

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. and the Staff Manual respectively. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 278 Field Coy R.E.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer Major J.G. OSLER R.E.

Month and Year June 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
STORRINGTON, Sussex	1		Preparations for move overseas continue - waterproofing of vehs commenced.	NHW
	11		Warning order for move to Marshalling Areas received.	NHW
	12		L.O. at SECO HQ receives movement orders.	NHW
WANSTEAD FLATS STORRINGTON HAYWARDS HEATH	13	0430 1200 1200 1630	Main Veh Party moves off to Marshalling Areas. " " " arrives Camp T7. " Rail & Rd Marching Party moves off to Marshalling Areas " " " " " arrives Camp J9	NHW
	13- 17		Main bodies in Marshalling Areas preparing for Embarkation.	NHW
TILBURY	17	0800	Main Vehicle Party moves to Embarkation area & embarks.	NHW
NEWHAVEN	18	0900	Main Marching Party moves to Embarkation area & embarks.	NHW
COURSEULLES- SUR-MER ST GABRIEL	19	0900	" " " disembarks & moves to Div Conc Area " " " take up location in harbour area.	NHW
	22		One OR Casualty (sick)	NHW
COURSEULLES	23	0800 2200	Disembarkation of Main Veh Party commences. OC with 6 vehs arrives Conc Area.	NHW NHW
ST GABRIEL	24	0830 1000 1200 2135	Three vehs arrive from Disembarkation Area. CRE's O Gp Orders for Ops. Coy ordered to move to F.A.A. in SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN. Remainder of Main Veh Party arrive in Conc Area.	NHW
SECQUEVILLE	25	0330 1630	Coy complete (less Residues) arrive SECQUEVILLE - dig in and off load and de-waterproof stores in preparation for operations. Coy placed in support 46 Bde. Bde Comd & Div Comd Final Briefing Conference.	NHW
PUTOT-EN- BESSIN	26	0400	Coy move forward under orders from 46 Bde to F.U.P. area South of PUTOT-EN-BESSIN. OC moves with the Bde Tac HQ. No 1 pl in reserve at BRONAY 895721 with task of maintaining Br over Rly or making diversion if required. No 2 Pl move up with 2nd Glasgow Highlanders with task of opening & maintaining route forward on	

PUTOT-EN-BESSIN		1200	line of adv. No 3 Pl move up in rear of 7 Seaforths for maintenance of route if required. Recce offr moves up with 9 Cameronians on right flank as observer for RE tasks if any. Coy HQ dug in at 905718.	NHW
		1800	During advance minefield located SOUTH of LE-MESNIL-PATRY, this being breached by "FLAILS" at 905693. Adv continued towards CHEUX.	
		1900	½ track vehicle receives direct hit - destroyed by fire. OR casualties: - killed 5, died of wounds 1, wounded 7. Coy HQ move forward on axis of adv.	
CHEUX	27	0025 0030 0230	Coy take up defensive position in area X rds 907680 Coy HQ established 907684 Route maintenance party commences clearing CHEUX.	NHW
CHEUX	28	0600 2200	Recce of route through CHEUX to South. Route flooded and heavy mortaring of villages causes difficulties of route clearance. 1 Pl moves forward with 7 Seaforths to Area LE VALTRU and take up defensive position at 910626. 2 Pl takes over route maintenance in CHEUX. 3 Pl moves up with 2 GH to area COLLVILLE. Recce offr moves off with own & second recce party to obtain infm of crossings at 915622 over R. ODON. These parties unable to reach river owing to enemy activity. OR Casualties:- 2 killed. 2 wounded	NHW
CHEUX CHEUX	29	0600 0700 0800 1000 1400 1600 1800 2000 2300	OC moves off to contact 1 Pl & fwd Bn (7 Seaforths). Veh receives direct hit from enemy 88 mm at 899625. OC (Major J.G. Osler) killed. Bulldozer & Br Equipment taken fwd to Area COLLVILLE. 2 i/c assumes comd and moves fwd to COLLVILLE Meets CRE & Comd 46 Bde. CRE orders Coy to hand over tasks to 70 A Fd Coy R.E. (approx) Enemy counter attack on Le Valtru area - 1 pl although ordered to withdraw by OC unable to do so. No 1 Pl commence to withdraw VIA COLLVILLE Enemy counter attack with armour reported area Haut-du Bosque. Coy take up defensive position under Camp Comd 227 Bde as ordered by CRE. Stand-down ordered. Major J.G. Osler & 5 ORs killed, 8 ORs wounded.	NHW NHW
	30	0800 1100	Route maintenance X roads. 906880 to 910660 taken over from 70 Fd Coy together with one Auto patrol vehicle & ten tipper lorries. 1 Pl return to Coy HQ. Location. 2 & 3 Pls rejoin Coy HQ in harbour area.	NHW W3008s & W3009

			J.N. Harrison Watson Capt RE	
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