

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

ORR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

1st BN., THE ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT
Canadian Army (Overseas)

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Page I

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	1 FEB 45		<p>The month began with an exceedingly mild, cloudy day. The snow disappeared quickly and thick, clinging mud was everywhere. Our area was very interesting as visitors of all ranks and sizes began to pour in on us, chiefly from the 51st Highland Division. Engineers were busy all over the place and it became evident that something big was brewing. There was little enemy activity except the brief mortar bombardment. In the evening a 'D' Coy patrol under Lt. DOUGLAS went to nip a prisoner at our old friends "the row of trees" to the south. Artillery support had been laid on to assist the patrol in its withdrawal - the signal for it being one red flare. Unfortunately the Jerry fired a red flare as the patrol lay up near the trees. A short round killed one and wounded 3 of our men and the patrol withdrew with difficulty.</p>	RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	2 Feb 45		<p>Starting in the early hours of the morning there was sharp increase in small arms fire occasioned by the movement of 'C' Coy from a rear position into 'B' Coy's area and the withdrawal of 'B' Coy into 'C' Coy's digouts for a bit of a rest and a chance to bathe and clean up. No casualties were suffered however. When day dawned the weather was cloudy and quite mild with visibility which was fair enough to enable us to spot some enemy movement. Unfortunately however the good visibility worked both ways and some heavy shelling of three company areas resulted after lunch. Indications of things to come were continued with Corps Arty firing five times resulting from the work of our OPs during the past few weeks. An ambush patrol of ten men under Lt. G.E. CHESTER had no luck although they waited expectantly for a "Schmeisser Joe" whose location was spotted by the patrol.</p>	Appx '2' RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	3 Feb 45		<p>The week ended with another mild cloudy day with visibility good. In the morning, tanks set themselves up behind 'B' Coy's position to zero guns and as has happened on many occasions they drew fairly heavy fire on our own Company position. With the increase of movement of all kinds immediately behind our FDLs this retaliation came to be an accepted fact. A strange phenomenon appeared as the warm weather began melting the snow. A continuous succession of white smoke blobs arose from the ground in front of the battalion area. After much deliberating it was decided that fragments of phosphorus bombs kept inert by the snow were igniting on</p>	Appx '3' & '4' RWM

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
(continued) At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek	3 Feb 45		exposure to the air. At the time, the occurrences were very mystifying and many felt that "The Secret Weapon" had been loosed against them. 11 Pd Coy, RCE recce parties arrived during the day to arrange for mine lifting which was carried out on that night in front of 'D' Coy outpost. An ambush patrol went out from 'A' Coy under Lt. W.N. MC MILLAN but found Jerry as elusive as ever and came back after several hours with very little information.	RWM
1:25000				
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek	4 Feb 45		The weather was rainy and mild with visibility quite good at times. Engineers continued with their work of lifting mines and while removing the Anti Tank Mine Belt in front of our lines and the Royals got into a skirmish with a German patrol. There was a possibility that the passwords had been compromised in this scrap and an alert enabled us to nab our first prisoner in months. A Jerry lay-up patrol got into 'C' Coy's lines and managed to by-pass the forward platoons. Because identification was by recognition only and not by the use of pass-words, Pte. Breland and Pte. Patterson of 15 platoon let the enemy patrol well within effective range of their weapons. A couple of bursts of fire directed at the two guards finally convinced them that obtaining recognition was too risky and Bren fire from their weapons killed the Corporal in charge of the patrol and wounded one who was taken prisoner. The third escaped but the unit and Brigade as well were jubilant that an identification confirming suppositions as to the unit on our front had been obtained.	RWM
1:25000				
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek	5 Feb 45		Visibility was reduced by rain to about 100 yds and the country began to look like a sea of mud. The lack of events during the day was certainly the lull before the storm. Anti-personnel mines were lifted with more of the anti-tank mines during the night. Lt. J.D. WILLIAMS and 8 men went out amongst the gliders on an ambush patrol. Some small arms fire was observed from the area of the Monestary but no contact was made with the enemy. At 2330 hrs the news was passed to all companies that the Russians had reached the ODER RIVER between FRANKFORT and KUSTRIN.	RWM.
1:25000				

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At GROESBEEK Ref GROESBEEK 1:25000	6 Feb 45		<p>The weather cleared up a bit and Jerry took advantage of the visibility to take a crack at 'A' Coy's positions and our own Tac Headquarters with an SP Gun. Our own mortars were very active on enemy houses and movement. 'D' Coy pulled some necklaces across their road to give some anti-tank defence to our area which was by now denuded of prepared mined areas. The carriers thought an Enemy SP Gun had moved in to within 400 yds of their outpost. Brigade felt confident that they had knocked one out in that area but a PIAT Group from the Carrier Platoon on investigating found no trace to confirm the reports. Enemy movement occasioned a series of minor alarms but our preparations to prevent a "spoiling" attack on his part were complete and everyone was on his toes to keep our own holdings intact. An ambush patrol of Lt. F.E. AUSTIN and 10 men went to the hedge leading towards the REICHWALD but found no trace of the enemy that night.</p>	RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref GROESBEEK 1:25000	7 Feb 45		<p>A low ceiling kept visibility poor all day. The day was spent in an increased state of alert on the part of our outposts - every observed movement of enemy was reported. Heavy traffic on our supply routes kept our own vehicle movement to a minimum and barriers were manned to keep stray vehicles from wandering, lost, into our PDLs. The CO's "C" Gp was called and details of Operation "Veritable" were announced. The strength of the forces and equipment massed for the attack seemed staggering and our ring-side seats for the big show seemed to make up for the long period of inactivity on our own front. We were not included in the initial phase of the operation - our only preparation being to draw our outposts inside the fire line. Following the "C" Group personal messages were received from Field Marshall MONTGOMERY and from General CRerar and read to all in the battalion. During the night all contacts with outposts and with the Royals were tightly checked and one alert occasioned when a trip flare went off in 'C' Coy's area, was traced back to a large white rabbit. Our forward outposts withdrew according to plan. An awesome spectacle was the destruction of CLEVE and GOCH by our own Air Force about 2300 hrs. About 700 bombers dropped flares incendiaries and high explosive - to provide the best pyrotechnic display in months.</p>	<p>Appx '1'</p> <p>RWM.</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	8 Feb 45		Before dawn broke, the preparation for the attack on the RICHWALD Defences had started. At 0500 hrs the entry "All Hell Broke Loose" crisply describes the thundering of a thousand guns which softened the resistance of the enemy for the attacking forces. The morning of the attack was a cool gray one and the air of quiet confidence present with the Scottish Troops was very inspiring. In spite of some shelling of our own area in retaliation for the terrific hail of steel shells and rocket projectiles directed against Jerry, the battalion was an enthusiastic audience for the show which developed during the day pretty much according to plan. At night 'D' Coy provided a covering party of two sections for English sappers, otherwise there was very little activity on our own part. The war was moving past us.	RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	9 Feb 45		The weather was not designed to assist the operation in hand. It rained heavily and visibility was poor. In spite of great efforts on the part of the Engineers to turn tracks into roads, they could not do away with the mud and traffic movement became a real problem. The Battalion spent the day stretching it's legs after a long session in slit trenches. We could not leave the area, not because of operational commitments, but rather because there was no road space available totroops not immediately concerned with the attack. An informal patrol from 'C' Coy investigating some wrecked gliders sprung some mines and three soldiers were injured. Contact patrols were no longer required by Brigade - normal security guards being maintained in Sub-Unit Areas.	Appx '2' RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	10 Feb 45		The weather followed the previous days forecast - cloudy with intermittent rain and showers. News of the advance was eagerly awaited when the hourly BBC newscasts rolled around. News of the advance came regularly, however. At 0930 hrs word came from Brigade to concentrate as previously planned. This, being interpreted, meant a scurrying for available accommodation in or near GROESBEEK. Most of the companies managed to squeeze into buildings which after a little hasty patching kept most of the unit dry. The Paymaster and the YMCA arrived in the battalion area to administer their respective "comforts" to one and all.	Appx '3' & '4' RWM

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000	11 Feb 45		In the morning Capt. Murphy held an RC Church Parade for the battalion at the Chapel in the Monestary in GROESBEEK which in the first two weeks of November had housed our RAP. The first word of the move came with a notification from Brigade of a meeting for the C.O. at 1400 hrs. Welcome news was the call for an 'A' Recce at 1430 hrs - definitely a problem of quarters not operations to be solved at the moment. News over the radio reported slow steady progress with two Brigades in CLEVE. Early in the evening we were told to be prepared for a move on one hours notice after 1500 hrs, 12 FEB 45.	Appx '1' RWM
At GROESBEEK Ref Groesbeek 1:25000 Ar NIJMEGEN Ref NIJMEGEN 1:25000	12 Feb 45		The day was wet and miserable and packing for the expected move was a real job. A demonstration of tank hunting was scheduled for 1400 hrs but our own officers missed this on the CO's receipt of word to move. The move was a difficult one because of the dense vehicle traffic but by 1615 hrs everyone had arrived in NIJMEGEN to find indoor accommodation in a Block of Dutch Barracks. 'C' Coy and BHQ found billets and Tac HQ was set up at MR 707614.	 RWM
At NIJMEGEN Ref Nijmegen 1:25000	13 Feb 45		The weather was clear and mild and the paved streets were a pleasant change from the muddy trails of GROESBEEK. The unit took this breathing spell as an opportunity to do vehicle and other maintenance, to get cleaned up and to tidy away some of the paper work that had been accumulating. The YMCA showed movies which included a short strip of Padre Joe Cardy's Regimental Concert Party which awakened many a memory of a good evenings fun at Christmas time. Subject to the Curfew restrictions troops were allowed the evening to themselves to find the famous "IT" Hamburger Stand and other amusements.	 RWM
At NIJMEGEN Ref Nijmegen 1:25000	14 Feb 45		Another clear mild day dawned and there were new hopes raised that spring was really here. At 0930 hrs Brigadier F.N. Cabelder addressed all the officers of the Brigade reviewing the operation "VERITABLE" to date and indicating the possible roles for the units in the next phase of the battle for the strip of Germany between the Mass and Rhine Rivers. A compliment passed down from Higher Authority that was readily accepted was the statement that information gleaned by our patrols and OPs in the preceding months have proved extremely accurate and had greatly assisted the	Appx '5' RWM.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At NIJMEGEN Ref Nijmegen (Cont'd)	14 Feb 45		the Divisions which passed through us. For the officers; St. Valentine's day was celebrated in considerable splendour. A Mess Dinner was hastily organized by the PMC and an able staff and proved to be a true "family" affair with the only guests, and welcomeones, Lt. Cols P.W. BENNETT and L.A. DEZIEL from Divisional Headquarters. The few toasts were very warmly proposed and replied to in similar fashion and everyone felt that night the strong bond that lies in Regimental Affiliation. After the dinner there was a regrouping of forces and a move to a new location for a Brigade dance - an unqualified success.	Rwm
At NIJMEGEN Ref Nijmegen	15 Feb 45	1:25000	The fair spell of weather ended and a mild foggy day with poor visibility seemed to be in keeping with the reaction to the two parties the night before. Thirty ofrs attended an LCA Demonstration at the Power House at NIJMEGEN. Training programs were designed mainly to harden the troops after the long period of relative inactivity An 'O' Group at 4 Brigade at 1330 hrs and the assembly of an 'A' Recce Group at 1400 hrs headed for CLEVE got us all down to serious business again, and at the CO's 'O' Group at 1445 hrs the general intention of the 2nd Division and our likely role was unfolded. Late in the evening came details of the move which was to be done embussed by using the tanks, arty vehicles and other means of transportation within the Brigade Group without resorting to TCVs.	Rwm
Lv NIJMEGEN Ref Nijmegen Ar CLEVE Ref Calcar	16 Feb 45		On a cloudy day with poor visibility the CO's orders group assembled at 0830 hrs to get the final details of the move. At 0930 hrs the marching tps were on their way to vehicles of the 4th Fd Regt and had crossed the Bde S.P. by mid-day. The weather had turned beautifully clear and the route of BHQ through MOOK, almost to GENNEP, across the German frontier, through the REICHWALD into CLEVE was an interesting one. The first and last impression we got of CLEVE was it's utter destruction as if a tempest had swept over the city leaving an ashy wake. Basements in many of the buildings remained intact and we were quick to note the strong reinforces concrete ceilings of their underground rooms and systems of the mouse-holing buildings from one end of the block to the other. BHQ was at 894563. An 'O' Group called at Brigade was late in starting and the broad plan for a Brigade attack on the high ground SW., S. and SE of CALCAR was passed on to Commanders of Sub-Units and Supporting Arms about 2355 hrs.	Appx '2' Rwm.

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Lv CL VE Ref Nijmegen 1:25000 Ar Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	17 Feb 45		At 0630 hrs final timings were issued for the attack and just before 1100 hrs the bn moved off to an assembly area between CLEVE and CALCAR. At 1100 hrs and 'O' Group at Brigade HQ set 'H' Hour at 1500 hrs. By 1200 hrs the battalion had reached the Assembly Area and deployed. At 1350 hrs word was given that the time for the attack had been delayed. 7 Brigade was given the job to firm up the Brigade Start Point before our attack was launched. Some shells landed in the area and two men of 'D' Coy were slightly wounded. Otherwise, there was nothing of note and much of the idle time was spent plucking feathers and carving steaks from the local poultry and live stock.	Appx '3' & '4' RWM
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	18 Feb 45		The weather was mild but very foggy and miserable and the temporary accommodation in dugouts and slit trenches required a little improvement. For the most part of the day it was waiting, with spirits high. At 1100 hrs a Conference at Brigade Tac HQ called the attack off for that day. This information was passed on to Sub-Units and Supporting Arms at 1330 hrs. In the afternoon the 43rd Division went into GOCH. In the evening an 'O' Group at Brigade Main HQ in CLEVE brought forth a modified plan of the attack on limited objectives farther to the south than had been originally planned. Much of the original plan held, but company commander had a detailed discussion of the new operation which left everyone pleased with the method and confident of success.	Appx '6' RWM
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	19 Feb 45		The morning dawned cloudy and mild. Preparations were completed and at 1030 hrs the Battalion moved off for the attack. Following a rolling barrage were 'A' and 'B' Coys in Kangaroos and 'C' and 'D' Coys on foot to clear the ground once the armour had passed over. 'H' Hour was 1200 hrs. The momentum of the drive carried the leading companies near their objectives. They dismounted and fought on foot under a heavy hail of shrapnel and small arms fire. Casualties were fairly heavy - particularly among the officers. Major CHAUVIN, Major MACDONALD and Capt. ADAMS, the 'B' Coy POC were among the wounded early in the battle and this it difficult to maintain 'B' and 'C' Coys as effective fighting units. About three o'clock enemy attacks began for the rest of the day and the weight of the tanks and infantry launched repeatedly on our front required the best efforts and courage of the highest	Appx '1' RWM

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
(Continued) Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	19 Feb 45		order to maintain the position. Communications were difficult. Vehicles became bogged in the soft mud, casualties were difficult to evacuate and guns and ammunition could not get up where they were required. Darkness fell and the efforts of the enemy continued. Bn.H.Q. moved into a group of buildings which were later surrounded and demolished by tanks. The epic aspect of the story of the fight has filled the columns of Toronto and Windsor newspapers. After midnight communications between the rear link and Tac HQ went out and for hours nothing was known of the fate of the Commanding Group and much was feared for it's safety. 'A' Coy held on magnificently to it's ground though this was not known until later because of poor communications. 'D' Coy put on a show of it's own and the exploits of CSM DIXON and Cpl. MORIARTY stand out among the many brave deeds that day. On his way up to see how the battle was going Maj. Steele received a bullet wound in the leg early in the afternoon and was evacuated only after his driver Pte. MARKOWSKY threatened to personally dispose of all Germans who wished to interfere with his carrying Major STEELE out.	RWM
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	20 Feb 45		The early hours of the morning were grim ones. Isolated company groups fought on, short of ammunition, burdened with casualties which could not be easily evacuated and lacking the support of the anti tank weapons with which to deal with the MK IV tanks the enemy had marshalled for his counter attack. Back in the assembly area the reports from the battalion were extreme difficulties, intense enemy counter attacks and severe casualties on both sides. The reports to Bde HQ were only that the CO had not been heard of since midnight and the Royal Regiment was launched to restore the positions it had originally occupied. About 0600 hrs the rear group of Bn HQ returned to the Assembly Area under Orders from the Brigade Commander. As day dawned the Regiment withdrew from the battle-scarred ground to shake itself and lick its wounds. To hold off the Enemy and to prevent a break through our Brigade front had taken more from us than we wished to remember. All through the Battle the Command Group fought it's own fight and the gallant conduct of Lieut. TUCKER in defending the Headquarters while the tanks fire at point blank range will long be remembered. As the remnants of the companies returned to the Assembly Area	RWM

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(Continued) Near CALCAR Ref CALCAR 1:25000	20 Feb 45		<p>Immediate steps were taken under Capt. F.A. TILSTON to re-organize and re-equip those who fought so hard. At 1400 hrs Lt. Col. J.E.C. PANGMAN and his staff returned to the Assembly Area from their beleaguered headquarters after relief by a squadron of tanks had been completed. After a visit to Brigade and a survey of casualties and equipment losses during the battle he laid immediate plans to refit the battalion for the line. Though casualties numbered 13 officers and about 235 other ranks the battalion remained fit to fight and in the evening a composite company including about 50 all ranks from 'D' Coy and about 20 from 'C' Coy under Capt. P.A. CROPP went out under the command of the R.H.LI. to strengthen that unit on the ground.</p>	RWM
Near CALCAR Ref CALCAR 1:25000	21 Feb 45		<p>At 0300 hrs 'A' Coy under Major K.W. MAC INTYRE and Lts. MC MILLAN and MC DONELL returned from what was thought to be the land of the missing. There was a great jubilation and as the stories came out it became evident that 'A' Coy's stand "Because no order had been received by them to withdraw", had left them holding the battalion front with thirty five men and several wounded. All their deeds of valour can never be recorded but each man came out, after nearly two days of close unsupported combat with the enemy, a veteran. The weather was bright and steps went ahead to reinforce and refit each company. Enemy aircraft appeared for the first time in many days and bombs were dropped in the gun lines behind us. Just before lunch the C.O. went to a meeting at Bde HQ and announced to the officers afterwards that the job of becoming fit for the line again would permit no delay. At 1400 hrs Recce Parties went into LOUISENDORF to recce a new concentration area or rather a reserve battalion position within the Bde Area but no move took place because the S D & Gs were still in some heavy shell and mortar fire in their search for Company Billets. Later in the afternoon the C.O. addressed the battalion en masse speaking with the utmost confidence of our future and praising the men in the Battalion who fought so well and hard to accomplish the defeat of the enemy in the last battle.</p>	RWM
Near CALCAR Ref CALCAR 1:25000	22 Feb 45		<p>At an 'O' Gp at 0930 hrs instructions for the bn move up into the LOUISENDORF Area were issued and at 1045 hrs marching personnel were on their way up the road. Just before lunch time Bn HQ settled itself in a fairly comfortable building at MR 956495. The companies were dispersed up the road near the church (which proved to be a popular</p>	Appx '1' RWM

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Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	22 Feb 45		target for Jerry's shells) and farther along 'A' Company was at 973483 to fill a gap in the Bde front and was committed to contacts with the Royals and R.H.L.I. on either side. In the afternoon seven wounded men were evacuated from 'A' Coy's position with two stretcher bearers whose attentions had been responsible for keeping them alive. Three days after the battle of the CALCAR - GOCH Highway stories of it's heroes were still coming in. The business of reorganizing the battalion meant many promotions. New acting Majors were F.A. TILSTON and P.A. CROPP of 'C' & 'D' Coys, while Lieuts MC DONELL and JEFFREY were appointed A/Captains and are now 2 i/cs of 'A' & 'D' Coys respectively.	
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	23 Feb 45		The weather was misty and just at dawn there was heavy mortaring and shelling, particularly of 'A' & 'B' Coy areas. Even out of contact with the enemy, casualties were suffer-ed as direct hits landed on houses occupied by those companies. At 0900 hrs there was a meeting of Company Commanders to pass on the most recent intelligence and to check on the progress towards fitting the battalion for battle once more. Lieut. W.N. MC MILLAN took over the job of I.O. for the battalion with the immediate prospect of spending a day or two visiting Brigade HQ and the HQs of other units to pick up an idea of the daily routine. In the afternoon the C.O. visited Company Areas. Heavy mortaring and shelling continued and inflicted more casualties in the Battalion and O.Ps. manned by 'A' & 'D' Coys endeavoured to get sound bearings to the guns which were giving the trouble.	Appx '2'
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1;25000	24 Feb 45		The weather was clear. In the A.M. we established two O.Ps. to observe our forward left flank whcih was in the direction of CALCAR. The Bn Area was heavily shell-ed and mortared from CALCAR region - fifteen or more SHELREPS were received and passed to higher formation and were the basis for retaliation shoots by the 15th Field Regt. Enemy considerably quieter. The R.R.C. and R.H.L.I. were counter attacked and our 'A' Coy ordered to stand to around 2000 hrs. A Coy Comd's 'O' Group was in progress at the time and Major Ken MAC INTYRE had to leave. The R.H.L.I. took nine ^{prisoners} there were here very few prisoners taken as the counter attack was nothing more than an enemy fighting patrol. 'B' Ech moved and received a street address 4202 Cleve St, CLEVE.	Appx '1' '3' '4'

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	25 Feb 45		A sunny day for a change with a light mist. Startling news arrived that certain key roads would be closed to all our traffice between 1900 hrs, 25 Feb to 1800 hrs, 26 Feb 45. At 1130 hrs the CO proceeded to Bde and on return called a 'BALLS' for 1330 hrs, to discuss operation BLOCKBUSTER and our role in it. Also, an L.O. from the Argyl and Sutherland Highlanders joined us to keep us in direct contact with his unit. During the night the R.H.L.I. were severely counter attacked, however this attack was repulsed and our friends secured prisoners from 16th Regiment of the 6th Panzer Div.	<i>Room</i>
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	26 Feb 45		This morning at 0900 hrs we received orders from Bde to move to the R.H.L.I. area without transport which would be ordered up later. The C.O. and the I.O. proceeded to Bde who were situated at R.H.L.I. Tac for the purpose of being in intimate contact with events. The Argyl and Sutherland attack which had progressed rapidly in the morning has slowed down somewhat and caused a delay in our move. In the meantime the C.O. ordered up the pioneers in the absence of the R.C.E. to remove mines along the road S.E. from and through New Louisendorf. Also the Pioneer Section (Traffic Control Section) came up to act as guides into the New Area. At 1650 hrs the vehicles were ordered up and a temporary TAC HQ was set up in 'C' Coy's old area. The coys had dug along the road with 'A' Coy leading and we remained there until 2055 hrs and then began to move up. At 0015 hrs we had taken over from Argyl and Sutherland's and TAC HQ was sent up in the new position. A lot of difficulties were suffered due to 'F' Echelon vehicles and support coy bogging down on the muddy trails to our new position. TAC HQ was burning and finally control was established enough to allow the basement to be occupied - however it continued to smolder for the remainder of our stay and the roof however managed to stay erect. Here we discovered a 'knocked out' Mark IV enemy tank in the garden of our building also a 88cm was found in good condition plus plenty of ammunition.	Appx '1' <i>Room</i>
Near CALCAR Ref Calcar 1:25000	27 Feb 45		During the night we had been maintaining constant patrol between our coys as well as our friends in KEPPELEN, the M.S.Rs.'. At 1000 hrs the C.O. went to Bde and on return called 'BALLS' at 1415 to discuss regt phase of the operation which was to take our Bde to the HOCHWALD. During the day the R.R.Cs. moved forward	<i>Room</i>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
(Continued) Near KEPPELEN Ref UDEN 1:25000	27 Feb 45		under small arm resistance to secure our start line. During the day our 'A' Coy relieved 'D' Coy of the RHLI in order to make firm the left flank. The RRCs were at this time being harrassed by high velocity weapons, mortars and snipers which were apparently coming from the HOCHWALD. Patrol was maintained as before.	<i>BWM</i>
Near KEPPELEN Ref UDEN 1:25000	28 Feb 45		The weather was clear and a good day for the Tac Air Arm. The C.O. again proceeded to Bde for an 'O' Group - time 0930 hrs. On returning an 'O' Group was ordered at 1430 hrs where we discussed our operations for the attack on the HOCHWALD. At 1830 hrs an 'O' Group was again called to put Coy Comds in the latest picture. Around 2000 hrs we moved off with 'A' Coy leading and 'D' Coy behind taking the right axis of the advance. On the left was 'B' Coy leading with 'C' Coy behind. At 2100 hrs 'A' & 'B' Coys were both plassing the start line. They moved forward and attained their objectives with very little opposition and passed beyond 300 yds where both forward coys began to run into heavy mortar fire and small arms. Few casualties were suffered, mostly leg wounds. 'B' Coy attained their second objective while 'A' Coy experienced more difficulty however with use of flame and 6 pdrs were able to consolidate on objective. At 0240 hrs 'B' Coy as instructed sent out a Recce in force to edge of the HOCHWALD and reported wire and trench system covered with MMG and mortar fire. This sub-unit had to withdraw. Around 0400 hrs we got the result of 'A' Coy's patrol who reported enemy in strength 200 yds ahead. Tac HQ moved to a new location in DELSANHOF with the exception of Rear BHQ, about 1000 yds W of HOCHWALD. At 0500 hrs an 'O' Group was to have been called for all coys, but 'A' & 'D' Coys were not able to attend. The plan then was to have 'D' & 'C' Coys move through 'B' & 'D' Coys supported by one troop of tanks (Sherbrooke Fusiliers) and artillery. 'H' Hour was set at 0715 hrs but due to road conditions zero hr was set back to zero plus 30 in order to get tanks crews into position.	Appx '2' <i>BWM</i>
			In the field Mar 45	<i>J.E.C. Pangman</i> (J.E.C. PANGMAN) Lt.Col., Officer Commanding, THE ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT.