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Author(s): Lieutenant-Colonel T.C. Lewis.

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Keywords: Normandy ; Battle of Normandy ; D-Day ; Second World War ; Canadian Army ; Canadian Army ; 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment ; 3rd Canadian Infantry Division ; Divisional Troops ; Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars

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M

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WAR DIARY

OF

7 CANADIAN RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 D.Y.R.C.H)

FROM 1 JUNE 1944 TO 30 JUNE 1944

S.D.B.

1478
CDN. SEC. GHQ. 2nd ECH. 21 ARMY GP.
RECEIVED
8 JUL 1944
WAR DIARIES SECTION
WAR DIARIES
1944
CMHQ

VOLUME _____

APPENDICES 1, 3 TO 4

ORIGINAL

1102/1 JUN 1944

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.

Title pages will be prepared.

Page 1.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (30)

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1102-N-2

1111-44

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|----------------------------------|-------|------|--|--|
| Chichester Barracks June 1944 | Jun 1 | | <p style="text-align: center;">7 CANADIAN RE CONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 D. Y. R. C. H.)</p> <p>Owing to the preparations for future moves no Regimental Training Syllabus was laid down for the month of June. The Squadrons will check all waterproofing, and where necessary, minor modifications will be made to give the crews more working room and to increase the stowage space. All vehicles must be marked with the regulation five pointed United Nations Star. Time will be set aside each day for route marches. Early morning physical training will be continued.</p> <p>At 0800 hours 11, 12, and Squadron Headquarter Troops set out on a three day route march through the Cranleigh area.</p> <p>In the afternoon special services were held in the Y. M. C. A. Hut for all Roman Catholic personnel. Mass was celebrated, Confessions heard, and Communion given. "A" and "HQ" Squadrons held smokers in the Pulberough Village Hall and the West Chiltington British Legion respectively. Entertainment followed abundant and elaborate refreshments. "HQ" was given a moving picture show, and "A" Squadron had, as a guest of honour, CSM Ceoper, SEAFORTH, who had recently returned to this country from Italy. He related many of his experiences in the fighting in and around Ortona and answered scores of questions pertaining to actual battle conditions.</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled.</p> | S.F. |
| | Jun 2 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration Physical Training and route marches. The weekly Regimental Dance was held in the Pulberough Village Hall.</p> <p>Weather: Fine.</p> | S.F. |

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WAR DIARY

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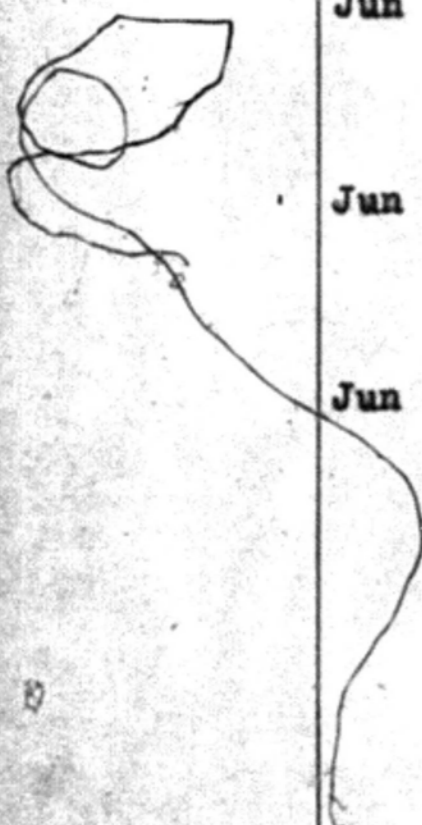
1102-N-3

JUN-44

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Page 2.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|------|------|---|--|
| | Jun | 3 | Maintenance and Administration. Physical Training and route marches. The three "C" Squadron Troops which had been on a three day route march returned to West Chilmington. Weather: Showers. | S.F. |
| | Jun | 4 | The Roman Catholics were taken by convey to Sterrington, where they attended Mass in the village church. Weather: Showers. | S.F. |
| | Jun | 5 | Maintenance and Administration Physical Training and route marches. Weather: Unsettled. | S.F. |
| | Jun | 6 | During the night and early morning of June 5 - 6 a great deal of air activity was heard, which led to the speculation that the "second front" had started. This was verified by the 0900 hrs B.B.C. announcement stating that between 0630 and 0800 hrs Allied Landings had been made on the beaches of Northern France. Needless to say that after waiting in this country for almost three years the news was greeted with the greatest enthusiasm and the morale of the Regiment reached a new peak. Two groups of the 17 D.Y.R.C.H. took part in this operation - The Beach Group and the Contact Detachment. The first consisted of the following Officers:- Major. W. C. Bowen. Major. C. W. MacLean Lieut. F. A. Banks Lieut. T. Brunstrom Lieut. L.W.K. Crabtree. Lieut. N. R. Johnston. Lieut. O. McKenna Lieut. K. C. Rowe. Lieut. R. K. Smith. Lieut. R. W. Thomson. | |



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Page 3

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------|--|--|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Jun 6 cent | | <p>The second was comprised of:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Capt. G. V. Newsam</td> <td>Lieut. C. L. Lynch.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieut. J. D. Berlase.</td> <td>Lieut. W. A. Masen.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieut. C. W. Deulten.</td> <td>Lieut. W.G.H. Pavey.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieut. W. G. Greenwood.</td> <td>Lieut. V. W. Stannard.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieut. W. V. O. LeBlanc.</td> <td>Lieut. H. R. Turley.</td> </tr> </table> <p>and forty other ranks.</p> <p>Maintenance and Administration. Physical training and route marches. "C" Squadron practiced loading stores, equipment and personal kit in their vehicles. "A" Squadron with all vehicles fully loaded, proceeded in convey to Amberley. The dual purpose of this was to check the loading and test the vehicles as they had not been on the road since they were waterproofed. The Squadron returned to Camp in the early afternoon. It was later learned that the Regiment had suffered its first losses in France. Considering the nature of their tasks the casualties were light. In the Beach Group, which landed at H plus 20 to direct traffic on the beaches, there was one fatal casualty, Lieut. R.W. Thomsen. The L.C.T. carrying Lieut. L.W.K. Crabtree was struck by shell fire, and he was reported missing. While proceeding with his duties on the Beach Lieut. K.C. Rowe was hit three times by shrapnel and bullets. The only known casualties in the Contact Detachments were Lieut. C.S. Thompson and D-3873 Tpr. Nassar. L., whose L.C.T. was hit by an 88mm. Both were thrown into the sea from which they were fortunately rescued. They were taken to the 22nd Field Ambulance where they are now recovering from "battle exhaustion" Lieut. R. W. Thomsen S.O.S. (killed in action) See appendix 3</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled.</p> | Capt. G. V. Newsam | Lieut. C. L. Lynch. | Lieut. J. D. Berlase. | Lieut. W. A. Masen. | Lieut. C. W. Deulten. | Lieut. W.G.H. Pavey. | Lieut. W. G. Greenwood. | Lieut. V. W. Stannard. | Lieut. W. V. O. LeBlanc. | Lieut. H. R. Turley. | Appendix 3. S.F. |
| Capt. G. V. Newsam | Lieut. C. L. Lynch. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieut. J. D. Berlase. | Lieut. W. A. Masen. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieut. C. W. Deulten. | Lieut. W.G.H. Pavey. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieut. W. G. Greenwood. | Lieut. V. W. Stannard. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieut. W. V. O. LeBlanc. | Lieut. H. R. Turley. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Jun 7. | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. Physical training and route marches. All RHQ vehicles were loaded and adjustments were made in the stowing of office equipment and personal kit.</p> <p>Weather: Cloudy to rain.</p> | S.F. | | | | | | | | | | |

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WAR DIARY

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1102-N-5

144-44

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Page 4.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|------|------|--|--|
| | Jun | 8. | <p>Maintenance and administration . Physical training and route marches.</p> <p>Weather: Cloudy to rain,</p> | 3 F. |
| | Jun | 9. | <p>At 0500 hrs a convey consisting of 34 ORs, 1 x light Humber Recce Car, 1 x Half-track International and 7 x Carriers Universal proceeded to their marshalling area under the command of Lieut. D. H. Ayer. Maintenance and Administration. Word was received from S.E.C.O. that the Regiment was to move to the Southern Command Saturday June 10. The afternoon was spent in preparation of this operation. Lieut. K.C. Rowe, S.O.S. to X-3 List, CAC (B) See appendix 3</p> <p>Weather: Rain.</p> | Appendix 3 |
| | June | 10 | <p>Order of march for the Regimental move was "A" Squadron, "C" Squadron, "RHQ" and "HQ" Squadron. The head of the column passed the starting line at 1000 hours and arrived at Chichester Barracks MR 294268 at 1145 hours. CREME notified No. 61 L.A.D. that they were to proceed to their marshalling area. at 1700 hrs the detachment left Chichester Barracks under the command of Capt. L. C. West. Lieut. R.K. Smith, S.O.S. to X-3 List, CAC (B). See appendix 3 Having completed their special duties at 3 Cdn Div HQ. Capt G.F. Cassidy, Lieut. R. Haran, Lieut. E.F. Kavanagh, Lieut. J.T. Pullam, Lieut. H.M. Street, Lieut. V.W. Walker and 6 Other Ranks rejoined the Regiment at Chichester.</p> <p>Weather: Overcast and cold.</p> | Appendix 3 |



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40/P & B/37 (3072)

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1102-N-6

JUN-44

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|--------|------|---|--|
| | Jun 11 | | <p>Free Day. Lieut. C.S. Thompson S.O.S. on admittance to hospital. See appendix 3</p> <p>Weather: Overcast and cold.</p> | <p>Appendix 3 S.F.</p> |
| | Jun 12 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. "A" Squadron drew kit deficiencies from the Regimental Quartermaster. Crew Commander hatches were out and installed in all lorries.</p> <p>Weather: Rain and unsettled.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> |
| | Jun 13 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. "A" Squadron vehicles were driven to Chichester Station where they were weighed. "C" Squadron drew kit deficiencies from the Regimental Quartermaster.</p> <p>Weather: Fine rain to fair and cool.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> |
| | Jun 14 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. "HQ" and "RHQ" drew kit deficiencies from the Regimental Quartermaster. "C" Squadron vehicles were weighed at the Chichester Station. C.R.U. sent a baseball team to Chichester Barracks to play the Regimental team. Although the visitors got away to a fast start, scoring nine runs in the first innings, the remainder of the game was closely contested. The final score was 12 - 2</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> |
| | Jun 15 | | <p>At 0430 hrs "A" Squadron left Camp for the marshalling area. The Squadron passed the Starting Line, Y road 322261 at 0500 hrs. Maintenance and Administration. "C" Squadron vehicles were weighed at Chichester Station.</p> | |

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40/P & S/37 (3072)

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1102-N-7

JUN - 44

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Page 6.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|----------------|------|---|--|
| | Jun 15 cent | | Sports afternoon for "B" Squadron rear party and R.C.C.S. Weather: Cloudy. | S.F. |
| | Jun 16. | | Maintenance and Administration. "HQ" Vehicles were weighed. Sports afternoon for "B" Squadron rear party and R.C.C.S. Weather: Cloudy and cool. | S.F. |
| | Jun 17. | | Maintenance and Administration. "RHQ" vehicles were weighed Major. C.A. Baerman and Capt. M.G. Christie drove to No.1. Neurological and Plastic Hospital, Basingstoke to visit Lieut. K.C. Rowe who was the 7 Recce's first casualty. He was reported to be making an excellent recovery from his wounds. Weather: Unsettled and cool. | S.F. |
| | 18 Jun | | Roman Catholic and Protestant Church parades. Weather: Fair and cool. | S.F. |
| | Jun 19 | | Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Weather: Fair with strong winds. | S.F. |
| | Jun 20 | | Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Weather : Fair with strong northerly winds. | S.F. |

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40/P & B/37 (3072)

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1102-N-8

JUN - 44

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|---------|------|---|--|
| | Jun 21. | | Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Majors W.C. Bowen and C.W. McLean, who were with the Beach Group, are on leave in this country. Major Bowen will return to the Regiment and Major McLean will be posted to No.12 C.B.R.G. and remain attached. Lieut. L.W.K. Crabtree, who had been reported missing since D Day, was now known to be safe. Weather: Fair with fresh Northerly winds. | S.F. |
| | Jun 22 | | Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Weather: Fair. | S.F. |
| | Jun 23 | | Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. The Regiment was notified that Lieut. R.K. Smith was in No.12 Field Ambulance recovering from shrapnel wounds in the left arm and left leg. Weather: Overcast. | S.F. |
| | Jun 24 | | Maintenance and Administration. Lieut-Col. V.W. Hugman, E.D., visited the Regiment and spent the night in Camp. Weather: Fine. | S.F. |
| | Jun 25 | | A Church parade was held for all Roman Catholic personnel. At 1830 the Hussar Baseball Team played "C" Company, 359 U.S. Engineers. Darkness halted a tight game at the score of 3 - 3. It is hoped that the deadlock may be played off in the next few days. Weather: Fair to rain at night. | S.F. |

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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40/P & S/37 (3072)

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1102-N-9

JUN-44

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------|--------|------|--|--|
| | Jun 26 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Weather: Rain.</p> | S.F. |
| | Jun 27 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Second Echelon reported three more "B" Squadron casualties. D-3534 Sjt Philp. G.D. was killed on a front line patrol, June 22nd. D-133064 Tpr. Gibeau. G. was wounded June 23rd, and Tprs. D-76586 Hazelhurst, R.S., and D-128913 Yaeger. N., were listed as casualties. In the evening the Regimental Baseball Team played a "pick-up" team selected from the Ground Crews of the 9th U.S.A.A.F. Unfortunately they were unable to send their regular team, but rather than default the game, they got nine men together and formed a "scrub" team. The result of the game was 17-5 in favour of the 7th Recce. Weather: Fair.</p> | S.F. |
| | Jun 28 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. The Ministry of Food asked the Regiment for forty men to help bag potatoes for the troops in Normandy. There was no difficulty in getting twenty men from "HQ" Squadron and twenty from "C" Squadron. The men will be taken by private bus to Chilgreve Farm, Sheet 133 269338 each day until the task is completed. Weather: Unsettled.</p> | S.F. |
| | Jun 29 | | <p>Maintenance and Administration. Sports afternoon. Weather: Fair.</p> | S.F. |

6A

M.F.M. 11A
200M-5-40 (5185)
(H.Q. 1772-29-1688)

War Diaries
Appxs Checked
Date - 26 June 1947

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WAR DIARY

OF

7 CANADIAN RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 D.Y.R.C.H.)

FROM 1 July 1944 TO 31 July 1944



VOLUME

8025

APPENDICES 1-9 TO 8

ORIGINAL

1944

1102/1 JUL



EPC

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Page 1

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|---|-------|------|--|--|
| Chichester Barracks Map Ref. 294264 Sheet 133. July 1944 | Jul 1 | | <p>7 CANADIAN RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 D.Y.R.C.H.)</p> <p>Maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Two work parties of twenty volunteers from HQ and C Squadrons continued bagging potatoes at Chilgreve Farm.</p> <p>Sports afternoon.</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled and showers.</p> | abb |
| | Jul 2 | | <p>Protestant and Roman Catholic Church Parades.</p> <p>Weather: Showers.</p> | abb |
| | Jul 3 | | <p>Maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Work parties continued to help the Ministry of Agriculture.</p> <p>A Regimental Sports Committee was formed, and with the able assistance of Supver Heggie, arrangements were made to hold a Track Meet Thursday, Jul 6. As the Regiment was divided between France and England it was thought best to run this on a troop rather than squadron basis. In the afternoon training for the coming event was started.</p> <p>Weather: Rain.</p> | abb BL |

IB

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WAR DIARY

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M.F.M. 114
40/P & S/37 (8/42)

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Page 2.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|---|-------|------|---|--|
| Chichester Barracks Map Ref 294264 Sheet 133. | Jul 4 | | Maintenance and administration. Work parties continued at Chilgrove Farm. Training for Field Meet. Weather: Fair. | Abb |
| | Jul 5 | | Maintenance and administration. Work for the Ministry of Agriculture was practically completed. Eight men were asked to finish the job. Training for Field Meet. Weather: Cloudy and showers. | Abb |
| | Jul 6 | | Maintenance and administration. In the afternoon the Regimental Track Meet was held on the Barrack's Green. As the Meet was such a success and so much enthusiasm was shown, it was hoped by both the participants and the spectators that more of these events would be held in the near future. No 11 Troop took first place. "B" Squadron, which was represented by their "HQ" Troop, and "C" Squadron HQ Troop tied for second. "RHQ" was third. A list of | Abb HL |

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|---|-------|--------|---|--|
| Chichester Barracks Ref 294264 Sheep 133. | Jul 6 | cont'd | <p>After supper "C" Squadron won a closely contested baseball game from "HQ" Squadron 13 to 11. This puts the teams at a deadlock of one win each. During the coming weekend the series will be played out.</p> <p>Weather: Fair to thunder storms.</p> | |
| | Jul 7 | | <p>Maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Sports afternoon.</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled and showers.</p> | ASB |
| | Jul 8 | | <p>M.C., S.E.C.O., informed the 7 Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment that it was to proceed overseas, Sunday, Jul 9, 1944.</p> <p>The day was spent in preparation of the initial part of this journey, the move to the Tilbury Decks Area.</p> <p>At 1830 hours a Muster Parade was held, and the men were warned that all cases of A W L or A W O L would be treated as desertion. On completion of vehicle checks and the stowage of all kit, 50% of the Regiment was given "walkouts" until 2300 hours.</p> <p>Weather: Fair.</p> | ASB KZ |

5B

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| Chichester Barracks p Ref 294264 Sheet 133. | Jul 9 | | <p>The first vehicle crossed the Chichester starting line, Y-Read 323261, at 0300 hours. The convey passed through Billingshurst and continued up to Leatherhead where it took the by-pass to Epsom. A Military Police escort met the convey and led it through London to Woodford. Here another escort, which took the convey to Camp T7, Ferrest Flats, was provided. The last vehicle reached the T7 D.P. at 0930 hours. In the afternoon all ranks were issued with Mae West's, 24-hour emergency ration packs, biscuits, chocolates and cigarettes. Following this, the men attended a pay parade where they were given 200 francs, £1.0.0. All ranks were given the opportunity of exchanging any Sterling they had in their possession for francs.</p> <p>After supper final touches were given to the waterproofing, and all the vehicles were checked and O.K'd by R.E.M.E.</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled to rain.</p> | Ab |
| Camp T7 Ferrest Flats | Jul 10 | | <p>Major C W MacLean was in charge of a party that drove the residue of the Regiment's vehicles (206, incl 5 cwts, trailers, and MC's) to the decks. The convey passed the T7 S.L. at 0600 hours and arrived at the Victoria Decks at 0645.</p> <p>Unfortunately the ship had been damaged the night before, and the loading which was to have commenced at 0700 hours had to be postponed. Action was taken by the Admiralty and another vessel, the Fort Covington, was brought into the Victoria Basin at 1145. As the Covington was not fitted for carrying troops, crews immediately set to work and converted the top deck of the two after hatches into sleeping quarters and built latrines on deck.</p> | Ab NL |

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| Camp T7 Ferrest Flats | Jul 10 | cont'd | <p>Thirty-Five driver i/c's and driver mechanics divided into two groups, the first to drive the vehicles onto the leading nets and the second to stow them in the ship's hold. At 1500 hours the first vehicle was put aboard. All men who were not working were taken back to T7 at 1730 hours. Leading continued until 1900 hours. The two work parties spent the night at the decks.</p> <p>Weather: Unsettled, rain and windy.</p> | |
| | Jul 11 | | <p>At 0915 hours the Regiment embussed on R.A.S.C.T.C. vehicles and were transported to the Victoria Docks. The men remained in the Godowns while the leading continued and at 1330 hours boarded the Covington. The stowage of vehicles was been completed, and the ship cast off at 1546 hours. At 1945 hours the Covington dropped anchor in her allotted anchorage in the large convey riding between Sheerness and Southend.</p> <p>Weather: Overcast.</p> | Abb |
| Aboard S.S. Fort Covington | Jul 12 | | <p>The YMCA rigged up their P.A. system. The news was read and records played to make the time pass faster. A picture show was given below decks in the afternoon and in the early evening an impromptu stage show was put on by Capt J O McArthur, who was assisted by Lieut G Donaldson and Tops Sigley and Hogue. At 2030 hours anchor was weighed and the Covington steamed down the Estuary in a convey of seventeen ships.</p> <p>Heavy gun fire was heard in the distance at 2345 hours. It was thought to be the coastal batteries on the Straits of Dover.</p> <p>Weather: Overcast.</p> | Abb VSC |

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WAR DIARY

OR

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (8/42)

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Page 8.

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| Aboard S.S. Fort Covington | Jul 13 | | <p>In the morning the convoy followed the South Coast of England until off Portsmouth, where a Southerly course was taken. At 1700 a destroyer dropped depth charges 2 mi off the Covington's starboard bow. Charges were again dropped $\frac{1}{2}$ hr later several miles off the starboard quarter.</p> <p>Landfall was made at 1755 hrs, and at 2045 the anchor was dropped in the Roads several mi off Courselles-Sur-Mer.</p> <p>At 2245 there was slight enemy air activity, which was soon broken up by the barrage and night-fighters.</p> <p>Weather: fair to showers.</p> | abb |
| | Jul 14 | | <p>At 1400 hrs a LCT came alongside, and 16 veh were unloaded and away by 1815. 2 more LCTs made fast to the Covington at 1845, and 36 more veh were put ashore well before dusk. At 2115 a Rhino came up and lay alongside to ensure an early start the following day.</p> <p>Weather: fair to cloudy.</p> | abb |
| | Jul 15 | | <p>Loading the Rhino commenced at 0730 and 47 veh were unloaded by 1100 hrs. As the tide was ebbing, it was impossible to beach the L C before 1830 hrs. The Rhino remained alongside until 1630. During the morning 3 more L C Ts were warped into position, and the unloading contd without incident. All L C Ts cleared the Fort Covington by 1730, and the landings were completed by 1930. As soon as each vehicle reached the beach, it was directed to the primary dewaterproofing cage, where the breathers were opened. This completed, the C M P directed the drivers to their respective unit areas, where the 2nd stage of dewaterproofing was done.</p> | abb WJ |

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B

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| Aboard S.S. Fort Covington | Jul 15 | Cont'd | <p>At 2000 hours a Regimental convoy left the area to join A and B Squadrons, R H Q going to Villons-les-Buisson 0074, H Q to Anguerny 0177 and C Squadron to les Buissons 9974.</p> <p>Weather: fair to showers.</p> | |
| France Map Ref 025696 | Jul 16 | | <p>With the arrival of H Q and C Squadron in Normandy the Regiment was once again complete.</p> <p>The Regiment received orders that it would move into Caen and relieve the 7 C I B by 2200 hours. This move was completed, and the Squadrons occupied positions at: R H Q 025696, A Squadron 015677, B Squadron 026687, C Squadron 039688.</p> <p>The Regiment, with 18 Cdn Armd Car Regiment under its command, was made completely responsible for the protection and control of the entire Caen area.</p> <p>Slight enemy shelling and mortaring during afternoon and night.</p> <p>A and C Squadrons sent out patrols. See appendix. 5</p> <p>Weather: unsettled .. by mist at night.</p> | Ab APPENDIX 5 |
| | Jul 17 | | <p>Regiment in same positions.</p> <p>Increased enemy shelling and mortaring, mainly from Fauberg-De-Vaucelles.</p> <p>For night patrols see appendix. 5</p> <p>Weather: cloudy.</p> | Ab APPENDIX 5 WZ |

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WAR DIARY

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Page 10.

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| France Op Ref 025696 | Jul 18 | | Following a creeping barrage, the 8th and 9th C I Bs crossed the River Orne, making a successful flanking movement on the factory areas East of Fauberg-De-Vaucelles. In the late afternoon the 7 C I B crossed over the main bridge at Caen which had been reconstructed by the R C E. A Squadron was called upon to cover this movement with its Humbers' firepower. | ASB |
| | Jul 19 | | Artillery bombardment continued on Cormelles. A Squadron moved over the River Orne and were to pass through the 7 C I B area in order to recce the front beyond Cormelles. Strong enemy resistance was encountered, and the Squadron was withdrawn into the Brigade area 043665. Regiment held same positions. Enemy air activity during the night. See appendix for sitrep. Weather: overcast. | ASB APPENDIX 4 |
| | Jul 20 | | Regiment in same positions. Sporadic enemy shelling. Air activity during the night. Weather: fair to rain. | ASB ASL |

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| France Map Ref 025696 | Jul | 21 | <p>Regimental dispositions the same.</p> <p>Slight enemy shelling and air activity.</p> <p>See appendix for sitrep.</p> <p>Weather: rain.</p> | <p>ASB</p> <p>APPENDIX 4</p> |
| France Map Ref 046666 | Jul | 22 | <p>All 3 Cdn Inf Div, less A Echelon & C I B was ordered to be South of the road Vaucelles-Cagny by 1200 hours.</p> <p>The 7 Cdn Recce Regiment was disposed as follows: R H Q 046666, A Squadron 047665, B Squadron 045675, C Squadron 048674 and B Echelon 053720.</p> <p>Slight shelling during the day and enemy air activity at night.</p> <p>For sitrep see appendix.</p> <p>Weather: overcast to rain.</p> | <p>ASB</p> <p>APPENDIX 4</p> |
| | Jul | 23 | <p>Regiment in same positions.</p> <p>See appendix for sitrep.</p> <p>Weather: overcast.</p> | <p>ASB</p> <p>APPENDIX 4</p> |
| | Jul | 24 | <p>Regiment in same positions.</p> | <p>ASB</p> |

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| France Ref 046666 | Jul 24 | Cont'd | <p>See appendix for sitrep.</p> <p>Weather: overcast.</p> | <p>APPENDIX 4 AB</p> |
| France Ref 068646 | Jul 25 | | <p>Operation SPRING. Operational Order in appendix. 8</p> <p>Intention 3 Cdn Inf Div to attack and capture Tilly-la-Campagne/Garcelles-Secqueville and to exploit to la Hogue and South East as ordered. C Squadron attached to 9 C I B.</p> <p>Squadrons moved to the following areas: A 059650, B 065654 and C 066649. The Anti/Tank Battery came under the command of the B D and G Highlanders at Hubert-Follie.</p> <p>Increased enemy air activity at night. H E and incendiaries were dropped in the immediate area. There were casualties and damage was caused.</p> <p>See appendix for sitrep.</p> <p>Weather: fair.</p> | <p>APPENDIX 8 AB</p> <p>APPENDIX 4</p> |
| France Ref 068646 | Jul 26 | | <p>R H Q moved to 068646.</p> <p>Squadrons remained in the same positions. C Squadron continued in support of 9 C I B. The Infantry attacked Tilly-la-Campagne/Garcelles-Secqueville but was not successful. No call was made on the Squadron.</p> <p>Shelling during the afternoon and night.</p> <p>See appendix for sitrep.</p> <p>Weather: fair.</p> | <p>APPENDIX 4 AB</p> |

France
Ref 068646

WUB

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| France Map Ref 068646 | Jul | 27 | Regimental positions the same. A and C Squadron established Observation Posts at 093627 and 056650 respectively. See appendix for sitrep. Weather: fair. | <i>ASB</i> APPENDIX 4 |
| | Jul | 28 | No change in positions. Observation Posts continued. See appendix for sitrep. Weather: fair. | <i>ASB</i> APPENDIX 4 |
| | Jul | 29 | Positions the same. A and C Squadrons continued Observation Posts. See appendix for sitrep. Weather: unsettled. | <i>ASB</i> APPENDIX 4 |
| France Grentheville Map Ref 08506425 | Jul | 30 | The Regiment moved to Grentheville. R H Q was established at 08506425, A Squadron 08486425 and C Squadron 087643. | <i>ASB</i> APPENDIX 4 <i>WZ</i> |

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|---|------------------|------|---|--|----|--|-----|--|-----|--------------|------------|
| France Gontheville Map Ref 08506425 | Jul 30 Cont'd | | Observation Posts kept up by A and C Squadron. Spasmodic enemy shelling. See appendix for sitrep. Weather: fair. | All APPENDIX 4 | | | | | | | |
| | Jul 31 | | Positions the same. On the night of Jul 30/31 the 4 Cdn Armd Div took over the lines of the 3 Cdn Inf Div, who moved into a rest area. The 7 Cdn Recce Regiment came under the command of the 4 Cdn Armd Div wef 310500 B. Intermittent enemy shelling. Weather: fair. Strength Return. <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">48</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">232</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">541</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>Total</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>821</u></td> </tr> </table> Officers, including attached N C O's including attached Other ranks including attached All ranks including attached | | 48 | | 232 | | 541 | <u>Total</u> | <u>821</u> |
| | 48 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 232 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 541 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>821</u> | | | | | | | | | | |

14B

J. Lewis L. Hol
 Officer Commanding
 7 Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment
 (17 DYRCH)

M.F.M. 11A
200M-5-40 (5185)
G.E.Q. 1772-39-1658

* War *
Appxs. included
Date - 25 June 1947

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~
~~REPRODUCTION~~

(Strike out where not applicable)

WAR DIARY

OF

7 CANADIAN RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 DYRCH)

FROM 1 AUG 44 TO 31 AUG 44



VOLUME

*0436
483*

APPENDICES 1,3 TO 5
Appendix 6 missing

ORIGINAL

1947 AUG 1/2011

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AUGUST 1944

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|---|------|------|--|--|
| FRANCE GRENTHEVILLE (097638) 7F/2 | 1 | | <p style="text-align: center;">7 CANADIAN RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT (17 DYRCH)</p> <p>During the night of 30 Jul - 1 Aug the 7 Cdn Recce Regt came under the command of the 4th Cdn Armoured Division. The area held by 3 Cdn Infantry Division was taken over by the 4th.</p> <p>RHQ, A, B and C Squadrons harboured in the Grentheville area (097638) 7F/2.</p> <p>The A/Tk Troop returned from Hubert-Folie and took up positions in the Regimental area.</p> <p>A and C Squadrons held Observation Posts at Hubert-Folie, Bourguebus. Enemy artillery and mortar fire, which was mostly directed on the Bras-Bourguebus road, was considerably reduced during the last 24 hours. Dismounted movement and machine gun fire was noted at the Chateau in La Hogue. One enemy tank was reported in this vicinity.</p> <p>At 1815 hours a "flying-bomb" passed over Grentheville and was last seen heading South-West over Tilly-la-Campagne.</p> <p>Weather: mist to cloudy.</p> | S.F. |
| | 2 | | <p>A and C Squadron Observation Posts were withdrawn, and 3 were established by B Squadron at Hubert-Folie, Bourguebus and Four.</p> <p>Enemy periodically shelled and mortared Bourguebus and Hubert-Folie. Own artillery concentrated on Verriers, Tilly-la-Campagne and LanHogue.</p> <p>Sporadic mortaring and shelling of Grentheville.</p> <p>Positions of Squadrons unchanged. Nothing to report.</p> <p>Weather: cloudy</p> | S.F. |

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| GRENTHEVILLE (097638) TF/2 | 3 | | <p>B Squadron Observation Posts reported that unusual enemy activity just South of Tilly-la-Campagne suggested troop movement. Increased shelling and mortaring throughout the day.</p> <p>Regimental positions unchanged. Area subjected to heavier shelling and mortar fire.</p> <p>Weather: fair.</p> | S.F. |
| | 4 | | <p>Observation Posts believe very heavy shelling during the night of 3 - 4 August due to the presence of the British Columbia Regiment's tank patrols, which passed through the Hussars' area.</p> <p>Enemy shelled and mortared RHQ and Squadron positions throughout the night and early morning. From 0030 hours to 0100 hours Grentheville was dive-bombed and strafed. 4 HE and many AP bombs were dropped. There were a few personnel and vehicle casualties.</p> <p>Word was received from 3 CID that the Regiment will revert to the command of the 3 Cdn Division at 050400-B and consolidate for rest in the Thaon area - sq 9676.</p> <p>Intermittent shelling of Grentheville in the afternoon.</p> <p>At 1500 hours RHQ left for the reserve area.</p> <p>A, B, C and HQ Squadrons and Support Group positions unchanged, and nothing to report.</p> <p>Weather: showers to fair.</p> | S.F. |
| THAON AREA (Sq 9676) | 5 | | <p>At 0200 hours A, B, C Squadrons and Support Group moved to the reserve area.</p> | |
| | | | | |

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| THAON AREA (Sq 9676) | 5 | (contd) | <p>Due to a new "drive" in which the 7 Recce is to participate, the rest period was cancelled and the day was spent on maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Weather: fair to showers.</p> | S.F. |
| | 6 | | <p>After Protestant and RC Church Services the 2 parades assembled in the orchard at RHQ where Lt Col T C Lewis spoke to the men. He thanked them for the work they had done in co-operation with the 3 CID and told of how this Division had made a name for itself for doing exceptionally well when the going was toughest. It was now being likened to such troops as the Commandos, the Paratroops and "Desert Rats" and each man should consider it a privilege and an honor to serve with it. The C O praised the work done by the Contact Detachments and explained that although this was a new method of gathering information, it had proved so satisfactory that they were again being organized for the coming operation. In some circles there was doubt as to the role of the Recce Regt in modern warfare. The past few weeks had cleared up any misgivings towards the usefulness of the Infantry Recce as was proved when each of the Brigades asked for the support of a Squadron in the coming push. In previous drives it had been found that after the initial break-through it was impossible for the Infantry to keep up with the Armour. The 7 Cdn Recce was to follow immediately after the tanks, mopping up and preventing the enemy from forming strong points which had proved so costly to the Infantry. In closing the Colonel again thanked the men and expressed his wishes that the good work be kept up.</p> <p>The remainder of the day was spent on maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Weather: heavy mist to fine.</p> | S.F. |
| | 7 | | <p>Maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Weather: mist to fine.</p> | S.F. M |

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| THAON AREA (Sq 9676) | 8 | | <p>The 21 Contact Detachments which were attached to 3 CID, 7 8 9 CIB, 4 CAD, 10 CIB, 49 British Division, 51 Highland Division and the Polish Armoured Division left the Regiment to join their respective units.</p> <p>Maintenance and administration.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | S.F. |
| FAUBERG DE VAUCELLES (Sq 0567) 7F | 9 | | <p>The Regiment moved up to Fauberg de Vaucelles, Square 0567/7F.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | S.F. |
| VERRIERS (052602) 7F/1 (068565) 7F | 10 | | <p>RHQ and the Support Group moved to Verriers. B Squadron, having supplied most of the Contact Detachments personnel, was held in reserve and one troop given the task of protecting RHQ.</p> <p>A Squadron which was under the command of the 8 CIB remained on wheels in Cormelles when the Brigade's plans to relieve the 153 Brigade were cancelled.</p> <p>C Squadron in support of the 9 CIB sent out patrols and suffered 6 personnel and 2 vehicle casualties through shelling.</p> <p>In the evening RHQ, B Squadron and Support Group left Verriers and harboured at 068565.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | S.F. |
|  | 11 | | <p>Intermittent enemy shelling during the night of 10 - 11 August.</p> |  |

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| <p>(068565) 7F</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">58</p> | <p>11(contd)</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> | | <p>A Squadron whose HQ had moved to a position just North-East of Bretteville-le-Rabet sent patrols down to Le Hamet Fontaine. There was nothing to report. C Squadron whose HQ was at Cauvicourt had patrols liaising with the N S R and the Polish Armoured Division.</p> <p>B Echelon advanced to Andre-Sur-Orne.</p> <p>A and C Squadrons ceased to be attached to 8 CIB. A Squadron retired to the Quarry in Square 0851. In the evening B Squadron proceeded to Cauvicourt.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> |
| | | | <p>Cauvicourt was shelled spasmodically.</p> <p>Regimental positions unchanged. Nothing to report.</p> <p>Weather: mist to fine and hot.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> |
| | | | <p>New plans were drawn up for 3 and 4 Cdn Divisions. They were to move Eastwards and attack on the Soignelles-Rouvres axis and seize the high ground in the Sassy-Epancey area. The 7 Cdn Recce Regiment was to follow the Armour and hold the ground between them and the Infantry, mopping up any remaining pockets or strong points.</p> <p>Regimental positions: RHQ 068565, A Squadron 086476, B Squadron 099525 and C Squadron 101529. During the day HQ Squadron moved to 040504.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | <p>S.F.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">JBL</p> |

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| HAUTMESNIL AND ESTREES AREA 0852/1249 Sq 7F | 14 | | <p>In the morning RHQ and the Squadrons moved up to the 3 CID concentration area between Hautmesnil and Estrees.</p> <p>The Regiment, under command of 2 CAB for an operation to seize the high ground North of Falaise, crossed the start line near Hautmesnil at 1200 hours, and following the Armoured Brigade and the 9 CIB, was to cross the River Laison and mop up behind the Armour. The Armour was unable to cross the River and swung off to the left, while the Infantry who had lost direction during the approach, became involved in fighting on the river bank.</p> <p>On the left, C Squadron succeeded in finding a small bridge and seized the North bank of the river. On the right, Lieut D H Ayer found a ford through which B Squadron succeeded in crossing and also seized the North bank in their sector. Both Squadrons now found themselves proceeding the Infantry and Armour instead of following it and came under heavy MG and Anti/Tk fire. C Squadron lost 3 vehicles with 6 fatal casualties and B Squadron suffered heavy personnel casualties including Lieuts D H Ayer and L Lynch.</p> <p>There had been a heavy bombing program laid on for this operation between 1400 and 1600 hours, but due to an error a great weight of bombs was dropped behind our lines. RHQ and A Echelon were severely hit - RHQ losing 5 vehicles including the 3 wireless vehicles and A Echelon 27 vehicles, although only one man was hurt. This disrupted communications for about one hour during the heat of battle but RHQ was soon functioning again.</p> <p>Lieut Col T C Lewis who had moved forward with the tanks to keep in touch with the battle, realizing that his two Squadrons were now in front of the Armour, and that his HQ had been temporarily put out of action, crossed the river and finding the two Squadrons, having suffered heavy casualties, digging in on the North bank of the river, went forward with the two Squadron Commanders, Major C W MacLean and Major E R Allen, recced for a commanding piece of ground and issued orders for</p> | JL |

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| HAUTMESNIL AND ESTREES AREA 0852/1249 Sq 7F | 14 | (contd) | <p>the immediate advance and consolidation on Points 160 and 165, covering the river crossing. He then contacted the Infantry and the Armour on the flanks, put them in the picture, ordered A Squadron to cross and come into close support and then returned to find RHQ once again in action and then reported the situation to the A/GOC, Brig K Blackader DSO MC.</p> <p>It had been decided to split RHQ into 2 groups for this operation. One consisted mostly of operation personnel, such as forward and rear links, RAP, signalmen and 3 Intelligence Other Ranks. The other group, which was made up of administration personnel and vehicles, was under command of Lt R Haran. The forward group harboured in the orchard, 087524, and the administration group was established in the Quarry, Square 0852. In the evening the forward group moved its HQ to the Chateau, 085526.</p> | ML |

7F

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WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (30/73)

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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| HAUTMESNIL AND ESTREES AREA 0852/1249 Sq 7F | 14 | (contd) | Slight enemy shelling and air activity during the night. Weather: fine and hot. | S.F. |
| 154474 | 15 | | RHQ moved to 154474 by the River Laison. A Squadron which had bivouaced there the night of 14 - 15 August, advanced to Olendon. B Squadron held positions in the woods in Square 1543 and C Squadron dug in at 157427. It was found that RHQ could not function properly while divided into two groups. The rear group was called forward and joined the operation group. In the evening, 1930 hours, B Squadron was strafed by the RAF. At approximately 2300 hours there was a sharp enemy air raid on the Chateau in Square 1547. Weather: fine and hot. | S.F. |
| 141431 | 16 | | The assault troops of B and C Squadrons and the 1 Cdn Scots under command 2 CAB attacked and captured a strong German position at point 159 Square 1438. Enemy resistance was light and the Prisoners of War taken were from the 81 Infantry Division. Armoured car patrols of A and B Squadrons worked down the Falaise - Caen road from Souligny to Aubigny. Again enemy resistance was light and only a few minor skirmishes were reported. RHQ moved to the orchard at 141431. Squadron positions unchanged. Weather: fine and hot. | S.F. ML |

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CONFIDENTIAL

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AUGUST 1944

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|--------------------------|------|------|--|--|
| SASSY (191459) 7F | 17 | | <p>At 1100 hours RHQ was strafed by a Squadron of FW 190s. 2 bombs were dropped on the outskirts of the harbour.</p> <p>The Regiment reverted to the command of 3 CID and was allotted its first actual recce role as a Regiment. The task was to seize and hold the bridges at Vendeuve and Jort.</p> <p>A Squadron with 4 A/Tk guns advanced to Venduevre, 231459, where Squadron HQ was established. 1 carrier struck a mine and was burnt out. There were 3 casualties, 2 fatal. Patrols secured river crossings in Vendeuve and Jort at 1500 hours and continued to Lieury, which they occupied.</p> <p>C Squadron proceeded to 236453 and sent patrols to Courcy, square 2544, which they reported clear. The patrols were withdrawn at last light.</p> <p>B Squadron with 4 A/Tk guns advanced to 241459, a point across the River Dives from Vendeuve.</p> <p>RHQ and Support Group moved to Sassy 191459.</p> <p>Weather: overcast to fair.</p> | S.F. |
| VENDEUVRE (231459) 7F | 18 | | <p>A Squadron patrols remained in Lieury area. At 0730 hours B Squadron sent patrols to occupy Barou (Square 2539), Cantepie (Square 2337) and Moutier-En-Auge (Square 2737). At first light C Squadron patrols returned to Courcy.</p> <p>In the afternoon RHQ moved to the Chateau in Vendeuve 231459.</p> <p>Enemy air activity during the night, apparently aimed at the bridges at Vendeuve and Jort.</p> <p>Weather: fine and hot.</p> | S.F. 202 |

26
C

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| SASSY (191459) 7F | 19 | | <p>Orders for the Regiment to advance were cancelled and the role was allotted to the 8th Cdn Recce Regiment, 2 CID. The Regiment is to remain static for 48 hours doing maintenance and resting.</p> <p>Slight enemy air activity. No damage.</p> <p>C Squadron moved to Le Haut De Totes, Square 2843, later advancing to 280395. Patrols carried on as far as grid 41 without meeting opposition.</p> <p>Weather: cloudy and showers.</p> | S.F. |
| | 20 | | <p>3 UXBs were found in the fields West of the chateau where RHQ was billeted. These were reported to 3 CID.</p> <p>About 1300 hours a farmer came to RHQ and stated that he had been fired on by 2 German soldiers who had also set a Shepherd dog after him. The shots were fired from a point roughly 250 meters from the edge of the woods across the road from RHQ. A patrol was formed under command of Lt. R Haran, and the woods was searched. The dog was found but there was no trace of the Germans.</p> <p>Weather: fair to rain.</p> | S.F. |
| | 21 | | <p>Maintenance and rest.</p> <p>In the afternoon the Regiment was ordered to take up positions in a line along the River Dives from La Rue Morteaux (Square 2338) to Mandeville (square 2632) and stop any of the enemy who had been caught in "gun alley" from getting back to their own lines.</p> <p>The Squadrons proceeded to the river and the following HQs were established: A</p> | MC |

105
C

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AUGUST 1944

7th Reconnaissance Regiment (17 DYRCH)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--|------|---------|--|--|
| SASSY (191459) 7F | 21 | (contd) | <p>Squadron 247343, B Squadron 232373 and C Squadron 309312. Standing patrols of the 3 Squadrons formed a line between the above mentioned villages. Running North to South B Squadron held from La Rue Morteaux to Beaumais, A Squadron from Beau - mais to bridge (Square 2433) and C Squadron from bridge to Mandeville.</p> <p>Weather: rainy.</p> | S.F. |
| VIMOUTIERS AREA | 22 | | <p>At 0600 hours the standing patrols along the River Dives were relieved by the 9 CIB. Later in the day the Regiment was ordered to move North-East towards Orbec. At 1900 hours RHQ left Vendevre and harboured in the Vimoutiers area. The Squadrons moved independently to positions in this vicinity.</p> <p>Weather: fair to showers.</p> | S.F. |
| 636707 - 8F/3 CREPEAUX (Sq 6170) | 23 | | <p>At first light the Regiment advanced towards Orbec and HQs were established at: RHQ 636707, A Squadron 620700, B Squadron 586705 and C Squadron 638715. A and B Squadrons each had 1 A/Tk troop in support and there was a mortar section with each of the 3 Squadrons.</p> <p>A Squadron proceeded along the East side of Orbec-Vimoutiers road and took up positions about 1 1/2 miles South-West of Beau Pre, Square 0572. Stiff resistance (machine guns and mortars) was met in the woods in Squares 6369 and 6470. 4 CAD was on A Squadron's right flank. B Squadron moved up the West side of the Center Line. Their patrols cleared the Bois La Cressonniere and crossed the River Orbec over the bridge in Square 6473. They continued their patrols and reported A/Tk and dug in tanks in Square 6574. C Squadron was held in reserve and furnished protection for RHQ, LAD and A Echelon.</p> <p>At 1200 hours RHQ, due to heavy shelling and mortaring, retired to Crepeaux, Square 6170.</p> | M |

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| CREPEAUX (Square 6170) | 23 | (contd) | <p>At 1330 hours A Squadron was sent to recce the woods in Squares 6368, 6369, 6370, 6468, 6469 and 6560 and hold same until relieved by the 7 CIB.</p> <p>At 1935 hours C Squadron was sent to the same wooded area to reinforce A Squadron.</p> <p>Weather: fair.</p> | S.F. |
| ORBEC (653732) | 24 | | <p>RHQ moved its HQ on to Orbec 653732 and the Squadrons sent patrols towards Bernay. No enemy was met but mines were encountered along the Bernay - Orbec road. The cross-road, Square 6774, was heavily mined. B Squadron patrols moved North of the Center Line (Bernay - Orbec road) and C Squadron covered the ground to the South.</p> <p>At 1200 hours the location of the Squadrons were: A Squadron 628667, B Squadron 701757 and C Squadron 688686.</p> <p>At 1600 hours RHQ proceeded to harbour at Le Malharquier, but was met by the C O near ST Martin-Du-Tilleul. He led the convoy to a position at Boisney where it made camp for the night. The 3 Squadrons harboured in the same vicinity.</p> <p>Weather: fair to showers.</p> | S.F. |
| HARCOURT | 25 | | <p>At 0800 hours RHQ left for Harcourt. The bridge at 896870 was blown and caused some delay. RHQ arrived in Harcourt at 0930 hours. Here a representative of the 58th American Infantry Division liaised with Lieut Col T C Lewis.</p> <p>B and C Squadrons had patrols working towards Elbeuf. No opposition was met but again mines were in evidence.</p> <p>In the afternoon RHQ moved to Pyle 025894. Road blocks and mines were encountered enroute.</p> | AL |
| PYLE (025894) | | | | |

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| PYLE (025894) | 25 | (contd) | Squadron positions for the night were: A Squadron 038885, B Squadron 031913 and C Squadron 090944. | |
| | 26 | | Regiment remained in same positions waiting further orders. C Squadron withdrew to 027885. Maintenance and administration. Weather: fair. | S.F. |
| ST MARTIN-LA-CORNEILLE (092953) | 27 | | The Regiment advanced to St Martin-La-Corneille. The harbours were: RHQ 092953, A Squadron 098950, B Squadron 092944 and C Squadron 090944. In the afternoon Hon/Capt M E MacLaughlin held Services for the RCs in the Parish Church. Weather: fair to thunder showers. | S.F. |
| | 28 | | Positions unchanged. Regiment awaiting further orders. After supper A Squadron left, under command of CIB, to cross the River Seine and to act as right flank guard to the Bde. After the Brigade reaches its objective, the high ground in Squares 2212, 2310 and 2412, then Squadron will withdraw from the flank and cover the East bank of the River Seine between Northings 04 and 08. This role is to prevent any of the enemy from getting out of the natural pocket formed by the river. At 1703 hours a small number of enemy shells landed in B Squadron harbour. Weather: unsettled. | S.F. JBL |

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| ST MARTIN-LA-CORNEILLE (092953) | 29 | | <p>B Squadron left St Martin-La-Corneille to go under command of the 7 CIB which was established and holding the bridgehead North-West of Elbeuf. Lieut Col T C Lewis and the Intelligence Officer, Lieut R Haran took their Stags to A Squadron HQ to act as forward and rear links for the Regiment.</p> <p>The 9 CIB gained their objective and A Squadron took up positions along the bank of the River Seine from 04 - 08 (Northings). Squadron HQ was established at Gouy, Square 2204.</p> <p>Weather: rainy.</p> | |
| 242100 | 30 | | <p>Squadron patrols picked up a few stragglers and reported that resistance was nil.</p> <p>RHQ, A Echelon, LAD and Support Group less A/Tk Troop advanced to 242100 where they harboured.</p> <p>A Squadron which had been relieved at the River by 8 CIB made its HQ at Belbeuf and sent patrols North towards the Rouen - Martainville - Epreville road.</p> <p>B Squadron, whose HQ was at 248098, reported that their patrols had reached Y road in Square 2215 at 1700 hours. A Squadron is to take over this position to enable B Squadron to push through the Darnetal area and cut off the roads leading out of Rouen.</p> <p>C Squadron with its HQ at 286194 sent patrols Northwards towards the Martainville-Epreville road with instructions to proceed further if possible.</p> <p>Weather: rainy.</p> | S.F. |
| BURES (398503) | 31 | | <p>Advance continued with A Squadron on left flank and C Squadron on right. B Squadron still blocking enemy escape routes on roads North of Rouen. Squadron patrols</p> | S.F. JL |

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| BURES (398503) | 31 | (contd) | <p>met many small pockets of stubborn resistance, but as only small arms fire was encountered, they were able to push through.</p> <p>A Squadron's route was from Fontaine-Sous-Preaux through Vert-Galant, Cailly, Esterville and St Saens to Bures.</p> <p>Flying bomb sites were located at 298270, 278250, 263234 and 243237. A guard was mounted over the bomb site at 278255 which was in excellent condition.</p> <p>C Squadron fought their way from Preaux (Square 2829) to Neufchatel where A/Tk guns were encountered.</p> <p>Approximately 400 Prisoners of War were taken by the 2 Squadrons. These men were from 'ersatz' Regiments, and most of them were Polish or Russian.</p> <p>In the afternoon B Squadron was ordered North to relieve A Squadron at Bures. This would enable A Squadron to push on in pursuit of the enemy at first light.</p> <p>RHQ proceeded to Bures via Hemaudiere, St Andre-Sur Cailly, St Saens and Haut De Fresles. They harboured for the night at 398503.</p> <p>Weather: unsettled and rain.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> (T C LEWIS) Lieut Col Commanding Officer 7 CDN RECCE REGT (17 DYRCH)</p> | SF. |

15 BC