

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

Army Form C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

UNIT :- 1st Bn. The Royal Scots.  
(The Royal Regiment)

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Erase heading not required)

Month - January 1945.

Commanding Officer :- Lieut. Col. J. Masterton-Smith

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
0600-0630 1. SQ5757 0900-1000 WAINGGYO 1100 1600 1745-1830	Stand to (1/3 of Bn). Church Services. Div Comd visited Bn, gave C.O. outline of future moves. C.O. gives orders for following days move. Stand To (1/3 of Bn).	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
0730 2. 0800 1100 1300 PAGA 1745-1830	1 Pl of 'A' Coy move off by M.T. to guard Airstrip in KADUMA area Map Ref SQ8740. Bn march off to new location. Brigadier visits Bn during halt for Tiffen. Bn halt for night at PAGA area Map Ref SQ717533 (Dig in). Stand to (100%)	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
0645 3. 0700 1500 SQ 884369 1745-1830	'I' Sec and Snipers march off to mark route for Bn. Bn march off to next location. Bn arrived at Map ref SQ 884369 approx 2 miles past KADUMA and spend night (Dig in). Stand to (1/3 of Bn).	RMC RMC RMC RMC
0600-0630 4. 1700 2130	Stand to (1/3 of Bn). This day spent on cleaning arms, checking kit, and resting. C.O. to Bde and received orders for next move. Bn march off to new location.	RMC RMC RMC RMC
0500 5. WETPO 0930 1200 1200 1600 1745-1830	Bn Arrive at WETPO and dig in (SR 0223). Brigadier, C.O. and I.O. recce area BITAGAGYA (SR 1012). C.O. received orders from Brigadier on return from recce. 3 Burmans from the village of CHANTHA SQ 9821 arrested by Burma I Corps attached and handed to FSS at Bde. O Group conference. Stand To (1/3 of Bn).	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
0700 6. 0900 1000 1130 YONZU 1512	Bn move off by M.T. for new location. Bn leave trucks and start marching. Bn cross MU River by Pontoon Bridge. Bn H.Q. estab at YONZU SR 1512 and dig in.	RMC RMC RMC RMC

1230	YONZU area	Disposition:- A Coy at un-named village SR 141144. B Coy at HMANDAW SR 151141 and KYUNLE SR 160137. C Coy at un-named village SR 154114. D Coy at YONZU SR 151123.	RMC RM Crockatt Capt. I.O. 1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).
1230	YONZU area	Carrier Patrol to KALEWA and Landing Ground area SR 2012 approx.	RMC
1445		Brigadier visited Bn and C.O. receives orders.	RMC
1515		D Coy march off to landing ground area SR 2012.	RMC
1600		One additional B.I.C. man attached to Bn.	RMC
1615		C Coy marched to posns vacated by D Coy.	RMC
1700		C.O. held Coy Comds Conference.	RMC
1745		Burman caught with large amount of Jap money, questioned and handed over to FSS.	RMC
1745		Stand To (1/3 of Bn).	RMC
1800		Carrier Patrol returned. 1 Carrier bogged on road and abandoned near KALEWA -1 Mortar Detachment left with D Coy.	RMC
1830		Stand Down. STRENGTH - OFF 33, OR's 756	APP I RMC
0330	7.	D Coy reported enemy shelling Landing Ground - no casualties.	RMC
0415		A, B, & C Coys report a quiet night.	RMC
0600-0630		Stand To.	RMC
0930		Carrier Patrol of 1 Pl A Coy set out to SEIKKUN SW 2996.	RMC
0930		Bn began march to PAYAN SR 3103.	RMC
1045		BYAINGGYAING SR 1509 reported clear by A Coy patrol.	RMC
1100		D Coy reported un-named village at SR 202107 clear.	RMC
1230		A Coy patrol now at SR 173074 report N.E.S.	RMC
1230		D Coy remain at NYAUNGBINTHA SR 2409 to guard guns.	RMC
1400		Forward Coy (C) contacted enemy at LEIKCHIN SR 2806. They engaged enemy with Tanks and R.A. support. Casualties, own tps, 1 Killed 7 Wounded. 3 enemy bodies counted.	RMC
1500-1700	SR 2706	Remainder of Bn at 10 M.S. area SR 2706.	RMC
1615		Enemy shelled area near road at 10 M.S. No casualties.	RMC
1800		Report from A Coy patrol now North of TA-NAUNGGAW SR 2002 patrolling to village on foot.	RMC
1800		C Coy reformed on the East side of LEIKCHIN. Dug in for night.	RMC
1800	10 M.S.	Remainder of Bn dug in for night at 10 M.S. area.	RMC
1845-1905		A Coy patrol reported N.E.S. at TA-NAUNGGAW. Patrol solid for night 1 mile North of village.	RMC
2230	10 M.S.	Enemy shelled LEIKCHIN area. No casualties.	RMC
2235		Rations arrive at Bn.	RMC
Night 7/8		Rations and ammo sent up to C Coy by Carrier.	RMC
0400-0500	8.	Intermittent shelling outside Bn area, otherwise all quiet.	RMC
0600		Enemy shelled C Coy area. No casualties.	RMC
		C Coy patrolled LEIKCHIN at first light and found it clear.	RMC

0900		Bn moved forward, B Coy leading with 1 Tp Tanks.	RMC
0930		Enemy shelled LEIKCHIN and B Coy held up by enemy at TA-NAUNGGON SR 3004, enemy then engaged with R.A. Local report received of 1 Gun and 50 Japs in PAYAN SR 3103.	RMC
1040		Div Comd arrived at Tac H.Q.	RMC
1130		B Coy attacked area TA-NAUNGGON with Tank support.	RMC
1130		A Coy Carrier patrol reported MABE SR 1900 clear, and is ordered to rejoin Bn.	RMC
1200		Enemy again shelled LEIKCHIN area. No casualties.	RM Crockatt Capt. I.O.
1315		B Coy reported to be 100 yds from PAYAN.	1st Bn The Royal Scots
1315		C.O., Bty Comd, and O.C. A Coy recce forward.	(The Royal Regiment).
1530	10 M.S.	Enemy again shelled LEIKCHIN area. No casualties.	RMC
1545		A Coy move forward less 1 Pl.	RMC
1600		A Coy Carrier patrol rejoin Bn.	RMC
1630		R.A. begin barrage on PAYAN. C.O. and I.O. moved forward to O.P.	
1702		A & B Coys meet slight opposition from Snipers and L.M.Gs.	
1730		Brigadier visited C.O. at O.P.	
1745	PAYAN SR 3103	B Coy reported that 2 L.M.Gs which had been holding them up had gone and that Coy was now estab North West end of Village. Wireless Comm then lost with B Coy. Intermittent firing was heard till 1845 when C.O. returned to Bn H.Q. area at 10 M.S.	RMC
1750		A Coy reported estab East of PAYAN in Pagoda area with Coy H.Q. and 8 Pl. Contact was lost with 7 Pl which later turned up except for a few men who were thought to be with B Coy. A & B Coys casualties, A 3 Killed 3 Wounded, B 4 Killed 3 Wounded.	RMC
2000	10 M.S.	A & B Coys reported back to Bn H.Q. that both Coys firmly estab at PAYAN. B Coy ordered to send patrol to Bridge at SR 355008. Dinner meal served.	RMC
0500	9. PAYAN	A & B Coys reported PAYAN clear.	RMC
0700		B Coy patrol returned, reported movement heard in woods 200-300 yds N of Bridge on West of Canal.	RMC
0730		Bn less A & B Coys leave 10 M.S. area to pass through PAYAN - objective Bridge.	
		Order of March - D Coy, Tac H.Q., C Coy, Bn H.Q.	
0800		B Coy patrol sent to THALON SR 2902 to contact a Coy of 1/8 L.F.	RMC
0900		B Coy patrol reported estab contact with 1/8 L.F.	
		12 Jap bodies and many documents etc found at PAYAN also ammo for 47 m.m. Gun. Locals reported having seen long barrellled gun with rubber wheels leaving PAYAN previous evening pulled by M.T.	RMC
1145		D Coy reported ZIGON SR 3400 clear.	RMC
1237		Bridge at Cross Rds reported intact but locals reported it to be mined. D Coy reported 1 Sec over Bridge, L.M.G. opposition.	RMC

1400		C Coy patrol sent to contact 1 Camerons.	RMC
1430		D Coy reported 1 Pl plus 1 Sec over Bridge under cover of smoke. 2 enemy L.M.Gs trained on Bridge.	RMC
1630	PAYAN	Smoke screen on Bridge by R.A. and Mortars.	RM Crockatt Capt. I.O. 1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).
1640	ZIGON area.	All D Coy over Bridge. Dispositions for night:- D Coy on East side of Bridge. Bn H.Q., H.Q. Coy and C Coy between ZIGON and Bridge, approx SR 346008. A & B Coys at un-named Village at 6½ M.S. SR 3203.	RMC D Coy casualties 2 Wounded. RMC
1645		Sapper Party find mine under Bridge.	RMC
1830		Dinner meal arrived. C Coy patrol returned having contacted 1st Camerons East of Canal area SR 3504. On way back captured 1 Jap disguised as Burman at YWADAW SR 3303.	RMC
1845		Prisoner and escort left for Bde. I.O. went on behalf of C.O. for orders.	RMC
1930		Two patrols left from C Coy. 1. One sec standing patrol to Bridge at SW 370991. 2. Recce patrol to Bridge at SW 368968 via Distr No. 7A.	RMC
2000		D Coy sent patrol from Bridge to Track Junc at SQ 368007 then South West down track to THABYETHA SR 3600 where they heard what sounded like boxes being loaded on a truck. Returned to Bridge via Main Rd. 2nd patrol of D Coy left Bridge for Pt 140 on Canal at SW 360996 thence North of Pagoda to wooded area SW 3699, then East to Moat, back to Pt 340 at SR 367002 then through THABYETHA South of Road to Bridge. N.T.R.	RMC
0100	10.	Two men returned from C Coy's standing patrol to say that sec estab West of Bridge at SW 370991, but Bridge burned by enemy.	RMC
0130		Recce patrol returned and reported, heard three wounded Japs in area SW 3698 and found two empty weapon pits 50 yds North of Bridge at SW 368968, thought heard men (possibly Jap) run away from Bridge, direction SHWEBO. Much noise of vehicles heard and dimmed lights of vehicles observed 1 mile East of Bridge.	RMC
0730		O Group Conf.	RMC
0900		D Coy advanced from East of Bridge.	RMC
0925		Wounded Jap found in trench 150 yds East of Br with magnetic mine and Molotov Cocktail also 1 dead Jap.	RMC
0930		D Coy 100 yds from THABYETHA SR 3600.	RMC
0937		THABYETHA reported clear by D Coy.	RMC

0945		1 local sent back for interrogation.	RMC
0950		A & B Coys arrive at ZIGON.	RMC
0955		Area Br SW 370999 consolidated.	RMC
1000		Br intact thought to be mined. RE proceeding to clear same. Easy diversion on left of Br.	RMC
1010		Br all clear, several Jap posns similar to THABYETHA all empty.	RMC
1014		C Coy moving to un-named village at SW 3699. Tac H.Q. moving to west of Br at SW 370999. Br clear, Class 30.	RMC
1042	ZIGON	Br clear, Class 30.	RM Crockatt Capt. I.O.
1100		One Pl C Coy in un-named village at SW 3699 as yet no firing. Tk support notified to leave Bn to contact 2 Norfolk at SW 368968.	1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).
1115	THABYETHA.	A Coy and Bn H.Q. joined Tac H.Q. at THABYETHA, B Coy remain ZIGON.	RMC
1135		D Coy patrol of 1 and 20 men left in carriers. RE armoured car and RA OP to contact 1 Camerons at area MS 1 at SW 403989.	RMC
1200		B Coy arrived at THABYETHA.	RMC
1215		D Coy patrol arrived back having contacted 1 Camerons at MS 1 SW 386994.	RMC
1535		Brigadier arrived and left after short stay.	RMC
1600		Brigadier arrived and left after short stay.	RMC
1600		O Group Conf. Night 10/11 quiet.	RMC
0730	11	Bn marched off to new location.	RMC
1300	BONBWET.	Bn arrived at BONBWET LA 1327 were met by one Coy 2 Worc from 19 Div who moved out as we came, dig in.	RMC
1400		Div Comd visited Bn.	RMC
1500		Animal Transport rejoined Bn.	RMC
1700		Bde Comd visited Bn. Night 11/12 quiet.	RMC
1030	12.	Patrol of D Coy 1 Offr and 3 men in carriers left on recce patrol to PINZIN, LA 1913 via CHIMNEY LA 129218 to YINDAW LA 1722 to PONNA LA 1621 to NAGAZIMBA LA 1718 to PINZIN and returned by same route. Patrol went to approx ½ mile North of PINZIN. Locals reported Japs in villages so patrol did not proceed further. On way back patrol called at HNAWBIN LA 1918 where villagers rushed in from fields to say that Japs were approaching. Patrol then withdrew across country to CHIMNEY and home.	RMC
1900		C.O. went to Bde.	RMC
1920		C.O. issued warning order to C Coy to move.	RMC
2030		C Coy move to establish ambush posn South West of PINZIN. Route from camp to CHIMNEY, to canal junc, LA 130202 to canal and track junc LA 179130. Communication to C Coy failed. Night 12/13 quiet.	RMC

			I.O. 1st Bn The Royal Scots	RM Crockatt Capt., (The Royal Regiment).
0845 1130 1315 1700	13	BONBWET.	C.O. left to find out situation C Coy. C.O. returned to report C Coy N.E.S. and was returning to Bn area. C Coy returned to Bn area. Lieut. C.R. Park left Bn. Leave party to U.K. left Bn. Night 13/14 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC
0950 1000 1040	14		C.O. to Bde. Church Service. C.O. returned to Bn. Strength - 32 Offrs. 742 O.Rs.	RMC RMC RMC APP II RMC
0815 0850 1400 1630	15		C.O. to Bde. C.O. returned to Bn. O Group Conf. C.O. gives orders for move to new location. Rest of afternoon packing of kit prior to move. Lieut. Towers rejoined Bn. Night 15/16 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC
0630 0900 1105 1300 1640	16	PAUKTAW	Bn march off to new location. C.O. left for Bde Conf. C.O. rejoined Bn on march. Bn arrived at PAUKTAW LA 1902. Dig in. C.Os Conf. Night 16/17 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
0900 1330 1400 1530 1605 1700-1730	17	SADAUNG	Bn marched off to new location. Bn arrived at SADAUNG LF 2187, dig in. One Pl of C Coy plus R.A. O.P. left for Kg at LF 274883. C.O. & I.O. to Bde. C.O. & I.O. returned to Bn area. O Group Conf. Night 17/18 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
1030 1630	18		Visit from Public Relations Officer. Pl of C Coy rejoined Bn N.T.R. Night 18/19 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC
1000 1300 1515	19		C.O. & I.O. and 2 i/c recce area LF 274882 C.O. & Coy Comds recce area LF 274882. C.O & Coy Comds returned. Message received by Div Comd from Army Comd (See APP III) Night 19/20 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC APP III RMC
1045 1330 1615 1710	20	SADAUNG	Visit of Lord Louis Mountbatten who spoke to Bn. C.O. & I.O. visited 2 Norfolk. C.O. & I.O. returned. Mortar Pl left Bn area to go to 2 Norfolk at LF 2375.	RMC RMC RM Crockatt Capt., I.O. 1st Bn The Royal Scots

1800 1910 1900-1945		C.O. to Bde. C.O. returned. O Group Conf. Night 20/21 quiet.	(The Royal Regiment). RMC RMC RMC
0830 21 1100 1300  1330 1700 1800 1805	YINMAGYIN	Bn marched off to new location. Bn arrived at YINMAGYIN LF 2276, dig in. Mortar Pl rejoined Bn having fired in support to 2 Norfolk at WETTABOK LF 2773. C.O. & I.O. recce area Kg LF 201693. Def Pl left for SADAUNG Airstrip at area approx LF 2286. O Group Conf. C.O. to Bde. Night 21/22 quiet. Strength - 33 Offrs, 757 O.Rs.	RMC RMC  RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC APP IV
0900 22 0900 1030 1500 1700 2100		A Coy left for LF 202694. B Coy moved to new posn LF 240768. A Coy Comd and C.O. to A Coy to recce new posns. C.O. returned. Def Pl returned to Bn area. A Coy patrol to KONYWA LF 2471 and SHANDAT LF 2470 reported clear (Lt Crockatt J.M. and 3 O.Rs) Night 22/23 quiet.	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC
1220 23 1235 1330 1520 1630  1700 1800	WETTHABOK Area	Corps and Div Comds visited Bn area. Corps and Div Comds leave Bn area. C.O. & Coy Comds recce new area at WETTHABOK LF 2773. C.O. & Coy Comds returned. C.O., I.O. & Coy Comds left by MT to new area WETTHABOK - YONBINGAN. Bn marched off to new area. Bn arrived at WETTHABOK and relieve 2 Norfolks. Dispositions:- A Coy still at LF 202694. D Coy at LF 270728. B Coy at LF 270735. Bn HQ at LF 266734. C Coy at LF 264731. Admin area at YINMAGYIN LF 2276. Night 23/24 quiet. I.O. 1st Bn The Royal Scots	RMC RMC RMC RMC  RMC RMC  RMC RM Crockatt Capt., (The Royal Regiment)
0545-0630 24 1715 1730 1800-1830 2100	WETTHABOK Area.	Stand To. Bde Comd visited Bn area. Bde Comd left Bn area. Stand to. Patrol of D Coy to East ONDAW area. Patrol of D Coy returned N.E.S.	RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC RMC

		Night 24/25 quiet.	RMC
0545-0630	25	Stand to.	RMC
0750		C.O. and D Coy Comd to Bde.	RMC
0830		C.O. and D Coy Comd returned.	RMC
0845		Representatives from 16 Fd RA, 5 Field RE and B Sqn 3 DGs reported to receive orders at YONBINGAN.	RMC
0900		Tac HQ estab YONBINGAN. Intention D Coy with Tk sp to make Right hook CHAUNG-U LF 2868 then take ONDAW sq LF 2969.	RMC
		Def Pl with REs clearing rd.	RMC
1030		D Coy moved off.	RMC
1040		4 men of patrol of 1/8 LF report to Tac HQ.	RMC
1100		Tac HQ estab OP at LF 273712.	RMC
1200		Enemy shelling East of CHAUNG-U.	RMC
1300		D Coy recce West End of CHAUNG-U, many enemy posns seen but unoccupied.	RMC
1345		I.O. leaves to contact R.E. party at Br LF 287698.	RMC
1400		I.O. rejoins Tac HQ.	RMC
1410		D Coy report sniping from area I.B. LF 294690.	RMC
1500	ONDAW Area	I.O. revisits RE at Br.	RMC
1500		D Coy patrol in ONDAW, open fire on 20 Japs in village, 10 believed killed.	RMC
1515		Enemy blows up Br at LF 292696.	RMC
1700		D Coy ordered back to Bn area - Casualties 2 wounded.	RMC
1945	WETTHABOK Area	C.O. held Conf with A & D Coy Comds and 3 DG concerning OPs for next day.	RMC
2100		Lieut. Morse with two secs left to estab ambush on rd at approx LF 290697.	RMC
2230		Lieut. Morse reported now at Br MS 28½ LF 278707.	RMC
0030	26	Lieut. Morse reported now at blown Br MS 27½.	RMC
0215		Lieut. Morse reported now in posn.	RMC
0340		Lieut. Morse reported jitter party NIL results. N.E.S. or heard in area occupied yesterday, has withdrawn his party to South of first blown Br to await first light.	RMC
0545-0600		Stand to.	RM Crockatt Capt. I.O.
0730		Lieut. Morse occupied enemy posns at LF 292695 N.E.S. O Group Conf intention to clear ONDAW LF 2969.	1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).
0900	WETTHABOK Area	Def Pl given task of protecting RE road clearing party.	RMC
0910		Forward Coy (B) moves off with Tk sp.	RMC
0950	ONDAW Area	Forward troops (B Coy) contacts Lieut Morse's patrol at MS 27½.	RMC
1005		REs disarm booby trap consisting of trip wire attached to 250 lb aerial bomb.	RMC
1010		B Coy left for FUP + D Sqn 3 DGs.	RMC

1020		C Coy left for FUP + B Sqn 3 DGs.	RMC
1025		Lieut Morse's patrol rejoined C Coy.	RMC
1040		B & C Coys start off from FUP.	RMC
1055		A Coy rejoined Bn from LF 202694.	RMC
1100		B Coy halfway through village.	RMC
1113		C Coy in posn, await orders to contact 1/8 LF.	
		B Coy on high ground beyond Pagoda area on right of LITTLE ONDAW with a party investigating ONDAW.	RMC
1115		C Coy contact 1/8 LF who report no enemy in area.	RMC
1121		C.O. ordered B Coy to contact 2 Norfolks.	RMC
1130		Tac HQ to rd junc LF 295692.	
		B Coy find one LF and 1 Burman both wounded and tied up in hut.	RMC
1145		Both sent back in ambulance. Another LF reported to be Jap prisoner could not be found. REs report rd clear to LF 307686 now clearing to NATKAYAING LF 2465.	RMC
1200		C.O. orders C Coy back.	RMC
1215		B Coy patrol contacted 2 Norfolk.	RMC
1320		B Coy patrol rejoined Coy.	RMC
1340		Tac HQ back to WETTHABOK area.	RMC
1400		B & C Coys back to Bn area.	RMC
1415		Def Pl contact 8 Gordons at NATKAYAING LF 2465.	RMC
1515		Def Pl return to Bn area.	RMC
		Night 26/27 quiet.	RMC
0545-0630	27 WETTHABOK	Stand to.	RMC
1100	Area	Div and Bde Comds visited Bn area.	RMC
1330		C.O. & I.O. recce new location.	RMC
1400		Adv recce party to new area.	RM Crockatt Capt. I.O.
		A Coy patrol (Capt McCance and 8 ORs) in 2 Jeeps to NGATAYAW LF 2660 arrived 1630, NES, stayed night.	1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).
1400	WETTHABOK	Lieut FDR Currie left Bn.	RMC
1630	Area	A Coy left for new area by MT.	RMC
1630		C.O. & I.O. returned.	RMC
1715		C.O. & I.O. to Bde.	RMC
1800		C.O. & I.O. returned.	RMC
1800		O Group Conf.	RMC
1745-1830		Stand to.	RMC
		Night 27/28 quiet. Capt McCance patrol NTR	RMC
0545-0630	28	Stand to.	RMC
0800		Bn march off to new location.	RMC
1000	NATKAYAING	Bn arrived at NATKAYAING LF 2465.	RMC
		Dispositions:- BN HQ and HQ Coy LF 247657 A Coy LF 244655	

		B Coy LF 244657 C Coy LF 244653 D Coy LF 248654	RMC RMC
1000		Standing patrol LF 243647. C.O., I.O. and Brigadier recce to NGATAYAW LF 2660, contacted Capt McCance's patrol.	RMC
1700		C.O., I.O. and Brigadier returned. Lt McPherson and 2 secs sent to relieve Capt McCance and ordered to ambush any Japs and capture Headman (suspected Jap collaborator).	RMC RMC
2140		Headman captured.	RMC
1745-1830		Three Gren or Mortar bombs landed 1 mile East of Bn posn. Stand to. Strength - 33 Offrs 742 ORs	RMC RMC APP V
0100 29		Japs cut line to C Coys Standing Patrol, fired 1 shot and dispersed, footmarks found next morning. Stand to.	RMC RMC
0545-0630		C.O. & Coy Comds recce NGATAYAW LF 2660.	RMC
0845		Enemy ambush 300 yds North of NGATAYAW reported by Capt Hlatin of BIC.	RMC
1100		Lt Bagot with one Pl in 3 carriers sent to deal with ambush. Ambush had dispersed by time of his arrival.	RMC
1220		Bde Comd visited Bn.	RMC
1350		Div Comd visited Bn.	RMC
1450		C.O. returned.	RMC
1515		A Coy left Bn area for new location NGATAYAW LF 2660.	RMC
1520		Div Comd left Bn area.	RMC
1610		Bde Comd left Bn area.	RMC
1610	NATKAYAING	Order of the Day received from Supreme Allied Commander. See App VI.	RMC APP VI
1800-1845		Stand to. Night 29/30 quiet.	RMC RMC
0545-0600 30		Stand to.	RMC
0845		Bde Comd and Coy Comds to Bn HQ.	RMC
0900		Bde Comd, C.O., and Coy Comds on recce.	RMC
1230		C.O. and Coy Comds return.	RMC
1600		O Group Conf. Orders issued for move to FUP and attack on YWATHITGYI, 31 Jan. Night 30/31 quiet.	RMC RMC
0230 31		Bn march off to FUP for attack on YWATHITGYI LF 2359.	RMC
0500	YWATHITGYI Area	Bn arrived at FUP and dug in approx LF 244602. Operation Order and details of attack on YWATHITGYI in App VII.	RMC RMC APP VII
1715		Coys ordered to consolidate posns for night.	

	<p>Dispositions:- Bn HQ and HQ Coy LF 242597 A Coy LF 238594 B Coy LF 238594 C Coy LF 238594 D Coy LF Rd junc LF 234598</p> <p>Casualties - 6 Killed 15 Wounded. Night 31/1 quiet except for small amount of firing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RM Crockatt Capt., I.O., 1st Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).</p>	<p>RMC</p>
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APPENDIX VII

YWATHITGYI 31 JAN 45

Reference maps            1/25,000 NGAZUN Sheet 3.  
                              Air Photograph attached.  
                              Enlargement attached  
                              Bn Operation Order attached.

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I. YWATHITGYI is a large village running along the North bank of the R. IRRAWADDY, about twenty-two miles west of MANDALAY.

1. Topographical            The village stretches about 1½ miles along the bank of the river, and is about 500 yds wide. It is thickly wooded and surrounded by very open country - mostly paddy fields. From this brief description it can be seen that the objective was a very large one for a single bn. However, owing to commitments elsewhere on the bde front, this was all the infantry force available for the task.

2. Enemy                    The enemy left one Coy of 2 bn 124 regt with a few adtl tps to garrison the village. A total strength of just over a hundred all ranks. He had several MMGs, LMGs and GDs, and was supported by guns and mortars on the southern bank of the IRRAWADDY. Judging by what was learned from locals before the operation, and from what was learned from PWs and psns on the ground after, the enemy disposed his tps as far as can be assessed as follows :-

          At the eastern approaches to the village he had about 30 - 40 men covering the approaches and positioned in depth into the village itself. Judging by the number of empty posns left at the east end of the village he probably had alternative posns in depth well back into the village itself. These were very well concealed fox-holes and bunkers. In the Old MILL and CEMETERY he had 20/30 tps, with MMGs and LMGs covering the open ground leading to the north of the village.

          In the centre of YWATHITGYI in the PO area, and on the road leading north from it, was his HQ and about 20 men. The remainder of the force was probably defending the west end of the village, though evidence of this is not full. He had definitely a posn with an LMG at the Kyaung at 224598.

3. Plan                      See operation order.

4. Operation                At 2300 hrs 30 Jan the Pioneer Pl left to lay tapes along the axis of adv and across the start line as on air photograph. This latter was to be the start line for the leading tps before the attack, and to act as a check to prevent them getting too close to the air strike. At 0230 the bn, less "A" Coy which was already at NGATHYAW LF2660, left NATKAYAING LF 2465 for the FUP area at approx 253604. Order of march was def pl, "C", "B", bn HQ, "D". It arrived in the FUP area at 0500 hrs and immediately dug in. Complete stillness had to be observed from first light onwards, owing to the proximity of the enemy and the necessity to ensure surprise. At 1030 hrs the def pl relieved "A" Coy, who then rejoined the bn. At 1140 - 1230 the air bombardment began. It was carried out as follows (see Air Photo att)

1100 - 1200 three sqns MITCHELLS on A - F  
1200 - 1210 two sqns THUNDERBOLTS on D - F  
1210 - 1223 three sqns HBS - one on wood  
at East end YWATHITYGYI  
two on E and F.

Immediately after the air bombardment had ended, "B" Coy on the right and "C" on the left crossed the tape laid on the previous night, and by 1300 hrs had reached the eastern outskirts of YWATHITGYI, with little opposition, except for a few snipers. They pushed on against slightly heavier opposition to the rd running North from the DAK BUNGALOW, with tks and WASPS helping them fwd.

It was on this rd that the enemy resistance began to stiffen. The enemy opened fire on the leading tps and the speed of the adv was halted temporarily. The enemy posns were extremely hard to pin-point, and each one had to be dealt with separately before further adv could be made. At 1345 one pl of "B" Coy with tp tks in sp under Lt Renwick was detached from the Coy, and ordered to go up independently to the OLD MILL area. This pl started off with no opposition, until it reached approx 300 yds East of the MILL itself. Here it came under heavy MG fire from the MILL the cemetery and the North of the village. It suffered several casualties, including the RA FOO with it, and was pinned to the ground.

At 1300 "D" Coy was ordered to stand by to move, and brought into immediate reserve. Major Russell, the coy comd reported to Tac HQ, which by now had established itself at approx 248598.

"B" and "C" Coys were still trying to push fwd, but the craters caused by the air strike considerably hindered the tks, who were unable to give the inf full support at this time.

Meanwhile an arty conc had been arranged to help Lt. Renwick's pl fwd to the OLD MILL. This lasted from 1505 to 1515, after which the pl, supported by one tp tks, pushed fwd to within 30 yds of its objective. By this time it had been too depleted by casualties, to enable it to complete its task, and at 1530 the CO ordered "D" Coy to reinforce it, and capture the OLD MILL. Two dets mortars were put under comd OC "D" Coy. Owing to the thickness of the village, and the devastation caused by the air strike, the two coys in YWATHITGYI found it extremely hard to tell exactly how far they had advanced. The tks had been helping them fwd, and they thought that they were 3/400 yds short of the main rd running North from the PO. It was now 1630 hrs and the CO realised that the occupation of the whole objective before darkness would be impossible. He therefore gave coys a limited objective as follows. "B" and "C" Coys to make firm the village as far west as the main rd.

"D" Coy to continue attack on the MILL area.

"A" Coy to come into immediate reserve in the east end of the village from 242594, to incl the river bank. By 1700 hrs "B" Coy had reached the North of PAGODA at 239594 and "C" Coy was south of it. The tks were ordered to pull out for the night, and it was then impossible for the tps to get as far fwd as their limited objective. The CO therefore issued orders for them to consolidate for the night.

"D" Coy had taken the MILL area and was ordered to consolidate.

"A" Coy was on its way to the East end of the village, and consolidated the posn allotted to it by 1730 hrs. Bn HQ moved fwd and established itself in the KYAUNG at 242597.

After consolidation, patrols were sent fwd from "B" and "C" Coys, but located enemy MGs immediately to their front and were unable to exploit further.

The casualties suffered by the Bn during the days ops were

Killed 5 ORs Wounded Lt. Pomphrey and 15 ORs.

SEAC  
Feb 45

RM Crockatt Capt.,  
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