

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 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

		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 ESCHÉDE	
		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

	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 recce'd 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