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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 399 Coy RASC (Inf Bde)

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Commanding Officer MAJOR D.T. RUSSELL

Month and Year March 45.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
The Field	1		'B' Platoon joined Coy arriving at 1030 hrs from ZEELAND where it has been standing by with a view to lifting 25 Pdr for Div R.A. which expected to be employed with another formation. However, it was not required. P.P. in Coy location issued 10,030 Gals M.T. 80.	DR
The Field			A comprehensive overhaul of all task vehs was very necessary after the extraordinary heavy work of the past three weeks and it was decided that 3 days should be allotted to each transport Pl, commencing with 'A' Pl for extensive vehicle maintenance and that each Pl should send its vehs into Wksps by sections during the 3 day maintenance period allotted. It was also decided that as far as possible vehs should be repainted during the Div rest period. It will be seen that during the 3 days maintenance period, one tpt Pl would have to carry out the Tpt details for the Coy and vice versa. This maintenance plan was complicated by the innovation of Short Leave to BRUSSELS for all ranks and it was felt that the full quota of vacancies allotted to this Coy could not be accepted at least until the maintenance programme was completed. Accordingly a reduced quota was accepted with the proviso that this would be increased when possible.	DR
	2.		P.P. in Coy location Issued 11704 Gals M.T. 80.	DR
The Field	3.		'A' Pl completed its 3 day maintenance period but only 3 Sections had passed through Wksps i.e. 1 Sect per day. 'B' Pl would commence its 3 day period on 4 Mar irrespective of this and the remainder of 'A' Pl would be "operated" upon as a part of the normal daily programme. P.P. in Coy location issued 6525 Gals M.T. 80. Strength of Unit on this day 9 Offrs & 261 ORs.	DR A.F.W. 3008 & 9.

The Field	4.	E. & M.E. Instructions directed that mechanically propelled vehs would change over from Winter Grade to Summer Grade Oils. This change over involved the use of H.D.30 instead of H.D.10 and C600 in lieu of Hyp 90. The period 1 - 14 Mar was given for the change over and A.Q. 15(S) Div called for completion certificates as at 13 March 45. P.P. in Coy location issued 8349½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR DR
	5.	P.P. in Coy location issued 5692½ Gals M.T. 80. 10 x 3 ton Vehs were employed collecting BRUSSELS leave personnel from OISTERWEIGH and delivered them to GOIRLE. 10 x 3 ton vehs delivered P.O.L. to 227 Bde at ASHE.	DR
	6.	P.P. in Coy location Issued 20616½ Gals M.T. 80. 30 x 3 ton Vehs employed collecting Coal, Coke & Anthracite from 164 D.I.D. BREDA. 23 x 3 ton Vehs collected P.O.L. from RETHY.	DR
The Field	7.	P.P. in Coy location issued 8347½ Gals M.T. 80. 17 x 3 ton Vehs collected P.O.L. from LOMMEL. Coy was ordered to move to LOMMEL; the Div had moved under comd of 12 Corps. Coy moved by Pls commencing 0845 hrs. 224 tons of coal was handed over to 4 Armd Div to repay a similar amount which had been obtained from them by the Unit on moving into location at BAARLE NASSAU.	DR Appx No2. DR
	8.	P.P. in Coy location Issued 21618 Gals M.T. 80. 31 x 3 ton Vehs collected Coal & Anthracite from 135 D.I.D. EYSDEN. 20 x 3 Vehs collected Coke from AVERBODE.	DR
	9.	P.P. in Coy location issued 15291 Gals M.T. 80. 27 x 3 ton Vehs collected P.O.L. from LOMMEL.	DR
The Field	10.	Strength of Unit this day 9 Offrs & 259 ORs. P.P. Issued 8676 Gals M.T. 80.	3008/9. DR
	11.	P.P. issued 7389 Gals M.T. 80. 16 x 3 ton Vehs collected Coke from AVERBODE.	DR
	12.	P.P. issued 15664½ Gals M.T. 80. 41 x 3 ton Vehs collected Coal from Wilhelmina Colliery Nr. ACHEN. 6 x 3 ton Vehs delivered P.O.L. to 227 Bde. 5 x 3 ton Vehs reported to 10 H.L.I.	DR
	13.	P.P. issued 11918½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR
The Field	14.	P.P. issued 20212 Gals M.T. 80. 6 x 3 ton Vehs delivered P.O.L. to 227 Bde.	DR DR
	15.	P.P. issued 29097 Gals M.T. 80.	

			10 x 3 ton Vehs delivered P.O.L. to 15 Recce Regt.	DR
	16.		P.P. issued 39123 Gals M.T. 80. 4 x 3 ton Vehs of this Coy reported to 62 Coy RASC for Amn detail.	DR
The Field	17.		The preliminary instructions were received this day for the organisation of maintenance in support of 15(S) Div in its assault crossing of the River RHINE. 15(S) Div was about to concentrate on the Bank of the RHINE and the maintenance programme embraced the building up of fwd dumps of Amn, P.O.L. Sups, F.T.F. Lifebelts, Individual Reserve Rations etc, the establishing of a fwd P.P. for the replenishment of Units as they moved fwd & the maintenance of a P.P. in present area. A fwd Dump was to be established at VEEN M.R. 113358 holding a 50,000 Gal P.O.L. Pack. Strength of Unit this day 9 Offrs & 264 ORs. P.P. issued 38,398½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR DR AFW. 3008/9. DR
The Field	18.		25,000 Gals of P.O.L. was transferred by this Coy to the fwd Dump VEEN on 16th March. A further 25,000 Gals was moved to VEEN on this day together with 2,000 Gals F.T.F. light. The Pl which delivered 25,000 Gals P.O.L. on 16th remained in fwd area and was employed from 17 Mar onwards to draw Amn from 10 A.R.H. for the stocking of DUKW Dumps just West of the RHINE. An Extra Ration of Rum was made this day. 15,000 Rds 3" Mortar were collected and conveyed to Fwd Dump. P.P. in Coy location Issued 21064½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR DR
The Field	19.		The replenishment of Bottles, Burners & Spheres for Flame Throwing equipment was delayed owing to the system whereby Higher Authority is required before releases can be obtained. A wireless silence was ordered this day until further notice. Instructions were issued for 20,000 Gals P.O.L. to be collected from Pet Depot, MARHEEZE and conveyed to new Coy location this day. This was also to be repeated on the 20th but transport was inadequate to meet these commitments and 10 x 3 ton vehs were borrowed from 62 Coy R.A.S.C. P.P. in Coy location issued 2830½ Gals M.T. 80.	DR DR
	20.		Coy moved from area LOMMEL to LULLINGER M.R. 9627. 2 days SUPS were drawn by this Coy this day. The Tpt Pl operating in the fwd Area was engaged in the collection of 25 Pdr for Fwd Dump. The Amn Dump was entirely under the Comd of 55 F.M.A.S. which had been brought under Comd of 15(S) Div R.A.S.C. for the current operation.	Appx No3.

The Field			Sups & Pet at fwd Dump were formed into a small DID and all releases of Amn, Pet & Sups were in DUKW loads controlled by HQ, RASC. P.P. in Coy location issued	DR
	21.		On this day 24 Vehs were again engaged on the collection of Amn for Fwd Dump whilst Tpt from Coy location was engaged in the collection of Life Buoy Spheres, Batteries, Burners and WASP Cylinders to be delivered to DUKW Dump.	DR
	22.		A 20 x 3 ton Veh troop lift was carried out on the 22nd. Transport reported at 0600 hrs but did not move until late afternoon. 4 Armd and 31 Tank Bdes were brought under Div Comd and a dump of POL formed in fwd area by this Coy. No. 116 Pioneer Corps, attached to 55 FMAS was found to be a great help in the man-handling of all products.	DR
	23.		First pre loading of DUKWs was carried out this day at DUKW dump and it was estimated that the DUKW ferry would be opened by 1600 hrs on D Day	DR
	24.		6 x 3 ton Veh, 1 Water truck and 1 B/down reported to fwd dump for duty on the East bank of the RHINE. A Comp Pl NCO Cpl. Holmes also crossed for duty at the newly established East Bank Dump.	DR
	25.		It was reported that 6 x 3 ton Vehs which had been detached to 624 Fd Park Coy since the 22nd were the first Div RASC vehicles to cross the RHINE. The crossing was made at 0800 hrs on the 24th March Sub-normal maintenance was carried out until 29 March 45.	DR
The Field.	29.		Throughout the 29 Mar Coy Transport was engaged on clearing VEEN dump of POL which was brought to Coy location preparatory to being taken fwd over the RHINE to a P.P. established at M.R. 135434. F.T.F. from VEEN dump together with Batteries and Burners from O.F.P. were also delivered to fwd PP. Spare vehs were employed on clearing Amn from VEEN dump to the EAST BANK. Coy moved to SONSBECK M.R. 0535 and crossed the RHINE.	DR Appx No4.
	30		PP in Coy loc issued 2358 15133 gals MT 80. Unit Vehs were employed collecting 71 loads POL.	DR
	31		PP in Coy loc issued 20353 gals MT 80.	