

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. 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

Unit 624 Field Park Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year Nov 44

Commanding Officer Major M.D. Wilkinson RE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
STIPHOUT	Nov 1		Coy at normal works. OC recce for new billets in HELMOND area as rd to billets breaking up.	
HELMOND	Nov 2		Move to HELMOND. All men under cover and workshops in proper workshops. Large scale sign production undertaken especially mine marking signs.	
	3		Part of br pl used for br over canal. Refilled. D6 out to 279.	
	4-7		Coy at normal works, maintenance etc. Billets made more habitable by building of brick fireplaces	
	7-13		Following works done. A mess caravan completed, CRA's new caravan started, made blowers for disclosing schu mines to work off compressor, made small spiked roller to detonate schu mine, signs and furniture for Div Club. Decorator to paint murals at Div club. Purchasing & supplying large quantity timber, nails etc to various units	
ASTEN	Nov 14		Move to ASTEN. Drew 30 tons Defence stores & with further 30 tons miscellaneous stores formed dump. Demonstration of anti-schu mine devices ⊙ compressor blower and roller fairly successful. New improved roller started on	
	Nov 15-16		Following came under command - 1 Bailey Pl, 1 Ass Pl, 1 Tipper Pl, 2 D7's, 1 Autopatrol. 4 Congers fetched & delivered to 222 Ass Sqn. Mobile Bailey parts fetched & delivered to 222 Ass Sqn.	
	17		Excavator to fill Tippers under command, ½ FBE pl under command. Ladders constructed for infantry.	
	18-22		40 RASC lorries attached for carriage of Sommerfeld Track and PBS & delivery to 278 & 20 Fd Coy. Loading & unloading proceeded thro' 24 hrs each day.	
	22		Congers & explosives returned to 508 Corps Fd Pk. RASC drivers got some sleep as roadmaking & carriage of S Track suspended for night	
	Nov 23-24		Collection & delivery of S TRACK continued and issue of tippers to coys	

	25		2 att Bailey pls fwd 2200 hrs ☉ coy warned to be prepared to move next day	
	26		Unable to find area to move to due to swamps. Third Bailey pl sent fwd. 20 RASC vehs returned to their coy	
	27		Area reced BERRINGE ☉ coy received orders move at 0730 28 Nov whether new area found or not to let infantry rest in our billets	
BERRINGE	28		Coy moved to BERRINGE. All br equip less FBE reverted from under command	
	29		2 secs tippers sent back. Order for 500 minefield signs on 7'-6" stakes received - to be ready by Dec 3	
BERRINGE	30		2 new secs tippers arrived. Started reclaiming unused Sommerfeld Track.	
<u>GENERAL</u>			<p>During the month coy received one reinforcements and lost no men. Strength 4 off. 112 ORs</p> <p>During the month 24 men proceeded on leave to BRUSSELS and 6 men to Div Rest Camp at TILBURG</p> <p>Strength of 26 Br Pl 1 off 41 ORs LAD - 12 ORs</p> <p>During the month total ration strength was seldom less than 190 & usually about 230. Strong representations have been made about the grossly inadequate scale of cooks, cookers & cooking apparatus for both the basic fd pk & the br pl. The br pl is actually supposed to cook for 42 people when detached with nothing more than 2 camp kettles (no frying pans, no containers, etc) on 3 No3 cookers. Although the LAD is permanently attached it is not counted against our WE for scaling in regard to cooks, and as we have almost invariably a minimum of 20 - 40 other men attached the situation is further aggravated.</p> <p>Further, the LAD recovery vehicle a Chevrolet Light recovery proved to be useless for 50% of its work and a Heavy Recovery Vehicle Scammel is being obtained.</p> <p>Additional tentage for workshop pl was also obtained but an Aldershot shelter is really required so that vehs may be got under cover as one of our permanent tasks is building in vehs for commanders etc.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">M.D. Wilkinson Major RE</p>	