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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 6 ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year July 1944.

Commanding Officer Lt-Col CR BUCHANAN.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1 Jul	1830	During the day the Germans attacked the Div on our right, 49 Div, and the right forward Coy of 6 KOSB was pushed in. "C" Coy 6 RSF was ordered to attack supported by tks and arty to re-take the posn, which it did with zero at 1830. "C" Coy remained in the re-captured posn under comd 6 KOSB to strengthen the Bn posn.	
St Croix Grand Tonne.	2 Jul	1230 2300	At 1230 hrs the Bn was relieved by a Bn of HLI from 53 Div and went into a rest area at ST CROIX GRAND TONNE 8874. "A" and "C" Coys under 6 KOSB were not relieved till 2300 hrs.	
"	3 Jul		The Bn spent the day cleaning up and re-organising the allotment of officers to Coys and appts.	See Appx "A"
"	4 Jul		Rest period	
	5 Jul		Rest period	
	6 Jul		Rest period	
Baron.	7 Jul	2400	The Bn moved from ST. CROIX GRAND TONNE by march route to BARON 9462 and relieved 8 HANTS in the line. Relief completed by 2400 hrs. The Bn is now in 12 Corps.	
"	8 Jul		Bn in line, no incidents and a quiet day. Recce patrolling by night from "B" Coy.	
"	9 Jul		Bn in line, no incidents and still a quiet day. Intermittent shelling with German mortars.	
"	10 Jul		43 Div with barrage and tks, H hour 0500. The Bn took no part in this attack, but the whole of our posn was heavily mortared and shelled during the day and we had the following casualties:- Killed - 4 (Other Rks only) Wounded - 7 (incl Lt AF YOUNG) Missing - Nil (Other Rks only).	
Baron	11 Jul		The Bn remained in the line and during the day it was subjected to further shelling and mortaring. The casualties for the day were:- 6 Killed (Other Ranks only)	

			<p>11 Wounded (Other Ranks only) 2 Missing (Other Ranks only). Some vehicles were hit. The Bn was relieved by 5 Welch Regt during the night Jul 11/12th.</p>	APPX "E" "F"
St Croix Grand Tonne.	12 Jul		<p>Relief was completed by 0315 hrs and the Bn moved back to ST. CROIX GRAND TONNE for a period of rest. During the period in the line from 7/12 July the total casualties were:- 11 Killed (Other Ranks only) 19 Wounded (incl Lt AF YOUNG) 2 Missing.</p>	
St Croix Grand Tonne.	13 Jul		Bn at ST. CROIX GRAND TONNE resting.	
Colville.	14 Jul	2100	<p>Bn left ST CROIX GRAND TONNE at 2100 hrs and moved to a fwd assembly area in the vicinity of COLVILLE 9265 in preparation for Operation GREENLINE. (44(L) Inf Bde Operation Order for the operation is attd). Spent the night 14/15 July in F.A.A. Slight shelling of FAA during the night. Suffered a few casualties.</p>	Appx "B".
"	15 Jul	2145 2343	<p>"D" Day for operation GREENLINE. The Bn lay up in FAA all day. Bn was Reserve Bn of Bde for this operation. Operation started with Phase CLYDE (see Bde Operation Order) H hour for which was 2145 hrs. CLYDE reported OK by 2343 hrs.</p>	Appx "B"
GAVRUS Gavrus	16 Jul	0256 0720 0400 0830 0930 1020	<p>FORTH reported O.K. by 0300 hrs. MELROSE reported O.K. by 0256 hrs. KNIFE reported still holding out at 0720. Bn standing by at 30 mins notice from 0400 hrs to proceed to GAVRUS and take over from 8 RS who were moving on to BOUGY after capturing GAVRUS. CO and OsC "C" and "B" Coys proceeded to GAVRUS 0830 hrs to carry out recce to take area from 8 R.S. which was still being shelled. At approx 0930 "B" and "C" Coys and A.Tk guns arrived up at GAVRUS and got into posn to hold it. Remainder of Bn arrived up about 3/4 hours later. 8 RS two coys released to join the remainder of their Bn at BOUGY. DUNBAR, i.e., capture of BOUGY reported complete by 1020 hrs. Bn left A.2 echelon tpt in assembly area and dug itself in to [Possible page missing in original] This was a most unpleasant area as it was shelled and mortared intermittently during the whole time the Bn was there.</p>	

		2000	<p>As 8 RS had suffered fairly heavy casualties in capture of BOUGY Comd 44(L) Bde instructed 6 RSF to send them one Coy to reinforce them in holding BOUGY and to be placed under comd 8 R.S. "A" Coy was sent off at 2000 hrs.</p> <p>Touch was gained with OXF & BUCKS on the left of the Bn who were operating north of the River ODON.</p> <p>During the night 16/17 July the enemy shelled and mortared GAVRUS almost continually.</p> <p>The RAP moved back to LES VILLAINES the location of the CCP as it was not possible to do any treatment in the GAVRUS area.</p>	
Gavrus	17 Jul		<p>A certain number of vehicles were knocked out by shelling and maintenance became difficult as a result. Casualties on the whole were very small considering the amount of shelling.</p> <p>Deep slit trenches had been dug.</p> <p>The Bn remained in reserve to 44(L) Bde in posn at GAVRUS.</p> <p>Slight counter-attacks against 8 R.S. and 6 KOSB were held by them. The remainder of operation GREENLINE continued but KNIFE STIRLING and BERWICK were not captured as planned.</p>	
Gavrus.	18 Jul	1100	<p>Bn remained in GAVRUS night 17/18 Jul. At approx 1100 hrs the C.O. was informed by Bde Comd that the Div Comd had said the Bn should if possible be moved out of GAVRUS in view of the shelling situation to another posn from which it could operate as Reserve Bn to the Bde. The CO reced the area north of the R. ODON in the vicinity of the WOOD at 906626 and the Bn moved to take up a posn in this vicinity at approx 1730 hrs.</p> <p>"A" Coy remained with 8 RS.</p>	
	19 Jul	1030 2100	<p>Bn still in area 906626. Orders were received from 44(L) Bde that the Bn would be relieved by 1 OXF & BUCKS and reps from this Bn arrived for recce at 1030 hrs.</p> <p>Relief was completed by 2100 hrs and the Bn moved back to the area 905665 near HAUT DE BOSQ for a period of rest.</p> <p>During operation GREENLINE the Bn suffered the following casualties:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Officers wounded: Lt JDM Steel Lt A Tweedie Lt PE Labonte Capt GD Monro RACHD.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Other Ranks killed: 14 Other Ranks wounded: 50 Missing: 5.</p> <p><u>NOTE IN CONNECTION WITH SHELLING AND MORTARING IN GAVRUS ON 16, 17 AND 18 JULY.</u></p> <p>It was considered that the shelling and mortaring which was intense might have been directed on the village as a result of the Germans using D.F. apparatus to locate the Bde rear link wireless</p>	APPX "D"

			scout car. It was noticed that on several occasions after the Bde rear link and the Bn control 18 set had sent out a tuning call a "stonk" came down on the Bn H.Q. area within 15/20 minutes.	
905665	20 Jul		The Bn remained in the rest area at 905665 re-organising and cleaning up. The area is by no means ideal as a rest area. It is in the middle of a gun area and it is completely open and bare. The Bde Comd held a conference on casualties which are required to be replaced.	
905665	21 Jul		Bn still in the rest area. Lt-General N. RITCHIE Comd 12 Corps visited the Bn. Parties of men were sent off to a Field Cinema show during the day.	
905665	22 Jul		The Bn remained in rest area. CO carried out recce of new area to which the Bn is going.	
Caumont.	23 Jul	1200	The Bn moved by TCV to the area of CAUMONT to take over from 2nd Bn 10 US Inf who were in the line in this sector. 15(S) Inf Div relieved 5 US Inf Div. The relief was carried out during the night 23/24 July. 15(S) Div came into 30 Corps from 1200 hrs today.	15(S) Div and 44(L) Bde orders for relief attd. Appx "C".
Caumont.	24 Jul	0600	The relief was completed by 0600 hrs. Quiet day in the line except for a certain amount of shelling and mortaring. No casualties to personnel. Two patrols were sent out but no enemy was found in the localities which were searched.	APPX "C"
Caumont.	25 Jul		Fairly quiet day, except for intermittent shelling and mortaring. This increased in intensity during the night. The Bn however, being well dug in in foxholes dug by personnel of the U.S. unit we relieved suffered only one casualty. One recce patrol was sent out but obtained little information except that the house to which it was sent was occupied.	
"	26 Jul		Nothing particular occurred on the front except intermittent shelling and mortaring which was not heavy. The Bn suffered two casualties. At night the Bn was relieved by 9 Cameronians of 46 Bde. Relief was completed by 0300 hrs.	APPX "E"
Mesnil.	27 Jul		The Bn proceeded to a rest area at MESNIL. Div Concert Party gave a show to the Bn in the bivouac area.	
"	28 Jul	2215 0300	The Bn remained in area of MESNIL till the evening when at 2015 hrs orders were received to proceed to the area of CAUMONT and take over that position of the line which we held before we were relieved by 9 Cameronians on July 24th. The Bn left the bivouac area at 2215 hrs and the relief was completed by 0300 hrs 29 Jul. No difficulty was experienced in the relief as the Bn was taking over from 9 Cameronians again.	

Caumont.	29 Jul		Bn spent a quiet day. Very little shelling. Brig HDK Money D.S.O. came to say goodbye on appt to the War Office. New Comd 44(L) Bde is Brig COCKBURN A & SH. 15(S) Div reverted to 8 Corps.	
Caumont.	30 Jul	1330 2000	Operation BLUECOAT started, H Hour 0655 hrs. 44(L) Inf Bde formed the firm base through which 15(S) Div 46 and 227 Bdes advanced. 30 Corps and 8 Corps carried out the attack. 15(S) Div supported by Gds Tk Bde and 11 Armd Div attacking on 8 Corps front. 43 Div supported by tks attacking on 30 Corps front. 8 Corps made good progress from the start and got well fwd to the line of 2nd Phase by approx 1330 hrs, but 43 Div on 30 Corps front made little progress from the start line with the result that the flank of 227 Bde on left of 15(S) Div was exposed. 6 R.S.F. were lent to 227 Bde to protect left flank. The Bn moved over from posn on firm base west of CAUMONT to take up posn south west of LALONDE 7157 to facing EAST to cover approaches from the east. The Bn was in posn by 2000 hrs and spent the night in this posn.	
Lalonde.	31 Jul		The Bn spent a quiet period and was not attacked from the open flank to its front.	44(L) Inf Bde Operation Order No. _____ dated _____ at Appx "D" CR Buchanan Lt-Col <u>Comd 6 R.S.F.</u>