

1st BATTALION THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT – OCTOBER 1944 – Part 1

September started with high endeavour - the 'excitement' of the dash to Antwerp and the sheer exuberance of the liberated locals; however this was soon countered by the day to day slog of the advance to the East and the frustration of the failure of 'Market Garden'.

With the shortening days and the onslaught of the Autumn weather (and knowing that this would only get worse when winter arrived) the nature of the war was changing, the German defence was better prepared and as the Allies got closer to the German 'Motherland' the defence became more determined.

The nature of the Battalion was also changing, casualties were still being suffered and reinforcements received; the 'old hands' were fewer the friendships made over 4 years of training were broken and new ones, whilst 'forged in battle' would never be quite the same.

All of these things could have an adverse effect on morale and efficiency but such had been the preparation, command and support resilience, 'esprit de corps' at all levels, the belief in what they were doing and the reception of the liberated population, that morale and efficiency remained high and whilst victory now seemed assured it was clearly going to be a long hard and painful journey before final victory would be achieved.

WAR DIARY

To help set the scene extracts from 159 Brigade War Diary:

In lieu of APO 2118
 Unit : HQ 159 INFANTRY BRIGADE
 Commanding Officer: *W. Hamilton* Brig.

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY

Month and Year OCT 44

Place.	Date	Hour.	Summary of events and information.	Refs to Appendices.
B. L. A.	1 Oct 44		The Div remained in the GHEERT area, resting, refit etc, Film Shows, baths etc.	<i>act</i>
	2 "		During this period 1 HEREFORD had one coy detached at MELJEL in a composite force with one tp of 151 Fd Regt.	<i>act</i>
	3 "			
	4 "			
	5 "			
	6 "			
	7 "			During the night 6/7 the Bde was ordered to take up a portion of the line now held by 7 US Arm'd Div from VORTUM 7937 to incl rd ST ANTHONIS - OVERLOON. The Bde was grouped with 4 KSLI, 1 HEREFORD, 2 FF YEO, 75 A Tc Regt less two btys under comd. The role of the Div was to act as RIGHT flank protection to Second Army, Second Army HQ being at HELLOND. The units of the Bde moved at 1230 hrs and were all in new locations by 1630 hrs, taking over from the combat teams of the 7 US Arm'd Div. Bde HQ in the area ST ANTHONIS, 4 KSLI area MILLER, WEST of VORTUM, 1 HEREFORD area WOODS, NORTH of OVERLOON. 2 FF YEO area SAMBEK SCHE HEIDE 7335.
			The Bde remained same locations, patrolling continued during the day, many posns being pin-pointed, incl guns, action being taken by Gunners. A Lt. Beudin of the 400th Army joined the Bde as an interrogator. He visited BOMBER with Capt. Andrews, IO.1, to get latest form from local inhabitants. A lot of info was gained. In direct result an ambush has been arranged in BOMBER to catch any Huns that cross during the night after the DENS OF COURT and FF YEO patrols withdraw. Shelling and mortaring continued during the day on the fwd posns. During the early evening the Huns put in a counter-attack on the HEREFORD'S fwd posn of approx two-pl strength. The HEREFORDS had to give a certain amount of ground. The ambush arranged for the Windmill in BOMBER area did NOT materialise as it was reported the enemy were already in posn. During the night patrols reported small amount of movement.	<i>act</i>
	9 Oct 44		The Bde remained in the present locations. Shelling and mortaring continued on the area during the day. Patrols continued during the day. At 1530 hrs 1 HEREFORD put in a strong raid on the enemy posns with the assistance of the guns of the tks, also Arty, resulting in 17 Huns being captured, many killed and wounded being left behind. Many more offensive patrols were arranged to take place during the night. 4 KSLI sent a fighting patrol of one Oftr (Capt. Quash) and 20 ORs to obtain an identification from the enemy posn at KLEMT 78349. This was successfully carried out at 2030 hrs, killing 4 or 5 enemy, 1 captured. Patrols continued during the night.	<i>act</i>
	10 Oct 44		Bde remained in present locations, great deal of movement in Bde area, 8 AGRA and 3 (Brit) Div were concentrating. During the day aggressive patrols were sent out to locate the enemy. Certain PW were taken, identification made from Bn - Paul Hoffman from Regt Hartegg. Shelling and mortaring continued during day to a lesser degree. Our arty continued to give harassing fire with good results.	<i>act</i>
	11 Oct 44		The Bde still remained in same locations. Aggressive patrolling continued, building up the enemy picture daily. All reps of HQs of the 3 (Brit) Div visited this HQ for information of the front in readiness for their attack on the 12th. Shelling and mortaring continued during the day.	<i>act</i>

WAR DIARY No. 10 NOV 1944 C.M.Q. 2nd ECHOLON

WAR DIARY

Sheet 2.

In lieu of AFO 2118

Month and Year OCT 44.

Unit : HQ 159 INFANTRY BRIGADE

Commanding Officer B. Chantler E

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of events and information.	Refs to Appendices.
B.I.A.	12 Oct 44.		The Bde remained in same posn. At 1100 hrs medium bombers came over and bombed areas behind the enemy lines. Typhoons straffing any seen movement, gun posns. Our guns opened up a large arty programme which continued all day. The 3 (Brit) Div put in their attack with one Bde up. By nightfall they had adv to the main EAST - WEST rd from OVERLOOK. Some tps in OVERLOOK, and tps in WOODS to the WEST and slightly SOUTH. The Churchill tks were held up by A Tk minefields. Lanes were cleared, and by the end of the day a tp of tks was with each of the fwd Bns. Patrolling was carried out during the night by 4 KSLII and 1 HEREFORD. Our own arty continued on a heavy scale during the night. ad	
	13 Oct 44.		The 3 (Brit) Div continued their adv and by the end of the day had two Bdes in the WOOD, SOUTH of OVERLOOK. We continued to send out aggressive patrols with good results. A small party was laid on by 4 KSLII to clean up 24 Bns who were dug in just this side of the MAAS by the WIER of SAMBEEK. This was carried out during the afternoon with excellent results, all the enemy being accounted for, including 14 PW. The mortaring and shelling of our fwd posns became less as the 3rd Brit advanced although in the early evening the Bn HQ of 4 KSLII was heavily stonked. Orders had been given out to all units in the 159 Inf Bde Gp, which consisted of the 4th KSLII 1 HEREFORD, 15/19 H, 2 FF YEO, one bty 117 of 75 A Tk Regt, for the move through the 3rd (Brit) Div to our objective, no specific time being given as it depended on the progress of 3 (Brit) Div. ad	
	14 Oct 44.		The Bde remained in present posns. 3 (Brit) Div continued ops. 3 (Brit) Recce Regt took over posns in front of 4 KSLII. In the late afternoon the Bde was ordered to prepare to take over posns in the area SOUTH of SHAFFERDEN with arty and air sp, in order to protect the left flank of 3 (Brit) Div. ad	
	15 Oct 44.		At 0900 hrs Tac Bde HQ moved to the area 749244, the location of the HQ of 1 HEREFORD. At 1030 hrs the barrage in sp of 4 KSLII commenced. 4 KSLII reported slight opposition. At 1115 hrs report came back that 27 PW taken - progress still good. 1 HEREFORD prepared themselves with 15/19 H to go through KSLII to clean up area to NORTH in the KLUWIT. 4 KSLII reached objectives after having some hard struggles. Air sp was in continual use, Typhoons being called on to VIERLINGSBEEK, MARSHBEEK. Quite a lot of light AA was put up by the Hum. 15/19 H, during the later part of the day lost one tank on a mine, but knocked out an 88 mm and an A Tk dual purpose gun. Further PW reported by 1 HEREFORD and 4 KSLII, the day's bag amounting to approx 70. These were from various units - 437 Engineer Bn, Bn ROMANSKILL, Bn GREVING, Bn ROFFELANN and Bn PAUL. ad	
	16 Oct 44.		The Bde remained in their new posns, making as many faces as possible at the enemy, while 3 (Brit) Div pushed their way on to VERVAL. By the end of the day slow progress had been made. The Bde had orders to move as soon as possible to the area DEURNE with the object of attacking from the WEST. At 1700 hrs 15/19 H and 1 HEREFORD left the area with main Bde HQ. 4 KSLII were being relieved by ROSE and a fire plan was made for 1915 hrs to 2000 hrs. Owing to the very bad weather conditions the movement of all vehs was greatly reduced, some being bogged. By midnight 4 KSLII and 2 FF YEO were withdrawn in readiness to move off at first light to the area of DEURNE 6520. 1 HEREFORD and 15/19 H were already in that area. ad	

Sheet 3.

In lieu of AFO 2118

Month and Year OCT 44

WAR DIARY

Unit : HQ 159 INFANTRY BRIGADE

Commanding Officer B. Chantler Brig.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Refs to Appendices.
B.I.A.	17 Oct 44.		At 0730 hrs Tac Bde HQ moved for new area near DEURNE, followed by 2 FF YEO and 4 KSLII. 1 HEREFORD and 15/19 H were ordered to pass through 7 US Armd Div and take LUSSELSTEIGN 7222 - to start adv at 1000 hrs. Contact was made with 7 US Armd Div and a plan was made. The area was reported to be heavily mined with A Tk and AP mines. Special attention of this fact was brought to the notice of all dvrs in the HQ. At 1000 hrs 1 HEREFORD and 15/19 H started adv. Great difficulty was found in crossing br over CANAL as the enemy had registered his NEWS mortars and arty on this crossing. 1 HEREFORD suffered heavy casualties, but still continued to push forward. As the adv continued, PWs began to come in. Arty was arranged, also Typhoon sp and by last light 1 HEREFORD and 15/19 H had captured LUSSELSTEIGN 7222. One coy of 4 KSLII were sent forward to hold br. The combat gps of the 7 US Armd Div had moved SOUTH of the br. 4 KSLII less one coy in the area 6722, Bde Tac 6721 with 2 FF YEO. By the end of the day approx 180 PW had been taken, mostly from 439 Engineer Bn, some of the rfts having arrived only the night before. ad	
	18 Oct 44.		At first light 4 KSLII and 2 FF YEO pushed forward across the CANAL br. Mortaring and shelling was reported most of the day. Progress was slow owing to the weather and condition of the rds. Many more PW were taken, incl two completely fanatical Oftrs and 3 Oftrs who seemed at last to see the light, all from 22 Inf Regt. The 2 FF YEO had a very successful bag of 3 panthers and 2 Jagd Panthers, 375-guns and one Nebelwerfer. It is appreciated that these are some of the remnants of the 107 Pz Bde. By last light the Bde Gp was rather widely separated. 4 KSLII and 2 FF YEO at VEULEN 7722, 1 HEREFORD and sgn 15/19 H 7321, 15/19 H less one sgn and Bde HQ at ST CATHERINE HOME 7223 just NORTH LUSSELSTEIGN. It was reported that 3 (Brit) Div had taken VERVAL and were moving SOUTH, and 7 US Armd Div was moving up on our right flank. ad	
	20 Oct 44.		The Bde posns remained unchanged. HF programmes were laid on by the arty. 4 KSLII in VEULEN, continued to be mortared and shelled all day. 15/19 H were ordered to probe and find out the form of the enemy to the SOUTH in and around ST HELENE HOME. By the end of the day 15/19 H had KO'd three towed guns and SP and a Panther but in return had itself suffered a few tank casualties. At approx 1830 hrs three shells uncomfortably close to the Bde Tac HQ vehs. Patrols were laid on for the 19/20th. ad	
	21 Oct 44.		The Bde still held same posns - enemy shelling and mortaring continued in the area. The CI became impassable to wheeled vehs owing to mud. The Sappers were ordered to lay a log road. This was started, although under shell fire. Orders came through from Div that one Bn and an Armd Regt at a time would be completely taken out of the line. Rosters were made and the timings for relief worked out. 3 MON were to take over 1 HEREFORD posn in LUSSELSTEIGN and 1 HEREFORD to take over 4 KSLII posn in VEULEN. The F & P YEO taking two sgns out of the line to DEURNE and one sgn and Regt HQ in the area of Bde HQ. 15/19 H - one sgn in VEULEN, one area of 3 MON and one in res with Regt HQ. Patrols were carried out during the night and enemy being shot up - one PW being taken (wounded). All units were in their new posns by 1000 hrs on 22 Oct 44. ad	

// - 4 KSLII moved to rest at DEURNE.

Month and Year OCT 44

WAR DIARY

Sheet 4.

In lieu of APO 2118

Unit : HQ 159 INFANTRY BRIGADE

Commanding Officer *[Signature]* Brig.

Place	Date	Hour.	Summary of events and information	Refs to Appendices.
B.I.A.	22 Oct 44		Bde remained in same posns. Little or no activity took place during the day. During the evening increased enemy shelling. At about 2200 hrs onwards enemy shelling and mortaring became heavy.	act
	23 Oct 44		The Bde continued to hold same posns.	act
	24 Oct 44		" " " " "	
	25 Oct 44		4 KSLI took over 1 HEREFORD posn at VEULEN with sqn 2 FF YED. 8 HB took over from 3 MON in IJSSSELSTEIGN. 1 HEREFORD and two sqns 15/19 H went to rest at DEURNE. Patrolling continued during the night. Enemy continued to send out small aggressive patrols equipped with bazookas with the task of destroying our AFVs. Mortaring and shelling also continued.	act act
	26 Oct 44		The Bde remained in same locations.	act
	27 Oct 44		During the morning reports came in to the effect that the Hun had put in an attack across the CANAL EAST of MELJEL and had succeeded in getting 200 men and 5 tanks into the area. The 7 US Arm Div were holding this sector, which made the task of getting information extremely difficult. At 1200 hrs 1 HEREFORD and two sqns of 15/19 H now resting in DEURNE were ordered to get ready to take over from the AMERICAN COB at GRIENDSTVEEN so that they could counter-attack the Boche and push them back over the CANAL if necessary. By 2000 hrs reports came in that their posn was partially restored by two coys of their Recce Regt and two coys of Inf who had re-entered MELJEL. By 2200 hrs 1 HEREFORD reported in their new area. A Bn of the 3 (Brit) Div, 2 E YORKS, came under comd of the Bde to act as counter-attack force, taking up posns around IJSSSELSTEIGN. Active patrolling was laid on for the night.	act
	28 Oct 44		Early morning reports from 7 US Arm Div contradicted the report of the previous night. The enemy were still in MELJEL when the AMERICANS put in their counter-attack - so did the Hun. By the end of the day the Hun had been pushed back in the NORTHERN sector to within 500 yards of the b'y WEST of HELERAVEN but they had advanced approx two miles WEST of MELJEL on the MELJEL - ASTEN rd. This attack was held. 2 E YORKS of 3 (Brit) Div were moved to an area SOUTH of DEURNE - Area of HOOGDUNK 6616 to stop any NORTHWARD move which might happen during the night. Two Bdes of the 15(S) Div were moving during the night to strengthen their posn.	act
	29 Oct 44		By first light 44 and 46 Bdes of 15 (S) Div had arrived in the area to take up their posns with the 227 Bde following. 46 Bde took up a posn astride rd SOUTH of DEURNE on the DEURNE - MELJEL rd. 44 Bde WEST of ASTEN and 227 going into ASTEN. 1 HEREFORD still remained in the area GRIENDSTVEEN 7117 with 2 E YORKS to their WEST watching the SOUTHERN approaches, with the 15/19 H probing and reconnoitering the lanes as far as the inter-Div bdy running WEST to EAST on the 16 Grid. The Hun made little progress during the day - the general adv being held. Preparations were being made for a counter-attack by 15 (S) Div. COB of 7 US Arm Div held their ground on the ASTEN - MELJEL rd but the COB became involved and owing to confused reports was unable to give its exact locations. The Air Force was able to give // as the enemy had captured MELJEL.	act

Month and Year OCT 44

WAR DIARY

Sheet 5.

In lieu of APO 2118

Unit : HQ 159 INFANTRY BRIGADE

Commanding Officer *[Signature]* Brig.

Place	Date	Hour.	Summary of events and information	Refs to Appendices.
B.I.A.	29 Oct (contd).		excellent sp during the day owing to good weather and succeeded in destroying the five hrs across the CANAL. At approx 1900 hrs enemy planes during the DEURNE area and dropped AP and HE bombs. Little damage or casualties were reported. Patrols were arranged by all units.	act
	30 Oct 44		During the day the 15 (S) Div took over from 7 US Arm Div. Small advances were made towards LIENSEL and LOON. The general advance of the Hun seems to have been halted and held. The units of this Bde remained in the same locations and were not involved in the battle. During the night patrols were sent out. Just NORTH of GRIENDSTVEEN a patrol was shot up, killing one & capturing a PW identified from 1 Coy 16 Bn 22 Regt. The PW disclosed much information, including an intended attack on GRIENDSTVEEN and general movement in the area, locations etc.	act
	31 Oct 44		The units in the Bde remained in the same locations. The 15(S) Div continued their progress, taking 1 Offr and 130 PW during the day. Little movement took place during the day. The usual patrols were sent out during the night. One PW was taken by the 8 RE in the area BRICA 7620. The PW knew very little but was part of a standing patrol, awake at night, asleep during the day.	act

The Battalion War Diary

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1 and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

Sheet One. ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
Unit 1st. Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.
Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G. F. Turner. Gair.

Month and Year September 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
St. Athons.	27	0800	A Coy moves out to area S.W. of Peugen 7442. One pl with O.P. est at Hearen to observe enemy activity E of River Lous.	
		1130	B Coy - relieve A Coy, Personnel from En H.Q. occupied B Coy and pl posn until arrival of A Coy.	
		1900	Coy sent out fighting patrols every two hrs. Patrols from B Coy report no activity during night.	
	28	1830	D Coy relieves B Coy. Nil reports by patrols.	
	29	1730	Orders received to move to Mandel tomorrow.	
	30	0645	Bn moved to Mandel 5853 after relief by U.S. Forces in coy groups at half hrs interval.	
		1200	En H.Q. est at 599332 all coys in civilian billets.	
Mandel.	Oct. 1.		Coy settling in. Lt. Col. reinforcements arrive. Baths, entertainments.	
	2		Bn commenced training and vehicle maintenance. Baths, entertainments.	
	3		Training included firing, 3 Coy range, and vehicle maintenance.	
			3. Coy practice movement by night.	

MSM/218 1290M 1941 H.B. & Co. Ltd. 41-1941

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1 and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

Sheet Two.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
Unit 1st. Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.
Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G. F. Turner. Gair.

Month and Year October 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Mandel	4		Coy practice road and house clearing. B Coy night ex. fighting patrol.	
	5		Mr. Com. inspects Coy during training.	
	6	0900	A Coy proceeded to Meijel 7107 sup by 1 tp R. A. 2 ltp P&R. at 0900 hrs. Object, To act as holding force in village and prevent enemy infiltration.	
	7		11 Armd Div moving to relieve 7 U.S. Armd Div. Bn moves to area N of Overloon 7632. A Coy remain in Meijel, Lt Clide and 1 O.R. wounded.	
		1330	Move commenced	
N of Overloon		1600	Bn arr in area 7434. C Coy 746741. D Coy 756334. B Coy 766339.	
			En H.Q. with C Coy. No enemy interference during move but spasmodic mor fire and shelling, later.	
		2300-0300	B Coy patrol proceeded to sk Meijel 777328 and laid mines. No enemy encountered.	
			D Coy standing patrol 760327. Enemy F.D.L. and listening post lood	
			Movement of tracked vehicles heard N.E. of Overloon, Enemy considered to be in strength N.S. of Overloon.	

MSM/218 1290M 1941 H.B. & Co. Ltd. 41-1941

Sheet Three.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
Unit 1st. Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.
Commanding Officer Lt. Col. B. R. Turner - Gaia

Month and Year October 1944.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	8	1500	Reinforcements arr, total 11 C.Rs. New 21/C arr, Major W.D. Terry .	
		1700	Enemy mor centre of B Coy area. No cas. Spasmodic mor, shelling and fire from NW until 0200 hrs.	
		1730	Boy pl of H. Fus opened fire with captured LBW.	
		1800	R.E.s moved fwd to lay mines in 'boot wood' fwd of D Coy area, 759327.	
		1845	Enemy seen adv to N of Boot wood 759328 and standing patrol D Coy mor heavily. Patrol consisted of two secs sup by one tp tks. Comd decided to withdraw with the intention to go fwd with tk sup and push out the enemy. The tks withdrew to harbour area for the night before this operation was carried out leaving enemy in possession of our posn. Patrol subsequently withdrew to rear posn under further hy mor fire, suffering two cas (wounded). Since the R.E.s had no inf sp, laying of the intended minefield was impossible.	
		1930	B Coy send out fighting patrols of pl strength to Halfway 780332. Met one sentry at 775337. Hearing enemy on their left (area 777337)	

M332/1215 1200M 10/11 H.R. & Co. Ltd. 51-1541

Sheet Four.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
Unit 1st. Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.
Commanding Officer Lt. Col. B. R. Turner - Gaia

Month and Year October 1944.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			cont.	
			and their attempt to capture the sentry being unsuccessful owing to unfortunate exposure of an enemy searchlight, they returned to their posns.	
		2000	(enemies) D Coy standing patrols to 757329, 759330, B Coy 773337 and 775343. Slight enemy movement heard in both located enemy posns until 0530 hrs. Our patrols withdrew at first light.	
		2330	B Coy patrol to tip of wood 777348. Nothing seen or heard.	
	9		Patrol from 1000hrs approx D Coy, small fighting patrols with brems, mors to area 756328 and 763328 to harrass flank of enemy posn, leaving listening post 754327, B Coy, fighting patrol to enemy posn 777337. 10 Germans seen in the area.	
		1400	A Coy arr from Meijel and occupied area between B and D Coys.	
		1530	D Coy put in coy raid in 'Boot' wood 760327 with tk and arty sp with the object of inflicting cas and obtaining P.Ws. Results 10 enemy killed, 17 P.Ws taken, Identification Battle gp 'Paul', Coy withdrew suffering 4 cas (wounded). Bde Comd at Bn H.Q. during att. Enemy replied with	

M332/1215 1200M 10/11 H.R. & Co. Ltd. 51-1541

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. I and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. F.R. Turner Cain.

Month and Year October 44.

Place	Date	Hour	cont.	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
				by mortar and shell fire. This continued intermittently until 2200 hrs.	
				Speed in execution and the application of fire and movement were responsible for the success of this raid.	
		2000		B Coy fighting patrol laid mines X tracks 774326 no enemy met.	
		2130		D Coy fighting patrol to toe of 'Boot' wood 766327.	
		9		Considerable enemy movement heard approx strength about 20.	
		2400		B Coy fighting patrol to Row 771324 report it clear.	
		10		Rained incessantly throughout day.	
		0500		C and D Coy changed posns.	
		1630		P.S.P. est civilian check point on rd 1/2 mile N of Bn H.Q.	
		1030		Reps from 3rd British Div arr to recon area.	
		14	1400	Intended Psychological warfare cancelled on Div Comds Instructions.	
			1730	B Coy with tk and arty sp att enemy posn 777337 was inflicted and 2 P.Ws taken (Identification Battle Gp Hardegg) Intermittent shelling and mortar by enemy throughout 24 hrs.	

M324/1213 1200M 10/41 H.B. & Co. Ltd. 51-1840

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. I and the Staff Manual respectively. 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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G.R. Turner Cain

Month and Year October 44

Place	Date	Hour	Patrols	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
		IO	2100 - 2310	C Coy recon patrol to toe of "Boot" wood. 6 Germans seen patrolling edge of wood and other enemy heard inside wood	
			2300 - 0130	B Coy patrol to 777329 and lay mines 777329. No enemy met	
			0100 - 0510	A Coy patrol to Row 771324 voices heard in woods S.W. of Row.	
		II	0500	A and D Coys change posns.	
			0700	Polish deserter brought in by B Coy. Ident. 2 Coy 437 Bn. Battle Gp. Hoffman	
			1100	C.R.A. visits Bn. H.Q.	
			1330	Psychological warfare commences 2 mins Stmk by 4 Field Regts in Boot Wood followed by propaganda speech, then further 4 mins Stmk and finally further speech with suitable space of time between each item. (NOTE Coys reported that it was unlikely that the sound carried far enough)	

W147724 908 2,000,000 H.B. W. H. & S. 5116970

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.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

SHEET SEVEN
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

Month and Year October 14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	1900	3	German deserters from Boot wood Ident. Battle Gp. Paul They did not hear the speeches but were fed up with our shelling & P.O.W.s gave fair information (average age 22yrs 4 yrs service) Patrols cancelled during early part of evening as the area was illuminated by several fires.	
	11 2400	0305	Patrols to houses 777333 Nothing seen or heard mines laid 774334	
	12 0300		1 deserter (Frenchman) Ident. 13 Coy Para Bn. Paul	
	12 0400		Enemy Mor killed 1 O.R. and wounded 1	
	12 1900		Patrol to 1st ^{HALFWEG} brought no reports of enemy. 3rd Brit Div capture Overlook. Enemy mortaring and shelling throughout day quiet on our front apart from mortaring and shelling	
	13 1530		C coy moved to cover left flank area 763344. our patrols during night Halweg - Schofferden. N.T.R.	
	14		48 hrs passes on pie, allotment (to Brussels.) Patrols brought information that enemy occupied moat area 789343	

Sheet Eight.

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.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

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

Month and Year October 14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	15		One deserter (Para Bn Paul 3 Coy.)	
		1000	Orders for clearing ops .To clear area Schofferden-Hatter N to 788345 over rly to 785345 stn 796335, and wooded area 790333. One tp R. Es and 1 tp flail tks, 2 sqns 15/19 H under comd. Commencement of op delayed by minefields and obstruction by K.0d tk.	
		1500	A and D coys formed firm base area 787337 and 791336. C and B Coys passed through to obj. (rly stn, track, and Moat areas.) Several cas inflicted on enemy. 13 P.Ws captured. (Ident. 437. Trg Bn) 3 minor cas. Mines and state of ground slowed down the op, but Bn back in old posn by 1900 hrs.	
N of Deurne	16		Bn moves to area N of Deurne 655227.	
E of Deurne		1900	Bn in Fosn.	
		0800	Party to recce br 703234 held by 7th U.S. Armd Div.	
		1030	Recce party report br O.K. A and D Coys moved towards br. head with tk sp, 15/19 H. Country very open around br. head. Tks could not deploy beyond br owing to soft ground.	

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.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Sheet Ten
WAR DIARY
 or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 (Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
 Unit: 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt.
 Commanding Officer: Lt. Col. C. R. Turner M.C.

Month and Year: October, 44.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			Americans had informed us that br. head extended for 500 yds other side, in actual fact it extended for 200 yds. A and D Coys exposed to considerable mortar and shelling crossing br causing by cas, adv 600 yds E either side of rd.	
			Believed enemy were in strength at Ijsselstiejn, so they were "lime-juiced" by Typhoons. B and C Coys were brought up and D Coy att farm area 714273 taking 60 P.Ws. Under arty smoke screen B and C Coys moved round the left flank and att Ijsselstiejn from the N, slight opposition met and very few own cas. B and C consolidate in areas 727225 and 722225. D and A Coys move up to 717228 and 723230. Total cas during day, wounded, offrs Major Mason, C.C.A Coy Capt. Holding and Lt De Carle. O.Rs. 5 killed 67 wounded. B. Wsl Offr, 1 R.S.M. 1 C.S.M. and 94 O.Rs. (Identity, 16 Bn, 22 Regt.	
Ijsselstiejn 18			2 P.Ws by B. Coy during night (5 Coy, 489 BN)	
	0630		B and C moved fwd to clear area fwd of their posn, 2 offrs, 60 O.Rs taken P.W. (Identification 489 Bn & 22 Regt, one of 180 Div H.Q.	
	0930		Bn H.Q. mortar during interrogation of P.Ws, 12 cas, (wounded)	

WL47724 998 2,000,000 3-43 W. H. & S. 81/8573

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.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Sheet Ten.
WAR DIARY
 or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 (Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
 Unit: 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt
 Commanding Officer: Lt. Col. C. R. Turner M.C.

Month and Year: October, 44.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	18	1125	Orders to move to area 7522 to back up K.S.L.I. who had moved forward 7722.	
		1300	Harbour party moved to receive new posns with B Coy clearing.	
		1410	Bn moves.	
		1430	Harbour party shelled, 2 killed and 21/c (Major Terry) wounded. This area decided to open and at 1515 bn moves to area 7321. only 3 Coy locations (A and D 733220. B 736219. C 734216) as A and D formed composite Coy.	Sgt Bon (Bernard) killed.
		1600	Bn in Posn.	
		1900	B Coy capture 2 officers and 31 O.R.s P.O.W. all from 489 Bn 4 more during night - 16 Bn 22nd Regt.	
S.E. of Ijsselstiejn	19		Slight shelling and mortaring during day	
	20		18 O.R. reinforcements arrive. Slight mortaring and shelling.	
Veulen	21		Bn take over from K.S.L.I. who are to proceed to Dourne for 4 days rest.	

WL47724 998 2,000,000 3-43 W. H. & S. 81/8573

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.2118. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Sheet ELEVEN
WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt

Commanding Officer, Col. G.R. Turner, C.M.

Month and Year: October 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	21	1630	Bn transport moves in small groups followed by troops on foot as route open to enemy observation.	
	21	15	Bn. in posn. No enemy interference. Location B 769222 & 768223 A / D 767222.	3.
	23	45	enemy patrol fired on by B Coy. 1 wounded P.O.W. Ident. 5 Coy 2nd Einheit Brehmen Regt. Patrol armed with 5 Panzerfaust. Object to destroy tanks. Strength 10 men. P.O.W. gave other usual information.	
Veulen	22	1400	Interrogation of all local inhabitants and subsequent evacuation of all but 4 who remained to tend cattle. Slight enemy mortar and shelling. Night patrol return with information as follows A/P minefield area 771228 enemy pln locality 774227. Tracked vehicles heard in factory area 777227. Enemy pln locality 771224. Enemy possibly laying mine field W of this position.	
Veulen	23	0430	Arty stonk on Farm 774217 held by enemy. This farm still held by enemy 2100hrs.	

WL 47724 208 2,000,000 S.48 W.H.A.S. 81/8375

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.2118. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

Sheet TWELVE
WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G.R. Turner, C.M.

Month and Year: October 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Veulen	23	0430	Fighting patrol failed to clear area, opposition too strong, 1 wounded Attempted attack on enemy locality 774227 after mine clearing at 771228. attack observed and ground flares made operations impossible. Further fighting patrols to 774224 met fire from 3 Spandaus and returned. No casualties. 1 German shot by D. Member of patrol Ident. 5 Coy 2 Bn Einheit Brehmen Regt.	
Veulen	24	1900	All quiet during day except for occasional shelling and N.B.W. Heavy enemy stonk on Bn area by shells mortars and N.B.W. No casualties. R.A.P. building caught fire, had to evacuate, 1 ambulance lost. Patrols found A.P. mines 773225. Standing patrol installed 768231 to prevent possible patrol infiltration. Nothing seen or heard.	
Veulen	25	0200	Arty stonk on 773224 as enemy heard approaching down rd.	
		0610	Buzz Bomb flying W.	

WL 47724 208 2,000,000 S.48 W.H.A.S. 81/8375

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. Form C. 2118. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

SHEET THIRTEEN

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G.R. Turner, C.A.M.

Month and Year... October 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Weulen	25	1900	Bn relieved by K.S.L.I., moved out to rest area Deurne in small gps	
		2045	Bn installed in billets	
Deurne	26		General maintenance, rest and entertainment, baths. 65 C.R.s. Rets and Major Alpin and Major Stains arrive.	
Deurne	27	1400	Orders received for Bn to move to Griendtsusen., to take over from CCB 7th U.S. Div who are to counter enemy threat at Meijel.	
		1700	Bn moves.	
		2000	Take over complete, location A 726176 B 712174 C 708180 D 715179. No incidents and night quiet.	

G.R. Turner
Lt. Col.
Commanding Officer.
1st Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.

WL 4724 908 3,000,000 R.13 W.H.A.S. 51/6/575

ONL

ORIGINAL

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I and the Staff Manual respectively. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.F. Form C. 2118. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 1st Bn The Herefordshire Regt

Commanding Officer Lt Col G.R. Turner, C.A.M.

Month and Year... OCT 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
GRIENDTSVIBEN	28		All quiet on the Bn front. Germans advancing towards LIESEL. During the night an enemy patrol was fired on by C Coy. No results known.	
"	29	1500	Slight enemy shelling in A Coy posn. Alternative posns recce'd for the whole Bn in case enemy thrust becomes too great to hold present posns; Germans take LIESEL but their advance is halted there. All quiet on our own front.	
"	30		Day quiet.	
		2030	Several enemy seen by DF Patrol at 727183. DF Task fired by arty.	
		2200	Enemy shell DEURNE area. Soft vehicles not affected.	
"	31	0230	Enemy patrol fired on by C Coy at 704 184. One killed and one PW who gave valuable information concerning enemy formations and higher intentions, locations of his own Coy posns, and news of two wireless interception stations at AMERIKA (Also stating, that by these the enemy were able to assess the	

WAR DIARY
No. 118
118
G.R. Turner

M524/118 1200M 10/41 H.B. & Co. Ltd. 51-1041

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.2119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Delete heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
1st Bn The HEREFORDSHIRE Reg
Unit.....
Commanding Officer Lt Col G. R. Turner, Cain.

Month and Year: Oct - 1944
NOV

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
GRIENDESVEEN (cont:)			weakest point in our lines.) Ident: 1coy/22 /489 Regt:	
"	31	0430	A and D Coys change over posns. <i>2200 10R killed 2500 wounded by shrapnel at 237174</i>	
"			All quiet on our front except for slight shelling. Patrols had nothing to report throughout the night.	
"			B and C Coys change over posns during the morning.	
"		1500	C Coy standing patrol at 702165 kill one, wound one, and capture one of a German approaching patrol. These had civilian clothes under their uniforms and turned out to be	
"			deserters.	
"	1		Quiet through the 24 hrs. Patrol activity uneventfull. Trip flares laid forward of Standing and DF Patrols.	
"	2		Nothing to report:	
"	3		Again all quiet on our front. RECO lay shrapnel mines as follows:- Belt of 25 from 710184 to 713183, belt of 25 from 713183 to 713181 (the track being left clear) and a belt of 30 from 714182 to 717181.	

WL 6724/098 2,000,000 5/43 W.H. & S. 51/6575

