

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 97th Anti-Tank Regiment R.A.

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year June 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col K.L. BEDDINGTON R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
STEYNING	1 -5		Final Waterproofing.	
Sussex.	6		D Day. Code word 'Adoration' received.	
"	8		Received code word 'Greyhound'	
"	9		" " " 'Bunch'	
"	10	1220 1530	Received message to move 159 Battery. 159 Bty proceeded to London Marshalling Area T1.	
"	11		159 Bty vehs loaded and Bty moved to S 54	
"	13	1430 0430	159 Bty embarked on SS Samont M.T.11. 161 Bty proceeded to London Marshalling Area Embarkation Camp 'T'	
"	14		159 Bty lay at anchor off Southend.	
"	15	1030	RHQ and 346 Bty proceeded to London Marshalling Area and were split between S 3 and S 6. 159 Bty arrived off Gold Beach and anchored. 161 Bty vehs loaded on S 80 M.T. S.	
	16		RHQ and 346 Bty vehs loaded on SS Emp Lankester. 159 Bty still at anchor off French Coast. 161 Bty sailed to anchorage.	
	17		RHQ & 346 Bty sailed to Southend. 159 Bty partly unloaded. 161 Bty set sail	
	18		RHQ and 346 Bty left anchorage at Southend. 159 Bty completed unloading and went to Concentration Area. 161 Bty anchored off 'Gold' and moved later to 'Juno'	
	19/20		No change RHQ, 346, 161 & 159. 286 Bty moved to C 3 Camp Southampton.	
	23		RHQ and 346 Bty disembarked on J Beach Gold Area and concentrated Vaux Sur Seulles. 161 Bty commenced to disembark.	
	24		RHQ and 346 Bty moved to area 'Colly'. 161 Bty completed disembarkation and concentrated area St Gabriel.	

B.L.A.	25		Preparation for Exercise Epsom. 159 Bty under Comd 44 Bde, 161 Bty under Comd 46 Bde and 346 Bty under Comd 227 Bde.	
	26	1515	H Hour Op Epsom. RHQ moved to Putot-en-Bessin.	
	27		159 and 161 Btys report each have destroyed 1 Pz Kw V	
	29	1530	286 Bty arrive in theatre of operations. 286 Bty do recce for deployment.	JM Ockleshaw Lt RA A/ADJ cv Lt Col 97 A/T Regt RA
	30		286 Bty deploy.  Appx 'A' 159 Bty War Diary. Appx 'B' 161 Bty War Diary.) Appx 'C' 286 Bty War Diary.) Not here KLB 1/8/44 Appx 'D' 346 Bty War Diary.) Appx 'E' Summary of Events 26 Jun - 1 July 44 161 Bty) Not here Appx 'F' Summary of Events 26 Jun - 1 July 44 161 Bty) KLB Appx 'G' Copy AFs W 3008 and W 3009	

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# WAR DIARY

or

Unit 97th Anti-Tank Regiment R.A.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year JULY 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col P.R. Henderson R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Field	1	1400	RHQ moved to new location 920746. During the day 159 Bty moved back into area BRONAY 8872 - PUTOT-EN-BESSIN 9072 - BRETTEVILLE 9272. This is the reserve position. 346 Bty went into harbour at 914740	
	2	1200	159 Bty ordered to harbour in area SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN 9274	
	3	1700	Lt Col K.L. Beddington R.A. retained in CCS.	
	6	1200 1430	CRA spoke to all officers and NCOs re lessons of recent ops. 2IC to conference under General Montgomery.	
	7	1330	Notice of move of 44 Bde received and 159 and two tps of 17 pr 346 Bty.	
	8	0200 1200 2000 2200	159 Bty with 346 Bty less K Tp under comd came under comd 59 A Tk Regt and at the same time in support of 44 Bde. At 1200 hrs above came under comd 71 A Tk Regt and remained in support of 44 Bde in TOURVILLE area. Minor adjustments required to close gap between 21 A Tk Regt at ST MAUVIEU and 286 Bty in NORREY-EN-BESSIN area. Above adjustment completed by moving one 17 pr into ST MAUVIEU area	
Field	10	1805	286 BC forward with Brig for recce Verson Area. 286 BHQ moved to 923729	
	12	0900 0400 1100 1600	161 Bty withdrawn to area 9173 less 1 gun. Major P.R. Henderson R.A. appointment as Commanding Officer confirmed Commanding Officer tried to arrange 159 and 2 Tps 346 relief. Major R.T. Ashby R.A. appointed Second-in-Command. Capt T. Fleming RA assumes command 161 Bty. Message received from 71 A Tk Regt 346 Bty can leave without relief.	
	13	0800	Priority residue arrive under Lieut Edwards.	

		0800	Reported that 159 Bty and two tps of 346 Bty had withdrawn and were remaining on wheels NE of SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN. Commanding Officer to CRAs 'Jurga'	
		0900	Demonstration and trial of Churchills towing 17 pdrs.	
	14	0800	Move to 936677. 161 in reserve. 159 Bty in support of 44 Bde. 346 Bty in support of 46 Bde. 286 Bty in support of 227 Bde.	
	15/16		1st Phase of 'Greenline'	
Field	16	1200	286 Bty report 2 17 pr guns knocked out. 159 Bty report 1 17 pr gun knocked out. Also 5 Quads, 2 Carden Loyd Carriers, 1 Jeep and 1 MC. Missing at least 23. Battle continues.	
	17	0200	Remnants of G Tp return.	
	18	0930	RHQ locations now 898698. 346 Bty deployed overnight in area S of GRANVILLE SUR ODON. 286 Bty withdrawn with 227 Bde to New Area in action LE HAUT DU BOSC. 159 Bty to be withdrawn.	
	19		159 Bty being relieved by 71 A Tk Regt with 44 Bde.... to be completed by 1600 hrs.	
	21	1000	346 Bty still supporting 46 Bde, 159 Bty recce posn in reserve with 44 Bde, 286 Bty deploy still with 227 Bde. Major N.P. McLeod R.A. Bty Comd 159 Bty left for England to attend course No 14 at Camberley Staff College. Capt R.E. Wheatly RA assumed Temp Comd.	
	22	1200	Commanding Officer, 2 i/c and BCs to conference with CRA re taking over from U.S. Army. Div area E of St Lo.	
Field	23	1330  2215	RHQ move to 692692. 159 Bty move to 692690 in reserve. 161 Bty move to 682617 in support of 44 Bde. 286 Bty move to 702644 in support of 227 Bde. 346 Bty move out with 46 Bde to rest area La Bette 7370. 44 Bde relieve 10 US Regt. 227 Bde relieve 11 US Regt, 46 Bde rest. Capt T Fleming RA called to say 44 Bde reorganising and regrouping their positioning tomorrow which might necessitate moving guns. Present posn one tp in, other two going in after dark. Lieut M.I. Hore RA joined 161 Bty. Lieut C.T. Gillespie RA joined RHQ.	
	25	1100	Capt T Fleming RA reported that 46 Bde were taking over from 44 Bde on 26th. 1 bn at 1600 hrs 2 bns at night. 44 Bde joined by Combat Tp with two bofors and Recce with 4 6 pdrs.	
	26		46 Bde take over as above. 159 Bty deploy in area of 69 Grid line between Northings 59 & 64 in independent role.	
	28		Capt J. Carr R.A. posted to 161 Bty as Capt 'Q'	

Field	29		Preparation for operation Blue Coat. 159 Bty in reserve with 44 Bde. 161 Bty in support 46 Bde. 286 Bty in support 227 Bde. 346 Bty in reserve. 146/91 S.P. Bty under command and given to 46 Bde.	
	30	1200	RHQ move to 716626 completed.  Appx 'A' 159 Bty War diary. Appx 'B' 161 Bty War Diary. Appx 'C' 286 Bty War Diary. Appx 'D' 346 Bty War Diary. Appx 'E' Copy AFs W 3008 and W 3009 Appx 'F' June Copy War Diary Appx 'G' Intelligence Summary 161 Bty for 23 Jul	H. Sharp Capt. RA.

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ARMY FORM C.2118

# WAR DIARY

or

Unit 97th Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year August 1944

Commanding Officer Lt Col P.R. Henderson R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Field	1		E Tp, 161 Bty claim 2 tanks knocked out, and 1 tank disabled.	
	2	1300	Major Gordon joined and took over command of 159 Battery RHQ moved to 685554	
	3		Continued advance all fronts	
	4	1600	RHQ moved to 682510	
	7		Capt Carr evacuated and off strength. Jeep accident. Lieut McGregor, RA posted to 286 Bty. Capt McDonald attached as Capt "Q" 161 Bty. 346 Bty relieved 161 Bty. 161 Bty in reserve. 346 Bty in support of 46 Bde.	
	8	1200 1600	RHQ moved to 682425 RHQ moved to 696463. 286 Bty G Tp claim two Mk IVs	
	10		Capt Carlisle R.A. posted to 161 Bty as Capt "Q". Capt McDonald now spare.	
	11		146 SP Bty who were under command 227 Bde and were going to 46 Bde on Code Word "Dunhill", now under command 3 Div.	
Field	12		Capt Masters RA promoted to Major and to be Battery Commander 346 Bty. Lieut Graham RA promoted to Capt "Q" of 286 Bty. Capt Sharp RA appointed Adjutant. Major Mason, RA posted to 159 Battery and to be Battery Commander 159 Bty. 346 Bty withdrawn from line.	
	13	1415	C.R.A's "O" Group attended by Commanding Officer. Lt. Gillespie, RA attached to 346 Bty in lieu of Lieut Whitby, RA who was admitted to Hospital sick, not battle casualty.	
	14	1245	RHQ move to new area 962577 Amaye-sur-Orne. Concentration Area. 161 Bty in support of 46 Bde who move to Corps Reserve Area on the 15th. 346 Bty in support of 44 Bde. 286 Bty remain in support of 227 Bde. 159 Bty withdrawn from line.	
	16		CRA inspected 159, 286 and 346 Btys. HQ 15 (S) Inf Div & HQRA 15 Div move fwd to 007542 but RHQ remained in same location.	
	17		161 Bty deployed in support 46 Bde, area St Martin-le-Mieux.	
	18	1600	RHQ and 159 Bty moved to area Fresney-le-Vieux 0048	

	19		HQRA move to area Le Hamel. Major Murphy, RA posted to the Regiment, surplus to establishment. Lt Ockleshaw evacuated sick, not battle casualty.	
Field	20		HQ 15 Div and RHQ move to Le Hamel (0939) plus 286 and 159 Btys held in Div Reserve. 161 and 346 Btys remain in support of 46 and 44 Bdes respectively. 129 SP Bty placed under command of Regiment. 11 O.R's posted as reinforcements.	
	21		Col Fletcher commanding 86 Anti-Tank Regt RA calls re employment of SP Bty under command of this Regiment. Orders received that 227 and 44 Bdes were to move to concentration area east of Falaise.	
	22		All moves for 227 and 44 Bdes cancelled. Authority received to draw an extra 30 r.p.g. HE for 6 and 17 pdrs. AP to be given in exchange.	
	23		227 and 44 Bdes move to concentration area east of Falaise, together with 286 and 346 Btys in support. Orders received for move of 129 SP Bty to concentration area, 2 Tps and BHQ in support of 44 Bde, and 1 Tp in support of 227 Bde. HQ 15 Div and HQRA move to area 252332. Orders received for Operation "Gallop". RHQ, 159 and B Echelons move on Sun Route.	
Field	24		RHQ, 159 Bty and B Echelons move up to area 252332. Div moving on 3 routes. Star Route 44 Bde and 346 Bty. Sun Route 227 Bde and 286 Bty, Div HQ and RHQ. Moon Route 46 Bde and 161 Bty. RHQ established at 185334 1900 hrs. Advance delayed due to demolitions.	
	25		Advance continues. RHQ, 159 Bty and B Echelons change to Star Route. Position at 2200 hrs, - 227 Bde and 286 Bty in area 022740. 44 Bde and 346 Bty in area 025838. 46 Bde and 161 Bty in harbour area 885769. RHQ established at area 834752.	
	26		HQ 15 Div and HQRA 15 Div move to Cambon 0078. 159 Bty and RHQ established 011786. 44 Bde and 346 Bty area 019838. 46 Bde and 161 Bty area 007727. 227 Bde and 286 Bty area 022740.	
Field	27		HQ 15 Div and RHQ move to area 185888. 44 Bde and 346 Bty area 206890. 46 Bde and 161 Bty 297844. 227 Bde HQ and 286 Bty BHQ area 245886. 10 HLI and 2 Gordons cross Seine. Attack starts 1830 hrs supported by 6 and 17 pdrs Tps 286 Bty from H.E. Crossing accomplished between bridges 2690 and 2788. 129 SP Bty to Div Reserve and harboured 159891.	
	28		HQ 15 Div, RHQ, move forward of Louviers prior to move over Seine. RHQ established 1900 hrs 246891. 159 Bty established 248919. 129 SP Bty and B Echelon remain in area 159891, 161 Bty 297844, 286 Bty 260895, 346 Bty 261921.	
	29		44 Bde and 346 Bty cross Seine and deploy in area 320953. 46 Bde and 161 Bty cross Seine and deploy in area Cuverville. 227 Bde and	

			286 Bty cross Seine and deploy in area 3390. RHQ, 159 Bty and B Echelon remain same location. Lt Ockleshaw RA rejoins from Hospital.	
	30		HQ 15 (S) Div, RHQ, 159 Bty cross Seine. RHQ established 329905, 159 Bty 325898, 161 Bty and 46 Bde area 367927. All other locations remain the same.	
	31		HQ 15 (S) Div remains same location. Orders received for Div to provide one General Transport Coy. (97 A.Tk Regt, RA providing 17 3-tonners, 1 Jeep, 3 M/cs).	Appendix A B C D War Diaries of 159, 161, 286 & 346 Appendix E Copy of Returns



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# WAR DIARY

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Unit 97th Anti-Tank Regiment R.A.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year SEP 1944

Commanding Officer Lieut Col P.R. HENDERSON

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1		Warning Order received for Div move to area SW Amiens preparatory to further operations across R. Somme. 346 Bty <del>under comd</del> in support 44 Bde. 161 Bty <del>under comd</del> in support 46 Bde. 286 Bty <del>under comd</del> in support 227 Bde and 159 Bty in reserve.	
	2.		Div Recce and harbour parties leave for area 503136	
	3.		Div HQ and RHQ move to area 503136 - 503137 - established 1800 hrs. H Tp 286 Bty and 2 A.S.H. across R. Somme. 44 Bde and 346 Bty in area 492162. 46 Bde and 161 Bty in area 511147. 227 Bde and 286 Bty area Le Tranques.	
	4.		Div move to area Harcourt 6133 Btys regroup 44 Bde and 159 Bty 46 Bde and 161 Bty 227 Bde and 346 Bty RHQ established 1500 hrs 601325	
	5.		Div HQ and RHQ plus 286 Bty move to area 095049 San Pol Btys remain with Bde groups with the exception of 161 Bty who return to Div reserve.	
	6.		Orders received to move to area Thielt Roulliers Courtrai 8657. RHQ move to 890449 159 Bty 824510 with 44 Bde 161 Bty 882444 (Unattached) 286 Bty 905432 (unattached) 346 Bty remain in old location with 227 Bde 46 Bde ordered to join 7 Armd Div	
	7		161 Bty in support 278 Fd Coy R.E ordered to assist in mopping up SW of Alvelghen. Deployed with orders to use HE amn when required. 129 SP A Tk Bty placed under command this regt.	
	8		Regrouping for ops. 44 Bde and 159 Bty. 227 Bde and 346 Bty. 161 and 286 Btys Div reserve. 227 Bde and 346 Bty deploy in area Churshauten 0060. Div HQ established in area Petergen RHQ at 061564 159 and 44 Bde 947632 227 Bde and 346 Bty 161 and 286 Btys all in Div reserve.	
	9/10		Preliminary orders received for move of Division to area 5164. Lieut Gillespie posted from 346 Bty to RHQ. Div moves to area Ramsdonck 6174. RHQ established 625766. 44 Bde and 159 Bty area	

			645726. 46 Bde and 161 Bty area 5975 227 Bde and 346 Bty remain old location. 286 Bty remain in Div reserve.	
	11		227 Bde and 346 Bty move up to area Ramsdonck. Preliminary orders received for move on 12 Sep to area of Gheel. 129 SP Bty now to support 46 Bde. Capt Carlyle R.A. evacuated.	
	12		Div move to area Gheel 0888. RHQ established 041810 159 Bty 055843 with 44 Bde deploy SW of Gheel over Albert Canal. 161 Bty at 040845 with 46 Bde deploy over the Albert canal South of Gheel. 286 Bty go to harbour area 058778. 346 Bty remain in old area with 227 Bde.	
	13		227 Bde move up with 346 Bty to area Meerhout over Albert Canal. 159 Bty move to 058878. 129 SP Bty (under comd) one troop to each Bde	
	14		RHQ move to 092845 286 Bty to 093846	
	15		159 Bty and 161 Bty and 129 SP Bty engaged targets with H.E. amn. Orders received to expend no further HE amn. Capt MacDonald R.A. posted to 37 RHU.	
	16	0200	Frequency changed. B Echelon move to 085842. 346 Bty move to 179898. 159 Bty move to 080905. 161 Bty move to 058871. Lt Gillespie R.A. posted to 159 Bty from RHQ. Lieut Slater R.A. promoted to Capt and interposted from 159 Bty to 161 Bty.	
	17		346 Bty move to 109896	
	18		159 Bty move to 150913	
	20	0200	Fire Plan Two 17 pdrs from 346 Bty fire 60 rds HE into area Casterle. Capt Clarke R.A. attached to RHQ	
	20/21		227 Bde withdrawn from bridgehead North of Gheel.	
	21		44 Bde with 159 Bty move to area Steensel. 46 Bde with 161 Bty to West of Eindhoven RHQ and B Ech to area South West of Eindhoven.	
	22		227 Bde less 10 HLI with 346 Bty move to Veldhoven 3713. 46 Bde less 9 Cams force bridgehead over Wilhelmina Canal short of Best. 286 Bty to be in support 227 Bde. 346 Bty in Div reserve.	
	23	0930	Second in Command visits HQ 227 Bde at Veldhoven 3714 plan ascertained to be 227 Bde less 10 H.L.I. with in support 286 Bty and 129 SP Bty to concentrate in area Mensvoort 4123 in Second Army Reserve.	
	24		CO attended 'O' Group where it was decided that 46 Bde would slightly better the posn and that 44 Bde would then go through supported by armour fanning out North to North West on the road to	

			Boxtel 3335. 227 Bde placed under Army Command to proceed to Schindel (Move not made) Lt Firth Tp Comd of 129 SP Bty reported as wounded whilst being employed on HE shoot with 46 Bde.	See Trace No1 (44 bde and 159 bty A/T layout)
	25		Plan changed - 227 Bde to go through other Bdes. Further changes of plans not yet received. RHQ move to 405163 under cover as last two nights were very wet. 129 SP Bty to be in support of 46 Bde instead of one Tp in support of 46 Bde and two Tps in support of 227 Bde.	See Trace No2 (161 Bty and 46 Bde A/T/ layout)
	26		First light Coy KOSB Plus J Tp 346 Bty went to bridge ZON 4425 to defend it against counter attack.	See Trace No3 (J Troop layout)
	27	1700	RHQ move to Windmill 403228, HQRA 405225. Counter attack beaten off. 129 SP Bty uses HE in support of 9 Cams.	
	28	1000	Lieut Bickerton RA reported killed in action by enemy mortar fire in early morning while accompanying RS into attack. B Ech move to area 3721 Second in Command visited J Troop 346 Bty deployed in def of Br over Wilhelmina Canal at ZON 4425. Coy KOSB had been relieved yesterday by one bty 119 LAA Regt who had 9 guns deployed in br area. In addition there are 18 LAA guns of an Army regt in the area but no inf. J Tp have been undisturbed since their arrival in the area and have no incidents to report.	
	29	0900 1230 1700 2400	Major Fleming RA Comd 161 Bty called at RHQ and reported no enemy patrolling or activity on 46 Bde front during the night. Inf are thinning out to-day to permit men to attend baths and cinema. Warning order that a move Northwards is probable in late afternoon or early evening. RHQ move to 464313 Div HQ to 395227. 346 Bty move to 465302 286 Bty move to 406294 B Ech move to 439299 278 and 336 Bty of 71 A Tk Regt RA put under Command this regt for ops. 278 BHQ location at 439307 336 BHQ located at 447344. Lieut (QM) Burgess R.A. reported wounded by mine and evacuated. LO from 278 Bty arrived asking for SPs as two Btys of SPs withdrawn by formation on our right. One Troop 17 pdr sent to cover this.	See Trace No5 (158 Bde A/T layout)
	30	2230	'A' Troop report small counter attack and engaged with brens.	

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# WAR DIARY

or

Unit 97th Anti-Tank Regiment, RA

## ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year October 1944

Commanding Officer Lt-Col P.R. Henderson, RA

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
In the Fd	01	0950	A Troop report taking two prisoners. L.O. 161 Bty called. He had nothing to report except a certain amount of mortar and MG fire during the night. No casualties. 153 Bde, 51 (H) Div relieve 44 Bde, 159 to Harbour Area 4631. J Troop 346 Bty relieved and withdrawn to Bty Area. C.O. recces Div Arty Rest Area with Staff Captain, in vicinity of Gemert. Btys of Regt allotted sub-areas.	See Trace No 1  <del>See Trace No 1</del>
	02		"K" Troop take over position from 71 A.Tk Regt for two days area 4232. 346 Bty move to 609286. 159 Bty move to map ref 584307.	
	03		5 Interpreters sent to Regt. L. Visser to 161 Bty, J. Brouwers to 286 Bty, P. Deon (NCO) to 159 Bty, A. Beunger (NCO) to 346 Bty, Wim Van der Wal to RHQ. 227 Bde and 286 Bty withdraws, 286 Bty move to area 571298. SP Troop given job of knocking down two factory chimneys. As from 2400 hrs, 129 SP Bty, 278/71 and 336/71 Anti-Tank Regt, RA cease to be under command. 46 Bde and 161 Bty relieved, 161 Bty move to area 596292 to rest	
In the Fd	04		Div HQ and RHQ move to Rest Area. RHQ located map ref 591294 (Gemert).	
	05	1000 1500	C.O. attends Planning Conference Capt. J.P. Lane and RQMS T. Robson attend Q Conference in re Q matters in Germany.	
	06	1000  1630	Adjutant attends Conference at Div HQ on Administration and Documentation All officers addressed by Div Commander at Helmond.	
	07	1430	Div Commander addresses all ranks of the Regiment at RHQ. 144 SP Bty and 344 Bty of 91st Anti-Tank Regt to come under Command when they move into Area. Major Geddes, BC of 144 Bty. Two DRs attached from 144 and 344 Btys.	
	08		Nothing to report	
	09		Two DRs attached from 144 SP Bty and 344 Bty returned to their respective Batteries.	

			HQRA move to Area St Anthonis 7138 plus Div Arty less 97 Anti-Tank Regt, RA	
	10	1130	C.O is seen by Army Commander at Div HQ	
In the Fd	11		Nothing to report	
	12		Nothing to report	
	13		RHQ recce party plus 346 Bty recce party visit area Weert	
	14	1000 1100	Capt Aitken of 144 SP Bty informs us that he is in support 46 Bde and will move with them to new area Weert not before 151200A. Conference at 46 Bde on future plans. 46 Bde to force bridgehead over canal East of Weert. 46 Bde to go through in Armoured vehicles plus 161 and be prepared to be cut off for a day or two. S.Ps to be left in troops along the 46 route guarding the North approaches.	
	15	1615	C.O. 91st Anti-Tank Regt called to say he is prepared to supply Crusader drawn Bty for 46 Bde job. He thinks that SP Bty should not undertake lone role, but accompany 227 Bde and that he does not want to move S.Ps up to join the Regiment here, but will supply DR and subsequently join us in new area.	
In the Fd	16	1130	C.O visits C.O 91st Anti-Tank Regt ref future plans. 46 Bde rehearsal for operation attended by C.O and 2 i/c. All Interpreters returned to their homes.	
	17		Future operations with 8 Corps cancelled. Div reverts to 12 Corps. Btys of 91 Anti-Tank Regt no longer under command. Lieut Van den Brenk, Dutch Army attached plus batman. Warning order received for move of 44 Bde and 159 Bty subsequently cancelled	
	18		Orders received for move of 286 Bty on 19 Oct to Best area with 227 Bde, with 9 Cameronians under command, to take over from 51st (H) Div, sector Best - St Oedenrode. C.O and Adjt visit 286 Bty. Dutch batman exchanged for L.P. Van Kugen	
In the Fd	19	1000 1600	286 Bty moves to Best area with 227 Bde. G & I Tps (less one gun) deployed Boschkant and Donderdonk. G Tp in support 2 Gordons. I Tp in support 10 H.L.I. H Tp in harbour area with 2 A & S.H. C.O attends Planning conference at HQRA. C.O holds planning conference at RHQ for 159, 161, 346 Batteries. Lieut C. Chicken, RA posted this Regt from 102 Anti-Tank Regt, RA and interposted to 159 Bty. C.O visits 51st Highland Division and 61st Anti-Tank Regt RA	See Trace No 2
	20		C.O visits 227 Bde and inspects G & I Tps, deployed in action	
	21	1030	C.O attends CRAs "O" Group. C.O and Adjt visit G & I Tps, 227 Bde HQ and 286 Battery HQ.	

			Two deserters arrested from 1st Bn KOSB. 14420177 Pte Curtis E and 6203711 Pte Beetlestone A.F. See Trace No 3 for Anti-Tank gun dispositions on 227 Bde front.	
	22		C.O visits HQRA. 2 i/c visits 286 Bty. Nothing to report.	
In the Fd	23		C.O visits G & I Troop, 286 Bty and 227 Bde. Nothing to report. 2 i/c procured five Welfare Wireless Sets on payment for the Regt. C.O discussed the proposed employment of 17-pdrs on Op Eric II with O.C. 190 Fld Regt RA.	
	24	1330 2130	C.O. attends CRAs "O" Group. 159 Bty move to area STEENWEG 3827 with 44 Bde. 161 Bty move to concentration area Aacht 3724. 286 Bty remain present location although 2 Gordons and 10 H.L.I. advanced clearing woods to north of Bde position. RHQ move slightly to map ref 385285. RHQ move to map ref 465515, 346 Bty move to area 466514. All these moves are for commencement of Op Eric II.	
In the Fd	25	1610	Recce party for RHQ and B Ech, area Oirschot 3125 find factory for new location. As no orders for move come through and 44 and 46 Bdes have advanced with their Anti-Tank Batteries in support and are too far forward, a Tac HQ consisting of the C.O, Asst Adjt, Rear Link, Z, Z2, and a D.R are sent forward to map ref 316258. Orders received at Tac HQ to move 346 Bty and RHQ complete past start point X-rds Best 3726 by 1730 hrs. The C.O learns that 129 S.P Bty is under command and that RHQ has to administer them. They are placed in support 4th Gds Tank Brigade. 46 Bde with 161 Bty advance with little opposition. 227 Bde with 286 Bty move up short of Oirschot 3125.	
	26		161 Bty in support 46 Bde in area Oirschot - Moergestel 2330. Lieut M.I. Hore, RA wounded and evacuated in morning; two O.Rs killed and 4 wounded in afternoon. E Tp in support of 2 Glas H. 286 Bty harboured Moergestel area. 159 Bty harboured Houtakker area 2126.	
	27		161 Bty in support 46 Bde. 159 Bty in support 44 Bde in assault of Tilburg, but were not used. 286 Bty in support 227 Bde harbour in Hilvarenbeek area 1924. Tac HQ move to Laagspel area 1923.	
In the Fd	28	0845 1730 1900 2000	346 Bty and RHQ move to area Laagspel. Area reced near HQRA who moved to Tilburg. C.O instructed to move whole Regiment to area Geldrop - Heeze less 286 Bty who have moved with 227 Bde to area Asten. Whole Regiment to be in support 227 Bde. Recce Party leaves RHQ. Regiment passes S.P. and proceeds to new area. These moved to meet threat from Venloo area.	

			129 SP Bty ceases to be administered by the Regiment.	
	29	0600 0830 1100  1800	346 Bty moves to area Asten. C.O visits 286 Bty. Tac HQ moves to Asten. As 46 Bde have moved to Deurne, 161 Bty moved to same area in support. 44 Bde and 159 Bty move to Asten. HQRA and Div move to area Helmond. RHQ instructed to join them as soon as possible by C.O. 286 Bty and 346 Bty deployed area Asten. RHQ move to area Helmond 567234. 146 SP Bty come under Command.	
In the Fd	30	1700	Whole Regiment deployed RHQ move to 594123 near Zomeren where HQRA and HQ 15 Div are now located. Tac HQ withdrawn to RHQ area. 146 SP Bty - 1 Tp in support of Coldstream Gds, 1 Tp in support of Grenadier Guards, 1 Troop in support of Scots Guards. 2 i/c visited CCA, 7 US Armoured Div at Weert which is the formation on our right. Americans stated that co-ordination of A.Tk defence is not centralised within the Div, Coys of the Tk Destroyer Bn being placed under Comd and NOT in support. <del>C.O of Tk Destroyer Bn said that he was not permitted to exercise Comd over his Bn when in action. S3 of CCA confirmed this, and both seemed in agreement that decentralisation of Comd had not proved satisfactory during recent ops.</del> 2 i/c considered that tie-up between 15 (S) Div and 7 U.S. Armd Div was adequate, but suggested that liaison between the two formations regarding A.Tk defence should be closer. S3 agreed to visit 97th A.Tk Regt on 31 Oct with this object. 2 i/c gave copy of our gun trace to CCA and obtained approx US dispositions. He returned to RHQ at 1900 hrs.	See Trace No 4
In the Fd	31		Lt. T.J. Hogarth, RA and Lt. G. Simpson, RA plus two Gun Fitters leave for Courses in England. 46 Bde plus 6 KOSB, less 2nd Glas H advance S.E against stiff opposition. 159 Bty report one O.R killed and one wounded. 161 Bty report one O.R killed, Carden Loyd Carrier burnt out and a Quad heavily damaged by shell-fire. 159 Bty report a Quad damaged by shell-fire. See Trace No 5 for 159 Bty's new position.	

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 97th Anti-Tank Regt R.A.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year November 44

Commanding Officer Lieut.Col. P.R.Henderson R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
In the Field	1 Nov		46 Bde continue advance SE and reach hamlet of 6812 Hutter. 159 Bty move to 666148, 161 Bty to Loon 6615. 44 Bde "O" Group attended by Major Mason on next days proposed attack.	
	2 Nov		44 Bde advance to take all objectives and reach MOOSTDIJK 6908. E Tp encounter minefield in their position and lose one OR and a carrier	
	3 Nov		K Tp owing to U.S. advance on right, were in effect "L.O.Bd", but remain in situ. No further changes.	
	5 Nov		Major Napier leaves for course at HAIFA. 44 Bde attack against very stiff opposition and owing to boggy country make very little headway. Major Fleming R.A. suffering from slight concussion is rested. The following interpostings of officers took place - Lt Raby R.A. to 161 Bty as L.O. - Capt Lane R.A. to 286 as Capt (G) - Lt Geary to do Lieut Q - Lt Middlemiss R.A. D Tp - Lt McGregor H Tp. The following Tps were concentrated in reserve:- A C E I J K L Capt Lywood R.A. (203108) posted Regt, attached HQRA for all purposes	
In the Field	7 Nov		Major R.T. Ashby R.A. leaves for Staff Gunnery Course and is struck off strength 146 S.P. Bty under command are left in reserve at 630133. First intimation of probable reorganisation to include 12 S.P. Valentines.	
	8 Nov		F G H and L Tps only are deployed, other tps resting. 159 Bty less A Tp still at 645148, resting area Deurne. 346 Bty HQ move to 159 Bty billets	
	10 Nov		159 Bty HQ returns to old location. Lieut Raby R.A. returns to 159. C Tp relieves L Tp.	
	11 Nov		Lieut Horries R.A. (217547) attached from 3 Div and interposted to 161 Bty. B.C's conference. <del>Adj to Brussels on duty.</del>	



	12 Nov		2i/c 61 A Tk Regt of 51 (H) Div calls for information of future ops	
	13 Nov		C.R.A's "O" Group attended by C.O. 346 Bty relieve 159 Bty and take over their BHQ. 159 BHQ to Deurne. J Tp relieve C Tp. 346 Bty in support 44 Bde. G Tp relieved by I Tp	
	14 Nov		51 (H) Div attack on our right. D relieve F Tp.	
In the Field	15 Nov		I Troop concentrating in Troop Area. C.O. and A/Adjt attend demonstration of devices for dealing with German Schu Mines. G, I, and J Tps out of line.	
	16 Nov		D Tp relieved. 286 Bty move to 663098.	
	18 Nov		T/Capt Hunt R.A. (226892) to 161 - T/Capt G.G. Griffiths (92118) to 346 - Lt. A.S.H. Telfer R.A. (258490) to 159 - Lt. A.M. Cameron (242556) to 286 attached from RHU. 346 Bty to 601149, 159 Bty to 664148.	
	19 Nov		Lieuts Middlemiss, Shaw, Bates, and Sture attached 8 Corps ATk Regt for SP experience. 1 Tp moved with HLI to Beringen.	
	20 Nov		RHQ move to DEURNE 652198, 286 Bty to 754066. 146 SP cease to be under command. 0900 hrs	
	21/22 Nov		No great change, all formations advance in Mud and rain. 161 to area Hilvareen	
	23		H Tp with 227 Bde to Horst. Major Masters and Lieut Ockleshaw attend demonstration of 17 pr D/S and APCBC at Bourg Leopold Ranges. Mud and Rain still hold up speed of advance. T/Capt Hunt posted to 43 Div	
	24/25		227 Bde and 46 Bde continue slow advance on Maas meeting only mines and mud with little other opposition. 286 Bty and 161 Bty do not deploy but move in rear of Bdes	
In the Field	26		Tac HQ move to area SEVENUM on line to HQRA. C.O. and Major Masters visit Bourg Leopold on reorganisation and Heppen Demonstration of Windsor Carrier, T 16 and Carden Loyd. No material change in situation, but advance continues.	
	27		CRA gives permission for Regt to be concentrated as Tank threat this side of Maas deemed negligible. 161 Bty to area Liesel. A/Adj attends Welfare Conference at Rear Div. Tac HQ withdrawn.	
	28		227 Bde relieved by 9 Bde. Div now with 12 Corps.	
	29		Orders received that 97th Anti-Tank Regt is to be disbanded and is to join 50 (N) Div.	
	30		Div Commander addresses all ranks giving his farewell.	