

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

Unit 1st. Bn Middlesex Regt (D.C.O.)

Month and Year November 44.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
LIEROP 971156	1st	0645 0900 1100 1200	<p>7 pl B Coy move fwd and go into action at 678136.</p> <p>Attack by 9 Cameronians with 4 & 5 pls A Coy supporting, plus 14 pl D Coy with mortars.</p> <p>A Coy HQ is est at 666154 - 3 pl brought into harbour with Coy to reorganise. 5 pl A Coy move to LIESEL in sp of 2 G.H. - 7 Pl B Coy advance with 6 KOSB to HUTTEN 685125 - opposition encountered.</p> <p>3 pl who have been under comd B Coy revert to comd A Coy.</p> <p>B Coy HQ move to 665145 - 6 pl move to 6814.</p> <p>O.C. C Coy arranges tasks for 9 and 10 pls - 9 pl who are in area 640098 - task - Arc of fire in southerly direction and fixed lines on tracks at right 634093 - left 645085 - 10 pl are in area 644111 - D.F. and harassing tasks in front of 2 Gordons.</p> <p>12 & 15 mortar pls remain on D.F. tasks on call from 2 Gordons and 10 HLI firing 320 bombs.</p> <p>13 pl D Coy are in posn in sp of 8 R.S.</p> <p>14 pl D Coy move to area 665138 and then to N of LIESEL in sp of 9 Cams & 7 Seaforth.</p>	
	2nd	0001 0600 0930 1100	<p>7 pl who have been under comd A Coy, revert to comd B Coy.</p> <p>5 pl A Coy sp 2 G.H. attack on HEITRAK firing from previous posn - Army Film Unit is present during this shoot. 14 pl D Coy gives R flank protection.</p> <p>44 Bde advance along main axis LIESEL - MEIJEL 7006. During this advance 6 & 7 Pls B Coy take up posns at 694115 and 696108 respectively, covering right flank.</p> <p>Success signal received - 5 pl A Coy move fwd to 692118 dominating canal between HUTTEN and HEITRAK. D.F. tasks fixed - 14 pl move to area SLOT. 44 Bde continue to advance south - 5 pl under intermittent shell fire. 4 Pl A Coy are ordered to move R hand section to fire E of track running S.W. from 695145 to track junc at 696135.</p> <p>12 & 15 Pls D Coy remain in sp as a battery of 227 Bde.</p>	<p>44 Bde O.O. No.2 dtd 1 Nov 44 APPX D Folio 5.</p> <p>46 Bde Op.Instr. No 14 dtd 1 Nov 44</p>

		1430 1500	13 pl D Coy now under comd of 6 RSF and move to area N of HEITRAK at 694114 12 & 15 pls D Coy move to 649100 - 13 pl continue in sp of 44 Bde and move into a posn S of SLOT at 675133. They first engage a bridge at HOOGEBRUG and a known enemy posn.	Appx D Folio 6
	3rd	0730 2000	7 pl B Coy move to posn at 698089 taking up direct fire in sp of 6 KOSB. 8 pl B Coy remain in existing role - 6 pl B Coy move to 693108 in sp of 6 RSF. Heavy direct counter mortar retaliation - A duel is fought out with an enemy hy mortar gp whose location is effectively pin-pointed and after 2100 hrs no further enemy firing is heard. This action was carried out by 13 pl D Coy.	44 Bde O.O. No 3 dtd 3 Nov 44 Appx D Folio 7
	4th	0730 0900	44 Bde attack - 46 Bde alter dispositions to take over from 44 Bde. 13 & 15 pls D Coy continue firing on woods east of HOF. 4 pl A Coy fire on enemy trying to cross canal. 15 pl move off from Coy harbour area in sp of 44 Bde and take up posns just N of NEERKANT 697096.	
	5th	1000 1300 1700	4 pl A Coy move to new posns at 763099 - 1 section firing north, dominating canal bank and ground west between fwd locations of Bde and another section firing S.E. giving right flank protection. 3 pl A Coy in action at 685145 Right hand section 4 pl in action - rest of front fairly quiet - O.C. A Coy fixes tasks for night. 7 pl B Coy move to 698085 - 8 pl move to 703097 and later in the day are relieved by 3 pl A Coy.	Trace: Appx J Folio 80) 46(H)Bde O.O. No 14 dtd) 4 Nov 44) 46(H)Bde Sitrep 051630A)
	6th	 0800	11 pl C Coy are ordered to move as part of 2 A&SH - Gp to take up posns in area OSPEL 6605 and to take over from U.S. Battle Gp. 7 & 8 pls B Coy remain in existing roles - 6 pl in sp of 6 RSF move to area 6610 to cover axis MEIJEL - ASTEN 7 Seaforth to drive enemy back across canal at 719090. H - Hour. Attack sptd by 13 & 15 pls D Coy and 4 pl A Coy - 13 pl fire on canal junc 719090 - attack is successful.))) 46(H)Bde Sitrep 061630A)
	7th	1100	11 Pl, C Coy take up posn in copse 664051 - It was found impossible to take over from U.S. Forces as there were no properly organised posns and it was therefore decided to take up new ones.	46(H)Inf Bde 071630A Sitrep.
	8th		Remainder of C Coy move as part of 227 Bde Gp to area MOOSTDIJK 6908 and NEERKANT - Coy HQ is est at LIESEL 6617. Coy takes over B Coys Posns. As 227 are relieving 44 Bde, the mortars come under direct control of the former Bde.	46 Bde Op Instr No 15 dtd 8 Nov 44 46 Bde Sitrep 081630A Trace: Appx J Folio 8.

Appx D Folio 8, 9, 10

			B Coy less 6 pl conc in area ASTEN with Coy HQ est at 601148 pls resting at 615147 - 6 pl remains in existing role with 6 RSF.	
	9th		B Coy less 6 pl at rest. 9 & 10 pls C Coy remain in posns at 698085 and 691094. 12 & 15 pls D Coy remain in sp of 227 Bde - 14 pl with 46 Bde and 13 pl at rest at D Coy HQ.	46(H)Inf Bde 091630A Appx D Folios 11,12,13,14.
	10th	1500 1530	44 Bde Gp less 1 Bn relieved 227 Bde GP less 1 Bn. This entails 7 & 8 pls taking up their original posns. 8 pl is relieved by day and 7 pl by night, 6 pl remaining in existing role. C Coy less 11 pl are relieved by B Coy in LIESEL area and return to rest N of ASTEN. 5 pl A Coy relieves 4 pl who proceed to rest area.	46(H) Bde Sitrep 101600A.
	11th		7 reinforcements (Ptes) arrive at A Coy HQ. 12 Pl mortars remain in location of D Coy HQ at rest. 13 pl remain in sp of 8 RS but are not called upon to fire. This also applies to 14 pl who are still with 46 Bde. 15 pl continue in direct sp of 6 KOSB and fire once at scale 1 on observed enemy movement - Coy HQ remains in same location. 11 pl C Coy carries out shoots on observed targets picked up by infantry. 7 pl B Coy come under considerable shell and mortar fire - 1 Dvr Op is wounded - a loss which the Coy can ill afford as it is so difficult to replace these tradesmen.	46(H)Inf Bde Sitrep 111630A. Appx D. Folios 15 & 16
	12	1415 1545 1800	12 pl is detailed to relieve 14 pl in sp of 46 Bde. 4 pl relieve 3 pl. 5 pl are on call to 2 Glas H from 1630 - 1800 hrs on enemy at bridge 715101. C Coy Comd informed by B.M. that relief of 11 pl (with A&SH) will take place night 13/14 Nov, but owing to traffic restriction over the bridge 616023 it is not possible to carry out the relief at this time, without a complete inter-platoon exchange of guns, vehicles, carriers, etc., and it is therefore decided that 10 pl should move on the night of the 12th and harbour east of the canal bridge. 10 pl C Coy leaves rest area. An artillery officer from a Four Pen Recording Unit visits 15 pl with his section, in order to give his men experience in distinguishing between the sound of enemy mortars and our own. The section set up listens on mortar line and then go back to 2,000 yds, from where the mortars can be heard quite distinctly. At 3,000 yds from the posn, however, only 2 of 4 bombs are heard, due to M.T. movement at the time. It is emphasised that the firing is being heard during an exceptionally quiet day in the line, and it is	46(H) Bde letter 0425 dtd 11 Nov 44 46(H) Bde Sitrep 121630A Appx D Folios 17 & 18

			doubtful if the sound of mortar firing could be distinguished from an appreciable distance against the noise of a full scale battle.	
	13th	1330	6 RSF with 6 pl B Coy are relieved by a Bn of 227 Bde and a Pl of C Coy and rest at 600150. 12 pl D Coy remain in sp of 46 Bde - Enemy mortars are located in area 728098 and engaged. The results are apparently successful, as enemy fire ceases in the area. Relief of 11 pl C Coy takes place as arranged.	46 Inf Bde Sitrep 131630A.
	14th	0915 1400	11 pl returns to area of Coy HQ in ASTEN. O.C. C Coy warned by B.M. that two pls would be required for Ops with 10 HLI on 15 Nov 44 - Owing to number of 11 pl's vehs being off the road it is arranged for 6 pl of B Coy to come under comd C Coy. O.C. A Coy holds 0 gp and gives out orders to 4 & 5 pls, also 12 pl mortars Op "BOMBAR" A Coy pls are ordered to fire from alternative posns - amn allotment is 8 belts per gun. 1st two targets by each pl to be engaged in pl shoot, 3rd and 4th targets engaged as Coy shoot less one pl. A Coy comd goes to O.P. with O.C. 4 pl. Shoot successful - guns firing well - 4 pls are slightly slow. Enemy retaliates by putting down 3 concentrations, each of about 20 shells, behind our smoke screen and firing air burst on what he obviously thinks to be the ground on which our troops are advancing. Several fires started on enemy side of canal. Warning order for 3 pl to relieve 5 pl, is dispatched. 12 pl mortars take part in artillery bombardment programme, given by supporting arms of 46 Bde, into the area E of DEURNE CANAL.	Appx D Folio 19. 46 Bde Op Instr No 16 dtd 13 Nov 4 Appx A to " " " " " 46 Bde Sitrep 141600A
	15th	0830 0900 1100	3 pl A Coy relieves 5 pl A Coy. C Coy Comd visits O.C. 10 HLI - Pls are ordered to move up with 10 HLI - progress very slow owing to mines. Regrouping of D Coy mortars takes place as follows:- 14 pl move to a posn in wood nr NEERKANT 694089 and come in sp of 227 Bde. 14 pl joined by 12 pl. 15 pl relieve 12 pl and take up the formers previous posns in sp of 46 Bde. 13 pl remain with 46 Bde in direct sp of 8 RS. Lt T.O.K. Cross whilst making his way to Bde HQ struck a mine with his carrier. He was mortally injured and died on the way to C.C.P. His MPOA L/Sgt Farebrother and Drv Op Pte Tilley were wounded and evacuated. During the afternoon six 88 mm shells land on 12 pl's posn wounding the pl Sgt and necessitating his evacuation. The loss of such key personnel creates a serious weakness in 12 pl. It is therefore decided to merge 14 pl and regard 12 and 14 pls as one pl of 8 mortars under Capt Livemore.	Appx D Folio 20 & 21

		0830 1000	9 Cams commence the occupation of LOTTUM and 3 pl A Coy has the task of occupying area STOKT 8921 and firing south across Bde front and R MAAS. 12 and 14 pls D Coy remain in sp of 227 Bde. 12 and 14 pls fire on ferry crossing at BROEK HUIZEN.	46 Inf Bde Op Instr No 20 dtd 26 Nov 44 Trace: Appx J Folio 86 46 Bde Sitrep 271700A.
	28th		C Coy are relieved and move back to billets at ASTEN. A Coy is ordered to conc in SEVENUM. B Coy HQ move to 755085. D Coy pls conc in area of HORST nr Coy HQ.	1 Mx Instr 272130. 46 Bde Instr 280015A.
	29th		Capt P.J. Livemore is awarded The MILITARY CROSS for gallantry in the GHEEL brhd area. The following are awarded The MILITARY MEDAL for gallantry in the GHEEL brhd area : - 6207135 Sgt D. Reed, C Coy. 6210105 Cpl A. Stewart, A.C.C. attd HQ Coy. 14415649 Pte E. Haggerty, C Coy.	46 Bde Mov Order No 20 dtd 28 Nov 44 Appx D Folio 42-46.
PANNINGEN 773045	30th	0930 1000 1100	A Coy commence to move to area of SEVENUM. Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to PANNINGEN 773045. A Coy now situated as follows:- Coy HQ - 819126 3 pl - 817141 4 pl - 818139 5 pl - 820141 All coys resting.	46 Bde Sitrep 301800A. Appx D Folio 47.