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Army Form C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required).

Unit 15th (SCOTTISH) INF DIV SIGNALS  
(incl LAD attd)

Commanding Officer LT-COL F.C. SEELY R SIGNALS

Month and Year FEB 45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
nr TILBURG	1	0730 1000 1210 1630 2200	OC 1 Coy and lines officer leave for line Recce in new area of forthcoming ops CR Sigs attends Div Comd's Co-ordinating Conference Rep of Gds Armd Div arrives to recce our present line layout etc. They are taking over from us here when we move out OC 1 Coy and lines officer return after successful day Wireless situation has been OK throughout day and 6 GDS TK Bde netted on Div Comd R/T and C/W nets at midday satisfactorily and all nets now close and period of wireless silence now in force	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
nr TILBURG	2	0900 1100 1430 2015	"R" Force personnel arrive for the recording of Div Comd R/T and CRASC nets - very satisfactory. "R" Force comments as the best performances they have had for a long period CO & Adjt leave for 88 Gen Hospital to visit Capt Toner and Lt Soutar - Toner slight concussion after fall on ice and Soutar leg injury - both making satisfactory progress CO and Adjt leave for 30 Corps for final tying-up of lines in new area with CSO. A most satisfactory interview and several points cleared up OC 1 Coy, lines offr and bulk of "C" Sec depart in 6 Gds Tk Bde column for NIJMEGEN (new loc Div HQ) to get started on big line layout in NIJMEGEN itself and forward in the area of forthcoming ops	DGH DGH DGH DGH
	3	0900 1500 1900	"R" Force personnel return to record the Div "Q" Comd net Recce party - OC 3 Coy, OC HQ Coy and "G" offr proceed to NIJMEGEN to lay out new Div HQs. Wireless silence is now imposed on the Div until further orders OC Guards Armd Div Sigs calls to visit CO to discuss arrangements for the handover in this area In the "London Gazette" for 2nd Feb - MC for MAJOR GF JOHNSON 2 i/c of the unit - this news heard with very great pleasure	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH

nr TILBURG	4	0930	All officers, except adv party under OC HQ COY which left for new area at 0830 hrs this morning, leave for TILBURG to attend Corps Comd and Div Comd briefing conference for op "VERITABLE"	DGH
		1400	15 (S) Div Signals Operation Instr No 1 Op "VERITABLE" is begun and continues until approx 050200A hrs - of necessity by the scale of the operation, the biggest Op Instr from this office since "OVERLORD"	DGH Appx D.1.
		1430	CR Sigs visits Sigs at Rear Div	DGH
		1500	Adv party GDS ARMD DIV arrives to take over lines etc which proceeds perfectly smoothly	DGH
	5	0900	Preparations in hand for move-out of Div to NIJMEGEN	DGH
		1600	Div HQ and approx 1 hour later Rear Div HQ on move, and arrive new location NIJMEGEN (714615) and Rear Div (714616) at approx 060600A and 060800A respectively. A long and difficult journey with several vehs ditched en route	DGH
NIJMEGEN	6	0915	Lines through to 6 GDS TK Bde, 46 and 227 Bdes who are already in situ, also in NIJMEGEN. Lines keep on coming in throughout day - picture (less Sig Centre comms) as per line diagrams Appces L2 and L3 issued this evening by 2100 hrs (less 53 Div not through until 071125A hrs)	DGH
		1100	Adjt attends A/Q co-ordinating conference at Rear Div HQ Nothing vital for Sigs except line required fwd for Traffic Sector Control - completed in the course of the afternoon	DGH
		2300	Issued Appces L2 and L3 to Op Instr No 1 and Amdt No 2	DGH Appces
	7	0900	Final preparations in hand - all line arrangements completed including fwd comms as per Appx L2 referred to above	DGH
		1200	CO attend Div Comd's Traffic Control Conference	DGH
		1400	All ranks Main and Rear Div attend briefing conference by GOC and G1	DGH
NIJMEGEN		1600	CO attends Div Comd's final co-ordinating conference	DGH
		1730	LT DW SOUTAR rejoins the unit from hospital	DGH
		1030	Further alternative routing to Signal Centre laid on - Sig Centre - RHLI - 4 CDN BDE - 2 CDN DIV - 15 DIV - speech excellent	DGH
	8	0600	Div Comd net opens to 227 Bde only	DGH
		0800	All HQ 15 Div nets open and net - all OK (one RASC Coy via HQ RASC otherwise everything in order)	DGH
		0930	Links to 30 Corps open - all OK	DGH
		1030	H HOUR	DGH
		1100	2 HCR (now under comd 15 Div) net on R/T Comd net - OK Line situation as normal in all ops - a certain number of faults throughout the day and the situation complicated by both 46 &	DGH

NIJMEGEN		1430	227 Bdes, the two fwd bdes in Phase I of the op, employing Tac HQs and also 44 Bde later in the day and 6 Gds. CO visits Sig Centre and confers with OC 1 Coy, who is already pushing new lines fwd from Sig Centre - traffic & state of roads the chief difficulties - Tac 44 and 227 very hard to reach with line by nightfall	DGH
		1800	Wireless situation worsening rapidly with very considerable interference on practically every net - Div Comd especially affected. Step up sent out but results far from satisfactory	DGH
		2000	CO departs in Armd Car to endeavour to fix matters with a step-up	DGH
NIJMEGEN	9	0200	GOC leaves for ACV and spends night there - CO with him most of the time. Wireless situation not good throughout night	DGH
		0645	Wireless position greatly improved - possibility of German jamming set having been in operation and now driven back.	DGH
		0830	Div Recce party leaves and recces GROESBEEK (7555) and KRANENBURG (7756) area for move of Main Div HQ - subsequently cancelled for today at any rate	DGH
		0900	- onwards. Bde Tac HQs constantly moving about - quite impossible to follow them up with lines - due to state of roads and traffic blockers but wireless greatly improved throughout day	DGH
		1400	CO visits all Bdes at their Tac HQs - has to walk last bit due to road conditions	DGH
		1500	Sec Sgt "A" Sec out to intermediate position as last night had Sig Centre with two step-ups - the ACV and spare 12 set CV - but night shows that conditions greatly different from last night - step up only very occasionally and all stns remain through	DGH
		2200	directly to control, strengths having only dropped to a good R3 and ranges increased	DGH
	10	1000	A very similar day to yesterday - line sections not possible to catch up to Bde Tac HQ's except 6 Gds Bde, who are linked on to 46 Bde Tac	
		1800	Wireless position satisfactory throughout day but now beginning to deteriorate again as on previous night - step up not of great avail	DGH
		1900	CAPT W.D. TONER rejoins Unit from 10 (Cdn) General Hospital	DGH
		2300	Wireless comms very much improved again after being most difficult - explanation of such difficulty over such reasonable ranges quite baffling, but comms one way or another have been maintained throughout	DGH

NIJMEGEN	11	0930	Main Div HQ (Rear Div HQ remains for the present) leaves for GERMANY and arrives new location (NUTTERDEN 853558) at approx 1230 hrs. As an original member of this Division I wish to say this night and trust that it may not be considered frivolous "The mills of God grind slow, but they grind exceeding small"	DGH
GERMANY NUTTERDEN		1600	Lines through to 44, 46, 227, Recce - quads to Corps Sig Centre in flooded KRANENBURG - but only one line thence to Corps - not very satisfactory	DGH
		1900	R/T Comd net closed partially - 44, 46, 227 off the group for the night - otherwise all comms OK	DGH
NUTTERDEN	12	0900	Extreme difficulty today, owing to heavy flooding, in reaching Rear Div still in NIJMEGEN - only 3 tonners possible for DRW and they strictly limited	DGH
		1000	46 Bde sent out "Jock" column using Div Comd R/T alternate freq	DGH
		1400	Lines laid to 130 D.I.D. and 8 T.C.P. (for Corps)	DGH
		1600	Sig Centre open at 882560 - lines laid from there to 46 Bde and Recce but quad from Main Div HQ - Sig Centre not completed until 2320 hrs	DGH
		2200	Wireless situation reasonably good, in spite of heavy but intermittent interference throughout day, including to Rear Div - just as well this, as both Corps lines faulty throughout evening and these were the only way of reaching Rear Div by line	DGH
	13	0700	44 Bde in support of 43 Div - netted satisfactorily on 43 Div R/T Comd net only. 2 HCR now no longer under comd 15 Div	DGH
		1000	CO and Adjt leave on routine visits to 44, 46, 227, 6 Gds, Recce, 1 Mx and Signal Centre, and also inspect progress on build-up of line layout (continued throughout day) on existing structure	DGH
		1500	CO and Adjt leave again for 44 Bde - they are now in support of 53 Div - same procedure as this morning with 43 Div and have suffered (Sig Section) heavily in this operation in both men and vehs and despite assistance from Sigs HQ today in both personnel and eqpt.	DGH
NUTTERDEN	14	0900	Div Recce party out to CLEVE and arrange new HQ in the BARRACKS square (8855)	DGH
		1430	Main Div HQ moves as indicated above, arriving at approx 1600 hrs - line situation reasonable as only 46 Bde have moved today and existing Sig Centre stands for all concerned - new lines to 46 Bde and Corps arrive shortly after Div HQ established	DGH
CLEVE		2100	Wireless in new area satisfactory fwd but becoming rather stretched in rear - to both Corps (on R/T) and to Rear Div but comms maintained	DGH

CLEVE	15	0900	- onwards. A day of usual work, wireless remaining steady throughout - 46 Bde under op comd of 3 Cdn Div at 1800 hrs & satisfactorily netted (after some delay) on their R/T net only. Corps C/W net split differently (we are now on C3A net with 43 and G.A.D.). Lines today primarily concerned with readjustments necessary for Rear Div who are moving tonight to the previous location of Main Div in NUTTERDEN	DGH
		1900	CR Sigs attends Div Comd "O" Group conference	DGH
CLEVE	16	0630	Rear Div HQ arrives at former location Main Div HQ in NUTTERDEN.	DGH
		1200	Certain changes in line layout necessitated by this, culminating in line diagram issued as at 1200 hrs Certain other minor changes later in the day, especially with the CDN lines	
		1500	CO and Adjt pay routine visit to 46 Bde	DGH
		1900	LT KNOTT of 44 Bde Sig Sec brings to CR Sigs Office certain extremely important circuit diagrams etc discovered in the wrecked CLEVE post office. Forwarded forthwith to CSO 30 Corps	DGH
CLEVE	17	0900	A day of preparation for op "SPIDER" (44 Bde tomorrow to capture GOCH) and lines laid in readiness - Sig Centre established (1500 hrs) at 46 Bde location. Wireless reasonable throughout day, but fluctuating on Corps R/T net and Div Medical net (especially)	DGH
		1400	CR Sigs addresses all officers WO's & Sgts on behaviour in Germany and on committing currency offences & selling W.D. property	DGH
CLEVE	18	0945	Church parade - CR Sigs and Adjt attend - but turnout good	DGH
		1000	Line section busy on lines fwd for op SPIDER (assisted by 7 [...] loaned from other Divs, in view of our heavy linemen casualties in this op) and beyond to the SOUTH. Div Recce party out but move proposed for today postponed until tomorrow. Lengthy Sig Centre - 44 Bde line completed by 1510 hrs	
		1200	CSO 2 Cdn Corps and A/CSO visit CR Sigs	DGH
		1600	CR Sigs pays routine visit to 44 Bde in their new location	DGH
BEDBURG	19	0900	Signal Centre closes at former 46 Bde location and returns to Main Div to take over lines there on move of Main Div	DGH
		1130	Main Div HQ moves to BEDBURG (928527) and arrives at approx 1230 hrs, cheek by jowl with Main Div HQ 43 Div, accommodation therefore rather tight, but fitted in and, surprisingly enough, no mutual wireless interference	DGH
		1700	All normal lines completed by this hour and comms situation OK either direct or via Signal Centre later in rear - also alternative routings via 43 Div to whom a quad has been laid. Wireless situation also satisfactory	DGH

		1730	CR Sigs and Adjt visit CR Sigs 43 Div and have tea in their Mess	DGH
	20	0900	A day of considerable trouble with wireless interference - chiefly 227 Bde (on same freq as CRA 53 Div, who have made a change) and Recce Regt. 227 eventually cleared but Div Comd alt freq has to be loaned to Recce for daytime working and their allotted one used for night-time only. Line layout adjusted (see	DGH
		1300	line diagram issued as at 1300 hrs) so that strappings may be made tomorrow morning and Signal Centre brought fwd to Div for use in Bde area	DGH
		1900	OC 3 Coy arrives Main Div HQ to take over 2 i/c from OC 1 Coy proceeding on leave in the morning	DGH
BEDBURG	21	0930	Recce party out for move of Main Div HQ tomorrow morning and extremely busy day arranging line layout to suit	DGH
		1000	Signal centre returns from CLEVE and goes out forward to 920490 to hold lines for Bdes	DGH
		1000	Major Johnson (2 i/c) departs on leave and OC 3 Coy (Major Houston) comes up from Rear Div and takes over	DGH
		2100	214 Bde of 43 Div under comd 15 Div - netted satisfactorily on R/T and C/W nets and through on line taken over from 43 Div. Sig Offr has already been in to collect code signs, freqs etc	DGH
PFALZDORF	22	0930	Main Div HQ moves to PFALZDORF (909458) arriving at approx 1100 hrs followed in the afternoon by Rear Div HQ to near DECKERSHOF	DGH
		1610	(917468) 3 lines waiting for Rear Div on their arrival and all other lines to all 5 Bdes etc very satisfactorily adjusted at an early hour of the day - a great deal of hard work done by the linesmen. Wireless OK throughout day except MED net which is rather beaten by distance at present	DGH
PFALZDORF	23	1000	News received this day of the impending withdrawal of the Div to TILBURG for rest and relief here by G.A. Div and 3 (Br) Div. Certain line alterations today to accommodate adv parties etc of Gds Armd. 214 Bde ceases to be under command at 1700 hrs	DGH
		1400	CO together with OC 2 Coy visits Fd Regts	DGH
		1430	Adjt visits Rear Div HQ	DGH
		1800	Issued line diagram as at 1800 hrs & prepared line trace	DGH Appx
	24	0900	- onwards. An extremely busy day with CR Sigs 3 (Br) Div and his Adjt and other officers making arrangements for their take over of this area - everything proceeds extremely smoothly, however, with no unsurpassable problems.	DGH
		1500	CSO 30 Corps visits both CR Sigs and discusses the handover	DGH
		1700	Adv party 9 Inf Bde arrives location 227 Bde who are being relieved tonight. All line and wireless arrangements	DGH

			satisfactorily concluded. 9 Bde will be on the nets as from 280100A hrs	
PFALZDORF	25	0530	Div Recce party (Sigs A/2ic, OC HQ Coy) leave for new Rest Area (TILBURG) but new Div HQ probably to be BOXTEL (former Corps HQ)	DGH
		0900	Proceedings continue of the handover with 3 (Br) Div - certain frequency problems due to the RA remaining in AGRA Bde and 3 (Br) coming in on same freq list as ourselves - Corps supply the necessary 13 freqs for 3 (Br)	DGH
		1100	Arrangements satisfactorily made by mutual agreement for the changeover of wireless nets. 3 (Br) as from 0100 hrs tomorrow, irrespective of the time of change of command which is still unsettled. 9 Bde of 3 (Br) at present on our nets but they are the only Bde so doing and 6 Gds Armd Bde are also coming under comd 3 (Br). 9 Bde moves from former 227 Bde location to 46 Bde HQ and 8 Bde to 44 Bde HQ and proceed to take over lines etc	DGH DGH
		1800	Handover of Signal offices at Main Div HQ satisfactorily concluded and Signal Centre exchange brought in	DGH
PFALZDORF	26	0100	Command passes from 15 Div to 3 (Br) - everything transferred smoothly	DGH
		0930	15 (S) Div HQ Main and Rear moves to BOXTEL (3234) into Rest Area and lines directly under Comd 1st Cdn Army. Arrives approximately 1600 hrs. C.O. and Adjt arrive at approximately same time having travelled independently by way of 30 Corps to say "au revoir" to CSO and staff	DGH
BOXTEL		1700	Lines (all UG except 1 Mx - local quad) through to all Bdes, Recce, Rear Div (3) Main Army, Rear Army (Rear Div) and former Rear Div lines in this area to RASC and ORD also restored. These lines all laid out by A/OC 1 Coy in the advance party and were waiting for subscribers to pick them up on arrival. No wireless working whatsoever - the Div moved out of op area on wireless silence, leaving 3 (Br) with our current Inf List "A" freq list.	DGH DGH
BOXTEL	27	0900	A day of maintenance in all its forms and re-equipping the unit with all requirements - leave, entertainments, recreational tpt etc all well to the fore	DGH
		1400	Adjt attends A/Q conference at Rear Div HQ	DGH
		1430	CR Sigs visits CSO 1 Cdn Army in TILBURG	DGH
		1700	Line through to 44 Bde who have now moved down to TURNHOUT area, also to S'HERTOGENBOSCH MILITARY from Rear Div for local calls	DGH
	28	0900	Another day of maintenance and preparation for the large numbers of personnel scheduled to proceed on Brussels leave in the course of the next fortnight	DGH

		1400	CO holds officers conference, on leave problems and also on the question of honours and awards for op "VERITABLE"	DGH
		1600	Issued line diagram as at 0900 hrs  David G Heilbron Capt R. Signals Adjutant	DGH Appx