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ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY
of
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~
(Delete heading not required).

Unit HQ 46 (H) Inf Bde incorporating
LAD and Def Pl attached.

Month and Year APRIL 1945.

Commanding Officer Brigadier RM VILLIERS, DSO.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
152498	1)		Ref maps : 1/250,000 Sheets HANNOVER (L 53), MAGDEBURG (M 53), 46 (H) Inf Bde remained in present area and bns cleared their	SCHWERIN (M 54)
	2)		areas of all enemy weapons and eqpt etc for salvage.	
	3	1900	Orders were received to move to conc area NORTH of BOCHOLT. Issue of 46 (H) Inf Bde Mov Order No 28. Bde HQ arrived at new location, 318643. During the night orders were received for move to a new conc area.	See Appx D-1.
	4	1400	Issue of 46 (H) Inf Bde Mov Order No 29. Bde HQ arrived at new location 829875.	See Appx D-2.
829875	5		Orders were received to move to new area and Mov Order No 30 was issued. This move entailed travelling through areas that had not been cleared of enemy. The Carrier Pls of the three bns were therefore formed into a protective screen to search and clear all rds SOUTH and SE of OSNABRUCK through which the main axis ran.	See Appx D-3.
	6		46 (H) Inf Bde moved to new area according to Mov Order No 30. Progress was very slow owing to the amount of traffic on the rd. The Carrier screen carried out their task successfully and rounded up nearly 100 PW.	
760183	7	0630	Bde HQ arrived in new location 760183. During the morning the Bde Comd visited bns. G III and IO visited Div HQ and received verbal orders from GSO I for clearing the wooded area FORST MINDEN 7222 of enemy stragglers.	
	8	1430	Bde Comd and IO reced FORST MINDEN to decide bdys and SLs for 9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H who were to clear the woods next day.	
	9		9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H cleared the wooded area 7222 but found very few enemy stragglers. 1 Offr and 3 OR PW being rounded up.	
	10		Issue of Mov Order No 31. 46 (H) Inf Bde moved across the R WESER to area WIEDENHSAHL 9322 according to Mov Order No 31. Orders were received that the Div was advancing next day to capture CELLE 5849 and an 'O' Gp was called for 1800 hrs.	See Appx D-4.

943213		1300 1800	Bde HQ arrived new location 943213. Bde Comd held 'O' Gp and issued 46 (H) Inf Bde OO No 24.	See Appx D-5.
	11	2230	<p>46 (H) Inf Bde Gp advanced in accordance with OO No 24. Slow but steady progress was made. By 1500 hrs leading tps of 9 CAMERONIANS had reached a pt just EAST of RAMLINGEN 5338 where they were held up by inf with bazookas in the area rly crossing 559389. Bde Comd ordered the Bde to deploy into the following areas : 9 CAMERONIANS ENGENSEN 4935, 2 GLAS H and 278 Fd Coy RE WETTMAR 4837, 7 SEAFORTH Kl. BURGWEDEL 4537, A Coy 1 MX 4435, 288 A Tk Bty RA 4434, 193 Fd Amb 4335, 4334. Bde HQ to be est at area 4735. Bde Comd then gave orders to CO 9 CAMERONIANS for an attack by 9 CAMERONIANS sp by 4 Tk COLDM GDS to clear the area of the rly crossing 559389. The attack was ordered for 1730 hrs. On the success of this attack one sqn of 15 (S) Recce Regt would pass through 9 CAMERONIANS followed by 2 GLAS H with the object of securing a br head over the br 580452 if found intact and adv on the outskirts of CELLE. Special task for 2 GLAS H was to secure office area and all documents and blueprints of the FOCKE-WOLF Factory at 589490. Should the br be found blown 2 GLAS H were to find an alternative route. 7 SEAFORTH were to take over the br head from 2 GLAS H.</p> <p>Enemy resistance was stiff and by 2200 hrs 9 CAMERONIANS were still trying to clear the area of the rly crossing. 2 GLAS H and 7 SEAFORTH were then infm that there would be no move for them before 2400 hrs.</p> <p>Bde Comd visited Div HQ to see Div Comd and discuss the situation.</p> <p>Bde HQ moved to 500358.</p>	
500358	12	0915	<p>During the night the enemy withdrew. At 0600 hrs loud explosions were heard which indicated that the br at 580452 had been blown. This proved correct. By 0700 hrs 9 CAMERONIANS occupied the area of the rly crossing and 2 GLAS H were ordered to pass through on foot and adv on CELLE, clearing every house as they went. 15 (S) Recce Regt was providing right flank protection. 7 SEAFORTH were infm that there would be no move for them before 0900 hrs.</p> <p>Bde Comd visited Div HQ to discuss situation with Div Comd. All brs on the rd leading into CELLE from the SW had been blown and the Bde Gp was held up except for the inf advancing on foot. On our left 227 (H) Inf Bde had succeeded in entering CELLE and at 1035 Bde Comd returned from Div HQ with orders that the Bde Gp would move to conc area 5848 by route GR BURGVEDEL 4335 and FUHRBERG 4343.</p>	

585482		1440 1710 2100	<p>Bde Comd visited Div HQ and received orders to recce defensive area NORTH of CELLE and to send one bn to area 6252 by last light to take up a def posn.</p> <p>Bde Comd ordered 2 GLAS H to cross R ALLER to area 6252 and COs 9 CAMERONIANS and 7 SEAFORTH and Osc sp arms to RV 607516 to receive his orders prior to carrying out recces of def posns NORTH of CELLE that evening.</p> <p>Bde HQ arrived 585482.</p> <p>Bde Comd and BM were summoned to Div HQ to receive fresh orders for the adv of the Div next day NE of CELLE, and Bde Comd ordered an 'O' Gp for 2100 hrs.</p> <p>Bde Comd's 'O' Gp was held. See Notes and Mov Table.</p>	See Appces D-6 and D-7.
585482 6963	13	0730 1930	<p>Bde Gp advanced NE in accordance with Mov Table at Appx D-7. No serious enemy opposition was encountered during the day but progress was slow owing to demolitions and bad rds. By the end of the day, owing to the necessity for clearing up small enemy pockets, the bns were deployed on a wide front with 9 CAMERONIANS in the area SCHARNHORST 7161, 2 GLAS H area ELDINGEN 7657, 7 SEAFORTH area UNTERLUSS 7373 and Bde HQ was est at ESCHEDI 6963.</p> <p>The Bde Comd visited 9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H and gave orders for further adv next day. 2 GLAS H and 7 SEAFORTH were to continue their adv 9 CAMERONIANS to clear the wooded area on the SOUTH side of the main rd leading into UELZEN 9089.</p>	
801767	14	2000	<p>Further progress was made during the morning but at 1200 hrs 227 Bde reported strong enemy resistance on the Southern outskirts of the town and the Bde was ordered to halt in the following areas : 7 SEAFORTH 8284, 9 CAMERONIANS 9071, 2 GLAS H 9079. Bde HQ moved to 801767.</p> <p>Bde Comd went to Div HQ and received orders for the conc of the Bde next day.</p>	
	15	0100	<p>These orders were despatched by LO to the three Bns as comms to bns were very difficult. 9 CAMERONIANS were eventually contacted. 2 GLAS H were completely out of touch and it was later learned that all was not well. Reports showed that a strong enemy force had attacked 2 GLAS H during the night. This force included 13 SP guns and 11 half-track vehs with inf. The SP guns included at least 6 7.5 Assault guns. The force had succeeded in getting right into the Bn HQ area of 2 GLAS H and causing considerable damage to 2 GLAS H vehs besides setting the village on fire. In some of the fiercest fighting they had ever experienced 2 GLAS H succeeded in inflicting hy losses on the enemy. 12 SP guns and</p>	

<p>801767</p> <p>873839</p>		<p>0900</p>	<p>approx 8 half-track vehs being destroyed. By 0900 hrs the posn was fully restored.</p> <p>Bde Comd went to Div HQ to give the situation to the Div Comd. He then ordered 9 CAMERONIANS to adv from BOKEL 9071 up to the line KALLERBROCK 9178 - STANDENSEN 9079 and send patrols fwd to NETTLKAMP 9280 in which direction the enemy were believed to have withdrawn.</p> <p>By 1300 hrs 9 CAMERONIANS had reached their objective and patrols had gone fwd to NETTELKAMP. This was found to be clear and at 1600 hrs 9 CAMERONIANS occupied it.</p> <p>Bde HQ moved to 873839.</p> <p>During the night 9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H were relieved by 6 Airdg Bde and moved to following areas : 2 GLAS H astride the rd in area 8786, 9 CAMERONIANS relieved 2 A & SH area VEERSEN 8988.</p>	
	<p>16</p>	<p>0600</p>	<p>9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H reported they were in posn and had passed a quiet night. The next task for the Bde was to capture UELZEN and Bde Comd held an 'O' Gp at 1700 hrs.</p> <p>Issue of OO No 25 and Adm Order No 21.</p>	<p>See Appces D-8 and G-1.</p>
	<p>17</p>	<p>1000</p> <p>1740</p>	<p>7 SEAFORTH were relieved by 15 (S) Recce Regt in the area 8586 in readiness for the attack on UELZEN.</p> <p>9 CAMERONIANS reported that they had started to occupy VEERSEN and Bde Comd decided that 7 SEAFORTH would take over from them and 2 GLAS H and 9 CAMERONIANS would continue the adv as planned. 9 CAMERONIANS continued to make good progress and Bde Comd then called fwd patrol from 2 GLAS H and CO 2 GLAS H to meet him at HQ 9 CAMERONIANS. VEERSEN was almost clear but patrols into UELZEN were not expected to start until 2400 hrs and Bde Comd could not say whether the adv would continue through the night or whether a fresh attack would have to be made at 0600 hrs next morning.</p>	
<p>873839</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>0030</p> <p>0600</p>	<p>Patrols reported having been fired on when they reached "EVE" and Bde Comd ordered 9 CAMERONIANS to send two coys and 2 GLAS H one coy fwd to occupy "EVE". Plan for eventual capture of UELZEN was then changed. At 0600 hrs 46 Bde was to adv with RIGHT 2 GLAS H and LEFT 7 SEAFORTH, SL to be "EVE".</p> <p>Attack began as planned and 7 SEAFORTH made good progress. By 1040 hrs they had one coy on "PHARAOH". 2 GLAS H had been held up on "MOSES" and at 1100 hrs Bde Comd ordered 9 CAMERONIANS to adv through 2 GLAS H when the latter had reached "PHARAOH", and capture areas "D" and "G". By 1445 hrs all organised resistance in UELZEN was considered at an end.</p>	

		1515	<p>Div Comd arrived at Bde HQ to discuss with Bde Comd whether he could pass 227 Bde through 46 Bde and NORTH of UELZEN that evening.</p> <p>Owing to the greater part of UELZEN being ablaze the civ problem caused some embarrassment for a time but owing to energetic action on the part of the Mil Gov offr the situation was soon in hand. By night 46 Bde was firmly est in the town and infm was received that 227 Bde would pass through at 0600 hrs next day and adv Northwards. There would be no move for 46 Bde before 1400 hrs next day.</p>	
BEVENSEN 9002	19	1800	<p>46 Bde Gp moved to conc area BEVENSEN 9002 in accordance with Mov Order No 32.</p> <p>Owing to excellent progress made by 11 Armd Div in adv toward the R ELBE orders were received that 46 Bde would move again next day and adv to the R ELBE.</p> <p>Bde Comd held 'O' Gp and gave orders for adv next day. Issue of Op Instr No 30.</p>	<p>See Appx D-9.</p> <p>See Appx D-10.</p>
BEVENSEN 9002	20		<p>46 (H) Inf Bde Gp adv according to Op Instr No 20. 9 CAMERONIANS were held up on main axis by small enemy pockets and Bde Comd decided to divert remainder of coln WEST from DAHLENDORF 0114. 9 CAMERONIANS were directed on BLECKEDE 0127, 7 SEAFORTH on NEETZE 9322, 2 GLAS H on BREETZE 9823.</p> <p>Stiff enemy resistance prevented 9 CAMERONIANS from entering BLECKEDE. CO 9 CAMERONIANS decided to send a deputation into BLECKEDE to negotiate surrender of the enemy. Negotiations however failed.</p> <p>7 SEAFORTH made good progress and reached NEETZE without opposition. They were then ordered to adv to area KARZE 9629 and GARZE 9828 and to send a coy as soon as possible to the area WENDEWISCHE 9333.</p> <p>Owing to change of inter-Div bdy BLECKEDE was now the responsibility of 5 Br Div on our right and 9 CAMERONIANS were ordered to occupy BREETZE 9822 leaving one coy in the area 0122. 2 GLAS H were ordered to occupy the area 9425. By 2100 hrs bns were est in these posns and Bde HQ was at 9422.</p>	
9422	21		<p>No enemy activity was reported during the night and at 1000 hrs Bde Comd visited bns with the following plan. 7 SEAFORTH were to go to area HITTBERGEN 9031, with one coy in area 9532 and one coy in area 9432 with a pl or det with OP at BARFORDE 9334. 2 GLAS H to area KARZE 9628 with one or two coys in BRACKEDE 9832 and RADEGAST 9931. 9 CAMERONIANS were to conc in GARZE 9828.</p>	

			By 1700 hrs the Bde was disposed as above and bn OPs began to observe enemy mov on the opposite bank of the R ELBE of which there was a considerable amount. Bde HQ moved during day to area 9526.	
9526	22		Enemy mov particularly MT was observed throughout the day along the rd BOIZENBURG 9935 - LAUENBURG 8835. Owing to shortage of amn guns were not able to engage.	
	23		The usual enemy mov was observed during the day and at 2110 hrs one pl was seen to move into area 971347 and dig in.	
	24	0900	Bde Comd and BM attended preliminary conferences at Div HQ for OP ENTERPRISE which involved a crossing of the R ELBE.	
9526	25	1000	Bde Comd held 'O' Gp at Bde HQ to give out his Outline Plan for OP ENTERPRISE. Issue of Outline Plan and Outline Adm Plan.	See Appces D-11 and G2.
909292		1700	Bde HQ moved to new location 909292.	
	26	1800	Bde Comd held further 'O' Gp at Bde HQ to discuss Outline Plan and Veh priorities. Issue Veh priority Tables.	See Appx D-12.
	27	1000	Bde Comd and BM attended co-ordinating conference at Div HQ. Original plan had now been changed and Bde Comd called another 'O' Gp for 2100 hrs and issued OO No 26. During the day 1 CDO Bde made unsuccessful attempts to persuade the enemy in LAUENBURG to surrender. During the night 2 GLAS H and 7 SEAFORTH were relieved by 15 (S) Recce Regt and conc in KARZE and HITTBERGEN ready for OP ENTERPRISE.	See Appx D-13.
	28		Issue of amendments and Addendum to OO No 26. Issue of Adm Order No 22.	See Appx D-14. See Appx G-3.
		1000	Bde Comd and IO recced site for Bde Tac HQ in BULLENDORF 8831.	
		2130	Bde Tac HQ was set up in BULLENDORF and comns est.	
	29	0200	OP ENTERPRISE started according to plan and 1 CDO Bde captured LAUENBURG against only slight enemy resistance. By 0345 hrs 7 SEAFORTH (under comd 1 CDO Bde) were all across. Inf of 9 CAMERONIANS and 2 GLAS H were across in their conc area by 0600 hrs. Some difficulty was experienced in finding a suitable landing place for vehs. At 0900 hrs therefore Bde Comd ordered 2 GLAS H and 9 CAMERONIANS inf to move to areas X rds 859369 and 870368 respectively and not to VAA to join vehs. Vehs would be guided up to them later and as soon as bns had minimum tpt for their tasks they would adv to carry them out. A landing site was eventually found at 870345 and owing to good work on the	

		2000	<p>7 SEAFORTH were ordered to clear the enemy from the wood at 893403. 9 CAMERONIANS to patrol to wood 904404 and obtain all possible infm for 15 (Brit) Bde.</p> <p>2 GLAS H were to continue adv on LUTAU.</p> <p>By 1700 hrs 7 SEAFORTH had cleared the wood 893403 and occupied it with two coys. Offensive action by 9 CAMERONIANS against enemy in wood 904404 had produced 38 PW but it still could not be considered as clear.</p> <p>2 GLAS H made good progress and although encountering stiff opposition at first the enemy resistance seemed to melt suddenly and the village was captured by 1400 hrs. With 2 GLAS H in LUTAU and 9 CAMERONIANS and 7 SEAFORTH firmly astride main rd at 8939 ops for 46 (H) Inf Bde were called to a halt and orders were received that the Bde would conc next day in Div res in the area GULZOW 8342.</p> <p>At 1830 hrs 15 (Brit) Bde passed through 9 CAMERONIANS and 7 SEAFORTH and advanced on DALLDORF.</p> <p>Bde Comd visited 9 CAMERONIANS and 7 SEAFORTH and infm COs of future plans. There would be no move before 0900 hrs.</p>	
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