

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year JUNE 1944

Commanding Officer Major J.H. GILLINGTON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------------------|---------|------|---|--------------------------|
| STORRINGTON | 6 June | | D day. | JG |
| " | 7 June | | Lt K.B. THOMAS and 3 ORs left Unit to form traffic control post in Corps Area. | JG |
| " | 10 June | | Visit from Special Cashier B/85/0. Sterling exchanged for French currency and first requisition of currency made. | JG |
| " | 11 June | | Lt T.J.F. ROBERTS + 2 ORs left as advance pty for unit. | JG |
| " | 14 June | 0700 | Road party of company left for marshalling area prior to embarkation in E London. | JG |
| | | 0800 | Marching party of company left for marshalling camp prior to embarkation at Newhaven. | |
| " | 18 June | 1100 | Road party with vehicles left VICTORIA DOCKS, LONDON. | JG |
| Theatre of | | 1900 | Marching party left NEWHAVEN. | JG |
| Operations | | 1900 | Adv pty of coy arrived NORMANDY. | JG |
| " | 19 June | 1950 | Marching party disembarked NORMANDY. | JG |
| " | 24-25 | June | Road party disembarked NORMANDY | JG |
| Esquay-Sur-Seulles | 26 | 0430 | Coy left harbour at Esquay-Sur-Seulles under Cmd 227 Inf Bde (for movement) for Bde Conc Area. Platoons with min transport affiliated to Bns as follows- 1pl- HLI, 3 pl Gordons, 2 pl reserve travelling with Coy HQ. | JG |
| | | 0615 | Arrived in Bde conc area, Secqueville-en-Bessin. | JG |
| | | 0730 | Platoons (1 & 3) moving with Bns followed 227 Inf Bde attacking troops. | |
| | | 2000 | 3 pl clearing road of debris and checking roads and verges between Cheux and Colleville. | JG |
| | | to | | |
| | | 2300 | | |
| | | 2000 | 1 pl could not carry out any work as HLI could not make progress against enemy tanks. 1 pl dug themselves in at Cheux. | JG |
| | | 1700 | HQ & 2 pl left Secqueville en Bessin conc area moved with Bde to harbour at Le Mesnil Patry. | JG |
| Cheux | | 2345 | 3 pl withdrew to Cheux. During night 26/27, 3 pl suffered eight casualties from GSW. | JG |

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|--|----|--|--|------------------------------|
| N of Cheux Cheux | 27 | 0730 0900 1200 1800 1800 | 2 pl moved to Xrds N of Cheux near Bde tac HQ as Engineer reserve. to 1300. 1 pl made attempts to keep roads in Cheux clear of rubble and debris. Use of bulldozer was resisted because sound of bulldozer working brought down mortar fire. Lt T.J.F. ROBERTS Killed by mortar bomb in Cheux. 3 pl moved fwd to Colleville to maintain route Cheux to Colleville. Harboured at Colleville. Coy HQ moved to harbour halfway between Le Mesnil Patry and Cheux. | JG JG JG JG |
| | 28 | 1500 | During morning 1 pl cleared routes in CHEUX. 2 pl moved fwd to Colleville and took over route maintenance of route excl CHEUX to Bdge at TOURMAUVILLE. 3 pl moved fwd to TOURMAUVILLE and maintained existing bridge and two class 40 crossings made by assault Sqdn RE and sent 2 detachments each 1 NCO and 4 ORs with patrols of Coy strength from the A&SH to hold the two bridges (existing) W of GAVRUS. 2 pl handed over maintenance from COLLEVILLE fwd to 612 Fd Sqn 11 Arm Div. 1 pl handed over maintenance in CHEUX to 70 Army Fd Coy RE. During evening 1 fascine class 40 crossing was abandoned (being unserviceable), the existing bdge at TOURMAUVILLE widened and strengthened by Assault Sqdn & 3 pl. 5 casualties to Coy during day (GSW) | JG JG JG JG |
| COLLEVILLE | 29 | | During evening whole coy (incl HQ) concentrated in COLLEVILLE. Handed over roads and crossings maintenance to 70 Fd Coy and 11 Arm Div RE. During evening coy "stood to" to repel counter attack which had broken through our lines in the TOURMAUVILLE MONDRAINVILLE area. | JG JG JG |
| COLLEVILLE LE MESNIL PATRY | 30 | 1430 2100 | During morning and up to 1400, Coy suffered 1 OR killed 6 wounded (GSW) in COLLEVILLE harbour by enemy shelling. LT C.R. WHITMORE wounded (GSW) while acting as LO at Bde Tac HQ. Coy ordered to take over maintenance of routes SHIP and TRIANGLE from TOURVILLE and LE VALTRU south as necessary. Coy ordered to hand over maintenance SHIP to 43 div and to move to LE MESNIL PATRY. One sec of 1 pl with one bulldozer was left for maintenance of TRIANGLE. Maintenance detachment withdrawn to coy harbour. | JG JG |
| W 3008/9 for June. | | | | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year JULY 1944

Commanding Officer MAJOR J.H. GILLINGTON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-----------------------|------|--------------|--|--------------------------|
| LE MESNIL PATRY | 1 | | Coy in harbour resting checking stores and deficiencies (unit had lost 1 3 tonner & 2 trailers in battle). | JG |
| " | 2 | 1430 1800 | Coy moved further back to Div conc area in SECQUEVILLE-en-BESSIN. Coy rested with odd jobs until 15 July. Cpl & 2 men who had been on patrol with A&SH Bn in GAVRUS area returned. | JG JG |
| SECQUEVILLE-en-BESSIN | 3 | 1000 1800 | 1 pl erected 60,000 gal per day Water point at SECQUEVILLE-en-BESSIN. 3 pl cleared road of rubble in village caused by a shell blowing in a high wall. | JG |
| " | 4 | 1200 | 2 pl took over maintenance of Water point from 1 pl. | JG |
| " | 5 | 1130 | Men had use of mobile bath (very welcome and necessary) | JG |
| " | 6 | 0800 | 3 pl set up water point at BRETTEVILLE L'ORGUEILLEUSE capacity 6,000 gals per day max. They maintained this until dismantled by them on 14 July. | JG |
| SECQUEVILLE-en-BESSIN | 9 | 2200 | OC received orders from CRE that pls would maintain routes in Div area. 2 pl and 1 pl each had 2 sections committed. Little work was entailed. | JG |
| " | 11 | 0900 | 2 pl engaged in digging bunkers for vehicles of Div HQ in proposed fwd location. Again has section on same job on 14 July. | JG |
| " | 13 | | 2 pl engaged in digging bunker for proposed fwd Bde HQ. | |
| " | 14 | | 3 pl had 2 sections blowing craters for burying dead cows in gun area. | JG |
| ST MAUVIEU | | 1730 | Coy complete with all its transport moved to new harbour at ST MAUVIEU to concentrate in Div area for Operation GREENLINE. | JG |
| " | 15 | 1600 1800 | 2 pl in Support 2 GORDONS moved to harbour N of BARON with min transport. Supplied 2 recce parties of 1 NCO and four men to go fwd with leading Coys. Balance of pl dug in behind S/L to be called up if rqd to breach a minefield. 1 pl supplied 4 parties of 4 men to blow in pits for speedy siting of the 4 guns of G troop of 286 ATK Bty. | JG JG |

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| | | 2100 | 3 pl with one D4 bulldozer moved to harbour N of BARON to maintain and keep the road clear of obstacles behind the leading infantry battalions. | JG |
| | | 2145 | Battle started. | JG |
| ST MAUVIEU | 16 | 0200 | 1 pl had blown holes for 2 of the 4 17 pounder ATK guns. 2 guns were K.O. before they were due to move fwd. 1 pl suffered 2 men killed and 6 injured when this happened. Remaining men returned to coy harbour at 0830. | JG |
| | | 0500 | 3 pl had advanced 1200 yds from start line for their work. Could not get any further fwd for heavy shelling and mortaring. Road fwd clear of obstacles. | JG |
| | | 0700 | 3 pl returned to bridge at TOURMAUVILLE and with D4 and D7 dug positions for 227 Inf Bde HQ near Bridge. | JG |
| | | 0830 | 2 pl (less recce pts) returned to coy harbour having suffered 6 casualties through "shell shock" while subject to very heavy mortar fire in their harbour when waiting to go fwd. | JG |
| | | 1300 | 1 recce pty returned having found no mines. The other recce pty returned at 1100 hrs on 17 having been in a dug in position with the 2 GORDONS the previous day and unable to return. They reported no mines in area where they had dug in. | JG |
| ST MAUVIEU | | 1400 | 2 pl called out again to breach own minefield in area LES VILAINS. They were not required and returned at 0000 hrs. | JG |
| | | 1400 | 3 pl returned after digging "holes" for Bde HQ. | JG |
| ST MAUVIEU | 17 | | Coy checking stores, resting, vehicle maintenance etc. | JG |
| " | 18 | 0800 | 2 pl took over water point S of CHEUX from 53 Div. Set up own water trailer. Water point gave total yield of 55,000 gals in day. | JG |
| | | 1000 | Coy moved to new div concentration area. Coy harboured 1 mile N.W of LE MESNIL PATRY. | JG |
| LE MESNIL PATRY | 19 | 1000 | 1 pl employed on blowing craters for burying dead cows S of CHEUX. | |
| | | 1700 | Coy had use of M.B. Unit near SECQUEVILLE EN BESSIN. | JG |
| do | 20 | | 1 & 3 pls clearing own minefields N of BARON. | |
| do | 21 | | Collecting salvage in one grid map square in Div area. | JG |
| do | 22 | | Collecting salvage. | JG |
| do | 23 | | 2 pl handed over water point to 53 Div. | JG |
| BALLEROY | | 1400 | Coy moved to new harbour in New Div area S of BALLEROY Div came under Comd 30 Corps. | JG |
| | 24 | | 3 pl bulldozing in new Bde harbour for 227 Comd Vehicles. 1 & 2 pls on maintenance of roads in Div area. | JG |
| | 25 | | 1 pl road maintenance, 2 pl filled shell crater, 3 pl widening entrance and exit to coy harbour. | JG |

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| | 26 | | 1 pl road maintenance. 2 pl ditto, 3 pl quarrying and loading stone near TILLY. 2 men from 1 pl went out during the night with a patrol from HLI and blew up an enemy half track which was suspected of being an O.P. | JG |
| | 27 | | Same as for 26. One NCO and three men from 1 pl went out with fighting patrol from HLI and returned safely. | JG |
| | 28 | | 1 pl road maintenance, 2 & 3 constructing tank track PARSLEY, 30 ft wide 9 miles long, 2 L/Cpls from 2 pl went out with recce patrols from HLI and reced for sunken roads and minefields. | JG |
| BALLEROY | 29 | 2300 | 1 pl road diversion E. of Caumont; 2 and 3 pl completed PARSLEY and handed over northern four miles of PARSLEY to 101 Corps Field Coy RE for marking and picketing. 1 pl with escort of one pl from KOSB went out to lift own minefield S.E of CAUMONT. Lifted 500 American mines and blew in 2 sunken roads to provide 3 tank crossings. Evening - All platoons moved into area LA TRINGALE (1 mile N of CAUMONT). | JG JG |
| " | 30 | 0001 0600 1700 1900 1700 | 15 Div came under Cmd 8 Corps for Operation BLUECOAT. 1 Sec of 2 pl joined 2 GORDONS and went fwd with them and then with the 2 A&SH as far as LUTAIN wood and cleared mines N of the wood. Afternoon - 2 & 3 pls carried tank and wheel tracks fwd down the fwd slope of CAUMONT Ridge. 2 pl less detachments joined the 6 RSF and went fwd with them to ECORIGNY and with a bulldozer drove a wheel and tank track subsequently called 'TIN'. Detachment 2 pl went fwd to 2 GORDONS to clear minefields E of LUTAIN wood but were not employed and subsequently returned to coy harbour at LA TRINGALE. Coy HQ moved fwd and set up again at LA TRINGALE. | JG JG JG JG JG JG |
| LA TRINGALE | | | | |
| " | 31 | 0500 0700 1600 1830 1940 | 1 pl went out to improve route TIN and drive it forward to ST JEAN DES ESSARTIERS to LE HOMME lateral wood. 3 pl went out to improve wheel tracks and clear minefields in AREA LUTAIN Wood. 3 pl diverted to assist 1 pl in opening TIN route now urgently required. This was completed fit for tracks and wheels at about 1830 hrs. 2 pl established a water point at AUBIGNY for fwd troops. Night - 3 pl with 2 sections maintained the roads, 1 pl returned Recce Officer with 1 section from 2 pl started bulldozing Bde HQ in new area. Total casualties for day 2 wounded and 2 shell shocked. | JG JG JG JG JG JG |

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| | 11 25 | | LT. D.R. GIFFORD RE joined this unit posted from 31 R.H.U. 2/LT JJ COCKLE RE joined this unit posted from 31 R.H.U. Strength of company on 31 July 1944. 7 Officers and 230. | JG JG JG |
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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year August 1944

Commanding Officer Major J.H. Gillington

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------------|------|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| LA TRINGALE | 1 | 0800 | 1 pl took over road and track maintenance of TIN from 3 pl and continued to improve route. 2 pl maintaining water point. Sec of 2 pl bulldozing in 227 Bde HQ with recce officer. | JG |
| " | 2 | 1400 1600 | 1 pl handed over maintenance of TIN to 279 - renamed SQUARE. 40 men 1 pl loaded stores at Field Pk Coy. 2 pl maintaining water point. | JG JG |
| " | 3 | 0020 | 3 pl left coy harbour with all its transport plus 2 half tracks from 624 to join 44 Bde (under cmd) for Op Bluecoat. | JG |
| HERVIEUX | | 2000 | 2 pl maintaining water point. 1 sec TIN maintenance. 2100-0100hrs | JG |
| | | | 1 pl 2 sections loading Field Pk stores 1800-2000 hrs. 1 sec blowing craters for burying dead cows in Rear Div area. | JG |
| | | | Coy left harbour LA TRINGALE moved down SQUARE (TIN) route to harbour in Div area 5 miles further South. | JG |
| " | 4 | 0030 | One enemy shell landed in harbour area. 1 DR wounded. | JG |
| | | 0800 to 0900 1900 | 2 pl maintaining water point at AUBIGNY. (This was closed and dismantled at 2200 hrs. Stores returned to Coy). | JG |
| | | | 3 pl under cmd 44 Bde made rough wheeled single traffic road near L'HOTELIERE. | JG |
| | | | 2 Secs 1 pl made tank track to enable a squadron of Inf tanks to cross country 1 mile to main tank track. | JG |
| | | | 1 and 2 pls moved to new harbour area in LE TOURNEUR. | JG |
| " | 5 | 0600 1000 | 1 pl placed under cmd in support 227 Bde for op. | JG |
| LE TOURNEUR | | | HQ of Coy moved to new harbour 1 mile W of LE TOURNEUR. | JG |
| " | 6 | | 2 and 3 pls with Coy HQ (3 pl's work with 44 Bde having finished) | JG |
| " | 7 | 0900 to 1100 | 1 Sec divided between 3 Bns of 227 Bde for mine recce in Bn areas. Party with 2 GORDONS lifted 6 mines off a crossroads. | JG |
| " | | | 1 Sec 1 pl lifted 24 Tellermines (42 & 43) in rd verges to enable A&SH to go fwd. | JG |

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| | | 1500 | 1 pl cleared rd block at ESTRY cross rds - pulled by half track winch. 1 booby trap went off - 2 failed. 1 NCO wounded by shell. | JG |
| | 10 | day | 1 pl constructed a tank track in 227 Bde's area to be used as a possible counter attack route if the enemy's counter attack had to be driven back. | JG |
| | 12 | | 1 pl still in sup 227 Bde. Dug in loud speaker unit in front line. 2 and 3 pls in reserve. | JG |
| | 13 | | 1 pl returned from role in sup 227 Bde. 2 pl placed under Cmd Recce Regt for purpose of clearing new harbour area of mines. 3 pl under cmd GSO 1 (L) for purpose of proving new harbour area for Div HQ clear of mines. | JG |
| VIEUX | 14 | 1030 | 1 pl & HQ moved to new coy harbour area at VIEUX 2 & 3 pls already in new coy area after proving areas clear of mines. | JG |
| VIEUX | 15 | | 2 pl constructed bathing pool on river ORNE for 227 Bde. No mines found on banks. | JG |
| | 16 | | 1 pl resurfaced and maintained existing class 40 masonry bridge at VIEUX. 3 pl searched area for new Div HQ harbour. No mines found. | JG |
| FRESNEY-LE PUCEUX | 17 | 0800 0830 | 1 pl opened water point at FRESNEY-LE-PUCEUX. Coy moved to new harbour at FRESNEY-LE PUCEUX | JG JG |
| | 18 | | 3 pl searched a new area for Div HQ and found no mines. 1 pl maintained water point. | |
| | 19 | | 1 pl maintained water point to 2300 hrs and then closed it. | |
| | 20 | 1030 2359 | Coy moved to new location BOIS HALBOUT and concentrated with 227 Bde in preparation for Ex GALLOP. Approx 6 E/A came overhead. Bombs were dropped: The nearest one fell 100 yds from 3 pl. No casualties sustained. | JG JG |
| BOIS HALBOUT | 21&22 | | Coy in harbour | |
| BOIS HALBOUT | 23 | 0730 | Coy moved to FRESNE LA MERE. 3 pl came under cmd ROYALS (Armd Car Regt). 2 pl in support HLI. | JG |
| VIMOUTIERS | 24 | 1400 1800 2300 | 1 pl, 2 pl and Coy HQ moved to new harbour W of VIMOUTIERS. 1 pl started building 50ft D.S. class 40 Bailey bridge over demolished railway bridge abutments E of VIMOUTIERS on LE SAP main road (SUN ROUTE) 2 pl started building 70 ft DS class 40 Bailey bridge over river LATOUGUE using existing abutments. | JG |
| VIMOUTIERS | 25 | 0100 1300 | 3 pl started building 50ft DS class 40 Bailey bridge over bomb crater 100 yds E of demolished LATOUGUE bridge. All three bridges completed in order 1 pl, 3 pl & 2 pl. Traffic allowed to pass over road will proceed on SUN ROUTE. | JG |

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| | | 1600 1815 | HQ Coy moved to temporary pl Harbour E of VIMOUTIERS Coy complete moved to new Div concentration area on West end of the Forest of BEAUMONT (30 miles move). | JG |
| FORET DE BEAUMONT BRAY | 26 | 0630 1200 | 1 pl with Fd Park Coy Bailey Pl (½ pl) left coy harbour and moved in support 227 Bde to LOUVIERS area. 2 pl, 3 pl & HQ moved to new harbour area BRAY. 2 and 3 pls moved to temporary harbour W of LOUVIERS to assist 1 pl in construction of 130ft DS class 12 Bailey Bridge over river EURE in LOUVIERS. 3 pl assisted. 2 pl held in reserve. | JG JG |
| QUATREMARE | 27 | 0230 1645 1600 | Bridge completed and opened. Coy HQ moved to new harbour QUATREMARE. 2 pl attached to 2 Gordons to provide crews of 5 for 9 assault boats (MK III). 1 & 3 pl attached to HLI to provide 18 crews (5 men each) for assault across river SEINE. 1 & 3 pl crews not used. | JG |
| QUATREMARE | 28 | 2100 | 2 pl suffered casualties. 4 killed. 13 wounded and 1 missing. LT K.B THOMAS was slightly wounded in chin. 2 pl reorganised into two working sections. 3 pl maintaining class 12 Bailey bridge at LOUVIERS and clearing obstacles in river EURE at bridge site. HQ moved from harbour to temporary harbour with pls at ST PIERRE DU VAUVRAY to wait for turn to cross by class 40 Bailey Pontoon bridge. | JG JG |
| ST PIERRE DU VAUVRAY | 29 | 0450 1700 | HQ and pls crossed Bailey bridge over River SEINE and moved to temporary harbour on E bank of river Coy HQ and pls moved to harbour near ANDE. | JG |
| ANDE | 30 | day 1200 2000 | 1 pl searched road verges ANDE to MUIDS for mines, none found. Coy responsible for road maintenance ANDE to MUIDS and MUIDS to HERQUEVILLE. No work necessary. 3 pl maintenance class 40 Bailey Pontoon bridge at ST PIERRE DU VAUVRAY. 1 pl took over from 3 pl | JG JG |
| ANDE | 31 | 0800 day | 3 pl took over from 1 pl. 2 pl road maintenance bridge approaches with 200 attached infantry. Employed digging mud off road. Strength of company on 31 August 1944 6 Officers 221 OR's. | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year Sept 44.

Commanding Officer Major J.H. Gillington

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|------------|------|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| MUIDS | 1. | 1900 | Handed back maintenance of Bailey Bridge (class 40) at ST PIERRE DU VAUVRAY after maintaining bridge throughout day (Corps tps coy took over). | JG |
| LA FEUILLE | 3 | 0710 1500 | Left harbour MUIDS travelled in support 46 Bde. Harboured night at LA FEUILLE. 3 pl lifted 6 'S' mines and 4 tellermines reported near 46 Bde HQ. | JG |
| CARROIX | 4 | 0800 | Coy moved with 46 Bde to new harbour CARROIX. | JG |
| | 5 | 1200 | Coy moved to BUNEVILLE (near ST POL) still in support 46. Coy then reverted back to 227 Bde. | |
| BUNEVILLE | 6. | 1000 | 1 pl sent party with maquis to look for Germans reported in a wood 1½ mile South of village BUNEVILLE. None found. | JG |
| ST GENOIS | 7. | 0800 1200 2330 | 3 pl came under cmd A&SH Bn (227 Bde) for move. Coy HQ, 2 pl & 1 pl moved to ST GENOIS (S of COURTRAI) in 227 Bde area having crossed the Belgian border. 1 pl carried on in convoy with HLI and came under cmd for ops with Bn. | JG JG |
| | 8 | 1800 | Coy HQ and 2 pl moved to NAZARETH 3 miles SW of GHENT and joined by 1 and 3 pls in harbour that night. | JG |
| NAZARETH | 9 | day | 1 pl cleared some trees blown down by the wind on the EEDMULER-HEED Rd. | JG |
| | 10 | | Remained in harbour, conservancy, checking stores etc in preparation of another move to N of BRUSSELS | JG |
| | 11 | 1500 | Coy moved complete to BEYGHAM, 7 miles N of Brussels with 227 Bde arriving at 2130 hrs. | JG |
| BRUSSELS | 12 | 1205 | Coy under movement order from HQRE moved to WATEREINDE South of the ALBERT CANAL. | JG |
| WATEREINDE | 13 | 0800 2100 | 2 pl established and maintained water point at WESTERLOO 3 pl fitted new decking wearing surface to bridge at ZAMMEL 3 pl with bridging equipment moved to temporary harbour at LILL N of the Albert Canal. | JG JG |

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| | | 2000 | 1 pl moved to temporary harbour 1 mile S of MOLL to be prepared to bridge the ESCAUT JUNCTION MEUSE Canal at DONCK (plan changed, did not bridge). | JG |
| | | 2130 | LT COCKLE did recce of locks in ALBERT CANAL N of OOLEN with small party from 3 pl and cover platoon from 2 Gordons. Recce successful - Locks not prepared for demolition. One prisoner taken subsequently shot while attempting to escape. Returned at 0530 on 14 Sept. | JG |
| GREES | 14 | 1400 | 2 pl closed water point. HQ and 2 pl moved over ALBERT CANAL and harboured between 1 and 3 pls at GREES. 3 pl joined coy at 1900 hrs. Bridging equip to 1. | JG |
| | | 1700 | LT. GIFFORD D.R. wounded in MOLL when returning from a bridge recce at DONCK. | JG |
| GREES | 15 | 1000 | 2 pl established a water point at 2 miles E of GHEEL. | JG |
| | | 1930 | 1 pl built class 9 FBE bridge at 192892 over D'EMBRANCHEMENT VERS HASSELT CANAL. Took 2 hours and 10 minutes to build bridge. | JG |
| | | NIGHT | 3 pl prepared to assist 2 Gordons in assault crossing of MEUSE ESCAULT CANAL in area S of RETHY. Recce party out with Gordons but opposition such that assault crossing cancelled. | JG |
| | 16 | NIGHT | LT COCKLE and recce party with HLI to find suitable crossing places for additional assault crossings east of 44 Bde's Bridgehead (N of GHEEL) | JG |
| | 17 | 1110 | 1, 2, 3 pls and HQ moved to new harbour 2 miles NE of GHEEL in 227 Bde's area. | JG |
| GHEEL | 19 | 0800 | 1 pl took over ferrying site N of GHEEL from 218 Fd Coy to operate assault boat ferry supplying bridgehead - now 227 Bde's. | JG |
| | | 2300 | 1 pl ferried over HLI in assault boats making 3 Bns on bridgehead. 1 Sgt & 1 sapper wounded in operation. | JG |
| | 20 | 1400 | 3 pl took over ferrying from 1 pl. 1 casualty in morning. | JG |
| | | 2000 | 3 pl started ferrying back 227 Bde's three Bns. 279 Coy operated the class 9 raft which ferried back the vehicles. No casualties suffered by 3 pl. All across by 0030 on 21. | JG |
| S of GHEEL | 21 | 1500 | Coy with 3 platoons moved with 227 Bde to a new area around and south of GHEEL. | JG |
| | 22 | 1500 | Coy complete with 227 Bde group (army reserve) moved to temporary conc area VELDHoven. Crossed Frontier 1700 hrs. | JG |
| VELDHoven | 23 | 1100 | Coy with 227 Bde group moved to EINDHOVEN and harboured in temporary conc area. | JG |
| | | | LT KB THOMAS rejoined unit after being wounded in SEINE crossing. | JG |
| | 25 | 0800 | 1 pl left coy harbour and went in support 2 GORDONS for attack on BEST (227 Bde plan). Pl were not required to do any work with Bn. | |

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| EINDHOVEN | 26 | 0730 1200 | 2 & 3 pls left coy harbour to go in support 227 Bde. Harboured NE of BEST (1 mile). 1 sec 1 pl cleared road block consisting of 10 mines with pull wire attached to enable them to be fired from slit trench 100 yds away. Coy HQ moved to ACHT 3 miles NW of EINDHOVEN. 2 pl responsible for road maintenance "STAR" route BEST to ST OEDENRODE, ½ day's work only necessary. | JG JG |
| | 27 | | Pls employed in defence of Bde HQ in case of infiltration. No Engineer work reqd except bulldozing in 2 17 pdr ATK guns. | JG |
| | 28 | | 2 pl sec lifted 6 improvised mines made up of a 3 kg charge fitted with a push igniter and a piece of wood above and below as pressure plates. | |
| | 29 | | Pls employed in defence. LT F.H. ROBINSON RE joined unit. Posted from 31 R.H.U. | |
| ACHT | 30 | 0900 | Coy HQ moved to new harbour area joined pls near STAR ROUTE 2½ miles from BEST (NE). Strength of Coy on 30 7 Officers 244 ORs. | JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year OCTOBER 1944.

Commanding Officer Major J.H. Gillington

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|---------|--------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| NE BEST | 1. | | Coy in support 227 Inf Bde acting as imme defence for Bde HQ. No Engineer tasks. | JG |
| | 2 | 1630 | Coy less 2 pl moved to rest harbour at NUNEN N.E. of EINDHOVEN. | JG |
| NUNEN | 3 | 1800 | Coy employed cleaning tasks, vehicles, personnel. Recreational training, etc baths etc. 2 pl joined company in harbour. | |
| | 4+5 | | Cleaning vehicles, fitting trucks, etc. 3 pl maintaining road GEMERT - VOLKEL. Relaid culvert and replaced road surface at place damaged by tanks. | JG |
| | 6 | 1645 | Same programme. Repairs on road completed. Maintenance continues. All Officers of Div addressed by Div Cmdr at HELMOND. | JG |
| NUNEN | 7. | | 2 pl training on close support raft and storm boat. 1 pl training inf in Kapok assault bridges. Reinforcements being trained on Bailey bridging with 624 Fd Pk Coy. 3 pl maintaining road GEMERT - VOLKEL. | JG JG |
| | 11+12 +13 | | 1 pl maintaining road GEMERT VOLKEL. Coy employed cleaning tasks, checking stores, fitting racks, bins etc to coy vehicles in rest area. | |
| NUNEN | 20. | | 1200 hrs 3 pl took over maintenance of BEST Bridges (2 Bailey bridges) from Fd Coy of 51 Div and maintenance of road incl bridges to excl ST OEDENRODE | JG |
| NUNEN | 21+22 +23 | | 3 pl same. 1 pl maintaining earth track road from NIJNSEL to DEULEUT wef 1400 hrs. | |
| " | 24 | 1200 1230 1600 | Bridges & road & track maintenance handed over to 279 Fd Coy Coy HQ, with pls ½ hr earlier left NUNEN for 227 Bde concentration area 2 miles NE of BEST. 3 pl cleared road block on BEST - BOXTEL rd, consisting of 6 large trees across road booby-trapped. afternoon - 2 pl with Sqn Recce Regt checked road BEST - OIRSCHOT for mines and measured gap over stream at site of demolished bridge 285275. | JG JG JG |

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|------------|-----|------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| BEST | 25. | 0630 1245 | 3 pl commenced clearing BEST-BOXTEL Rd, prepared and blew up concrete OP at 365290 (covering rd block). 2 pl cleared road obstruction from BEST - OIRSCHOT Rd. 1 Sec 1 pl proved new area for Div HQ clear of mines and 3 Sects proved road BOXTEL OIRSCHOT (227 Bde conc area) clear of mines. Coy HQ & 2 pl + 1 pl which joined on route and balance of 3 pl moved to new harbour N of OIRSCHOT. 1 Sec of 3 pl joined coy after completing demolition of conc O.P. | JG JG JG |
| OIRSCHOT | 26 | 1115 | Coy moved with 227 Bde to MOERGESTEL. | |
| MOERGESTEL | 27 | 0630 1300 | 3 pl 2300 to 0130 hrs (27) unloaded assault bridges for AVRE 2 pl 0630 - 1230 construct 3 bridges for AVRE to fit on their assault bridge-layer tanks for 16 Assault Sqdn RE onwards - 3 pl maintained roads incl bridges OIRSCHOT - MOERGESTEL, BIEST - HILVARENBEEK Coy less 3 pl who stayed behind for rd maintenance moved to new conc area for 227 Bde at HILVARENBEEK. | JG JG JG JG |
| | 28 | to 1200 1200 0700 2100 | 2 pl Rd maintenance HILVARENBEEK to BIEST improvised bridge (incl). 1 & 2 pls maintaining roads and bridges from incl OIRSCHOT-MOERGESTEL incl OISTERWIJK and rd & Bdges MOERGESTEL to excl HILVARENBEEK Coy moved to inside TILBURG. 1 pl suffered 3 casualties when lifting a very densely laid SCHU-minefield near MOERGESTEL. | JG JG JG |
| TILBURG | 29. | 1405 | Coy (less 1 & 2 pl which joined column at HILVARENBEEK) moved to new Div area at ZOMEREN, 6 miles SE of HELMOND | JG |
| ZOMEREN | 30. | 2000 to 0200 | 3 pl proved roads clear of mines E of ASTEN (227 Bde) area. 1 and 2 pls began preparing existing bridge abutments at DISK for Bailey bridges. 70 ft and 30 ft respectively. /31 | JG JG |
| | 31. | 0700 1300 | Construction began on bridges. Completed by 1300 hrs. Wearing Surface laid and bridges opened at 1430 hrs. 1 Sec 3 pl opened track for jeeps for maintenance of Bn of GORDONS in fwd positions. Strength of Company on 31 October 1944. 7. Officers. 250. ORs. (includes 3 Corporals held surplus). | JG JG JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year NOVEMBER 1944.

Commanding Officer Major J.H. Gillington RE

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|---------|-------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| ZOMEREN | 1. | | Maintenance bridges. DISK and roads in 227 Bde area (ASTEN) | JG |
| " | 2. | PM. | do. 6 SD(1) bombs destroyed in 227 Area (E 567140) 3 pl improvised bridge constructed to take AUSTER aircraft across ditch (E 563118) | JG |
| | 3. | 0001 1000 1200 All day 0800 1200 | 1 pl filled crater at 667096 on axis of 227 to Bn. 10 mines (teller) lifted at E 684084. 2 pl disposed of 11 SC10 bombs and 1 SD1 at 567140. day - 3 pl maintaining roads in ASTEN area. 1 pl lifted 14 tellermines, cleared road and verges to HLI fwd position 097597 LT. J.J. COCKLE RE wounded in right shoulder and left buttock when carrying out recce of crater fwd of Inf positions with Sqn Recce Regt. | JG JG JG JG JG |
| ZOMEREN | 4. | 0900 1200 to 2100 | 3 pl built small bridge to enable an Auster aircraft to cross a ditch to its landing strip near HELMOND. Bridge then dismantled. 3 pl continued maintenance of ASTEN (227 Bde area). 2 pl started dismantling Northernmost of the two Bailey Bdgs at ZOMEREN crossing. Replaced bridge by 30 ft SS Bailey. | JG JG JG |
| | 5 + 6 | | 3 pl continued maintenance roads 227 Bde area. | |
| ZOMEREN | 7. | day 1000 | 3 pl Road maintenance OSPEL area. 3 pl moved at 1400 hrs to support A&SH. 2 pl disposed of 15 UXB, SC10s 12K A/P bombs in ASTEN area and 2 U.X. Parachute flares at HQ 227 Bde. 1 pl cleared fallen trees off road N of ZOMEREN | JG JG JG |
| ZOMEREN | 8 | 1000 1400 | 1 pl at 1000 hrs took over maintenance of 3 bailey bridges and canal S of ZOMEREN from US Engineers. 1 pl handed over same bridge maintenance to 275 Fd Coy (51 Div) but continued to maintain rds E of canal in neighbourhood of NIEUWINNERSTRAAT. | JG |
| | 9. | | 1 and 3 pls continued work. | JG |

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|---------|-------|-----------------------|--|----------|
| | | day | 2 pl felled trees, hauled and dumped at Coy location 150 - 12ft larch poles for corduroy road. | JG |
| " | 10. | Night 9/10 1200 | 1 sapper killed and 1 L/Cpl badly wounded when stepping on SCHU mines during a night patrol with Inf (A&SH Bn). 1 pl handed over maintenance of road at NIEUWINNERSTRAAT to 51 Div. | JG JG |
| ZOMEREN | 11. | day | 2 pl cut and dumped 250 more 12' Larch spars at Coy loc. | JG |
| | | | 3 pl in sup A&SH. 1 pl road maintenance ASTEN area. 2 pl cut and dumped 300 12ft poles. | JG |
| | 12. | day 1000 | 2 pl cut 100 12ft poles and dumped in Coy area. 1 pl Road maintenance ASTEN area. 2 pl relieved 3 pl in support A&SH. Gordons to relieve A&SH next day. | JG |
| | 13. | | 1 pl 200 12ft poles. 2 pl in support A&SH. 3 pl resting. | JG |
| | 14 | | 1 pl 150 12ft larch poles. 2 pl road maintenance in support Gordons | JG |
| ZOMEREN | | day | 3 pl Offloaded bailey stores for assault bailey bridge for 222 Asslt Sqdn. | JG |
| | 14/15 | 2030 to 0100 | 1 pl filled crater on ASTEN-MEIJEL road (proposed) axis of advance of 227 Bde. | JG |
| | 15 | | 2 pl 1 Sec attached Gordons. 3 Secs clearing mines ASTEN - MEIJEL Road (to crater). Suffered casualties when sapper last seen handling mines dumped by section. 1 Cpl & 2 sappers killed & 1 sapper wounded. | JG |
| ZOMEREN | | day | 3 pl clearing road ASTEN - MEIJEL East of crater. | JG |
| | 16. | | 1 & 3 pls clearing roads of mines in MEIJEL area. Many Teller mines, SCHU mines & 'S' mines found. 1 Sec 2 pl in support Gordons | JG |
| ZOMEREN | | | | JG |
| | 17. | | Same as 16 - mine clearing. | JG |
| " | 18. | | Road maintenance ASTEN - MEIJEL Road. Clearing mines MEIJEL area. | JG |
| ZOMEREN | 19. | | Cleared road of mines MEIJEL to BERINGEN (via MEIJEL E bridge). Swept area for 131 Fd Regt gun area. | JG |
| | | 1400 | Coy HQ & pls moved to harbour SE of ASTEN. | JG |
| | 20. | | 1 pl in support Gordons & A&SH for advance towards SEVENUM. | JG |
| | | 1400 | Coy HQ moved to W of MEIJEL. | JG |
| MEIJEL | 21. | all day | 2 and 3 pls laid 1000 yds of Sommerfeld track for single way traffic E of BERINGEN in direction of SEVENUM (Bde objective). 1 pl filled in crater and made diversion on track after tank bridge laid. | JG |
| | | 1100 | Coy HQ moved to NE of BERINGEN. | JG |

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| BERINGEN | 22. | all day | 3 pls with assistance of pioneers from 2 Bns 44 Bde and in afternoon 2 pl of 279 Coy laid a further 2,100 yds of track (single) on Bde axis. Work very difficult under heavy rain. | JG |
| BERINGEN | 23. | | Coy laid a further 1000 yds of Sommerfeld track and open up road as single way to MR. 781105. Rain very heavy all day. Vehicles returning alongside track after becoming "mud bound". | JG |
| " | 24 | | Coy employed maintaining SKYE route tipping rubble into deep ruts formed in track. Pl Officer LT CAMPBELL proceeded on three weeks course at SME RIPON on "Bailey Special uses" commencing 28 Nov. | JG |
| | 25 | | Coy moved to METERIK. Handed over maintenance road to 279 Coy. 2 casualties from splinters when 'pulling' teller mines. | JG |
| | 26. | | 1 Sec with HLI building causeway at 869258 (3 pl). 1 Sec with 2 GORDONS for mine clearance (3 pl). 1 Sec cleared mines R & Schu in 190 Fd Regt gun area. One sapper had leg blown off on Schu mine. | JG |
| METERIK | 26/27 | night | 1 pl built 60 S/S Bailey class 24 over GROOTE MOLENBEEK at 857247 and cleared demolished church steeple (dropped by enemy) off road in MEERLO. | JG |
| | 27. | night | 1 Sec of 3 pl detached to GORDONS 2 pl started building 90 S/S class 9 Bailey over GROOTE MOLENBEEK at 851259. Bridging party shelled and 25% casualties suffered of working party strength. LT Thomas MC and 9 O.Rs. Construction abandoned when ¾ complete by order of GOC. | JG |
| METERIK | 28. | 1100 | Coy moved to ASTEN for rest and clean up with 227 Bde. | JG |
| ASTEN | 29 | day | Coy employed cleaning vehicles, bathing etc. | |
| " | 30. | " | ditto Strength Officers 5 (one on course SME RIPON). on 30 Nov 44. ORs 229 | JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year Dec 1944.

Commanding Officer Major J.H. Gillington

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|--------|------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| ASTEN | 1. | 1400-1700 | LT. LANE D.S.O. and LT. ODGERS H.G. joined Coy at ASTEN. 3 pl & 2 pl provided working party of 30 men to load timber at 642 Fd Fd for constructing road. | JG JG |
| ASTEN | 2. | 1400 | Coy moved to new location near VOORST to conc with 44 Bde for assault on BLERICK. | JG |
| VOORST | 3. | 0800 to 2110 1200 1100 1700 | 2 pl with no 2 pl 278 Coy constructed 260 yds of corduroy road thus completing lateral road between TAY and OBAN routes. 1 pl reconstructed and reset 30' S/S Bailey on TAY route originally laid by 279 Coy and displaced by tank. 3 pl opened OBAN routes. No mines found on road. Anti tank ditch at 886086 (W of BLERICK) filled in by fascines, and levelled by bulldozing with 2 armd D7s. 1 NCO wounded by shellfire. | JG JG JG |
| VOORST | 4 | 0930 | 1 pl opened TAY route. Anti tank ditch filled in by hand. Route opened at 1600 hrs, suitable for tanks. MAJOR M.D. WILKINSON took over command of Coy succeeding MAJOR J.H. GILLINGTON, who left theatre of ops to attend course at Staff College CAMBERLEY. Date of change over of command backdated to 3 Dec. Authority CE 8 Corps. | JG JG |
| VOORST | 5 | day | 2 pl started lifting reported minefield at 8414 NW of BLERICK. Minefield composed of 2 rows of S mines 35 fitted with 2 way adapter joined up with continuous trip wires between mines (15x spacing), 4 rows mixed T. mines, approx 1 in 5 booby trapped. Mines marked and uncovered prior to blowing in situ. | JG |
| VOORST | 6. | day | 2 pl blew up 50 of mines in field, as above. | JG |
| VOORST | 7. | day | 1 pl blew up a further 50 mines. One special booby-trapped mine found. 3 T. 35 mines on top of each other. The uppermost mine had no explosive filling, but was fitted with a fuse and pull igniter screwed to its underside. A short wire joined the top mine to the ordinary T mine underneath. The third mine was similarly connected to the second mine. | JG JG |

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|--------|-----|--------------|---|----------------------------------|
| VOORST | 8. | 1400 | Coy moved to ONDER in 227 Bde area (conc). | JG |
| ONDER | 9. | | Coy maintained 2 miles on ONDER rd (main Bde supply route). Rd single way being developed by coy into 2 way. | JG |
| ONDER | 10. | 1400 day | Water point for Bde opened & maintained by 3 pl at 824076. 1 & 2 pls working on ONDER road. | JG |
| ONDER | 11. | 1845 to 2000 | 3 pl filled crater at rd & track junc 827077 and 12 yds of corduroy road laid south of rd junction. 3 pl fitted substitute windows and blackouts for 153 Fd Amb. Rd (ONDER) and water pt maintained. 1 pl laid a SCHU minefield (260 mines) at 868037, 2 rows and 1 yd between mines and rows laid by 12 men. Area had been swept and taped off the night before by the same party. The minefield was laid to cover the possible enemy approach from the lock gates and weir on the river MAAS. Whole operation done within 200x of the enemy's F.D.L. in complete silence with a little light from artificial moonlight. | JG JG |
| ONDER | 12. | | 1 + 2 pls reconstructed to double width for traffic 200 yds of ONDER road. 3 pl maintained water point and laid a further 60 yds of corduroy road S of rd junc 827077 and repaired windows and blackouts for 153 Fd Amb. | JG JG |
| ONDER | 13. | | Further 200 yds reconstructed on ONDER Rd for double traffic by 1 & 2 pls. Water point maintained by 3 pl. 2 pl removed and destroyed a dump of 57 R mines. LT KB THOMAS received the MC, Sgt L. PATRICK and Sp R. GREEN received the M.M. from C in C at ZOMEREN. | JG JG |
| ONDER | 14 | | Further 200 yds ONDER road reconstructed for two way traffic. 160 yds corduroy road constructed by 3 pl - water point maintained. Party of 10 RAF NCOs and LACs from 12 AGRE (5022 Sqdn) arrived to receive practical expertise in the handling and lifting of enemy minefields. Attachment 10 days (appendix). | JG JG |
| ONDER | 15. | | 2 pl & 1 pl maintaining ONDER Rd. 200 yds maintained for two way traffic. 3 pl maintained water point and laid a further 80 yds of corduroy road for 131 Fd Regt. Capt E.F. NICOLAY RE attached to this unit from 40 R.H.U. (authority C.E. 8 Corps) for experience in a Field Unit. | JG JG JG |
| ONDER | 16. | | Maintenance & repair ONDER road continued, 1000 yds total now completed from rd junct (1 & 2 pls). 3 pl maintained water point and laid 30 yds corduroy. Sec of 3 pl sent out to mark a suspected minefield near MAASBREE which had caused two casualties to the R.A. nearby. 1 NCO and 2 Sprs injured as a result of two mine explosions. | JG JG |

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|-------|-------|-------|---|--------------|
| | | | 2 secs of 1 pl laid an A/per minefield to cover a likely crossing place of the river MAAS. The minefield consisted of 2 rows of 45 mines in each row, total 90, approx density 2 per yd front i.e. 1 yd between mines 1 yd between rows. Type mines laid A/per MK 5 No 1 Br. M.R. 862030 (3½ miles S.W. of VENLO) on W bank of MAAS. Time taken 1¼ hrs in wiring single strand home side. | |
| ONDER | 17 | night | 2 secs 1 pl laid another A/per minefield to cover another likely crossing point ½ mile N of the minefield laid on 16 Dec. This minefield consisted of 2 rows, 35 mines in first row and 34 in second, total 69 mines laid 1 yd between rows and 1 yd between mines. MK5 nol Br A/per mines again used. Time taken 3 hours incl laying single strand plain wire on home side. M.R. 867035 (3 miles S.W of VENLO) on W bank of MAAS. | JG |
| ONDER | | day | ONDER Road reconstruction continued (50 yds completed during day). 3 pl completed corduroy road for 131 Fd Regt R.A. (total 300 yds laid). 3 pl maintained water point. 1 sapper of 1 pl killed when standing on an inverted buried S mine. | JG |
| ONDER | 18. | | ONDER Road reconstruction continued. Water point maintained. | |
| ONDER | 19 | | ditto same as for 19 | |
| " | 20. | | Same as for 18 and 19. | |
| " | 21. | | ditto. | |
| " | 22. | | ditto. | |
| " | 23. | | ONDER Road reconstruction continued, 2000 yds now completed. Water point maintained. RAF personnel attached to this unit returned to their parent squadron. During ten days have been trained in the lifting of SCHU mines, Teller mines, 'S' mines & R mines and have themselves cleared 5 enemy minefields previously reported and taped. These minefields consisted of Tellers; Tellers and Schu; 'R' and Schu; 'R', 'S' and Schu. No injuries sustained by RAF personnel. Training of 10 civilians commenced in the detection and removal of mines. Were given lectures in the morning and course postponed for Christmas. Course not likely to continue until ground "thaws-out". | JG JG |
| ONDER | 24. | | Onder road reconstruction continued. Water point maintained. | |
| ONDER | 25 | | Christmas day. Skeleton crew on water point. No work done on ONDER road. | JG |
| ONDER | 25/26 | 0300 | LT PACKER and NCO carried out a night patrol with infantry to determine if caves near lock gates were occupied by enemy. Returned at 0730 hrs to report that nothing was found. Did similar patrol on the night of 26/27 Dec and discovered a concrete air raid shelter capable of accommodating 15 to 20 men near lock gate opposite BELFELD on river MAAS. | JG |

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|-------|-----|--|--|----------|
| ONDER | 26 | | ONDER road reconstruction continued. Water point maintained. | JG |
| | 27. | | ditto also. Preliminary recce carried out for construction of a permanent class 40 Bailey bridge at KELPEN. K.647948. | JG |
| ONDER | 28. | | Water point and ONDER road maintained. RAF personnel (1 Officer & 10 ORs) from 5023 Airfield Construction Squadron commenced training on enemy mines. Little could be done apart from lectures because of frozen ground. | JG |
| ONDER | 29. | | ONDER Rd reconstruction completed 2 miles (as far as required). Potholing and patching commenced. Water Point maintained. Training RAF personnel continued. | JG |
| ONDER | 30 | | 2 pl began removal of demolished bridge at KELPEN 647947. Bridge very thoroughly demolished by enemy. Estimated 3 weeks preparation on site before new bridge can be started. ONDER Road maintenance continued. Water Point maintained. RAF training programme postponed - ground too hard. | JG JG |
| ONDER | 31. | | RAF personnel returned to unit. ONDER rd maintenance continued. Water point maintained. Work on KELPEN Bridge continued. LT. D.J.O. LANE RE admitted to hospital on 19 Dec with anxiety neurosis. Strength on 31 Dec Officers - 6 (incl LT CAMPBELL on course at SME) ORs 238. | |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 Field Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year Jan 1945

Commanding Officer Major M.D. WILKINSON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------|------------|-------|--|--|
| ONDER | 1. | | Road maintenance ONDER rd continued. Water point maintained. Removal of debris from demolished bridge at KELPEN continued. | JG |
| " | 2. | | do. | |
| " | 1/2. | night | LT PARKER and 1 Sgt mined (A/per) and booby trapped an air raid shelter on W. bank of MAAS. 2 'R' mines fitted with 2 pull igniters each and trip wires were laid in front of each of the two entrances. The bottom step in one entrance and the next to bottom in the second entrance was covered by 6 schu mines. 3 separate schu mines were laid under the straw in the lobby of the shelter. Work done under cover of fighting patrol of infantry. | JG |
| " | 3,4,5 & 6. | | Road maintenance ONDER road continued Water point maintained. Work on KELPEN bridge site continued. | JG |
| ONDER | 7. | | 1 pl relieved 2 pl on KELPEN bridge site. Work continuing there. All stores available for concreting foundation for Bailey crib pier. Water point closed in Bde area because the dyke from which the supply was drawn was gradually drying up. ONDER Road maintenance continued, but work could not be done because the ground was frozen to a depth of approx 18 ins. | JG Freezing hard |
| ONDER | 8. | | LT H.G. ODGERS promoted to A/Capt and posted to 8 GHQ tps ENGRS wef 8 Jan, authority C.E. 21 A. Gp. message Ref No RE 20 dated 3 Jan 45. ONDER Road maintenance continued. Removal of debris from KELPEN Bridge continued. ditto for 9, 10, 11, 12 Jan. | JG Snow fell on 8 and 9. 10 coldest day yet experienced. |
| ONDER | 11 | | 2 Secs of 3 pl moved to BEERG on river MEUSE to prepare site for training crews from the 3 Bns of 227 Bde in watermanship, particularly rowing and paddling MK 2 and MK 3 assault boats in a fast flowing river. Duration of course for inf expected to be 7 days. | JG JG |

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|-------------------------|-----|------|---|--|
| | | am. | LT M.J.A. CAMPBELL RE rejoined unit after completing course at Ripon. | JG |
| ONDER | 13. | | 2/LT G.M. HUNTER (331693) joined unit on being posted from HQRE 7 GHQ tps Engineers wef 9 Jan 45. 2 pl started erection of 3 (plus) NISSEN huts for 227 Bde in reserve Bn area. Work on KELPEN Bridge continued (anticipated construction will start in 7 days time on foundations for Bailey Piers of new proposed bridge). ONDER road maintenance continued | JG Warmer weather Ground thawing at midday |
| ONDER | 14. | | Onder Road maintenance completed. Sanding roads in Bde area as necessary. Work on Nissen huts for 227 Bde continued, also work on buildings for 153 Fd Amb and ADOS (15) (S) Div. Same for 15, 16, 17 Jan | JG |
| ONDER | 17 | | Started concreting for foundation W side of KELPEN Bridge. Half concreted. Completed on morning of 18 Jan. | JG |
| | 18 | | Same as for previous days. Lt Hunter attended 1 days P.A.D. course | JG |
| | 19 | | ditto | |
| | 20. | | Started concreting for foundation E side for Bailey pier. The pier on the W side (Bailey) ¾ completed. 3 pl returned to Coy harbour on completion of first course for infantry in watermanship. 2 pl went to same site (S of Roemond) to prepare for second inf course due to start on 22 Jan. | JG Thaw precautions in force wef JG 0600 hrs on 20. |
| ONDER SWARTBROEK | 21. | 1330 | Coy handed over RE tasks in Div area to 6 A/B Div RE and moved to SWARTBROEK (4 miles E of WEERT on ROEMOND Rd) to concentrate company to build superstructure of bridge to be called RED LION BRIDGE. Concreting of E foundation completed, also pier on W side completed. | JG |
| " | 22. | | All available men in coy prepared site for launching bridge. Pier on E side constructed. | |
| " | 23. | | 45 Bridging vehicles arrived at 1200 hrs. Offloading began at 1230 hrs by 1 pl followed at 1300 by all company. By 1700 hrs all vehicles had been offloaded and construction on bridge began. At 2100 40ft DS launching nose & 70ft DS & T.S. span had been completed. A composite coy from 278 and 279 Fd Coys made up of 65 men from each coy took over construction for 150 T.D. main span. This was completed at 0500 hrs on 24. By 0800 hrs 70 DS, TS span had been added and the whole bridge was launched by both composite coy and 20 Coy by 0900 hrs. It took a further 24 hrs to jack up, remove the rollers and jack down after breaking the spans. | Very cold day. 15 degrees frost Bright moon at night. |
| SWARTBROEK | 24. | | | JG |

| | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------|---|--|
| | 25. | | By 1500 hrs the bridge was decked down, wearing surface added and the ends of the ramps made good with tarmac surfacing. The bridge was then opened to traffic. Length 294 ft with 2 ten ft ramps. | JG |
| SWARTBROEK | 26. | 1000 | Coy moved to new location at POPPEL. 12 KM S of TILBURG (in Belgium) to div rest area. Came under 30 Corps in 1st Canadian Army. Most of the units in the div had arrived one or two days previously. | JG Snow fell to depth of 3 inches during convoy run. |
| POPPEL | 27 | | Capt NICHOLAY F.E. ceased to be attached to this unit from 40 RHU on posting to 7 GHQ tps (84 Coy). Company engaged on maintaining vehicles and conservancy. | JG |
| POPPEL | 28 | | Lt HUNTER finished his course with 24 sappers engaged in training infantry in watermanship and handed over all the stores to 6 A/B sappers. He returned with party to unit on 29th. | JG |
| POPPEL | 29,30 & 31 | | Cleaning and maintaining vehicles and G1098 stores. Strength on 31 Jan 1945. 6 Officers 235 ORs. Nil Off 3 Sgts & 46 ORs granted and proceeded on Priv leave during month. | Thaw set in on 30th. JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 FIELD COY RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year Feb 1945

Commanding Officer Major M.D. WILKINSON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|----------|--------|------|---|--------------------------|
| POPPEL | 1.2.3. | 4. | Pls training respective Bns in assault demolitions, pushing and firing of bangalores, fixing and firing of General Wade charges and beehives. | JG |
| | 4 | | Pls loaded transport in preparation for Op VERITABLE. Pl Officers briefed for operation. | JG |
| | Feb 5 | 1630 | Coy moved in 227 Bde column to NIJMEGEN arriving at 0200 on 6 Feb. | |
| | Feb 6 | day | Reloading stores and getting all special stores for Op VERITABLE. | |
| | 7. | 1700 | 1 pl joined parent Bn (HLI). 2 pl joined GORDONS and 3 pl (2 secs) joined ASH, all of 227 Bde. evening - 3 pl maintained SKYE route which was to be the principal axis for the Bde advance. 26 tipper loads of hardcore were dumped during the night. LT M.J.A. CAMPBELL awarded M.C. | |
| NIJMEGEN | 8 | 0500 | All 3 platoons moved forward to conc area with Bn. | JG |
| | | 1030 | 3 pl marked gaps in minefield made by flails and breached a mixed Schu and 'S' minefield by hand. 3 casualties sustained. ½ 1 pl in sup HLI. Opened PEARL BLACK by clearing rd blocks in KRANENBURG. | |
| | | 0800 | 2 pl maintained SKYE, aided by other ½ of one pl. Cooks trucks and stores lorries of platoons sent to a fwd dump behind Bde HQ. | JG |
| | | 1700 | Coy HQ moved to new harbour at West end of PEARL BLACK route. | |
| NIJMEGEN | 9 | | 1 pl engaged in maintaining and improving lateral road AYRE as far as KRANENBURG. 2 pl maintained and improved PEARL BLACK from HOCHSTRASSE to KRANENBURG and removed 2 250 S.C. bombs from manholes in K'burg bridge. 3 pl marked and recorded enemy minefields in KRANENBURG area and swept railways to prove for mines from 800559 to 819552 and adjoining road to GAZGENSTEEG | JG |
| | | 0900 | Coy HQ moved to KRANENBURG crossing Dutch German frontier at 1130 hrs. | |

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|------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| KRANENBURG | 10. | 0730 pm pm pm pm | 3 pls and Tac HQ on road ready to join Bn for assault on CLEEVE. This was postponed and pls returned 3 hrs later to Coy HQ. 2 pl piled rubble on railway track making it fit for wheels from KRANENBURG Station in the direction of GROOESBEEK. 3 pl clearing debris off road to make it double way traffic E of K'burg. 1 pl tidying up K'burg, removing wire and wood obstacles. 2 pl constructed a dam 60 yds long in K'burg 3ft high to hold back flood water from main street. | JG Flood water rises 4ft in 24 hours. JG JG |
| | 11. | day day | 1 and 2 pls in support HLI and GORDONS for advance on CLEEVE 3 pl worked on railway line and filled in antitank ditch V shaped 26ft across top at 829537. Rly line opened for wheels at 2100, closed 2 days later | Floods from JG Rhine still rising approx 1 in per hour |
| KRANENBURG | 12. | 0700 1030 0930 | 1 pl provided 6 teams of 6 men each to travel in a KANGAROO to go on an armd Recce with Inf Bn and regt of tanks from CLEEVE in direction of CALCAR. Held up 2 miles SE of CLEEVE. Sappers started filling craters left by bombing on night 7/8 2 and 3 pls built 70ft class 40 D.S. Bailey at 901557 and 2 pl improvised a single way class 9 bridge from damaged existing bridge at 901559. These continue to be maintained. HQ moved to NUTTERDEN W of CLEEVE | JG JG JG |
| NUTTERDEN | 13 | | PEARL Black maintained in CLEEVE and outskirts and two large craters filled on it. | JG |
| " | 14 | | 1 pl returned to company after completion of task with 46 Bde armd recce patrol. 2 & 3 pls maintained roads in CLEEVE and div axis fwd. | JG |
| NUTTERDEN | 15,16, 17,18 | | Coy resting, received orders for 2 ops but both cancelled. | JG |
| NUTTERDEN | 19. | 1200 | Pls in support 227 Bde for attack E of GOCH. 1 pl with HLI, 3 pl with A.SH, 2 pl in reserve with GORDONS. Each pl provided 1 sec to travel in KANGAROOS with leading inf. Coy HQ moved to HAU S of CLEEVE. | JG JG |
| HAU | 20. | | 227 op started at 1100 hrs, completed at 1200 after seizing BUCHOLT, SCHL. KALBECK and SCHL. CALBECK. 1 pl clearing tracks through woods. | JG |
| HAU | 21 | AM. | LT KB THOMAS M.C. wounded in leg by bullet when carrying out recce of bridge crossings of R. NIEERS in GOCH. Pls maintained routes in 227 Bde area & lifted the odd scattered mine on earth tracks. | JG JG |
| | 22. | | Road block removed consisting of trees, steel rails, conc etc on 227 Bdes axis S.E of GOCH. Pls maintained roads in 227 Bde's area. | JG |
| | 23. | am. | Coy HQ moved to Xrds 4 miles N of GOCH. | |

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|------------------|-----------|------|---|------------------------|
| GOCH | | | Maintained roads in Bde area South of GOCH-CALCAR rd area. Pls started work opening rd GOCH-CALCAR. 3 mile stretch E of GOCH. Obstacles consisted of felled trees, bomb and shell craters, steel rails, Atk ditch, scattered unburied 'R' mines. Located and marked enemy minefield E of GOCH. Coy worked all night and opened rd for 2 way traffic at 0900 hrs on 24. | JG JG JG |
| GOCH | 24. | | Rd maintenance 227 Bde area continued. | |
| GOCH | 25. | 0745 | Coy moved from battle area to S'HERTOGENBOSCH for a rest with 227 Bde. | JG |
| S'HERTOGEN-BOSCH | 26,27,28. | | Coy resting, conservancy, checking tools, stores etc, cleaning vehicles. Coy strength on 28 Feb. 6 + 1 attached officers 243 ORs. | |
| | | | W/Sgt. THOMPSON A.C. granted emerg. combat commission as 2/LT in RE. Assumed duties 21 Feb. Auth A ECHEXFOR Rear message ref. A 10064 of 181915. 2/LT THOMPSON posted to 624 Fd Pk Coy on 22 Feb. Auth CRE LT. LODGE RGE posted to this unit from 624 Fd Coy wef 22 Feb. Auth CRE 15 (S) Div. LT THOMAS KB MC wounded on 21 Feb. S.O.S. on evacuation. LT BOYD HWK attached to this unit from 40 RHU wef 19 Feb 45 (X attachment). Auth 21 A Gp Serial No O/40/RE/ATT/1592 dated 7 Feb 45 | JG JG JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 Fd Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year MARCH 1945

Commanding Officer Major M.D. WILKINSON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|--|--------------------------|
| S'Hertogenbosch | 1 |) | | |
| | 2 |) | Coy resting, cleaning stores and equipment. Vehicle maintenance. | JG |
| | 3 |) | Large numbers of vacancies for Brussels 48 hours leave granted. | |
| | 4 |) | | |
| S'HERTOGEN-BOSCH | 5 | 1600 | Coy moved to new area (227 Bde) in RECHUM, 6 miles N of MAASTRICHT (Belgium) | JG |
| RECHUM | 6-13 | | Vehicle painting and maintenance, conservancy, resting, recreational training. | JG |
| | 14,15 and 16 | | Pls engaged in amphibious training with Infantry. Called Ex BUFFALO in preparation for a wide river crossing. | |
| RECHUM | 17. | 0400 | Coy moved to conc area in wood 1 mile N of SONSBECK, arrived at 0930. Swept area for mines, but none were found. | |
| SONSBECK | 18. 18 and 19. | | 1 pl employed constructing a tank track for buffaloes from forming up area to Flood bank. Under cmd 52 Div RE pending being taken under cmd 4 GHQ tps Engrs for Op Torchlight. Work involved culverting streams, bulldozing ditches and banks, felling trees, etc. | JG |
| | 20. | | Work completed on Buffalo track. | |
| | 21 & 22,23 | | No work done except 3 pl & 2 pl on night 22/23 blew up W flood bank to R Rhine. | |
| | 23. | 1600 | 1 pl joined HLI, 2 pl 2 GORDONS, 3 pl - A.SH (Bns of 227 Inf Bde for Op Torchlight). Tac HQ joined & GHQ tps at 2300 hrs and main HQ moved to area near 4 GHQ tps WARDT | |
| WARDT | 24 | 0200 0600 | 3 pl and 1 pl sent over in buffaloes with respective Bns and blew up E flood banks with prepared charges to allow buffaloes to land. Then started proving area clear of mines on E bank of Rhine. 2 pl landed with 2 Gordons in storm boats, were held up by M.G. fire but eventually blew up their flood bank at 0900 hrs and | JG |

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|---------------------|-----|--------------|---|------------------------|
| | | 0800 1300 | <p>started constructing site for class 9 ferry landing. 1 NCO wounded (bullet) in thigh.</p> <p>LT WATKINSON S. wounded in back when trying to carry out a recce of E bank of Rhine in a storm boat before inf had cleared area.</p> <p>OC crossed river and set up Tac HQ on E bank near storm boat ferry site.</p> <p>Pls after completing blowing flood banks proved area to 1 mile inland clear of mines. Then improved L.V.T. ferry sites and Class 9 ferry landing sites.</p> | JG JG JG |
| | 25 | 0200 2200 | <p>Coy HQ and all pl vehicles (less 2 wireless jeeps with pls in assault) moved to Vehicle Waiting area prior to crossing river.</p> <p>Coy crossed river and harboured in REE at Div RE Rally point. Pls had lived on 24 hour packs for 2 days.</p> | JG |
| REE (E of Rhine) | 26 | 1200 2350 | <p>Coy moved to HAMMINKELN taking 1 Bailey platoon (½ immediately handed over to 279 Coy).</p> <p>Bridging equipment arrived on site at 218498 over R. ISSEL to build class 40 bridge.</p> | |
| HAMMINKELN | 27 | 0445 | Bridge built and completed by 1 and 2 pls. | |
| | 28. | 1000 1300 | <p>Coy moved to 227 Bde area and harboured in wood E of HAFFEN.</p> <p>Pls engaged in clearing main road from xrd 147495 in NW direction past lakes for 3 miles. Trees had been felled on road and scattered 'R' mines encountered on main road. Schu mines found in verges and in woods. Armd D6 blown up on 'R' mine.</p> | |
| HAFFEN | 29. | | Pls engaged in clearing and marking mines in verges and woods in 227 Bde area. | JG |
| " | 30. | | 2 pl and 3 pl engaged in road repairs in Div area. | JG |
| " | 31. | 1200 1200 | <p>Coy moved to RE rest area N.W of DINGDEN.</p> <p>A pl sgt came off his m/bike and broke his leg.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Coy strength on 31 March.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Officers 6 + 1 attached from 40 RHU.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ORs. 239 + 3 sigs attached.</p> | JG |

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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit 20 Fld Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year APRIL 1945

Commanding Officer Major M.D. WILKINSON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|-------------------------|------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| HAFFEN Nr DINGDEN | 1. | | 1 pl established and maintained water point in Div Mar area. | JG |
| | 2. | 1400 | Coy paraded for GOC 15 Div inspection of 15 Div RE in 624 Fd Pks location. 2/LT J.J. MCGUCKIN joined Coy from 40 RHU. | JG |
| | 3. | | Coy resting and training (elementary). Water point closed at 1800 hrs. | JG JG |
| EMSDETTE | 4. | 0700 | Moved Coy to EMSDETTE W of OSNABRUCK. Distance 30 miles, moved in Bde group. | JG |
| | 5. | | Pls maintained 4 Bailey bridges over DORTMUND EMS Canal and Square route from COESFELD to OSNABRUCK. | JG |
| | 6. | | ditto | |
| " KELLEN | 7. | 1300 | Coy moved under orders CRE to KELLEN (W of MINDEN) arrived at 1900 hours, 65 miles journey. | JG |
| KELLEN | 8. | 1300 1600 1900 | Opened Div water point on EMS WESER Canal for Div tps Pls maintained Square route up and down from excl OSNABRUCK to incl KELLEN. Pl officer and Recce officer carried out route recce in Div area for condition of road. O.C. granted 14 compassionate leave in UK. Capt S. GORDON RE assumed command in his absence. 1 pl joined 279 Coy and came under command for building a class 40 Bailey over the WESER at SCHLUSSELBURG. | JG JG |
| KELLEN | 9. | 2000 | 1 pl returned after completion of bridge construction Maintenance Square Route continued. Maintenance of Water point continued. | JG |
| " WUNSTORF | 10 | 1300 | Water point closed. Maintenance Square route cont. Coy moved to conc area with 227 Bde S of STEINHUIDER MUIR for op with Bde Coy HQ located WUNSTORF. 1 pl joined HLI, 2 pl GORDONS, 3 pl in reserve with Coy HQ. | JG |
| WUNSTORF | 11. | 0330 0700 | Recce officer joined 15 (S) Div Recce Regt. Coy moved off in Bde column | JG JG |

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| | | 1400 | 2 pl in sup Gordons filled in a crater on main axis 2 miles NE of FUHRBERG. Work bulldozed and stone dumped by tippers. 3 hours work. | JG |
| | | 1000 | D6 Bulldozer on transporter put out of action by direct hit with light mortar bomb. | JG |
| | | 2300 | 1 pl in support HLI filled crater 3 miles further along main axis. 2 hours work. | JG |
| CELLE | 12. | 0600 | 3 pl in sup HLI removed charges from 2 bridges in CELLE. | JG |
| | | 1300 | 3 pl built 40 SS Bailey without end posts over subsidiary stream near ALTENCELLE. | JG |
| | | 1400 to 2000 | 2 pl, 1 pl and one platoon from 279 Fd Coy built a class 40 90ft T.S. Bailey and a 30ft SS Bailey over ALLER river in the centre of CELLE | JG JG |
| | 13. | 1100 | 3 pl built 60 DS Bailey bridge over 2 large craters 10 miles NE of CELLE. 2½ hours work. | JG |
| | | 1400 | 1 pl in supp HLI patched up and maintained partially demolished culvert at ESCHUDE | |
| | | 1500 | 2 pl filled by hand 2 large craters on main axis where road was on an embankment. Bulldozers could not work on site because of running sand. Craters took 5 hours to fill. | |
| | | 1800 | 1 pl started to bridge 2 large craters on axis with 40ft SS Bailey. ½ hour after commencement of work a time bomb went up on site. 5 men were wounded and 8 were evacuated suffering from shock and blast. Work was stopped on bridge on GOC's orders. 4 bridging lorries lost on site. Later recce proved that the enemy had laid 14 parachute mines (1000 KG) with delay action fuses spaced evenly in the verges at 30 yd intervals. Bde found a diversion which 3 pl maintained while Bde passed over it. | |
| | 14. | 0100 | Coy divided up between Bns of 227 Bde galloped through the woods to ULZEN outskirts. 1 pl leading with HLI. 1 pl came under fire from 4 barrelled AA guns (20 mm). 2 vehicles and 1 motor cycle burnt out. No casualties to personnel. | JG |
| ULZEN | 14. | 1200 | 1 sec 3 pl demolished steel & wooden bridge 30ft wide over River GERDAU 1½ miles S of ULZEN. | JG |
| ULZEN | 15 | 0300 | 3 pl ferried ASH Bn across the R ILMENAU SE of ULZEN. | JG |
| | | 1100 | 3 pl built footbridge over R. ILMENAU near the site of the assault crossing. | JG |
| | | 1900 | 3 pl built class 40 50ft SS Bailey without end posts at NIENDORF. Time taken 2 hours. 3 pl maintained bridge after completion. | JG |
| | | 2100 | Recce officer returned from Recce. His driver had been wounded during a strong enemy attack on NETTLEKAMP. | |
| ULZEN | 16. | | Coy resting, no work done. Maintenance bridge. | JG |

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|-------------|-------|--------------------|--|--------------|
| | 17&18 | | do. | |
| LUDERSBURG | 19. | 2100 to 0230 | Coy moved in support 227 Bde in gallop to river ELBE, no sapper work entailed on route. Coy harboured 3½ miles S of river at 891268 near LUDERSBURG. 1 pl built 60 DS class 40 Bailey over NEETZE KANAL and this was maintained by 2 pl. | JG JG |
| LUDERSBURG | 20. | | 3 pl standing by at 2100 hrs to build another bridge over NEETZE KANAL S of ALTENBURG. This was built by 11 Armd Div RE instead. | |
| LUDERSBURG | 21. | | Coy responsible for maintenance of all rds fwd of NEETZE KANAL. | JG |
| " | 23. | | Coy employed on night work filling 3 large 60ft craters blown by enemy close to river ELBE on main routes. Each pl responsible for one. These were filled by hand with the aid of large fascines prepared by pls during the day time. All craters finished on 26 April. Lt Thomas returned on 257 from 40 RHU. | JG |
| | 26. | | 1 pl widened existing timer decked bridge from 6'9" to 9'9" by re-laying wider decking. Recce officer during night 26/27 carried out and with 2 secs 3 pl opened a LVT route to river. | JG |
| LUDERSBURG | 27. | night | Plan changed. New route reced at night and opened a new LVT route for Op ENTERPRISE | JG |
| BRIETLINGEN | 28 | 1600 2359 | Coy moved less 1 pl to BRIETLINGEN 1 pl blew 3 prepared charges each 80 lbs which had been laid by them on previous night and with 2 armd D7 made two 24ft wide holes in flood bank for Commando's LVT's to enter water. Work finished at 0155 hrs, ie 5 minutes before zero hour. | JG JG |
| | 29. | 0600 1600 | 2, 3 & 1 pls crossed river carrying stores by hand in LVT ferry in sup 227 Bde for Op ENTERPRISE. 1 pl shelled. 2 casualties (physical), 8 men evacuated through battle exhaustion. 2 pl removed 2 timber road block on SCHNAKENBEK - GRUNHOF rd in sup 2 Gordons. | JG |
| GRUNHOF | 30. | | Pls harboured at SCHNAKENBEK, moved at 1930 hrs to N of GRUNHOF. Major M.D. Wilkinson returned 1800 hrs 29 April. Strengths 8 officers + 1 attached 227 ORs. | JG JG |

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WAR DIARY

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Unit 20 Fd Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Month and Year May

Commanding Officer Major M.D. WILKINSON

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | References to Appendices |
|----------------------|------------|------|---|--------------------------|
| GRUNHOF | 1. | 1900 | 3 pl in sup 2 Gordons (227) Bde removed rd block on GRUNHOF - GEESTHACHT road. 2 pl in support Bde of 53 Div cleared 5 TMI mines from two road block & anti tank ditches at GEESTHACHT on roads leading from river ELBE Coy HQ moved over river with pls transport and joined Coy and moved to WORTH 812404. | JG JG |
| WORTH | 2. | | Coy moved to ESCHBURG in support 227 Bde and harboured on road between GEESTHACHT and HAMBURG | JG |
| ESCHBURG WITZHAVE | 3. | | Coy move to WITZHAVE in support 227 Bde. Removed road block and repaired bridge at GRANDE. | |
| | 4. | | Moved to AHRENSBURG in support 227. No work done | JG |
| AHRENSBURG | 6 | | Removed 2 earth road blocks on autobahn between AHRENSBURG and HAMMOOR | |
| | 7. | | Celebrated VE night. | JG |
| AHRENSBURG | 13. | | Moved coy HQ to new house 300x yds from old location. | JG |
| " | 14 & 15 | | In support 227 Bde moved road block check points and gathered in straggling German troops. | JG |
| | 20. | 1200 | 2 pl took over maintenance class 40 floating Bailey bridge at GEESTHACHT and 3 pl took over maintenance class 40 Bailey (floating) at ARTLENBURG. 1 pl moved to DUMMERSDORF and prepared it for the eventual permanent location of company. 1 pl responsible to Field engineering in 227 Bde area. | |
| | 14-26 | | Recces carried out in Div area for engineer, tool, plant resources: KREIS, STORMAN, LAUENBURG, LUBECK & SEGEBURG. | |
| | 23. | | 2 pl in addition to maintenance of bridge took over erection of wire fence for SS P.W camp at NEUENGAMME. | |
| AHRESNBURG | (May) | | Coy engaged on conservancy, painting, cleaning tools etc in spare time | JG |

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| | 27. | | LT RGE LODGE RE released under INDUSTRIAL release scheme and sent to 105 CRC for transporting to England. HQ 21 AG letter /3927/2/4/ (demob) 23 May | JG |
| AHRENSBURG | 28 to 31. | | Pls engaged in bridge maintenance on river ELBE. | JG |
| | 2 May | | Lt P.D. BARRON RE posted from 3 Para Sqdn to 15 Div Auth. Main 2 Army RE 376 of 031200 31 May. Strength Officers 8 and 1 attached. ORs. 252 | JG |