

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 7th Bn The Seaforth Highlanders.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year MARCH, 1945

Commanding Officer Lt.Col. P.M. HUNT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	Mar 1	1730	Bn at TILBURG, HOLLAND. Trg and Maintenance of vehs and equipt. Bn Pipes and Drums play Retreat.	
	Mar 2		Bn at TILBURG. Training and Maintenance.	
	Mar 3	1145	Bn at TILBURG. Div Comd visits Bn and takes March Past. Bn March Past led by Pipe Band.	
	Mar 4		Bn at TILBURG. Div Massed Pipe Bands play in TILBURG.	
	Mar 5	1030	Bn at TILBURG. Trg; Entertainments; Band to TURNHOUT to play with Div Massed Bands. Harbour Party leaves for HUESDEN 2773.	
	Mar 6	1415 1930	Bn leaves TILBURG. Bn arrives at HUESDEN 2773 (M.T. Move). Bn HQ at 279733.	
	Mar 7	1000	Bn at HUESDEN. COs Conference. Training Programme and Adm Programme.	
	Mar 8		Bn at HUESDEN. Trg - Coy and Pl Trg.	
	Mar 9		Bn at HUESDEN. Coy Trg - Night Exercise.	
	Mar 10		Bn at HUESDEN. Coy Trg - Night Exercise.	
	Mar 11		Bn at HUESDEN. Training. L.C.T. for training - loading and unloading. Assault Boat Practice - loading and unloading.	
	Mar 12	1730	Bn at HUESDEN. Recce for Exercise BUFFALO area STEIN. Band plays Retreat outside Bn HQ. Assault Boat and Landing Craft practice. C.O. holds G.1098 Stores check.	
	Mar 13	1200 1720	Bn at HUESDEN. Bde Comd visits Bn HQ. Coys Training - Assault Boat. Landing Craft. Veh Loading. Band plays Retreat in 'A' Coys area. Adm Instr No. 1 issued.	See Appx No. G.17

			46 (H) Inf Bde Adm 9 Op TORCHLIGHT issued.	" " " H.20
	Mar 14		Bn at HUESDEN. CO; 2 i/c and Coy Comds on day Ex BUFFALO. IO and one sec man OPs area STEIN Ex BUFFALO.	
	Mar 15		Bn at HUESDEN. CO; 2 i/c and Coy Comds on Ex BUFFALO - Night Ex.	
	Mar 16		Bn at HUESDEN. Coy Trg. 46 (H) Inf Bde outline plan for Op TORCHLIGHT issued with trace	See Appx E. 7
	Mar 17		Bn at HUESDEN. Coy Trg. Appx 'A' veh priority list in conjunction with 46 (H) Inf Bde outline plan issued.	See Appx E. 8
	Mar 18		Bn at HUESDEN. Coy Trg. 46 Bde Adm Instr No. 10 issued.	See Appx H. 21
	Mar 19	1100 1130	Bn at HUESDEN. Harbour Party moves. COs Conference. Coy Comds briefed in plan Op TORCHLIGHT. Traces for Div lay-out Op TORCHLIGHT issued. Inter-Bn football match 7 Seaforth V 2 Seaforth at 5 Seaforth area. 7 Seaforth won 1-0. Three Bn Bands play Retreat.	See Appx J. 25.
	Mar 20		Bn at HUESDEN. 46 (H) Inf Bde Adm Order No. 20. 44 Bde RTR Op Instr No. 1 Op PLUNDER received. 9 Cams OO No. 4 received. 7 Seaforth Adm Instr No. 2 issued.	See Appx H. 22. See Appx E. 10. See Appx E. 9. See Appx G. 18.
	Mar 21	1900	Bn at HUESDEN. 7 Seaforth Adm Instr No. 3 issued. 7 Seaforth Mov Order No. 27 issued. Bn leaves HUESDEN (M.T. Move) for Marshalling Area. See Mov Table d/21 Mar 45. 46 (H) Inf Bde Op Instr No. 28 Draft.	See Appx G. 19. See Appx D. 3. See Appx E.12. See Appx E. 11.
	Mar 22	0300 1430 1640	Bn arrives at Marshalling Area WOODS 035398. Bn under Bivouacs. Bde Comd talks to all Offrs on Op TORCHLIGHT. CO to Bde. 46 (H) Bde Mov Instr No. 21 and Op Instr No. 28 received.	See Appx D. 4. See Appx E. 13 & 14.
	Mar 23	1430	Bn in Marshalling Area preparing for forthcoming operations. Op TORCHLIGHT D-day brought forward 24 hours. COs co-ordinating Conference. 7 Seaforth Op Instr No. 1 issued.	See Appx D. 6 See appx D. 5
	Mar 24	0100 0600 0630	Marching Tps leave Marshalling Area and proceed to storm boat area near RHINE at LUTTINGEN. Marching Tps leave Marshalling Area and proceed to Storm Boat Waiting Area near River at LUTTINGEN. The march down was uneventful. Tps leave S.B.W.A. for River. First boat reaches far bank. The storm boats brought the troops across with unbroken regularity and by 0715 hrs the Coys	

			<p>reported "All Across" and were in posn along the Bund as follows:- Bn HQ 135435; A Coy 137437; B Coy 135433; C Coy 134437; D Coy 135434.</p> <p>1000 Vehs started arriving on East Bank crossing on Class 9 Rafts. A Coy adv along Bund towards Treudtekath - Enemy contacted and prisoners taken. Spandau posts along Bund cleared.</p> <p>1100 A Coy in Treudtekath. 46 PW, 2 Bn. 1052 Regt, 84 Div.</p> <p>1145 Bn moves fwd along Bund. A Coy now at Wolffskath. 4 PW, 21 Regt, 7 Para Div.</p> <p>1300 Coys mounted on tanks adv to MEHR against light opposition. Enemy now holding posns in front of Br. 135494. Br believed blown when airborne tps passed over.</p> <p>1620 Coys in MEHR and house clearing. Enemy shelling MEHR. Coys consolidating in MEHR. Patrols going fwd to investigate Br. Rd to Averforth covered by Spandau fire. Bn posns at last light were: Tac HQ Rd Junc 125486; A Coy 127493; B Coy 128488; C Coy 150488; D Coy 147487; Cas 3 Offrs; 18 ORs.</p>	
	25 Mar	<p>1200 Enemy reported infiltrating in 'C' Coy area from wooded area near Br.</p> <p>0100 Spandau and small arms fire at close range from right and fwd of 'C' Coy.</p> <p>0200 C Coy report Right Pl pinned - Left Pl partly surrounded, probably by parties of enemy who have infiltrated. B Coy fired on from their front. C Coy fwd Pl out of contact and HQ attacked by number of enemy with bazookas. Enemy approx two Pls strong coming down rd from house to house.</p> <p>0300/ D Coy report having withdrawn left Pl and that enemy had 0330 infiltrated that posn. DF task brought down on C Coys posn. Mediums engage woods.</p> <p>0500/ Position being restored. Enemy withdrawing. Cas inflicted on 0600 both sides.</p> <p>0700 Enemy cleared from village and Coys regroup taking up posn again. Carrier Section in Bldgs at 132487.</p> <p>0715 C.O. 9 Cams at Bn HQ.</p> <p>0810 Bde Comd; CO 2 G.H. and CO 190 Fd Regt at Bn HQ.</p> <p>0900/ OPs set up and report enemy MG 136485 - 4 men 137487 - enemy 1100 digging 140490.</p> <p>Two enemy posts area of embankment of lake. SP on Track 137494.</p> <p>1200 A Coy report many enemy in edge of wood 133493. During afternoon 2 Glas H cleared wood East of lake 1348.</p>		

		2100	D Coy report having contacted friends on right. Br blown. 9 PW taken.	
		2230	B Coy patrol going out to BELLINGHOVEN.	
		2250	Warning Order from Bde. Two Coys from 10 HLI will take over areas 130493 and AVERFROTH 126493. Total POW for day 55. <u>Cas</u> : 1 Offr; 21 ORs.	
	26 Mar	0230	COs 'O' Group. Bn to march to contact at 0600 hrs. Move off from Coy lines. Present posns taken over by 10 HLI. As br is blown only marching tps will move this way, but vehs under 2 i/c to take circuitous route via WOLFSKATH and on to 44 Bde route coming round SOUTH of lake and woods.	See Appx No. E. 15.
		0615	As leading Coy reach br enemy shelled area heavily for a time, but Coys crossed connecting stream by trees laid across. Enemy MG posts made movement difficult and for a time had our leading tps pinned but eventually fwd secs reached 139497 and B Coy into N tip of wood 144497. Brig Comd saw C.O.	
		1000	46 (H) Inf Bde Op Instr No. 29 issued.	
		1000	CO held O Group 139494. A Coy to take KOPRIANNSHOF 141503. B Coy area 146502; C Coy area Houses 150497; D Coy in res. During the adv of Coys WASP and CROC flame throwers were used to great effect on houses and woods; and prisoners soon began coming in, some of them having sampled the flame thrower. The Coys reached their objectives after some keen exchanges. Cas were inflicted on both sides and PW amounted to approx 60. PWs were all from 7 Para Div. At Dusk the Coys held the following posn; Bn HQ 139494; A Coy 140499; B Coy 144502; C Coy 150498; D Coy 149497. <u>Cas</u> : 2 Offrs; 38 ORs.	
		1130		
	27 Mar	1000	CO on recce area 161502 and area of wood.	See Appx E. 16.
		1215	COs O Group wood 160503. Bn moves to area of wood 160503. HQ Tac 163501; A Coy 155505; B Coy 158503; C Coy 162503; D Coy 159507. Bn in Bde Res to Bde doing left flank protection.	
		1600	All Coys in posn. Area quiet except for occasional MG fire and shelling.	
		2030	CO to Bde O Gp. 46 Bde OO issued. <u>Cas</u> : 1 OR.	
	28 Mar	0600	CO makes recce of area of forthcoming op from corner of wood excl 169509. Bn to clear all enemy from woods 162514 and area WEST to CLASENHOF.	
		0800	Bn 'O' Gp in WOOD 169508.	
		0900	A & D Coys begin adv.	
		0915	A Coy going well and already are sending PW back.	
		0925	21 PW (Pnr Bn 7 Para Div).	

		0930 B Coy moving fwd. 0940 A Coy on objective WOODS 162514. 0945 D Coy clearing house and farm SPIKATH and progressing well. 11 POW. 1000 A & D Coys well in posn. 1015 B Coy consolidates. 1020 All objectives taken. C Coy were not used as B Coy went ahead and contacted 9 Cams at CHASENHOF. Bn posns HQ 158154; A Coy WOOD 163515; B Coy DICKHOF 155317; D Coy 157514. Total PW for Op - 51. Apart from the PW taken it seems as though the enemy had pulled out in a hurry leaving small rearguards who gave themselves up as we advanced with the crocodile flame throwers. 1400 Bn holding posns while 2 A & S.H. and 10 HLI pass through to clear Woods N of posns. 1530 Bn moves up to area Woods 1552. Bn HQ Area X Tracks 153419. Coys in wood, 1452. 1645 The area is quiet - no shelling - enemy pulled out. <u>Cas</u> : 6 ORs.	
	29 Mar	Bn in area Wood 1452. Nothing to report.	
	30 Mar	Bn in area Wood 1452. Recce party to area WERTHERBUCK 1455.	
	31 Mar	Bn moves to new area WERTHBUICK 167553. Clearing area of enemy equipt and general maintenance.	