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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 6 KOSB

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Commanding Officer Lt Col CWP RICHARDSON

Month and Year APRIL 45

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 reced 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	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.	
		1500	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	Bn Column left BORGHORST to proceed to area already reced 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.	
		1700	Column arrived at destination area SCHMALGE.	
		1830	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	Church Services were held by Coys in the morning.	
		1410	The Carrier Pl gave a demonstration on the use of the "WASP".	
		1400	Coys carried on with coy trg.	
		1500	B Coy tested all Bren guns, resulting in the surrender of 6 Germans who had been hiding in the woods.	
		1830	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	Bn moved from area SCHMALGE and proceeded in an easterly direction to area reced by the 2IC. The R WESER being crossed at PETERSHAGEN.	
		1230	Column arrived in new area and was billeted in a German Hutted Camp.	
		2215	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	11	0930	CO & IO to Bde Order Group. Harbour party proceeded under 2IC to recce new area.	
		1100	CO held an 'O' Gp for all Coy Comds.	
		1720	Bn passed SP, rd junc LOCCUM 958291 and proceeded to new conc area.	
PM/GAILHOF 377415		2030	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	Coys carried out trg in Coy area.	
		1000	Harbour Parties to stand by at immediate notice to move.	

<p>RIXFORD 478472</p> <p>AERODROME 5647</p>		<p>1430</p> <p>1530</p> <p>1800</p> <p>1930</p> <p>1940</p> <p>2115</p> <p>2245</p> <p>2250</p>	<p>Harbour Party proceeding under 2IC to recce area in outskirts of CELLE.</p> <p>Bn to clear wood in area FUHRBERG WOOD 4847.</p> <p>Bn HQ estd at RIXFORD 478472 for the op.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>'A' Coy despatched to HAMBUHREN to fire two red very lights which will mean that all our troops are south of this road and negotiations will continue.</p> <p>'A' Coy fired the very lights.</p> <p>Bn HQ estd west of CELLE at aerodrome 5647.</p> <p>All coys now in new area.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	<p>AJMBrown CWPR</p>
<p>Do</p> <p>374528</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>0930</p> <p>1000</p> <p>1100</p> <p>1500</p> <p>1600</p> <p>2100</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Bn drill parade under RSM.</p> <p>RECREATION by coys.</p> <p>Bn moved to conc area in the North Eastern outskirts of CELLE at 374528.</p> <p>Bn arrived at new location and immediately winkled several enemy stragglers out of the houses.</p> <p>Intention - to follow up behind 227 Bde.</p> <p>CO attended Bde 'O' Group and received orders for advance in area South East of UELZEN.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	<p>AJMB CWPR</p>
<p>374528</p> <p>RABER 8078</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>0730</p> <p>1230</p> <p>1245</p> <p>1730</p> <p>1845</p>	<p>CO held Bn 'O' Gp and gave out orders for move & operations in area NE of UELZEN.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Bn main body moved in TCVs to RABER arriving at 1615.</p> <p>CO attended Bde 'O' Group.</p> <p>CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out his orders for capture of WESTERWEYHE.</p> <p>Bn concentrated here prior to advancing fwd. During the night normal defensive measures were taken.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	<p>AJMB CWPR</p>

<p>HOLDENSTEDT 8783</p> <p>NIENDORF</p> <p>HALLIGDORF 913863</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>0630</p> <p>0915</p> <p>1000</p> <p>1400</p> <p>1615</p> <p>1725</p> <p>1730</p> <p>1950</p> <p>2200</p>	<p>Bn moved to harbour area at Holdenstedt 8783, prior to passing through UELZEN on capture by 227 Bde.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>CO held Bn 'O' Group and gave out orders for attack on Halligdorf 9186.</p> <p>Bn moved up to NIENDORF on capture by the 6RSF. Bn now to be prepared to capture HAMBROCK as 6RSF have advanced to HALLIGDORF.</p> <p>D Coy ordered to lead advance to HALLIGDORF.</p> <p>D Coy meeting considerable opposition. CO asked Bde if tanks could move forward from HALLIGDORF and support D Coy to objective.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>D Coy in village of Hambrock, captured a considerable no of PW and 8 20mm guns with only three casualties. By 1735 B Coy had est a firm base in woods to SW of HAMBROCK, following behind D Coy.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>AJMB CWPR</p>
<p>HALLIGDORF 913863</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>0001</p> <p>1600</p>	<p>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. Div Comd visited Bn and went to OP with CO. Weather - good</p>	<p>AJMB CWPR</p>
<p>HALLIGDORF 913863</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>0100</p>	<p>Fighting patrol from D Coy went out to general area of houses 907883 and located enemy posns.</p>	

<p>HAMBROCK 912876</p>		<p>1030 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.</p> <p>1030 B Coy now in area HALLIGDORF and resting pending tonights ops. A Coy resting in HAMBROCK.</p> <p>1100 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.</p> <p>1308 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.</p> <p>1400 Enemy trying to infiltrate through 'D' Coy with a tank or SP - Tp of tanks being sent up to assist.</p> <p>1425 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.</p> <p>1545 CO went to 'D' and 'A' Coys to get complete situation.</p> <p>1550 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.</p> <p>1710 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.</p> <p>1910 D Coy reached final objective.</p> <p>2050 Div Comd wishes us to send a pl to secure a br head over the river at 903092.</p> <p>2215 7 Pl A Coy moved to secure br head - surprised sentries and firmly established west of river, bridge intact.</p> <p>2230 Advance to continue at 0400 18 APR to secure final obj. at area 903903 & 903900. Weather - good</p>	<p>903902?</p> <p>AJMB CWPR</p>
<p>-do-</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>0400 B & C Coys crossed SL for advance to final obj. During advance 'C' Coy released a no of Brit PW.</p> <p>0545 B Coy on final objective with very little resistance.</p> <p>0625 C Coy on final objective.</p> <p>0705 B Coy report PW on west of river are KOSB and Border Regt captured at ARNHEM.</p>	

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		<p>The day was spent in training in Coy areas.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer interviewed and congratulated all those who had distinguished themselves during the recent operation.</p> <p>Lieut Col Sparrow from the War Office paid a visit to the Bn.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	AJMB CWPR
LUNEBURG	24	0900	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	AB CWPR
do				
LUNEBURG	25	0900	<p>During the morning coys carried out trg.</p> <p>'A' Coy & Sp prepared for drill competition.</p> <p>'B' Coy fired on the range in the morning and had a cross country run in the afternoon.</p> <p>'C' Coy practised grenade throwing and carried on with weapon trg & PPT.</p> <p>'D' Coy spent the morning on weapon trg, PPT and map reading.</p> <p>'HQ' Coy carried out specialist training by platoons.</p>	
		1400	<p>In the afternoon the Bn played the 8RS at football, score 2 goals each.</p>	
		1900	<p>The Pipe Band played a selection of pipe tunes for half an hour.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	AJMB CWPR
LUNEBURG	26	0930	<p>CO attended a short co-ordinating conference at Bde.</p>	
		1030	<p>CO returned from Bde and ordered a Coy Comds 'O' Gp.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All arrangements for drill competition, concerts etc are now cancelled and all coys are preparing for the crossing of the R ELBE.</p> <p>Baths were allotted to coys during the morning. Training programmes continued and coys carried out trg in coy areas.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Weather - fair</p>	AJMB CWPR

LUNEBURG	27	1100	Reps from Sp Arms reported to receive orders for the crossing of R ELBE.	
		1200	Bde Op Order recd.	
		1700	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.	
		1800	The Pipes and Drums under Drum Maj Lyall played retreat at the Cavalry Bks Luneburg.	
		1900	Admin Order for Op "ENTERPRISE" recd.	
		2100	Bn Op and Adm Orders for "ENTERPRISE" issued. Weather - fair, rain during afternoon.	AB CWPR
LUNEBURG	28	0900	Maj JACKSON in the absence of the Commanding Officer addressed the Bn.	
		0930	Orders were given out to Coys for move to the marshalling area and thence to ARTLENBURG, prior to crossing the R ELBE.	
		1500	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.	
		1800	Vehs crossing on LVT ferry moved to marshalling area.	
		2100	Inf moved to waiting area. Weather - good	AJMB CWPR
ARTLENBURG	29	0200	Assault bns crossed the R ELBE and secured the initial br head.	
		0300	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.	
		0845	Vehs for Cl 40 raft moved to the marshalling area.	
		1445	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.	
		1815	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.	
		1900	CO held an 'O' Gp and gave out orders for the move.	
		2000	Bn moved to GULZOW in the following order: C - A - Bn HQ - B - D.	
		2400	Bn completely est in the village.	AB CWPR
SCHNAKENBEK 8435				

<p>GULZOW 8342</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>During the morning patrols were sent off to find out if enemy were in area of WOOD N and NE of GULZOW.</p> <p>1222 'C' Coy contacted 10 HLI on left in WIERSHOP.</p> <p>1240 'B' Coy sent a patrol to KOLLOW 8144 and contacted the RECCE.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1500 A Coy ordered to move to and secure KOLLOW 8141.</p> <p>1700 Reported in posn.</p> <p>1705 Carriers report a certain amount of opposition from area 853435. Arty to engage this target periodically until 2000 hrs.</p> <p>During the day the LUFTWAFFE was again active over our area, a large proportion being shot down.</p> <p>Weather - good</p>	<p>AJMB CWPR</p>
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