

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
40/P & S/37 (3072)

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
Hove, Sussex	Tue 1 Feb		Dull and cold throughout, visibility fair. Plans for the Corps Comds (Lt-Gen. Simmond's) inspection of the Bde Gp on 3 Feb were twice changed today as regards dress. However these changes are looked upon as normal routine. Lieut. W.T. Hollinger left us today for 5 CIRU on completion of a two month tour on special increment.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Wed 2 Feb		Cold with strong sw wind. All offr's attended a lecture by the Corps Comd at the Regent Cinema, Brighton, this morning. Yet another change has been made in the order of dress for tomorrows inspection. While the offr's were at the Corps Comds lecture, the ORs of the Bn paraded to trg films under the RSM.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Thu 3 Feb		Another cold dull day with fresh sw wind. The Corps Comds Inspection took place today at the Hove Recreation Ground. After a rapid inspection during which the massed pipe bands of the Bde Gp played a slow march, Gen Simmonds mounted a jeep and all ranks doubled round him, after which he made a short address. After the Corps Comds departure we marched past our new Bde Comd, Brig J.C. Jefferson, DSO, ED., this being the first occasion on which the unit has been on parade under his comd. In the afternoon the QM and Coy 2 i/c's attended a demonstration on the 24 hr ration pack given by personnel of RCASC at the Club House in our battle drill area. A great surprise was recd this afternoon when the CO recd a telephone call from Lt.-Col.S.S.T. Cantlie, informing him that they had switched appointments with effect 1 Feb.	APPENDIX CJS
Hove, Sussex	Fri 4 Feb		Fine with fresh surface wind, visibility good. Col. Cantlie arrived at lunch time today to discuss the handover with Col. Henderson. It is understood that they will hand over to one another at Army (Appt of GI(L) on Monday and Col Cantlie will formally take comd on Tuesday).	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sat 5 Feb		Weather fair with light northerly wind, some fog, visibility fair. This morning saw our first Bn drill parade since last October, the use having been secured of the "Drive", a street two blocks east of Bn HQ which is wide enough to manoeuvre the unit in.	CJS

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Hove, Sussex	Sun 6 Feb		Cloudy with occasional slight rain or drizzle. W.S.W wind and fair visibility. The unit paraded to Church this morning but minus both CO and Pipe Band, who were attending a special Church Parade of the Brighton Wing of the Air Training Corps. Col. Henderson took the salute at the march past. This afternoon he left us for the more varied ^{drilled} varied atmosphere of Army HQ.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Mon 7 Feb		Weather fair, surface winds west and sw, visibility good. The Mortar pl spent the morning being tested by a Div inspecting team. Rumor has it that the results were satisfactory. Unfortunately the pl comd Lt.J.K.Neil, is away on a course at Barnards Castle. Lieuts W.M. Wood and E.D. Price joined us today from 5 Ciru for a tour as special increment offrs. 8 pl of "A" coy left at noon on a self-contained 48hr scheme. It is planned that all pls will go on one of these schemes during the next fortnight.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Tue 8 Feb		Cloudy with local drizzle and sw wind, visibility fair. Col.Cantlie arrived this afternoon to take over comd of the unit for the second time. One casualty was sustained on the Battle Drill School when Pte. Kirk, S.W. of "D" coy was struck by what is believed to have been a spent bullet fired from another portion of the trg area. Fortunately the wound does not appear to be serious.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Wed 9 Feb		Cloudy with strong westerly wind. The A/Tk pl left this afternoon for a two day shoot at Lydd Ranges. While there they will be with all the A/Tk pls of the Div under control of 2 Cdn A/Tk Regt. Capt.R.R.MacGillivray of the Sask. L.I. joined us today for a period of attachment pending a staff appt.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Thu 10 Feb		Weather fair to cloudy, light westerly wind, visibility fair. After a year or more of false alarms we drew the first installment on our operational transport - 25 15-cwts 4x4s. However they have been received with mixed feelings by the drivers as they will now have to maintain two vehs apiece instead of the statutory one. This evening the CO spoke to all offrs, and the RSM, outlining the main points in his policy and our programme for the next six weeks. It seems that there wont be a great deal of time available for playing.	CJS

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Hove, Sussex	Fri 11 Feb		Dull throughout, visibility poor. We are to have a scout pl to consist of 1 offr and 30 ORs. The only hitch is that the personnel must be found from within WE. It's tactical employment has not yet been fully defined, but it is apparently to be a Corps Elite consisting of 10 Snipers and 20 scouts.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sat 12 Feb		Occasional slight rain or drizzle and sw wind, some fog patches, visibility fair. The Saturday morning Bn parade was again held in the Drive. There was a noticeable improvement at the conclusion of the parade. We are to train 25% replacements for specialist personnel within the Bn. What with also supplying seven men each for the scout pl, the Rifle coy comds look a little sad. Rifle coys are to go away on 168 hr self-contained schemes commencing on 20 Feb.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sun 13 Feb		Rain or drizzle throughout. The pipe band played today with the massed pipe bands of the Div at the White City Stadium in London. The occasion was a football game between a Cdn and an American team - one half played with Cdn rules, the other half with American. The prophets were upset and the Cdn Army team won. The greater portion of the Sigs pl left today for a weeks conc trg under Div arrangements.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Mon 14 Feb		Dull and cold throughout, visibility fair. Capt. J.A. Rolland left today to take over comd of a trg coy at 5 CIRU. Lieut. J.E. Fox will succeed to the A/Tk pl. Lieuts P.H. Mackenzie and J.E. Swift also left to take the appts of instrs at 5 CIRU, the former to be 2i/c coy. Coy comds attended an Anti-typhus demonstration this afternoon given by 13 Fe Hyg Sec. In the evening the CO and 2i/c attended the first of the much heralded series of cloth model exercises at Div. Major F.P. Griffin was one these of those taking part. These exercises are designed to be repeated each week on a lower level eventually reaching the section, while a new series is commenced weekly at Div Level.	CJS

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Hove, Sussex	Tue 15 Feb		Weather fair with strong sw wind and fair visibility. The greater portion of the unit spent the day on Kithurst Ranges firing the rifle. Capt. Kemp, the WFO was in charge. Today we heard from the CO the highlights of last nights conference at Div. More and more of the policy appears to be based on battle experience in Italy. This evening the Adj. and QM attended a conference at Div where Exercise "GONQUEROR" was discussed, mainly from the A&Q angle. A number of very useful points were brought out. The Exercise is supposed to be on the lines of our role in the future.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Wed 16 Feb		Fine but with widespread fog inland. Easterly fresh wind and fair visibility. Today we received a set of enemy mines and booby trap mechanisms which are now being circulated throughout the Div. We are allowed to keep them for forty-eight hours and during this time instruction will continue non-stop day and night. A team of eight instrs under Lieuts Fox and Buch spent the first four hours on preparation and at 2300 hrs the first class of 40 arrived for 4 hrs instr broken by coffee and biscuits at half-time. The instrs are working 4 hrs on and 4 hrs off.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Thu 17 Feb		Fine with fresh surface wind and good visibility. The 2 i/c attended a conference with Home Guard reps at Bde HQ today for the purpose of co-ordinating our operational role. IT is an anti-raid one (both seaborne and parachutist) but seems rather a remote possibility at this point. The soccer team played the RHLI at Horsham in the Div semi-final. We won a hard fought game by 3 goals to 2.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Fri 18 Feb		Overcast with intermittent rain and drizzle. WSW wind, visibility fair. Lieuts A.R.W. Robinson and T.K. Dorrance arrived back today after a tour of instr duty at 5 CIRU. The greater portion of the bn again spent the day on Kithurst Ranges, this time conc on LMG. We have been informed that we are to be inspected on 1 Mar by General Montgomery. There is great rejoicing at the news that the dress will be web belts and balmorals instead of the usual battle order with steel helmets. Major Motzfeldts battle drill school ended this afternoon with the 5 CTS obstacle course. All rifle pls have had the two week course. Lieut. P.M. Webster of the Lorne Scots arrived for a tour of 3 months regt'l duty. He was formerly an LO at 8 Cdn Inf Bde	CJS

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Hove, Sussex cont'd	Fri 18 Feb		comd by Brig Blackader. Exercise "CONQUEROR" reached the Bde level tonight. Some 18 offrs of this unit attended. A most interesting evening in that it was for many the first meeting with our new Bde Comd, Brig.J.C.Jefferson, DSO, ED.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sat 19 Feb		Fair to cloudy. Visibility improving toward noon. Wind sw. The pipe band travelled to the White City again today to play with the massed pipe bands at the England-Scotland match. This morning all offrs less A & B coys attended a lecture and demonstration of air photographs by Lieut. Bonter, IO(Ph) from Army. A & B coys spent the day and night out on the trg area.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sun 20 Feb		Cloudy with intermittent showers throughout. Today has been a day of movement. It also marks the point when the first stage of our final intensive trg effort ends, that is individual trg up to pl level. A & B coys arrived home in the small hrs of the morning and left at about noon for a weeks self-contained trg. Both coys have succeeded in obtaining requisitioned buildings to the North of the Downs - A coy at Middleton Manor near Hassocks and B coy at Eroft Ham House, Barcombe. The pnr pl has gone to the RCEs at Parhan Ho near Storrington and the Anti-Tank pl to Cross Ways Ho near Wilmington. The remainder of the sigs pl has left for the second weeks course being run by Div sigs. The area seems somewhat deserted,	CJS gone t
Hove, Sussex	Mon 21 Feb		Fair to fine with strong sw wind. The Scout pl came into being this morning under Lieut. E.S.Duffield. A billet has been acquired for them and they have been placed under comd of Sp coy. The policy of trg specialist replacements also came into effect when 3 men from each of C and D coys commenced a weeks course with the Mortar Pl. One man from each sec of the two coys is also attending a First Aid School being run by the MO. 8 reconditioned carriers were received today, 5 of which completed the journey back from Peper Harrow in convoy. This is the first time we have reached the new WE in carriers.	CJS

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Hove, Sussex	Tue 22 Feb		Cloudy with rain or drizzle until the afternoon then improving. A very quiet day with all remaining personnel out at Harrow Hill. The CO visited A and B coys this morning.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Wed 23 Feb		Fine and cold with some sunshine and fair visibility. The soccer team were beaten by the Tor Scots in the Div final today by a score of 2 goals to 1. The team played a very good game indeed. Brig. Jefferson presented the cup to the Tor Scots and medals to the members of both teams at the conclusion. Approx 15 offrs attended the second half of Exercise "Conqueror" at Bde HQ this evening. A most popular feature of these very valuable sessions is the refreshments break in the middle - courtesy of the Staff Captain and the Auxiliary Services.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Thu 24 Feb		Fine and cold with strong ssw wind, visibility fair. Yet another very quiet day which was much appreciated by those at Bn HQ who had an opportunity to catch up on arrears of work. 21 obsolete 15 cwt 4x2s were turned in to Ordnance this morning. Most of the balance will have been returned by 28 Feb leaving us practically at WE again but with approx 75% operational vehs.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Fri 25 Feb		Cold throughout with threatening showers, visibility fair. 30 all ranks attended an excellent demonstration of the coy in the att put on by the Calg Highrs and 15 Fd Regt, RCA. A great deal of scurrying to and fro today in preparation for the comb offrs and Sgts dance tomorrow night. Three NCOs, Sgt. Miles, L/Sgt. Crozier and Cpl Noreiko left for NETD this morning on the first stage of a journey home to Canada on a tour of instr duty.	CJS
Hove, Sussex	Sat 26 Feb		A fine pleasant day. All sub-units with the exception of the A/Tk pl returned today in time for the dance in the evening. The area is well populated again. Carriers have been searching the Downs all day for L/Cpl. Miller of the Mort pl who was last seen starting out on a trg trip on a motor cycle at noon on the 24th. The military and civilian police have also been on the look-out, but with no success. Brig. Jefferson left us today to comd 10 Cdn Inf Bde and Brig. W.J. McGill, formerly CO of the Algonquin Regt has replaced him.	CJS

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Hove	Sun 27 28 FEB		Weather fine with sunshine throughout and good visibility. This has been another Sunday of movement, as "C" & "D" Coys have moved out for a weeks concentrated trg while the A Tk pl has returned. "C" Coy has taken over the A Tk pl billets and "D" Coy has moved into those occupied by "B" Coy.	CJS
Hove	Mon 28 29 FEB		Fair to fine with sunshine. Specialist trg continues with schools running in 3" Mortar, A Tk, Carrier Driving (for drivers of Coy Carriers) and First Aid. "A" & "B" Coys spent the day boating on the river ADUR, using the new Mk III Assault Boats which carry 18 men as against 9 in the Mk II's to which we have been accustomed. Still no news of L/Cpl. Miller.	CJS
Hove	Tue 29 30 FEB		Fine and cold throughout with fresh SW wind. The C.O., R.S.M., Markers and Pipe Band attended a rehearsal for General Montgomery's visit tomorrow. In the evening there was another discussion period at Bde H.Q. during which the Staff Captain discussed A & Q problems in the field and outlined the Railway system of movement. L/Cpl Miller has been discovered in 9 Can Gen Hosp, where he has been since he was involved in an accident on 24 FEB.	CJS

S.S.T. Cantlie

LT. COL.
O.C. 1ST. BN. THE BLACK WATCH,
(R.H.R.) OF CANADA.