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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 15 (S) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(incl LAD attd)

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year MAY 45

Commanding Officer LT-COL F.C. SEELY R SIGNALS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
JULIUSBURG	1	0800 1400 1700 1845	Civil exchange at GULZOW (8342) line utilised by OC Sigs 44 Bde 46 Bde move into GULZOW (8342); 44 Bde to SCHWARZENBEK (8348). Signal Centre established at GULZOW (8342) CR Signals & A/Adjt visit 44 Bde. Adjt returns from UK leave	SHB SHB SHB
BRUNSTORF	2	0930 1400 2110	Signal centre closed, Bdes on the move again and Div Recce party out. Wireless comms absolutely perfect just now, so line-laying not quite so urgent - linesmen rather tiring after fortnight or so of concentrated efforts Main and Rear Div HQ move to BRUNSTORF (7847) arriving at approx 1600 and 1715 hrs respectively. Lines to 46 and 227 Bdes (eventually party line 46-227 due to further move of 46 Bde and quad to Corps via Corps Sig Centre and quad to Rear Div HQ	DGH DGH DGH
BRUNSTORF KUDDEWORDE	3	1030 1430 1830 2000	CR Sigs and Adjt pay routine visits to 46 and 227 Bdes Main and Rear Div HQ move to KUDDEWORDE (7657) arriving at approx 1600 hrs and 1700 hrs approx Lines to all three Bdes and Rear Div and to 1 Mx from Rear Div (note 158 Bde reverted to 53 (W) Div at 1200 hrs today). Wireless situation OK all round and most links closed tonight 15 Div have been responsible for the immobilisation of the exchanges in GEESTHACHT, GULZOW and TRITTAU - the last of these completed this evening	DGH DGH DGH DGH
HAMMOOR	4	1030 1400 1430 1600 2000	CR Sigs superintends line layout (PL circuits) for new area CR Sigs and Adjt leave Div HQ in advance and visit 44 Bde and inspect captured German veh of VHF equipment - handed over this afternoon to 8 Corps (a most valuable prize) Main Div HQ <u>only</u> moves to HAMMOOR (7072) arriving at approx 1600 hrs - wireless OK all round, but line problems rather difficult - not easy to put into working order PL circuits but lines to all three Bdes by 2000 hrs this evening. Line not yet possible to Rear Div - to be arranged tomorrow, together with Recce	DGH DGH DGH DGH

	5	0930	CR Sigs leaves for Corps for CSO's conference on line problems in Op "ECLIPSE"	DGH
		1000	Line Sec engaged on Recce & Rear Div lines - Recce line through by 1130 hrs - work suspended on Rear Div line at approx mid-day on receipt of news of Rear Div HQ moving up to this area tomorrow	DGH
		1700	CR Sigs holds conference of Coy Comds & Bde Sig Offrs arising out of CSO's conference	DGH
		1800	CR Sigs goes to 44 Bde for small celebration party	DGH
		1830	Adjt & Signalmaster go to inspect and remove exchange from a former Luftwaffe barracks for our own use later when the Div becomes static.	DGH
		2100	Wireless OK throughout day - R/T Comd net closed	DGH
HAMMOOR	6	1045	CR Sigs and Adjt leave for large-scale church parade at BARGTEHEIDE and from there proceed to BAD OLDERSLOE (7482) to inspect the exchange with a view to future use	DGH
		1200	Rear Div HQ arrive in EICHEDE (767725) having been moved up nearer to Main Div HQ. Line laid in readiness for them and 1+1 fitted. Line also laid this morning (partially PL) to 8 AGRA in POLITZ (749791), an undertaking which, laid on at short notice, took several hours to complete and was in working order by 1500 hrs	DGH
		1500		DGH
		1800	Various recces carried out in the course of the day of local exchanges	DGH
		2100	Word received this evening of 46 Bde moving with 1 Bn only at very short notice to KIEL tomorrow morning. Causes a certain amount of planning and adjustments to be made - 46 Bde probably coming under direct Corps command	DGH
HAMMOOR	7	1000	46 Bde come under Corps comd and go on Corps wrls nets, taking 7 Seaforths only with them. 9 Cams and 2 GH net on Div R/T net and former 46 Bde line strapped through to 9 Cams and lateral from 9 Cams to 2 GH	DGH
		1130	Signal officers photograph taken - as many officers of the whole unit present as possible - followed by short Coy Comds conference for the appointing of - Major Houston i/c Training & Education, Capt Toner Entertainments & Welfare Officer, Capt Borland Sports Officer, assisted by RSM Booth	DGH
		1400	Various officers engaged on recces of exchanges and lines and at approx 1600 hrs CR Sigs and OC 1 Coy go to HAMBURG to obtain information from 12 Corps lines Control there (i/c Major Orr) and from 53 (W) Div and to check up on the line situation and general layout there, returning at approx 2000 hrs	DGH
		1600		DGH
		2000		DGH

HAMMOOR	8	0920	VE day - CR Sigs in conference with GOC - various semi-peace time projects formulating today	DGH
		1200	Small party in Sigs Officers Mess of Sig Offrs of Main and Rear Div HQs	DGH
		1600	CR Sigs and Adjt depart on preliminary recce for Signals HQ in AHRENSBURG area, nearer probable new static Div HQ	DGH
	9	1000	CR Sigs out on further recce for new permanent Sigs HQ in VOLKSDORF area, together with several other officers	DGH
		1400	GSO1 addresses all officers of Main Div HQ on present and future problems in the occupation of Germany	DGH
		1730	CR Sigs attends GOC's conference on aims and policy of the Div in its new role	DGH
		1900	CR Sigs addresses all Sigs ORs at Main Div HQ on future plans for the Unit in Germany and expresses his thanks for their great efforts and service of the past eleven months	DGH
HAMMOOR	10	0200	15 (S) Div changes Frequency list from List "A" to List "C" - all changes go very smoothly - Div Comd R/T opened, netted and closed again in just over 5 minutes	DGH
		0715	P.T. for all ranks commences - 0715-0730 for ORs, 0745-0800 for officers. Good turn-outs in both cases	DGH
		1000	CR Sigs institutes line control organisation to be run by OC "A" sec	DGH
		1200	Adjt issues "Memorandum on Conduct and Behaviour in Germany"	DGH Appx
		1600	Information received that 15 (S) Div are responsible for the disarming and dismembering of 8 German Para Div and 5 German Flak Div - task delegated to 44 Bde. Adjt issues directive for guidance of Sig Offr	DGH
		1730	CR Sigs leaves for proposed new area to superintend the more detailed recces which are taking place today	DGH
HAMMOOR	11	0900	Route march for all Sigs personnel at Main Div - a good turn-out and personnel looking smart	DGH
		1000	CR Sigs together with OC 3 Coy and other officers on detailed Recce of new area - move forthcoming on Sunday 13 May 45	DGH
		1400	CR Sigs to HAMBURG to Lines Control and Mil Gov, making various arrangements in connection with the moves of the Div to permanent areas	DGH
		1400	Re-introduction today of modified works tickets for vehs - onwards. Various football matches in progress this afternoon of an inter-section nature	DGH DGH
	12	0210	Issued 15 (S) Div Signals Signal Instruction No 1 (Construction etc of German Civil Comms)	DGH Appx
		0715	- 0800 Officers & ORs PT classes	DGH

		0945	Issued instructions to AMTSLEITER of VOLKSDORF re arrival of Sigs HQ	DGH
		1300	227 Bde move to new location in VINZIER (6883) leaving Rear party in old loc - new line through for them on arrival and wireless links satisfactorily opened up	DGH
		1600	CR Sigs leaves for HAMBURG to see 53 Div in whose area VOLKSDORF just falls - the matter regularized satisfactorily	DGH
HAMMOOR	13	0800	- onwards. All preparations being made for the move this afternoon of Div HQ and Div Signals to their permanent static locations	DGH
		1130	CR Sigs & Adjut attend church parade in BARGTEHEIDE	DGH
VOLKSDORF		1430	Main and Rear Div HQ move to their new HQ SCHLOSS AHRENSBURG in the town of AHRENSBURG, while Div Signals carry on to VOLKSDORF (6064) less of course "O" Section and the bulk of "A" & "B" Secs, which are still functioning. Being run now as one section under LT REEKIE of "B" Sec	DGH DGH DGH
		1630	Arrived VOLKSDORF 1630 approximately and all arrangements proceeding smoothly - CR Sigs & Adjut busy between Div HQ and Sigs HQ - wireless OK all round and line situation developing most satisfactorily - all main fmms have their PL circuits ready.	DGH
		2000	VOLKSDORF a most excellent location, with every modern amenity Billets, offices, stores, facilities for the troops absolutely first class and all concerned delighted - better than any UK location the Unit ever knew and once the Unit is properly settled in as happy and beneficial a time as possible in Germany should be had by all concerned	DGH
VOLKSDORF	14	0900	A day of very considerable activity with regard to settling into billets on the one hand and the continuation of work on lines on the other	DGH
		1030	CR Sigs and Adjut spent whole day on inspection of billets, stores, offices etc	DGH DGH
		2100	CR Sigs holds all officers conference on general matters affecting the new area	DGH
	15	1000	A day of general routine, with all concerned catching up on their office work	DGH
		1400	CR Sigs to Div to see CRE regarding the inspection of certain exchanges in which it is suspected that delayed action charges have been left	DGH
		1900	Majors Gilbert-Smith and Birkett, Instructors from Staff College and School of Signals respectively arrive on attachment of one week to study Div Signals in the field!	DGH

		2300	A degree of alarm in the area as small attack by "werewolves" on HQ RASC took place tonight	DGH
VOLKSDORF	16	0830	Satisfactory wrls comms to Recce & 1 Mx (who have been loaned the ACV for the job with crew) who are moving to temporary locns on the removal of PW operation. CV9 on loan to Corps on same role	DGH
		1000	GOC visits Sigs HQ and addresses all ranks congratulating them on their work since D Day and wishing them luck in the future	DGH
		1400	Adj & RSM drafting orders for daily CO's parade, commencing on Friday, at 0900 hrs	DGH
		1800	Adj attends guard-mounting by RSM. Quite good drill & turnout excellent. Ceremony of lowering the Union Jack at retreat, now flying from outside the Burgomeister's office, very well done	DGH
VOLKSDORF	17	1000	Commanding Officer's inspection of billets, stores, offices etc. Considering the time since arrival, the area in very good shape	DGH
		1800	ORs club opens in restaurant premises in town (christened "THE STANHOPE ARMS" from the Horsforth days) and obviously going to be a great success. There is also now a Corporal's Room off the ORs Mess - an innovation for this unit and the first time there has been such a Mess - it is for both Cpls & L/Cpls	DGH
		2100	Considerable trouble today with lines due to miniature cyclone this afternoon. "C" Sec attending but considerable damage done & lengthy repairs necessary	DGH DGH
	18	0900	First of the daily C.O's Parades - a great turnout and all concerned satisfactorily smart. Much drill required, however, to refresh memories and to teach where there are not even memories. Drill parade follows C.O's inspection	DGH
		1200	This unit now responsible for the exchange at LAUENBURG (8734) and NCO installed there as ACECON representative (8 Corps) in supervisory capacity. TMO inspects for changing necessary and condition in general. The exchange is manned by German personnel	DGH
VOLKSDORF	19	1200	Ordinary routine morning - 227 Bde have now moved to LUBECK, comms OK and two direct lines through. 15 Bde (5 Div) and 106 AA Bde now u/c 15 Div - comms OK	DGH
		1500	Representative of the Historical and Photographic Section of the War Office arrives and takes several pictures of what remains of the Div field layout and expresses his satisfaction of what he has seen	DGH
		2000	Film show in cinema adjoining OR's club - very successful	DGH
	20	0915	Church parade for service at 1000 hrs at Div HQ in AHRENSBURG, a good turnout and the men looking very smart, particularly those from Sigs HQ - the det from Div HQ not as good	DGH

		1100	8 Corps Sigs det arrives with teleprinter for installation Div HQ to work to Corps. Installed on this occasion by Corps Sigs & to be operated by them till return of 4 of our ops from teleprinter course. Maintenance and servicing our responsibility	DGH
		1600	Instructions from Corps removing teleprinter detachment!	
		1800	Internal wiring of SCHLOSS AHRENSBURG now practically completed Div HQ gradually moving in - every one should be in by next Tuesday	DGH DGH
		2000	Another film performance in the Unit private cinema, again highly successful	DGH
VOLKSDORF	21	0915	Sports officer addresses the men on 1st works parade on the commencing org for sports - football already well under way and an extensive programme envisaged.	DGH
		1030	CR Sigs to LUBECK to visit 227 Bde on routine visit	DGH
		1600	CSO 2nd Army arrives on informal visit and stays to tea, accompanied by Brig RAC of 2nd Army	
		1815	OC Sigs 8 Corps and his 2 i/c arrive on visit to CR Signals for discussion on line problems	DGH
	22	0900	- onwards. A normal day with nothing of importance to recount - certain of the wrls nets permanently closed today (Med, Rear Div-Rear Corps CV13, CV4, the ACV returned from 1 Mx) which will enable a large part of the wrls section to be withdrawn to Sigs HQ	DGH
		1830	CR Sigs leaves for "A" Mess to attend Div Comd's cocktail party	DGH
VOLKSDORF	23	1000	CR Sigs leaves for 44 Bde on routine visit. Normal day otherwise but CR Sigs at Div HQ all afternoon in throes of impending change of location of Div HQ and other fmns - almost certain to involve moves in view of reallocation of Div area	DGH
		1500		DGH
		2000	OC 119 LAA Regt & 2 i/c to dinner and War Office photographic section and historical section reps spending the night - to collect data on the ELBE crossing	DGH
	24	0900	Pickford V arrives - 13 ORs affected, none above the rank of Cpl, not anticipated that they will all be withdrawn First Div release instruction to hand - the documentation etc on this all-important subject now in full swing	DGH DGH
		1400	CR Sigs and OC 3 Coy leave on preliminary recce for new Sigs HQ in the new area, possibly RETZEBURG - GADEBUSCH area	DGH
		1600	Visits from A/CSO 8 Corps and Major Orr from 12 Corps - it is hoped that Major Orr will be returning to this unit with Major Johnson whose demob number is 5 and who it is expected will have to depart some time next month	DGH

VOLKSDORF	25	1000	CR Sigs over to Div twice today re future moves - possible new location of Div HQ now SCHWERIN. Not moving before 15 June	DGH
		1600	OC 2 Coy to see CR Sigs - OC 2 Coy going as unit rep to 21 Army Group for conference re the est and forming of occupational tele, RF etc Sig Secs - no doubt some large cuts in strengths will be forthcoming	DGH
	26	0900	CR Sigs and OC 3 Coy leave for SCHWERIN and 5 Div area on recce in connection with forthcoming move. OC 1 Coy also there separately	DGH
		1100	"N" Sec brought in from HQRE and joins Sigs at Sigs HQ - most of "A" & "B" Secs in now also - only CRASC dets still out and CVs 1, 2, 5 & 6 at Div HQ	DGH
		1400	Sports officer (Capt Borland) to Div HQ for sports conference, presided over by GS01	DGH
		1500	Football match v 1 Mx - lost 1-7. A good game but far from Sigs best XI	DGH
VOLKSDORF	27	0900	CR Sigs leaves for 44 Bde and Div HQ for discussions regarding accommodation and line facilities in the new SCHWERIN area	DGH
		1000	Church parade at Div HQ - parade taken by 2 i/c - a good turnout	DGH
		1115	News received on return from church parade of tragic death in a road accident of CAPT W.D. TONER OC HQ Coy and his driver on 19 May on their way to 21 Army Group - it is safe to say that the whole Unit will mourn the irreparable loss of a real officer and gentleman	DGH
		1400	An excessively busy Sunday afternoon - a large number of returns of varying nature due CSO's Branch today. ORs busy this afternoon on blanket exchanges	DGH
	28	0900	Route march scheduled for this morning cancelled due to rain Otherwise normal routine day - CAPT L. BLACK appointed OC HQ Coy vice CAPT TONER and permission requested from Corps to promote.	DGH
		1800	CR Sigs to Division for important A/Q conference re accommodation etc in new area	DGH
VOLKSDORF	29	0900	106 AA Bde reverted to comd 5 Div - will return to 15 Div when 15 Div in new area	DGH
		1000	CR Sigs to 501 Mil Gov, Bad Oldesloe to see EME, attached there for a period of 3 weeks. EME has obtained a number of German m/cs for use by DR section for the Div Tattoo to be held during the summer	DGH
		1500	CR Sigs and QM to Hamburg to Mil Gov re fairly extensive stores of wines and foodstuffs unearthed by QM in Volksdorf	DGH

		1700	OC 2 Coy to see CR Sigs prior to departure 21 Army Gp as unit rep on discussions to be held on the est & fmn of occupational sig secs	DGH
	30	0900	After CO's parade - Route March, turn out of 6 officers and approx 90 ORs quite good and marching excellent with Cpl Hay as piper - otherwise normal day with NTR. Weekly days off for all ranks starting now & roster prepared	DGH DGH
	31	0900	- onwards. Normal day. ABCA period by MAJ HOUSTON and the usual routine of the day with inter-coy football in the afternoon. The following re-org of adm duties has taken place - CAPT BLACK OC HQ Coy, PRI and Welfare Offr, CAPT BORLAND Education Offr, Sports Offr and Entertainments assisted by LT BULL, RSM BOOTH and CQMS VINCENT respectively. David G Heilbron Capt R. Signals Adjutant 15th (Scottish) Inf Div Signals	DGH DGH