

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 279, Field Coy. R.E.

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year AUGUST

Commanding Officer Maj.P.T. WOOD M.C.R.E.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
La TRINGALE	1	0900 0930  1900 1930 1950	No.2 & 3 Plns off to complete their tasks. Change of Comd in Plns affected due to Cas of Lt. McNaught. Subalterns posted as follows:- O.C. 1 Pln - Lt. P. du Vivier.    O.C. 2 Pln - Lt. K.W. Bennett. O.C. 3 Pln - Lt. C.E. Scanlon.    R.O.1. - Lt. NGW Haines. 1 Pln return. 2 Pln return. 3 Pln return. A day of gruelling tedious work in constructing & marking tank tracks & wheel tracks. Several scattered minefields & booby trapped locns checked & mkd. Day started off very misty but improved into brilliant sunshine towards midday. Several large calibre enemy shells landed in Coy harbour area, one landed within 12 yds of Coy Office. No Cas.	
HERVIEUX	2	0900 1700 1730 1810 1930 2100	Plns out to continue improving & marking tracks & rds. 3 Pln return. 2 Pln return. 1 Pln return. Coy move to new harbour area. Coy arrive at new locn 693547. Another tiring day on rds and tracks in broiling sunshine.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	3	0800 0900 1700	Visited by C.R.E. Plns out on rd Maintenance All Plns back at Coy harbour. Brilliant sunshine all day.	
	4	0810 1400 1700 1800 2350	Visited by C.R.E. Recce party off to find new harbour area in new locality. Recce party return having found Harbour Area at 687467. Plns move off to new area. Lt. BOARDMAN arrived as reinforcement to replace Lt. MacNaught.	
	5	0300 1100	Movement order arrives. Coy HQ left harbour.	PT Wood Major R.E.

LE BRESSI		1240	Arrive new harbour area. Very hot all day.	O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	6	1140 1515 1520 1720 2040	2 pln off to MONTCHARIVEL to improve rd. Lt. Haines off to recce new harbour area in 7044 area. 2 Pln return. 7 Reinforcements arrived. O.C. off to Bde at 776424. 3 pln off to Bde at 776424.	
	7	0715 0750 1000 1400 2215 2235 2240 2350	Lt. Haines off to Bde for Route Recce Lt. Boardman with Stella Pump & Water Supply Equipment off to M.R. 724434 where 3 Pln are to open and maintain Water point. Lt. Boardman returns after delivering Water Supply Equipment to 3 Pln. Lt. Haines returns having completed his job. C.R.E. arrives and gives orders for 1 & 2 Plns to join 3 Pln. Message received from 3 Pln confirming C.R.E.s order 1 & 2 Plns move off to join 3 Pln. 1 & 2 Plns arrive at 3 Pln locn.	44(L) Inf.Bde Op Instn 3 dtd. 7 Aug. (1)  PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
LENAUDIÈRE	8	0645 0700 0740 0805 1030 1100 1145 1220	1 Pln completed their task which was a tank track from S of Montchamp to Estry the last ½ mile being in front of our FDLs. 2 Pln completed tank track from S of Montchamp to Estry experienced heavy mortar fire but no Cas. 1 Pln return. 2 Pln return. Orders received to move remainder of Coy to 3 Pln area. Visit by C.R.E. Move off to new area. Arrive new locn 738429.	
	9		Quiet day. 150 men managed to get to St Martin to see the pictures. Hot sun all day. O.C. returned from Bde at 1230 hrs.	
	10	0500 0505 0830 1500 1520 2100	1 Sec of No.1 Pln off in sp of 8 R.S. Lt. Haines and Recce party off to 8 R.S. O.C. off to Bde. 1 Sec of 1 Pln return. Lt. Haines returns. 3 Reinforcements arrive. Brilliant sunshine all day.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	11	1030 1110 1210 1300 1320	O.C. returns. O.C. to Bde. Orders recd. to despatch Recce party & No.1 Pln to join 8 R.S. at M.R. 735394. Orders recd. to remove remainder of Coy to MONTCHAMP area. Lt. Haines off to marry up with 8 R.S. Lt. Boardman off to recce new harbour	

MONTCHAMP		1400 1430 1510 1600 1830	No.1 Pln off to marry up with 8 R.S. Remainder of Coy moved off. Coy arrived at new locn 713406. Visited by C.R.E. No. 1 Pln & Lt. Haines return from 8 R.S.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	12		Very quiet day. No.2 Pln occupied in burying dead animals in the MONTCHAMP area.	
	13	2245	Movement orders recd.	
LES CRIQUETS	14	0500 0900 0930 1000 1230	No.2 Pln move off to new locn. No.1 Pln moved off to new locn. No.3 Pln " " " " " Coy HQ " " " " " Coy arrive at new locn 963594.	
	15	0800 1000 1030 2200	Lt. Boardman off to recce R ORNE for Bridge site for Cl. 9 F.B.E. Site found at 984577. Gap 200', approaches poor due to site having been heavily bombed and shelled. 1 Pln commence work on East bank approaches. 3 Pln " " " West " " Bridge opened for traffic.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	16.	1705	Visited by Comd. 15(S) Div. Brig. Barber.	
	17.		Very hot day.	
	18	1225 1330	Coy move off to new harbour area Coy arrive at new harbour 990487.	
ESPINS	19	2035	R.E. O.O. No. recd.	R.E. 15(S)Div O.O. No.5 (2)
	20	0600 0900 1340 1800	Coy at 1 hrs notice to move. O.C. to Bde "O" Group No.1 Pln off to marry up with 8 R.S. No. 1 Pln return. Op cancelled.	44(L) Bde No. (3)
GLATIGNY	21	0930 1030 1430	Coy move off to new harbour. Coy arrive at new harbour area 120406. No.2 & 3 Pln out to mark & improve tank track from FALAISE to TRUN.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
	22	2330	Work continued on tank track. Orders recd for Op Gallop.	R.E. 15(S)Div Op.Instn 10. (4)
LA HOGUETTE	23	1500 1630 1915 2130	Coy move off to new locn to marry up with 15 Recce Regt. Arrived new location 174349 O.C. to "O" group at HQ Recce. Coy O Group. 3 Pln placed under Comd C Sqn. Remainder of Coy under Comd A Sqn. Distribution of bridging & stores as per 15(S) Div Op Instn.	

		2140	3 Pln off to marry up with C Sqdn.	
FRESNAY LE SAMSON	24	0725 1800 2220	Move off on Op GALLOP. Bridging Pln left. Rds forward to harbour area choked Coy pulled off road & harboured 494598.	
ROMILLY LA PUTHENAYE	25	0630 1100  1105 1700 1730 2145 2240	Left harbour & moved along MOON in search of A Sqdn Recce. Recd Information that A Sqdn Recce harboured at LES ANTHIEUX 9870. Set off in pursuit. Despatched M.T. truck to BOGLIE to get 500 gals of petrol. Coy arrive at harbour area 982692. M.T. truck arrives. Recd orders to take over Bailey Br at ORVILLE from CANADIANS. 2 Secs of 2 Pln despatched to take over ORVILLE Br.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
SCANDENVILLE LE CAMPAGNE	26	0030 0630 0830 0830 0910 1010 1020 1100  1130  1220 1230 1300 1530 1645	Orders recd to open water pt by 0900 hrs. 1 Sec of 1 Pln off to construct water pt at 930764 Water pt est. Lt Haines off to 44 Bde. Lt. du Vivier off to H.Q.R.E. as L.O. Lt. Boardman returns. Orders recd to clear rd block at 010799 2 Secs of 1 Pln under L/Sjt Boyle despatched to clear rd block. Lt. Boardman sent off on harbour recce ref RE Move order attached. 1 Sec 1 Pln under Lt. du Vivier off to dismantle 20' br at BERNAY & replace with culvert. Lt. Boardman returns having found harbour at 983809 L/Sjt Boyle with 2 Secs 1 Pln return Lt. Bennett & 2 Secs 2 Pln return. Coy left harbour and proceeded to new harbour. Arrived new harbour 983809	(5)  PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.
LOUVIERS	27	1050 1110 1400  1405 1410 1430 1620  1625 1800 1810 1900	Orders recd to move to new harbour area. Lt. Haines despatched to recce new area. Orders recd over the air to cancel move, and send officer rep to HQRE. Coy to move to Rd. junc 137890. Lt. Boardman off to HQRE. Lt. Haines returned from recce having left guard on new harbour. Coy move off. Intend to pick up harbour guard on route. Arrived at rd. junc 208884, met Lt. Boardman who had orders from C.R.E. as attached. O.C. off to Bde. Orders recd to move immediately to 252926. Coy moved off followed by 2 F.B.E. Secs under comd Coy arrived at harbour.	PT Wood Major R.E. O.C. 279th Field Company R.E.  (6)

		2000	Coy "O" group, Verbal. No.1 Pln to row 1st wave of Inf across river. Then assist in ferrying. No.2 & 3 Pln build Class 9 Shore loading raft. Then ferry.	
		2010	O.C., Pln Comds, Pln Sgts, Pln L/Sgts & Lt. Haines proceed to R. SEINE to look at site.	PT Wood Major R.E.
		2145	Plns move off to br site at PORTJOIE	O.C. 279th Field Company
		2345	No.1 Pln row leading tps of 44 Bde across R. SEINE.	R.E.
	28	0015	2 & 3 Plns commence building rafts.	
		0720	First Veh of Bde across. Torrential rain with resultant slippery conditions, held up work. 3 O.R.s wounded by M.G. bullets.	
		1400	Rafting taken over by Corps Tps with Close Support Raft.	
		1410	No.2 Pln commenced dismantling F.B.E. Ferry.	
		1900	Recd orders from Bde to be prepared to move forward by 2000 hrs.	
		2000	Dismantling of ferry completed.	
		2220	Recd orders from Bde via Lt. Haines to move forward to 286903 area at 2255	
		2255	Coy moved off to new area.	
		2359	Coy crossed R. SEINE by Bailey Br. at St. PIERRE DU VAUNRAY 267906	
ANDE	29	0015	Coy arrived in new harbour area 286903	PT Wood Major R.E.
		0630	Lt. Boardman out to recce with 8 R.S.	O.C. 279th Field Company
		0830	No.2 Pln off to set up water point.	R.E.
		1400	Water point established at <del>VATTEVILLE</del> DAUBEUF 326941	
		2000	New allotment of R.E. tasks recd.	O11 (7)
	30	0800	No.3 Pln take over DUKW crossing at PORTEJOIE. No.1 Pln take over Close sp rafting. No.2 Pln open & maintain rd.	