

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. 1. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

ARMY FORM C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

Unit HQ 44 (L) Inf Bde

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year Aug 44

Commanding Officer Brigadier JC COCKBURN, MBE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
AUBIGNY SOUTH of CAUMONT	1	0330 1735	<u>44 (L) Inf Bde Op Instr No 2 issued.</u> 44 (L) Inf Bde were in def posns on LEFT of main thrust giving flank protection. There were some confused enemy counter attacks area BOIS DU HOMME during the morning, but these were all broken up by arty. 6 KOSB (on MINDEN DAY) made an attack towards BOIS DU HOMME to fill the gap between 8 RS and 7 SEAFORTH through which the enemy were infiltrating. This attack was successful. 18 PsW from 125 Pz GR of 21 Pz Div were taken. Strong enemy forces were thought to be in BOIS DU HOMME woods preparing counter attack.	Appx 1.
	2	1645	A quiet day consolidating posns. Contact was est with 43 Div on LEFT. <u>44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Instr No 2 issued.</u> <u>44 (L) Inf Bde Adm Order No 1 issued.</u>	Appx 2 Appx 3
	3	0815 1600 2130	Bde Gp at one hrs notice to move after 1000 hrs. Bde Comd and Bde IO went fwd to Gds Armd Div HQ and made recce. 7 SEAFORTH came under comd 44 (L) Inf Bde and moved fwd behind Gds Armd Div. Bde Gp and Bde HQ moved up to area LE TOURNEUR. 6 RSF with one sqn 4 TK GREN GDS attacked and captured MONT CHAUVET.	
LE TOURNEUR	4	0630 1254 1700	8 RS, 6 KOSB and 1 WG attacked hill feature EAST of LE BENY BOCAGE which was holding up Gds Armd Div and cleared it. 44 (L) inf Bde were under comd Gds Armd Div. 1 WG ordered to occupy MONTCHAMP and return to comd of 32 Gds Bde. 1 WG attack against MONTCHAMP met hy resistance and did not succeed.	
	5	1300	Bde Gp at 4 hrs notice to move, but did not move today. 46 (H) Inf Bde passed through.	
LE HAUT	6		46 (H) Inf Bde attacked on LEFT but were unsuccessful and 44 (L) Inf Bde in the afternoon moved up to area EAST of MONTCHAUVET. 46	

EAST of MONTCHAUVET			(H) Inf Bde moved back to area CAVERIE and LE CORNU and 227 (H) Inf Bde failed to capture ESTRY. <u>44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Instr No 3 issued.</u> <u>Outline of Ops by 8 Corps issued.</u>	Appx 4 Appx 5
	7	0330	<u>44 (L) Inf Bde Op Instr No 3 issued.</u> 44 (L) Inf Bde moved to posns covering the gap between MONTCHAMP and ESTRY. Bde HQ moved to top of hill above MONTCHAMP and later to MONTCHARIVEL. Series of 'O' Gps held today to plan attack on ESTRY.	Appx 6
	8	1200	6 RSF on LEFT and 6 KOSB on RIGHT with tks of 4 GREN GDS attacked ESTRY. Tks were held up by difficult ground and 6 RSF inf were pinned down by MG fire and could not make progress. 6 KOSB made progress on to objective but were then forced to withdraw by hy MG and mor fire. 8 RS on LEFT were relieved by 2 A & SH and conc behind 6 RSF and 6 KOSB.	
	9	0255 1330 2100	8 RS reported in new posn. 6 RSF and 6 KOSB were holding on at ESTRY. Counter attack by inf and tks on 6 KOSB repulsed by arty. Further counter attack on 6 KOSB beaten off. Bde HQ moved to a farm near MONTCHAMP, NORTH of ESTRY, where it was shelled during the night by a SP gun from ESTRY.	
Farm near MONTCHAMP	10		It was thought that the enemy might be withdrawing from ESTRY but patrols est they were still there.	
Farm near MONTCHAMP	11	1315 2035	No change - enemy still in ESTRY. <u>44 (L) Inf Bde Op Instr No 4 issued and Amendment No 1.</u> A sqn of TYPHOON rocket-firing fighters attacked LE THIEL, just behind ESTRY.	Appx 7
	12	1200	Still no enemy withdrawal from ESTRY. <u>44 (L) Inf Bde Adm Order No 1 issued.</u> 8 RS overnight relieved 6 RSF and 6 KOSB.	Appx 8
	13	0345 1610	Relief by 8 RS complete. There were indications throughout the day that enemy were withdrawing. 8 RS reported a patrol had got right through ESTRY and found no enemy. A carrier patrol from 8 RS later reached LE THIEL, SOUTH of ESTRY. During the night 44 (L) Inf Bde was relieved by 159 Bde of 11 Armd Div, and moved to a conc area near ST PIERRE TARENTEINE.	
	14	0215 0420 1300	<u>44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Order No 4 issued.</u> Hand over complete. Bde HQ moved to a field at ST PIERRE TARENTEINE. Bde moved away from the CAUMONT sector of the front and came back under comd of 12 Corps. The move was via MONTAMY - JURQUES - VILLERS BOCAGE - NOYERS - Verson - AMAYE-SUR-ODON, past the old ODON battlefields.	Appx 9

AMAYE-SUR-ODON	15	1130	GOC 15 (S) Inf Div visited units in the Bde.	
	16		A quiet day at same location.	
	17	1300 2300	WARNING ORDER - Div to be prepared to move NOT before 0600 hrs, 18 Aug, to area FRESNEY - BOIS HALBOUT. 44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Order No 5 issued.	Appx 10
BOIS HALBOUT	18	0900	Bde moved to new location via THURY HARCOURT.	
	19		No move. Bde resting.	
	20		Still no move.	
	21)	No move.	
	22)		
	23	0030 1400 1500	44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Instr No 6 issued. 44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Order No 7 issued - Op "GALLOP". Also Amendment No 1 Bde Gp moved through FALAISE to area DAMBLAINVILLE.	Appx 11 Appx 12
DAMBLAINVILLE	24		Bde Gp prepared to move EAST from DAMBLAINVILLE but did not get under way until 1500 hrs. Moved via ST FOI DE MONTGOMERY - VIMOUTIERS to short of ORBEC. Bde HQ spent the night in a field beside the rd some miles from ORBEC.	
ORBEC - LE NEUBOURG rd	25	0200 0630	44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Order No 8 issued. Bde Gp continued the adv via ORBEC - BERNAY - BEAUMONT-LE-ROGER - LE NEUBOURG. Some trouble was occasioned by brs blown at BEAUMONT-LE-ROGER, but after a pause the adv was continued. Bde HQ reached LE NEUBOURG about 0100 hrs.	Appx 13
LE NEUBOURG	26	2320	Bde remained here all day in def posns. 44 (L) Inf Bde Mov Order No 9 issued.	Appx 14
LE NEUBOURG	27	2330	Bde moved today to area LOUVIERS preparatory to crossing the R SEINE, but the situation was fluid and 227 (H) Inf Bde crossed the SEINE about 1830 hrs. 6 RSF crossed the R SEINE and est brhead.	
LOUVIERS	28	0150 0650 1000 1200 2300	6 RSF reported all bn across and est. Bde HQ moved to roadside above the R SEINE. 8 RS all over the river. 6 KOSB all over the river. Ferrying of tpt over the river went on hard all day. 6 RSF attacked and captured SENNEVILLE.	
Roadside above R SEINE	29	1315	6 KOSB and 8 RS pushed NORTH and est wider br head incl LA LONDE - VATTEVILLE - BACQUEVILLE - HERQUEVILLE. Bde HQ crossed the R SEINE and est at VATTEVILLE.	

VATTEVILLE	30		Bde remained in posns and 7 Armd Div and 53 Div went through to the NORTH. Many prisoners - stragglers - were rounded up from woods and fields.	
	31	1430	8 RS and 6 RSF drove through Forest of BACQUEVILLE to clear it of GERMANS, but did not find any. <u>Casualty Returns attached.</u>	