

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. 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 2nd Bn A. & S. Hrs

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Oct 44

Commanding Officer Lt Col D.R. Morgan M.C.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | References to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| VLEUT | 1.   |      | Everything quiet on our front. Patrol met no enemy. Contact patrols to 2 Gordons and 10 H.L.I. met no opposition. Capt E.S.L. Mason now I.O.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                          |
| do    | 2.   |      | Another quiet day. Little mortar and arty fire on flanks. Car pl sent out patrol which met no opposition.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                          |
| do    | 3.   |      | Bn was relieved by 2 sqns Derbyshire Yeo, Recce to 51st div from 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs. Relief took place without incident. Bn moved to harbour area thence to conc area by T.C.V. Conc at BAKEL 625247.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                          |
| BAKEL | 4.   |      | "D" day spent in general I.E. and checking of kits and stores. Baths and a film show at DEURNE. Rifle coys prepared to commence training on 5th Oct. Reinforcements - Capt W.B. Dobbs and O.R.s reported.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                          |
| do    | 5    |      | Rifle coys commenced training - battle drill and firing of weapons. Specialist pls spent day on maintenance of vehs and stores. Baths and film show again available at DEURNE.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                          |
| do    | 6    |      | Training continues. 1630 hrs all offr and NCOs attend lecture on our next operation by Comd 227 Bde. Lt. Toppin reported and posted to D coy. Football result. Argylls 2 153 Fd Amb 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                          |
| BAKEL | 7    |      | Training continues. 1630 all offr attended lecture by Div Comd in HELMOND. The Massed Pipes and Drums of the Div played in the grounds of HELMOND Castle. Ensa concert at GEMERT, film show at DEURNE. Rev C.F Ross joined Bn as C.F.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                          |
| do    | 8    |      | Church parades for all denominations. Owing to lack of men and leaders, B coy was disbanded. Personnel of the coy were posted [to] rifle coys as reinforcements. 43 of B coy formed into a Battle Group under comd of Capt J.D.C. Graham, who relinquished his appointment of Adj. Capt D.H. Lyon appointed Adj. Lt G.C. Willis took over as Sigs offr. Capt Sword posted to C coy. C.Q.M.S. T. Dawson M.M. appointed T.O. vice Capt Spenceley, who took over comd H.Q. coy. Football:- Argylls 11 Bakel 0. |                          |

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| do        | 9  |      | Training continues as the operation which was planned is cancelled. Entertainment as usual.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| do        | 10 |      | Training and entertainment as usual. Ensa conc at Div H.Q.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| do        | 11 |      | Training. Lt Thompson joined and posted to A coy. Football: Argylls 1 HLI 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| BAKEL     | 12 |      | Training as usual. Football: Gordons 1 Argylls 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| do        | 13 |      | The offrs and NCOs of the Bn attended a demonstration of tp carriers (Canadian 'Rams' with turrets removed) C.O. awarded M.C. <del>for CAVRUS</del> . "O" gp at which C.O. explained the general tactical and strategical situation of the present campaign and also discussed the A.T.C.V.                                                                                                                              |
| do        | 14 |      | Training as usual. Entertainments in the evening.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| do        | 15 |      | Bn attended church parade. Bde comd also attended. B echelon moved to 606243.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| do        | 16 |      | Offrs of the Bn saw a demonstration by 46 Bde on the use of armd carriers near GELDROP.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| do        | 17 |      | Bn assembled at HELMOND to practise use of A.T.C.V.s. O.C. A coy, Maj Bruce took the wrong turning and the Bn arrived half an hour late. In the evening the Pipes and Drums of the 93rd, 91st and the 7th Bn assembled at GELDROP to beat Retreat. Many offrs and O.Rs of the Bn attended. Lt Col Tweedie took the salute. Offrs had tea in the offrs mess (except the M.O. who decided to meditate in his car outside). |
| BAKEL     | 18 |      | Training. C.O. and I.O. visited HQ 51 (H) div at 1445 hours. Later visited St ODENRODE and saw Brig. Sinclair D.S.O. Comd 153 Inf Bde with a view to taking over next day. The afternoon was wasted as both divs had a different version of the take over. Returned to BAKEL 1630 hrs. Football: Argylls 2 HLI 0                                                                                                         |
| do        | 19 | 0900 | "O" gp. Recce gp report 1030 hrs. C.O. and I.O. visit 227 Bde and go to HQ 153 Bde with Bde Comd. Bde Comd and C.O. recce the area for the Bn BULT HOEF. The Bn arrived about 1530 hrs. There were no patrols on the night 19/20 by the bn. Bn location is in reserve to Bde gp.                                                                                                                                         |
| BULT HOEF | 20 |      | Quiet day. Lt W.C. Hulme joined from 1st Bn. 2 recce patrols night 21/22. Maj Ferguson, 2 i/c gives demonstration in comd post on how to play the Organs, mouth, 1, with great gusto!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| do        | 22 |      | Church parades. C.O.'s conference at Bde. Maj S.C.D. Ferguson left for B echelon en route for U.K. At 1400 hrs fighting patrol under Capt Graham. No casualties. Night 22/23 one recce patrol. No cas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| BULT HOEF | 23 |      | Quiet day. C.O. attends Bde O gp in morning and gets detailed plan of future ops. Later attends confirmatory conference at 1730 hrs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| KLEIN       | 24 |  | C.O. went to Bde "O" gp 0900 hrs. The Bde plan was changed at very short notice and the Bde attacked without detailed support which had been laid on. The Bn passed its start point at 1230 hrs and reached its final objective at the rly line KLEIN 3628 at 1620 hrs. 2 PWs were taken and we had 3 cas from booby traps and mines.                                                                                                                                           |  |
| do          | 25 |  | I.O. visits Bde and gets move order and timings. Bn moved to conc area on outskirts BOXTEL, on HEDEL - OIRSCHOT rd at 3126.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| MOERGSTEL   | 26 |  | Bn moved by rd route to MOERGSTEL 225308 where it took up a defensive posn astride the main TILBURG rd. The C.O. attended O gp for the attack on TILBURG. The Bn was given the possible task of attacking from the East to help 7th Armd Div at LOON - OP - ZOND 1640.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| TILBURG     | 27 |  | The bn moved South to attack TILBURG from the South by crossing the WILHELMINA CANAL at BIEST 2126, 44 Bde leading. The bn moved in Kangaroos at about 1000 hrs and after various hitches owing to brs not being able to stand the heavy weight of Churchills etc reached the outskirts of the city about 1900 hrs. This bn met no opposition. C Coy took 2 PsW during the night. Bn H.Q. was in a school with the coys in civilian billets.                                    |  |
| do          | 28 |  | The bn started cleaning the Western edge of the town at approx 1030 hrs. No opposition was encountered. The C.O. on return route called in at Bde and was told that the Bn would stand by for move back to E. Holland. The bn returned to its original location shortly after 1200 hrs. The I.O. collected details of the move back to 8 Corps. The T.C.Vs arrived approx 1700 hrs and the bn moved in the dark to help the 7th U.S. Armd Div in the ASTEN - OMMEL area 619158. |  |
| ASTEN area. | 29 |  | The CO and IO attended O gp at Bde and the bn was ordered to be prepared to take up a defensive posn behind the Americans to the East of the town on the ASTEN - LEISEL rd. This the bn did at approx 1300 hrs. 44 Bde moved through during the evening to relieve the Americans. 2 fighting patrols went to the area South of the bn and suffered no cas.                                                                                                                      |  |
| do<br>BROCK | 30 |  | The bn moved roughly to the area which had been covered by last night's patrols to area BROCK 6412 in order to cover the rear area of the wood and to cover the gap between the Gordons and 44 Bde. The bn sent out 2 fighting patrols and one standing patrol. One of the patrols caught 2 PsW asleep in a haystack.                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| do          | 31 |  | The CO attended a conference at Bde. D Coy is put under comd the 10 HLI to guard right flank of the Bde. The bn is regrouped slightly to make up for the loss of D Coy. Battle Gp found one standing patrol.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |

