

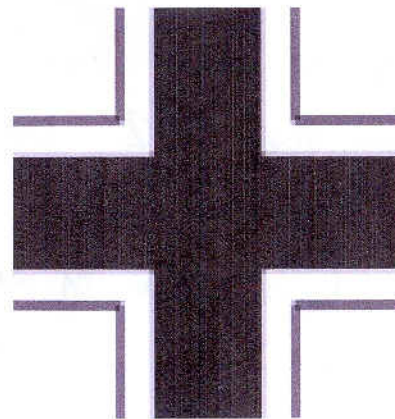
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY COMMANDING OFFICER

ENTRY WRITTEN BY German Corp Commander

APPROVED _____



OFFICAL WAR DIARY
**GERMAN 86
CORPS**



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OFFICIAL WAR DIARY

GERMAN 86 CORPS

MORNING 18 JULY 1944

- Heavy air bombardment along 21st PZ DIV front line and East Caen.
 - BRIDGE AT 69H WAS ORDERED BLOWN.
- Heavy attack in ^{East} Caen by mixed Canadian forces. 346 Division suffers heavy losses around 68 H
- 21 PANZER Flanked with British forces pushing down to Enverville
- 51st Sctd Divison makes rapid advance against the 272 Division using Flame-throwers.
- Boss Div Barent cleared by enemy.

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OFFICIAL WAR DIARY

GERMAN 86 CORPS

AFTERNOON 18 JULY 1944

- HEAVY BREAKTHROUGHS
- EAST FLANK COLLAPSES
- Disappointing defeatist attitude displayed by some officers.

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NIGHT 18/19 JULY 1944

- Luftwaffe destroy a bridge.
- Strategic situation unchanged.
- Luftwaffe is happy at least.
- 1940 seems so far away.

→ RAF crippling us.

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MORNING 19 JULY 1944

- Final defence of Caen collapses, 1ss to assume 346 ~~Div~~ Div area and hold ridgeline along grid line 63.
 - Typhoon attacks disrupt our movement.
- 12 SS takes over from 272 ~~Inf~~ infantry division
- 21 Div facing 3 ~~exp~~ armored divisions and 1 infantry division.
- FLAK scoring heavy casualties =

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AFTERNOON 19 JULY 1944

12th SS pushed to attack. We are worried about a seeming lack of spirit. Corps Command will pay special attention.

→ Halted Canadian night crossing.
Heavy Canadian casualties.

- 346 performed above and beyond what we could expect.

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NIGHT 19/20 JULY 1944

→ Morale problems in 21 and insubordination.

→ Concern over aggressive spirit in 21.

→ Contact reestablished with 1 SS who are attacking.

→ Element of 346 Division remains in Caen. Excellent effort.

→ 12 SS will attack West in the morning with afternoon attacks to follow.

→ Tomorrow will be glorious.

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MORNING 20 JULY 1944

- Bad weather forenoon → 12th SS in excellent spirits.
- All SS divisions are mainly on the offensive.
- Report that Hitler is dead and party members are being arrested.
- The battle plan is not changed by this, we hope this may convince the Allies to consider us weaker ~~that~~ than in fact we are.
- Canadians have taken Caen and pushed us back to pre-prepared defence line.
- Concern over 21st Div commander, troubling reports over Hitler situation.
- BRITISH ATTACK THEMSELVES.

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AFTERNOON 20 JULY 1944

- BRITISH ATTACKS OF LIMITED SUCCESS, SHELL AND BOMB THEMSELVES → we will exploit this and attack.
- Still out of contact with Berlin, HQ thinks about who to support.
- Remember the oath.
- ⇒ 1255 pushed back, damaged.

→ ARMY IN
CHARGE

SS COMMANDERS
ARRESTED!

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