

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.

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WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

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

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 (RHR) OF CANADA</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>FROM 1 June 1943</u> <u>TO 30 June 1943</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pulborough Sussex (under canvas) Ref. Sheet O.S. No. 133 Map Ref. 490403</p>	

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Kingley Vale	1 Jun	43.	Dull, cool and intermittent showers throughout the day. Endurance and quick firing practices, also drill for consolidation were main parts of today's training, with standing, recce and fighting patrols out at night. We lost eleven men from Support Company today on transfer to No. 1 Canadian Base Reinf. Depot., also C.Q.M.S. Mitchell and Catley and Sgts. Cummings, Fiddes and MacKenzie to O.C.T.U.	M.
Kingley Vale and Ash Ranges Aldershot.	2 Jun	43.	Weather dull with occasional sunshine. Fire positions, L.M.G. firing, stalking, Piat mortar and 3" Mortar night firing plns and demonstration of the latter occupied troops today. A party of 216 left in full marching order for a shoot at Ash Ranges against the Calgary Highlanders and Regiment de Maisonneuve, leaving at 1630 hours and entraining at Bosham. They arrived at their destination at 2110 hours and were put up in tents. We had a visit by the Brigadier at Kingley Vale today. To our great sorrow we have learned that our most popular padre Hon. Capt. J.H. Goforth, has been transferred to the holding unit effective today.	M.
Kingley Vale and Ash Ranges	3 Jun	43	Showery weather throughout the day developing into a steady downpour at night. The Brigadier was at Ash Ranges today watching range firing. Troops at Kingley Vale fired 2" Mortar, Piat mortar and rifle and rehearsed Company schemes for tomorrow. Padre's hour, and night recce. patrols plns spec. training completed the day.	M.
Kingley Vale and Ash Ranges	4 Jun	43	Dry and mild during morning; sky overcast around noon and thereafter much rain and wind the remainder of the day and practically entire night. There were Company schemes at Kingley Vale and the Ash Range party returned to camp, (being met at Bosham Station by the Pipe Band,) in a heavy shower of rain arriving at 2330 hours. Marquees having been taken down and returned, the troops were forced to bed down in the dark. However, the woods provided fair cover and the majority were tired enough to appreciate their blankets under any circumstances. We understand the Ash Ranges shoot resulted in a win for the Calgary Highlanders, we being runners-up.	M.
Kingley Vale and Benges Wood	5 Jun	43	Slight showers throughout and dull day. Battalion left Kingley Vale at 1400 hours on foot for Pulborough, bivouacking for the night at Benges Wood. Prior to departure from the Vale all Companies participated in a Battalion scheme under the supervision of Capt. Stevenson. The C.O. left for an Artillery demonstration at Larkhill.	M.

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Benges Wood and Pulborough	6 Jun 43		A cold dull morning later developed into a warm day tempered by slight S.W. wind. The Battalion arrived at Pulborough in the early afternoon and Companies being allotted to their lines, troops enjoyed baths for the first time in over a week, and spent the remainder of the day in arranging kits. The accomodation is as before the American - type six - man tent. And troops vote them a decided improvement over the bell tent. Capt. A.G. Stevenson was promoted Major today so there was some celebrating in the Officers Mess.	MF
Pulborough	7 Jun 43		A fine day, slightly cloudy later and with rain in the evening. A training film "Camouflage" was shown to all ranks today. One again we have another of those much too frequent G.1098 inspections, also bath parades for soldiers who were either too tired or too lazy yesterday to wipe off the grime accumulated during a week's stay in Kingsley Vale. It being a familiar camp to most of the Battalion, all ranks have already settled into their new surroundings, the biggest disadvantage to the present location is the scarcity of good trg. area.	MF
	8 June 43		Dull and Cold. An N.C.Os. Course was started this morning with Capt. Griffin in charge Sgts., Cpls. and L/Cpls are to go through it respectively. The C.O. attended a Senior Officers meeting at 5 Wing C.T.S. Bn. Office was held late this afternoon. Training films were shown to "A" and "B" Coys this afternoon. The I.O. and Int. Sgt. Left to attend a Divisional intelligence course at Midhurst. "B" Coy was out on night firing. They returned at 0315 hours and were served a hot meal. The Sgt. on the NCOs course were also out doing night training with 38 sets.	✓ 65
	9 Jun 43		A bright sunny day and very warm. Mr. Louson left us for an appointment as staff learner at "F" Group C.R.U. We are experiencing some difficulty in getting a replacement for his position as Rear Party Officer. Capt. Motzfeldt is busy erecting an obstacle course for hardening training for all ranks. The Bn. Tabloid sports meet is to be held a week from friday and meanwhile everyone is practicing diligently for the big day.	✓ 65

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Pulborough	10 Jun 43		Dull and overcast all day but with no rain, Lt. Col. C.C. Brooks commander of the basic training centre Huntingdon, Que., arrived for a three day visit with the Battalion. This evening the CO. attended a dinner at Bde HQ. for the B.M. Major Sharpe, who is leaving shortly for another appointment. The pipe band under Capt. J.A. Donald went to Corps where they played at a guard mounting. Results were received today of the shooting at Ash Ranges, we placed second to the Calg. Highrs. The Bn Golf team won the Bde competition and will represent Bde in Div eliminations.	VGT
Pulborough	11 Jun 43		Bright, warm. All ranks were paraded to see a travelling circus of British weapons. The troops were subjected to low level "attacks" by our own planes at meal parades today to practise them in evasive and offensing action. We had the pleasure of having a Canadian Concert Party at our area this evening. The name of the show was "Tin Hat Review". A good time was had by all.	VGT
Pulborough	12 Jun 43		Bright and warm day. The troops got ready for Bn Parade at 0900 hrs. The Pipe Band attended in their usual dress, kilts, etc. Our visitor Lt. Col. Brooks was still with us today. We were subjected to low level "attacks" by Mustangs for practise. The troops took advantage of the warm weather today and many of them were spread out in the sun all over the Camp.	VGT
Pullborough	13 Jun 43		Bright and sunny with a cold wind. The Bde. Padre visited our unit this morning to hold a voluntary Church Parade (RC) at 1000 hrs. We had the pleasure of having a visit by Col. G.P. Henderson O.B.E. a former member of the Regt. who is now at Corps HQ. The remainder of the day passed uneventfully.	VGT
Pullborough	14 Jun 43		Dull & mild with occasional showers. The Rifle Coys left today on a 3 day field firing exercise. They left in full marching order for a bivouac area near Finden some 12 miles distance. The C.O. and 2 l/c accompanied the Bn.	VGT

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Pullborough	8/17	43	Weather dull, cold and with showers throughout the day. A German propoganda film depicting the attack on Poland was shown to HQ. and Support coys. As entire commentary was in German, most of the value was lost. The I.O. and I.Sgt. returned from a week's "I" course held by 2 Cdn. Div. at Madehurst.	
Pullborough	15 Jun	43	Weather dull, cold and with showers throughout the day. A German propoganda film depicting the attack on Poland was shown to HQ. and Support coys. As entire commentary was in German, most of the value was lost. The I.O. and I.Sgt. returned from a week's "I" course held by 2 Cdn. Div. at Madehurst.	MF
Pullborough	16 June	43	A cold dull morning with several showers: afternoon milder and evening dull with heavy showers. The second NCO's "man management" course under Capt. F.P. Griffin commenced today. This evening a Bn. Volley Ball Team travelled to Bde. HQ. and played the Calgary Highlanders, the result being a rather heavy trimming for us the scores (21-2 and 21-7) being more indicative of this Eng. game of cricket. Perhaps our team should take up cricket.	CH
Pullborough	17 Jun	43	Another dull morning, improving towards noon with slight sunshine. Evening mild with occasional showers. The C.O. 2 i/c, Adj. and I.O. with all Coy. Comds. this morning made a recce. of Trg. Area 7 where a scheme in co-operation with Tanks and Flame-throwers is to take place in the near future. This scheme, which will require some hard training, will necessitate the Bn. moving up to the vicinity several days in advance. At 1200 hrs. a large contingent arrived from 5 C.I.R.U. one officer (Lieut Rea) and 63 other ranks. Our Volley ball team, playing representatives of the Reg. de Mais. and a Provost Coy. tonight were beaten in both games. The Rifle Coys ret'd between 1100 and 1200 hrs from Trg. area 6.	MF
Pullborough	18 Jun	43	Another of the same-cold, dull showery and not unlike the tail end of winter. A long line of stark naked men shivering under the coils in the vicinity of the medical tent testified to the fact that the M.O. and staff were busily occupied with the new draft. We understand that at least 6 of the examinees are being returned to the holding unit, as a result of a very strict "working over" by the M.O. Lectures were today delivered to the various Coys. by the I.O. on (a) German Identification and (b) Security. For the former he was assisted by a rather skinny member of the "I" staff in an ill fitting uniform of a Pte. of a German Mountain Regt., who had ^{he} been picked up along the Russian front would have been made much of by Soviet propoganda and camera men.	MF

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Pullborough	19 Jun 43		Cloudy with intermittent rain and drizzle & S.Westerly wind.C.Os parade this morning and inspection by C.O. of "C" Coy and the draft of two days ago. This afternoon the Bn. participated in the tabloid sports at Bde.HQ. coming out easy winners over the Calgary and Mais.Regt's;they will now represent the Bde. in Div.sports.SgtsClements is to be congratulated in his work in handling our team.	M
Pullborough	20 Jun. 43		Weather greatly improved and we had a fair amount of sunshine. There were no Church Parades today,but G.1098 inspection occupied most of the morning.Troops unoccupied spent most of the day sunbathing. Our Regt.Police appeared busy in the Village tonight,although the Black Watch were not connected in any way with any of the minor clashes.From the comments of Guards & Patrols tonight one gathers that returning weekenders are having considerable trouble remembering passwords.Lieut.Rea played some great golf today to qualify for the championship.	M
Pullborough	21 Jun 43		Cloudy generally with occasional sunshine.The weekend passed quietly and without incident, the majority of the RHC personnel on pass visiting their former haunts in Selsey and East of West Wittering.More Grogg inspections this morning and a muster parade in the evening when all ranks paraded with battle dress,which were graded by the Q.M.The baseball team began practising tonight as the next week will see the league get underway	M
Pullborough	22 Jun 43		A very cold morning developed into a warm pleasant day.The C.O. today acknowledged with many thanks receipt of a letter from Lt.Col.MacFarlane C.O. of our 3rd.Bn.advising that ##### Cups,Shields and other Trophies of this Bn.presently in the Armoury would be kept polished and burnished by men of the 3rd.Bn. untill our return to Canada.Receipt of cigarettes for distribution was also gratefully acknowledged to the Montreal Thistle Curling Club and Royal Montreal Curling Club.In the evening some of the officers motored to the riverAdur near Steywing where the EGINEERS were building a double triple Baillie Bridge.	M

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Pullborough	23 Jun 43		Fair & warm. A considerable amount of bumph has now come in on Exercise Outburst which we are to tackle early next week. It represents a breakout from a bridgehead by a strong bde. assault group and will be an experiment in a new method of moving M.T. It is hoped to be able to move F Ech. by bounds. A third NCO course will get underway at once which should complete the course and all regt'l NCO's will now have been through the mill. Capt. Motzfeldt went to Alfriston today to join the 5th. Fld. Reg't. in a shoot. In the evening we fielded a strong ball team to face the Calgarys who failed to turn up owing to some misunderstanding in dates thus giving us an easy victory by default.	JBT
Pullborough	24 Jun 43		This morning all the old Mk 10 rifles were withdrawn from the unit and this afternoon we will all be issued with the new Mk 1V 1 Star. This of course meant that more time will have to be spent on the ranges zeroing the rifles. We are experiencing some difficulty in getting the necessary requisition for the land on which it is proposed to erect our 30 yard range. The red tape necessary before the approval of all and sundry can be gained itself measures over 30 yards. This afternoon the Tabloid Sports team are going to Petworth to take part in the Div. Championships. Our Bde. Champions have just returned having placed 7th. out of the 10 teams present. This evening the C.O. and a few officers attended a lecture at the R de Mais. given by Cap Hellir of MI8 on wireless security. It was apparently excellent.	JBT
Pullborough	25 Jun 43		Fair and warm—a lovely day. We learned today we are to receive some old 8 cwts. to be used in place of our jeeps. The latter since they are operational vehicles are to be kept off the road, until they can be used operationally. We are to leave Sunday on Exercise Outburst and bivouac near 5 C.I.B. that night before proceeding to the concentrating area. This evening the officers "enjoyed" more lectures. This time they were delivered by the Sigs. officer & the M.O. at 2230 hrs. HQ. Coy. & C. Coy. went off on a night compass march.	JBT

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Pullborough	26 Jun 43		Fair and mild. Everyone preparing for Exercise Outburst. The Bn. held its weekly parade, after which the C.O. inspected C Coy. In the afternoon there was a long Bn. O Group which the Brigadier attended. Coy comdr's then put their own sub unit # commanders in the picture as the C.O. is stressing that all ranks are to know exactly what the narrative for the scheme is all about. Saturday evening found most people out but all returned early to get a last good nights sleep.	UJT
Pullborough & Lavington Ho.	27 Jun 43		Warm & sunny. A drum head service was held this morning. H/Capt. Berliss our new Padre conducting his first service which was very good indeed. After the service all ranks changed to denims and packed up before lunch. The Bn. left the area about 1430 hrs. and proceeded # via Fildworth to Lavington Ho. where they arrived about 1730 hrs. We had a good bivouac area and a good hot meal after a rather warm march. All ranks were allowed out until 2200 hrs. but few availed themselves of the privilege.	UJT
Lavington Ho. & Goodwood Pk.	28 Jun 43		Heavy mist which cleared about mid morning to give us another nice day. The Bn. arose early and were on the road by 0800 hrs. The first was a steady up hill climb to the top of the downs, but from there on it was an easy march to our concentration area in Goodwood Park. After a haversack lunch there was an afternoon of organized rest. At 1700 hrs. the C.O. & I.O. attended the Bd. O Group. At 2100 hrs. they again attended a Bde. O Gp. which was followed up by a Bn. O Gp. We are to be the advance guard Bn. in the advance and will leave early tomorrow morning.	UJT
Goodwood Pk. & Barnsfarm Hill 5431	29 Jun 43		After dawn a fine sunny day. The Bn. arose at 0130 hrs. and after breakfast left the concentration area at 0310 hrs. The approach march east to Boxgrove and Sandon proved uneventful and apart from an enemy recce plane it was not until the advance gd. coy. reached Whiteways 4830 at about 0630 hrs that contact was made with the enemy. We continued to push on and managed to reach the River Aun about mid morning. This was achieved by swimming, fording and the use of assault boats as the bridge at Amberly Stn. had been destroyed. One pl. swam the river naked save for steel helmets and rifles and pushed on their attack for almost a mile. Apart from various land Army girls they encountered en route they also met the London train which passed at just about the time they reached the railway track! The police handled all civilian complaints with their customary graciousness. Having captured their first objective the Bn. pushed on and captured Amberley Mount where they were stopped by Bde. During the afternoon	UJT

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Goodwood Pk. & Barnsfarm Hill 5431 (cont'd)	29 Jun 43		we moved on to Barnsfarm Hill where we took up a hedgehog and dug ourselves in. The cookers eventually arrived and we had our Compo supper. During the evening there were Bde. and Bn. O Gps.	JST
Barnsfarm Hill 5431 & Pullbrough	30 Jun 43		Clear and fair again. During the early hours of the morning our patrols were active but failed to contact the enemy. At 0345 hrs. we had a general stand to until 0500 hrs. Reveille was at 0615 hrs. and we prepared for the enemy attack which threatened from the vicinity of Chanctonbury Ring. About mid-morning the Corps Comdr. and the G.O.C. arrived and accompanied by the Brig. and C.O. inspected our positions. About 1200 hrs. Outburst Negative came through coupled with the order to fill in all slit trenches. This we did, then lunched and prepared for the march home, F & A Ech. leaving first and then the old footsloggers. We marched via Washington and Storrington and so home about 1730 hrs. All ranks were glad to get a shower even though little warm water was available, and a good meal. Most of us retired early after a fairly hard three days.	JST

S. S. T. Cantlie

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