

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	1 AUG	44	Another day in a static defensive roll. 'I' Log will show a day of "no unusual events". Adjt went to 'A' Ech to prepare recommendations for awards resulting from 'D' Coy's "Job" of 29 JUL 44 and remained overnight.	SHG
	2 AUG	44	Weather: clear, lots of sunshine making for dust and heat. The outstanding event of today was the appearance of the "Doodle Bug". Its a mobile mine, appearance and size of a carrier and the dvr either leaves just before explosion or it has remote control. Four appeared on 'B' coy front. They explode with a terrific noise and blast. Our casualties 4 killed, 4 wounded.	appx 1, SHG
	3 AUG	44	Adjt away early to attend court of inquiry investigating deficiencies resulting from action on 20-21 JUL 44. The president is Lt Col P.W. Court, CG DMA. Court is not antagonistic but is anxious to get at the truth. After Adjt, CM, A & C coys reps had given their evidence, things look much better as so far, there are legitimate explanations for the loss of 16 (50%) of the Bren LMGs. Weather - still sun shiny, dry, hot and dusty.	SHG
	4 AUG	44	Major Steele, Capt McIntyre and CSM Case proceeded to court of inquiry to give evidence on behalf of D & B coys and carrier pl. Orders came at noon that we would be relieved tonight by the Camerons of Winnipeg and that we would go to a rest area for the purpose of reorganization and spec trng for a future operation. Recce parties from the Camerons arrived in mid afternoon and looked over their new area. Shelling and mortaring increased around 1700 hrs and continued reasonably heavy, throughout the evening. One almost direct hit on a "slit" in BnHQ area killed Pte Trudell, E.J. and wounded 4 others.	SHG
	5 AUG	44	Advance parties of the Camerons started to arrive shortly after midnight. Relief of coys started at 0130 hrs and continued without mishap until completion at 0430 hrs. Rest area is Louvigny Woods and the bn slept till almost noon. The pm was for the men themselves and they made use of this time to really clean weapons, write letters and to get more sleep.	SHG
	6 AUG	44	Preparations for our future operation are under way. Thirty four half track vehicles have been loaned to us for trng and all coys in the p.m. practiced ambussing and debussing from them. The plan for this attack is something new and different. /2	appx 8

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	6 AUG 44		We learn that it is to be an inf cum tank show with air support. Both BC and Protestant padres held their Sunday service at 1800 hrs. Then back to trg until after 2100 hrs for the men. The CO went to Bde, returning approx 2200 hrs at which time he called an informal (C) Gp for the purpose of discussing plans and preparations for this special job. The army substitute for tea and cakes were served at the end of the meeting - approx 2400 hrs.	919
	7 AUG 44		Our contemplated rest of 4 to 5 days is out short. We now move out to the assembly area at 1500 hrs. The COs 'O' Gp was at 0600 hrs at which time he made clear the larger plan in general and the Essex Scottish plan in detail. <u>General Plan:</u> A corps attack on a 2 div front, 2 Can Inf Div rt; Highland Div (51st) left; after each div has made its objective an armoured div (4 Can Arm Div rt; Polish armoured Div left) will pass through. Under command 2 Can Inf Div, 2 Arm Bde plus flails and avres. S.L. Trotval, Beauvoir Rd rd MR 052615. The 4 Can Inf Bde to attack, capture and hold, with 3 bns up as follows: Essex Scottish Regt (rt) CAILLOUET; R.H.L.I. (centre) area 065515; R Regt C Ft 122 GARN FALAISE Rd. 8 Recce Regt on left flank. Inf to move from assembly area to Dis P in half track vehicles in columns of four (column to incl tanks and own supporting arms) Tanks responsible for delivery and direction to Dis P. The villages of May-sur-Orne and Pontenay-le-Marmion to be attacked and taken out by the air force in advance. The Essex Scottish Regt Plan: Under Comd Fd F.O.O. and Med F.O.O.; Tp 6 pr and 17 pr A tk; Pl MWG; Sec RGE; Sqn 10 Can Arm Regt. Intention: Essex Scottish Regiment will capture and hold high ground incl CAILLOUET area 0555.	Appx 9, 919
	8 AUG 44		Ex TOTALIZE (H hour 2330 hrs, 7 AUG 44) Gen Plan: Bde attack with three bns up. To be a night attack supported by tanks and SF guns. Objective was 5000 yds behind enemy FDLs. The tank corps assumed the whole responsibility for placing inf on ground in front of objective in posn to assault. The coln was made up of (1) breaching gp composed of 2 tps of Sherman tanks followed by two tps of five flails each followed by one tp of Avre. This group was to tape and light the route to objective and as direction aids were equipped with a radio beam device. Also Pofers firing tracer and searchlights were employed as direction aids. The breaching group was followed by the main body composed of two tps Sherman tanks followed by coy gps composed of rifle coys embussed in half tracks plus att supporting arms. Order of march for bn was A,C,B,D and BnHQ. This order was dictated by the consolidation /3	Appx 1, 910



# WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	2 AUG 44		<p>Drill which had previously been worked out from air photos and sand table. Supporting arms under comd of CO were composed of 3" mortar, carrier pl, WMGs in that order followed at rear of column. The CO rode with the sqn comd in the second tp of tanks at head of body. The A/2 1/c rode in the half track at the rear of the fourth rifle coy gp. The gapping gp moved off at H and the main body at H plus 5 (500 yd behind gapping gp). The move was to be at rate of 100 yd per min following a barrage lifting 200 yd every two min. The estimated time from S.P. to Dis P was 55 min, and the arty programme had been laid on until H plus 77 to cover the coys onto their objective. The weather had been very dry and the top soil was very light. In spite of the very slow speed laid down a dense cloud of dust arose over the column. In addition a thick ground mist arose and as penetration into enemy territory deepened, dust and mist were augmented by enemy smoke so that view was very difficult even with the column closed up tightly. During the first part of the move contact was maintained by 19 set between CO and rover but at approx H plus 100 this contact ceased and approx H plus 110 the two POCs travelling behind the tps at the head of the main body reported they could no longer see the tanks and had lost contact with them. From H plus 60 to H plus 120 frequent halts were made the convoy was subjected to some enemy mortar and small arms fire. At approx H plus 120 A coy comd asked several times to be informed as to locn of tanks and reason for frequent halts as the mortar fire was becoming more intense and considerable small arms fire could be heard ahead of the column. At this time the fog and smoke were very thick, a little later A coy comd reported to the rover that he was in front of the objective and altho the visibility was almost nil, his sqn of tanks were going to attempt to take him around the left flank for consolidation. The rover informed the other coys and cautioned them not to follow A coy but to be sure of direction. A little later A coy called stating A coy was a casualty and that their column had been cut in two and asking for infm re rear of coy. This infm could not be obtained as there was a total lack of visibility and there had been no contact between the rover and the CO for about an hour. The A coy 19 set then lost contact with the rover and no further infm could be obtained as to the whereabouts of the head of the column. At about this time the leading tanks were fired on by a 88mm and some vehicles incl halftracks were set fire. Some tanks turned around colliding with the half tracks behind and threw the column into an intense state of confusion. The tanks which had not been hit and which did not run back thru the column were next heard from 36 hrs later when the sqn leader reported on the objective. The confusion in the column was greatly contributed to by the fact that a pl of the B Regt C, a pl of the RHLI in half tracks, a section of /4</p>	<p>44</p>



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SAUGLA			<p>the mortar pl RHLL, a pl of T.S.R. and a sgn of the 10th Recce had appended themselves to the column at various times and milled about with the vehicles originally forming the column. The A/2 i/c called an 'O' Gp of coy and all other sub unit comds in an effort to ascertain the posn of the column and the nature of the action in progress at the head of the column. At this 'O' Gp was one tank offr who commanded the only remaining tank which was a flail, B &amp; D coy comd, the mortar, carrier and MMG comd and the med FOO. No one had any infm of what remained of the column or of the direction of the objective altho it was agreed they were well in front of it. A pl from B coy was despatched to take out the 88 mm gun which continued to fire on the column from 200 yd. This assault was driven off by MMG fire from vicinity of gun. The inf were ordered to debus, deploy and dig shell scrapes while an effort was made to reform the column in ground dead to the 88mm. At about 0450 hrs a message came from the CO over 'A' coy 19 set saying "It is all clear now, come forward". At this time there was still IMG and 88 mm fire directly in front of us and the A coy 19 set went off the air before the infm could be given to the CO and no contact was later made with him through this set. The column was reformed on a track to the left of the one on which it halted and Major Burgess proceeded into the village to ascertain the location and there contacted elements of the SSRs who informed him that the village was Rocquancourt and that the Essex Scottish Regt CO was wounded and at their comd post. Col Jones was evacuated while the A/2 i/c (Major Burgess) was proceeding on foot to the S.S.R. comd post. The column was regrouped and it was found that 14 half tracks were knocked out or missing and no tanks left. Two of the S.P. guns had been knocked out or disappeared and bde was asked for tanks to support the advance onto the objective. These were not available so the reformed column moved off circling Rocquancourt at approx 0845 hrs. It proceeded to a posn SW of Rocquancourt where it was reformed into assault formation. The column moved on with the 2 i/c leading in a half track and as he came over a crest he saw four tanks on a crest in front of the objective. The 2 i/c halted the column, called forth the S.P. gun offr and 17 pr offr who affirmed there was at least one Panther among the four. Both offr refused to take on the target as such action might endanger their weapons. At this time bde reported that 8 enemy tks were moving in an area 500 yd SW of head of column. These were subsequently reported as Churchills. The tanks originally sighted withdrew and the 2 i/c went fwd and contacted a Br tank offr who was sitting with some tanks on dead ground and he was asked to support the assault by fire if necessary. During the period from 0800 hrs to 1200 hrs no infm could be obtained from Bde as to whether or not enemy or our own tps were in the vicinity of the objective. It was variously /5</p>	SH



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	8 AUG 44		<p>reported that our own tanks were on the objective, the 10th Recce were on the objective that none of our troops were on the objective and that nothing was known about the objective. The assault was formed up to go in at 1150 hrs with consolidation to take place as previously planned except that A coy who had only 30 all ranks would move in rear of D coy and A coy's objective would be taken by a later and separate assault if found necessary. The attack was supported by two sec carriers on each flank and one sec MMG. The assault was made in half tracked and tracked vehicles as there was considerable open space to cover and it was deemed the speed gained would offset the disadvantage of debussing close to the objective. The only enemy fire brought down during the assault was from IMG, MMG and mortar fire. The objective was gained and consolidation made without casualties and no enemy bodies were encountered altho they were seen withdrawing from the west down a draw, about 200 yd west of B coy posn and these were engaged by 6 pr HE and IMG fire. The bldg on the objective were searched and found to be free of enemy by 1330 hrs. The posn was subjected to mortar fire for a period of from 1215 hrs to 1330 hrs. Total number of casualties at Rocquancourt are not yet fully determined but are known to consist of Lt Col Jones, Major S.W. Bull and Capt R.S. Bradley wounded, one CR killed, ten wounded and three missing.</p>	J.H.D
	9 AUG 44		<p>The bn having dug in was subjected to only minor mortaring and shelling. At noon those personnel who could not be taken on the exercise (it was limited to 476 all ranks) were called fwd from A ech. At the same time the 167 rfts received late the night of the 7th were sent fwd thus bringing the bn to within 7 of its W.E. and making all the rifle coy com's feel much happier as their fighting strength on going into battle had been from 60 to 65 all ranks in each case.</p>	J.H.D
	10 AUG 44		<p>Today is a quiet day in a reserve defensive posn. The div advance has been successful and our FDLs are 8 to 10 miles in front of us. Stand to was dropped and double pl sentries adopted in its place. A ech was moved fwd from Caen joining P ech in present area. We expected to be here for several days until the CO was called to Bde for orders at 1930 hrs. He returned to tell us the Polish Div on our right were having a hard time and we might be expected to be called on to give help. Tentative orders were given for the move forward on receipt of code word STAG. The CO having completed his orders and the coy com's dispersed Bde notified operation STAG was cancelled.</p>	J.H.D

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	11 AUG 44		Another hot, dry and dusty day. The adjt accompanied by CSM Foster and Sgt Lovett went to 'C' Coy area where the battle was fought 20-21 JUL 44. There graves of eight of our men were located and four unburied bodies recovered. Much equipment still litters the area, Bren guns pierced by shrapnel, 2" mortars with cracked barrels, rifles with wood work shot away and web eqpt pierced by bullets and mortar fragments. It is mute evidence of the intense fire that must have been brought down on 'C' Coy. In the p.m. the C.O., padre, plus reps from each coy revisited this ground for the purpose of further identifying bodies and burying them. The new C.O. joined us today. He is Lt Col Bennett, formerly B.M. at HQ 7 Can Inf Bde and landed in France on 'D' Day. He had no sooner arrived than he was called to Bde for orders. On his return he in turn held his 'C' Coy and the bn started its move fwd at approx 2215 hrs, to take up a posn at MOULINES.	HR
	12 AUG 44		The move fwd was normal, three bomb pounded Brettville-sur-Laine and south on the main rd to MOULINES. At MR 043505 we came to a halt and learned the RHLI in the lead had met opposition. The bn took up a defensive posn in the fields on either side of the road. The RHLI attack at 0730 hrs was successful but the R Regt C after passing thru encountered more opposition. We remained in our defensive area throughout the day and finally moved off at approx 2000 hrs with the intention of advancing and seizing the high ground Pt 184, MR 045440. Inf: Enemy 271 Div of inferior tps has replaced 12 SS Div. Line lightly held by few MGs, mortars and arty. Own tps: BGR with u/c 2 sqn tks 27 Arm Regt, 2 AGRAs, 2 Can Inf Div arty, pl MGs, one tp 17 pr, sec engra. Method: Route from MR 043505, SE along trail thru MESNIL-TOUPHNEY at MR 054495, south along road and track following stream to LAPOLE, then MOULINES and south, passing to East of La Roche, attack and capture high ground at pt 184. 'C' coy fwd rt, C coy fwd left. B coy res rt, A coy res left. BnHQ on either route with reserve coy. The fire plan was elaborate the CO being able to call upon his 2 AGRAs and the Div arty for sp.	HR
	13 AUG 44		The high ground Pt 184 was successfully attacked today. The carriers distinguished themselves by taking a field which was completely surrounded by a ditch in which were at least 12 MG posts, 2 stovepipe Bazookas and 3 Bazookas. Included in the bag were 75 PWs. B coy knocked out a number of MGs and took prisoners. En route to the attack, 2 of the 5 tanks sp the Bn were knocked out by mines and 5 Tiger tanks were by-passed without trouble. Altogether about 150 PWs were taken and a good deal of equipment was captured. The Bn dug in on the objective and remained for the night.	HR



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	14 AUG 44		The Bn moved back to the URVILLE area this morning. It was a hot, dusty day again and the march was enlivened by Fortress 3 which bombed the Polish Div on our flank causing a number of casualties and great consternation. URVILLE was reached in the afternoon and the Bn rested there for the night, during which there were enemy planes about and a great deal of AA fire.	Appd 1. HRT
	15 AUG 44		The Bn moved out of the area URVILLE bound in the direction of FALAISE. It was a warm clear day and the country lay dusty and brown in front of us. At about 1000 hrs we arrived at CHAINVILLE LANGANNIER and there took over posns from the Poles who had moved through the night before. After a two hour halt, the Bn moved on again passing through the 5 Bde at about 1500 hrs. In this area there were signs of very severe fighting and most of the houses lay in ruins. It was a most desolate sight. We were completely unopposed and the only difficulty was the intense heat which made the march unpleasant. At 1700 hrs the Bn stopped near POTIGNY and the CO went forward to receive orders and to recon. Word came through to move on that there were no enemy to be seen and at 1900 hrs the Bn took the road to FALAISE. The inhabitants of farms greeted us warmly en route and milk was much appreciated by some of the tps. One or two snipers held the leading coy up for a few moments but they were quickly dealt with and the march was not delayed. The Essex were leading the Bde and as darkness fell weariness and excitement mingled with a certain amount of tension. The thought of being spearhead of an attack which had finally broken the enemy defences was exhilarating.	HRT
	16 AUG 44		The Bn arrived on its objective which was high ground to the SW of Falaise at 0100 hrs. The night was quiet except for an occasional sniper and a coy successfully handled a troublesome one. The night was extremely dark and the country offered opportunity for ambush but no enemy bothered the Bn while deploying at the objective. The Bn immediately set to work to dig in and at 0300 hrs the task was completed. A drenching rain made things unpleasant, but the men, though tired were in good spirits due to the fact that we were the first to reach the approaches to Falaise - a long cherished goal. The morning found the sun shining brightly again. A slight readjustment of Bn posns was found to be necessary and we were finally in a good compact posn on a slight reverse slope within 1000 yds of the centre of Falaise. The town lay in a valley, and except for a few ruined houses to our front about 400 yds, was completely hidden from view. Patrols were sent out and reported the presence of enemy in the town, though there were no indications that he was in any great strength. During the day	HRT

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	16 AUG 44		there was intermittent long range mortar fire and some sniping from our flanks. The snipers were none too accurate but kept shifting posns in woods particularly on bn left and made things unpleasant. The 6th Bde whose job it was to clear Falaise passed through our posns between 1600 and 1700 hrs.	HR
	17 AUG 44		The Bn remained in posns occupied on 16 AUG. The weather continued clear and the day was not particularly eventful insofar as the bn was concerned. Mortaring continued and a few casualties were suffered as a result of it and of sniping. The bn shifted posns slightly in order to tighten Bde defenses. Patrols were sent out to make contact with other units in 4 Bde and with units in 6 Bde and they were very successful. We were beginning, during the day, to get refugees from Falaise and environs as the 6 Bde was busily engaged in clearing the town. Occasionally, too, prisoners and deserters came in and they proved to be of several different nationalities. One Polish deserter had persuaded three other to come with him and gave a great deal of useful info. During the night 17-18 AUG enemy planes in some strength, bombed Falaise and the flood of refugees increased as the night passed.	appx 1, HR
	18 AUG 44		In the early morning hours the bn evacuated close to 100 refugees who had been thoroughly miserable in the cellar of a farm house close to BnHQ. The morning showed fair weather again and the Bn received orders to move as Falaise was now clear except for the occasional sniper. At 1230 hrs the Bn moved off following the WHLI and the RRC. We passed through the smoldering ruins of Falaise, and turning to the NE proceeded to high ground about 10 kilometers distant. We were to take over from the Regt de Chaudiere there and form a firm base while the remnants of enemy in the Falaise Pocket were cleared. The march was undisturbed despite reports of enemy in the vicinity and we arrived and began to consolidate at 1800 hrs. The Regt de Chaudiere were still in posn so we were more or less supernumerary for the time being. The Bn was in posn on high, well wooded country and we immediately took the opportunity for rest and relaxation, aided as usual by the YMCA.	appx 2, HR
	19 AUG 44		The bn remained at Pt 152. The weather was miserable, rainy and cool. Patrols were sent out and reported NO enemy in the area. Our planes dropped flares in the narrowing Falaise gap to aid in the destruction of enemy MV. The Bn had no excitement however, and merely sat on the wet hill, somewhat forlorn.	HR



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	20 AUG 44		The weather cleared slightly today. The bn remained in posn on Pt 152 and nothing of interest occurred. For the most part, the day was spent in attempting to get dry in preparation for a move.	AK
	21 AUG 44		The Bn moved from Pt 152 at 0800 hrs today. The route led us through DAMBLAINVILLE, our objective being LIVAROT, some 20 miles distant. The Essex Scottish were the leading Bn and all went well as we passed through BAROU and AMBEVILLE. The Bn reached the staging area at 1745 hrs and encountered no opposition until on the outskirts of TORTISAMBERT when fire was opened upon the leading troops from the vicinity of a church to our front. Recce patrols were sent out and reported the presence of Tiger tanks in the area. After some time, the fire ceased and the advance was resumed in darkness, after further recce had failed to uncover any more enemy. The remainder of the journey was uneventful and the Bn arrived on its objective, LIVAROT, at about 0400 hrs in the morning.	AK
	22 AUG 44		The Bn posns in LIVAROT were in the grounds of a Chateau, whose occupants did not seem particularly glad to see us. In fair weather, the bn set out for NOTRE DAME DE COURSON passing the cenotaph in LIVAROT, memorable for a simple and impressive wording (LIVAROT - TO HER CHILDREN WHO DIED FOR FRANCE) The journey was uneventful until NOTRE DAME DE COURSON was reached when the RHLLI who were in the lead, found the bridges over a small river blown and that the enemy was covering the bridge. The 8th Recce found a passable route and held it while the Essex who had deployed were to pass through the RHLLI and effect a crossing. The crossing was successful and unopposed as the enemy had again withdrawn. Dirt and boards were thrown on the bridge which had collapsed in the centre and each vehicle went down and up without great difficulty. The enemy was encountered again at LES AUMAIS but after delaying the bn for some time, he again withdrew and the advance continued. The route led through CERNAY and LACRESSONNIE to TORDOUE, and thence in the early morning to LACHAPELLE YVON.	AK
	23 AUG 44		The Bn arrived at the area LACHAPELLE YVON and found that the bridge had been blown there. The bn deployed in an orchard, as usual. To the right was a high ridge on which the Germans were waiting to surrender, according to civilians but patrols failed to find them. The inhabitants were glad to see us and rushed in with baskets to cut in on the rations. Some good info was received from a civilian at TORDOUE who had a keen mind and was wide awake. It was learned that the enemy, footsore and weary, had	AK /10



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	24 AUG 44		passed through only the day before - heading in every direction. A few prisoners were picked up and they proved to be from all branches of the service fighting as infantry - one of them was a Jap. The Bn moved across the river during the day and took up posns on a reverse slope near LACHAPELLE YVON. A few casualties were suffered as a result of 88s and rifle fire but otherwise the enemy was not active. At night all was quiet.	HP
	25 AUG 44		The day was clear and during the morning the bn remained in posn although on notice to move. Much info of an abstract nature continued to pour in from civilians. At 1800 hrs, the Bn - the marching personnel in TGVs - set out for the objective - ELBOEUF on the Seine. The route took us through COURTONNE-LA-VILLE, CONVEUGLE to THIERVILLE, where the bn stopped in darkness and the RRC and RMLI passed through. The route then led us through DURANVILLE and north to LE MESNIL, two kilometres west of BRIONNE. No opposition was encountered on the way and the Bn stayed overnight at LE MESNIL. Our home was again in an orchard, though, not as pleasant a place as those in which we had previously stopped.	appx 1, HP
	26 AUG 44		The weather was fair again and the bn moved out of LE MESNIL at 1215 hrs. The order of march was RRC, RMLI and SX and the route led through BRIONNE where the bridge was down. After a session with ruts and mud all the vehicles got across and proceeded to high ground in the vicinity of BOSSOBERET-AUX-POULETS. There was no sign of the enemy though civilians reported that he had pulled out only the day before. A Tiger tank was found near the Bn area, intact, but clumsily booby trapped. The night was quiet except for a brief attack by German planes at the bridge at BRIONNE.	appx 2, HP
	27 AUG 44		The weather was again good and the bde moved off at 2000 hrs in the direction of ELBOEUF with the SX in the lead. On the outskirts of BOURGTHÉROULDE we came under MG and mortar fire and eventually ran a gauntlet of fire through the town. On the far side of the town we found the Black Watch who had been having a hot time and had fought off several counter attacks. The Bn took up a posn just beyond the Black Watch area, having suffered a few casualties. At 2350 hrs, all being quiet, the bn took to the road again and proceeded unmolested in the direction of ELBOEUF. The Bn passed through ELBOEUF and proceeded along the rd to Pt de Gravier. At 0300 hrs as the Bn was approaching the village, fire was opened upon it from high ground in the rd forks beyond. B coy with Major Laird in the lead was called upon to "Halt" by an	HP



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	27 AUG 44		<p>excited enemy machine gunner and the coy immediately deployed to cover. Mortar and SAS fire was then opened upon troops and transport and an exciting period ensued while the bn deployed. A few casualties were suffered although, the enemy fire was not accurate and his mortars were of the light type. The Bn posn had A &amp; B coys along railway tracks to the right front, BNQ at the road fork, well forward and in the midst of ruined houses - a desolate spot but fairly well protected from enemy fire by the railway embankment between it and the high ground. C &amp; D coys were back along the road to ELBOUEF, but were later moved forward to cover the left flank. The RWLI and RRC were also on the bn left, and the river on the right. At daybreak it became obvious that the enemy had extremely favourable posns on the cliffs to our front. Cover was ample and numerous caves dotted the cliffs. His posns easily dominated both forks of the road and made entry to BNQ a question of running a gauntlet for some 200 yds and then swinging quickly into the courtyard. An abortive attack was made by the RRC on the left, followed by two Essex Coys (C&amp;D) but not much progress was made due to the nature of the ground. There was intermittent fire from mortars and these caused casualties, especially in C &amp; D coys. On this first day at Port De Grevier the Bn lost Major Brown, wounded in the head during the first part of the encounter and Capt Baker wounded in the leg by a mortar. The two offrs had recently taken over the 2 i/cs and adjutants jobs respectively.</p>	<p>HA</p>
	28 AUG 44		<p>The Bn remained in posn at Port du Gravier. During the night, the 3rd Can Div crossed the Seine at ELBOUEF to our rear, without opposition. Orders from 2 Div HQ were to push on and an attack was mounted with RRC and Essex C&amp;D coys attempting to push around on high ground to the bn left and outflank the enemy MG posns dominating the road. The attack was preceded by an intensive arty barrage and by MMG fire. C&amp;D coys attacked at about 1330 hrs but found on reaching the area from which the fire was believed to come that there was a very steep slope down which they had to slide in order to cross the left branch of the road and get at the high ground where the enemy was. C&amp;D coys went down this slope with great gallantry, under heavy fire but could proceed no further and, after sustaining heavy casualties, dug in along the left branch of the road. Major McCoy, OC of 'C' coy was wounded in the shoulder but carried on until evacuated at nightfall - showing great determination and coolness. Lt G.W. Jones was killed leading his men down the slope although already wounded and without a weapon. His courage was a magnificent example to his men. Nothing further</p>	<p>HA</p>



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

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Title pages will be prepared.

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	28 AUG 44		could be done and the bn remained in posn harried occasionally though to a lessening degree by snipers and mortar fire. After darkness, C & D were withdrawn to the area they had originally occupied on the main road SW of the fork. PWs and deserters brought in gave the info that the high ground was occupied by elements of 3 coys and that they had orders to hold on at all costs. They were, for the most part, tired and hungry and pleased to be out of the war.	AR
	29 AUG 44		The morning was cloudy and cool and there was evidence that the enemy had pulled back, so A & B coys were moved father up the right branch of the road. B coys HQ was in a large house beside which was a cave large enough to house the vehicles of a Bn. Patrols were sent out and it was on one of these that Lt J.A. Morrison the new Scout Pl offr was killed by MG fire. The day was quieter than the previous ones had been, and no att acks were mounted. A 6 pdr gun was dragged up the railway embankment and a merry time was had by all as HE was fired into suspected enemy posns. We later heard that this fire had been quite effective. Throughout this show great confusion was caused by civilians who continually appeared out of caves in our line of fire. They also swarmed all over the RAP which for most of the period, was stationed in a cave not far back of BHC. Incidentally, too much cannot be said for the medical staff, who were under a great deal of mortar fire, and were continually farrassed by snipers as they drove up the roads; their work was magnificent. In the evening the Bn received the 8th Recce Regt CO and we learned that we were to move on the following morning and to be relieved by the 8th Recce.	AR
	30 AUG 44		The Bn moved to a new posn about 2 miles SE of ELBOEUF at 0830 hrs this morning. The weather was changeable with showers in the morning, later turning cool. The new area proved to be a rather pleasant spot in an orchard and the Bn had time to clean up and enjoy a little entertainment provided by the YMCA. The news that we were to set out shortly for Dieppe provided excitement and the morale of the Bn was high. There were no signs of enemy in the vicinity though it was known that scattered groups were in the Forêt et la Londe to the NW.	AR
	31 AUG 44		The Bn took the road back to Dieppe this morning. It was a beautiful day and we left the Bn area at 1000 hrs following the HILL and the RRC past the SP. There was a slight delay at ELBOEUF due to the vast numbers crossing the pontoon bridge which the RCE had put up. However, the bn crosse the Seine at about 1200 hrs. The crossing was totally	AR



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	31 AUG 44		<p>unopposed and each one of us felt great satisfaction as another obstacle was passed. The marching personnel were piled upon every available vehicle incl the vehicles of an A-A bty which had been provided for the purpose. We sped swiftly across lovely country fresh and green, passing orchards laden with apples on the way. Early in the afternoon, the bn stopped some 8 kilometers short of ROUEN and after getting a meal, pressed on, passing through that city at about 1540 hrs. We received a great welcome from throngs of people who lined the route. Extra cigarettes were issued and were speedily gotten rid of as the population hailed us with one hand while reaching for cigarettes with the other. There was no opposition whatsoever and the bn continued northward to Dieppe. At about 1800 hrs, we stopped at COTE - COTE, some 17 kilometers short of Dieppe. Once again, the bn occupied a pleasant spot amidst orchards. The enemy were reported to be in Cleres, about 2 miles to the East, but patrols sent out could find no sign of them. We stayed in this posn overnight, ready and anxious to continue the journey.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <i>Donald Mackenzie</i>  (P.W. BENNETT) Lt Col,  Officer Commanding,  1st Bn, ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT. </p>	