

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~*(Erase heading not required)*

November 44

131 Fd Regt RA

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ASTEN	1st		The infantry advance was very slow through the obstacles of carefully prepared minefields. Heavy Amn expenditure supported their attacks on strong points and positions.	See Appx "A"
	2nd		One carrier of 320 was mined with some casualties incl 1 killed.	
	3rd		Until the move to HENSDON area (6409) little of note occurred, save a huge amn expenditure. Later during the month guns were withdrawn to workshops in small quantities with suspect barrels, due largely to the wear and tear of firing large quantities of supercharge over the first half of this month. In turn, too, in the order 319, 495, 320 Fd Btys, sub units were detached for a period of 48 hrs "rest"	
	8th	1000 hrs	Regiment moved to area 6409. 319 drew back into rest area at 633169.	
HENSDON	9th		Civilians were evacuated from Divisional area to avoid espionage and casualties.	
	10th	1200 hrs	319 Fd Bty rejoined Regt from "rest" and 495th Fd Bty pulled out into OMMEL area for 48 hrs. One OP offr was killed by shellburst in the morning (Capt WIGGINS, 495 Fd Bty RA)	
	11th		For the next 8 days the Regt remained near Asten, firing considerable quantities of shells at long ranges. 320th Fd Bty were taken out of action at 1200 hrs 12th Nov, but remained in the Regimental area. 495th Fd Bty returned to action at the same time, from the rest area near OMMEL. Finally recce parties with mineclearing groups went forward to clear a new area on the 18th Nov.	
	18th Nov.		A tp was detached and moved independently to 703072, going into action from there the following morning.	
	19th		Engineers were still clearing possible Bty posns. "B" Tp moved up beside "A" Tp, and remainder of regt prepared to follow in small groups. One casualty was injured at OP of 495 Bty. 320th Bty reported that over 50 Teller and S mines were found in their Bty posn, and some were removed, all this without a single mine casualty.	

HENSDON	20th		Regt moved forward to area near Hof (7007) but 320 Bty was detached and crossed Deurne Canal. After brief harbouring this Bty went on to Beringen.	
HOF ACHTERSTEEG	21st		"B" Ech moved up to old gun position at 7007, while Regt went on to area 7709, arriving at approx 1530 hrs. The tracks were becoming almost impassable. 320th Bty moved forward from Beringen to join remainder of Regiment. For three days weather conditions made transport difficulties worse. Several recces were made of possible new areas, but final move was made to HORST, (NW OF VENLO) for sp of attack on the Blerick bridge seating.	
	24th		Recce parties moved away at 0900 hrs, followed by remainder of Regt at 1300 hrs. Route via BERINGEN - MEYEL - LEISEL - AMERIKA - HORST. Area in 8218. RHQ moved into HORST itself on the following morning, being fully established at 0945 hrs. The village of HORST received desultory shelling from enemy guns. Occasional M targets were fired on barges on the MAAS and on sparse enemy who were being compressed into the MAAS pocket. At 0900 hrs on 25th Nov, 1944, exactly 5 months after the first shot was fired in NORMANDY, the C.O. fired a token round on to GERMAN soil.	
	28th		The CRA fired a token "U" Tgt on German soil at a range of 13000 yds. At 2200 hrs AMERIKA was bombed by a small force of enemy planes. "F" troop 119 LAA, attached 131 Fd Regt, claimed one hit.	
HORST	29th	0900	Recce parties moved forward to new posn approx 2 miles WEST of VENLO (8714). Rest of Regt followed at 1030 hrs over appalling tracks, which after a brief improvement, steadily worsened in the bad weather at the beginning of December. Posn was taken over from 49 Div, and Regt was in action by 1430. Most of the 49 Div targets were later cancelled. Activity from this side was practically nil, though an enormous array of arty was massed. Security probably forbade the revealing of gun posns. Some sporadic shelling, not always inaccurate, was experienced from enemy posns on both sides of the river. No cas were reported.	
OUDE BERKTER	30th		Activity nil. Very quiet.	