

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. and the Staff Manual respectively. 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 2 GORDONS

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year Jun 44

Commanding Officer Lt.-Col E.C. Colville

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
MUNTHAM COURT	5		The Bn carried out a night exercise in the battle area behind FINDON. A lovely night with a full moon and excellent visibility gave the Bn an excellent picture of an Airborne Force and an idea that Invasion had started. Some three hundred planes, Dakotas mainly, against a midnight moon, appeared at 2000 ft for two hours tugging gliders South East. They reappeared almost immediately moving North West sans gliders.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	6		The Bn returned to camp 0600 hrs. The news of the Invasion was broadcast at 0800 hrs.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	7		Traffic Control party consisting of Lieut Dingwall, Sjt Atherton and two O.Rs left the Bn at 1630 hrs for FRANCE.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	9		The finishing touches are put to waterproofing, loading trials, packing kit etc.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	11		Capt Wishart, Lieut Fairlie, CSM Kernohan and D.R. Stocker, left at 2045 hrs as Advance Party to the Bn's move to FRANCE.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
NEWHAVEN	18		Main body of Bn embarked at NEWHAVEN for France. The journey was made in very rough weather in a large troop carrying ship. The other portion of the Bn which was mainly the transport under the 2 i/c embarked at TILBURY on the ship EMPIRE FALSTAFF, 10,000 tons.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	19		This date still saw the Bn off the coast of France. The weather was extremely bad and landing was considered out of the question.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	20		Bn disembarked at ARROMANCHES and marched in parties to concentration area at VAUX-SUR-SEULLES 831785 (Sheet 7F/1 CAEN).	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	21-25		During this period the rest of the battalion landed in FRANCE in small lots. The transport party under the 2 i/c, disembarked at COURSEULLES and moved to the concentration area between the 23 - 25 Jun 44. During the day 25, plans were completed for the first action of 15 (Scottish) Div. The plan was for 44 and 46 Bdes to adv through the Canadian line about Le Mesnil Patry and to capture a line through CHEUX. 227 Bde was then to pass through with 10 H.L.I. on right to take Granville-sur-Odon; 2 GORDONS on left to take	

FRANCE		<p>COLEVILLE and TOURVILLE, 2 A. & S.H. were then to pass through 2 GORDONS and make a bridgehead over the River ODON at TOURMAINVILLE. 2 GORDONS would then take over the bridgehead and the 2 A. & S.H. would hold the next crossing over the ODON to the West. The way would then be clear for the armour to go through and a complete break through was expected.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	26	<p>During night 25 - 26 Jun, Bn moved from old conc area to a forward conc area and all day moved slowly up to our forming up place for the attack, just N. of CHEUX. The attack by 44 and 46 Bdes though successful, was slow and we were not able to form up with the supporting tanks until the evening. The Bn attack started at about 1830 with "A" and "B" Coys leading "C" and "D" Coys in the rear. A very heavy storm broke just as the Coys started and it was obvious that there would be no opportunity for the promised air support. The attack met with strong opposition from the enemy who had well placed M.Gs and several dug in tanks and A. Tk guns well positioned. Several of our tanks had been knocked out. "B" Coy were believed to have got through to COLEVILLE but "A", "C" & "D" Coys had been held up short of the village. All coys had heavy casualties particularly "A" Coy. The C.O. then decided on re-organising what could be collected of the Bn and a small defensive position was made beside the CHEUX - COLLVILLE road about 1 mile S. of CHEUX. Majors Soutar, Aitchison, and Capt Wishart, and Lts Niven and Kiddie were killed in this action. During this very bloody action the work of our Medical Officer Capt MacPhail and his stretcher bearers was magnificent.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	27	<p>When dawn broke our position was still secure. During the morning our tanks moved up on our left and the A. & S.H. passed through the Bn during the morning, making for the bridge at TOURMANVILLE and we received orders to move on to COLLVILLE. Soon after first light, "B" Coy's remnants joined us from the enemy lines where they had been cut off. The Bn took up a position in COLLVILLE in an orchard. "Sniper fever" was bad among the troops and it was several days before this could be stopped by practice of controlled fire. That afternoon we moved to TOURVILLE after having been relieved by the 9th SEAFORTHS (46 Bde). Our advance was held up by a German tank which had got into posn and was knocking out some of our tanks. The road was also being mortared. This was soon overcome and Bn moved into position south of the village in an orchard area.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	28	<p>Spent the day in TOURVILLE where we were slightly mortared and had some trouble from a tank on the main rd behind us. During this time</p>	

		the armour was passing through our area and over the river. It was unable to make much progress and later had to withdraw.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	29	In the afternoon, the Bn received orders to move back to COLLVILLE and be prepared to carry out a counter attack on the Cameronian posn at GRANVILLE-sur-ODON at dawn the next morning, should the enemy take it. Bn moved and several casualties were sustained during the move by enemy shelling of the road.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	30 30 - 1 Jul	The proposed counter attack by the Bn was not required and the Bn was then ordered to MONCEAUX. The leading coys got to the road running to the river at TOURMANVILLE but came under heavy mortar fire from German posns south of the river. There were many casualties. The B.M. Major J. Lochore was among the killed. The Bn, as a result was ordered to withdraw to its old location in TOURVILLE. 2315 - 0530 hrs 1st Jul, Bn was subjected to a very severe mortar and shell barrage. Casualties were not heavy as troops were well dug in. During the mortaring one of the casualties was R.S.M. Black killed.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.