

1942.

WAR DIARY

Pro-forma in lieu of A F C.2118.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and refs. to Appendices.
Broadmayne Camp.	1.1.42.		All Officers took part in a T.E.W.T on Bn's role in relation to WARMWELL aerodrome. 2/Lt. J H Ridlington promoted W.S. Lieut. w.e.f. 17.12.41	
do.	3.1.42.		Capt. A B W Hooper assumed command of Z Coy vice Capt. R V Webb. Bn took part in Exercise WARMEK I, which was set on the Bn's operational role in connection with the Aerodrome.	
do.	9/10.1.42.		Bn HQ took part in Div Signal Exercise WOODCOCK. Not very exciting except for a night drive along very doubtful tracks over Dorset Downs.	
do.	10.1.42.		2/Lt. J E Roberts promoted A/Capt. w.e.f. 17.12.41.	
do.	15.1.42.		Lieut. Gen. E. C. A. Schreiber, D.S.O., G.O.C., 5 Corps, visited the Bn at Broadmayne Camp, inspected the Camp Construction and saw the men at everyday work and training.	
do.	18.1.42.		Capt. W C K Howells posted to 30 K S L I. 2/Lt. J G Walker assumed the duties of Bn Weapon Training Officer vice Capt. Howells.	
do.	21.1.42.		Instructions received from 114 Bde for Bn to change over billets with Brecknock Bn, S W B (at present billeted in DORCHESTER) at time <del>to</del> in near future to be settled between C Os.	
do.	24.1.42.		C O, 2 I/c and Adjt visited S W B area and inspected billets etc.	
Dorchester.	27.1.42.		Bn moved out of BROADMAYNE CAMP and marched into DORCHESTER. Billets consist for the most part of requisitioned houses and church halls etc. Bn operational role is as component of 114 Bde Gp in its capacity of mobile reserve to 38 Div. Concentration area at SOUTHOVER HO and possible defensive position at UPWEY to be reced.	

31.1.42.

*Stephen Capt. Asst*

Lieut. Colonel.  
Comd. 2nd. Bn. The Herefordshire Regiment.....

## WAR DIARY.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks & Reference to Appendices
Dorchester.	1 - 7.2.42.		Divisional Night Week. Work by night, sleep by day. Found to produce noticeable improvement in standard of night training.	
	3.2.42.		Bn took part in Brigade Transport Exercise.	
	8 - 10.2.42.		Platoons from the Battalion took part in Exercise THOR and produced attacks on S/L & A.A. Sites.	
	20.2.42.		Final of 38 Div Individual Boxing Championship, at Garrison Theatre, BLANDFORD. 4032112.Sjt.Wills,C & 4460333 Cpl.Brougham,J successful in winning the Welterweight and Flyweight Championships respectively.	
	26.2.42.		4105655 Cpl.Hallam,W reached semi-final Round of the Heavyweight Championship.	
	28.2.42.		2/Lt.W.R.L.Turp promoted W.S. Lieut. w.e.f. 17.2.42.	
			Draft of approx 50 N.C.O's and men arrived from 6.K.S.L.I.	
			Orders received for Battalion to provide a draft of 43 O.R's for service in tropical climate.	
	29.2.42.		Personnel detailed, clothing and equipment checked, papers prepared and draft sent on embarkation leave.	
	6.3.42.		4460333 Cpl.Brougham,J succeeded in reaching Finals of Southern Command Flyweight Championship.	
	7.3.42.		Draft returned from embarkation leave and conducted to assembly centre by 2/Lt.W.J.Elsey.	
	7 - 8.3.42.		Battalion took part in 38 Div Exercise LION set on the Division's Operational Role. Bn commenced by moving to concentration area and finished with an attack on HARDY'S MEMORIAL. (Favourably commented on by Div Comd). Complete preparations for War were practised in the exercise including disposal of records, secret documents, unit and personal baggage, and stores surplus to G.1098. Very good value obtained from administrative as well as operational side of exercise.	
	9.3.42.		Bn defeated Brecknock Bn.S.W.B. in the first round of the Soccer Tournament arranged in connection with DORCHESTER Warships Week.	
	11.3.42.		Drums and a pl from 2 Coy under command of 2/Lt.W.J.Elsey took part in Dorchester Warships Week Procession.	
			Capt.J.F.Carver assumed command of X Coy vice Major A.C.Gale.	
			2/Lt.J.A.Reddaway appointed I.O. vice Lieut.W.R.L.Turp, who was appointed L.O.	
			2/Lt.W.J.Elsey appointed S.O. vice Lieut.P.W.Tomlinson.	
			Information received from 114 Bde that Bde was relieving 115 Bde in the Western Coastal Sector of Dorset on 15 Apr 42. (S.W.B. and K.S.L.I. forward on Coast; 2 Herefords in reserve under canvas at BRADFORD DOWN.)	

WAR DIARY - continued.

Remarks & References to Appendices.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.
Dorchester.	13.3.42.		Lieut. P.J.W. Guckney, 2/Lt. J. Wilson, 2/Lt. R.H. Sincock joined the Battalion.
	14.3.42.		Two platoons of X Coy under Lieut. R.V. Webb took part in SHAPESBURY Warships Week Procession.
	15.3.42.		Battalion defeated Dorchester Twon in Final of Dorchester Warships Week Soccer Tournament and became possessor of cup presented by the Dorchester Town Football Club.
	18-21.3.42.		The Battalion gave a demonstration to officers and N.C.O's of 38 Div of the use of a Traffic Control Platoon.
	24.3.42.		Battalion took part in Exercise YORKER run by 5 Corps. Exercise designed chiefly to practice movement by M.T. by day and night through fairly strenuous time at the end of the exercise when on foot.
	26.3.42.		2/Lt. C.M.M. Barrow promoted to W.S. Lieut. w.e.f. 14.3.42.
	28.3.42.		All officers attended final conference on Exercise YORKER which was conducted by the new Corps Commander, Lieut. General ALLFREY.
	30.3.42.		114 Bde's Arts & Crafts Exhibition held. Prize for best exhibit won by Pte. Phillips (HQ Coy)
	30-31.3.42.		Final round of Battalion Inter Coy Soccer Championship for season 1941-2. HQ Coy 1 defeated HQ Coy 2. C.O. and Adjt informed at Bde Comdr's Conference that relief of 115 Bde postponed until first week of May. En carried out Endurance Exercise set by Bde Comd. Quite a stern test - each battalion doing it in turn on a competition basis. Results to be published later..

*Richard Carr*  
Lieut. Colonel,  
Commanding, 2nd Bn The Herefordshire Regiment.

WAR DIARY.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
Dorchester	6.5.42.		Lieut. J.A. Hood-Daniel posted to Bn. w.e.f. 29.3.42.	
	8.5.42.		Result of Brigade Endurance Test. The Bn. finished first an excellent effort. C.O. personally congratulated All Ranks.	
	9.5.42.		Div. Comd. issues 'Farewell' Order of the Day on handing over Command.	
	11.5.42.		Lieut. Long posted to B Brigade H.Q. as O.C. Defence Pl. 2/Lt. Barker posted overseas.	
	13.5.42.		Fighter Demonstration at Imber. Unfortunate accident occurred - two other ranks were injured but not seriously.	
	14.5.42.		Accidental death of 4460272 Pte. Warren, A. Lieut. Cuckney posted to 2nd South Staffs.	
	15.5.42.		Lieut. Hood-Daniel posted to Int. Corps Depot.	
	16.5.42.		Capt. Fripp commenced Course at G.H.Q. Battle School.	
	24.5.42.		Lieut. Grischotti struck off strength.	
	25.5.42.		H. Q. 1 foot-ball team won the Bde. Inter Coy. Foot-ball Competition, defeating 5 K.S.L.I. 'A' team 4 - 2. Major-General Butterworth took over Command of Div.	
	26.5.42.		2/Lieut. Leslie posted to 48 I.T.C.	
	28.5.42.		Capt Cole, R.C. A.M.C. attached to Bn. vide Capt. Coleman.	
	2.5.42.		Tank Circus gave impression "tank demonstration". Spectators were allowed to view tanks and armoured cars.	
	6/7.5.42.		Exercise 'DIPPER'.	
	Bradford Down Camp.	9.5.42.		Final conference on Exercise 'DIPPER'.
10.5.42.			Bn. moved from Dorchester to Bradford Down Camp. A very good camp site.	
11.5.42.			Appointments - Officers. Major Gale appointed P.R.I. vice Capt Bulmer	
19.5.42.			2/Lieut. Dixon Messing Officer vice 2/Lieut. Gash.	
24.5.42.			Promotion - Officers - 2/Lieut. Clees to be Lieut. w.e.f. 1.11.41.	
25.5.42.			2/Lieut. Vale posted to 48 I.T.C.	
27.5.42.			5 Corps Exercise "DAVID" to practice 38 Div in mobile anti invasion role.	
30.5.42.			Bde. Int. Week commenced at Swyre - it proved to be a very interesting and instructive week for all Int. Secs.	
2.6.42.			Major Shaw-Ball appointed H.G. Liaison Officer vice Major Gale.	
4.6.42.			Capt. Hooper appointed Gas and Air Defence officer.	
9.6.42.			5 Corps Exercise "JONATHAN" - to exercise 47 Div in Invasion Role.	
10.6.42.			D.D.M.S., Sn. Comd. visited the Bn.	
12.6.42.			Bn. congratulated by Div. Comd. excellent concealment of Bn. during Exercise 'DAVID'	
			Exercise 'GORDON'. Bn. <del>was</del> 'turn out' in <i>operational role</i> .	
			Lieut. Webb posted overseas. 2/Lieut. Whitbread posted overseas.	
		2/Lieut. Williamson appointed I.O. vice 2/Lieut. Reddaway.		
		2/Lieut. Reddaway appointed O.C. 4 Pl.		
		Exercise "POLES" Div Exercise which proved very interesting. Landing by Troops on coast from ALC's T.L.C.'s. developed into a battle royal on 5.6.42. Enemy were finally driven back and the Bn. watched the re-embarkation of tanks and Infantry under cover of a very effective smoke screen.		

WAR DIARY (Cont).

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
Bradford Down	15.6.42.		'RICHARD' A. Artillery Exercise with Bn. in Skeleton form represented by C.O., I.O. and S.O.	
Camp	22.6.42.		Bn. Sports meeting was held at Bradford Down Camp in glorious weather. X. Coy. were the victors after many a thrilling track a field event. The cup was presented by Major Shaw-Ball. The Officers defeated the Sjts by two pulls to nil in the tug of war. Exercise 'POKER TWO' Similiar in every respect to 'POKER'. The Combined Operations Commanding Officer was present.	
	22/23.6.42.		Bn. relieved 5 K.S.L.I. in left forward sector of Brigade front.	
	29.6.42.		Command passed at 1400 hrs.	

*Pa. Grey.*  
 Lt. Col.,  
 Commanding 2nd Bn. The Herefordshire Regiment.

10.7.42.

WAR DIARY.

Pro-forma in lieu of Army Form C. 2110.

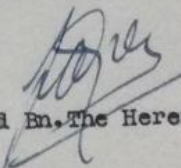
Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
Litton Cheney.	1.7.42.		Lieut. The Hon. H.R. Grosvenor joined the Bn.	
	2.7.42.		2/Lt. W.J. Elsey, 2/Lt. J.G. Walker promoted W/S Lieuts. w.e.f. 21.6.42.	
	4.7.42.		Lieut. S. Spencer and 2/Lt. A. Wigley posted to the Bn.	
	5.7.42.		2/Lieut. Dixon posted abroad.	
	11/12.7.42.		Leon D'or. Invasion Exercise - Dorchester Area. X. and Z. Coys. took part as enemy.	
	18.7.42.		Bde. Sports. The Bn. won the sports defeating the K.S.L.I. by one point. The result was in doubt until the last race. Mr. Elsey must be complimented on the good show put up by the team. Now for the Div. Sports. "BRIDLION". A second Leon D'or testing of civilian authorities under War conditions.	
	18/19.7.42.		Bn. Exercise "HOOKEYE" against K.S.L.I. A night Scheme which proved quite interesting. Major A.C. Gale Commanded the Bn. <i>20. Pt Stevens died.</i>	
	22/23.7.42.		Conference - Exercise "BRIDLION" - Conference Exercise "HOOKEYE".	
	27.7.42.		Lieut. Spencer posted away from the Bn.	
Litton Cheney.	2.8.42.		Bn. "Stand to" - E. Boats in the Channel - this was a genuine turn out "Stand To" was given at 0055 and "Stand Down" 0220 hrs.	
	1.8.42.		Div. Sports - The Bn. did quite well against strong opposition and finished 3rd. We did very well in the long jump, our two entries recording the longest jumps - 18' 8½" and 18' 5".	
	3.8.42.		District Commander Lieut. General Sir Michael O'Moore Creagh visited the Bn. Area.	
	3/4.8.42.		American Officers visited the Bn. Area.	

*Justin Catt*  
Lieut. Colonel,  
Comdg. 2nd Bn. The Herefordshire Regiment...

WAR DIARY.

Proforma in lieu of Army Form G.21

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to appendices.
Litton Cheney.	4.8.42.		Lecture - Experiences in a German Concentration Camp by Cpl. Baer of the Pioneer Corps.	
	5.8.42.		Lieut. Gale, 2/Lts. Sturley, Dixon struck off strength and posted overseas. 2/Lt. Wilson posted to 3 GHQ Home Guard School as instructor. 2/Lt. Wigley posted to Bde and attached to the Unit for all purposes.	
	18/19.8.42.		Exercise "BRITON". This exercise was designed to test out the new Signal Procedure. The lessons learned from it were numerous and of considerable value.	
	20.8.42.		Div. Comd. turned the Bn. out - this was most unexpected but <del>everything was done</del> <i>before me was about; probs required quickly.</i>	<i>Satisfaction was expressed.</i>
	21.8.42.		Bde Rifle meeting - had to be abandoned owing to very heavy rain. finished	
	28.8.42.		Bde Rifle Meeting. The Bn. were outstanding w/first in every event except the T.M.S.G. Competition in which we came second. The Bde Comd personally congratulated Col. Grey on the very high standard attained.	

  
 Lieut. Colonel,  
 Commanding 2nd Bn. The Herefordshire Regt.

WAR DIARY.

Proforma in lieu of Army Form C.2118.

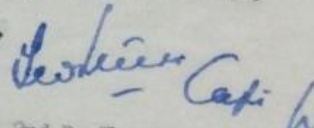
Remarks and referen-  
to appendices.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of events and information.
Litton Cheney.	29 Aug 42.		2/Lt. D.C. McGarry joined this Unit from 163 O.C.F.U.
	1 Sep 42.		Lieut P.J.W. Cuckney posted to the Bn from 2nd Bn S.Staffs Regt. A draft of 89 men went from the Bn to the 1st Herefords and another of 140 to the 1st K.S.L.I.
	2 Sep 42.		Owing to the shortage of numbers in the Bde, the locations of the Bns were changed. We left Long Bredy, Portesham & Abbotsbury and took over Burton Bradstock.
	3 Sep 42.		2/Lt. J.H. Dales returned to the Bn from Div Battle School. Lieut. R.A. Moir came as M.O. to the Bn.
	5 Sep 42.		2/Lt. F. Williamson left the Bn to go overseas.
	6 Sep 42.		Capt J.E. Roberts went to Bde at B.T. O. 2/Lt. A De W. Wigley took over I.O. vice 2/Lt. F. Williamson.
	8 Sep 42.		Lieut. J.H. Riddington promoted A/Capt.
	11 Sep 42.		The Bn took part in Exercise "LEAP". A landing was made at Southover & Freshwater Bay at 0530hrs by Bde. All beach defence posts were manned from 0500 - 0745hrs.
	18 Sep 42.		Capt. P.W. Tomlinson took over the duty of M.T.O.
	24 Sep 42.		The Bn took part in Exercise "HIDEOUT". This was a Bde Ex.
	28/29 Sep 42.		Bn HQ took part in Exercise "VALE". This was a Bde Skeleton Ex. Lieut. P. Young joined the Bn on Sep 15, was posted to the 3rd Bn The Monmouthshire Regt.
	1 Oct 42.		The positions of the Bns in the Bde were changed again, because the 70th Hampshires joined the Bde. W & Y Coys remained in Bexington, and X & Z Coys moved from Burton Bradstock to Abbotsbury.
	2/4 Oct 42.		Bn HQ took part in Div Ex "BULLEFINCH". The whole of Bn HQ (incl O.R.) moved to Wears Fm. After Ex they moved to Bradford Peverell and carried on their normal duties in the field until 2030hrs on the 4 Oct.
	5 Oct 42.		Conference on Exercises "VALE & "HIDEOUT".
	9 Oct 42.		The following Officers were posted to the Bn w.e.f. 3.10.42. Lieut. J.T. Lochran. Lieut. W. Metcalfe. 2/Lt. K.C.E. Miller Lieut. J.E.F. Roberts transferred to R.A.O.C. w.e.f. 20.5.42. The following Officers promoted to Lieut w.e.f. 1.10.42. 2/Lt. J.A. Reddaway. 2/Lt. J.H. Dales.
	16 Oct 42.		The following officers were posted to the Bn w.e. f. 17.10.42. Lieut. E.C. Leslie. 2/Lt. K.V. Hancock. Lieut. W.J. Elsey promoted to Capt.

continued on sheet 2.



Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of events and Information.	Remarks and referer to appendices.
Litton Cheney.	26 Oct 42.		Lieut. G.W. Hunt was posted to the Bn.	
	2 Nov 42.		T/Capt Barnsley P.E. attached to HQ 114 Inf Bde for 1 month.	
	4 Nov 42.		"Study Periods" Subject "Attachment to all arms". Although the Bn still has a Coast Defence Role, it has for some time been sending drafts to other Bns, and the present strength is lower than it has ever been. The total strength is 446.	
	11 Nov 42.		The undermentioned attended a 114 Inf Bde Firing Point Instruction Course. Major, R.T. Carver. Capt. O.T. Bulmer. Capt. A.B.W. Hooper. Lieut. J.H. Dales. 2 further courses were held for a period of 3 days each. 6 Senior N.C.O's of the Bn attended.	
	13 Nov 42.		Capt. W.J.L. Paxton ceased to be attached to the Bn as Chaplain.	
	15 Nov 42.		Capt. F.J. Hereford posted to the Bn and attached to HQ Coy.	
	16 Nov 42.		Lieut. J.E. Taylor posted to 4 K.S.L.I. and struck off strength.	
	17 Nov 42.		Lieut. P. Young attached to 8th Bn King's Regt, pending embarkation.	
	24 Nov 42.		Draft of 70 N.C.O's and men received from 30 Bn K.S.L.I. and formed into training cadre.	
			Lieut. E.C. Leslie posted to 4th Bn K.S.L.I. and struck off strength.	
			Lieut. W.D. Martin ceased to be attached to unit as R.M.O.	
	26 Nov 42.		Lieut. E.O. Lawton attached to Unit as R.M.O.	
	27 Nov 42.		Lieut. W. Metcalfe attached to L.D.T.C. pending embarkation.	
	28 Nov 42.		Capt. R.J. Hereford attached to 38 Div Battle School as Instructor.	
	3 Dec 42.		T/Capt. P.E. Barnsley ceased to be attached to HQ 114 Inf Bde.	
	14 Dec 42.		2 pdr A/Tk Guns arrived in Bn and A/Tk Pl formed.	
	14/15 Dec 42.		Lieut. F.W. Quackney attended 2 pdr course of Instruction at Sn Comd W.T. School. Bn took part in Ex "HOOD". This was a Bde Skeleton Ex. Incorporated in this was an administrative Ex "ROBIN".	
	15 Dec 42.		A/Capt. W.J. Elsey and T/Capt. J.H. Ridlington relinquished Acting and Temp. Ranks respectively.	
	24 Dec 42.		HQ Coy presented a revue "Sweet and Low" and this met with exceptional success.	
	25 Dec 42.		Christmas Day, Church Parades held at Litton Cheney, Abbotsbury and Swyre. C.O. accompanied by 2.i/o., Adjt., Q.M., and Messing Offr toured the Mess Rooms. "Y" Coy again won the competition for the best decorated Mess Room. This was judged by the C.O.	
	28 Dec 42.		The day was observed as a Sunday. The Revue "Sweet and Low" was repeated at Abbotsbury.	

  
 Major,  
 Commanding, 2nd Bn The Herefordshire Regiment.