

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 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<br>1600               | 1 pl handed over maintenance of TIN to 279 - renamed SQUARE.<br>40 men 1 pl loaded stores at Field Pk Coy.<br>2 pl maintaining water point.                                       | JG<br>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<br>to<br>0900<br>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<br>1000               | 1 pl placed <del>under cmd</del> 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<br>to<br>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                       |

|                      |       |                      |   |          |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------|---|----------|
|                      |       | 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<br>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<br>PUCEUX | 17    | 0800<br>0830         | 1 pl opened water point at FRESNEY-LE-PUCEUX.<br>Coy moved to new harbour at FRESNEY-LE PUCEUX  | JG<br>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<br>2359         | Coy moved to new location BOIS HALBOUT and concentrated with 227 Bde in preparation for Ex GALLOP.<br>Approx 6 E/A came overhead. Bombs were dropped: The nearest one fell 100 yds from 3 pl. No casualties sustained.  | JG<br>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<br>1800<br>2300 | 1 pl, 2 pl and Coy HQ moved to new harbour W of VIMOUTIERS.<br>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)<br>2 pl started building 70 ft DS class 40 Bailey bridge over river LATOUGUE using existing abutments. | JG       |
| VIMOUTIERS           | 25    | 0100<br>1300         | 3 pl started building 50ft DS class 40 Bailey bridge over bomb crater 100 yds E of demolished LATOUGUE bridge.<br>All three bridges completed in order 1 pl, 3 pl & 2 pl. Traffic allowed to pass over road will proceed on SUN ROUTE.  | JG       |

|                              |    |                             |   |              |
|------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
|                              |    | 1600<br>1815                | HQ Coy moved to temporary pl Harbour E of VIMOUTIERS<br>Coy complete moved to new Div concentration area on West end of the Forest of BEAUMONT (30 miles move).   | JG           |
| FORET DE<br>BEAUMONT<br>BRAY | 26 | 0630<br><br>1200            | 1 pl with Fd Park Coy Bailey Pl (½ pl) left coy harbour and moved in support 227 Bde to LOUVIERS area.<br>2 pl, 3 pl & HQ moved to new harbour area BRAY.<br>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<br><br>JG |
| QUATREMARE                   | 27 | 0230<br>1645<br>1600        | Bridge completed and opened.<br>Coy HQ moved to new harbour QUATREMARE.<br>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 | <br><br>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.<br>3 pl maintaining class 12 Bailey bridge at LOUVIERS and clearing obstacles in river EURE at bridge site.<br>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<br><br>JG |
| ST PIERRE DU<br>VAUVRAY      | 29 | 0450<br><br>1700            | HQ and pls crossed Bailey bridge over River SEINE and moved to temporary harbour on E bank of river<br>Coy HQ and pls moved to harbour near ANDE.   | JG           |
| ANDE                         | 30 | day<br><br>1200<br><br>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.<br>3 pl maintenance class 40 Bailey Pontoon bridge at ST PIERRE DU VAUVRAY.<br>1 pl took over from 3 pl  | JG<br>JG     |
| ANDE                         | 31 | 0800<br>day                 | 3 pl took over from 1 pl.<br>2 pl road maintenance bridge approaches with 200 attached infantry. Employed digging mud off road.<br><br><br>Strength of company on 31 August 1944<br>6 Officers 221 OR's.  |              |