

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.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 2nd. Bn. The Royal Scots.

Commanding Officer Lt/Col. J.T. Campbell.

Month and Year December 1944.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
In the field	1 Dec		<p>Bn. Locations. - Bn. H.Q. 983319 Command Post. Strongpoint with personnel of A & B Coys. who had reported there - CALANCO - 995332. "C" Coy. Area - C. Rovine - 994334.</p> <p>0046 10 Mortar bombs in "C" Coy area. Pte. Clark. A killed.</p> <p>0050 C. Coy. Recce patrol to Pt 493 986336 returned. Was fired on by Bren from low on East spur of CASTELLARO.</p> <p>0120 66 Inf Bde. Op. Order No. 8 received</p> <p>0430 1 N.C.O. & 10 out from Command Post to relieve outpost Platoon at 994326.</p> <p>0610 Outpost Platoon reported back. Posns dug at 994326 insufficient to accommodate 1 N.C.O. & 10 by day, therefore only 1 N.C.O. & 2 men of relieving section left there as listening post.</p> <p>0815 Adjutant reported from Bn. H.Q. the following information on 2 sects. of B. Coy. at CASA NUOVA 983333:- At 0001 hrs reported by 1st Herts that their Recce Patrol had contacted out troops in CASA NUOVA. This information was proved false. A platoon of 1st Herts sent to relieve CASA NUOVA failed to find their objective. Three separate line parties sent out by 2 R.S. Bn. H.Q. First force to return by heavy mortaring. 2nd returned to report seeing CASA NUOVA on fire. 3rd with an escorting patrol got to within 20 yds of the house, and found the barn on the left ablaze. They shouted several times without receiving any reply, and were then fired on, but whether by enemy or own troops was not known. They withdrew and returned to Bn. H.Q. A Recce patrol of 1st Herts was in CASA NUOVA area from 0545 to 0630 hrs. House was on fire. Enemy was firing Spandaus at the house and there was no sign of any movement or answering fire. At 0800 hrs 1 Recce Regt. reported that a small recce patrol had reached CASA NUOVA and found house and area deserted.</p>	Appendix E. 1.
In the Field				

In the Field		<p>1055 Reported that Recce Regt. patrol had NOT been inside house at C. NUOVA.</p> <p>1105 Shelling of Command Post area by High Velocity gun commenced. 25 shells fired until 1145 hrs.</p> <p>1110 Mortaring of Command Post area commenced. 55 bombs until 1150 hrs.</p> <p>1245 Visibility improving. Own 3" Mortars firing on to top of CASTELLARO hit ammo dump.</p> <p>1255 Mist cleared sufficiently to see CASA NUOVA from Command Post. One enemy seen at N.W. corner of house. Appeared to be dragging things towards the barn which was still smouldering. Smoke was pouring from under the eaves of the house.</p> <p>1402 Approx. 20 enemy seen at C. NUOVA. Majority moved off to the North, disappearing behind shoulder of hill. 4 or 5 remaining appeared to be attempting to increase the fire still smouldering in the barn. Our Arty shelled area. 3 bursts seen on house and more near to it. After shelling only one enemy seen running into the barn. Much more smoke now coming from house.</p>	
In the field		<p>"B" Coy Sects at C. NUOVA now assumed missing are:- Lt. Renfrew, L/Sgt Tibbetts, L/Cpls Greer & Guthrie, Ptes Caldwell, Clark, Collingwood, Duncan, Dickens, Dodds, Fraser, Gray, Hall D, Hewitt, Jackson, Lumb, Rodger, Stone.</p> <p>1500 Mortaring of Command Post and "C" Coy areas commenced. Approx 60 bombs per hour.</p> <p>1630 Intentions night 1/2 Dec:- "<u>C</u>" Coy - Recce patrols to Pt 493 986336, CA DI CO 989337. Listening patrols fwd of Coy area. <u>Command Post</u>. - Standing patrol 2 N.C.Os & 16 men at 992334. Outpost pl. at 994330. Listening posts of 1 N.C.O. & 2 men at 995333 and 996331. Listening post at 994326 to remain until relieved. Pte Payne R. wounded by shell splinter but remained at duty on 29th Nov. now evacuated.</p>	
In the Field		<p>1900 1 white & 3 red flares fired from CASTELLARO, followed by Spandau fire and very heavy mortar concentrations in area South of CASTELLARO.</p> <p>1945 90 mortar & Nebelwerfer bombs in area Command Post and "C" Coy.</p> <p>1949 3 Red flares on South side of CASTELLARO followed by Spandau fire & very heavy mortaring.</p> <p>2000 66 Inf. Bde Op. Instrs. No. 5 received. Bn to be relieved by 1 HERTS during night 1/2 Dec.</p>	Appendix E. 2.

		2005 - 2100 2140 2359	Approx. 200 mortar & Nebelwerfer bombs in area "C" Coy & Command post. Pte Howe W. killed & Pte Wishart H. wounded in "C" Coy area, and Cpl Thomson and Pte Russell wounded in Command post area. Advance elements of 1 HERTS, relieving Bn, arrived at Command post. Representatives of 2 Coy, 1 HERTS proceeded to "C" Coy. Intermittent very heavy mortaring of Command post and "C" Coy areas continues.	
In the Field	2 Dec	0230 0445	Bn H.Q., 2 Coy & Sp Coy 1 HERTS arrived at Command post. 2 Coy proceeded to "C" Coy area. Intermittent mortaring still continuing but on greatly reduced scale. Relief completed and Command passed to 1 HERTS. Bn moved to bivouac area in WESTERN VALLEY 974306. Some mortaring on way but no casualties. Pte Moonie T. accidentally shot during move down.	
	3 Dec		Gen. Information - Routine Advance party of 1 representative from each Coy, 1 representative from each of Sigs. Pl & Int. Sect., under command of O.C. HQ Coy, left to recce re-organisation area in area VALLOMBROSA	
	4 Dec	1030 1200 1700	Battalion left bivouac area 974306 for embussing point 975277. Commenced embussing. Convoy moved off.	
In the Field	5 Dec		Battalion arrived new area. Locations - Bn H.Q., H.Q. Coy and C Coy - VILLA GROTTANELLI 997637. A and B Coys VALLOMBROSA 032634. Sp. Coy TORRE A MONTE 958619. North sector (1 Brit. Inf. Div.) O.O. No. 1 received.	Appendix J. 3. Appendix E. 3.
	6 Dec		General information - routine.	
	7 Dec		General information - training and routine.	
	8 Dec	1930	General information - ditto . Order for move of Mortar Pln to support attack by 1 Loyals received.	Appendix E. 4.
	9 Dec	0600	O.C. Mortar Pl left to report to O.C. 2/7 Mx. Regt. Special order by Commanding Officer announcing the following awards:- The Military Cross to Major D.B. MacKenzie and Lt J.A. Anderson. The Military Medal to 3061926 Sgt Easton, G., 5954839 Pte Bell, R., and 14212060 Pte Thomson, T. General information - training and routine.	Appendix J. 1.
	10 Dec	0700	Mortar Pl. left TORRE A MONTE for bivouac area 973304 to come under command O.C. 2/7 Mx. Regt.	

			General information - Church parade held at each location.	
	11 Dec		2/7 Bn Mx. Regt. operation order No. 5 received. General information - training.	Appendix E 5.
	12 Dec		General information - training. Defensive layout of North sector received.	Appendix E 6.
	13 Dec		General information - training. DF/SOS tasks - 1 Brit. Div. policy for 3in. Mortars received.	Appendix E. 7.
In the Field	14 Dec		General information - training.	
	15 Dec		General information - training. Mortar Pl. returned to TORRE A MONTE and again under command. O.C. Mortar Pl. reports that Pl. registered on targets on 11 Dec., did no further firing, and were ordered to return to Bn on 14 Dec as attack by 1 Loyals postponed.	
	16 Dec		General information - training. I.O. and I. Sgt. informed by Italian civilians of suspected enemy minefield. 1 German "S" mine discovered and lifted at 99056441. Area marked.	
	17 Dec		Church parade held at each location. Amendment No.1 to North sector O.O. No 1 received.	Appendix E 3.
	18 Dec	2100	General information - training. Order received for move of Mortar Pl. to come under command 2/ North Staffs in area MONTE GRANDE. Pl. to move up on 19 Dec. and report to 2 N/S Mortar Pl. at 99453210 after dark.	
	19 Dec	0700	Mortar Pl. left TORRE A MONTE to come under command 2 N/S in area MONTE GRANDE. Pioneer Pl. lifted 11 German "s" mines from area 991644. Area now reported clear. General information - training.	
	20 Dec		Ditto.	
In the Field	21 Dec		General information - training.	
	22 Dec		Ditto.	
	23 Dec		Ditto.	
	24 Dec		Ditto.	
	25 Dec		Xmas Dinner served to all ranks.	

			Brigade Commander visited. He gave verbal orders that A Coy would move forward on 27 Dec. to come under command of 2 Foresters, and that Bn would relieve 2 Foresters on 31 Dec in FRASSINETO area of South sector 0131.	
	26 Dec	2020	General information - routine. Movement order for A Coy received.	Appendix E 8.
	27 Dec	0530	A Coy left VALLOMBROSA to come under command 2 Foresters in area FRASSINETO. Amendment No.2 to North sector O.O. No. 1 received.	Appendix E 3.
	28 Dec		General information - training. 3 Inf. Bde. letter G. 40/30 re relief on 31 Dec. received.	Appendix E 9.
	29 Dec		General information - routine. 3 Inf. Bde. O.O. No. 35 received. "O" Group at Bn H.Q. re relief of 2 Foresters on 31 Dec. - Notes for move issued.	Appendix E 10. Appendix D. 1.
In the Field	30 Dec	0545 1500	Special order by Commanding Officer announcing award of Distinguished Conduct Medal to 3059837 Sgt Gott, W. Advance party of S.O., I.O., O.C.s B and C Coys, Pioneer Officer, and representatives from each platoon left for area FRASSINETO 0131. Advance party arrived 2 Foresters mule point, LA CASSETA 994302. Coy representatives left to spend night in coy areas.	Appendix J.2.
	31 Dec	0345 1400 1700 1710 1945 2040 2200 2305 2359	Bn left reorganisation areas for area FRASSINETO. Bn arrived LA CASSETA 994302. Bn arrived area command post 003310. B and C Coys passed command post to relieve 2 Coys of Foresters. A Coy 2 R.S. to remain in present positions and maintain 100% stand-to. Mortar Pl. revert to command and relieve Mortar Pl. 2 Foresters. B Coy report relief completed. Standing to until further orders. C Coy report relief completed. Standing to until further orders. Command passed to 2 R.S. - locations as per appendix E. 10. A Coy alert reduced to 50%. B and C Coys to 75% stand-to. Spandau firing at FRASSINETO 009315 from area point 440 008318. 12 x 3inch Mortar bombs fired at point 440. Spandauing ceased. 7 shells landed in Bn area.	