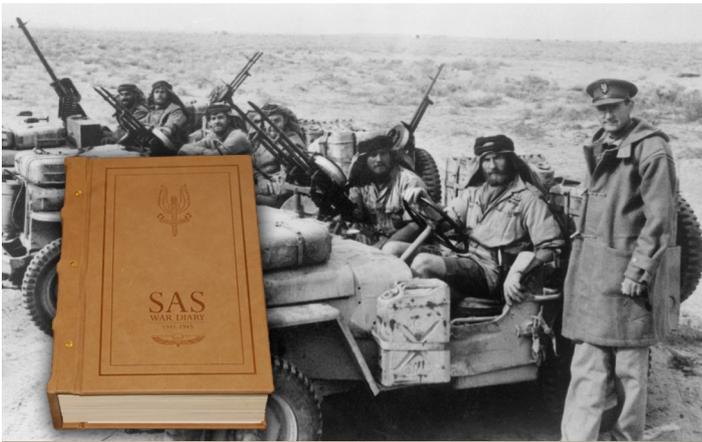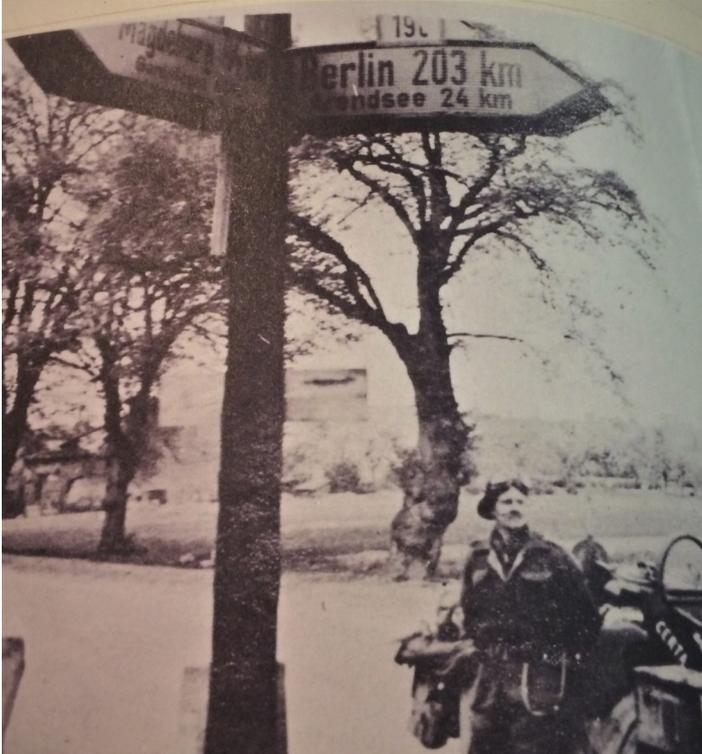# HISTORY OF SIGNALLING IN 100 OBJECTS
THE WW2 SAS WAR DIARY 1941-45

The Royal Signals Museum is privileged to have on display a copy of the WW2 SAS War Diary. It is very appropriate to consider this object at the time that we are all remembering "Victory in Europe - VE Day", 75 years ago during our"lockdown". The diary covers events in Africa, Italy and finally in Europe in the run up to the Allies final victory in Europe. The SAS included several members of Royal Signals as did the Long Range Desert Group, which has been described in a previous object article and was closely linked to the SAS during its operations in Africa. The book is easy to read and contains a large number of black and white photographs. The second picture shows the signals officer Captain B.M.M "Chips" Carpendale under a signpost pointing to Berlin. The diary will be of particular interest to those members of the Corps, who served in BAOR. The names mentioned in the diary are familiar especially if you served in 1 Div Signal Regiment in Verden am Aller, 22 Signal Regt in Lippstadt, 14 Signal Regt in Celle or the Bde Signal Sqn in Munster. Extracts from the Diary cover what became BAOR countryside. The lessons learnt from the fighting still ring true to those with experience from more modern times.

"10 April [1945]. Nienburg was SS HQ. Lessons learnt were: Do not sit in woods with jeeps; Tony Trower's armour and windscreen pierced by German small arms fire. We are now being cunning about our battles and refusing to enter woods until we know they are clear; open country the only place for us."

"12/13th April: There was a short engagement with SS troops north of Celle during the evening. 2nd SAS Sqn rested in Celle during the day."

"13th April: To date we have killed 189 enemy, captured 233 and captured much equipment: 37 Panzerfaust, 42 MGs, 1x88mm, 1 x searchlight and many more light weapons." The diary goes up to the end -VE Day 8th May 1945. Go to the museum and have a read—after Lockdown 2020!