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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 153 (Br) Fd Amb

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year APRIL 1945

Commanding Officer Lt Col CBR POLLOCK

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
HOVEL	1.	1200	UNIT COMPLETE AT HOVELMANSHOF. ADS open 2 i/c Major McCallum left on U.K. leave. B.C. 6 Sick 1. Evac 23	
	2		Warning Order received to move B.C. 3 sick 18 evacuation 9	
	3		No change. B.C. 3 sick 7 evac 9 held 6	
	4.		Moved in convoy to EMSDETTEN. 1 sec attached to rear Bn re-united at night. No active operations. B.C. 0. sick 2 evac 2 held 6.	
	5.		Battalions ordered to sweep wooded area W of OSNABRUCK believed to contain enemy. Recce parties sent ahead by main rd to secure billets. One section accompanied each Battalion. No opposition. Billeted in deserted German AA Camp at LOTTE Sick 2 Evac 2 Held 6 Three were minor sick and were carried forward.	
	6		Capt Walters relieves Capt Dallow 102 A/T Battery on leave. Unit moved in Brigade convoy. Opened at SAPELLOH. Brigade resting. B.C. 0 sick 1.	
	7.		A number of sick D.P.'s were seen & assisted. At 16:30 B Coy was fired on. Capt Collihole RASC organised a counter attack. Thirteen German O.R.'s one Feldwebel & 1 M.O. were taken prisoner with three spandaus & other arms. B.C. 0 sick 0	
	8		B.C. 0 sick 5 PW 1 evac 11 held 4	
	9		B.C. 0 sick 4 evac 4 RTU 1 held 3	
	10		Unit move to WUNSDORF. B.C. 0 sick 0 held 9.	
	11.		One section attached to each Battalion. Brigade group advanced to attack & capture CELLE. ADS closed & followed in rear of Bde Group & acted as Motor Amb Relay Post. Scots Guards Armoured Regt in support. Move delayed by demolitions	

			& sniping from the forest through which the road runs. Two Bulldozers destroyed by Panzer faust rockets. Brigade Group harboured on the road overnight. Guards entered CELLE during the night.	
	12.		C.O. reced CELLE. Proved to contain about 1800 wounded German soldiers. Also 140 political persons were located in an improvised concentration. These were moved under arrangements made by ADMS 15 (S). One section was detailed to supervise their treatment. ADS opened in a hotel in SCHUHSTRASSE Sections remain attd to Battalions.	
	13		Brigade group advanced to attack UELZEN. Delay imposed by demolitions containing time bombs which exposed RE working parties. B.C. 13 sick 15 PW 1	
	14		During the night Brigade left the main road at SCHELPLAN and swung West, North & North East on fast tracks. The enemy was taken completely by surprise & a large number of P.W. taken. The main road was rejoined at HOLDERSTEDT. This place was strongly held. A brief battle ensued & the Brigade Group suffered forty casualties. The three sections amalgamated to form a C.C.P. in a potato shed just outside Holderstedt. Evacuation to the rear was impossible as the forest track was one-way. Several German houses were taken in HOLXEN village one mile to the rear. Here casualties were held after treatment at CCP. A section of 194 Fd Amb was sent by ADMS to help by looking after these cases. Six Abdominals were sent through the forest on Jeeps. B.C. 42 sick 14 PW 6	
	15		No change in unit locations. 193 Fd Amb opened on main road at SCHELPLAN between the front & 153 ADS. B.C. 3 sick 3 P.W. 17 Transfd BC 43 sick 7 Evac 74 R.T.U. 3	
	16.		2i/c returns from U.K. leave	
Field	17	1400	HQ & A Coy proceed to SCHLOSS HOLDENSTEDT 874848 B Coy established at 861837	
		1730	ADS open	
		1800	Admitted B.C. 2 Sick 6 Evac 8	DMcC
	18		Locations unchanged	
		1800	Admitted BC 54 Sick 19 P.W. 46 Evac 117 Died 2	DMcC
	19	1200	HQ & A Coy locations unchanged	
			B Coy in support 227 Bde	
		1400	One Sect A Coy form car post at BIENENBUTTEL 8509	

			" " " proceed to LUNEBURG where Lt Col Pollock has been appointed SMO of the large group of German & P.W.X. Hospitals in the area. Major D.I. McCallum assumes temp command of the Unit. Large no. of P.W.X. personnel, mainly British liberated by forward troops admitted to ADS in emaciated & poor general condition. Many suffering from dysentery Admitted B.C. 25 Sick 133 P.W. 28 Evacuated 174 Died 1	DMcC
	20	1400	HQ & A Coy move to 802280 to form ADS B Coy at 809297 Capt Walters proceeded on UK leave	DMcC
	21	1200 1830 1800	Car post est in support of 2 A&SH at 886255 The Div is now holding the line of the ELBE from opposite LAUENBURG (8734) to BLECKEDE (0025) by 46 Bde & from AVENDORF 8035 to 8734 by 227 Bde. Plans being formed for an assault crossing of R ELBE ADMS Planning Notes received for guidance. Admitted B.C. 5 Sick 10 P.W. 2 Evacuation is to 33 CCS at LUNEBURG. The hutted camp in which the ADS is now established is an excellent site for the future operation as it is on the road that will eventually be the main axis across the River Elbe. 23 FDS has moved a section into the camp area & will be holding Divisional sick when open.	DMcC App. I DMcC
	22	1500 1800	23 FDS open. No change in locations. Admitted B.C. 3 Sick 9 P.W. 1.	DMcC
	23	1800	No change. Admitted B.C. 1 Sick 7 Evac 11	DMcC
	24	 1800	The Section of A Coy that has been attached to the OC now SMO Lunenburg returns to HQ location. B.C. Nil Sick 9	DMcC
	25	0900 1800	Stretcher Bearer Course (4 days) being run for the three Battalions, so that they may have 100% reserve of bearers with an elementary knowledge of 1st Aid. These men are in rations & accommodation with the Unit. Admitted BC Nil Sick 5.	App II DMcC
	26	 1800	Great care has been taken by forward troops to conceal their presence from the enemy on the high right bank of the River & intelligence summaries indicate that in this they have been very successful. Admitted BC 1 Sick 5 PW Nil	DMcC
	27		No change in locations. 2i/c attends conference at 33 CCS LUNEBURG in which the DDMS of 8 Corps (BRIG MELVIN) together with ADsMS of 15 (S) Div and 11th Armd Div laid down the plan for the forthcoming	

		<p>1630 battle in which the first objective is the crossing of the R. ELBE by 15 (S) Div - 44 Bde assaulting on the left at ARTLENBURG (MR 8334) and 227 following up to secure the left flank to area GRUNHOF (8238) while 1 Commando Brigade (under command) takes LAUENBURG (8734) & 46 Bde follows up & secures the high ground to the North & clears the area up to the line of the ELBE-TRAVE Canal.</p> <p>When the bridgehead has been secured & bridges thrown across the Elbe (Class 40 at ARTLENBURG and Cl 9 at LAUENBURG) 11 Armd Div & 5th Br Div move through the bridgehead with 5th Div on right & 11th Armd on left, the objective being LUBBECK.</p> <p>In the initial stages a Coy of 194 Fd Amb will go over in the assault on the left & a sect of 21 LT. Fd Amb on the right, each to establish a CEP at the L.V.T. unloading point on the far bank. Casualties will be evacuated by L.V.Ts to CDPs on the near bank formed by 14 L.F.A. Casualties from both bridgeheads will be evacuated to this ADS & thence to 33 CCS at LUNEBURG.</p> <p>1800 Admitted BC 2 Sick 9</p>	<p>DMcC</p> <p>DMcC</p>
	28	<p>1000 Conference at 227 Bde HQ re movement of men & vehicles across the River in the follow up.</p> <p>The complete B Coy will cross after the infantry in LVT or storm boat - depending on the success of the assault - & vehicles will be ferried across as follows:</p> <p>a) L.V.T. Ferry - Five Jeeps - 3 high priority b) Raft 5 Humber Amb cars 3 15 cwts</p> <p>1800 Admitted BC Nil Sick 11 B Coy moving in support of 227 Bde H Hour is 0200 hrs 29th</p>	<p>DMcC App. III</p> <p>DMcC</p>
	29	<p>0200 OPERATION ENTERPRISE commences</p> <p>0500 Casualties arriving at ADS in large numbers. The great majority are not heavily wounded.</p> <p>0800 Capt ANDERSON RMO to 1st Mx attached to ADS for the duration of the battle.</p> <p>1100 C.C.P. established by B Coy at 838353.</p> <p>Opposition has been stiff & long range guns - probably on railway at SCHWARZENBEK - have made the landing area most unsatisfactory. Nevertheless the operation is developing according to plan.</p> <p>1500 O.C. returns from duty as SMO LUNEBURG on instructions ADDMS 2 ARMY.</p> <p>1700 Capt AC HICKS of 119 L.A.A. reports to ADS for eight hour tour of duty.</p> <p>1800 In thirteen hours the following numbers have been dealt with:</p>	<p>DMcC</p>

			<p style="text-align: center;">Battle Casualties 195 Sick 21 POW 44 Total 260</p>	DMcC
	30	<p>1800</p> <p>1400</p> <p>1100</p>	<p>The attack is developing well & B Coy CCP is now at 812375 ADS of 194 Fd Amb moves across to JULIUSBURG " " 193 " " " " in DUKWs to LAUENBURG Admitted B.C. 49 Sick 23 P.O.W. 56 Both bridges are now being built & although enemy artillery & Air Force are still doing everything possible to hamper the operation excellent progress is being made. Large convoys - mainly of 11th Armd Div are lining the roads from LUNEBURG to the Class 40 bridge at ARTLENBURG but evacuation of casualties is proceeding smoothly. Major GH PERCY proceeds from B Coy to assume the duties of SMO LUNEBURG temporarily. ADS visited by DDMS 8 Corps & Consultant Surgeon to 2 ARMY.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">D. McCallum Maj. RAMC</p>	DMcC