

I N T E L L I G E N C E S U M M A R Y A N D W A R D I A R Y

Date - FEBRUARY 1945.

181 FIELD REGIMENT R.A.

Offr Commanding Lt Col R.B.W. Bethell

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY	REMARKS
TILBURG	1-6		Regt re-fitting, planning and preparations for operation 'VERITABLE'. Unnecessary stores and MCs left in Div dump. All Offrs address by Cmdr 30 Corps.	
	7		Night move to conc area South East of NIJMEGEN.	
	8		Operation 'VERITABLE' begins. Prolonged CB programme, followed by Corps Arty Barrage, lasting five hours. Late afternoon guns move up and support inf in breaching of SIEGFRIED DEFENCES.	
	9		Infantry advance to outskirts of CLEVE. Bogging on one axis and use by another div of remaining road prevent move fwd of guns.	
	10		Guns out of range. OPs still in action and fire of other regt is used. Rep sent to another Field Regt for quick passage of orders.	
	11		Advance continues beyond CLEVE and guns are able to move up - No OPs deployed.	
	12		Considerable firing in support of other Bdes. Enemy resistance stiffening.	
	13		Fire plan fired in support of 46 Bde several U Tgts otherwise NTR.	
	14		Regt comes into action in CLEVE at first light. A certain amount of enemy air activity with single jet-propelled planes. One bomb causes two casualties.	
	15		Regt move SE to continue support of attack towards Calcar. Still no OPs deployed.	
	16		Continued to fire in support of attacks towards Calcar. 4000 rds fired during day.	
	17		Moved SOUTH to support attack on GOCH. OPs joined Bns.	
	18		Attack on GOCH supported by fire plan. OPs with inf in KANGAROOS. Enemy opposition mainly shelling and mortaring.	
	19		Mopping up in GOCH continues. Enemy shelling of area mainly with SP guns.	
	20		Very heavy shelling of GOCH in early morning. Fire plan fired in support of 227 Bde attack E of GOCH. Fire plan during night to support 51 Div clearing GOCH south of the river.	

	21		Quiet day and weather fine and clear for the first time for several days. Typhoons out in force taking advantage of the weather. ME 262s over in late afternoon bombing. Fire plan in evening in support of 227 Bde pushing SE to SCHLOSS KALBECK. Enemy aircraft bombing in the vicinity in the evening.	
	22		Fire Plan in sp of 46 Bde attacking over rly and est bridgehead 935420-952415-952420. RSFs badly knocked about the previous day and failed to gain their objective which held up the start of 46 Bde attack. H Hr originally fixed for 1100 hrs was finally at 1400 hrs. Objective gained as far south as 415 Northings.	
	23		44 Bde carry on thro 46 Bde. Considerable opposition from mortaring and shelling encountered. All objectives gained and front est on 400 northings.	
	24		53 Div attack South beyond GOCH. Adv very slow and heavily opposed by SA and Mortar fire. Regt firing in sp.	
	25		OPs with 44 Bde relieved by OPs of 76 Fd Regt, 3 Br Div. OP hand over complete by 2200 hrs when inf change. Guns remain in support until 3 Br Div Arty ready the following day.	
	26		Division leaves for rest. Div Arty remains to support attack by Canadians and 11 Armd Div. Attacks go according to plan.	
	27		Fire plan in support of 3 Br Div. Warned of probable move next day to TILBURG. 4 Cdn Armd Bde make big advances. Calcar and Udem taken.	
	28		Fire plan in sp 3 Br Div. Not fired owing to movements of 11 Armd Div in area. Regt preparing to move. Regt moves out for Tilburg at 2030 hrs.	
				T P Keene