

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. and the Staff Manual respectively. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

**WAR DIARY**  
or  
**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**  
(Delete heading not required)

Unit 9th Bn The Cameronians (S.R.)

Month and Year OCT 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col Sir EMA Bradford Bt

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BEST	1	0715	'C' Coy attacked over rly line with one sec ☉ The remainder of the Coy was Formed Up on this side to exploit. Immediately the sec attempted to cross the RLY line heavy mortar fire was brought down on the RLY and the leading sec suffered six casualties killed and two wounded. A B & D Coys also suffered casualties from this mortar fire bringing total casualties to 14. The Commanding Officer then ordered 'C' Coy to withdraw and return to old location. The remainder of the day spent in obs. on known enemy localities and engaging with MORTAR and ARTY.	
	2		Confidential message 9 CAMERONIANS being relieved on 3 OCT. Adv party 2 I/C and one rep from each coy to recce area for billeting and for training in AREA HELMOND. Situation unchanged throughout day ☉ No enemy activity.	
	3	1530	2 Bn SEAFORTH of 51 HIGHLAND Div commenced relieving Bn by Coy localities. On being relieved Coys marched to embussing Pt and moved off individually when ready. The first Coy (C) arrived in HELMOND at 1830 and last of Bn was in billeting area by 1930. Tps billeted in 2 Factories opposite STATION at 557227 ☉ Officers billeted out in surrounding houses. During the relief a number of mortar bombs were dropped in Bn area. No casualties inflicted.	OO No 10 APP E/1 MOV O No 16 " E/2
HELMOND	4		Coy engaged in general cleaning ☉ All MT on maintenance. Coy officers and Cadre staff recce training areas.	
HELMOND	5		Training being carried out in accordance with APP.	
HELMOND	6	1210	Training as per programme. Message received from Bde HQ. 1 offr per Coy and 1 N.C.O. per pl to KSLI at MOOK to be there by 1730 to remain and get general picture of LAYOUT for defensive posn.	

		1500 1810	<p>2 C.O. and 2I/C will leave for same area with BRIG. at 0830 7 OCT ☉ C.O. returns with Brig by 1600 to meet CORPS Comd ☉ 2I/C will remain to complete arrangements ☉ If any other specialist pl comds reqd can go with C.O.</p> <p>3 C.O. and 2I/C will meet SQ Comd in MODEL room at 1830 hrs. Advance party left HELMOND for area MOOK to recce positions occupied by KSLI.</p> <p>109 OR rfts arrived Bn area and distributed to Coys.</p>	
HELMOND	7	0830 0900  1230 1600  1830	<p>Commanding Off and 2I/C left with Brig for area MOOK.</p> <p>5 officer Rft arrived Bn plus 37 ORs and sent to Coys as shown in W 3008 38/44.</p> <p>Message received from Bde that Recce party would be returning to Bn on the evening of the 7th OCT.</p> <p>Commanding Officer returned and held Bn 'O' Gp when it was given out that Bn would NOT now be required to relieve KSLI or clear WOOD to S.E. of it and would remain in HELMOND until further orders, possibly until FRIDAY 13 OCT 44.</p> <p>C.O. and Brig J.M.L. Villiers DSO visited CORPS Comd 8 CORPS ☉ When further infm given. Training would be carried on in present location and new rfts would be given every opportunity to settle down with their Coys. 15(S) Div NOT required to clear WOOD EAST of River MAAS but would probably be required to assist 3 British DIV in their attack, or alternatively to clear area WEST of RIVER MAAS.</p>	
HELMOND	8	1030 1410	<p>Bn Church Parade then remainder of day given over as Bn Holiday.</p> <p>Message from Bde that Div Comd would visit Bn at 0900 hrs 9th OCT ☉ Programme. Div Comd would speak to Bn first then Bn would March Past.</p>	
HELMOND	9	0900	<p>Div Comd visited Bn and spoke about work done by Bn in the past and welcomed new arrivals in OR and officers. Bn then marched past and the Div Comd took the salute.</p> <p>Training then carried out as per Trg programme.</p>	
HELMOND	10		<p>Training as per programme. Commanding officer on Recce with Brig for next operation. This operation Top secret. Rep from each pl went to area.</p>	
HELMOND	11		<p>Training as per programme ☉ Last operation cancelled and recce party recalled.</p>	
HELMOND	12		<p>Training as per programme.</p>	
HELMOND	13		<p>Training as per programme.</p>	
HELMOND	14		<p>Training as per programme.</p> <p>Bn now prepared to clear area SOUTH of VENLO through the AMERICAN FRONT to line of River MAAS.</p>	ADM ORDER No 7 APP H/1



BEST	20	0600 1300  2130 2345	<p>Quiet night no enemy activity.</p> <p>0731 Patrols and snipers while Bde in this area.</p> <p>During day enemy observed on a number of occasions to be walking about, these points noted and 4.2" &amp; 3" MORTAR fire brought down on these areas when dark.</p> <p>Patrol activity for night 20/21 OCT.</p> <p>B Coy patrol returned nothing to report.</p> <p>B Coy reported enemy patrol approaching their area. This patrol moved along rd running parallel with RLY. Hand grenades were exchanged. No casualties on either side.</p>	<p>APP J/1</p> <p>APP J/2</p>
BEST	21	2315	<p>0600 Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Patrol activity night 21/22 OCT 44.</p> <p>Snipers active on Bn front but enemy were careful. "B" Coy picked off two enemy at 400 yds to their front.</p> <p>- 0130 Patrols returned, one enemy post located.</p>	<p>APP J/3</p>
BEST	22	0600 0900  0940	<p>Nothing to report. Bn locality quiet.</p> <p>Commanding Officer on 48 hrs leave.</p> <p>Mjr P.L. Hendricks MM assumes comd of Bn.</p> <p>C.O. to Bde 'O' Gp when future OPs discussed.</p> <p>Clearing area ST ODENRODE-BOXTTEL-BEST. 9th Cameronians responsible for protecting left flank.</p> <p>Patrol activity night 22/23 OCT.</p> <p>Snipers again active on Bn front, further 2 hits claimed.</p> <p>Patrols brought back information re banks of Rly as to suitability for tank crossing places. There are ditches on either side of RLY but they provide NO obstacle to tanks. This infm passed to Reps from 3 SCOTS Gds who would be sup Bn in advance.</p>	<p>APP E/4.</p> <p>APP J/4.</p>
BEST	23	0600	<p>Situation unchanged enemy engaged by 4.2 MORTARS during night.</p> <p>Patrol intentions night 23/24 OCT.</p> <p>Snipers again active on Bn front. 3 P.O.W. walked into "A" Coy area 1031/GR.</p> <p>Otherwise area very quiet.</p>	
BEST	24	0930  1000  1120	<p>13 P.W. surrendered to 'B' Coy. Stated they had come from OIRSCHOT and had been left as rearguard.</p> <p>C.O. at 'O' GP Bde, where infm given that enemy had withdrawn from area to front of Bde and Bde would immediately put into effect OP ERIC without Sup fire. 9th Cameronians would push fwd to NASTEBEST and occupy area 362266.</p> <p>C.O. 'O' GP. "B" Coy to move fwd to NASTEBEST and occupy area 362260, D Coy 368258 - A Coy 365264 C Coy move fwd to B Coy and relieve them allowing them to return to old location. Carriers to remain present position.</p>	<p>APP E/5</p>

		<p>1227 B Coy crossed RLY line.</p> <p>1304 Carriers pl now under comd Recce sqn and will move with them as soon as ready to OIRSCHOT and remain until relieved by 1 Bn 44 Bde. This op was held up because of mines on MAIN AXIS.</p> <p>1342 B coy report NASTEBEST cleared and moving to objective, on obj by 1410.</p> <p>1455 D Coy in position, A moving up.</p> <p>1530 Recce sqn now in OIRSCHOT. Our carrier pl to remain night under comd 44 Bde.</p> <p>227 Bde had moved up to rd BEST - OIRSCHOT. No enemy encountered, but mines and Booby traps in large numbers.</p> <p>1600 C coy relieved 'B' Coy now in old location.</p> <p>1800 3 P.W. taken at 364257.</p> <p>1810 3 P.W. " by A Coy.</p> <p>46 Bde OO No 11 received for further adv on day 25. Bn order of march Recce 'B' Sqn adv Gd. 2 GH Main Gd Bde HQ. 7 SEAFORTH 9 CAMERONIANS (Carriers 'R' GP. 'O' GP. BN HQ, MORTARS, A/TK, "C" "D" "A" "B" Coy 15 cwts M.O.).</p> <p>No patrolling required as it is no longer considered enemy in area. Commanding Officer returned from 48 hours leave.</p>	APP E/6
	25	<p>1100 Bn moved off from area BEST on axis.</p> <p>1100 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS attacking HEILIGEBOOM 2330. The bridges in this area blown but owing to width of canals bridges were quickly put across and adv continued in direction OISTERWIJKSCHE.</p> <p>1300 Bn off road in area 2430. C.O. officers at Bde 'O' GP when Bn were ordered to move to area 224314 to take up defensive positions ☉ We may be required for special task one Coy to adv to BRIDGES 188318, 190320. 'D' Coy warned.</p> <p>1410 Bn commenced moving to area 224314.</p> <p>1510 D Coy ordered to drop off and go to BRIDGES to take over from Recce, who had seized them. Remainder of Bn now in area 224314 and digging in.</p> <p>1730 Order from Bde that Bn would now move to area of D Coy and consolidate on that line. Bn moved off at 1800 and in position by 2130. C.O. to Bde 'O' GP at 2130 where plan for 26 OCT 44.</p> <p>7 SEAFORTH located OOSTERWIJK 2334 and SOUTH of RLY. GH WOOD 238330.</p> <p>7 Seaforth cross Rly line and 2 G.H push fwd and capture factory area. 9 CAMERONIANS to cross RLY at 181326 and endeavour to get crossing places over canal to exploit to BRIDGE 176322.</p>	

			B Coy to move at first light sup by tanks to area of CANAL BR. 179326 followed by D Coy to area 182324. A Coy to area BR 176322. C Coy remain in area of Bridges 189319.	
	26	0655 0740 0801 0840 1050  1700 1850  1853	B Coy completed first phase area clear to HO 184324. B Coy M.G fire at us from left. Tanks ordered fwd to get to line of Rly. B Coy now moving to obj with tanks supporting. B coy on obj and consolidating. B.R. over road 181326 completely destroyed and blocking road. Bridges over canal in this area demolished although still possible to cross canal on foot. A Coy to move to bridges 176332 which is still intact. D Coy in area 182324 and trying to find crossing place. This area now subjected to heavy mortar and ARTY fire. A Coy could not move fwd and all Coys moved to areas as shown on map. B Coy pushed 1 sec across canal to area 178327. 1 P.W. V Coy 2 Bn 481 P.G.R. captured by D Coy Line of rd TILBURG - OOSTERWIJK under intense shell fire. B Coy fwd pl in area cross tracks 179332 forced to withdraw under strong pressure from enemy. A Coy report 40 enemy counter attacking X rds 179332. A small enemy patrol reached B Coy area and were operating at close ranges with hand grenades. They were beaten off with casualties, casualties to B Coy unknown.	
	27	0400   0900  1045  1425  1535	3 P.O.W. from D Coy came from OOSTERWIJK and walked into D Coy area. B Coy situation cleared up not so bad as first thought although suffered 19 casualties. Bn ordered to clear area South and NORTH of RLY to OOSTERWIJK to allow 2 GH and 7 S to advance to TILBURG. This was complete by 0845. D Coy contacted leading elements of 7 ARMD who were operating in area to NORTH of RLY. Brig arrived B Coy and ordered commencement of crossing canal as 44 Bde had adv from SOUTH and were 1 mile from centre of TILBURG. Assault boats were brought up and A & C D coy to cross at BRIDGE 179326 and B Coy at BRIDGE 175332 by assault boats as this bridge now blown. A Coy now in position on far bank, D Coy moving across, followed by C then B on NORTH crossing pt to areas as shown on map. All Coys in position in TILBURG. 2 G.H. passing through. Pioneers built class VI raft which would ferry that class tpt across canal at Pt 175332. Raft built by 1830, and commenced ferrying. The raft also being used by 2 G.H. All tpt to be across	APP. E/7



		1830	C.O. at Bde Comd 'O' GP for op on 1 NOV to clear up to line of CANAL with A Coy to area 695156, B 695151, with in sup 1 sqn SCOTS GUARDS. 46 Inf Bde OO No 13.	APP. E/9
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