

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. 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 97th Anti-Tank Regiment R.A.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year JULY 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col P.R. Henderson R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Field	1	1400	RHQ moved to new location 920746. During the day 159 Bty moved back into area BRONAY 8872 - PUTOT-EN-BESSIN 9072 - BRETTEVILLE 9272. This is the reserve position. 346 Bty went into harbour at 914740	
	2	1200	159 Bty ordered to harbour in area SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN 9274	
	3	1700	Lt Col K.L. Beddington R.A. retained in CCS.	
	6	1200 1430	CRA spoke to all officers and NCOs re lessons of recent ops. 2IC to conference under General Montgomery.	
	7	1330	Notice of move of 44 Bde received and 159 and two tps of 17 pr 346 Bty.	
	8	0200 1200 2000 2200	159 Bty with 346 Bty less K Tp under comd came under comd 59 A Tk Regt and at the same time in support of 44 Bde. At 1200 hrs above came under comd 71 A Tk Regt and remained in support of 44 Bde in TOURVILLE area. Minor adjustments required to close gap between 21 A Tk Regt at ST MAUVIEU and 286 Bty in NORREY-EN-BESSIN area. Above adjustment completed by moving one 17 pr into ST MAUVIEU area	
Field	10	1805	286 BC forward with Brig for recce Verson Area. 286 BHQ moved to 923729	
	12	0900 0400 1100 1600	161 Bty withdrawn to area 9173 less 1 gun. Major P.R. Henderson R.A. appointment as Commanding Officer confirmed Commanding Officer tried to arrange 159 and 2 Tps 346 relief. Major R.T. Ashby R.A. appointed Second-in-Command. Capt T. Fleming RA assumes command 161 Bty. Message received from 71 A Tk Regt 346 Bty can leave without relief.	
	13	0800	Priority residue arrive under Lieut Edwards.	

		0800	Reported that 159 Bty and two tps of 346 Bty had withdrawn and were remaining on wheels NE of SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN. Commanding Officer to CRAs 'Jurga'	
		0900	Demonstration and trial of Churchills towing 17 pdrs.	
	14	0800	Move to 936677. 161 in reserve. 159 Bty in support of 44 Bde. 346 Bty in support of 46 Bde. 286 Bty in support of 227 Bde.	
	15/16		1st Phase of 'Greenline'	
Field	16	1200	286 Bty report 2 17 pr guns knocked out. 159 Bty report 1 17 pr gun knocked out. Also 5 Quads, 2 Carden Loyd Carriers, 1 Jeep and 1 MC. Missing at least 23. Battle continues.	
	17	0200	Remnants of G Tp return.	
	18	0930	RHQ locations now 898698. 346 Bty deployed overnight in area S of GRANVILLE SUR ODON. 286 Bty withdrawn with 227 Bde to New Area in action LE HAUT DU BOSQ. 159 Bty to be withdrawn.	
	19		159 Bty being relieved by 71 A Tk Regt with 44 Bde.... to be completed by 1600 hrs.	
	21	1000	346 Bty still supporting 46 Bde, 159 Bty recce posn in reserve with 44 Bde, 286 Bty deploy still with 227 Bde. Major N.P. McLeod R.A. Bty Comd 159 Bty left for England to attend course No 14 at Camberley Staff College. Capt R.E. Wheatly RA assumed Temp Comd.	
	22	1200	Commanding Officer, 2 i/c and BCs to conference with CRA re taking over from U.S. Army. Div area E of St Lo.	
Field	23	1330	RHQ move to 692692. 159 Bty move to 692690 in reserve. 161 Bty move to 682617 in support of 44 Bde. 286 Bty move to 702644 in support of 227 Bde. 346 Bty move out with 46 Bde to rest area La Bette 7370. 44 Bde relieve 10 US Regt. 227 Bde relieve 11 US Regt, 46 Bde rest.	
		2215	Capt T Fleming RA called to say 44 Bde reorganising and regrouping their positioning tomorrow which might necessitate moving guns. Present posn one tp in, other two going in after dark. Lieut M.I. Hore RA joined 161 Bty. Lieut C.T. Gillespie RA joined RHQ.	
	25	1100	Capt T Fleming RA reported that 46 Bde were taking over from 44 Bde on 26th. 1 bn at 1600 hrs 2 bns at night. 44 Bde joined by Combat Tp with two bofors and Recce with 4 6 pdrs.	
	26		46 Bde take over as above. 159 Bty deploy in area of 69 Grid line between Northings 59 & 64 in independent role.	
	28		Capt J. Carr R.A. posted to 161 Bty as Capt 'Q'	

Field	29		Preparation for operation Blue Coat. 159 Bty in reserve with 44 Bde. 161 Bty in support 46 Bde. 286 Bty in support 227 Bde. 346 Bty in reserve. 146/91 S.P. Bty under command and given to 46 Bde.	
	30	1200	<p>RHQ move to 716626 completed.</p> <p>Appx 'A' 159 Bty War diary. Appx 'B' 161 Bty War Diary. Appx 'C' 286 Bty War Diary. Appx 'D' 346 Bty War Diary. Appx 'E' Copy AFs W 3008 and W 3009 Appx 'F' June Copy War Diary Appx 'G' Intelligence Summary 161 Bty for 23 Jul</p>	H. Sharp Capt. RA.