

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 278 Field Coy RE

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Month and Year MARCH 1945

Commanding Officer Major CR Nicholls RE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
S'HERTOGEN	1 Mar	45	Conservancy - kit checking & cleaning	
-BOSCH	2 "		"	
	3 "		" Leave (48 hrs) to Brussels commenced.	
	4 "		" OC at Bde O Gp.	
	5 "		Preparations for move.	
HEUSDEN	6 "		Coy left s'Hertogenbosch at 1140 hrs for HEUSDEN (332754) arriving at 1830 hrs.	
	7 "		Rest period.	
	8 "		Rest period.	
	9 "		Rest period.	
	10 "		Rest period.	
	11 "		Arrangements for rafting exercise. OC receives instrs at Bde.	
	12 "		Dvrs practicing driving off ramps on to rafts.	
	13 "		Route marches	
	14 "		Equipment checking	
	15 "		" "	
	16 "		OC attends Bde O Gp	
	17 "		Lt Murray att 11 AGRE. Preparatory work and trg for RHINE crossing.	
	18 "		Lt Murray still with 11 AGRE as L.O.	
	19 "		CSM goes to new harbour with pl harbour parties. Lt NIVEN of 2 Pl handed over to Lt Whalley.	
	20 "		OC at Bde O Gp - final details for Rhine crossing. Lt Murray still att 11 AGRE. Offrs O Gp. 24 hr packs & WS Outfits made up to scale.	
	21 "		Coy moves at 1930 hrs and arrived new locn at 0300 22 Mar.	
	22 "		Strict camouflage, no fires or unnecessary movement permitted. CSM went to marshalling area night 22/23 Mar i/c RE Reception & Infm Post on East Bank. Lt Allan att fwd Inf Bn 44 Bde for crossing as Coy L.O.	

	23 Mar		Pl marching parties left harbour area for marshalling area arriving there at 0300 hrs (MR 126408). Tpt left behind serially numbered to be called fwd by Bank Control Officer through 46 Bde.	
045440	24 Mar		2 Pls moved fwd to S.B. crossing point, arrived east of the Rhine at 1500 hrs and moved to MR 127475. 1 sec swept rd MEHR to 127475 and then to 142477. 3 secs culverting rd 134494 and returned to 127475 at 2300 hrs. CSM established RE Rally point and stores dump at MR 129488. Serial numbers of tpt gps called fwd during the day. Coy HQ moved to VEH waiting area at 1000 hrs arriving MR 045440 at 1100 hrs. Enemy aircraft active.	
	25 Mar		Pl crossed river during night 24/25th and proceeded to MR 127474. 1 sec moved to MR 142477 and swept for mines up to 139493. 1 sec on mine clearance from Haffen X rds to 130500 - unable to complete task owing to SA fire. 2 secs on mine clearance Haffen-Mehr area and returned at 1600 hrs - moderate enemy shelling. 1 sec on br recce - material not available and returned to harbour at 2350 hrs. 2 secs completed culverting 145494. Coy HQ proceeded to Marshalling Area 127408 and held there for 1 hr. Then proceeded to Rhine bank and crossed river at 2100 hrs. Enemy aircraft active. HQ moved to Coy Harbour area MR 127475. Lt Allan rejoined coy.	
127474	26 Mar		A pl moved to br site at 134493 at 0930 hrs. D7 cleared bank & rd of obstacles and trees. 70 ft SS Bailey Br built. Pl returned to harbour at 1700 hrs. 1 sec on rd maint at 114475. 1 sec maint 098474, 1 sec rd maint at 155475. Rd maint parties returned to harbour area at 1900 hrs. Lt Murray rejoined coy from 11 AGRE.	
	27 Mar		A pl moved off at 0830 hrs to 147495 - filling in craters and moving trees from rd. 2 UXBs blown. Returned to harbour at 1600 hrs. 1 sec Bridge maint at 098474. 3 secs on rd maint 159498 and area - returned at 1900 hrs.	
	28 Mar		Coy warned to prepare to move. Sec on Br maint at 098474, relieved by another unit. 3 secs on rd maint 159498 & area. 1 sec rd maint 121476 to 139494. All coy in harbour area at 1900 hrs. Coy moved off 2200 hrs to new harbour area MR 163487 and arrived there at 2245 hrs.	
163487	29 Mar		2 Pls out on bridging task. Task cancelled and pls returned to harbour area. Recce offrs att to 15 Recce Regt as LOs for future rd maint.	

	30 Mar		3 secs moved off at 0800 hrs to 158498 to surface sunken crater. 2 Platoons resting.	
198562	31 Mar	45	Coy moved off at 0900 hrs to 198562 arriving there at 1400 hrs. N. Harrison Watson Capt RE for OC 278 Fd Coy RE	