

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 (9/42)

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
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1st BATTALION THE BLACK WATCH (R.H.R.) OF CANADA</u> <u>FROM 1st JULY, 1943 TO 31st JULY, 1943</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX (UNDER CANVAS) - REF. SHEET O.S. 133 - 490403.</u></p>	

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(1) Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Pulborough	Thu 1 Jul		Clear and fine. Dominion Day was a holiday for all ranks. The Officers attended a post exercise conference at the R.de Mais at which the G.O.C. presided. We gather that the exercise went fairly well and apart from minor criticisms the Bn. had put on a showing with which the brass hats were reasonably well satisfied. All Coys held muster and pay parades in the morning and consequently the camp was quite deserted this afternoon. Then the N.C.O. course which is again underway gave the lie to the celebration of our National Holiday.	J.P.G.
Pulborough	Fri 2 Jul		Clear warm day. The I.O. left to deputise for Capt. Doheny at Bde. H.Q. during the latter's absence on leave. Officers and N.C.O's above the rank of sergeant met tonight at 2000 hrs., when a most interesting and instructive lecture on Field Hygiene and Sanitation was given by Capt. Gilchrist of the 13th. Field Hygiene Section. Some most illuminating comparisons were given by the speaker on deaths in the last war, in various climates through action and by disease.	J.P.G.
Pulborough	Sat 3 Jul		A dull morning with threatening rain developed into a warm, mild afternoon and evening. The Bn. Parade at 0830 hrs. was taken by the 2 i/c, with Headquarters and Support Coys being inspected after approximately half an hour of ceremonial drill. The parade was dismissed at 1045 hrs. Capt. J.P.G. Kemp continues to whip our track and field team into shape for the Bde. Sports, and they should be in excellent shape in a very short while. Capt. Motzfeldt left this afternoon for training area 7; he will be in charge of entire night fighting.	J.P.G.
Pulborough	Sun 4 Jul		Clear and warm. There were no Church parades today. The Bn. Pipe Band played at Hastings in the Dominion Day Service Parade of the Canadian Veterans' Association of Gt. Britian, and "C" Coy left camp at 1345 hrs. for their week of night training. Extremely large flights of "Fortresses" overhead this morning testified to the fact that American flying men intend putting in a fair amount of work somewhere on the Continent prior to celebrating the "Fourth". The weekend passed quiet and uneventful.	J.P.G.

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(2) Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Pulborough	Mon 5 Jul		<p>A cold dull morning gave way to a pleasant day and warm evening. Capt. Rolland attended a demonstration of enemy A.F.V's at the School of Tank Technology, Chertsey Surrey, from 1400 hrs. to 1600 hrs., while the 2 i/c, Adjutant, T.O., and two Officers each, from Support, "A", and "B" Coys. attended a lecture by Gen. McCreery at 1100 hrs. in Horsham, the subject being "Air and Army Ops in Africa". A letter was received from Brig. Whitehead enclosing the following report on Capt. J.P.W. Taylor who was recently attached to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in Tunisia for battle experience: "A cheerful personality, very keen to get at the enemy. He acted as 2 i/c to "X" Coy. during operations in the Ousseltia Valley. He understudied O.C. H.Q. Coy. for a fortnight. On March 3, when the Coy. Comdr. was wounded he assumed command of "X" Coy., and has led it in action for ten days with success under extremely arduous conditions of terrain and weather. I believe he has made the most of his opportunities in North Africa and learned much from his experiences. A very good Officer whom it is a pleasure to have in my Battalion. He was with 1st A. and S.H. at Medjez el Bab, Robaa (Pont du Fahs) Ousseltia Valley, and Hunt's Gap (Beja). The G.O.C.-in-C. has conveyed his personal congratulations to Capt. Taylor.</p>	G.S.S.
Pulborough	Tue 6 Jul		<p>A dull morning with rain around noon. Showers continued intermittently throughout the afternoon and evening and most most effectively laid the rather large accumulation of dust throughout the camp. The C.O. held a Coy. Comdrs. meeting at 1630 hrs at which he discussed, among other topics, his new Training Control Chart. Lieut. Col. Black, C.R.E. Corps Troops, arrived tonight. He will be attached to the Bn as an observer for the period from 6 Jul. to 13 Jul. Our Softball Team again scored decisively tonight, by beating the 18 Field Ambulance on their own ground by 37-4. This is our third win and so far easily the best score made in the league.</p>	G.S.S.
Pulborough	Wed 7 Jul		<p>A very cold morning for this season and cloudy and dull until 1000 hrs; thereafter warmer and with threatening showers throughout afternoon and evening. "A" Coy spent the day on the assault course and in classification of the Sten Gun in the sand pit in the vicinity of Pulborough, while specialist training was carried out by H.Q. and</p>	G.S.S.

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(3) Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Pulborough (cont'd)	Wed 7 Jul		Support Coys. The 2 i/c left at 0830 hrs. for Borden, where opportunity is now being granted senior Officers to visit the C.T.S. and inspect training carried out by students. The training to be witnessed is not an arranged demonstration, but will be normal training carried out by wings visited.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Thu 8 Jul		A dull and overcast morning, clearing before noon to a fine sunny afternoon and evening. "A" and "B" Coys. proceeded to the 30 yd. range today zeroing their new rifles. The O.O., 2 i/c, Adjutant, and I.O. attended a cloth model demonstration at 5 C.I.S. this evening on infantry cum tank tactics in preparation for the forthcoming exercise "HAMMER". Sixteen reinforcements from Farnborough today helped to swell our ranks. A motor-cycle class run by Sgt. Cunningham commenced today. Emphasis was laid in the opening remarks of the instructor on the fact that students must be able to fall correctly should the necessity arise any time; however, the wrong kind of fall in the early evening resulted in an accident to one man, Pte. Moss, being taken to the Hospital with a broken foot.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Fri 9 Jul		Cold with scattered showers throughout the day, clearing up towards evening. Despite adverse weather conditions, the Bn. Sports Meet washeld today with "C" Coy. scoring a decisive victory. Sgt. Gales of this Coy. was the star of the day, winning handily the half-mile, mile, and three-mile races.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Sat 10 Jul		A cold wet day, and windy, clearing a little towards evening. At noon "C" Coy. returned from their week of night fighting, and spent the afternoon on the 30 yd. range zeroing their new rifles. There was much excitement and speculation throughout the unit when the news came through of an Allied invasion of Sicily in which Canadian Troops took part. 31 All ranks spent a most enjoyable time throughout the day sightseeing at Eton and Windsor Castle.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Sun 11 Jul		Dull and overcast with scattered showers throughout the day. There was an R.C. Church Parade at 1000 hrs. in the large marquee used by the K. of C. for picture shows, conducted by the Bde. Padre, Capt. Kenny. A party of 9 Officers and 234	G.S.B.

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Pulborough (cont'd)	Sun 11 Jul		other ranks left by rail from Pulborough this evening for Ash Ranges, where they will fire qualifying practises tomorrow. The party was under command of Capt. Ross until their arrival at the Ranges, when Major Stevenson will take over.	G.S.B.
Pulborough and Ash Ranges	Mon 12 Jul		A cloudy dull morning with intermittent showers throughout and a fair S.W. wind; weather improving slightly during afternoon and evening. The week-end passed uneventfully, with the news from Sicily occupying major attention; thoughts of the immense prospects opened up by the events in the Mediteranean help to keep morale at a high level. The C.O. today proceeded on a privilege leave, and the 2 i/c left on a Security course, leaving Major A.G. Stevenson Acting C.O.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Tue 13 Jul		Morning fine and sunny; afternoon dull and unsettled with much cloud; evening generally dull with heavy dew throughout the night. We recieved our six 6-pounders today and a further party comprising one Officer and 72 other ranks left for Ash Ranges, while one Officer and 74 other ranks returned at 2320 hrs. Five old Boy Scouts in the Bn. were guests of Lady Baden-Powell at Hampton Court Palace this afternoon. The Bde. Track and Field Championships Programme is out, and Saturday afternoon at Petworth Park promises to be exceedingly entertaining. Massed Bipe Bands will play and as the preliminaries are being run off in the morning, the finals, commencing at 1400 hrs, should draw a large attendance. The weather has been fairly poor lately but we trust there will be a decided improvement by Saturday for the meet.	G.S.B.
Pulborough	Wed 14 Jul		A dull cold morning improving later into a mild afternoon and evening. A further party left for the Ranges today and 75 all ranks returned this evening. We learn that the new type respirator is now in Stores and down for early issue to all personnel of the Bn., also that the Bde Transport inspection will in all probability take place on Tuesday the 20th. The T.O. and his gang are putting in much time in this latter connection and we anticipate close competition for the Shield, which, in the last two inspections has been awarded to the Calgary Highlanders.	G.S.B.

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Pulborough	Thu 15 Jul		<p>A mild humid morning developed into a fairly dull afternoon and evening with sky overcast and showers threatening. There were intermittent showers throughout the night. Pay parades commenced at 0830 hrs. The I.O. this morning left on an ABCA course, on the termination of which he will proceed on privilege leave. Major B.R. Ritchie returned to the unit today after a fairly lengthy absence attending a Senior Officers' course at Brasenose College, Oxford. Lieut. D.A. Law also returned, while Sgt. R.H. Law rejoined us for the first time since his return from North Africa, where he was attached to the First Army. The balance of the Ash Ranges party returned to Camp at 2230 hrs. Capt. Kemp forwarded our entries for the Bde. Meet today. The team is improving daily under his care and will be in excellent shape for Sat., when we have high hopes of a victory.</p>	G.S.
Pulborough	Fri 16 Jul		<p>Dull and humid throughout the day with intermittent showers during the night. The new respirators were issued this afternoon and the old type returned to Stores; troops one and all approved of the change as this new model is lighter and much more compact. Seven of our N.C.O's were today detailed to leave for Canada at an early date as Instructors.</p>	G.S.
Pulborough	Sat 17 Jul		<p>A warm pleasant day with brilliant sunshine throughout. The C.O's parade and inspection this morning was taken by the 2 i/c, and there were several cases of near suffocation during a tryout of our new respirators; in future we have no doubt the men concerned will remove the corks prior to donning the facepiece. The Brigade Sports at Petworth Park produced a large turnout this afternoon. In spite of the fact that our immensely weighty tug-of-war team was pulled all over the field by the light-weight medical crew, we won the Championships in great style, being ahead over 40 points on the runners up, the Calgary Highlanders. Sgt. Gale won for us the half-mile, mile and an outstanding 3 miles race. Cups and medals were presented by Brig. Whitehead, and massed Pipe Bands played throughout the afternoon. Our Pipe Band played "Retreat" at 5 C.I.B. this evening and some selections at the Staff Dance held there later.</p>	G.S.

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Pulborough	Sun 18 Jul		<p>A dull morning developed into a pleasant day with a fair amount of sunshine. H/Capt. Berliss held a drumhead service at 1100 hrs. on our Bn parade ground. This was another fairly busy day for the Pipe Band; they played to and from the Church Parade and later left to meet the local Home Guard detachment and play them in from a night scheme. Transport personnel worked all day on their vehicles in preparation for the forthcoming transport inspection, date of which is now definitely fixed for Tuesday the 20th.</p>	GAB
Pulborough	Mon 19 Jul		<p>Dull and humid morning with fairly heavy showers in the afternoon and evening and intermittent rainfall during the night. Lt. J.G. Smith, our Signals Officer, this morning commenced a week's sigs. course for Coy and Pl H.Q. personnel; mainly on the 38 set. All Officers and senior NCO's of the Bde met at 1500 hrs. at the camp of R de M where a very fine and interesting lecture was delivered by Lieut. G.E. Instone M.M., of B.M.I., on conduct of British P.W. if cut off from unit or captured; a topic on which the lecturer could speak with much authority, having on three occasions escaped from German hands during the present War. Lt.-Col. Cantlie this evening returned from leave, and Capt. Motzfeldt left for the night fighting area to prepare for the arrival of "B" Coy tomorrow afternoon. A TEWT for all Officers was conducted by Officers of "A" Coy at 1915 hrs., the first of a weekly series for Officers and NCO's.</p>	GAB
Pulborough	Tue 20 Jul		<p>Dull and cold after a night of rain. This is the morning of the Bde Transport inspection and Lieut. Menzies has spent a really busy week-end in preparation. Competition should be keen. The Pipe Band today left on a well-earned 48 hrs. leave; they have fulfilled engagements for seven consecutive week-ends and we understand they have more ahead of them. "B" Coy left this afternoon on a week's night fighting. The C.O. attended a meeting at Bde H.Q. this evening on the forthcoming infantry cum tank training exercise "HAMMER". The 2 i/c, Q.M., T.O., and O's "C", "Sp", "A", and "C" Coys, attended a demonstration on convoy battle drill and evasive action in convoy against aircraft, at 1500 hrs.</p>	GAB

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Pulborough	Wed 21 Jul		A dull morning; sky heavily overcast. Heavy rain throughout afternoon and evening. Troops were fingerprinted and photographed today by the CAIB in connection with the issue of identification cards. For many this was the second time (the third for Capt J.A. Donald) - these cards seem slow to overtake one. Administration Order No. 107 dated 20th. July, was today received authorizing the Bn to re-organize on a four-Coy basis effective August 1st. One of our rifles lost in the River Arun on Exercise "Outburst" recently, was recovered from one of the inhabitants of Houghton today; we understand another local in the vicinity has so far recovered and handed over to the R. de M. five rifles, a Sten Gun, and several pairs of boots; an indication that the possibility of further unrecovered weapons keeps neighbourhood poachers interested.	GFB
Pulborough	Thu 22 Jul		Dull and overcast until late afternoon when the sun shone strongly and produced a warm evening. Ten recruits arrived this afternoon. A ball game against the 18 Fd. Amb. resulted in still another win for the Bn. this evening, a score of 12-6 being piled up when the whistle blew. We now learn the Calgarys have once again won the Bde. Transport Competition; the deduction of points from several of our vehicles in the workshop, having set us back. Capts. Griffin and Ross conducted a TEWT at 1815 hrs. for all NCO's, when much interest was shown. All dope on Exercise "Hammer" is now in - it is set to take place on the Downs near Storrington and to commence on the 29 th.	GFB
Pulborough	Fri 23 Jul		Weather dull and overcast throughout with slight intermittent drizzle, and poor visibility. An uneventful day, the only particular spot of interest being the competition on Pl. Battle Drill by "C" Coy. throughout the morning and afternoon and a test thereon held by the C.O.	GFB
Pulborough	Sat 24 Jul		Weather cloudy with some local fog, becoming fine in early afternoon to late evening. Good visibility. Bn. Parade and inspection by the C.O. this morning when "A" Coy. was inspected. A Promotion Board was held at 1400 hrs. - all Coy. Comdrs and the R.S.M. were present. The services of the Pipe Band were again in demand today, they travelled to Epsom and played at the Annual Athletic Meet.	GFB

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Pulborough	Sun 25 Jul		Weather mild and fine throughout. R.C.'s had a Church Parade this morning at 1000 hrs. conducted by H/Capt. Kenny, the Bde Padre. The C.O.'s lecture and cloth model demonstration on the forthcoming Exercise "Hammer" was attended by all Officers and lasted from 1000 hrs. to 1320 hrs. Arrangements have been made for O.R's from each Coy. to visit the cloth model at various times throughout the week and be lectured by their Coy. and Pl. Comdrs. prior to our departure. Capt. Taylor and Lieut. MacKenzie left to act as umpires for the Calgarys and R. De M., who are going through before us.	GSS
Pulborough	Mon 26 Jul		A dull overcast morning gave way to a day of sunshine. Approximately a dozen of our N.C.O's, prospective candidates for OCTU, were interviewed by the C.O. this morning. We again had a visit from Ordnance; weapons being due for still another inspection. Tired old soldiers brightened up considerably today when news came through of the fall of Mussolini, whose nation's decline has been so very evident during the past two weeks; all await with tremendous interest a new phase in the Mediterranean show.	GSS
Pulborough	Tue 27 Jul		Weather clear and mild throughout. We sent ahead today to the area of Exercise "Hammer" the Pioneer Pl, and Pls from "B" and "C" Coys; they will act as breaching parties for the Calgarys, who go through before us. Troops understood Lord Woolton was unaware of their increase in rations this noon - livestock in quantity was discovered in the peas served at lunch.	GSS
Pulborough	Wed 28 Jul		Another clear and mild day. We welcomed a further draft of seventeen men this afternoon. Coys were mainly occupied today on Bren Gun classification, G1098 inspections, and Battle Drill, and a TEWT for N.C.O's was conducted by Officers of "B" Coy tonight commencing at 1730 hrs. and ceasing at approximately 2015 hrs. A ball game against the R. de M. tonight resulted in still another win for the Bn Team - the score stood 13-6 at the finish.	GSS

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Pulborough & Training Area 7, South Downs.	Thur. 29 Jul.		<p>Warm and brilliant sunshine throughout ; troops sighed for a breath of wind on the march to the Downs this afternoon. The C.O. and I.O. left at 1300 hours in a carrier and made a last-minute recce. of the area, at the same time seeing the Calgarys completing their exercise. The Bn. marched to the concentration area under command of Maj. Stevenson and were literally bathed in sweat on completion of the climb from the road by Storrington to the Downs. A hot meal, prepared prior to our leaving Camp, was served shortly after arrival, and troops bedded down early in anticipation of an early start tomorrow. Detailed recces. with our opposite numbers from the Tanks commenced at 1930 hours and FUP's were taped by the "I" Sections after dark.</p>	G.F.S.
Training Area 7, South Downs.	Fri. 30 Jul.		<p>Another bright and warm day. Reveille was at 0515 hours and breakfast at 0545 and by 0630 the practices and drills on the exercise commenced; infantry and tanks got well acquainted and the former were instructed in tank organisation and in the way of riding on tanks, while marrying-up drills were repeated. We returned to lunch at 1100 hours and the exercise commenced at 1215 hours, the Bn. going through the complete attack to final objective as per OO No.1 with zero at 1430 hours. The entire scheme in the afternoon was witnessed by several distinguished visitors, who included Col. Ralston and Gens. McNaughton, Stewart and Montague.</p>	G.F.S.
Training Area 7, South Downs.	Sat. 31 Jul.		<p>A clear and warm day throughout. The breaching party made a night breaching which was completed by 0415 hours. Breakfast at 0315 prepared troops for a zero at 0515 hours and the attack was again carried through to final objective when a discussion of the attack by the Brigadier was held. We returned to assembly area and had lunch at 1015; thereafter repeated the attack with zero at 1230 hours. Supper was served at 1500 and marching troops left the Downs at 1530 hours for a return to Pulborough, after what has been a fairly gruelling three days, when heat and dust tried the stoutest. A severe thunderstorm heralded our return to Camp.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">P. S. T. Cantlie</p>	G.F.S.

1st Col.
C.O. 1st Bn. The Buffs (East Kent)
1st Bn. The Buffs (East Kent)