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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 119 LAA Regt RA

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year November 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col JF Young RA

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
ZOMEREN - LIEROP - ASTEN area	1	-	Fwd tps carried out groundshooting tasks during the day in sp of fwd Bde's attack, and, in conjunction with field arty, an extensive harassing fire programme by night, 2200-0500 hrs	See Appx J
	2	-	Tps remained deployed and in some cases moved forward, but owing to advances by fwd inf and restriction of arty fire on certain areas, no groundshooting targets within range	
	3	-	C tp in redeploying one sec of 3 guns in fwd area, found new posn to be in minefield ⊙ The sec located and lifted 47 Tellermines and reported to RE coy who swept and checked area	
	4	1520	CO received orders by phone from CRA to fire in ground role in fire plan in sp of div attack next day	See Appx J
ZOMEREN - LIEROP - ASTEN area	5	0730	C tp guns carried out task in above fire plan ⊙ Attack was held up and Task 16 was continued, fire being kept up intermittently until darkness about 1800 hrs, approx 1800 rounds expended	
	6	1940	Flares and bombs dropped in ASTEN - ZOMEREN area ⊙ Aircraft engaged by all troops ⊙ Three flares shot down, no planes ⊙ Aircraft not seen, believed 3 Ju 188s	
	7	1200	- 1700 hrs C tp groundshooting ⊙ Nothing further to report	
	8	1200	C and E tps harboured for 48 hrs rest ⊙ 2 tps at a time to be at rest for 48 hrs during next six days in accordance with div arrangements to have each bde rested for 48 hrs in that time	
	9		Nothing to report	
	10	1200	C and E tps relieved A and F tps who harboured for rest	
	11		Nothing to report	
ZOMEREN - LIEROP - ASTEN area	12	1200 -	A & F tps returned to previous tasks ⊙ C and E tps relieved G and I tps which harboured for rest 3 tps of 121 LAA Regt (8 Corps tps) came under comd for operational purposes only. These 3 tps were deployed in gun areas and, together with the 3 tps of 119 LAA Regt engaged on task of AA protection of div arty, were linked by WT to a GL Mk II linked in turn to 151 AAOR ⊙ Duty officer at the GL to order	

			the appropriate one of sixteen prearranged barrages to be fired, according to the course of the plane as plotted by the GL ☉ Duty officer at GL provided alternately by 119 and 121 LAA Regts.	
	13	1000	CO attended CRA's O group to receive infm concerning future ops ☉ In consequence, ordered G tp to recce posns protecting arty in 6414 area for occupation following day ☉ E tp when relieved by I tp on 14 Nov to be held in harbour ready for groundshooting task, if necessary, in sp 227 bde.	
	14	1200	I tp returned to previous task relieving E tp to harbour, as above ☉ G tp deployed area 6414	
ZOMEREN -	15	-	G tp incorporated into barrage-fireplan, making 7 tps in all	
LIEROP - ASTEN area	16	1600	Harassing fire task detailed by CRA allotted to one gun of G tp; to fire 60 rounds per hour, 1900-2200 and 0500-0700 hrs, along line of double canal from 719090 to 729073 ☉ Gun positioned at 693112	
		1905	Harassing fire programme cancelled [enemy pulled out]	
	17	1400 1530	(approx) E tp deployed round Cl 9 bridge 710039 Accident to jeep of A tp in area 6908 ☉ Schu-mine blew wheel off jeep, and after replacement of wheel, another Schu-mine injured seriously Gnrs Burren and Hugill ☉ While the casualties were being carried on stretchers into an ambulance, a third mine exploded injuring Lieut MARSDEN and killing a medical orderly of 181 Field Regt RA, who was giving assistance ☉ Gnrs Burren and Hugill evacuated, Lieut Marsden remained at duty, with injury to hand	
ZOMEREN - LIEROP - ASTEN area	18	- -	Lieut Marsden, injured previous day, evacuated for minor operation on injured hand ☉ Expected to return shortly Lieut RS Maddock posted to 20 LAA Regt via 46 RHU to fill captain vacancy	
	19	1910	Orders from RA to move A ech at 1100 hrs tomorrow via ZOMEREN br and ASTEN to DEURNE area	
	20	1030 1100	Water trucks of I tp blown up by mine, no casualties RHQ A ech moved to VREKWIJK area, arriving 1145 hrs	
DEURNE - HELENAVEEN - BERINGEN area	21	1000 -	Regt and bty B echelons moved to DEURNE area The 3 tps of 121 LAA Regt ceased to be under operational command, and tps of 119 LAA Regt ceased to be linked to GL	
	22	-	Bad weather making movement difficult, except on main rds	
	23	-	Movement increasingly difficult, especially in HELENAVEEN area and in fd arty area (approx 7708).	

DEURNE -	24	1830	Permission from RA to take part of RHQ to HORST area on 25 Nov when Div HQ and HQRA move there	
HORST area	25	1100	Operational half of RHQ moved to 804175 arriving at 1355 hrs ☉ Joined by remainder of RHQ about 1630 hrs	
		1545	1555, 1730 hrs and subsequently, launching of rocket-bombs (V2) visible from vapour trails & flash, bearing 64° magnetic.	
HORST area	26	1400 1400 2215	B ech moved up to join RHQ in area 8071 - 1630 hrs, guns of I tp successfully engaged targets on EAST side of R. MAAS Small no. of enemy fighter bombers flew over area, machine-gunned roads and dropped few bombs ☉ All tps engaged with harassing fire ☉ No hits recorded	
	27	1400	- 1600 hrs, guns of E and G tps engaged enemy OPs on EAST bank of MAAS ☉ Hits observed ☉ Retaliatory enemy fire caused no casualties to own tps	
HORST area	28	1400	Enemy OPs on EAST bank of MAAS successfully engaged by guns of G tp ☉ Operation curtailed when steady rain caused prematures in area held by own tps	
PANNINGEN area	29	1100 1400 -	Regt A ech moved to PANNINGEN, arriving 1230 hrs Bty B echs moved to DE HEIBLOEM 7101 15 (S) Div, including 119 LAA Regt RA, passed from 8 Corps to under comd 12 Corps	
	30	1215 1500 -	CO attended at HQ 15 (S) Div when Gen O'CONNOR, hitherto comd 8 Corps, bade farewell to senior officers of 15 (S) Div Regt B ech moved to DE HEIBLOEM 7101 Henceforth A ech (viz:- G and A branches of RHQ, plus LO from each bty) to be known as RHQ ☉ The bty HQ's (less BCs and their tac HQs) to be known as (bty) A ech ☉ The remainder of the regt, less tp F groups (viz:- Q vehs of regt, btys & tps) under Lieut QM, to be known as B ech	