

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

Army Form C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

Unit 6 RSF

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year Jun 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col CR BUCHANAN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Worthing	1		Normal training. Waterproofing continued. Companies continued firing practice out to sea.	CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers
	2		Normal training.	
	3		Normal training. Special Cashier lectured to Imprest Holders at Bde HQ at 1400 hrs.	
	4		Divine Service in Worthing Presbyterian Church.	
	5		Normal training. Waterproofing of vehicles continued. Inter-Platoon Competitions in W.T., mine laying etc and football started.	
	6		Normal training. Inter-Platoon Competitions continued.	
	7		Normal training. Inter-Platoon Competitions.	
	8		Normal training. Inter-Platoon Competitions.	
	9		Normal training.	
Worthing	10	0030	Orders received from Q(M) Seco to be prepared to move not before 1200 hrs. LO sent to HQ Seco to receive rd and rl tables. According to previous instrs received these orders should have been issued by HQ Sx Dist.	
		1403	Marching party under comd of Maj Agnew left WORTHING STA by train. Lt Patrick and 36 ORs with 5 vehs left behind as residue.	
		1500	Comd Offr with veh party passed SP. As OC Convoy the Comd Offr moved 1 hr ahead of the coln in accordance with instrs. No arrangements had been made at the RV to guide him to the transit camp and he had to ask at the nearest police sta. 1 L/Cpl and 2 Fus absent when Bn moved off.	
		2115	Both veh and marching parties conc in transit camp T7 at WANSTEAD. No unit sheet available from Movement Control. "Hotel system" in camp adequate.	

Wanstead	11	0900 1030 1030 to 1600	Unit sheet received from Movement Control. Bn split into five craft loads of vehs and marching personnel mixed. Unit sheet did not correspond at all with details previously issued in unit staff table. This added considerably to the difficulty and time taken in breaking down the Bn into ship loads. Serial T39 under comd Capt TODD moved to camp T1 - 9 vehs, 14 personnel. 50% of Bn vehs with dvrs only moved to EAST INDIA DOCKS to load into LST and MTS. Final stages of waterproofing carried out.	
	12	a.m. 2130	Loading of vehs continued. Lt TF MacCONNACHIE adm to ESSEX County Hospital with damaged back. Serial S55 moved off to docks. Composition: CO, IO, B Coy, one pl C Coy, Carrier pl.	CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers
Wanstead	13	0550 0625 0730 2000	T36 moved to docks by TCV. Composition : A Coy, HQ Coy, S Coy HQ T34 moved to docks by TCV. Composition : Adm pl. S60 moved to docks by TCV. Composition : C Coy less one pl, D Coy. All ships moved from the docks to join convoy at mouth of Thames Estuary.	
	14	2100	Convoy weighed anchor. Ships orders laid down for action in the event of attack by U or E boats or long range shelling by coastal guns.	
	15	1930 2100	Convoy dropped anchor off "Juno" beach. No incident reported during the voyage. Marching personnel started to disembark. Carried by LCT from ship to beach. No landings allowed after 2300 hrs.	
	16	0600 to 1400 1400 2100	Disembarkation of marching personnel and vehs continued. Personnel moved through beach transit and assembly areas by ship loads. All marching personnel reported to Bn conc area at BRECY. 50% vehs had arrived in conc area. De-waterproofing started immediately.	
Brecy	17	1800	Conc reported complete. 1 offr and 8 OR cas between WORTHING and BRECY.	
	18	1000 0930 1400 1900 1400	CO & IO attended Bde 'O' Gp and carried out recce in area of RANVILLE. Normal Church Service in Bn area. Adv party warned to move 19 Jun. Bn 'O' Gp. CO gave outline plan for move of Bn to RANVILLE. IO RE demonstrated new German mines found on the beaches : (i) "Pot" mine - A.Pers. (ii) "Regal" mine - A.Tk.	CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers

Rucqueville	19	0745 1000	Orders issued last night cancelled. Op planned has been cancelled because the Div cannot be concentrated in time. CO attended Bde 'O' Gp. No fresh infm. Rain all day. No incidents to report. Bn still in conc area at RUCQUEVILLE.	
	20	0915	CO attended Bde 'O' Gp. High wind with intermittent rain.	
	21		Weather still bad with high wind and skies overcast. Recces by Coy Comds in area of NORREY EN BESSIN.	
	22		Limited recces continued in area of NORREY EN BESSIN. Bn still in conc area at RUCQUEVILLE. 1 offr and 11 ORs rfts received from 32 RHU.	
	23		Lt JE Bowman, B Coy, killed by shell splinter at NORREY EN BESSIN.	
	24	1400 2000	CO held briefing conference on a cloth model for exercise "Epsom". All offr and NCOs down to sec comds attended. Weather very good. Bn moved to FAA in SECQUEVILLE for Op "Epsom".	See Appx "A"
Secqueville	25		Day spent in preparation and briefing for Op "Epsom".	
St Mauvieu	26		Op "Epsom". Attack by 15(S)Div in which 44(L)Inf Bde took part. Bde took the two left objectives with rt 8RS, left 6RSF. 6RSF objective village of ST MAUVIEU. H Hour 0730. Attack was carried out with heavy arty barrage, depth 500yds. A and B Coys were assaulting coys, C behind A, D behind B in reserve. Cas were incurred in the left coy by shorts in the barrage. On arrival on objective it was found to be strongly held by men of a unit of SS Hitler Youth Div, who carried out sniping during the clearing of the objectives with devastating results. The operation of clearing the village was well carried out by the Bn, but proved a slow and costly procedure, and it was not until 1700 hrs that the northern end of the objective was finally cleared by which time the Bn was very thin on the ground as the result of cas. Counter attack was launched about 1800 hrs on the left flank but was beaten off and no penetration was made except to an orchard at the northern end of the village. Later a further counter attack on the rt flank was seen to be developing and the CO, in order to avoid the posn being infiltrated, had to call on Bde for the assistance of two Coys 6KOSB. Bde Comd however decided in view of the cas incurred by the Bn in the operation to date to send up 6KOSB complete less one rifle coy to take over from 6 RSF. This relief was completed with difficulty as counter attacks were in progress during a portion of the time, and it was not until 2300 hrs that the final elements of the Bn were withdrawn from the posn to reserve. Total casualties incurred in this operation were as follows: Killed : 21	See Map Appx 'B'  CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers

			<p>Wounded : 113 Missing : 9</p> <p>This was the first time the Bn had been in action since Jun 1940 and for the majority of the personnel of the Bn it was their first battle inoculation. The Bde Comd expressed to the Comd Offr his appreciation of the conduct of the Bn in a difficult operation.</p>	<p>CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers</p>
Le Mesnil Patry	27		The Bn spent the day in reserve area in the vicinity of LE MESNIL PATRY where it cleaned up and reorganised.	
	28		Day spent in the same vicinity.	
	29	0430	<p>The Bn moved out and took up a posn in the vicinity of woods at 898664 where it was ordered to be prepared to support 8RS in their clearance of the area between RAURAY and LE HAUT DU BOSQ. By 1400 hrs it was clear that 8RS were meeting fairly stiff opposition and would not only have difficulty in reaching their final objective but would have difficulty in holding such a long front. 6 RSF were ordered to assist them and take over and hold a portion of their objective when captured. C and D Coys were ordered to take over the right half of the objective from 8RS.</p> <p>During this period of take over the Germans counter-attacked and the posns were never really firmly taken over. As a result our line was pushed back to the line of the reserve coys of 8RS. But the Germans did not press their counter-attack. The Bn spent the night in a defensive posn in the area of LE HAUT DU BOSQ 898655.</p>	
Le Haut du Bosq	30	0600  1400	<p>In the early morning at about 0600 hrs the Bn moved back to an orchard in the village of LE HAUT DU BOSQ where it remained till the afternoon.</p> <p>At about 1400 hrs the Bde took up an anti-Panzer hedgehog in the vicinity of 905660 with 6 RSF in reserve area. Intermittent mortaring took place during the night.</p>	<p>CR Buchanan Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 6th Bn. Royal Scots Fusiliers</p>