



Area LYONS- LA-FORET			During the day, bty comds each with small tac HQ attach themselves till further notice to HQs of inf bdes to which their tps are in sp:- viz OC 390 to 44 bde, OC 392 to 46 bde, and OC 391 bty to 227 bde	
(ap prox)	4	0920	CO called for interview with CRA ☉ Informed that on arrival in new location later same day, regiment is to be concentrated and guns and stores to be grounded, while load-carrying vehicles of regt are withdrawn to form supply-transport, and signal vehicles are withdrawn for traffic control duties ☉ CO arranges to give detailed orders at new location	
		1220	Regt A and B echelons moved along AYR route (see appendix E) until met by personnel of recce party and guided to harbour area at 622337 ☉ Tps and bty HQs, after moving with fd regts and inf bdes, also harboured at same location ☉ 2IC fwd to recce	
		1600	location in area HORNOY 8154 for regt to dump its guns and stores ☉ CO gives orders to BCs etc concerning provision of tpt as follows:- 1 ☉ For supply-tpt column, regt provides 23 3-tonners and 10 Tractors, LAA, for loadcarrying, each with driver and mate; also two 15-cwt trucks and one water-truck, each with driver and cook; also 3 motorcyclists ☉ Offr in charge, Capt BEATTIE [bty capt 391 bty] travelling in Jeep with batman and clerk ☉ In addition, one sjt, six bdrs, and 21 men for loading work ☉ Total, one officer and 106 OR, to report to RASC offr at 2130 hrs at RV 808541 near HORNOY 2 ☉ For traffic control, nine 15-cwt trucks fitted for wireless, each carrying an offr, 2 driver operators and a batman/cook ☉ Offr in charge, Lt Col YOUNG travelling in Jeep with Orderly Offr and driver operator ☉ In addition, one spare WT vehicle with dvr-op and batman, one water truck with driver and cook, one 15 cwt truck with driver and sjt for Q duties, one 15 cwt truck with driver-mech, instrument-mech, and electrician signals; and 3 motorcyclists ☉ Total, eleven offr and 40 OR, to be ready at present harbour area (8233) at 1800 hrs 3 ☉ All personnel to have 2 days res rations and the day's ration as issued	
		1700	Vehicles and personnel NOT concerned in traffic control org, move off to area HORNOY and harbour in grounds of CHATEAU DE SELINCOURT 810582 about 1915 hrs ☉ Vehs required for supply-transport are unloaded, and stores, amn, etc, placed in stables and outhouses.	
		2100	Sup-tpt vehicles under Capt BEATTIE leave for RV	

			Major A.T.W. MURPHY, second-in-command, is given powers of det comd in absence of commanding officer.	
SELINCOURT (AMIENS district)	5	1000  1145  1600  1915	OC det holds conference of all offr $\odot$ Lays down period of 48 hrs intensive work on cleaning and maint of guns, vehs and all eqpt incl clothing, small arms etc; to be followed by a period of work in mornings and recreational training in afternoon CO and Orderly Officer arrive en route to new div location in area HAUTE COTE, 1204, approx 11 miles NORTH of DOULLENS $\odot$ Accompanied by I.O.R.A. and by S.C.R.A. to finalize adm details $\odot$ IORA & SCRA leave, 1215 hrs $\odot$ CO and Orderly Offr leave, 1315 hrs $\odot$ Lieut FLINN and 5 OR return from 8 Corps Rest Centre, having been delayed in returning through tpt difficulties $\odot$ Remaining 3 OR, travelling independently to rejoin div in new area, could NOT be diverted to regt's harbour-area location $\odot$ Call for help in fighting fire in village of AUMONT, 838592, caused by explosion of amn on passing Bren carrier of 6 KOSB $\odot$	See Appx. J
SELINCOURT	6	1200  1945	Maint of guns, vehs, weapons, eqpt, stores, continues. QM experiences difficulty in obtaining rations & supplies 2IC leaves to contact C.O. $\odot$ Finds him moving with 15 (S) Div towards area ROULERS - THIELT - COURTRAI, but expected to harbour for the night, short of that area $\odot$ 2IC returns $\odot$ During the day, Entertainments Offr & Sports Offr make local contacts, to arrange welfare matters for the men $\odot$	(See Appx. J)
	7	0600  1700 1800	QM leaves to contact CO and 15 (S) Div, and to attempt to draw rations from div sup pt Regt football team plays a team from HORNOY & wins 3 - 1 Ration lorries return with supplies drawn from RASC 12 Corps	
SELINCOURT	8	0200  0800  2300	QM returns $\odot$ Message from CO that regt vehs being used for sup-tpt may be expected to return tonight OC 391 Bty leaves to contact CO at div HQ $\odot$ Meets him midway and both return to regt location approx 1730 hrs, followed by 3 bty HQ subalterns from traffic control party Tpt hitherto on sup-tpt duties returns to regt location $\odot$ One truck and driver missing - believed to have lost his way 5 miles NORTH of ARRAS	
	9		Day spent in reloading stores etc on to tpt and preparation for move next day $\odot$ Search for missing truck & driver unsuccessful $\odot$ Restriction on AA firing (see appendix E)	
J 610755	10	0700	Regt moves by tps followed by regt & bty A ech followed by B ech, all at $\frac{1}{4}$ hour intervals; route - DOULLENS - ARRAS - LENS -	

area of MALINES			AUDENARDE - ALOST - ASSCHE - MERCHTEN - WOLVERTHEM - new area (see Appendix A) Enthusiastic welcome by local inhabitants, especially on BELGIAN side of border ◉ Temporary relaxation of ban on AA fire (see Appendix E) Remainder of traffic control party also moved and joined up with main body of regt at new location	
MALINES area	11	1300 1730  2000 2350	CO attends CRA's conference CO holds conference for BCs ◉ Ref move of div next day, orders 2 tps for defence of fd arty area, one tp for div HQ, 3 tps in support of bdes (one each) ◉ bty comds to recce for opportunities of ground-shooting in area of Albert Canal (I 08) ◉ 2IC to coordinate tps with fd arty LO called to HQRA to receive orders for move following day as follows: SP X rds 599665 at 0855 hrs, via VILVORDE, DIEGHEM, HAECHE to Dis P at AERSCHOT (J 9669) HQRA order recce parties to Div HQ by 0730 hrs tomorrow	
WESTERLOO area  WESTERLOO area	12	0715 0830 1730 -	Recce parties leave ◉ Tps subsequently move with fd regts, bdes, HQs, etc, to which they are in support Regt A & B echs leave, and move, on route as ordered, to I 042798 near WESTERLOO Order received lifting ban on AA fire; transmitted to btys During the day, CO in charge of traffic control party (offr and wireless set at each) on Cl.40 bridge 045855 and Cl.9 bridge 073842 over Albert Canal	(see Appx E)
	13	1200 1945 2100 2200 - 2315	Gun of E tp stood by for groundshooting across Albert Canal, but no target presented itself OC 392 led a patrol across the canal into 3 villages, area 0189 - 0086 - no enemy encountered Orders received from HQRA for recce parties to RV at 0800 hrs tomorrow for move of regt with div HQ 5 enemy aircraft, and flares, engaged by A and I tps CO decides to leave B ech in situ when A ech moves, because supply pts will remain SOUTH of the canal - During the day A & I tps move across canal with fd regts to area of GHEEL, 0888, and E tp and 391 tac HQ with 227 bde group to area of MOLL, 1790 Orders received from HQRA to move tomorrow crossing SP [bridge 0485] head 1015 hrs, tail 1025 hrs, via X rds 080882 to dis P at rd junc 093860	
GHEEL area	14	0745	Recce parties left ◉ 0945 Regt A ech moved, via route ordered, to new location 100852, crossing Albert Canal 1015 hrs &	

			arriving 1040 hrs. During the day tps moved with fd regts, bdes, and div HQ and guns of C and G tps carried out groundshooting across the MEUSE-ESCAUT canal at targets on the NORTH bank ◉ Local inhabitants continue everywhere to be enthusiastic in their welcome and extremely generous with gifts of fruit, eggs, etc, which they insist on being accepted despite firmest refusals	
(ap GHEEL area	15 prox)	1830 2200	Tps remained deployed ◉ Guns of C and G tps sited singly or in 3s carried out groundshooting tasks with considerable success at targets on far (NORTH) bank of MEUSE-ESCAUT canal, incl harassing fire, observed fire on MG nests and OPs, and conc fire in support of inf attack ◉ E tp prepared to give directional fire in sp of 227 bde attack, night 15/16 ◉ Several tps reported unidentified plane, believed enemy jet-propelled, in area GHEEL - HERENTHALS flying EAST-WEST at 15-20,000 ft, estimated speed 600 mph. B ech, less certain vehs, joins A ech at 100852	
	16	1740 1815	Tps remain deployed ◉ Considerable groundshooting by A C E and G tps using both direct and indirect fire Officer called for by HQRA, to report at 1815 hrs with Jeep, 15 cwt, NCO and 5 men. Capt SARGEANT (390 bty capt), detailed for above assignment, briefed at HQRA (with reps from fd and A tk regts) for task of laying out fluorescent strips by 1200 hrs 17 Sep along line of main rd from LOMMEL (K 3095) - rly crossing (1791), thence line of rly - 0789 - thence cross country to HOOGBUUL (0187) ◉ Strips to be taken up by 1430 hrs ◉ 119 allotted right hand sector, up to rly crossing 1791 ◉ Purpose: indication of area to tactical air force on occasion of large-scale attack ◉ Forward gun positions to be warned to display yellow celanex strips from 1200 - 1430, 17 Sep 44.	
GHEEL area	17	0845 0900 1300 1700	Instructions received ref op 'GARDEN' limiting AA fire Party leaves under Capt SARGEANT to lay fluorescent panels as ordered - 1345 Waves of DAKOTA aircraft passed over location approaching from WEST and veering to NE ◉ each wave consisted of 30-45 aircraft, the last few waves towing HADRIAN (WACO) gliders ◉ very considerable fighter support, mostly LIGHTNINGS and MUSTANGS ◉ One DAKOTA crashed at 058886 and was burnt out ◉ E tps 391 bty mounted guard over wreckage 266565 Capt J.M.B. POOLEY, RAMC, leaves regt to go to 6 RSF, from whence 131304 Capt RJG HOGG RAMC comes to take his place.	(see appendix E)

		-	Groundshooting during hrs of darkness along line of road running from Albert Canal at K 0792 to CASTERLE 0697, one gun on duty each hour, firing 50 rounds	
GHEEL area	18	0001 0130 - 1600 2130	Orders received ref restriction on amn expenditure hrs onwards, E tp guns came under MG fire each time they opened up on harassing fire task During the day groundshooting continued ☉ Subunits moved with bde groups when 227 bde relieved 44 bde in bridgehead at 0793 Ju 88 observed over I tp area 1091 ☉ No firing, in accordance with orders Harassing fire tasks during hours of darkness, as for previous night ☉	(see appendix H)
	18/19		One gun of tp damaged through firing with defect which caused side door of breech casing to open ☉ sent to unit wksps	
	19	0600 1430 -	Maj COPELAND, T.C. (97992), OC 392 bty, to 110 LAA Regt RA, 43 Inf Div to take up post as 2 IC in accordance with instructions from BRA, 2nd Army. - 1500 hrs considerable allied airborne force passed overhead from SW to NE ☉ DAKOTAS, some towing HADRIAN gliders; and STIRLINGS, some towing HORSIA gliders ☉ some fighter cover seen ☉ - During the day CO helps to evolve fire plan in sp of night attack, incorporating Bofors fire in ground role (Op CRABS)	(see Appx E).
GHEEL area	20	0005 0200 0930 0930 1215 1405	Message from HQRA prohibiting fire on 064926 and AART (0893) after H + 20 H hour for Op CRABS CO orders no further groundshooting on harassing fire tasks till further orders owing to amn shortage in 2nd line Infm received from HQRA that Maj COPELAND may return from 110 LAA to 119 LAA Regt RA under arrangement by 12 Corps. Permission given by HQRA to dismount E tp guard on crashed DAKOTA at 058886. CO receives orders from RA (by telephone) for future LAA tasks ☉ Detailed orders on visiting HQRA 1430 hrs ☉ Holds own O Gp (BCs 2IC Adjt QM) 1630 hrs as follows:- Three SP tps to accompany 15 (S) Div on advance tomorrow, mainly for use in ground role ☉ To be controlled and administered by Tac HQ consisting of C.O., Orderly Officer, one subaltern, 5 driver operators and batman (in Jeep, WT veh and spare), 3 signallers in WT veh (rear link to HQRA), 3 15 cwts (with BQMS, cook, 3 drivers, one gnr), water truck (with driver and electrician signals), and Jeep with fitter from REME and veh	

		1800	<p>mech REME ☉ Total 3 offrs &amp; 19 ORs, to form up in RHQ lines (100852) at 0800 hrs 21 Sep 44</p> <p>Tpt for RASC duties to be organised under Capt BEATTIE and Lieut LIDDLE with clerk &amp; batman in comd veh ☉ 21 3-ton lorries and 9 tractors LAA each with driver and mate, 2 15 cwt GS and one water truck, each with driver and cook, 3 MCs, and loading party of one sjt and 15 ORs ☉ Total 2 offrs and 87 ORs to form up at 115887 at 0800 hrs 21 Sep 44, &amp; report 093860 at 1030 hrs.</p> <p>Tractor drawn tps to be relieved on present commitments by SP tps and to deploy at bridges 200928 (2 tps) and 193892 ☉ bty HQs to be established (with bty B ech) in neighbourhood of now SP tps ☉ RHQ to be est in area MOLL (1790)</p> <p>hrs onwards, tps, btys, and RHQ arrange dumping of stores under guard at new locations, to leave required load carrying vehs empty</p>	
GHEEL area	21	- <u>1030</u> 1210 1500 1700	<p>During the morning the org of RHQ &amp; bty HQs into A and B ech ceases and bty HQs move off, each with their own B ech, to locations in the area of MOLL 1790</p> <p>Capt Beattie reports with load-carrying column, as detailed, to RASC offr at 093860.</p> <p>CO and tac HQ move off with three SP tps, previously harboured, in div column to area EINDHOVEN 4218</p> <p>RHQ (incl wksp) moves to 172910 arriving 1640</p> <p>Orders from 12 Corps via CO to redeploy one tractor-drawn tp at bridges (Cl 40 &amp; Cl 9) at 308978 ☉ Other 2 tractor-drawn tps remain deployed at bridges 200928 and 193892</p>	
EINDHOVEN and MOLL	22	1200 1500	<p>CO and tac HQ perform traffic control duties in connection with bridge 389249</p> <p>OC 391 leaves, in response to message, to go fwd with tac bty HQ, to act as CO's rep at HQRA [CO &amp; tac RHQ being on traffic control task] and to be ready to act as OP to Bofors firing in ground role</p>	
	23	2045 -	<p>Notification by DR from CO that restriction, imposed on AA fire at the time of first airborne landings 17 Sep, is now lifted</p> <p>CO &amp; tac HQ continue traffic control duties ☉ load-carrying vehs continue to work as sup-tpt column</p>	
EINDHOVEN and MOLL areas	24 25 26	) - ) )	<p>CO and tac HQ continue as traffic control; &amp; load-carrying vehs as sup-tpt coln ☉ C E &amp; G tps, fwd with main body of div carry out extensive groundshooting by day &amp; night ☉ A F &amp; I tps remain deployed area MOLL</p>	

EINDHOVEN - ZON area	27	1000  1130 1230  2100	CO returns to order A and I tps to take over ground defence of canal bridge at ZON (E 4425) under 2IC and 390 bty HQ, relieving inf coy there by 1600 Vehs used since 21 Sep for sup-tpt return to regt. - 1500 hrs RHQ, bty HQs and A F and I tps leave MOLL area for new area EINDHOVEN - ZON ☉ RHQ A ech joins tac HQ, while RHQ B ech [incl wksps] remains with 391 & 392 bty HQs 1½ miles away Directional fire given in sp of attack by bn of 44 bde	
	28	1500	CRA visits LAA OP at factory 380240 to see effects of Bofors shooting at ground targets with indirect fire.	
ZON - ST OEDENRODE area	29	1445  1640	Inspector of Arty, with BRA CCRA & CRA visits LAA OP 380240 to see ground-shooting by Bofors ☉ Expresses himself favourably impressed by results RHQ and 391 & 392 bty HQs leave for area 4329 arriving 1730 hrs ☉ HQs (less 390) reconstituted into A and B echs, both sited in same area ☉ 390 bty HQ with under comd A and I tps still remains in (ground) defence of ZON bridge (4425)	
	30	1100  1800	- 1130 hrs, LAA OP at 380240 shelled intermittently ☉ One fatal DR casualty ☉ Groundshooting continues Orders from RA ref relief by 51 (H) Div 1 to 2 Oct 44	See Appx E