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Author(s): Major D.W. Cunnington.

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Keywords: Normandy ; Battle of Normandy ; D-Day ; Second World War ; Canadian Army ; War Diary ; 3rd Canadian Infantry Division ; Divisional Troops ; Royal Canadian Engineers ; RCE ; 16th Field Company

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WAR DIARY

OF

16TH CANADIAN FIELD COMPANY ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS.

FROM 1st JUNE 1944 TO 30th JUNE 1944

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APPENDICES TO
143

Original

1944

JUN

7/18

WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)
16TH CANADIAN FIELD COMPANY R.C.E. CA(O)

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Marshalling Area.	1st June.		Weather-Hot and clear. Sub-Units of the Coy were marshalled into craft loads amongst the various marshalling camps.	W
	2nd June		Weather - Cloudy, warm. All craftloads waiting in marshalling areas awaiting orders for embarkation.	W
	3rd June.		Weather-Clear and warm. Loading of assault craft commenced.	W
	4th June		Weather-cloudy, cool. Loading of assault craft completed.	W
Aboard Craft.	5th June		Weather-cloudy, cool. Orders received in late afternoon that the assault on the coast of France would take place next day. H hour to be 0745hrs. The invasion fleet weighed anchor and sailed down the Solent in the evening.	W
France.	6th June		Weather-hazy and warm. H hour 0745hrs. The assault Sappers consisting of No 3 Pl, landed with the assault Coys of the QOR of C and N Shore R with the specific task of assisting the Inf with the immobilization and destruction of strong points and were to stay with the Inf until the Bde objective was attained. Little Call was made upon these Sps in their approved role. Passing through BERNIERES-SUR-MER, 1 Sub-Sec located 8 Booby Traps from houses and cleared them out. DZ35 and ZZ42 igniters were found. One Sub-Sec, advancing through ST AUBIN-SUR-MER found tanks held up by steel rail blocks and cut them, while under fire, allowing tanks to proceed and assist the Inf in their advance. No 1 Sec of No 1 Platoon landed in two parts at H/20 with Lt Cameron from H.Q. and Lt Peto, Pl Comd. They assembled at a rendezvous some 200yds from the beach without casualty despite enemy mortars, M/G's and snipers. They proceeded inland behind the leading Infantry through ST AUBIN-SUR-MER, checking the road and verges for mines. Two of their three detectors functioned - one was wet. Lt Peto worked to the West on the beach but could not move in at the time due to M/G fire, so waited until remainder of pl with CSM Howes and L/Sgt Skimore arrived in LCI(L). They hit a mine 100yds offshore, killing Cpl Lavigne, wounding Spr Walsh seriously in the leg, and causing flooding of the hold. Beached in loft of water, most of the men swam ashore along a life-line, most of the equipment being lost. CSM Howes twice swam out to rescue men from drowning in the surf as their strength failed. Nos 2, 3 and 4 Secs with one detector working, assisted Beach Group in clearing a lane of mines. Some "S" mines were	W

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & 8/87 (3072)

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France	6th June 1944	cont.	<p>... removed and two wounded infantry men recovered. As soon as possible, the party moved inland. No 3 Sec checked the verges of the 2nd lateral to BERNIERES-SUR-MER and found nothing but cleared trees off the road. Nos 2 and 4 Secs proceeded inland behind No 1 Sec on the road to TAILLEVILLE. Spt Thompson was shot in the shoulder on recon with Lt Cameron and returned to ST AUBIN as a cheerful walking wounded casualty. Sgt Harrison had landed at H/60 in 5cwt and collected D7 Bulldozer, D4 Bulldozer and 2 trailers and 1 tipper lorry behind beach. One D7 was sent up the road and cleared telephone poles behind beach. One D7 was sent up the road and cleared telephone poles in the village of ST AUBIN. Later all vehicles were brought up to TAILLEVILLE except one trailer left in ST AUBIN. Infantry delayed in taking TAILLEVILLE so No 1 Pl collected and dug in at hay stack 500yds North of TAILLEVILLE. Pl had intended occupying enemy trench system 200yds North of TAILLEVILLE, but moved out because enemy shellfire in area. On D day No 2 Platoon personnel landed on NAN WHITE beach at H/65 mine and assembled there with the 5cwt and Bulldozer (D7 Armoured) and trailer. No casualties were suffered during this landing. As no other Bulldozers were in evidence the D7 was immediately put to work constructing three wheeled vehicle exits by NAN 4 Exit. Lt Schofield and L/Sgt Gross went forward on recon and the platoon, organized into mine clearing parties, followed on through BERNIERES-SUR-MER sweeping the roads and verges behind the leading infantry. Two Tipper Lorries RASC arrived at this time and Lt Yeats dumped some roadmaking material off for the use of the Beach Gp Engineers. The Platoon continued to move forward, the Sections leapfrogging each other, immediately behind the Infantry, until the latter were held up at the crossroads just South of LA MARE. On the route up, the Platoon, besides sweeping for mines, did the following work:- (a) L/Cpl Henshall destroyed an 88mm gun at m.r. 992822 which had been captured by the Infantry. (b) Sign posted but did not clear booby traps at 992822 reported by R de Chaud. (c) Lt Yeats and L/Sgt Gross assisted the R de Chaud to capture one Officer and 15 OR's at LA MARE. No 2 Pl plus two Secs of No 3 Pl took up defensive posns for the night in the R de Chaud area in LA MARE. The D7 and trailer remained behind in BENY-SUR-MER in HQ 9th Cdn Inf Bde area. Maj V.C. Hamilton, landing at H/60 co-ordinated and controlled the work of No 1 and No 2 Pls on the beaches and beach exits. When the Pls followed along the two axis of advance forward, sweeping the roads and verges for mines, Maj Hamilton, mounted on a M/C maintained personal supervision of the work. While proceeding forward to visit No 1 Platoon at 1415hrs, he received three bullet wounds from an enemy sniper. Medical assistance was provided by an MO of the N Shore R and he was evacuated to the Beach Dressing Station. On the</p>	

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France	6th June	Cont.	<p>.... reporting of Maj Hamilton as a casualty to CRE, Maj D.W. Cunningham was immediately appointed O.C. of the Coy and contacting the Pls, he assumed command and set up his H.Q. alongside 8th Cdn Inf Bde. The H.Q. Officers, Lt Cameron and Lt Schofield, landed with L/Sgt MacInnis and 4 men of No 1 Pl with D Coy N Shore R at H/20, experiencing some M/G and mortar fire. He continued through the town with the leading Pls of the N Shore R as far as Crows Roads. No enemy encountered on main street. Leaving the N Shore R, Lt Cameron reconed TAILLEVILLE road for short distance and found no enemy or no obstacles of importance. Returning to beach, he met Sgt Harrison and had him bring up D7 Bulldozer to clear main road of town of rubble and telegraph poles. Continuing his recon, he reached the outskirts of TAILLEVILLE and found no mines or obstacles, again coming under M/G and mortar fire. Returning to ST AUBIN-SUR-MER, he met Lt Peto and passed onto him the results of his recon. Returning to TAILLEVILLE, he found the N Shore R clearing the Chateau. He blew down one door for them and was shortly after hit in the leg by a small splinter from Stick Grenade. Continuing on his recon, he found Maj Hamilton wounded outside TAILLEVILLE, rendered first aid and procured an M.C. Returning to TAILLEVILLE, rejoined No 1 Pl for the night. Lt Schofield, landing at H/60, went up as far as the square of BERNIERES-SUR-MER with the leading Pls of the QOR of C checking the roads leading into the square and to town limits. All roads apparently free of mines and debris. He then reconed road as far as Rd Junc 992843, sending info that road O.K. back by runner. Waiting for the R de Chaud to assemble he came under fire of M/G and snipers. Continuing to BENY-SUR-MER with the R de Chaud, they were held up by 88mm gun posn. Checking a trench under road, discovered three enemy, which he took prisoner with the assistance of Maj Carson, O.C. B Coy CHOF. While R de Chaud were re-organizing, South of BENY-SUR-MER, Lt Schofield checked over the town for water supply, finding two wells - also checked over German living quarters for booby traps, with negative results. He then checked over quickly a proposed A.L.G. site on East side of town and later turned in report. Continuing to LA MARE, he joined up with NNS High. and continued South with them, returning at dusk to rejoin Coy. Capt Smith, with Coy HQ vehicles landed about H/7 hrs, and proceeded with convoy to Div Assembly area, sending D.R. from there to O.C. notifying arrival and asking location. The following recommendations for awards were submitted by Maj Cunningham to C.R.E. Military Medal:- CSM Howes, L/Cpl Bartolacci, Spr Foster, Spr Duval.</p>	

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France	7th June		<p>Weather-clear and warm. Coy HQ was established at LA MARE, was found there by Capt. Smith with vehicle party, during the day. The secs of No 3 Pl continued with the assault Coys of the N Shore R and QOR of C and on completion of tasks returned to Coy command. At 0100hrs 21 A/Gp Engrs just to North of No 1 Pl withdrew to ST AUBIN-SUR-MER, so No 1 Pl moved in the North edge of TAILLEVILLE at 0130hrs to form defence position with N Shore R Bn HQ, Support Coy and 30 Commandos Det. Little sleep was had as stand-to was ordered shortly after digging ceased. The day was spent in clearing enemy strong point and vehicles for booby traps.- none found. Two 60cwts M-14 plus D.R.'s arrived in afternoon. The second Tipper Lorry and detector had been brought up by Maj Hamilton on D day before he was wounded. Nos 1, 2 and 3 Secs of No 1 Pl followed the infantry out of TAILLEVILLE towards BASLY, checking the road and verges. Infantry were held up at RADAR Station. Lt Peto went to Div and contacted Maj Cunningham. Entire Platoon was ferried on Pl vehs to Coy location at LA MARE in late evening. Sgt Harrison and one D.R. brought the D7 and D4 and trailer and arrived the next morning after spending the night on the road amid heavy bombing. On D plus 1, No 2 Platoon continued it's mine sweeping task along the road LA MARE -VILLONS-LES-BUISSONS but withdrew on reaching the latter town due to a violent tank battle taking place immediately in front of it. On the route up, 10 burnt out enemy half tracked vehs were cleared off the road by the Armoured D7, and two Cdn jeeps found abandoned by the Germans were checked for booby traps and returned to their original owners, 9 Cdn Inf Bde, and Sigs Sec. and N.N.S. Highlanders. Lt Cameron reported to Coy HQ during the day and was sent back to BANVILLE to bring up 8 reinforcements. Lt Schofield joined up with SD&G High. who were clearing VILLONS-LES-BUISSONS where they met considerable fire from snipers. While waiting, looked around the town for Engineer information and located two wells and a diesel tractor. The Inf moved forward to Cross Roads 997741 and dug in, were pinned down there for remainder of day by enemy fire so Lt Schofield, unable to report back to Coy HQ until 1900hrs.</p>	
	8th June.		<p>Weather-cloudy and warm. Coy HQ still located at LA MARE. Maj Cunningham visited 9 Cdn Inf Bde HQ at VILLONS. On his return to Coy HQ he reported the road blocked between LA MARE and VILLONS by 6 enemy burnt out AFV's, so sent Lt Kenyon and a Sec with one D7 to clear obstruction. L/Sgt Skidmore and party of No 1 Platoon destroyed several captured guns and blew up odd ammo for an Arty Regt. Cpl Yeates and Cpl Rowe recovered two German half-tracks for Coy use. L/Sgt MacInnis destroyed some German Guns. On D plus 2, No 2 Platoon's work was of a minor nature. The entire Coy was by</p>	

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France	8th June		Soot..... This time settled in LA MARE. The Pl destroyed a German amn dump at 997778 and checked two enemy vehs for booby traps. None were found and the vehs were turned over to the R de Chaud. Lt Cameron made a recce of bridges at LA BARBIERE and on return, was caught in enemy mortar fire, receiving a piece of shrapnel which penetrated his helmet. He reported to Coy HQ and continued to FDS reporting back to Coy in evening. Lt Schofield continued recce for Engr information in forward areas with the SD&G Highlanders.	4/1
	9th June		Cloudy-warm. Lt Peto of No 1 Platoon reced water point for Bde in COLOMBY-SUR-THAON. Water point established after much trouble finding motor to run lift and force pump. All civilian pumps were electric motor belt-driven pumps. Two petrol motorex were borrowed from villagers. Well and pump output was about 600gals/hr when motorex did not break down. Petter engines are not fitted to do belt-driven work. 2 "S" tanks and one 500gal water bottle point were set up with Stellar Filter trailer operating. On D plus 3, No 2 Platoon destroyed 4 enemy 12.5m.m. guns at 999782. Three mine belts of a total of 1250 mines were laid at the request of Div HQ and 9 Cdn Inf Bde HQ along the right flank of the HLI between LES BUISSONS and VILLONS-LES-BUISSONS. This was a night operation with the Pl doing the laying and recording and the HLI and SD&G's providing carrying and covering parties. Work was started at 1000hrs and completed at 0700hrs. No enemy opposition was encountered. Lt Cameron made a recce of all water points in 8 Cdn Inf Bde area.	4/1
	10th June		Weather-Clear and bright. No 2 Platoon spend D plus 4 resting from the previous night's work. Two Cdn vehs were blown up at ANGUERNEY by our own 75 grenades so Lt Kenyon and a Sec of No 3 Platoon were detailed to clear road and check for further mines.	4/1
	11th June		Weather-cloudy and warm. The coy moved from LA MARE further to the East to be behind 8 Cdn Inf Bde area. 46 Commandos are under commd 8 Cdn Inf Bde and cleared the valley of the River MUE from THAON to ROTS during the day. Two secs of No 3 Pl under Lt Kenyon under commd 46 Commando for the attack as Spr support to deal with any enemy concrete strong points, mines or booby traps. The Sprs were not called upon for assistance and returned to the Coy area after midnight.	4/1
	12th June		Weather-Clear and hot. A recce was made of all the roads in the Bde area, keeping in mind, width, sharp turns, classification, condition and cover. Lt Peto and 1/2 Sec of No. 1 Platoon reported to the R de Chaud in the morning and completed the search for mines	4/1

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WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/7 & 8/37 (3072)

OR

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France	12th June	Cont. and booby traps in ROTs and LE HAMEL. None were found.	
	13th June.		Weather-cloudy with intermittent rain. Maj Gunnington held an O Gp at 0700hrs and advised the Pl Offrs to spend the day on trng the Pls on mine laying procedure and recording. Lt Cameron made a racce fora water point and chose a spot at CAIRON on River MUE. One Sec from No 2 pl set up the water point and it was in operation at 1800hrs. Maj Gunnington contacted S Cdn Inf Bde HQ at 1700hrs and was requested to lay a minefield across an 800yds front between the posns of the N Shore R and SD&G High. As the area was under enemy fire and observation, the minefield had to be laid at night. No 3 Pl and Lt Kenyon detailed for the job and arrived at RV at 1100hrs. Due to late arrival of mines at RV, the minefield was not started as it was not possible to complete it before first light.	AA
	14th June.		Weather-clear and warm. Maj Gunnington held an O Gp at 0700hrs and detailed the work for the day. He detailed the CSM to collect a sample of each German demolition and acquire one complete set for instruction within the Coy. The QOR of C laid 3 minefields but the recording was inaccurate so Lt Cameron was detailed to re-survey the minefield and record them properly. No 2 pl had constructed a Bde Water Point at THAON dn 12 June with a capacity of 3000gals/hr. This water point is now in full operation, supplying all units of S Cdn Inf Bde plus a number of other isolated units. Maj Gunnington visited S Cdn Inf Bde HQ and co-ordinated the details for laying the minefield during the night 14/15th June between the posns of N Shore R and SD&G High. Captured enemy dumps of single strand barbed wire and pickets are to be used for the perimeter fence. Lt Kenyon and No 3 Pl laid the minefield, starting at 2300hrs and completing before first light 15 June 44. An excellent job of laying and recording was done.	AA
	15th June		Weather-Clear and hot. Lt Cameron re-surveying and recording minefields laid by QOR of C. Maj Gunnington held an O Gp at 0800hrs, detailing the commitments for the day. He instructed Pl Offrs to warn their men against looting and tell them the punishment inflicted upon anyone charged with that crime. The CRE instructed 4th Coy to Signs P-1 with the name of the town an all main approaches to all towns in Coy area. Lt Schofield has it in hand.	AA

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France	16th June		Weather-cloudy with occasional rain. Enemy air activity over the area during the night was the heaviest to date; made easier by low cloud. Maj Cunningham held an O Gp at 0800hrs and stressed the need for Pl Offrs to ensure that all their personnel were thoroughly familiar with enemy mines and booby traps and the drill for lighting mines and breaching minefields. As there were no major Engr commitments for the day, the QO told the Pl Offrs to spend the day in trng as above. Future operations are most likely to entail persistent demands on the Sprs to combat enemy mine warfare. There was intermittent shelling of our gun posns during the day by the enemy, the gun posns being relatively close to Coy bivouac area.	W
	17th June		Weather-clear and hot. Maj Cunningham held O Gp at 0800hrs and detailed work to the Pls. Lt Peto and No 1 Pl were detailed to sweep the area for mines that is to be taken over by HQ 4 Armd Bde. No mines found and area declared clear. Nos 2 and 3 Pls spent the day trng on mine warfare, enemy mines and booby traps. Lt Schofield completed signposting of routes leading into all towns in Coy Area. During the day the area to the rear of Coy location subjected to intermittent shelling. Maj Cunningham attended O Gp of Brigadier 8th CIB. The 8th CIB is taking over the area of 7th CIB in preparation for their attack on CHEUX. The move completed during the night 17/18 June. This did not entail any move for the Coy.	W
	18th June		Weather-cloudy and cool. At the O Gp at 0800hrs, Maj Cunningham detailed Nos 2 and 3 Pls to check and sweep all roads in the Coy area between EASTINGS 95 to 98 and NORTHINGS 75 to 80 for mines. This to include roads and verges up to 20ft from road. Road checked and no mines located. No 2 Pl given the task of destroying some A/A Guns forward of QOR of C posns that were on goods trucks at Rwy stn. Investigation showed that breach blocks had been removed. They engr equipment was found and inf forwarded to CRE HQ. Cows killed by mortar fire - QOR of C posna were disposed of by use of D7 bulldozer. In the new area taken over by 8th CIB from 7th CIB, were a number of minefields laid by Regina Rifles that were not surveyed or recorded, so Lt Cameron was detailed to check them and record. All are in forward posns. R de Chadd reported an enemy minefield within their Bn defences. Lt Kenyon took 1 Sec of No 3 Pl to lift the field but on arrival found that it was a forward road that had to be checked for mines as it is to be used as an advance route. Road swept and pronounced clear. One Sec No 1 Pl under Lt Peto destroyed by demolition 6 partly burnt out enemy Panther tanks that were in front of the posns of the QOR of C.	W

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WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P 2 6/27 (3072)

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France	19th June		Weather-Rain and Cold. Maj Cunningham visited HQ 5th CIB with the problem of creating order out of chaotic minefield laid by the Inf Bns of 7th CIB in the area now occupied by 8th CIB. Fields not considered necessary are to be lifted immediately and others are to be wired with a perimeter fence. Lt Schofield again has a D7 bulldozer in R de Chaud area, disposing of about 17 cattle killed by mortar fire about six days ago. This appears to be the best and quickest method of disposal.	SSA
	20th June		Weather-Cloudy and cold. At the "O" Gp at 0800hrs, Maj Cunningham detailed Lt Cameron to recce a tank track alongside the existing road on route Camilly to Bretteville l'Orgueilleusse and from 900733 on Camilly to Bretteville l'Orgueilleusse and Lt Schofield to do a similar recce Camilly to Sequeville-en-Bassin to Bray. Some minefields laid by 7th CIB in the area now taken over by 8th CIB South of Bretteville were now considered not necessary and No 3 Pl under Lt Kenyon lifted the fields. The Bde water point at Cairon operated by a half Sec of No 2 Pl still operates satisfactorily with a daily demand made upon it of approx 6000 gals. Lt Schofield continued the disposal of dead cattle in QOR of C area. 45 disposed of today.	SSA
	21st June		Weather-cloudy and cold. The roads in the Bde Area require a certain amount of maintenance and repair so Maj Cunningham detailed No 1 and No 3 Pl for this work, it consists in the main of filling the pot-holes, clearing the drainage ditches in some locations, clearing accumulated mud from the side of the roads and repairing road where tanks have turned. Lt Cameron with a half Sec and one D7 bulldozer, started work on construction of tank track Camilly-Bretteville and similarly Lt Schofield on the tank track Camilly-Sequeville-Bray. Lt Yeats and No 2 Pl lifted four more Br minefields in QOR of C area and N Shore R area that were now considered unnecessary by Bde staff. Lt Peto and Lt Kenyon with their respective Pls on road maintenance in the Bde area.	SSA
	22nd June		Weather-cloudy, turning clear and warm. Maj Cunningham held an "O" Gp at 0800hrs, and detailed the various tasks of the Platoons. The various Br minefields in 5th CIB area to be lifted as all but three are now considered unnecessary. Lt Yeats and Lt Kenyon with their respective Pls were given the task and cleared a total of 2400 mines, which were dumped in a central spot. Lt Cameron and Lt Schofield, each with a half Sec of No 1 Pl continued work on the Tank Tracks in the area as allotted and the remainder of No 1 Pl under Lt Peto continued road maintenance in the Bde area. It was decided that the forward Br minefields in front of the QOR of C posns would be lifted after dark and Lt Yeats and 3 Secs of No 2 Pl were given the task. Maj	SSA

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WAR DIARY

FORM 11
40/1/42 2/27 (3072)

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France	22nd June	Cont.Cunnington and Lt Yeats made a recon of the field while a Pl Sgt brought up the 3 Secs. Enemy mortar fire was encountered of such intensity that it was found impossible to do the task. The Platoon suffered 3 casualties, Spr Anderson, T.K. killed, Sprs Bryant and LaFleur wounded, and finally returned to Coy HQ at 0330hrs.	AA
	23rd June		Weather-Cloudy and warm. Maj Cunnington held an "O" Gp at 0800hrs and stated that the forward minefield in front of the QOR of C positions must be lifted before first light 24 June. It was decided to lift them during the day and Lt Peto of No 1 Pl was detailed for the task. The construction and sign posting of the Tank Tracks was continued under Lt Schofield and Cameron, each with a Sec from No 3 Pl and a D7 bulldozer. Lt Peto and 3 Secs neutralized the 3 Br minefields in front of QOR of C positions. It was not possible to work openly so the Sprs crawled and removed the fuses from all mines, leaving mines in situ. A further Br field of 220 mines within the lines was lifted by No 3 Platoon.	AA
	24th June		Weather-Bright and warm. At 0580hrs, the enemy shelled the Coy water point at Galron with about 12 air burst rounds. Casualties were Spr Armstrong, P.K. killed, and three wounded. No 2 Platoon were running the water point. Maj Cunnington held his "O" Gp at 0800hrs, No 1 and No 3 Platoon detailed to finish the wheeled and tank tracks on Moon and Star routes for 11 Armd Div. These routes completed and signs posted during the day. The damage done at the water point from enemy shelling was replaced, i.e. two "S" tanks and length of arm intake and delivery hose, and the water point was in operation again at 1330hrs. This water point is now supplying all units of 7, 8, and 9 CIB's and has a total output of approx 14000gals during the day. Maj Cunnington visited CRE 15 Br Div with a view of liaising regarding a wheeled exit forward of Bretteville l'Orgeuilleise. It was considered that this was a night operation due to the proximity of enemy posns, but was decided it could be accomplished by day which would facilitate the work of the D7 operator. Track to be put in on morning 25 June. One Sec of No 1 Pl on road maintenance, effecting repairs that are necessary.	AA
	25th June		Weather-Clear and hot. Maj Cunnington held an "O" Gp at 0800hrs. Lt Cameron with D7 and operator to construct wheeled exit route South of Bretteville. This route is to be used by 11 Armd Div for their attack. No 1 Pl had two secs on road maintenance in the Coy area and repaired road surface and drainage in area Gully. QOR of C reported an UXB in their location, blocking the main road. The B.D. personnel att'd	AA

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M.F.M. 11
48/7/44 & 4/7/47 (2072)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France	1944			
	25th June		Cont..... to 3 Fd Pk Coy ROE notified and bomb removed.	
	26th June		Weather-rain and cool. Maj Cunningham held his "O" Gp at 0800hrs. There was no call upon Spr assistance for the day. Road maintenance was continued and repair effected in Bequeville-en-Bessin area. The 8 CIB have a projected move to another area so one D7 was detailed to dig in the HQ of Bde. The water point run by the coy at Caïron is supplying all three Bdes and total output for today was in excess of 20000 gals.	AA
	27th June		Weather-warm with showers. The only task for the Coy for the day was road maintenance and recovering the mines laid in front of Bratteville that had been de-fused several nights previously. The lifting of the field completed that night had not been possible due to the proximity of enemy posts and observation. Lt Yeats completed this work with No 2 Platoon.	AA
28th June		Weather-warm, intermittent clouds. Road maintenance parties continued work on the roads in the Coy area. Maj Cunningham attended Brig 8 CIB "O" Gp at 1400hrs for op OTTAWA. The Brig. requested that Sprs be made available for street fighting with the task of mousing and de-lousing houses as necessary. Maj Cunningham was prepared to put each Pl less 2 Secs under comd each Bn for the operation up to the final objective, leaving a reserve of Sprs of 6 Secs under comd Coy HQ. Nos 1,2,3 Platoons (less 2 Secs each) to be under comd N Shore R, QOR of C and R de Chaud respectively. The task of the Secs under comd are tentatively 1 Sec to be used for street fighting and 1 Sec to be in reserve for clearance of lanes if the flails fail or over ground unsuitable for flails. Maj Cunningham held his "O" Gp at 1930hrs and outlined the plan. He stressed the point that every effort should be made to not commit the Sprs to any role that could be carried out as well, or better, by the pioneer Pls of the Inf Bns. The pl Officers will attend the conference or "O" Gps of the various Bns under which they will be working.	AA	
29th June		Weather-Cool with showers. Maj Cunningham sent a HQ Off out to recon th roads in the new maintenance area allotted to the Coy. Maj Cunningham attended the Brig 8 CIB conference at 1400hrs. Op OTTAWA is cancelled and Op WINDSOR is on. Same time, same date i.e. 0400hrs 1 July 44. The assault will be 2 Bns up, N Shore R in left and R de Chaud on right with QOR of C in reserve. Two secs Sprs will be u/c each Bn and will be	AA	

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.

WAR DIARY



OR


~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11
40/P 2 6/37 (3072)

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

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France	29th June	Cont.	alloted to the reserve Coys of the Bns with task of clearing booby traps and sweeping roads and lanes for "A" Echelon vehs. Objective CARPIQUET village and North edge of CARPIQUET airfield. On the attainment of the objective, the Spr will dig in with the Inf and stay there until such time as the situation permits them to rejoin the Coy. Sprs will NOT be used for street fighting. Maj Cunnington held a conference of all Officers at 1830hrs and outlined the plan, giving the details of the operation. The Coy less two secs from each Pl will move to area NORREY-en-BESSIN by 2030hrs tomorrow and the secs u/c Bns will report to their respective Bns by 1400hrs tomorrow. The GOB in C First Cdn Army, Lt-Gen Crerar inspected the Coy Water Point today and expressed his greatest satisfaction at the manner in which it was run.	
	30th June		Weather-Cloudy with showers. During the night, the enemy put in a counter attack in area of CHEUX and almost succeeded in effecting a break through. It was assumed that he had a mobile reserve that was hitherto not known. Word received that Op WINDSOR postponed - possible date unknown. A belt of minefields are to be laid in front of 7 Cdn Inf Bde posns tonight and to be completed before first light 1st July 44. Maj. Cunnington called a conference of Pl Officers and detailed each a portion of the field. Work to start around last light tonight. Maj Cunnington made a recon of the area and liaised with 7 Cdn Inf Bde and other units concerned arranging for infantry protection patrols and Arty support. Work started at 2330hrs and completed 0430hrs 1st July 44. Total of 805 mines were laid in three panels. No 3 pl laid the field and No 1 pl provided carrying parties. Brigadier 8 Cdn Inf Bde requested Spr supervision for two minefields to be laid in Bde area South of THAON during the night. Lt Cameron and Lt Yeats with 2 NCO's each had charge of the work.	


D.W. Cunnington Major RCE
O.C. 16th Cdn FA Coy RCE CA(O)

M.F.M. 11A
200M-5-40 (S185)
D.L.O. 1772-39-1058

WAR DIARIES

Apps Rec'd

Date 25 Jun 1947

SECRET

ORIGINAL
TRANSMISSION

(Delete and where not applicable)

WAR DIARY

OF

16TH CDN FIELD COMPANY ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS.

FROM 1st JULY 1944 TO 31st JULY 1944

0725
483



VOLUME _____

APPENDICES 1, 3-7 TO _____

ORIGINAL

1944

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1/816

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WAR DIARY

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16th Cdn Field Company R.C.E. CA(O)

FORM 11
25/2/47 (REV.)

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

Title pages will be prepared.

PAGE 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France Caillly s.r. Chaux sheet. 7/1 1/50000	1st July		Weather-Cloudy and rain. Lt Schofield and 3 secs of No 2 Pl laid a minefield during the day in the R de Chaud def posn, South of Thaon. The pls that had been out previous night mine laying, rested during the morning and in the afternoon started work on the roads of the Coy area. Considerable work is necessary both to maintain the road surface and to facilitate drainage. Int Summary details that 3 new 50 Pa Dive have been brought from Russian to 2nd Army Front. This mobile threat constitutes the reason for formations taking up def posns in preparation for an expected counter attack.	AM
	2nd July		Weather-Cloudy and rain. Maj Cunningham held "O" Gp and detailed all three Pls on Rd maintenance and repair. A stone pit is available and rubble is being hauled by Pl vehicles for this work. The Brig 8th Cdn Inf Bde held a conference on Operation "Windsor"; Maj Cunningham attending. There are slight changes in the previous plan N Shore R objective North half of Carpiquet Village and R de Chaud South half and North hangars of Airfield. R.W.R. under comd have South side Carpiquet Airfield. On consolidation, QOR of C pass through and take up posns around control towers on East end of field. Each Bn has secs of Sprs under command. No 1 Pl supplying 2 secs to R.W.R. as well as to N Shore R. The Sprs will move with the Rear Coys with task of clearing mines and booby traps. Maj Cunningham held his "O" Gp at 2330hrs and outlined the plan.	AM
	3rd July		Weather-Cloudy and heavy rain. Capt Smith liased with S/C 8 Cdn Inf Bde regarding rations and move of Coy HQ and vehicles. The bns will take care of Sprs for rations and feeding while u/c and the Coy, less Sprs u/c will move to area Villeneuve 0600hrs 4 July. Maj Cunningham attended Bde "O" Gp at 1130hrs when Op Order was given out. The Sprs under their respective Officers joined the Bns at 1330hrs and moved with them to the concentration area and Maj Cunningham with Lt Cameron as L.O. moved with Bde H.Q.	AM
Villeneuve s.r. 945717 Sheet 7/1 1/50000	4th July		Weather-Warm, occasional rain. The attack went in at 0500hrs after an Arty barrage of 24hrs from 10 Regts of Fd Arty and 4 Med Regts. N Shore R after suffering heavy casualties gained their objective on the North half Carpiquet village while the R de Chaud gained the South half and the hangars on North side of airfield. The R.W.R. under command with objective the S.W. hangar of the airfield were shelled and mortared heavily in their forming up place and during the advance. Enemy resistance in the area was very strong and determined and the R.W.R. were forced to fall back to Marcelet. The QOR of C	AM

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WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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FORM 11
20/1/44 (REV)

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

Page 2.

Title pages will be prepared.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France Villeneuve M.R. 945717 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	1944 4th July		<p>Cont..... were then not able to move forward to their obj., the Control towers at West end of field so took up their posn. with the Rde Chaud. While moving forward with the QOR of C, Lt Yeats with 2 secs from No 2 Pl used little persuaders in the form of 2 Wades and 1 beshive to blast 26 Bochs out of a super fortress. 10 others couldn't get out. No 1 Pl and No 3 Pl swept the town and roads for mines etc with negative results. No 1 Pl supervised the laying of protective minefields at night in front of the N Shore R posns. At 0600hrs, the Coy less the Secs under command moved to area just North of Villeneuve. Intermittant shelling during the day caused 1 casualty. Casualties with No 1 Pl - 2 killed, 4 wounded and 1 wounded in No 3 Pl. Capt Smith visited Maj Cunningham at Bde HQ during the evening. During the advance with the R.W.R. Spr O'Leary of No 1 Pl was working with "A" Coy Royal Winnipeg Rifles in their attack on the South hangars of Carpiquet airfield. He was travelling with 7 Pl one of the attacking Pls. At 0700hrs, the Pl was pinned down by an extremely heavy enemy Mortar and MG fire. An RWR Bren gunner forward of O'Leary engaging the enemy, ran out of amm, and called back for more. No 2 on the gun was not around. Spr O'Leary, sizing up the situation and without acting on orders, ran back 10 ft to where Spr Brown, the Engr Bren gunner was lying, picked up two pouches of Bren mags and ran forward 50 ft to the RWR Bren gunner. He delivered the ammo and on the way back to his own posn, received one wound in the abdomen from an enemy MG and was subsequently evacuated. This voluntary action in the face of very heavy enemy fire is of the highest standard and it was only by this action that the RWR Bren gunner was able to continue to engage the enemy. Spr O'Leary was recommended for the Military Medal by Maj Cunningham. Confirmation received from 2nd Echelon of Maj D.W. Cunningham as O.C. 16th Cdn Pd Coy RCE eff. 6th June 1944.</p>	
	5th July		<p>Weather-Cloudy and warm. The 2 Secs of No 1 Pl u/o R.W.R. returned to Coy area during the night and the RWR came under command the 7 Cdn Inf Bde again, taking over their previous posns. The three Bns are now consolidated in Carpiquet with 6 Secs Sprs under Maj Cunningham. The three D7's were sent forward with tasks of digging in the gans. If the posn becomes a fortress, three days rations were sent forward during the evening for the Sprs.</p>	
	6th July		<p>Weather-Clear and Warm. 8 Cdn Inf Bde are holding the village of Carpiquet and the hangars on the North side of the airfield. Enemy counterattack from N.E. was driven</p>	

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WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE EXTRACTS~~


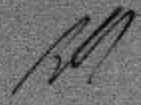

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FORM 21
2/7/44/27 (REVISED)

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

Title pages will be prepared.

Page 3.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France Villeneuve n.r. 945717 Sheet 7f/1 1/50000	6th July	Cont. off by Arty barrage and MG and Mortar fire from the posn. During the night, the Sprs laid protecting minefields in front of the posns and supplied Spr supervision for minefields laid by the Inf Bns. The posns were subjected to intermittent mortar and shellfire during the day and night. No Spr casualties. The 3 D7 Bulldozers were used extensively for slogging in tanks to hull down posns, M10, Bn M14's, essential carriers for the Inf. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE's "O" Gp at 1730hrs for Op "Charnwood". This is a plan to clear the enemy between the River Orne and the left flank of 3 Cdn Inf Div and if completely successful, will continue through to Caen. The role of the 16th Fd Coy consists of road clearance of essential roads in area Franceville, Carpiquet, Villeneuve and the main road into Caen. In the event that enemy resistance is not fully overcome, the Coy will lay a defensive minefield between Franceville and Carpiquet. R de Chaud sent out a fighting patrol of 30 men during the night to silence 2 - 105 Gm guns and mortars in a quarry forward of Carpiquet village. Cpl Brodsky and Spr McKenzie volunteered to accompany the patrol. The task was not able to be accomplished as the posn held too strongly by the enemy.	
	7th July		Weather-Clear and mild. The two secs from No 1 Pl and No 2 Pl returned to Coy area during the night leaving 2 Secs of No 3 Pl u/c Bde. Lieut Peto and No 1 Pl detailed to clear Br minefields in front of 9 Cdn Inf Bde area for the attack in the morning. The remaining Secs with the Coy repaired roads between Carpiquet and St Mouvieur that had been damaged by shell fire and the road Caen-Villeneuve that has become badly rutted with heavy traffic these past few days.	
	8th July		Weather-warm with showers. Operation "Charnwood". Attack by 3 Cdn Inf Div Right, 57 Br Div Centre and 3 Br Div Left, to clear area North of Caen. 8 Cdn Inf Bde was to hold Carpiquet Village and contain that flank. One Pl to be in close support of 8 Bde and the other two Pls to be held in reserve for road clearance tasks if attack successful. If a phase of consolidation takes place, a minefield will be laid from Franceville to Caen by this Coy. The attack was highly successful and enemy resistance North of Caen and West of the River Orne crumpled. Road parties from this Coy immediately started clearance of routes into Caen. Very little mining was done by the enemy. No 3 Platoon constructed a battle HQ for 8th Cdn Inf Bde.	

WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

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Page 4.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
France Villeneuve s.r. 945717 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	9th July		Weather-Cool and rain. 8 Cdn Inf Bde had as objective the South Mangars of Carpiquet Airfield and Central Towers at West end. No 3 Pl supplied Spr support for the GOR of Canada and the R de Chaud for the operation. One Sec being u/s each M. No 1 Pl cleared Br Minefield in area Rots paralleling the R. Mus. All enemy resistance has ceased in area N. Caen and West of R. Orne. Road clearance parties from the Coy were detailed with specific roads to sweep clear of mines including 20ft verges. Lt Kenyon with No 3 Pl cleared routes through Carpiquet village and to the main roads. Caen is full of rubble and streets in sections are impassable. Lt Schofield and one Sec from No 1 Pl constructed a track vehicle route from Villeneuve to Caen via North side of road. An enemy minefield was encountered containing Tellermine and "B" Mines, which were neutralized. Maj Cunningham accompanied Brig Campbell, C.E. 1 Camps, on a recon of the crossing of the Orne at Caen during the night.	
	10th July		Weather-Cool and rain. Lt Yeats and 1 Sec with 2-D7 and 1-D4 Bulldozer worked in Caen clearing the streets of rubble. No 3 Pl still clearing roads in Carpiquet area and also picked up all the Br minefields laid in the area during Op Windsor. Maj Cunningham attended CRE conference at 1500hrs. The outcome was the allotment of routes in Caen and around Caen to the Coy for clearance. The Coy was given two routes: Maj Cunningham made a recon of one and Lt Schofield the other. Maj Cunningham attended a meeting of Coy Comdrs at CRE at 2100hrs. Available Mech Equipment was allotted to each Coy for route clearance. Maj Cunningham held his "O" Op on return and allotted routes St Germain - La Folie - Epron to Lt Pete and No 1 Pl with 1-D4 and a route through Caen to No 2 Pl with 1-D7, 1 Mech shovel, 3 Tipper Lorries and 3 Dumper Lorries.	
	11th July		Weather-Cloudy and cool. An enemy minefield was reported in area West of St Germain. One Sec from No 2 Pl, at first light, investigated, determined the extent of the field and fenced in. The field turned out to be quite extensive and the Sec was detailed to lift it. The city of Caen is flat. Streets are blocked with rubble and it is impossible to get a clear route through without clearing. The Div Engrs are detailed for the task and 16th Pd Coy have a route. No 2 Pl was given the task with their tipper lorries 3 dumper lorries, one D-7 Bulldozer and a RB10 Shovel. Progress is slow but the route to the NE will be cleared shortly and then widened for 2 way traffic. No 2 Pl have the route from St Germain to Epron. This route is almost 3 miles in length and is blocked particularly bad at La Folie. To assist, they have three Tipper Lorries and a D-4	

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WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTEGRATED JOURNAL~~

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3/19A 27/11 (1952)

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Page 6.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Villeneuve m.r. 945717 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	15th July		Weather - cloudy and mild. Lt Peto made a recon for a BRE br site over the R. ORNE North of Caen in conjunction with a recon party from 15th Pz Coy RCE and turned in report direct to CRE. The Coy was on road maintenance in the area allotted during the day. Report from French civilians that the enemy were evacuating Caen on the far bank of the ORNE necessitated Maj Cunningham going to 7 Cdn Inf Bde H.Q. until the report was verified - the plan being that if report true, this Coy would immediately bridge the ORNE at Caen. Enemy found to be still on the far bank in Caen in strength. Lt Peto was detailed to make another recon of a br site area over the R. ORNE North of Caen. Recon to be done at night with a patrol of 3 Br Div recon as protection. He completed his recon and returned 0600hrs next morning.	
	16th July		Weather - cloudy and mild. Maj Cunningham attended a conference at the CRE and other Coy Comdrs; of the 606 2 Cdn Corps at 0930hrs. During the day, the Coy was employed on route maintenance of the routes in the Div area allotted to this Coy.	
Gambes, m.r. 014735 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	17th July.		Weather - clear and warm. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE "O" Gp on Operation "ATLANTIC" where tasks few Coy were outlined and discussed. The main Bde plan calls for attack South on the East side of the R. ORNE by 5th Cdn Inf Bde; QOR of C left and the R de Chaud right, objectives being Colombelles and N Shore R passing through onto factory to South. The Bde will pass over the ORNE during the night and be on start line ready for H hour 0745. One Pl to be u/c Bde for operation with specific task of repair, clearance and maintenance of road South, passing just East of factory area into Caen. A DUKW crossing has to be made near HEROUVILLE, crossing the canal, a road over Island, and thence over river to far shore. This route will be used for conveyance of ammo, and returning of casualties by DUKWS. Time of completion to be H + 5 hrs. Lts Peto and Penyon had already made a recon of route on night 16/17 July. Maj Cunningham held his "O" Gp at 1600hrs, detailing road tasks to No 2 Pl and DUKW crossings to No 1 and No 3 pls. Chief problems of crossing being a 10ft rise and fall of tide, and an embankment necessitating an 18ft drop to the water. Approach will be on an angle to line of Canal. Formations participating: 3 Cdn Inf Div, 3 Br Inf Div, 51 Highland Div, 7 Arm'd Div, 11 Arm'd Div and Guards Arm'd Div. No 2 pl joined 5 Cdn Inf Bde at 2200 hrs and Nos 1 and 3 pls proceeded to arde Lebissey for concentration. Coy HQ moved to GAMBES.	

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Title pages will be prepared.

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Page 8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Faub de Vaucelles s.r. 056671 sheet 7F/1 1/50000	1944 22 July	Cont.	... to protect the forward Coys so Lt Kenyon and No 3 Pl covered the posns with a protective minefield. 500 Mk V mines were laid, using Inf parties and Spr NCO's.	
	23 July		Weather-cloudy and warm. The opening and repair of routes was continued by Nos 1 and 2 Pls and consisted mainly of resurfacing shell craters in the road. Lt Cameron was sent forward to reconce two bridges on the routes that will be used to advance in the forthcoming Op. Both bridges are intact but the details of gaps were required. The Coy still operates the water point and output ris in the neighborhood of 20,000 gals per day.	
	24 July		Weather-cloudy and warm. A bridge of road over rail near Bourquebus was reported as having been prepared for demolition by the enemy and not fired. Lt Peto, at last light, took a Sec down and removed the explosives. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE "O" Gp for Op "Spring", and on return held his own "O" Gp at 2000hrs. Attack is to go in at 0330hrs by searchlight by 7 and 9 Cdn Inf Bdes and by 2 Cdn Inf Div on Right flank. 7 Armd Div and Guards Armd Div are to exploit area forward. The role of the Fd Coy will be road maintenance, checking and repair in the area Grentheville-Soliers - Four - La Noque. A recon party consisting of Lts Yeats and Cameron and four NCO's and Sprs were sent, forward at last light to 8 Cdn Inf Bde HQ with the purpose of making reconce of the roads as soon as the tactical situation permits.	
25 July		Weather- Slightly cloudy and mild. During the night, the Coy area was flared at 0130-hrs and then subjected to a concentrated Air Attack. Anti-Personnel bombs, incendiaries & a few heavies were used. Two 3 ton Winch lorries caught fire and burned together with the loads. Four casualties were suffered, wounded, including L/Cpl Mills and original with the Coy. Casualties on tyres were heavy; 18 lorry tyres and 9 M/C tyres being riddled. The attack at 0330hrs by searchlight was reported by 9 Cdn Inf Bde as being carried out despite the ineffectiveness of the searchlights. Strong opposition was met throughout the whole day and the Inf were unable to gain their final objectives. The Spr reconce party were unable to make a reconce of the forward areas during the heavy shelling and mortaring. Coy area was subjected to another air attack at 2300hrs by anti-Personnel bombs. No casualties.		

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Title pages will be prepared.

Page 10.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
m.r. 990774 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	30 July		Weather-Clear and Warm. The Division was moved back to THAON area for a rest period today. Div Engineers are concentrated in one area. The move of the Coy was without incident and the Pls were allotted their Sections of the Coy area.	///
	31 July		Weather - Clear and Hot. The day was spent re-equipping the men, bath parades, inspections of kits and issuing deficiencies. The Pl Offrs held a general inspection of the Pl and Pl stores. Maj Cunningham held a meeting of Offrs and drew up a training programme for the next six or eight days, the length of time depending upon the tactical situation. Training is to commence 1st Aug 1944. Coy parades will be held in the mornings with an inspection by the O.C. No 1 Pl is still employed on repairs to the Rest Centre at the Chateau at BEAUREGARD.	///

D.W. Cunningham
D.W. Cunningham Major RCE
O.C. 16th Cdn Bn Coy RCE CA(O)

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•DIARIES•

Apps Checked

Date ~~11 May 1947~~
MAY 20 1947

WAR DIARY

OF

16TH CANADIAN FIELD COMPANY ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS

FROM 1st AUGUST 1944 TO 31st AUGUST 1944

0766
513



VOLUME _____

4 · 27

APPENDICES TO _____
1, 3, 4, 5, 6.

ORIGINAL

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Title pages will be prepared.

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Page 1.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Colombelles sur Thaon M.R. 990774 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	1 Aug.		Weather - clear and hot. The training of the Coy continues with the exception of No 1 Pl which is still employed on works at the Short Leave Centre at Beauregard. This Leave Centre is scheduled to be officially opened tomorrow but it is doubtful if the Pl will be withdrawn for several days yet. No 2 Pl laid out a series of panels of a minefield using Mk V Mines, armed. Particular attention was paid to all aspects of the drill. No 3 Pl had a review of demolitions.	
	2 Aug.		Weather - clear and warm. Normal Coy training carried out as per trng syllabus.	
	3 Aug.		Weather - clear and hot. No 1 Pl is still employed on works at 3 Cdn Inf Div Short Leave Centre at Beauregard. The training of the Coy continued with No 2 Pl on the drill for road clearance. German Tellermine 42 were buried unarmored at various points along a dirt road and verge and the Pl organized for road and verge clearance parties. Particular attention was paid to the drill and dispersion of all personnel was enforced. No 3 Pl were reviewing the drill and method of laying Br minefields. Maj-Gen Keller, GOC 3 Cdn Inf Div inspected the Div by formations. The Coy was included with the Div Engineers in the Div Troops Group, formed up in a three sided hollow square with bands in attendance. After the inspection, he spoke to all ranks, reviewing the action played by the Div from D day onwards and now that the American forces on the right flank are advancing with such rapidity, he explained the course that future action might take.	
	4 Aug		Weather - hazy and warm. No 1 Pl employed at the Short Leave Centre at Beauregard completed the work there and returned to the Coy area. They were given the remainder of the day to dig in and check their kits. The training of the Coy was continued with No 2 Pl breaching a minefield with a gap 300yds X 16yds. The drill was followed carefully. It is found that the Pls are such in need of this training period as it is some months now since it has been done. The trng, taken in conjunction with the operations in which they have participated has been quite successful, it being possible to rectify past errors in the light of the experience that they have gained and can now put into practice in the training ground. The Fd Pk Coy Br Pl is available for the Coy today so No 3 Pl laid out the Br site constructed the bank seats and built an 80' D.S. Bailey. Casualties and wastage in this Pl have been particularly high and the reinforcements have NOT had the high standard of training that should be required, consequently, this training has given them an opportunity to work as a team.	
	5 Aug		Weather - Hazy and warm. Lt-Gen Guy Simonds, GOCinC 2 Cdn Corps inspected the Div today. The Div Engrs were included in the Div Troops Gp and formed up in a hollow three sided	

Title pages will be prepared.

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Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Colombelles Sur m.r. 990774 Sheet 7F/1 1/50000	Thaon 5 Aug.		Cont..... square. After the inspection, he spoke to all personnel, welcoming the Div into the Corps and giving them the due credit for past accomplishments. He reviewed the course of the war to date and that part played by the Div. He followed this up with an explanation of the situation as at present and indicated that as the enemy bid to thin himself out on the ground in view of the rapid American advances a determined break through on his front would be a likely course of action. His pivot S.E. of Caen where he is well dug in but has few infantry. The role of the Corps would be to drive him out of these posns. The Coy continued with the training programme with No 2 Pl building an 80' DS Bailey and No 3 Pl on the drill for clearance of roads and verges. Lt Yeats returned from hospital today, looking fit for further ops.	
	6 Aug.		Weather-hazy and warm. An opportunity was taken today for the men to be given some entertainment. A church service was held in the morning and in the afternoon, the Div Engrs were able to attend the showing of the all Cdn show. It was good and the 5 CREWS did their stuff. Maj V.C. Hamilton, former O.C. of this Coy has returned to this theatre & visited the Coy. He had dinner in the Offrs Mess and afterwards was shown over the country where the Coy had been operating.	
	7 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. Bridging was made available for wet bridging so the Coy spent the day at COURSELLES on the base support raft, A/tk gun raft and G1 5 raft. Capt Smith attended the 5 Cdn Inf Bde conference on Op "Totalise". One Pl of the 16th Fd Coy will be u/c Bde for movement. The Op consists of attack by 2 Cdn Inf Divs right and 51 (H) Div left with obj area Bretteville sur Laize - St Sylvain. Phase II with 4 Cdn Armd Div Right and Polish Armd Div Left to capture area Cintheaux, Hautmesnil, Cauvicourt. 3 Cdn Inf Div is to be ready to follow through and occupy and hold ground seized by armour while the armour penetrates further towards Falaise. The role of the Pl in support will be route clearance and lifting of mines as required during the Op. Maj Cunningham attended the ERE "O" Op at 2000hrs and on return held his "O" Op. The Coy less 1 Pl will move tactically at 2-240 5th Aug. The Coy less No 1 Pl will be responsible for the routes forward excl Caen-Falaise Rd and incl St Sylvain-Montbaint Road and tracks and roads in that area. As orders have been made to take care of any fluid state, no definite allotments were made of the roads to the Pls. This allotment will be dictated by the results of the Op.	

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Page 3.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Faub de Vaucelles m.r.056671 Sheet 7F/1	8 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. The Coy was on 1 hrs notice to move from 0900hrs. In mid afternoon, orders received to move to concentration area at La Foley, NW of Caen. Move was made without incident but lots of dust and HQ opened at 007695 at 1800hrs. At 2000hrs, orders received to move from this concentration area to Div Engr area South of Vaucelles. Move was completed and men dug in for the night.	
	9 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. A Coy area forward was reced during the morning at Roquancourt but 2 Cdn Corps did not make a road available for the move during the day. Lt Shohfield was sent on an air field recce and turned in locations of ten possible sites to the CRE. Lt Cameron continues with the Polish Armoured Div as liaison Offr.	
ROQUANCCOURT m.r.053583 Sheet 7F/1	10 Aug		Weather-hot and clear. On orders from CRE, Lt Kenyon was sent xx at 0300hrs to recce two routes, HORNE and CHAPLIN through Bretteville-sur-Laize. This town was almost flat from the bombing of night 7/8 Aug. Lt Kenyon reported back to Coy HQ at 0700hrs and after a breakfast, immediately set out with No 3 Pl and 2-D7 Bulldogs to clear the routes between the two laterals, North and South of the town. 5 Cdn Inf Bde have advanced as far as the Quarry at Hautmensil and took up posns there during the day. Lt Peto made recce of the roads in that area, reporting their condition, class and checking for mines, to Coy HQ. The Coy moved forward to a new area in the field just outside Roquancourt at 0945hrs and completed the move by 1030hrs. Maj Cunningham made a tour of the tasks of Nos 1 and 3 Pls during the morning and expressed his satisfaction at the progress being made. No 3 Pl completed the routes and signed them by 1800hrs and returned to Coy area. Maj Cunningham attended an "O" Gp at CRE at 2100hrs. A new route "PIDGEON" is to be opened and is responsibility of 16th Cdn Fd Coy RCE and 15th Cdn Fd Coy RCE. This Coy is to be responsible for the Southern portion. This is being made possible by the attack by the Bdes of 3 Cdn Inf Div starting 2000hrs to give them the high ground just outside Fallaise. The Coy must open a water point so Lt Yeats made a recce and located a source at Urville and had the point operating by 2330hrs.	
	11 Aug		Weather-Hot and clear. The attack by 8th Cdn Inf Bde during the night was not a success. Consequently work on the route Pidgeon was unable to start. Lt Shohfield was detailed to make a recce of the roads S.E. of Bretteville sur Laize. 10th Cdn Armd Regt reported some tanks destroyed in a minefield at Tilly la Compagne and asked Spr support to sweep them out in case of booby traps. Maj Cunningham attended a CRE "O" Gp at 1500hrs. The tactical situation is stabilized for a short while and as the Div area is not large	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Roquancourt m.r. 053588 Sheet 7F/1	11 Aug		cont.... enough for more than one Coy to work, the 6th Fd Coy RCE were detailed to take charge of route maintenance and the 16th Fd Coy RCE are to improve the water point, that has been set up, check our Pl stores, men's equipment and continue trng on mine gapping and road drill. No 1 Pl returned to Coy area at 2000hrs from being in support of 8th Cdn Inf Bde.	
	12 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. The three Pls started a trng programme in Mine Warfare, following the drill for checking roads and verges for mines. Maj Cunningham attended a conference at CRE and had two roads for check repair and maintenance detailed to the Coy i.e. road Laize la Ville to Bretteville sur Laize and Bretteville sur Laize to Urville. No 3 Pl were allotted the task and completed the work by 2200hrs; checking roads and verges to 8' 202 mines and clearing road for traffic.	
Bretteville-sur-Laize. m.r. 060537 Sheet 7F/3	13 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. No 3 Pl continues to improve the route through Bretteville sur Laize, widening it out and removing obstructions. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE "O" Gp at 1600hrs for the impending Op "Tallulah", and returning to the Coy, held his own "O" Gp at 1920hrs. The Op is an a Two Div front with 3 Cdn Inf Div left and 3 Cdn Inf Div right, assisted by 2 Cdn Armd Bde. 3 Cdn Inf Div plan is to cross River Laison and clear it's banks and secure high ground 2 miles South of R.Laize. 4th Cdn Armd Div with 8th Cdn Inf Bde u/c has task of seizing and controlling high ground North East of Falaise. The Coy will have one Pl under command 8th Cdn Inf Bde for the Op. This will be No 1 Pl under Lt Peto. Tasks will be to assist in maintenance of river crossing and routes to cope with Engr problems that may arise in the Op. The Pl will be transported in M14's provided by the Coy. Orders were received by the CRE at 1630hrs to move to area South of Roquancourt and area was reced in the grounds of a chateau just North of Bretteville sur Laize and the move was completed by 1900hrs. Air support is to be provided both by Heavy and Medium bombers of the RAF. Enemy posns that will be by-passed will be taken in by the RAF.	
	14 Aug		Weather-clear and hot. Lt Peto joined 8th Cdn Inf Bde at 1000hrs and is to follow the reserve Bn. H hour was 1200hrs and under a barrage of smoke on the left flank the attack was started. Considerable difficulty was encountered at the R.Laize as it turned out to be an Anti-Tank obstacle. Heavy bombers took on areas that were by-passed, bombing between 1400 and 1600hrs. Through some mistake, some of our own troops were bombed. The main Corps route rec'd several direct hits at Hautsmeuil. No 2 Pl with 2 D-7's repaired the craters	

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Page 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and Initials
Bretteville-sur-Laize. m.r. 060537. Sheet 7F/3	14	Aug	cont..... and traffic was able to proceed normally by 1500hrs. Maj Gunnington attended the CRE at 2100hrs. A bridge is requ'd over the R. Laize at Houvres. Lt Kenyon with No 3 Pl was detailed for the task and left with his recon party at 2230 hrs. The D day decorations for personnel of this Coy were notified, CSM Howes, S.W. L/Opl Bartolacci, E.J. and G-64101 Spr Foster, R.D. all received the M.M. for acts of outstanding bravery and devotion to duty on the 6th June 1944.	<i>MA</i>
	15	Aug	Weather - clear and hot. The night 14/15 Aug was exceptionally blank so that road movement was very difficult. The Pl left for the site at 2330hrs 14 Aug and arrived and started to work on the approach roads at 0130hrs. The br equipment did not arrive at the r.v. until 0130hrs, and under the guidance of Lt Cameron arrived on the site at 0610hrs. A 30' 0140 S.S. Bailey was constructed and completed by 1100hrs, this is the first operational bridge that this Coy has constructed. The difficulty in getting the bridging and working parties to the site was due to the utter blackness of the night. Two raids by the G.A.F. with flares, the fact that it was a narrow cross-country road that had to be used unknown to any of the personnel and extreme care had to be taken that no wrong turns were taken as it passed withing 15 miles of enemy occupied Quenay Wood on the right and if the r.v. to the site was missed, it led to the enemy pens on the left flank of the Div attack line. No 1 Pl continued u/c 8th Cdn Inf Bde. They were kept busy in their role of road clearance and repairs. 6 craters were filled in, due to bombing and the bridge at Maizieres which had been prepared by the enemy for demolition, was deloused. "R" mines were discovered buried on a dirt road and were lifted. These had heavy 14 gauge shear wires which made them non anti-personnel. At 1830hrs the Coy moved to location m.r. 129500 near Soignolles.	<i>MA</i>
Soignolles m.r. 16 129500 Sheet 7F/3	Aug		Weather - clear and hot. No 3 Pl improved the approaches roads to the bridge at Houvres and decked the chessee with lumber. Nearly all the Polish Arm Div passed over this bridge on the 15th and night of 15/16 Aug. No 1 Pl continued u/c 8th Cdn Inf Bde and checked and cleared routes forward. Maj Gunnington visited each Pl and directed future work. No 2 Pl made a recon and report on routes around area Estrees la Campagne. Maj Gunnington attended the CRE during the evening. The routes Heart and Club and a lateral are given to this Coy for maintenance and repair. On his return to the Coy, he detailed the work to No 2 and 3 Pls for the morning.	<i>MA</i>

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Page 6.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and Initials
Soignolles n.r. 129500 Sheet 7F/3	17 Aug		Weather - Clear and hot. No 2 and No 3 Pls started maintenance work on the routes detailed. One Patrol Patrol and 1 Pl Tipper lorries are available from the Fd Pk Coy on demand. No 1 Pl still u/c 8th Cdn Inf Bde but there is little work to be done. The Bde now occupies and is holding the high ground N.E. of Falaise. The CRE informed the Coy during the afternoon that Corps Troops would be taking over all routes being maintained by the Coy., as well as the Bailey Br at Rouvres and hand over completed by 1800hrs. Message received from CRE giving a route clearance task on left forward area of Donville to be started at 0700hrs in the morning. No 2 Pl were warned for the task. The Coy will move in the morning and an area was reced in the vicinity of Perriers. Water Point Urville was closed down at 1800hrs and eqpt returned to Fd Pk Coy. The Water Point has been averaging 30,000 gals per day.	SM
Perriers n.r. 186438 Sheet 7F/4	18 Aug		Weather - Clear and hot. The Coy moved at 0900hrs to 186438 near Perriers. Lt Yeats with No 2 Pl left at first light for the task of route clearance on roads leading to two bridges being built by 18th Cdn Fd Coy RCE on R. Dives. 8th Cdn Inf Bde are moving further East with the task of holding ground and preventing any enemy thrust to get out of the pocket. No 1 Pl will move with them in close support with task of checking and clearance of routes. The Coy will move tomorrow to the area Louvagny.	SA
Louvagny n.r. 250408 Sheet 7F/4	19 Aug		Weather - warm and cloudy. No 1 Pl moved with the Bns of 8th Cdn Inf Bde to area about 12 kilometres due East of Falaise leaving at 0400hrs. During the day they checked the roads in the Bde area for mines and clearance of obstructions. The Coy must set up a Water Point in area of Louvagny. No 3 Pl reced the area and opened a Water Point on R. Dives. The Coy moved at 1300hrs to 250408 near Louvagny. Maj Cunningham attended a meeting of all OC's at CRE and routes were detailed amongst the various Coys. The 16th have two routes running NE from TRUN towards LISIEUX. These will be the Op routes for 8 Bde when movement takes place in that direction. At present, the tactical situation prohibits any work being done on the routes. In the meantime the route N from TRUN will be swept and cleared as far as the main East and West road at AMNEVILLE. The water point was opened at VIEQUES 2341 and operating at 2000hrs. 8 Bde are to move tomorrow to area N.E. TRUN. No 1 Pl will move in support.	SA
	20 Aug		Weather - Fair and warm - few clouds. No 2 Pl started work on checking and clearing route from TRUN to AMNEVILLE. On the route to the task, one 3 ton Winch hit a mine on the verge near AMNEVILLE and was wrecked. Two personnel were slightly wounded but these	SA

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Page 7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Louvigny m.r. 250408 sheet 7F/4	20 Aug 1944	Cont.	... riding in the rear were untouched. A bridge was reported by 5 Bde near GRAND-MESNIL 3037, to be in very poor condition. No 3 Pl were allotted this task of strengthening it and completed an excellent job by 2000hrs. On the move of 8th Bde from their present location to N.E. TRUN, No 1 Pl checked and cleared the routes with the new area. The enemy armour, estimated at 100 tanks attempted to break out of the bag to the EAST of TRUN but 4 Cdn Armd Div and Polish Armd Div proved more than a match and the attempt failed.	
	21 Aug		Weather - Heavy rain, mild. Route maintenance and repair was carried out generally by the Coy within the Div area. This necessitated the construction of new tracks, filling of craters and pot holes in existing roads, clearance of wrecked enemy vehs from the roads including some of our own. This also includes the construction of a roundabout at COURCY where two main routes cross causing a bottleneck. This necessitates the construction of approx 300yds new road. No 1 Pl continued in support of 8 Bde checking and clearing of forward routes. In the course of this work, No 1 Sec of No 1 Pl under L/Sgt MacInnis, missed a turning on a road and continued on the road towards the enemy. They had passed about 2 miles from our farthest location on the road NE of TRUN and stopped approx 4562 to check the maps when 4 enemy LMG opened fire. Four of the Sec, two of whom were wounded slightly, managed to get back and inform Lt Peto. He, getting three carriers of the R de Chaud and 2 light tanks from 2 C.A.R. went up the road. The carriers going direct while the tanks made a flanking movement, were met with heavy M.G. fire which forced them to withdraw. Being joined with the tanks again, the party went forward but on arrival, found that the enemy had withdrawn, taking with them the Coy 3 ton G.S. complete with Sec tools. L/Sgt MacInnis was killed. Five remaining members of the Sec who are all believed to be wounded, were taken away with the 3 ton G.S. by the enemy. Total casualties, 1 killed, 2 wounded, 5 missing, believed wounded and prisoner.	
	22 Aug		Weather-clear and warm. Route construction and road maintenance and repairs continue with No 2 and 3 Pls fully employed. The roundabout at COURCY and the Div Maint route at COLIBCEUF were both completed by 1700hrs. The Coy was called upon to construct a P.W. cage at BAROU to accommodate the increasing number of prisoners that are being brought in until transport can be arranged to take them to the rear. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE "O" Sp at 1800hrs. The Div moves forward at first light tomorrow with 5th Bde leading, 11 Armd Div on left and 4 Cdn Armd Div on right flank on route TRUN-ORSEU. From that point onwards, 2 Cdn Inf Div will be on left and 4 Cdn Armd Div on right. The move is a	

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Page 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Apparatus and other
Louvagny m.r. 250408 Sheet 7 F/4	22 Aug	Cont...	Tactical move. The Coy will move in the 3 Cdn Inf Bde Gp with 1 Pl u/c of the Bde.	
Meulles m.r. 586696 Sheet 7 F/4	23 Aug		Weather-few clouds and warm. There was a large rainfall during the night which made the roads very slippery, especially towards the verges. The Coy moved at 0530hrs to join 3 Cdn Inf Bde Gp. The roads were thick with convoys. The Bde Gp, which is the adv guard of the Div advance, moved off and this Coy passed the SP at 0900hrs. The road to VIMOUTIERS was littered with wrecked and burnt out enemy vhs a proof of the effectiveness of the RAF attacks. Reports came back that there is only one crossing over the R ORBEC at ORBEC and is not nearly sufficient to take the necessary traffic. Maj Cunningham went forward to Lt Peto at 1100hrs to make a recon but enemy fire from the high ground on the far bank prevented building on this site until far bank cleared. The plan was changed and a bridge head as it be found on far bank at ORBEC and the Div will pass over lower bridge at 635742. The Coy kept moving forward and at 1900hrs harboured just North of MEULLES at 586696. Lt Yeats established a water point at R. TOUQUES at 542687. The remainder of No 2 Pl were sent back to VIMOUTIERS to fill in two large craters that were causing a bottleneck. Lt Kenyon made a recon of the BR at 635742 and found it demolished with a 50ft gap. No 3 Pl on road repair filling in the craters on the main route from the R. TOUQUES to MEULLES. No 1 Pl, who had been prepared for bridging was kept intact in case the job should come up. Lt Cameron is travelling with 7 Recce Regt and reported to CRE and Coy HQ at 2100hrs on his observations.	
	24 Aug		Weather-Heavy rain. Route maintenance was the first order of the day and consequently all available personnel were put on it. Lt Kenyon and No 3 Pl have DIAMOND route from R. TOUQUES to ORBEC and Lt Peto had HEART route up to ORBEC. These routes had a number of craters that had to be filled and enemy vhs to be cleared from the road. Word came in from Lt Cameron that the 7 Recce were held up at a X rds South of ST GERMAIN La CAMPAGNE by enemy mines in the road and that they had already lost two vhs. A Sec of No 2 Pl was sent forward in the Arm half track. This sec then was to travel with the Recce Regt. Lt Yeats is to set up a water point on far bank of R. ORBEC and Lt Yeats with 2 Secs and a D4 bulldozer was sent forward to clear route of enemy vhs and check the roads for mines. He returned to the Coy area at 2100hrs. For the Fighting Adv Lt Kenyon with the two remaining Secs of his Pl are to be u/c 3 Bde. He joined the Bde at 2000hrs and moved forward with them. Orders recd to move with Div Tps Gp to E. side of ORBEC River starting 2300hrs.	

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Page 9.

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Bolsney s.r. 845656 Sheet. 87/2	25 Aug		<p>Weather - Clear and mild. On arrival in new area near St GERMAIN & CAMPAGNE, Maj Cunningham visited CRE and the Coy is detailed to bridge the R. Risle at Fontaine 8984. Maj Cunningham held his O Gp at 0400hrs with the plan that Lt Peto would leave with recon party for site at 0600hrs. Lt Yeats i/c working party of Nos 1 and 2 PIs leaves at 0615hrs. Lt Schofield with Br sqpt leaves at 0630hrs, and Coy H.Q. follows br and maintains communications forward and with CRE in rear. At 0930hrs, Lt Peto reported back that 4 Armd Div were already bridging at that crossing and it would be open for traffic at 0930hrs. The br sqpt and Coy moved into harbour area at Bolsney s.r. 845856. Lt Yeats went forward on Diamond route and sign posted the route from Fontaine to Neuville dug Boso. Location of this route was changed later in the day and then on Diamond route was sign posted from Brionne to Callevilla. The Sec that had been u/c 7 Recon Regt for mine clearing tasks returned during the day. A bridge was reqd for this Div on Diamond route to replace the two demolished over R. Risle at Brionne. The crossing at 892898 over rwy requires 40' D.S. Bailey and demolitions over River at 855898 left existing br out in centre and cratered at one end. Lt Peto with recon party arrived on location at 1700hrs. Proposed to put 40' D.S. Bailey Cl 40 over rwy crossing and to ramp down banks and fill in between the existing portion of the br over the River. Working parties and br sqpt arrived on the site at 1800hrs and the crossing opened for Cl 40 traffic at 2200hrs.</p>	
Glatiney s.r. 969919 Sheet 87/2	26 Aug		<p>Weather - clear and hot. No 1 PI with a D7 improved approaches and filled a crater at the br built yesterday at Brionne. No 3 PI consisting of 3 Secs available moved with 8th Bde in their fighting advance along Diamond route from Brionne to Elbeuf on the R. Seine with the primary task of clearing obstacles on the rd. Lt Yeats had task of checking the route for mines and sign posting it from La Hay de Theil to the Seine or as close as he can get. Maj Cunningham is O.C. Diamond route and directed the work of the sub-units of all the Coys that were working. Coy HQ moved at 1500hrs to Glatiney 969919. CRE sent out an urgent message at 1600hrs for each rd Coy to recon two River crossings over the Seine with the idea of both rafting and bridging. This Coy had two sites on the bend of the river at 108004 and 110009. Lt Peto and Lt Schofield set out on this recon at 1200hrs. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE 'O' Gp at 1930hrs. It was decided to raft the Seine during the night but the enemy was not cleared from the near side sufficiently to allow this to be done. Consequently, the rafting will commence at first light.</p>	

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Page 70.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
La Saussaye m.r. 095955 Sheet 1408.E.	27 Aug.		Weather-clear and hot. The Coy moved fwd at 0200hrs to La Saussaye m.r. 095955 in preparation for recon and rafting at first light. On consultation of move Maj Cunningham held his "O" Op at 0400hrs. Lts Peto and Yeats will recon crossing for rafting over the Seine at first light, report back by W/T and Lt Sahofield will take the working parties and br sqpt to site. A suitable site was found at Elbeuf at m.r. 139966 and Lt Sahofield arrived on the site at 1030hrs. The br lorries were unloaded by 1130hrs and in the meantime the D7 was preparing the ramps. The construction of the two GI 40 rafts started at 1130hrs and the crossing was ready for GI 40 traffic at 1530hrs when rafting of Sherman tanks commenced. Improvements were made in the ramps and approaches during rafting. Army tps Sappers took over the operations and maintenance of the crossing at 1730hrs and the men returned to Coy area. Little sleep has been had for the past few days so they were all to have an early night. No 3 Pl still u/c 8th Bde cleared mines from roads in particular, one cross roads where 12 tellermine had been haphazardly camouflaged.	<i>MA</i>
	28 Aug		Weather-obdud and warm. No 3 Pl reverted to command of the Coy as of 2100hrs last night and returned to the Coy area in the morning. There is no definite tasks so a Pl was put on route maintenance of DIAMOND route from LA HAYE du-THIEL up to the R. SEINE. There are still shell craters that need to be repaired and obstructions to be cleared from the road and verges. Lt Cameron made a recon for local resources on the East side of R. SEINE. Maj Cunningham attended the CRE "O" Op for the next phase. The Div Engrs will move to East side of R. SEINE in the morning and have for primary tasks, route checking, clearance and maintenance. The Coy will have DIAMOND route which follows up the bend made by the River to BOOS and thence into ROUEN if situation permits, or alternatively in a N.E. direction along axis of advance.	<i>MA</i>
SOTTEVILLE-SOUS- LA-VAL m.r. 210013 Sheet 97/1	29 AUG		Weather-Heavy rain and cool. The Coy stood by all morning waiting to be called up for crossing the GI 40 Bailey pontoon bridge at ELBEUF. There has been a constant stream of traffic over the Br. Finally, the Coy crossed at 1500hrs and took up a posn at SOTTEVILLE SOUS LA VAL m.r. 210013. Recon parties were immediately sent out on the routes allotted and for Engr resources. At 2130hrs, the CRE directed that a circuit route be reconed North IGOVILLE for 3 km, then S.E. to for the East-West route at LES BOCQUETS 1801. This was completed by 2330hrs and report forwarded.	<i>MA</i>

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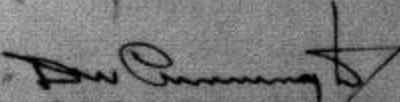
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Page 11.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
SOTTEVILLE-SOUS LA-VAL m.r. 210013 Sheet 9F/1	30 Aug		Weather-heavy rain and cool. All three Pls were set to work on DIAMOND route early in the morning and work carried out to the North and N.E. as far as the tactical situation permitted. By night, the routes had been checked and sign posted as far as EPINAY 2711. During the evening, No 2 Pl moved up to area about 1 km West of BOOS and will continue at first light from EPINAY into ROUEN. Lt Cameron continued to move with 7 Recce Regt and reports direct to CRE with any info that he acquires.	
LA POMMERAYE m.r. 300242 Sheet 9E/3	31 Aug		Weather-Clear and cool. The Coy moved at 0800hrs to ST PIERRE de FRANQUEVILLE 251092 with intentions of moving NORTH in early afternoon. Lt Yeats and No 2 Pl continued checking and signing route DIAMOND into ROUEN. Lt Peto set up a water point at 250125 at St AUBIN EPINAY and opened it at 1030hrs. The Coy moved at 1400hrs to LA POMMERAYE 300242, passing through ROUEN enroute where a great welcome was given to all ranks. Lt Saherfield with a Sec from No 2 Pl joined 5 Cdn Inf Bde and will be u/c for the continued advance. We move tomorrow in a NE direction towards the Channel East of DIEPPE. The checking and signing of DIAMOND route continued and several bomb craters were filled. GENERAL: The morale of the Coy has never been higher and all ranks look confidently forward to the early successful conclusion of the campaign. Casualties of the first three months of the campaign have been relatively heavy with 9 Killed, 4 Died of Wounds, 42 Wounded, 3 Missing and 3 Wounded but not evacuated making a total of 61. Reinforcements have been quickly supplied and at this time the Coy is only four under strength. A minor epidemic of Gastro-Enteritis swept through the Coy during the month, making the moment generally uncomfortable but did not impair the efficiency. There are still two or three cases a day but the intensity is dwindling. There were no breaches of discipline during the month.	


D.W. Cunningham Major RCE
O.C. 16th Cdn Fd Coy RCE CA(0)