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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 119th Light Anti Aircraft Regiment R.A.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year May 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col JF Young RA

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
LAUENBURG area	1	0445 1000 1050 2115	G tp, released from bridge protection task at LAUENBURG, moved to JULIUSBURG to continue with I tp in AA protection of Div HQ area The increased state of readiness on the guns [brought into force 29 Apr 45] was reduced to normal manning Enemy fighter, engaged by A, F, G & I tps, shot down over Div HQ and accredited to I tp - 2130, C, G & I tps engaged enemy fighter-bombers which had dropped bombs to the south of div area, probably in vicinity of river bridges	
	2	0500 1100 1600 1710 1740 2130 2145 2150	391 Bty HQ, B ech & wksp crossed R ELBE to join regt HQ; and C & E tps crossed with them to go in sp 44 (L) and 227 (H) Bdes respectively - 1145, F tp carried out groundshooting task in sp 227 (H) Bde, engaged 2 strongpoints in edge of wood ☉ Fires were started and subsequently infantry, who had previously been held up by the strongpoints, were able to march in Regt HQ, bty HQs, B ech & wksp moved with div HQ to BRUNSTORF, guns of G & I tps being dispersed along the length of the div column on the move FW 190 engaged by A and C tps) Ju 88 engaged by G and I tps) Me 109 engaged by I tp) no claims Ju 88 engaged by A and C tps) FW 190 engaged by G tp)	
	3	- 1600	Information received of award of D.S.O. to Commanding Officer Regt HQ, bty HQs, B ech and Wksp moved with div HQ to GRANDE, with guns of G & I tp moving dispersed in div column	
KREIS STORMARN	4	1500 1630	Regt HQ, bty HQs, B ech and Wksp moved with div HQ to HAMMOOR, guns of G & I tps moving dispersed in div column C tp engaged single Me 109 - no claims	

		2050	News received via BBC of enemy's agreement to cease hostilities on all Second Army fronts w.e.f. 0800 hrs 5 May 45	
	5	0325 -	Official notification, by phone from RA, of cessation of hostilities at 0800 hrs on all Second Army fronts Notification received from RA 8 Corps of official confirmation of this regt's claims of one FW 190 destroyed on 19 Apr 45, one FW 190 destroyed on 20 Apr 45, and one Me 109 damaged (Category II) on 22 Apr 45	
	6	0945 1400	CO gave orders for each tp to harbour its guns under a double sentry at one tp location CO attended CRA's O Group on further activities of the div and the div arty	
	7	1400 1500	CO held conference of bty & tp comds, bty capts, QM, Padre, MO & EME, to give details of future moves of div and div arty in the coming 3 weeks approx, and to discuss programme for succeeding period of static occupation, during which the regt would be responsible for policing, enforcing mil govt, etc, in part of HAMBURG ☉ Training, education & recreation discussed, and committees appointed for the various activities projected During the above conference, infm was received via BBC that all German forces in NW Europe had surrendered unconditionally	
	8	-	Day celebrated as VE day. Padre held Thanksgiving Services at RHQ and troop locations. Recreation during the afternoon. All listened to Prime Minister's speech at 1500 hrs and HM the King at 2100 hrs	
	9	1730	CO attended address by GOC at Div HQ, receiving fresh details of future tasks	
	10	p.m.	Bty HQ subalterns, hitherto retained at Regt HQ as LOs returned to their respective bty HQs	
	11	1050 p.m.	C tp, hitherto conc in 2 islands, concentrated at new tp HQ Orders received to conc regt in HAMMOOR, probably 14 May; move to final location not likely for further 30 days	
	12	0930	CO attended conference at HQRA on implementing of Army Education Scheme within the div arty	
	13	- - 2030	Thanksgiving Sunday, for cessation of hostilities in Europe Btys and tps carried out recce in village of HAMMOOR into which regt was under orders to conc on 14 May B ech moved into fresh accn in HAMMOOR	
	14	a.m. 1430	The regt, less C and F tps, moved into conc in HAMMOOR expecting to remain for approx 30 days RA and HQ of 15 (S) Div having left HAMMOOR, CO 119 LAA Regt became local comd of village and area	

	23	p.m.	Adv parties despatched to take over accn in new area, and guards to relieve existing guards [of 15 Inf Bde] on VPs in area. 2IC also went to new area to take over duties of Town Major at RATZEBURG.	
RATZEBURG area	24	1100	- 1430, regt moved to RATZEBURG area, taking over area from 15 Bde of 5 Brit Div. Tasks included establishing of check posts to prevent westward movement of unauthorized personnel [especially displaced persons], and control of camp containing 1300-1400 German PW, in addition to routine occupation duties	
	25	1800 -	Duty tp (F tp) mounted guard at CRA's mess, KOGEL, 040647, from 1200 hrs 26 May; this guard to be one of the normal commitments of the duty tp. F tp guard complimented by CRA. E tp moved during the day to the peninsula of STINTENBURG in the SCHAAL SEE, and tp areas of responsibility were adjusted accordingly	
	26	0915 1100 1700	CO held conference of BCs to discuss local welfare amenities, including running of regimental canteen and rest rooms, to open tonight at 1900 and succeeding evenings at 1800 hrs CO attended conference at HQRA on government org of the Kreis, operational role and probable increased future area of responsibility for each regt. CO held conference of bty and tp comds with agenda as for CRA's conference at 1100 hrs.	
	27	2245	LT (QM) T BAKER (260551) accidentally wounded in the head by revolver bullet, and evacuated through 34 CCS	
	28	-	Occupation duties continued. Nothing to report	
	29	0930	C.O. attended CRA's bi-weekly Mil Gov conference	
	30	-) Occupation duties continued. Nothing to report	
	31	-)	