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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 4th Bn KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year JANUARY 1945

Commanding Officer LT COL C.L. MELVILLE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
<p>NIEDERBUSCH 8065 and HOCHHEID</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>0025 0145 0630 0730 0900 0937 1100 1545 1612 2034</p>	<p>"O" Gp : orders for takeover - 2 Coys from 1 G.H. ; 2 Coys & HQ from 5 HLI. C.O. left HQ for HQ 157 in TEVEREN 8362 and HQ 5 HLI to recce actual layout. C.O. returned from above and G.H. H.Q.'s. "O" Gp - detailed orders for takeover. 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. Another similar fighter seen shot down by MUSTANG in direction WALDENRATH. Capt A.G.S. HILL decorated with MC by Field Marshall MONTGOMERY. Sgt ATKINSON, D Coy, decorated MM " " " " . C.O. 1 GH arrived at new HQ - conducted C.O. to TRIPSRATH posns. C.O. 5 HLI left HQ and C.O. assumed comd of area. 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.</p>	
	<p>2.</p>	<p>0100 0930 1120 1515 1530</p>	<p>C Coy reported enemy digging 867687 towards "KIDNEY BEAN" ridge 874685 - Arty engaged. The first of the Bde Patrol Conf held at Bde HQ - these continued as normal drill - Capt MILNE-HOME appointed Bn Patrol Master. Bde Cmd and C.O. 80 Fd Regt arrived - ATK layout discussed ; also strengthening of Coy localities. V slight shelling between A and B Coys - perhaps reaction to these Coys testing automatic wpns. 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.</p>	

3	0220 0340 1150 1215 1415 1500 1510 1955 2220	<p>Spasmodic MG fire over C Coy fwd area, with occasional mortaring in front.</p> <p>B Coy patrol observed small party enemy returning from SW to 879683 (SPANDAU CORNER)</p> <p>Bde Cmd arrived HQ - discussed with C.O. proposed increases in minefd defence of area.</p> <p>C.O. 54 ATK Regt visited HQ - decided with Capt COUTTS on changes to ATK layout.</p> <p>Gunners had a lucky strike on dugout in KONINGSHOF area : C Coy reported screaming from wounded.</p> <p>Mortaring on C Coy ; Sniper Sgt observed Mors at 880684 - Fd Regt gave this a Scale 1 Conc.</p> <p>15 dead enemy seen by Arty OP and C Coy on road to KONINGSHOF - more results of recent TRIPSRATH battle.</p> <p>Int OP reported steady searchlight on bearing 344° mag. from 874667.</p> <p>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.</p>	
4	0005 0530 1010 1100 1120 1340 1800	<p>Arty stonk on suspected gun posn troubling C Coy - enemy did not fire again.</p> <p>X Rds 866676 mortared ; D Coy patrol in that area judged locn of offending wpn to be 865686</p> <p>C.O. & OC A Coy reced 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.</p> <p>C.O. 7/9 RS visited HQ - inter Bn bdy agreed upon.</p> <p>Mortaring on C Coy ; Arty retaliation unsuccessful until C Coy found accurate bearing.</p> <p>News that 7/9 RS took 3 PW from isolated wpn pit with one Sec during daylight.</p> <p>Horse and half track movement heard in KONINGSHOF - Arty gave them Scale 2 from Regt.</p>	GWH
5	0020 0030 1050 1050	<p>Enemy put up several flares 200 yd ahead of B Coy - prob'y heard B Coy patrol being relieved.</p> <p>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."</p> <p>News that 7/9 captured 4 very talkative PW on 4 Jan, who gave away great detail of their Coy layout.</p> <p>3 minute Mor Conc on C Coy.</p>	

		<p>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.</p> <p>1205 O.C. 241 Fd Coy visited HQ after recce of proposed minefd TRIPSRATH to HQ area.</p> <p>1400 C.O. and C.O. 7/9 R.S. toured localities of both Bn's fwd Coys.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1600 3 in Mors registered 872673, 876680, 866676.</p> <p>2020 Warning recd of possible attack on BIRGDEN - Bn therefore ordered to stand to 100% as from 060500.</p> <p>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.</p>	GWH
	6	<p>0430 BM reported enemy, 100 to 300, forming up opposite HONGEN on 7 Armd Div front.</p> <p>0500 Bn stood to 100%</p> <p>0750 NTR about possible or actual enemy offensive action - Bn stood down to normal degree alertness.</p> <p>0750 Corps Arty shoot started with the laying of smoke screen opposite 5 KOSB - enemy replied with S.A.</p> <p>0800 Shoot continued for 10 mins, with our own 3 in Mors joining in on KONIGSHOF.</p> <p>1340 Lt Col 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.</p> <p>1400 Bde Cmd arrived HQ and toured area of A and B Coys.</p> <p>1620 ADMS visited HQ</p> <p>1635 Snipers reported fresh digging at 874685 and 873685 - latter possibly an OP.</p> <p>1742 Bde ordered Bn to provide carrying party of 30 for mine laying on 7 Jan.</p> <p>1748 Maj DARLING, B Sqn 52 Recce visited HQ - at present in posn in GEILENKIRCHEN.</p> <p>1835 In addition to 2 dead Boches at 874667, 2 British dead (43 Div) seen by B Coy.</p> <p>2248 Arty Airburst and MMG turned on to enemy digging party heard by C Coy at 874684.</p> <p>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 Verrey lights</p>	

			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		

		<p>2200 (3) Identified one British corpse at 88236800 - 207302, BRYANT W.A. C.O. ordered cessation Mor HF in case enemy CM interfered with minelaying.</p> <p>2210 One mor bomb landed in area of afternoon's explosion.</p> <p>2235 156 Bde called for SOS in front of BIRGDEN - extra vigilance on our front, but no further action reported.</p>	GWH
8	<p>0050 MG occasionally spraying TRIPSRATH located quarry 875682 - close to C Coy protective patrol.</p> <p>0225 Work on minefd completed - band of 6 rows from 876674 to 871675.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1235 Bde Cmd inspected scene of yesterday's explosion.</p> <p>1400 Court of Enquiry held at Bde HQ under Bde Cmd into circumstances of the explosion.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1800 B Coy heavily mortared.</p> <p>1805 Taping and dumping started at minefd.</p> <p>2000 C.O. and Maj WILLIAMS left Cmd Post for minefd via Sp HQ.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>2130 Movement heard by Carr Sec near C Coy HQ - one trip flare went up - TRIPSRATH Coys stood to.</p> <p>2145 Minefd completed ; all Sappers and Inf clear.</p> <p>2205 Maj WILLIAMS and small Sapper party left for HQ 7/9 RS to assist in recovery of cas from Schu minefd.</p>	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	

<p>GELEEN to HEIDE 6976</p>		<p>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.</p>	<p>GWH</p>
<p>To KONINGSBOSCH 7574</p> <p>KONINGSBOSCH</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>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. 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</p>	

		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1730 Whole Bn establ in the village : A and D as before ; HQ 752742, B 752743, C 751745.</p> <p>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 offr 69 O.R's.</p>	GWH
	20	<p>0330 News that 7/9 RS coln up level further North - may be patrolling twds AAN DE SCHOOL 7675.</p> <p>0750 C.O. 4/5 RSF visited HQ - his Bn deployed in area 758738.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1300 Village shelled very accurately - this continued spasmodically all day.</p> <p>1510 Bde Cmd arrived HQ.</p> <p>1525 Captain VINEY SCOTT seriously wounded by a shell, and died shortly afterwards in the RAP.</p> <p>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</p> <p>2000 Lt WILSON took out patrol to investigate the former.</p> <p>2359 Patrol returned - no enemy - road block of felled trees at 759751.</p>	GWH
	21	<p>0130 C Coy set out for their AAN DE SCHOOL posn and secured it without incident.</p> <p>0215 5 KOSB into WALDFEUCHT against very slight opposition.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1110 B Coy, sp by 3 SP's, a Wasp Sec and Arty smoke on flanks, moved quickly up in Kangaroos to WALDFEUCHT</p> <p>1215 B Coy fighting to secure a firm base in the town - this successful and contact made with 5th Bn</p> <p>1220 Comd 8 Armd Bde arrived HQ and discussed WALDFEUCHT situation with our own Bde Cmd - also possibility of pushing on through to HAAREN.</p> <p>1400 Rem Bn to move up into WALDFEUCHT overnight.</p> <p>1800 C.O. & I.O. departed after very sharp stonk to confer with C.O. 6</p>	

		2030	HLI in BOCKET 7874 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
HEINSBERG 8475	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.	
		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 Bn ordered down into res in LAFFELD 8272. 7/9 RS taking over whole of HEINSBERG. 1615 C.O. 7/9 RS assumed comd of HEINSBERG area. 1700 Sharp shelling of main square, during which last veh (C.O.'s wireless Carrier) pulled out. 2000 Whole Bn into LAFFELD. 2100 "O" Gp - Bn to go into line at OBSPRINGEN for 5 days, then 5 days rest SITTARD area.	GWH
	27	0915 C.O. reced OBSPRINGEN area with Bde Cmd. 1500 "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 Adv Parties left LAFFELD. 1000 C.O. went on further recce with G.O.C., CRA and Bde Cmd. This party 1100 had very narrow escape when American Hy Bombers dropped 30 to 50 bombs just N of OBSPRINGEN within a hundred yards of them. 1700 HQ established OBSPRINGEN 799762. 2210 Bn takeover completed.	
	29	0030 A Coy patrolled to TREFELSBRIDGE 829783 but found no signs enemy. C Coy contacted Recce Sqn at ECHTERHEIDE 809788. 0930 "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 reced 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	

