

WAR DIARYIN LIEU OF A.F. C 2118Unit 399 Coy RASC (Infantry Brigade)Month & Year April 45Commanding Officer:- Major D.T. Russell

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
The Field	1		Company moved to area MR 2144 Map Q1 Germany 1,100,000 which was the first move of the Coy as a main body over the RHINE. A total of 67 loads POL and FTF had to be ferried forward and this was not accomplished until the following day. The Pln of Vehs engaged on Third Line Lift carried forward Bridging Equipment. P.P. in Coy location issued 15569 galls MT 80.	Appx. 1. DR
	2		1 Pln still engaged on Corps Lift - Bridging Equipment. 10 x 3 Ton Vehs collected Rfts from 106 CRC, TWISTENDEN. P.P. issued 14609 galls NT 80.	DR
	3		1 Pln still engaged on Corps Lift - Bridging Equipment. Dvr Hatton C. i/c WD Veh No L 772775 absent without leave. 11 x 3 Ton Vehs POL from 118 FMC. P.P. issued 16951 galls MT 80.	DR
	4		1 Pin engaged on Corps Lift -Bridging Equipment. The system of Bde Maintenance trains was inaugurated in order that Bdes could be self maintained during the preliminary moves across Germany. 17 x 3 Ton Vehs, loaded POL, moved in maintenance support of 227 Bde and subsequently on 6 April returned to parental control. P.P. issued 14612 galls of MT 80.	DR
	5		Coy moved forward to new location at MR 763891 leaving old location at 1230 hrs. Detached Pln rejoined unit. P.P. issued 11012 galls MT 80.	Appx. 1. DR
	6		P.P. issued 46508 galls MT 80.	DR
The Field	7		Coy moved to new location MR 392155 Sheets 2 7 3 Germany 1/100,000 in support of 15 (S) Div. 19 x 3 Ton Vehs carrying POL formed maintenance teams - 4 with 46 Bde and 15 with 227 Bde. P.P. issued 36967 galls MT 80.	1. DR
	8		P.P. issued 46539 galls MT 80	DR

		<p>Recce Party again went fwd but proposed new Coy area was still not clear of the enemy. An alternative was selected M.R. 680649.</p> <p>17 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 63 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 13135 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
The Field	16.	<p>Coy moved forward to area ESCHEDE MR 6862 leaving present location at 0900 hrs.</p> <p>Frequent moves have been found to interfere greatly with the prosecution of a smooth wksps repair and maintenance programme and therefore the Coy wksps have invariably been allowed to proceed independently in order that urgent repairs can be completed.</p> <p>The tremendous amount of fwd traffic on the main axis made it necessary for the Coy to move by sections of not more than 6 vehs on this move.</p> <p>64 loads POL were ferried fwd.</p> <p>It was reported that three Enemy Battle Gps were at large in the 15 (S) Div area and special defence had to be set up although the manpower problem since the re-organisation of the RASC made it very difficult.</p> <p>17 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 11718 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>DR</p> <p>DR</p>
	17.	<p>19 x 3 ton vehs collected POL from 64 FMC at CELLE.</p> <p>P.P. issued 14175 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	18.	<p>15 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>3 x 3 ton Vehs collected FTF from 64 FMC</p> <p>3 x 3 ton vehs collected AMN with 62 Coy RASC.</p> <p>PP issued 11421 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	19.	<p>4 x 3 ton Vehs loaded POL proceeded to 227 Bde.</p> <p>5 x 3 ton vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 12834 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	20.	<p>Coy moved to area REINSTORF Maps GERMANY M.5. Original destination of the Coy was given as HESEBECK M.R. 9399 on arrival was found to be occupied by 5th Division.</p>	1.

The Field		<p>It was known that 15 (S) Div was likely to be static for some few days while the build up for the crossing of the ELBE took place and an intensive maintenance programme for vehs was arranged.</p> <p>5 x 3 ton Vehs were employed conveying personnel to Div Battle School.</p> <p>3 x 3 ton Vehs were employed conveying U.K. leave personnel.</p> <p>33 x 3 Ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 9279 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	21.	PP issued 9814½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR
	22.	<p>30 x 3 ton Vehs were engaged on Corps Flog lifting commodities fwd from 12 ARH. to 64 FMC a Total turn-round of approx 500 miles.</p> <p>16 x 3 ton vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 24327½ Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	23.	<p>Owing to the general shortage of transport for commitments on hand a Pl of mixed 15 (S) Div first line vehs was formed and operated under an Officer of this Coy on third line "Flogs".</p> <p>19 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 14436 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	24.	<p>30 x 3 ton Vehs returned to Coy location from Corps Flog.</p> <p>19 x 3 ton vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 16164 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	25.	<p>19 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>PP. issued 15849 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
The Field.	26.	<p>Throughout this month no move could be made without ferrying commodities and Veh mileage has been very high. Further, third line lifts when fwd Divisional movement is temporarily halted gives little time for veh maintenance to be brought up to scratch, and the stamina of Drivers is fully tried. Accidents have not been unduly high despite bad road conditions.</p> <p>18 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 64 FMC.</p> <p>6 x 3 ton Vehs collected Sups with 283 Coy RASC.</p> <p>3 x 3 ton Vehs collected AMN with 62 Coy RASC.</p>	DR

		PP issued 15,279½ Gals M.T. 80.	
	27.	<p>By today the following quantities of PET have been dumped at ECHEM M.R. 8630 for ferrying across the ELBE as the ferry is opened.</p> <p>For 15 (S) Div 15000 Gals Pet. 23 DUKW loads.</p> <p>For Staffs Yeo. 1800 Gals Pet.</p> <p>In addition three Pls less 14 DUKWS of 297 Coy have been pre-loaded with SUPS, PET and AMN ready for ferrying across. PET involved - 15000 gals POL. Pack.</p> <p>A guard of 1 NCO and 6 ORs of this Coy was employed at ECHEM together with a detachment of Comp. Pl for the supervision of DUKW loading.</p> <p>32 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 65 FMC.</p> <p>2 x 3 ton Vehs conveyed personnel on U. K. Leave</p> <p>PP issued 31,824 Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
	28.	<p>Normal maintenance continued for all units of 15 (S) Div.</p> <p>20 x 3 ton Vehs collected POL from 65 FMC.</p> <p>PP issued 28534½ Gals M.T. 80.</p>	DR
The Field			DR
	29.	<p>Assault Troops of 15 (S) Div crossed the ELBE. A DUKW ferry also began to operate today and a DID of SUPS and POL was established by Capt. BOORMAN of 283 Coy RASC in the area of LAUENBURG. All Units North of the ELBE drew from this point wef D + 1 while units still SOUTH of the river drew from RASC Coy locations. A Sec of Pioneers was allotted to the NORTH Bank dump and 2 Secs to the SOUTH Bank dump until late D Day when an additional section moved over the river.</p> <p>15,000 gals POL were ferried across the river.</p> <p>Lt. PLOWRIGHT of this Coy formed part of RECCE party which crossed the ELBE today to establish DUKW dump on N. bank of the river and subsequent RASC locations.</p>	DR
	30.	<p>Coy left location at 2230 hrs to cross the ELBE by night and move into area 878355 LAUENBURG.</p> <p>Coy was already on the move when instructions were received cancelling the move owing to the Class 40 Bridge not being available for further traffic until the following morning. Coy actually crossed the ELBE at 0830 hrs 1 May 45.</p> <p>First PP on North Bank of the river was opened at the DUKW Dump.</p>	DR