

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year JUNE 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BRIGHTON	2/3	2300	Bn carries out Practice Move.	
	5		Bn carried out Gas Chamber Tests.	
	6		"D" Day - Operational maps collected.	
	7		Situation map established (Army Intelligence Services)	
	9		Adjutant issues Escapers Expedients to Offrs & Sgts	
	11		Op. Trace received of conc areas. Movement Orders for B Coy come through.	
	12	0345	"B" Coy move to Marshalling Camp T.6. at PURFLEET arriving at 1500 hrs.	
	13	0400 0520 1210	"A" Coy move to Marshalling camp (WANSTEAD FLATS) Bn HQ move to Marshalling camp (WANSTEAD FLATS) Bn HQ and "A" Coy arrive at Marshalling Area	
	14	A.M 1300 2100	"C" Coy move to Marshalling Camp S.G.H. "C" Coy arrive Camp S.G.H. at BRENTWOOD "B" Coy embark on S.S. FORT BRUNSWICK M.T. 66.	
IN TRANSIT	15	0700 0800 1330 1445 1500 1900 1830 2115	B Coy aboard M.T. 66 move to form part of convoy at THAMES ESTUARY & anchors off SOUTHEND-ON-SEA at 1500 hrs. Bn HQ transport proceeds to Port of Embarkation (MILLWALL DOCK), HQ Coy transport included. Orders received for Bn HQ & HQ Coy to proceed to Embarkation Port. Bn HQ & HQ Coy are issued with life belts + 24 hr packs. Move to MILLWALL DOCK. Embarkation on SS EMPIRE PLOUGHMAN (T59) 'C' Coy Drivers arr Camp S.G.F. and main body arr Camp S3 1830 hrs. T59 weighs anchor and proceed up THAMES to form part of convoy at THAMES ESTUARY.	
IN TRANSIT	16	2015 2050	A Coy proceed to Port of Embarkation and move to mouth of THAMES to take up position in convoy aboard S81 FORT NORFOLK. B Coy arrive off coast of NORMANDY and anchor in "RING".	
	17	1600	"B" Coy embark at TILBURY, main body on MT 56 2 I.C. and 12 Drivers on M.T. 64.	

		1800	Leave TILBURY	
		2000	Lay off SOUTHEND-on-SEA.	
		2000	"A" Coy arrive off coast of NORMANDY and anchor in "RING".	
		1945	T59 (Bn HQ + HQ Coy aboard) weighs anchor & reaches NORMANDY coast.	
		2055	T59 anchors in "RING" MAP REF: 933973.	
	21	1200	"A" Coy commence disembarkation and transfer to landing craft. A delay is caused owing to a head on collision with another vessel.	
	19	2000	"C" Coy reach coast of France and anchor in "RING".	
	23	1715	"C" Coy disembark and establish themselves in region on ST GABRIEL.	
ST GABRIEL	24	1930	Bn HQ & remnants of HQ Coy disembark and set up HQ at ST GABRIEL (7F/1 - 889794).	
SHEET 7F/1 889794	25	1845	B Coy disembarks & proceed to ST GABRIEL area D Coy remains at WORTHING & forms part of Div residue which is not expected to cross the Channel for approx one month.	
	29	1600	Bn HQ move to new location BRONAY 890719.	
SECQUEVILLE 916712	25		No 3 Pl 'A' Coy joined 8 ROYAL SCOTS in Assembly Area Secqueville	
	26	0030	Pl moves up to forming up area S. of rly 916712.	
		0730	Attacks begin - go forward with 8 RS to attack LA GAULE	
		1115	Pl in action at 923675 firing E & S.E. 2 casualties during the action. Sgt Freeman and Pte Preston both wounded by fire from tanks. Subjected to Artillery & Mortar fire from enemy - but no casualties. Numbers of enemy snipers in orchards but did not open fire as they did not present themselves in the arc.	
LE MESNIL	27	0500	Relieved by 8 Mx (43 Div) and move back to Coy Harbour in LE MESNIL PATRY	
PATRY	28		Remain in Coy Harbour at 20 mins notice to move.	
	29	0730	Go forward to assist 8 RS in consolidating after an attack S.W. of LE HAUT DU BOSQ. Attack a moderate success, but all objectives not gained owing to heavy enemy arty & mortar fire, and opposition from heavy tanks and infantry. Succeed after greatest difficulty in getting into action on carriers at 897652 with a Coy of 10 DLI (49 Div) Fire for 15 minutes on suspected enemy forming up area in wood. Under arty fire all morning but no casualties.	
		1430	Withdraw to Coy Harbour.	
		1700	Recalled to assist in repelling counter attack against 8 RS & 6 RSF at 899656. Attack never materializes on our sector though Arty & mortar fire is still severe and Pl is under long range fire from automatic weapons (Pte Watts wounded).	

899656		2300	Withdraw to harbour at 906680.	
	30	1300	Go forward to assist 6 R.S.F. in defensive position in orchard at 907657.	
		1430	In action - no enemy appears, though an attack seems to be developing against 6 KOSB in front of Pl.	
	JUL 1	0600	Attack again appears to be developing against 6 KOSB We are under spasmodic mortar fire only.	
		1230	Relieved by 1 Manchesters (53 Div) and move to Coy harbour at 909736.	
	JUN 26	0730	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>No 4 Pl A Coy</u></p> <p>Put in sp of 6 R.S.F. - task of reorganising on objective after the village of ST. MAUVIEU has been captured. Move off to N. NORREY EN BESSIN. As we approach ST. MAUVIEU, extreme resistance is encountered in the shape of large numbers of snipers hidden in the buildings on the outskirts of the village, and it is with the greatest difficulty that the Pl Comd makes his way to the objective of A Coy RSF, a small wood & orchard 934688. A recce is made from one sec position in the fwd edges of the wood, and right & left of track through wood. No infantry, with the exception of one RSF ANTI TANK platoon has reached this area at all. This is presumably due to the presence of at least 6 German snipers & 2 enemy MG positions in the wood at 931687. The D.R. with some difficulty returns to Pl R.V. at Br 927692 and brings up Pl to the wood. The Right hand section is completely unable to take up a position as anyone entering the wood is immediately finished off by the snipers. They are therefore held as a mobile reserve just to the rear. No 2 sec goes into action in the orchard L of track firing centre of arc on MARCELET.</p>	
		1200	<p>Enemy counter attack from area 939657. The R hand sec is brought round into the orchard to reinforce the L flank. This enables the attack to be repelled and it is thought that most of the enemy are wiped out. However a few have filtered through again into the wood. Tanks are periodically being sent into the wood to clear away the enemy but do not seem to have much success.</p>	

		2230	A Coy of KOSB arrive to relieve R.S.F. and it is thought that one of their Pls following 3 Churchill & 2 Crocodile tanks, eventually clear the wood.	
		2300	Pl relieved by 4 Pl 8 Mx.	
	27.		Pl resting in LE MESNIL PATRY.	
	28		" " " " " "	
	29	0630	Pl reports to O.C R.S.F. in area 901686 and are given the task of protecting rear of the Bn against possibility of infiltration.	
		1800	No action in this position. Returned under Coy control to CHEUX.	
CHEUX	30	P.M.	Subject to heavy mortar fire at night - no casualties.	
	JUL 1		Move to 909736 and Coy resting.	
BRETTEVILLE 922728	26		<u>No 5 Pl A Coy</u> Pl is in reserve at Coy HQ BRETTEVILLE.	
		1045	Coy Comd calls for Pl and it takes up a position (913693) near Bde Tac HQ and is given the task of covering a gap between the KOSB & RS. Pl remains in action in this posn throughout the night.	
	27	0600	Pl receives orders to move to Coy harbour at LE MESNIL PATRY and remains throughout day and night.	
	28		Pl Comd is sent for by Coy Comd at KOSB HQ (912664). He remains there throughout the day in readiness to re-organise posn.	
907657	29	1100	Pl occupies a posn in support of 6 KOSB in wood (907657) and is given the task of covering wood (903650) in the event of enemy penetrating through the R.S. & R.S.F. who are in the area.	
		1900	Posn being subjected to heavy mortar fire. Enemy counter attacking on wood & being successfully repelled. Pl returns to Coy harbour.	
	30	0500	Pl proceed to wood 903650 which is now taken over by 6 KOSB and takes up a defensive posn.	
	1 Jul		Enemy counter attacks and pl remains in action under very exacting conditions during attack by enemy tanks and is firing on its fixed line (orchard 901643) when called for by the infantry.	
		1530	Pl relieved by 1 Manchester Regt & proceeds to Coy harbour 909736.	
912680	26	0100	'B' Coy leaves for FUP 891713 S of BRONAY.	
		0730	Coy 2IC moves Coy Rear HQ to 902727 with main 44 H. Bde HQ. Coy advances with leading infantry.	
		1130	Coy Comd (Maj Ellis) injured by falling bough of tree.	

		1200 1300	<p>Pte Walden killed by shrapnel, 300 yards N. of O.C Coy's place of injury.</p> <p>Coy 2IC takes over comd. Major W.D. Ellis evacuated.</p> <p>Plns proceed to S. of CHEUX in accordance with plan, but find no reps from Cameronians to put them in. Very bad posns from M.G. point of view. Whole area subjected to heavy mortar fire, casualties caused:-</p> <p>6 Pl Ptes Breeze J, Royce & Boyce. 7 Pl Ptes Theobald & Brookman.</p> <p>Stretcher bearers Ptes Whiting, Leah showed exemplary behaviour under fire dressing wounds etc., particularly Pte Leah, who himself was slightly wounded. Tiger tank, dug in, reported 150 yds W. of 8 Plns posn.</p> <p>More enemy infantry move up during the night and 8 Pl fire occasionally.</p>	
902698	27	0600 1300	<p>We keep alert, expecting enemy attack.</p> <p>Sgt. Head of 8 Pl is killed in pl area by S.A. fire.</p> <p>Pl from 8 Mx arrives to take over posn.</p> <p>Difficulty experienced in getting clear of posn owing to enemy counter attack.</p> <p>Have great luck in getting through CHEUX, as roads are blocked and carriers are being subjected to fire from Tiger tanks.</p> <p>3 M/cs abandoned N of CHEUX as state of tracks render it impossible for drivers to continue riding them. 8 Pl forced to abandon 1 x 15 cwt when leaving position.</p> <p>1300 Coy re-groups at 902698 S. of LE MESNIL PATRY, main 46 Bde HQ. Coy move in support of 2 Glasgow H. to COLEVILLE 903650 Pte Hore reported to have hit a FW 190 with Bren Gun. This was vouched for by many of Glas. High. in area. C.O. visited Coy. Certain amount of mortar fire at night.</p>	
	28	1730	<p>Heavy mortar fire on position but no other incidents.</p> <p>Lt Handslip, O.C. 7 Pl killed while on recce.</p> <p>6 Pl move to Bridge 916622 in support of A&S High</p> <p>Lt Handslip killed whilst his Pl were supporting an attack by 9 Cams on GRANVILLE.</p> <p>Sgt Drake (7 Pl) injured.</p> <p>Endeavoured to get through to 6 Pl without success.</p> <p>Mortaring of area by enemy multi-barrelled mortar.</p>	
MONDRAVILLE (9164)	29		<p>Move to MONDRAVILLE with 2 GH.</p> <p>7 & 8 Pls occupied various positions covering east & south.</p>	

MONDRAVILLE (9164)			Panic caused by threatened breakthrough of enemy infantry & tanks, which did not materialize. Ptes Probett & Winkworth injured by shrapnel and evacuated. Tank battle towards late afternoon and evening. Endeavoured to contact 6 Pl without success.	
	30		Contacted 6 Pl and about 20 returned after being subjected to intense enemy fire. Position of casualties as yet uncertain as there may be some who are only missing, but there were 12 short.	
	1 Jul	1830	Relieved by 1 Manchesters and Coy moved to rest area 921726.	
FIELD	23	1730	"C" Coy Landed at a posn on coast of FRANCE (7E/5 8586) and proceed to 227 (H) Inf Bde area (7F/1 843780). Arrive at approx 2330 hrs. Coy not yet complete.	
Mt FAUVEL	24	1500 2300	Remainder of Coy arrive this area. Orders arrive from 46 (H) Inf Bde to move to FAA. SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN (7/F1 9274)	
SECQUEVILLE- EN-BESSIN	25	0100 2100 2115 1830	Arrive at FAA No 9 Pln moves to join 7 SEAFORTH in same area. No 10 Pln moves to join 2 GLAS H. in same area. No 11 Pln moves to join 2 GORDONS at VAUX-SUR-SEULLES (7F/1 8377). Adv Coy HQ joins 46 Bde TAC HQ in SECQUEVILLE.	
PUTOT-EN- BESSIN PUTOT-EN- BESSIN	26	0300 1730 1500 1900	Adv Coy HQ moves forward to x-roads (906679) arriving at 0530 hrs. No 9 Pln advance with 7 SEAFORTH (rear Bn) and halted in CHEUX (9167) at 1900 hrs approx. Pln in position at 920770 but did not have cause to fire. No 10 Pln cross start line at 0730 hrs with 2 GLAS. H. and reach first objective at 1400 hrs. Pln reorganise on the objective at 907678. Pln advance and reorganise on second objective SOUTH of CHEUX at 917673. No 11 Pln with 2 GORDONS reach area (905685) SOUTH of LE MESNIL PATRY. In action at 915668 supporting attack by 2 GORDONS on COLVILLE - TOURVILLE. Subsequent situation resulted in orders being received to join 227 (H) Inf Bde TAC HQ. Find this eventually at 0530 hrs on 27th.	
	27		No 10 Pln withdraws with 2 GORDONS to area 920770 and joins 9 CAMS. Pln concentrates at COLEVILLE (9264) No 11 Pln takes up defensive posn with 2 GORDONS in COLEVILLE area. Pln posn on railway embankment (922647).	

		0730 2330	<p>Pte GRAY A. is killed. Pln moves again with 2 GORDONS and takes up defensive posn on main road at TOURVILLE (9264).</p> <p>One carrier hit by shell fire from enemy tank - no casualties Pte Holt evacuated suffering from exhaustion.</p>	
CHEUX	28		<p>No 9 Pln advance from CHEUX and deploy to assist in the clearance of woods to COLEVILLE. Route via HILL 100 - Bridge 919655. Pln takes up posn in MONDRAINVILLE area (9164) until orders are received from 7 SEAFORTH to move to farm (912637). Pln remain in this posn under heavy mortar fire & sniping until relieved by MANCHESTER REGT.</p> <p>No 10 Pln on success of 2 GORDONS attack in GRANVILLE-SUR-ODON move up for reorganisation and take up posn at 909645.</p> <p>No 11 Pln take up defence posns in TOURVILLE in view of suspected counter-attacks.</p>	
CHEUX	29	1600 2100	<p>No 10 Pln in action during morning and evening to repel counter-attacks. No 2 Sec withdraws at 2000 hrs with 'B' Coy 9 CAMS to CHEUX. In the ensuing disorganisation the section reports to a Bn of the WELSH GUARDS and is passed back to 15 (S) Inf Div HQ. On obtaining from this HQ the location of Adv Coy HQ the section rejoins. No 1 sec withdraws with 'A' Coy 9 CAMS to a posn approx 300 yards in rear of original one. After assisting in clearing woods in this area the sec returns to original posn.</p> <p>Sgt Reed, in command of No 1 Sec, showed great coolness and initiative in handling his sec whilst out of touch with his Pln Comd.</p> <p>No 11 Pln - in same posn - goes into action to repel a counter attack from SOUTH WEST.</p> <p>No 11 Pln moves back with 2 GORDONS to resist a counter attack on COLEVILLE. Attack did not develop</p>	
CHEUX	30		<p>No 10 Pln (No 2 Sec) withdraws to area of Adv Coy HQ at road line (924648).</p> <p>No 11 Pln receive orders for continued advance at 0730 hrs. Route: TOURVILLE - Bridge 9363 - LES VILAINS - GAVRUS - Bridge 9162 - preparatory to an attack on MONCEAUX. During the advance the Pln comes under heavy fire S.W. of TOURVILLE (928638) resulting in the following casualties:</p> <p>Wounded:- Sgt HEATH, Sgt WILKINSON, CPL COOK, CPL BLACKMAN, L/CPL CLARK, L/CPL BERRIDGE, PTES GARRAWAY, SEAL, STONE, HILL, LAMBE, NORWOOD, CHAPPELL, JAMES, CRAFT, ROGERS, YOUNG, PITHET, PTE FORD W. MISSING.</p> <p>Pln Comd on his return from Bn "R" Group organises the evacuation of the wounded and vehicles. On orders from OC Coy, Pln retires to Adv Coy HQ area.</p>	

CHEUX			During the period in which the casualties were suffered, PTE BARNES showed exceptional courage and devotion to duty in rendering assistance to wounded men, thus preventing further injuries to those who were unable to move and setting a fine example which was followed by other private soldiers.	
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Unit 1st Bn Middlesex Regt (D.C.O.)

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Month and Year JULY 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
SECQUEVILLE	1	1530	Bn HQ & HQ Coy move to SECQUEVILLE EN BESSIN.	
EN BESSIN 911764	2	1200 1405	Coys are now harbouring at the following locations:- "A" approx 1 mile S.W. of SECQUEVILLE at 905765 "B" BRETTEVILLE L'ORGUEILLEUSE 921720 "C" BRONAY 881723 Coy Comds attend CO's Conference at Bn HQ. 'C' Coy shelled by enemy guns - Lt Fletcher wounded - L/Sgt Stevens slightly wounded - Pte Belton seriously wounded - all by shrapnel.	Pte Belton has since died.
	3		Lt Atkin 'B' Coy evacuated to C.C.S. Capt J.B. Redman promoted A/Major.	B.O. 135/para(1).
	4		Major Redman takes command of "B" Coy vice Major W.D. Ellis who was injured in previous operation.	
	5		6 Reinforcements sent to "B" Coy.	
	6	0900	"D" Coy move to marshalling area WATERLOOVILLE from WORTHING.	
	7	0730 1100 1800 1930 2330	"D" Coy proceed to Embarkation Port - GOSPORT. "A" Coy Comd is called to Bde and makes fwd recce with the object of taking over defence posns from 'C' Coy 8 Mx, 130 Bde, 43 div. 18 Reinforcements sent to 'B' Coy. "D" Coy embark. L/Cpl Bennett (D Coy) injures his ankle whilst driving m/c on board and is lowered over ships side into a small boat which takes him to hospital. Everyone is impressed by the R.A.F. The sky is black with bombers as they attack targets in and around CAEN. "A" Coy moves to TOURVILLE and Pls are dispersed as follows: 3 Pl 953636 - 4 Pl 925639 - 5 Pl 928637	
	8	1300 1630	"D" Coy anchor off the coast of FRANCE after a calm and uneventful crossing. "D" Coy disembark and proceed to assembly area ST CROIX SUR MER. "A" Coy are subjected to spasmodic mortar fire all through day & night.	

	9	0800 1300 1800	"D" Coy move to Div Conc Area, ST GABRIEL. "D" Coy arrive in adjacent field to Bn HQ at SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN. "C" Coy receive orders to move to F.A.A.																					
	10	0100 0600 0645 1500 1700 2130 2300	"C" Coy HQ move to MOUEN (935656) Pls form up in defensive posns against a presumed attack by the enemy from the South. Nos 9, 10 & 11 Pls in posns at FONTAINE ETOUPEFOUR (963641) and are under continuous fire from enemy. 1 M.G. of No 3 Pl (A Coy) hit by shell fragment. Enemy can be observed whole time they are in posn. O.C. 1 Manchesters recces A Coy's posns with a view to relief. "C" Coy HQ move to Verson 968658 Lieut Q.T. Robinson & 5 ORs join Coy as Rfts. Counter attack threatened & 'C' Coys guns are laid out for all round defence. 'C' Coy Pls lay guns by compass on Xrds S.E. of ETERVILLE but 9 Cameronians do not ask for any covering fire. 1 Carrier of 10 Pl receives direct hit - no casualties. 1 Carrier of 11 Pl hit and the driver, PTE TOVEY, is killed. Heavy mortar shelling has resulted in the following casualties:- <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">WOUNDED</td> <td style="width: 50%;">EXHAUSTION</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sgt Gillet</td> <td>Pte Payne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L/Sgt May</td> <td>Pte Chisholme</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pte Williams L.</td> <td>Pte Mansell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" Fisher A.</td> <td>" Phillips D.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" Little</td> <td>" Walton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" Burnett</td> <td>L/Cpl Halliwell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" Hemmings</td> <td>Pte Riches</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>" Barr</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>" Barnes</td> </tr> </table> B Coy moves to new location 921742 Lt Atkin returns from hospital and takes over comd of 6 Pl.	WOUNDED	EXHAUSTION	Sgt Gillet	Pte Payne	L/Sgt May	Pte Chisholme	Pte Williams L.	Pte Mansell	" Fisher A.	" Phillips D.	" Little	" Walton	" Burnett	L/Cpl Halliwell	" Hemmings	Pte Riches		" Barr		" Barnes	
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	11	1400 2200	10 & 11 Plns "C" Coy in posns N of Verson and in support of 2 G.H., open fire on hedgerow 200 yds S. of ETERVILLE. Pls subjected to heavy mortar & shell fire Ptes Richards & Harvey wounded. Pte Teader suffering from exhaustion - Cpl Bibby & Pte Osborne missing. 2/Lt Riley is posted to B Coy & 7 Pl. 'C' Coy relieved by Toronto Scottish, 4th Canadian Div.																					
	12 -		Bn at rest.																					
	14	1730 2000	H.Q. Coy less Bn HQ move to new location ST MAUVIEU 9286. 'D' Coy advance HQ move to assembly area TOURVILLE.																					

		2100 Advance HQ "C" Coy move to 227 Bde HQ area. 9 & 11 plns to join A&SH N. of BRETTEVILLE. 2230 12, 13 & 15 Pls ('D' Coy) move to mortar posns at TOURVILLE in support of 44 Bde. 14 Pl are held in reserve and remain with Coy HQ. 2345 "B" Coy follow in rear of 2 G.H. columns & proceed to WOOD 951647. Pte Dennis is suffering from a fractured leg due to mortar fire as we arrive. Rear HQ moves to 934669. Intermittent mortar & shelling during the night. An ammunition dump is ablaze a few hundred yards off.	
MARCELET 934679	15	0200 'A' Coy move to advance area at 936343 0300 "C" Coy advance H.Q. moves to new location MOUNT VERNON. 1015 Bn HQ moves to new location within Div area - MARCELET 934679. The Bn is taking up posns in readiness for Op. GREENLINE. 1030 "C" Coy A2 move to field in which Bn HQ is est. 1230 12 Pl ('D' Coy) range on target. First bomb is seen to cause a great cloud of smoke. 1345 "D" Coy TAC HQ move to battle posns S. of R ODON 1630 "B" Coy advance HQ and Pls take up the posns as follows:- 6 Pl 964638 - 7 Pl 959636 - 8 Pl 965634 in preparation for a map shoot. 1800 Pte Ingrey of 'C' Coy evacuated suffering from exhaustion. 1830 9 & 11 Pl "C" Coy move to F.A.A. (947633) and are heavily shelled shortly after arrival. 2145 H-Hour OP. GREENLINE. All mortar posns subjected to heavy enemy mortar fire resulting in the following casualties:- Killed - Cpl Symonds. - Wounded - Cpl Brock, L/Cpl Ball - Ptes Sparkes - Rose C. - Sharp - Marsh - Phillips R - Petch. Pte Holt of "C" Coy evacuated suffering from exhaustion. 2300 Capt Cummins & Col/Sgt Clarke ('B' Coy) are caught in mortar fire and both wounded. Capt Cummins insists on returning to rear HQ in order to clear up one or two things before going to hospital.	
	16	0045 The following casualties of "C" Coy are evacuated Wounded - Sgt Pearce - L/Cpls Edwards & Carlton - Cpl Lane - Ptes Deacon - Stephens W - Jones E - Bell G - Easton - Tanner - Bedell. 0430 9 & 11 pls ("C" Coy) move fwd to carry out tasks as follows:- 9 Pl to follow up A&SH and to give depth to reorganisation. 0430 11 Pl to support the attack from BAS d'ESQUAY. 0700 "B" Coy Comd endeavours to contact C.O. of 2 GH but is unsuccessful owing to the HQ being under enemy observation. 1100 9 & 11 Plns C Coy move to 929627 LES VILLAINS to harbour.	

MARCELET		1200	<p>13 & 15 Plns D Coy move to new posns and fire from plain N.W of GAVRUS from 1200-1300.</p> <p>13 Pln do a "Crash Action" shoot and fire 260 bombs.</p> <p>5 Pl ('A' Coy) moves out from TOURVILLE to area S of LES VILLAINS and carries out a Map Shoot on EVENAY.</p> <p>The action lasts an hour & Pl D.R. is killed, Pte NEWTON S.</p>	
		1200	Capt Cummins is taken to Bn HQ where he imparts information to the Adjut before proceeding to 23 C.C.S.	
		1900	<p>Orders received by "C" Coy that both pls will support attack by 158 Bde.</p> <p><u>TASKS:</u></p> <p>9 Pl to bring down fire on Xrds at EVRECY and orchard immediately south - followed by fire on to AVENAY area.</p> <p>11 Pl supporting fire on to Orchard S. of BAS D'ESQUAY and AVENAY area.</p>	
		2300	Approx 15 JU's 188 attack area in which "B" Coy are situated - bombs and leaflets are dropped. These leaflets inform all who read that "ALL YOUR BASES ARE DESTROYED". This causes much amusement, as the men have just received a pint of beer each which was brought up from one of the so-called "Destroyed Bases".	
		2320	C.S.M. MARSHAL claims to shoot down an enemy bomber with L.M.G. fire. His claim is supported by 3 witnesses, one a Captain from the R.A.	
		2330	<p>9 & 11 Pls carry out the prearranged tasks from posn at LES VILLAINS.</p> <p>"D" Coy HQ and all Pl areas are again subjected to heavy mortar fire. Cpl Rosser slightly wounded above right eye but remains with Pl.</p> <p>Snipers are also in evidence, but although some equipment is damaged there are no casualties.</p> <p>14 Pl support attack by 158 Bde and give covering fire on mortar and Arty gun emplacements from a posn on R. ODON. The shoot was carried out to time in spite of bombing attack by enemy planes.</p>	
	17	0200	3 casualties caused to No 11 Pl by shelling	
		0900	Wounded - Sgt Shrubbs - Ptes Chesterman & Watts.	
		0930	<p>Lt R.R.T. Whitehead who has been appointed 2IC 'B' Coy vice Capt RWB Cummins (wounded in action) visits Coy.</p> <p>Cpl Klein (D Coy) is wounded by shrapnel and evacuated to local R.A.P.</p> <p>14 Pl support 2nd attack by 158 Bde - this time from a valley between LES VILLAINS and GAVRUS.</p>	

		2115	1 mortar is out of action on first shoot but 3 remaining mortars shoot 200 bombs on target. At the end of the shoot the tanks in the attack rally on M.P. and there is considerable confusion.	
		2300	On a new attack being mounted, 9 & 11 Pls fire on the AVENAY area and an average of 50 belts per gun expended. 5 Pl 'A' Coy remains in harbour at TOURVILLE but at night carries out map shoot on EVENAY, 104 belts of amn being fired in 1¼ hours. "B" Coy rear HQ subjected to air raid. Anti-personnel bombs are dropped. 1 3 ton lorry is damaged.	
MARCELET	18	0001 0200 2300	"A" Coy relieved by 9 Manchester Regt & moves to area 905692. "B" Coy relieved and proceed to 907688. Enemy air activity - Bn HQ location is bombed. One drops by "C" Coy rear location (other side of field) damaging water carrier. Another drops at entrance to field injuring the guard, Pte Piper, who is found to be suffering with a compound fracture of the femur. The Signal office is in absolute ruins and the signal clerk is slightly injured. 3 m/cs are out of action, two completely destroyed and one damaged, and the M.O. is hard at work on Piper's leg. There is a queue outside the tent, all slightly injured personnel waiting for attention. It was very fortunate that we were all well dug in. The only secret docs in Signal office at the time were Code Signs. These were eventually salvaged.	
ST MAUVIEU 9268 MARCELET 934679 NORREY-EN- BESSIN	19	0830 1230	HQ Coy less Bn HQ and 1 Pl move to area S. of NORREY-EN-BESSIN and occupy area with B & D Coys. Bn HQ move to new location NORREY EN BESSIN and establish themselves in a field above HQ, B & D Coys. The Bn is situated in this location and having a well deserved rest.	
	20	1000	Divisional Comd visits Bn and expresses his appreciation of the good work the Bn has done in the last OP. He says that he is "Proud to have the Bn under his Comd". Lt Q.T. Robinson (B Coy) is reappointed T/Capt and takes over 2I.C. from Lt R.R.T. Whitehead, who is transferred to A Coy.	
	23	1620 1800	Bn move to St Lo area in convoy and join 30 Corps taking over from 5 US Army Div. On reaching dispersal point Coys proceed to following locations:- Bn HQ, HQ & C Coys - LIGNEROLLES - 7269. A - SALLEN 683618 - B - LA QUEUEMIERIE - 704635 D - TAC HQ is est N of CAUMONT - 12 & 15 Pls in support of 227 Bde - 13 & 14 Pls in support of 44 Bde. All Pls are allotted D.F. & Counter Mortar tasks.	

			Bn HQ, HQ & C Coys are in proximity of U.S. aerodrome which is frequently shelled. Some land fairly close to location.	
	24		A & B Coy Comds assume the role of assistant Counter-Mortar Officers in Div plan. The intention is that as soon as a bomb or shell lands in a Bde area, the A/C.M.O. orders immediate retaliation on selected targets by 3 Pl's M.M.G.'s, two or more Pls' 4.2" mortars and all available 3" mortars. Deliberate retaliation is carried out with the aid of artillery on a Divisional scale by Div C.M.O. The Bn has taken a defensive role and periodical counter-mortar fire proves to be very successful. Lt Livemore (D Coy) has an excellent O.P. in CAUMONT from which many shoots are carried out.	
	29		A, B & D Coys move to new locations in preparation for OP BLUECOAT and are est as follows:- A - SEPT VENTS - 693573 - 4 & 5 Pls in Sp of 7 Seaforths on Hill 309 - 6951 - 3 Pl at 692514. 12 & 15 Pls (D Coy) are in Sp of 227 Bde - 13 & 14 Pls are under comd of C.R.A.	
FOULOGNES 703636	30	0655 1730 2355	B - 8 Pl in sp of 10 HLI 689548 - 6 Pl at 709539 & 7 Pl 706540 both in sp of 2 A&SH. All 4 Pls (D Coy) are in action in front of first objective - LUTAIN WOOD - 693573. 2nd objective is captured by 227 Bde and all 4 pls are placed in support of 46 Bde. Bn HQ & HQ Coy move to new location approx 1 mile S. of village of FOULOGNES 703636 Pte H David (D Coy) captures German sniper found lurking in the adjoining field to Adv Coy HQ.	
	31	1700	Pte Baker (B Coy) is wounded by a smoke shell canister. Advance HQ move up to location of 227 Bde at 704554. 13 Pl 2I.C's carrier strikes a mine on verge of road. The driver, Pte Amelan is wounded in the eye. All 4 Pls of D Coy are in action in posns just behind Glasgow Highlanders and engage targets from O.Ps. They are also allotted, and engaged D.F. tasks. 14 Pl comes under fire from enemy armoured car. Sgt Barwood returns fire by means of a PIAT. This throws the crew into confusion and overturns the armoured car.	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year August 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Bn HQ FOULOGNES	1	1800 1000 1200	4 & 5 Pls 'A' Coy are in location on Hill 309 MR 6951 - 3 Pl at 692514. Pls are subjected to heavy shell and mortar fire and numerous casualties are sustained. 5 Pl fire direct on enemy inf who are mounted on tks endeavouring to escape from BOIS DU HOMME. Many casualties are inflicted on enemy. 'C' Coy are located at LE MANOU 706536. No 9 Pl engage northern edge of wood and road 7051 - 7151. This Pl is still under comd of 8 RS. 'C' Coy Comd is ordered to co-ordinate DF & CM plan of MMGs and 3" mortars after KOSB has attacked and taken up posn SOUTH of BARELIERE 7052. 'B' Coy remains in same location. All pls of 'D' Coy are subjected to heavy shell fire during which Cpl Rowley and Ptes Armitage & Shimell receive serious wounds.	
	2	1530	6 Pl move fwd with 2 A & SH and take up posns at 689492. 7 Pl with 2 Gordons at 694477. 8 Pl with 10 HLI at 683484. 46 Bde regroup and 'C' Coy move fwd to area ST LAURE - 9 Pl under comd 6 RSF, 11 Pl under comd 6 KOSB. 'D' Coy less one Pl are now in posns as under :- Coy HQ with 227 Bde HQ at 686496. 12 Pl at 686487 and 13 & 15 Pls at 685485.	
ST LAURE	3	1010 1700 1900	'C' Coy Comd informed by BM 44 Bde that a counter attack is being made by enemy on to CATHOLLES 7444. 6 RSF Bn Gp is moved up to area and No 9 Pl comes under comd operationally. Coy Adv HQ moves fwd to 680446. Nos 9 & 11 Pls to 700466 to sp attack on LA COUR. 14 Pl move with 46 Bde to 711453.	
	4		'A' Coy move to ST PIERRE TARENTIN and Pls take up posns as follows:- 3 Pl - 716412, 4 Pl - 713424, 5 Pl - 710435. Coy HQ - 707460.	

		0600	Maj D.A. Phillips is evacuated (Sick) to 193 Fd Amb. Capt H.D. Euren assumes comd - Lt K.B. Torrens-Spence takes over 2 IC.	
	5	0700 0730 0900 1400 2000 2100	'B' Coy move fwd and pls take up the following posns:- 6 Pl - 748427 in sp 2 A & SH. 7 Pl - 767408 in sp 2 Gordons. 8 Pl - 772413 in sp 10 HLI. 9 & 11 Pls 'C' Coy take up posns SOUTH of MONTCHARIVEL. 'D' Coy less 14 Pl move to MONTCHARIVEL area. Coy HQ with 227 Bde - 758437. 12 Pl - 747423. 13 & 15 Pls 768414, and are allotted counter-mortar tasks. 14 Pl move to 709445 with 46 Bde. 7 Pl ('B' Coy) who have moved with 2 Gordons are subjected to heavy shelling from which 1 OR is killed and 6 wounded. 6 Pl report 2 casualties wounded. 8 Pl " 1 " " 4 Pl ('A' Coy) moves into FAA of 9 Cams prior to Bde attaining BOIS DES MONTS - Pts 108 - 232, LASSY & LA ROCQUE	
	6	0700 1330 1600 1700	12, 13 & 15 Pls ('D' Coy) are ordered to be on truck ready to move to LE THEIL on its capture by 10 HLI - thence to engage targets southwards. However 227 Bde's attack does not go according to plan and orders are issued for 2 of these 3 pls to sp 2 A & SH. Shortly afterwards these orders are cancelled and pls are again ordered on trucks and later occupy posns as under :- 12 Pl (in sp of 2 Gordons & 10 HLI) 748380. 13 & 15 Pls (in sp of 2 A & SH) 764405. 'A' Coy Comd is called fwd to location 795412 to COs 'O' Gp and during his absence Coy area is heavily shelled, resulting in high casualties and damaging M/C belonging to 4 Pl. 'O' Gp decides that Coy will support an attack on high ground area 795405, by rapid map shoot at 785410 from 1415 - 1430 hrs on to LA CHEVALIERE and GURNEY and from 1430-1445 hrs on to pts 232 and 180. The shoot is quite successful - but immediately firing ceased a heavy concentration of shells fall in gun line - 4 guns are rendered inoperative. Sgt Ellison & Pte Barlow are killed and L/Sgts Edwards & Mullings, L/Cpl Johnson and Ptes Davis, Bourne & Cheadle are wounded. 9 Cams withdraw to area LA DRURIE 7641 and pl remains in this area constantly under enemy shelling. 4 Pl is reduced to one section on wheels with 3 tasks - (1) Firing from area 7 Seaforths to CAUERIE X-rds. (2) Firing WEST. (3) Firing NORTH from area Glas H. Adv Coy HQ move to 767427 with 44 Bde Tac HQ. 'C' Coy move in the "Advance to Contact" with the RS. The original intention being a move to VASSY (7932) but the coln is halted by a	

		2100	<p>very strong pocket of resistance at LASSY (7939) where for the first time a Bde of the 15th Scottish reluctantly has to withdraw (if only for a few yards) to the high ground pts 7840 - 7940 - 7980. A defensive posn is now taken up and 227 Bde comes through to the right and advances successfully on ESTRY. 25 Pdrs pave the way with a terrific weight of fire. Heavy mist obscured the targets. Typhoons, Thunderbolts & Spitfires helped the attack. Message received at 'B' Coy HQ reporting that Lt L.T. ATKIN has been killed.</p>	
	7	0015 0300 0830 1200 1300	<p>O.C. 'B' Coy who, on receipt of message, had gone fwd to confirm the tragic news, returns with the information that Lt ATKIN has been killed by enemy SA fire whilst fwd on a recce.</p> <p>7 Pl ('B' Coy) covers withdrawal of 46 Bde and then withdraws to high ground NORTH of AU CORNU with 2 Glas H.</p> <p>9 Pl move from R Scots area to LA MOTTE area.</p> <p>11 Pl joins the KOSB in the low ground but as the country is of a very close nature returns to LA MOTTE.</p> <p>Sgt Waite (8 Pl 'B' Coy) takes over comd of 6 Pl.</p> <p>6 Pl take 3 prisoners, occupants of a car who were taking a meal to the enemy and had taken a wrong turning.</p>	
Bn HQ ST PIERRE TARENTIN 704454	8	0900 1130 1230 1300 0900 1700	<p>7 Pl ('B' Coy) move fwd and take posn at 745410 and 8 Pl at 748393.</p> <p>5 Pl reports a small counter attack - enemy inf and 2 tks are seen in area 770400. The tks adv to 769405 and receive direct hits from our 17 pdr. The Pl opens up on inf around this location.</p> <p>The attack by 44 Bde on ESTRY commences and is supported by 12, 13 & 15 Pls from 1140 to 1330. 800 bombs are fired on targets of known enemy posns SOUTH & SE of ESTRY.</p> <p>Whilst going back to collect more bombs, which had been dumped in yesterday's posns, 3 carriers of 13 pl encountered some enemy Mk IV tanks situated on the X-rds 769405 and approx 768399. The carriers are fired on from both directions and all three receive at least 3 direct hits from the tanks 75 mm guns, killing Sgt Godfrey and Pte Gleave, and wounding L/Cpl Tatt.</p> <p>Bn HQ move to new location at ST PIERRE TARENTIN 704454.</p> <p>9 & 11 Pls move to 745400 to carry out indirect shoot on L'ARTHIEL in sp of 44 Bde's attack on ESTRY.</p> <p>We now have expended 134 belts since opening fire at 1230.</p>	
	9	1200	<p>The farmer at Bn HQ's location reports that there is a "Bosche" in hiding in his barn. This is doubted as we are quite a distance behind the front. Nevertheless an extensive search is made and does not bear any results. The farmer still insists that the German is in hiding and in order to pacify him we again search. This time with</p>	

			<p>the aid of a dog. It is incredible that a man could be hiding in the barn but sure enough he is, for Pte Turner's attention is attracted to the dog who is sniffing at a certain board on the barn floor. The German is underneath and is dragged out by the Provost Sgt & stripped. A guard is then placed over him. One of our fellows knows a smattering of German and with some little difficulty we glean that he is 23 years old and is a telephone operator. He had been living on raw eggs for two days. A camera was found near him and one film had been exposed. This together with the German is taken to the nearest PW Cage.</p> <p>1015 'B' Coy HQ move to 744424.</p> <p>1130 Maj W.D. Ellis returns fighting fit and takes over comd of Coy from T/Maj J.B. Redman.</p> <p>1800 Coy HQ ('C') move to MONTCHAMP.</p> <p>As the Division is now ordered to defend the posns they hold, counter mortar activity becomes very much more prominent and during the day and night 'D' Coy is kept busy with counter mortar shoots.</p>	
	10		<p>Maj Redman takes over comd of 'C' Coy vice Maj Phillips who is evacuated owing to sickness.</p> <p>Coys remain in same locations and occasional c/m fire is called for.</p>	
	11		Nothing of interest to record.	
	12		It is now agreed that MMG Coy Comds are not in a posn to do A/CMOS duties.	
	13	0500 1430 1700	<p>'A' Coy move to harbour area at Orchard 9860.</p> <p>'C' Coy concentrate at ST PIERRE TARENTIN 707750.</p> <p>'D' Coy move to area in which Bn HQ is situated.</p> <p>No 9 Pl ('C' Coy) report incident of Polish deserter surrendering on gun line. On being questioned he said that five of them had deserted during our artillery bombardment. These Poles are continually looking for Allied tps to surrender to and they are completely unarmed.</p>	
	14		Bn HQ and 'D' Coy proceed to new location on CAEN Sector - MAIZET 948576. The Division has come under comd of 12 Corps.	
	15		<p>'A' Coy move to new location 005495.</p> <p>Bn is not at the moment partaking in any operational role.</p>	
	17	2100	Bn HQ, HQ & 'D' Coys move to CINGAL 026481.	
	18		CRA opens series of lectures and demonstrations with 'D' Coy with the object of bringing mortars on to their lines of fire with greater accuracy. 3 RA officers are att to Coy for instruction purposes.	
	19 - 25		Bn takes up defensive role during this period, and advances 5 - 6 miles each 2 or 3 days.	

FALAISE	25		<p>Bn HQ, HQ & D Coy prepare to "Go as far fwd as they can". 'A' Coy with 46 Bde - 'B' - 227 Bde - 'C' with 44 Bde. This policy is used throughout the Div. After a day of slow movement in convoy Bn HQ, HQ & D Coys pass through BERNAY where their vehicles are bedecked with flowers and the troops are given cider. There is much fraternising as the enemy had only been gone that same day. Bn harbours for the night just beyond BERNAY.</p>	
	26	1100	<p>Bn HQ, HQ & D Coys move fwd to COMBON. The Division is now given the role of forming a bridgehead over the R SEINE, with certain objectives. When these are taken 12 Corps will come through and break out of the bridgehead.</p>	
LOUVIERS 258920	27	1830	<p>Bn move to LOUVIERS in preparation for the crossing. We are almost overlooking the river and are located on the road running parallel with the SEINE. The enemy has been seen across the river, and in the afternoon all Coys take up posns on the side of the hill, 36 MGs open up and fire across the valley to the high ground over the river. They are firing as fast as they can. They are also supported by the mortars. An attempt is made to cross the river by infantry and after a while a crossing is made with very few casualties.</p>	
	28		<p>All Pls are now across the SEINE and the enemy is in full flight.</p>	
	29		<p>Lieut Gerrard, 'D' Coy organises a small party comprising his OP personnel to investigate the wood at 314955. 3 men of the SS Adolf Hitler Div are captured after a short action during which a grenade is thrown at Lieut Gerrard which fortunately fails to explode.</p>	
	31		<p>The objectives are taken with comparatively small opposition and a bridgehead established over the SEINE. Corps has started to come through and the Bn is given the role of Bridge maintenance troops.</p>	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year September

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1st.		<p>The following account is sent in by O.C. 11 Pl "C" Coy:-</p> <p>"On 31st Aug, 11 Pl participated in the capture of 6 Germans, who, for 2 days, had been in hiding in a haystack not 500 yards from No 2 section's Gun posn. The sec must have been under observation continuously but the enemy showed no action. They were disarmed & captured by Lt Gerrard with a mortar sec from No 12 Pl, after a few bursts of L.M.G. fire.</p> <p>One of the prisoners, an SS, tried to get away but he was shot at and wounded. Lt Gerrard took them all to a P.W. Cage in his carrier. On the same day Lt Gerrard was informed by French patriots of an enemy posn near HOUVILLE 3697.</p> <p>Taking with him his Cpl Dvr Op and armed with an L.M.G. he proceeded to this posn and fired 4 magazines after which the enemy frantically waved their white flag. This added another 6 to the list.</p>	
LYONS-LA-FORET	3rd		<p>Bn HQ advances a short distance and harbours in area LYONS-LA-FORET. A Coy move to area GOURNAY.</p>	
	4th		<p>After another short move Bn HQ, HQ & D Coys harbour in area HAUGOURT.</p> <p>A Coy moves 20 miles forward to area ROMESCAMPS. The roads in this part of France are very bad - half cobbled.</p>	
ECOUVRES	5th		<p>A memorable day to all. A distance of approx 75 miles is covered after being on the road all day. Wherever we go there are smiles of welcome, waving of hands, whilst gifts of apples & tomatoes are showered on us.</p> <p>Bn eventually harbours at ECOUVRES NR. FERVENT.</p> <p>"C" Coy harbour west of ST POL at 123088</p> <p>"A" Coy is with 46 Bde and form part of a "task force" for "mopping up operations" and harbours for the night at SABY.</p>	
	6.	1800	<p>On the road again and approaching the frontier of Belgium. Our reception everywhere is amazing.</p> <p>Crossing the Franco-Belgian frontier.</p>	

		<p>Our job in France is finished. The Bn has had some very hard fighting to do before this triumphant entry into Belgium. It may well feel proud in that it shared an important part in the liberation of France.</p> <p>A Coy harbour approx 5 miles Sth of COURTRAI.</p> <p>Clearing operations take place against small enemy resistance astride road to COURTRAI, on move up.</p> <p>C Coy take up posns near COURTRAI.</p> <p>Bn HQ, HQ & D Coys harbour for the night in orchard near village of WARCOING.</p> <p>The Division is a long way in rear of fwd line of 2nd Army's advance and the Bde's job on these moves is to protect the flanks, as there are numerous enemy pockets remaining in the wake of this great advance. Bn HQ, HQ & D Coy move in the rear of 15 Division, whilst A B C Coys are with their respective Bdes pushing ahead until contact is made with an enemy force.</p> <p>It is then dealt with and so the advance continues.</p>	
	7	<p>D Coy receive orders that they will sp 44 Bde when & if required. Enemy reported on rd COURTRAI - AVELGHEM at HEESTERT and Bde is ordered to move up Sth of canal.</p> <p>A Coy are ordered to have 3 & 4 pls in sp of 2 Glas H. and to hold AUDENARDE, 5 pl at high feature north of HEESTERT in sp of 9 Cams. Enemy column of eight vehicles tried to break through 4 Pls posn during the afternoon. Pl shoot up 1st car carrying 2 officers, also a lorry, killing 4 of the occupants & wounding 7. The next 3 vehs manage to get through and are captured by 2 Glas H in AUDENARDE. The last 3 vehs manage to turn round and get away. Enemy then tries trick of white flag of surrender, and then open fire. There are no casualties to the pl. Sgt McKenzie kills one German soldier within 30 yds of section posn, who was about to throw a grenade.</p> <p>Clearing up continues until dark. After which 5 pl is placed in a defensive posn to cover approaches across canal between 9 Cams in AVELGHEM and 7 Seaforths in KERKHOVE.</p> <p>A Coy HQ is est at BERCHEM.</p> <p>Bde Gp captures approx 800 prisoners.</p>	
	8	<p>44 Bde with D Coy still in sp are moved to occupy posns further along the R. LYS from excl COURTRAI to PLAATSE.</p> <p>12 Pl who are under comd of 8 RS occupy posns on the main COURTRAI-GHENT Rd at HARLEBEKE. On occupying these posns the pl captures 2 prisoners and later another 23 come in.</p>	
	9	0800 <p>A Coy move to farm just west of WAEREGHEM.</p> <p>Coy HQ move to area OOSTERZEELE 10 miles to S of GHENT.</p>	

			<p>2 Glas H with 3 pl in sp are ordered to assist in clearing GHENT. 3 Pl move to centre of GHENT to assist in street fighting. It is impossible for the carriers to cross the canal until late at night when bridge will be repaired by sappers.</p> <p>C Coy take up posns in following areas:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Adv Coy HQ 882561 9 Pl 878592 10 Pl 923638 11 Pl 937671</p> <p>B Coy are situated as follows:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">7 Pl in sp of 2 A&SH at MACHALEAN 8 Pl in sp of 10 HLI (1 section at DEURLE: 1 section S.W. of GHENT) 6 Pl in sp of 2 Gordons - all covering canal crossings</p>	
LONDERZEEL	10	0800	<p>The advance continues.</p> <p>C Coy move to area 680692 N. of BRUSSELS, having covered a distance of approx 43 miles.</p> <p>0830 Bn HQ, HQ & D Coy advance to LONDERZEEL</p> <p>Being the first troops to enter the town, we are given a great welcome. Flags of all kinds are displayed and a miniature fete takes place supported by a brass band to which the people sing & dance.</p>	
	11		<p>14 Pl move to join 46 Bde N. of LONDERZEEL -</p> <p>12 pl in the evening join 44 Bde E. of LONDERZEEL and are ordered to move under their respective Bdes.</p>	
	12		<p>D Coy HQ & 13 & 15 pls move with Bn HQ to area N of HASSELT.</p> <p>Meanwhile 12 pl cross the ALBERT CANAL with 44 Bde. They carry out a considerable number of shoots which include the town of GHEEL.</p> <p>14 Pl are also across with 46 Bde.</p> <p>B Coy move to HUMBEEK N. of BRUSSELS.</p> <p>7 pl is detached to sp 1 coy of 2 Gordons in posn covering lock gates on ALBERT CANAL near OOLEN.</p> <p>0700 "C" Coy pass through MALINES to S. of ALBERT CANAL at 043808. 11 Belts are expended in this posn by 10 pl.</p> <p>1700 Coy then continues to area around GHEEL 058873 - 11 Pl NE with KOSB - 9 Pl NW with R.S. - 10 Pl in reserve S. of GHEEL.</p>	
	13	1700	<p>GHEEL being occupied 'C' Coy move to 058873.</p> <p>12 Pl D Coy move up through GHEEL to RETHY in sp of 44 Bde.</p>	
	14		<p>13 Pl are now placed in sp of 227 Bde and move to a posn N. of MOLL.</p> <p>15 Pl is sent fwd to main GHEEL-TURNHOUT road in sp of 8 RS.</p> <p>During the afternoon the C.R.A. issues orders that certain targets on N. side of the JUNCTION CANAL are to be registered by means of an air O.P.</p>	

			<p>12 & 15 pls are selected for this task and it is arranged for 12 pl to register first.</p> <p>The pilot fails to recognise the first & second targets, but the third and fourth are registered satisfactorily.</p> <p>Division move to ALBERT CANAL taking over bridge-head from 53 Div.</p>	
	15.	0230	<p>It is planned for 6 R.S.F. to go through GHEEL and cross the JUNCTION CANAL. To give the required support 12 Pl are moved at 0230 hrs to join 15 Pl in area just S. of the JUNCTION CANAL on the GHEEL TURNHOUT road.</p> <p>1200 O.C. 12 pl reports to O.C. 6 R.S.F.</p> <p>Capt Livemore (O.C. 12 pl) then crosses the canal taking with him his 22 set (manhandled by 6 men).</p> <p>1230 He establishes his O.P. in a mill on the far side from where he controls the fire of both 12 & 15 pls.</p> <p>Some very heavy and effective shooting is carried out on enemy counter attacks.</p> <p>During the day Capt Livemore does excellent work from his OP which is continually under heavy fire and really a death trap, remaining there until it is set on fire. He also accounts for 6 of the enemy who are around his post, by means of a sniper's rifle.</p>	
	18		<p>7 pl (B Coy) in Sp of 2 Gordons cross canal at night in assault craft - the intention being to widen bridgehead. 1½ mile long carry is involved.</p> <p>C Coy move to MOLL area and pls occupy posns as follows:- 9 Pl - 173933 10 Pl - 159937 - 11 Pl 171952.</p> <p>11 Pl is in a factory on the canal bank, from where they can see the enemy quite distinctly. They are ordered not to fire except in the event of major enemy crossings. Numerous counter attacks occur throughout the day that are all successfully repelled.</p>	
	19.		<p>Guns of 7 Pl are now sited in outer perimeter on bridgehead and are subjected to heavy mortar fire. Pl comd and 1 O.R. are wounded by SA fire. During the night the bridgehead is evacuated - 8 pl assisting 10 HLI to cover the withdrawal.</p>	
	21	0700	<p>To conform with the evacuation of the bridgehead by 227 Bde and the taking over of the south bank of the canal by another formation, 12 & 15 pls come out of action and harbour just sth of GHEEL. Meanwhile the remainder of the Bn proceeds to the EINDHOVEN area in HOLLAND. D Coy HQ moves in Bde column and Bn HQ is est in area just S.W. of EINDHOVEN.</p> <p>44 Bde is relieved by 7 ARMD Div & C Coy move with them to area of RIETHOVEN near LUMMEL.</p> <p>B Coy move to VELTHOVEN.</p>	

	22		<p>B Coy move to conc area on Northern outskirts of EINDHOVEN. Whilst in this area General Dempsey visits Coy HQ.</p> <p>The enemy has had time to prepare strong posns along railway N of EINDHOVEN to the extent of digging himself in between the sleepers and under the rolling stock.</p> <p>Coys are now in the following posns:-</p> <p>A in BEST area & covering EINDHOVEN-BOXTEL rly embankment Coy HQ being est at 383278, B pls sited on Sth bank of WILHELMINA CANAL.</p> <p>C - 10 pl across the canal in the area of BEST at 385262 engaging targets in the VLEUT area.</p> <p>D - less 12 & 15 pls are on E. of main EINDHOVEN-BOXTEL road Sth of canal.</p> <p>12 & 15 pls remain in harbour at GHEEL with 227 Bde.</p>	
	25	2100	<p>Lt Gerrard (D Coy) promoted rank of Capt.</p> <p>All weapons of 44 Bde fire 2 mins rapid as a propaganda shoot. 13 pl fire 120 mortar bombs in this time.</p>	
	27.		<p>D Coy HQ move to area east of STEENWEG 387274. During the night 44 Bde carry out successful attack on large wood N of DONNERDONCK capturing about 100 PW. This attack is supported by 13 pl.</p>	
NIJNSEL 4330	28		<p>Bn HQ moves to village of NIJNSEL 4330 and are est in cemetery.</p>	
	29		<p>A Coy HQ moves to 383278 - B Coy HQ moves to area East of PRINZHOEUF.</p>	
	30		<p>4 Pl is placed under comd 53 Div.</p>	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year October 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
AARLE 549258	1st.		The Bn adopts revised methods for compilation of the War Diary. As far as possible 2 copies of op. orders, instructions etc are now set aside specifically for the War Diary but, in the case of documents received, whenever there is only one copy available it is retained for use with the War Diary Original. In view of this Bn's widely dispersed activities and continual changes of plan it is not found possible to rely on operational documents to "paint the picture" and the narrative merely an explanatory link between phrases.	
	3rd		4 Pl rejoins A Coy from 53 Div.	
	4th		Bn HQ when relief by 1/7th Bn of 51 Div is complete moves to rest area in AARLE and for 15 days normal administration is carried on from a pleasant orchard at 549258. Good use is made of this period by whole Bn especially the M.T. side. All vehicles are being overhauled and repainted where necessary.	
	6th		All officers of Bn attend lecture given by Div Comd at GEMERT.	APPX "D"
	16th	2150	1 Mx Operation Order No1 for OP SIRIUS issued	Folio (4)
	18th	1645 1800	Orders received for "B" Coy less one Pl to come under comd of "C" Coy 1 Mx who will be in sp of 227 Bde taking over from 51 (Div) on general line BEST 3626 - ODERNADE 4232. Orders received for a pl of "B" Coy to join 8 R.S. the following morning. 8 Pl comd is ordered to report to HQ 8RS GEMERT 5780 and his pl to R.V. there at 191200 hrs. Op SIRIUS cancelled on 17th. B Coy Comd attends conference at Bde HQ and orders & traces are issued for pending OP. Experiments carried out by B Coy with a view to laying a M.M.G. in half light by putting luminous paint on sights. So far it is not successful.	OP SIRIUS 44 Bde O.O. No1 APPX "E" Folio (5)
	19th		Owing to poor weather and much rain the entrance to Bn HQ is turned into a quagmire and we are forced to move to "HARD STANDINGS" in	

		0845	area of factory at 554257. All vehicles are on hard ground and troops who wish to be, are under cover.	
		0900	O.C. "C" Coy proceeds to recce area of BEST Bdge and contacts "D" Coy 1/7 MX & 51 Div RE.	
		0915	2 IC "D" Coy attends conference at Bn HQ and receives orders to send 2 pls to sp 227 Bde who are relieving 51 Div.	
		1100	12 & 15 pls are warned to move out with "B" Coy to a posn at 394286.	
		1330	O.C. B Coy proceeds to 227 Bde HQ where he is met by C.O. and given the following orders:-	
		1500	6 pl to sp 10 HLI - 7 Pl to sp 2 Gordons	
			"C" Coy move off under 2 IC via HELMOND - EINDHOVEN	
			"B" Coy move to 414288	
			"C" Coy arrive in area of ACHT 404226	
			9 Pl occupy BEST Bdge	
			During the take over the large amount of traffic over bridge brings down shell & mortar fire from enemy. 2 Cas are sustained to outgoing unit	
			The pl is acting in an inf role, its task being the immediate protection of the bdge.	
			Carriers are left on S. side of canal	
			10 pl are in similar posns at 380244 and carry out same role.	
			11 pl takes over from a pl 1/7 MX in BATA shoe factory with the primary task of supporting 9 CAMS in their posn just East of rly & BEST.	
		1700	6 Pl take up posn at 391294 - 7 pl are at 402311.	
			D.F task given to pls. Direct fire not possible owing to close nature of the country.	
		1800	Sitrep is received from Capt Livemore stating that he is responsible for enemy ground W. of BEST (occupied by 9 Cams) and has therefore taken up posn at 388259. D.F. task now given out.	
	20th	0900	12 & 15 pls move to 383268 and cover BEST-VLEUT Rd.	
			7 Pl carry out harassing shoots on call from 2 GORDONS.	APPX "E"
	21st	0630	"C" Coy Comd contacts Bty comd L.A.A. and arrangements are made for the Bty to assist in defence of bridge should necessity arise.	Folio (8)
	22nd	1200	10 & 11 Pls exchange posns & tasks.	
			O.C. visits right hand Coy of Princess Irene Regt. Dutch Bde and arranges linking up patrol between them and pls in BATA factory.	
	23rd	1115	Enemy observed digging in before 2 GORDONS posn.	
			7 Pl are called upon to bring fire to bear. Task is completed in 12 minutes - result uncertain.	
	24th	1000	O.C. "C" Coy attends Bde 'O' Group.	

227 Bde move order 17
APPX "E" Folio (6)

		<p>1100 O.C. "B" Coy visits 8 pl in area of DINTHER 4441, SE of HERTOGENBOSCH.</p> <p>1400 Infm received that Coy will revert to 44 Bde and O.C to attend O Group at that HQ. Enemy has pulled out. 8 RSF with 1 tank sqn & 1 Pl MMG are ordered to OIRSCHOT 3125. Coy HQ move to 383278. 7 Pl join KOSB & 8 pl join R.S. - 12 & 15 pls (D Coy) remain in posn in sp of 44 Bde.</p> <p>1630 2IC called to Bn HQ and received orders to send one Pl to sp each 44 & 46 Bdes.</p> <p>1730 12 Pl joins 44 Bde in posn just East of BEST. 14 Pl with 46 Bde off main BEST road just South of WILHELMINA Canal. Move order received from 46 Bde.</p> <p>2100 Coy Comd attends Bde O Group and receives orders for forthcoming op on 25th.</p> <p>2115 B Coy Comd attends O Gp and receives orders for the advance on TILBURG.</p>	<p>APPX "E" Folio (7)</p> <p>APPX 'E' Folio (9)</p> <p>APPX 'E' Folio (10)</p>
	25th	<p>0800 3 pl move with 2 Glas H forming advance guard.</p> <p>0900 A Coy less 3 pl and incl Hy Mortar Pl move at head of Bde column. Rapid advance delayed only by enemy demolitions.</p> <p>0930 D Coy HQ move from HELMOND area to 406224</p> <p>1000 13 pl in sp of KOSB and 44 Bde, move off with their marching column along the towpath of WILHELMINA Canal to the ultimate objective - Bridge 207277. This is reached after a difficult journey but without interference by the enemy. 14 Pl are kept in 46 Bde reserve and move off in the morning in Bde column with A Coy - The column being on the main axis BEST-OIRSCHOT-MOERGESTEL and harbour for the night at 229309. 12 & 15 pls are still in sp of 227 Bde who have come into Div reserve. In order to keep main axis clear this Bde Gp moves to its harbour area NOTEL - via URICKHOVEN.</p> <p>1230 Advance guard on Bridge MOERGESTEL 3 pl in action covering eastern approaches to town. 7 Seaforths are to pass through and take OIRSCHOT 4 Pl taken out of Bde column Mortar pl in action base plated posn 234334 firing in sp of 2 Glas H.</p> <p>1600 B Coy HQ move to MOTERWIJK just N. of OIRSCHOT. KOSB with 7 Pl under comd advance along N Side of WILHELMINA Canal from BEST 3726 to BIEST 2026. 7 Pl then takes up posns at 205276 covering N. Bank of canal towards TILBURG.</p>	

		2100	8 RS with 8 pl advance to OIRSCHOT 3125 without encountering enemy resistance and harbour at 217258 6 pl are in harbour with 'C' Coy 8 R.S.F. at SPOORDONK 288274. 44 Bde O.O. No 1 received.	
26th	0600	0800	3 Pl A Coy ordered to F.A.A. at 225326 and move with 2 Glas H. 4 Pl sp 7 SEAFORTHS' assault and cross river at first light, firing on road N. from rly at 221431. Crossing of canal is successful and area W. of town of OOSTERWIJK is cleared as far as rly. 3 pl cross with 2 GH.	APPX "J" Folio (6)
	1100	1145	5 Pl in action in area 189318 firing N.W and covering crossing of River STROUM.	
	1200	1630	44 Bde Gp concs in area S & SE of VINKENBURG 2229, prior to crossing Class 40 Bdge at BIEST 2026 - HILVARENBEK 1924. This is crossed in the afternoon and "B" Coy HQ is est at 213263 with 6 & 7 pls at VOORT 2519 and 8 pl at HILVARENBEK. "C" Coy move to area MOERGESTEL Pls are under following comds:- 9 - 10 HLI - 10 - 2 GORDONS - 11 - 2 A&SH. 13 pl is ordered to move South of canal but owing to extensive minefields on Sth Bank, the Pl eventually cross in 44 Bde column. A Coy Comd moves 1 sec 4 Pl to face N. from rly line - D.F. fire tasks (as per trace)	
	1730		B pl harbour in area 180254	
27th	0830	1500	Co-ord conference at HILVARENBEK 1924. As a result of this conference, pls take up posns along canal. A Coy finding little opposition cross the canal B Coy overcome minor resistance and 6 Pl enter outskirts of TILBURG and take up def posn at 182311. TILBURG reported clear of enemy. Coys are ordered to harbour at night in their present locations.	
28th	0700		Coys ordered to occupy TILBURG. In order to carry this out the heavy transport has to be ferried across the canal. All are enthusiastically welcomed by civil population. Whilst this operation was being carried out an attack is staged by the enemy with the suspected objectives of DEURNE 6520 - ASTEN 6113 and LIEROP 5615. In this attack he is not wholly successful although he does manage to cross the Canal de Deurne, recapture MEIJEL and LIESEL and advance along the ASTEN rd to approx 645100. It is in view of this attack that the division does a rapid turn around and almost immediately TILBURG is safely in our hands, the first units leave for the eastern side of the Salient.	Folio (11) APPX "E" Folio (12)

		1800	"C" Coy leave TILBURG and arrive ASTEN 1930 hrs.	
	29th	0045 0700 0730 1500	"B" Coy receive order to move to DEURNE 6520 Coy arrive at new location. Rep from Bde visits O.C. 'B' Coy with information that the enemy has broken through at LIESEL and is advancing on this axis towards DEURNE. The following def posns are then taken:- 7 Pl flank protection role with KOSB at 685178 6 Pl in def localities of 6 RSF 8 Pl in def localities of 8 RS both at 896418 6 & 8 pls move with their respective Bns to area ACHTERBOSCH - RINKVELT, 6 pl remaining conc. 3 pl A Coy (with 2 GH) come under comd vice 7 pl during the night. "C" Coy take up posns in def of ASTEN and relieve US forces during night. 9 & 11 pls being astride rd 623128 - 2 A&SH area - 10 pl in reserve.	
	30th	0900 1000 1100 1300 1400	4 Pl move with 7 Seaforths on main axis to area N. of LOON 6615 under heavy shelling & mortar fire. Pl in action 1 section W of rd 665155 firing Sth. 1 sec on 30.7 contour at 669154. This section is under direct observation from the enemy and all movement is fired on by 3 Spandau posts and light mortars. All movement necessitates a crawl of approx 400 yds to the gun posns. 3 Pl take up posns at 665137 and in doing this are continually under shell fire resulting in 11 casualties. This means that the pl Comd is only able to place one sec into action. 13 Pl move to 652137 E of RINKVELD in sp of 6 R.S.F. 3 Pl Comd whilst on recce observes enemy forming up for counter attack on SLOT 6713. Enemy counter attacks & both sections of pl suffer serious casualties. L/Sgt Percy's section is firing carrier action covering gap between right & left fwd Coys. Enemy advances through gap and come under heavy fire from L/Sgt Percy's carrier. In spite of this they reach a point approx 100 yds from section. Immediately they take cover and one of the S.P. begins to fire at Section, killing L/Sgt Percy & injuring 2 ORs in carrier. The attack is successfully beaten off. 8 Pl take up posns at 655139 and 6 pl at 653137 preparing to engage harassing targets in area of SLOT. 15 Pl joins 12 pl at 636108 just S.E. of HEUSDEN. All day long these pls are engaged in counter Mortar work and expend 480 bombs.	

	31st	<p>6 & 8 pls remain in present posns to sp by harassing fire the clearing of wood at 6512 to the Southern edge. 11 pl move up in sp of 2 A&SH to area 640123 - 10 pl being heavily shelled - 1 gun K.O. - 1 casualty.</p> <p>0830 7 Seaforths attack LIESEL 6614 with 4 Pl in sp from 669154. 9 Cams attack South with objective LOONSCHE BAAN 6714 - 6814. 7 Pl "B" Coy in sp and firing on L. flank 5 Pl in action at 675151 7 Pl move fwd with 6 KOSB who attack SLOT Objective not achieved until dark.</p> <p>1830 O.C. "A" Coy attends O Gp at HQ 46 Bde</p>	<p>APPX "E" Folio (13)</p> <p>APPX "E" Folio (14)</p>
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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.

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

Month and Year December 1944.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
PANNINGEN 773045	1st		Os.C. A,B,D Coys recce areas for Op GUILDFORD.	Sitreps from B Coy F.F. J118 to J135. OP Reports D Coy F.F. J136 to J193.
	2nd	0900 0930 1530 1830 2230	O.C. 5 pl A Coy proceeds on recce with Coy Comd and tasks are arranged for Op GUILDFORD. D Coy mortar pls move to posns for the impending Op - 13 pl to 872104, 12 and 14 pls to 879114 with Coy HQ at 819134 just S of SEVENUM. A large bomb dumping programme is carried out. 13 R.A.S.C. lorries are employed to carry the bombs to the pre-arranged R.V. at 872114. The amount of bombs to be dumped is 200 per pl -mortar. B Coy Tac HQ is est at 846088. C.O. establishes a command post incorporating Tac HQ D Coy and Tac HQ mortar Coy. 1 Mans who are under comd for Op GUILDFORD - location - 837082 just W of MAASBREE. 12 and 14 pls D Coy are heavily stonked. 1 D.R. is killed and 2 O.Rs wounded.	F.F. E17.
	3rd	0545 0745 0930 1330 1615 1630	5 pl A Coy leave their present location to take up new posns for Op. H hour Op GUILDFORD 5 Pl A Coy ordered to sp 7 Seaforths in last phase of Op. 44 Bde attack BLERICK 9009. All four mortar pls are supporting this attack and fire in accordance with 15 (S) Inf Div R.A. Task Table. In addition 12 and 14 pls fire on the ferry across the MAAS at 908108. B Coys pls move fwd to conc area at 823078. Tac HQ A and B Coys join 5 pl A Coy already in posn at 888135. BLERICK taken. 5 pl are not required and are therefore released.	F.F D4, E13, 14 J.98 J102,3 FF J 104

	4th	2200	<p>Division takes up defensive posns along the west bank of the R. MAAS in the VENLO area from 8914 to the CANAL at 7997. 2 Bdes are to be fwd in posns whilst the other is resting in the ASTEN area.</p> <p>6 pl B Coy occupy posn at 862087 covering the right flank of HOUT BLERICK with D.F. tasks.</p>	FF D6.
	5th	1500 1800	<p>13 and 14 pls D Coy are in action on call for harassing fire. 12 and 15 pls D Coy are at rest.</p> <p>227 Bde take over from 160 Bde, 53 Div the line between junc of VITWATERINGS - R. MAAS 7998 - CANAL and BLERICK 8910. The front is to be covered by M.M.G. fire, on a Bde plan.</p> <p>8 pl B Coy move to fwd R.V. at 868150 and are ordered into action at 888136 in a direct fire posn D.F. tasks are selected in sp of Recce sqn.</p> <p>Tac HQ B Coy rejoins Coy HQ at new location SEVENUM 838139.</p>	
	6 Dec	1500	<p>As a result of a recce O.C. C Coy decides to place 10 Pl in a posn previously occupied by 1 Mans at 809009, also 9 pl in area 849049. These pls to cover the Bde front.</p> <p>13 pl D Coy move to new posn at 880124 in order to carry out their new role of protecting the northern flank of the Div front more effectively.</p>	
	7th	0930 1000	<p>O.C. B Coy attends conference at BDE HQ - Coy is required to carry out snap harassing shoots as a retaliation to the enemy's daily "hate".</p> <p>14 Pl D Coy is withdrawn to rest area - 13 Pl is to fire in retaliation only on to the town of VELDEN, a known enemy strong point east of R MAAS.</p>	
	8th	0900 1320 1400	<p>C Coy HQ and 11 pl move to HELDEN 7903.</p> <p>O.C. B Coy recces posns for 7 and 8 pls at 850083 and 875130 respectively. They are to occupy these from 0645 - 1700 daily, for the purpose of retaliation shoots.</p> <p>15 Pl D Coy take up a posn S.E. of HELDEN at 806011 in sp of 227 Bde and on the right of the Div front.</p> <p>The following amount of bombs have been fired by pls in the last 2 months :-</p> <p>12 pl - 4671, 13 pl 4221, 14 pl 3107, 15 pl 4941.</p> <p>7 pl B Coy move to better accommodation in MAASBREE 827080.</p> <p>12 and 14 pls D Coy remain at rest. 13 pl continue to sp 44 Bde in accordance with 15 (S) Inf Div Op Instr. No 42 - Observation and Fire Control. The pl comd occupies and remains in an O.P. at 892122 from dawn to dusk, submitting reports daily.</p>	

			The supply route to this pl is still receiving intermittent hostile attention and Coy HQ Sigs truck is hit by a shell whilst on its way to the pl. The driver is wounded and evacuated.	
	9th	0130	A Coy is at rest until the 13th. 9 pl C Coy engage target on the E bank of the R MAAS. 10 belts are fired. 13 pl D Coy continue in sp of 44 Bde on the left of the Div front and 2 O.Ps are put out at 892122 and 896136. 7 pl B Coy engage retaliation targets during the morning and afternoon.	
		1630	An enemy mortar is observed from a posn at 908139 and is heavily stonked. Attention is also given to VELDEN, the pl firing forty bombs during this action. 15 pl remain in the same posn as yesterday and an O.P. is occupied at 809999.	
	10th		7 and 8 pls B Coy engage retaliation targets - Enemy fighter planes over the Bde area during the morning. O.C. C Coy visits O.C. 10 H.L.I. and arranges S.O.S. tasks for 9 pl on to far side of the river bank at 871035. 13 pl D Coy fire on retaliation targets at 911105 and in VELDEN.	
	11th	0900	Conference at Bn HQ to discuss 2nd Bn Middlesex Regts suggestions for the revised W.E. of a Sp Bn. General opinion was not in favour of a change. 13 and 15 pls D Coy in action.	
	12th	1700	7 and 8 pls B Coy engage retaliation targets. These targets are changed daily and based on reports of enemy movements. Enemy fighters over the Bde area and spasmodic shelling of SEVENUM is attributed to these planes. Harassing shoots carried out by 9 and 10 pls C Coy. 11 pl relieved 10 pl C Coy. On orders from 44 Bde 13 pl D Coy fire on two targets at 905116 and 904118 especially at meal times.	
	13th	1000	Several shoots carried out by 9 and 11 pls C Coy. Presentation of awards by C-in-C Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery, Capt P.J. Livemore presented with the Military Cross. Capt J.H. Gerrard " " " " " Lieut R.W.B. Lloyd " " " " " 6207135 Sgt D. Reed presented with the Military Medal. 6210105 Cpl A. Stewart " " " " " 6857201 Pte L Lear " " " " " 13 and 15 pls D Coy continue in action vide O.P. report.	
	14th		Normal activity on front.	FF. G.81
	15th	1500	Div Comd visits B Coy HQ and enquires about billets.	

		1515 1830	6 pl B Coy engages lanes leading up to woods at 900071. 7 and 8 pls engage retaliation targets during the day. 15 pl relieved by 12 pl and comes out to rest in Coy HQ area.	
	16th		A Coy pl comds of 3 and 4 pls carry out recce to take over from Bn HQ 1 Mans. The Coy has been ordered to occupy posns in area of ROERMOND as 46 Bde is taking over from 158 Bde 53 Div. 6 and 8 pls B Coy engage in retaliation targets during the day. In the afternoon new D.F. tasks are selected for 6 pl with the Coy of 6 KOSB in HOUT BLERICK. D Coy report submitted.	F.F. E 19,20
	17th	0030 0930 1025 1125 1500	Recce Sqn post south of 8 pl B Coy informed them that an unidentified patrol has been seen moving towards their posn. A Coy HQ and 5 pl move to HEITHUIJEN. 3 pl A Coy leave SEVENUM and join 2 GH. 4 pl A Coy also leave SEVENUM and join 9 Cams. These pls take up posns previously held by 1st Mans at 764946 and 774971 respectively. 7 pl B Coy relieves 6 pl. O.P. report received from D Coy.	F.F. J 105 F.F. J 108
	18th		1 Mx Movement Instruction No.1 issued.	F.F. D10, D11
	19th		A Coy pls carry out harassing shoots in conjunction with 190 Fd Regt. 7 and 8 pls B Coy fired on retaliation tasks. O.P. report received from D Coy.	
	20th	1530	10 and 11 pls C Coy carry out harassing shoots. 6 pl B Coy relieves 8 pl who come into mobile reserve at SEVENUM 821142. 7 pl B Coy engage D.F. tasks at 1900 - 1915 hrs at request of 6 KOSB who state that the B.B.C. are recording the nightly "hate" programme. 4 pl A Coy engage enemy section seen moving in area 799968. 12 pl D Coy remain in sp of 227 Bde. 13 pl remain with 44 Bde - O.P. reports received from both these pls.	F.F. J 106
	21st	0330	Recce Sqn Sgt reports to 6 pl B Coy to inform them that the enemy has a patrol which has successfully surrounded two posts at 893129, causing the occupants to scatter. D Coy is informed and puts down a stonk on fwd edge of wood 8913 and the posts are retaken. C Coy continue with harassing shoots. O.P. report received from D Coy. A Coy report considerable enemy activity on E bank of R Maas. Harassing shoots carried out.	
	22nd	1700	5 pl A Coy relieve 4 pl. O.C. B Coy attends conference on the reorganisation of the Bde front. 7 enemy reported at 878074 and when fired on run into a wood.	

			O.P. report received from D Coy.	
	23rd	1500 2200	EX "SHAMPOO" carried out to test O.Ps in calling for artillery and M.M.G. fire. 5 pl have 6 calls during the day and 3 pl fire 4. The average time taken from time of receipt of map ref was 2 minutes. The Ex is found to be extremely useful. 8 pl B Coy relieve 7 pl. 3 pl A Coy carry out harassing shoot on enemy veh movement. D Coys O.P. report received. 1 Mx Defence Scheme No. 2 issued.	F.F. D12, J95
	24th	1430	46 Bde Conference on revised plan for holding Bde Line. A Coy Defence Scheme issued, only to be effective so long as reserve pl is at Coy HQ. 13 pl D Coy who are at rest prepare new posn at 872104. This to be occupied in the event of an enemy attack across the MAAS. O.P. Report from D Coy. Sitrep from B Coy.	F.F. E 39 F.F. J 97
	25th		Bde Comd visits A Coy HQ in morning. O.P. Report from D Coy. Sitrep from B Coy. The C.O. and 2 I.C. share in visiting the pls in the morning and celebrations take place where and when circumstances permit. There is no great activity on the front and therefore to some extent the Yule-tide spirit can be expressed.	
	26th		11 pl C Coy relieve 10 pl - new posns are dug for task of shooting across 44 Bde front. 3 pl A Coy dig series of crawl trenches from their alternative posn to orchard at rear in order to make posn tenable under enemy fire. Sitrep from B Coy. O.P. Report from D Coy.	
	27th	1600	10 pl enjoy a somewhat delayed Xmas Dinner. Remainder of C Coy pls carry out harassing shoots. 4 pl A Coy relieve 3 pl. O.P. Report from D Coy. Sitrep from B Coy.	
	28th		Bde Comd (227) inspects C Coy pls posns. A Coy carry out harassing shoots. Sitrep from B Coy. O.P. Report from D Coy.	
	29th		10 pl C Coy relieve 9 pl. 4 and 5 pls A Coy carry out harassing shoots. O.P. Report from D Coy.	

		Sitrep from B Coy.	
	30th	<p>9 pl C Coy have their Xmas Dinner. Shells fall in area of Bn HQ and C Coy. These shells are fired at regular times each day - 1030 hrs, 1330 hrs and 1630 hrs. Sitrep from B Coy. O.P. Report from D Coy. Fair amount of activity by all mortar pls.</p>	<p>F.F. J 101 F.F. J 100</p>
	31st	<p>12 pl D Coy at rest - 13 pl continue in sp of 227 Bde - 14 pl in sp of 44 Bde and 15 pl with 46 Bde. Arrangements made by A Coy in conjunction with all Bde weapons and Sp arms for 2 minutes intense fire on selected targets at midnight. O.P. Report from D Coy. Sitrep from B Coy.</p>	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year January 1945.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. J.P. Hall

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
PANNINGEN 773045	1st	0230 0900 0950 1144	13 pl D Coy are warned of an enemy patrol in their area and stand to until first light. Unusually large amount of enemy air activity directed on airfields in our area. Enemy fighters are coming in very low and disappearing over the roof-tops. Five are shot down by A.A. in the Div area. 6 pl B Coy capture one of the pilots. 9 pl C Coy relieve 11 pl. A Group of enemy are observed in the area of the gasometer at 910107. Target is engaged at scale 4 and the group is dispersed. Observed enemy are engaged at houses at 903123.	Sitrep. (J 55) O.P. Report (J 75-77)
	2nd	1730	12 pl D Coy remain at rest, 13 pl remain in sp of 227 Bde whilst 14 pl are in sp of 44 Bde. 15 pl, in the southern sector, are in sp of 46 Bde. In the main it is quiet along the front. C Coy report enemy shelling. A Coy remain in same locations. B Coy observe enemy crossing the MAAS at (it is thought) 900115. A temporary stonck is put down and nothing more is seen or heard of the enemy.	Sitrep (J 57)
	3rd	2100	C Coys locations remain the same. A Coy revises D.F. tasks with 2 G.H. 8 pl B Coy dig alternative posns at 882110 and put out trip flares against surprise by enemy patrols. Harassing shoots are carried out by mortar pls and various targets are engaged. Enemy patrol reported in 3 pls (A Coy) area.	O.P. Report. (J78/79/80)
	4th		Slight increase of shelling in A Coys area but no harassing shoots are carried out. Relief of B Coys pls postponed owing to thaw. 8 pl report having seen a flying bomb heading towards Germany. C Coy spend the day in taking precautions against the severe frost.	Sitrep. (J 58)

		1350	13 pl D Coy engage harassing tasks and retaliate on an enemy mortar at 81449870 14 and 15 pls D Coy carry out harassing shoots.	O.P. Report. (J81/82)
	5th		A Coy Comd carries out preliminary recce for pl posns and visits sp Coy of 159 Bde 11 Armd Div. 7 pl B Coy relieve 6 pl. C Coy experience enemy patrol activity D Coy mortars are fairly active	Sitrep. (J 60) Sitrep. (J 59) O.P. Report. (J83/84/85)
	6th	1100	7 and 8 pls - Coy fired on various tasks. A/Q 15 (S) Inf Div visited C Coy and inspected billets and Gun posns. 1 Mx MMG Inter-Bde Task Table issued. Div Comd visits 12 pl D Coy. 13 pl in sp of 227 Bde carry out harassing shoot on area of BEESEL - 15 pl carry out harassing shoots.	Sitrep. (J 61) O.P. Report. (J86/87/88)
	7th		O.C. A Coy takes O.C. 5 pl on recce of new posns. 5 pl is taking over from R N Fs. 7 pl B Coy fired on retaliation targets. Owing to the absence of personnel on leave C Coy decides to construct more dug-outs in the right hand pl area so that the house, at present used for sleeping quarters can be evacuated at night and a 'tighter' defence attained.	Sitrep. (J 62)
	8th		5 pl A Coy relieve R N Fs at 751935 - relief complete by 1800 hrs. 6 pl B Coy relieve 8 pl and take up posns at 882110. D Coys pls are kept busy with counter mortar tasks.	Sitrep (J63) and O.P. Report. (J91/92/93)
	9th		5 pls posn is lit up at night by a searchlight in their area. The pl is now under comd 7 Seaforths. 7 pl B Coy fire on retaliation targets. 11 pl C Coy commence digging new pl HQ posns. All pls D Coy active.	Trace MMG Tasks (J.53) O.P. Report. (J94/5/6)
	10th		4 and 5 pls A Coy carry out harassing shoots. 11½ degrees of frost recorded - necessary precautions are taken. 9 pl C Coy expend 12 belts of amn on harassing fire. O.P. Reports received from D Coy.	O.P. Report. (J.97/98)
	11th		1 Mx Inter-Bde Task Table issued. The Commander-in-Chiefs Certificate for Gallantry is awarded to 14414070 Cpl R French of B Coy. 3 pl A Coy carry out harassing shoots. 6 pl B Coy engage certain tasks. 10 pl C Coy relieve 9 pl. Div Comd visits 11 pl C Coy. Pl fires 12 Belts. D Coy locations unchanged.	Sitrep (J 64) Sitrep (J 65) O.P. Report. (J99/100/101)

	12th		Camouflage Officer visits pls of A Coy and is quite satisfied with the standard of camouflage, especially 4 pl whose guns are surrounded by a stickle fence and made to appear part of the garden lay-out of the adjacent farmhouse. 8 pl B Coy relieve 7 pl.	Sitrep Sitrep (J 66)
	13th	1600	10 pl C Coy report shelling. D Coy report slight activity. A Coy experience slightly increased enemy shelling and mortaring and carries out harassing tasks. 3 pl is on immediate call of fwd OP of 2 GH and are to fire in area E of BIJKIEL 759971. B Coy report intermittent shelling in 6 pl's area. Since visibility is not very good it is considered that this is harassing shooting and not observed.	Sitrep (J 67) O.P. Report (J 103)
	14th		B Coy engages various tasks. A Coy carries out harassing tasks. 14 pl D Coy relieve 15 pl in sp of 46 Bde. C Coy bring down very effective fire on enemy posns at 824996 and 824994 where considerable activity is occasioned by dummy beating expedition by our own infantry.	Sitrep (J.70) Sitrep (J 68) (J 69) O.P. Report (J104-105)
	15th	1500 2300	O.P. Reports received from D Coy. 5 pl B Coy relieve 6 pl A Coy comd proceeds to 9 Cams HQ with Rover Set and calls for fire by RT to all pls - object being to cover a patrol sent across R MAAS by 9 Cams.	O.P. Reports. (J106/107)
	16th		8 pl B Coy fires on retaliation targets. D Coy report poor visibility and a very quiet day.	O.P. Reports (J108/109/110/111)
	17th		8 Corps Camouflage Officer visits C Coy and inspects R hand pl posns. 12, 13 and 14 pls O.P. reports received. 2nd attempt on the part of 9 Cams to send a patrol across the R MAAS and A Coy play the same role as before. However no fire support is required. Corps Camouflage Officer visits B Coy.	O.P. Reports. (J112/113) Sitrep. (J.71)
	18th		A Coy Comd carries out recce with O.C. 2 GH for fire sp programme for crossing of the R MAAS. Corps Camouflage Officer visits D Coy HQ and 13 pl.	O.P. Reports. (J114/115)
	19th	1500	Regtl Band arrives at Bn HQ to entertain. D Coy fwd O.P Reports. 6 pl B Coy relieve 8 pl.	O.P Reports. (J116/117)
	20th	2200	Enemy patrol crosses R MAAS. O.C. 4 pl A Coy recce with Coy Comd for posns for the sp of 2 GH patrol. At request of OC 6 RSF 12 pl D Coy fire on targets in their arc. 1st Commando Bde takes over from 227 Bde.	Sitrep B. (J 72) O.P. Report. (J118/119)

			1 Mx Movement Instruction No 2 issued. 2 ic C Coy proceeds to recce new area. 15 pl D Coy relieve 13 pl.	(D.9)
	21st	0830	A Coy receives warning order for relief of Bde. Advance party and 2 ic of A Coy proceed to new area. 46 Bde OO No 17 received by A Coy. 1 Mx 0803 of 211725 issued. 1 Mx 0807 of 211800 issued.	(E.18)
	22nd		8 pl B Coy relieve 7 pl. Major General Savery (Inspector General of Infantry India Command) visits D Coy and watched a mortar pl in action. 8 pl B Coy relieve 7 pl. 46 (H) Inf Bde Adm O No 16 received by A Coy. 15 pl D Coy relieve 13 pl.	O.P. Report. (J120/121/122/123-124) SITREP (J.73) (G.39) O.P. Report (J125)
	23rd		1 Mx Move Order No 3 issued. O.P. Reports received from D Coy. O.C. C Coy visits 6 Para Bde HQ and is informed that MMG pls of 6 Para Bde will not be taking over. A Coy is relieved and concs in DE HEIBLOEM 7101. 46 (H) Inf Bde Movement Order No 21 received by A Coy. Sitrep from B Coy.	(D.10) O.P. Reports. (J126) (E.19) Sitrep. (J.74)
	24th	0715	C Coy concs in Coy HQ area at HELDON. A Coy move in Bde column to TILBURG - Move completed by 1700 hrs. Mortar Pls less 12 pl conc at D Coy HQ. 12 pl come under comd B Coy.	
	25th	0745 0930	D Coy less 12 pl move off to join Bn convoy. Bn HQ, HQ and D Coys move to MOERGESTEL 226306 - D Coy continue to RIEL 1128.	
	26th		B Coy move to TILBURG.	
MOERGESTEL 226306	26th - 31st		The Bn is now at rest in billets in the following areas :- Bn HQ and HQ Coy - MOERGESTEL 226306 A Coy - TILBURG 158312 B Coy - TILBURG 165316 C Coy - GOIRLE 150280 D Coy - RIEL 118285	27 JAN 45 1MX OO No4 (D11) 28 JAN 45 1MX S/2/O)/2 DATED 28 JAN 45 (D.12) (J.54) 28 JAN 45 1MX PAD SCHEME (D.14)

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year February 1945.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. A.N.W. Kidston

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
MOERGESTEL 226306	1st		Bn resting and occupying locations as follows :- Bn HQ and HQ Coy - MOERGESTEL 226306 A Coy - TILBURG 158312 B Coy - TILBURG 165316 C Coy - GOIRLE 150280 D Coy - RIEL 118285	46 Bde Outline Plan dtd 29 Jan 45 (E 10) 46 Bde Adm Instr No 9 dtd 31 Jan 45 (H 43) 46 Bde Op Order No 18 dtd 3 Feb 45 (E 7) 46 Bde Adm Order No 17 dtd 3 Feb 45 (H 44) 1 Mx Op Order No 6 dtd 3 Feb 45 (D 6) 1 Mx Op Order No 5 dtd 3 Feb 45 (D 4)
	4th		During this period general cleaning and maintenance of vehicles and weapons is carried out, as also are route marches, long carries and certain types of training varying according to Coy Requirements.	46 Bde Move Order No 22 (H46) 46 Bde Op Order No 19 dtd 4 Feb 45 (E 11)
	5th		A Coy proceed in Bde column to NIJMEGEN during the night and are accommodated in the Barracks. The move is secret and all Div signs are concealed.	1 Mx move Order No 4 dtd 5 Feb 45 (G 36) 46 Bde Adm Order No 18 dtd 5 Feb 45 (H 47)
	6th	1000	Bn HQ, HQ and D Coy after travelling through the night arrive at NIJMEGEN and harbour in a School at 715613.	"PEPPERPOT" Task Table & Trace A. (H 48) Combined Target Overprint Map (J 64)
	7th	1630 2230 1300	B Coy less main HQ leave TILBURG to take up posns prior to Op 'PEPPERPOT' Tac HQ B Coy is est at 743565 - 6 pl in an indirect posn at 751564 7 pl in a direct posn at 754568 - 8 pl in an indirect posn at 751564. Bn HQ forms Tac HQ and proceeds to Sanatorium at 730576.	46 Move Order No 23 Dtd 6 Feb 45 (H 45) 44 Bde Op Order No 5 dtd 5 Feb 45 (E 8)
	8th	0500	Arty barrage of 1,000 guns opens up.	

		<p>0530 Op 'PEPPERPOT' commences. The terrific barrage is at its peak when the sad news is brought that the C.O. Lt. Col. J.P. Hall has been killed and his driver 14339746 with him, when their jeep ran over some 75 Grenades. Major D.A. Phillips comes at once to Bn HQ and it is with increased determination to spare no effort that he and the Bn complete the 'PEPPERPOT' and commence Op 'VERITABLE'.</p> <p>0940 7 pl B Coy has an excellent view of 227 Bde moving to the SL and are able to give covering fire until 1015 hrs.</p> <p>1100 Tac HQ 44 Bde move fwd without informing B Coy with the result that B Coy are unable to move fwd to them.</p> <p>1500 O.C. B Coy goes to Bde to fix up final details of the pls joining their respective Bns for Op 'VERITABLE'. Again Bde fails to inform the Coy of the time for this and only 8 Pl manages to link up with their Bn.</p> <p>2300 O.C. B Coy visits Tac Bde HQ and is told that 6 and 7 pls are to join in at the back of the third Bn Gp. 3 Pl A Coy move with 2 GH to re-organise in HETSTEEG 796555 - 5 pl move fwd with 9 Cams to AUF DEM HOVEL 811544 - 4 pl move fwd in reserve to area of 771552.</p> <p>1600 46 Bde are on all objectives. Adv HQ A Coy remain in GROESBEEK and rear HQ in NIJMEGEN.</p>	
	9th	<p>A Coys pls remain in same posns - 44 Bde is attacking - Large nos of PsW are coming in - The supply situation is becoming acute owing to the bad state of the roads. B Coy are experiencing a very busy time and Lt Stubbs has quite an unpleasant sit in which his pl becomes involved.</p> <p>1130 10 Pl C Coy follows 2 Gordons and move via 46 Bde route to 825551 near GROESBEEK.</p> <p>0900 11 pl C Coy remain at Coy HQ whilst 9 pl move to HLI area at 812558 and prepare to fire over the flooded area to the North.</p> <p>1130 12 and 14 pls D Coy move to 801558 under comd of 227 Bde - Tac HQ plus 13 and 15 pls remain with 46 Bde.</p> <p>2200 227 Bde O Gp called to discuss the occupation of CLEVE - 15 Recce Regt has pushed fwd and the Bde is to clear the town between 0800 and 1000 hrs the following day - 2 A&SH are to lead, followed by 2 Gordons with 10 HLI in area 8354 - C Coy is to sp these Bns and to be used if necessary.</p>	46 Bde Op Instr No 25 dtd 9 Feb 45 (E9)
	10th	<p>1200 Tac HQ A Coy rejoins advanced HQ in GROESBEEK. B Coy Comd attends conference at Bde concerning the assault and clearing of CLEVE.</p>	

			12 and 14 pls D Coy move to 853558 west of NUTTERDEN and later in the day to 883560 just east of CLEVE - 13 and 15 pls move to 848546 behind the NE corner of the REICHSWALD Forest.	
	11th	0730 1500 1530 1700	A Coy Comd Recces MATERBORN Feature with the Brigadier. 4 and 5 pls A Coy are called up and go into action by 1500 hrs - 5 pl are in the area of DRESSERBURG 8755 and 4 pl at 870543 - 3 pl are unable to go up owing to the appalling state of the roads. Advance HQ A Coy move to N edge of the REICHSWALD Forest at 855555. C Coy informed by 227 Bde that at 0900 hrs 2 Gordons will clear rd NUTTERDEN - CLEVE followed by 10 HLI - 10 pl C Coy advance along route in 2 Gordons Colmn - 9 pl are halted at 863800. 11 pl C Coy move from present posn and harbour at 863572. C Coy Tac HQ move to 863572. 10 pl is in posn at 888568. B Coy pls remain concentrated in NUTTERDEN.	
	12th	1000	46 Bde are now in reserve and A Coy Pls conc in area 8555 and 888556 - Advance HQ move to CLEVE 8956 with the role of re-occupation of the MATERBORN Feature in the event of an enemy attack, also counter attack role through REICHSWALD Forest in the event of 53 Div being attacked. B Coy locations unchanged pls are out of action. C Coy endeavour to bring up rear Coy HQ. 12 and 14 pls D Coy conc at 227 Bde HQ at 862572 nr DONSBRUGGEN. Tac HQ D Coy move with 46 Bde to 854556 E of NUTTERDEN.	Sitrep (J 72)
	14th	1600 1930 2100	Capt J.B. Redman takes over Comd of A Coy from Major A.R. Waller on leave. 2 GH and 9 Cams with 7 Seaforth in reserve are to attack from BEDBURG 9352 in S.E. direction - 5 pl A Coy are to re-organise with 9 Cams in area 943514 - 3 and 4 pls are in harbour for the night - Advance Coy HQ is est at 918537. B Coy spend the day in maintenance. O.C. C Coy attends Bde O Gp for the attack on high ground S.E. of CALCAR. The plan is dependent on the progress made by 46 Bde. O.C. D Coy attends conference at 46 Bde to decide details for tomorrows Op in which 13 and 15 pls are to take part.	46 Bde Op Order No 20 dtd 13 Feb 45 (E12) 46 Bde Op Order No 21 dtd 14 Feb 45 (E13)
	15th		7 Seaforths attack down CLEVE road to capture MOYLAND 968517 and 9 Cams attack to capture high ground at 9551 - 3 and 5 pls give right flank rear protection to 9 Cams from area 9452. 4 pls task was to re-organise with 7 Seaforths but owing to stiff opposition 7 Seaforths only reach area of 955525 - 4 pl remain in harbour for the night. 3 pl fire DF tasks in front of 7 Seaforths	

		0900 1000 1200	and 5 pl in front of 9 Cams. 10 HLI under comd 46 Bde carries out a night attack on right of 9 Cams and reaches objective 964496. 9 pl C Coy joins 10 HLI on road E of CLEVE D Coy Tac HQ join Bn HQ and move to location at DONSBURGGEN 866571 - 13 and 15 pls conc in this area also. Owing to 46 Bde meeting considerable opposition the plan is changed and 10 HLI is placed under Comd 46 Bde - 9 pl C Coy remains with them and moves to 925530 - arrangements are made for A Coy to administer 9 pl who remain in same location for the night.	
	16th	0800 0900	B Coy Main HQ joins Tac HQ in CLEVE. 9 pl C Coy takes up a posn at 948509 with a DF task in front of HLI. D Coy Tac HQ move to 916537 - 13 and 15 pls remain in sp of 46 Bde and carry out various harassing shoots by day and night on targets around MOYLAND on call from 9 Cams and 7 Seaforth. A total of 413 bombs are expended during the day.	
	17th	1930	The attack on MOYLAND does not take place as the woods have not been cleared. O.C. B Coy called to Bn HQ for Gp. O.C. C Coy attends O Gp on Op 'PEPPERPOT'. 15 pl D Coy move to 941526 in order to sp 46 Bdes attack to capture MOYLAND.	46 Bde Op Order No 22 dtd 17 Feb 45 (E14) Sitrep. (I 61) Sitrep. (J 76) Sitrep.
	18th	0600 1500 0545	Tac HQ and Pls of B Coy move up into reced posns and Tac HQ is est at 926471. H-Hour for 44 Bdes attack. B Coy engage targets on the south side of the R Niers 9143 and 9243 from H -2 hours to H Hour. C Coy Tac HQ with 10 and 11 pls move to 912462. 12 and 14 pls D Coy conc under comd 44 Bde and are to sp them on their assault on GOCH. They therefore take up posns as follows:- just north of the town - 12 pl at PFALZDORF 912465 and 14 pl at 936464.	Sitrep. (J 77) Trace A Coy MMG Tasks (J 92)
	19th	0700 0900	46 Bde relieved by Cdn Bde at first light and conc in CLEVE. A Coy HQ and pls harbour at 891551. B Coy Main HQ move up to join Tac. O.C. C Coy carries out various reces. Lt Col A.N.W. Kidston takes over comd of the Bn. C Coy carries out recce prior to the attack on BUCKHOLT 9543. D Coy Tac HQ move to 92148 S of the CLEVE Forest and the remainder of Coy HQ join later. On the completion of the relief of 46 Bde by the Cdns, 13 and 15 pls come out of action and rest at 916534, Tac HQs previous location. 14 pl continue in sp of 6 KOSB who are clearing the remaining part of GOCH on the N side of the R. NIERS.	1 Mx Fire Plan Op 'THISTLE' (H 42) Sitrep. Sitrep. (J 79)

		1800	12 pl move to 942451 in preparation for their role in an attack by 227 Bde which takes place tomorrow.	1 Mx Fire Plan Op 'THISTLE' (H 50)
	20th	1020 1300	A Coy remain in same locations and concentrate on maintenance. Op 'THISTLE' 10 and 11 pls C Coy in action. For this op Lt F. Dawson O.C. 14 pl D Coy is sent to 2 A&SH to act as FOO Lt Dawson leaves D Coy HQ to recce for a suitable OP. A shell explodes in front of his carrier wounding him in the side. Later he died whilst on his way to hospital. The operation achieves all its intentions and is successful.	Sitrep Sitrep (J 80)
	21st	1030 1200 1330 1900 1800 2200	A Coy Comd recces area 9343 -9443 to decide posns for pls supporting 46 Bdes attack on GOCH the following day. 227 Bde give orders for 9 pl C Coy to come under comd 2 Gordons and cover Bridge at 941421. These orders are now cancelled and 9 pl comes under comd 6 RSF and takes up a posn at 918429. 10 and 11 pls C Coy are to engage area on right flank of RSF approx at 934422. This is also cancelled as patrols of 51 Div are in the area. 12 and 14 pls D Coy remain in the same posns covering the front held by 227 Bde. These pls move fwd to a temporary posn at 941442 to engage 2 targets in sp of 6 RSF. An aerial attack is made on 12 and 14 pls and one bomb falls on the mortar line killing Cpl Johl and Pte Carter. 13 pl D Coy cease to be under comd 46 Bde and conc in area of Coy HQ at 924479.	46 Bde Op Order No 23 (E 15)
	22nd	1030 1400 1500	3 and 4 pls A Coy take up posns at first light as follows :- 3 pl at 939435 to give right flanking protection to the attack - 4 pl at 947427 to sp the attack which is to be made by 9 Cams on right and 7 Sea on left with 2 GH in reserve. 5 pl A Coy forms up with 9 Cams for re-org task. The plan is changed slightly and only a limited advance is to be attempted owing to heavy opposition on the enemys part - 4 pl is given an additional task to re-org from original posn in which they were to sp attack - 5 pl remains in reserve - Very heavy shelling and mortaring all day - Lieut R.W.B. Lloyd killed during the action. Advance A Coy HQ is est at 934454. B Coy carries out map shoot. 10 and 11 pls C Coy fire on wood at 966437 and Arty FOO reports that the enemy has been effectively silenced.	A Coy Trace DF Tasks (J 93) (E17) 44 Bde Op Order No 7 B Coy Fire Direction Chart. (H42A) Sitrep

		1800	<p>12 and 14 pls D Coy return from their temporary posns of yesterday to their original location at 943451 - 15 pl leave the rest location and take up a posn at 940432 in order to sp 46 Bde attack to command WEEZE - UDEM rd. This objective is cancelled and more limited objectives chosen. 200 bombs are expended. The pl is under heavy fire and sustains 5 casualties.</p> <p>15 pl pulls back to 938439.</p>	
	23rd	2100	<p>A coys locations remain the same.</p> <p>44 Bde attack through 46 Bde and reach all their objectives.</p> <p>B Coy takes part in the action.</p> <p>10 and 11 pls C Coy continue to fire in sp of 2 A&SH and 10 HLI.</p> <p>12 and 14 pls D Coy remain in the same posns but orders are received for 14 pl to sp the attack by 53 (W) Div on the right tomorrow. They therefore set a mortar line at 938429 but do not occupy this. Orders are next given for 13 and 15 pls to sp an attack by 44 Bde to command the WEEZE - UDEM Rd. 13 pl therefore leave Coy HQ and takes up a posn at 947435 - 15 pl moves to 939429. They fire 272 bombs during the attack and sustain 2 casualties.</p> <p>Main HQ D Coy remain in same location and a Tac HQ is formed at 44 Bde from 0900 - 1730 hrs.</p> <p>Capt J P Livemore reports to 160 Bde 53 (W) Div as LO for the Bn in preparation for the attack tomorrow.</p>	Sitrep. (J67)
	24th		<p>53 Div attack down the GOCH - WEEZE Rd on the right flanks of 46 Bde - 3 and 5 pls A Coy sp this attack from 940418.</p> <p>7 pl B Coy carry out some good work with MMG and LMG Fire</p> <p>14 pl D Coy occupy posn of yesterdays making where they carry out tasks in Sp of 53 Div until 1700 hrs. It is reported that fire from this pl broke up at least one enemy counter attack during the day.</p> <p>A Recce party visits 12 pl to arrange take over. This party is from 2nd Bn Middlesex. The relief is completed and 12 pl conc at Coy HQ by 0130 hrs on the 25th. 13 and 15 pls remain at the same locations.</p>	<p>46 Bde Op Instr No 27 (E18)</p> <p>46 Bde Adm Order No 20 Sitrep (J65)</p>
	25th		<p>Bde of 3 Div relieve 46 Bde and A Coy conc in area 926453</p> <p>B Coys pls conc in area of Tac HQ.</p> <p>C Coy move to BOXTEL.</p> <p>D Coys pls conc at Coy HQ for the night.</p>	<p>46 Bde Op Instr No 2 (E19)</p> <p>Sitrep (J69)</p>
	26th		<p>The relief of the Bn by 53 (W) Div is now completed and we move to BOXTEL for a well earned rest. Bn HQ 327367 - A Coy 324351 - B Coy 225351 - C Coy and D Coy - 331352.</p>	<p>1 Mx Move Order No5(G37)</p> <p>1 Mx Training Instr(G38)</p> <p>1 Mx Training Instr No 2 (G39)</p>

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1 Mx

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year March 1945.

Commanding Officer LT.COL. A.N.W. KIDSTON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BOXTEL 327367	1st	1100	Div Comd visits the Bn and expresses appreciation of the good work done during the last operation.	
	5th		C Coy move to DILSEN 598725.	D/4.
	6th		Remainder of the Bn move - Bn HQ, HQ and D Coy to BOURG-LEOPOLD 263824 - A Coy to STALL 2577 - B Coy to SCHULEN 209653 - C Coy to DILSEN 598725.	
	7-14th		The Bn is at rest and undergoing training in river crossing. Each Coy constructs a model LVT and class 9 rafts. Practice in loading vehs is carried out.	G/36 H/39.
	14th		Ex "BUFFALO" - C and B Coys only are taking part.	
	20th		Bn HQ, HQ and D Coy move to XANTEN area in preparation for Op "TORCHLIGHT". Bn HQ and HQ Coy is est at SONSBECK 069371 - D Coy at 086374.	D/5. D/6. H/40. D/7. D/8 H/41 G/37. H/44 H/45
	22nd		Coys have now arrived in area and are est as follows :- A 038402 - B 074407 - C 048429.	H/46. J/57-64.
	23rd	1300 1400	Tac HQ and all pls of D Coy move fwd to conc area to their allotted posns and dig in. B Coy Tac HQ move to 116424 - 6 and 8 pls complete loading of LVTs - 7 pl occupies posn for "PEPPERPOT". 9, 10 and 11 pls C Coy move with their Bns to the Marshalling area and thence to the Vehicle Waiting area, where 9 and 11 pls guns and 15 belts per section are loaded on to LVTs - 10 pls guns and amm are taken by carrier to the loading area where the pl personnel joins them.	D/9. E/12. E/13.
	24th	0100 0200	Div "PEPPERPOT" starts. The whole of A Coy and 2 pls of B Coy together with all four of D Coys pls join in the tremendous barrage that is already being put down. The noise is unbelievable. "PEPPERPPOT" is controlled from Bn Tac HQ and subsequently the very difficult task of keeping track of all sub-units is successfully carried out from this location. H Hour Op "TORCHLIGHT".	

		0210	<p>9 pl Comd (C Coy) with 1 sec crosses the RHINE with C Coy 10 HLI and digs in at 120460. At dawn enemy MGs that were causing trouble are hunted out and after some hand to hand fighting 12 Germans are killed and 32 captured. The whole of 9 pl then move up with 10 HLI to 126472. 10 pl C Coy cross with 2 Gordons and man-handle their fighting equipment to their posn in front of 2 Gordons at 098493. The posn is held under very heavy mortar and SA fire. 11 pl takes up a posn on the Bund and engages the enemy at dawn.</p> <p>A Coy, having successfully crossed, 3 pl is put into posn hurriedly and a counter attack against 7 Seaforths from Wood and Bridge 135494 is successfully broken up.</p> <p>A Coys pls are now est as follows :- 3 pl 1 sec 120487 1 sec 123487 4 pl in reserve and 5 pl at 123465.</p> <p>The remainder of B Coy cross the river and Coy HQ reach BISLICH 139429 at 1930 hrs. During the operation a carrier of B Coy is blown up by a mine injuring the driver, Pte Ward, in the back.</p>	<p>E/16. E/17. E/18 E/19. E/20. -/24.</p> <p>E/14. E/15.</p> <p>E/25. J/65.</p>
	25th	0600	<p>D Coy leaves marshalling area and moves to vehicle waiting area E of XANTEN.</p>	
		0630	<p>Bn Tac moves off to veh waiting area. CO's group goes straight through and is taken across the RHINE in BUFFALOES</p> <p>The remainder are held up for a time but are rafted across successfully at about 1200 hrs and the complete Tac HQ is est at 457451 VISSEL by 1400 hrs.</p>	
		0900	<p>D coy commence to cross. This task completed, the Coy advances to the following posns :- Tac HQ 121478 - 12 and 13 pls 121481 - 14 and 15 pls 124475.</p> <p>A small enemy counter attack is reported from area of WISSHOP but 14 and 15 pls soon smash this.</p>	
		1050	<p>7 Seaforths report enemy transport withdrawing in the BELLINGHOVEN area. 15 pl engages this target and their shoot is conducted with great effort effect by Capt Bindloss from an OP.</p> <p>3 and 5 pl A Coy are at 123493 in re-organisation role with 9 Cams - 4 pl giving right flank protection to 2 GH and also re-organisation</p>	

		<p>from 156480. These pls fire 11 belts per gun during the attack by A&SH and GH. Tac HQ moves to 119476.</p> <p>B Coy HQ is est at 166479 - 6 and 8 pls conc at 126476 - 7 pl at 177504. These pls are under comd of Inf Bns for advance to contact - only 7 pl in action. Lieut Stubbs of 7 pl and 6 ORs are wounded and evacuated during this action.</p> <p>9 pl C Coy remains in posn at 126473 until 1800 hrs when orders are received for them to move and conc under comd 157 Bde in area BISLICH.</p> <p>10 pl C Coy remain in posn with enemy MGs within their arc.</p> <p>1500 11 pl under comd 2 A&SH move off to clear wooded area at 1448 and 1449.</p> <p>1800 They next come under comd 10 HLI and occupy posns at 127493 and 124497.</p>	
	26th	<p>4 pl A Coy carry out the following DF tasks :-</p> <p>West end of wood 149491 to east end - X rd tracks 148502 both being called for by 2 A&SH. 3 pl is in reserve. 6 pl B Coy concs with a view to consolidate later, on an objective of 6 RSF in area br 203529 - 7 pl is in reserve. 8 pl is in direct fire posn with 8 RS and successfully sees off a counter attack during the morning - 1 OR is wounded in the leg. A large number of German dead are found in their target area.</p> <p>10 pl C Coy is covering right flank of 2 Gordons at 106495</p> <p>11 pl conc both secs at 124495 in sp of 10 HLI - 9 pl remains attd to 157 Bde.</p> <p>1105 The first task D Coy has to deal with is an enemy known to be at 134519.</p> <p>1230 13 pl fires on small wood at 128523.</p> <p>1410 13 pl sp an attack by 7 Seaforths and fire on area 141502 - 142505.</p> <p>1500 14 and 15 pls sp an attack by 10 HLI on BELLINGHOVEN.</p>	
	27th	<p>0730 3 pl A Coy RV at 170505 in sp of 2 GH and take up posns at 158504. Their task is to cover the gap created through 9 Cams and 2 GH being unable to completely take all their objectives - 4 pl occupy posn at 172509 - 5 pl are in action supporting 9 Cams at 145510.</p> <p>B Coys pls are in the following posns :- 6 pl 200509 - 8 pl 187518 firing direct on fixed lines along the Autobahn.</p> <p>9 pl C Coy remain under comd 157 Bde at 205488. At first light they move to 259488 to sp the attack of the KOSB on RINGENBERG. The tactical handling and adm of this pl by 157 Bde was excellent and enabled the fire power to be used to unaccustomed advantage.</p> <p>14 pl D Coy take up a posn at 140499 and subsequently move to 156497 - at 1030 hrs 15 pl move to 157499.</p>	E/26.

			During the morning shells fall in the area of D Coy Tac HQ 1 OR is wounded as a result of this.	
	28th		3 pl A Coy fires during the first phase of 46 Bdes attack and sp 7 Seaforths - 4 pl fires in sp of 10 HLI and 5 pl in sp of 2 A&SH. B Coy carry out numerous tasks. 10 and 11 pls C Coy move to 108513 and 139526 to cover advance of 2 Gordons through wood 1252 - 1352. 11 pl move to 139526 to carry out a similar task on 10 HLI front, lifting with the advance. 10 and 11 pls do not fire as there is no opposition. 0900 12, 13 and 14 pls D Coy sp attack by 2 A&SH and HLI on wood 1452 - 1552. The pls fire on a time programme laid down by CRA. 1300 227 Bde are attacking SOUSFELD WOOD and the aforementioned pls of D Coy are supporting. In each case the attack progresses so swiftly that no mortar fire is required.	
	29th		Division comes into Corps Reserve and Bn is located as under: Bn HQ and HQ Coy - 146494 A Coy - 158498 B Coy - 196503 C Coy - 148494 D Coy - 157498	
	30- 31st		Much needed maintenance, cleaning and re-organisation is carried out.	

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 1st Bn The Middlesex Regt (DCO)

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year April 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col A.N.W. Kidston

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
146494	1-4		Bn remains in Corps reserve and uses the time for maintenance and re-organisation.	D1.
	4		A Coy move to 903936 - B to BORGHORST 771922 - C Coy to EMSDETTEN 853955.	D2.
GREVAN 889913	5		Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to area GREVAN 889913. 20 prisoners are taken from the neighbouring woods. It is also reported that some 400 para troops are in the vicinity and great care is taken to safeguard the HQ and to ensure that as many of them as possible are safely put away when discovered.	E6.
	6		C Coy harbour party move to STELLHORN 741270. The remainder of the Coy move at 0900 hrs. An NCO of the party is shot and the surrounding woods are combed. Just after this event 77 CCP report to 11 pl that they are being sniped. The pl searches the area and takes 122 PW. Pte Ramsden is responsible for 67. These he finds lurking in a barn. OC C Coy decides to house them in a loft at BOHNHORST, where they are given a meal and marched to the PW cage next morning. Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 688255 arriving at this location at about midday after an all night convoy. These last few moves are reminiscent of the Normandy days. We are moving fwd and covering 60 to 70 miles each time. On arrival at the various locations each unit is allotted an area by Div for which it is responsible i.e. clearing enemy pockets, arresting suspicious persons etc.	E.7.
	7		A Coy move to 738180 arriving at 0600 hrs. The area is searched but no enemy are found. B Coy move to 602262 arriving at 1500 hrs. 9 Pl C Coy bring in 4 PW and 10 Pl bring in 5 PW. D Coy move to 687252.	
	8		9 pl takes 3 PW - 1 Offr and 2 ORs. Pte Robins is wounded in the leg by a sniper. C Coy HQ take 2 civilians prisoner. Coy spend day in maintenance.	

898218	9		Bn HQ move to 898218. C Coy clears wood around their location to an extent of 5 kms - No enemy.	
081275	10	1030 1115 1400 1630	Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 081275. A Coy move to 943215. B Coy move to 875246. D Coy move to 897216 in area of BIERDE. C Coy move to 171293. 9 pl joins 10 HLI. 2 PW taken near C Coy HQ.	D3. E.8.
432428	11	1700 2300	Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 432428. A Coy move in Bde column to 465353. 4 pl are in sp of 9 Cams at 485355. B Coy move to 366383. 11 pl C Coy join 2 A&SH. 227 Bde move on axis NEUSTADT - METEL rd. OC C Coy joins Bde Tac HQ. 10 pl is in reserve with Coy HQ. Fairly stiff resistance is encountered by leading Bn and going is slow. Coy harbours at 492465 in an extremely muddy field. 12 and 15 pls D Coy are placed in sp of 10 HLI and move off in their convoy. 13 and 14 pls move with 46 Bde under Bde control. 14 pl harbour for the night with A Coy whilst 13 pl proceed to 530374 with a view to supporting an attack with 9 Cams on enemy strong point around the rly crossing at 559389. Coy HQ move to Div conc area and are est at 431426.	
5950 CELLE	12	0600 0900 1600 2000	Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to CELLE 5950. Many members of the Bn visit the concentration camp and are appalled and horrified at the sights. Leading citizens of the town are made to bury the dead and remove the sick to hospitals. Many NCOs of the Bn supervised. Bn guards food stores. A Coy move to 588501 with 46 Bde. C Coy Tac HQ move to 542479 and are joined by main Coy HQ at 1000 hrs. 9 pl C Coy move into CELLE with 10 HLI. 9 and 11 pls cross R. ALLER by bridge at 621482. 11 pl follows leading Coy of 2 A&SH to their objective at GARSSEN. The roads are very bad in this area and 9 pl remains behind to tow out TCVs of 10 HLI. They join 10 HLI next morning at 0200 hrs. C Coy HQ and 10 pl move off to cross cl 40 bridge at CELLE and harbour at 603532. 12 and 15 pls D Coy move in Bde column through CELLE and are est at 575533. 13 and 14 pls move together with remainder of 46 Bde and are est in area 5848. D Coy HQ move to CELLE at 587499.	

688624	13	<p>3 pl A Coy are under comd 2 GH giving right flank protection to Div, move to 803621. 5 pl giving left flank protection to Div move with 7 Seaforth. 4 pl are in reserve under comd 9 Cams. B Coy move to 577508.</p> <p>9 and 11 pls C Coy plus 2 pls of mortars conc at GARSSEN and at 1100 hrs join Bde column whose objective is VELZEN.</p> <p>13 pl D Coy move at approx 0700 hrs in sp of 7 Seaforth. 14 pl move with 2 GH at approx 0900 hrs. 12 and 15 pls with 227 Bde. Coy HQ moves to 686224.</p> <p>Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 688624.</p>	
803793	14	<p>A Coy HQ and 3 pl move in advance-to-contact to 898791.</p> <p>B Coy concs in area 818820.</p> <p>C Coy Tac HQ moves to HOLXEN 850830 and on arrival search their allotted billets for arms and amn. One householder in particular is questioned and emphatically denies being in possession of these but on investigation however, a German rifle, fully loaded, a Spandau with amn are discovered. The man is arrested and after interrogation is found to be a prominent Nazi official of the village. 10 pl takes up posns at 865842. All three pls of C Coy are to sp a night attack on VELZEN. Recces are made and the gun line is decided on at 882862.</p> <p>12 and 15 pls D Coy having been on the move all through the night, arrive at HOLXEN. During the morning the sp of one mortar pl is required and 12 pl moves forward to HOLDENSTEDT. A plan is made for an attack on VELZEN. 15 pl joins 12 pl and takes posns at 883861. 14 pl remain with 7 Seaforth and 13 pl with 2 GH.</p>	
803793	15	<p>Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 803793.</p> <p>5 pl A Coy move to BOHLSSEN 8489 to clear SUSTEDT with 7 Seaforth. The enemy are engaged on numerous occasions and cas are inflicted. 4 pl move from BOKEL 8972 to NIENWOHLDE 9176 and finally to NETTLEKAMP 920800. A Coy HQ and 3 pl move on axis with 2 GH to STADENSEN 9079. At 0345 hrs en launches a counter-attack against STADENSEN 9079 and penetrate into Bn gp perimeter with armour and motorised inf. A Coy HQ and 3 pl take on def task together with 2 GH and sp arms. Cas are inflicted on armour and inf and attack is repulsed. CSM A Chapman is wounded in the leg during this action.</p> <p>7 Pl B Coy in sp of 8 RS cover eastern approaches to BORNE 8883. 6 pl are in sp of 6 RSF for consolidation in NIENDORF 9085 and HALLIDORF area. 7 pl is at 907848 and 6 pl 914862.</p> <p>1600 6 pl move fwd to HALLIDORF and shoot up on tpt moving along rd ESTERHOLZ 9384 - VELZEN 9089.</p>	

	1730	<p>7 pl is ordered to take up posns in NIENDORF 9085 covering rly running SE. Pls of C Coy are in action firing on front edge of wood 877891 to 884902.</p> <p>11 pl then takes up a posn at 881866 covering the open ground at 8787 - 8687 - 8688 - 8788 - 8789. 2 PW are taken from a deep dug-out at no 1 sec's posn. Cpl McAree whilst crawling into an 'L' shaped trench comes face to face with 2 Germans on reaching the corner. They are both armed but give themselves up without any trouble.</p> <p>12 and 15 pls D Coy carry out an observed shoot on enemy MT withdrawing to VELZEN. 14 pl remains with 7 Seaforth in KLEINESUSTED and during the day enemy patrols are engaged and DF tasks also registered. 13 pl assist in repulsing heavy counter-attack on 2 GH. D Coy HQ move to 804793.</p>	
	16	<p>7 pl B Coy take up counter-penetration role owing to the advance of the formation on their right. The remainder of the Coy are standing by ready to move fwd.</p>	E 11.
	17	<p>3 and 4 pls A Coy provide left flank protection to 46 Bde in the attack on VELZEN - 3 pl in a posn at 880866 and 4 pl 958901.</p> <p>7 pl B Coy occupy posn at 929871 and capture 4 Germans whilst doing so.</p> <p>6 pl B Coy occupy a posn at 913886 both pls being engaged in harassing the N and NE approaches to VELZEN.</p> <p>Mortar pls remain on call from their various Bdes. 15 pl sp Recce Sqn and assist in the capture of HAMSEN 8487 and HOLTHUSEN 8188.</p>	
	18	<p>A Coy HQ move to 894885 and pls give flank protection to 46 Bde and engage series of enemy proceeding west from VELZEN to woods.</p> <p>7 pl B Coy move to LIDERIN 928884 and later to MOLZEN with 1 Coy of RS to take over from 6 Airborne.</p> <p>9 pl C Coy join 10 HLI - 10 pl join 2 Gordons - 11 pl join 2 A&SH as part of respective Bn Gps for move to area of VELZEN.</p> <p>D Coy HQ captures 17 of the enemy in the area VELZNER - STADT - FORST and find in WESTERWEYHE 25 British, 2 American and 1 Polish PWX who are brought to Coy HQ.</p>	
569988	19	<p>Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 569988.</p> <p>A Coy move fwd in 46 Bde column and conc at 924980.</p> <p>B Coy move to 906960 and conc with 44 Bde.</p> <p>227 Bde incl C Coy move northwards via VELZEN to VASTORF 8815. There being no opposition the move is extended to SCHARNEBEEK 848252.</p>	D4.

			11 pl who are harboured at HITTBURGEN 905315 experience some unpleasant moments when shells land in their location. Pte Tanner is wounded in right arm and leg. D Coy move to BARUM 864986.	
849252	20		Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to 849252. A Coy move to 939209 - pls move with respective Bns giving short range local protection. B Coy move to RUHSTORF 903155. C Coy move to 805289 and pls carry out harassing shoots in area 9035. D Coy HQ move to 853253. 15 Pl with Recce move up to GARZE 9727 and engage BLECKEDE. OC Recce is informed that our inf are coming up from the south and therefore decides to withdraw to NEETZE.	D5. E.12.
	21		A Coy move to 956266 and pls take up posns to harass N of R ELBE. B Coy move to 800206 and conc under 44 Bde. 9 and 11 pls C Coy are to take up harassing role on R ELBE with 10 pl in reserve. During the day 11 pl spots 6 Germans running along on the opposite bank - 3 of which soon discontinued running. 14 pl D Coy are supporting 9 Cams at GARZE.	
	22		11 pl C Coy request location of enemy gun from RA OP. This gun has been lobbing shells in the pls area. The gun is located and the pl opens up silencing 1 88 mm and 2 20 mm guns. 14 pl D Coy carry out opportunity shoots on the E bank of the river.	
	23		10 pl C Coy relieve 11 pl. 14 pl D Coy shoot up barges on the river. Later in the day they are relieved by 15 Pl.	
	24		One sec of 3 pl A Coy take up direct fire posns and fire on a small party of Germans on the other bank inflicting cas. 2 A&SH having watched a ration truck on the other side of the river which arrives at a certain point the same time each day, calls upon 1 sec of 10 pl C Coy who fire with good effect.	
	25		A Coy move to 910290. B Coy move to 775205.	
	26		A Coy carry out harassing shoots. OC C Coy recces posns for Op 'ENTERPRISE'. Lt J.A. BOUND joins Coy and takes over Comd 10 pl.	
	27/28		All Coys are endeavouring to get maximum rest prior to impending Op.	
	29	0130	Op 'ENTERPRISE'. 'PEPPERPPOT' commences and continues until 2000 hrs.	E15. E16. E47 - E55.

	0800	<p>9 pl and Tac HQ C Coy are called to control point and whilst waiting to cross the ELBE the enemy makes an air attack. The pl narrowly escapes being hit by gunfire from these planes. 1 sec of 9 pl crosses by 1030 hrs the remainder getting across by 1430 hrs. During the crossing 8 enemy aircraft attack and Tac HQ on the N side have some very nasty moments but fortunately come through unscathed. 9 pl then joins 10 HLI and takes up posns at 838385 and 832385 later move fwd to 814384 with arc to west to incl GRUNHORF. 11 pl join 2 A&SH to take up posns at 813386 with targets at 798395 and 793397. Tac HQ and 10 pl then move to 2 Gordons area at 803374. 4 and 5 pls A Coy cross by LVT under priority of 46 Bde and 4 pl goes into action with 7 Seaforths.</p> <p>14 and 15 pls come out of action at 0700 hrs and await orders from 46 Bde to cross the river. These pls reach VWAA at approx 1030 hrs. O.C. Coy crosses with the C.O. at 1230 hrs but the 2 pls are considerably delayed and do not land on the other bank until 1730 hrs.</p>	
30		<p>3 pl A Coy occupies HEIDBURG 3987 with posns covering gaps between 2 GH and 7 Seaforth in conjunction with 4 pl. 4 pl move to LUTAU 8741 facing NE and giving protection from the ZUCKEN HOLZ which is not yet cleared.</p> <p>8 pl B Coy move to KOLLOW 8144. Coy HQ concs at 829421. 7 pl are in reserve at GULZOW 8342. 6 pl take up a direct fire posn in sp of 6 RSF at 825495.</p> <p>9 pl C Coy move to GRUNHOF 800388. 11 pl move to 782390. Tac HQ join Bde Tac at TESPERHUDE. Coy main crosses at 1500 hrs. 9 pl then occupy WIRDSHOP with 10 HLI.</p> <p>Bn HQ TAC crosses at approx 0630 hrs after waiting all night in the marshalling area. HQ Coy follows later in the day.</p> <p>12 pl D Coy crosses at 0800 to sp the Bde advance to the west. 13 pl crosses at 0100 hrs and are placed in sp of 8 RS at JULIUSBURG 8439. 14 pl having crossed with 2 GH assist in their occupation of LATAU whilst 15 pl sp 9 Cams from a posn at 897394</p>	

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 1st Bn The Middlesex Regt.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year May 1945.

Commanding Officer Lt Col ANW Kidston.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1		Bn HQ and HQ Coy is est at SCHWARZENBEK 834394. A Coy 774604 - B Coy 825489 - C Coy 796377 - D Coy 817407 2 batmen of C Coy capture 2 PW from a house in TESPERHUDE. 9 pl with 10 HLI occupy WORTH 7744. 11 pl move with 2 A&SH via GEESTHACHT to 774420. 44 bde is relieved during the night and concs in area NE of CULZOW. 14 and 15 pls D Coy are in sp of this Bde. At 2000 hrs orders are received to place one pl under comd of 15 Recce Regt. 15 pl was accordingly ordered to stand by.	
	2		Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to WORTH 779449. 227 Bde Gp advances in a westerly direction, 9 pl C Coy with 10 HLI who take HOHENHORN 7545 and KROPPELSHAGEN FAHRENDORF 7146 against some opposition. Bde HQ follow on this axis and 9 and 10 pls harbour near X rds 715469. C Coy HQ is est at HOHENHORN. 2 A&SH advance on the left hand route. 1 Coy of A&SH on the high ground on the right of the axis. When south of FAHRENDORF, a sec of 9 pl who is with this Coy, comes under heavy mortar fire and opposition from 2 20 mm flak guns about 400 yds from 733447. Vigorous action from this sec silenced the flak guns and attention is turned to the buildings in FAHRENDORF, which are held by the enemy. In spite of supporting fire from 2 tanks falling unpleasantly close, they are able to get into and clear the buildings. The sec then carry on and enter BORNSEN 693458. 8 PW are taken.	
	3		Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to KUDDEWORDE 772581. 46 Bde are engaged in clearing ops in area SACHEN WALD and A Coy provides flank protection. 4 pl in action S of BRUNSTORF at 786472 giving right flank protection from main rd SCHWARZENBEK - DUSSENDORF. 5 pl in action S of DUSSENDORF at 752467 giving left flank protection S of rd up to Forest. 3 pl in action at 768473. At 1200 hrs Coy is relieved by Royal Welch and conc in area of TRITTAU 774604. B Coy HQ move to 721583.	E 23.

		227 Bde relieved by a Bde of 53 Div and C Coy conc at 778560. 12, 13 and 14 pls D Coy move with Bde Gps to conc areas N of SACHEN WALD.	
	4	Bn HQ and HQ Coy move to HAMMOOR 707721. A Coy less 3 pl are resting at MOLLHAGEN. 3 pl is guarding a train at 868858, containing American Red Cross supplies. B Coy are conc at FISHBECK. C Coy are in billets in AHRENSBURG area. 12 pl D Coy after reporting to the Provost Staff 11 Armd Div, take over some 4,000 German PW at LUBECK and with the help of 15 Pl escort them along the Autobahn to a PW collecting point at Factory 665683. This was accomplished with the aid of carriers. "CEASE FIRE" received at 2050 hrs - to take effect from 0800 hrs on 5 May 1945.	
	5	Bn comes under comd CO and is given the gargantuan task of guarding and administrating numerous PW camps in the Div area.	
	6	D Coy HQ move to 658676 and carry out general administration 12 pl D Coy move to 660680 and take control of large buildings housing many hundreds of PW. 13 and 14 pls, assisted by 15 pl continue with administration of the factory PW cage.	
	7	4 pl A Coy establish a PW camp at BARGTEHEIDE with approx 2,000 PW	
	8	B Coy move to BARGTEHEIDE and take over camp from A Coy. 11 pl C Coy is relieved by 5 pl A Coy from RED BARN CAMP and return to their billets in AHRENSBURG.	
	9	CO holds admin conference at Bn HQ. 11 pl C Coy takes over STELLMORE CAMP from a pl of B Coy. This camp consists of some 947 German and Hungarian PW. 9 pl C Coy hand over REFORM CAMP to 131 Field Regt. 4 pl A Coy start another camp at a Glass Factory between DELLINGSDORF and AHRENSBURG. 1,000 PW sent to A Coy and a further 800 admitted to D Coy's camp.	
	10	9 pl C Coy placed under comd D Coy to assist at Factory Camp. B Coy move to VOLKSDORF. D Coy dispose of 900 PW.	
	11	A Coy hand over commitments to 2 Gordons and conc at MOLLHAGEN. C Coy hand over to 2 Gordons STELLMORE CAGE.	
	14	Bn concs in VOLKSDORF. Excellent billets. Coys move independently with Bn HQ and HQ Coy bringing up the rear, arriving at midday. Locations :- Bn HQ and HQ 614639 - A 614640 - B 615644 - C 613629 - D 612639.	D4 J39 D 5-6-7.
	15	All arrangements made to celebrate ALBUHERA DAY tomorrow. News comes at midday that Bn may have to move at short notice.	

		At 1500 the move is confirmed and we leave tomorrow for TRAVEMUNDE to land and escort PW (from BALTIC) to OLDENBURG PENINSULAR. Recce parties go off at 1800 hrs. CO leaves for area and holds O Gp at 2315 hrs after a recce.	D 8-9.
	16	Albuhera Day. Bn (less B Coy) moves to Baltic coast at 0700 hrs, arriving about 0930 hrs. Locations :- HQ 036026 A 055038 B 615644 C 064007 D 051017 Prisoners start to land at 1300 hrs. C Coy arrange disembarkation in conjunction with elts of Royal Navy. About 6,000 are disembarked during the day and taken off to transit camp est by D Coy. M.O. and staff are kept busy with anti louse powder and guns.	
	17	Another boat in and disembarkation by C Coy is started at about 0830 hrs. A Coy collect the PW in D Coy's cage and march them off to WINTERSHAGEN where they are handed over to reps of a WEHRMACHT Corps. Demonstrations by civilians who cheer and attempt to give food etc., to PW cause some difficulties. Arrogance on the part of PW is ruthlessly dealt with also slackness. 3 ton lorries follow the column but only stragglers picked up are men whose feet are bleeding badly or who have lost consciousness. Bayonets and sticks have to be used on many occasions. B Coy who have arrived during the day join A Coy and share the marching problems. Our own troops had to march with the PW as control could not be maintained from the carriers. Approx 6,000 more PW are passed through the cage and on to the German Corps during the day.	
	18	During the next few days there is not much on and the time is mainly spent on odd drill parades, a little firing out at sea, bathing and sun-bathing on the sands. D Coy move nearer to A and B Coys (058041).	
	19	Entertainment in LUBECK starts and various cinema and ENSA shows are seen each day. 20 PW arrive and are passed straight through to WINTERSHAGEN. 120 PW are again passed straight through to WINTERSHAGEN.	
	22	Bn moves back from TRAVEMUNDE area in "penny packets". A good convoy spread over about 30 miles of autobahn. CO's conference at 1400 hrs to discuss new commitments - mainly guarding camps, dumps and cages at present guarded by RA. Court of Inquiry at 1500 hrs on death of Pte David of D Coy. Coy Comds contact Bty and Fd Regts from which they are taking over. Lieut LC Chamberlain leaves for England as Instructor at PTC.	D 10 D 11-12-13-14
	23	CO's conference at 0900 hrs to tie up take over from RA. D and C Coys to move out tomorrow. Remainder stay in Volksdorf.	

24		D Coy move to 631786. C Coy to 672515. 5 pl A Coy take over guard duties, supplying of rations and supervision of hygiene of PW at REDBARN SS PW Cage BARGTEHEIDE. 7 and 8 pls B Coy guard Div PW Cage at AHRENSBURG and 1 sec of 6 pl guard SS Hospital in the town. 1 sec of 9 pl C Coy are at BISMARCK Fm 692576 and 1 sec at Amn Dump 683544. 1 sec of 10 pl are at Factory 645525 and the other sec at DP Camp 652515. 11 pl C Coy are on patrol duties around SCHONNINGSTEDT 675514.	
25		4 pl A Coy join 5 pl to assist in duties at REDBARN Camp.	
26		Notification given to all Burgermeisters that French, Belgian, Dutch, Swiss and Danes will be collected tomorrow.	D 15-20.
27		All French, Belgian, Dutch, Swiss and Danes in KREIS STORMARN are collected for onward transmission to LUBECK and thence to their respective countries and homes.	
29		Check on all PWX and DPs starts. KREIS STORMARN divided up into Coy sectors. Every town and village to be visited.	J 40
30		4 and 5 pls A Coy provide escort for the transferring of PW from RED BARN Camp to SS PW Cage at NEUEN - GAMME. At 1630 hrs both pls return to Coy location.	
31		Bn locations as follows :- Bn HQ and HQ Coy VOLKSDORF 614639 A Coy " 614646 B Coy " 615644 C Coy SCHONNINGSTEDT 672515 D Coy NIENWOHL 631786.	