The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

145th Brigade.

48th Division.

1/4th BATTALION

ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

JANUARY 1 9 1 6

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	1/1/16		Working parties as on the 31st December. A fairly quiet day, but during the afternoon the Enemy shelled SAILLY. "A." and "C." Companies relieved B. and D. Companies at the usual hour. Weather:- a showery day.	RJC
do	2/1/16		Working parties as on the 1st. instant Artillery on both sides fairly active. Weather:- a fine day.	RJC
do	3/1/16		The 144th Brigade relieved the 145th Brigade at the usual hour and in the same order, our last platoon arriving in AUTHIE about 4. 30 p.m. Weather:- a dull day and very windy. The following Officers and N.C.O. were mentioned in Despatches dated 15.10.15 by the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief, British Army in the Field:- Colonel O.P. Serocold, V.D., Capt A.G.M. Sharpe; Capt. G.A. Battcock; Lieut. O.B. Challenor: Lieut. G.M. Gathorne-Hardy: 2Lieut. W.C. Hanney. No 899 Corporal Colley, H.G.	RJC

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	4/1/16		All day was employed in cleaning up, with the usual platoon inspections The Quartermaster inspected the mens' clothing Weather:- a dull day with rain at intervals	RJC
do	5/1/16		The route-march, previously arranged, was Cancelled. Companies did Company Training in the morning. The G.O.C. Division has given a "Football Cup" for which all units in the 48th Division will Compete. In the first round we were drawn against the 5th Glosters and were beaten 2 goals to 1. The Early stages of the game were witnessed by the Corps Commander. At 5.30 p.m. the "Varlet" Musical Troupe from 1/1st S.M. Field Ambulance gave an Excellent performance at the Café Nationale. Weather: a dull day.	Capt. Bean returned from fortnight's Furlough. Lt. Sharpe retd. from Bombing Course RJC
do	6/1/16		Working parties as per programme - Copy attached. Cinema performances given by M.T. at 4.30 p.m. 6.0 p.m. & 7.30 p.m. full house each time. Weather: a dull day.	RJC

2

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	7/1/16		Working parties as per programme. The Commanding Officer gave a lecture to Officers and men of the first Reinforcement who had been taken on our strength. Commanding Officers Conference of Company Officers at 4.30 p.m. Weather: a dull and windy day.	Lt. Calder + Rawenhorn went on Leave. Lt. Lund temply M.G.O. RJC
do	8/1/16		Working Parties Cancelled. B. and C. Companies did Company Training Lewis Gun Teams paraded for instruction under Lieut. D. J. Ward. 1 Officer and 6 N.C.O's from each of A. and D. Companies Carried out a "Staff Tour." A. and D. Companies Carried out a tactical scheme under the Commanding Officer. Companies under Company Commanders in the aft Ernoon. Weather: a dull day.	Maj. Hedges left for Hospital. Capt. Blandy took over Command of A. Company Lt Oldacre returned from Bombing Course. Capt. Boyle from III Army School of Instruction RJC
do	9/1/16		The 145th Brigade relieved the 144th Brigade at the usual hours, "B." and "D." Coys. going to the front line trenches, A. Company to the Keep, "C." Company to the Chateau. The Enemy put a few 4.2 and 5.9 shells into the Brickfields and Hocke. Weather: a fine day	RJC

3

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	10/1/16		Working parties on Communication Trenches, etc. The Enemy's Guns were quiet most of the day owing to the weather being rather misty	Major Clarke & Lt Foolden returned from Leave. RJE
do	11/1/16		Working parties as on the 10th. A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies at 3.30 p.m. The Enemy's Guns were quiet all day. Weather: a fine day with rain in the Evening.	Lts. Lacey & Bartram joined the Battalion. RJE
do	12/1/16		Working parties as on the 11th. The Enemy sent up about 40 green lights at 4.0 a.m. starting from GOMMECOURT WOOD along their first and second lines to FERME SANS NOM, BOIS ROSSIGNOL, and then back. Their Snipers were more active most of the day Enemy Guns put about a dozen Shells near the BRICKFIELDS about 1.30 p.m. and and another dozen by the CHATEAU and CHURCH about 5.30 p.m. A patrol in charge of Lieut. Foolden went out about 6.30 p.m. from MORAND: after proceeding about 150 yards towards the opposite lines they were fired on, one man being hit. As the moon was then shining too brightly the patrol returned Another patrol went out from A. Company to examine the LASCELLE Hedge.	2/Lt. Down, Teed and Austin-Leigh joined the Battalion. Casualties:- 2 wounded

H

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			but the water from our trenches had converted the ground into a quagmire and it was impossible to proceed	Rge
HERBUTERNE	13/1/16		Working parties as on the 12th - morning only Our guns carried out a bombardment in the morning chiefly between GOMMECOURT CEMETERY and FERME SANS NOM, the 9.2's being very attentive to the trenches between the CEMETERY and the WOOD. Enemy guns put a few shells on REMAUD and BIRON in the morning, and in answer to our bombardment more on our front line and the BRICKFIELDS By night their flares were sent up from their Second line. Weather: a fine morning, a heavy squall in the afternoon, and rain at night.	Rge
do	14/1/16		Working parties as on the 12th A patrol in charge of Lieut. Field went out from NIEL to inspect some snipers pits about 200 yards east of the trench: they shewed no signs of recent occupation. Weather: a fine day	a Draft of 20 men joined the Battalion Rge

5

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	15/1/16		The 144th. Brigade relieved the 145th. Brigade in the usual order and at the same time: our last platoon left the CEMETERY 1.25 pm. and arrived at AUTHIE at 4.20 pm. - the roads were very heavy. The same billets were occupied as for the last tour. Weather: a showery day.	RJC
AUTHIE	16/1/16		The day was spent in the usual clean up, etc A Church parade for 1 platoon each of A. & C. Companies was held in the Cafe Nationale at 12 o'clock. Captain Bathcock lectured to all Officers on the result of his "Staff tour" at 5.30 p.m. Weather:- a fine day; Cold night.	RJC
do	17/1/16		Working parties 75 from each Company were found. Lieut Enants Kauenhoven and Lacey left the Battalion to join the M.G. Corps at COUIN. Three bombs were dropped by an aeroplane on HEBUTERNE, but no damage was done. Weather: a fine day	RJC

6

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	18/1/16		Company Training was carried on from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., also wire breaking and the snipers class. Weather: a showery day.	Lt. Rawenhoon rejs from leave RJC
do	19/1/16		Work as on the 18th, with a "Staff tour" for N.C.O's. The Brigadier rode round in the morning. Three Cinema Entertainments were given in the afternoon and evening by the M.T. – a full house each time. Weather: a fine day.	RJC
do	20/1/16		Work as on the 19th: the last Draft carried out "Grouping" practice. Major Clarke lectured to the N.C.O's. on the attack at Loos: Capt. Boyle lectured to the Subalterns on the care of their platoons in billets, etc. Weather: a showery day with high wind.	RJC

7

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	21/1/16		The 145th Brigade relieved the 144th at the usual time and in the same order, excepting that the OXFORDS and BUCKS changed places. Our relief commenced about 11.30 am, A. and C. Companies to the trenches, "B." Company to the KEEP, D. Company to the CHATEAU. Working parties in the Evening on Communication Trenches, etc. A few 4·2 shells fell near the Chateau about 2.0 p.m. – a nose cap was marked as follows:- F.K.Z. 140 S.U.O.I 15 709 Weather:- A fine day.	RJC
HEBUTERNE	22/1/16		Working parties as on the 21st, morning and Evening. Our Guns carried out a bombardment, chiefly on GOMMECOURT CEMETERY and 862. The Enemy's Guns answered vigorously in the first half-hour, about 150 shells falling in our Section. – Field Guns, 4·2's and 5·9's. This was followed by quite a noisy night. Guns, M.G's, Rifles, all Bombs being ~~used~~ fired continuously. Weather:- A fine day, some rain at night	Casualties 1 Killed RJC

8

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	23/1/16		Working parties as on 22nd - morning only. B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies by 3.30 p.m. The Pioneer Section was increased by 4 men per Company. The Enemy's guns were quiet all day except for eight shells which were fired from a new position (South of PUISIEUX) - all "duds" Weather: a fine day.	Capt. Wingfield joined the Bn and was posted to "C" Company. Casualty:- 1 wounded. A Draft of 63 N.C.O's. and men joined the Battalion R.J.C.
do	24/1/16		Working parties as on the 23rd - morning and Evening The Guns on both sides were fairly quiet all day. The Battery South of PUISIEUX fired 5 shells in the morning - all "duds" again. Their M.G. guns were more active at the morning "Stand-to" A patrol in charge of Lieut. Cooke (6 men) went out from the BUCQUOY Barricade half way to the Enemy's lines: nothing of interest was seen and there were no signs at the "LONE TREE" of a sniper's post. Weather:- a fine morning, rain in the afternoon.	Lieut. Calder returned from leave, an extension having been granted for medical reasons R.J.C.

9

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	25/1/16		Working parties as on the 24th – morning and Evening A. and C. Companies relieved B and D. Companies by 3.30 p.m. At 2.0 am. three very lights were fired in rapid succession from the "16 POPLARS". These were followed by heavy bombardment on the Warwick trenches and FONCQUEVILLERS: most of the fire came from their batteries near BOIS DE BIEZ. The bombardment lasted about 40 minutes and our Batteries too were shelled during the latter part. At 2.20am. during the bombardment, one of their patrols threw four bombs into "M." Sap. The Rifle Jam at the French end of the sap at once opened fire – no damage was done Enemy guns fired 8 shells in the afternoon near the Shrine – all "duds" again. Nine hostile aeroplanes passed over our lines in the morning. A patrol of 6 men from "A" Company in charge of Lieuts Oldacre and Austin-Leigh reconnoitred the grass and hedge in front of "M." Sap. There were no signs of the Enemy occupation there. Weather:- a fine day, cold night.	Casualty:- 1 died of wounds RJC
do	26/1/16		Working parties as on the 25th, plus a new trench near the Bomb Store. Enemy guns were quiet all day, but their Machine Guns were more active in the afternoon Weather: a fine day and very dark night.	RJC
do	27/1/16		The 144th Brigade relieved the 145th in the usual manner, our last platoon leaving the Cemetery 1.40 p.m. arriving at AUTHIE 4.30 p.m. – the troops were in better condition for marching. The weather had been fine nearly the whole tour and great improvements had been made in the trenches. About 7.30 p.m. a gas alarm was given, reported from "G" Sector, but at 9.0 p.m. all was reported quiet Weather: a fine day	Lt. Challenor Bro. to A. Coy. from D. Coy. Lt. Rand from A. to D. Coy RJC

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	28/1/16		The day was spent in a general clean up, etc. Another Gas alarm was reported at 7.30 a.m. Weather:- a fine day	RJC
do	29/1/16		Company Training in the morning. A Company "Staff tour" for N.C.O's in the afternoon. Classes for Snipers, Lewis Guns, and Bombers, also "Grouping" for the new Draft in the morning. Another Gas alarm at 6.45 a.m. reported from the 32nd Division Three Cinema Entertainments were given by the M.T. - full house each time. Weather: a fine day.	RJC
do	30/1/16		Church Parade for the Battalion at 10.30 a.m. Classes for Snipers, Lewis Gun and Bombers - morning only Capt. Bean, R.A.M.C. lectured to Officers at 5 p.m. on Gas. Lieut. Foulton lectured to N.C.O's at 5.30 p.m. on reconnoitring patrols. Weather a fine day.	Lt. Rund went on Leave. RJC

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	31/1/16		100 men from each Company were found for working party. The 48th. Divisional Variety Troupe gave two Excellent performances at 4.30 & 6.45 Weather: a fine day During the month of January the 5th GLOSTER Battalion was on our Right, and the BUCKS Battalion on our Left, Except for the last tour when the OXFORDS changed with the BUCKS.	Lt. Ridley & Lt. Payne W.E. on leave RJC

O P Snowdon COL:
COMDG 4th BN ROYAL BERKS REGT

12

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength during month of JANUARY	
			All Ranks	
			Week Ending January 7th. 778	
			" 14th. 752	
			" 21st 740	
			" 28th 795	

13

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

1/4TH ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT.

PROGRAMME OF WORK (Reference Sheet 57 D 1/40000)

Companies will provide the following men on the days stated:-

Date.	A	1	2	3	Company Training.
6th	----------	2/Lt. Wells C - 100	2/Lt. Manship B - 50	2/Lt. Cooke D - 85 B - 15.	A
7th	2/Lt. Calder A - 90 Inter-Com-10	2/Lt. Field B - 90 Inter-Com-10	2/Lt. Manship M.G. - 35 C - 15	---------	D C
8th	----------	Lt. Lund A - 75 C - 25	2/Lt. Hine M.G. - 35 Inter-Com-15	Lt. Challenor D - 75 C - 25	B

1. Time of Rendezvous. 9.30 a.m.

2. Hours of work. 9.30 a.m. till 3.0 p.m. with one hour's interval for food.

3. Places of Rendezvous.

(a) For Party A - ROSSIGNOL FARM and report to R.E. Officer.

(b) " " 1 - COIGNEUX SPRINGS, J.9.a.2.9 and report to O.C. Labour Battalion.

(c) " " 2 - Cross Roads BUS-COUIN and ST. LEGER-COIGNEUX J.7.b.8.3 and report to R.E. Officer.

(d) " " 3 - Road Junction J.9.a.4.0 and report to R.E. Officer.

4. TOOLS For parties 1 and 2. Each party will take 50% picks and 50% shovels. One limber will be at Battalion Headquarters each morning at 8.30 a.m. to carry the tools of these two parties.
Two men will be detailed by the O.C. Company or Section finding No. 2 party to march with the limber at 8.40 a.m. and unload their proportion of the tools at the rendezvous of that party in sufficient time to allow the limber to reach the rendezvous of No. 1 party b. 9.30 a.m.
For other parties tools will be provided by the R.E.

5. The usual practice of sending one orderly back from each party will be adhered to.

L.E. RIDLEY, Lieut. & Adjt.,
1/4th Royal Berkshire Regiment.

4.1.1916.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Extract from Battalion Orders No. 154 of 17.1.1916.

HONOURS, AWARDS, ETC.

The undermentioned N.C.Os have been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty whilst serving with the Expeditionary Force in France.

590 Sergt. W.A.Roberts.
405 Corpl. A. Westall.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

The following extracts from a letter to the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief from Admiral of the Fleet, Sir John Jellicoe, G.C.B., K.C.V.O., are published for information:-

I must write these few lines to endeavour to express my thanks and, indeed, the thanks of all of us in the Grand Fleet, for the splendid treatment which the first batch of Officers and men received on the occasion of their visit to the trenches. From one and all comes the same story.

First, of gratitude for their reception.

Second, of the loudest praise and enthusiasm for the extraordinary cheerfulness and wonderful spirit imbuing all ranks of the Army under the worst possible conditions.

I made a stipulation that each Officer and man going to France should recount his experiences to his shipmates in a lecture, on return. They are all doing it with great zest and their one story is of the spirit of your Officers and men.

I feel that you should know the impression created on Officers and men who themselves are accustomed to pretty rough conditions.

It must give a great feeling of confidence to command such men.

May I take this opportunity of asking if you will let Officers and men know how great is our admiration for them, how closely we watch their gallant fight, and how we long to help them.

The day when we can do so may yet come.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

145th Brigade.

48th Division.

1/4th BATTALION

ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

FEBRUARY 1 9 1 6

GOKIDS 4th BN ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE	1/2/16		Working parties, 25 from each Company, were found for Hurdle making. The rest of the Battalion practised an attack in the morning. Weather:- a fine and cold day.	Capt. M. Simmonds 36th Horse, Indian Cavy. joined the Battalion for a month & was posted to "C" Company. RJL
do	2/2/16		The 145th Brigade relieved the 144th Brigade in the usual order and at the same times - 'B' and 'D' Companies to the Front Line; 'A' Company to the Keep; 'C' Company to the Chateau. Working parties were found in the Evening on all the Communication Trenches. A Conference of Commanding Officers was held at Brigade Headquarters at 4.30 p.m. The Enemys Guns were quiet, except for some shelling in the afternoon, but their Machine Guns were much more active. Weather:- a fine day.	RJL

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

00MD9 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	3/2/16		Working parties, morning and Evening, on all Communication trenches. The Enemy's Guns were again quiet Except for Some Shelling in the afternoon. Weather:- a Cold day with rain at night.	RJC
do	4/2/16		Working parties, morning only. 'A' and 'C' Companies relieved 'B' and 'D' by 4.0 p.m. Our Guns carried out an arranged bombardment on the Enemy's trenches opposite our Right Section, at 2.0 p.m. They replied at once with about 150 shells and at 6 p.m. they put about a dozen into the village. A special day-light reconnaissence of the Enemy's wire was made by Lieut. CALDER and TEED from 10.15 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. The reconnaissence was carried out very Excellently and the information they acquired was of great value. Weather: Rain fell most of the day and night.	RJC

2

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

OOMDe 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	5.2.16		Working parties as on the 3rd. The Enemy's H. 2's fired continuously on the Right trenches from 11.0 am to 3.0 pm. About 4.30 pm. they fired 7 rounds Salvos on the village and our trenches. Their Machine Guns were very active at Evening 'Stand-to' and about 7.0 pm., sweeping the parapets of our trenches continuously. Weather: a fine day.	The C.O, Capts. Babcock & Lewis W'ed on leave, Capt. Boyle took Command of B. Coy. Casualty:- 1 wounded. RJE
do	6.2.16		Working parties as on the 5th. 'B' and 'D' Companies relieved 'A' and 'C' Companies by 3.30 pm. Enemy Machine Guns were again very active at morning 'stand-to'. Their guns fired four shells at 6 different points in our line in the morning - Evidently new Batteries registering. Weather:- A showery day and night.	Lt. Challenor W'ed on Leave. RJE

3.

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBOTERNE.	7.2.16		Working parties as on the 6th. – morning and Evening. Enemy Machine Guns showed unusual activity. Their Guns fired about 50 4.2's on our two Left trenches at 11.30 a.m.; these shells came from a Battery which up to the present had fired on the next Division on our left. Weather: A fine day, with rain at night.	
do	8.2.16		Working parties as usual, morning only. A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies by 3.30 p.m. At 7.50 a.m. their Guns began firing and did not cease until dusk, the shells falling chiefly in the village, Brickfields and No Road. All their Guns were firing, from Field Guns to 8.2's, and there was a most marked absence of "duds". Their Shooting was most accurate. A very trying day – about 3,000 Shells were fired on the Brigade front during the day. A patrol in charge of Lieut. TEED went out at 9.0 p.m. from "M." Sap, returning about 11.0 p.m. They reconnoitred the front of our RIGHT Section, but all seemed quite quiet. Weather: A fine day, with rain at night.	Casualties:- 1 Killed and 1 Wounded. Coy. S.M. Lawrence's death was a great loss to his Coy. and the Battalion. His first thought was for the men and he greatly endeared himself to all ranks. 2/Lt. Austin-Leigh went on a Bombing Course. Casualty: 1 Wounded (Shell Shock)

4.

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

OOMD9 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY

~~or~~

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	9.2.16		Working parties during morning and Evening. Enemy's Guns were again most active on our front all day, about 2000 shells of different Calibres falling during the day – another worrying day. Weather:- Snow fell in the Early morning: fine day with hard frost at night.	Lt. Lund rejd. from Leave Casualties:- 2 wounded. RJE
do	10.2.16		B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies by 3.30 p.m. All the Enemy Guns were again very active, shells falling Chiefly ~~on the~~ in the village, Battalion Reserve Line and the Communication Trenches. Our heavy Guns fired on PUISIEUX and BUCQUOY and the Enemy at once shelled SAILLY and HEBUTERNE. One of their Shells burst on one of the Brick field Dugouts; there were Seven men inside and although no one was actually Killed they were all very much shaken up – a most fortunate escape. Weather: a fine day.	Casualties: 4 wounded (Shell Shock) 1 slightly wounded RJE
do	11.2.16		No working parties were possible all the day as Enemy Guns Kept up their incessant fire. Most of the shells fell in the villages and outer defences. For the last two days they have been firing much heavier Guns. Another worrying day, but their Guns were not quite so active. Weather: a wet day with Snow and sleet.	Lts. Payne & Ridley rejd. from Leave Casualties: 2 wounded (Shell Shock) RJE

5

COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBOTERNE	12.2.16		A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies. Enemy guns were not quite so active, but all the morning they were firing constantly on the village and communication trenches — chiefly with their heavy guns. (Casualties: 2 wounded (shell shock)) Weather: a showery day, fine night.	Capt. Lacey rejoined the Battn, Lieut Oldacre joined the M. G. Corps. Lt. Ridley W'nd for a month to the III Army School of Instruction as Adjutant. RJC
do	13.2.16		Working parties. Evening only. Enemy guns were again active most of the day on the village and front line trenches. Quite a display of green lights was observed to the South-east of us about 5.45 pm. — no apparent result followed. A patrol under Lieut. TEED went out from the Right of our line on the PUISIEUX Road: their working parties were very busy. Covered by the usual screen. Weather: a wet day.	The C. O. returned from ~~the~~ Leave. Casualty: 1 wounded (shell shock) RJC

6

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	14.2.16		B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies by 6.0 p.m. Our guns carried out an arranged bombardment lasting most of the day. The Enemy replied chiefly with their 5.9's. A Conference of Commanding Officers was held at Brigade H. Qrs. at 4.30 p.m. to discuss the new dispositions. Weather: a wet day and night.	Capts Boyle + Holcroft + Lt. Ward went on Leave. Capt. Winslow appointed acting Adjt. Capt. Cuttwell retd. from III Army School of Instruction.
do	15.2.16		At 11.0 p.m. the Enemy opened rapid fire on the Division on our Left lasting about 10 minutes, and from midnight till dawn our guns and theirs were firing continuously.	Rjl.
			The new dispositions came into force at noon, the 4th OXFORDS, the Left Battalion, remaining in their present position and of the three other Battalions one was out for four days, the remaining two taking the additional front between them. We hold our old front plus four fire trenches on our Right. Our Section was divided into two, each Company with three platoons in the firing line, one in immediate support and each having the call of two platoons from one of the Reserve Companies. The Company in the KEEP was brought up as Battalion Reserve. Enemy guns were quiet all the morning but their Field guns and 5.9's were busy in the afternoon. Weather: A rough Showery day and very wet night.	Rjl.

4/a

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

OOMDº 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Colonel O.P. Serocold, V.D., vacated the Command of the Battalion on February 14th, having received an order to report himself at the WAR OFFICE as soon as possible. His leaving was a great loss to the Battalion for he had put in 32 years Service in the Regiment, 9 years as Commanding Officer. The news of his leaving was received with the regrets of all ranks. Major R. J. Clarke took Command of the Battalion.	

w/a.

COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	16.2.16		All available men were employed in pumping in trying to deal with the volume of water. A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies by 6 p.m. At 3.30 am our guns put in 150 shells into the CHEMIN CROUX. Enemy Machine Gun and Rifle fire was very heavy in reply, chiefly from their front line. Judging from the amount of fire from their front line at morning and evening 'Stand-to', their line is much more strongly held than previously. Weather: a very wet day and a cessation of rain at night.	Capts. Babcock + Lewis + Lt. Challenor returned from Leave RJE
do	17.2.16		Trenches were full of water and in many places the walls were falling in. All day was spent in dealing with the damage. B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies Enemy Guns fired about 20 shells in the morning Weather: a fine day and night.	Casualties: 2 wounded. RJE

8.

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/16 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

OOMDº 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	18.2.16		A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies by 6.0 p.m. Weather:- a very wet day.	Capt Bolbeck appointed 2nd in Command Capt Aldworth in Command of B. Coy. RJL
do	19.2.16		B. and D. Companies relieved A. + C. Companies by 6.0 p.m. At 1.30 a.m. the Enemy opened a very heavy ~~fire~~ bombardment on the Brigade on our left lasting for about 1¼ hours. At 6.30 p.m. they opened another heavy bombardment on the Brigade on our Right, lasting about 45 minutes; gas shells were being fired. Their working parties in front of us were very busy and many words of English were heard, as "hurry up" "put it down there" "dig that hole deeper" "bring those stakes along", etc. About 11 p.m. two of their aeroplanes passed over the village going north. Weather: a fine day and night.	RJL

9.

COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	20.2.16		A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies. A patrol in charge of Captain SIMMONDS went out at 10.30 p.m. to inspect "M" Hedge, returning about 11.30 p.m. Enemy guns were quiet all day: their working parties were very busy all night. Weather: a fine day	2/Lt TEED went to Hospital. RJC
do	21.2.16		B. and D. Companies relieved A. & C. Ours and the Enemys guns were quiet all day. Weather: a fine day.	Capt. Lewis went to Hospital. Lt. Austin-Leigh rejd from Bomb School. RJC
do	22.2.16		A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Enemy guns fired about 30 shells on our left trenches in the afternoon. Weather: Snow and sleet all day; very cold night.	RJC

10

OOMDg 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	23.2.16		We were relieved by the 5th GLOSTERS in the morning. Commencing about 9.30 am. Headquarters, "C" and "D" Companies went to billets at COURCELLES: "A" and "B" Companies to SAILLY. All ranks were very glad of the change. Officers' Meeting of C. and D. Companies was held at 6.0 pm. Weather: Snow and cold wind all day, and a very cold night.	Lt Manship went to Hospital RJE
COURCELLES	24.2.16		Officers' Meeting of A. and B. Companies held at 12.15 pm at SAILLY. The "Varlets" Variety Troupe of the 1st Field Ambulance gave an Entertainment at SAILLY, and the "Curios" 48th Divisional Troupe at COURCELLES - both were very much enjoyed. The Commanding Officer inspected billets at COURCELLES and SAILLY in the morning. Weather: a cold day: very hard frost at night.	RJE

11

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

OOMDe 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COURCELLES	25.2.16		The "Varlets" gave their Entertainment at COURCELLES in the Evening. Weather: Snow all day, and very cold night.	
do	26.2.16		Sixty men of C. and D. Companies went to the Bomb School to practice throwing ~~the~~ "live" Grenades: 40 from A. and B. Companies. Weather: Snow at intervals all day, very cold night.	Capt. Cruttwell wnt on leave Lt. Ward reld. from leave Capts. Boyle's & Holcroft's leave extended.
do	27.2.16		We relieved the BUCKS Battalion, taking over from them the new "G." Section of the line. It is held by three Companies, Right, Centre and Left. A and C. Coys. hold the right alternately, C. the Centre, D. the Left. B. and C Companies completed their relief by 11.0 am, D. by 2 p.m., A. by 8 p.m. This Section is most extensive. The distance from the Reserve Platoons to the Front Line is 1500 yards, straight across Country. The ground in between is full of disused trenches, French and German, and it is a most difficult Section to hold. Parts of the fire trench are impassable and with our present weak numbers work is exctremely hard.	

12

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

COMDG 4th BN ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Army Form. C. 2118

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

5,000 — Imp. des A. C. — 24/7/15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27.2.16 Contd.		Enemy guns put about 60 shells on our Front line in the morning, about a dozen at mid-day, and about two dozen in the Early afternoon. Weather:- a fine day.	RJC
HEBUTERNE	28.2.16		The frost began to break and the trenches Commenced to fall in, etc. All available men were employed day and night in coping with the water and falls. B. Company relieved A. Company by 8.30 p.m. Enemy guns were fairly quiet all day. Weather: a fine day but very wet night.	RJC
do	29.2.16		A. Company relieved B. Company by 9.0 p.m. All working parties were again employed in dealing with the water in the trenches. Enemy's guns put a few shells in our front line and reserve lines and in the afternoon about a dozen "minnies" fell on our Right trench. Weather: A fine day, with some rain at night. One of German aeroplanes dropped two bombs near the Battalion Reserve Line.	

During the month of February the 4th OXFORDS were on our Left, and the 5th GLOSTERS on our right, excepting for the past two days when the 5th GLOSTERS were on our LEFT and the WEST RIDINGS, one of the Battalions in the 12th Brigade, were on our Right

RJ Clarke
Major.

Capt. J.N. Simonds left the Bn. to rejoin his Regt. The month he had been attached to us was full of incidents, heavy shelling, bad weather and plenty of work. Although a Senior Capt. yet he had taken the duties of Platoon Commander, taking his share with the Subalterns of the Coy. Nothing could alter his cheerfulness and he proved a tower of strength to the Coy. Commander and to all with whom he was brought into contact.

13

OOMDe 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Army Form. C. 2118

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

3,000 — Imp. des A. C. — 24/7/15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength Return.	
			All Ranks	
			February 4th 786	
			" 11th 774	
			" 18th 763	
			" 25th 761	

14

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

145th Brigade.

48th Division.

1/4th BATTALION

ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

MARCH 1 9 1 6

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	1.3.16		"B" Company relieved "A" Company by 9.15 p.m. The Commanding Officer attended a demonstration of the Bangalore Torpedo. The trenches improved greatly but there was still plenty of water. Enemy guns put about 50 rounds on our Left Company in the morning. A patrol, under the Command of Lieut Down, went out from Trench 32 to inspect our wire: they then crossed over and went along the Enemy's wire. The Division is now part of the 10th Corps, 4th Army. Weather: a fine day.	Rfl.
	2.3.16		All working parties were employed on pumping and clearing the trenches. A. Company relieved B. by 9 p.m. The Enemy's guns put about 40 shells near our right trenches. Weather: a fine day.	Rfl.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	3.3.16		Working parties were employed all day in clearing the trenches. B. Company relieved A. Company by 9 p.m. Transport Lines were moved from BUS to BAYENCOURT. The Enemy put about 20 shells into the Right trenches in the afternoon. Weather: a fine day, rain at night, followed by snow.	Capt Planck returned from leave. Casualty - 1 accidentally wounded. RJC
do	4.3.16		All working parties were employed in clearing the snow from the trenches. A. Company relieved B. Company by 9.30 p.m. A small patrol of the Enemy bombed D. Sap. Private Godliman showed great coolness and quickness in replying. Weather: Heavy snow all day, hard frost at night.	RJC
do.	5.3.16		All working parties were again employed in clearing the main trenches. B. Company relieved A. by 9 p.m. Weather: a fine day with snow at intervals, and again at night.	RJC

2

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	6.3.16		We were relieved by the 5th GLOSTERS - A. and D. Companies in the morning, C. Coy. in the afternoon, and B. Coy. after dark. The Battalion moved to SAILLY to billets. A Conference of Commanding Officers was held at Brigade H.Qrs. 10. am. Weather: A fine day with hard frost at night.	Casualty - 1 wounded. A Draft of 11 joined the Battn. RJL
SAILLY-AU-BOIS.	7.3.16		The day was spent by Company Commanders' Inspections. The Commanding Officer inspected each Platoon in the morning and was very pleased to find how fit all the men were after the hard time in the trenches. A meeting of N.C.O's at 12.15 pm and a Conference of Company Commanders was held at 12.45 p.m. Weather: a fine day.	Capt Attride returned from Leave. RJL
do	8.3.16		The usual platoon inspections were held in the morning. The Commanding Officer inspected Transport at 9.30 am. and the billets at SAILLY at 11 am. The inter-platoon football league was carried on in the afternoon. The Commanding Officer gave an Entertainment to the N.C.O's of the Battalion in the afternoon, the Divisional Variety Troupe "The Cuckoos" coming	R. Hine rejd. from the Base, and a Draft of 103 N.C.O's and men joined the Battn. RJL

3

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY.	8.3.16 (Contd.)		over for the occasion. Weather: A fine day, with hard frost at night.	RJL
do	9.3.16		A conference of Company Commanders was held at 10.15 am. The Commanding Officer inspected the Draft at 10.45 am. Weather: a fine day with snow at night.	RJL
do	10.3.16		We relieved the BUCKS Battalion from 10 am. onwards, the relief being completed by noon. Disposition:- A. Right Company; B. Centre; C. and D. Left or Reserve Company alternately. Each Company found two Platoons up, two in support, the left Company finding one Platoon for work under Company Commander and another platoon for work under the Regimental Pioneer Section. All working parties were employed in clearing the snow from the trenches. Enemy's guns were quiet most of the day, but their Machine Guns were very active. The Division is now part of the VIII Corps Weather: a fine day.	Capt. Thorne Lt. G. Hardy 2/Lt. Taylor joined the Battn. the first-named remaining with Transport. Lt. G. Hardy to B. Coy. Lt. Taylor to D. Coy. RJL

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	11.3.16		Working parties as on the 10th. D. Coy. relieved C. Coy. Enemy guns were quiet, except for the late afternoon. Weather: a fine day.	Capt Thorne went to BERUVAL as Town Major. Capt Holcroft rejd. from Sick Leave, 2nd Lt. Zeal from Hosp'l, 2/Lt. Anstenleigh from School of Instruction.
do	12.3.16		Working parties as on the 11th. C. Coy. relieved D. Coy. Enemy's guns were quiet most of the day. Weather: A lovely day, the first really Spring day we have had.	R.J.C. Casualties - 2 accidently wounded at Grenade Sch. R.J.C.
do	13.3.16		Working parties as on the 12th. D. Coy. relieved C. Coy. Enemy's guns were very active all the day, shells falling from about 9 o'clock until dusk on the Front Line, Reserve Line, and village. Enemy working parties were very busy all night and were very quiet, evidently a relief having taken place the previous night. Weather: a lovely day.	Lt. Ridley rejd. from III Army School of Instruction. R.J.C.

5

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	14.3.16		Working parties on all the trenches. The G.O.C. and Brigadier inspected the Centre and Right Company trenches at 7.0 am. Enemy's guns were again very active all the day, the shelling being almost continuous. One of their aeroplanes dropped a bomb in the village in the afternoon. Lt. Challener went to Brigade on training for a Staff Captain. Weather: a lovely day	2/Lt. Barham went to Div. School of Instruction A notice in the Gazette of the C.O.'s being promoted to Lieut-Col. was received, anti-dated Feby. 14. RJL
do	15.3.16		Working parties as on the 14th. D. Company relieved C. Coy. Another very active day for Artillery. Enemy's guns began at 8.30 am and finished at dark. Our guns fired about 500 rounds ~~out~~ in the day. A patrol in charge of Lieut. Lund went out from MORAND, remaining out about two hours, but no Enemy patrols were met with. Weather: a cloudy day, fine night.	RJL

6

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	16/3/16		Working parties as before. C. Coy. relieved D. Coy. Enemy's guns were again most active, the shelling lasting all the day, chiefly on the village and Reserve Line and Communication trenches, all the latter receiving several direct hits. Their Signals and Rockets in the Evening were very interesting, red & green being used in different order and being replied to. A patrol under the Command of Lieut. Calder, went out from 9 pm till midnight on the POISIEUX ROAD. They were able to locate three Machine Gun positions. Weather:- a fine day.	Casualties - 2 wounded. R.J.C.
do	17.3.16		Working parties as usual. D. Company relieved C. Coy. Enemy guns were quiet all the morning and most active again all the afternoon. A patrol, under the Command of Lieut. Handy, went out to Examine "M." Hedge. A pair of Field Glasses and some Hand Grenades were found. Their patrols were heard. Lieut Goolden & Corporal Taylor went out from F.T. 13 along the road; during a mist they saw two Germans near their wire and shot them both.	

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	17.3.16 (Contd)		They then returned to the spot where a bomb had been thrown at one of our Posts the previous Evening, and found (1) a glass globe full of liquid with string set round it. (2) a string case with powder in it (3) Six Hand Grenades (4) a shoulder strap, silver braid on red cloth, 169 in fill (5) a pair of gloves A patrol in charge of Lieut. Lund went out in the Evening and remained out most of the night, but no patrol was met with. Weather: a fine day, misty morning.	R.J.L
do	18.3.16		We were relieved by the 5th GLOSTERS 9.30 a.m. onwards, and moved to billets at SAILLY. A Company Commanders Conference was held at 6.0 p.m. A lovely day	2/Lt. J. F. Duff & G. T. Wakeford joined the Battn for duty R.J.L

8

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SALLY	19.3.16		All day was spent in the usual Platoon and Company inspections etc. The Commanding Officer inspected each Platoon in the morning and the Transport at 3.30 p.m. At 2.0 am a raid was made on the 6th Glosters: the Battalion was ordered to stand to, the firing being exceptionally heavy, and two Companies were sent to re-inforce the HEBUTERNE garrison. They left about 3 am returning about 5 am. Weather: A lovely day.	Capt Boyle returned from Extended Leave. RJL
do	20.3.16		The usual platoon inspections were held in the morning. The Medical Officer lectured to the new Draft on the care of feet, Smoke Helmets, etc. at 11.30 am. C and D. Companies practiced moving out of a trench through the wire by night. The Divisional Variety Troupe gave a performance in the afternoon. Weather: a lovely day.	Capt Aldworth and Lt. Wells went on Leave RJL

9

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
~~or~~
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY	21.3.16		The usual platoon inspections were held in the morning. The Commanding Officer inspected all the N.C.O's who had received promotion owing to the June - Expired N.C.O's having left the Battalion on the 17th. The Adjutant held a parade of the 2/Lieutenants in the Battalion at 10.30 a.m. Weather:- a fine day.	R.J.E.
do	22/3/16		We relieved the BUCKS Battalion, taking over 'G' Section of the line:- 'A' Company Right; 'C' Company Centre; 'D' Company Left. Bombing attack made by the 5th GLOSTERS - the Battn. on our Left - between the hours of 12.0 and 1.0 a.m. The enemy retaliated vigorously and our trenches came in for a certain amount of shelling. 4 Officers and 16 Other Ranks were attached to us for instruction - they were 18th West Yorks, forming part of the 31st Division. Weather: a dull day.	Casualties- 2 Wounded in action- GAS. R.J.E.

10

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HETBUTERNE	23.3.16		A quiet day as regards Artillery, but Enemy Machine Guns were very active. B. Company relieved A. Company. Weather:- A cold day with snow at intervals.	Lt-Col. Clarke went on leave, Capt. Babcock assumed Command of Battn. RJC
do	24.3.16		Working parties employed in clearing away snow from the trenches. Enemy guns fairly active, shelling intermittently our trenches, also village. A Company relieved B. Company. Weather:- a fine day.	RJC
do	25.3.16		B. Company relieved A. Company. Enemy guns fairly quiet. Excepting for a few shells in the village in the morning and afternoon. Weather:- a fine day.	RJC

11

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	26.3.16		The Officers and Other Ranks of the 18th West Yorks Regiment left at 7.0 am. 'A' Company relieved 'B' Company. Baths were allotted to B. C. & D. Coys, and Details. Rain and Snow fell heavily in the morning, but cleared in afternoon: frost at night	R.J.L.
do	27.3.16		'B' Company relieved 'A' Company. 4 Officers and 16 O. Ranks of the 13th Yorks. & Lancs. Regiment (31st Div.) attached to us for instruction in the trenches. Baths allotted to A. Company. Weather:- a dull day, very windy.	R.J.L.
do	28.3.16		A Company relieved B. Company. Enemy fire fairly active during the day on our trenches. Weather: fine morning, with snow and rain in the afternoon.	R.J.L.

12

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HETBUTERNE	29.3.16		'B' Company relieved 'A' Company. Enemy fire fairly quiet. Weather:- a dull day with snow at intervals.	RJC
do	30.3.16		We were relieved by the 5th GLOSTERS and the Battalion proceed to rest billets at SAILLY. Weather:- a lovely day	a draft of 88 N.C.O's and men joined the Battn for duty. Casualty - 1 wounded.
SAILLY.	31.3.16		The morning was spent in the usual way after relief, and the Quartermaster inspected clothing. The Commanding Officer held a Conference of Coy. Commanders at 12.40 p.m. Battalion Sports were held in the afternoon and a Concert of "local talent" was given in the evening to celebrate the anniversary of the landing in France of the Battalion. Weather:- a lovely day.	RJC Lt. Field, Calder, & Goolden went on leave.

R J Clarke Lt Col.
Comdg. 1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

13

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			During the month of MARCH a Company Pioneer Section was formed, on the same lines as the Regimental Section, which had proved such a great success. Only trained Grenadiers formed this Company Section and in case of an "alarm" they would at once report to the O.C. Company for orders.	
			This system of the Regimental and Company Pioneer Sections has proved an unqualified success.	RJC
			During the month the following units were on our Right & Left.	
			RIGHT A Battalion of the 12th Brigade, followed by a Battn. of the 144th Brigade.	
			LEFT. The Oxfords, 5th GLOSTERS and BUCKS Battns. alternately	

14

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

R J Clarke Lt-Col.
Comdg. 1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength Return - MARCH - 1916.	
			all Ranks	
			March 3rd. 730	
			March 10th. 840	
			March 17th 805	
			March 24th 741	
			March 31st. 874	

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

145th Brigade.

48th Division.

1/4th BATTALION

ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

APRIL 1 9 1 6.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

WAR DIARY

~~or~~

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY-AU-BOIS	1/4/16		The usual platoon inspections were held. Working parties on Signal trenches. 100 men carried out a "practice" dig by night, filing out through a the gap in the wire. Weather:- A lovely day.	The C. O. returned from Leave. RJL
do	2/4/16		The usual platoons inspections were held. A Smoke Demonstration, shewing the effect of Smoke Candles, phosphorous and phosphorous bombs was held for all troops in the Brigade who were out of the trenches. "D" Company found the party to show the vil effects of passing through the smoke in a gas attack. Weather:- A lovely day.	Capt Lewis & 2/Lt Irvin returned from Sick Leave. RJL
do	3/4/16		The G.O.C. held a Divisional Conference of all Commanding Officers and Adjutants at 11.30 am 400 men again practiced night digging. Weather:- a lovely day	RJL

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY.	4/4/16		We relieved the 5th GLOSTERS going into the new 'J' Sector, the relief being completed by 11.0 am. The Sector is divided into two Sections - RIGHT, SERRE ROAD to F.T. PRAT inclusive; LEFT, Right of F.T. DURAND to F.T. LASCELLE inclusive. Dispositions:- 2 Platoons in the Front Line 2 Platoons in Local Support in each Section. 'A' Company took the Right; 'C' Company the Left; 'B' Coy Battalion Reserve; 'D' Company Brigade Reserve Working parties by night only on Communication trenches. Company Pioneer Sections took the Front Line work. The Enemy fired 2 "Minnies", both falling about 175 yards in front of our wire. One hole was 10 feet deep and 22 feet across. The G.O.C. held a Conference of all Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. Weather: A Cooler day A patrol, in Charge of Lieut Teed, went out from the Right and worked along the Enemy's wire returning about 12.15 am. Another patrol in Charge of Lieut Wells went out from F.T. 19. working due East located a post of the Enemy about 100 yards in front of their own wire.	

2

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	5/4/16		Working parties as on the 4th. The enemy's guns were fairly busy in the morning. A patrol in charge of Lieut Reed went out towards the "Christmas Tree" and working back right found nine rifle pits about 150 yards from our own wire. Weather:- a fine day	R.J.C.
do	6/4/16		Working parties as on the 5th. Enemy's guns were busy all day on our Front Line and on the village. The G.O.C. held another Conference of all Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. Two patrols went out during the night - one from the Centre and the other from the right; nothing of importance was heard or seen. Weather: a fine day, rain all night	2Lt Stone went on Leave. R.J.C.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	7/4/16		Working parties as on the 6th. Enemy's guns were a little quieter during the day. The new R.A. Dispositions came into force, our front being covered by the 3rd Warwick Battery: D. 169 Battery also covering our front but under the orders of the 3rd Warwicks. A patrol in charge of Lieut. Brennan, attached, went out from the Right about 10 p.m.: they worked along the Enemy's wire returning about mid-night. Weather: a fine day, cold night	R.J.E
do	8/4/16		Working parties afternoon only B and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Coys by 10.0 am. The G.O.C. held another Conference of Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. The Brigadier held a Con-ference of Commanding Officers at Brigade Headquarters. Enemy's guns were rather more active in the day. A hostile aeroplane dropped two bombs on the village and one near the Right Coy. Headquarters - no damage was done. A patrol under Lieut Downs went out from the Right about 10.0 p.m. returning about 12.30 a.m.	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	8/4/16 (Contd)		They visited the "Christmas Tree" on the way out, working towards the Enemy's wire; on the return journey they passed near the tree. A party of 12 of the Enemy had evidently seen them and were waiting to catch them on their return. Our patrol was fired on and one was wounded in two places, but they all returned. Weather: a fine day and very clear night.	Casualties - 1 wounded.
do	9/4/16		Working parties, Pioneers only, on Communication Trenches. Enemy's Guns were fairly active all the morning and their Machine Guns all the afternoon and Evening. A new trench was dug by the Brigade from 9.30 p.m. to 3.0 am. on the 10th. 1500 men were out, including the digging, wiring, and covering parties. The 5th GLOSTERS and 4th OXFORDS found digging and wiring parties; BUCKS and ourselves the covering parties. Major Clissold, R.E's. was in Command of the operations. The trench started from the North end of BOUILLON 400 yards due North, 200 yards North-North East, 150 yards North-North West, 200 yards due West joining in the old line at HOCHE. A Barricade on the POISIEUX ROAD was erected consisting of 2000 Sand bags. Knife Rests were put out roughly 40 yards in front of the new trench, 2 yards apart; these spaces being joined up by screw stakes and barbed wire. Copy Enclosed. There were only 15 casualties out of all the parties out. All the arrangements worked Excellently. Weather: a fine day, cloudy night.	Battalion Operation Order and poem by Lieut Vowe attached.

5

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	10/4/16		Working parties, Pioneers only, on Communication trenches. By night, wiring parties under the Command of the Adjutant, put out another lot of wire the whole length of the new trench; Concertina wire, screw stakes, etc were used. The whole of this work was completed in 4 hours – an excellent performance. Company Pioneers were employed on revetting fire steps in the new trench. The Enemy took no notice of the new trench till about 12.30 p.m. when one of their aeroplanes flew along the line and the observer could plainly be seen taking photographs. About a quarter of an hour later their guns began registering, and every Battery from SERRE to LA BRAYELLE fired. They began shooting again at 9.30 p.m. and shells fell almost continuously till 2.30 a.m. – fortunately their range was just over the trench. Two patrols were found by 'D' Company working in between our wire and the Enemy's. Weather: a fine day	Casualties: 3 killed 2 died of wounds. RJC

6

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	11/4/16		Working parties on Communication trenches only. Enemy's fire were quiet all the morning but were very active all the afternoon and night. No work was possible in the new trench, which was badly knocked about. The G.O.C. held another Conference of Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. Patrols from B. and D. Company went out in front of the new wire most of the night. Weather: a wet day.	Capt. Lacy & 11 Cooks had on leave. 11 Field rds. from leave. Casualties: three wounded. RJC
do	12/4/16		The 5th GLOSTERS relieved as 9.30 am. onwards, H. Qrs. A. and B. Coys. going to the huts at COUIN: C. and D. Coys. to billets at SAILLY-AU-BOIS: the last platoon arrived at the huts about 2.30 pm. The roads were all very heavy. The mud in the woods was inches deep and there were no Corduroy paths: the roofs of the huts in many places leaked. Weather: a wet day.	Lts. Calder & Goolden returned from leave, also Lieut. Payne. RJC

7

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COUIN ~~HEBUTERNE~~	13/4/16	–	All day was spent in the usual inspections etc. 25 men of A. Company were inoculated. Bad weather was responsible for this small number. Weather:- a fine day. wet night.	RJE
do	14/4/16		75 men of B. Company were inoculated Platoon and Company drill was held all the morning. The G.O.C. Division held another meeting of Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. Weather: a cold day.	RJE
do	15/4/16		Platoon and Company drill all the morning 50 men of C. Company were inoculated. Weather:- a fine day	RJE

8

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COUIN	16/4/16		Platoon and Company drill all the morning. 2 Officers and 70 O. Ranks attended Church Service in the COUIN Recreation Room. Conference of Commanding Officers was held at Brigade H. Qrs. in the morning 50 men of 'D' Company were inoculated. Weather: a fine day, wet night.	RJL
do	17/4/16		Platoon and Company drill in the morning. The Companies at COUIN bathed during the day. The Commanding Officer inspected part of the Transport in the afternoon. Weather: a wet, cold day and night.	Lt. Shine returned from Leave. RJL
do	18/4/16		Platoon and Company drill in the morning. The G.O.C. Division held a meeting of Commanding Officers and Adjutants in the afternoon. The Commanding Officer went to HEBUTERNE to discuss with O.C. 5th GLOSTERS all arrangements for making Counter-raids in the Section. Weather: a wet and cold day.	Capt Lacy & Lt Cooke rejd from leave as orders were received on the 18th to recall all ranks on leave. Lt Challenor rejd. from Bde H.Q. and took over duties of Transport Officer. RJL

9

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COUIN	19/4/16	-	Parades under Company Commanders, but owing to the weather very little could be done Weather:- very cold and wet day: very cold night.	
do	20/4/16		We relieved the 5th GLOSTERS in J. Sector, the relief being completed by 11 a.m. B. Company on the right: D. Company on the left: A. Company Battalion Reserve in the village: C. Company Brigade Reserve in the Keep. The trenches were in a very bad condition after the heavy rains. All working parties were employed on clearing the trenches. By night special parties wiring "M." Hedge and the new Trench. The Enemy's guns were fairly active all the day. A quiet night. Weather:- a wet afternoon, but fine night.	

10

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	21/4/16		All working parties on pumping and clearing up the trenches. Enemy's guns were much more active all the day, paying attention to our Centre and Left in the morning and Right all the afternoon. More of their Infantry were seen moving on the roads behind the Enemy lines than for many weeks past. One of their aeroplanes three times approached the new trench but each time it was turned back by "Lewis" gun fire. Weather:- a wet day and night.	Lt. Sharpe rejoined the Battn from Trench Mortar Batty. RJC
do	22/4/16		A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Coys by 10.0 am. Working parties on pumping and clearing, day and night. The Enemy's guns were more active all day, the Right Company getting the majority of the shells. Their Machine Guns also were much more active. A patrol in charge of Lieut. Hine went out from M. Sap at 9. pm.; they worked up to the Enemy's wire, then turned North, and returned about 11 pm.: nothing of importance was seen.	RJC

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE (Cont'd)	22.4.16		At 12.30 (23rd) the enemy opened a very heavy bombardment for six minutes, firing 400 to 500 shells and "minnies". Shells of all Calibres, up to 5.9", falling on the new and front line trenches. Weather: a fine morning and wet afternoon.	Casualties:- Lt Duff and 3 men wounded and one shell shock. RJC
do	23.4.16		Working parties as on the 22nd. The enemy's guns were again most active all day, especially in the afternoon. This was one of the worst days bombardments we have experienced, over 1000 shells falling in our Sector alone. Shells of all Calibres, including several new ones, fell during the day. Their Machine Guns were again most active all day. A patrol, in charge of Lieut. Wells, went out from M. Sap at 9.0 p.m. and worked South: they located a large working party on the enemy's wire: they returned about 11.0 p.m. The early part of the night was quiet but at 1.15 a.m. (24th) the enemy again bombarded our new line, doing a certain amount of damage to the trench. Weather: a fine day and night.	Capt Bullock and Lieut Calder went to BAYENCOURT for a rest. RJC

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	24/4/16		Working parties as on the 23rd. The Enemy's Guns were quieter in the morning, but in the afternoon they bombarded the new trench with "Minnies" and shells. At 11.40 p.m. they again heavily bombarded the new trench. Our Guns replied. At 12.10 a.m. (25th) the Enemy again opened fire and on our replying they ceased. During the second bombardment their "Minnies" were all bursting in the air. Weather:- a lovely day and fine night.	Casualties:- 5 wounded 1 shellshock R.J.B.
do	25/4/16		The 144th Brigade relieved the 145th Bde. The 4th GLOSTERS relieving us by 12.30 p.m. We moved back to AUTHIE to our great joy but not to our old billets: all ranks of the Battalion were very happy to be back again in the village and we received a most kindly welcome from all the inhabitants. The last platoon arrived in billets about 4.0 p.m. Weather:- a lovely day and night. A Conference of Company Commanders was held at 6 p.m.	A reinforcement of 18 Other Ranks joined the Battalion. R.J.B.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

13

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE.	26/4/16		The day was spent in the usual platoon and Quartermasters inspections and general clean up, etc. The Companies were again inoculated, one day being allotted to each Coy. Weather:- a lovely day.	R.J.E
do	27/4/16		The Battalion carried out Field Operations in the morning, marching to COIGNEUX and working back across the Country to the AUTHIE-VAUCHELLES Road. Weather:- a lovely day	Lt. Calder went to Hospital with Shell Shock. R.J.E
do	28/4/16		The Battalion carried out Field operations under the Brigadier in conjunction with the BUCKS Battalion, moving off at 10.0 am. to ST. LEGER and working across country towards PAS. Weather:- a lovely day	R.J.E

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE.	29/4/16		Parades were held under Company Commanders, except for details who worked under their respective Officers, Lewis Gun teams, Stretcher Bearers, Buggers Bandsmen. All trained bombers from D. Company marched to SAILLY under Lieut Rund and practiced throwing live grenades. All Officers Junior to Lieut Ward paraded under the Adjutant and all N.C.O's of C. and D. Companies under the Sergeant Major at 2.30 pm. The Range was allotted to A. Company for grouping practice - 5 rounds at 100 yards - Every man present with Company firing. A Flamenwerfer Demonstration was given by the 4th Army Chemical Adviser in the morning, each Company detailing 12 to attend. Later a demonstration of the effects of Lachrymatory Shells was given. Weather: a lovely day.	
do	30/4/16		Church Parade was held in the Berkshire Field at 10.0 am. The Commanding officer inspected billets after the service. A Lecture was given at BAVINCOURT in the morning on German words of Command etc - information that would prove useful to Intelligence Officers and patrols. Weather:- a lovely day. R J Clarke Lt. Col. COMDG 4th Bn ROYAL BERKS REGT	Lt. Sharpe went to Hospital. Lt Fathorne Hardy rejoined and 2/Lt Kenny joined for duty. Lt. Dalleford left from Div. School + Lieut Wells went to Div. School on Course of Instruction.

15

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength Return for APRIL. 1916	
			Week Ending — All Ranks.	
			April 7th — 830	
			April 14th — 822	
			April 21st — 824	
			April 28th. — 801	
			Battalion on our Right. — BUCKS Battalion	
			Battalion on our Left. — 1/4th OXFORDS.	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

The Brigade will dig a trench on the night of the 9/10th April from BOUILLON to a point about 200 yards east of LASCALLE SAP. Major Clissold, R.E. will be in command of the operations.

1. GENERAL IDEA.

The 5th GLOSTERS and 4th OXFORDS will find parties for the digging. The 5th GLOSTERS from trench BOUILLON to PUISIEUX RD. The 4th OXFORDS the remaining half.

The Right party will use REVEL and PAS DE TIR.

The Left Party REMAUD.

A guide from R.E's will meet each party at the Fire Trench end of the Communication Trenches.

In addition to these digging parties, each of the two above Battalions will detail a Wiring Party.

Each of these two parties will be met at the R.E.Stores in the village by an R.E.Officer, who will accompany the party. They will draw knife rests, stakes, and barbed wire from the dumps previously arranged.

The wire will be put up about 40 yards in front of the new trench.

There will also be a centre carrying party, and a centre Wiring Party, both found by the 4th OXFORDS, to carry sandbags from the dump on the Puisieux Road and to wire in front of the Barricade to be erected where the new trench will cross the road.

Gaps will be cut in the front wire by the 4th ROYAL BERKS. and the BUCKS BATTALION on the night of the 8/9th April.

2000 Sandbags will be filled by the 4thROYAL BERKS.

The 4th ROYAL BERKS will find a covering party from the right of the new trench to the PUISIEUX ROAD inclusive. The BUCKS BATTALION a similar party from the PUISIEUX ROAD exclusive, to the left of the new trench.

The whole success or failure of the Operations will depend on the silence of the men and the celerity with which they work. All ranks should thoroughly understand this.

Action to be taken in case the enemy attempt to interfere with the work will be explained to each party.

2 SPECIAL IDEA.

1. Dumps of R.E.Stores have already been formed for the RIGHT and CENTRE.

Gaps in the front wire have been cut, except for some strands of loose wire which will be cleared just previous to the start.

Sandbags have already been filled.

2. POLICE. O.C. A Company will detail 1 N.C.O. and 12 men to act as Police at the following points :-

3 men at each end of REVEL.
3 men at junction of PAS DE TIR and VILLON LANE.
3 men at junction of PAS DE TIR and BOUILLON.
4 posts in all.

O.C. C Company will detail 1 N.C.O and 6 men to find two posts, one each end of BATTEUSE.

No Officer or men of any rank will be allowed to use any of the following trenches:- REVEL, PAS DE TIR or BATTEUSE, between the hours of 7.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. except for the purpose of going from the village to the Fire Trench.

When the parties are returning from work they will use the same routes as when going up. The Police will see that the routes are kept clear for the return,and will remain on duty

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

at these points until all the parties have returned from the work.

3. O's C A and C Companies respectively will detail 1 N.C.O and 4 men to clear the gaps in the wire as in "SPECIAL IDEA" 1".

4. O's C. B and D Companies will ensure that the parts of their front line which will be used by the working parties are kept clear while such parties are marching in and out.

5. O.C. A Company will detail three Officers and 100 other ranks to form the Covering Party. They will march ~~down~~ down via PAS DE TIR, VILLON LANE and BUGEAUD, the head of the party being in F.T. BUGEAUD at 8.0 p.m. The hour from moving out from there will be given them by the R.E. Officer stationed at that point.

6. The trench has already been marked out with pegs, and as soon as it is dusk tonight will be taped to show the exact position.

7. The Covering Party will take up their line a hundred yards in front of the new trench. Groups of about 4 or 6 men will be formed about 35 yards apart. One Lewis Gun will be on the left of the line near the PUISIEUX ROAD.

As the party may be out for six hours O.C. Company will arrange that they are warmly clad, that waterbottles are filled with some hot drink, and that a haversack ration is carried.

Each man who understands bombs will carry two No.5's in his pocket. Arrangements will be made by O.C. Company with the Battalion Bomb Officer for the supply.

Hot drinks will be provided for the party on their return.

All ranks of the Covering Party must clearly understand what their duties are.

8. The enemy may attempt to interfere with the work either by :-

(a) Small patrols.
(b) Large patrols.
(c) Attempting to rush the party with a large body of men.
(d) Shell fire.

In the event of (a) the Covering Party must keep them at a distance, trying if possible to give the enemy the idea that they have run up against one of our patrols only.

In the event of (b) the Covering Party can deal with them.

In the event of (c) unless an attack is made with a very large body of men the Covering Party should be able to deal with them, but if the Covering Party have to move they MUST clear to the RIGHT. There will be no gaps left in the new wire. The digging and Wiring Parties will, in this case, take up their positions in the new trench firing straight to their front.

In the event of (d). If a heavy bombardment takes place all work will cease.

Every endeavour must be made to prevent small patrols of the enemy creeping up to ascertain what work is being done and then returning to their own lines with the information in order that their guns can open fire on the exact position.

The Covering Party will remain out until all digging and wiring parties have returned. O.C. Covering Party will receive this information from O.C. 5th GLOSTER digging party - Capt.Collett.

9. Of the three Officers of the Covering Party two will remain with the groups. The Third will be between the new wire and the new trench so as to be in touch with the actual work. He can then be a Liason between the Covering and other parties.

10. If the trench is completed it will be held by a few posts until dawn, when it will be evacuated.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

11. O.C. B Company will detail two posts :-
    (1) 150 yards from the Right of the new trench.
    (2) 150 yards to the left of No.1.

O.C. D. Company will detail three posts :-
    (1) On the PUISIEUX ROAD.
    (2) 200 yards farther North where the Trench will slightly change direction.
    (3) 150 yards North of No.2 where the trench turns due West.

No Communication trenches will be dug from our present front line to join up the new line.

(signed) L.E.KIDLEY,
Lieut., and Adjt.,
1/4th Royal Berkshire Regt.

2.4.1916.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

F.T. BLANK BLANK.

A whisper wandered around
Of a plan of the G.O.C's,
And figures surveyed the ground
In stealthy groups of threes;
But the whole Brigade wast there,
Or pretty well all the lot
When we dug at trench at Never-mind-where
On April the Never-mind-what.

The Whats-a-names dug the trench,
The Who-is-its found the screen,
And we wust'nt forget to wench
The Thingumies in between;
The Tothermies built the fence
And the R.E's "also ran"
For we did'nt spare any expense
With labour a shilling a man.

There is'nt such else to tell,
Though the enemy made a song
And tried to blow it to Hell,
But got the address all wrong,
For you'll find it's still out there
In the belly old self same spot
That trench which we dug at Never-mind-where
On April the Never-mind-what.

W.O.D.

W. Odown 2Lt
1/4 R. Berkshire Regt

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

145th Brigade.

48th Division.

1/4th BATTALION

ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

M A Y 1 9 1 6:

Attached is report on German Raid on "G" Sector - Hebuterne 15/16th May.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AUTHIE.	1/5/16	–	Company Training for A. B. and C. Companies. The Range was allotted to "D." Company. The Bombers of B. Company marched to SAILLY for practice with live bombs, under Lieutenant Lund. Football Match "B." Company v "D" Company was played, "D." winning three goals to nil. The Divisional Band played in the Village in the afternoon. The Divisional Variety Troupe "The Curios" gave their Entertainment. Weather:- a lovely day.	Captain Holcroft went to the Divisional School as Instructor. Capt. Lacy & Lieut Cooke went on Leave. Rgt
do	2/5/16		The Battalion moved to SAILLY, marching by Companies, the 145th. Brigade relieving the 144th Brigade. We were billeted in the North side of the village and the Billets were not too comfortable. The Range was allotted to 'C' Company in the afternoon. A. Company found working parties for R.E.'s and Signals in the morning. Weather:- A very close day, with heavy thunder rain in the afternoon.	Rgt

1.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SAILLY-AU-BOIS.	3/5/16		The Range was allotted to "C." Company. The bombers of "A." Company practiced with live bombs, under Lieut. Lund. Company Training for the rest of the Battalion. B. Company found a Working party of 60 at HEBUTERNE by day, 70 by night; D. Company 70 by night. Weather:- a Close day.	
do.	4/5/16		The Battalion moved to the Huts at COUIN, moving off from the village by Platoons from 8.0 am. onwards, forming up as a Battalion at COIGNEUX. We occupied "B." Block of Huts. The Cross roads at the HEBUTERNE end of SAILLY were heavily shelled by 5.9's from 6.15 am to 8.30 am. The bombers of "C." Company practiced throwing live bombs under Lieut. Lund. Company and Platoon inspections were held in the afternoon. Weather:- a lovely day.	2/Lt. Hampshire joined the Battalion & was posted to A. Company. Capt. Battack W'nd to Divisional Rest Station.

2.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COVIN	5/5/16	–	A. and B. Companies bathed in the morning. C. and D. Companies in the afternoon. C. and D. Companies route-marched in the morning. A. and B. Companies in the afternoon. A. and B. Companies Company Training in the morning. C. and D. Companies in the afternoon. Weather:- a lovely day. much cooler night.	RJL
do	6/5/16		The Range was allotted to "B" Company. A. C. and D. Companies practised Field Operations in the morning. Company parades in the afternoon. Weather:- a lovely day.	RJL

3.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COUIN	7/5/16		Working parties of 100 from each Company were employed most of the day in burying Cable. Church Parade was attended by the rest of the Battalion at 10.0 am A Meeting of Officers and Sergeants was held at 12.15 p.m. An out-door Concert was held at 8 p.m., when the Commanding Officer presented the medals to the Winners and 'Runners-up' of the Battalion Platoon Competition. Weather:- a showery day.	Cy. Q.M.S. Beasley & Sergt. H. Clayton were Gazetted 2/Lts. to the Battn, dated 30/4/16 Appx
do	8/5/16		We relieved the 4th OXFORDS in the new "G" Sector in the afternoon leaving COUIN 1.30 p.m. onwards. Dispositions:- A. Company - Right: Fire Trench Company C. Company - Left: Fire Trench Company. B. Company - Battalion Reserve D. Company - Brigade Reserve. Stations as follows:- A. Company - WAIRNE STREET to WRANGLE. Front Line:- 2 Platoons - JONES, CABER, WORCESTER STREET. Support - 2 Platoons - Headquarters CABER.	A Draft of 50 joined the Battalion — Map attached —

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Stations (Continued) C. Company:- WRANGLE to the SERRE ROAD. Front Line - 2 Platoons - OXFORD STREET, QUINDET. Support - 2 Platoons - H. Qrs. - VAUBAN. B. Company:- PIMLICO - 2 Platoons VERCINGETORIX - 2 Platoons H.Q. - PIMLICO D. Company:- VERCINGETORIX - 4 Platoons and H.Q. The trenches were in fair condition, but the right of the Left Company and the right of the Left Company were isolated and could only be reached by night. Working parties were employed on all the front line and support line, clearing and improving the trenches, also wiring front and support lines. Weather:- a showery day.	

5.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	9/5/16	-	Working parties as on the 8th instant. Very little work could be done by day, but for the following week all parties were employed from 7.30 pm. to mid-night. About 5 am. seven Minenwerfers fell on the Centre of the front line, and six more about 11.0 am. on the right of the front line. Their guns were busy on our line from 10am till 11.30 am. and from 2 to 3.0 pm. Rifle Grenades were fired on two of our Right posts most of the night. The Acting G.O.C. visited us about 9.30 am. Weather:- a cold, wet day and night.	Appx
do	10/5/16		Working parties as on the 9th instant. B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies after tea. The dispositions of the Right Company were re-arranged:- by DAY, one platoon in the front line, one platoon in CABER, one in WORCESTER ST. one in PIMLICO. By NIGHT, 2 platoons in the front line, 1 in CABER and one in WORCESTER STREET. Company H.Q. PIMLICO. The Brigade Reserve H.Q. and 2 platoons at SAILLY, 2 platoons only	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C.2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE.			in VERCINGETORIX. Enemys Guns were fairly quiet, but their Minenwerfers were active. At 4.0 am. they put in 5 or 6 of the latter on the Right, at 6.0 pm. Eight more on the Right, and at 7.45 pm. 4 more. Their Rifle Grenades were again active all night. Weather:- a fine day.	Capt. Bean (R.A.M.C.) 2/Lieuts. H.S. Reed, A.W. Beasley and W. Clayton went on leave. Capt. Murray 2nd F.A. came in Capt. Bean's place. RJC
do	11/5/16		Working parties as on the 10th. instant. Their Guns were active all day, chiefly 77 mm. and a few 10.5 c.m. Their Minenwerfers were again active. Weather:- a fine day.	The C.O. went to the Brigade as Acting Brigadier Capt. Aldworth took command of the Battn. RJC

7

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	12/5/16		Working parties as on the 11th instant. A. and C. Companies relieved B. and D. Companies after tea, B. Coy. H.Q. and 2 platoons moving to SAILLY. Their Guns were again active all day, principally 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. Five Minenwerfers came in about 5.45 p.m., and four about 7.40 p.m. on the Right. Weather:- a close day with heavy thunder rain, and wet night.	Capt. Lacey and Lt. Cooke returned from Leave. The C.O. retd. from Bde. about mid-night. RJC
do	13/5/16		Working parties as before. The trenches were in very bad condition after the heavy rains. Their Guns and Minenwerfers were active all the morning and their Machine Guns all night. Weather:- a showery day.	RJC

8

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERBUTERNE	14/5/16		Working parties as before. B. and D. Companies relieved A. and C. Companies, after tea; A. Coy. Headquarters and 2 platoons moved to SAILLY. Their guns were quiet all the morning, but from 3.30 to 5 p.m. they were busy on the Right and Centre, chiefly 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. The Lewis Gun Post in DOMINIQUE took a direct hit and all were buried, but fortunately no one was killed. Weather: a fine day and wet night.	Lt Coote went for a month's training as Adjutant to the 2nd Gordon Highlanders. RJC
do	15/5/16		Working parties as before. Their guns were active most of the day – 77 mm. 10.5 cm. and 15 cm., especially the latter. No registration was done. It was a very quiet night up to 12.30 am., when a very heavy bombardment, followed by a raid, was made. A detailed report of this is attached. Weather:- a fine day with rain at intervals.	Casualties:- Killed 18. Wounded 51 Missing 29 RJC

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEBUTERNE	16/5/16		The Acting G.O.C., the Brigadier, and G.S.O. 1 came up about 9.0 a.m. All the morning was spent in repairing the damage where possible. We were relieved by the 8th WORCESTERS, the relief beginning about 3.30 p.m. Parties of C. and D. Companies were left behind to search the ground and carry out the dead and wounded who could not be moved by day. The Battalion moved to bivouacs at COUIN. Captain Aldworth remained behind to attend the funeral of 12 who were buried at night. Weather is a fine day.	Capt. Pattcock returned from Divisional Rest Station.
COUIN	17/5/16		All day was spent in packing, clearing up, and loading of the spare kits. Two G.S. Wagons were lent us by the 3rd WARWICK Battery, and Waterproof Capes were sent on in advance by Lorry. The Commanding Officer spoke to the Battalion in the morning, speaking most warmly of the splendid way in which the Battalion had behaved under the intense bombardment on the night of the 15th/16th, praising	Capt. Pattcock and Lt. Kind went on leave. A draft of 15 joined the Battalion. 4 more of the casualties were buried at night.

10

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			them for the high morale and the spirit they had shown, telling them of the praise they had received from the acting G.O.C. Division for their behaviour. Weather:- a very hot day.	Cl Down wing to Divl School.
COUIN	18/5/16		The Battalion left bivouacs at 7.0 am. and joined the Brigade at ST. LEGER to march to BEAUVAL. At MARIEUX the Brigade marched past and were inspected by the Corps Commander, General Hunter-Weston. To the Commanding Officer he expressed his pleasure and satisfaction for the way they marched past. He said he had heard what a good fight they had put up on the night of the 15/16th. and he asked the Commanding Officer to tell them how pleased he was to receive the report. The Battalion arrived at BEAUVAL about noon. It was a very hot and trying march the last three miles was in the valley with a following wind. 85 men fell out but this large number can be chiefly accounted for by the lack of sleep the Battalion had had the last two nights, the bombardment they had been through, and the hot sun on the steel helmets. - the Battalion had done no marching in these.	

11

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			The Billets in BEAUVAL were very good - the area allotted to the Battalion was No 1. It seemed quite strange to all of us to be in a town again after ten months of trench life. This length of time is a record for any Division out here. Two more of our men were buried by the 8th WORCESTERS. Weather:- a very hot day.	
BEAUVAL	19/5/16		The day was spent in the usual and general clean up, etc., with an early morning run and physical exercise before Breakfast. Short rifles were issued to the Brigade during the day. A Court of Enquiry on the "Missing" on the night of the 15/16th was held at 11.0 a.m. - President:- Lieut-Colonel Hawkins, BUCKS Battn. The "Curios" gave their Entertainment at 6 p.m. Weather:- a lovely day.	

12

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL	20/5/16		The Range was allotted to A. Company. B. C. and D. Companies carried on Platoon and Company Training in the field allotted to the Battalion, which is half an hour's march away. All work began at 7.0 a.m. each day, and Breakfasts were issued before work. The Divisional Band played in the SQUARE in the afternoon and Evening. The "Curios" again gave their Concert at 6.0 p.m. Weather:- a lovely day.	RJC
BEAUVAL	21/5/16		A Brigade Church Parade was held 10.0 a.m. Commanding Officers' Conference at 11.0 a.m. Weather:- a lovely day. Captain Murray left us. We were sorry to part with him, the help he had rendered to us on the 16th was invaluable.	Capt. Bean, Lieuts. Leet, Beasley and Clayton returned from Leave RJC

13

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL	22/5/16		The Range was allotted to B. Company. A. C. and D. Companies - usual training. The Commanding Officer spoke to the full Battalion, giving them the Corps Commander's message. Weather:- a lovely day.	RJC
do	23/5/16		The Range was allotted to C. Company. A. B. and D. Companies usual training. The Battalion, by Companies, marched to GEZAINCOURT for baths during the day. Weather: a lovely day.	Lieut. Bartram wound on Leave. RJC

14

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL.	24/5/16		The Range was allotted to D. Company. B. Company and one Platoon of A. Company usual Company training. C. Company and three Platoons of A. Company marched to AUTHIEULLE for unloading ammunition, pit props, etc. The G. O. C. visited the Training Ground and Range in the morning The Corps Commander inspected D. Company as they were moving up to the Range: he said he had never seen a better looking Company in this Country. He also added he was proud of them for the work they had done and the way they had fought on the night of the 15/16th, and they had every reason to be proud of themselves. Weather:- a fine morning, wet afternoon.	D Challenge Shield to School of Instruction (Transport) HAVRE Rfc
do	25/5/16		The Battalion moved off at 7.0 am. for a Battalion Route-march Very heavy thunder rain started just as they were leaving and as they were wet through in a very few minutes they returned to billets and marched again in the afternoon. The Commanding Officer and three Company Commanders rode to VALHEUREUX for Mortar Demonstration, but just before the time fixed two explosions occurred & the demonstration was put off Weather:- Wet morning: fine afternoon.	Rfc

15

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL	26/5/16		The Range was allotted to Lewis Guns. D. Company marched to HEM for baths in the River and inspection of a Bridging Competition by the R.E's. A, B, and C. Company usual training. The afternoon was spent on the range by practising again all those who had failed in the Grouping test, under 2/Lieut. Beasley. Weather:- a fine day.	Lt. Ward went on Leave RJC
BEAUVAL	27/5/16		The Brigade route-marched at 7.0 am. - CANDAS - MONTRELET - BONNEVILLE - VALHEUREUX, returning at 11.0 am. Only one man fell out. The Corps Commander paid a visit to the Battalion in the afternoon. All officers not on duty were called to meet him. Weather:- a fine day.	RJC

16

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL	28/5/16		Brigade Church Parade was held at 10.0 am. The G.O.C. Division attended, and the Brigade marched past him after the parade. Commanding Officers Conference was held at 11.0 am. A working party from D. Company (50 men) proceeded to AUTHIEULLE for unloading ammunition. Weather :- a lovely day.	Capt Aldworth went to South Army School of Instruction. RJC
do	29/5/16		The Range was allotted to Lewis Guns in the morning, and to all who did not pass the Grouping test in the afternoon. C. Company marched to HEM for bathing and Bridging inspection. A. and D. Companies usual Training. B. Company training in the woods. A Stokes Mortar Demonstration was given by one of the Brigade Battalions in the afternoon. Weather :- A fine day, rain at night.	RJC

17

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUVAL	30/5/16		'B' Company marched to HEM for bathing and bridging inspection. 'A' Company did training in the woods. 'C' and 'D' Companies usual training. The Range was allotted for firing in Smoke Helmets to A. C. & D. Companies during the day. Weather: a fine day.	
BEAUVAL	31/5/16		The Brigade left BEAUVAL, marching to the ST. RIQUIER Training area. We moved off at 4.0 am. arriving at MAISON-ROLANDE at 11.15 am. The Brigade halted for Breakfast for 1½ hours aft. passing FIENVILLERS. It was an excellent day for marching - a light breeze, with not too much sun. The "going" was good, main roads being used until the last 1½ miles - Only two men fell out in the Battalion. MAISON-ROLANDE is a small village, but the billets were comfortable. We met with some distinct hostility from the inhabitants owing to the behaviour of other troops who had been billeted here before us. The Commanding Officer warned the Battalion of this feeling and every care was taken to create a good impression. (The Battalion was very successful in doing this work and any bad impression that may have existed before the Battalion came to this village was entirely obliterated before we left.) Weather: a lovely day. R J Clarke Maj COMDG 4th BN ROYAL BERKS REGT	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

The National Archives reference WO 95/2762/2

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1/4th ROYAL BERKS. REGT.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength - MAY. 1916	
			Week Ending — All Ranks	
			May 6 — 818	
			" 13 — 841	
			" 20 — 742	
			" 27 — 765	
			The Battalions on our Right & Left during May were:-	
			RIGHT - various Units of the 31st Division	
			LEFT. — 8-16. Glosters & Bucks Battalions	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.