

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit HQ 227 (Highland) Inf Bde

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year JULY 1944

Commanding Officer Brig JR Mackintosh-Walker, MC

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
le HAUTE du BRETTEVILLE	1		The Bde was relieved by 160 Inf Bde in the COLLEVILLE area and Bde HQ moved to reserve area at le HAUTE du BRETTEVILLE (922725)	
BRETTEVILLE	2		Relief of the Bde gp was completed at 0400 hrs, and Bde Comd, who had stayed at COLLEVILLE until the relief was completed, returned to Bde Headquarters at 0700 hrs.	
BRETTEVILLE	3	1030	GOC 15 (S) Inf Div visited Bde HQ and thanked and praised the Offrs and men for the part they played in the battle at CHEUX	
-do-		-	New Bde Major, Major HS Spens, A & SH, arrived. 227 (H) Inf Bde Op Instr No. 1 issued	APPX 'A'
-do-	4 to 7		Bde HQ had quiet period with no incidents of note.	
-do-	8	-	Amendment No. 1 to 227 (H) Inf Bde Standing Orders for Ops issued	APPX 'B'
-do-	9	-	Amendment No. 2 to 227 (H) Inf Bde Standing Orders for Ops issued	APPX 'C'
-do-	10	1830	Bde HQ moved to 926740 (Ref Map CAEN 7F/1 1:50,000), South East of SECQUEVILLE-en-BESSIN (9274) to allow 12 Corps HQ to take over Bde HQ's previous location.	
	11	-	227 (H) Inf Bde Move Table for concentration of Bde Gp in area VERSON (9565) issued together with trace of unit areas	APPX 'D'
BRETTEVILLE	14	0900	Bde Comd held a briefing conference for Coy Comds on Operation "Greenline"	Appx E
-do- VERSON -do-	15	0030 0400 2145	227 (H) Inf Bde moved to concentration area at VERSON 227 (H) Inf Bde concentrated in area VERSON Preceded by a hy barrage, and aided by artificial "moonlight", the Glas H, who had been placed under comd of the Bde for this op, left the start line NW of Pt 112. Early in the battle, the leading Coys lost touch with Bn HQ and the smoke programme interfered with the direction of the attack. Comd of 2 Glas H asked for the smoke to stop and this was done.	

		<p>At 2300 hrs LE BON REPOS, the first objective, was taken. At 2335 hrs 2 Glas H reported everything going to plan and at 2359 hrs ESQUAY was captured. Glas H then withdrew from ESQUAY according to plan and consolidated on the high ground on the East side of LE BON REPOS.</p> <p>At about 2320 hrs 2 Gordons and 2 A & SH moved forward and 2 Gordons made contact with units of 44 (L) Inf Bde.</p> <p>Bde Tac HQ, which has been established at 1900 hrs in a field north of the Calvary at BARON, came under heavy mortar fire from 2130 hrs onwards, and at 0100 hrs four mortar bombs dropped on and around the White Scout car. Both wireless sets were knocked out and the Bde Comd was killed.</p>	
VERSON	16	<p>Infm of this was passed over the wireless through RA channels by OC 131 Fd Regt, RA, who took over comd of the Bde until the arrival of OC 2 Gordons, Lt Col EC Colville, who had been authorised by the GOC to take comd of the Bde.</p> <p>The death of Brig JR Macintosh-Walker was a great loss. His demeanour and presence forward in the battles were an inspiration to the troops under his comd. He was buried by two of his staff officers under mortar fire in the churchyard at BARON 942625 at 1400 hrs.</p> <p>The acting Bde Comd, Lt Col EC Colville moved Bde Tac HQ to 44 (L) Inf Bde HQ and a LO with wireless set went there and contact with Units was restored.</p> <p>In the meantime 2 Gordons had taken their objective and were instructed to dig in.</p> <p>Every effort was made to arrange timings for further advance of 2 A & SH and HLI, but they proved unsuccessful owing to the inability of the tanks and infantry to tie up.</p> <p>The Bde Comd then ordered all four Bns to dig in where they were and to form a firm base.</p> <p>Many further attempts were made to plan and execute further attacks by 2 A & SH and 10 HLI, but they proved unsuccessful. HLI</p>	

VERSON			<p>remained dug in supporting 2 Glas H to the SE of BARON and A & SH remained dug in in the area LES VILAINS.</p> <p>Throughout the day, 2 Glas H were counter attacked repeatedly especially from the area of the rd LE BON REPOS - EVRECY. Although tanks supported the German attacks they were all repelled.</p> <p>In the later stages the Germans employed as many as six tanks, and the Gordons, thanks to some good shooting by 131 Fd Regt RA, destroyed five Mk IVs.</p> <p>During the night, a small force of German bombers attacked the forward areas and one stick of bombs fell in the Bde HQ area, but there were no casualties.</p>	
VERSON	17		<p>The position remained unchanged throughout the day until the night when the Bde gp, excl 2 Gordons, was relieved by 160 Bde at 2100 hrs. 227 Bde then moved to reserve areas around LE HAUTE DU BOSQUE.</p> <p>At about 0645 hrs the Bde Sig Offr, Captain N MacLean, with three signalmen, left Bde HQ to visit Bns with signal equipment. He left 2 Glas H about 0730 hrs and has not been heard of since. On investigation no sign could be found of the party or jeep in which they were travelling and it is thought that they took the wrong turning and drove into the enemy line.</p>	
CHEUX	18 -	23	<p>Authority was received from 21 Army Group for the promotion and appointment of Lt Col EC Colville to comd 227 (H) Inf Bde, and several other changes were made in the Staff. Captain I MacPherson-Rait (HLI) was appointed Staff Captain in place of Capt RD Spence (HAC) and Captain C Alexander (A & SH) was appointed IO in place of Captain JN Watkins (Seaforth).</p> <p>The Bde remained in the reserve area until 23 July when they moved to the CAUMONT Sector (see att Move Order Appx "F") to relieve the 11 Regt of the 2 American Division.</p>	
CAUMONT	24		<p>The relief was completed by 2359 hrs, and the Bde dispositions were as follows:-</p> <p>10 HLI = CAUMONT</p> <p>2 A & SH = LE REPAS</p> <p>2 Gordons = In area Pt 172 North of CAUMONT with a counter-attack role on CAUMONT.</p> <p>Bde HQ = Situated in the Gordons area.</p>	

CAUMONT	25 - 28	<p>The period from 25 - 28 Jul was devoted to patrolling on this front to find out the enemy dispositions and to keep them under complete subjection.</p> <p>This was the first time the Bde had had the opportunity of patrolling on a large scale, and changes in routine procedure and handling of patrols were effected as experience was gained.</p> <p>Most outstanding lesson learned was the inability to move large patrols through "Bocage" country. Patrol strength of one officer and three ORs was most suitable</p> <p>Due to vigorous patrolling and the arrival of deserters through our lines it was learned that the 326 Inf Div had relieved 2 Pz Div on 22 and 23 July.</p> <p>Shelling and mortaring during this period was intermittent and there were few casualties.</p>	
CAUMONT	28	<p>-</p> <p>To take full advantage of the American successes in the ST LO Sector preparations were made for an attack by 15 (S) Inf Div on the CAUMONT Sector.</p> <p>44 (L) Inf Bde relieved 227 (H) Inf Bde, who moved into concentration areas on the night 28/29 July.</p> <p>On the night 29/30 July the Bde moved into assembly areas for the attack on the morning of 30 July.</p> <p>At approximately 1900 hrs 29 July LUTAIN WOOD was attacked by rocket firing Typhoons.</p> <p>The operation was carried out as laid down in attached Confirmatory Notes (Appx "G")</p> <p><u>PHASE I</u>:- 9 Cameronians on the right encountered a minefield between LE BOURG and SEPT VENTS which delayed the armour but did not prevent the infantry reaching their objective.</p> <p>On the left LUTAIN WOOD was the strongest enemy locality encountered during the op, but Phase I was completed by 1030 hrs.</p> <p><u>PHASE II</u>:- On the right 10 HLI dropped behind their tanks on the move forward; married up again, and soon reached their objective.</p>	

		<p>2 A & SH on the left were far behind their tanks as the going was slow due to mopping up South of LA FORTERIE which took some time. Phase II was completed by 1500 hrs.</p> <p><u>PHASE III</u>:- This was carried out by 46 (H) Inf Bde and was completed by 1830 hrs.</p> <p>During the night 30/31 Jul all Bns were subjected to heavy mortar fire and 2 Gordons were still clearing LUTAIN WOOD.</p>	
CAUMONT	31	<p>Bde HQ moved to LA TEINTURIER (6955) at 1700 hrs. Due to the fact that 43 Inf Div on the left could make little progress, 6 RSF, of 44 (L) Inf Bde were put under comd of the Bde and took up positions South East of LUTAIN WOOD to protect the left flank of the Bde.</p> <p>The task of 15 (S) Inf Div, especially 227 Bde, now was to protect the left flank of 8 Corps while 11 Armd Div and the Guards Armd Div passed through to exploit the breach already made by 15 (S) Inf Div</p> <p>Strength States for Bde HQ, LAD and Def Pl are attached as Appx "H"</p>	