





# The Cameronian War Diaries

## 6th Battalion

### 1944

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S.Regts., Vol. I.  
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

#### WAR DIARY

or

Army Form C. 2118

Unit 6th (Lanarkshire) Bn. The  
Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

#### ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Month and Year March, 1944.

Commanding Officer **LT.-COL A.I.**

**BUCHANAN - DUNLOP**

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
CRIEFF	4 Mar		<b>WS/LIEUT J.C. PREACHER</b> posted to this unit from HQ 156 Inf Bde.	
	11 Mar		<b>T/MAJOR C.B. CRITCHLEY</b> relinquished rank of T/Major and posted to 52 (L) Div.	
	21 Mar	1000	Exercise 'SNOWSHOE' commenced.	
		1300	Bn concentrated at MOULIN area.	
	23 Mar	1430	Bn arrived at concentration area J. 8123.	
	24 Mar	1050	Bn ordered to move up into forward area.	
	25 Mar	0630	Bn attack on two coy front.	
		0710	Both coys consolidated on objectives and exploited.	
		1655	Bn moved forward to new area at J. 7830 where successful Bde attack has cleared all enemy.	
	26 Mar	1210	Bn ordered to move and come under command of 155 Inf Bde.	
		1230	Bn HQ closed down and moved towards CORGARF area.	
		1250	Contact made with enemy whilst on the march.	
		1252	Bn deployed to hold enemy. Attack beaten back.	
		1430	Exercise 'SNOWSHOE' finished.	
	26 Mar		<b>LT.-COL. T.L. BINNEY</b> left the Bn on posting overseas.	
	27 Mar	0900	Bn returned to normal locations.	
	30 Mar		<b>LT.-COL. A.I. BUCHANAN-DUNLOP</b> assumed command of the Bn.	
	30 Mar	1430	C-in-C Home Forces, <b>GENERAL FRANKLIN</b> , visited the Bn.	
			<b>A.I. BUCHANAN-DUNLOP.</b>	
			<b>LT.-COL.,</b>	
			3 Apr 44 AM Commanding, 6th (Lanarkshire) Bn The Cameronians. (Scottish Rifles).	
			Wt 43550/1614 560M 8/41 BPL 51/8792	





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Month and Year JUNE 1944

**WAR DIARY**

or

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**Army Form C. 2118**

Unit 6th Battn. The Cameronians

Commanding Officer L.T.-COL. A.I.

BUCHANAN - DUNLOP

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
CRIEFF	3rd		4 Canadian Officers attached to this Battalion	
“	7th		Battalion moved off by march route GILMERTON-AMULREE. Camped for night at 503630 (Sheet 56 OS 1” Scotland)	
	8th		Moved off by march route DUNKELD – CAPUTH to camp at 637609.	
	9th		Battalion commenced Exercise ‘TAY.’ Individual watermanship instruction in MK 10 & 11 assault craft.	
	10th		Instruction in MK10 & 11 craft.	
	11th		Instruction and practice in individual crossing rivers by improvised methods	
	12th		Inspection of 6-pdr A Tk., 2” Mor and 3” Mor by EME 156 Inf Bde.	
	14th		Battalion moved by MT to CRIEFF – end of Exercise ‘TAY.’	
	17th		<b>LIEUT MT MacNEILL</b> promoted A/Capt from 20 Apr 44. <b>LIEUT W. WILSON</b> promoted T/Capt WEF 18 Mar 44	
	18th		Party of men with Pipe Band proceeded by MT to HAMILTON to attend FESTUBERT Sunday Church Parade.	
	21st		No. <b>3239753 RSM R. NISBET</b> awarded certificate in recognition of good service.	
	23rd		Battalion sports Meeting held in Academy Grounds, CRIEFF. Bn Champions – ‘B’ Coy	
	26th		Battalion move to Exercise ‘TANK’ by MT. Route :- STIRLING – LANARK – LOCKERBIE - HODDOM CASTLE.	
	27th		<b>LIEUT (T/CAPT) MICHIE</b> relinquished appt of Bde IO 156 Inf Bde WEF 9 June 44.	
	28th		Coy exercises. Exercise “FORMING- UP” in co-operation with Churchill tanks.	













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Month and Year October 1944

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Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

Commanding Officer L.T.-COL. A.I.

**BUCHANAN – DUNLOP**

Place	Date	Hour	Original. Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
NORTON CAMP	1-9 Oct	)	NORTON CAMP, Nr WORKSOP, NOTTS.	
	10		Mt Party consisting of all the vehs and m/c's left at 0830 hrs for transit camp near Southampton.	
	11		Bn. (Marching personnel) entrained early morning for Transit Camp near SOUTHAMPTON	
			Bn. detrained FAREHAM and moved by MT to Transit Camp A 16 (near FAREHAM).	
			Preparation made for move overseas at an early date. Date of embarkation not known. MT Party in Transit Camp A 17.	
	12		Preparations for move overseas contd. MT Party embarked in LST at GOSPORT during afternoon.	
	13		Bn. (marching personnel) less "C" Coy and Bearer Sec (att from 156 Fd Amb) embarked in LSI at SOUTHAMPTON. Sailed from SOUTHAMPTON 1400 Hrs.	
	14		Bn. (less "C" Coy. and Bearer Sec) disembarked OSTEND BELGIUM after a rough crossing	
			"C" Coy and Bearer Sec embarked SOUTHAMPTON with 7 Cameronians (S.R.) Bn. less "C" Coy spent night at Marine Barracks OSTEND. Adv Party under 2 i/c left p.m. to recce billets for Bn. in DEYNZE area	
	15		Bn less "C" Coy. left OSTEND by MT for DEYNZE area. Bn. billeted as follows.	
			BHQ Chateau D'Olsene (BELGIUM)	
			HQ Coy ) OLSENE ( " )	
			"A" " )	
			"S" " )	
			"B" Coy ) ZULTE ( " )	
			"D" " )	
			"C" Coy and Bearer Sec disembarked OSTEND.	
	16		"C" Coy and Bearer Sec rejoined Bn. by MT. Both billeted in area ZULTE (BELGIUM)	





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**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**

(Delete heading not required)

Month and Year November, 1944

Commanding Officer LT-COL. E.N.  
**SOUTHWARD**

Place	Date	Hour	<i>Original</i> Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
S. BEVELAND	1		Bn. conc DRIEWEGEN. SOUTH BEVELAND.	
	2		Bn. moved in morning to HERRENHOEK, S. BEVELAND	
			by march route. Warning orders received for crossing of SLOE on to WALCHEREN. C.O. issued orders 2230 Hrs. Bn. moved to F.U.P. by march route 2330 Hrs.	
WALCHEREN	3		<p>Assault commenced at 0330 Hrs. "A" and "B" Coys. Assault Coys. "A" Coy. – Right – Objective: DYKE JUNC 198281 "B" Coy. – Left - Objective: " " 192272 Assault made in assault boats. "A" and "B" Coys. successfully gained their objectives. Casualties: "A" Coy - three wounded. "B" Coy. – 2 Killed, four wounded. P.o.W. approx. 70. "C" and "D" Coys follow up the Coys. "C" Coy. – Right – Objective: 195281 "D" Coy. – Left " 190276</p> <p>"C" Coy obtained their objective against little opposition "D" Coy. However met very heavy small arms and mortar fire. "D" coy. very soon got into difficulties and were unable to hold their objectives. Whilst trying to organise his Coy on a defensive front, <b>MAJOR SIXSMITH</b>, "D" Coy Comd., was killed. The Bn was now commanded by the 2 i/c, <b>MAJOR E.N. SOUTHWARD</b>, the C.O. having been unable to cross. "D" Coy was withdrawn suffering heavy casualties, and could no longer be regarded as a fighting unit. "B" Coy, which was following up "D" Coy, also had to return to its first objectives. This being done the posn on the left was far from easy. All night heavy fire was brought down by the enemy on "B" Coy. And this Coy suffered casualties. The posn was tenaciously held during the night. Casualties during the day were as follows:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASUALTIES</u> :-</p> <p><b>MAJOR JDC SIXSMITH</b> – Killed "A" Coy. – 3 Wounded  <b>CAPTAIN B. HOWARD</b> -) "B" Coy. – 6 Killed 14 Wounded  " <b>A.W. McCLURE</b> ) Wounded "D" Coy. – 10 Killed 13 Wounded  <b>LIEUT. THIRGOOD</b> ) (incl A/Tk Pl.)</p>	





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Month and Year December 1944

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Unit 6th (Lanarkshire) Bn. The  
Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

Commanding Officer L.T. COL. EN  
**SOUTHWARD**

Place	Date	Hour	Original Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
LAAR	1		Bn still conc area LAAR 247405	
	2		Orders issued for relief of 5 KOSB by Bn. 5 KOSB at Bdgs 307445. Relief cancelled in afternoon. Div to move to another area on 5 Dec	
	3		<b>FD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY</b> visited Div. Inspected contingents from Bns in Bde, consisted of 6 Offrs and 150 OR's. This det under command of 2 i/c <b>MAJOR EN SOUTHWARD</b> C.O. attended Church Service at this HQ. All remaining Offrs attended address by the Fd Marshall later in the morning	
	4		Adv Party under 2 i/c left for BEECK near MAASTRICHT	
	5		C.O. left to contact Bde Comd at BEECK regarding relief of a Bn in the line by our Bn. Bn left LAAR by MT at 1020 hrs. Destination staging area MERKELBEEK (nr BRUNSSUM, HOLLAND)	
	6		Bn arrived MERKELBEEK 0100 hrs. CO immediately issued orders for relief of 5 Dorset, 130 Bde 43 Div, the same day. Relief to commence 1000 hrs. Bn left staging area in M.T., debussed GEILENKIRCHEN GERMANY and commenced relief of 5 Dorset. Relief complete 1430 hrs. Coy positions as follows :- A Coy reserve 880664 B Coy right fwd 885675 C Coy left fwd 881678 D Coy left centre 879677 Carrier Pl right centre 883673 BHQ, Sp Coy, RAP, 874667 No enemy interference during relief.	
	7		Enemy patrols active otherwise quiet	

Place	Date	Hour	Original Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
	8		Schu minefield located 884679 believed to have been laid by enemy patrol on night of 7/8 Dec. Schu minefield lifted by Pioneer Pl no casualties. <b>SGT CONNOLLY</b> C Coy wounded by booby trap at 1400 hrs. BHQ shelled 2100 hrs	
	9		C Coy shelled 1915 hrs 12 shells. Minefield discovered NORTH of B Coy posn 100 yds outside wood. <b>SGT FRAME</b> Sniper Sgt reported (at 2215) further enemy minefield 887679.	
	10		Mine recce party which was sent out through B Coy to recce minefields suffered casualties by standing on a 'S' mine. <b>LIEUT G. MITCHELL</b> wounded Pioneer Officer – 3 ORs wounded. <b>SGT FRAME</b> and <b>RFN CORRIE</b> (since died of wounds) both awarded M.M., for gallantry during this operation. Enemy appeared to be laying mines to left front of Bn D Coy mortared at 1210 hrs.	
	11		Slight shelling and mortar D and C Coy's areas 0100 hrs Bn relieved by 5 H.L.I. relief complete 1330 hrs Bn moves into res at KLOOSTER 6357 (sheet 59 1/50,000).	
	12		Bn are at KLOOSTER. Draft of 3 Offrs and 121 ORs received from 6 DLI (50 Div) Offrs :- <b>LIEUT A.W. SYKES</b> <b>LIEUT C. SYMES</b> <b>LIEUT R. QUICKENSON</b> <del>DON</del>	
	13		Bn practised co-op with tanks	
	14		Warning order received to be prepared to relieve 5 HLI 16 Dec	
	15		1630 Adv Party left to go to 5 HLI.	
	16		Bn left in MT at 0830 hrs to relieve 5 HLI same area as Bn was in before HOCHHEID. Relief complete 1330 hrs Locations:- A Coy Left fwd 881678 B Coy right fwd 885675 C Coy reserve 880664 D Coy left centre 878675 Carrier Pl right centre 883673 BHQ, RAP, Sp Coy 874667	
	17		1 PW (deserter) brought in by Carrier Pl at 0800 hrs. 0900 hrs D Coy Shelled. Enemy digging etc observed along front harassed by arty.	
	18		Slight shelling and mortaring BHQ and B Coy area. Americans captured WURM and MULLENDORF on our right.	

Place	Date	Hour	Original Summary of Events and Information	References To Appendices
	19		At 0440 hrs B Coy reported <b>LIEUT QUICKENDON</b> had come in and reported 6 casualties in his patrol which had entered a mine field <b>LIEUT QUICKENDON</b> took out SBs twice through minefield and by 0630 evacuation of casualties completed. <b>LIEUT QUICKENDON</b> awarded MC and <b>RFN HOPKINS</b> awarded MM for their parts in this action. Considerable air activity by enemy fighters aircraft. Relief by 7 Cameronians cancelled. American attack on right going well Quiet night.	
	20		1000 hrs GELLENKIRCHEN heavily shelled. 1600 hrs C Coy shelled 2115 hrs B Coy Mortared. Retailiatory fire brought down.	
	21		0915 hrs 3 PW taken by Carrier Pl this was remains of an enemy patrol shot up by Sqn Recce Regt on our right. 2035 D Coy shelled. 2045 B Coy shelled 2300 hrs strong enemy patrol seen moving towards area of carrier platoon.	
	22		a.m. Quiet p.m. minefield successfully laid by Pioneer Pl at 99881680 completed 2030 hrs warning order received Bn to be relieved on 24 Dec by a Bn of 157 Bde. 2155 hrs D Coy Mortared 2250 B, C, D Coys mortared.	
	23		Very quiet day and night N.T.R. Adv party from 6 HLI arrived p.m.	
	24		Bn relieved by 6 HLI N.T.R. Relief completed by 1420 hrs Bn moved to SCHINUELD 7664 O.O. No 1. refers (attached)	
	25		Christmas Day. Dinners held in BRUNSSUM A great succes	
	26		Bn resting at SCHINUELD.	
	27		Bn resting at SCHINUELD Orders given out for relief of 5 KOSB by Bn.	
	28		Adv party left 0900 hrs for GANGELT 7767. Adv party returned 1200 hrs relief cancelled for 24 hrs owing to enemy attack on 5 KOSB	
	29		Relief carried out by 2100 hrs See O.O. No 2 (attached)	
	30		Quiet day N.T.R.	
	31		Quiet day Slight enemy activity observed digging and movement.	
			<b>D WILSON CAPT &amp; ADJT</b>	
			for Lt. Colonel.	
			Commanding 6th (Lanarkshire) Bn. The Cameronians	
			(Scottish Rifles).	
			M3524/1218 1200M 10/41 H.B. & Co. Ltd. 51-1541)	