

1/5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regt. (West Surrey) War Diary July 1944.

July 1944

1st July.

Saturday, (D+25).

Tank or S.P. gun fired approx. 6 shells at first light at new Bn. H.Q. area. 3 R.H.A. suffered 1 O.R. killed.

Advance party of 2nd U.S. Armd. Div. who were relieving 131 Bde. At last light arrived during afternoon & evening.

Patrols by "B" & "C" Coys (Recce by 1 N.C.O. & 3 men) and "D" Coy (Standing patrol of 1 Off. & 6 Men) were sent out from 2330 hrs. to 0400 – 0430 hrs. July 1<sup>st</sup> & were to be accompanied by rep. from U.S. Forces.

On relief Rifle Coys to march to T.C.V. marshalling area at area 715650. Rifle Coys transport proceeded to same area during evening & some transport of B.H.Q.

3rd Flight sails from TILBURY in M.V. Fort York, MT 106.

On arrival at new area 257 Bty. will leaguer with 1/5th Queen's (258 with 1/6th) & M.G. Plns. of 3 Coy N.F. will remain with 1/5th & 1/6th Queen's & not leaguer separately.

2nd July.

Sunday, (D+26).

At 0500 hrs. Bn. HQ left for area 715650 to rejoin rest of Bn. being accompanied by personnel of "B", "C", and "D" patrols who had not encountered nor heard anything of enemy during the night 1/2.

At 0630 hrs. Bn. proceeded to area St BAZILLE - BUCÉELS SQ 8270.

Locations:- BHQ Tac 828709 and main 828710.

Bn. Coy in area of 833698 Coy HQ 834701

"B" Coy in area of 8 39910 Coy HQ 838708

"C" Coy in area of 835705 Coy HQ 834705

"D" Coy in area of 835702 Coy HQ 833702

Carriers and A/Tks. in area of 831702

Mortars in area of 832707

1/6th at 826708, 1/7th at 824726 Bde. at 818730

131 Bde. sitrep 1900 hrs. locations:- 3 Coy N.F. 807713, Main HQ 818730, rear HQ 805717, HQ 22nd Armd. Bde. 800740. 65 A/Tks. 811752, Main 7th Armd. Div. 787753. Flanking formations, 49 Div., July 1st 37 Tks. K.O. exclusive S.P. Guns and brew ups claimed by Arty. July 2nd enemy withdrew slightly, Fwd. troops in contact 852663, 864657, 857653. VENDES 860651 X roads 867653. Patrol BRETTEVILLE report village clear. 8 Corps front 2nd of July slight advance S. of ODON in contact BOUGY 9161 GAVRUS 9161 patrol to 112, 9561 reported many unburied dead Germans.

Brigadier M.S. EAKINS sends farewell message to 131 Bde. on assuming command of 56 Bde.

3rd July.

Monday (D+27).

Third flight lands at 2030 hrs.

Sitrep 15th Scottish Div. have been relieved by 53rd Div. American attack advanced 3000 yds this morning. Continued attacks by 1 SS Pz. have made slight advance in area of GAVRUS 9162, elsewhere attacks held. Area held by 12 SS taken over by 21 Pz. Lehr Div. relieved by 276 Div. from Spanish frontier. Tks. of 2nd SS Pz. are in area of St LO 4963 much below strength. Bombing of VILLERS BOCAGE. Against Tks. of 9 SS Pz. caused heavy casualties. 16 C.A.G. is now in line N.W. of CAEN arrived from Holland.

Brig. M.S. EAKINS exchanges posts with Brig. pepper of 56 Bde. who assumes command of 131 Bde.

- 4th July. Tuesday (D+28).  
3rd Flight joins Bn. (Lt. SARGESSON with party).  
Lt. Col. H. WOOD leaves Bn. To assume comd. of 146 Bde.  
Slight shelling of "B" Coy area during morning is a rather unpleasant surprise but fortunately only causes 2 very slight casualties.  
Lots of Bn. go to BAYEUX for cinema show and bath (to be a daily occurrence if possible, during stay here).  
Also, Coy Comdrs. to ensure that with assistance of I.O. as much as possible of beach head "Griff" is given to all ranks with salient features of progress on other fronts.
- 5th July. Wednesday (D+29).  
Lt. Col. J.B. ASHWORTH (Late B.M. 131 Bde.) assumes Comd. Of Bn.  
9 x O.R.'s reinforcements received from 32 R.H.U. (Leicester's).  
At 1100 hrs. Offs. & N.C.Os of Bn. Hear a lecture and inspect the enemy's latest A/Tk. Mine & Picnic Bomb.  
All R. Coys & Plns. Of H Coy to provide a daily training program for morning & afternoon to combine information periods, physical activities & training to such details as this campaign will have shown to need immediate attention.  
Lt. G. ASHTON joins Bn. And is posted to Carriers.  
1 x O.R. wounded.
- 6th July. Thursday (D+30).  
Sitrep from Bde. 1900 hrs. 12 SS reappeared in line opposite CARPIQUET, 9668. 8 Cdn. Bde. Established in CARPIQUET village with one Coy fwd. at 954679. 130 Bde. relieved 159 Bde. 2 Armd. Div. U.S. has patrols only into BRIQUESSARD. Tac/R reported much activity & many camouflaged objects from U 220630 to 229660.  
At 1800 hrs. Lt. Col. J.B. ASHWORTH addressed Bn. On assuming Comd.  
2 x O.R. reinforcements received.  
1 x O.R. wounded.
- 7th July. Friday (D+31).  
Sitrep from Bde. 1800 hrs. U.S. report LA HAYE-DU-PUITS not yet in our hands but progress continues slowly. 8 Corps report no change, 50 Div. report enemy very light on trigger especially in area LA Faille? 793602. Fighter bombers yesterday attacked bridge at St. ANDRE? which disappeared, only bridge at 028668 now available for traffic. On 6<sup>th</sup> July 21 Met. Destroyed 64 damaged. Tac/R reports at 1420 hrs. much activity of Met. E. & W. on rds. Running into main rd. U 0467 – T 9964.  
Bn. Had pleasure in witnessing again in late evening one of the R.A.F. saturation raids on a specific area, namely of approx. 450 hvy. Bombers on a conc. Of Met. Etc. north of CAEN, some 2,300 tons being unloaded (a prelude to the attack on same area of 1 Corps to start at 08, 0430 hrs.  
11 x O.R. reinforcements received.
- 8th July. Saturday (D+32).  
At 0900 hrs. a short address by new Brig. 131 Brig. on general situation.  
Information from Bde. 1430 hrs. at 1315 hrs. 1 Corps at GRUCHY, BURON, St CONTEST, MALON, EPRON, LE BISY, now in HÉROUVILLETTE.  
50 Div. through GRANVILLE 500 yards from x Rds., 2 Essex at 777640.  
6 x O.R. reinforcements received.

- 9th July. Sunday (D+33)  
At 1000 hrs. Sitrep from Bde. – 56 Bde. report after uncomfortable night situation easier, 20 enemy Tks. Met. 4 K.O'd at 768647 & 777647. 1 Armd. Sqn. In support of each Bn. & 1 U.S. Bn. Attached to Bde. 3 D.W. report our Tks. & Inf. Patrols in streets of CAEN, slight opposition, many mines. Fwd. tps. At 025698 & 045697. Recce at 995691 & 991691. Enemy pockets at 0273, 0173 & 0192.
- 10th July. Monday (D+34).  
Major T.E.M. ADAMS injured in motor accident on TILLY - BAYEUX Rd. night 9/10th reported died in hospital.  
Sitrep 2000 hrs. 8 Corps attack 130 - Bde. 918617, 005617, 003678.  
31 Armd. Bde. 9663. 4 S.L.I. 9662. 5th Wilts. at BARON 9462. Recce patrol 915623, 920620. 9th Cameronian's at 9864.  
1 Corps 3rd Cdn. 010690, 000668, 029680, and have CARPIQUET airfield. 3 Br. Div. on river ORNE at 0367.
- 11th July. Tuesday (D+35).  
At first light slight enemy shelling, a reply to our all night harassing fire, falls in "B" Coy area, no damage 1 casualty to own tps.  
Brig. L. ELRINGTON (177 Bde.) our C.O. in Italy made a very short but welcomed visit to B.H.Q. in late afternoon.  
W.e.f. July 10th Maj. SENIOR (10 D.L.I.) joins Bn. and assumes Comd. "C" Coy.  
Recce parties go to CRISTOT area to prepare for possible move to this place for employment in a counterattack on the RAURAY feature.
- 12th July. Wednesday (D+36).  
Weather at least shows signs of improvement.  
Capts. D. BARTON & SANCTUARY transferred to 30 Corps (205 Reinforcement Camp).
- 13th July. Thursday (D+37).  
Bn. Coy on Range (rifle, Bren & Sten) from 0915 – 1600 hrs.  
6 pdr. Gun Drill 1130- 1230 hrs. Sect. Drill for Mortars & Carrier Pln.
- 14th July. Friday (D+38).  
Coy Exercise for Bn. & "B" Coys.  
1030 – 1200 hrs. – Range.  
1400 – 1600 hrs. – Range "C" & "D" Coys.  
1030 – 1130 hrs. – A/Tk. Pln. On Gun Drill.  
1130 – 1230 hrs. – Enemy Tk. "Quiz" & discussion.
- 15th July. Saturday (D+39).  
0930 – 1100 hrs. Lecture & Practice "Action of Patrols on being ambushed".  
1100 – 1200 hrs. Weapon Trg.  
1110 – 1140 hrs. Demonstration of blowing a 2 man weapon pit with a 75 Grenade.  
1145 – 1215 hrs. Lecture by M.O. Hygiene in the Field.  
1400 – 1600 Recreational Trg.  
During the day the Bn. Gas Offr. Carried out a full inspection of Respirators.  
A.I.A. 30 Corps to carry out inspection of all arms on July 15,16 & 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 16th July. Sunday (D=40).

Scatter Party proceeds to area St GABRIEL 8879.  
Early morning shelling on "B" Coy area inflicts casualties.  
2 x O.R's killed 3 x O.R's wounded.

17th July. Monday (D+41).  
At 0630 hrs. Bn. Moved in Tpt. To St Gabriel area 8879.  
At 0830 hrs. locations, Bn. H.Q. 885770, Bn. Coy 884771, "B" Coy 886771, "C" Coy 884769, "D" Coy 886768, Carriers 885770, Mortars 886774, A/Tks. 883773.  
1/6th 887793, 1/7th 881778, 131 Bde, (Main) 882781, 131 Bde. (Rear) 885779. R.N.F. 884784.  
Information about the 8 Corps attack in which 7th Armd. Div. were to take part with 11th Armd. and Guards Armd. Div. was given during afternoon and evening to troops generally following upon a "Griff" talk by C.O. to all N.C.O's at 1715 hrs.  
Casualty Lt. B.J. CLARKE wounded (Died of wounds July 18<sup>th</sup>)

18th July. Tuesday (D+42).  
Bn. ready to move at to 0815 hrs. but congestion on route delayed start till 1130 hrs. Moved via COULOMBS 8976 and SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN 1274 to Bde. S.P. at BRAY 9473. Progress continued slow through VILLONS-LES-BUISSONS 0075 and CAMBES-EN-PLAINE 0173 and at 1630 hrs. Bn. HQ at 1753, at 1800 hrs. Bn. HQ at 065748 from which point Bn. leaves at approx. 2215 hrs. to cross bridge over ORNE river and canal at BLAINVILLE-SUR-ORNE 0873. A slight air raid which caused slight casualties to 6 of Mortar pln. from fragmentation bombs delayed crossing but by 0100 hrs. July 19th lots of Bn. HQ and 2 Coys Bn. & "B" were in concentration area 0972, the rest of the Bn. arriving at intervals during night 18th 19th.

Extracts from "I" log.

1408 hrs. 3 R.H.A. on line 0761 0960.  
1550 hrs. Bde. reports 0864 and 1067 clear.  
1559 hrs. 20 enemy Tks. approaching 0761 from South.  
1607 hrs. La HOGUE 0960 is lightly held.  
1627 hrs. 3 RHA report 50 enemy Tks. at 0861 withdrawing S.W. five brewed up.  
1649 hrs. Guards Div. reach CAGNY 0164.  
1705 hrs. Fwd. Coys reach 0162.  
1719 hrs. Patrols going from FRÉNOUVILLE to TROARN?.  
1753 hrs. 250 POWs from 46 Regt. of 16 C.A.F (passed on route). Patrols reaching towards VIMONT 1561.  
1817 hrs. POW says aerial bombardment caused heavy damage to 21 Pz. Div. formation in ? 0065.  
Enemy transport reported at SOLIERS 0862 to and HUBERT-FOLIE 0662.  
1900 hrs. 3rd Canadian Div. reported 4000 yards N.W. of Hubert.  
Casualties 6 x O.R's wounded see above.

19th July. Wednesday (D+43).  
At 0930 hrs. Bn. moved from concentration area via SAINTE-HONORINE. 09702 GIBERVILLE 0868, locations BHQ at 094692 and "A", "B", "C", "D" Coys in areas on high ground surrounding BHQ in valley.  
At 1500 hrs. rifle Coys marching and Tac, BHQ proceeded to GRENTHEVILLE 0864. Tac, BHQ at 086648, "C" and "D" Coys on fwd. edge of village and "B" and "A" Coys on east flank and in Reserve respectively.  
At 1745 hrs. Shell Rep sent to Bde. on shelling and Nebelwerfering of area which was inflicting casualties.  
1800 hrs. 5 R.T.R. advanced on SOLIERS, 1 R.T.R. meeting resistance at FOUR.

1916 hrs. 5 R.T.R. report knocked out 2 tanks South of SOLIERS.  
2005 hrs. Nebelwerfer at 096593 being engaged.  
2015 hrs. 30 plus FW 190's pass overhead, attacked area 0967.  
2100 hrs. Another spell of heavy shelling of Bn. area (105mm).  
2116 hrs. At 2145 hrs air support on following targets 095606, 098393, 082587, and 069580. Our troops warned to have yellow flares ready.  
2135 hrs. Identification of 125 P.G.R. of 21 S.S. Pz. Div. found in GRENTHEVILLE.  
2155 hrs. 5 POWs collected in our area of 1 S.S. P.G.R.  
Casualties 2 x O.R's killed, 8 x O.R's wounded, 1 O.R. missing.

20th July. Thursday (D+44).

0735 hrs. Bde. reports some enemy Tks. in SAINT-ANDRÉ-SUR-ORNE.  
075 hrs. 4 C.L.Y. take some P.O.W's at 055623.  
0805 hrs. FRÉNOUVILLE in our hands.  
0820 hrs. Enemy Inf. At 095608 being engaged.  
0840 hrs. 2 enemy Tks. & some Inf. At 076605.  
0857 hrs. A/Tk. Screen before SAINT-ANDRÉ, 6 enemy Tks. moved N. from there had 3 K.O'd & rest withdrew S.  
0903 hrs. ÉMIÉVILLE (8 Hus. Report) in enemy's hands still.  
0920 hrs. Mk. V captured undamaged near FOUR.  
0930 hrs. Main Bn. HQ rejoins Bn. At 086648.  
0940 hrs. 2 x 88mm at 0560, (A/Tk. Guns at 053604 & 051610) later report being engaged.  
1013 hrs. Enemy Inf. At 051619 being engaged.  
"A" Coy who had taken over from K.R.R.C. in SOLIERS were relieved by 1/7th Queen's during morning, they had suffered much shelling & Mortaring.  
1307 hrs. 4 C.L.Y. report 4 x Mk IV's at 062592 moving S.  
1318 hrs. 5 R.T.R. have K.O'd Tiger at 073604.  
1408 hrs. 8 + F.W 190s pass over Bn. Area some strafing but no damage inflicted.  
1500 hrs. Heavy thunderstorm develops into torrential rain which persists for rest of day.  
1700 hrs. 4 C.L.Y. report friends on right on line 060622 – 078618 – 040618.  
1806 hrs. 1 R.T.R. engaging 4 Mk. IV's at 010606 – 017656.  
2100 hrs. 22 Armd. Bde. at 099669.

Casualties, 10 x O.R's wounded, (2 of these accidentally).

21st July. Friday (D+45).

Torrential rain continued during day, made fields into morasses, & movement by transport very difficult.  
At 1100 hrs. Main BHQ moved back to 090681 this proceeded relief of 131 Bde. by 8 Canadian Bde, 1/5th Queen's were scheduled to complete this by 1500 hrs., the fwd. Coy is being relieved first.  
"A" Coy being back in reserve position near BHQ Tac. by 1500 hrs. the change was complete save for A/Tks rifle Coys were located in T.C.V. area at 5970.  
Casualties 1.O.R. killed 2 O.R's wounded.

22nd July. Saturday (D+46).

Nothing of interest to report.

23rd July. Sunday (D+47).

Talk given by C.O. Lt. Col. ASHWORTH on forth coming exercise in which we would take part from July 24th.

24th July. Monday (D+48).

Bn. moved at 1845 hrs. (in order Bn. HQ "C" Coy, "D" Coy, "A" Coy, and "B" Coys A/Tks. Mortars, Carriers A2) to area 0966.

Locations Bn. HQ 092667. "A" Coy 088665, "B" Coy 093667, "C" Coy 098659, "D" Coy 089662. A2 094668.

There was very considerable enemy air activity in the vicinity after last light but no damage was caused.

Casualties 1 O.R. wounded.

25th July. Tuesday (D+49).

At 0500 hrs. Bn. moved (in order "C" Coy 2 Sects. Carriers, 2 Sects. Mortars and 2 Sects. A/Tks. Tac. Bn. H.Q. Sects. of 3 R.H.A. and N.F. "D" Coy "C" Coy and "A" Coys, A/Tk. Pln. Mortars, Carriers, "B" Coy Main Bn. HQ).

Proceeded to start point X roads 088653 thence to X road 054672.

At 0545 hrs Tac. Bn. HQ at 043663 and convoy stationery waiting for 4 C.L.Y. to clear route.

reaches 048644 where by 0730 hrs it was joined by Main Bn. HQ, the Coys had proceeded fwd. At 0640 hrs. Bn. moves & at 0655 Tac., Bn. HQ reaches 0486644 where by 0730 hrs. it was joined by Main, Bn. HQ, the Coys had proceeded fwd. about 1000yds. to ridge overlooking BRAS? 0663.

At 0830 hrs. "C" Coy in position and were followed later by other Coys their positions being "A" 057619, "B" 057618, "C" 056616, "D" 057619.

At 1715 hrs Coys were withdrawn to area of their vehicles at 055637.

At 1935 hrs Bn. moved fwd. Main Bn. HQ and A2 remaining in present site around 048644.

By last light despite considerable enemy shelling Coys were in position around BEAUVIOR? FARM 0461 with "A" Coy 044617, "B" 040617, "C" 045614, "D" 040614, Tac. Bn. HQ at 013617.

Casualties 3 X O.R.'s killed, 18 X O.R.'s wounded, 1 X O.R. missing, 7 X O.R.'s exhaustion.

#### Extracts from "I" log.

At 0505 hrs. enemy tanks dug in and counted S of SAINT-ANDRÉ-SUR-ORNE.

At 0535 hrs. Heavy fighting at TILLY-LA-CAMPAGNE.

At 0545 hrs. VERRIÈRES in our hand.

At 0610 hrs. Situation in MAY-SUR-ORNE confused.

At 0640 hrs. Tanks in hedgerows at 065605 are being engaged, 2 flamers.

At 0650 hrs. Tanks at 065605 pulling out.

At 0700 hrs. 1 R.T.R. claim 4 tank flamers.

At 0720 hrs. 50 POW's by one R.T.R. (later reported these retaken by enemy).

At 0805 hrs. VERRIÈRES heavily mined.

At 0825 hrs. North part of TILLY-LA-CAMPAGNE is ours other parts or not.

At 0845 hrs. 3 enemy tanks reported to east of TILLY-LA-CAMPAGNE and 9 withdrawing South from 075605. Situation in MAY-SUR-ORNE still obscure but improving.

At 0900 hrs. At 052614 an enemy minefield.

At 0930 hrs. Many A/Tk. guns around ROCQUANCOURT, 5 are K.O.

At 1021 hrs. Minefield at 052614 cleared, mines at 040615 and along road.

At 1107 hrs. VERRIÈRES now strongly held.

At 1200 hrs. 58mm S.P. at 063598.

At 1530 hrs. MAY-SUR-ORNE now held by enemy.

At 1640 hrs. "B" Coy asked about smoke drifting across their front.

At 1655 hrs. Enemy attacking Canadians with Inf. and Tks. and at 1905 hrs considerable battle reported around VERRIÈRES.

At 1714 hrs. Enemy tank brewed up by 5 R.T.R. near VERRIÈRES.  
2055 hrs. 3 R.H.A. to fire on 5 Mk VI Tks at 058605.  
2100 hrs. Enemy defiantly defending pt. 88 037592 Tks. on outskirts of MAY-SUR-ORNE.

26th July. (D+50)

During day Bn. had to remain dug in under intermittent shellfire and Nebelwerfer fire this was accurate and stonks at times were very heavy concentrations (that is for the enemy) our guns were very active to in reply and rocket firing Typhoons throughout day almost continuously attacked targets just before our Lines despite intense A.A. fire.  
Casualties, Capt. D.A.V. LAVERS and 2 x O.Rs killed 17 O.Rs wounded and 10 x O.Rs exhaustion.

Extracts from "I" log.

Owing to change from 22nd A.B. not to 131 Bde.net information received was very meagre.  
At 0800 hrs. 12 enemy Tks. 200 yards S. of 069581 being engaged by Arty. and Air.  
At 0810 hrs. Line near MAY-SUR-ORNE is from 004626 to 006618 and from 017607 to 025607.  
At 0903 hrs. Targets on pt .88 being engaged by Arty. 5 R.H.A.  
At 1930 hrs. Canadians report much movement N. on road BRETTEVILLE-SUR-LAIZE to FONTENAY-LE-MARMION and ROCQUANCOURT. 50 tanks moving on VERRIÈRES from between TILLY-LA-CAMPAGNE and ROCQUANCOURT.  
At 2245 hrs. Tac. Bn. HQ owing to heavy shellfire on this immediate area during day moved back some 300 yards to 043619.  
Lt. D.J. WATSON promoted A/Capt.

27th July. (D+51).

Bn. remains in positions around BEAUVOIR FARM. Usual shellfire and Nebelwerfer fire during day on area. Weather was colder and unsettled and in consequence aerial activity was limited, Typhoons not being so much in evidence.  
Casualties. 2 X O.Rs missing believed killed, 1 X O.R. wounded, 3 X O.Rs exhaustion.

Extracts from "I" log.

At 0800 hrs. vehicles camouflaged as haystacks at 077584 and 078571, vehicles moving N.E.  
At 1200 hrs. 1/7th report being heavily shelled.  
At 1250 hrs. 1/7th report 12 men in area of farm 060606, engaged by arty. and seem to return to own lines.  
At 1320 hrs. S. of VERRIÈRES signs of tanks, S.P. guns and Inf. digging in.  
At 1330 hrs. 1 enemy tank brewed up at 048595.  
At 1350 hrs. 30 men moved from 065604 to 060606.  
At 1600 hrs. At 077589 enemy laying smoke screen.  
At 1615 hrs. 3 R.H.A. claim S.P. gun brewed up S. of VERRIÈRES.  
At 1708 hrs. 5 - 10 Tks. and Inf. at 060607, also smokescreen.  
At 1841 hrs. enemy at 047603 30 plus driven S.W. by Arty. fire.  
At 2122 hrs. enemy tanks and S.P. guns at 058590 have retired 3000 yds.  
During night 26/27th during enemy air raid a bomb landed in Main Bn. HQ area causing no casualties but destroying assault plns. T.C.V., 1500cwt, jeep and motorcycle.

28th July. Friday (D+52).

Bn. remains in positions around BEAUVOIR FARM, enemy shelling more widespread and not so heavy on actual front.  
Casualties 3 X O.Rs wounded.

Extracts from "I" log.

At 0810 hrs. 1/5<sup>th</sup>, 1/6<sup>th</sup> and 1/7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> H. had N.T.R.

Bde. reports enemy Inf. and Tks. at 060607.

POW taken at 0300 hrs indicates presence of 89 Div. on our front. He says ROCQUANCOURT is not occupied but there are up to 50 tanks in area or village, also that much Teller mining is being done in area.

At 0845 hrs Patrol of 7 men seen to move from 024602 to 026602 1 tank at 050594. Spandau fire from 026602. 1 tank engaged at 072572. Mines at 054594. Friends extended line to 047607.

At 0925 hrs. 3 R.H.A. engaging single gun at 068593 in or near house.

At 1211 hrs. at 043594 two enemy tanks.

At 1420 hrs. at 0459 some 15 camouflaged Tks.

At 1515 hrs. Bde. report at 048585 12 Met. at 068587 some halftracks at 068581, two Tks. static at 070561, 3 Tks.

At 1635 hrs. small party of enemy at 060606 engaged by arty. At 1900 hrs. reported digging in at 058609.

At 1925 hrs. "C" Coy report Tiger Tk. digging in at 061605.

At 2035 hrs. unconfirmed report that 2 Pz Div. are moving W.

29th July. Saturday (D + 53).

Bn. remained in positions at BEAUVOIR FARM under usual shellfire and Nebelwerfer fire. Relief by 9 Canadian Bde. to take place during evening.

At 1945 hrs. Main Bn. HQ moved to concentration area 036662 and at 2130 hrs Tac Bn. HQ also moved there by last light. Relief of rifle Coys was on and they in turn marched to concentration area where T.C.Vs were.

Extracts from I log, NTR.

Casualties 1 X O.R. killed, 1 X O.R. wounded.

30th July. Sunday (D+54).

At 0230 hrs Bn. moved from concentration area 036662 and preceded in order, Bn. HQ "A", "B", "C", "D" Coys, Carriers, Mortars A/Tks via outskirts of CAEN and along main CAEN - BAYEUX rd. to X rds. 828774 thence S.W. to new concentration area around SAINT-ANDRÉ-SUR-ORNE 7873 where it was to be ready to exploit any advantages secured by new 2nd Corps (8 and 30<sup>th</sup>) attack commencing with heavy serial attack this morning.

Locations. Bn. HQ 767737 "A" Coy "B", Coy "C", Coy "D", Coy.

Casualties Nil.

13 reinforcements received and posted to "A" Coy.

31st July. Monday (D+55).

From 0800 hrs Bn. at one hrs. notice to move.

From 1430 hrs Bn. at half an hour notice to move.

At 2100 hrs Bn. moved past start point at 774721 in order D, A, Tac Bn. HQ, C, B, A/Tks, Mortars, Carriers, Main Bn. HQ.

At 2345 hrs Tac Bn. HQ arrived at ECORIGNY 707574, route followed being via LA BELLE ÉPINE TORTEVAL to within 1 km of CAUMONT - thence S.W. along improvised track to ECORIGNY.