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.

WAR DIARY

or

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

ARMY FORM C.2118

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

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	0900	7 pl B Coy move fwd and go into action at 678136. Attack by 9 Cameronians with 4 & 5 pls A Coy supporting, plus 14 pl D Coy with mortars. 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. 3 pl who have been under comd B Coy revert to comd A Coy. B Coy HQ move to 665145 - 6 pl move to 6814. 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. 12 & 15 mortar pls remain on D.F. tasks on call from 2 Gordons and 10 HLI firing 320 bombs. 13 pl D Coy are in posn in sp of 8 R.S. 14 pl D Coy move to area 665138 and then to N of LIESEL in sp of 9 Cams & 7 Seaforth.	
	2nd	0001 0600 0930 1100	7 pl who have been under comd A Coy, revert to comd B Coy. 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. 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. 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. 12 & 15 Pls D Coy remain in sp as a battery of 227 Bde.	44 Bde O.O. No.2 dtd 1 Nov 44 APPX D Folio 5. 46 Bde Op.Instr. No 14 dtd 1 Nov 44

			1
	1430	13 pl D Coy now under comd of 6 RSF and move to area N of HEITRAK at	Appx D Folio 6
	1500	694114	
	1500	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	
3rd	0730	at HOOGEBRUG and a known enemy posn. 7 pl B Coy move to posn at 698089 taking up direct fire in sp of 6	
sia	0/30	KOSB.	
		8 pl B Coy remain in existing role - 6 pl B Coy move to 693108 in sp	
		of 6 RSF.	
	2000		
	2000	an enemy hy mortar gp whose location is effectively pin-pointed and	44 Bde O.O. No 3 dtd 3
		after 2100 hrs no further enemy firing is heard. This action was	Nov 44
		carried out by 13 pl D Coy.	Appx D Folio 7
4th	0730		* *
		13 & 15 pls D Coy continue firing on woods east of HOF.	
		4 pl A Coy fire on enemy trying to cross canal.	
	0900	15 pl move off from Coy harbour area in sp of 44 Bde and take up	
		posns just N of NEERKANT 697096.	
5th	1000	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.	
	1300	3 pl A Coy in action at 685145	
	1700		Trace: Appx J Folio 80)
		O.C. A Coy fixes tasks for night.	46(H)Bde O.O. No 14 dtd)
		7 pl B Coy move to 698085 - 8 pl move to 703097 and later in the day	4 Nov 44
<i>c</i> . 1		are relieved by 3 pl A Coy.	46(H)Bde Sitrep 051630A)
6th		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) 16(II) Ddo Git 0616207
		7 Seaforth to drive enemy back across canal at 719090.	46(H)Bde Sitrep 061630A)
	0800	-	
	0000	Attack sptd by 13 & 15 pls D Coy and 4 pl A Coy - 13 pl fire on	
		canal junc 719090 - attack is successful.	
7th	1100	11 Pl, C Coy take up posn in copse 664051 - It was found impossible	
, 011	1100	to take over from U.S. Forces as there were no properly organised	46(H)Inf Bde 071630A
		posns and it was therefore decided to take up new ones.	Sitrep.
8th		Remainder of C Coy move as part of 227 Bde Gp to area MOOSTDIJK 6908	46 Bde Op Instr No 15
		and NEERKANT - Coy HQ is est at LIESEL 6617. Coy takes over B Coys	dtd 8 Nov 44
		Posns. As 227 are relieving 44 Bde, the mortars come under direct	46 Bde Sitrep 081630A
		control of the former Bde.	Trace: Appx J Folio 8.
	1		1

ox 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.	46(H)Inf Bde 091630A
		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	Appx D Folios
		pl at rest at D Coy HQ.	11,12,13,14.
10th	1500	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.	46(H) Bde Sitrep
	1530	5 pl A Coy relieves 4 pl who proceed to rest area.	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	46(H)Inf Bde Sitrep
		observed enemy movement - Coy HQ remains in same location.	111630A.
		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	
1.0	1 41 5	difficult to replace these tradesmen.	Appx D. Folios 15 & 16
12	1415	12 pl is detailed to relieve 14 pl in sp of 46 Bde.	46(33) 73 3 4 4 0405
	1545	4 pl relieve 3 pl.	46(H) Bde letter 0425
		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)	46(H) Bde Sitrep 121630A
		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.	
	1000		
	1800	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.	Appx D Folios 17 & 18
		movement at the time. It is emphasised that the firing is being	APPY D LOTTOR I / % 10
		heard during an exceptionally quiet day in the line, and it is	
		meato outling an exceptionally quiet day in the line, and it is	

			T
		doubtful if the sound of mortar firing could be distinguished from	
40.1	1000	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	46 - 6 - 1 - 1 - 1
		mortars are located in area 728098 and engaged. The results are	46 Inf Bde Sitrep
		apparently successful, as enemy fire ceases in the area.	131630A.
		Relief of 11 pl C Coy takes place as arranged.	
14th		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.	
	0915	O.C. A Coy holds O gp and gives out orders to 4 & 5 pls, also 12 pl	
		mortars Op "BOMBAR"	Appx D Folio 19.
		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.	
	1400	A Coy comd goes to O.P. with O.C. 4 pl.	46 Bde Op Instr No 16
		Shoot successful - guns firing well - 4 pls are slightly slow. Enemy	dtd 13 Nov 4
		retaliates by putting down 3 concentrations, each of about 20	Appx A to " " "
		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.	46 Bde Sitrep 141600A
		Warning order for 3 pl to relieve 5 pl, is dispatched.	To bue broken tribution
		12 pl mortars take part in artillery bombardment programme, given by	
		supporting arms of 46 Bde, into the area E of DEURNE CANAL.	
15th	0830	3 pl A Coy relieves 5 pl A Coy.	
13011	0630	C Coy Comd visits O.C. 10 HLI - Pls are ordered to move up with 10	
			7 D Holio 20 C 21
	0000	HLI - progress very slow owing to mines.	Appx D Folio 20 & 21
	0900	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	
	1100	227 Bde.	
	1100	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.	

	1430 1730	8 pl B Coy move to 704093 in sp of 8 RS covering their E & SE flank. 7 pl B Coy come out to rest, our own tps having advanced through	46 Bde Sitrep 151600A.
	1830	their posns towards MEIJEL 7006. 6 pl B Coy come under comd of C Coy in sp of 227 Bde.	Appx D Folio 22
16th	0830	C Coy Comd recces area of MEIJEL - DONK for pl posns. As a result of	11991 2 10110 22
10011	0030	this pls move up and occupy posns covering E flank of 10 HLI.	46 Bde Sitrep 161600A.
17th	0815	5 pl A Coy relieves 4 pl.	Trace: Appx J Folio 82
2,011	0900	Order received re Op "PRESTO".	46 Bde Amdt O. No 10 dtd
	1500	C Coy Comd receives orders for a pl to cover junc of canals at	17 Nov 44
		722045.	Trace: Appx J Folio 83
		It is decided to give this task to 9 pl who then move from 10 HLI	
		area to the new posn.	
	1700	7 pl B Coy relieved 8 pl each taking over the others location.	46 Bde Sitrep 171600A.
		12 and 14 pls D Coy move to posns just E of HOF 707072.	
18th	1200	6 pl B Coy in action with C Coy afterwards they revert to comd B	46 Bde Sitrep 181600A.
		Coy.	_
19th		Reported enemy withdrawal from DEURNE CANAL.	46 Bde Op Instr No 17
		Combination of Op PRESTO and LENTO takes place.	dtd 17 Nov 44
		9 Cams having est a small bridgehead over the canal send patrols	Amdt No 1 " " " "
		fwd.	46 Bde Op Instr No 18
	0930	5 pl A Coy move to area 6614.	dtd 18 Nov 44
		4 pl A Coy are at 4 hrs notice to move across the canal either with	46 Bde Sitrep 191600A.
		2 GH or 9 Cams.	Appx D Folio 24-27
		Orders are received for the advance to BERINGEN and subsequently	227 Bde OP "NUTCRACKER"
		SEVENUM.	dtd 19 Nov 44
		11 pl C Coy placed in sp of 2 A&SH.	227 Bde Op Instr No 15
		13 pl D Coy are moved from under comd 6 KOSB to comd 6 RSF for	dtd 19 Nov 44
		forthcoming Op.	" " APPX "A" " " "
		Lt F. Dawson, Cheshire Regt, joins D Coy from R.H.U. as 2 IC vice Lt	46(H)Bde Ops for 19 Nov
		T.O.K. Cross, deceased.	44.
00:1		10 111 1 0 0	Trace: Appx J Folio 84
20th		10 and 11 pls C Coy move fwd with 2 Gordons and 2 A&SH respectively	46 Bde Ops for 20 Nov 44
		to posns as follows :- 10 pl at 765088 - 11 pl covering tracks at	
		764084.	
		As a result of 9 Cam patrols the attack is commenced on HELENAVEEN 7311.	
		4 Pl A Coy with 15 pl D Coy are in sp.	
	1415	First attack being unsuccessful, a second is put in and the	
	1413	objective is achieved.	
		4 pl A Coy move across the canal to fwd harbour for night, but owing	
		to extensive minefields and the large amount of vehs and tps in area	
		HOOGEBRUG HELENAVEEN, return to harbour at HUTTEN 6812.	Appx D Folios 28-32.
 	·		

	1120	Bn HQ forms Tac HQ and moves to LIESEL 672143.	46 Bde Sitrep 201700A.
	1600	HQ Coy move to ASTEN 619158.	
21st	0715	Op order received by O.C. A Coy for 46 Bde to cross canal.	46 Bde 0.0. No 15 dtd 20
	0815	Owing to delay in construction of bridge and the appalling state of	Nov 44
		the roads no wheeled vehs are allowed to go fwd.	
	1600	A Coy (less Coy HQ and wheeled vehs) advance on route HOOGEBRUG -	46 Bde Ops. 20/21 Nov 44
		HELENAVEEN - SEVENUM, harbouring in the night at area 778120.	
		12 and 14 pls D Coy in sp of 227 Bde continue to move up the "SKYE"	
		axis towards SEVENUM, occupying posn to rear of 2 Gordons at 766088	
		and then at 781104. 13 pl D Coy remain in sp of 6 RSF and fire on targets E of	
		HELENAVEEN.	
		15 pl D Coy move fwd in 46 Bde column behind A Coy, crossing	
		HOOGEBRUG BRIDGE at 1600 hrs, and reach a posn at 780121.	
22nd	0900	8 pl B Coy move to conc area in MEIJEL with 8 RS to location at	
22110	0000	714065. 12 & 14 pls D Coy remain in sp of 44 Bde who continue their	
		advance towards SEVENUM - 13 pl remain with 6 RSF.	Appx D Folios 33-35.
		Owing to heavy rain and amount of transport, the roads in HELENAVEEN	
		are impassable. 'A' Coy accordingly sets up a Tac HQ at 672142.	
		Coy Comd is ordered by Brigadier to "shoot in" 7 Seaforths with 2	
		pls and protect right flank. 15 pl D Coy are supporting attack also.	
		3 pl A Coy in action at 797135 firing on ACHTERSE HEES.	
		5 pl A Coy move to KRONENBERG 7914 with 7 Seaforths.	Trace: Appx J Folio 85
		4 pl A and 15 pl D Coy are next moved to 795145 as the enemy seem to	
		have withdrawn from the area.	
		7 Seaforths and 2 GH occupy VOORST HEEST 8114 and ACHTERSE HEES	46 Bde Sitrep 222100A.
		8014.	
		Recce now in HORST and Bde becomes virtually non-operative.	
		Chief difficulty was maintaining Pls owing to route AYR being	
	2000	impassable, except to carriers. Road is now impassable to carriers and 2 Weasels are allotted to A	
	2000	Coy. These are used to convey cooks and rations to pls who are	
		situated as follows:-	Appx D Folio 36.
		3 pl - 795136 4 pl - 793144 5 pl - 795143 Coy HQ - 736122.	TIPPE DITTO SU.
	1630	D Coy HQ move over the DEURNE CANAL by the MEIJEL Bridge and is est	
		at BERINGEN.	
23rd		C Coy move to HORST - 9 and 10 pls are in harbour and reserve - 11	
		pl is in posn in 2 A&SH area covering road leading to the village.	
		This is shelled during the night.	
		A Coy still experiencing great difficulty in movement.	46 Bde Sitrep 231600A.
		12 and 14 pls D Coy continue in the sp of the advance of 227 Bde and	
		occupy posns on the southern outskirts of HORST at 833179. Capt	

T		•		
			Livemore is in a command post in HORST and at 1900 hrs the enemy	
			shell the area. One shell lands on his A.O.P. carrier completely	
			destroying it, whilst another hits the bomb lorry loaded with 240	
			bombs, some of which explode. After an hour the fire is completely	
			under control but the lorry is only a tangled mass of wreckage. The	
			carrier dvr., Pte Steel is badly burnt and evacuated.	
			13 pl D Coy remain in reserve with 6 RSF - 15 pl with Seaforths.	Appx D Folio 37
	24th		44 Bde Gp remain at rest.	
		2100	Warning order for 46 Bde to move to SEVENUM the following day.	46 Bde Sitrep 241900A.
	25th		B Coy are at rest.	
		0830	9 pl C Coy move to join 10 HLI to proceed to EIKELENBOSCH 8521, to	
			carry out flank protection for the attack on TIENRAIJ - Coy HQ and	
			10 pl commence to move out of HORST in rear of Bde HQ. 10 pl then	
			ordered to take up posn at SWOIGEN 867231 in sp of 2 Gordons, to	
			give left flank protection and if necessary to fire on	
			BROEKHUIZENVOOST.	
			11 pl C Coy move up with 2 A&SH to TIENRAIJ and after a long carry	
			take up a posn at 859235 covering N and E approaches to the village.	
			C.S.M. Crump, Ptes Goodspeed and Fletcher (C Coy) whilst on a recce	
			run over a mine with their carrier, killing Goodspeed and injuring	
			the other two occupants. The carrier is completely wrecked.	
			12 and 14 pls D Coy advance with 227 Bde towards TIENRAIJ - Coy HQ	7 D H-1 20
		1000	move to area just south of HORST to 824169.	Appx D Folio 38.
		1030	A Coy move with Bde HQ to 816144 via DEURNE - AMERIKA - HORST -	
		1	SEVENUM.	46 51 64 0515005
		1730	46 Bde O Gp.	46 Bde Sitrep 251700A.
	26th		13 pl D Coy are ordered to revert from 44 Bde and R.V. at Coy HQ.	
			15 pl D Coy still in sp of 46 Bde move behind 7 Seaforths column and	
			occupy a posn S.W. of HOUTHUIZEN by the rly at 883173. Targets are	
			engaged across the R. MAAS in area of LOMM 9117.	
		0745	4 pl A and 15 pl D Coy join 7 Seaforths in F.A.A 7 Seaforths	
			advance on HOUTHUIZEN 8917. 4 pl in action at 892174 - 15 pl in	46 Bde Op Instr No. 19
			action at 884172 - A Coy HQ move to 857153.	dtd 25 Nov 44
		0900	C Coy HQ move to EIKELENBOSCH - 9 pl move up with 10 HLI and take up	
			posn at BLITTERSWICK 8727 - 10 pl move up with 2 Gordons and take up	
			posn at 879234 with D.F. tasks on R MAAS from OOIJEN to BROEKHUIZEN	
			- 11 pl move one section with one Coy 2 A&SH to GUN in a posn at	
			878246.	46 Bde Sitrep 261600A.
	27th		9 pl C Coy in view of Coy fire plan moves to 865256 and at	
			completion of task joins Coy HQ - 11 pl moves to 877243.	Appx D Folios 39-41
1				1

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