

### February 1945

The Allied forces were regrouping in preparation for crossing the Rhine; 159 Bde moved to Turnhout in Belgium and the Div came under command of 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Army with the task of clearing the west bank of the Rhine.

On 23 Feb the Battalion took part in Op BLOCKBUSTER, to clear the enemy between the Maas and the Rhine. The Battalion crossed the German frontier on 23 Feb. The Battalion moved into Udem to clear remaining pockets of resistance.

Further advances met strong and determined opposition but pressed on.



Crossing the anti tank ditch which surrounded Udem.

## SHEET ONE

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. C.2149. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

FEB 1945  
Month and Year.....

ORIGINAL  
WAR DIARY

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

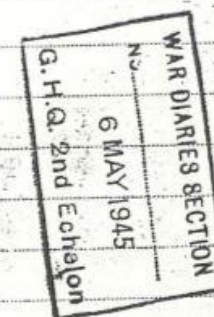
1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt;

Unit.....

Commanding Officer: Col. C. B. Turner, Cais  
Dac

			Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour		
HEEL	1		Day and night quiet. No incidents reported by patrols during the night.	
HEEL and WEERT	2	0930	Unit handed over area to the 46 Marine Cdo. Change over completed by mid-day without incident, with the exception of LOCK FORCE, who were relieved at last light. Unit moved to WEERT Hqs. for a period of training. LOCK FORCE was relieved by 0130 hours 3 Feb; One deserter ( Paratrooper ) came over from the Island and was handed over to the Cdo;	
WEERT	3		Maintenance, baths, and entertainment.	
WEERT	4	1000	Bn Church Parade in the Barracks. Innoculations and baths.	
WEERT	5		Training commenced by Coys including firing on the 30x range by 'A' and 'HQ' Coys. Entertainments.	
WEERT	6/7		Companies training.	
WEERT	8		Bn moved out of the Barracks to make room for the 6 AB Div; and billeted in the town over a wide area. This presented	

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SHEET 2.  
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
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C.2119. If this is not available, and for  
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## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form G. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt

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

Month and Year FEB 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
WEERT	8	(cont)	.....difficulties of <del>xxx</del> administration and in training space.	
WEERT	9		Bn settled in. Concentrated on administration.	
WEERT	10		Morning spent on training. Football match arranged in the afternoon with the K.S.L.I., in which the Bn won 2 - 0.	
WEERT	11		Day of rest. Church service in the morning.	
WEERT	12		Serious training commenced again. Representative of the Hereford Times staying with the Bn for seven days to collect material for articles on the Bn's achievements so far.	
WEERT	13/16		Normal training, administration and entertainment.	
WEERT and TURNHOUT	17	0800	Bn leaves Weert for Turnhout.	
		1300	Bn arrives in Turnhout and is billeted in the Station area.	
			Normal training continues for its future commitment in the battle for the Rhine.	
TURNHOUT	18/20		Normal training including inf / tank co-operation on a coy basis.	
TURNHOUT	21		The Commanding officer resumes command of the Bn.	

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FEB.1945.

Month and Year.....

Sheet 3.  
WAR DIARY

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

1st Bn The HEREFORDSHIRE REGT.

Unit.....

Lt Col G.R. Turner Gain.D30

Commanding Officer.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
TURNHOUT	22		Company training continues.	
" "	23		Bn leaves Turnhout for area SE of CLEVE 9051, to take part in operation "Blockbuster"	
SE of CLEVE	24	0200	Bn in position in concentration area.	
		2100	Division intention to break through the HOCHWALD line as Fourth phase of operation "Blockbuster" and to capture the high ground north of SONSBECK 0635. Operation to commence on the 26th. 4th Armd Bde (Scots Greys, 3/4 CLY and 44 RTR) u/c 11th Armd Div in place of 29th Armd Bde who are still refitting.	
SE of CLEVE	25		Bn remains in concentration area.	
SE of CLEVE	26		Bn remains in concentration area.	
SE of CLEVE	27	0430	Bn ready to move.	
		0800	Bn moves to forming up area 9744, preparatory to going through UDEM, (captured by Cdns last night) One 15cwt truck blown up on mines, one OR wounded.	
		1100	Fresh orders, as opposition is stronger than expected. The Bn	
			( cont on next page.)	



SHEET 4

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Month and Year FEB 1945

# WAR DIARY

## or

### INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendix
SE OF CLEVE	27 (cont)		.... with 3/4 CLY u/c will capture GOCHFORD feature 000400.	
		1100	Leading tanks encountered difficulty in crossing A/Tk ditch	
			982414 owing to gap in road, but at 1300 hrs the advance continued.	
			4th Arm'd Bde moved across from 977412 to 988403 clearing south	
			of this CL whilst we advanced to GOCHFORD feature. Very difficult	
			going with many vehicles bogged, and combined with heavy enemy	
			opposition, shellfire and mortar fire made the <sup>operation</sup> going slow.	
		1900	GOCHFORD feature captured with 'A' Coy at 998402, 'B' 988397,	
			'C' 995400, 'D' 996397, Bn HQ 993400. Very heavy enemy shelling	
			during the night in the Bn area. PW's taken during the day:-	
			One officer and 58 O.R's from 84 Div, 2 and 8 Para Divs. (NB	
			Several more PW's possibly 40 passed through other PW cages)	
SE OF UDEM	28	0001	3 Mns with 15/19th Hussars u/c pass through to capture BRIDGE	
			XXXXX at 004393 and form bridgehead.	



SHEET 5

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Army Form G. 2118.

Unit... 1st Bn The HEREFORDSHIRE Regt;

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

Month and Year FEB. 1945.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendix
SE OF UDEM	28 (cont)	....0400 hrs.,	'B' and 'A' Coys relieved by two Coys of the R Winnipeg Rifles	
		0430	Bn prepared to move forward through the 3 Mons. The latter, however are held up and eventually we received orders for a night attack to commence at 1955 hrs.	
		1955	Bn now with 15/19th Hussars u/c in place of 3/4 CLY advanced through Mons bridgehead and reached O2 Easting. SP's and 88mm's plus heavy small arms fire including panzerfausts prevented any further advance towards the enemy dug defences. Bn consolidated 'D' 017387, 'C' 019384, 'A' 018382, 'B' 014380, Mor and MMG Pl 011383, Bn HQ 013387. 15/19th Hussars lose 6 tanks. Tracked vehicles only could pass over bridge as only fascines had been laid. The CO commanded from a tank, and only his carrier accompanied him, forming tactical cmd post forward. Remainder of cmd Post remained in old location, for collection of PW's.	

