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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Unit 9th Bn The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

Month and Year Feb 45

Commanding Officer Lt Col E. Remington-Hobbs

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
TILBURG	1		Companies engaged in Training. Locations Bn HQ 159311, "A" Coy 158313, "B" Coy 157309, "C" coy 158310, "D" Coy 161309, "S" coy 158308, "HQ" coy 159311.	CNB CNB
	2		Bn "O" Group at Div HQ. C.O.'s preliminary orders for operation VERITABLE, with aid of cloth model. Preliminary recce party to concentration area at NIJMEGEN - returned 2000 hrs. Coys training.	CNB
	3	0920	Training continues. 9 Cameronians OO No 2 issued 9 Cameronians Adm Order No 1 issued. Movement order issued in conjunction with Adm Order No 1. Corps Commander's Lecture to C.Os. 1030 Div Comd's Lecture to all offs.	CNB D/1 CNB D/2 CNB D/2 CNB
	4		Preparations for move to NIJMEGEN. Bn moved off from TILBURG at 1500 hrs. Arrived NIJMEGEN 2230 hrs. Bn billeted in Barracks 719614.	CNB CNB
NIJMEGEN	5	1000 1630	Coy Comds' conference at Bn HQ - operational. C.O. attends final coordinating conference at Brigade HQ. 9 Cameronians O.O. No 3 issued	D/3 CNB
	6	1000	Coy Comds' conference at Bn HQ. Amdt List No 1 to O.O. No 2 of 3 FEB issued Mov. Order No 2 issued 43RD LT INFTY OP. ORDER No 1 received & 44(L) Inf Bde	D/4 CNB D/5 CNB E/1 - E/1A
NIJMEGEN	7		Coy Comd's conference at Bn HQ - operational - co-ordinating.	CNB
NIJMEGEN	8	1015 1050 1200	Bn commenced moving off as per movement order. 2 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS going well, no enemy opposition met. Ground soft in parts and tanks having difficulty but progress satisfactory. 4 Coys of GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS on obj. 60-70 PW captured belonging to 1051 G.R.	CNB CNB CNB

		1300	A Coy commenced moving to F.U.P. followed by B & C. The main axis was by this time impassable at one point due to mud and tanks were held up but were still able to give support.	CNB
		1440	B Coy reported progressing well but own ARTY falling short and number of casualties.	CNB
		1505	A Coy still progressing but 'R' minefield in area, pioneers are clearing.	CNB
		1515	A & B coys reported on obj. 'C' Coy commenced moving up and D Coy ordered to move fwd as they would be required to move into FRASSELT.	CNB
			C.O. at this time had difficulty in keeping comm and moved to A Coy area and at 1722 ordered 'C' Coy to move into FRASSELT sup by ARTY and CROCS.	CNB
		1840	C Coy progressing well and almost cleared FRASSELT. 50 P.W. taken in this op so far. 1051 G.R.	
			D Coy ordered to move into FRASSELT and take over area as arranged.	CNB
		1905	All coys now in position 809544, 810548, 816545, 818538. 227 Bde on left firmly established in KRANENBURG and 53 DIV on right, level with 'C' Coy. Contact made with 53 Div.	CNB
		2100	44 Bde will NOT be passing through. Message from Bde HQ. Earliest to expect them 0130.	CNB
		2103	D Coy patrol reported enemy at 820541. ARTY given task and dealing with.	CNB
			Total P.O.W. for day 115. Identification chiefly 1051 G.R. and 58 FUS. BN 84 DIV.	
			Casualties APP J/5	APP J/5 CNB
FRASSELT	9	0030	Bde ordered all coys to be WEST of FRASSELT Rd by 0130. This is necessary for 44 Bde ARTY programme. The C.O. ordered C & D Coys to withdraw behind Rd.	CNB
		0630	44 Bde passed through Bn and were fwd of Bn. No enemy activity during night except shelling activity in D & C coy areas.	CNB
		0840	Message from Brig R.M.L. Villiers ☉ You are now in reserve. Make NO move except recess as arranged.	CNB
		1110	Message from Brig R.M.L. Villiers. We have probable attack role tomorrow. Recce may be today. Maximum REST to be given during daylight.	
		1230	Message from 44 Bde. P.W. taken as follows 10 off 230 OR in their adv.	CNB
		1500	Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO gave permission for Lt Col E Remington Hobbs to go on short leave to BRUSSELS. Major P.L. Hendricks M.C. assumed comd of Bn.	CNB

FRASSELLT	10	2230	Verbal movement order from Bde. Bn to take over temporary def posn from 2 MONS 53 DIV morning 1 FEB 45. Recce parties to arrive 855535 by 0730 hrs.	CNB
FRASSELLT	11	0330 0730 1610 2025	Message from Bde giving timings and route to take over def posn from 2 MONS. 'O' Gp for move to relieve 2 MONS. Recce party left at 0800 and arrived at 2 MON HQ at 0845 hrs when message received that plan now changed. Recce party to meet Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO at 44 Inf Bde HQ as soon as possible. Recce party remained here until 1400 when Brig arrived and gave out orders for occupation of def position WEST of CLEVE. Bn in meantime moving up main axis in rear of 7 SEAFORTH and 2 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS. Bn arrived area WEST of CLEVE and took up def posn as shown in J.2. All Coys in position by 1900 hrs. Weather very bad rain and snow. 46 Bde in reserve ☉ Bn recce parties will RV 882557 0800 hrs 12 FEB 45. Parties will be accompanied by protection parties, composition at C.O. discretion ☉ D.A. & Q.M.G. will meet parties and allot areas within squares 8754 and 8854 ☉ Bn will be prepared to move morning of 12, time later. 7 SEAFORTH to continue adv with obj MOYLAND.	CNB CNB CNB APP J.2. CNB CNB CNB
866557	12	0730 1000 1417 1710	Recce party left for CLEVE. Marching tps left for CLEVE and arrived at 1210 where guides met them and took to billets. Tpt will be late in arriving due to condition of roads. Bde be prepared to hold MATERBORN feature on issue of Code Word BOX right 9 CAMERONIANS left 2 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS. Incl 2 GH track 971556 to 874552 - 877546. Right Bdy WOOD excl to 9 CAMERONIANS left Bdy 882558 incl to 2 GH. This is necessary due to enemy counter attack on 53 DIV front. Positions suggested by Bde 870543, 868544, 871547. O.C. 2 GH responsible for co-ordination and command of party if it comes off. Bn tpt arrived CLEVE. O Gp at Bn HQ for occupation of MATERBORN.	CNB CNB CNB CNB
CLEVE	13	1845 2230	Lt Col E Remington Hobbs arrived at Bn from 48 hrs leave. 'O' Gp at Bde. Plan for capture of MOYLAND. O Gp at Bn. Plan for capture of MOYLAND on 14 FEB 45.	CNB APP. E/1B CNB
CLEVE	14	0730	C.O. fwd to QUALBURG to recce ground when Main rd was found to be impassable due to flooding ☉ Bde informed and at 0800 message received from Bde, plan altered owing to flooding, stop all movement and keep vehs clear off roads.	CNB

		1000	Cancel phase 3. 9 CAMERONIANS will now adv along SOUTH rd to 958508 thence to MOYLAND. F.A.A. now 917538.	CNB
		1047	Bn now concentrated in area 917538 and awaiting word from Bde to commence attack.	CNB
		1217	2 GH now on first obj. H hour for 9 CAMERONIAN 1315. A & C coys commenced moving up.	CNB
		1410	Leading Coy reached 951513. Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO arrived Bn HQ and ordered that A Coy would consolidate at 951513 and remainder of Bn would move up into same area and form a defensive position as 2 GH were unable to keep level with us going through the wood.	CNB
		2035	Bn now located 952518, 953522, 949523, 948523.	CNB
		2040	Lt Col E Remington Hobbs to Bde 'O' Gp.	CNB
		2245	Bn 'O' Gp when plan given for taking wooded features as shown on J/3. Order of march D,C,A,B Coys. H hour 0900 hrs. At same time 7 SEAFORTH would attack MOYLAND along CLEVE-MOYLAND RD.	APP J/3. CNB
	15	0300	A Coy patrol returned. Houses at 95355105 occupied by enemy. Patrol fired at 8 enemy, results NOT observed, No fire returned.	CNB
		0900	'D' Coy commenced moving off, almost as soon as they moved down main axis heavy enemy mortar and shellfire fell on the axis. This shelling was very accurate and D Coy suffered heavy cas. Comm then ceased with D Coy and they could NOT be contacted on wireless. At 1005 hrs the C.O. sent offr patrol to contact them. During this time message received over ARTY net that D Coy almost on obj. Lt Col Remington Hobbs prepared Major Bennett 'C' Coy comd to move through 'D' Coy. The offr patrol returned at 1100 with information that D Coy held up on S.L. with shellfire and spandaus firing from WOOD opposite. The C.O. passed this information to Bde and immediately ordered 'C' Coy to overcome this resistance and reach obj.	CNB
		1300	C Coy arrived with D Coy and pushed on 200 yds. 2 spandaus causing trouble but will be dealt with.	CNB
		1605	'C' Coy reached objective.	CNB
		1700	Bde ordered Bn to occupy LOBSTER at all costs even if meant night attack. 2 GH are taking over left obj and have this planned now.	CNB
		1835	Commanding Officer ordered 'A' Coy to occupy WOOD 958512 as soon as possible.	CNB
		1903	A Coy had one pl in WOOD 958512, but was disorganised due to night being dark, and thickness of WOOD. Lt Col Remington Hobbs gave permission for A Coy to remain as they were and to consolidate at	CNB

		2030	positions reached. Ordered 'A' Coy to reach obj by first light, as this would assist CANADIANS in their attack on 16 FEB 45. C.O. at Bde O Gp. Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO visited Bn and gave orders that WOOD 958512 must be cleared as quickly as possible. 1 coy required to occupy 963514 by first light. Commanding Off ordered 'B' Coy to be prepared for this task. P.O.W. taken to 2100 hrs 133. Identification 346 Inf Div, 7 PARA DIV.	CNB APP E/1/C CNB
	16	0330 0420 0805 1130 1330 1800	10 HLI on our right attack successful, locations as per APP J/3. B Coy ordered to occupy 963514 immediately and to use route through 2 GH and 'C' Coy. B Coy progressing slowly against enemy spandau fire, at 0915 this was complete. A Coy located Spandau posts at 956513, 957512, 958513. Lt Col E Remington Hobbs made plan with C.O. 2 S.G. that tanks would contain and destroy these positions while CANADIANS were advancing. H hour for attack 1330 hrs. Canadian attack commenced with CALGARY rifles passing through woods and clearing A Coy obj. After neutralized by fire from 2 S.G. A Coy then occupied this area. By 1800 the position with CALGARY Highlanders still obscure but they had NOT crossed rd from MOYLAND to cross rd 957507 and are consolidating within Bn area. C.O. at Bde 'O' Gp in which plan given for attack on MOYLAND.	CNB CNB CNB CNB CNB CNB
	17	0900 1400 1720 1725	C.O. visited Coys and put them in picture in regard to our next task, i.e. 9 CAMERONIANS forming firm base on high ground on B & C obj 2 GH and 7 SEAFORTH closing on MOYLAND. This operation dependent on CALGARY HIGHLANDERS success in clearing WOODS to EAST. C.O. ordered D Coy to move and relieve coy of 2 GH in area 954519 and all coys ordered to patrol to road NORTH of WOOD. SUP Coy would have composite force on ground left by D Coy. D Coy in area 954519. Major W. Lawson (B.M.) visited Bn and informed C.O. that Bde would be relieved 18/19 MAR and return to CLEVE area for 2 days thereafter 46 Bde would rejoin 15(S) Div.	CNB CNB CNB CNB
	18	0030 0905 1205	D Coy reported House at 956521 occupied not known by when. Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO visited Bn and ordered C.O. to move 'D' Coy to 'B' Coy to reinforce them 7 SEAFORTH will relieve D Coy. Recce parties of relieving unit will arrive 1400 hrs. It will be daylight relief on 19 FEB 45. CALGARY HIGHLANDERS attack successful and now in area 965514. Attack by 2 GH and 7 SEAFORTH now off.	CNB CNB APP E/1/D CNB

			CALGARY HIGHLANDERS Relieving unit will arrive at 0700 hrs. Bn order of march B,D,C,A.	
	19	0700 1100	Relief commenced. Relief complete. Bn now in CLEVE, uneventful relief.	CNB
CLEVE	20		Bn resting in CLEVE, general adm and regrouping. Rfts arrived and Coys brought up to 90 ORs. C.O. spoke to Bn on all actions to date. 46 Bde Mov Order No 24 received 46 Bde ADM order No 20 received	CNB APP E/2 CNB APP H/1. CNB
CLEVE	21	0900	C.O. to Bde 'O' Gp at 227 Inf Bde HQ. 9 Cameronians Mov Order No 4 issued	APP E/3 CNB
CLEVE	22	0700 0845 0930 1036 1215 1413 1505 1540 1620 1650 1723	Bn moved off from CLEVE. Bn arrived F.A.A. 937440. Brig R.M.L. Villiers DSO called Bn HQ - 6 RSF unable to get original obj, 1 coy 2 GORDONS being passed through to take houses on right. Change of plan - C.O. to Bde 'O' Gp immediately. C.O. 'O' Gp. Bn obj wood 942418 with obj as shown on J/4. 2 GH capture Houses 937421 with 7 SEAFORTH on left. D Coy reported on obj. A Coy passed through and on their obj at 1452. Opposition slight but very heavy shell and mortar fire. Enemy in strength in WOOD 940413 this was engaged with ARTY and TYPHOONS. 1 pl B Coy on obj, other 2 pl moving up. B Coy confirmed on obj. 'C' Coy reported on obj. 7 SEAFORTH on first obj 952416. During this OP. 39 PW. taken 27 in 'C' Coy area. Casualties during this action. During all this action very heavy enemy ARTY fire on Bn area.	CNB J/4 CNB CNB CNB CNB
SCHLOSS	23	0845 0930 0948 1108 1430	2 GH withdraw at 1100 to assembly area, 9 CAMERONIANS take over their sector, 7 SEAFORTH take over 'C' Coy area, 2 GH will not withdraw until 9 CAMERONIANS take over. 44 Bde have NO reserve. If reserve required 9 CAMERONIANS will provide same, 7 SEAFORTH will take over 9 CAMERONIANS posns. 30 mins notice to move NOT before 1200 hrs. C.O. to report 44 Bde HQ at 1130. 44 Bde have reached 939412 & QUADRANGLE 946441. C.O. 'O' Gp Bn HQ when possibility of having to assist 44 Bde cancelled as they had taken all their obj. Only in extreme emergency will we be used.	CNB CNB CNB

			During "O" Gp Div Comd visited Bn HQ and informed C.O. that Div being relieved on night 25/26 by 3 BRITISH DIV and that Div going to TILBURG area for rest. Bn locations now A & B in same positions, C Coy in D Coy area and D Coy in 937420.	CNB CNB
SCHLOSS	24	0840	2 MONS have reached 917405, 6 RWF 923412. Extremely heavy enemy ARTY fire encountered. 46 Bde Inf OP instr No 27. Enemy arty fire decreased on our sector but still heavy on flanks. 'C' area being shelled occasionally but all known enemy targets engaged by our own Arty.	APP E/4 CNB
SCHLOSS	25	1145 1545 2200	46(H) Inf Bde Mov Order No 25 44(L) Inf Bde Op Instr No 2 Recce parties 2 EAST SUFFOLKS arrived Bn area and inspected 'C' Coy area for relief on 25/26. 'C' Coy only locality being taken over. A,B,D Coys commenced thinning out and moved to assembly area as in E/4. C Coy at this time was subject to heavy enemy shell fire. C.O. engaged all known enemy localities with our own Arty which successfully quietened enemy fire. Relief complete. Bn assembled in area as per E/4	APP E/5. CNB APP E/6 CNB CNB CNB
SCHLOSS	26	1130	Bn commenced moving off as per E/5 and complete in TILBURG at 1845.	CNB
TILBURG	27		Adm and generally cleaning and regrouping.	CNB
TILBURG	28		Adm and generally cleaning and regrouping. Casualties within Bn from 8th FEB - 24 FEB 45 Record of op. from 22-25 FEB 45 by Coys Operation Veritable personal account by C.O. 9 Cameronians	APP J/5. CNB APP J/6 CNB APP J/7. CNB