

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries; (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR



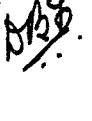

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11.

A.F.C. 2118.
100M-11-36 (9360)
H.Q. 1772-45-18

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Newfoundland, Airport. Nfld.	1.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>Due to inclement weather the Companies carried out training programs in the Company Marquees. A cold wind accompanied the rain leaving the Battalion to wonder, "If August is like this ___ what are the winters like"! "E" Coy however braved the elements and spent the afternoon at the ranges. It was the first opportunity a good many of these men had to fire their rifles and in spite of the conditions under which they had to fire, some very fine scores were turned in.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	
"	2.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>A Commanding Officers parade was held at 0900 hrs. The Battalion was complimented by Lt.Col.K.G.Blackader on their conduct while in Newfoundland. ___ "It has been of the highest calibre".</p> <p>The wind and rain that was so annoying yesterday continued until noon to-day when the sun put in a very welcome appearance. Taking advantage of this break in the weather "E" Coy went back to the ranges.</p> <p>A Court of Inquiry headed by Capt.C.Petch turned in a verdict of "Accidental " in the case of D-81182 Pte.Whitlock who was wounded in the hand while cleaning a L.M.G.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	
"	3.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>The last leave party left at 1400 hrs. for Grand Falls, Earlier in the day at 0900 hrs "HQ" Coy relieved "A" Coy at the Gander Lake Posts and "B" Coy took over the Airport defenses. relieved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX</p> 
"	4.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>A voluntary Protestant Church parade was called at 1030 hrs. The Service was held in the Motor Vehicle Building. The Battalion then settled back to a day of rest.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	

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H.Q. 1772-45-18

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Nfld. Airport Nfld.	5.8.	0600	<p>The Battalion leave party returned from Grand Falls at 0200 hrs. (Practically intact.)</p> <p>"A" Coy drew kilts and tunics from stores today today in preparation for the Governor's impending visit, being the only company in the camp this week, they have been chosen as Guard of Honor.</p> <p>"E" Coy carried on at the ranges</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	
	40.	0600		
"	6.8.	0600	<p>"A" Coy had a dress rehearsal for the Governor's inspection. The kilts, or the sight of them brought many of the men to realize how great was our loss when our kilts were taken from us.</p> <p>A few of the men, acting on a desire for one more fling, hopped on a freight train and gave the guard their liveliest day in camp.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	
	40.	0600		
"	7.8.	0600	<p>The Governor of Newfoundland Sir Humphry Walwyn arrived and Lady Walwyn arrived at the Airport at 1100 hrs and was met by the Guard of Honor. After the inspection Sir Humphrey inspected the remainder of the Battalion Guard of Honor.</p> <p>Sir Humphrey complimented the men on their fine work and professed a liking for their "Hard bitten appearance". Later in the day at 2000 hrs in the Motor Vehicle Building an amateur show was held. Lady Walwyn attended and expressed great delight regarding the performances. Sgt. Tessier of A Coy won a radio in a raffle held by the Canadian War Legion. He returned it to the Legion to be used for the men coming here in the future.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	
	40.	0600		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Nfld. Airport Nfld.	8.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>At 0515 hrs. five officers, two N.C.O's and eighteen other ranks of the 1st. Bn. Queens Own Rifles of Canada arrived at the Airport from Port Au Basque. "A" and "E" Coys carried on with their training training.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	NSB
"	9.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>The Queens Own Rifles advance party made a tour of the outposts on the airport and the three posts at the Receiving & Transmission stations and at Gander Lake.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	NSB
"	10.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>The balance of the Q.O.R's airport force arrived at the airport at 1430 hrs. the first detachment of the Black Watch consisting of Bn. HQ, A and E Coys. immediately entrained for Botwood. Upon arrival at Botwood the detachment proceeded to the Government Wharf where they boarded the Duchess of Richmond by means of a Harbour Control Launch. The Second detachment; - HQ and B Coys left the airport at 1830 hrs and boarded ship upon their arrival in Botwood. There were considerable supplies to be unloaded for the Q.O.R's so the departure of the Battalion was delayed until 1230 hrs on Sunday August the 11th. One of the more prominent members of our Medical Section had trouble boarding the ship due to the well wishes of a local Barkeeper.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	NSB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At Sea	11.8. 40.	0600 0600	At 1230 hours the "Duchess of Richmond" left Botwood with the Battalion aboard. All ranks showed no regrets at leaving Newfoundland and the barren unpleasant conditions under which they had served for seven weeks.	NSB
"	12.8. 40.	0600 0600	With the exception of rifle inspection, respirator drill and ships muster parade, all of which were held between 1000 hours and 1130 hours, There were no parades called. Excellent food, accomodation and brilliant sunshine helped to make this a most pleasant trip.	NSB
"	13.8. 40.	0600 0600	At 1400 hours Halifax, Nova Scotia was reached after a trip which had been a real relaxation for all ranks. Major Gen'l H.F. Elkins, G.O.C. Atlantic Command, accompanied by Brigadier C.L. Constantine D.O.C.M.D No.6, who were awaiting the arrival of the Battalion came aboard and discussed the defense of Newfoundland with Lt.Col.K.G. Blackader. The Battalion disembarked and entrained for Aldershot, which they reached at 1800 hours, where they were vociferously received by their own re-infercing unit and the whole of the Infantry Training Centre (Rifle) No.6. It was an interesting fact that the Battalion was thus the first Canadian Unit to return to Canada from service overseas during the present war.	NSB
"	14.8. 40.	0600 0600	All ranks were greatly encouraged by receiving assurance from the Commanding Officer, Lt.Col.K.G. Blackader, MC ED. that the stay in Aldershot camp would be for a period of not more than seven days and that thick then the Battalion would proceed overseas. Parades were reduced to a mininum and it was announced that those men who had not received embarkation leave (R.O.375) would be granted it.	NSB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Aldershot, N.S.	15.8.	0600	The Quartermaster commenced the issue of new clothing to those troops whose Battle-Dress was in bad repair, a new issue of canvas shoes was provided for all ranks and deficiencies in equipment were repaired.	D.B.
	40.	0600		
"	16.8.	0600	All ranks entitled to embarkation leave proceeded on same, the majority leaving by train at 0600 hours for Montreal while a small party left for Halifax at 1400 hours. A practise parade was held in anticipation of ceremonial church parade to be held on 18.8.40. Lieut. E. H. Anderson, R.C.A.M.C was taken on strength as M.O. in the place of Capt. B. D. Robertson who was posted to M.D.No.4. All ranks who had not previously done so were subjected to respirator tests in the gas chamber. Strength increase Nil, decrease 1 man.	D.B.
	40.	0600		
"	17.8.	0600	No parades were held, the only work other than the usual fatigues, being the cleaning of equipment for the forthcoming church parade. A number of N.C.O's instructed the 2nd. Bn. West Nova Scotia Regiment, N.P.A.M. in the Lewis L.M.G. Strength increase Nil, decrease 16 men.	D.B.
	40.	0600		
"	18.8.	0600	Upon the request of Lt. Col. Jefferys O.C. I.T.C (Rifle) No. 6, Lt. Col. K. G. Blackader took command of the entire church parade and march past in which the Battalion had been invited to attend. The march past, after the service, was held before some seven thousand spectators and Brigadier C. L. Constantine, D.O.C. MD No. 6. took the salute and afterwards complimented the C.O. on the very impressive bearing and drill of the Battalion. Afterwards Lt. Col. Blackader thanked the men of the Black Watch in the I.T.C. for their presence, complimented them on their appearance and expressed the hope that their good work would assist them in joining the Service Battalion. Lieut's A. G. Stevenson, F. P. Griffin and E. Motzfeldt were posted from the I.T.C. to "E" Coy. Strength increase; - 3 Officers, 84 O.R's, Decrease; - 12 O.R's.	D.B.
	40.	0600		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials																					
Aldershot, N.S.	19.8.	0600	Firing practise was held on the local ranges and further issues of new clothing were made. Instructions were given that late passes would be made available for this date and 20.8.40 but thereafter the Battalion would be C.B. This was welcomed by all as it indicated that an early move was following <i>forthcoming</i>	<i>DSB</i>																					
	40.	0600			"	20.8.	0600	All who had been granted embarkation leave (R.O.375) returned to camp. Rifle practises were completed, as also were tests of respirators. "Q" completed issue of new shoes, clothing and equipment.	<i>DSB</i>		40.	0600	"	21.8.	0600	All officers and O.R's armed with pistols fired elementary practises at the Camp ranges. Stores and Company records were packed and movement orders were issued. Strength increase, 5 men, Decrease 9 men.	<i>DSB</i>		40.	0600	"	22.8.	0600	After a thorough cleaning of lines and quarters the first half of the Battalion entrained at 1400 hours for Halifax which was reached at 1800 hours, where they immediately boarded H.M.T. "Duchess of York" to be followed one hour later by the second half of the Battalion. Among the troops in harbour was the 4th. Bn. Queens Own Cameron Highlanders, the battalion which had distinguished itself in the rear-guard at Dunkirk and was sporting the Blue hackle granted to it for their exploits there.	Movement Order No. 5 Appendix. VI <i>DSB</i>
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
In Port.	23.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>Muster parades were held and companies shown their parade stations. Accommodation was considerably better than that to be found in regular troop-ships, everyone being provided with mattress and blankets while the great majority had bunks.</p> <p>Lt.Col.K.G.Blackader was appointed O.C.troops with Capt.S.S.T.Cantlie as Ship's Adjutant.</p> <p>Troops aboard were ;-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2nd.Anti-Tank Regiment RCA. 1st.Bn.The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">and details of The West Nova Scotia Regt. The Carlton York Regt. The Canadian Dental Corps.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A total of 60 Officers, 97 W.O's.and N.C.O's and 1543 O.R's.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Strength increase 4 men, decrease 4 men.</p>	<p><i>DTB</i></p>
"	24.8. 40.	0600 0600	<p>With the exception of inspection of arms, respirator drill and Ship's muster, parades were reduced to a minimum and all ranks were allowed plenty of relaxation.</p> <p>A neighbouring transport, "Orensay" had aboard nineteen N.C.O's and privates of the 1st. Battalion who had been transferred to the 5th Canadian Infantry Brigade HQ while in Valcartier, there was considerable enthusiasm and interchange of experiences flung across the intervening waters. While ashore Lt.Col.Blackader met the Hon.G.C.Power, Minister for Air, and Maj.Gen.H.F.Elkins, G.O.C. Atlantic Command (comprising Newfoundland, M.D.6 and M.D.7.) who had just returned from a tour of inspection in Newfoundland.</p> <p>They expressed their complete satisfaction with the defenses the Battalion had created there recently and mentioned that all Newfoundlanders to whom they had spoken had expressed great regret at losing the Black Watch. Seven men who had been in contact with a case of spinal meningitis spinal meningitis at Aldershot were sent ashore to the Halifax Isolation Hospital.</p>	<p><i>DTB</i></p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
In Port.	<u>25.8.</u> 40.	0600 0600	At 1330 hours the transport put off from the quay, with the pipe band playing them away on the after promenade deck, and moved into mid-stream. The Hon. A. MacDonald, one-time Premier of Nova Scotia and now Minister for the Navy, was on the wharf to see the Battalion off and wish them God-speed which he expressed to Lt. Col. Blackader before sailing. Capt. D. B. MacKay, the Chaplain, held a service in the evening which was the first held in the Battalion while aboard a transport.	<i>MSB</i>
"	<u>26.8.</u> 40.	0600 0600	A practise "Abandon Ship" was held at 0930 hours with half of the ship's boats putting off in the bay. This practise was executed in a rapid and orderly manner and the ship's commander commented favourably to the O.C. Troops on the rowing ability of the men. Two men of the R.C.A., stationed at Halifax, who were stowaways gave themselves up to D-81505 Provost Sgt. M. MacLeod. These two men, C-19603, GNR. O.C. Budd and C-10429, GNR. Y.K. Carter, had wished to go overseas but the wish was defeated by hunger.	<i>MSB</i>
At Sea.	<u>27.8.</u> 40.	0600 0600	The Stowaways were taken ashore in the morning and at 1205 hours the Battalion, aboard H.M.T. "Duchess of York", proceeded to sea in convoy with H.M.T. "Empress of Australia", "Georgic", Scythia", "Oronsay" and "Louis Patéur" escorted by H.M.S. Revenge and two destroyers.	<i>MSB</i>
"	<u>28.8.</u> 40.	0600 0600	Parades consisted of inspection of arms and respirator drill from 1000 hours to 1045 hrs. followed by Ship's Muster parade when all ranks "fell in" at their boat stations where they were inspected by the Chief Officer. This was the regular morning employment the remainder of the day being free except for fatigues or pickets, the Orderly Room Staff, however, were at work all day and would be for the continuance of the voyage as all records have to be brought up to date with the latest movements entries. As the Battalion was now at sea all ranks carried life preservers at all times and a nightly black-out was instituted. All ranks received £1.0.0, advance pay, from Major F.S. Molson, Paymaster.	<i>MSB</i>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
At Sea.	29.8.	0600	<p>Morning parades were carried out. Ship's Purser arranged for horse-racing which was held in the "A" Deck lift square. Representatives of the Canadian Legion on board were kind enough to distribute playing cards, cribbage boards and chequers games together with cigarettes. Complaints were received from the men of the British behaviour of the mess-deck stewards using bad language and handling the with food with filthy hands, this was investigated and stopped. Apparently the stewards, a very mixed bag of European Jews and others, had been subjected to some abuse and bad conduct by previous bodies of troops and were not accustomed to the good behaviour at meals shown by the men of the Battalion.</p>	
	40.	0600		
"	30.8.	0600	<p>Usual morning parades with the addition of a march round the Promenade Deck while wearing respirators. While this caused much amusement it nevertheless achieved its purpose which was xxxxxxxx to accustom the men to movement and exercise while wearing respirators. Horse racing again proved successful, in the afternoon, for some members of the Officers and Sergeants Messes. In the evening a mass game of Housie-housie (Known to most Canadians as Bingo), the old and familiar British Army game, was held in the Sergeants Mess.</p>	
	40.	0600		
"	31.8.	0600	<p>Usual morning parades and respirator march. The weather continued to be unbelievably warm and calm. An issue of 25 cigarettes, provided by the Government, was made to each man, this making a total of 50 per man, there having been a previous issue at the commencement of the voyage.</p>	
	40.	0600		



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Betwood, Nfld.	1.8.	0600	any	
	40.	0600	Nothing of importance occurred. Defense posts were manned as usual and the customary control of harbour activities continued.	D.S.D.
"	2.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	Nothing of any importance occurred. Speculation was rife as to the identity of the Unit which will relieve the Battalion and as to the exact date of departure.	D.S.D.
"	3.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	While nothing official is known regarding the departure of the Battalion, the civilians of both Betwood and Grand Falls seem to be sure that the date for this will be the 10th. It is a revelation how civilians appear to obtain fairly accurate information as to troop movements long before this information is known in the Service.	Defence Scheme. Appendix 11 D.S.D.
"	4.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	At 0912 hours the Imperial Airways "C" class flying-boat "Claire" alighted at the seaplane base after a flight from Foynes, I.F.S. Amongst the passengers was Mr. Fairey, manufacturer of the famous Fairey aeroplanes, who came ashore and breakfasted in the Officer's Mess. At 1115 hours "Claire" resumed the flight to Montréal.	D.S.D.
"	5.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	Usual defenses manned. Practise parade was held in anticipation of the visit of the Governor of the Island. Mr. E.C. Price, Commissioner of Customs and Mr. G.B. Sommers, Secretary of Justice, visited the area where they were received by Major I.L. Ibbotson, E.D.	D.S.D.
"	6.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	At 1014 hours His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir Humphrey Walwyn, KCSI, accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Walwyn, arrived in the area for an inspection. The detachment, under the command of Major I.L. Ibbotson, E.D. marched past the Governor and then were thanked by him for their work in the defense of Newfoundland. The Vice-Regal party returned to their train at 1310 hours.	D.S.D.
"	7.8.	0600		
	40.	0600	Usual defenses manned. Nothing of importance to report.	

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Botwood, Nfld.	8.8.	0600	A civilian reported having seen a parachutist land outside his house. This was investigated and proved to be the usual type of false ^{FALSE} alarm, many of which have been received in the last month and all of which have proved to be groundless but have caused considerable work and exertion for the troops. Major Spragge, Lieut. Greaves and 8 O.R.'s, of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, arrived as the advance party of the unit detailed to relieve the Battalion.	Additional Protection of Botwood. Appendix. III DTS
	40.	0600		
"	9. 10.8.	0600	The day was taken up by the turning over of all stores, supplies and technical equipment to the Q.O.R, cleaning of the camp lines, packing kits and conducting members of the Q.O.R over the defense posts, O-pips, harbour and general area.	DTS
	40.	0600		
"	10.8.	0600	The C.P.S.S. "Duchess of Richmond" arrived in harbour with R.C.N. destroyer H.60 as escort. The Queen's Own Rifles, our relieving unit, disembarked and two companies immediately took over the defense of the area, from the Black Watch detachment, while the remainder entrained for the airport. At 1700 hours the detachment embarked and awaited the arrival of the main body, under Lt. Col. K.G. Blackader, M.C.	Movement Order No. 4. Appendix. IV DTS
	40.	0600		