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Army Form C.2118

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Delete heading not required).

Unit 15th (SCOTTISH) INF DIV SIGNALS
(incorporating L.A.D. attd)

Month and Year SEPT 1944

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
HERQUEVILLE	1	1030	C.O. and Adjt visit 227 Bde in connection with difficulties they have been having with their wireless. C.O. operates their command set personally from the Bde C.V.	DGH
		1400	Party attends cinema show. Quiet afternoon. Move proposed for tomorrow is postponed until following day	DGH
	2	1000	Men bathing and generally cleaning up. Further party to cinema show.	DGH
		1000	Corps was at some 60 miles distance - often aerals tried on Corps nets but results no better than with extra lengths on ordinary rod aerals. Other wireless at Main Div closed except to Recce Regt on CW net, who have no line	DGH
	3	0900	Main & Rear Div HQ's move to LES CORNETS (515132) arriving at approx 1200 hrs. No lines laid to Bde. Wireless very poor except lines to Corps, some 50 miles away. These lines all through however by approx 1400 hrs	DGH
		1830	All ranks not on duty both from Main & Rear HQ attend church service at Main H.Q.	DGH
LES CORNETS	4	1030	Main and Rear Div move to HAUCOURT (621335) arriving at approx 1300 hrs. Once more no lines to be laid except to Rear Div, where instead of the usual pair of lines being laid, one twisted pair is laid & the one plus ones, usually in use to Main & Rear Corps are utilized. Wireless satisfactory, with one exception of links to Corps, which are still being handicapped by distance, Main Corps, for example, moving to BETHUNE (3825)	DGH
HAUCOURT	5	1000	Main and Rear Div HQs move to NUNCQ (120038). Layout as for previous location.	DGH
NUNCQ		2100	A special force known as "LYS FORCE" leaves. Signals are providing for it one 12 set H.P. as rear link to Corps (R/T). This set worked satisfactorily at 2030 hrs before leaving. The Div-Bde CW rear link of 46 Bde (who are commanding LYS FORCE) later nets to Corps as C.W. link	DGH DGH

		2300	Step-up at departure for benefit of 46 Bde. Comms rather difficult tonight due to interference.	DGH
TRIEU COUSINE	6	0745	Counter-Mortar C.V. employed as control for Traffic Control net working to sets of 119 LAA Regt. Their organisation is now personally under comd O.C. LAA Regt RA. Using CRA alt freq nets satisfactorily at 0800 hrs	DGH
		0800	Step-up Armd Car set sent to accompany 44 Bde who are moving again, some being in advance of rest of Div	DGH
		1130	Main and Rear Div HQ's move into BELGIUM to TRIEU COUSINE (896450) arriving at approx 2000 hrs.	DGH
		2100	ROYALS come under comd 15 Div and net satisfactorily on Comd R/T net. Not coming on CW net	DGH
		2300	Line through to 46 Bde who are coming under comd 7 Armd Div at 070800B	DGH
TRIEU COUSINE	7	1200	Sig centre established at previous location 46 Bde, who moved off at 0800 hrs under comd 7 Armd Div. Two lines laid to Sig Centre and lines from Sig Centre to ROYALS and Recce. Line begun from Sig centre to 44 Bde but stopped owing to that Bde moving again	DGH
		1600	ROYALS O.K. on "Q" net - scheduled to come on at 0800 hrs but not up till now.	DGH
		1700	Line through to Rear Div from Main Corps, using existing civil means - speech requires to be guarded as the line at certain points passing through territory still in enemy hands	DGH
		1800	C.O. and Adjt visit 44 Bde, largely to congratulate the Signal Officer, CAPT J.J. GIROTTI on his recent award of the M.C.	DGH
TRIEU COUSINE BEVERE	8	1100	C.O. and Adjt visit 227 Bde to discuss the matter of frequencies for Bde Comd net, which are O.K. now - they have been lent one of the frequencies of the Div Comd net	DGH
		1330	Recce Regt of 53 (W) Div come under comd 15 Div and are through Div Comd R/T net. Message sent to them by Wireless Officer re C/W net and "Q" net.	DGH
		1445	Main Div HQ moves to BEVERE (073582) and Rear Div HQ to PETEGEM (052555) arriving at approx 1615 hrs. Line already under way between the two HQ and line also being laid from new location to new location 227 Bde at CRUYSHANTEM (0464)	DGH
		1630	Line through to Rear Division	DGH
		1700	Line through from Main Corps and 1+1 put on	DGH
		1730	Line under way to 227 Bde at NAZARETH (0970) to take in Recce Regt as well, 227 Bde having moved on from u/m location	DGH

		2100	Wireless not as good as usual tonight - distances fairly great, especially from Rear Div who are having trouble on the "Q" net. Recce Regt 53 Div are the most remote. Main Comd net O.K. A night of very low cloud and pouring rain	DGH
BEVERE	9	1300 1330 1600	ROYALS and 53 Recce Regt cease to be under comd 15 Div 46 Bde return under comd 15 Div from 7 Armd Div. All on comd R/T and CW nets. Late in coming up on "Q" net. LT G.O.S. SCHREIBER is posted to this Unit from 2nd Army Sigs as Cipher officer. LT J.A. RITCHIE is posted from this unit to 2nd Army Sigs	DGH DGH DGH
RAMSDONCK	10	1100 1600	Main Div HQ moves to RAMSDONCK (610744) and Rear Div HQ to 615740 arriving at approx 1500 hrs. Quad is in from Corps. Three lines laid to Rear Div (pair) and line under way to 44 Bde. Step-up set out to 46 and 227 Bdes. The latter not moving until tomorrow. CV5 and CV6 (lines to Corps) still at old location in use by G1 who is remaining there for a few hours due to last minute change of plan by Corps. CV4 (flank) and CV3 (Tac R) respectively are doubling for these lines.	DGH
RAMSDONCK	11	1000 1730	C.O. and Adjt proceed to visit 50 Div, which area this Div is taking over tomorrow. Line layout is being handed over complete and still be able to be used almost entirely although Div HQ's are not going to quite the same places as those occupied by 50 Div. 2 liberty trucks proceed to BRUSSELS as recreational tpt. Rear Div personnel utilising Camp arrangements.	DGH DGH DGH
BERGUM	12	0930 1600 1730 1830 1900	Main Div HQ moves to BERGUM (030788) and Rear Div HQ to VEERLE (075780) both arriving at approx 1400 hrs. Quad in from Main Corps. Lines through to 44 and 46 Bdes via 69 and 151 Bdes of 50 Div respectively. Line to 46 Bde also gives 50 Main. 1 line through to Rear Div and line laid to new location of 227 Bde who are not moving in until tomorrow. Line to 44 Bde now direct - 151 Bde now gone Line through to Recce on to Rear Div exchange and 46 Bde line direct (69 Bde gone) also giving direct line to 50 Div Main	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
BERGUM		2000 2311	Signal Officer 3/4 CLY visits Adjt. 3/4 CLY now under comd 15 Div. Arrangements made for netting on all gps at 2300 hrs 3/4 CLY OK on R/T net but not on C.W. nor on the "Q" net	DGH DGH
	13	0700 1000 1000	3/4 CLY OK on "Q" net 3/4 CLY OK on CW net. 50 Div gone - their line to us now utilised as 2nd pair to Rear Div.	DGH DGH DGH DGH

BERGUM		1010	Usual line laid by 1 Mx to Div faulty.	DGH
		1030	Permission given by Adjt to Recce to close CW link (not usual - only R/T link when line through) to Div until 0800 hrs tomorrow for set maintenance. Wireless position OK - during the night, 227 Bde still in former area, worked satisfactorily by means of step-up. Now through O.K. direct.	DGH
		1100	C-in-C visits Main Div HQ and talks to Bde Comds etc, certain of the Heads of Services, O.C. Signals, O.C. Recce Regt	DGH
		1230	CSO 12 Corps arrives for lunch with C.O. after which they go	DGH
		1415	together on visit to 44 and 46 Bdes. The first time that the CSO has been round any of the Bdes of the Div	DGH
		1500	Line through to 227 Bde now in new location and laterals between 44 and 46 Bdes and 227 Bde and Recce	DGH
		1500	3/4 CLY off on Main Div nets as LO at Div with set still on "Q" net	DGH
		1700	44 Bde move, but re-establish line comms shortly afterwards to 46 Bde by means of extending lateral.	DGH
		1730	227 Bde off line - on move, also Recce, so their line utilised as third link between Main and Rear Div HQ's	DGH
		2100	Line section, taking armd car with their armd car as link, move off to new location to which Div is moving tomorrow, in order to proceed with line layout as soon as possible	DGH
GASTHUIS HEIDE	14	1000	Main Div HQ moves to area GASTHUIS HEIDE (103852) with Rear Div HQ at 102858 arriving at approx 1115 hrs.	DGH
		1300	3/4 CLY now back on R/T comd net but are not coming up on C/W net	DGH
		1600	Line situation - Quad to Corps with 1+1 - one pair split at Rear Div giving Rear Div direct line to Rear Corps, 2nd pair used as line between Main & Rear Div HQ's. 2nd line from Main to Rear Div. Line to 44 Bde, line from 44 Bde to 46 Bde. Party line to 227 Bde and Recce. Line to 1 Mx.	DGH
		1800	Adjt addresses all offr's on orderly officer roster on disciplinary matters	DGH
		1800	Letter sent out on subject of small OR's messing committee, to be formed forthwith under presidency of RSM, consisting of 6 ORs, 3 from Sigs and 3 from Comp personnel fed at Main Div by Sigs	DGH
	15	1030	C-in-C arrives to present decorations and medals. Capt J.J. GIROTTI receives his M.C. from the C-in-C.	DGH
		1100	Signal officer 158 Bde visits Adjt to discuss arrangements. 158 Bde now arriving in this area and coming under comd 15 Div	DGH
		1125	Direct line through to 46 Bde with spur off to 3/4 CLY	DGH

GASTHUIS HEIDE		1205 1500 1900	158 Bde all in R/T comd net. Not yet up in CW net. Probably not coming up. Therefore, on "Q" net CSO 12 Corps visits CO to discuss forthcoming op Lines under way for forthcoming moves of 44 and 227 Bdes	DGH DGH DGH
GASTHUIS HEIDE	16	0200 0800 1100 1100 1200 1430 1430 1600	15 (S) Div changes frequencies from Inf List "A" to Inf List "B". All nets O.K. Lines through to 44 & 227 Bdes in new locations 53 Div having moved into this area 158 Bde now no longer under command 15 Div C.O. attends "O" gp on forthcoming op "GARDEN" in which 12 Corps and 30 Corps are jointly involved in advance NE O.C. 53 Div Sigs visits CO Move of Main & Rear Corps resulting in the following line situation which is unchanged for rest of day. Quad to Main Corps, one pair strapped through at Main Div & Corps respectively to Rear Div & Rear Corps respectively. Rear Div are utilizing now both pairs of the previous Corps quad, thus still leaving 2 lines between Main & Rear Div - et seq. Direct lines to all 3 Bdes, Recce and 3/4 CLY Two new CV's recently acquired now fit for use - one to "B" sec for HQRASC releasing 1 gin palace to be held spare at Main Div for step-up work etc, the other spare at Main Div in use as wireless office.	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
	17	0930 1100 1200	Church parade attended almost entirely by Sigs personnel All white stars on vehs uncovered, all cleaned. Three requiring repainting attended to. This in preparation for forthcoming immediate airborne ops. Slit trenches also dug C.O. attends co-ordinating conference re Div op "FLOOD" in which the Div is holding the line of the JUNCTION CANAL. For results of conference involving opening of Signal Centre etc see 15 (S) Div Signal Instruction No 1 of even date issued at 1700 hrs	DGH DGH Appx D.1.
GASTHUIS HEIDE	18	0900 0600 1000	LT P.O. RADWAY rejoins unit from ENGLAND on recovering from wound and re-assumes former appointment as O.C. "C" Sec, the present O.C. section LT J.W. FULLARTON remaining attd to the Line Section. 11 reinforcement OR's also arrive, the largest single batch to arrive since operations began (8 ops W&L, 2 linesmen, 1 DR). - onwards. Line sections all fully engaged on lines as per yesterday's signal instructions with slight variation due to move of Recce at 1345 today C.O. and O.C. 3 Coy pay routine inspection to Bde Sections	DGH DGH DGH

		1200	O.C. Sigs Rear to BRUSSELS for 48 hrs i/c Party of JEWISH personnel attending festival of JEWISH NEW YEAR	DGH
		1600	C.O. and Adjt pay routine visit to "R" section and to Recce Regt HQ. Admin side of "R" Sec not satisfactory. CO revisiting tomorrow	DGH
	19	1000	C.O. and Adjt revisit "R" Sec and find improvement though not fully satisfactory yet. Visit also new location 44 Bde. Lines now as per Appx L1 to yesterday's Sig Instr.	DGH
GASTHUIS HEIDE	20	0930	Adjt visits Rear Div and inspects lines, billets etc	DGH
		1330	46 Bde, remaining under comd 15 Div for Admin, pass under comd 53 Div and so leave Div R/T & C/W comd nets. Codes offr visits with necessary papers etc	DGH
		1800	227 Bde remaining under comd 15 Div for Admin, pass under comd 7 Armd Div and so leave Div R/T. Line laid from 7 Armd Tac HQ only a short distance away. Line also laid to 284 Coy RASC to be strapped through to 227 Bde on move of 15 Div	DGH
	21	0900	Signal Centre closes 46 Bde having already moved off. 227 Bde line strapped through to line to 7 Armd Tac and 227 Sig Centre line to 284 Coy RASC	DGH
		1030	Main Div HQ followed by Rear Div HQ move into HOLLAND to ZEELST (390167) and Rear Div to AKHEREIND (409160) arriving at approx 1800 hrs. 46 Bde revert to 15 Div and line immediately laid to them. 2 lines to Rear Div one strapped straight through to Rear Corps, Corps quad being in very shortly after arrival of Div	DGH
ZEELST		1830		DGH
	22	0700	Line through to Recce Regt.	DGH
		0900	5 RTR now under comd 15 Div - O.K. on R/T comd net, which is the only net on which they are appearing. Heavy interference on wireless nets due to 3 (Br) Div in 30 Corps being on same freq allotment. Corps through Army have arranged for them to minimize today & to change to List "D" at 2359 hrs tonight	DGH
		1000	46 Bde and Recce on move. Spare gin palace out on sector control work on R/T Comd net.	DGH
		1200	Line through to new location 46 Bde & line to 46 Bde from Sector Control	DGH
		1330	227 Bde revert under comd - OK on all nets	DGH
		1600	LO 5 RTR visits Adj for link signs etc	DGH
		1800	CO & Adjt pay routine visit to 46 Bde	DGH
ZEELST	23	0800	All line dets engaged on extension of line layout, culminating in line layout as per Line Diagram issued as at 1800 hrs	DGH
		1000	Sig Centre opens at 399205. Wireless situation OK throughout day. 5 RTR at 1400 hrs cease under comd 227 Bde and leave Div nets	DGH Appx I folio 2 DGH

		1800 1830	CSO visits C.O. to discuss current problems, especially lines CO and Adjt visit Sig centre and find all in order	DGH DGH
ZEELST	24	0930 1000 1015 1400 1800	Large attendance of Sigs personnel at church parade 5 DG come under comd 15 Div and net satisfactorily on R/T Comd net only CO and Adjt pay routine visit to OC 53 Div Sigs and to OC 12 Corps Sigs Signal centre moves up to same location as Corps cable-head, which is 403226, thus necessitating certain minor readjustment of the line layout as from yesterday's diagram Heavy intermittent interference of unknown origin on practically all nets - affecting Corps as well. Lessening as evening progresses. Noise like that of several unsuppressed vehicles in the vicinity completely swamping all but the strongest signals. Corps investigating	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
ZEELST	25	0900 0900 0900 1430 1600	5 DG no longer under comd 15 Div - off R/T comd net Wireless officers Main & Rear engaged throughout day in efforts to track down this peculiar interference - assistance of Phillips Radio works at EINDHOVEN worthy of mention. Not yet discovered Line layout in constant state of adjustment throughout day, but in general layout as for yesterday, except that Corps required their pair of the quad 12C/20 which we were using, still leaving us quad 12C/21 in toto. Other arrangements made - 1800 Large numbers of ORs attend one of the periodical film shows. Arrangements made for securing billets of one kind or another for all Sigs OR's. This practice will be followed from now on, the Admin officer for Rear Div Sigs and the Cipher officer at Main being in charge respectively. Here the bulk of the men are being accommodated in a large cigar factory.	DGH DGH DGH DGH DGH
ZEELST	26	0800 1000 1100 1400	Line section again fully engaged. Moves of 44 and 227 Bdes to be catered for and subsidiary lines such as traffic and sector controls. Wireless O.K. No reoccurrence of strange interference which would appear to be brought on by wet weather MAJOR R.N. HOUSTON granted the T.D. Recce parties out but find no suitable site for move of Div HQ. Area very congested forward with 7 Armd Div Films, an ENSA show and a football match Div HQ & EINDHOVEN Div HQ wins 6-1. 4 Signals reps in Div HQ team.	DGH DGH DGH DGH
ZEELST	27	0100	Corps changes frequency list from Corps List "C" to List "B". Change effected smoothly	DGH

ACHT		0800	Line maintenance etc as normal and preparations for impending move of Main Div HQ in afternoon. Interesting new line laid is one direct from office of G2 to the air-field at EINDHOVEN for air support purposes.	DGH
		1430	Main Div HQ moves to ACHT (396227) arriving at approx 1530 hrs. Rear Div HQ not moving.	DGH
		1800	Line situation - 3 lines to Sig Centre + 1 pair of Corps quad lines from Sig Centre to all Bdes. Line 44 - Recce. Line 44 - 227. Line S.C. Sector Control. Line S.C. - 119 LAA Regt. Direct line Div - 46 Bde. 2 lines Rear Div. Pair to Main Corps. Pair Rear Div - Rear Corps. Lines S.C. - 227 and one of the Rear Div lines faulty for lengthy periods, giving cause for concern. Wireless situation OK since arriving, but further interference of a/m nature - N.B. weather wet again	DGH
ACHT	28	0900	Signal Centre moved forward first beyond the WILHELMINA CANAL (397253). 3 pairs of Corps quads are laid between Main Div & Sig Centre. New line laid between Main Div HQ and ALG	DGH
		1000	CO and Adjt pay routine visits to 44 Bde, 227 Bde and Recce, taking in Signal Centre	DGH
		1500	Rear Div HQ moves to STICHTING WOENSEL (410210). 2 lines between Main HQ and Rear - 1 pair (extended) of a Corps quad and one of our own lines. Direct line between Rear Div - Rear Corps	DGH
		1600	CO and Adjt revisit Sig Centre	DGH
ACHT	29	0900	158 Bde of 53 Div under comd 15 Div except for Admin. O.K. on R/T and C/W comd nets	DGH
		1000	8 HUSSARS of 7 Armd Div (22 Armd Bde) under comd, except for Admin. O.K. on R/T Comd net only	DGH
		1030	C.O. and Adjt pay routine visits to 44 Bde and 227 Bde arranging about lines for move of Div HQ this afternoon	DGH
		1500	Main Div HQ moves to NEINSEL (439301) arriving at about 1630 hrs	DGH
		1900	Lines to all concerned, except to 8 HUSSARS. To be done tomorrow by means of Corps pair. Rear Div via Main Corps - Rear Div moving in the morning. Signal centre pushed forward, Recce acting rather as forward sig centre to our sig centre tonight. All wireless OK. Section sgt 44 Bde Sig Sec killed today by shrapnel (SGT BROWN RW)	DGH
	30	1000	CO and O.C. 3 Coy attend funeral of Sgt Brown at HQ 44 Bde.	DGH
		1100	Rear Div HQ move to ZON (442259). Line laid between Main & Rear. Now also Main Corps - Rear Div and Rear Div - Rear Corps. Line laid Main Div - 8 HUSSARS.	DGH

		1500	onwards. Preparations of line diagrams, line traces etc preparatory to 51(H) Div taking over here from 15 (S) Div and return of 15 (S) Div to 8 Corps. O.C. 51 Div Sigs visits C.O. David G Heilbron Capt R. Signals Adjt 15 (S) Inf. Div. Signals.	Appx J folio 28
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