

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.
1 M.I.-3-39 (1708)
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
Aldershot	1 June		All ranks of the Protestant Denominations paraded to St. George's Church for divine service. The Roman Catholics attended St. Micheal's Church.	<u>S M</u>
Aldershot	2 June		Training as per syllabus.	
Aldershot	3 June		Training as per syllabus.	
Aldershot	4 June		Although definite training had been laid down for this morning, the battalion was surprised with a practice evacuation scheme. Companies packed up and moved out to the evacuation area 345753 (ref. sheet A/C 1" to mile) and after dinner marched back to barracks. Details of faults were later given by Major Ibbotson, the main one being that too much equipment had been left behind. Division has laid down that each Unit will perfect three different types of evacuation schemes. The first known as "HIGH-HO" is to come into effect on the barracks being heavily bombed and involves a rapid evacuation, with a minimum of stores and equipment and the vehicles actually in the lines at the time. The second, called "PACK" which we practiced this morning, is to come into effect should the battalion be called out for an operational role in the event of invasion. It necessitates the packing of all stores and equipment, the storing of excess articles, and moving to the evacuation area with complete G1098 equipment. In both the above schemes a rear party is left, one of over 100 all ranks for "HIGH-HO" and some 40 for "PACK". The reason for the large size of the "HIGH-HO" rear party is that it includes medical, P.A.D., and D.A.G. personnel. The third scheme involves the complete evacuation of the barracks preparatory to handing over to another Unit.	<u>S M</u>
Aldershot	5 June		Training was carried out today as per syllabus for Friday June 6th.	<u>S M</u>
Aldershot	6 June		Evacuation scheme "PACK" was practiced again today and although everything went much better the same faults, in a lesser degree, were evident as on June 4th. A change was made in the area today however. Apparently the wood which we have been using up to now is to be cut down, so a new area was reconnoitred on the SOUTH SIDE of the road, some 200 yds. away.	<u>S M</u>

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Aldershot	6	June	After dinner Coys detailed wiring parties which removed the wire from the old area and re-erected it round the new "D" Coy left in the afternoon for a self-contained operation at Sutton Scotney 9059(ref.sheet 123 1"to mile)	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	7	June	Training as per syllabus in the morning and again a practice evacuation was carried out. This time the companies did not move to the evacuation area, but everything was packed away preparatory to leaving. Major Ibbotson inspected the barracks and at last everything seems to be as it should. There were no parades in the afternoon.	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	8	June	All ranks of the Protestant denominations paraded to St.Andrew's Church and Roman Catholics to St.Micheal's. A welcome change has been introduced. The pipe-band now plays the battalion to Church.	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	9	June	Training as per syllabus except that no route marches were held. A party under command of RSM Notman went to London for the day and took part in a broadcast to Canada,	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	10	June	Training as per syllabus.	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	11	June	Training as per syllabus except that no route marches were held.	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	12	June	Instead of following the syllabus today, the four rifle companies had an all day route march This march was of a new type, as a total of 56 miles was covered, 21 on foot and 35 by transport. The companies arrived back at 2015hrs. During the week reeve parties of 3 officers have been sent out each day in order to classify the roads for the coming scheme. At 1800hrs the three battalions in the 5th Bde. put on a demonstration of guard mounting and a ceremonial retreat. The three battalions bands were in attendance and in addition the the ^{2nd C.I.H.Q.} Corps brass band played a selection of marches and popular airs. This is the first time a demonstration of this sort has been put on and it is agreed to have been a distinct success.	<u>S J</u>
Aldershot	13	June	Training as per syllabus in the morning with the afternoon spent in preparations for tomorrow's scheme.	<u>S J</u>

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Aldershot	14 June		The battalion was put on one hours notice at 0830 hrs. As the start time was later than had been expected, personnel managed to get a little extra rest. At 2019 hrs the S.P. was passed. At 2200 hrs the Bn arrived in area near Kirdford 4545 to where an advance party had already been sent. Guides from this party were there to guide the companies to their bivouac areas.	<i>S.M.</i>
Aldershot	15 June		During the early hours of the morning an O Gp conference was held at Bde HQ where Brig. G.V. Whitehead explained that 4th and 6th Bdes had not arrived due to the fact that the troop carrying transport which after carrying 5th Bde to the Kirdford area was to have carried 4th and 5th Bdes south, had not gone back for them in time. The Bde was therefore cut off and Brig. Whitehead's orders were to the effect that during the day and until otherwise ordered the 5 Bde was to remain in its present location and send out fighting patrols. This was done and at 1700 hrs another O Gp meeting was held during which orders were issued for an attack upon the enemy North of the downs (for order see App. V) Our objective was taken by midnight. The general plan was to the effect that 4th and 6th Bdes were to pass through 5 Bde and drive the enemy across the downs and into the sea. 6th Bde not having arrived to fulfill its task 5 Bde received orders to carry out the task of 6 Bde in the final attack. The Black Watch at 0400 hrs moved by march route to Sandgate Park. The Bn. received orders that its role in the attack was to be that of support Bn. The men were pretty tired and settled down, after a hot meal, to a little rest. At 1100 hrs orders were received for the Bn to go into the attack and assist in the final push towards the sea. We got under way towards the top of the downs at 1130 hrs and just as we were preparing to pass the start line from Square Wood 5430 the message negative Waterloo was received, cancelling the attack. Then downhill again, back to Sandgate Park for a hot meal and a well earned rest. During the afternoon orders were received for the Bn to move back to Aldershot. To a tired Bn it was a bit of a blow that it was to be a march route but this was made up for by the fact that today and tomorrow, until tomorrow evening there was going to be a rest period. In spite of the physical strain of the last few days the men did not want to idle tonight, but soon discovered the proximity of Storrington, where a great number of them spent the evening quenching their thirst.	<i>S.M.</i>
	16 June			
	17 June		The Bn rested all day in the bivouac area and none had any desire to return to Aldershot especially on foot. However at 1815 hrs we moved off and marched all through the night	<i>S.M.</i>

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	18	June	arriving at Dunfold 4456 at 0500hrs, transport having passed through the marching column during the night. A hot breakfast was served and the Bn rested all day. Hot feet were cooled in a stream in the bivouac area and many had a bath in in two inches of water. At 1800hrs we started off on our final lap and marched to our barracks via Godalming and Seale arriving in barracks at 0215hrs. During this exercise the Bn marched 63miles but the spirit was high among all ranks and very few fell out.	<u>2911</u>
	19	June	After a hot breakfast at 0300hrs the Bn retired to bed. Reveille was at 1130 and parade at 1345. The afternoon was given over to weapon cleaning and a check up of stores.	<u>2911</u>
	20	June	Reveille this morning was at 0445 hrs and after breakfast the Bn. moved by M.T. to Hornley Common 2777 (ref. sheet A/C 1" to mile) The 5th Bde. was spread out by Battalions putting on a demonstration of different phases of training, at about 0930hrs H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, arrived to inspect us. He spent some 20 minutes watching the men at work and meeting the Officers. After the Bn had given him three cheers he went on to inspect the Regiment de Maisenneuve. The return journey was made by M.T. to get back to barracks in time for lunch. This afternoon "E" Company left on a self-contained move, and the remainder of the Battalion had sports parades.	See APPX. VI <u>2911</u>
	21	June	Training as per syllabus.	<u>2911</u>
	22	June	There was great joy and jubilation today when it became known that the Battalion had received a warning order to move with the Division to take over the coastal area near Eastbourne.	<u>2911</u>
	23	June	Training as per syllabus.	<u>2911</u>
	24	June	Training as per syllabus. The advance party, under Major S.D. Cantlie left for the coast to arrange our relief of the 1st Bn The Liverpool Scottish. All leave was cancelled.	<u>2911</u>
	25	June	Training as per syllabus today. The pipe-band went to No 2 C. I. H. U. to put on a demonstration.	<u>2911</u>

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	26	June	Training as per syllabus in the morning, and in the afternoon a battalion sports meeting promoted by the Medical Officer, Capt. E.A. Anderson. The meet was a great success due largely to the efficient manner in which it had been organized.	29
	27	June	Training as per syllabus. "O" Group conference at Brigade at 1800hrs for Exercise "MAPLE" No fresh information.	29
	28	June	Training as per syllabus. At 0555 hrs the S.P. was passed and Bn HQ was away on exercise "MAPLE" This is an exercise for the Headquarters down to Infantry Bns. It should be interesting in that it introduces a new system of umpiring whereby the junior umpires with headquarters act mainly as D.R.s and L.O's taking copies of messages and reports to sub-control posts where they receive the latest situations and return with them to headquarters. The battle is to be won or lost entirely on these messages and reports. At 0911hrs the Bn was held up by shellfire at 946588(ref.sheet 123 1"to mile). At 1045 the Bn attacked on a two company front in the direction of Stoke Charity 9259. Start line by embankment Winchester 9149-Micheldever Station 9562. Objective Sutton Scotney 9059. Inter-Coy boundary stream Wonston 9159-Micheldever 9559. By 1430 hrs, After some very confused fighting between Sutton Scotney and Stoke Charity we had taken Sutton Scotney and our fwd coys were consolidating along the line of the wee road Barton Stacy 8761-rd junc. 878585 Extensive patrol and local activity continued throughout the day and we were forced back to a line Bullington 8961-Corum Fm 8759 An interesting encounter took place during the afternoon while we were liaising with R.R.C. on our right, when Bn.HQ met the Bn HQ of the 6th Bn The Black Watch(RHR). Apparently the latter had recce'd across the front line into our territory. After a pleasant chat the two HQ's went their separate ways. At 1800hrs Bn HQ which had been at Sutton Scotney for sometime moved back to Wonston 6159 and we were advised by the umpire that the enemy were digging in for the night and that the battle seemed to be over until dawn. Immediately afterwards however, there was an "O" Gp. conference at Hde. Headquarters at Micheldever, at which the Bde was ordered to attack and make good the line of the road Winchester. Newton Stacey 8560 which 6th Bde were to use as a start line when attacking through us at dawn. At 2200 hrs the Bn attacked an area which we supposed was held by 1 Battalion. By 2250 however it had failed as the area was actually held by two battalions and we were left holding our original line of the road Barton Stacey-Corum Fm.	SEE APPX VII 29

