

January 1945

On 12 Jan the Div was visited by FM Montgomery who presented medals and awards.

Maj LP Northy receives the Military Cross



Pte JE Andow receives the Military Medal



The Battalion returned to the line on 21 Jan, and the vigil over the Maas and patrol activity was in order.

Sheet ONE ORIGINAL

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in P.S. Regs., Vol. I. 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.

JAN 1945

Month and Year.....

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

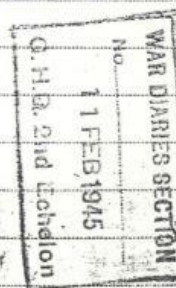
Army Form C. 2118.

1st Bn The Herefordshire Regiment
Unit.....

Commanding Officer Lt Col G.R. Turner
D.S.O.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
BAEXEM	1		Bn in reserve area. Bde Cnd visits coys during training.	
BAEXEM	2-7 (incl)		Bn in reserve area. Training carried out by pls. Training included range firing, W.T., and fire and movement.	
WEERT	8		Bn moves to Barracks at WEERT for training period of approx 14 / 17 days.	
WEERT	9-20 (incl)		Bn training period. Training included Inf / Tk co-operation, boating drill and river crossing, night patrols, elementary mine trg, weapon trg and firing, including a demonstration by "wasps". A.Tk Pl at practice range for three days. Support Pls and Specialists trained under individual programmes. Carrier Pl re-inforced to four secs - full strength for the first time since August. Bde Cnd inspected trg on frequent occasions.	
WEERT	20		Orders to move to HEEL area 7188, tomorrow - patrols to be established tonight. The following (1) and (3) standing patrols manned as from ^{last} last light.	

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sheet TWO

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D.F. 3

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HEEL	21		Bn relieves 2 K.S.L.I. (3 Br Div) and takes up the following positions:- A 714884, B 718895, C 719886, D 729894, S Coy with three sec carriers 724886, ATK Pl defending Bridge 682886 in infantry role. Bn HQ 717884. Standing Patrols at (1) POL 714870 (1 sec by day and 1Pl by night) (2) 721875 (1 sec by day and 1 pl by night)with one sec patrolling WEST of river bank to incl POL and one sec EAST to incl ORCHARD 728877. (3) LOCK FORCE at 733879 (Pl throughout the 24 hrs) and during the hours of darkness (4) Recce patrols along river bank 734884 to 737890. Area SANTFORT 6888 to PANHEEL 6988 patrolled throughout the 24 hrs; Change over completed without incident. Standing patrols ordered to fire as much as possible to draw enemy fire and to keep a check of their presence. Enemy replied throughout the night. Enemy patrol of approx six to eight men seen NORTH of BEECHEN. No action taken and not seen again.	
		20.00/4		

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Commanding Officer Lt Col G.R. Turner Cain
D.S.O.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
HEEL	21 (cont)		2000 hrs ; Approx 20 enemy seen in River Bulge NW of WEERD ^{MERUM} carrying straw etc; HQ of some kind indicated at DRIFT 750877, during day.	
HEEL	22		3" Mortars fired at men seen yesterday NW of DRIFT, Not so many seen today. The Island 7387 and 7487, still occupied and spandaus still active.	
HEEL	23		No enemy seen all day. Patrols at POL 714870, and from SANTFORT BR; cancelled owing to 7th Armd Div advance along EAST bank of R. Maas R. Maas. Section from Standing Patrol 722875 patrols POL at intervals throughout the night.	
	1930		A Coy fire at movement seen at 735896,. This was found later to be a food carrying party of 9th Bn Para Regt; 6th Airborne Div; who suffered one casualty- wounded.	
HEEL	24		7th Armd Div advanced to WEERD 7386 and SOUTH of LINNE 7485. To provide strong defensive positions at BEEGDEN, A Coy moved to NORTH of village with positions ^{centred} on 733895. ATK Pl from SANTFORT BR;	

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Unit..... 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regiment

Commanding Officer..... Lt Col G.R. Turner, C.M. D.S. 1

References to Appendices

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HEEL	24	(cont)	... 682886 to SW of HEEL 714802. SANTFORT BR; taken over by strong sec of B Coy. Very little enemy activity seen in area DRIFT, and NW of LOCK FORCE 733879 suffer one casualty-wounded by premature ^{from} 2" mortar. Mortar Pl suffer one casualty- Killed 6 who fell on his own Sten Gun. Slight enemy shelling in Bn area during the night. Spandaus still active on Island.	
HEEL	25		B Coy moved from reserve area to position in WEST half of HEEL centred on 715884 to strengthen HEEL defences. LINNE captured by Commandos u/c 7th Arm'd Div; No firing from own own LOCK FORCE owing to expected friendly patrol on Island which did not take place. Spandaus still active.	
HEEL	26		Expected Commando raid on Island again did not take place. Spandaus again active and engaged by LOCK FORCE and 3" Mortars. Die LO with Commando Force in wireless commn with this Bn.	
HEEL	27	2.30	Commando raid Island. LOCK FORCE temporarily withdrew for operation	

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1st Bn The Herefordshire Regiment

Commanding Officer Lt Col F.R. Turner Cain

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
HEEL	27 (cont)		...and returned when Island reported clear. Other patrols remained firm on ground during operation. The Island was in fact not cleared & the Cdo force. (withdrew with one PW)	
		0320	RE cleared path to LOCK 733879 and clear the " Cat Walk " of wire and booby traps, thus making a safe route to NORTH side of Cat Walk.	
			No enemy interference. LO with SS Bde netted to our wireless for the operation for the Island.	
HEEL	28		Day and night quiet. The Commanding Officer appointed A/Brigadier during the absence of (the Brigadier whilst on leave. Road 721886 to corner 731876 found clear of mines by Pioneers but found to be mined North of that point. Area also mined. No attempt to pull owing to frost but path cleared 4' wide and taped. No enemy interference. Enemy on Island quiet.	
HEEL	29		Enemy on Island engaged by all pl weapons by Lock Force. No return fire.	
		1830	Small Bosche patrol in ORCHARD 735895 fired at forward sec post, slightly injuring one man. They then made off and no further	

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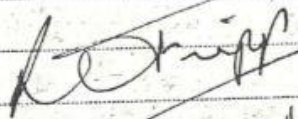
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HEEL	29 (cont)		...contact was made, although the ground was immediately searched.	
HEEL	30		Similar activity on the Island. Two enemy seen and engaged by small arms fire.	
HEEL	31	0950	4 KSLI rescue party in area preparatory to handing over tomorrow. Proposed handing over to 4 KSLI cancelled. Expecting relief from other formation within 48 hours.	
		1300	"Deceiving" attack on Island with 2" Mortar and SA used, to draw enemy fire and observe movement. Three enemy seen and one killed (claimed). No answering fire, enemy seemed to be completely dominated by our LOCK FORCE.	


 Major
 Off Comd 14th Bn Newfordshire Regt.

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~~Le Sniff~~
- Major
Off Comd 1st Bn Herefordshire Light