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Army Form C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required).

Unit 15th (SCOTTISH) INF DIV SIGNALS  
(incl LAD attd)

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

Month and Year NOV 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
ZOMEREN	1	0930	C.O. and Adjt visit all three Bdes and ascertain future plans	DGH
		1100	C.O. makes arrangements from Signal Centre for extensions to 44 and 46 Bdes who are moving this afternoon Line Section engaged on these new lines for the two a/m bdes and on improving long line to 1 Mx, which has not been too good. Line to 141 RAC on to 6 Gds Tk Bde.	DGH
		1800	Wireless O.K. throughout day	DGH
	2	1100	C.S.O. 8 Corps visits C.O. bringing with him new CSO 8 Corps, present one leaving, much to everyone's regret.	DGH
		1500	Observer officer attached to the Division to see C.O. for purposes of compiling short biographies of all the heads of services	DGH
		1400	- onwards. Men to baths in HELMOND Line situation pretty well as yesterday - today a reasonably quiet day for Sigs. Line section still fairly well extended, building up on present layout.	DGH DGH
ZOMEREN	3	1000	Heavy hum on some of the Bde lines. Line Sec and indoor linesmen out endeavouring to rectify this and the further building up on lines in general. During the course of the day new direct line laid to 44 Bde by new route - also likely to be of value when 44 Bde move on.	DGH
		1600	C.O. considers shifting signal centre to new location but decides against.	DGH
		1900	Routine check by Codes and Security offr reveals rather a lax state of affairs on ADMS net - a Signals matter, group not properly controlled. C.O. in view of the fact that NCO i/c det has just been dealt with by OC 1 Coy for similar matter orders a further two days' monitoring and further report prior to further action. Codes and Secy officer submitting excellent reports, which have proved of great value in the disciplining and general efficiency of the running of practically every Div net	DGH
		X		

ZOMEREN	4	1200	Line layout considerably altered as from last diagram - see diagram issued as at 1200 hrs In the afternoon second line laid to 1 Mx and first line improved, not having been particularly successful Otherwise, reasonably quiet - both C.O. and 2-in-C rather unwell and confined to quarters	DGH Appx J folio 25 DGH
		1900	Alteration to line diagram - 46 Bde provided with direct line (strapping through at Sig Centre).	
ZOMEREN	5	1130	Church parade as usual - quite a reasonable turnout	DGH
		1200	C.O. leaves for 23 FDS in HELMOND - not serious probably only severe chill, or influenza. Only expected to be absent approx 48 hrs. MAJOR GF JOHNSON (2-in-C) assumes temporary Comd	DGH
		1230	Party leaves for TILBURG to see Div football match against TILBURG (Div wins 3-1).	
		1800	LT JW FULLARTON rejoins unit from attachment to 3 (Br) Div Sigs LT J.J. ADEY now attached to "A" Sec for remainder of his attachment	DGH
		2000	During the course of the day, line layout extended in the HEUSDEN (6211) area to cover possible move of 227 Bde into that area. Certain of these lines kept "warm" at the moment by being utilized as a further pair to the Signal Centre	DGH
ZOMEREN	6	0900	New line under way south along the canal for possible move in that direction by 227 Bde. One of their bns probably going there ahead of remainder of the Bde fixed for line comms via 7 US Arm'd Div Combat Gp - 15 Div - 227 Bde and another of their Bns withdrawn to HELMOND for brief rest fixes UG DEURNE - HELMOND on party line with 4 GREN GDS of 6 Gds Tk Bde	DGH
		1100	Adj't proceeds to HELMOND to visit CO in 23 FDS and finds him making good progress	DGH
		1400	O.C. Fd Hygiene Sec inspect admin layout Main Div HQ with O.C. H.Q. Coy and RSM	DGH
		1600	2 lines to 6 RSF on Sig Centre board by O.C. Sigs 46 Bde and at 1800 hrs 6 RSF under Div control (in Div reserve) are netted satisfactorily on R/T Comd net and closed shortly afterwards for the night	DGH
ZOMEREN	7	0800	Heavy wind blowing at gale force, creating havoc with lines - "C" Sec on repair work throughout day	DGH
		1000	6 RSF now through on Div pair - Bde lines abandoned	DGH
		1200	O.C. Sigs 51 Div to see C.O. on 51 Div moving into adjoining area - stays for lunch	DGH
		1400	6 Gds Tk Bde moves into HELMOND - through to Swan on UG pair	DGH
		1630	152 Bde of 51 (H) Div up on Div Comd R/T and CW nets - coming under comd 15 Div 080600 A	DGH

ZOMEREN		1630 1730 1800 1800  X	CSO 8 Corps visits CO regarding dealings with 51 Div Line through to 152 Bde - line already laid most of the way Direct line to 51 Div 152 Bde have under comd 2 A&SH - line being fixed by "C" Sec as per previous arrangement (an American line being taken over) to help 227 Bde as, originally, this Bn was proceeding to this area under comd of its own Bde. On move of 6 Gds Tk Bde - separate line to "C" Sqn 141 RAC was laid All lines now OK and wireless has been excellent throughout a reasonably difficult day	DGH DGH DGH DGH  DGH
	8	0800  1100  1500 1700	Gale abated. Line situation eased and generally quieter. Day of normal line maintenance and patrolling Wireless situation O.K. - 2 A&SH on Div Comd net to assist 227 Bde. 6 Gds Tk Bde on Div Comd C/W net to help in traffic clearance - only line outlet to them from "SWAN" Corps Sig Centre often blocked 44 and 227 Bdes change places - no complications Line to 153 Bde of 51 Div - temporary expedient only, to assist 51 Div who are going to take this line themselves Line diagram issued correct to 1200 hrs.	DGH  DGH  DGH DGH  Appx J folio 26
ZOMEREN	9	0800  1800	No fresh construction on hand for today - day of maintenance, line patrolling, men at baths etc. Wireless activity normal. Corps closing R/T and C/W links at 1800 hrs, to reopen if L/T comms fail. Several stns on Div nets closed also. 152 Bde now no longer under comd - 154 Bde in their place. Line on the board (being taken off by 51 Div).	DGH
	10	0800  1500	As for yesterday. 51 (H) Div remove 154 Bde line and we now have two lines to their main div. 154 Bde still have 2 A&SH on their board (under Div comd) but we are responsible for the maintenance of this line. "C" Sec det out on building up this line in an effort to ensure no faults on this line in the night 44 Bde and 227 Bde again change places without causing any confusion	DGH  DGH
ZOMEREN	11	0800  1600	All line pts out on patrolling. Div R/T Comd net and links to Corps closed except for certain daily test calls Adjt goes to fetch CO from 23 FDS and CO returns to the Unit	DGH  DGH
	12	0800  1000	O.C. 1 Coy and Codes & Secy ORs depart on 48 hrs leave to BRUSSELS LT J.J. ADEY finishes att of 1 month to the unit and returns 31 RHU Church parade as usual - attendance satisfactory Normal day of line maintenance etc	DGH  DGH

		1730	Mess meeting of reconstituted Sigs mess - present messes too large - which O.C. Sigs is joining. CAPT J. ORR elected PMC.	DGH DGH DGH
	13	0800 1400 1700	Normal day commences again - line patrolling etc. One or two minor faults in the course of the day. Parties are proceeding to Brussels on short 48 hours leave at irregular intervals Sigs now responsible for co-ordinating PAD schemes of all units in ZOMEREN - OC HQ Coy nominated as Comd by CO Adjt and OC HQ Coy attend small G2 conference to draw up PAD scheme for Main Div HQ. Signals to be responsible for all billeting and messing buildings	DGH DGH DGH
ZOMEREN	14	0800 1200 1800	Line section on line patrolling again. Line 8 AGRA - Main Div put straight on to RA board and new pair laid Main Div - HQRA. O.C. 2 Coy closes 15 Div RA Sig Centre and makes all his lines direct. Nothing further to report this morning Quiet afternoon - one or two line faults - otherwise nothing to report	DGH DGH DGH
ZOMEREN	15	1100 1200 1230 1300 1500 1700	C.O. and Adjt take G1 and A/Q to Rear Div Sig Officer for a trial demonstration of new "scrambler" (privacy) equipment which is to be fitted in GOC's, G1's and A/Q's caravans. Trials to Corps successful Line section have laid new section of direct line to 46 Bde (Div - Sig Centre). Line to 2 Gdns now direct by means of one of the former 51 Div lines (they have now moved). Other line extended to 51 Div new location O.C. Sigs 49 Div and his Adjt arrive on liaison visit (now in 12 Corps on our right flank). They stay to lunch, the two C.O's and Adjts in their respective messes C.O. and Adjt attend demonstration of mine detecting and clearing devices 227 Bde have now moved to 640105 (former Div res Bn loc) and have taken over these lines (1 direct to Div - 1 to Sig Centre) Former lines now out of service, except one to Sig Centre in use for 227 Bde A2 echelon	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
	16	1100 1030 1145 1400	Several officers to see CO on normal routine matters CSO 8 Corps arrives intending to visit Bdes but Brigs all at Div Comd's conference so does not go Adjt and OC Sigs Rear attend A/Q conference on domestic matters at Rear Div HQ On move of 51 (H) Div line to them ceases. Line section busy on normal patrolling and "shooting trouble" on and off through the day	DGH DGH DGH DGH

ZOMEREN	17	1030	C.O. holds conference with OC 2 Coy and the three Bde Signal officers to discuss comms layout for a fairly involved TC layout, required for the forthcoming advance of the Div across difficult country. Each of the Bdes and RA are responsible for 1 of the 4 Sector Controls, with Regulating HQ at Main Div. Each can cope - "C" section to do the two longest lays for the line part. All four say they can provide the necessary wireless but CO is trying to borrow four from CSO for the purpose	DGH
		1100	OC 1 Coy joins conference and considers lines both for this purpose and for forthcoming ops and sets line section off on new 46 Bde line for use both for them and for Sector Control "A"	DGH
		1700	Arrangements made with 51 (H) Div for them to put a set on our Div R/T Comd net and also on 227 Bde R/T Comd net	DGH
ZOMEREN	18	0900	Issued 15 (S) Inf Div Signals Op Instr No 1 (Op NUTCRACKER) in connection with above. Line section engaged on programme as per a/m instruction and complete new 46 Bde line started yesterday	DGH Appx D folio 11.
		1330	CO and Adjt pay routine visits to 44 and 46 Bdes in connection with forthcoming ops	DGH
	19	0730	Line section out on new layout for impending move of Div. Signal Centre closes today and does not reopen yet. At end of day two direct lines to each Bde, 46 Bde having moved at 1430 hrs	DGH
		0915	Church parade with normal turn-out	DGH
		1100	T.C. net opens and nets Sector Control nets A & B and closes	DGH
		1300	Signals Mess as such reopens, after having been merged with Div "B" mess for some months - messes too big. CO joins his own mess from "A" Mess.	DGH
DEURNE	20	0945	Main Div HQ moves to DEURNE (hutted camp 655170) arriving at approx 1100 hrs. Line section, since an early hour, engaged on extension of line layout. No difficulties, with the exception of 227 Bde and Recce, due to whose almost constant moving throughout the day, it is impossible to move on. Line eventually through to Recce at 2200 hrs. No line to 227 Bde.	DGH
		1130		DGH
		1345	Rear Div HQ moves to VLIERDEN (623183) arriving at approx 1600 hrs. Lines through approx 1 hr later. Corps line OK to Main and Rear Corps	DGH
		1700	A most difficult day for wireless. Appalling interference on both R/T Comd net and Traffic Control net. 227 Bde out of touch, also Recce from approx 2000 hrs. Step-up out	DGH
	21	0700	Line section on extremely busy day, building up and maintaining existing lines and struggling in the face of appalling going and increasingly difficult traffic jams to reach 227 Bde. Line finally through 2120.	DGH
		0900		

DEURNE		1030	A much better day for the wireless. Last night's interference gone and all comms OK	DGH
		1330	CSO visits OC Signals and meets GOC. Discusses routine matters with CO	DGH
		1700	Sector Control "C" opens. Wireless OK. Line through per Corps quad 1420	DGH
		1900	Line to Sector Control "B" faulty. Difficulty in faulting, not through again until 1900. Same troubles as with 227 Bde (as above)	DGH
DEURNE	22	0700	Traffic Control net closes for the night. All lines OK	DGH
		0900	Div Recce party out to HELENAVEEN (7311) with Main Div scheduled to move there at 1100 hrs and Rear Div HQ coming in here. Move cancelled 1000 hrs. 46 Bde must be allowed to go to Helenaveen. Road conditions appalling. Nowhere else at present for Div HQ to go	DGH
		2100	All wireless OK - line section out on layout for Helenaveen which will not be wasted. 46 Bde through in the late afternoon and Recce shortly afterwards. 227 Bde who have moved twice in the course of the day OK by wireless but state of roads so awful that the line section have to be recalled without being able to reach them. This approved by G1 at 2100 hrs	DGH
DEURNE	23	0900	A day of line maintenance on existing lines with the exception of extension on line to Sector Control "B" who were closer to BERINGEN (7507) and are now linked with second line down lateral route "B" via 46 Bde	DGH
		1600	Plans made for forthcoming move of Div HQ to SEVENUM area (8114) but move subsequently postponed for 24 hours but original plans stand	DGH
		1700	Tests carried out on new "scrambler" telephone equipment to Corps. Appears to be satisfactory	DGH
		1900	Wireless OK throughout day and holding up well	DGH
DEURNE	24	0800	Line section out laying between HORST (8318) and SEVENUM (8114) in view of new positions. This turns out to be an excellent bet as Main Div's new location is in the middle of this line, with 227 Bde at the northern end of it and 46 Bde at the Southern. Rest of the day line maintenance and fault-finding	DGH
		1400	C.O. and O.C. "O" Sec busy on "scrambler" test (OK) and on re-designing signal office vehs. Signal centre now housed in gin palace and 2 TEV's now available for Main Div. One to be fitted out with 2 party-line F&F boards and linesmen's compartment and Signalmaster's office and the other counter-clerks etc.	DGH
		1800	Wireless OK throughout day. TC not now finally closed	DGH

HEGELSOM	25	1030  1800  1900	Main Div HQ moves to HEGELSOM (819156) followed by Rear Div HQ at 1230 hrs to VOORSTE HEES (810141) arriving at approx 1400 and 1700 hrs respectively. Line situation on completion of the day, 2 lines 227 Bde, 1 line 46 Bde, 1 line 1 Mx, 2 lines Rear Div, line Rear Div - Recce, 1 Quad to Corps, with both 1+1 equipments up at Main. The four speech channels are used as follows - 2 direct to Main Corps, 1 Rear Div - Rear Corps, the fourth pair available at present as a third line Main - Rear Div, but likely to be used later for RA - AGRA. 44 Bde who are still in former area have 2 lines to Swan and the fourth speech channel from Main Div terminates there, thus making 44 Bde available Wireless OK throughout day (slight interference on Corps CW net from 1 Mx) but 44 Bde fading in the evening and step up goes out to roughly midway between, just beyond AMERIKA and situation OK	DGH  DGH  DGH
HEGELSOM	26	0930 1100 1400 1530  1900	Adjt attends A/Q conference at Rear Div HQ on several matters 46 Bde move - line ready for them, also lateral to 227 Bde CSO visits CO for general discussions. 2 new quads in by Corps - 1 to RA Sig Centre (1 pair on Main Div, 1 on to HQRA), other quad to be strapped through here and through RA Sig Centre, giving quad 8 AGRA - 146 Med Regt but affording alternative routing in case of breakdown Wireless OK throughout day - step-up out to 44 Bde again	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
	27	0830  1030 1400 1500 1900	227 move again. New line extended to them, also later lateral to 46 Bde. Line section out laying line to 56 Bde of 49 (WR) Div from whom 44 Bde are taking over night 28/29. Line through to 56 Bde at approx 1600 hrs C.O. and Adjt pay routine visits to 46 and 227 Bdes Issued line diagram as at 1200 hrs C.O. and Adjt routine visits to Sigs Rear Div Wireless state as for yesterday	DGH  DGH DGH DGH DGH
HEGELSOM	28	0800  0830  0845	Div preparing to go under 12 Corps tomorrow and to take over present area of 49 Div from them, but continuing to be administered by 8 Corps (Rear Div nets staying on to 8 Corps nets) Div Recce party to PANNINGEN (7704) present HQ 49 Div - next 15 Div loc, also 2i/c, OC "C" Sec and 2 line dets to recce their lines and duplicate same when necessary. Signal centre out there also to set up 'H' pole and be ready to take over lines 227 Bde move right back to rest in ASTEN - "C" sec det there to connect them on to 8 Corps Sig Centre (SWAN) - speech OK and will remain so for use by us from 12 Corps	DGH  DGH  DGH

HEGELSOM		1000	O.C. 11 Armd Div Sigs calls to see C.O. - also coming into this area. Has picked up old 227 Bde line - now on to 151 Fd Regt - thence 11 Armd Div	DGH
		1200	CSO 12 Corps calls to see CO re plans for forthcoming move	DGH
		1500	44 Bde move fwd to BERINGE and take over from 147 Bde. Through by line to 49 Div who are obtainable from 12 Corps RA Sig Centre to where we now have 1 pair of a quad	DGH
		1530	6 Gds Tk Bde depart from 15 Div - off all wireless nets etc	DGH
		1600	CAPT K.R. CURRY posted this unit and takes over Cipher officer, LT SCHREIBER having applied to be removed from the role of Cipher offr & is TOS (surplus) this unit	DGH
PANNINGEN	29	0900	15 Div comes operationally under comd 12 Corps - through OK on Corps nets. 146 Bde and Recce Regt of 49 Div under comd 15 Div - OK on Div Comd net and 146 Bde later also on C/W net	DGH
		1015	Main Div HQ moves to PANNINGEN (775048) arriving at approx 1130 hrs. Pennants of 49 Div HQ still there, with the usual slight confusion that ensues when one Div takes over from another. At the end of the day (all wireless, such as is working having been OK throughout) there are lines (in some cases more than one) to 44 Bde, 46 Bde, 146 Bde, Recce 49 Div, 12 Corps RA Sig Centre, 12 Corps, 8 Corps RA Sig Centre, 8 Corps, Rear Div and Rear 49 Div. Rear Div have 8 Corps Rear, "Swan" Sig Centre, 12 Corps RA Sig Centre, 8 Corps RA Sig Centre, 15 Recce and 1 Mx. Sig Centre opened, two direct speakers Div - SC. SC have 46 Bde twice & Recce 49 Div	DGH
PANNINGEN	30	0830	Day of considerable activity on lines with several variations on yesterday's situation. Rear 49 Div goes, Signal Centre closes. 1 Mx on Main Div board, line to Rear HQ Fife & Forfar Yeomanry. Line comes in from 160 Bde on closing of Signal Centre, direct line to Recce 49 Div and second line to 46 Bde. Move of 49 Div Rear gives second pair to 12 Corps	DGH
		1345	CO with other members of Div HQ staffs & heads of services, meets 8 Corps Comd, who is leaving, to say goodbye.	DGH
		1800	Wireless OK throughout day	DGH
David G Heilbron Capt R. Signals Adjutant 15th (Scottish) Inf. Div. Signals.				