3 coys are ordered to move forward to banks of RHINE. Position to be held by men in slits by night, by OPs by day. "A" coy move to WILLICHSHOF, "B" coy to QUERENHORSTHOF, "D" coy to RAMIENSHOF and PERRICH.	
	13 Mar		Little activity from the enemy - s1ight shelling of GINDERICH. 'B' Echelon moves and establishes itself in GINDERICH.	
	14 Mar)		Very quiet except for heavy shelling on night of 15th at 2200 hrs.	
	15 Mar)		Adjt wounded and evacuated. Comns severed for 3 hours. Visit of Army	
	16 Mar)		Commander.	
GINDERICH	17 Mar		Lt Col Turner relinquishes command of Bn on posting to command 1st KOSB. Succeeded by Lt Col G.G.M. Batchelor. Quiet day.	
GINDERICH	18 Mar	1400 1600 2000 2000	Relief of Bn by 1 GLAS H and 6 CAMS. "C" coy relieved by "C" coy 1 GLAS H and move to take over DIVISIONAL CATTLE RANCH and TCPs north west of ALPON. Relief of Bn HQ and "S" coy, who move to reserve area SW of ALPON also 'B' Ech. Relief of "B" & "D" coys by 1 GLAS H - move to area SW of ALPON. Relief of "A" coy by "A" coy 6 CAMS - move to SOLWAY WORKS to watch shaft (under RHINE).	See Appx H Folio 5 (Original War Diary only) & Appx D No.1
ALPON	19 Mar		Bn in reserve area - working parties required by RE. Entertainment (opening of DIVISIONAL concert party in ISSUM).	
ALPON	20 Mar		Whole Bn at MBU ISSUM. Further entertainment - Cinema and concert party - Conference at Bde regarding boat carrying for Op 'Plunder'.	
ALPON	21 Mar		Training, maintenance, entertainment - RE working parties again required.	
ALPON	22 Mar		More entertainment - quiet day.	
ALPON	23 Mar	1600 2030	Parties consisting of "B" "C" "D" "S" coys under Maj Jardine Paterson move to LUTTINGEN to carry storm boats for 15 (S) Div for crossing of RHINE. Boats launched after being towed by Lloyd Carriers to the bank. No casualties - operation completely successful.	See Appx E Folio 1 (Original War Diary only)
ALPON	24 Mar	0500 1000	All personnel return to ALPON. Gliders and troop carrying aircraft pass overhead on their way to drop 6th Airborne Division and American Airborne troops far side of RHINE. Viewed from tower at 'B' Echelon by GENERAL EISENHOWER. Bn at 3 hours notice to move and come under command of 15 (S) Division on far side of river.	
ALPON	25 Mar	1030	Bn comes under command of 15 (S) Div. All 157 Bde ordered to move to	

			far bank of river as soon as possible. CO leaves with Coy Commanders to receive orders at XANTEN.	
		1200	Recce parties leave in coy carriers.	
ALPON		1400	Bn move by TCVs to XANTEN taking 'F' Ech (on a jeep and trailer and carrier basis) and thence by march route to the river bank at LUTTINGEN.	
BISLICH		1600	Bn crosses R. RHINE, marching personnel by storm boats, vehicles by LVTs - Bn go to lie up area NW of BISLICH.	
Moving to HAMMINKELN		2200	Bn move by march route through DORDECHER WALD to HAMMINKELN to relieve 10 Devons (6 Airlanding Bde).	
HAMMINKELN	26 Mar	0600	Relief of 10 Devons complete. "B" coy under comd 7 Cams - sent out patrol to see if area of woods N of HAMMINKELN is clear of snipers. Patrol fired on - 4 casualties.	
		1400	Bn receives orders to attack RINGENBERG. "C" coy 5 HLI under command	
HAMMINKELN		1800	Bn moves up to start line (road crossing River ISSEL SE of HAMMINKELN).	
		1815	H Hour - "D" (right) and "A" (left) cross start line - very effective barrage.	
Moving to RINGENBERG		1825	"C" (right) and "C" 5 HLI (left) followed by Bn HQ cross start line. Very little opposition except for slight mortaring on entering town - 3 casualties. Town captured and 87 PW.	
		2000	Consolidation completed - move of 'F' Ech into town (incl 1 tp SP 17 prs). Coys dig in. Very quiet night.	
RINGENBERG	27 Mar	1045	Visit of General Ritchie. Slight shelling and mortaring. Tanks of SCOTS GREYS pass through.	
		1130	Bn ordered to move to BRUNEN after relief.	
		1400	Bn relieved by 5 RWF (53(W) Div) moves to BRUNEN.	
BRUNEN		1600	Bn moving by march route arrives BRUNEN. Heavily stonked on entry to town - 2 casualties.	
		1700	More shelling - Bn established including 'F' Echelon. 157 Bde come under comd 7 Armd Div. Quiet night.	
BRUNEN	28 Mar		Bn still under command 7 Armd Div. Very quiet. German crack up begins.	
	29 Mar		Many armoured columns pass through. Bn is joined by 'A' Echelon. About 30 PW.	
BRUNEN	30 Mar	0430	Bn 'B' Ech arrives BRUNEN. Non-essential stores left far side of RHINE at KAISERHOF with small holding party.	
Moving to GEMEN		0800	Bn moves by TCVs and 'A' and 'B' Echelons to GEMEN via RAESFELD and BORKEN to relieve 1/5 Queens. Wood clearing by Carrier Pl N of GEMEN. 28 PW.	
GEMEN		1000	Relief complete. Quiet day. Reorganisation of tpt and LOBs and issue of canteen supplies.	

GEMEN	31 Mar	 1545 1800	LOBs move back to Bde area at HAMMINKELN in order to make 'B' Ech mobile. All bn Echelons now completely mobile. Bn at notice to move. Bn move by MT to STADTLOHN via WESEKE and SUDLOHN to relieve 9 DLI, taking all echelons. Bn complete new location. No enemy activity. MAR Herries Capt & Adjt 5 K.O.S.B.	

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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY
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Unit 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.

Month and Year April 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col G.G.M. Batchelor

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
STATDTLOHN	1 Apr		Bn in STADTLOHN having relieve 9 DLI - Church Service - Bn bathed at MBU.	
		1800	Bn receives orders to move forward.	
	2 Apr	0130	Bn moves in TCVs to NEUENKIRCHEN taking 'F' and 'A' Echelons - 'B' Echelon comes under Bde Admin Area.	
NEUENKIRCHEN		0600	Bn arrives NEUENKIRCHEN and awaits further orders.	
		0900	Bn ordered to relieve 9 DLI in area NE of NEUENKIRCHEN -	
		1045	Relief complete.	
		1200	Bn ordered to capture RHEINE (west of EMS) and to mop up any opposition not already cleared by tank patrols who entered town on 1 Apr at dusk.	
RHEINE		1445	Bn, having moved by march route, clear the town of RHEINE (west of R EMS) - "D" right, "C" left, followed by "A" right and Carriers left -	
RHEINE		1445	Attack proceeds successfully - only trouble from snipers on far bank of River EMS. SP 17 prs (in support) used to deal with houses in which snipers are located.	
		1800	Bn established in RHEINE (very slight shelling and fire from FLAK	
RHEINE		2000	gun on far side of river) - "C" & "D" coys support crossing of River EMS by 7 Cameronians.	
		2100	"A" & "D" coys and Carriers are withdrawn leaving "C" coy on river bank - "A" "D" and Carriers take up positions (see Appendix 'A') to deal with any counter attack from the North. "B" remain in wood SE of town.	
		2200	3 bombs dropped by Jet plane - slight shelling on and off for 3 hours - no casualties. Move of 'B' Ech during day to NEUENKIRCHEN.	
RHEINE	3 Apr	0100	Bn consolidated in new position - No enemy activity during the night - 7 Cameronians clear up Eastern end of RHEINE.	
		1430	Patrol from "C" coy sent out to area north west of town, N of airfield - 30 Italian prisoners and some mines found on road - otherwise no enemy.	
		1600	7 Cams prepare to move up to form Bridgehead over DORTMUND-EMS	

			CANAL East of town. "B" and "C" coys and Carrier Pl ordered to cross river and take over from them.	
RHEINE		1800	Bridge over R. EMS complete (CLASS 24) - "B" and "C" established in Eastern part of RHEINE with Carrier P1 and 2 6 pr A tk guns (3 17 prs in support) with their 'F' and 'A' Echelons.	
			During day 157 Bde revert to command of 52 (L) Div	
		2000	7 Cams attack starts - Quiet night on Bn front - no reports of enemy activity at all.	
	4 Apr	0500	Bridge over R. EMS complete to class 40 - bridgehead proceeding satisfactorily over canal - 5 HLI and 1 GLAS H in RHEINE also Bde HQ.	
		0600	No enemy activity in town near Bn area - Bn of RWF pass through to hold ground N of airfield. (NW of town).	
		1700	Bn ordered to go to assistance of 7 Cams and to block approaches to RHEINE and road from Bridge over DORTMUND EMS CANAL from N - and to move forward towards large wood STADTFORST RHEINE.	
		2000	Bn move in TCVs followed by 'F' Echelon to area GRAUTE. 'O' Gp proceeding in advance.	
GRAUTE		2220	After orders "A" left and "D" right cross start line to occupy areas forward of 7 Cams - between canal and River EMS.	
		2240	"C" coy cross start line to occupy reserve coy area HOPSTER. No enemy encountered, but slight shelling.	
		2350	A11 positions occupied except "D" coy who are having trouble with sniping from far side of canal.	
HOPSTER	5 Apr	0015	Bn HQ move to area HOPSTER.	
		0030	"D" coy in position - 'F' Echelon moves up and all A tk guns in position. Intermittent shelling and sniping throughout the night.	
			"B" coy remain in former area, also 'A' Ech (W of RHEINE).	
		0730	"C" coy move off and come under comd 5 HLI.	
		1000	Mortaring and sniping intermittently, otherwise quiet. Bn receives warning orders to go "swanning" and to come under comd 4 Armd	
		1900	"D" and "A" coys move back slightly to concentrate bn. Kangaroos and TCVs arrive.	
HOPSTER	6 Apr	1000	Recce parties arrive from 5th WELCH to take over.	
		1200	"C" coy return from 5 HLI and take over area by bridge over canal.	
		1400	Bn relieved by 5 WELCH.	
		1600	Bn ordered to move with 1 sqn in support from 44 RTR to capture and consolidate area SOUTH of SPELLEN.	
Move to SOUTH of SPELLEN. SE and S of SPELLEN		1730	Bn move in Kangaroos taking 'F' Ech and "C" and "D" coys in TCVs.	
		1930	Bn attack from DRIERWALDE up 2 axis.	
		2000	North "B" coy with 1 tp in support. South "A" and "D" coys with remainder and "C" and Bn HQ following up. Bn take objectives.	

		2330 2400	Mortaring and MG fire from far bank of ditch S of SPELLEN. Bn established. Reserve coy in position. Still sniping and shelling. STONK on enemy.	
	7 Apr	1400	Bn relieved by 1/5 RWF. 1 pl of "B" coy (pinned by fire) remain till dark.	
		1500	"C" and "D" coys move in Kangaroos to occupy area N of DRIERWALDE also Carrier Pl.	
DRIERWALDE		1730	Remainder of Bn follow and go to concentration area DRIERWALDE (less "A" coy, who go to hold position N of "D" coy). Quiet night - 'A' Ech join Bn.	
	8 Apr	0600	(a) "C" and "D" coys move in Kangaroos under comd 3/4 CLY to seize WEEZE.	
DRIERWALDE to WEEZE			(b) Remainder of Bn Gp, followed by 'A' Ech, move to area WEEZE (marching personnel in TCVs).	
		0930	Bn established in WEEZE - no opposition - slight shelling - 30 PW.	
		1100	Leading tanks held up at Bridge over burn north of WEEZE - 2 pls "C" coy move to their assistance - more shelling.	
		1530	Bn and CLY ordered to attack VOLTLAGE.	
		1600	Phase I "C" coy capture high ground beyond bridge in face of very heavy opposition. About 30 casualties.	
VOLTLAGE		1630	Phase II "D" coy in Kangaroos with 1 sqn in support pass through "C" coy. Debus on outskirts of village. "D" coy make slow advance through village against fanatical resistance. Much trouble from snipers.	
VOLTLAGE		1715	"B" coy with Kangaroos and 1 sqn in support debus in "D" coy area and clear rest of village. Whole village burning. Mortaring and shelling.	
		1845	Whole village in our hands. About 100 PW. Many enemy killed.	
		1930	"A" coy move up for consolidation followed by Bn HQ, "C" coy and 'F' Echelon. Quiet night - slight mortaring and shelling.	
WEEZE	9 Apr	0800	Bn relieved by 6 Cams - return to WEEZE.	
		1300	Bn move to concentration area in woods S of WEEZE with CLY - whole Bn now in Kangaroos.	
		1900	Bn and CLY move to area S of NEUENKIRCHEN - ordered to attack UFFELN.	
NEUENKIRCHEN		2030	"B" coy with 1 sqn capture LINTERN.	
		2115	"D" coy pass through them with 1 sqn and clear woods astride road SW of UFFELN.	
UFFELN		2300	"A" and "C" coy capture UFFELN - no opposition - very few PW.	
LINTERN		2359	Bn HQ move to area LINTERN.	
	10 Apr	0530	Bn revert to comd of 157 Bde.	
UFFELN		1000	"B" coy move to capture BALKUM - no opposition.	

UFFELN BALKUM		1230	Bn consolidates, "A" and "C" coys area UFFELN, "B" and "D" coys and Bn HQ area BALKUM - many civilians rounded up. Carrier P1 patrols. Quiet day and night. 5 HLI pass through.	
BALKUM BERSENBRUCK	11 Apr	1200 1400 1700 2100	Bn relieved by 1 GLAS H. Ordered to form strong bridgehead across River HAASE E of BERSENBRUCK. Bn move in TCVs with 'F' and 'A' Echelons to area BERSENBRUCK. Bn moves by march route across weir to occupy BRIDGEHEAD - followed by 'F' Echelon. 'B' Echelon move to area ALFHAUSEN. Bn receives orders to move in TCVs to new area E of DIEPHOLZ. Quiet night.	
 HEEK	12 Apr	0600 0900 1400 1500	Orders cancelled. Bn to move to HEEK and rest. Bn moves to HEEK in TCVs with 'F' and 'A' Echelons. Bn receives orders to move to E of DIEPHOLZ. Bn passes SP in BERSENBRUCK (in TCVs) and proceeds via HOLDORF, STEINFELD, DIEPHOLZ, BASSUM, NEUBRUCHHAUSEN to harbour area SW of VILSEN.	
VILSEN	13 Apr	0300 1700	'B' Echelon moves as well. 157 Bde ordered to hold line of RIVER WESER SE of BREMEN. Bn move to reserve concentration area in MARTFELD - quiet night.	
MARTFELD EMTINGHAUSEN	14 Apr 15 Apr	1100 0430	Bn move to take over line from 3 Div RECCE - 3 coys up - Right "A" area MORSUM, centre "B" area THEDINGHAUSEN, left "D" area RHIEDE - Reserve "C" area EMTINGEMSEN with Bn HQ - 2 A tk guns (6 prs) and 2 3" Mortars to each forward coy. Three 17 prs in reserve coy area. Quiet night apart from enemy patrol who Bazooked 1 Lloyd carrier and 1 MC area THEDINGHAUSEN. Quiet day apart from 40 shells in "D" coy area at 1100 hrs - 1 DR disappeared between "A" and "B" coy at 1230. After investigation by Carrier patrol - reported PW.	
EMTINGHAUSEN EMTINGHAUSEN DONNNERSTEDT	16 Apr	 1100 1500 1600 1900 2030	Quiet night - 5 HLI patrols on Bn front - no enemy activity. Sweep of area N of fwd positions by "C" coy and Carriers and 1 tp of Recce. "C" coy established at DIBBERSEN. Owing to move NW by 53 (W) Div from Bridgehead over R ALLER the front is reduced - consequently "A" coy are relieved by coy of 7 Cams. "A" coy return to reserve area DONNERSTEDT. Bn HQ move to DONNERSTEDT leaving "A" Echelon at EMTINGHAUSEN. Bn established in new area - line through to coys - all quiet on front.	
	17 Apr		Quiet day. No enemy activity in area.	
RIETHAUSEN	18 Apr	0300 1600	Bn relieved by scratch force of AA, A tk, Recce, etc., and move to conc area at RIETHAUSEN, taking 'A' Echelon. Bn move by MT to VERDEN (conc area) spending night there, crossing	

			Rivers WESER and ALLER on the way.	
VERDEN VERDEN HOLTEBUTEL	19 Apr	0830 1045 1600 1800 1900	Bn move off to advance up road N of VERDEN to VOLKESEN - "A" coy leading. Shelling and mortaring - "A" coy held up by heavy SPANDAU fire from area HOLTEBUTEL - (enemy estimated 2 coys) - trying to push forward, but without avail. Bn attack on HOLTEBUTEL with smoke screen by 3" Mortars and previous plastering of village by Arty and 17 prs SP. Two coys up - Right "B", left "C" with "D" coy in reserve - Carriers protect right flank. Attack successful - coys consolidating - but great trouble from mortaring and snipers. Bn HQ, "D" and "A" move to HOLTEBUTEL. About 150 enemy digging in in woods to North - suspected counter attack - Area heavily stonked. Fairly quiet night except for slight shelling.	
DAHLBRUGGE VOLKESEN	20 Apr	0500 0600 0830 0945 1015 1100 1730	Enemy reported by patrol to have withdrawn from woods in North. Carrier P1 move forward and seize DAHLBRUGGE (followed by "A" and "D" coys). About 10 PW. No opposition. Carriers move into VOLKESEN - only very slight opposition - 80 PW. "D" coy move up for consolidation - on relief in DAHLBRUGGE by "C" coy. 1 Sqn 44 RTR now in support - 1 tp move up to VOLKESEN. "A" coy on relief by "B" coy in DAHLBRUGGE move up to VOLKESEN - Bn HQ DAHLBRUGGE. Offensive patrolling by Carrier P1 during the day. Much enemy mortaring and shelling. Remainder of Bn move to VOLKESEN and hold town for the night - 1 Sqn 44 RTR remain in sp, also 1 tp of 17 prs SP.	
VOLKESEN	21 Apr	 1930	Shelling and mortaring intermittently - otherwise quiet throughout day. Bn relieved by 4 DORSETS (43 Div) and move to DAHLBRUGGE, where they embus and then move to wood North of DAVERDEN. Bn holding flank of DIV axis in wood.	
Wood North of DAVERDEN EMBSEN	22 Apr	0900 1800 1845 1850 1855 1930 2030 2145	Bn relieved by 2 KRRC move to concentration area in BADEN. Bn attacks EMBSEN with start line rly between ACHIM and BADEN - "B" (left) "D" (right) cross start line - "C" coy follow. "A" Sqn 44 RTR shoot coys into EMBSEN. Bn HQ and "A" coy follow, to area BORSTEL. Objective secured with no opposition - approximately 30 PW - Heavy arty airburst and mortar fire on village. Bn consolidated with 'F' Echelon in EMBSEN. Bn ordered to advance on and capture OYTEN cutting the AUTOBAHN (NE of BREMEN)	

EMBSEN		2145 2300 2330	"D" coy 7 Cams under comd. Bn relieved by 7 Cams in EMBSEN. "B" coy with one tp of tanks move to code word "PEAR".	
	23 Apr	0030 0100 0300 0430 0500	"D" coy with one tp of tanks move to code word "PEACH" and cut AUTOBAHN after stonking area rd junc N of there - where they were held up by MG and Bazooka fire - Prisoners start coming in. Bn HQ move through to "PLUM" with "C" coy and "A" Sqn HQ. "A" and "D" coy (7 Cams) move to area "PEAR" with rear Bn HQ and 1 tp of tanks. "A" coy move out to area on high ground W of "D" coy (7 Cams) - "B" coy pass through to code word "APPLE".	
North of EMBSEN South of OYTEN North of EMBSEN South of OYTEN OYTEN		0600 0800 1215 1230 1400 1600 1615 1645 1730 1800 2000 2130 2145	Bn consolidating with "D" and "B" north of Autobahn - Remainder south. Heavy mortaring and shelling all day on bn area. "B" and "D" coys start to clear OYTEN south of main East to West road. "C" coy move off to clear area North of road and also secure high ground Pt 26.9 Much trouble from enemy infiltration and spandaus, especially from 26.9 Area frequently stonked by Artillery causes enemy to leave some of the 88's, but still infiltration and shelling. "A" coy relieved by "A" coy 7 Cams move to area OYTEN followed by "B" coy who are relieved by "B" coy 7 Cams. "S" coy move to OYTEN. "D" coy having difficulty with enemy at cross roads in NE corner of village. "C" coy storm 26.9 and finally capture it after a stonk, overrunning 8 88 mm guns and 14 20 mm (4 barrels) (Total guns overrun in day 10 88s 20 20 mm Pompoms) "D" coy on objective and consolidated. Bn HQ and 'F' Echelon move to OYTEN and consolidation is completed. (1 tp of tanks with "A" "B" & "D" coys).	
OYTEN OYTEN	24 Apr	 2200	Quiet night - except for slight shelling of bn area. Quiet day. Carrier Pl take over Pt 26.9 from "C" coy and search area - Prisoners taken in two days - 6 offrs and 320 ORs (approx). Bn relieved by 5 DORSETS (43 DIV).	
ACHIM	25 Apr	0230	Relief complete - Bn moves to reserve area ACHIM. Bn in reserve ACHIM. Planning for capture of BREMEN.	
ACHIM BREMEN	26 Apr	0630 0830	Bn move off in MT to an assembly area in the eastern outskirts of BREMEN for attack on centre of BREMEN taking 'F' Ech. Bn meet "A" Sqn 44 RTR, ½ Sqn crocodiles, in assembly area.	

Capture Of 'MARROW'	PHA	0930	Bn move off by march route to FUP just East of main rly station in OLD TOWN with Tanks.	
		1200	Bn, after half an hours artillery programme on their objective, cross start line on left of 5 HLI.	
		SE I	Left "B" coy - Objective - Peninsula S of EUROPA HAVEN Centre "A" coy - Objective - Dock Area N of EUROPA HAVEN Right "D" coy - Objective - Town area to the North of "A" coy "C" coy in reserve with Bn HQ near Railway Station.	
		1300	All coys consolidated on objectives - no opposition - "B" coy capture 50 PW, Manager of Atlas Shipbuilding Works and 1 Submarine.	
		1315	Arty Programme cancelled owing to lack of opposition	
BREMEN	PHAS	E II	Coys start to feel fwd to final objectives.	
		1445	Fina1 objectives consolidated - "C" Coy and Bn HQ move up to area just NORTH of main Rly Stn. During these phases, the Bn captured the following :- (a) 3 officers and 212 ORs (mi1itary) (b) A full colonel in command of NORTH BREMEN. (c) 130 Nazi Fireguards. (d) Innumerable Policemen. (e) One Submarine. (f) The deserted Japanese Embassy. (g) The ATLAS SHIPBUILDING WORKS. No casualties (except 2 very slight) incurred during the day. Bn remain in the 1ocation for the night with 'A' Sqn 44 RTR. 'A' Echelon join the Bn.	
BREMEN				
	27 Apr	0800	Bn relieved, "A" and "D" Coys by 5 HLI, remainder by 6 HLI. Bn ordered to capture DOCK area on WEST of BREMEN.	
		0845	Bn leave by march route to capture dock area passing through 7 CAMS with "A" Sqn, 44 RTR still under command.	
Capture of KALE.		1000	"D" Coy secure triangular area of dockyard just forward of START LINE - Code word 'PANSY'	
		1020	"C" Coy cross Start Line with 1 tp of tks, 1 wasp, and secure peninsula of docks. Code word 'ORCHID'. No opposition - (Bn HQ established on level crossing at START LINE)	
		1100	"A" Coy and one tp of tks, 1 wasp and secure peninsula of docks - Code word 'ROSE'. No opposition.	
		1130	"B" Coy with 2 secs of Carriers secure Dock Peninsula. Code word 'TULIP'. No opposition.	
		1150	"C" Coy move on and secure Dock peninsula. Code word 'DAISY'	
BREMEN		1215	"A" Coy move on and secure peninsula and oil refinery. Code word 'DAFFODIL'	
		1230	Carrier Pl secure large peninsula beside River. Code word 'LILLY'	

BREMEN			"B" Coy move up and consolidate 'LILLY'. All Bn objectives secure - KALE clear. 1500 Bn finally consolidates as follows :- "A" Coy - Oil refinery area 'DAFFODIL' with Carrier P1. 1 Pl MMGS, 2 3" Mortars, 2 A Tk guns. "B" Coy - Peninsula 'LILLY' with Carrier Pl. 1 P1 MMGs, 2 3" Mors, 2 A Tk guns. (cement works) "C" Coy - Dock Peninsula 'TULIP' "D" Coy - Peninsula 'ORCHID' "S" Coy - (2 A Tk guns, 2 Mortars, Pioneers) - 'TULIP' Bn HQ - Peninsula 'TULIP' During this phase the Bn captured :- (a) All the oil refineries and dock installations. (b) 3 officers and 200 ORs. (c) Innumerable policemen. (d) a destroyer (almost complete but not launched). (e) The Junkers factory with much valuable aircraft equipment. (f) 2 uncompleted submarines. No casualties once again. 1 bty LAA came under comd; 1 tp of SP 17 pr for Anti submarine role on River bank. "A" Echelon now move up. 2100 BBC News announces that KOSBs marched the last prisoners out of the dock area of BREMEN this afternoon.	
Bremen.	28 Apr		Quiet night. All Bn bathed during day at MBU. Divisional Entertainments Centre opens near Cathedral. 1000 "D" Coy relieved by "D" Coy 5 HLI and move to consolidate area NORTH of rly on fwd edge N.W. of village. "B" Echelon arrive in Bn area.	
BREMEN.	29 Apr 30 Apr	1515 1700 0300	Quiet night except for slight shelling in "D" and "A" Coy area. Visit of GOC 52 (L) Division. Speaks to whole Bn in "A" Coy area - great praise from Corps Comd and General on capture of BREMEN. Pipers play. Patrol programme starts again; no enemy activity. Slight shelling of "D" Coy area. Quiet day - more patrols out - very wet - no enemy activity. (A) No. of prisoners taken from 25 Mar to 30 Apr 45 (from time Bn crossed the RHINE) 16 Officers and 1250 O.Rs. (B) No. of casualties incurred by this Bn in same period. 13 Officers and 127 O.Rs. (includes 1 and 36 killed) (Sgd) GGM Batchelor Lt. Col. Comd 5/K.O.S.B.	

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)

Unit 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.

Month and Year May 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col G.G.M. Batchelor

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BREMEN	1 May		Quiet day in bn area - usual patrols	
	2 May	1800	"C" coy with under command 1 sec carriers relieve "D" coy in right hand forward coy location.	
	3 May	1830	Quiet day - slight shelling by 105 mm.	
	4 May		ALL GERMAN ARMIES IN NW GERMANY, HOLLAND, DENMARK, surrender UNCONDITIONALLY to 21 ARMY GROUP. (BBC announcement).	
	5 May	 1800	1. 70 prisoners come in during day. 2. Patrol consisting of 1 offr and 10 men + 22 set go out to take over PW camp near VEGESACK - 60 British PWs (Arnhem captives) in camp provided with food, etc. 3. Short thanksgiving service at each coy in morning. "C" coy relieved by "D" coy in fwd area.	
	6 May	 1330	Sunday. Normal Church Services. Patro1 return bringing the 60 ex PW with them. 154 German PW taken.	
BREMEN	7 May		Orders to carry out Phase I of operation 'ECLIPSE'. Elimination of Corps 'EMS' by 52 (L) Div. Total PW taken by Bn on Op. 'BREMEN' 6 and 709. Total since RHINE crossing 16 offrs and 1461 ORs.	
	8 May	0800	Bn move to area between BREMEN and BREMERHAVEN to disarm German Tps (mainly DIVISIONS GILBERT & 408). Bn disposed in following areas:- Bn HQ WUHLSBUTTEL "A" & *D" coys UTTLEDE "B" coy HEINE "C" coy NEUNHAUSEN "S" coy GARLSTEDT	See Appx E Folios 1 & 2 (Original War Diary only) and Appx D No.1
WUHLSBUTTEL	9 May		Carrier patrol search area HAGEN and SANDSTEDT. Arms dump formed at Bn HQ with recording staff consisting of IO and Pioneer Sjt.	
	10 May		"C" coy move to HAGEN and take over large GERMAN ARMS DUMP.	
	11 May		Stocktaking at HAGEN dump of amn and further clearing up in Bn area of all arms, DPs, etc., continues.	
	12 May		Removal of Bn dumps from WUHLSBUTTEL and HAGEN begins with German labour.	
WUHLSBUTTEL	13 May	1000	Church Services. Removal of amn dumps continues.	

	14 May		Removal of amn dumps continues.	
	15 May		Removal of amn completed.	
WUHLSBUTTEL	16 May		Bn vehicle inspections completed.	
	17 May	1630	Americans move into area and Bn move to concentration area BASSUM by MT, crossing R. WESER in BREMEN.	See Appx E Folio 3 (Original War Diary
BASSUM	18 May		Coys as follows in new location:- Bn HQ and "HQ" coy - BASSUM "A" coy - ESCHENHAUSEN "B", "C", and "D" coys - ALBRINGHAUSEN "S" coy BASSUM	only)
	19 May to		Bn parades - RSM's and Adjt's. Recreation. Leave commences for members of Bn who came over in October. Cinema shows. ENSA concerts. Baths. VE holiday. Boating on R. WESER. Bn Concert Party.	See Appx E Folio 4 (Original War Diary
	25 May	1000	Tracked vehicles leave BASSUM.	only)
	26 May	0800	Bn leave BASSUM by MT to move to new area near R. ELBE, via NIENBURG, NEUSTADT, and the REICHSAUTOBAHN from HANOVER to MAGDEBURG, thence North through STENDAL to area OSTERBURG preparatory to take over from AMERICAN 407 Regt.	See Appx E Folio 5 & 6 (Original War Diary only) & Appx D No.2
OSTERBURG	27 May	 1430 1800	Bn disposed in 'OP ECLIPSE' area as follows:- Bn HQ and "HQ" coy - OSTERBURG "S" coy - OSTERBURG "A" coy - ROSSAU "B" coy - HINDENBURG "C" coy - OSTERBURG "D" coy - WERBEN. Church parade for "HQ", "S", and "C" coys in OSTERBURG. Commitments taken over from Americans.	
	28 & 29 May		Americans move out. Bn HQ and "HQ" coy move to SCHLOSS at KRUMKE.	
OSTERBURG OSTERBURG (KRUMKE)	30 & 31 May		Commitments in area:- "A" coy - Guarding PW cage at ROSSAU (5,600 German PW). "B" coy - Guarding ferry crossings of R. ELBE to see no one crosses International Boundary between Russian and British zone of occupation in HINDENBURG AREA. "C" coy - Local guards in OSTERBURG and swimming pool. "D" coy - Guarding ferry crossings of R. ELBE in WERBEN area, also barges on river containing arms, coal, and rye. and 'GEORGE' (automatic pilot) "S" coy - (1) Guards on two hospitals and a canning factory in OSTERBURG. (2) Guard on Telephone Booster at KLEINAU (supplied by Carrier P1)	
	31 May		Guard Mounting Competition:- 1st "D" coy, 2nd "B" coy, 3rd "C" coy.	

			GGM Batchelor Lt. Col. Comd 5th Bn The K.O.S.B.	

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year June 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col JG SHILLINGTON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
WORTHING	Thu 1	I	In the forenoon there was a lecture and discussion on the night exercise which took place between A and C Coys during the night. Other trg included firing out to sea and bathing. At 1400 hrs the CO held a Coy Comds conference and emphasised a number of points to be borne in mind during the forthcoming operations. In the evening the CO inspected personnel of the residue with their loads.	
		II	Weather thundery with some rain	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Fri 2	I	C and Sp Coys fired on KITHURST range. Other Coys carried out local trg in Coy areas incl bathing. In the afternoon a demonstration of all types of aircraft, allied and enemy, took place above WORTHING and was witnessed by many of the Bn. A mess meeting was held in the Offrs Mess in the evening.	
		II	Weather hot	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Sat 3	I	All Coys carried out adm. In addition A Coy practised firing out to sea and D Coy carried out Weapon Trg and wiring. B and C Coys carried out a "Know your Enemy" Quiz. B Coy also fired on KITHURST range.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Sun 4	I	Church Services of all denominations were held in WORTHING. In the case of the Church of Scotland the service was a communion service and was voluntary.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Mon 5		B Coy marched to GIBBET HILL and carried out firing on GIBBET HILL. Other Coys carried out normal trg in Coy areas. In the afternoon, a R/T exercise for Comds was carried out under the supervision of the Sig Offr. The BBC announced the news that ROME had fallen to the Allied armies in ITALY.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Tue 6	I	During the night it became apparent that large fmns of aircraft and gliders were flying over WORTHING and the SOUTH coast in the direction of FRANCE and it was consequently no great surprise when the news was	

			received that the landings had been made in that country between LE HAVRE and CHERBOURG. All reports received during the day indicated that the op was going well. Normal trg in WORTHING area by Coys. CO held a Coy Comds conference in the evening and relayed certain inform regarding the operation. An ENSA Concert Party featuring Miss GERTRUDE LAWRENCE performed in the Cdn Legion Pavilion in the evening. 6 KOSB Standing Op Instrs were issued. Copy as Appx A att.	RHMcD JGS Appx A
		II	Weather fair	
WORTHING	Wed 7	I	Reports indicate that the assault on FRANCE continues to proceed satisfactorily in spite of increased enemy resistance. It appears that a br head has been est extending from approx ST PIERRE DU MONT T69 to the estuary of the R ORNE U67 and fierce fighting is reported at CAEN U06. Another br head is reported in CHERBOURG and various landings by paras and airlanding fmns. Orders were received for the adv party, consisting of Maj CWP RICHARDSON and 2ORs, to conc at Bde HQ, and at 2100 hrs, together with the adv parties of other units of the Bde, they moved off to a marshalling area.	
		II	Weather dull but dry	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Thu 8	I	6 KOSB Standing Adm Orders for Ops were issued. A copy is att herewith as Appx B.	Appx B
			No further news of the ops was received except that satisfactory progress continued to be made	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Fri 9	I	Orders were received for move to marshalling areas on 10 June, of main body. Marching personnel move by train to HAYWARDS HEATH and veh party proceeds by rd to RCRP south of EPPING.	
			The remainder of the day was spent in packing up and preparation for the move. In the evening, a draft of 10 ORs arrived from 53 RHU.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD JGS
WORTHING	Sat 10	I	Veh party left WORTHING at 0510 hrs and arrived at Marshalling Area S6 behind TILBURY about mid-day. There they were split into two parties corresponding to the ships in which they were to embark. The veh party was commanded by the CO. The marching party, under Maj CJ BALLANTYNE left WORTHING at 1100 hrs and proceeded by rail to HAYWARDS HEATH where they were met by TCVs which conducted them to Marshalling Area J6, near LEWES. There the party was split into 3 ship loads, each of which contained a propn of personnel of other units. Maj. BALLANTYNE, Maj GILBERTSON and Maj WATERS were each appointed OC Tps.	
		II	Weather fair, with occasional rain	RHMcD JGS
Camp S6 Camp J6	Sun 11	I	Half the vehs under Capt J ELLIOT left the marshalling area for TILBURY DOCKS and began loading onto MT 86 "The Houston City".	
			The marching party were informed that they would not be leaving before	

			1400 hrs on 14 June. A voluntary Church Service was held in the camp in the morning. Recreational facilities were taken advantage of.	
		II	Weather fine.	RHMcD JGS
TILBURY Camp J6	Mon 12	I	The remainder of the veh party under the CO moved to TILBURY DOCKS at 0700 hrs and began loading onto MT 25, the "CHARLES W. ELLIOT". The first veh party set off for SOUTHEND at about 2000 hrs. 100 men of the marching party went to BRIGHTON for baths, other Coys carried out trg and recreational facilities were used. In the evening an ENSA party performed in the NAAFI.	
		II	Weather hot	RHMcD JGS
SOUTHEND Camp J6	Tue 13	I	MT 25 finished loading and set sail for SOUTHEND about 1800 hrs. In Camp J6 a mobile bath unit arrived and all men had a bath. All ranks were issued with 24 hr pack rations, tommy cookers and various other articles. Ship loads were readjusted slightly to ensure that only KOSB personnel sailed in each ship.	
		II	Weather broken	RHMcD JGS
SOUTHEND Camp J6	Wed 14	I	Both MT ships lay off SOUTHEND until the convoy assembled and set sail at 2210 hrs. The marching party set off by ship loads at approx 1400 hrs and proceeded to an RCRP at NEWHAVEN, where they embarked in LCIs (L). These set off at approx 2300 hrs.	
		II	Weather windy, with rough sea	RHMcD JGS
FRANCE	Thu 15	I	The veh convoy had an uneventful trip and the ships finally anchored between 3 and 4 miles off GRAYE-SUR-MER (1/50,000 map sheet 7E/5 9585). The marching party convoy arrived at GRAYE-SUR-MER at 1200 hrs and disembarked at once. They passed through transit and assembly areas and eventually arrived in the Bde conc area, which is in the area of BRECY (8877). There they were met by the 2IC and led to the Bn conc area, which was in a fd at approx 875787.	
		II	Weather hot	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Fri 16	I	Personnel of marching party cleaned weapons and carried out adm. Personnel and vehs of the veh party began to arrive in small parties, and by the evening most of the unit was concentrated. At 1430 hrs, Brig HDK MONEY DSO addsd all offrs and NCOs and relayed infm which he had obtained from fwd tps during the past few days. During the night there was intense bombing of the beaches by enemy planes and terrific AA fire by our tps and flak ships. CO inspected Bn in alarm posts and held a conference of Coy Comds.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Sat 17	I	Coys carried out Coy TEWTs on the clearance of fds and ditches by Pls and Coys sp by tks. It is anticipated that this type of operation will frequently occur in future clashes with the enemy.	

			Further vehs continued to arrive and by evening the Bn was completely concentrated except for 8 vehs. The CO visited a fwd Bde in the area of CARCAGNY and brought back news of the battle there. There was the usual e/a activity by night.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Sun 18	I	The CO was summoned to an O Gp at Bde HQ, and spent the whole of the afternoon in a recce. On his return in the evening he held an O Gp at which he disclosed that the role of the Div was to be to conc in the br head over the R ORNE est by 51 (H) Div and thereafter break out followed by 11 Armd Div. 6 KOSB was to conc in RANVILLE (7F2/1173) and arrangements were made for adv parties to move off to-morrow. At approx 2300 hrs there was an unfortunate accident when 3190670 Sjt R STODDART, the Int Sjt, was shot in the leg by a sten gun which accidentally discharged. Shortly after a LO arrived from Bde HQ stating that the entire op previously mooted had been cancelled and no further action would be taken till ordered. There was intense e/a activity by night.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Mon 19	I	CO attended a short conference at Bde HQ, at which it was learned that the op previously mooted had been postponed owing to the fact that the Div was not completely concentrated. The CO held a meeting of Coy Comds at 1400 hrs and passed on this infm to them. The day was spent in trg in the bivouac area, and three men per Coy were permitted to visit BAYEUX. BBC announced that American tps had completely cut off the CHERBOURG peninsula.	
		II	Weather very wet	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Tue 20	I	CO was summoned to an O Gp at Bde HQ and spent the whole day thereafter in recce. On his return in the evening he held a short Bn O Gp conference at which it was disclosed that the Div was to carry out an attack WEST of CAEN with a view to securing the crossings over the R ODON. The attack was to be done in three phases, of which the first phase was to be the capture of the villages of CHEUX and Le HAUT-du-BOSQ by 46 (H) Inf Bde on the right and the villages of ST MAUVIEU (9268) and LA GAULE (9267) by 44 (L) Inf Bde on the left. The Bde plan was to take ST MAUVIEU with 8RS and 6RSF and 6KOSB to follow through and take La Gaule. To this end the Bn will move to SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN (9274) two nights before the attack and to BRETTEVILLE L'ORGUEILLEUSE on the night before the attack. Two adv parties under Capt AH ELDER and Maj CWP RICHARDSON were accordingly despatched, one	

			to each village, with a view to reconnoitring areas and staking the Bn's claim. No change was reported in the Brit-Cdn Sector of the front but the Americans are reported to be within 5 miles of CHERBOURG. E/a activity by night rather more restricted than of late.	
		II	Weather wet, with high wind	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Wed 21	I	The CO attended a Bde O Gp at 0930 hrs held on the ground in front of the area where the attack will take place. All Coy Comds spent the day in recce of the ground. In the evening Maj LGS SANDERSON MC KOSB, who acts as personal LO to the C-in-C, visited the Bn. BBC report that Americans are closing in on CHERBOURG.	
		II	Weather dry, but with high wind	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Thu 22	I	The CO attended an O Gp conference at Bde HQ in the morning and on his return announced a slight change of plan which involved the capture by 8RS of a section of the lateral rd running EAST and WEST immediately north of La GAULE before 6KOSB pass through to capture the village. This has necessitated a slight adjustment of B Coy's proposed objective. The whole day was spent in recce on all levels down to Sec Comds. At 1700 hrs rifle Coy Comds attended a cloth model discussion on the op conducted by 8RS. After this was completed a short conference was held by the CO, at which Maj WARREN, Comd B Sqn 9 RTR, with whom we shall be cooperating in the attack, was present. At this conference details of each phase of the Bn attack were co-ordinated. BBC news indicated that the Americans continue to press hard on CHERBOURG. Considerable air activity on both sides took place in the evening and by night.	
		II	Weather fair, with wind subsiding.	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Fri 23	I	CO attended O Gp at Bde HQ at 0900 hrs, when infm was received that a further change of plan had been made. This new plan provides for the capture of La GAULE by 8RS, so that 6 KOSB will now be in res. In other respects the plan remains the same but it is anticipated that 44 (L) Inf Bde will be used again at a later stage of the op to clear the area MOUEN (9365) - TOURVILLE (9364). The CO summoned Coy Comds on his return from Bde and informed them of the change of plan. No alteration in the dispositions of Coys during the adv is to be made. At 1800 hrs the CO attended a lecture by the Corps Comd on the forthcoming op. Tps carried out normal trg by day. E/a activity was quieter than usual. Late in the evening infm was received that the attack would take place	

			at 0730 hrs on 26 Jun 44.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
Near BRECY	Sat 24	I	The CO held an O Gp in the morning at which he issued orders for a move to a FAA near SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN 9274. 6KOSB OO No. 1 was issued and is att as Appx C. At approx 2000 hrs the Bn left the BRECY area and proceeded by march route to the FAA. Marching tps arrived in there at about 2300 hrs and vehs arrived later.	Appx C
		II	Weather fair	JGS
SECQUEVILLE 9274	Sun 25	I	The Bn spent the whole day lying up in the FAA. A Church Service was held at 0930 hrs. The Div Comd held a briefing conference at which he briefed all offrs of the Div down to incl Coy Comds. At 1800 hrs the CO held an O Gp. The remainder of the evening was spent in rest.	
		II	Weather wet	JGS
BRETTEVILLE 9272	Mon 26	I	Commencing at 0030 hrs the Bn proceeded to move to its FUP in gen area 919724 near BRETTEVILLE L'ORGUEILLEUSE, where it dug in and remained till H hr. At 0730 hrs the barrage commenced and the attack began. The Bn moved fwd behind 8RS and reached its first bound (level crossing 9271) without incident. The move to the next bound (line of R MUC) was then carried out, but many enemy snipers and pockets of resistance had to be dealt with on the way. From this bound, the Carrier Pl (subsequently relieved by D Coy) moved fwd to 917683 to assist 8RS, who had gained their objectives but were depleted by cas. In the afternoon orders were received to proceed to the assistance of 6RSF at ST MAUVIEU, where final objectives had not yet been taken. A B & C Coys accordingly moved fwd and took over from 6RSF. D Coy 6RSF also came under comd. In C Coy's area (orchard 934686) there was some opposition, but the Bn est & held the line of the rd running NORTH and SOUTH through the village. The cas for the day's fighting included Maj RWQ GOING and two ORs killed; Lt NK MACKENZIE and 12 ORs wounded.	
		II	Weather wet	JGS
ST MAUVIEU 9268	Tue 27	I	During the night posns were intermittently mortared by the enemy. In the course of the night the Bn was relieved by a Bn of the Wiltshires Regt and pulled out just before dawn. The Bn retired to a conc area near Le MESNIL PATRY 9070 and remained there all day reorganising and resting.	JGS
Le MESNIL PATRY/9070 Le HAUT du BOSQ 9066	Wed 28	I	At about 1000 hrs orders were received to proceed to the area of Le HAUT du BOSQ 9066 and take over from 10 HLI. This was duly done and posns occupied with A and D Coys fwd and B and C Coys in the rear. Late in the evening an attack was made by A & D Coys on the area of xrds 909657 and objectives taken without opposition.	
		II	Weather showery	RHMcD JGS
Le HAUT du	Thu	I	8RS launched an attack on the right, having for its objective the line	

BOSQ 9066	29		of the rly at GRAINVILLE-sur-ODON 9164. This attack met with some opposition but they eventually reached their objectives although depleted by cas. 6RSF were moved up to sp them. It was then intended that 6KOSB launch an attack from GRAINVILLE on certain objectives south of the rly line. Before this attack could be arranged, however, the enemy launched a fierce armd counter attack on 8RS and 6RSF posns and in some places achieved penetrations. The 6KOSB line however was held, and B and C Coys, with armd sp launched a counter attack on area 899649 and by evening restored the situation. Cas in the day's fighting incl Maj CJ BALLANTYNE TD, Lt JR VIVERS and 18 ORs wounded, one OR killed.	JGS
GRAINVILLE 9064	Fri 30	I	The Bn was ordered to consolidate on line of rd GRAINVILLE to rd junc 896652, and Bn HQ, A & D Coys moved up. Orders were received that this line was to be denied against enemy attack. The Bn fmn was:- C Coy right in area 897653; B Coy area wood 903649; D Coy area 905645; Bn HQ 904649. A/tk guns and MMGs were allotted in sp. During the day there was occasional mortar and arty fire on the posns but no other activity on the front.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year July 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col JG SHILLINGTON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
GRAINVILLE 9064	Sat 1	I	A patrol led by Lt KG BUY went out at night to ascertain if wood at 900643 contained enemy and returned reporting it clear. In the morning, at approx 0700 hrs, the enemy attacked with tks. The attack came in on C Coy's front and on the unit of the fmn on the right. A grim battle ensued in the course of which several enemy tks were knocked out. Eventually, however, through superiority in numbers and armament, all a/tk guns in the sector were knocked out and C Coy forced back. A gallant stand was made however on the Coy HQ line by Capt NC ROLLO and the remaining elements of C Coy. Acts of outstanding bravery were also performed by Capt J ELLIOT and Cpl WALLACE, both of whom continued to man and operate a/tk guns when the crews were killed until the guns were knocked out by direct hits. A few enemy tks succeeded in infiltrating round the right flank where the fmn on the right had fallen back, but the stand of C Coy prevented this taking place long enough for a strong armd counterattack to be put in in the evening which succeeded in restoring the situation. Two coys of 6RSF came under comd and by nightfall the line was again firmly est, if anything more strongly than before. The casualties for the day included Lt KG BUY, Lt HDP MINCHIN and 14 ORs killed, Maj RN GILBERTSON, Capt J ELLIOT and 53 ORs wounded and 41 missing (presumably wounded).	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
GRAINVILLE 9064	Sun 2	I	The Bn remained in posn all day and although subjected to heavy and continual mortar fire, was not attacked. A patrol of tks and SP guns went out as far as the line of the rly to cover mine laying ops which were taking place on our front. This patrol suffered two tk casualties but did not encounter any enemy tks. In the evening the Bn was relieved by a Bn of the E LANCS. The relief was completed by about 2300 hrs and the Bn set off by march route to its new area.	
		II	Weather showery	RHMcD JGS
SECQUEVILLE	Mon	I	The Bn arrived in a rest area near SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN in the early	

9174	3		morning. The whole day was spent in re-org and rest. In the morning the Div Comd visited the Bn and addsd all ranks. He read a letter of congratulation received from Gen Montgomery on the fine performance of the Div and added his personal thanks.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
SECQUEVILLE 9174	Tue 4	I	The CO attended a conference conducted by the Div Comd on the subject of the recent ops. The Bn continued to re-org and rest. A church service was held in the bivouac area in the evening.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD JGS
SECQUEVILLE 9174	Wed 5	I	The Bn was given an op role which involved the occupation of defensive posns in the SECQUEVILLE area to counter any enemy attack from CARPIQUET. Recces were carried out and posns dug. CO attended a conference in the afternoon. A draft of 36 ORs arrived from RHU.	
		II	Weather showery	RHMcD JGS
SECQUEVILLE 9174	Thu 6	I	Trg of various types was carried out by Coys. Certain men attended entertainments by Concert Parties and films in the neighbouring village of ST CROIX. Maj LANE-JOYNT, South Lancs, joined the Bn from RHU and took over comd of B Coy.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
SECQUEVILLE	Fri 7	I	CO was sent for to Bde HQ and Bn put on 3 hrs notice to move. CO received orders that the Bn together with the remainder of the Bde were to proceed to area TOURVILLE 9364 and take over from a Bde of 43 Div in that area. Recces down to Coy levels were carried out during the remainder of the day and at approx 2200 hrs the Bn set forth by march route to take over their allotted sector.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
TOURVILLE 9364	Sat 8	I	The Bn took over res posn in the sector, with 8RS on right fwd and 6RSF on left fwd fronts respectively. Bn HQ was est at 931639. D and B Coys were in front, and A and C Coys in rear. The day was quiet in this sector of the front, the main activity taking place on the CAEN sector, where the town was captured later in the day. Patrols were sent out at night by the two fwd Bns but not by this Bn.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD JGS
TOURVILLE 9364	Sun 9	I	The sector remained quiet throughout the day, although intermittent shelling and mortaring occurred. The relief which was expected to take place to-night has now been postponed by 24 hrs. A patrol led by Lt J GUETTLER went out at night to ascertain if 933617 was held by enemy and returned with infm that it was not held.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD JGS
TOURVILLE 9364	Mon 10	I	An attack was launched at 0500 hrs by 43 Div in areas SW and SOUTH of CAEN. 46 (H) Inf Bde is under comd 43 Div for this op. The attack was	

			preceded by a hy barrage. The attack proceeded according to plan and by nightfall 43 Div had est itself on the outskirts of MALTOT 9862 and pt 112 9561. 46 (H) Inf Bde were est in area BRETTEVILLE-SUR-ODON 9866 and ETERVILLE 9364. Determined German counter-attacks were beaten off. As a result of this action there was increased enemy mor fire and shelling on 44 Bde front, but no cas were sustained by the Bn.	
		II	Weather dull with some rain	RHMcD JGS
TOURVILLE 9364	Tue 11	I	The front remained quiet during the day except for intermittent shelling and mortaring, some of which fell close to the Bn posns. Maj NC ROLLO and one OR of A Coy were wounded as a result of such a shell. In the course of the day reps from 4 WELCH arrived with a view to taking over. The relieving Coy itself arrived in the evening about 2300 hrs and the relief was complete by midnight.	
		II	Weather dull & showery	RHMcD CWPR
SECQUEVILLE 9174	Wed 12	I	The Bn left TOURVILLE area at approx 0200 hrs and proceeded by march route to CHEUX where it embussed and returned to its previous bivouac area in SECQUEVILLE, arriving approx 0500 hrs. The remainder of the day was spent in re-org and rest. The CO carried out a recce in TOURMAUVILLE area with a view to a future attack in that area. A Church Service was held in the evening near Bn HQ.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
SECQUEVILLE 9174	Thu 13	I	The CO attended an O Gp at 1000 hrs and on return held a conference of Coy Comds. The intended plan is that 6KOSB should take part in a night attack the object of which is to extend the present line SW of TOURVILLE. The CO made a tentative plan as to how he considered this might be done. It is anticipated that the attack will be illuminated by artificial light from search lights. Men carried out usual trg during the day and completed rest and re-org.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
TOURVILLE	Fri 14	I	The day was spent in rest and preparation for move. At 2100 hrs the Bn moved to its previous area at TOURVILLE where it occupied posns for the night. Activity on this sector during the night was slight.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
TOURVILLE	Sat 15	I	The Bn left its FAA and proceeded at about 2235 hrs to an FUP in the area 935625 to 939619. OO for Op GREENLINE was issued and is att hereto as Appx A. The attack was put in under artificial moonlight conditions created by searchlights reflected on the sky. The SL was crossed at 2330 hrs with A and C Coys in front, making for objectives 927613 and 931610 respectively. At 2340 hrs it was learned that the capture of ESQUAY by 2 GLAS H had taken place.	
		II	Weather fair	CWPR
Area	Sun	I	A and C Coys reached their objectives 0030 hrs. B and D Coys then set	

931610	16		off from the SL for their objectives which were 918609 and 927603 respectively, and at 0235 hrs Bn HQ then moved to 928615, and commenced digging in. Phase SHUFFLE was then ordered and carried out. 8RS commenced their attack on our right and succeeded in attaining their objectives. D Coy discovered at dawn that it had penetrated too far fwd and was more or less cut off. After a prolonged and difficult action it succeeded in disengaging and tying up its flanks. For the whole of the remainder of the day the Bn held grimly on to these posns in spite of counter attacks and also aerial attack. During the action Lt Col SHILLINGTON and Maj JW OGILVIE were wounded and Capt DUN, Lt FRAFJORD and Lt GUETTLER killed. Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON took over comd of the Bn.	RHMcD RHMcD
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
928615	Mon 17	I	During the night an attack was put in on EVRECY by 2 A&SH but did not succeed. All day the posn was held in spite of counter attack and mortaring which became very bad indeed. At night an attack on EVRECY was made by 4 and 6 RWF sp by tks, but again this failed to take the town. Several other offrs incl Capt MW TWOGOOD wounded during the day.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
928615	Tue 18	I	Intermittent counter-attacks during the day all of which were successfully broken up by our arty fire which took a hy toll. Infm received that as a result of the ops on our front the armour had been able to break through SOUTH of CAEN and was now doing well. Typhoon effort on NBW posns succeeded in silencing two batteries.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
928615	Wed 19	I	The front was exceptionally quiet for several hrs in the morning and A B & D Coys pushed out patrols to the rd LE BON REPOS - EVRECY - BOUGY. D Coy were the only coy who encountered any opposition. Shelling and mortaring increased as the day went on. In the evening 1 HLI arrived to take over commencing at midnight.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
917654	Thu 20	I	The hand over took place by Coys in face of hy mortar fire and was complete by 0300 hrs, although some casualties were suffered on the way. The Bn withdrew to 917654 and spent the day in reorg and rest.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
917654	Fri 21	I	The Corps Comd, Lt Gen Ritchie visited the Bn and spoke to offrs and several ORs. The day was spent in further re-org, made difficult by incessant hy rain. In the afternoon the area was shelled by enemy hy guns and permission was obtained from Bde to move to 904683. This was carried out and completed by 2200 hrs.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
904683	Sat	I	The CO and IO spent the whole day carrying out a recce in the area	

	22		BEZIERS 6760, where the Bn is to proceed tomorrow to take over a sector of the line occupied by 3 Bn 10 US Inf Regt. The Bn spent the whole day in re-org, and drying clothes, cleaning weapons, etc, under the supervision of Lt Col JFM MACDONALD who is at present att to the Bn and acting as 2IC. On his return in the evening the CO held an O Gp at which he gave infm regarding disposns of Coys etc in the new area.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
BEZIERS 6760	Sun 23	I	The CO addressed the Bn in the forenoon after which he departed for the new area with Coy Comds. At approx 1300 hrs the Bn moved off embussed and arrived in new area at approx 1800 hrs. The Bn is in Bde res and disposns are as follows:- Bn HQ 676606; A Coy 669605; B Coy 660605; D Coy 676605. C Coy is under comd of 8RS and the carrier pl of 6RSF. All guns are deployed on a Bde basis.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BEZIERS 6760	Mon 24	I	Patrolling took place during the night but in other respects this sector of the front remained quiet. Certain adjustments were made to Coy disposns, C Coy coming back under comd again and taking up a posn to the rear of Bn HQ.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BEZIERS 6760	Tue 25	I	The Div Comd visited the Bn in the morning and discussed posns with the Bde Comd and the CO. Apart from patrolling on both sides the front remained quiet and there was little to report.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BEZIERS 6760	Wed 26	I	At 0630 hrs the Americans on the immediate right of the Bn commenced an attack supported from B Coy area. This attack continued all through the day and appeared to be successful. A few casualties from mortaring were sustained by B Coy. At 1600 hrs the Bn was relieved by 7 Seaforth the relief being complete by 1900 hrs.	
FLAMBARDIERE 7163		II	The Bn then moved to a rest area at FLAMBARDIERE. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
FLAMBARDIERE 7163	Thu 27	I	The day was spent in rest and re-org. 15 (S) Div Concert Party gave a performance in the afternoon. All Comds took part in a recce in the area of LIVRY 7361 with a view to future ops in that area. Infm was received later in the day, however, that there had been an alteration in plan and such ops are now unlikely.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
FLAMBARDIERE 7163	Fri 28	I	Trg and further re-org were carried out during the day, and inter Coy soccer matches were arranged and played off. The Bde Comd, Brig HDK MONEY, DSO, visited the Bn during the day. In the evening at about 2000 hrs a sudden warning order for an immediate move was given and about 2300 hrs the Bn moved off to	

			CAUMONT 7059 and took over from 10 HLI who were holding the line in that sector.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
CAUMONT 7059	Sat 29	I	The Bn remained in CAUMONT all day holding the sector where the Bde is providing a firm base for an attack at dawn on 30 July by 227 and 46 Bdes supported by 6 Gds Tk Bde. Sir EDWARD BRADFORD joined the Bn as 2IC and Capt MALCOLM-KING, RSF, was posted to B Coy as 2IC. The Bn was visited in the evening by Brig HDK MONEY DSO who said farewell on his departure for England to assume an appointment there. His successor Brig COCKBURN, accompanied him.	
		II	Weather fair	
CAUMONT 7059	Sun 30	I	The attack began with an intense barrage at 0655 hrs and the first objectives which were SEPT VENTS 6957 and wood 7158 were soon taken. By the end of the day the final objectives in the area of pt 309 6951 had been taken and were held by 46 Bde. 43 Div on the left carried out a simultaneous attack which made rather slower progress. No move was made by the Bn during this day.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
685553	Mon 31	I	At 0345 hrs the Bn left CAUMONT and proceeded to an FAA at 685553. It remained in this posn most of the day, awaiting developments on the front and left flank. Eventually at 1730 hrs the Bn moved to area 692538 to take up a counter attack role in the event of the situation on pt 309 requiring to be restored.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Aug 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
702524	Tue 1	I	After continuous recce during the day orders were received to carry out a Bn attack from incl BARELIERE 7052 to wood and track junc 703517 commencing at 1700 hrs. In the afternoon Coys moved to FAAs and SLs and Bn HQ moved to 697528. H hr was postponed on instrs from higher authority as it was ascertained that 43 Div was progressing on the left and were dangerously close to our objectives. At 1730 hrs, however, the attack went fwd with B and D Coys leading. D Coy reached objectives without much opposition. C Coy encountered opposition which was successfully dealt with and in due course reached their objective. Infm was received that large numbers of enemy were present in le BOIS du HOMME and large arty concs were brought down on this area with great effect. 2 Lt P SOUTHWOOD was killed and Maj JD HENSON and Lt RD CHAPMAN wounded in this op. During the attack all ranks wore roses in their helmets in commemoration of the battle of MINDEN.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
702524	Wed 2	I	No incident occurred during the night and in the morning patrols swept the BOIS du HOMME and reported the feature clear. The Bn was placed at short notice to move during the day with a view to proceeding to occupy CATHCOLLES 7044. This move however did not materialise and in the late evening the Bn moved to an assembly area near LA FERRIERE AU DOYEN 6952 to await further orders for move.	
702534		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
677459	Thu 3	I	No orders to move were received until late afternoon when the Bn moved to 677459 near LE TOURNEAU preparatory to an attack tomorrow on feature 279 7142 with 8RS and 1WG. Orders for this attack were given out in the late evening and as much recce as possible carried out.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
719431	Fri 4	I	The attack commenced at first light with A and C Coys leading, Bn HQ directing the attack from 700434. The adv continued to go well on all sectors and all coys reached their objectives without encountering any opposition. On capture of the objectives Bn HQ moved to 719431. In the	

			afternoon orders were received to carry out a further attack on the feature LA MOTTE 7541. This attack commenced at 1930 hrs from the area LA FIEFFE 7342. Some opposition was encountered and there was very confused fighting all through the night. All tpt was compelled to remain in previous Bn area as the rds to the objective were impassable owing to mines.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
753418	Sat 5	I	Just before first light all objectives were seized and it became possible to bring forward the tpt by a cross country route. The Bn now occupied a def posn protecting the left flank of the adv. This posn was occupied for the remainder of the day.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
753418	Sun 6	I	The Bn remained in the same location throughout the whole day, but on short notice to move. No incident worthy of note took place. In the evening the Chaplain held a brief service in each Coy locality.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
L'OBTINIERE 743406	Mon 7	I	At 0930 hrs the Bn moved to L'OBTINIERE 743406 and adopted a def posn there, prior to a further adv in the future. In the evening the CO was summoned to an O Gp at Bde HQ when orders were received that the Bde to-morrow will attack ESTRY 7437, which place has already been attacked by 227 Bde without success. Late in the evening orders for this attack were given out. The attack will be performed with 6RSF on left and 6KOSB on right.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
ESTRY 7437	Tue 8	I	Early in the morning the Bn moved to an FAA in the area 735392 and remained there until about 1100 hrs when it moved to a SL south of the objective. At 1200 hrs the attack commenced, supported by a sqn of tks and a tp of crocodiles. Owing to the close nature of the country both tks and crocodiles were unable to make headway and the inf were required to go on by themselves. C Coy on the left succeeded in reaching limited objectives, D Coy on right met with less success. The 6RSF on the left succeeded only in reaching the line of the rd running EAST and WEST through ESTRY. Orders were accordingly received to consolidate on this line and after considerable confused fighting this was effected by the evening.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
ESTRY 7437	Wed 9	I	The Bn was ordered to maintain this posn at all costs and this was duly carried out. The enemy remained very aggressive throughout the day and several attempted counter attacks were reported and dealt with by arty. Hy mortaring and shelling continued on both sides. Capt GI YOUNG was killed and Capt AG TWOGOOD wounded as a result of mor fire during this period. Bn HQ moved to 737385.	

		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
ESTRY 7437	Thu 10	I	The Bn remained in same locations throughout the day, undergoing continuous fire from enemy mors, guns and rifle grenades. No serious attempt at counter attack was made, however, and by evening the posns were the same as before. In the evening C Coy was relieved by D Coy.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
ESTRY 7437	Fri 11	I	During the night Maj WEJ WATERS was accidentally killed. The day was spent in similar fashion to the immediately preceding one, except that the evening fire was not so great and sustained as before.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
ESTRY 7437	Sat 12	I	The ESTRY posn was maintained throughout the day until the evening when the Bn was relieved by 8RS commencing at 2230 hrs. On relief the Bn moved back to a res area in the gen area 715405.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
715405	Sun 13	I	The relief was completed by approx 0300 hrs. During the day certain adm in the form of baths etc was carried out, but the Bn remained with a counter attack role in the event of 8RS being counter attacked and over-run. In the afternoon the Bn was relieved by 4KSLI and withdrew to a Bde conc area at CATHCOLLES 7044 to spend the night prior to moving to 12 Corps area the next day.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
960566	Mon 14	I	The Bn set out at approx 0900 hrs and proceeded via VILLERS BOCAGE to 960566 where it entered a Div Conc Area awaiting any call which might be made upon the Div by 12 Corps. The day was spent in rest and re-org.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
960566	Tue 15	I	The Bn remained <u>in situ</u> throughout the day and a full day's adm was carried out, incl change of clothing, baths, etc.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
960566	Wed 16	I	As no call to move fwd was received, the day was devoted to trg and further adm. An ENSA concert party gave a performance in the afternoon. Inter coy soccer matches were played. Maj EDF COKE, Foresters, joined the Bn and is appointed OC D Coy.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
960566	Thu 17	I	Further trg carried out during the forenoon. In the afternoon a Coy Comds conference was held at which various pts were discussed. A warning order to move was received and in the evening recce parties went off to area LA MOTTE 9847 to prepare new area. The remainder of the day was spent in preparation for the move.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Fri 18	I	Bn moved to new area in forenoon. This area is another conc area and again the Div has no role. In the afternoon trg and recreation	

			continued. B Ech joined the Bn in this location.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Sat 19	I	The Bn remained in present area throughout the day. Trg of various types incl marching was carried out. Bathing etc also took place. A lecture on the progress of the campaign so far was given to all ranks by the Div IO at 1600 hrs. Final of inter coy football competition was played off and won by HQ Coy. In the evening infm was received to be ready to move the following day.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Sun 20	I	CO attended an O Gp at 0900 hrs and Bn was placed on 3 hrs notice to move as from 1200 hrs, to proceed eastwards behind 227 (H) Inf Bde on a gen axis towards LE SAP 5859. About 1910 hrs, however, when it became apparent that no move was likely to-night, orders to stand down were received. It later transpired that the Polish Armd Div had already proceeded along the axis and encountered and was dealing with enemy at VIMOUTIERS.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Mon 21	I	During the night there was a sharp attack by e/a in the area of 2 A&SH and damage and cas were caused. Owing to wet weather intended trg programmes during the day had to be altered and several coys moved from fds where they were bivouacing to neighbouring buildings. A draft of one offr (Lt ROBINSON) and several NCOs was received from 6 Bn Border Regt.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Tue 22	I	The Bn remained in the same location throughout the day, and carried out trg. Adm and bathing was also carried out. An ENSA concert party provided two shows in the course of the day which were attended by reps from the Bn.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
LA MOTTE 9847	Wed 23	I	CO attended O Gp in forenoon and orders were received for Bn to move to a conc area on the other side of FALAISE prior to taking part in an adv to contact towards the R SEINE. At approx 1600 hrs the Bn moved to area ERAINES 168373. CO attended O Gp and gave out orders for next day's adv on his return.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
ERAINES 168373	Thu 24	I	Maj E REMINGTON-HOBBS joined the Bn as 2IC and Capt J ELLIOT rejoined from the UK after having been wounded. The Bn was prepared to move as third Bn in an adv to contact to the R SEINE, but owing to the state of the rds no movement was possible until about 1600 hrs. Eventually at about 2200 hrs the Bn reached a harbour area at approx 574674 where it settled for the night. The adv was made without incident.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR

574674	Fri 25	I	The Bn left at approx 1015 hrs to continue the adv towards LE NEUBOURG 0283. The adv was very slow owing to brs at 925772 and 926769 being blown and crossings had to be made by a small wooden br unsuitable for hy tpt. Eventually at approx 2315 hrs the Bn reached our area at 704756 where it took up a def posn covering LE NEUBOURG.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
704756	Sat 26	I	The Bn remained in the posn throughout the day. No incidents worthy of note occurred. Late in the evening orders were received to expect an early move the following morning.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
205895	Sun 27	I	The Bn left at 0200 hrs and proceeded direct to an area near LOUVIERS with Bn HQ est near 205895. The remainder of the Bde Gp concentrated in the same area. In the late evening the 6RSF made an assault crossing of R SEINE at PORTE JOIE 2892. They met with little opposition and est a br head on the far bank.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
HERQUEVILLE 2991	Mon 28	I	The Bn left at 0200 hrs and proceeded by march route to an FAA at 279940. Vehs left at 0500 hrs and proceeded to a similar FAA at 255935. All marching personnel then proceeded to the near bank and by 0800 hrs had all crossed in boats. Throughout the day vehs and guns were rafted across and finally a br was completed across which the remainder of the Bn followed. Bn HQ was est on the far bank at HERQUEVILLE 2991.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
HOUVILLE 3697	Tue 29	I	The Bn moved off behind 8RS towards LE LONDE 3396 and HOUVILLE 3697. By 1200 hrs 8RS had captured LE LONDE, only scattered remnants of enemy being encountered. 6KOSB then proceeded and occupied HOUVILLE. Odd prisoners were taken incl two German offrs who were captured in a car.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HOUVILLE 3697	Wed 30	I	The day was spent in adm and re-org. The Div Comd paid a visit to the Bn and stated that the Div was now in army res, 4 Armd Bde and 53 Div having now passed through. A party under Capt RM WOOLLCOMBE carried out a raid on BOIS DE BACQUEVILLE and recovered a quantity of arms and amm belonging to the local maquis which had been hidden there.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HOUVILLE 3697	Thu 31	I	A wood clearing op was carried out in conjunction with 8RS on the FORET DE BACQUEVILLE. This op lasted the whole day but no enemy were found.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR

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WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Sep 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
HOUVILLE 3697	Fri 1	I	Infm received that a move fwd to a conc area would take place the following day and preparations were made accordingly. Later in the day it was advised that this move would not take place until the day after.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HOUVILLE 3697	Sat 2	I	An inter-coy Drill Competition was held, and was won by A Coy, followed by C, HQ, D and Sp (equal) and B Coys. Harbour parties went off to recce new area and returned in the evening having completed the recce.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HOUVILLE 3697	Sun 3	I	The Bn left HOUVILLE early in the morning and proceeded ~~in TCVs~~ to the area LA FEUILLE. This move was done using Bn 3 tonners to tpt the inf. Bn HQ was est at 478168. A Church Service was held in the afternoon.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
HADENCOURT 6737	Mon 4	I	The Bn again moved in own tpt to area HADENCOURT 6737, arriving about mid-day. In the afternoon a route march was held of approx 7 miles. The Pipes and Drums played during this march.	
		II	Weather fine	CWPR
HERICOURT 103081 (Sh72)	Tue 5	I	All Bn vehs left early in the morning and moved to a conc area at HERICOURT 103081. The remainder of the Bn moved in TCVs in the afternoon, arriving in the late evening. A Warning Order was received that the Bn would be required to move the following day as adv gd to the Bde, moving towards ROULERS.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
795545	Wed 6	I	Bn left at 0800 hrs with C Coy as vangd and proceeded by the route BETHUNE - LA BASSEE - LILLE - TOURCOING - MENIN - ROULERS. On arrival at 5646 it was discovered that the br there was blown and an alternative br at MEURCHIN 5522 was used. No enemy was encountered. Eventually HOUIN was reached and br there was found to be blown. Infm was then received that enemy were adv SOUTH towards br at LAUWE 7954 and the Bn was ordered to cross immediately and est a br head to	

			protect the br. This was quickly done, C Coy leading followed by A D and B. No opposition was encountered and Bn HQ was est at 795545.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
795545	Thu 7	I	The Bn remained in this posn during the day. No enemy were encountered other than a few prisoners brought in by the recce. In the afternoon 53 Div crossed our front and orders were received to conc in present area and have maximum rest preparatory to an early move the following day. The CO attended an O Gp during the night.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
ZULTE 885590	Fri 8	I	The Bn moved off behind 6RSF to occupy line of R LYS from 9664 to PLAATSE 0068. No enemy other than stragglers were encountered and the Bn was fully est and in posn by 2000 hrs. Bn HQ was est in ZULTE.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
ZULTE	Sat 9	I	No move took place during the day and the arrival of other allied fmns on our front rendered the tactical sit less important. The day was therefore devoted to adm and trg. The Bn Soccer Team played the local team in the evening and won by 4-2. The Pipes and Drums also played a programme. The Div Concert Party (Tam O'Shanters) gave a performance in the village hall in the evening.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
SEMPST 7070	Sun 10	I	The Bn left ZULTE at approx 0930 hrs and proceeded in TCVs to the area of SEMPST J77. In the afternoon Coy Comds carried out recces on the ALBERT CANAL, but later in the evening infm was received that assault crossing would not take place in this area.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
SEMPST 7070	Mon 11	I	No move from SEMPST took place but late in the day orders were received that the Bn would proceed tomorrow to relieve 9DLI of 50 Div who were in contact with enemy in a br head across ALBERT CANAL SOUTH of GHEEL. The day was spent in trg and adm. Soccer match against local team took place in evening, and Pipes and Drums played a programme in the village.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
Area 056824	Tue 12	I	The CO together with Bn O Gp set off early to recce posns to be taken over. The remainder of the Bn moved later to a posn SOUTH of the canal, opposite the br head. During the recce by the O Gp, Lt IH JOHNSTON, Sig Offr, was killed by a mor bomb while crossing the br across the canal. In the afternoon Coys began to cross and to carry out the relief of their opposite numbers. Relief was completed by midnight, Bn HQ being est in area 079856 (Sh 25 and 35).	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
Area 094908	Wed 13	I	At 0515 hrs it was reported by 8RS that enemy had withdrawn from GHEEL 0888. Patrols were accordingly sent out which est the fact that the	

			enemy had made a gen withdrawal over the whole front. At 1120 hrs the Bn made a gen move fwd and Bn HQ was set up for a period in LAAR 0987. Further adv was made in the afternoon along the rd leading NE out of GHEEL, and B Coy conducted an op right down to the ESCAUT Canal at area 1293. Bn HQ moved to 094908. B Coy reported that a br at 121939 was still intact and A Coy were ordered to carry out a night op with a view to securing it.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
Area 108918	Thu 14	I	A Coy moved fwd and succeeded in reaching the br. The first sec got across successfully, but immediately after it had crossed the br became subjected to intense enemy mor and MG fire, and shelling from across the canal. The Coy Comd, Maj NC ROLLO, MC, was killed and it was impossible for any further crossing to be made. In the early morning other Coys moved fwd to area immediately SOUTH of the br and took up posns there. Bn HQ moved to 108918. The whole day was spent in this posn, clearing up enemy on the south bank of the canal. During the night and also by day 8RS succeeded in est a br head at 077928, and got their whole Bn across the canal. The enemy began to flood the canal in the area 1293 and it became necessary for fwd Coys to withdraw from the water's edge to posns a bit further back.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
074926	Fri 15	I	6RSF commenced to cross the canal into the GHEEL br head as est by 8RS, and at about mid-day KOSB were withdrawn from present posns back to area GHEEL with the intention of following 6RSF. 6RSF got three Coys across in spite of hy shellfire at the point of crossing, and KOSB moved down to an FUP in area of wood 0792. The enemy shellfire in this wood was intense. D Coy led the way across the canal in assault boats, followed rapidly by A B & C Coys. Coy carriers and A tk guns were successfully rafted across before the raft received a direct hit and further tpt of vehs became impossible. Coys, having crossed, proceeded to endeavour to reach their objectives, but were unable to reach their start lines owing to enemy counter-attack on the RSF. The decision was therefore made to consolidate the whole br head into a tight def posn, using the 3 Bns. This was carried out and Bn HQ was est 074926. Hy shelling of crossing area continued without intermission.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
074926	Sat 16	I	Plans were made for an attack by RSF and KOSB to enlarge the br head, but before H hr it became apparent that this operation could not be carried out owing to hy shelling of our posns and obvious preparations for counter-attack being made by enemy. This counter-attack was successfully beaten off by our arty fire. At 1615 hrs, another	

			counter-attack came in from NE but was successfully repulsed. The enemy then opened sluice gates about two kilos WEST along the canal and the water rose to such a point as to be in grave danger of flooding the whole br head posn. It was decided, however, to hold on. At 2000 hrs, a further hy counter-attack was put in from the EAST. Certain slight penetration was effected but the attack was beaten off and the sit restored. B Coy was required to carry out a local counter-attack to retake territory lost, which it did successfully. 8RS were withdrawn from br head during the night, their posns being taken over by RSF and KOSB.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
074926	Sun 17	I	The day was spent in the br head posn without incident other than steady shelling and mortaring of the posns and of the crossings. A small op by A Coy to retake certain houses was carried out successfully. Houses at 078928 and 078933 were cleared, several enemy killed and one 20 MM gun knocked out. In the evening the relief of 6RSF by 2 Gordons was carried out.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
074926	Mon 18	I	Certain re-adjustment of posns took place and B Coy was withdrawn to centre of area in res. Typhoon attack on suspected enemy posns was carried out with some success. At 1800 hrs a hy conc of enemy shelling took place followed by a very sharp counter-attack which came in on both sides of the br head in the form of a pincer movement and was supported by tks. The attacking enemy were at once engaged with arty fire which completely broke up the attack and killed many of the enemy. At 2130 hrs the relief of 6KOSB by 2 A&SH commenced and continued, coy by coy, during the night.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
GHEEL 0888	Tue 19	I	The relief continued throughout the night and by approx 0400 hrs the whole Bn was relieved and proceeded to billets in GHEEL. The day was spent in rest and adm. The Div Comd visited the Bn and stated that he was very pleased with its performance in the br head. In the evening the Pipes and Drums beat retreat in GHEEL.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
GHEEL 0888	Wed 20	I	Orders were received to conc in MOLL 1790 but subsequently cancelled and the Bn instructed to take over the def of the SOUTH bank of the canal from 156950 to br 042912. This was done with A B & D Coys and Carrier Pl fwd, and C Coy in mob res. Bn HQ was est 079893.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
VELDHOVEN 373144	Thu 21	I	Bn was relieved early in the morning by 1/6 Queens Regt and on relief proceeded to a conc area at MOLL 1790. From there the Bn moved off across the ESCAUT Canal, with a view to harbouring in the woods NW of	

			EINDHOVEN. Owing to delays, however, it was necessary to stop for the night at VELDHOVEN 373144.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
391267	Fri 22	I	The Bn left VELDHOVEN at about 1400 hrs and proceeded with the adv through EINDHOVEN and towards a br at 3925. On approaching this br infm was received that the Bn was to come under comd 46 (H) Inf Bde forthwith, and to cross to other side of the canal and direct an attack on BEST 3726. The Bn accordingly moved to an FAA in woods at 3926 and at 1815 hrs the attack commenced with B and C Coys fwd followed by A and D. The attack met some resistance, but this was successfully dealt with by arty, and all Coys gained objectives. Bn HQ was est area 391267.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
385258	Sat 23	I	Certain adjustments to Coy posns were carried out during the day and local attacks were made by A and B Coys to assist a major attack being made on the left flank by 46 (H) Inf Bde. Bn HQ moved to gen area 385258.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
STEENWEG 382268	Sun 24	I	6RSF and 8RS passed through, and further adjustments were made to KOSB posns, which now took the form of a tight def posn in the area STEENWEG 3826. Bn HQ moved to 382268. RSF and RS occupied similar def posns to the north.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
STEENWEG 382268	Mon 25	I	Bn remained in same posns throughout the day. RS and RSF carried out certain minor attacks of a local nature and returned to their former posns for the night. The Bde Comd held an O Gp in the evening but no imminent move for 6KOSB is envisaged.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOSCHKANT 4031	Tue 26	I	6RSF continued adv along axis and took a number of prisoners. In the afternoon the Bn was ordered to move fwd to area BOSCHKANT 4031 and occupy posns there. This was done in adv to contact fmn and posns finally adopted without great opposition being encountered. Bn HQ est 399317.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOSCHKANT 4031	Wed 27	I	An attack was made by C Coy on posn at 397317. This attack met with minor opposition which it succeeded in dealing with. D Coy then initiated an attack on a posn at 395320. The first phase of this attack was successful but the second objective turned out to be very heavily defended and accurate machine gun fire caused hy cas among D Coy, killing Maj COKE and CSM MELVIN and wounding Capt WELLS. The remainder of D Coy remained pinned down in an exposed posn for the remainder of the day, from which they were finally extricated by a	

			successful night attack by 6RSF which captured the objective. D Coy were withdrawn to Bn HQ area, where they were joined later by A Coy who rejoined the unit after two days spent guarding the br at ZON 4425.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOSCHKANT 4031	Thu 28	I	8RS carried out an attack at first light and succeeded in capturing posns to the front of 6RSF, meeting with some opposition. Enemy remained active throughout the day and at about 1700 hrs brought in a stiff counter-attack on 8RS posns. This counter-attack was successfully beaten off by arty and many cas caused. The enemy asked for a short truce to collect his wounded, which was granted.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOSCHKANT 4031	Fri 29	I	Patrols during the night contacted 10 HLI on left. No alteration in posns except A Coy moved fwd to a different posn and B Coy moved to 398313. Some shelling and mortaring throughout the day otherwise nothing out of the ordinary took place.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOSCHKANT 4031	Sat 30	I	B Coy moved fwd to block gap between 10 HLI and ourselves on left and D Coy occupied posns vacated by B Coy. Enemy remained quiet throughout the day until 1800 hrs when he commenced a hy arty conc. No counter-attack developed however & the front remained quiet for the rest of the night.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR

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Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Oct 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BOSCHKANT 4031	Sun 1	I	The Bn remained in situ throughout the day and there was little of importance to report. Some shelling and mortaring of a desultory nature took place. At 1800 hrs the Bn was relieved by 5/7 Gordons of 51 (H) Inf Div, and on relief proceeded by TCV to a rest area in BOEKEL 571361.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Mon 2	I	The entire day was devoted to rest, re-organisation and adm. Maj SPEIRS and Capt THOMAS joined the Bn and were posted to A and D Coys respectively. D Coy was obliged to change its location owing to the arrival of another fmn and moved to BERKHOER 582941.	
		II	Weather fair but cold	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Tue 3	I	The Div Comd addressed the Bn on parade and complimented the men on their success in recent ops. After his inspection and address, the Bn marched past the Div Comd. The remainder of the day was spent in trg. Cinema shows and an ENSA concert party performed and were attended by large numbers.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Wed 4	I	Trg of various types continued throughout the day, incl assault boating and shooting. Lt BURNETT and Lt WOODS rejoined the Bn after having been evacuated some months owing to wounds.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Thu 5	I	Further trg continued. In the afternoon the soccer team played 1KOSB at ST HUBERT 6744 and beat them 4-1. Considerable numbers of the offrs and ORs of both Bns were present and a regimental re-union was carried out. The Bde Massed Pipes and Drums played at an inter Bn football competition in the afternoon. The 15 (S) Div Concert Party (The Tam O'Shanters) gave a performance in GEMERT in the evening.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Fri 6	I	Trg continued throughout the day. The CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ at 1345 hrs and orders were received for the Bn to relieve S LANCS on the other side of R MAAS to-morrow. CO held an O Gp in the evening and	

			arrangements were made for recce parties to leave early next day. The Sjts Mess held a "smoker" in the evening. The Div Comd addressed all offrs in HELMOND, after which the Div Massed Pipes and Drums beat retreat.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sat 7	I	Recce parties went off in the morning to carry out recce of new area and Bn made preparations to move off at about 1600 hrs. In the afternoon, however, infm was received that the operation so far as this Div was concerned had been cancelled. The Corps Comd visited Bde HQ in the late afternoon and saw COs and 2sIC of Inf Bns.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sun 8	I	Trg continued throughout the day. A demonstration of patrolling was organised by Capt GER CAREY, MC and was witnessed by the whole Bn. Other trg which was carried out included drill and Regtl History. A draft of 39 ORs arrived on posting from 49 Inf Div.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Mon 9	I	Trg continued throughout the day, under Coy arrangements. A further draft of one offr and 16 ORs joined the Bn.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Tue 10	I	Further trg continued throughout the day and included Drill, Weapon Trg and Firing. A night exercise was arranged but had to be cancelled owing to wet weather. The Army Comd visited Bde HQ during the day and met Maj SPEIRS who was representing the CO. In the evening the 2IC attended a conference at Bde HQ. HQ Coy had a "smoker" in the evening.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Wed 11	I	Certain recces were carried out by 2IC in connection with future trg and ops. Coys carried out trg under Coy arrangements as heretofore. This included a march to GEMERT in order to experience crossing a water obstacle by means of a KAPOK br. In the evening a Coy Comds conference was held and future trg and ops discussed.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Thu 12	I	CO and IO carried out a recce in new area in connection with future ops. 2IC and Coy Comds carried out recces in the forenoon in the area of BEEK 5327 as a prelude to a Bde exercise known as ANTIDOTE to be carried out in that area this evening. The exercise involved a crossing of a canal on a two Bn front, with a third Bn passing through. The first part of the exercise began about 1900 hrs and consisted of carrying parties going to an off loading pt at approx 534269 whence they took over assault boats from REs, carried them to FAAs at 535267 and 530264 and erected them. This op was covered by a party from the carrier pl, who maintained a gd on the boats until the following morning when the second part began.	

		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Fri 13	I	The Bn left BOEKEL in tpt at about 0200 hrs and proceeded to GEMERT, whence it proceeded by march route to an assembly area at 534269. Bn HQ was est at 535266. A B & C Coys carried boats fwd to canal and at 0530 hrs the attack commenced. The fwd coys gained their initial objectives and were followed by D Coy. 6RSF carried out a similar programme on the right. On completion of this stage of the op 8RS passed through and enlarged the br head. At this stage the exercise closed and tps returned to billets. An op conference was held by the CO in the afternoon at which further arrangements for future ops were made.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sat 14	I	Coys carried out trg under Coy arrangements. This included the practice of boat drill and other items of trg connected with assault crossings. Further conferences were held and preparations made for future ops.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sun 15	I	The Chaplain held Church Services in all Coys in the course of the morning. No other parades were held until after mid-day. Coys then did trg under Bn arrangements involving the use of assault boats and canal crossings. Coys marched back from this trg with the Pipe Band leading.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Mon 16	I	Ordinary trg continued during the day. The CO attended several conferences during the day at Bde HQ on the subject of future ops. A lecture to all offrs was given by the CO at Bn HQ in the afternoon. All Coys carried out night exercises in the evening. Infm received that the ops already envisaged were now indefinitely postponed.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Tue 17	I	Coys carried out a full day's trg, including drill, weapon trg and boating practice. Baths, cinemas and ENSA shows were also organised and attended by reps from all Coys.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Wed 18	I	The trg programme for to-day included drill for all coys, aslt boating, ABCA, patrolling and religious instr. In the evening an offrs discussion was held on the subject of aslt crossings and numerous interesting pts were raised, examined and discussed.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Thu 19	I	Coys carried out route marches, and practised offensive action against tks and use of cover and cam. A soccer match against 6RSF was held in the afternoon, which was won by the Bn team. 8RS came under comd of 7 Armd Div and moved into the line.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR

BOEKEL 571361	Fri 20	I II	A further full day's trg was carried out by all Coys. Mine laying and lifting and street and village fighting were both practised. Another offr discussion was held in the evening, the subject being "clearing of a pillbox". After the discussion, a Guest Night was held in the Offrs Mess which was attended by all offrs and an opportunity was afforded for recently joined offrs to get to know the others. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sat 21	I II	A Bn parade was held in the forenoon. All Coys were fully represented and the Pipes and Drums led the march past at the conclusion of the parade. The Commanding Offr took the salute. The afternoon was devoted to recreation. Weather fair.	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Sun 22	I II	Church Services were held in all Coy areas. The remainder of the day was devoted to interior economy. A soccer match was played in the evening against 194 Fd Amb, which resulted in a draw. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
BOEKEL 571361	Mon 23	I II	The CO attended an O Gp at HQ 227 (H) Inf Bde at 1000 hrs. Coys carried out a route march in the forenoon and other forms of trg in the afternoon. On his return the CO stated that the Bn was going under comd 227 (H) Inf Bde and would move to-morrow to the gen area SW of ST OEDENRODE. Orders were accordingly issued and preparations made for the move. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
STEENWEG 380269	Tue 24	I II	The CO held an O Gp at 1000 hrs and plans were made for an attack on the woods NW of BEST, to be carried out by 6RSF, 6KOSB and 2A&SH, all under comd 227 (H) Inf Bde. Before the O Gp was finished, however, infm was received that the enemy was making a gen withdrawal in that area, and orders were received to conc in area STEENWEG 3727. This was accordingly done and Bn HQ est at 380269. The CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ in the evening and on his return gave orders for an adv commencing first light to-morrow, along the NORTH bank of the WILHELMINA Canal, the objective being the br at BIESTE 2027. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
206276	Wed 25	I II	The Bn set off at 0700 hrs with D Coy acting as vangd. No opposition was met at any time during the advance, but progress was slow on account of enemy def posns which had been constructed across the track at many places. At about 1600 hrs the Bn was finally in posn covering the br site. Bn HQ was est at 206276. The REs then began to construct a Class 40 br. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
VOOR 192255	Thu 26	I	Orders were received for the Bde to cross the canal as soon as Cl 40 br was constructed and conc in area BIESTE 2026 – HILVARENBEEK 1924.	

			The br was constructed by 1230 hrs and harbour parties went fwd to recce posns. These encountered several mines and obstructions and the crossing was delayed for some hrs until these were cleared. A jeep belonging to B Coy was blown up during this op, wounding Capt JM LOUNTAIN and killing 2 ORs. About 1800 hrs, however, the Bn was able to cross, and moved to a conc area in the vicinity of VOORT with Bn HQ est at 192255. The CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ at 2100 hrs and received orders for an attack on TILBURG by 6RSF on right and 6KOSB left, sp by 1 Tk Gren Gds, to take place to-morrow.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
TILBURG 1832	Fri 27	I	The CO held an O Gp at 0700 hrs and gave orders for the attack on TILBURG, with A and B Coy leading. The attack was to go in immediately after the attack by 6RSF reached line of stream from 184314 to 175311. RSF attack went in at 1100 hrs, met only minor opposition, and objectives were secured by 1200 hrs. The KOSB attack went in at 1205 hrs sp by arty and tks. Only very minor opposition was encountered and by evening the Bn was est in the centre of the town with Bn HQ located at 162322.	
		II	Weather dull with rain later	RHMcD CWPR
TILBURG 1832	Sat 28	I	No move took place during the day, and tps devoted themselves to rest. In the evening the Pipes and Drums played in the square beside the station much to the pleasure of the civ population. Warning order received during the day to be prepared to move before first light.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
VREKWIJK 656174	Sun 29	I	Orders were received that owing to a potential threat to the EAST flank the Bn was to move to an area SOUTH of DEURNE 6419. This was done by TCVs, leaving TILBURG at about 0330 hrs, and arriving at Dis P at about 0730. CO attended an O Gp immediately on arrival as a result of which Bn moved to and took up posn at 655182 with Coys on a line running EAST and WEST through 656175. Almost immediately, however, orders were received to move further fwd. This was done and new posns occupied. Later in the day, the Bn came under comd 46 (H) Inf Bde.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
VREKWIJK 656174	Mon 30	I	The Bn remained under comd 46 (H) Inf Bde and did not move at all during the day. In the forenoon 9 Cam and 7 Seaforth passed through and occupied posns to the front leaving 6 KOSB in res. 44 Bde adv towards LIESEL 6614 from the WEST and by nightfall 6RSF were fighting in the northernmost part of the village. A Bde O Gp was held in the evening and plans made for a two Bn attack on the line LOONSCHE BAAN 680148 to take place to-morrow by 9 Cams and 7 Seaforth, 6KOSB to be in res and to be prepared to pass through and capture SLOT. The CO held an O Gp on his return and gave orders for the carrying out of	

		II	each phase of the op. Weather cold and dry with rain at night	RHMcD CWPR
SLOT 674139	Tue 31	I II	At 0830 9 Cams and 7 Seaforth commenced an attack with a view to securing gen area LOONSCHE BANN 6714 and LIESEL respectively. Both units reached their objectives by approx 1300 hrs and at 1445 hrs 6 KOSB were launched on an attack on SLOT. On Phase I of this op, D Coy right and C Coy left captured 675137 and 678139 respectively. Opposition was fairly hy but was overcome with many PW. 2 Mk IV tks were knocked out by D Coy. On completion of Phase I A and B Coys passed through and took 679134 and 681136 respectively, again after some opposition. The Bn consolidated in this posn for the night. Weather dry but very misty	RHMcD CWPR

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ARMY FORM C.2118

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

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Nov 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
681129	Wed 1	I	9 Cams and 7 Seaforth advanced towards the canal bank in area 6915 and 6814. 6KOSB were then ordered to adv SOUTH towards HEITRACK, preceded by recce. Recce reported HEITRACK held and the Bn stopped in the gen area 6812, with Bn HQ at 681129. No opposition was met on the move to these posns but there was hy enemy shellfire. CO attended an O Gp at HQ 44 (L) Inf Bde at 1700 hrs and received orders for further adv to-morrow.	
		II	Weather dry and dull	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Thu 2	I	CO held an O Gp at 0700 hrs. Commencing 0930 6RSF and 2 Glas Hrs attacked through our posns and est a line just NORTH of HEITRACK 6910. This phase was reached without much opposition and at 1200 hrs, from a SL in this newly captured posn, 8 RS on right and 6 KOSB on left made a drive for the area of wood 693090 and MOOSTDIJK. Opposition on the ground was slight, but as the attack proceeded, enemy shelling became more and more intensified until the Bn got into its final posn. Bn HQ was est at 695094.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Fri 3	I	Active patrolling during the night failed to make contact with the enemy, but in the early morning an enemy posn was discovered at 698085. No move took place during the day, but CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ at 1400 hrs and on his return held a Bn O Gp. 6KOSB, during the night 3/4 Nov are to capture line 698085-701085-706086 further to future ops by the Bde directed on MEIJEL. The remainder of the day was spent in planning this op.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Sat 4	I	A B and C Coys moved during the night and occupied the line ordered without opposition. Plans were made for the assault on MEIJEL the following day. This was to be done by a sqn of tks attacking wood 7107 from the left flank, after which 6RSF sp by another sqn were to capture SCHANS 7008. On completion of this phase 6 KOSB were to capture wood 7107 and 6RSF extend to HOF 7007. When this was taken 8RS	

			move to and capture MEIJEL. The day was spent in rest and preparation for this attack.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Sun 5	I	Bn HQ moved to 704088 at 0500 hrs preparatory to the attack. At 0730 hrs the tks went in and at 0745 RSF attacked SCHANS. The tks struck a minefield almost immediately and numbers of their tks became bogged. Orders were given at 0750 for them to rally back. After some difficulty 6RSF succeeded in getting two coys into SCHAUNS but it became apparent that the op was not possible without tk sp. The attack was accordingly cancelled and at first dark the RSF were withdrawn. After dark Bn HQ returned to its previous location at MOOSTDIJK.	
		II	Weather dull and wet	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Mon 6	I	No move took place and the day was fairly quiet. There was a little shelling and mortaring in fwd posns and a certain amount of patrol activity took place by night.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
MOOSTDIJK 695094	Tue 7	I	The front remained relatively quiet throughout the day, except for spasmodic shelling and mortaring. Some enemy movement was seen between cottages 715079 and corner of wood 711079, which suggested the presence of an enemy coy in that area. CO was summoned to Bde HQ at 1430 hrs and on his return announced that the Bn would be relieved by 10 HLI to-morrow for a period of 48 hrs, to be spent in HELMOND 5521.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HELMOND 5521	Wed 8	I	The early part of the day contained no incident of note. CO and Coy Comds of the relieving unit arrived during the day and carried out recces. At 1330 hrs a "stonk" of arty, mors and MMGs was brought down on the enemy coy locality at 715079 previously located, with good results. The relief by 10 HLI began at 1300 hrs and was complete by 2300 hrs. Coys on relief proceeded to HELMOND where billets were available.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
HELMOND 5521	Thu 9	I	The day was spent in re-org, rest and adm. The Bn was reorganised on a basis of three rifle coys, shortage of manpower making it impossible to continue on a 4 coy basis. C Coy was accordingly disbanded and its personnel dispersed among A B & D Coys. The Corps Comd visited the Bn during the afternoon and saw certain offrs. The CO attended a discussion at Bde HQ at 1730 hrs.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Fri 10	I	At mid-day the Bn left HELMOND and proceeded to its old posns in the MOOSTDIJK area from 10 HLI again. The take over took place smoothly and was complete by 2000 hrs. Bn HQ was est at 695095. At 2230 hrs B Coy reported the presence of a fighting patrol in the area 702083.	

			This patrol was successfully dealt with by 4.2 mor and arty. A large fire was seen burning at 700082.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Sat 11	I	Very little activity took place during the day. A patrol went out from B Coy in the early morning and discovered an enemy listening post at 705083. In the evening about 2030 hrs a small enemy patrol infiltrated in the Glas H front about 7110, but did no damage.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Sun 12	I	No activity during the day. A fighting patrol went out in the early hrs of the morning but was held up by suspected mines. In the evening a patrol went out from D Coy accompanied by REs and discovered various belts and fields of mines.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Mon 13	I	At 1100 hrs Lt McCONACHY accompanied by one OR went off on a recce patrol for the purpose of entering MEIJEL and remaining there for 24 hours. Other mine-clearing and recce patrols also took place during the hrs of darkness. At 2000 hrs Lt McCONACHY's patrol returned with the infm that MEIJEL appeared to be clear of enemy, and that civilians were beginning to emerge from their houses and carry on with their normal work.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Tue 14	I	As a result of infm received from Lt McCONACHY's patrol a further patrol of one pl in str was sent into MEIJEL. This patrol got into MEIJEL successfully and reported the area heavily mined. They saw 2 enemy in a post on the WEST side of the canal. In the evening orders were received to occupy HOF 7007 and bend in rd 709073. This was done by A Coy.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Wed 15	I	A patrol from A Coy went out in the morning to 718068 to deal with enemy post there. This was eventually done after some opposition being encountered and a standing patrol was est at this point. In the afternoon the Bn was relieved by 6RSF, and proceeded to billets in AASTEN for a short rest.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD CWPR
AASTEN 6213	Thu 16	I	The day was spent in adm, baths and entertainment. CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ in the afternoon. Draft of 26 ORs arrived from RUR.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
695095	Fri 17	I	CO held O Gp in the morning and gave orders for the relief of 8RS which was to take place in the afternoon. Commencing at 1530 hrs Coys moved out to effect this relief. Relief was completed by 2000 hrs. Bn HQ re-est at 695095.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR

NEERKANT 698095	Sat 18	I II	Coys remained in same posns but Bn HQ moved fwd to NEERKANT at 698095. Enemy activity was quiet. CO attended an O Gp at Bde HQ at 1500 hrs. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Sun 19	I II	CO held an O Gp in the morning and gave orders for an adv across br at 729065 followed by a turn northwards and an adv on HELENAVEEN. 6RSF are to carry out a similar op on our right. This op is to take place to-morrow. In the evening, however, infm was received that this op was postponed owing to the success of 46 (H) Inf Bde who had already crossed the canal and were almost at HELENAVEEN, and the Bn was placed at 4 hrs notice. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Mon 20	I II	Coys concentrated on Coy areas leaving double sentries in each pl posn. At 1500 hrs 6RSF were sent off to carry out their part of the op previously planned, which they did by 1900 hrs, whereupon they came under comd 46 (H) Inf Bde. No move of 6KOSB, who remained on same period of notice as before. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Tue 21	I II	46 (H) Inf Bde occupied HELENAVEEN and, with 227 (H) Inf Bde, continued the adv towards SEVENUM. Enemy continued to withdraw on our front. No move by 6KOSB. 6RSF came under comd again in the evening. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Wed 22	I II	Orders were received to prepare to cross the canal and conc in area BERINGEN 7506 and a preliminary recce of this area was carried out. This revealed, however, that no accm was available and that routes were almost impassable. It was therefore decided to cancel this move and remain <u>in situ</u>. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Thu 23	I II	No move took place to-day. A party of 50 ORs from B Coy carried out bridging repairs at HELENAVEEN 7311 and a party from Sp Coy carried out rd repairs between LIESEL and HIETRACK. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Fri 24	I II	No move to-day. Further rd repairs and working parties were provided by D Coy and Sp Coy. Others carried out trg in Coy areas. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Sat 25	I II	Further working parties were provided for repair of rds and construction of brs. A "Pl in attack" competition was carried out and 4 pls put through the test. The remainder will be tested to-morrow. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Sun 26	I II	Further working parties provided and remainder of "Pl in Attack" competition was carried out. This competition was won by Lt HASLAM's pl, B Coy. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR

NEERKANT	Mon 27	I II	Working parties continued at HELENAVEEN and on the HELENAVEEN rd. A demonstration of "Pl in attack" was given by Lt HASLAM's pl to the remainder of the Bn. The new Bde Comd Brig The Hon HC HOVELL-THURLOW-CUMMING-BRUCE, DSO, arrived and visited the Bn. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Tue 28	I II	Further working parties continued. CO attended a conference on future ops. Coys carried out various forms of trg in Coy areas, also route marches. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Wed 29	I II	Further working parties were provided as before. Trg continued in Coy areas. Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
NEERKANT 698095	Thu 30	I II	Further plans were made in connection with forthcoming op. All Coy Comds attended a cloth model exercise at Bde HQ. Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR

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ARMY FORM C.2118

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

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Dec 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
NEERKANT 698095	Fri 1	I	Trg in house fighting and clearing took place throughout the day. In the evening the CO held an O Gp and gave out final orders for the attack on BLERICK 8908, 8909, which is due to take place on 3 Dec and is to be done by 44 (L) Inf Bde.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
NEERKANT 698095	Sat 2	I	Tps made final preparations for the attack to-morrow and carried out trg in the use of KANGAROOS (Armd Tp Carriers) which are going to be used in the op. The Div Comd called to wish success to the Bn and the Bde Comd addsd all ranks. CO saw all Coy Comds in evening and gave final instrs.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sun 3	I	Leaving NEERKANT at approx 0730 hrs the Bn proceeded to an assembly area WEST of MAASBREE 8207, to await the success of the first phase of the attack, after which it would be launched. Bn HQ set up at 843087. At 0745 hrs the initial stages of the attack took place. This consisted of an attack by tks, flails and AVREs and the creation and bridging of 6 gaps in the wire and ditch obstacle defending the town. A gigantic arty programme accompanied this phase. This part of the attack went well and at about 0930 hrs 8RS on right and 6RSF on left were launched with objectives in the centre of the town. They encountered some opposition but soon overcame this, and at about 1300 hrs 6 KOSB on right and 7 Seaforth on left were launched on similar axes to clear the SOUTH and NORTH parts of the town respectively. B Coy led the Bn adv and, passing through a gap in the obstacle, reached and consolidated on its objective. Bn HQ followed and set up at 896086. D and A Coys came next and cleared the SOUTH end of the town. By nightfall the whole town was in hands of the Bde. The Bn took 49 prisoners. The total number of PsW taken by the Bde.	
		II	Weather showery	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Mon 4	I	7 Seaforths and 8RS pulled out in the early hrs of the morning and 6RSF and 6KOSB occupied the whole town, 6RSF on NORTH and 6KOSB on	

			SOUTH. Bn HQ remained at same place, with Coys located as follows:- A Coy 897089; B Coy 095084; D Coy 893083. Intermittent shelling and mortaring took place throughout the day.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Tue 5	I	Noise of vehs heard and lights seen area factory 894072 during the night and this area was engaged with arty. Intermittent shelling took place during the day but in gen things were quiet on both sides.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Wed 6	I	CO attended conference at Bde HQ. Shelling throughout the day light. Some enemy was seen rd junc 903083 and houses 902079. Considerable civ mov in VENLO which may indicate that they intend to evacuate the town.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Thu 7	I	Situation quiet again. B Coy moved to HOUT BLERICK and occupied posn there previously held by 8RS. A and D Coys modified posns slightly to cover gap so created.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Fri 8	I	Shelling was light during the day. Enemy mov took place in ones and twos around rd 903083 and further mov was seen at 904073. There was some further shelling in the evening. A patrol from 10 HLI on right trying to contact B Coy encountered enemy patrol and sustained cas.	
		II	Weather fair	AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sat 9	I	Bde Comd visited B Coy. Enemy fired single shells throughout the day along river bank. Enemy now seen areas 903083 and 900073. Patrol from B Coy sent to 877067 but did not contact enemy, though a number of mines were discovered. A draft of 27 ORs arrived at B Ech.	AJ
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sun 10	I	An enemy post was definitely located at 903083. Enemy were also observed digging mor posns at 898072. These were engaged by our mors and arty. Mov was also seen round house 904073 and a Spandau was located 904088.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Mon 11	I	Pl of 8RS at 867062 came under comd B Coy. Very little mov was seen, though a certain amount was observed at 903083. An MG fired from 893074 and was engaged by arty. Light sigs seen during the night and fired at.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Tue 12	I	An enemy mor was located firing from 899071 and was successfully engaged by arty. Enemy moving areas 899071 and 901074 were also engaged. The effectiveness of this shooting was verified by the appearance of an amb shortly after. Cam screens were seen to have been erected across entrance to struct 905085. Slight shelling throughout the day.	

		II	Weather fair.	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Wed 13	I	An increase in enemy shelling took place to-day, mainly caused by SP guns firing from VENLO indiscriminately into BLERICK. Houses on the river edge were systematically fired at during the morning. Enemy mor at 898071 was again active and again dealt with by arty.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Thu 14	I	Again there was more shelling than usual, but in other respects the front was quiet. Noise of half tracks and vehs was heard in the area 898074. It was assumed that the anticipated relief by 2 Glas H, which was to have taken place on 19 Dec, would not now occur.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Fri 15	I	There was little activity other than some shelling. An enemy 88 mm was located 919089 and fired at by our arty. At 1500 hrs the arty fired on an Uncle target at 910071. In the evening sounds of vehs were heard in area factory immediately opposite D Coy and engaged.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sat 16	I	Little took place during the day other than some spasmodic mortaring. In the evening about 2300 hrs sounds of a motor boat on the river were reported, but boat was not located. The ballot for leave was held in the afternoon.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sun 17	I	At approx 0430 hrs an enemy patrol made contact with some fwd posns of D Coy. The patrol threw grenades at houses, but dispersed on being engaged by D Coy. In the morning it was observed that a house at 891078 was flying the Nazi flag. Shelling throughout the day was rather less than usual but there was a certain amount of mortaring in the afternoon. Slight activity was observed after dark, including the use of a signalling lamp on the far bank. There was slight aerial activity after dark.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Mon 18	I	There was very little activity other than odd shelling and mortaring during the day. After dark lights were observed across the river and sounds of hammering heard.	
		II	Weather dull	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Tue 19	I	Various noises from across the river were heard throughout the night, and several artillery shoots carried out. By day activity was reduced to a minimum. After dusk mines were laid by RE in D Coy area. Throughout the night sounds of continuous hammering were heard on the other side of the R MAAS.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Wed 20	I	The front remained quiet throughout the day and there was little shelling or mortaring. In the evening BBC recorders recorded the sound	

			of shelling on the R MAAS.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Thu 21	I	During the night B Coy had a brush with an enemy patrol but successfully beat it off. At 0300 a post of the recce sqn at 894129 was over-run by a strong enemy patrol. During the day there was slightly increased mortaring but no further incident until evening when a further enemy patrol entered B Coy area and had a clash.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Fri 22	I	Certain adjustments to disposns took place as a result of which 6KOSB becomes responsible for the whole of BLERICK and HOUT BLERICK. C Sqn 15 (S) Recce Regt comes under comd for this op. Considerable activity took place after dark and there was increased shelling.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sat 23	I	Bn HQ moved to new location at 895090, to be more centrally positioned. The CO attended an O Gp in the afternoon and held a Bn O Gp on his return. A German attack is expected on Christmas Day and preparations are to be made accordingly. The A/tk pl fighting in an inf role is to take over from A Coy 8RS at 894100. Shelling was more active than usual during the day.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sun 24	I	Recce sqn reported 4 enemy seen in area of house at 878067, at 1000 hrs. Patrols went out to locate these but were unsuccessful. There was considerable movement and noise heard from across the river after dark, but little shelling or mortaring took place.	
		II	Weather fine	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Mon 25	I	A very high degree of alertness was maintained, and efforts were made to decoy the enemy into making an attack, but without success. The Bde and Div Comds visited the Bn during the day. Enemy activity was slight.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Tue 26	I	Considerable enemy activity noted during the day and early part of the night, incl sound of tracked vehs and marching personnel. Shelling and mortaring activity was not great.	
		II	Weather dull & cold	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Wed 27	I	Little to report apart from usual sounds of activity by night. Shelling and mortaring not great. Some verey lights seen by night and thought to have been dropped by enemy aircraft.	
		II	Weather dull and foggy	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Thu 28	I	Conditions were quiet during the day, and actuated by a dense fog which remained over the area most of the day. In the early part of the night a considerable "stonk" of mor bombs came down on C Coy area. The mor in question was pinpointed at 911099 and dealt with by arty.	

		II	Weather foggy & cold	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Fri 29	I	5 civilians crossed the river and were apprehended by the A/tk pl. Conditions remained quiet during the day but in the early evening a salvo of bombs from a multi-barrelled 30 cm mor fell on A Coy area. No damage was done.	
		II	Weather foggy & cold	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sat 30	I	There was some shelling and mortaring during the day including a further salvo from the 30 cm mor which caused damage to houses but no cas.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ
BLERICK 896086	Sun 31	I	There was little activity during the day. In the evening a "hate" programme was arranged and included arty, MMG and mor fire. This continued until 2200 hrs when there was a period of quietness lasting till midnight.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD AJ

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. 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)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year Jan 45

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
ROOTH 851091	Mon 1	I	There was little activity on either side throughout the day. In the evening the Bn was relieved by 8RS and proceeded to a res Bn area with Bn HQ at ROOTH.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Tue 2	I	The day was spent in adm and rest. Preparations were made for the Christmas dinner celebrations which are to be held in the next few days.	
		II	Weather fair	RHMcD CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Wed 3	I	The CO visited Coy Christmas dinners and gave good wishes for the coming year to all concerned. Celebrations were also observed in the Offrs and Sjts Messes.	
		II	Weather wet	RHMcD CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Thu 4	I	The day was spent in adm, baths and entertainments. The CO visited Sp Coy's Christmas Dinner in the evening. A dinner was held in the Offrs Mess at Bn HQ. All Coy Comds attended.	
		II	Weather fair	AHE CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Fri 5	I	The day was again spent in adm, baths and entertainments. The Pipes and Drums beat Retreat in SEVENUM at 1600 hrs.	
		II	Weather fair	AHE CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Sat 6	I	B & D Coys practised the drills for clearing a minefield, a dummy minefield having been laid in the neighbourhood of Bn HQ. The Pipes and Drums beat Retreat in MAASBREE at 1600 hrs.	
		II	Weather fair but foggy	AHE CWPR
ROOTH 851091	Sun 7	I	A & C Coys practised the drill for clearing a minefield. Church Services were held in all Coy areas in the morning. An O Gp was held at Bn HQ at 1730 hrs when orders were given for the relief of 6RSF tomorrow.	
		II	Weather fair in morning but snow in evening	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Mon 8	I	The Bn relieved 6RSF in the area NORTH-WEST of BLERICK. Bn HQ, Sp Coy, B & C Coys moved by TCV and A & D Coys by march route. B Coy took over from C Coy RSF, A Coy from A Coy, C Coy from B Coy RSF, and D Coy from	

			D Coy. Locations:- Bn HQ ANNA HOEVE 869133 A Coy 891135 B Coy 888142 C Coy 889123 D Coy 866133 Sp Coy 867136 A/TK Pl NIEUW CALIFORNIA 8614 CARRIER Pl 894129. The relief was completed by approx 1830 hrs. The night was very quiet.	
		II	Weather - heavy snow fell all day	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Tue 9	I	A very quiet day. 6 shells fell in C Coy area, otherwise no shelling.	
		II	Fair but very cold	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Wed 10	I	During the early hours of the morning two enemy boats were heard by C Coy going NORTH and subsequently 1st KOSB on our left reported a landing at 0315 hrs at 902147. This patrol was seen off but no casualties were reported. In the evening noises and Spandau fire were heard from the far side of the MAAS. The areas were engaged by mortars and arty (25 Fd Rgt [31 Bty] who today relieved 178 Bty firing for first time).	
		II	Sunny but very frosty. 27º of frost forecast for night	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Thu 11	I	There was an increase in enemy shelling and mortaring of our fwd areas during the day but it was very haphazard and no damage was done. Otherwise the day was very quiet.	
		II	Dull and very cold	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Fri 12	I	There was a decrease in enemy shelling and mortaring during the day, but there was a certain amount of harassing fire. 1st KOSB on our left reported that civilians who had crossed the R MAAS during the previous night had reported the location of a GERMAN hutted camp at 906137. At 1600 hrs, in conjunction with 1KOSB sp arms, this camp was fired on by Med & Fd guns, 4.2 and 3" Mortars and MMGs. Fwd posts reported the fire to be accurate but no results could be observed.	
		II	Dull. Much milder. Snowing	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Sat 13	I	There was some shelling and mortaring during the day but this was not considerable and there was no damage or casualties. At approx 2200 hrs movement was heard on the water in B Coy area. Flares were put up but nothing seen. Arty, mortars & MGs fired DF tasks. Otherwise quiet.	
		II	Fair. Snow during day. Frost at night.	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Sun 14	I	A quiet day with little shelling or mortaring. O Gp held at Bn HQ in evening when orders given out for alterations in posns on 16 Jan in view of No 6 DUTCH COY coming under comd that day. This alteration will place B C D and Dutch Coys up with A Coy in reserve in place of D Coy.	
		II	Fair - frosty but clear	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Mon 15	I	Alteration in posns cancelled as Dutch Coy not now coming under comd. A quiet day with little shelling.	

		II	Fair but foggy	AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Tue 16	I II	A quiet day with little shelling. Fair. Snowing during day	 AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Wed 17	I II	At 0038 hrs an OP in A Coy area reported a boat crossing the MAAS at 896136 containing approx 18 men. The boat was fired on and the fire was returned by Spandaus. The boat went back to the other side pursued by arty & mortar fire. Results could not be observed but were believed to be good. Otherwise a very quiet day. A dull day. Snow continued.	 AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Thu 18	I II	A very quiet day. Mortaring and shelling practically NIL. Orders received that Bn will be relieved by 2 A&SH on 20 JAN and move to GRAMMONT, WEST of BRUSSELS for a fortnight's rest and trg period. Adv parties to go off tomorrow morning. Fair. Snow set in and gale developed in evening	 AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133	Fri 19	I II	An extremely quiet day with no shelling or mortaring. At 2130 hrs C Coy reported that their right hand listening post had spotted some enemy on this side of the river, had fired all their bren mags at the enemy and then withdrawn. Shortly after this it was reported that their left hand listening post had also encountered the enemy, who had attempted to distract their attention from the front at the same time attacking with 2 gps of 10 men from the rear. The latter were, however, spotted and fired on. After exhausting their ammo, and the enemy having dispersed, this post withdrew. In both cases, it was thought casualties had been inflicted. No further sign of the enemy was seen. Very strong gale with sleet showers.	 AHE CWPR
ANNA HOEVE 869133 SEVENUM PM 790145	Sat 20	I II	As a cause of C Coy's encounter with the enemy last night a dead German was found by the Coy at dawn. A little later a further search discovered a PW in a slit trench. The latter stated that he had swam across the river last night along with an offr and 5 other ranks but that he could not face the return trip and had gone to ground in the hope of making the crossing this evening. The Bn was relieved by the 2 Argylls, 227 Inf Bde, and concentrated at SEVENUM 790145, prior to moving to Rest Area. Weather - fair - roads fair.	 AJMB CWPR
GRAMMONT 285495	Sun 21	I II	Bn moved by transport to Rest Area at Grammont 285495. The convoy passed the start point at SEVENUM at 0630 hrs and arrived at Grammont at 1600 hrs. Bn HQ was located in the Chateau, and companies were billeted in the town. Weather - fair	 AJMB CWPR
GRAMMONT 285495	Mon 22	I	The day was spent in cleaning and checking weapons, followed by general administration within companies. The CO visited companies. A	

		II	warning order was received from Brigade that the Bn was to move to , not before 1200 hours, 24 Jan 45. Advance parties to proceed with DAA & QMG at 0630 hrs, 23 Jan 45. WEATHER - FAIR	AJMB CWPR
GRAMMONT 285495	Tue 23	I	The Commanding Officer held an 'O' Group at 1000 hrs to explain the situation to Coy Commanders. The BM arrived and informed the CO that the Bn would not move for two or three days. The remainder of the day was spent in Coy Administration and Baths.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
GRAMMONT 285495	Wed 24	I	Companies fired all weapons on the range. Battalion will probably move on the 26th.	
		II	Weather - fair - snow during the night	AJMB CWPR
GRAMMONT 285495	Thu 25	I	0900-1000 Coys carried out a Route March. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday. The Pipe Band played Retreat in the town square at 1600 hrs. Operational order received from Brigade. Bn to move to area of Tilburg on the 26th. The Brigadier & BM visited us in the evening. The Bn held a dance in the evening.	
		II	Weather - cold	AJMB CWPR
AM GRAMMONT 285495 AREA TILBERG PM 171314	26	I	The morning was spent preparing for the move. 45 three ton lorries reported to the Bn at 1030 hrs. Convoy formed up and passed the start point at 1415 hours. Although the roads were in a bad state, the convoy arrived complete at its new location at 2300 hrs. The Bn was billeted in civilian billets in the town.	
		II	Weather - snow in the morning - extreme cold in the afternoon	AJMB CWPR
AREA TILBERG 171314	27	I	The companies spent the day reorganising after the move and checked all ammunition and weapons. As some 1941 ammunition was found to be defective, it was replaced. The CO held an 'O' Group for Coy Comds at 1400 hours and attended a conference at Brigade at 1700 hours.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
AREA TILBERG 171314	28	I	Today being Sunday Church Services were held by the Padre for companies in the morning, communion being held after the services. UK leave party left to report to Transit Camp at Bog Leopold. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday. A few flying bombs flew over the Bn area during the night.	
		II	Weather - cold, slight falls of snow.	AJMB CWPR
AREA TILBERG 171314	29	I	Today was spent in training. Companies carried out route marches, schemes on assault on pillboxes. The medical officer commenced annual inoculation and vaccination of personnel in the Bn. At 1500 the Commanding Officer lectured to all officers and Sgt Pln Commanders on discipline within the unit followed by a lecture on "An assault on a pillbox" and the use of "Kangaroos" & "Crocodiles" in conjunction with infantry.	

		II	Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
TILBERG 171314	30	I	The Commanding Officer attended a conference at 30 Corps HQ. The companies continued training on the lines of assaulting a strongpoint. Daily fitness parades and drill parades on Coy bases. Maj Carey MC rejoined the unit and took over command of 'C' Coy. Lt Bamford commenced trg as reserve Signals Officer. The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ at 1430 and held a conference for Coy Comds at 1800.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMBrown CWPR
TILBURG 171314	31	I	Coys carried out Pln exercises on assaulting a pillbox; the use of Bangalore torpedoes; with periods on drill; PT; Regimental History and compass works. HQ and Support Coy continued their specialist training. The Pipe Band practised for a parade on the 1st Feb. The Commanding Officer attended a conference at Bde HQ at 1430 hours. Two SP guns arrived to co-ordinate trg with an infantry company and the REs erected two pillboxes for this purpose. B Coy Comd recced and laid on a demonstration which will be held for the Brigade on Thursday.	
		II	Weather - complete thaw & rain	AJMB CWPR

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year FEB 45

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
TILBURG 171314	1	I	During the morning A, C, D, HQ & S Companies carried on with Coy and Platoon training. B Company carried out two rehearsals of their demonstration attack on a strong point. In the afternoon 'B' Coy commanded by Maj Tinniswood gave a demonstration of an Inf Coy attacking a strong point with Crocodiles and SP guns in support. The remainder of the Brigade watched the demonstration. Flying bombs pass over the Bn area at one in every ten minutes. Six reinforcements arrived (Border Regt) and were posted to "B" Company.	
		II	Weather - fair (DRY)	AJMBrown CWPR
TILBURG 171314	2	I	Coys spent the forenoon training as follows:- House clearing & practice with Kangaroos; Use of mortar smoke & Practice with the new Tabby equipment. The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ at 0930 hours. An inter company drill competition was held in the afternoon and a very high standard was set. A Company commanded by Maj Malony won with a margin of 4 points. The Brigadier paid a visit during the competition. Night operations were carried out by A and B Company (house clearing). Two carriers went to workshops to be fitted with "wasps".	
		II	Weather - dry - windy	AJMB CWPR
TILBURG 171314	3	I	The day was observed as a holiday from training, but Companies took advantage of the time to straighten out their Order of Battle. "B" Company spent ½ hour with the Kangaroos. All Officers attended a cloth model exercise at Bde HQ. Reps from 79 Armd Div and Mx & Sps were present. The CO gave out his plan for Ex "VERITABLE" and various points re supporting arms were discussed. The Gren Gds rep arrived at 1300 to co-ordinate with the CO. A draft of 16 rfmts arrived and were attached to HQ. These men will be LOB in Ex "VERITABLE". In the afternoon the Bn played the RS at football and won by 5-3. Planning for the forthcoming operation is going on steadily. As part	

		II	of the deception plan two recce parties have been ordered, the first under the 2i/c as a bogus recce & as a deception, the second the actual recce party for the FAA. Weather - dry	AJMBrown CWPR
TILBURG 171314	4	I II	Two recce parties went off at first light to recce possible FUPs and FAAs. The 1st under the 2i/c was the bogus recce in conjunction with the Bn deception plan, the 2nd under OC Mor Pl carried out the op recce. The Corps Comd addressed all officers of the Division in the ENSA Hall Tilburg. He gave a detailed description of the bigger picture and of OP "VERITABLE". He emphasised that the whole success rested mainly on 15 (S) Div. In the afternoon the Brig briefed all offrs of the Bde down to Coy Cdrs. The Bn Op Order for OP "VERITABLE" was issued at 1400 hrs. The Pipe Band played retreat at 1600 hrs. One flying bomb landed in the vicinity of Tilburg. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
TILBURG 171314	5	I II	The Companies finished training with Kangaroos. The Bn Admin Order for Op Veritable was issued. The Commanding Officer held an 'O' Group at 1500 and briefed all Coy Comds for the op from a company level. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
TILBURG 171314 Nijmegen	6	I II	Coys dumped all surplus stores, kit, etc not required for the op at GOIRLE, where all personnel left out of battle will remain. Capt Elder took charge of this party which will be known as 'B' Ech. It will act as a transit camp for all leave personnel. The move order was recd from Bde at 1300 and the Bn move order was issued to Coys at 1400 hrs. The Bn column left TILBURG area at 1758 hrs and proceeded under cover of darkness to Bn conc area at NIJMEGEN. The column arrived at Dis Pt at 2400 hrs. On arrival companies were met by guides and billeted in two schools. As roads were extremely bad a few vehicle casualties did not arrive with the main column. Weather - cloudy	AJMB CWPR
Nijmegen	7	I	Tpt Sgt reported all vehicles in by 1400 hrs. Coy Comds briefed Companies during the morning and the Brigadier spoke to the Bn at 1200 hrs. He detailed the Op briefly and emphasised that it was very likely that the Op which they were about to take part in would probably end the war. The CO then said a few words about the detailed job. The CO held a co-ordinating conf for all supporting arms and Coy Comds. He finally gave out the sequence of events. He then went to Bde to check if any new pts had arisen owing to the fact that the weather had created a problem.	

		II	Weather - wet	AJMBrown CWPR
NIJMEGEN	8	I	The Bn plus supporting arms stood by waiting for orders to move. CO & IO went forward behind 46 Bde with the Bde 'O' Group. On receipt of codeword the Breaching Force which included 'C' Company moved east at 2100. The Bn moved at 2200 hrs east towards S.L. The CO joined the column at the Assembly Area. Column moved throughout the night towards FRASSELT with the aid of movement light. The condition of the roads was bad and this made going very difficult. The QM with A Ech remained at NIJMEGEN.	
		II	Weather - dry all day - rain in evening	AJMB CWPR
OUTSKIRTS CLEVE 875555	9	I	The column continued to proceed and at 0645 a lane was reported clear, the Bn then crossed the SL and advanced in Kangaroos towards objective, which was SCHOTTHEIDE. On route to SL the German border was crossed. C Coy had breached the A/T ditch and B D & A attacked objectives successfully. Coys took up defensive position round the village. Prisoners collected amounted to 9 offrs and 204 ORs. Our own casualties approx 10. Orders were received from Bde at 1230 that we had to move at 1330 to secure the HINGSTBERG feature Sq. 8455. Bn formed up in Kangaroos with in support tanks, Crocodiles & SPs and proceeded through Nutterden to objective. Reports recd showed that no enemy were our side of CLEVE so Bn went direct to attack feature 8755. This was carried out against greater opposition but Coys estd themselves on feature, taking quite a number of PW. The Boche reacted very strongly during the night with patrols, one infiltrating into 'C' Coy area 878558, who immediately drove them out. At 2015 a patrol about 12 strong infiltrated into Mx posn and overran this posn, knocking out 3 guns. 1 PW was captured by B Coy in a slit trench in Coy area with a wireless set.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
875555	10	I	The Brigadier arrived in the morning and went round Bn area. Slight shelling during morning. Warning order was recd that we may have to move to CLEVE not before 1400. Coys warned to be ready. CO called to 'O' Gp at Bde at 1230. Bn 'O' Gp assembled 1400 & CO gave out orders for attack on CLEVE. B Coy to clear feature junct of co-ords 8855 at 1700 hrs today & then return to their present location. Carriers, pioneers & cooks arrived at Bn HQ at 1600 hrs. B Coy reached objective at 1740 hrs & found it clear of enemy but a few enemy dead lying about. D Coy brought in 8 PW at 1750. The night was uneventful.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
CLEVE	11	I	At 0325 hrs Bde passed message that LO was on way with orders. LO did	

892551			not arrive until approx 0430 hrs. Orders recd cancel previous order to attack CLEVE and that we were to move direct to CLEVE at 0830 hrs and take over from 129 Bde - 43 Div. As LO was late timings were put back 1½ hrs. Recce party proceeded to 129 Bde HQ at 887556 at 0645 but was ambushed by enemy patrol & shot up. There was a certain amount of confusion as to location of own & enemy tps. Recce party returned & proceeded on tanks and approx 180 Boche surrendered. Coys moved at 1000 hrs and arrived in the western outskirts of Cleve at 1200 hrs. The Bn was superimposed on the WILTSHIRE REGT of 43 Div. The Bn took up a defensive posn in this area and sent patrols out during the night to the N and centre of the town and towards the canal, reporting no sign of enemy. The Kangaroos, Crocodiles & Sqn Gren Gds ceased to come under our command.	
		II	Weather - wet	AJMB CWPR
AM CLEVE 892551 PM 877552	12	I	The Bde is being relieved by 7 Bde 3 CON DIV. Recce parties moved off under 2i/c at 0730 to recce billet area as Bde is going into Corps reserve. Brigadier arrived at 0815 and gave information to CO. Coys ordered to be ready to move from 1400. Coys moved to reserve area independently from 1430 hrs and completely evacuated CLEVE by 1545. Bn estd in new area by 1630 hrs, having dug defensive posns. All Coys were located in billets and will probably remain in this location for 48 hrs. Time to be spent in re-organising & admin & rest.	
		II	Weather - wet	AJMB CWPR
877552	13	I	At 1 hours notice to move wef 0700 hrs. We are now under command of 43 Div. Warning order recd. CO and IO proceeded to 43 Div HQ at 878543 to meet Brig. CO held 'O' Group for Coy Cdrs & supporting arms 1130. We have to be prepared to counter attack area xrds 886536 - xrds 883538 - CLOISTER 878544 with in support One Sqn 4 Gren Gds, [4 Pl] B Coy 1 Mx & Tp 243 A/Tk. Infm received from Bde that we may not be used to morrow but may have to assist 43 Div.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
877552	14	I	Put at one hours notice to move from 1200 hrs. Cancelled at 1100 hrs. Not now likely to move before 1200 hrs, 15th. Not now at an hours notice. Coys ran sports during the afternoon. The area was bombed at 1630 hours. The CO presented Pte Zaccarini "Sp" Company with the C-in-C's Award for Gallantry.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
877552	15	I	May have to carry out a night attack. CO & IO proceeded to Bde 0915 hrs for orders. 0930 hrs message received from Brigade that we are not likely to move to-day and that we had to supply 100 men to carry out	

			road repairs. 1100 hrs CO returned from 'O' Gp. Likely that we shall have to carry out a very simple plan in the near future. 1200 plan as originally intended. We are to take GOCH from the NORTH with 52 attacking from the South. CO gave out situation to Coy Comds at 1430 hrs. 39 re-inforcements arrived and were posted to Companies. Infm recd. No move likely for 48 hrs.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
877552	16	I	No move today - 100 men repairing roads. CO held a conference at 0915 to lay down vehicle loads & tpt in echelons. Coys to carry out weapon training and Tabloid sports, also a salvage drive. CO & 2i/c went to Bde at 1000 hrs to receive orders. A Echelon arrives in Bn area. Recce parties went forward to recce a harbour area at 918528 - no accommodation. CO held an "O" Group at 2030 hrs for Coy Cdrs & supporting arms, where he gave out our plan to secure the high ground north of and overlooking GOCH. 2300 recce parties at 30 mins notice from 0900, 17th. No move likely for Bn before 1430.	
		II	Weather - misty	AJMB CWPR
877552	17	I	Bn prepared for move. CO went on leave & Maj AES JACKSON MC took over the Bn. No move to-day. Coys trained with tanks and watched mediums firing during the afternoon. 1600 CO went to O Gp. No move before 0700 hrs. Recce parties at 30 mins from 0600 hrs. CO held O Gp for all Coy Comds at 2000. All supporting arms were represented. Plan for attack on GOCH 9143 was planned.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
877552 N of GOCH 911445	18	I	Recce parties moved off at 0730 hrs to recce Assembly Area for Bn south of the CLEVE FOREST 934469. Bn moved at 1115 hrs and arrived at Assembly Area S. of CLEVE forest at 1215. CO held a final co-ordinating conference at 1300 hrs. Coys married up with Kangaroos & tanks. 1430 'D' Coy advanced towards the START LINE followed by 'A' Coy, followed by Bn HQ. A/Tk ditch not bridged, impossible to continue in Kangaroos. D & A Coys de-pouched & advanced on foot, but were held up by MGs north of A/Tk ditch. 1930 hrs Bn took up a firm position around 911445. CO asked for instructions from Brigadier, answer being it is essential that we mount a well co-ordinated attack to secure objectives, which must not fail. CO called 'O' Gp to co-ordinate at 2005 hrs. 2330 hrs B & D Coys went in to objectives on re-organised plan. B Coy on foot advancing slowly against stiff opposition but taking several PW. 'D' Coy advanced in Kangaroos and de-pouched when across anti tank ditch. They proceeded and secured objective without much opposition.	AESJ AESJ

			'C' Coy remained in area of Bn HQ.	AJMB AESJ
911445	19	I	Companies are now estd as follows: D - area 912441 - 913441; B - area 918440 - 917437; A moving through D Coy to secure 912436. Tanks reported to Bn HQ at 0630 hrs and 1 Troop was sent to B Coy & 1 Tp to A & 1 Tp to D. 0900 A Coy secured xrds 913436. 'C' Coy to be passed through A Coy to secure ground to river. Plan formed Coy to be assisted by tanks and Crocodiles. C Coy crossed START LINE at 1300. Area cleared by 1720 hours. Patrol sent forward to river during the night to report of bridges but reported blown. Objectives now completely taken & Coys firmly established.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB AESJ
911445	20	I	Coys remained in present locations; to have maximum rest. Heavy shelling throughout the day. CO held a co-ordinating DEFENCE Conference at 1415 hrs. CO received a personal letter of congratulations for the good job the Bn had done to secure its objectives. B Coy sent a standing patrol to 922437. Mortars and MMG used to put down harassing fire in area square 9242.	
		II	Weather - misty	AJMBrown AESJ
911445	21	I	Quiet night, slight small arms fire in 'C' Company area; no shelling. CO to RV at Bde at 1115 for instructions. CO O Gp 1515 hrs. The CO outlined the intention for attack on woods NE of WEEZE. Attack may take place in two days time. Bn visited by the Div Comd & Bde Comd.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB AESJ
911445	22	I	Monmouths were superimposed on our area and took over our operational commitments. CO went to recce area for forming up the Battalion. CO attended a Brigadiers 'O' Gp at 1615 hours. Bn 'O' Gp was held at 2000 hrs and orders were given out for the attack on enemy positions in the wooded area NE of WEEZE. Bn to be prepared to move at first light.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB AESJ
942414	23	I	Bn moved to FAA in square 9344 at 0630 hrs. CO held a co-ordinating conference at 0700. Main Bn HQ estd 936441 by 0830 hours; Coys moved from FAA to FUP at 0920; B & D passing START LINE at 1014 to attack wood 939412. Progress was slow as shelling was heavy. Objectives taken by 1222 hours. C & A Coys then passed through to attack right hand side of woods in area 940404 which was cleared to southern edge by 1317. A considerable number of PW were taken, shelling being very heavy. Forward company reported enemy inf & tanks at 948395. This was dealt with effectively by SHELLDRAKE. Bn took up a firm position in area secured, Bn HQ having been established at 942414. A patrol was sent out by Carrier Platoon to farm 936401 and then to	

		II	wood at 936396. Weather - fair	AJMB AESJ
942414	24	I	Carrier Pl sent a patrol to wood 935395 to harass enemy on other side of river. They had a very profitable day claiming 16 certain hits. Bde Comd visited the Bn at 0830 hrs. Enemy smoke screen put down in area 944394 at 0930 hrs. Probable enemy counter attack. 4" mortars & arty dealt with effectively. Bde being relieved by 3 Br Inf Div tomorrow. Bn moving to rest area at TILBURG. Guides met recce party from 8 Br Inf Bde at 1400. CO & IO of S LAN R recced posns during afternoon.	
		II	Weather - fair	AJMB AESJ
942414 Harbour Area 9346	25	I	A Coy sent out a recce patrol to wood in sq. 925395. Coy reps & recce parties from S LAN R arrived at 0945. CO held 'O' Gp at 1200 hrs to give out orders for move to concentration area. Harbour recce parties went off at 1200 hrs. Bn was completely relieved by 2200 hrs and concentrated in harbour area 9346. Move Order for move to rest area issued 2330 hrs.	
		II	Weather - wet	AJMB AESJ
9346 AM	26	I	Bn moved in convoy to at 0900 hrs, arriving at destination at 1415 hrs to harbour in this area one night prior to moving to Turnhout. Troops were allowed to walk out.	
TURNHOUT 1/100,000 BELGIUM-NE FRANCE SHEET 3 Map Ref 0506	27	I	Bn moved by MT to Bde rest area in TURNHOUT, arriving approx 1400 hrs. The Bn was billeted in schools and the officers in civilian houses.	JRPB AESJ
TURNHOUT	28	I	The day was spent in administration. The CO inspected all personnel who had joined the Bn since it had been in the line during the last ops ⊙ A further draft of 39 ORs arrived. These were mainly men from the Border Regt. At a Coy Comds conference the outline of the Bn activities during the rest period was announced. The main points were as follows:- All MT to be thoroughly overhauled; trg to be carried out between 0900 hrs and 1330 hrs, particular attention being given to woodland fighting; assault crossings; night work (each coy to do two night exercises); drill; WT and shooting. It is hoped that every man in the Bn will be able to have 48 hrs leave in BRUSSELS during the rest period.	JRPB AESJ

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year MAR 45

Commanding Officer Maj AES JACKSON MC

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
TURNHOUT	1		General administration ⊙ All 'A' vehs were concentrated under OC Sp Coy for overhaul and 50% of coy Jeeps and 15 cwt trucks were similarly concentrated under MTO for 5 days overhaul.	JRPB CWPR
	2		A REME team visited the Bn to inspect all small arms and LMGs. Coys carried out trg e.g. route marches, drill, discussion on wood fighting. A Bn dance was held in the evening and cinema shows were given in the afternoon and evening.	JRPB CWPR
TURNHOUT	Sat 3		The CO held a Bn Parade in the morning at the Football Field CASTERLE STRAAT, this being a Rehearsal for the visit of the GOC 15(S) Div on 5 Mar. The Bn was formed up in hollow square and the general salute was given. Thereafter the Bn marched past in coln of threes. C & D Coys carried through a night attack exercise from 1900 - 2300 hrs. The whole Bn bathed during the day. Cinema and variety shows were given in the afternoon and evening. 76 men of each A & B Coys went off to BRUSSELS for 48 hrs leave.	AHE CWPR
-Do-	Sun 4		A Bn Memorial Service was held in the morning at which those of the Bn who had given their lives were specially remembered. The Chaplain conducted the service and preached the Sermon. The lesson was read by the Commanding Officer. The Bde Comd attended. In the afternoon the MASSED PIPES & DRUMS of the Div played in TILBURG. The Comd Offr and a party from Sp Coy attended.	AHE CWPR
TURNHOUT	Mon 5		The Div Comd addressed the Bn on the football field, after taking the General Salute. The Bn then marched past the GOC in coln of threes. The Div Comd expressed his appreciation of the work of the Bn in the recent ops and congratulated all ranks. In the afternoon the Massed Pipes and Drums of the Div played a programme & beat Retreat in the Market Square TURNHOUT. All available personnel attended and the Bde Comd took the salute. The Band was under the comd of CSM J LYALL HQ Coy.	

			A warning order was received for the move of the Bn to area DIEST 1667 on 6 Mar and harbour parties left at midday. Final orders were received in the evening for the move of the Bn at 1400 hrs 6 Mar. A Bde Offrs Dance was held in the evening in TURNHOUT. The Div Comd attended. A Bn ORs dance was also held.	AHE CWPR
ZELEM	Tues 6	II	Bn left TURNHOUT by MT at approx 1100 hrs and went through GHEEL and DIEST to the area of ZELEM (1:250,000 NW Europe Sheet 3 K165676), arriving at approx 1400 hrs. Harbour parties had had a very difficult task and coy areas were very scattered. All coys were however eventually accommodated either in schools or civilian billets. On arrival in the new area the Division came under comd 12 Corps. Weather - fine rain during the majority of the day.	JRPB CWPR
	7 Wed	I II	The remaining 50% of unit transport was called into the unit garage for overhaul. Coys settled into new billets and practised moving with smoke cover. Weather fair.	JRPB CWPR
	8 Thu		Information was received that special training for an assault crossing of a large river is to begin on 10 Mar. During the day Coys practised wood clearing. Two coys carried out a night exercise i.e. the advance from a river obstacle. Capt M.St.G. PALLOT joined the Bn.	JRPB CWPR
ZELEM	9 Fri	I	Training similar to yesterday. A further leave party went to Brussels for 48 hr leave. CO attended conference at Bde on forthcoming ops and trg.	JRPB CWPR
	10 Sat	I	Coys marched to a demonstration in the Bn area of the loading and capabilities of a 'BUFFALO' conducted by Capt HASLAM. Baths for A, B, Sp and HQ Coys. CO and Coy Comds attended a cloth model exercise at HQ 12 Corps. The object of the exercise was to show the drill for crossing a large river.	JRPB CWPR
ZELEM	11 Sun		A, B, D Coys carried out trg with stormboats in the morning. Coys held church services in addition to trg. A promotion conference was held in the morning. 13 Pl won an inter-pl Tug of War in the afternoon.	JRPB CWPR
	12 Mon		The CO IO and Coy Comds carried out recces in the area HOUTHUIZEN 5872 (OS 1/50000 France & Belgium Sheet 47) preparatory to "Exercise BUFFALO" which is to take place on 14 Mar. Capt Moffat and Coy 2i/cs carried out recces of marshalling areas preparatory to an operational crossing of the RHINE. On their return, however, they were ordered to recce another area on 13 Mar. The Pipe Band beat Retreat at ZELEM.	JRPB CWPR
ZELEM	13	1	Team from REME inspected all weapons. Recce parties recced marshalling and alternative marshalling areas for future ops under 2i/c. CO held an 'O' Gp at 1000 hrs to give out orders for exercise on River Crossing to be held on 14 Mar 45, after which CO visited all coys.	

		2	Instructions issued, Bn to move to concentration area for EXERCISE at 0630 hrs 14th Mar. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	14	I	Bn took part in river crossing Exercise "Buffalo" to practise coys in crossing a river obstacle by day. Bn moved in TCVs from present location at 0630 hrs to marshalling area at HOUTHUIZEN 5972. Coys moved fwd to Storm Boat waiting area at 1200 hrs and crossed the R MAAS at AREA 6168. Vehs crossed river on ferries. Coys carried out an exercise on landing on captured given objectives. On completion coys embussed and returned to unit location at 1700 hrs. At end of EXERCISE CO held a conference for Coy Commanders to discuss the operation.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	15	I	CO attended a conference at Bde at 0900 hrs. Bn moved in TCVs to marshalling area to carry out Ex. 'BUFFALO' by night, arriving at 1645 hrs. Zero hour for crossing to be 0400 hrs. Coys had a hot meal in marshalling area and then rested.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
EX HOUTHUIZEN PM ZELEM	16	I	Coys crossed river in storm boats shortly after 0500 and assembled on far bank of R MAAS for attack. Coys passed through RSF and captured objectives by 0730 hrs. Bn then embussed & returned to marshalling area for hot meal before returning to unit locn.	
		II	Weather - misty in morning	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	17	I	The day was generally observed as a holiday. Entertainment was organised and the following performances given: Div Concert Party 2 shows at HAELEN ⊙ pictures at DIEST Cinema ⊙ 1 truck per coy to LOUVAIN ⊙ HQ Coy organised a football competition. CO was called to Bde at 1700 hrs.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	18	I	Church Services were held in Coys areas in the morning. Bn played RSF at football winning 5 goals to 1. The remainder of the day was spent in general admin.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	19	I	All coys carried out coy attack exercises & pln training. Baths for Bn during the day. Signal Officer organised a signal exercise to train officers in the use of 46 set & signal procedure. CO held a cloth model exercise for all officers down to Pl Comds and gave out outline orders for Operation "Torchlight". Harbour parties went off to marshalling area. Lt MILNE took part in wireless deception exercise at Bde HQ.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	20	I	CO, IO & Coy Comds went fwd to Zanten area on a recce to look at	

			ground on east bank of R RHINE from OPs manned by 52(L) Inf Div. All Coys carried out a fifteen mile route march. An officers dinner was held at Bn HQ for all officers down to Captain and at D Coy location for all subalterns. The Burgomaster of ZELEM attended the senior officers dinner.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	21	I	The CO spoke to all coys during morning. Coys fired all weapons and made final arrangements for move to the marshalling area, and Op 'Torchlight'. Bn Op & Adm Orders issued. Church service for RCs was held in the Cloisters ZELEM by the RC Padre.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ZELEM	22	I	All Bn tracked vehicles moved to conc area 0730hrs. CO held a conf for Rifle Coy Comds at 1000. Coy Comds then proceeded to marshalling area independently. Main body moved in TCVs at 1730 hrs.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
BISKES (064399)	23	I	Column arrived in the marshalling area at 0640 hrs, coys in bivouac area, wood 065405. Troops received hot meal and then rested. CO went to co-ordinating conference at Bde at 1400 hrs. IO took reps from coys to see route to Storm Boat Waiting Area in daylight. Coy Comds briefed coys during the afternoon. CO held a co-ord conference at 1600 hrs. Transport, to cross Rhine, marshalled by serials at 2300 hrs.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
BISLICH 140435 BERGEN 140460	24	I	Zero hour for RHINE crossing 0200 hrs. The 8RS & 6RSF having crossed & successfully captured objectives, 6KOSB crossed at approx 0330 and advanced towards objectives, which were secured before first light, prisoners being taken. Bn HQ was estd in BISLICH 140435. The airborne dropped in front of our line at 1000 hrs and we contacted them on the 300 set, they say everything is going well and that they captured all their objectives. C & D Coys ordered to contact them at 157457 & 175436. D Coy patrol could not get as far as junc pt as they came under heavy fire from 156457 & wood 163453. 'C' Coy were able to link up with airborne. Warning Order Bn to conc for possible advance to NE. Slidex message received at 1800 Bn to conc in BERGEN prior to advancing towards Bridge at 203529. Bn conc in BERGEN by 1900 hrs. The Commanding Officer went to see Brig for details. 'O' Group for Coy Comds ordered for 0530 hrs.	
		II	Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
BERGEN	25	I	0530 hrs, CO gave out his orders for advance to contact. Recce party	

199509		II	to swan out in front and report various lines clear, main body to advance as follows: 2 secs Carriers, A & B Coys carried on tanks of 4 Armd Bde (who are in support), Tac Bn HQ, C & D Coys on foot. Also in support, one demolition party 279 Fd Coy RE & SP Bty of Anti-Tank guns. Bn were able to advance as far as 179503 but found it was not possible to use axis of road 176505 - 193513 during daylight. Coys took up posns in area 179503. CO gave out orders to Coy Comds at 1800 hrs for night advance towards Bridge 203529. Bn moved fwd at 2100 and D & C soon captured objective at 200514 and 201518 respectively. Bn HQ estd at 199509. A & B Coys reached objectives at 205519 & 202523 at 2245 against light opposition. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
199509	26	I II	By 0100 Coys were beginning to come up against stiffer opposition and inf & SP guns reported in area of wood 200527. 'C' Coy ordered to move forward to deal with this. C Coy captured first part of obj. but before they could dig in they were counter attacked by a Bn from the North. Situation became confused for a period but 'C' Coy fought very fiercely until they had fired their last round, then they retaliated with the bayonet and anything else which could be used to kill. By 0730 hrs the enemy were in retreat. The CO re-organised the Bn and gave coys their respective tasks. Coys were re-located as follows: A 205520, B 203524, C 200523, D 203502. A platoon from B Coy commanded by Lieut ALLARD went to area 200521 and captured 2 officers & 122 ORs who surrendered without a fight. During the night patrols were sent out by the Carrier Pl to main rd 203528 - 206520 to ensure that it is clear of enemy, so that REs can construct a bridge over R ISSEL after the 6RSF have gained a bridgehead. Weather - rain	AJMB CWPR
199509	27	I II	A Coy sent out a patrol to wood at 210523 to see if there were any enemy there; 3 PW taken. Coys were used to repair roads in fwd areas, as they were by now in a bad condition owing to the rain & tanks. At 1730 hrs, A & D Coys were placed at 30 mins notice to move to the assistance of 6RSF who had been counter attacked. These coys moved to area wood 205532 to build up 6RSF during the night, after the counter attack had been held. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	28	I	53 Div having moved up on our right, it was necessary to change coy areas. By 0700 B Coy had moved to area 202527 and C Coy to area of houses at 195525. D & A Coys to come back under command and take up position to the rear of B & C Coys. The Carrier Pl patrolled as far as the 18 Grid line without meeting any opposition, but discovered 18	

		II	Boche hiding in a cellar. At 2055 Bde informed us that we had no longer any operational commitments and coys were to have maximum rest & best billets available. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	29	I	The day was spent in salvaging kit & equipt, and in the collection of enemy arms and equipment. A Ech Transport joined coys in coy areas. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	30	I II	The Padre held church services for all coys during the morning. 1400 hrs the Commanding Officer held a promotion conf. The day was spent in general maint & clearing up the battle area. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
199509	31	I II	The day was spent in training. In the morning baths were allotted to A, B, and D Coys. In the afternoon one hour was devoted to discussions on current affairs. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year APRIL 45

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
NR HAMMINKELN 199509	1	0930	An Easter Day Church Service was held in the Protestant Church at HAMMINKELN SQUARE 2048. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	2	0900 1530 1000	Coys carried out Pl and Coy trg in the morning and discussions in the afternoon. The Bde Civ Affairs Officer gave a lect to all WOs and Sgts on the subject of German civilians. Baths were allotted to Coys during the morning. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	3	0900 I II	Coys continued training. Warning Order issued, Bn to be prepared to move to area NORTH of BOCHOLT - RHEDE. Order cancelled, Bn now to move to area GREVEN 904886, not before 1500 hrs, 4 APR 45. The Brigadier and COs of 8RS & 6RSF attended a Bn HQ Officers Dinner in the evening. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
199509	4	0900 1000 1400 II	Bn Harbour & recce party, under Capt ELDER, proceeded to Bde RV at rd & rly crossing GREVEN 904886. Infm recd Bn will now move early morning of the 5th April 45. Coys carried out a ten mile route march. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
BORGHORST 7692	5	0745	Bn moved from area HAMMINKELN in TCVs to area already recced at BORGHORST SQ 7692. The column arrived at BORGHORST at 1215. Coys were billeted in the town itself. Weather - fair	AB CWPR
BORGHORST 7692	6	0900 1215 1415	Coys carried out trg in street fighting & wood clearing. RSM took B & C Coys on drill. Warning Order Harbour & Recce Parties at 30 mins notice to move wef 1230, vehs ready to move from 1800 hrs. Harbour Parties moved to new area under 2ic.	

		1445 1500	Coys continued trg at Coy Comds disposal. Parties of 1 officer and four from each coy searched the houses in Bn area for weapons etc. The Commanding Officer held an 'O' Gp at which he gave out infm he had recd from Bde.	AJMB CWPR
SCHMALGE SQ 625222	7	0820 1700 1830	Bn Column left BORGHORST to proceed to area already recced by 2IC. The Bn moved in three groups as follows:- (1) Sp Coy under Capt Moffat (2) A Ech under TO and (3) All Marching Personnel in TCVs plus Bn HQ. Column arrived at destination area SCHMALGE. The CO held an 'O' GROUP for COY COMDS to give out orders for the clearing of woods in area EAST of BN LOCN. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
SCHMALGE 625222	8	0900	Coys cleared woods in the area of the OSTER WALD woods and captured 20 PW. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
SCHMALGE	9	0900 1410 1400 1500 1830	Church Services were held by Coys in the morning. The Carrier Pl gave a demonstration on the use of the "WASP". Coys carried on with coy trg. B Coy tested all Bren guns, resulting in the surrender of 6 Germans who had been hiding in the woods. Warning Order recd from Bde, Bn may move morning 10 APR. Harbour Parties to RV in Sq. 9422 by 0930 hrs. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
MIL CAMP 941286	10	0845 1230 2215	Bn moved from area SCHMALGE and proceeded in an easterly direction to area recced by the 2IC. The R WESER being crossed at PETERSHAGEN. Column arrived in new area and was billeted in a German Hutted Camp. Warning Order recd from Bde, Bn harbour parties to proceed under DAA & QMG at 0630 hrs, 11th Apr. Bn will move on the 11th Apr, but no move before 1100 hrs. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
941286 PM/GAILHOF 377415	11	0930 1100 1720 2030	CO & IO to Bde Order Group. Harbour party proceeded under 2IC to recce new area. CO held an 'O' Gp for all Coy Comds. Bn passed SP, rd junc LOCCUM 958291 and proceeded to new conc area. Bn arrived area GAILHOF, Bn HQ in hotel 377415. Coys were billeted in houses in the vicinity. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
GAILHOF 377415	12	0900 1000	Coys carried out trg in Coy area. Harbour Parties to stand by at immediate notice to move.	

RIXFORD 478472 AERODROME 5647		1430 1530 1800 1930 1940 2115 2245 2250	Harbour Party proceeding under 2IC to recce area in outskirts of CELLE. Bn to clear wood in area FUHRBERG WOOD 4847. Bn HQ estd at RIXFORD 478472 for the op. Bn ordered to keep off road between STEINFORDE and HAMBUHREN owing to EMISSARY from HIMMLER negotiating regarding 50,000 political PW with TYPHUS in 11 Armd Div front. 'A' Coy despatched to HAMBUHREN to fire two red verey lights which will mean that all our troops are south of this road and negotiations will continue. 'A' Coy fired the verey lights. Bn HQ estd west of CELLE at aerodrome 5647. All coys now in new area. Weather - good	AJMBrown CWPR
Do 374528	13	0930 1000 1100 1500 1600 2100	Harbour parties moved under 2IC to recce conc area at gas works CELLE 599511. Bn to conc there prior to advancing behind 227 & 46 Inf Bdes to conc area UELZEN 8989. Bn drill parade under RSM. RECREATION by coys. Bn moved to conc area in the North Eastern outskirts of CELLE at 374528. Bn arrived at new location and immediately winkled several enemy stragglers out of the houses. Intention - to follow up behind 227 Bde. CO attended Bde 'O' Group and received orders for advance in area South East of UELZEN. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
374528 RABER 8078	14	0730 1230 1245 1730 1845	CO held Bn 'O' Gp and gave out orders for move & operations in area NE of UELZEN. Harbour Parties with one platoon of B Coy moved to recce area for Bn at RABER 8078. On approaching the village they found it had not been cleared, so they set about the task and captured a number of PW. Bn main body moved in TCVs to RABER arriving at 1615. CO attended Bde 'O' Group. CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out his orders for capture of WESTERWEYHE. Bn concentrated here prior to advancing fwd. During the night normal defensive measures were taken. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR

HOLDENSTEDT 8783	15	0630	Bn moved to harbour area at Holdenstedt 8783, prior to passing through UELZEN on capture by 227 Bde.	
		0915	CO attended 'O' Gp at 227 Bde HQ. Plan now altered. 227 Bde have not captured UELZEN: opposition stiffening and greater than expected. 44 (L) Bde to carry out a right flanking movement to open an axis for 6 Airborne Div.	
		1000	CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out orders for attack on Halligdorf 9186.	
NIENDORF		1400	Bn moved up to NIENDORF on capture by the 6RSF. Bn now to be prepared to capture HAMBROCK as 6RSF have advanced to HALLIGDORF.	
		1615	D Coy ordered to lead advance to HALLIGDORF.	
		1725	D Coy meeting considerable opposition. CO asked Bde if tanks could move forward from HALLIGDORF and support D Coy to objective.	
		1730	Brigadier arrived and plan is to be put into operation. D Coy to advance over the open ground under cover of smoke with tanks supporting from area in front of HALLIGDORF.	
		1950	D Coy in village of Hambrock, captured a considerable no of PW and 8 20mm guns with only three casualties.	
HALLIGDORF 913863			By 1735 B Coy had est a firm base in woods to SW of HAMBROCK, following behind D Coy.	
		2200	By 2200 'C' Coy had advanced to area 901875 where they relieved a coy of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. A Coy at 2230 advanced to & secured the cross rds of 916878.	
			Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
HALLIGDORF 913863	16	0001	Coys now established firmly in following posns: A Coy area x tks 916876 B Coy area 904871 C Coy area 903877 D Coy HAMBROCK - 912864 Bn HQ at HALLIGDORF 913863 Bn remained in position as firm base. Periodic shelling during the day. 'OP' established directed mortar fire on enemy posns and the SNIPER section were active during the day, claiming two dead and one wounded.	
		1600	Div Comd visited Bn and went to OP with CO.	
			Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
HALLIGDORF 913863	17	0100	Fighting patrol from D Coy went out to general area of houses 907883 and located enemy posns.	

HAMBROCK 912876		1030 1030 1100 1308 1400 1425 1545 1550 1710 1910 2050 2215 2230	Carrier Pl patrolled fwd to 907883 and cleared some houses. CO has ordered one platoon of D Coy to go up and secure this area. B Coy now in area HALLIGDORF and resting pending tonights ops. A Coy resting in HAMBROCK. Ops going well D Coy ordered to move up and establish themselves in area of the houses at 908885. 'A' conc in Hambrock ready to move fwd. Bn HQ established at HAMBROCK. A & D Coys to move fwd and clear the town UELZEN on the EAST BANK of the river up to road 903891 to 910890. C Coy to remain in area 902877 as flank protection. Enemy trying to infiltrate through 'D' Coy with a tank or SP - Tp of tanks being sent up to assist. A Coy moving up on left of D and in line with the river are encountering a certain amount of opposition. This is being dealt with, and 11 PW have been taken. CO went to 'D' and 'A' Coys to get complete situation. Div Comd & Brig arrived. CO infm them that there is a stalemate at present. Tp of [tanks] has moved up to assist D Coy. If enemy cannot be cleared during daylight, advance will be continued by night. A Coy reached final objective, D Coy advancing, situation with "D" Coy is loosening. A Coy now established as follows: 903889 - 901886 - 902885. Both bridges are intact, and are covered by fire. D Coy reached final objective. Div Comd wishes us to send a pl to secure a br head over the river at 903092. 7 Pl A Coy moved to secure br head - surprised sentries and firmly established west of river, bridge intact. Advance to continue at 0400 18 APR to secure final obj. at area 903903 & 903900. Weather - good	903902? AJMB CWPR
HAMBROCK	18	0400 0545 0625 0705	B & C Coys crossed SL for advance to final obj. During advance 'C' Coy released a no of Brit PW. B Coy on final objective with very little resistance. C Coy on final objective. B Coy report PW on west of river are KOSB and Border Regt captured at ARNHEM.	

UELZEN 905892		1000	Bn HQ moved into UELZEN and established at 905892. Throughout the day B, C & A Coys stood guard along the river running from N to S through UELZEN and as the Boche retreated in front of 46 Bde the Coys opened with accurate fire. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
MOLZEN 9293	19	1000 1300 1500 1700 1730 2100	Harbour Parties moved under the Second in Command to recce a conc area for the Bn at MOLZEN 9293. Coys moved by march route to new area, arriving at approx 1500. Veh column plus Bn HQ moved to MOLZEN. Brig visited Bn. CO attended 'O' Gp at Bde HQ. CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out orders for move to area LUNEBURG. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
MOLZEN 9293 GITKENDORF 883141	20	 1000 1015 1430 1605 1700	Bn to move by march route to GITKENDORF 8813, where it will harbour for one night prior to moving to conc area near LUNEBURG. Harbour Pty moved to harbour area under 2IC. Marching personnel passed Bn SP. Veh coln passed SP. Bn HQ est at GITKENDORF 883141. Marching personnel arrived. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
do LUNEBURG 805205	21	0830 0930 1020 1038	Harbour parties under 2IC moved to LUNEBURG to recce conc area for Bn. CO to Bde to discuss pending ops. Marching inf passed SP at 1020 and arrived at new locn by 1230 hrs. Veh coln moved to new locn. Bn conc in a German Cavalry Bks with all coys together. The remainder of the day was spent clearing up the billets. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR
LUNEBURG	22	0930 1730	CO proceeded on a recce with the Brigadier. The day was spent in organising the Barracks, all Russian PW were moved to a Displaced Persons camp in LUNEBURG. 37 sick Russians, 3 with Typhus, were not fit to be removed. These were conc in one building, which was taped off & guarded. CO held a conf for all Coy Comds. Weather - wet	AJMB CWPR

LUNEBURG	23		The day was spent in training in Coy areas. In the afternoon inter company football was arranged. Vacancies for the Tam O'Shanter Concert Party being allotted to coys for shows at 1500 hrs and 1800 hrs. The Commanding Officer interviewed and congratulated all those who had distinguished themselves during the recent operation. Lieut Col SPARROW from the War Office paid a visit to the Bn. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
LUNEBURG do	24	0900	During the morning coys continued to train, the RSM taking coys on drill. During the afternoon inter coy football matches were played. Baths and seats for a cinema were allotted to coys. The Second in Command organised a Bn concert party and rehearsals have begun. It is hoped the concert will be ready for the opening night on Saturday. Weather - good	AB CWPR
LUNEBURG	25	0900 1400 1900	During the morning coys carried out trg. 'A' Coy & Sp prepared for drill competition. 'B' Coy fired on the range in the morning and had a cross country run in the afternoon. 'C' Coy practised grenade throwing and carried on with weapon trg & PPT. 'D' Coy spent the morning on weapon trg, PPT and map reading. 'HQ' Coy carried out specialist training by platoons. In the afternoon the Bn played the 8RS at football, score 2 goals each. The Pipe Band played a selection of pipe tunes for half an hour. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
LUNEBURG	26	0930 1030	CO attended a short co-ordinating conference at Bde. CO returned from Bde and ordered a Coy Comds 'O' Gp. The Commanding Officer informed Coy Comds that the Russians were on the R ELBE and that they were pushing North in strength. We will be required to carry out our crossing on the morning of the 27th or 28th. The CO gave out his orders for the operation. All arrangements for drill competition, concerts etc are now cancelled and all coys are preparing for the crossing of the R ELBE. Baths were allotted to coys during the morning. Training programmes continued and coys carried out trg in coy areas. The IO went to Div HQ for a flight in an Air OP and was able to look at the ground over which we will be operating in the pending op. Weather - fair	AJMB CWPR

LUNEBURG	27	1100 1200 1700 1800 1900 2100	Reps from Sp Arms reported to receive orders for the crossing of R ELBE. Bde Op Order recd. CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out final orders for Op Enterprise, which is the crossing of the R ELBE. 6KOSB as res Bn will pass through 6RSF and capture SCHNAKENBEK 8435 from the SE. The Pipes and Drums under Drum Maj Lyall played retreat at the Cavalry Bks Luneburg. Admin Order for Op "ENTERPRISE" recd. Bn Op and Adm Orders for "ENTERPRISE" issued. Weather - fair, rain during afternoon.	AB CWPR
LUNEBURG	28	0900 0930 1500 1800 2100	Maj JACKSON in the absence of the Commanding Officer addressed the Bn. Orders were given out to Coys for move to the marshalling area and thence to ARTLENBURG, prior to crossing the R ELBE. Marching inf moved to marshalling area. Bn will harbour in area of woods NORTH of ARTLENBURG until dark when it will move to the waiting area in the village. Bn Tac HQ will be est in ARTLENBURG until op is complete. Vehs crossing on LVT ferry moved to marshalling area. Inf moved to waiting area. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ARTLENBURG SCHNAKENBEK 8435	29	0200 0300 0845 1445 1815 1900 2000 2400	Assault bns crossed the R ELBE and secured the initial br head. Bn crossed in BUFFALOs in the following order: C - A - B - D - carriers dismounted. On arriving on the north bank coys re-organised in the quarry (8435). Shortly after first light the Bn had secured its obj. SCHNAKENBEK 8435 with the Carrier Pl on the high ground at 8536. Vehs for Cl 40 raft moved to the marshalling area. Orders recd over wireless, as things are going well Bn will capture and occupy KRUKOW 8239 after dark and patrol as far as 8342 at first light. Div will then hold this line to allow 11th Armd to pass through. Infm recd from the SAS that they have patrols in GULZOW 8342 and report it is not held. CO asked the Brigadier if he could move straight to GULZOW and occupy it tonight. Brigadier agreed, and carriers were immediately sent off to take up posns near the village. CO held an 'O' Gp and gave out orders for the move. Bn moved to GULZOW in the following order: C - A - Bn HQ - B - D. Bn completely est in the village.	AB CWPR

GULZOW 8342	30		During the morning patrols were sent off to find out if enemy were in area of WOOD N and NE of GULZOW.	
		1222	'C' Coy contacted 10 HLI on left in WIERSHOP.	
		1240	'B' Coy sent a patrol to KOLLOW 8144 and contacted the RECCE.	
		1315	'D' Coy patrol captured one PW who stated that he was one of a coy of pnrs who had been given the job of blowing the Br in GULZOW, but were too late.	
		1400	Carrier Pl sent out a patrol through the large wood to the north. Held up when leading carrier went up on a mine at 847437.	
		1500	A Coy ordered to move to and secure KOLLOW 8141.	
		1700	Reported in posn.	
		1705	Carriers report a certain amount of opposition from area 853435. Arty to engage this target periodically until 2000 hrs.	
			During the day the LUFTWAFFE was again active over our area, a large proportion being shot down.	
			Weather - good	AJMB CWPR

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
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 6 KOSB

Month and Year MAY 45

Commanding Officer Maj AES JACKSON MC

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
GULZOW 8342	1	0830 0845 0900 1030 1200 1340 1430 WORTH 7744 1530 BRUNSTORF 7847 1915 2000 2300	May be moving under comd 227 Inf Bde. CO proceeded to 227 Bde HQ at 795377 to discuss move. Coys put at 15 mins notice to move. Bn not now moving under 227 Bde. Will now move to harbour area at Kollow. Bn moved to KOLLOW. General int. Bn is now harboured in KOLLOW 8144 with a view to moving west and securing BRUNSTORF 7847. CO gave out orders for Coy Comds. Tac HQ moved to WORTH sq 7744. B & C Coys moved straight to BRUNSTORF from the direction of WORTH. D Coy advanced northwards to approach BRUNSTORF from NE. The village completely secured and coys est in this area. CO attended Bde 'O' Gp. Bn to be at 30 mins notice from 0900 hrs. Weather - good.	AJMB CWPR
BRUNSTORF 7847 FRIEDRICHSRUH 7251	2	0800 0950 1005 1446 1520 1545 1800	CO held Bn 'O' Gp and gave out orders for wood clearing operation. General Int. Bn to clear area of wood North of rly round FRIEDRICHSRUH. Bn moved to conc area prior to commencing op. Bde ordered Bn to place a guard on SCHLOSS to safeguard NAZI records as it is believed to have been an HQ of HIMMLER. Coys proceeding well, little opposition. 'C' Coy have found a place with members of SWISS legation. Prince & Princess BISMARK found in FRIEDRICHSRUH. Coys completed the wood clearing and took up billet posns around FRIEDRICHSRUH. Coys to mount strong guards and have stand to posns recced. Weather - good.	AJMB CWPR

FRIEDRICHSRUH 7251 KRONHORST 6957	3	1025 1200 1300 1400 1800	Bn to move at 1400 hrs to KRONSHORST 6957. Bn recce pty moved to KRONSHORST. Bde passed message all enemy in HAMBURG and dist have surrendered and there will be no firing in this area wef 1300 hrs. Bn moved to KRONHORST. Warning Order recd Bde Gp moving to a conc area at BARGTEHEIDE 6673, details to be issued at 1930 hrs. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
DELINGSDORF 664713	4	0950 2100	Bn moved to DELINGSDORF and Bn HQ was est at 664713. Coys proceeded by march route and arrived in billet area by 1630 hrs. On the BBC it was announced that all org resistance had ceased in Holland, Denmark & NW Germany.	
    DELINGSDORF 664713	5	0900 0900 1530 1800	Official message was recd from Bde as follows:- Germans surrendered unconditionally at 1840 hrs 4 May 45. Hostilities on all 2nd Army fronts will cease at 0800 hrs 5th May 45. No advance beyond our present locn without orders from Bde HQ. A party of 1 NCO & 2 men per coy proceeded under Capt GER CAREY MC and IO to visit BELSEN Camp. CO went to Bde to get details for the future. The day was generally spent in cleaning of weapons & tidying up. CO, 2IC, Adjt and Coy Comds went to a Bde dinner. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
do	6	1030 1145 1215 1500 1700	Church Service was held for RCs by the Bde RC Padre. The Commanding Officer addressed all Coys and outlined to the troops how the Bn would be employed in the future. Church Service was held for all Pres & CE by the Senior Chaplain. The Commanding Officer held a conf for all Coy Comds. He outlined briefly what his policy would be with regard to trg, recreation etc during the occupation. The Comd Offr spoke to all the WOs and Sgts in the Bn. Weather - good	AJB CWPR
do	7	0900	Coys organised trg and discussion within coys. The afternoon was spent in preparation for the GOCs parade on the 8th May. Weather - good	AJB CWPR
DELINGSDORF	8	1000 1115 1400	The Bn formed up in a hollow sq and the Div and Bde Comds inspected and addressed the Bn. They thanked the Commanding Officer and Offrs, WOs, Sgts and ORs for the great part played by them in securing the peace. The Bn marched past the Div Comd. The remainder of the day was spent in organising and baths. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR

DELINGSDORF	9	 1730	During the day coys carried out marches, having an hours swimming at the midday halt. The remainder of the day was spent in discussion & baths. In the morning the 2IC and a party proceeded to recce our new area. CO proceeded to conf at Div HQ. Weather - good	 AB CWPR
DELINGSDORF	10	 1530 1600 2100	During the morning coys organised trg in coy areas and in the afternoon recreation. CO addressed all Coy Comds and gave further details about the occupation. CO addressed all subalterns. CO attended a conf at Bde to receive instructions about our move to final occupational area. Weather - good	 AB CWPR
DELINGSDORF	11	0900 1400 1730 1900	Coys carried out trg in coy areas. Trg included PPT, discussions, drill under RSM, range firing. The RSM instructed CSMs on coy drill. During the afternoon recreation & games. The Commanding Officer, having visited our new area, gave Coy Comds full details concerning coy locns etc. In the evening two cinema shows were given for the Bn. Weather - good	 AJMB CWPR
	12	0900 0910	Coy Comds proceeded to recce new areas, as follows: A - ALVESLOHE 4379; B - KALTENKIRCHEN 4685; C - ULZBURG 4879; D - HENSTEDT 4979; Sp - LEEZEN 6588; Bn HQ & HQ Coy - ORSDORF 4885. Coys carried out interior economy. The afternoon was observed as a holiday. Weather - good	 AB CWPR
DELINGSDORF	13	1030 1300 1400	Bn paraded to Bargteheide to attend a Bde Drumhead Church Service. Advance parties proceeded to new areas. Coys ferried troops to lake for bathing. Weather - good	 AB CWPR
ORSDORF 485853	14	1000 1230	Bn moved to new area. Bn arrived in final occupational area. Bn area was divided and each coy given an area for which they are responsible. The Coy Comd being the military comd of his own area. Coys were located as follows:- Bn HQ:- 485853 ; A Coy - ALVESLOHE 442793; B Coy - KALTENKIRCHEN 470851; C Coy - ULZBURG 483804; D Coy - HENSTEDT 500797; Sp Coy - LEEZEN 659889. The general intention is that the Bn will settle down to occupy and govern this area. First priority, coys are to search & clear their areas. All PW and PWX to be centralised and controlled.	

			Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ORSDORF 485853	15	0900	Coys having settled in to new billets began their tasks of securing and searching areas. Each Coy Comd interviewed the burgomaster of his own province and gave out his orders with regard to the civilian population. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
do ORSDORF 485853 ORSDORF 485853	16	0800 0915 0930 1000 1430 1500 1700	B Coy provided a Ceremonial Quarter Guard for 15(S) Inf Div HQ at AHRENSBURG. All personnel who had received decorations during the North West Europe campaign proceeded under the 2IC to LUBECK to have their photos taken. CO attended a conf at the Mil Govt. HQ at BAD SEGEBURG 690968. Pipes & Drums of the Bde carried out a rehearsal for parade at LUNEBURG on the 18th. CO held a conf for Coy Comds and gave out his policy for the government of areas. Carrier Pl proceeded to HONSTENDORF 881081 to assist in moving PW out of Div area. CO interviewed the COLONEL of Unit of 5 FLAK Div who has a stragglers post in Bn area. General - Coys continued the searching of areas and the locating of PWX and displaced persons. The RSM continued his WOs cadre. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ORSDORF 485853	17	0900 0915 1100	B Coy provided a ceremonial guard for Div HQ. Drum Major Lyall proceeded to 2nd Army HQ LUNEBURG to make arrangements for a programme by the Bde massed bands. Bn Sports Officer, Lt ALLARD attended a sports meeting at Bde. Capt LAMB proceeded to the SCHLOSS at BORSTEL 6283 to prepare a camp for DISPLACED PERSONS. Weather - good	AB CWPR
do	18	1045 1000	CO interviewed all Burgomasters in the Bn area and laid down what was expected from them. All Coys carried out a ten mile route march. The pipe band proceeded to 2nd Army HQ at LUNEBURG. Coys carried out recreation in the afternoon.	AB CWPR
OERSDORF	19	0900 1000 1600	Coys carried out admin & interior economy. The CO inspected C Coy followed by D Coy. The Brig visited Bn. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR

do	20	1000 1400	Church Services were held by the padre at B, C and Sp Coys, followed by holy communion. 2IC held a messing meeting. Reps from all coys attended. Coys continued searching areas & taking a census of PW & displaced persons. Weather - good	AB CWPR
OERSDORF	21	0900 0945 1000	CO attended conf at 625 Det Mil Gov at BAD SEGEBURG. Coys held one parade in the morning, the remainder of the day being observed as a holiday. The Band of the 8RS visited the Bn and played programmes at KALTENKIRCHEN and ULZBURG. The WTO marked out a 400 yds range and commenced work on butts & targets. 'C' Coy provided a ceremonial quarter guard for Div HQ. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
OERSDORF	22	0900 1000 1830 1900	All coys carried out a ten mile route march. RSM continued with Senior NCOs drill cadre. CO attended a dinner at A Mess at Div HQ. The massed pipes and drums under Drum Maj LYALL played retreat at Div HQ. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
OERSDORF	23	0900	During the morning Coys carried out trg as follows:- A Coy - Drill, PPT and 30 yds range. B Coy - Drill, Highland Dancing & ABCA. C Coy - Drill & discussion. D Coy - Drill, range & house searching. In the afternoon Coys carried out recreation. The RSM continued his Drill Cadre for Senior NCOs. Weather - good	AB CWPR
do	24	0900	Coys carried out a complete check of coy areas for DPs & PWX. Trg continued in the morning with recreation in the afternoon.	AB CWPR
do	25	0900 1000 1400	All French PWX and DPs in the Bn area were sent to LUBECK to be transported to France. Coys continued training in coy areas. CO visited the Displaced Persons camp at BORSTEL. In the afternoon and evening an ENSA concert party gave performances at A & D Coys. Weather - good	AB CWPR

do	26	0900 1000 1400 1530	The morning was devoted to admin. CO carried out an adm inspection of 'B' Coy and at 1100 inspected A Coy. The Second in Command inspected HQ Coy. Bn football trial to select Bn team. Ensa concert party gave performance at B Coy and at Sp Coy in the evening. Weather - good	AB CWPR
OERSDORF	27	0830 0930 1030 1100 1400	Padre held Holy Communion at A Coy. Church Service at D Coy. Church Service at HQ Coy. Messing meeting for Bn held by 2IC. Pipe Band played retreat at the Displaced Persons camp at BORSTEL. General - All Dutch, Swiss & Danish PW & Displaced Persons were evac to LUBECK. Baths operated in D Coy area during the day. Weather - good	AB CWPR
do	28	0900 1400 1400 2000	Coys carried out trg as follows:- A Coy - Drill, house clearing & driving instr. B Coy - Drill, Lect. Hyg., ABCA & PPT. C Coy - Drill, ABCA & Miniature Range. D Coy - Duty Coy for week. HQ Coy - Drill & PPT. Sp Coy - Veh main & ABCA. Padre took Padre's hour at B Coy. CO held AMGOT Conf for Coy Comds. Bn concert party gave opening performance at D Coy. Weather - good	AB CWPR
do	29	0900	During the morning coys carried out route marches. In the evening the Bn concert party gave its second performance. This was attended by the Brigadier and personnel from Bde. Weather - good	AB CWPR
OERSDORF	30	1000 1800	All Coys estd check points and civs & mil personnel were ordered to produce identity cards and passes. Coys continued trg during the morning. Pipe Band played retreat at Sp Coy. Weather - good	AB CWPR
OERSDORF	31	0900 1400	Trg - recreation carried out by Coys. Dance band played a programme at the Displaced Persons camp at Borstel. Weather - good	AB

WAR DIARY
or
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~

UNIT : 7th (Galloway) Bn K.O.S.B.

Month and Year SEPT 1944

COMD OFFICER LT COL R PAYTON REID

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
KEEVIL	1	1100	The CO held an "O" Gp conference on Operation "LINNET". Loading of gliders was completed today.	
	2		All coys were briefed. The Divisional General paid a visit to the bn at 1400 hrs. During the afternoon a compulsory rest period was observed in preparation for the operation, as Reveille was timed for 0030 hrs and take-off at 0600 hrs tomorrow.	D. 1.
		2200	About 2200 hrs a message was received stating that operation "LINNET" was cancelled. Apparently weather factors in addition to the amazing speed of the advance of our armour to LILLE rendered the employment of the Division in that area unnecessary. During the morning the CO returned from Bde at BRIZE NORTON.	
	3	1245	At 1245 hrs the Bn was assembled and the CO spoke to all ranks explaining the situation. He expressed his satisfaction on the manner in which the preparation and loading for the operation had been done. The CO felt that it was good sign to see the coolness with which it was carried out and that the excitement which was naturally felt during preparations for the initial operations "WILD OATS" was replaced by an attitude which would serve everyone very well for future and pending operations at very short notice. It was again stressed to all ranks that by the nature of our reserve role our employment in the battle could only be where and when it could be a decisive factor.	
		1800	The CO, IO, and FOO attended a Bde "O" Gp. The Brigadier explained that at very short notice a new operation was to take place and we were to emplane by 1200 hrs on the 4th Sept. The operation was to include the 82nd and 101st US Airborne Divisions and the three Divisions were to land in a line EAST of the MEUZE between LIEGE and MAASTRICH. 1 Airlanding Bde was allotted the area of BILSEN 8 miles	
		2230	EAST of MAASTRICH with 7 KOSB at WALTWILDER. The CO held an "O" Gp including all officers on his return to KEEVIL at 2230 hrs, giving out his orders for the bn as far as possible as it was not expected to obtain the LZ area and maps for several hours yet. Arrangements were completed for the Bn to leave camp at 0830 hours for the airfields.	

		2345	About midnight an order was received cancelling the operation and keeping the bn at short notice. The weather continued to be wet and windy.	
	4		The camp was unsealed during the afternoon and recreational facilities granted to the bn.	
KEEVIL	5	0200 0530 1800 2115	Orders were received to collect operational maps at 1200 hours at NEWBURY Map Depot and for the CO to attend a conference at CORPS HQ at 1000 hours 6th Sept. In the afternoon the bn carried out RV and check point drill. During the evening operational maps were prepared for issue. An advance party was standing by to proceed by plane to BRICK and RIVENHALL in ESSEX to where the bn was to fly before leaving on operations and thus increase the range of flight. About 2245 hrs an order was received cancelling the move to ESSEX. About 0200 hrs orders were received for "A" Coy (without supporting arms) to proceed to BLAKE-HILL FARM. By 0530 hrs they left camp for the airfield and emplaned at 1000 hrs for HARWELL where they were to regroup and receive their orders and be briefed. The CO attended a conference at CORPS HQ MOORE PARK where he was given the plan of the operation. He then proceeded to HARWELL where he briefed "A" Coy Comd in his coup de main task. This Coy was to emplane at 0100 hrs on the 8th and land at 0430 hrs within 2000 yds of the traffic bridge at NIJMEGEN which was their objective. From HARWELL the CO then proceeded to Bde HQ BRIZE NORTON where he was joined by the IO and FOO at the Brigadier's "O" Gp. The Bde was to seize and hold the bridges at GRAVE, NIJMEGEN and ARNHEM to enable 30 CORPS to continue their advance from ANTWERP region and sweep into the RUHR. The CO briefed the "O" Gp on the plan and arranged to give the Bn plan by the morning.	
	6	1030 1600	An "O" Gp was held and the CO gave out the Bns plans for operation "COMET". Briefing of Coys continued until 1500 hrs when the Bn less "A" Coy prepared to move to the airfields. The remainder of the Bn at KEEVIL moved in two groups, the larger one to DOWN AMPNEY and the other to BLAKE-HILL FARM. Final arrangements were made there to emplane by 0400 hrs on the 7th Sept. Meanwhile "A" Coy were at HARWELL where they were to emplane by 0100 hrs and land in the dark about 0430 hrs on the 7th Sept. The landing was so arranged that they were to be released between 6,000 and 7,000 feet and to glide several miles to enable them to make a very close approach to the bridge at NIJMEGEN.	O.O. No.1. attached D. 2.

BLAKEHILL FARM		2300	To assist them in landing in a confined space a parachute was attached to each glider to enable them to pull up quickly on touching down. About 2300 hrs orders were received that the operation was postponed for 24 hrs. This was apparently due to the fact that 30 CORPS were in need of more time to re-supply and also on account of weather conditions in HOLLAND.	
	7	2130	Road walks and games were arranged in the morning and entertainments for the troops in the afternoon. The CO went round the various camps visiting the unit commanders and liaising with the RAF and glider pilots. Orders were again received postponing for a further 24 hrs.	
	8		The CO visited Bde and Coy Comds making further adjustments to the Bn plan in the light of fresh information. Maintenance of guns, etc and vehs was carried out as far as possible in the gliders. In the late afternoon orders were received postponing the operation 24 hrs.	
	9	1600	On SATURDAY the 9th Sept the postponement was ordered for 48 hrs and gliders were unloaded that evening and the following morning, with a warning order to reload on MONDAY. Games and entertainments were arranged for the troops of the camps.	
BLAKEHILL FARM	10		Church Parades were held in the morning and the GOC Major General URQUHART attended the service. Unloading was completed during the morning. Infm was received in the afternoon that the operation was cancelled. It had become increasingly apparent that the advance of 30 Corps was delayed on the ALBERT CANAL by the rapid and indeed remarkable regrouping of the GERMAN forces EAST of the canal. The GERMANS had counter-attacked and although gaining only temporary success had slowed down the impetus of the advance. Meanwhile airphoto interpretation and infm from DUTCH ground forces completed the picture. The line of the MAAS - WAAL CANAL was being fortified and manned and the NORTH bank of the WAAL from the canal junc to the EAST was being fortified and manned. The high ground SOUTH of NIJMEGEN was also being prepared as a strong point while the flak in the area was also considerably increased. The garrison in the area was estimated to be of Divisional strength.	
	11		The Brigadier addressed the Bn at DOWN AMPNEY and the Bn thereafter moved back to KEEVIL where it was again concentrated.	
KEEVIL	12		Administration and maintenance was carried out and preparations made for a Bn exercise tomorrow. During the evening a warning order was received to be prepared for a short leave.	
	13		The CO and Adjt attended a conference at Bde HQ on the leave question. The Brigadier announced that the proposed leave was	

			cancelled and that an operation "MARKET", a development of "COMET" was now planned to be carried out.	
	14		The CO planned the Bn operation.	
	15	1000	The Bn "O" Gp was briefed by the CO and further planning done on the receipt of air photos. Loading of gliders was completed at the airfields.	
	16		Briefing of the Bn for operation "MARKET" was completed, and during the afternoon the Bn moved in groups to their respective airfields. Bn HQ, HQ and A Coy with elements of HQ and Sp Coy to BLAKEHILL FARM, and B, C and D and remainder of HQ and Sp Coy at BROADWELL Transit Camp for emplaning at DOWN AMPNEY.	
DOWN AMPNEY AND BLAKEHILL FARM AIRFIELDS	17	1000	Off at last. After having been briefed for so many operations which have been postponed and eventually cancelled, the Bn really got away this morning. Operation "MARKET" in which we are taking part is designed to seize the river crossings at GRAVE, NIJMEGEN and ARNHEM, and to hold them until 30 Corps of the 2nd Army comes up to take them over and use them. 1 Airborne Div is to seize and hold the ARNHEM bridge and form a bridge-head NORTH of it around the town. There is a scene of suppressed excitement as we embark in our gliders at DOWN AMPNEY and BLAKEHILL FARM Airfields. Most of the Bn are flying from the former, but the CO, part of Bn HQ and A Coy Group go from the latter. Soon after 1000 hrs all are airborne and our great adventure has started.	D. 3.
	17	1000 to 1330	Our flight is a good one, though ground mist between the airfds and the coast makes it difficult for the glider pilots, and a few gliders have to pull off and land in ENGLAND to prevent accident. We cross the coast of EAST ANGLIA, a long and impressive stream of aircraft, and head for HOLLAND. The DUTCH coast is struck slightly SOUTH of ANTWERP and it is seen there that the islands have been completely flooded. One glider makes a forced landing there but seems alright. We expect flak now but none comes, only some small arms fire. We fly inland a little and then swing in a Northerly direction towards our goal.	
		1330	We release some two miles from our LZ and glide in. Still no flak. Most of the gliders make good landings, though in a number of cases the undercarriage sinks in the soft ground causing a minor crash. Two gliders dash into the wood on the edge of the LZ and are smashed, but with only one fatal casualty. It is an impressive sight seeing these dozens of gliders nosing their way in, but there is no time to watch it as unloading has to be proceeded with at once.	
		1500	The Bn commenced its fwd movement. The LZ and RV drills were carried out with precision and despatch. There was no interruption	

			from enemy fire. Infm from local inhabitants indicates that there are few GERMANS in the immediate vicinity. The DUTCH seem delighted to see us. Out of our original strength of 56 gliders, 8 have failed to arrive. One Atk gun is broken up in its glider and unserviceable. A check up of our strength on landing shows the following state : Bn HQ - Complete — Sp Coy - "A" Coy- Complete — Mortars - Four dets short "B" Coy- Short of one Pl — MMG - 1 Pl short "C" Coy- -ditto- (coming in 2nd lift) — Atk - Three guns short "D" Coy- Short of one Pl.	
EDE AREA		1500	"A" Coy was first to move, going off on its independent role of taking up a posn on the main rd EDE - ARNHEM. This it succeeded in doing, though it met opposition including an armoured car. The Coy inflicted several casualties on the enemy and took a number of prisoners. One Pl, with Atk gun was pushed out to the edge of the wood towards EDE, overlooking DZ "Z", which it was the Bn's task to protect. The remainder of the Bn started in adv to contact fmn towards DZ "Z" without opposition. A few stray GERMANS were captured. On reaching the DZ, "B" Coy Gp and "C" Coy Gp proceeded to direct to their pre-briefed posns on the WESTERN side of it, to cover the approaches from EDE. Bn HQ was established at the SOUTHERN end, just SOUTH of the huge motor road which is under construction there.	D. 4.
EDE AREA	17	1500	This rd is built up like a high rly embankment and runs right across the SOUTHERN end of the DZ. "D" Coy were kept in reserve in the vicinity of Bn HQ but one pl, under Capt GOURLAY and Lt MASON was sent out to seize and hold a group of houses in the middle of the DZ. This turned out to be a small settlement occupied by refugees from ARNHEM, but the CO decided it should be held in order to prevent the enemy occupying it.	
	17	1900	By nightfall the Bn's dispositions to protect the DZ for the Parachute landing next day had been completed according to plan and digging was well advanced. Infm from prisoners suggested that some 600 enemy tps had been occupying the barracks in EDE and that there were other reinforcements available further NORTH. One prisoner taken was a girl, a GERMAN WAAF. She was sent to Bde HQ.	
	18	1900 to 0430	Vigorous patrolling was carried out by all Coys, throughout the night, by B & C Coys towards EDE, and by D Coy to the SOUTH and EAST. Lack of communications proved a great drawback, both now and	

			later. Owing to the thick woods the wireless sets would not function over the distances between Coys. Line was laid but, being of assault cable, was also unsatisfactory owing to distance and breakages.	
			During the night the Pl of A Coy (under Lt STRANG) which was on the main rd was repeatedly attacked by a party of enemy which advanced with an armoured veh, carrying a Hispano type of gun firing explosive cannon-shell. Their tactics were to shine a searchlight on the Pl posn and then rain cannon-shell and MG gun fire into it whilst the inf infiltrated round it. Lt STRANG's Pl withstood three such attacks but they were severely shaken by them.	
		0600	Though, owing to lack of comms, the CO was not aware of the details of these attacks it became apparent to him that the small wood at the NORTH end of the DZ was being occupied by the enemy in some strength. He, therefore, in the early morning, ordered OC D Coy (Major SHERRIFF) to carry out an attack on this wood and to seize and hold it. The plan was to make Capt GOURLAY'S posn in the settlement a fire base and for the rest of the Coy (two Pls) to work up through "A" Coys Pl and attack from a NORTH EASTERLY direction. Fire sp was also to be given by "A" Coy Pl and by "B" Coy Gp, which incl MMGs and Mortars and was firmly established at the NORTHERN end of the wood WEST of the DZ.	
			This operation did not go according to plan. When Major SHERRIFF went fwd to contact Capt GOURLAY in the settlement he was greeted by outbursts of fire both from the edge of the wood on the EAST of the DZ and from the vicinity of the settlement itself. It then became apparent to him that the Pl there was closely surrounded if not already overrun. On his reporting this to Bn HQ the CO ordered C Coy, who had not yet been engaged, to send a Pl out into the DZ to engage the enemy forces surrounding the settlement. This was only partially successful owing to the long range and the fact that folds in the ground afforded the enemy a considerable amount of cover.	
EDE AREA	18	0700	Major SHERRIFF decided now to bye-pass the settlement and carry on towards his original objective. That was the last seen or heard of him for the rest of the day and the CO was left, owing to failure of R/T, without further knowledge of his movements, though sounds of heavy firing came from the woods.	
		0900	About this hour it became apparent, from sounds of firing, that the enemy were advancing SOUTHWARDS through the wood in the EAST, - where D Coy was, - and several attempts to gain touch with that Coy failed. The CO had now no reserve left except a composite Pl made up of 17 men of Sp Coy. This he sent into the wood under Major HR HILL, OC Sp Coy, to investigate. There followed increased sounds of	

			firing, both MG and rifles. When Major HILL returned, some two hours later, he reported having engaged the enemy who were infiltrating through the wood, and inflicted casualties (two to his own rifle).	
		1000	The 4th Parachute Bde were due to make their drop at this hour and their appearance was anxiously awaited. At this time the situation was reasonably well in hand. "B" Coy Gp were inflicting severe casualties on enemy parties on the main rd where at least six armd tracked vehs were knocked out by their atk gun and their occupants eliminated by the fire from MMGs. They were also mortaring and shooting up the Arty Barracks in EDE, and mortaring the wood at the NORTH of the DZ. "C" Coy were covering the SW portion of the DZ and engaging any enemy seen in the open. On the EASTERN side there was the unknown factor of "D" Coy, but they appeared to be containing the enemy, and Major HILL'S small force had the situation in hand in the SE. At the SOUTHERN end Bn HQ were holding a firm base.	
			Unfortunately, however, the aircraft did not appear at their appointed time.	
		1000 to 1400	There followed now a difficult period during which the enemy pressed in all sides. Steps were taken, by using every man and weapon, to keep him in check and these were so successful that he eventually drew off the majority of his force NORTHWARD. Therefore, when the Parachute drop did eventually take place, between 1400 and 1500 hrs, the DZ was completely clean and fire on it came from only a few isolated enemy weapons situated at a distance.	
		1500	All parachutists down, with very few casualties. Brigadier HACKETT, Comd, 4 Para Bde, specially thanked the CO for the protection provided. The Bn has thus accomplished its first task successfully.	
			During the intensive clearing of the woods just prior to the drop, the whole of Bn HQ was actively engaged. Unfortunately whilst crossing the embankment of the motor-road a party which incl the CO and Major HILL came under enfilade MG fire and Major HILL was shot through the head. His loss is a grievous one as he was a cool and courageous leader.	
			"A" Coy under Major BUCHANAN, had, during this day, a very uncomfortable time. Lt STRANG'S Pl was eventually forced, by dint of enemy pressure and sp weapons, to fall back on the main Coy posn at PLANKEN WAMBUS.	
EDE AREA	18	1500	The enemy followed up closely and attacked this posn repeatedly, but A Coy held on, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy and taking a number of prisoners.	

			During the forenoon the 2IC, Major COKE, was sent back to recce the route to our next posn. At Bde HQ he was informed that the 1 Para Bde, - a small part of it, - had seized the ARNHEM bridge and was holding the NORTH end of it, though cut off from the remainder of the Bde. The GOC, as well as Comd 1 Para Bde, was missing and Brigadier HICKS, Comd 1 Airldg Bde, had assumed Comd of the Div. These circumstances necessitated some alteration in plan and the G1 came up, at the time of the parachute landing, with orders. One Bn of 4 Para Bde, - 11 Para Bn, - was to go to the assistance of 1 Para Bde, whilst the remainder were to proceed with their original task of clearing and holding the NORTH of ARNHEM. 7 KOSB, having completed its task of protecting the DZ, was to seize and hold the high ground in the woods about Pt 56 (698797) and Pt 54 (704801). Infm was that these were strongly held by enemy outposts. 1700 to 1900 The CO, having co-ordinated plans for the move with Comd 4 Para Bde, ordered the start to be made at 1900 hrs. This enabled the adv units of 4 Para Bde to get clear and also gave time for our men to prepare and eat a hasty hot meal from their 24-hr packs, - the first since landing. Much to the CO's satisfaction D Coy turned up again at about 1800 hrs, having been engaged in close combat with the enemy in the woods all day. Major SHERRIFF had been slightly wounded in the arm, but was carrying on, and Lt KIPPING had been killed. About the same time certain sub-units which had come in on the second lift appeared. These inc Lt DOIG'S Pl (B Coy) and Lt WAITE's Pl. 1900 The Bn moved off in the semi-darkness in the order: B Coy Gp (Maj FORMAN), D Coy, Bn HQ, Sp Coy, C Coy (Maj DINWIDDIE). The route lay along the NORTH side of the rly till past WOLFHEISEN, then in a NORTH EASTERLY direction towards the objective. There was considerable congestion on the route, owing to the number of units and sub-units, incl tpt and guns, of 4 Para Bde, who were using the same one for the first part of the way.	
JOHANNA HOEVE	19	0100	About this hour the Bn drew clear of the units of 4 Para Bde and adv straight on its objective. "C" Coy was directed on Pt 56 and B Coy on the rd junc at 702801. The main axis followed B Coy, which was given the village of JOHANNA HOEVE 6980 and the farm at 695802 as preliminary bounds. There was a certain amount of enemy MG and gun fire, and also air-strafing, during the move. B Coy's move was rather slow as the Coy Comd was intent on thoroughly clearing the route, until the CO took a hand and pushed them fwd more rapidly. JOHANNA HOEVE and the farm buildings were seized without incident, except distant MG fire, and the Coy pushed on towards the rd junc. Here they met stiff opposition from enemy	

			MGs well dug in in fully prepared posns, and in the dark were unable to locate them sufficiently accurately to assault. After a number of attempts and suffering casualties, incl Lt MURRAY who was missing, the CO decided that it was not a feasible proposition in the dark. As daylight was approaching he decided to est the Bn in a posn based on JOHANNA HOEVE. This was carried out, and by daybreak digging had commenced. C Coy meanwhile, had reached the high ground and was in close contact with the strong enemy MG posts about Pt 56 which he was threatening. OC C Coy was ordered to est himself in his present posn and continue the action in daylight.	
JOHANNA HOEVE		0600	Daylight found the Bn est as follows : Bn HQ and B Coy - vicinity of JOHANNA HOEVE C Coy - about Pt 56 D Coy about 691807 and A Coy, with whom close contact was now made for the first time, about 686813. During the morning Comd 4 Para Bde informed the CO that the Bn was now under his comd. His orders were that we had to hold a firm base on our present posns, and also, later in the day, to carry out our pre-briefed task of protecting LZ "H" during the arrival of the tpt of the Polish Para Bde. Meanwhile 156 Para Bn was to adv round the rt flank, through C Coy, and 10 Para Bn to adv round the left flank, directed on Pt 54. In order to carry out the LZ protection task, D Coy was moved to the wood at 688808 to protect it from the NORTH, and B Coy to the wood at 678805 to protect it from the SOUTH and WEST. Meanwhile close touch was kept with 156 Para Bn and 10 Para Bn in order to assist them in any way possible. C Coy Comd was ordered to conform his movements to those of 156 Para Bn and to consolidate their gains. The situation at this time was well in hand and the Bn suitably disposed for its LZ protection task and for assisting in any fwd movement. No other type of movement was visualised and everyone was in very good heart.	D. 5
		0900 to 1400	During the morning and early afternoon Bn posns were subjected to concentrated shelling, which set fire to most of the houses in JOHANNA HOEVE, and to a very determined cannon-fighter attack from a sqn of ME 109s, which caused a number of casualties. The two Para Bns put in a number of Coy attacks on enemy posns on the high ground, but these were only partially effective and both were eventually held up and started to consolidate short of their objectives. Infm was received of tanks and SP guns approaching the locality and our atk guns were ready to receive them.	

JOHANNA HOEVE	19	1400 1500	About this hour the glider landing took place on LZ "H". It was greeted by very heavy flak but little close range fire, and the gliders appeared to land well, though there were casualties to aircraft which carried out also a jettison drop. As the loads were tpt vehs of the Polish Para Bde, with few personnel, B Coy and part of D Coy went to their assistance in unloading and in clearing and collecting the re-supply containers of the jettison drop. From the Bn's point of view there was nothing, at this time, to indicate that we had more than a temporary check, nor that any change of plan was imminent. About this hour, after all gliders had landed, the CO was called urgently to HQ 4 Para Bde. Here he was given by Brigadier HACKETT very quick orders for an immediate break-off with the enemy and withdrawal SOUTH of the rly. WOLFHEISEN was said to be in enemy hands, whilst enemy reinforcements were reported advancing along the rly from the WEST. It was to be a case of getting out quickly before the latter, combined with enemy pressure from the EAST and NORTH would catch the Bde on two, or three sides, simultaneously. The Bn had to find a Coy for protection of a RE det which had to prepare a crossing for vehs over the rly at a point EAST of WOLFHEISEN. The crossing for tps was to be at 673801 and the Bn was then to concentrate, after having covered the rest of 4 Para Bde across the rly, at 674792, coming back under Comd of 1 Airldg Bde. The move was to be made within half an hour. As B Coy's posn was in the vicinity of Bde HQ the CO decided to detail that Coy at once as the RE protection Coy. The Coy Comd and a proportion of the Coy were still employed in helping to clear the LZ but the CO contacted Lt DOIG, who was there with part of the Coy, and explained the situation to him. The RE offr who was to construct the crossing was present and it was arranged that B Coy should move with him forthwith as his protection party. Lt DOIG went straight away to convey these orders to the Coy 2IC Capt DUNDAS. The CO then returned to Bn HQ where he found a desperate battle in progress. Just after he left for Bde HQ the posns held by Bn HQ, D and A Coys had been strongly attacked and close and fierce fighting was still in progress. The situation had therefore to be faced of a withdrawal whilst in close contact with the enemy. The CO got out his orders to Bn HQ personally and to A, C and D Coys on the 18 set. C Coy, which was still in close contact with 156 Para Bn was not being engaged and was ordered to co-ordinate its withdrawal with that of that Bn, which it did successfully. D Coy which was closed engaged, but was in the Bn HQ vicinity, was ordered to beat off the opposition and co-ordinate its withdrawal	D. 5

JOHANNA HOEVE	19	1500 1730	with that of Bn HQ. It was impossible to get OC A Coy (Maj BUCHANAN), or any other offr of the Coy on the set, as that Coy was closely engaged. 10 Para Bn was, however, withdrawing through his locality, so orders were conveyed to him through the operator to co-ordinate his withdrawal with that Bn and join up at the RV SOUTH of the rly. There was no time to do more since the time laid down for the move was already passed. This very tricky situation was saved by the tremendous knock which the Bn delivered on the enemy attack. What occurred on A Coy front is shrouded in mystery since no representative of that Coy appeared at the RV and it can only be assumed that they, together with some portion of 10 Para Bn, were overrun by superior numbers. C Coy made an orderly and comparatively easy withdrawal along with 156 Bn. Bn HQ and D Coy laced into the enemy attack with everything they had and inflicted very heavy casualties on him. Major COCHRAN and Drum Major TAIT for example, each accounted for twenty GERMANS by Bren gun fire. The enemy met such a devastating volume of fire and suffered such casualties that he was first checked, then held and finally drew right off. This gave us our opportunity and D Coy and Bn HQ were enabled to get out at almost the correct time ordered. The CO and 2IC (Major COKE) saw everyone clear of these posns. There now ensued the confusion inevitable in a quick withdrawal action under such conditions. It had been impossible to brief everyone as to the RV, with the result that certain parties went straight across the rly instead of proceeding WESTWARDS to the RV, and were probably lost in the woods. There was a confused intermingling of units, inc the Poles who had just landed. Some of the tpt instead of proceeding to the prepared crossing place, attempted to cross the rly with its high embankment, elsewhere and either got stuck or shot up. Some went right past the crossing place and through WOLFHEISEN, where they were fortunate enough not to run into the enemy who were said to be there. When the CO reached the RV there was no member of Bde Staff present so he took charge and organised the re-assembly of units. The Bn, which was to cover the RV was got into posn to do this, whilst other units were collected and despatched to their own assembly areas. Gradually order began to reign over considerable general chaos and units and sub-units were despatched one by one to their respective appointed places. By about this hour the RV was beginning to be cleared leaving the Bn holding it. A quick check up showed that C Coy was reasonably complete, also D Coy who were now, however, reduced to two pls and Bn	

OOSTERBEEK		1900	HQ. Of A Coy there was no sign. Elements of B Coy were present and the CO acting on infm conveyed to him by a Sjt, went off in search of the remainder. A lengthy search failed to disclose them in the area in which they had been reported and the CO narrowly escaped being cut-off by the enemy during his return journey. When all other units were clear the Bn commenced to move to rejoin 1 Airldg Bde, the 2IC being sent ahead for orders and recce. There was some shelling on route but contact with the enemy had been broken off. Just as it was getting dark the Bn arrived in the vicinity of Div HQ 693784. Major COKE had received orders from Bde HQ which was nearby and these were confirmed to the COY by a G2 of Div HQ. The Bn was to hold the right flank of the Div posns, covering the rly to the NORTH of Div HQ. There were already parties of glider pilots, RE, and Independent Para Coy in that area and the Bn was to prolong EASTWARD the line held by them. The CO chose from the map his locality, which was a small wood area lying immediately EAST of 21 Indep Para Coy area. It was already dark when he, and the 2IC set out to contact the Indep Para Coy and make a recce, the Bn being ordered to follow under Major COCHRAN. It was found during the recce that the area chosen consisted of the grounds and gardens of two large houses. It was a well defined and convenient area to occupy in the dark and covered the Bn's allotted tasks.	
OOSTERBEEK	20	0100 0430 0430 to 0900	By this hour the Bn's new posn had been occupied and digging in was in progress. It was held in the form of a perimeter def. C Coy which was strongest held the WESTERN face and part of the NORTHERN and SOUTHERN faces. D Coy held the remainder of the NORTHERN face and the whole of the EASTERN face (having a party of Glider Pilots under Comd). B Coy which was very weak held the remainder of the SOUTHERN face. Mortars were centrally situated and atk guns covered every face and rd approach. MMGs were in D Coy area. Patrols were sent out during the night to the rly embankment, and among the houses in the vicinity. Morning "Stand To" started. A Pl standing patrol under Lt KAUFMANN, of C Coy was put out on the rly, together with a sec of MMGs to enfilade the embankment. The day started off quietly, the enemy not having yet located us since the bulk of his forces in this area were apparently still NORTH of the rly. This gave us an opportunity to re-adjust our defensive layout by daylight. It was found, that, on the whole, the posns occupied during darkness were satisfactory. D Coy had the most	D. 5.

OOSTERBEEK	20	0900 to 1300	difficult task since its sector included the larger of the two houses - the "WHITE HOUSE". This stood on dominating ground covering a cross rds at the NE corner of the perimeter, but it, and the area around it, were clearly visible from the other houses outside the perimeter and also from the trees of the surrounding wooded area. Taking our front as the rly, ie, the NORTH we had no touch with any unit to our rt flank. Our nearest own tps, to that flank, were the Recce Sqn who, we were informed by an officer of that unit who visited us, were based on wood at 698787, ie echeloned back on our rt rear, and were patrolling the road running NORTH from there to the rly at 699791. In the vicinity of the latter place there was infm of a strong GERMAN standing post with MGs. On our left, or EAST, flank there was a gap of some 400 yards of wooded country before reaching the first posts of the 21 Indep Para Coy whose HQ was in the house at 693792, and contact was made with them. To the NORTH, between our posn and the rly, which was about 300 yds distant, were a number of large houses with gardens. It was not possible, with our reduced numbers, to hold all this area, but standing patrols were stationed in certain of these houses to watch the rly and the approaches from it. These were under command of Lt J HUNTER of D Coy. C Coy similarly posted standing patrols in the houses to the WEST and SOUTH. The CO, having made a detailed recce, during "Stand To" held a co-ord conference at 0600 hrs. At this he reviewed the whole situation, commended the Battalion for dealing in such a decisive manner with the enemy attack at JOHANNA HOEVE the previous day, and outlined the posns and disposns detailed above. He explained that the loss of A Coy Gp and part of B Coy during yesterday's move, and the circumstances of the move, had resulted in some temporary disorganisation, but ordered that this must be rectified at once, that the perimeter now occupied must be held inviolate and that every opportunity must be seized for offensive action though, on account of our reduced numbers, this could only be of a limited nature. He also discussed adm problems and authorised the issue of rations from the Compo Packs on a one-third basis. The RAP was to remain, meantime, in the WHITE HOUSE, where it was already established. By 0900 hrs the enemy had become very active. Our MGs and the standing patrol on the rly were the first to make contact, - with a strong enemy party based on a wood just NORTH of the rly. In order to meet this threat, Maj DINWIDDIE took Lt CREIGHTON out to est a mortar OP. This was done and effective mortar fire brought to bear	

			on the enemy posns but shortly afterwards Lt CREIGHTON was shot by a sniper and killed. The enemy now commenced to out-flank our MGs, which had to be withdrawn to prevent being over-run, and came back into D Coy's section of the perimeter. Our atk guns were active during the morning. The first "kill" was an armoured car which was blown up and set on fire by the atk gun covering the NORTH face. Later another atk gun under Lt HANNAH, and escorted by a Pl of B Coy, went out to watch the rd leading SOUTH from the rd and rly crossing at 699791. Soon after it was in posn a TIGER tk, towing a flame-throwing apparatus, appeared and a spirited action took place. As a result of the courageous behaviour of our atk gun crew, and of Cpl WATSON and Pte McWHIRTER in particular, the TIGER tk was completely knocked out and the crew killed. As the enemy began to locate our posn, shelling, mortar fire and sniping began, and this continued with ever increasing violence throughout the day. It soon became apparent to the CO that the WHITE HOUSE was a danger point, so he ordered the removal of the RAP to the other house in the perimeter, which was in a more covered posn but had the disadvantage of having no water supply. Progress to and from the WHITE HOUSE later became a case of running the gauntlet of very accurate sniper fire and in doing this the 2IC (Major COKE) was hit in the leg and put out of action.	
OOSTERBEEK	20	1300 to 1900	Early in the afternoon the enemy brought fwd a SP gun which, while remaining out of sight of our atk guns, shelled our posns at close range. In doing so it scored a series of direct hits on the WHITE HOUSE, partially demolishing it and causing D Coy HQ and its other garrison to vacate it after having suffered casualties. The fire-fight continued all afternoon, our mortars, atk guns and MGs replying strongly whenever an opportunity or target offered. We had, owing to the break-down of comms, no arty sp but the FOO, Capt J WALKER, RA, proved himself a man of many parts and took an active share in inf fighting, acting as 2IC of D Coy. Anti-sniper ops were carried out actively. These incl the use of the PIAT, which proved an invaluable weapon, on houses suspected of harbouring snipers. Since the enemy were also shelling certain houses and setting them on fire it began to appear that there would soon be no whole houses left in the district. This caused the CO and MO concern for the wounded who were by now in considerable numbers in the RAP, so it was decided that the latter should be moved to another house outside the perimeter and the immediate fighting area. Unfortunately when this was put into effect the party, which was moving under a Red Cross Flag, ran into an enemy	

			patrol which captured them. The MO and the walking wounded, incl Major COKE were thus lost, but the stretcher cases still remained with us. Until evacuation became possible these, and other subsequent casualties, were cared for by the Padre, Capt Morrison, together with Sjt HYSLOP, the Regtl Med Sjt, one RAMC Med Orderly and our SBs. During this period a glider pilot attached to the Bn, Sjt TILLEY, made his presence felt and was of very great assistance in keeping the wounded comfortable and cheerful.	
		1900 to 2400	Before dark the CO called for an O Gp and gave orders for night disposns. During the evening "Stand To" these were taken up. They constituted a "tight" perimeter defence, so far as the limited numbers available allowed. After dark the CO, accompanied by the IO, went round the whole Bn defs to check up. C Coy's portion of the perimeter was satisfactorily secure, being strongly held and having the additional aid of a strong wire fence which would be an obstacle to any attackers. D Coy was not so satisfactorily placed since its area was more open and was overlooked by the surrounding woods and houses, some of the latter on fire and lighting up the area. The WHITE HOUSE proved a problem. It was so situated that it dominated a considerable part of the Bn posn. On the other hand it had already shown itself to be a "cock-shy", and holding it meant occupying slit-trenches situated in an exposed posn overlooked by, and in dangerously close proximity to, the surrounding woods. The Coy Com, Maj SHERRIFF, was very much in favour of holding a shortened line, further back, from which he could cover the WHITE HOUSE and would then have a good field of fire on the area surrounding it, as well as being able to present a more continuous front. After examining the situation in detail the CO agreed to this suggestion for daylight disposns but ordered that the WHITE HOUSE and its vicinity must be held during the hours of darkness. These altered daylight disposns were also calculated to assist B Coy, who were very thin on the ground and were continuing with the perimeter from D Coy's rt to C Coy's left with a rather short field-of-fire between them and a possible enemy forming-up posn. The WHITE HOUSE itself, which was, this night, a very "eerie" place, battered as it was by enemy shelling, and close to woods known to harbour enemy, was garrisoned by a weak sec, under comd of Capt WALKER, RA, who volunteered to stay there. Whilst the CO, OC D Coy and the IO were discussing the above matters, standing within our own perimeter, they were approached by a soldier whose appearance in the dark did not differ from that of our own men. When he spoke, however, it was in GERMAN and, without	

OOSTERBEEK	20	1900 to 2400	hesitation, Maj SHERRIFF jumped straight at his throat and, after a struggle eliminated him. During this it was impossible to get a shot into the GERMAN without the risk of hitting Maj SHERRIFF but when, presumably, a stick-grenade was thrown by another GERMAN who must have been lurking close by, everyone jumped back and shots were fired. This was followed by a fearful wailing, as of somebody in death agonies, but, on investigation, it was found that someone had shot a goat ! The second GERMAN, or some other member of their patrol, had, however, got in a shot and the IO., Lt MACKENZIE was wounded in the leg.	
	21	0001 to 0430	Patrolling during the night was carried out between all posts, and fighting patrols were sent out by C and D Coys. The former, under Lt J TAYLOR (Cdn) proceeded in a SOUTHERLY direction with the object of trying to locate the MO and walking wounded, and of reporting on enemy activity in that direction. No sign could be found of the MO's party, but it was discovered that the enemy was in strength in this direction and that his activity appeared to indicate that he might be preparing to attack. D Coy's fighting patrol, under Lt J HUNTER discovered strong parties of enemy in the houses and gardens to the NORTH - near the rly - and in the woods to the NORTH-EAST.	
		0430	Morning "Stand To". The infm from patrols was utilized and the areas in which the enemy had been reported were heavily engaged by our mortars and MMGs. Whether on this account, or for some other reason is not known, but the expected attack did not materialise and the Bn stood down at 0630 hrs. Immediately after "Stand Down" the CO authorised another issue of rations, - still at one third scale, - and ordered that all ranks should get a hot meal without delay. While this was in progress a Carrier Patrol under CSM DRUMMOND went along the rd on WEST of our posn, moving SOUTH towards HARTEJTEIN, to try to locate the MO and wounded and to see whether the rd was clear for the evacuation of casualties. CSM DRUMMOND returned with the report that he had contacted a sniper of ours who was stationed in a house, who stated that the MO and his party had run into a GERMAN patrol the previous afternoon and been taken away by them. He also reported that the rd towards HARTEJTEIN was clear, though there were enemy parties in some of the streets leading EAST from it. The CO on receipt of this infm, decided to try evacuating the casualties. Two Jeeps, flying Red Cross Flags, were sent back as a start, carrying stretcher cases. These returned alright, so evacuation by this means was continued all day.	

OOSTERBEEK	21	0900	About this hour the enemy commenced to be very active. There was considerable shelling and mortaring and he moved snipers and MGs through the woods to posns in the vicinity of the WHITE HOUSE, from which they could fire into our position, and enfilade the rd running along our NORTHERN face. In consequence of this the team manning our atk gun near the NORTH gate was heavily machine-gunned and all became casualties. Despite this Sjt KEYES crawled out to the gun and prepared it for movement. He then dashed its jeep out, limbered it up and got it away to take up another posn. D Coy spent the morning in efforts to deal with the situation. After several attempts to clear the enemy out by fire, incl PIAT fire and by infiltrating small parties towards the woods in order to locate the enemy, it was decided to drive him out by a local counter-attack. OC C Coy was ordered to attach a Pl to D Coy for this op and he sent a Pl commanded by Sjt WILSON, who proved himself a courageous and capable leader. The plan was for Lt HUNTER'S Pl (D Coy) to reoccupy the WHITE HOUSE and act as Fire Pl whilst Sjt WILSON's Pl did a rt flanking attack to clear the enemy MGs and snipers from the vicinity. This op succeeded in removing the enemy posts on the EAST and causing him to take to the houses and gardens along our NORTHERN front, where he was severely machine-gunned and shot up by PIAT fire. It was not, however, without casualties to ourselves, incl Lt J HUNTER who was killed by a sniper whilst carrying out a recce from the WHITE HOUSE. Sjt GRAHAM Provost Sjt, was very outstanding during all this fighting and proved an inspiring example of courage and fearlessness.	
		1200 to 1630	As a result of the above op the afternoon was quieter, though enemy shelling continued and sniping kept breaking out from various different quarters. As a consequence our casualties continued to mount. During the afternoon the CO was visited by a rep of the 21 Indep Para Coy, and of the Recce Sqn. The latter brought a message from Bde HQ warning the Bn that it should be prepared to move to a posn in a still more constricted Div perimeter and asking if this could be done. The CO replied in the affirmative, but it was arranged that any such move would be co-ord with 21 Indep Para Coy in order to avoid leaving them unsupported.	
		1630	At this hour the CO held an O Gp in order to reorg the Bn after the casualties it had received, to appoint new Coy Comds in place of those who were casualties, and to arrange disposns for the night. It was decided to post all HQ personnel and any surplus Sp Coy personnel to the three rifle Coys, and to cut Bn HQ down to a bare minimum. B Coy to remain under comd of Capt DUNDAS, who had been commanding	

OOSTERBEEK	21		since Major FORMAN went missing on 19 Sept; C Coy by Capt LIVINGSTONE, Major DINWIDDIE having been wounded this morning; and D Coy by Lt LAMOND, Sigs Officer, in place of Major SHERRIFF, who had received a second wound in his arm this afternoon, this time a severe one. His CSM, - CSM SWANSTON, though slightly wounded, insisted on staying on and he did most outstanding work throughout. Capt J WALKER, RA, who, when his comms broke down, had been acting as 2IC D Coy and doing excellent infantry work, had now managed to establish comm with his guns and was carrying out his normal function. During this conference, which was attended by Major COCHRAN, as 2IC, Capt CLAYHILLS, Adjt, and Major SHERRIFF, who had not yet been evacuated, - as well as by those mentioned above, - enemy activity increased and a very heavy mortar concentration was brought down on the posn, many of the bombs falling within the perimeter. Finally the CO decided to cut the conference short and to see what was afoot. He found that the enemy, who had been forming up under cover in the woods to the NE, was just starting an attack on our own posn. This attack came in strongly, being made by fully a Coy of SS troops. The enemy got as far as the WHITE HOUSE and the slit-trenches which we had vacated in that vicinity, but every move he attempted to make beyond there was frustrated by a deluge of fire from the Bn. Every weapon was got into action, the MMGs, which simply belched forth unceasing fire, proving particularly effective. Once the enemy had been checked, the CO arranged a two-minutes "crescendo", - 3" Mortars on the woods, MMGs on the trenches, and atk guns on the WHITE HOUSE, - at the end of which he led the Bn in a bayonet charge which swept any remaining enemy off the field. The WHITE HOUSE and nearby trenches were filled with the bodies of the dead GERMANS, with many more lying all over the open. The GERMAN attackers, except for those who had fled, were killed to a man. "The battle of the WHITE HOUSE", as this will be known, will live in the memories of all who took part in it. It came at a most opportune moment, so far as the Bn was concerned, when everyone had reached a state of extreme exasperation at the continuous shelling and sniping. As a result, when the GERMANS showed themselves the BORDERERS rose in their wrath and slew them, - uttering the most blood-curdling howls meantime. The enemy were picked SS troops and put up a most gallant fight to the last, but they had taken on rather more than they had bargained for. Our own losses were not light and incl some of our best leaders. Major COCHRAN fell dead, with a dead GERMAN at his feet. Sjt GRAHAM,	

OOSTERBEEK	21		lion-hearted as ever was killed in the midst of the fray. Major SHERRIFF, who should have been in the RAP, rushed into battle despite his two wounds and received a third, and severe, one about the thigh. The RAP was completely filled up again, but fortunately at this moment a new MO, Capt BUCK, who had been asked for earlier in the day, arrived, and he soon had the situation well in hand. Having driven out the enemy with such gusto the Bn would liked to have followed them up, but the CO, having in mind the message from Bde, about another move and having made a quick estimate of our casualties, decided that now was the moment to initiate the move, when the enemy had been knocked off his balance and while there was still daylight. He therefore ordered B and D Coys to cover the EASTERN flank, in which direction the enemy had withdrawn, whilst the remainder of the Bn prepared to side-step and make a continuous front with 21 Indep Para Coy, 300 to 400 yds to our WEST in a wood, with whom the anticipated move to a new posn was to be co-ord. This proved a wise decision since much eqpt would probably have been lost had the ultimate move been attempted in the dark and, had the enemy been given time to recover from his set-back it is doubtful whether the Bn would have got out since this posn was pin-pointed and easy to surround. Also, the RAP was now set on fire by a jeep which was hit and burning furiously outside it whilst the amn it contained went off creating a fearful din. All casualties were successfully removed and evacuated by jeep either direct to the MDS or to the 21 Indep Para Coy's RAP. The whole move was executed successfully and with precision, all moveable eqpt being taken, but a number of jeeps were found to have been put out of action during the battle by shell or small arms fire. Capt CLAYHILLS, who now became 2IC, recced the new posn and this was occupied, and digging commenced, by the time darkness was falling. Our two days in the WHITE HOUSE posn were ones of strenuous fighting and cost us heavily in casualties, among whom were the following : <u>KILLED</u> : Major COCHRAN, Lt CRIGHTON, Lt J HUNTER. <u>WOUNDED</u> : Majors DINWIDDIE and SHERRIFF (twice) - *3 times?* Major COKE, Captains COULTHARD and BANNATYNE, Lts MACKENZIE, HANNAH, KAUFMAN and SHARPLES (who later died) Sjt GRAHAM who was well on the way to winning a VC was killed.	

		1800 to 2130 2130	There were now no Coy Comds, or CSMs (except CSM SWANSTON, who though wounded remained on) and few senior NCOs left in action. As was expected, our stay in this new posn was a short one. Almost as soon as we arrived there the 21 Indep Para Coy received its orders to withdraw to another posn, and, after a long and fruitless attempt at a wireless conversation, Bde sent a LO (Lt MACDUFF-DUNCAN) up with a trace showing the new disposns. The Bn moved off, through the woods, at this hour, without incident, to a posn in the NW corner of HARTESTEIN village. Disposns here were made as follows : B Coy HQ - rd junction 694787; Coy responsible for street running WEST as far as x-rds 693788. C Coy HQ - rd junction 691788; Coy responsible for street along to B Coy. D Coy HQ - rd junction 691786; Coy responsible for street running EAST from there. Bn HQ - in the centre of above triangle on a small street not shown on the map. Mortars placed centrally; MMGs in wood on WEST flank, firing NORTHWARD; Atk guns covering rds leading into and towards posn from the NORTH and the streets running EAST and WEST. On our left, or WESTERN, flank we had the Glider Pilot Regt, in the wood there. On our rt, or EASTERN, flank we had elements of the Recce Sqn, continuing the defence of the village, and, beyond there, elements of 156 Para Bn.	D. 5.
OOSTERBEEK	22	0100 0430 to 0630	By this hour the Bn was est in this new posn, and was digging-in and improving defences of houses. Coys were made responsible for maintaining touch with the units on their flanks, and with each other, also for patrolling to their fronts. The defence was based on the houses but supplemented by fire-trenches dug in their vicinity. Owing to shortage of numbers many of the houses were only garrisoned by two men, acting as snipers. Morning "Stand To". The CO made a minute inspection of the Bn layout, and of the disposns of Coys and sp weapons. Several adjustments were made to improve the defences, incl the occupation by C Coy of the tongue of wood immediately to the NORTH of Coy HQ. This was taken over by Lt J. TAYLOR's Pl. Work was put in hand to improve the defences all round and these were co-ord with the units on our flanks.	

			The Bde Comd - Brigadier P. HICKS, DSO, MC, - visited the Bn during this period and walked all round the posns. He told us we might expect a trying day, but that the 30 Corps armour was well on its way and might be expected to cross to our side of the RHINE tonight.	
		0630 to 1900	Contrary to expectations this day passed off more quietly than we have become accustomed to. There was a good deal of 20 mm cannon fire directed at the roofs of the houses in order, presumably, to prevent our observing from them. These weapons make a most alarming noise but appear to be fairly ineffective. Shelling and mortaring increased as the day wore on and the village, which was inhabited and untouched when we arrived, began to show a number of scars. The inhabitants either departed or took refuge in their cellars. B and C Coys dealt effectively with small parties of the enemy who attempted to approach their posns, and carried out patrolling in their vicinities.	
		1900 to 2400	Night disposns were made with a view to preventing the enemy penetrating under cover of darkness. All houses along the NORTHERN street were garrisoned by one or two men who were visited frequently throughout the night by patrols. Offensive patrolling also took place, with minor clashes with enemy patrols.	
OOSTERBEEK	23	0001 to 0430	Apart from the above, the night continued to be comparatively quiet, but it was felt that the enemy were making recces to locate our posns more definitely.	
		0430 to 0630	Morning "Stand To". The CO visited posns and found all personnel in good heart. He ordered that all should shave and have a hot meal before the enemy started his day's activities. Water pipes in the village had been put out of action, but there was a pump from which all Coys had drawn water during the night.	
		0630 to 1300	In contrast to yesterday, today started with a very heavy morning "Strafe" at about 0730 hours and enemy activity of all kinds increased from hour to hour. Sniping and machine-gunning into the area showed a marked increase. B Coy was attacked in the forenoon by a tank, sp by SP guns and infantry, and the houses occupied by the Coy were battered at close range so had to be temporarily evacuated. During this encounter the atk gun with B Coy was put out of action by having a tree knocked down over it, rendering it immoveable. Several of the crew became casualties. In face of the tank attack the Coy had to withdraw from its houses, but it retained its hold on its slit-trenches and later reoccupied its original posn, having meanwhile inflicted considerable casualties on such enemy infantry as appeared.	

			About the same time enemy infantry infiltrated fwd through the woods to C Coy's posn, and, under cover of 20 mm fire, shelling and mortaring, succeeded in establishing themselves within the fringes of that Coy's area. Lt TAYLOR's Pl, in the tongue of the wood, was attacked by armoured cars which approached down the clearing and, were therefore, out of view of our atk guns. These fired their 20 mms straight into the Pl's trenches, some of which had to be temporarily vacated. This activity developed into a really determined effort on the part of the enemy to establish his infantry, under cover of SP gun fire, and armoured cars, within our area. In this he was, despite the local counter-attack by sub-units of C Coy and a det of mortars, partially successful. The tongue of wood fell into his hands and he established an MG post near the rd junction which enfiladed the street leading towards B Coy. The situation began to look very serious but the CO, who had arrived on the spot after having seen B Coy's posn re-established, ordered C Coy to counter-attack and arranged mortar and MG fire to sp this. Capt LIVINGSTONE, OC C Coy, put this in hand and once more re-established his posn. Lt TAYLOR led his Pl in an assault on the enemy infantry who had occupied the tongue of the wood and drove them out, inflicting severe casualties. In this assault he lost a number of men, and was himself, along with six of his Pl, wounded. The Adjt, Capt CLAYHILLS, whilst carrying out a recce, came under MG fire at this period and was hit in three places so had to go to the RAP. During the rather confused fighting the CO, accompanied by Sjt TILLEY, Glider Pilot Regt, who as now acting as RSM, walked straight into an enemy party in trenches, but both managed to escape unscathed. C Coy took a number of prisoners, during these Ops.
		1300 to 1900	Although C Coy's posn had been satisfactorily re-established, this incident had cost us a number of casualties and there were still enemy snipers and MGs which had, under cover of these activities, worked themselves into posns from which they could bring fire to bear on our area. The afternoon was spent largely in attempts to locate and deal with these, and in clearing and occupying certain houses into which his snipers had infiltrated. Good work was done by Sjt NATTRASS at this time. During all this period our MGs and atk guns were active. The former inflicted many casualties on the enemy, both on our own front and that of the Glider Pilot Regt. The remaining atk guns scored several hits on tanks and armoured cars which came within their arcs, and also executed great destruction of his infantry in the woods, by use of HE amn.	

OOSTERBEEK	23	1300 to 1900	In the afternoon our posn was subjected to very heavy shelling by 88 mm, and larger guns, in the course of which a slit-trench in which the CO, Capt STEER and Drum-Major TAIT were talking, received almost a direct hit by two shells in succession. The CO was slightly wounded, but carried on, Capt STEER was severely shell shocked and Drum-Major TAIT was wounded and had to go to the RAP. Capt WALKER, RA, was also hit about this time, in the head, by a sniper, but his steel helmet saved him and he only suffered a minor wound. The RAP was now becoming very full since the MDS could accept no further casualties, having fallen into enemy hands. Capt BUCK, the MO; Capt MORRISON, the Padre; Sjt HYSLOP, Med Sjt, and all the medical orderlies and SBs carried out excellent work. Up to the present the enemy had been behaving very properly towards the wounded, but today three of our SBs were hit by snipers whilst attempting to collect the casualties. As a result several of C Coy's casualties could not be got back until nightfall.
		1900 to 2400	Darkness brought some relief from noise, shelling and sniping, which was welcomed after a day during which there had not been a moments peace, and during which there was fresh activity and close fighting continuously. All ranks were undoubtedly beginning to feel the strain, especially since, despite the Brigadier's optimism of yesterday, there still seemed to be no sign of our ground forces joining us.
	24	0001 to 0430	Although it started off quietly, the night developed into one of considerable activity. Shortly after midnight it was found that an enemy party was digging-in quite close to B Coy's posn, and that enemy patrols were active along the whole front. Immediate steps were taken to deal with this development. Our own patrols had several encounters with those of the enemy, and a fighting patrol, under Capt DUNDAS and Lieut LAMOND, went out to deal with the enemy digging party, which it drove off.
		0430 to 0630	Morning "Stand To". The usual early morning quiet period, followed by the normal morning hate.
		0630 to 1300	It was soon discovered that the enemy night activity had served as a cover to work snipers and MGs into posns from which they could bring fire to bear into most of our area. This was made the easier for them because the Recce Sqn, which had moved out the previous afternoon to carry out a mob op, had not returned, so that our rt flank was open. The morning was spent in active offensive action on our part against any enemy who could be located and in sweeping the area for any who might have infiltrated into it during the night.

OOSTERBEEK	24	1300 to 1900	This resulted in diminishing the enemy fire, but was not accomplished without casualties. Notable among these were CSM SWANSTON, and Sjts NATTRASS and WILSON, all of whom had been doing most excellent work. (N.B. CSM SWANSTON and Sjt WILSON were actually wounded yesterday.) There had been no resup of rations for some days and, despite having been carefully conserved, those we had were now finished. From now onwards the Bn had, therefore, to subsist on vegetables dug from the gardens, supplemented by stores found in the DUTCH houses. Sjt TILLEY proved extremely enterprising in providing hot meals for the whole Bn out of these materials which, together with his infectious optimism, was a great help to general morale. In the afternoon OC Glider Pilots requested that the Bn might be disposed in more depth and less linear width in order to tie up more closely with his posn in the wood. Since touch had already been lost with the unit which had been on our rt flank, and as this arrangement would make the whole posn much stronger, this suggestion was agreed to by the CO. B Coy was, therefore, brought in from its somewhat isolated posn, and our defence was organised in three rows of houses which we were prepared to hold to the last. B Coy held the fwd row, ie the NORTH side of the centre rd; D Coy, the second row, - the SOUTH side of the centre street (incl the RAP) - and C Coy the rear row, - the NORTH side of the rear street. Only about six houses in each row were held, owing to the shortage of numbers, but these three rows constitute a "block" in which, while the Glider Pilots were holding the wood on our left, it was felt we could put up a stiff defence and from which we could inflict considerable casualties on any enemy moving in the vicinity. By this time, however, the Bn had been reduced through casualties, to 7 Offrs and under 100 ORs, all of whom were suffering, to a greater or less degree, from strain, lack of sleep and shortage of food, water, cigarettes and all other amenities. The house in which the RAP was est was now full to overflowing, as well as all the outhouses nearby. Fortunately, however, it had so far avoided receiving a direct hit from a shell, which had been the lot of practically every other building in the area. Meanwhile enemy activity was increasing with ever-gathering velocity throughout the whole of the Div area. The BORDER Regt, holding the EASTERN side of the Div perimeter, appeared to be subjected to repeated attacks, whilst Div and Bde HQ were being constantly and heavily shelled. In our own sector enemy shelling and	

OOSTERBEEK	24	1900 to 2400	mortaring was continuing with increasing violence, destroying the houses and inflicting casualties. Shortly after midnight the Glider Pilots were very heavily shelled in their posn in the wood on our left, which they evacuated, taking up posns in the row of houses behind the Bn. This move placed us in a very precarious posn since the enemy could now form up under cover within about 50 yds of us. Our mortars were active in endeavouring to prevent this and kept bombing likely forming-up places. We had also now some arty sp and fortunately had Capt WALKER, RA, to direct it, as he had 'escaped' from the RAP and was now actively employed, not only at his own job but also acting as Adjt. An enemy attack, however, seemed imminent and smoke was put down by him from the wood on our left. The Bn stood to until after dark awaiting it, but, although there were signs of activity, it did not materialise. After dark there was the usual period of quiet, which we had come to expect, - and also suspect. Our patrolling had, owing to shortage of numbers, to be confined to keeping touch between posts and local patrolling in the vicinity.	- *midday, GPs say*
OOSTERBEEK	25	0001 to 0430 0430 to 0630 0630 to 1300 1300	The night passed off quietly, but, in view of the signs of the previous evening and our now difficult posn, it was felt that the culminating point of the enemy's offensive had arrived, and the dawn was awaited with some trepidation. Morning "Stand To". Despite our gloomy forebodings the day started surprisingly quietly. Advantage was taken of this to improve the defences of the houses and other posns, and to imbue all ranks with an offensive outlook. The quiet period continued until about 1100 hours, not even snipers being active. But, as was to be expected, this proved to be the prelude to an extremely heavy concentration of shelling. This was no doubt designed to be the "softening" process for an attack since enemy parties of considerable strength were to be seen, apparently concentrating in the wood to our left. Every move of his was, however, frustrated by our sniping and machine-gunning from the houses, and by mortar and arty fire. In this way many casualties were inflicted on him, and encouraged by this success, the Bn began to take on a new lease of life. Pte HOLBURN is worthy of mention here, as he had been sniping on his own for four days and accounted for 15 GERMANS. A Bde O Gp was called at this hour, to which the CO went by carrier. At this the Bde Comd gave the infm that, owing to the delays and to the conditions of the rds SOUTH of the RHINE, the	

OOSTERBEEK		1300 to 2115	attempt of the ground forces to join us had been abandoned, and that the Div was to be evacuated SOUTH of the river tonight. The Bn was to leave its posn at 2115 hours and pass the Bde RV - rd junction 692773, - at 2215 hours, then to proceed to the river bank, as guided, and cross in assault boats. Wounded, except walking wounded, were to be left in RAPs which would be cleared next day by our own Fd Ambulance personnel, who were remaining behind to attend to all our wounded. The importance of silence during the evacuation was emphasised. All ranks were to be armed, but no surplus eqpt carried. Everything left behind was to be destroyed so as to be rendered unusable. The CO returned to Bn HQ, conveyed these orders to Coy Comds and initiated all arrangements for the move. He emphasised that all ranks must be warned to be careful of their conversations, and that on no account must the enemy be allowed to infiltrate near or approach our posn. All ranks must muffle their boats in strips of blanket before leaving and must have the route explained to them in case of going astray. The orders regarding evacuation of our present posn were also given. The Bn order of march was to be, - C Coy and Bn HQ; D Coy and walking wounded; B Coy, who were to act as rear-guard. Orders re forming-up were given in detail. The whole Bn was to be formed up ready to move at 2115 hours precisely. The Bn would move off at that time and there could be no delay to wait for any one. The CO also visited the RAP and explained the orders in detail leaving the MO and Padre to make their domestic arrangements. He explained that the majority of the wounded would have to remain, with sufficient medical staff to look after them, but that any walking wounded who could make the journey were to move with D Coy. Many casualties were inflicted on the enemy during the afternoon and he was not given any opportunity to close on our posn.	
		2115	The Bn formed-up according to plan, except that it subsequently transpired that the walking wounded had not, apparently, joined D Coy's column. Exactly on time the Bn moved off, being guided through the gardens by Cpl MUNRO, of the Int Sec, who had previously recced this route. The rd was avoided in order to keep clear of enemy patrols reported on it and of MG fire directed along it. Soon after the Bn started it ran into an extremely heavy shelling concentration, which had the effect of splitting the column since there were a number of casualties and some personnel stopped to take cover, thus becoming cut-off from the remainder. The main portion continued on its way but, on reaching the woods, was led astray by the guide of a	

		2215 2215 to 0200	party of parachutists who lost himself after leading the whole party deep into the wood. The CO decided then to march by compass, which was done, - Capt WALKER being of great assistance, - and the Bn crashed its way through the woods, eventually striking Bde HQ posn. From there we soon reached the RV, - which was passed exactly on time ! From the RV the Bn was directed along white tapes towards the river bank. On the flats alongside the river we joined a queue who were waiting for the boats, and lay there for 3½ hours until our turn came. The ground was dead flat without cover, but fortunately the enemy did not appear to realise what was going on and there was a constant stream of shelling from our own guns on the SOUTHERN side which drowned all other noise. It began to rain, everyone was freezing cold and the wait seemed interminable.	
NIJMEGEN	26	0200 to 0600	At about 0200 hrs the Bn reached the head of the queue and commenced to cross. Once on the other side it seemed one had reached a haven, and, despite mud and fatigue, all trudged the four miles to DRIEL with light hearts if somewhat heavy footsteps. Near Driel tea, rum and blankets were dished out, under excellent arrangements made by 30 Corps, and all were most acceptable. From there to NIJMEGEN was then traversed, partly on foot and partly by MT. At NIJMEGEN the survivors of the Bn were welcomed by our own 'Seaborne Tail', under Major RD SELLON, who had made most detailed preparations for their comfort and well-being. All were soon refreshed, fed and sent to bed to enjoy their first real sleep for 10 days. A check-up at NIJMEGEN showed the total strength of the survivors of the Bn from the ARNHEM operation to be :- OFFICERS : C.O. - LT COL R PAYTON REID Capt JS LIVINGSTONE Lt WJM LAMOND Lt CM PELISSIER OTHER RANKS : Sjts.....2 Cpls.....12 Lcpls and Ptes.58 TOTAL : 4 OFFICERS and 72 OTHER RANKS	

	27		Survivors of the Bn from operation are refitted with clothes at NIJMEGEN.	
	28		Bn moved SOUTH to LOUVAIN and was billeted in a BELGIAN Cavalry Barracks for one night.	
	29	1515	Survivors plus administrative personnel left LOUVAIN by air and landed in base area at 1715 hrs.	
	30		Bn Administration, fitting of personnel with clothing, questioning of survivors for news of personnel left behind.	