

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>1ST BN THE BLACK WATCH (RHR) OF CANADA, OVERSEAS. PULBOROUGH. MAP REF. 4839 O.S. SHEET # 133</p>	

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In the Field	May 1st 1942		<p>Fine and warm. Today the Battalion did Exercise HARRY over again in the form of HARRY 11. This time the scheme was much better executed. The Bde. Commander was out to witness our efforts and in his remarks at the conference held at the conclusion of the exercise he expressed himself quite pleased on the whole with the exercise as carried out.</p> <p>The C.O. acted in the dual role of Bn Umpire and Bde Commander while MAJOR RAWLINGS acted as Bn Commander. He was handed a "KILLED" slip by Col. CANTLIE just after issuing his orders and CAPT. B.R. RITCHIE had to carry on in his place. The Bde. Commander asserted that he did not think such a posn held in such strength could be taken without artillery</p>	<p>Appx 75 Jof</p>
	May 2nd 1942		<p>Warm, windy and good visibility. Bn Training as per syllabus attached. 2 i/c and W.T.O. made recce for field firing of all coys next week. Both parades were held and blanket shaking.</p>	<p>Jof</p>
	May 3rd 1942.		<p>A beautiful day. Sunshine and summer weather. This morning, being Sunday, the Bn held a Church Parade for all ranks and both R.C.s and Protestants attended. 495 all ranks on parade. It was the first Bn Church Parade in two months and went off very well indeed. The marching was good and the bearing of the men was notable. The C.O. had an O Gp meeting for Coy Commanders immediately after the Parade. BEAVERL administrative instructions formed the topic of discussion. Then the C.O. had the RSM RQMS, and all officers in for drinks at BHQ mess</p>	<p>Jof</p>
	May 4th 1942		<p>Fine and warm once again. Weather is holding out beautifully. Today our Station, Eastbourne, was bombed by enemy air raiders for the first time since the Bn arrived here the first time in July 1941. Nine enemy raiders came over. No alert sounded. The German dropped a number of bombs and machine gunned houses and civilians a number of times. Police report is attached as an Appendix. Capts. B.R. RITCHIE, STEVENSON, Lieuts. G.C. FRASER, J.E. FOX, started on a 2 Cdn Div. D & M Course at HEATHFIELD 9255 o.s. No. 134. Lieut. A.H.M. CARMICHEAL, T.O.S. from special increment.</p>	<p>Jof Appx 6</p>
	May 5th 1942		<p>Warm, good visibility, some haze later on in the day.</p>	

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	May 5th 1942		<p>Today the Adj. and I.O. drew up, on Bde. instructions a new operation instruction No. 6 to cover our new role of anti-raid preparedness. We received a warning order for BEAVER IV today. We are marching and riding to concentration area on the 8th May 1942. Concentration area vicinity NINEFIELD 1431. o.s. No. 135. All billets are to be turned over to the SEAFORTHS OF CANADA. Spec. Increment and odds and sods will form rear party which will stay in the CALGARY HIGHLANDERS area. Major F.M. MITCHELL acted as 2 i/c in Major RAWLINGS absence. Lt. Col. MACINTOSH and Lieut. ROBINSON both of the H.L.I. of Canada. No. 3 C.D.I.R.U. arrived today to liaise with us with reference to their taking over our area for exercise "TIGER" from 18 May to 1st June 1942.</p>	<p>Appx. 7</p> <p><i>J.S.</i></p>
	May 6th 1942.		<p>Fine and clear. A request from 2 Cdn Div came in for officers to be put forward as AIR LIAISON OFFERS. Lieut. SPIERCE and Middleton, SEAFORTHS OF CAN. arrived to liaise with us re the handover on the 8th. There was an O Gp meeting at 1630hrs in the C.Os Office in which plans and preparations for BEAVER IV were discussed. The C.O. mentioned that after "TIGER" exercise we shall be leaving EASTBOURNE to take over the 8th CDN INF BDE's area while they take over 5th Cdn Inf Bde area. We shall be sorry to leave. The men have all made many close friends here: it has been nearly a year now, and it will be a wrench. We heard that MAJOR J.W. KNOX is 2 i/c of 2 R.H.C. We all wish him luck in his new appointment</p>	<p><i>J.S.</i></p>
	May 7th 1942		<p>Warm and fine. Today at approx. 1600hrs EASTBOURNE RAILWAY STATION received another short sharp bombing attack by five M.E. 109's. 4 bombs were dropped in the goods yards at the station, and at two houses nearby. The casualties were one dead, 3 not expected to live, approx. 9 seriously wounded and a score of minor casualties. It looks as though "Jerry" is after EASTBOURNE! More preparations for the move tomorrow at 0800hrs. We are to be the attackers (invaders), we have little equipment, light transport, etc., and are 27 German DIV. 10 O.R.s arrived from 2 C.D.I.R.U. Yesterday we had the officers of the 1st Bn The Black Watch (R.H.R.) in at lunch time for a short visit, as they are on an exercise in our area. Notes were exchanged and glasses were charged, etc., and mutual acquaintance sprung up and it is hoped that it will be continued soon. All very pleasant fellows- THE BLACK WATCH! Of course they are a very good crowd- they wear our badge!</p>	<p><i>J.S.</i></p> <p>Appx. 8</p>

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	May 7th 1942		We heard that CAPT. W.W.OGILVIE, and Lieut. J.AIRD NESBITT, both of 5th Cdn Arm'd Div. are going to the CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDERS are coy commander and coy 2 i/c respectively. Both well known in the Regt. they should prove much help to the CAPE BRETONS who at this stage are going through a trying period.	J.S.
	May 8th 1942		<p>Fine and warm, good visibility. Today BEAVER IV exercise commenced. The Bn moved off towards the Bde.concentration area at NINFIELD 3114 o-s No. 135 via T.C.V.s and march route. Arrived at the concentration area and all coys reported in at 1130hrs. The move during the morning was under the command of MAJOR F.M.MITCHELL who was acting C.O. The move itself was excellent and the Bde. T.O. was very pleased with the speed with which the unit debussed at the Bde.D.P. The move from the D.P. was on foot into the concentration area and was carried out without mishap. The Bn settled down (settled down) to organized rest in preparation for the actual exercise which commences on 10 May 1942.</p> <p>During the morning, while the unit started out, Col.Cantlie attended a demonstration of the 2 Cdn Div ASSAULT SCHOOL "VIKING" whose period of training terminated during the afternoon. All Commanding Officers and Bde.Commanders and the G.O.C. 2 Cdn Div Major General Roberts attended. Personnel of 1 RHC at the school were despatched back on the night 8th May 1942. But Lieuts. MOTZFELDT and GRIFFIN are to stay on as instructors for a short period. The C.O. learned from the G.O.C. that: after exercise TIGER we shall not return to our EASTBOURNE area. The area to which we shall move is not as yet known. After TIGER formation exercises will not be carried out for a certain length of time. It is understood that 4th and 6th Bdes will carry out A.L.C. training while 5th Cdn Inf Bde will train HOME GUARD. The C.O. also learned today that the Bde.Commander: BRIG. WHITEHEAD moves up to act as G.O.C. 2 Cdn Div for the period covering exercises BEAVER IV and TIGER, while Lt.Col HEDLEY BASHER, O.C. Royal REGT OF CAN. of the 4th Cdn Inf Bde acts as Bde.Commander, 5th Cdn Inf Bde. Brig. WHITEHEAD asked our unit to supply him with an aide-de-camp while he will be divisional Commander and Lieut.R.H.GAULT was chosen and sent to Div.Immediately.</p>	J.S.
	May 9th 1942		Cooler and dampness in the air. At approx. 0600hrs a noise of powerful airplane engines was heard from the South and soon afterwards a series of sharp explosions was heard from area BEXHILL. Some minutes later the alert was heard! It was later learned that BEXHILL was bombed and considerable damage was done.	J.S.

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	May 9th 1942		At 2050hrs the Bn was ordered to move to new concentration area approx. FLAT FARM 9840 O.S. No. 134. The unit got some rest from 2100hrs to 0515hrs on 10th May when it moved off to new area.	
	May 10th 1942		<p>Fine and warm. Short period of rain during the day. There was a period of organized rest in the Unit area from the time the Bn was fully in position at 1000hrs until 1515 hrs when enemy was reported in MAYFIELD 0245, O.S. No. 125. There was an O Gp monference at B.H.Q. at 1800hrs at which the C.O. gave his orders for a move by march route to new area vicinity BUXTED 9342, O.S. No. 125. At 1930hrs the Bn moved off and crossed the Bde. Start Point on time and the move was generally good until we were stopped a good deal short of our objective and the rain set in.</p> <p>At 2230hrs the C.O. and the I.O. left for Bde. H.Q. which had remained in its present location. It practically amounted to passing through the whole Bde. column on an M.C. combination where there was but room for a man and a thin man at that! However the C.O. and your scribe finally got through and the C.O. received his orders from the Bde. Commander to withdraw his unit approx. 2 miles EAST and to take up defensive position there to watch and protect the rear of the Bde.</p>	J.S.
	May 11th 1942.		<p>Weather for today was: Much rain during the night but cleared up during the day. Sun very warm after 1200hrs.</p> <p>The Bn with supporting arms moved at 0001hrs today in a driving rain to its new position and the whole unit was in position and bedded down by 0130hrs and so on settled down to a night of vigilance and rest. BHQ took up position in FARM 994421 O.S. No. 125.</p>	J.S.
	May 12th 1942		<p>During the day, normal patrol activity was continued, carriers were out probing NORTH and WEST. At 2200hrs C.O. having received his orders to move to vicinity our battle positions in EASTBOURNE by march route, issued his orders to Coy commanders. There was a tremendous rush about the whole thing, Bde not having given enough time to the Bn to cross the Bde Start Point and consequently we moved off with much haste and a certain amount of cursing higher formation! However we got away all right and moved down to our WILLINGDON area without mishap except for missing a turning which was rectified quickly by moving straight SOUTH and thereby making just as quick time.</p>	

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	May 12th 1942		<p>The march was approx. 17 miles in length and then at the end the pull up to COMBE HILL was no cinch!</p> <p>The weather today: Visibility poor, intermittent showers during the night and during the day. The Bn was in position at 0630hrs and coys pushed out patrols to the WEST and NORTH. At 1800hrs we learned that the 8th Cdn Inf Bde (enemy) were located just WEST at ALFRISTON 9522 (O.S.No. 134) Umpires with Bn informed us that 8th Bde took a bad beating in ALFRISTON from artillery which had ranged on them</p>	<p><i>JL</i></p>
	May 13th 1942.		<p>Visibility bad, light N.E. winds, rain. Continued patrolling by our coys and the carrier platoon. Enemy sighted at SNAP HILL BARN at 1030hrs. Soon after this a most amazing situation took place. 5th Cdn Inf Bde phoned to say that tanks were approaching our positions and that we were to inform all ranks of the Bn to stand up and show themselves! This was the straw which broke the camel's back! After days of marching and not seeing any enemy whatsoever, the first time we have a chance to fight we are ordered by higher formation to stand up and take no action whatsoever! In the minds of the men this tended to complete their idea, perhaps not incorrectly founded, that BEAVER IV was an abortion. At 1115hrs C.O. called his coy commanders to BHQ and explained that Bde had instructed that there would be an infantry cum tank demonstration at 1300hrs. This took place and almost immediately afterwards BEAVER IV was finally concluded and a sigh of relief was heard all round. The Bn almost immediately moved back to the billet area and commenced cleaning up their billets in preparation to turning them over to 1st Bn Queen's Own Rifles of Can. of 3rd Cdn Div. Each Coy however slept in its billets that night.</p>	<p><i>JL</i> Appx 9</p>
	May 14th 1942.		<p>Fair and cool. Some showers. There was an O Gp meeting at B.H.Q. at 1000hrs at which meeting the C.O. discussed the coming move to the 3rd Div area and the subsequent change over. It was decided that Major E.C.RAWLINGS should take an advance party to the new area PULBOROUGH 4845 (O.S. No. 133) at 1600hrs. Personnel of Adv. Party: 2 i/c Lieuts. CASSILS(C COY), GAULT(B COY), COWANS(A COY), SHAND(D COY), Sgt. CONNOR(SIGS) Sgt. ROSCOE(TPT). Also that all coys and detachments should hand over their billets at 1800hrs and be ready to move tomorrow morning very early. The coys bivouacs for</p>	<p><i>JL</i></p>

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	May 14th 1942		the night were located in HAMPDEN PARK and RATTON PARK while H.Q. Coy and BHQ bedded down in the WILLINGDON ESTATE near our old grenade range.	
	May 15th 1942		Weather today: Fair and warm. The Bn moved off from WILLINGDON area at approx. 0530hrs and we arrived in the new area near PULBOROUGH at 1100hrs. The move up was a little garbled at the start but straightened out once under way. A long move with plenty of vehicles in the column, tps being lifted by TC.Vs it was well handled by T.O. Lieut G.C.JARVIS. The new camp does not look so bad upon second inspection. But it will be bad in wet weather-much wind. However all the tents are up and it will be pleasant having one REGIMENTAL OFFICERS MESS once more. The water situation is not so good though as it all has to be tested by the M.O. and there is not so much drinking water as we might like. A note came down from CORPS to the effect that the Corps Commander directs that between the termination of BEAVER IV and start of TIGER all troops will receive maximum of rest and recreation, some P.T. and smartening-up drill.	J.S.
	May 16th 1942		Fair and warm. The Bn settled down today and we are now more or less established. P.T. this morning for all coys and general cleaning up and checking of stores. This afternoon Lieut.ERIC MOTZFELDT returned from A.L.C. "VIKING" and will carry on his duties as 2 i/c A Coy. Tonight Lieut.F.P.GRIFFIN arrived from same school and will carry on as 2 i/c C Coy. It is good to see these two back, both looking well and fit. The C.O. had a meeting of all Officers after dinner at which he announced that the BHQ Officers Mess would be discontinued while the coys were no longer spread out and that the Officers Mess would commence once more with MAJOR E.C.RAWLINGS as Mess PRESIDENT and LIEUT.JJE.FOX as MESS SECRETARY. MESS COMMITTEE would be composed of 2 i/c and senior subaltern in each coy. All ranks are resting their "dogs" for TIGER!	J.S.
	May 17th 1942		Sunday and a gorgeous day. Fine and very warm. Today at about 1100hrs it was learned that Lieuts. MOTZFELDT, GRIFFIN, FRASER, MACLAURIN all had been promoted CAPTAIN and there was indeed a celebration! Lieut.MOTZFELDT, that will-o-the-wisp, left for CORPS during the afternoon to become I.O. there. Good luck, Eric, we wish you the best!	J.S.

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	May 18th 1942.		Cool and rainy. Clearing up towards noon. Intermittent showers. The Bn preparing for TIGER. Men being paraded to the M.O. to have their feet looked at to see whether or not they will be able to stand much marching. There was a meeting of all the Adjts. in the Bde. at 2230hrs in which the Adjt. gleaned a few administrative points of information but nothing of real importance to the scheme. Capt. M.L.C. MATHER arrived last night from 2 CDIRU to be attached to us as an observer for exercise TIGER. He has just returned from the six months STAFF COURSE at RMC KINGSTON in CANADA and tells weird and wonderful tales of "GODS COUNTRY"!	J.S.
	May 19th 1942.		Cool and some rain. Not a bright outlook. After lunch today CAPT. BOWSER from CMHQ brought down to us a gift from HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, who is our COLONEL-IN-CHIEF. This is not the first time Her Majesty has remembered us by sending us gifts and this time her thoughtful present consisted of a large pot of beautiful violets and we are led to understand that they are Canadian violets which Her Majesty grows herself. It seems that she brought the plants back from Canada on the Royal Visit before the war and has kept them since then. At 1600hrs there was a meeting of all officers in which the C.O. issued his admin. orders and discussed the different methods of loading transport and equipment on the man.	J.S.
	May 20th 1942		Fine and warm. A nice outlook for TIGER. The Bn getting ready to move off sometime after dinner tonight. MAJOR E.C. RAWLINGS and Lieut. V.E. TRAVERSY will remain behind to arrange a syllabus of training and co-ordinate with the HOME GUARD for after the exercise when we train the Home Guard for a period of approx. one month. The Adjt held a meeting of W.O. and NCOs of BHQ at 1100hrs in which he laid down certain precepts to be carried out on all future schemes and general information to be passed on to the men. MAJOR F.M. MITHCELL is to be Battalion Umpire for the exercise while Lieut.s ROLLAND, GAULT, SHAND and DOHENY will be coy umpires. CAPT. BR. RITCHIE will be acting 2 i/c and want off today with a recce party to recce our four concentration areas for the first four nights. At nontime we learnt that ZERO hours would be 2330hrs. This means that we shall move out on exercise TIGER at midnight tonight. This afternoon at 1630hrs the right half of the Bn Officers played the left half of the Bn officers at softball.	J.S.

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in the field	21st May		<p>Fine and warm. Visibility fair, intermittent showers. The Bn moved off to its first concentration area for Exercise TIGER at 2400hrs and arrived at 0345hrs after a good brisk march. The men seemed to enjoy the marching at night, the hills dont seem to be so steep, somehow, at night. Concealment and camouflage stressed during the daylight hours. We do all our movement by night, and rest by day until 25 May. We have breakfast as soon as we arrive in a new concentration area now. This is a new plan and coys are to submit reports on how the men like it. Normal guards and sentries are being employed. Breakfast at first light. Light lunch at 1400hrs, substantial evening meal at 1700hrs. Coys will endeavour to have a cooked meal ready to serve in their containers at all times.</p> <p>CAPT. J.D.MINGAY, ESSEX SCOTTISH attached to 1 RHC for exercise TIGER. Came overseas approx. one month ago with CAPT. N.L.C. MATHER, 2 CDIRU. They both were overseas and sent back to attend the STAFF course at KINGSTON, ONT.</p> <p>There was an O Gp. meeting at Bde. H.Q. at 2100hrs at which the Bde. Comdr. instructed the C.O. in what to expect during the next 2 or 3 days. The fourth concentration area, area "T" on trace attached, vicinity ROTHERFIELD, 9948, will be an anti-Panzer position, we may expect to increase the duration of our stay there. As enemy will probably be encountered there, we moved off to the second concentration area, area "R" on trace attached, at 2300hrs.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Appx /o</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Appx //</p>
	22nd May		<p>Slightly cloudy and cold. Some rain towards dusk. Arrived at concentration area after a march of about 9 miles at 0510hrs. Breakfast served almost immediately upon arrival. Concealment of Unit good. At 1115hrs C.O. and I.O. left to recce positions in area "T", near ROTHERFIELD, the final concentration area.</p> <p>LIEUTS. CUNDILL, CARSTAIRS, BAROTT arrived back from course at 1300hrs. Up to now we have had very good cover in each of our concentration areas and concealment and camouflage have been carried out very well. Tonight we moved once more. A very long march, 15$\frac{1}{2}$ miles to concentration area 2 miles S.E. of NUTLEY. Breakfast served upon arrival at 0400hrs</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i></p>
	23rd May		<p>Cold, intermittent showers, much rain at night. During the daylight, the procedure was the same as before. Organized rest for all</p>	

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	23rd May		<p>except those on duty. C.O. held an O. Gp meeting at 1800hrs at which he issued orders to his Coy.Comdrs. as to the move to the vicinity of ROTHERFIELD. Points included order of march, route for transport, etc. Today in the mail, we received the setup of the 2nd Bn. Lt.Col JAQUAYS: C.O., MAJOR J.W.KNOX, 2 i/c, both of this Bn. CAPT. DENMAN, CAPT.ROPER, CAPT DAVID WILLIAMSON, and CAPT D.R.COWANS are the coy comdrs with LIEUT.PINKHAM as Adj. It looks like a very good setup and there are a lot of familiar names in the roster. Bn moved to ROTHERFIELD at 2230hrs.</p>	<p>Appx</p> <p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>
	24th May		<p>Weather rainy, cool. It rained all during the march at night to the new area. The march was approx. 7½ miles in length and we arrived in our positions at 0235hrs. There was no stand to at first light but the Bn was on the alert. Now we are no longer in a concentration area with little or no chance of activity, but in an anti-panzer locality which means positions are manned by at least 30% of personnel. Concealment is everything in anti-Panzer positions. The C.O. of the North Shore Regt of 8th CDN INF BDE. came in this afternoon to liaise with Lt.Col. CANTLIE with reference to our positions which overlap into their area and which may make it expedient for us to shift NORTH to keep out of their way. The C.O. went up to Bde. H.Q. at 1900hrs to find out exactly the situation to date. Some confusion as to the position of the 9th BDE at 3(Br.) Div.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>
	25th May		<p>Fine and warm. Visibility good, weather much better. O Group meeting at BHQ at 0500hrs in which C.O. gave order of march, M.T. to be taken etc. The battle has now been joined, we hear that one whole infantry Bde is advancing towards us. At 0930hrs the 9th Br.Bde passed through us and as far as we know the 3 infantry Bns have reached their objectives. There is an unconfirmed report that paratroops are being used and have been seen at different places nearby. At 1126hrs BHQ was bombed by low-flying fighter planes and umpires awarded 4 minor casualties and 2 stretcher cases. It looks as though the enemy is putting on a show before</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>

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	25th May		<p>his full-scale attack which we expect soon. We know that he has the 11th Arm'd Div and that he certainly has the advantage as far as armour goes. But then the plan, we are told, of the Corps, Comdr. is to make the enemy commit his arm'd forces against our anti-panzer localities and attempt to decimate them and then strike back in a counter-thrust with the full weight of our infantry arm.</p> <p>All day long we received enemy identifications in places which seemed to creep closer and closer to ROTHERFIELD, our position. We shall fight soon!</p> <p>A memorandum on BATTLE DRILL came in. Issued by the Army Commander, it said in effect that the "BLOOD! BLOOD! BLOOD! HATE! HATE! KILL FOR COVENTRY!" stuff is now out on all the British and Canadian Assault and Battle schools, that it was not in the make-up of British character to manufacture artificial hate by these methods. The Training would remain exactly the same but there would not be so much "BLOOD and GUTS".</p> <p>CAPT. BR. RITCHIE's promotion to field rank came through today with effect from 2 April 1942. Everyone very pleased at this, Bruce is most popular and a very efficient gent! His company has always been most successful. Too bad we aren't near a pub or we should certainly wet that new crown. However, we can wait! C.O. and I.O. went to Bde. H.Q. at 2000hrs and Bde Comdr seemed in cheery mood, warned all his comdrs. to ready for the tank battle of the mowwow and to use all force possible.</p>	
	26th May		<p>Cool, a good deal of rain, visibility poor.</p> <p>Today is the big day for the tank hunting. The Bde. commander thinks that the Bde. will take the onslaught squarely on the nose and doesn't intend to let any tanks get away! He is most anxious that all units under his command make the most of improvisation of tank-stopping methods and tricks.</p> <p>We have definitely established contact with the enemy now, at 0100hrs a platoon of B coy on patrol encountered strong enemy infantry formations coming in our direction. We stood to at 0400hrs and at 0415hrs C Coy reported 2 Bns of the ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS of the KENT ARMY about a mile or more from BHQ. Soon after this Bde informed us that the 9th (Br) Bde on our left had been wiped out, which was not cheering, to say the least!</p> <p>The prisoners began to come in today. As soon as they are captured they are sent back by the coy capturing them and the I.O. interrogates them, finds out what unit they belong to, and takes any valuable documents from them, which he sends to Bde</p>	

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	26th May		immediate† and sends the prisoners under escort to the P.W. Regulating Centre at DIV.	
	27th May		<p>Cool, intermittent showers.</p> <p>At 0730hrs we learned that the enemy had withdrawn his forces EAST and that actual paratroops may be used. There was an O Group meeting at Bde. H.Q. at 1215hrs in which the Bde. Comdr issued orders for the continual advance. C.O. held his meeting at BHQ at 1315hrs in which he issued orders for the move to LAMBERHURST area. Bn passed Bn Start Point at 1645hrs. Along the route, continual reports came from carriers out in front of tanks in LAMBERHURST. Several times we stopped on the road until we gleaned more accurate information from MAJOR RITCHIE with the carriers. We finally arrived in LAMBERHURST at 2030hrs and reported into Bde.</p> <p>There was an O group meeting at Bde. H.Q. at 2330hrs in which the Bde. Comdr laid on yet another advance forward over the repaired BR in LAMBERHURST. The slogan for the day was "TANKS NORTH OF THE RIVER".</p>	J.P.
	28th May		<p>Cool, some rain.</p> <p>We were advised this morning that the LAMBERHURST BR. would not be ready until 0530hrs. The Bn passed the Bde. S.P. at 0627hrs and had not gone far before the recce Sqdns. met elements of the enemy's rear guard. Before the Bn moved there was some confusion near BHQ where there was a junction of about 4 roads and just before ZERO hour there a tremendous amount of transport congregated around these 4 roads ready to pull out. There was the British Recce. Squadron, the carriers from Regt de Mais., the Black Watch Carriers and mortar carriers, the RHC marching troops, the 3rd Cdn Div marching troops, the A/T Bty vehicles, the TORONTO SCOTTISH vehicles and the confusion was simply wonderful, there were Frenchmen shouting and British drivers cursing and everyone talking at once. However, in the miraculous way that surrounds the British Army, everything sorted itself out and we got away O.K.</p> <p>By now the Bn has done a great deal of marching with very little rest but the men are still cheerful and want more battle. The casualties due to sore feet have not been excessive up to now. That way the unit is standing up well. The men seem to take to the marching at night</p>	J.P.

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	28th May		<p>LIEUT. M.H.CASSILS left on course today. 3" MORTAR course is the one he is attending. He will be the new Mortar Officer as LIEUT.F.H.CUNDILL was S.O.S. with effect from 25th May to 2 CDIRU as a Mortar instructor.</p> <p>The Bn arrived at BRENCHLEY at 0818hrs and set up H.Q. there. No sooner had we become settled down in the new area than we were told to get on the move once more, this time to seize and hold a rd. junc and a X rds. in sq. 1562. We moved off at 1005hrs, not very sorry to leave BRENCHLEY as it seemed a dismal sort of place. Then we learned that a Bridge ahead on our route was blown up. We finally arrived at our destination at 1215hrs after having had to supply a working party to repair the bridge which was blown and also having had to make a detour to cross the river over a bridge not demolished by the enemy's rear guard. Soon after the Bn moved again about 3 miles EAST but was stopped because of another bridge declared blown by the Bn Umpire. We ate our evening meal here, the first in about 20 hrs.</p> <p>At 1750hrs the Bn moved off to SUTTON VALENCE 2667. This march was a good one and began to tell a bit with every one. A very long hill at the end of the march! However, in position once more at the X rds in SUTTON VALENCE at 1925hrs. The men prepared to bed down and get some rest for the night when an order from Bde came by R/T that we were to move off once more, making the fifth move in 24 hours! Destination this time was LENHAM 3370. Moved off at 2210hrs and arrived at 0230hrs. We had been going without sleep for so long that it was very difficult to keep awake on the actual line of march! One would find oneself thinking of something else and you would find yourself in the ditch if you weren't careful'. The total number of miles marched for the five moves was 32 miles. However, we did get some respite between moves, however small!</p> <p>Then to cap all this; The C.O. was told he had an O group meeting at Bde H.Q. at 0800hrs in the morning!</p>	Jsf
	28th May		<p>Fine and warm, a lovely day, Heavy rain for a short time in the morning, however. This was to be an eventful day, the most successful the BLACK WATCH had on "TIGER" At Bde O group meeting, the C.O. learned that we were to move once again to just below GODMERSHAM at 0930hrs. This was arranged for on time and the Bn. moved off</p>	Jsf

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	29th May		<p>when the L.O. from Bde. who was on the air to them ran up and cancelled the move! In the next five minutes however, it was a question of the MANHATTON MERRY-GO-ROUND!! One minute we were to continue advancing and then that would be cancelled until no one paid any attention anymore! The whole trouble was that there were reports of the 11th Armoured Division about to strike at our NORTHERN flank if we moved to GODMERSHAM. Finally the Bn took up a defensive position in the village of LENHAM and had no sooner done so than 4 VALENTINE tanks came storming through the village and left everyone absolutely dumbfounded! A minute later more were heard coming and brilliant improvisers, The Black Watch took an enemy vehicle, which had been put out of action the previous night by an umpire, and pushed it into the path of the advancing tanks. The leading tank made no attempt to stop but careened right into it and stove the side of the 15 cwt in! The owner of the vehicle, a British officer turned green and began to splutter that someone would have to pay for this! Once stopped, the tanks were simply surrounded the tank crews suffered very rough handling from Black Watch stalwarts. If there is one lesson learnt from TIGER, it is that no one in this Unit will ever have any great fear of a tank again. In all we were credited with 13 tanks completely destroyed! The 24th LANCERS won't forget the CDN BLACK WATCH for some time by the way the tank crews came tumbling out of their steel buggy-wagons! By noon LENHAM was a hive of umpires and "Brass-Hats". During the afternoon, there was not so much activity except that carrier patrols out and great numbers of prisoners came streaming in from the coys. It seems that 12 Corps did not expect us to be here when they came through and consequently we collected a large number of prisoners that just more or less walked into our hands. Finally, Bde began reporting that they were being surrounded and that the R de Mais were having the same thing happen to them. At 2220hrs Bde H.Q. was wiped out and R de Mais decimated and the Calgary Highlanders no longer an effective fighting force with 70% casualties. So that left us to bear the brunt of any attack which might be aimed at 5 Cdn Inf Bde. By this time we were quite a little garrison having only about 20-25% casualties, and having captured about 30 D.Rs, 3-3 ton lorries, 3-15 cwts, 1-8 cwts, 5 station wagons, 4-8 cwt P.U.s, 2 Recce Scout cars, 2 armd cars, etc. etc.</p>	

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	29th May		The C.O. was convinced that there was only three things which could take LENHAM; air bombing, artillery or umpires.	
	30th May		<p>Fine and warm, a very nice summery day.</p> <p>At approx. 0030hrs B Coy went out with 1 Pl. to an area near their position which they believed to be a DIV H.Q. and they put on a real COMANDO stunt. They blackened their faces with coal dust and wore only thr lightest and most noisless of equipment and stole into the night to do this job. The first time they raided the camp they brought the house down, the camp turned into bedlam with officers piling out in their pyjamas and B coys raiders firing their blanks and thunderflashes and the sentries shouting to each other. The sentries were quadrupled and they made another attempt an hour later and brought their umpire again. This time the same thing happened pandemonium broke loose; officers shouting to each other, flashlights stabbing the darkness , and here and there a B coyraider stealthily creeping up behind some man and bringing him down with a flying tackle and then leaving him! They did this yet a third time and by this time H.Q. absolutely gave up any idea of sleep that night!</p> <p>At approx. 0200hrs an L.O. came down from 3 (Br) DIV with an operation order and a trace showing CDN CORPS withdrawal very shortly but this never went into effect. In effect, we were hemmed in by the enemy, and he had to take us on separately to wipe our force out, but, the attack never came. First light arrived and no sign of an attack. We had stood to since 0400hrs. All during the balance of the morning, the prisoners continued to stream in. We had turned loose all our prisoners the night before as we had no place to send them; we had to Bde any more, and we were out-of-touch with DIV. so we freed the lot.</p> <p>Sp the BLACK WATCH was never overcome at all, and did a splendid job of disrupting enemy L's of C by capturing D.R. after D.R. and raiding this H.Q. and that.</p> <p>At about noon the Bde. Comdr came down and we heard that the exercise was finished and that there was no word as yet as to how or when we would move back to PULBOROUGH. The remainder of the day consisted of organized rest and cleaning up.</p>	
	31st May		<p>Sunday and a beautiful day.</p> <p>Today we heard that there would be no movement until Tuesday. There were a number of orders for a time which seemed to contradict one another. At last everything seemed to straighten out and admin. problems were the chief concern.</p>	

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	31st May		There was more or less general celebration of the termination of TIGER and the fashion in which we played our part in the Corps Exercise. Today completes another month for 1 RHC, a month marked by very strenuous training, training which we hope will bring us to the real thing shortly. The spirit of the men right now couldn't be higher.	Jad Scauld St. Col.