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Army Form C.2118

**WAR DIARY**

or

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Delete heading not required).

Unit 15th (S) INF DIV SIGS  
(incorporating L.A.D. attd)

Month and Year AUG 1944

Commanding Officer LT-COL F.C. SEELY R SIGNALS

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
LA CHAPELLE	1	0800	Issued Amdt No 1 to List "C" Freq Allot No 19 (Amended) Another day full of difficult line problems due to the speed of the advance. 2 i/c MAJOR JOHNSON now permanently based on the Sig Centre under present conditions.	DGH Appx "A"
ORVA	2	1000 1700	Main Div H.Q. moves to ORVA (690568). Rear Div H.Q. moves to 700563 nr. AUBIGNY, slightly in advance of Main H.Q. Extensive line work again in progress all day and the Div Sig Centre has now moved on to the area ST MARTIN DES BESACES (6750). OC 3 Div Sigs visits C.O. in connection with 185 Bde who are to relieve 46 Bde tomorrow & come under comd 15 Div.	DGH
ORVA	3	0900 1000 1400 1700	185 Bde not now coming under comd 15 (S) Div, 44 Bde going under comd Gds Armd Div at 1800 hrs today. Wireless O.K. (44 Bde remains on "Q" link). Lines holding up well & new sig centre establishing itself at 680465. Issued Line Diagram as at 1600 hrs. Preparations for moving again tomorrow. Signal Centre now est at 682572 and next layout of lines begun G.O.C. slightly wounded when travelling in his rover jeep, a Sigs veh. L/Cpl op (who is also his driver) rather seriously wounded and L/Cpl op who is his driver of the jeep (GOC rover, link to Corps) very slightly wounded. Mortar shell landed between the two jeeps. Lucky escape by all.	DGH DGH Appx "B" DGH DGH
ST MARTIN DES BESACES	4	0200 1500 1650 1700 1800 2359	Change of ops on Rear Link to Rear Corps (CV14) due to mistake on part of control op. Main Div moves to 684508 (area ST MARTIN DES BESACES) Rear Div moves to 688510 New sig centre established 685475 Lines through to all Bdes except 46 Bde. Wireless OK all round Rear Link CRASC - DDST ceases to operate (see below)	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
	5	0600	44 Bde returns under comd 15 Div & nets OK R/T and C/W comd links	DGH

		1700	AFW 3008 and 3009 despatched GHQ 2nd Echelon	DGH Appx "C"
ST MARTIN DES BESACES	6	1000	- onwards. An unsatisfactory day, great uncertainty prevailing throughout the day as to whether Div is going to move or not. The C.O. anxious not to have to move into the shadow of the hills in front of us and the battle situation not permitting, as had been expected, Div HQ to move over the hills. Lines stretched considerably but holding up well - H.P. telephones in use helping out - and Sig centre moved to 755425 (LA MAJURE) which is the projected next HQ. Wireless OK hence CO's refusal to move a short distance into the valley	DGH
	7	0730	Div Recce Party under the comd MAJ HOUSTON (O.C. 3 Coy) out again but results not satisfactory. Move still in the air, much to the anxiety of Corps Sigs.	DGH
Pt 266	8	1000 1330	Main Div HQ moves, followed 1½ hrs later to 695425 (Pt 266 near LE BENY BOCAGE. Rear Div about 300 yards away, but Rear Div never left the road as the site was immediately considered unsuitable & the Recce party sent out to find another location Main Div HQ moves to LA PLISSONIERE (695458). Rear Div returns to previous location but moves forward later in the day. Main Div in new location by 1600 hrs and Rear Div by approx 1830 hrs to LA BOURDONNIERE (695468). Wireless excellent throughout the day and line layout adjusted with comparative ease. Thanks to location of Sig Centre & help by Corps Signals in providing one pair from Main Corps to our Sig Centre.	DGH DGH
LA PLISSONIERE	9	1700	Issued Line Diagram as at 1600 hrs. Bdes moving small distances today, unlikely to upset this diagram	DGH Appx "D"
	10	1000 1600	Issued Amdt No 2 List "C" Freq Allot No 19 (amended) Inns of Court Regt, now under comd, net correctly on R/T comd net	DGH Appx "E" DGH
LA PLISSONIERE	11	1200 1400	Rather a quieter day with only patrol activity in fwd areas. 6 GDS TK BDE cease to be under comd, except 4 The GREN GDS u/c 44 Bde. 6 GDS TK BDE, therefore, no longer on Comd net. Recce party out for new location Div H.Q. Area MAISONCELLES (7139)	DGH DGH DGH
	12	1300 1700	Word suddenly received that Div leaving this area and going u/c 12 Corps, 46 Bde to be relieved by 29 Bde of 11 Armd Div who are taking over our present area. Conference 1430 with CSO 8 Corps & reps 11 Armd Div Sigs to arrange details. 44 & 227 Bdes to be relieved by 159 Bde] AFW 3008 and 3009 despatched GHQ 2nd Echelon	DGH DGH Appx "F"

	13	0000	Preparations under way for 15 Div to move EAST of R ORNE. 46 Bde on relief by 29 Armd Bde conc in area ST PIERRE TARENTEINE prior to move out. Wireless silence imposed as soon as reliefs completed.	DGH
		1400	Det of 11 Armd Div Signals tees in on lines at our Sig centre & our Recce party leaves for new area.	DGH
		1800	TEV of 11 Armd Div Signals tees in on lines at our Sig office.	
LA PLISSONIERE	14	1000	Wireless silence - all nets close. Deception plan being put into operation & making a bogus 76 Division and a bogus 15 (S) Div. All operators on Div R/T Comd net have their voices recorded by special wireless section. These records to be used subsequent to our move to give impression of Div still being in 8 Corps. R/T rear lines to Corps ops staying behind until the evening to work bogus set to 8 Corps.	DGH
		1030	Main Div followed by Rear Div move to AMAYE-SUR-ORNE (967577) & come under comd 12 Corps. "C" section having moved previous day all lines are in readiness. 46 Bde having been relieved first are in new area already. 44 & 227 Bdes do not arrive until the evening.	DGH
AMAYE-SUR-ORNE	15	0900	Wireless silence relaxed to some degree - links to Main Corps only net & then to make 4 hourly tests in accordance with 12 Corps orders	DGH
		1000	46 Bde having already moved forward again are provided with new line laid from their new location to 12 Corps REAR, Corps HQ being well South of us at present. 15 (S) Div on relaxing wireless silence will be on Inf List "A" issued to all concerned	DGH Appx "G"
AMAYE-SUR-ORNE		2300	News of main Div HQ moving the following day received	DGH
	16	0800	Recce party out - main Div HQ moving with HQRA only, leaving 44 Bde and 227 Bde in rear. 227 Bde is still in rear of Rear Div HQ. 46 Bde already gone forward.	DGH
		1000	Lines teed in to temporary Sig Centre at Main HQ	DGH
		1130	Main Div HQ moves to LE HUTRAY (007542)	DGH
LE HUTRAY		1400	Main Div HQ established & sig centre at old location closed, leaving the anomalous situation of Rear Div HQ having the bulk of the lines on their board. In this connection, 15 Div Sigs cable section have laid the Corps lines to this location.	DGH
	17	1200	Issued line diagram as at 1200 hrs	DGH Appx "H"
		1600	Issued Amdt No 1 to Freq Allot No 19 (amended) - List "A"	DGH Appx "I"
		2300	Issued Amdt No 2 to Freq Allot No 19 (amended) - List "A"	DGH Appx "J"
	18	1000	Main Div HQ moves to FRESNEY-LE-VIEUX (014496) and Rear Div follows at 1130 to approx same location. 44 & 227 Bdes move in	DGH

FRESNEY-LE-VIEUX		1500	to nearby areas. Lines have been laid on previous day for this layout. At present 1 pair only to Corps for both Main & Rear Div. Wireless silence continues except for Corps Rear links	DGH
	19	0600	All nets open to 46 Bde who are moving at 0630 hrs to relieve 158 Bde of 53 Div. Comms satisfactory.	DGH
		0700	Recce party out for move of Main Div HQ. Problem of line comms to 46 Bde in their area. To take over 158 Bde - 53 Div line - thence back to Corps & so to us.	DGH
		1000	CV1, CV7, CV8 net all other stations on group & close them	DGH
		1700	AFW 3008 & 3009 despatched GHQ 2nd Echelon	DGH Appx "K"
LE BOUT ES VIEL	20	0001	4 Armd Bde now under comd 15 Div for forthcoming ops	DGH
		0700	All nets fwd to Bdes open. All OK except 4 Armd Bde on "Q" link which is not heard, nor is their 14 LFA on Med net, which also opens	DGH
		1000	Main Div HQ moves to LE BOUT ES VIEL (0940) to be followed at 1500 hrs by Rear Div HQ to 095403	DGH
		1300	Spare TEV sent back to old location to establish Sig Centre there on move of Rear Div to take 44, 227 Bdes, Recce & Admin Gp. This now of great importance as forthcoming op now postponed 48 hours and these two Bdes remaining in present locations. 46 Bde still in 53 Div area and reached by line from 53 Div. Line laid to 53 Div. Line (Corps line) to Sig centre giving trouble.	DGH
		1700	Move of 53 Div. Line strapped through to 46 Bde direct. Line also laid to 4 Armd Bde to 46 Bde. 4 Armd Bde do half the laying and doing half the maintenance. 4 Armed Bde now flicking on to "Q" net 20 mins in every 3 hours and their LFA is on the Med net every hour from H+30 to the hour	DGH
	21	2359	4 Armd Bde temporarily under comd 53 Div but remain on Adm nets.	
LE BOUT ES VIEL	22	1000	Line laid from Rear Div HQ to HQ RASC (Adm Gp)	DGH
		1500	4 Armd Bde section under comd but in new location, too far for a line to be laid (MERRI 2530). Up again on R/T & CW fwd nets	DGH
		1600	Issued Line Diagram as at 1600 hrs.	DGH Appx "L"
	23	1100	227 Bde moves down into FALAISE area, followed by 44 Bde and 15 Recce Regt at 1500 hrs. No lines laid. Lines are not having to be laid in forthcoming rapid op. Wireless comms as per standard diagrams OK.	DGH
		2030	Main Div H.Q. moves to LA BOURDONNIERE (252334) - first night move since landing in France. All tpt arrives safely and is established before midnight. Road movement slow due to congestion in FALAISE. Rear Div HQ remaining in present location - moving tomorrow. This move of Main HQ is only an interim one, getting the Div HQ up with the Bdes & on the axis of advance.	DGH

		2200	CO & Adjnt visit CSO 12 Corps - CSO informs CO that no further lines will be laid under present conditions	DGH
LA BOURDONNIERE	24	1400	CO & Adjnt visit 44 & 227 Bdes. Line laid to 15 (S) Recce Regt.	DGH
CORNEVILLE LA FOUQUETIERE	25	0630	Main Div HQ moves to CORNEVILLE LA FOUQUETIERE (878572) arriving at approx 1700 hrs, after halting for 2 hrs in the BROGLIE area (717685) for a meal. Rear Div follows into this location. No lines laid. W/T comms working satisfactorily over extended ranges and hold all through the night.	DGH
		1700		DGH
COMBON	26	1030	Main Div HQ moves to COMBON (007783) to be followed later in the day by Rear Div HQ	DGH
		1300	Lines begin to be laid to all three Bdes. W/T comms O.K.	DGH
		1700	AFW 3008 and 3009 despatched GHQ 2nd Echelon	DGH Appx "M"
		1900	Lines through to 44 & 46 Bdes.	DGH
	27	0200	Line through to 227 Bde. Line of approx 15 miles in length	DGH
LE PARC	28	1030	Main Div HQ moves to LE PARC (185870) followed at 1130 by Rear Div HQ	DGH
		1300	Lines begin to be laid to all three Bdes.	DGH
LE PARC		1700	Line through to 44 Bde & Recce Regt.	DGH
		2000	Line through to 227 Bde	DGH
		2100	Wireless O.K. Heavy static interference - thunderstorm	DGH
		0900	Issued Amdt No 3 15 Div Sigs Freq Allot No 19 (Amended)	DGH Appx "N"
		1300	Issued 15 (S) Div Sig Instr No 1 - crossing of R. SEINE (Traffic Control)	DGH Appx "O"
		1530	Main Div H.Q. moves to VIEUX ROUEN (255897). Wireless O.K. incl T.C. group line layout becoming difficult with Bdes making the river crossing. Lines laid to 44 & 227 Bdes but line did not reach 46 Bde in time before they crossed. Line also laid to Regulating HQ of Traffic Control	DGH
VIEUX ROUEN	29	0930	Rear Div HQ moves to 253883 (nr LES MONTS). Lines laid ready for their arrival and Sig centre which was in area of Main Div closes. Main Div hand over by strapping through to Rear Div line direct to Rear Corps	DGH
		1030	C.O. and Adjnt visit site of next Sig Centre & probable site of next Main Div HQ at CHATEAU DES BUSPINS (322923)	DGH
		1300	Signal Centre established at CHATEAU DES BUSPINS and lines are being laid to all Bdes.	DGH
VIEUX ROUEN		1800	Lines through to all Bdes, with two lines from Main Div to Sig Centre. Lines stay up well in the night & wireless all O.K.	DGH
	30	1030	Main Div HQ moves to CHATEAU DES BUSPINS arriving at approx 1400 hrs, taking over lines from Sig Centre which closes. Rear Div HQ leaves at 1015 hrs to HERQUEVILLE (293917)	DGH

HERQUEVILLE		1630 1900	<p>After the troops have fed, Main Div HQ also moves to HERQUEVILLE (291916) and Sig Centre reopens at CHATEAU DES BUSPINS</p> <p>Main Div arrives &amp; lines formerly in use between Main &amp; Rear Div HQ now in use between Main Div &amp; Sig Centre. New lines laid to Rear Div and Corps lines diverted. This line layout is adjusted. Wireless O.K.</p>	DGH
	31	1200	<p>Issued Line Diagram as at 1100 hrs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">David G Heilbron Capt R. Signals Adjutant 15th (Scottish) Inf Div Signals</p>	DGH Appx "P"