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ARMY FORM C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

~~OF~~

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required).

Unit HQ 46 (H) Inf Bde incorporating LAD and Def Pl attached.

Month and Year FEBRUARY, 1945.

Commanding Officer Brigadier RM VILLIERS, DSO.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
TILBURG	1	1000  1400	Reference Maps 1/100,000 Sheets 5 (HOLLAND) P1 and Q1 (GERMANY) Bde Comd and BM attended co-ordinating conference for Op VERITABLE at Div HQ. Conference was held at Bde HQ to discuss action to be taken and sp arms needed against pillboxes.	
	2		This was the third day of a mild spell of weather and the ground had become very soft. Bde Comd visited Training Areas SOUTH of TILBURG to see tps trg with Flails, Crocodiles and AVRES. He later visited Comds 44 and 227 Bde to discuss various pts regarding tracks and FUPs for OP VERITABLE.	
	3		Issue of OP Order 18 and Adm Order No: 17.	See Appx 'D'-1 & 'G'-1
	4	1900	46 (H) Inf Bde moved to NIJMEGEN according to Mov Order No: 22. Issue of Op Order No: 19. Issue of Adm Order No: 18. Bde Comd visited CO 4 Tk COLDM Gds to discuss various pts regarding OP VERITABLE.	See Appx D-2 & D-3 See Appx G-2
	5		Bde Comd made final preparations for OP VERITABLE.	
	6	1030  1430	Bde Comd visited HQ 2nd CDN DIV and 4 CDN Bde to obtain all available infm about our own minefds through which our tps would pass at the start of OP VERITABLE. It was decided that all these would be lifted before the op started. Bde Comd and Sigs Offr reced the site for a Bde Comd post which was to be at 754557. Issue of Amendment No: 1 to OP Order No: 18. Issue of Mov Order No: 23 Issue of Amendment No: 1 to Adm Order No: 18	See Appx D-4 See Appx D-5 See Appx G-3
	7		Bde Comd and LO1 visited HQ 53 (W) Div, 71 Bde and 160 Bde to discuss flank liaison during OP VERITABLE.	
	8	1000	Bde Comd and IO set up Comd Post at 754557.	

754557		1030 1430 2359	<p>OP VERITABLE commenced according to plan and 2 GLAS H crossed SL. Despite very heavy going 2 GLAS H reached their objectives by 1400 hrs having encountered very light enemy resistance.</p> <p>9 CAMERONIANS advanced through 2 GLAS H and by 1900 hrs had captured FRASSSELT 8153 and were patrolling towards the anti-tank ditch of the SIEGFRIED Line to gain all infm regarding crossings and enemy strengths for Comd 44 Bde who were breaching the SIEGFRIED Line defences that night. The defences appeared only lightly held.</p> <p>7 SEAFORTH were warned to be ready to move by 0400 hrs.</p>	
	9	0630 1400	<p>Bde Comd held an 'O' Gp Conference at HQ 9 CAMERONIANS 806544 to give out orders for further adv, but no immediate moves were made and at 1040 hrs Bde Comd was summoned to meet the GSO I 15 (S) Div at 1400 hrs at 806562.</p> <p>Bde Comd met GSO I 15 (S) Div and afterwards returned to Bde HQ 755557. The Bde was then ordered to get as much rest as possible preparatory to another adv.</p>	
	10	0645 1245 1600 2300	<p>Issue of OP Instr No: 25.</p> <p>Bde Comd told CO 7 SEAFORTH that no move was likely from present positions before evening.</p> <p>CO 7 SEAFORTH informed that no move was likely today.</p> <p>7 SEAFORTH were ordered to be at 2 hours notice to move from first light and 2 GLAS H were ordered to have one coy at 2 hours notice, the remainder at 3 hours notice to move from first light.</p> <p>9 CAMERONIANS were ordered to take over the area STOPPELBERG 8553 following morning from a bn of 53 (W) Div.</p>	See Appx 'D'-6
854556	11	0700 0930 1900 2030	<p>46 Bde were ordered to take over areas as follows on the following day:- 9 CAMERONIANS 8553: 7 SEAFORTH MATERBORN feature 8754: 2 GLAS H area Watch Tower 8856.</p> <p>Bde Comd and IO left HQ to recce above areas and met COs during the morning.</p> <p>Arrangements for 9 CAMERONIANS were cancelled and the CO was ordered to meet the Bde Comd at HQ 44 Bde at 1300 hours for new orders.</p> <p>During the day Bde HQ moved to 854556 and was established by 1800 hrs.</p> <p>46 Bde was ordered into Div reserve and at the same time Bde Comd called an 'O' Gp at Bde HQ for CO 7 SEAFORTH to give out orders for "HUNTFORCE" adv to CALCAR next day.</p> <p>CO 7 SEAFORTH held 'O' Gp for "HUNTFORCE" at Bde HQ.</p>	See Appx 'D'-7
	12		Owing to very heavy going and vehs being bogged it was some time before "HUNTFORCE" was got under way.	

		1300	"HUNTFORCE" moved through CLEVE to start adv towards CALCAR. By 2010 hours they had cleared up to HASSELT and were disposed as follows:- Coys at 902544, 921544, 922547, 913547. Bde HQ moved to 892564. Although Kangaroos were used in this operation they were not considered a great success owing to their inability to get off the roads making deployment on a wide front impossible. In this way they became easy targets for shelling and mortaring when halted one behind the other on the road.	
892564	13	1845	Early in the morning recce elements of 15 (S) Recce Regt went forward to gain contact. HASSELT was found to be clear of enemy and 7 SEAFORTH were ordered to occupy it. Orders were then given for 7 SEAFORTH to be prepared to send night patrols as far as MOYLAND. Issue of Adm Order No: 19 Bde Comd held an 'O' Gp for an adv on MOYLAND.	See Appx 'G'-4 See Appcs 'D'-8 & 'D'-9
	14		Owing to flooding the plan for the adv on MOYLAND had to be changed. Phase III was cancelled and 9 CAMERONIANS were ordered to adv along the Southern edge of the wood on the right of 2 GLAS H up to 958507 then to move NORTH and capture MOYLAND. Enemy opposition was stiff and both bns were held up in the wooded area SW of MOYLAND. Owing to their inability to adv any further a new plan was made for the eventual capture of MOYLAND. Issue of OP Order No: 21.	See Appx 'D'-10
892564	15	1415 2330	The attack did not go well and we were held up by a very determined enemy. 10 HLI were put under comd 46 (H) Inf Bde and at 1645 hrs CO 10 HLI was ordered to report to Bde HQ as soon as possible for orders. 10 HLI were to attack during the night and capture the area Pt 328 964495. 9 CAMERONIANS were ordered to continue fighting to capture their objective, even if it meant fighting throughout the night. 10 HLI began their attack and 0105 hours they were reported to be on their objective. Later in the morning the enemy put in a fairly heavy counter-attack and over-ran the RIGHT hand coy but the position was restored later.	
	16	0805 0815 0910	2 GLAS H were ordered to have one coy ready to move under comd 10 HLI. Bde Comd visited 10 HLI. 9 CAMERONIANS who had been fighting throughout the night reported that they had captured their last objective. At the same time 7 SEAFORTH had reached the wood 959522 but had suffered fairly	

		1200 1300	heavy casualties. The enemy was still aggressive and 9 CAMERONIANS were counter-attacked in the area 962513. This however came to nothing. We were informed that 7 CDN Bde were going to attack through us to try and clear the enemy out of the wooded area SOUTH of MOYLAND and 9 CAMERONIANS were therefore ordered to clear the wood 957511 and give all possible help. 7 CDN Bde attacked through 46 Bde but without success. 7 SEAFORTH were ordered to patrol forward to the houses at 963519 during the night.	
	17	0415	7 SEAFORTH began their tack. The houses were reported clear and 7 SEAFORTH were ordered to occupy them. Issue of OP Order No: 22 Further attacks by the 7 CDN Bde were unsuccessful and 46 Bde were not called upon to clear MOYLAND. Orders came through that 46 Bde would be relieved <del>that night</del> by 5 CDN Bde. night 18/19 FEB.	See Appx 'D'-11
	18		Little happened during the day. Unessential tpt was filtered back to CLEVE where the Bde were being withdrawn to rest. The relief was carried out during the night according to OP Instr No: 26.	See Appx 'D'-12
	19	0900	Relief by 5 CDN Bde was completed. 2 GLAS H were ordered under comd 227 Bde and CO reported to Comd 277 Bde at HQ 214 Bde - 936494. HQ 46 Bde moved to 887553.	
887553	20		During the morning Div Comd visited Bns. Bde Comd visited HQ 227 Bde 917475 to discuss next operation by 46 Bde which was to clear the area between R NIEERS and Easting 95 from Northing 43 down to Northing 40. Roads and tracks leading to the area were in a very bad state and it was difficult to find suitable FUPs. See Movement Order No: 24	See Appx 'D'-13
	21	0900	Bde Comd, BM and IO left for HQ 227 Bde where Bde Comd held an 'O' Gp and afterwards made final recces. Issue of Op Order No: 23	See Appx 'D'-14
934456	22		Bde Gp moved in accordance with Mov Order No: 24 and Bde HQ was established at 934456. Owing to stiff enemy resistance 6 RSF had only been able to make a small bridgehead at 941422 and the plan for 46 Bde was changed, Bde Comd ordering an 'O' Gp for 1100 hrs at Bde HQ. 9 CAMERONIANS were now ordered to enlarge the bridgehead made by 6 RSF and 7 SEAFORTH would then carry out their original task. The Bde objective for the day being limited to a line running approx EAST and WEST about 500 yards SOUTH of the rly. 2 GLAS H were ordered	

			to take over from 6 RSF at night after the completion of 9 CAMERONIANS attack. Attacks by 9 CAMERONIANS and 7 SEAFORTH went well and all objectives were taken by night.	
	23	0820	2 GLAS H were pulled out of the line and were sent back to NIJMEGEN prior to moving to a rest area in TILBURG. 9 CAMERONIANS took over responsibility of their area. 44 Bde attacked through 46 Bde and by night had reached the line of Northing 40 between the R NIERS and Easting 95. Issue of Adm Order No: 20	See Appx 'G'-5
934446	24		Advance parties arrived from 3 BR Div who were relieving us. One bn, 1 SUFFOLK of 8 Bde was taking over our Bde sector. Issue of OP Instr No: 27	See Appx D-15
	25	0700 2235	Bde Comd proceeded on leave to UK. Lt Col HC BAKER BAKER, DSO, MBE assumed command of the Bde. Relief of 46 Bde was successfully completed and the Bde was concentrated according to Op Instr No: 27.	
	26		46 (H) Inf Bde moved to TILBURG in accordance with Mov Order No: 25	See Appx D-16
	27/	28	Bde rested in TILBURG.	