

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2 GORDONS

Month and Year JUL 44

Commanding Officer Lt.-Col E.C. Colville

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1		53 Div moved into our sector. Adv party for relief of 2 GORDONS arrived at 1600 hrs. Capt J. McL Smith was wounded by a mortar bomb during an attack in the late afternoon.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	2		Bn was relieved in the late evening and withdrew to BRETTEVILLE L'ORGUEILLEUSE where they took up a defensive posn and prepared to re-equip and re-organise. (Attached is letter of congratulations from G.O.C. 8 Corps).	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
FRANCE	3-7		Three coys were formed in the re-organisation of the Bn ("B", "C" & "D" Coys). "B" was commanded by Capt H.T. Slight, "C" by Major G.H. Hutchinson and "D" by Major R.M.M. Tindall. Re-organization and re-equipping continued throughout this period. The complete list of casualties sustained by the Bn during its battle engagements from 26 Jun to the 2 Jul 44 were as follows:- Officers:- Killed 4, Wounded 7; Missing 1. O.Rs Killed 48, Wounded 195; Missing 11.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	7-13		Re-organization of Bn. New "A" Coy formed and Major Duke put in command. 2 men wounded in "D" Coy by shelling. Shells were not confirmed to be from enemy gun.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	14		Bn moved from Bretteville L'Orgueilleuse to conc area 944647. Slight enemy mortar fire experienced.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
FRANCE	15-16		Bn arrived in assembly area near BARON village during the evening of the 15th, were subjected to heavy mortar and shell fire from the enemy. Pnr 3 ton truck was hit and destroyed. At 2245 hrs the Bn moved into the attack through BARON. "C" & "D" Coys were leading followed by Bn HQ with "A" & "B" Coys follow up coys. The first objective was line of rd 928611 - 932610 - 934610 was taken and held. Whilst this action was in progress Brig Mackintosh-Walker, M.C. (Two Bars) commanding 227 Bde was killed in his forward HQ in BARON. Lt. Col Colville took over command of 227 Bde and Major Sinclair took command of 2nd Bn The Gordon Highlanders. The battle continued and "A" & "B" Coys on moving forward to pass through "C"	

FRANCE	16	<p>& "D" Coys came under very heavy M.M.G. fire on fixed lines. Their progress was slow and when first light came they were still some 400 - 500 yds behind "C" & "D" Coys. The order was then given to dig in in these positions. In the early morning of the 16th, 12 German planes circled Bn area three times and on the third occasion opened fire but caused no casualties among the unit. One plane was shot down by light A.A. fire. During the morning of the 16th, the enemy attacked at several points in the Bn front but was driven off by our weapons and the excellent shooting of our battery of the 131 Fd Regt under Major G. Campbell R.A. At about 1210 hrs enemy tried another counter attack on "A" & "B" Coys posns from the left flank. This time tanks and inf were used. Good shooting by the A. Tk pl under Capt A.W. Parish broke up the enemy attack and with two guns firing from the area of Bn HQ, knocked out 5 PZKW Mk IV tanks. Ps of W. taken up to 1300hrs 16 Jul 44 were 35. Considerable German equipment and a marked map of importance was found. Enemy continued to attack with mortar and shell fire during the afternoon and evening. Capt H.T. Slight was killed during the attack on "B" Coy's posn. At 2358 hrs, the Bn came under command 44 Bde and were ordered to hold posns pending relief. The A. & S.H. and H.L.I. had been withdrawn earlier in the day. During the night of the 16th, "C" & "D" Coys were ordered to withdraw to posns behind "A" & "B" Coys.</p>	<p>RG Hogg Capt I.O.</p> <p>RG Hogg Capt I.O.</p>
	17	<p>Bn remained holding a defensive posn throughout the day; spasmodic attacks were made by the enemy but were broken up by arty fire. Bn was again subjected to severe mortar and shell fire during the evening. Several casualties were sustained. During the late evening, the enemy attacked behind the lines with several fighters and bombers; many flares were dropped and A.A. defences along whole sector were kept busy for some time. One enemy plane was definitely shot down. A successful attack by a squadron of Typhoons was carried out on enemy tanks concs SOUTH of our sector. Great fires were seen burning in the EVRECY area after this attack. About 2300 hrs the WELSH BDE moved through our posns to attack the high ground and the FERME DE MONDRAINVILLE sector. Welsh Bde did not succeed in the operation.</p>	<p>RG Hogg Capt I.O.</p>
	18	<p>Bn held posns throughout day till relieved by the 7th Bn The WELCH R. in the late afternoon. The relief was completed by 1930 hrs. Bn moved back by march route to area of FARM 903648 N.W. of GRANVILLE-SUR-ODON to reorganise and rest. Casualties from the 14th - 18th Jul were Officers 1 Killed; 3 Wounded; Nil Missing; O.Rs 11 Killed, 107 Wounded; 7 Missing.</p>	<p>RG Hogg Capt I.O.</p>

FRANCE	19-22 22	1900	<p>Period from 19 to 23 Jul was spent re-organising and re-equipping in area of 903648. Capt E.R. Macdonald rejoined Bn and took over command of "B" Coy. Lt.-Col Sinclair appointed C.O. 2 GORDONS. Major Henderson became 2 i/c.</p> <p>Recce party left unit under I.O. Capt R.G. Hogg to make recce of area NORTH of CAUMONT with view to the relief of 1st Bn of 2nd Regt of the 5 U.S. Div. Positions selected in rear of American areas as U.S. posns were thought to be too congested.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	23		Bn left area of GRANVILLE and moved to CAUMONT to take up defensive posns as reserve Bn of 227 Bde. Role was counter-attack on CAUMONT should 10 H.L.I. be driven from the town by the enemy.	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	24		<p>Bn completed preparations for defence of sector "A" Coy forward on left front; "C" Coy in posn on the left forward flank by the 2 A. & S.H. "B" Coy were in posn on left rear with "D" Coy on right rear of Bn HQ, which was situated at 702625 (Sheet 6F/2 ST LO).</p> <p>A. Tk Gun and Jeep on rd attacked by plane. Casualties were 1 killed, 7 injured incl Capt A.W. Parish who remained on duty. A recce patrol was sent out at 2400 hrs to patrol into enemy lines south LA REPAS sector. Patrol returned with some information 0230 hrs but failed to reach main objective. No casualties.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
FRANCE	25		<p>Quiet time spent in new area. Recces were made and plans tied up for counter attack on LA REPAS and CAUMONT if either should be attacked and overrun by the enemy. Patrol out during night. Unsuccessful.</p>	(Att Plan "A" and "B"). RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	26		<p>Standing Patrol out during night from 2400 - 0615 hrs to act as stop gap to 10 H.L.I. and 2 A. & S.H. during their patrolling. Patrol did not encounter enemy.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	27		<p>Quiet day; recces of CAUMONT area made by Coy Comds. Fighting Patrol out under Lieut McIntyre. Patrol contacted the enemy and killed 3 of them. They did not succeed in taking a prisoner. We lost one man killed and two were wounded.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	28		<p>Another day spent quietly in same location. Liaison done with H.L.I. in CAUMONT. Standing Patrol sent out to stop gap between A. & S.H. and H.L.I. Patrol did not encounter enemy.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
FRANCE	29		<p>Preparation for new task began. 'O' Gp at Bde revealed plan for Div attack SOUTH of CAUMONT. Loading and forming up arranged. Recces carried out from A. & S.H. locality by C.O. and Coy Commanders along with tank commanders.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	30		<p>Bn left area at 0215 hrs and moved into F.U.P. This move was completed by 0315 hrs. The attack began at 0655 hrs. 2 GORDONS objective was LUTAIN WOOD 712582 (Viller Sheet No. 37/14 N.W.). Attack put in in two phases. "A" Coy right with 1 troop of tanks</p>	

		<p>from 4 Gren Guards. "B" Coy left with 1 tp tanks; "D" Coy with objective LIEU MONDANT in left rear. "C" Coy in reserve behind "D". "A" and "B" Coys met opposition by M.M.Gs and mortars but eventually managed to push onto objective with help of tanks. Second phase began after "D" Coy had cleared LIEU MONDANT and "C" and "D" Coys on its left supported by "crocodiles" started to sweep the wood. The coys got through the wood but "D" was forced to withdraw due to heavy casualties from enemy mortars firing into the trees. Outskirts of the wood were held by three coys up and "D" was put in reserve at the N. side of the wood. Bn HQ established itself along the edge of hedgerow at 712586 (Villers sheet No. 37/14 N.W.). Bn dug in and the other big phases began. It might be added that as a direct result of our drive the armoured drive south was allowed to begin. By the morning of the 31st the high ground in a line from St Martin de Besaces 6750 (TORIGNI-SUR-VIRE Sheet 6F/4) to Pt 309 6951 was strongly held by 15 (S) Div.</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.
	31	<p>In the early morning the Bn was subjected to some long range shelling and some bombing south east of the area. No casualties were sustained. Bn left this area at 1200 hrs and moved forward as reserve Bn into a Bde area. A. & S.H. were left forward Bn and the H.L.I. were in posn in our rt forward flank. 2 Gordons took up posn in farm W. of LA TEINTURIERE at 703555 Villers (Sheet 37/14 NW).</p>	RG Hogg Capt I.O.