

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.

WAR DIARY

Page 1.

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (3072)

OR

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

Title pages will be prepared.



(Erase heading not required)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/100,000 HOLLAND	1st Aug Wed		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1st Bn The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>War Diary for Month of August, 1945</u></p> <p>Weather - Overcast and cool. A sailing party of 15 men went to HILVERSUM where they were taken out in privately owned yachts in the morning and afternoon. The normal swim parade took place as usual and 4 men went to PARIS on leave. In the afternoon the second softball game between THE BLACK WATCH and the REGT DE MAISSONEUVE was played on the diamond at our locn. The score was 10-2 in favor of the REGT DE MAISSONEUVE. No bus service ran in the afternoon but recreational tpt left for APELDOORN in the evening. It was HQ Coy's day for the dry canteen parade, and a movie was put on at night in the K of C hall.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>AW</i></p>
	2nd Aug Thu		<p>Weather - Overcast and cool. 2 men left on the Can Repat Draft in the morning. The rest of the day was spent as usual - everyone's time divided between duties and recreation. In the evening an Ensa show made up of an all-Dutch cast was put on in the K of C hall. All agreed that it was a welcome change from the usual army shows and the cast got a well-earned ovation from the men.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>AW</i></p>
	3rd Aug Fri		<p>Weather - Fair and warmer. In the morning 88 all ranks went to THE HAGUE on a sight-seeing tour, and 1 man left on the Can Repat Draft. 1 offr and 36 OR's started on a tour of the Ruhr Valley. Four countries will be visited on this tour - BELGIUM, FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG, and GERMANY - and also many famous battle fields. The Padre, Hon Capt A. REOCH, and 35 all ranks went to LAREN to visit and improve THE BLACK WATCH cemetery. The offr's' softball team practiced in the afternoon in preparation for the game with 5 Cdn Inf Bde HQ. Maj C.S. MACLAREN. A/2 i/c, made a preliminary recce of our next area. During the evening some of the men were invited to a CWAC dance in APELDOORN, and the AMSTERDAM leave party returned.</p>	<p>App. 8</p> <p>App. 9.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>AW</i></p>
	4th Aug Sat		<p>Weather - Fair and very warm. 12 men left on the Can Repat Draft in the morning. 1 offr and 15 OR's went to the Army Track and Field meet at NIJMEGEN for the day. The remainder of the day was spent quietly with recreational</p>	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/100,000 HOLLAND	14th Aug Tue		Weather - Intermittent showers. 8 men went on the Can Repat Draft and 1 man to CAFÉ during the morning. 2 offr's and 40 OR's left for AMSTERDAM on short leave while 1 offr and 24 OR's attended the "Meet the Navy" show in that city. In the tennis semi-finals at NUNSPREET, the C.O., Lt-Col V.E. TRAVERSY and Maj J.F. BAILLIE won their doubles, but the C.O. lost his singles match.	<i>MAW</i>
	15th Aug Wed		Weather - Overcast with showers. 7 men left for the COF in the morning. The Adj't Capt S.E. GRIFFIN, sent around the message that the Allied Nations had accepted the surrender of JAPAN on the POTSDAM terms. Today and tomorrow were proclaimed V-J Days and will be spent as Sundays. Though the news came as no surprise, everyone cheered its arrival and individuals made their own plans for celebration in APELDOORN. After a little time for contemplation the reaction of most is that it is hard to believe that no state of war exists in the world. The tennis matches were postponed on account of rain.	<i>MAW</i>
	16th. Aug. Thur.		Weather - overcast with rain. Maj. E. S. DUFFIELD, M.C., and a party of three left at 0530 hrs. for DIEPPE, to represent the BLACK WATCH at a ceremony arranged by C.M.H.Q.. They will arrive there on the 18th. August, and the ceremony and parades will be held on the following day. At 1000 hrs. a work party from A and Sp. Coys. replaced the B and C Coys. work party preparing for the coming Mardi Gras being held at the SOESTERBERG airport. The party from B and C Coys. returned after lunch. D 82922, CSM TURNBULL, A.F., returned from leave to find himself promoted to RSM.. A movie was run in the Officers' Mess in the evening.	App. 4. <i>MAW</i>
	17th. Aug. Fri.		Weather - heavy showers all day. 2 Officers and 33 ORs left in the morning on U.K. leave, and seven men returned from COF during the day. The first 5 Cdn. Inf. Bde. swim team work out took place in the morning. In the afternoon the Army Individual boxing competition was held in UTRECHT. At 1930 hrs. ENSA staged a play entitled "Canaries Sometimes Sing" in the K of C hall. A service for Jewish personnel was conducted in APELDOORN in the evening.	<i>MAW</i>
18th. Aug. Sat.		Weather - cloudy. 1 OR went on Canada Repat Draft, and 12 all ranks went to the "Meet the Navy" show in the morning. The PARIS leave party returned in the late afternoon. Capt. WIL.BARNES returned to the unit after a month spent in hospital. The day was spent quietly with a goodly number of the men going to APELDOORN at 1330 hrs..	<i>MAW</i>	

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sh. 2. 1:100,000. HOLLAND.	19th. Aug. Sun.		Weather - fair and warm. Special thanksgiving services were held during the morning. At 0830 hrs. the Padre, Hon. Capt. A. Reoch, conducted a service for the work party at SOESTERBERG, then at 1100 hrs. Protestant and R.C. services were held in camp. Jewish personnel had their service in UTRECHT at 1000 hrs.. Lt. P. MATISZ, The Signals Officer, went to 5 Cdn. Inf. Div. today.	RAW
	20th. Aug. Mon.		Weather - heavy rain all day. Capt. R. E. BERNIER, the S.P.O., left after completing the interviews of the Bn. personnel. The boxing matches scheduled for the afternoon were postponed on account of rain. A party of 15 all ranks went to AMSTERDAM to attend the "Meet the Navy" show, in the evening. An officers mess supper in celebration of the victory over Japan was held in the evening.	RAW
	21st. Aug. Tues.		Weather - showery. The AMSTERDAM leave party was reduced to 20 all ranks. Maj. C.S.MACLAREN, the 2 i/c., today went on another recce of the area into which we shall be moving, when it is vacated by the ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT, in the town of SOESTDIJK. The Bn. received a visit today from some officers of the TRANSVAAL SCOTTISH, the South African Black Watch, These officers were Lt.Col. W.C.R. HEDDING, the C.O., Maj. C.J.RODDA, the 2 i/c., and Lieuts. P.D.ALLAN, N.A.HONNET, and W.R.J.DOWDING. They spent the evening as guests in the officer's mess.	RAW
	22nd. Aug. Wed.		Weather - overcast with showers. One man went on Canada Repat draft in the morning and eight men left for employment in the U.K.. In the afternoon the G.O.C., 2 Cdn. Inf. Div., Maj.Gen. A. BRUCE MATHEWS, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D., paid an informal visit to the Bn.. The 2 i/c., Maj. C.S.MACLAREN attended a meeting at Bde. H.Q. in relation to the move to the new area in SOESTDIJK.	RAW
	23rd. Aug. Thur.		Weather - fair and warm. With the sun making an appearance today the men spent most of their time basking in it. The customary recreational transport was functioning in the afternoon and evening.	RAW
	24th. Aug. Fri.		Weather - fair and warm. All controlled stores, attractive stores and weapons were turned in by the Q.M. today. There was a change over in the work party for the Mardi Gras this morning, D, C and Sp. Coys. supplying the men to continue the work there. 35 all ranks left on U!K. leave this morning.	RAW

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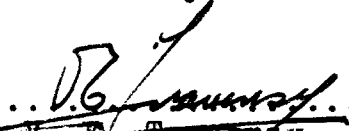
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APELDOORN area. MR 694993. Ref.Sh. 2. 1:100,000. HOLLAND.	29th. Aug. Wed.		<p>Weather - warm, but overcast. The advance party left this afternoon to take over the new area which will be vacated early tomorrow morning by the ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT. The area we have been occupying received a general clean up during the day. The Q.M., Capt. H.B.YUILE, had two loads of stores moved to SOESTDIJK today. Preparations are now completed for the move and everything which it is possible to do ahead of time has been done. The Bn. today received 15 cross-postings of men from other units in the Div. who will be returning to Canada with the BLACK WATCH.</p>	<p>FMW</p>
SOESTDIJK. MR. 323023. Ref.Sh. 2. 1:100,000. HOLLAND.	30th. Aug. Thur.		<p>Weather - heavy rain. The move commenced at 0845 hrs. when the cookers pulled out, to enable them to be set up in the new area, and operating at the earliest. The main party started off at 1100 hrs., in blocks, with twenty minute intervals between each block. This spacing was necessary in view of the celebrations which are taking place in the country this week end. In conjunction with the birthday of Queen Wilhelmina the Dutch people are celebrating the end of the war. As the Queen will be driving through the part of the country which we travelled today, the villagers and townspeople have been at great pains to decorate their streets and buildings. Miles of evergreen bunting was strung from one lamp post to the next, touched up with marigolds, gladioli and other orange blossoms. Festive arches of cedar sprigs make a basis for floral decorations and span the roadway at many points. The first block of the main party reached its destination shortly before 1300 hrs., and the move was completed without incident. The balance of the day was spent by the men in settling in to their new quarters. Six men from the unit left today for Trades School in the U.K..</p>	<p>App. 7.</p> <p>FMW</p>
	31st. Aug. Fri.		<p>Weather - overcast and showery. This morning 31 all ranks left on U.K. leave and five on PARIS leave. This will be the last party proceeding on such leaves for the present. Alterations and innovations were the order of the day as the men set about organizing their new billets.</p>	<p>FMW</p>


 V. B. Traversy, Lt-Col.,
 Officer Commanding,
 1st. Bn. The Black Watch, (R.H.R.)
 of Canada.