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ARMY FORM C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required)

Unit 2 R.S.

Month and Year Nov 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.T. Campbell

| Place        | Date     | Hour         | Summary of Events and Information  | References to Appendices |
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| In the field | 1<br>Nov |              | Bn in concentration area of BORGIO S LORENZO<br>General Information:- Routine  | JTC                      |
|              | 2<br>Nov |              | General Infm:- Routine<br>Bn Move:- Warning order issued by Bde for move to new area to relieve 88 US Div.   | Appendix 1.<br>JTC       |
|              | 3<br>Nov |              | General Infm:- Routine   |                          |
|              | 4<br>Nov |              | General Infm:- Press photographer from 'Parade' interviewed and photographed men of the Bn who had participated in recent action.  |                          |
|              | 5<br>Nov |              | Church Parade:- A Bn Church Parade was held at BORGIO S LORENZO<br>General Infm:- Routine<br>Bn Move:- 66 Inf Bde Operation Order No 7 issued<br>2 R.S.+ would relieve a Bn of 349 Regt in area BAZZANO DI SOTLA 008307 on 9th Nov. 66 Inf Bde Admin Order No 4 issued.  | Appendix 2<br>Appendix 3 |
|              | 6<br>Nov | 1430         | C.O. held 'O' Gp and gave details of move and take over of new area.<br>Bn Move:- 2 R.S. Operation Order No 3 issued.<br>General Infm:- Routine  | Appendix 4<br>JTC        |
|              | 7<br>Nov |              | General Infm:- Routine   | JTC                      |
| In the field | 8<br>Nov | 1300<br>1530 | Bn Move:- 0630 hrs Bn Recce Party composed as under left concentration area BORGIO S LORENZO for area 0030. Recce party:- C.O. I.O. Sigs Offr, O.C. A.B.C. Coys Sqn Comd B Sqn 1 Recce Regt and 2 Offrs.<br>Recce party arrived in area 974277. C.O. went to Bde H.Q.<br>Recce party proceeded to H.Q. 3/362 and 1/349 Inf Bns at 003300.<br>Party remained in area for night 8/9 Nov. | JTC                      |
|              | 9<br>Nov | 0900         | Orders:- C.O. held 'O' Gp regarding situation and disposition of Coys.   |                          |

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|              |        | <p>1200 hrs:- Bn H.Q. arrived at debussing point and proceed to area 996303.</p> <p>1230 Between 1230 and 1530 hrs remainder of Bn arrived at debussing point and proceeded to area 996303.</p> <p>1910 C Coy relief completed in area 003301 pt 435</p> <p>1930 A Coy reported relief completed in area 006300</p> <p>2245 B Coy relief completed in area 008298</p> <p>2310 B Sqn 1 Recce Regt report relief completed in area 001286</p> <p>4 A Tk 17 prs u/c Bn at 001286 and 004286</p>   | JTC |
| In the field | 10 Nov | <p>First Light Locations:- As Before</p> <p>C.O. visited Coys</p> <p>1000 Mortar Pl in posn 014298</p> <p>1525 Enemy M.G. fired 2 bursts on fixed line area 019295</p> <p>1600 Enemy observed around house at 011300 also 2 enemy in slit trench at pt 342</p> <p>INTENTIONS NIGHT 10/11 NOV:-</p> <p>A Coy:- Recce patrol to house 011300. Strength 1 N.C.O. and 2. Time out:- 2015 hrs Time in:- On completion.</p> <p>Standing patrol to 007304</p> <p>B Coy:- Standing patrol Strength 1 N.C.O. and 3 to pt 330 033292</p> <p>Contact patrol with B Sqn Recce Regt at 011289</p> <p>C Coy:- Standing patrol 1 N.C.O. and 3 to 005304</p> <p>B Sqn Recce Regt:- Standing patrol at 015286</p> <p>Listening patrol at 011289</p> <p>M.M.Gs moving to 007297</p> <p>Carrier Pl M.M.Gs moving to 007294</p> <p>2125 1 AP Bomb fell in area 003303</p> <p>2320 Spandau fire from pt 342 firing across A Coy's fwd pl.</p> <p>2340 Pl Comd visiting listening posts 007304 fired on by automatic weapon.</p> | JTC |
|              | 11 Nov | <p>0024 A Coy report listening post captured.</p> <p>0027 A Coy Comd found post empty except for rifles and steel helmets of Cpl Coleridge and 2 O.Rs. Enemy patrol in area 006303.</p> <p>0032 3" Mortar D.F. put down in area 008303</p> <p>0600 First Light Sitrep:- Recce patrol report house at 011300 occupied by enemy M.M.G. now in posn at C DI LUCCA.</p> <p>Sec of Carriers at SUSSO</p> <p>1600 INTENTIONS NIGHT 11/12 NOV:-</p> <p>A Coy:- Recce patrol to house 011300</p> <p>Booby traps at 00653010</p> <p>B Coy:- Standing patrol to pt 330 003292 will also contact B Sqn at 011289</p>  |     |

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|              |           | 1700<br>1850<br>2300                 | C Coy:- Standing patrol to 005304<br>B Sqn:- Standing patrol to 015286<br>Listening patrol to 011289<br>Movement observed at house 035322<br>Enemy M.G. posn located at 024287<br>O.P. on pt 435 reported four very heavy explosions heard on bearing 320°  | JTC |
| In the field | 12<br>Nov | 0500<br>0800<br>1615                 | B Sqn reported that at approx 0200 hrs enemy patrols estimated 20 to 30 strong approached sec posn at pt 207 011289. Sec engaged the enemy but in view of size withdrew to main tp posn. S.O.S. fire was then put down by own mortar pl and arty. No penetration of our posns reported and pt 207 has been re-occupied. Recce patrol went out to see whether cas had been inflicted on the enemy but found none. No cas. own tps.<br>Patrol of B Coy contacted B Sqn at pt 207 all quiet there now.<br>A Coy Recce patrol at house at 011300 report still occupied by enemy otherwise N.T.R.<br>Established from air photographs that house at pt 245 013303 is place visited by A Coy recce patrol over past 2 nights and NOT house 011300 as believed.<br>INTENTIONS NIGHT 12/13 Nov:-<br>A Coy booby traps at 00653010<br>B Coy:- Standing patrol to pt 330 003392<br>B Sqn:- Standing patrol to pt 156 015286<br>Listening patrol to 010290<br>C Coy:- Standing patrol 005304<br>General Improvement of defences. | JTC |
|              | 13<br>Nov | 0510<br>1510<br>2055<br>2210<br>2305 | Very quiet night N.T.R.<br>4 men of enemy patrol carrying weapons seen at 055315 heading SW During the afternoon B Coy area mortared. Enemy engaged by arty and mortars.<br>INTENTIONS NIGHT 13/14 NOV:-<br>As for night 12/13 Nov except booby traps.<br>B Coy area mortared. 22 bombs no cas. Position of enemy mortars estimated 022292.<br>B Coy reported 2 M.M.Gs out of action due to enemy mortar fire.<br>8 mortar bombs in B Coy area.   | JTC |
| In the field | 14<br>Nov | 0530<br>1010<br>1100                 | Quiet night N.T.R.<br>1 enemy seen entering trench at 036308. Camouflaged vehicle thought to be light tank seen at 022313.<br>A party of 35 Italian civilians arrived in the Bn area interrogated by the I.O. with the assistance of an interpreter. They gave  |     |

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|              |        | <p>information about enemy dispositions which was passed on to Bde. They stated that on night 10/11 Nov 3 British soldiers passed C TAMAGRIN. Their descriptions correspond very well to those of the listening patrol reported missing that night. They were uninjured, the Germans were para-troopers.</p> <p>1600 B Sqn reported that approx 40 mortar bombs fell in Sqn area during the day. Suspected enemy mortar posns at 023308 and 028303.</p> <p>1615 INTENTIONS NIGHT 14/15 Nov:-<br/>As for night 13/14 Nov.<br/>M.M.G. harassing fire IL SILLARO 017293 and pt 342 014 299 intermittently throughout the night.</p> <p>2045 1 shell fell in B Coy area killing Sjt Miller and wounding Cpl Bell. B Sqn reported increased mortaring of fwd tps in the area 009288 and pt 207 001289.</p>   | JTC        |
| In the field | 15 Nov | <p>0020 Enemy approached A Coy posns but was driven away by L.M.G. fire.</p> <p>0100 A Coy Comd reports situation now normal.</p> <p>0123 O.P. reported loud bang in front of A Coy followed by spandau fire.</p> <p>0125 A Coy Comd reported Coy Standing To and asked for 3" Mortar D.F. Explosions and firing coming from area of booby trapped dummies.</p> <p>0200 A Coy Stood Down.</p> <p>0500 B Coy report light intermittent mortaring during the night.</p> <p>0650 A Coy report that booby trapped dummies had been destroyed apparently by enemy grenades. No other traces found.</p> <p>1300 B Coy mortared and shelled. 92 bombs in area. Ptes Campbell and Pierce killed. B Sqn area shelled at same time.</p> <p>1620 INTENTIONS NIGHT 15/16 Nov:-<br/>Carrier Pl to relieve A Coy Pl 009299<br/>Normal Standing patrols and work.</p> <p>1815 Mortaring of B Coy area was continued intermittently during the afternoon. Cpl Croft wounded at this time.</p> | JTC        |
|              | 16 Nov | <p>0215 A Coy Comd reported an explosion thought to be 75 Grenade heard in front of fwd pl. In accordance with prearranged plan flare was put up and Brens fired on fixed lines. Nothing seen of the enemy.</p> <p>0640 Patrol of A Coy which went to investigate the explosion returned N.T.R. Carrier Pl now at 009299.<br/>A Coy pl into reserve with Coy H.Q. at 005300.</p> <p>1115 4 shells fell in B Coy area.</p> <p>1615 INTENTIONS NIGHT 16/17 Nov:-<br/>Normal standing patrols and working parties.<br/>B Sqn to be relieved by C Sqn 1 Recce regt.</p> <p>1715 Relief of B Sqn commenced.</p> <p>1925 Warning order of Bn relief received</p>  | Appendix 5 |



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| In the field | 20<br>Nov |  | General Infm:- Routine  | JTC                             |
|              | 21<br>Nov |  | 66 Bde Operation Instruction No 3 issued.<br>2 RS would relieve 1 DWR area M CASTELLARO 9833 on 24th Nov 44   | Appendix 7<br>JTC               |
|              | 22<br>Nov |  | 66 Inf Bde Admin Order No 6 issued<br>General Infm:- Routine<br>Bn Order for Move issued  | Appendix 8<br>JTC<br>Appendix 9 |
|              | 23<br>Nov |  | Advance party as detailed in Appendix 9 left for new area at 0830 hrs<br>General Infm:- Routine   | JTC                             |
|              | 24<br>Nov | 1700   | 0830 hrs:- Bn left concentration area and arrived at debussing point at approx 1500 hrs.<br>Relief of 1 DWR commenced.  | JTC                             |
|              | 25<br>Nov | 0645<br>0920<br>1450<br>1615<br><br>1655<br>2220               | Relief completed at 0340 hrs. Ptes Gallo and Smith wounded by mortaring during the move up.<br>B Coy report intermittent mortaring of Coy area.<br>12 large calibre shells fell in the area of Bn H.Q.<br>6 mortar bombs fell in C Coy area. Ptes Dooley and Watson wounded.<br>INTENTIONS NIGHT 25/26 Nov:-<br>C Coy:- Contact patrol to KSLI at 2200 hrs<br>General improvement of posns.<br>A Coy report 8 shells in area CA DI CO<br>A Coy reported spandau firing on posns at CA DI CO   | JTC                             |
| In the field | 26<br>Nov | 0420<br><br>1225<br><br>1300<br>to<br>1400<br>1400<br><br>1700 | Command Post established CALANCO 995332.<br>Intermittent mortaring of fwd posns throughout the night. Mortaring and shelling continued throughout the morning.<br>B Coy report 5 men carrying stretcher with red cross flag. Entered C.S. MARIA 975345.<br>B Coy report 5 men with red cross flag and loaded stretcher moved to SOUTH along track from C.S. MARIA to FUMARINA 974337 and then turned NW<br>B Coy reported that shutter on window at CANETTO 078337 opened yesterday is closed today.<br>INTENTIONS NIGHT 26/27 Nov:-<br>Contact patrol 11 LF<br>General improvement of Defences | JTC                             |
|              | 27<br>Nov | 0520<br><br>1345<br>1430<br>1640                               | Sitrep to Bde:- Fwd posns mortared and shelled during the night.<br>Mist very thick, otherwise N.T.R.<br>B Coy report 4 enemy entering house FUMARINA<br>2 more enemy entered house at FUMARINA<br>INTENTIONS NIGHT 27/28 Nov:-<br>C Coy:- Contact patrol to 11 LF  |                                 |

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|              |        | 1900            | Improvement and maintenance of Defences<br>B Coy report that contact party to 2 Secs at C NUOVA 983333 took nearly three hours for the double journey because of the very bad ground conditions. Intermittent spandau and mortar fire throughout the evening.  |                  |
|              |        | 2305 to 2310    | C Coy and Command Post areas subjected to very heavy mortaring and shelling. Bde explained that N STAFFS patrol to RAGGI got into trouble and Bren and mortar fire was brought down to help them out. This apparently worried the enemy who put down very heavy fire apparently a D.F. Task on Div Scale on 2 RS and 11 LF posns. Bn Stood To at 2310 hrs and stood down 2355 hrs. N.T.R.  | JTC              |
| In the field | 28 Nov | 0815            | Intermittent mortaring continued until 0230 hrs.<br>Shelling and mortaring of Bn area commenced. This continued throughout the day approx 400 mortar bombs and shells falling in the Bn area up to 1545 hrs. Owing to heavy rain during the last twenty four hours considerable damage had been done to posns. A Coy report that during the day the side of one slit trench collapsed burying the occupant who was quickly dug out unharmed. | See Appendix 10. |
|              |        | 1630            | INTENTIONS NIGHT 28/29 Nov:-<br>Contact patrol to 11 LF at 2200 hrs<br>Improvement of defences and rain damage.  |                  |
|              |        | 1745            | B Coy asked for mortar tasks WILLOW (C CAVINA 988340) and ASH (C ROCCA 990338) as movement heard in areas. 20 rounds fired on each.  |                  |
|              |        | 1845            | B Coy asked for repeat of WILLOW and ASH as movement still heard. 12 bombs each fired on WILLOW and ASH and two belts M.M.G. on HADDOCK.   |                  |
|              |        | <del>1910</del> | Movement still heard in area C CAVINA. 20 bombs including 6 smoke fired. 1 mortar to harass for next hour.   |                  |
|              |        | 1915            | Message from B Coy that C NUOVA report hearing footsteps on hill between C NUOVA and Coy area. Fighting patrol being sent out to investigate.  |                  |
|              |        | 1955            | Message from B Coy that report from C NUOVA states that 2 men about 100 yds from NUOVA, and that they are attempting to capture them. There is also noise heard from pt 444 of digging hammering and of stones being emptied and the noise of a truck.   |                  |
|              |        | 2005            | Arty fired scale 3 on F 5 and repeat ordered.  |                  |
|              |        | 2050            | B Coy report own secs in posn C NUOVA. Enemy patrol of unknown strength is in area and bren and spandau has been exchanged. Patrol is going out from the Coy to investigate. Arty fire brought down 110 yds WEST 50 yds SOUTH of F 5 Scale 2. 4.2" Mortars fired Scale 3 on C DI PRATI.  |                  |
| In the field |        |                 | General Stand To ordered.  |                  |

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|              |        | 2320 | B Coy report that line communication now re established with C NUOVA and that the following is the narrative of the patrol action:- Enemy patrol with 1 spandau 6 pr 8 other automatics and a Panzerfaust approached C NUOVA, fire was opened and grenades thrown at them. Panzerfaust was fired at house, the grenade failed to explode but wounded A/Cpl Croft and Pte Dudley with splinters. The C NUOVA secs believed to have inflicted 1 dead and other cas on the enemy. Enemy patrol then withdrew.<br>B Coy's patrol have not found enemy dead but are still searching. No longer any signs of enemy in area. Return to normal alert ordered. |     |
|              |        | 2340 | O.C. B Coy reports light mortars are falling in area, and that he is going out to investigate. General Stand To ordered.  |     |
|              |        | 2345 | A Coy report noises in front of their posns. 3" Mortars fired S.O.S. scale on ASH   |     |
|              |        | 2355 | A Coy report enemy quite close Coy Brens engaging.  | JTC |
| In the field | 29 Nov | 0007 | S.O.S. Signal fired by A Coy ASH repeated. Arty 4.2" Mortars and M.M.Gs firing S.O.S. Tasks.  |     |
|              |        | 0010 | No reply received from A or B Coy by telephone.   |     |
|              |        | 0028 | Capt Anderson R.A. O.P. Officer on B Coy's telephone said "Major MacKenzie has not come back" asked "Where is the Bosche" he replied "They are very near" he was heard with difficulty as he appeared to be whispering.   |     |
|              |        | 0055 | A Coy report enemy on B Coy's posn. Arty fire brought down.   |     |
|              |        | 0120 | A Coy report very heavy mortaring in last ten minutes.  |     |
|              |        | 0245 | A Coy ordered to attack and restore posn in B Coy area. 0330 hrs  |     |
|              |        | 0330 | with Arty support from 0320 hrs.  |     |
|              |        | 0320 | A Coy report being fired on from right flank by enemy want arty fire continued on B Coy posn till 0335 hrs  |     |
|              |        | 0335 | A Coy report "No longer want fire on B Coy posn but on CA DI CO which is now held by the enemy".  |     |
|              |        | 0400 | A Coy report that counter attack failed and that they are no longer in original posns but behind them. Capt Dick still in command though wounded. Strength 20.  |     |
|              |        | 0420 | A Coy ordered to withdraw through C Coy and to report when clear. C Coy ordered to organise A Coy and pass them to the Command Post.  |     |
|              |        | 0420 | Major MacKenzie O.C. B Coy reported to Command Post wounded. He stated that enemy crawled up to the posns and threw in grenades before being seen and quickly established themselves on top of the hill. Major MacKenzie counter attacked got back on top of the hill but was driven back again. At the time the Coy was depleted by the two secs at C NUOVA and the fighting patrol which went down there.   |     |



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|  |        | <p>0445 C.O. ordered that C Coy would hold its present posn and Command Post form a strong point with personnel of A and B Coys who had reported there and would hold its present posn.</p> <p>0515 C Coy report A Coy personnel now in C Coy area and A Coy posns clear of own tps. Arty harassing fire opened on A Coy's posn.</p> <p>0525 Capt Dick reported to Command Post wounded.</p> <p>1225 Very heavy mortaring of C Coy and Command Post areas commenced and continued intermittently throughout the day.</p> <p>1325 Heavy mortaring still continuing. Enemy movement seen round house at CA DI CO</p> <p>1630 INTENTIONS NIGHT 29/30 Nov:-<br/>C Coy recce patrols to M CASTELLARO and CA DI CO. Time out:- Last light.<br/>Command Post:- 2 listening patrols to cover wadi below track from CALANCO to Tk House 997328.<br/>6 Guides to be at Tk house at 2200 hrs to guide A Coy 2 FORR to their start line in C Coy area for counter-attack on M CASTELLARO.</p> <p>1815 White flare from IL POGGIO followed closely by heavy mortar and NEBELWERFER CONCENTRATIONS ON C Coy and Command Post area.</p> <p>2050 1 Recce Regt patrol of 1 offr and 12 men to C NUOVA have reached objective and linked up with 2 R.S. there. Wireless communication rather difficult but can just be heard.</p> <p>2125 C Coy recce patrol report enemy digging in on fwd slopes of CA DI CO</p> <p>2220 From IL POGGIO four single shots and two white flares followed closely by heavy mortar and nebelwerfer fire on C Coy and Command Post area, for about five minutes decreasing to heavy intermittent mortaring.</p> <p>2320 A Coy 2 FORR arrived at Command Post and were sheltered in building.<br/>66 Inf Bde Op Instruction No 4 received, 2 FORR to C/A M CASTELLARO night 29/30 Nov.</p> |                    |
|  | 30 Nov | <p>0035 A Coy 2 FORR left Command Post mortaring still continuing 110 bombs in last 45 minutes.</p> <p>0135 3 white flares fired from M CASTELLARO then white which burst into five red.</p> <p>0145 2 white flares which burst into six red fired from M CASTELLARO</p> <p>0420 C/A by 2 FORR on M CASTELLARO has failed. A Coy Comd 2 FORR with approx 40 men sheltering in our C Coy area. Ordered by Bde Comd to withdraw to rear of M GRANDE</p> <p>0530 I.O. went to recce outpost posns at 995331 and 992326.<br/>C Coy to recce outpost posns at 991332</p>   | Appendix 11<br>JTC |

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| In the field |  | <p>0540 A Coy 2 FORR+ withdrew past Command Post</p> <p>0735 Reported that rations were delivered to 2 secs at C NUOVA, amm requires replenishment. Line comm established with Bn H.Q. 2 R.S. strength now 1 offr and 17 men. Patrol of 1 offr and 12 men of 1 Recce Regt still there. They report a relatively quiet night.</p> <p>1315 C Coy reports German voices between them and IL POGGIO. Visibility very poor owing to thick mist. Bren fire in direction of voices.</p> <p>1430 I.O. with patrol of 1 Sjt and 12 men went to 996330 to dig posns for night listening post.</p> <p>1650 INTENTIONS NIGHT 30 Nov/1 Dec:-<br/>C Coy recce patrol to pt 493 986336. Recce patrol to CA DI CO 989337<br/>Listening patrols fwd of C Coy area.<br/>Command Post:- Listening Posts at:- 996331 and 994330<br/>                  Outpost pl at 994326<br/>                  Outpost 2 N.C.Os and 16 men at 992334.</p> <p>2205 Recce Regt report noise of Spandau and grenades from C NUOVA. Line comm broken. Fighting patrol out to contact with line party. Bn Stood To.</p> <p>2250 C Coy recce patrol to CA DI CO returned, was fired on by spandau from fwd slopes of CA DI CO.</p> <p>2305 Bn returned to normal alert.<br/>N.B. Casualties sustained in this engagement other than those already mentioned were:-<br/>Killed:- L/Sjt Worsnop<br/>Wounded:- Lt Cathcart, Sjts Campbell, Preston and Smith. Cpl Hay.<br/>Ptes:- Anderson R, Borrowman W, Ball H, Clegg, Casson, Hyden, Johnston A, Jones F, Reid W, Stacey G, Young T.<br/>Missing:- L/Sjt Patrick, Cpls:- Bailey Fraser and Wyatt. L/Cpl Bell. Ptes:- Andrews L, Attwood W, Anderson H, Brownridge, Battles, Blackley, Brines, Bloomfield, Cameron, Dickson, Halsey, Jopling, Lennan, Miller, Mumford, McLaren, Steven, Walker, Ramage J.</p> <p>Field<br/>Dec 44</p> <p style="text-align: right;">JT Campbell Lieut Colonel<br/>Commanding 2nd Bn The Royal Scots R.R.</p> |  |
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