

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.

SHEET 1
WAR DIARY

1ST BN THE BLACK WATCH (RHR) OF CANADA
 MONTH OF JUNE, 1942.

M.F.M. 11
 40/P & S/37

OR

~~XX~~
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------------------|-----------|------|---|--|
| LENHAM KENT | June 1 | | <p>Fine and warm. Very warm during the afternoon. Exercise 'Tiger' bang over, the troops rested during the morning while Lt.-Col. Cantlie and Lieut. J.L. Carnegie went to Bde H.Q. to attend an O Gp conference at 0900 hrs. They returned at 1000 hrs and an O Gp was called and C.O. gave his orders for the return to PULBOROUGH, our billeting area. Points included: (a) We would march during the afternoon from noon until about 1900 hrs. (b) We would move back by march route, there would be no T.C.Vs. (c) Movement table attached shows the four moves none of which is over 13-14 miles, which is a blessing! The Bn moved off from Lenham at 1400 hrs. and the 10-30 cwts allowed for transport moved off at 1545 hrs and passed through the marching troops. Brig. Whitehead joined the column after the first hour of marching and marched with Col. Cantlie for an hour. The Bn arrived at LOVEHURST MANOR at 1845 hrs after a march of approximately 11 miles. Evening meal was immediately served and the men were very glad to turn in early. Tomorrow's march will be same length and it will probably be a hot day!</p> | <p>W.</p> |
| LOVEHURST MANOR | 2 | | <p>Another beautiful day. Warm and little breeze. The CO. held an O Gp conference at 1000 hrs at which the Coy Comdrs., Adj. I.O. and R.S.M. and Coy Q.Ms. Sergeants attended. Col. Cantlie issued orders for the move to our next area where we shall spend the night. Major B.R. Ritchie will go forward to recon the new area with Coy guides. The marching troops moved off at 1415 hrs to reach WADHURST to spend the night. Brig. G.V. Whitehead met the column a little way past the S.P. and marched for an hour with Col. Cantlie. During this time Calg. Highrs. who were in front of us took a wrong turning and caused a little confusion but we carried on the correct route and we later learned that the Calg. Highrs had to march a considerable way to get back on the route again. We arrived at Wadhurst CASTLE at 1645 hrs and evening meal was immediately served.</p> | <p>W.</p> |
| WADHURST CASTLE | 3 | | <p>Very warm again. Bultry during the afternoon. This morning Col. Cantlie held a conference of all officers so as to have Major E.C. Rawlings tell them in his own words what was being laid on for the fortnight's training of the HOME GUARD. Major Rawlings asserted that we would be training the 6th and 7th battalions of the Sussex Home Guard. The areas would be platoon areas - 13 in all. In some cases, one platoon would be training one company of a strength of 400 or over. He also said that the training would be hard very instructive and beneficial for us, that the HOME GUARD were tremendously keen and anxious to learn, which naturally would make our job much easier.</p> | |

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| WADSHURST CASTLE | June 3 | | cont'd - The Bn moved off one more at 1425 hrs to next area vicinity of CAMPHILL 9047. The march was done in shirt sleeves which proved a great help and totalled 12 6/10ths miles, though it seemed longer. BHQ was established at 1850 hrs at 899477 and the Bn settled down for the night. | W. |
| CAMPHILL | 4 | | Another warm day. Good visibility, slight breeze. Col. Cantlie went off to TONBRIDGE this morning to attend the Director's Final Conference on 'Tiger'. He went with Major Archambault, R. de Mais, and Major MacQueen, Calg. Highrs. He returned at 1300 hrs and said that Lt.-Genl. B.L. Montgomery, G.O.C. S.E. Command and director of exercise 'Tiger' had expressed himself very pleased with the scheme. During the day, we received instructions to change starting times of our marches so as to march at night, or after the evening meal. This word was welcomed by all as it has been hot during the afternoons and it is pleasant and cool at night. Our next area is CUCKFIELD proper. Lieuts. A.H.M. Carmichael, J.P. Cowans and the diarist Lieut. Fox went back to PULBOROUGH at 1900 hrs in order to be ready to proceed on course. Lieut. W. Doheny, the new diarist also proceeded back to billeting area. The Bn moved off at 1930 hrs, order of march remaining Calg. Highs. R.H.C., R. de Mais. | W. |
| | 5 | | Fair and warm. This makes a week of good weather. Organized rest during the day. Move by night at same hour as last night. Most of the Coy. Offrs. went back to PULBOROUGH to organize the move to their individual Coy HOME GUARD training area which Major Rawlings is going to allocate to them. | W. |
| X Rds. COOLHAM | 6 | | Fine and warm - The Bn left Coolham X Rds at 1025 hrs and after a short march reached PULBOROUGH at 1300 hrs. There were mixed feelings about arriving back as after TIGER was all finished and we were able to look back on it everyone thought it was an excellent and enjoyable exercise. Lt.-Col. Cantlie attended a Corps Garden Party at which he overheard several conversations favouring our LENHAM engagement. All officers moved out to the Home Guard Training area to acquaint themselves with the Home Guard Officers and the type of training they require. | W. |

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| | June 6 | | Capt. MacLaurin moved out to his posn. with a composite platoon made up from HQ Coy. Lieuts. Candler, Sharpe, Doucet and MacDuff arrived from 2 C.D.I.R.U. in order to help with Home Guard training. | W. |
| PULBOROUGH | 7 | | Cloudy - cooler - Lieut. G.C. Jarvis came through in the 'blue sheets' and received the rank of Captancy w.e.f. 3 Apr. 1942. Lieuts. Fox, Cowans, and Carmichael left for a three weeks course at the Battle Drill School. Capt. MacKay the padre came back with a verbal message to the C.O. from the Sgt. of Police in LENHAM expressing on behalf of the citizens of LENHAM their appreciations of the good behaviour of the 1st Bn The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada. Lieut. Boheny took over the duties of Intelligence Officer. | W. |
| " | 8 | | Fair and warm - A AND C Coys moved out to Home Guard training areas. These Coys are augmented by 5 Fd. Regt. R.C.A. and 20 A/T Bty R.C.A. , cooks and cookers, so that each platoon will be self sufficient. Lieut. Colson arrived from 2 C.D.I.R.U. and is T.O.S. This is the beginning of the rotation system to be adopted in future between field units and reinforcements units. Lieut. Gault will be going to Witley. Major Mitchell and 21 O.R.s left for a short Anti Aircraft course at Seaford. | W. |
| " | 9 | | Fair and cooler - D & B Coys moved out to Home Guard areas. Lt.-Col. Cantlie and Major Rawlings made a recce of the Home Guard area. Summer dress regulations were changed due to Bde issuing a new set of orders. | W. |
| " | 10 | | Fine and cool - There was a very fine 'Latrinegram' today about a new organization - 2 Inf Bdes and 1 Armd Bde per Inf Div and 2 Armd Bdes and 1 Inf Bde per Armd Div. sounds interesting as we are to be the Inf. Bde to Armd Div! Lt.-Col. Cantlie and Major Rawlings visited Home Guard training and came back confident everything was going O.K. Lieut. Carnegie, the Adjt., visited 2 CDIRU and arranged for future rotation of officers and N.C.Os in the future - Capt. Evans O.C. B.W. Coy 2 CDIRU is very busy as there are approx. 250 men on parade every day in Witley. Lieut. Gault went off to Witley as a replacement for Lieut. Colson. Capt. Smart seconded from 3 Bn Black Watch for special duties spent a pleasant day with us in Camp, his news from home was most interesting and he was able to enlighten us on (over) | W. |

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| Pulborough | June | | cont'd. - many points which were cloudy regarding the 2nd Bn. | M. |
| " | 10 | | | |
| " | 11 | | Cloudy and cool - Lieut. Bennett left for a months Carrier Course at Keswick in the lake district! Lieut. M.G. Mather and 32 O.Rs. arrived from Witley - they were were an exceptionally fine draft most of them were at the Bn before on 'Special Increment' and were indented for by Coy Comdrs. Lt.-Col. Cantlie lunched with Col. MacCreedy, the Comdr. of the DORKING SUB-AREA HOME GUARD. | M. |
| " | 12 | | Rain - Lt.-Col. Cantlie accompanied the Bde Comd., Brig. Whitehead on a visit to the Home Guard training area. They watched Lieut. Kemp working with his Home Guard Coy. This training seems to be progressing very well - our men having found the Home Guard so enthusiastic and keen, are putting everything they have into it, in many cases our men have to teach ex-Cols how to crawl, take up posns. etc. This is done with a great deal of pleasure on both sides! I think our men are learning as much as they are teaching. | M. |
| " | 13 | | Cloudy and cool - Word was received that 1 Officer and 28 O.Rs. will be required to provide A.A. protection for 2 Cdn Div training at the ISLE OF WIGHT. Lt.-Col. Cantlie concurred in the promotion of Lieut. Halbert to Temp. Capt. to be employed as G.S.O. Intelligence at C.M.H.Q. | M. |
| " | 14 | | Cloudy and cool - A small church parade was held in the lines for those who remained behind from the H.Q. training - Lieut. Carnegie, the Adj. went off on leave to Cornwall where he intends to have a well deserved rest. Col. Cantlie, Major Rawlings and Lieut. Doheny went to DORKING, to attend a cocktail party given by Lt.-Col. Bibbey, O.C. of the 6th Bn Surrey Home Guard for the Home Guard Coy. Comdrs. and Black Watch Officers - it was a very pleasant afternoon | M. |
| " | 15 | | Cloudy and cool - Col. Cantlie started on 9 days' privilege leave - his first leave in nine months - Major Rawlings takes over Command of Bn. in the Colonel's absence. It was necessary to substitute Lieut. Mather for Lieut. Shand as O.C. A.A. party to I.O.W. | M. |
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| PULBOROUGH | June 22 | | Fair and Warm - Lieut. Kemp left for C.T.S. this morning - he will instruct at Shillinglee at the Junior Leaders School - poor Johnny - felt very badly and said he would make a mess of the job, but everyone knows that he will do an extraordinary good job, as always. 'B' Coy returned to Camp from Home Guard Training Area in the morning - all were very pleased with the work they had done. 'A' Coy returned in the afternoon - Capt. Taylor bringing many funny stories with him. | W. |
| | June 23 | | Fair and warm. The two coys which returned from the H.G. training yesterday went to work on the camp drainage system. The warm weather has brought out all the odours from the sewage, and in consequence a big "works project" is under way. The men will be digging and burying pipe lines for the remainder of the week. D Coy & H.Q. Coy returned from H.G. training today. They also have enjoyed their fortnight. Lieut. F.N. Symes and 2 NCOs of the Winnipeg Grenadiers were attached to us today, they are on a "Cook's tour" and expect to be here for 3 months. The first call for the A/Tk gun platoon personnel went out today. Lieut. Candler was appointed to command the Pl. it appears to be an excellent command. | W. |
| | June 24 | | Cloudy and cooler. C Coy returned to camp in the morning, this completing the return of all coys to camp from the Home Guard. Lt. Col. Cantlie returned from leave, looking rested. Just after he returned he, Major Rawlings and Lieut Carnegie went to Bde to a meeting on A & Q. | W. |
| | June 25 | | Fair and warm. Lieut. Traversy and Capt. J.P. Taylor changed places. Lieut. Traversy going to 2 CDIRU and Capt. Taylor coming to the Unit. Capt. Taylor has been in WITLEY for 15 months and is very glad to get here finally. He has been posted to A Coy as 2 i/c to his brother Capt. D.H. Taylor. At 1330hrs Lt. Col. Cantlie held a meeting of all officers to discuss training and plans for the next few weeks training and the coming Sports meetings. Lt. Col. Cantlie and Major Rawlings went to CORPS H.Q. in the evening to attend a sand table discussion on the final withdrawal in "TIGER" exercise. | W. |

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| | June 26 | | Clear and cool. All available officers in the 5th Bde Group attended a lecture at Bde H.Q. on Air Support and co-operation given by Major Stewart G.A. at Army H.Q. The men continued to work on the camp lines and drainage system. The work is very nearly completed, it has been done very quickly and well. Letters of appreciation were received from the 7th Bn H.G. Commander Lt.Col.Lane. | W. APPX 9. |
| | June 27 | | Overcast and cool. There has been much ingenuity shown by some of the men in designing and building fireplaces of brick and mud to heat hot water. Lt.Col.Rhys Davis of the British Intelligence addressed the men this morning on "Espionage and Propaganda" he is very well qualified to speak on this subject as he was in this service in the last war and during peace, he dealt mostly with Japanese espionage in San Fransisco. | W. |
| | June 28 | | Clear and cool. There was a voluntary church parade and Mass was held in the lines. Lieuts. Cowans, Fox and Carmicheal returned from ROWLANDS CASTLE Battle drill school, they enjoyed the school very much, now that it is all over! | W. |
| | June 29 | | Clear and warm. A syllabus of training was started. It is the first syllabus for the month. The Americans who are transferring to the U.S. Army left us today for N.E.T.D. from where they will be S.O.S. There were eleven of them out of the original thirteen who were accepted by the U.S; two men changed their minds at the last moment, some of the men will be a definite loss to the Bn, others good riddance as they were trouble makers. Lt.Col.Cantlie spoke a few words to them before they left and wished them all the best of luck. Lt.Col. A.T.Howard, V.D., sometime Colonel of the Regiment has arrived in ENGLAND for a month's tour. Since just after the start of the war he has commanded a training centre in FARNHAM, Que. be we understand that he will visit us soon | APPX 4. W. |
| | June 30 | | Clear and warm. Capt.Jarvis has started to arganize the Bn Sports team for the Bde meet on 3 July. The information on JUMBO started to come in, it is to be an over-night field firing exercise on the Downs. The Bn started to go through the gas chamber for the regular three months check-up. A special order of the day was issued by Lt.Gen B.L.Montgomery, CB, DSO, GOS in C South Eastern Army congratulating both Home Guard and Field Army for the Home Guard training just completed. | W. APPX 7 Cantlie Lt. Col. |