

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 Mil.-8-39 (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, Eng.	<u>1.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	The Battalion continued its course of intensive training and T.O.E.T refreshers, in spite of the fact that the arrival of rainy weather made outside training anything but pleasant. The night move scheduled for this date was postponed. No increase or decrease of strength.	D.B.B.
"	<u>2.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	The customary Commanding Officer's parade and inspection was held in the morning followed by Company Commanders' parades. The Battalion Football XI played a team from the Calgary Highlanders in the afternoon and, despite the fact that they had not had much practise, were successful, winning by 2 goals to 1. A large number of all ranks attended the game in a downpour of rain. No increase or decrease of strength.	D.B.B.
"	<u>3.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	A voluntary Church Parade was held for Protestants to St Andrew's Church, while soldiers of the Roman Catholic persuasion paraded to St. Michael's Church. No increase or decrease of strength.	D.B.B.
"	<u>4.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	Training continued under Company arrangements with stress being put on Weapon Training, i.e. LMG (Bren), A/Tk rifle, Rifle, Bayonet and Grenades. Troops have frequently been heard to bemoan the lack of Bands and martial music which were part and parcel of training periods during the last war, this has apparently been realised and the effect of such music on the morale of the men taken into consideration as a recent Part 1 order states that the organization of CASF Bands will proceed immediately..... No increase or decrease of strength.	D.B.B. Pt 1, #136 4.11.1940
"	<u>5.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	Lt.Col.K.G.Blackader MC ED, became a/Brigadier during the absence on leave of Brigadier Leclerc, 5th Cdn Inf Bde. Training continued under Company arrangements. Major A.W.Wright and Lieut. J.D.W.Halbert were admitted to 15th Cdn Gen'l Hospital, Bramshot. No increase or decrease of strength.	D.B.B.
"	<u>6.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	One form of training which has been especially beneficial and is very popular with the men is the self-contained exercise for sub-units. This entails a platoon proceeding independently to a given area where they carry out exercises and are billeted for the night, while generally some form of entertainment is arranged for the men. It has	D.B.B.

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Aldershot, Eng.	<u>6.11</u> 1940		(cont'd) been found that not only do the men like the sense of realism produced by these exercises but that they also appreciate the opportunity to see the countryside. No increase or decrease of strength.	MSB
"	<u>7.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	A Battalion route march of some twelve miles was held during which a mock gas-spray was staged by planes of the R.A.F. Considerable amusement was provided for the men as the bulk of the water, discharged from the planes to simulate gas-spray, missed the column and descended upon a large party of Military Police, familiarly known as 'Red Caps'. The Battalion returned to barracks in their transport. It is apparent that junior leaders are not looking after the personal health of their men as they should, as after this march there were far too many cases of bad feet. No increase or decrease of strength.	Appendix 2. MSB
"	<u>8.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	Training was carried out during the day under Company arrangements followed, at night, by a move to a position of readiness in the vicinity of Bagshot. This night move was by mechanical transport and the various blocks kept to their average speed, spacing and time schedule admirably well. Rain tended to mar this exercise from the point of view of the troops. A copy of route map used is attached as an appendix. Increase or strength NIL, decrease 1.	MSB Appendix 1
"	<u>9.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	In view of the late return of the Battalion from night exercises reveille was put forward to 0800 hours. An exhaustive inspection of barrack quarters was held in the morning. In the afternoon the Battalion played another successful game, this time defeating the 2nd Anti-Tank Regiment CASF by 8 goals to Nil. The Commanding Officer having given permission, it had been decided to hold Company Dances on Saturday nights and 'B' Company opened the season with a very enjoyable affair to which girls of the Auxiliary Territorial Service were invited. The Serjeants' Mess also held a successful dance. No increase or decrease of strength.	MSB
"	<u>10.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	4 Officers and 100 Other Ranks under the command of Major I.L.Ibbotson ED, attended a Special Garrison Church Service at All Saints Royal Garrison Church. Roman Catholic members of the Battalion attended Divine Service at St Michael's Church. No increase or decrease of strength	MSB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Aldershot, Eng.	<u>11.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	<p>It has been decided to have CS'sm take over the duty of Acting/Orderly officer in future, this has been necessitated by the shortage of subalterns and the consequent heavy duties evolving on those now serving with the Battalion. While the usual ceremony attendant on Armistice Day was dropped, "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded by the buglers and all ranks stood to attention while observing the two minutes silence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>DBB</i>
"	<u>12.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	<p>Training under Company arrangements continued as per syllabus with considerable time spent in Weapon Training, Gas instruction and Map Reading. One night each week is allotted to each Company for night training. Most excellent shows and variety turns are provided for the troops at the Garrison Theatre where frequently stage stars of London fame may be seen at very low prices. In this connection the Canadian Legion has done yeoman service as numerous seats are provided by them free of charge for Canadian soldiers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Strength increase Nil, decrease 3 men.</p>	<i>DBB</i>
"	<u>13.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	<p>A most unfortunate incident occurred when D.82003 Pte Christie, E.J. committed suicide, shooting himself with his rifle while of unsound mind. This was quite an unpleasant shock for the Battalion as while a previous incident of this kind had happened to a soldier in a neighbouring unit, troops do not fully appreciate a tragedy until it happens to one of their own comrades.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>DBB</i>
"	<u>14.11</u> 1940	0600 0600	<p>Considerable rain and bad weather has been experienced but has failed to interrupt the training which has progressed favourably and shown the effect of the great stress put on all efforts during the last winter in Toronto and the work undertaken in Newfoundland. D.81858 Int.Sjt. Francis D.B. with D.81775 Cpl Elston, N.R. and D.82228 Pte Jezewski attended an exhibition of German uniforms and equipment at Command HQ, this was most instructive as not only did it disclose the great pains to which the enemy have gone to conceal and confuse the identity of their units but also the great importance attached to camouflage.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>DBB</i>

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100M-11-36 (9360)
H.Q. 1772-45-18

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Aldershot, Eng.	15.11 1940	0600 0600	<p>Considerable Anti-Aircraft fire was heard in the vicinity in the early hours of the morning, this commenced at 0055 hours and ceased at 0427 hours. One of the most popular officers in the Battalion, Capt (Paymaster) F.S.Molson, was struck off strength on transfer to 1st Cdn Base Depot. He had been unwell for some time and all ranks were extremely sorry to see him forced to leave.</p> <p>Strength increase 1, decrease 1 officer, 2 men.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	16.11 1940	0600 0600	<p>This was the last day of a week devoted to LMG practise at the Ash ranges and while the shooting average was not particularly high this could be accounted for by the fact that this was the first opportunity most men had had to use the Bren and the weather, throughout the week, had been particularly foul with heavy rain and fog. In the afternoon the Battalion soccer team played a return match with the 2nd Anti-Tank Reg't, R.C.A. and were again successful, winning 4 goals to Nil.</p> <p>No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	17.11 1940	0600 0600	<p>A Church Parade was held with Major I.L.Ibbotson in command, the Divine Service being celebrated in St. Andrews Church.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	18.11 1940	0600 0600	<p>Capt.S.S.T.Cantlie proceeded 'ON Command' to a Company Commanders' Course and Lieut.W.J.C. Stikeman was appointed A/Adjutant. A wooden frame for a sand-table was built by the Pioneer Section and placed in the Intelligence Lecture-room, one evening per Company being allotted for instruction in the building of a sand table. The Intelligence Section were made responsible for the provision of the sand, models and trees for this scheme and much ingenuity was shown in the 'whittling' of small wooden houses, conventional signs and the provision of shrubbery to represent trees and hedges. After completion it was found that the total cost of the sand-table (6' x 10') together with houses, green sawdust, rivers and railways amounted to 1/10$\frac{1}{2}$d.</p> <p>No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	19.11 1940	0600 0600	<p>The Battalion was unfortunate in having another casualty this month, D.81257, Sjt.Grundy,E. who died of natural causes while at lunch in the Serjeants' Mess. A veteran of the War of 1914 -1918, his loss was felt keenly by 'E' Company where he had been a guide and adviser to many a newly enlisted young soldier.</p> <p>Increase of strength NIL, decrease 1man.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

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Aldershot, Eng.	20 Nov 40	0600 0600	Maps of the area reproduced on the sand-table were made by the Intelligence Section and with this as an aid Companies carried out evening sand-table exercises. No increase or decrease of strength.	APPENDIX 3. DSD
"	21 Nov 40	0600 0600	Voluntary educational courses are being arranged for the men and quite a large percentage of the Battalion has made application to attend. The late Sjt E. Grundy was buried in Brookwood Cemetery and the firing party was provided by his old Company, 'E' Company. The Anti-Tank Company attached to Brigade having been dissolved, the personnel from the Black Watch returned to their Unit. Strength increase 18, decrease NIL.	DSD
"	22 Nov 40	0600 0600	In view of the possible inspection of the 2nd Canadian Division by Distinguished Visitors a practise, in which the Battalion took its part, was carried out in the vicinity of Laffan's Plain. The announcement of week-end leaves to be granted to 15% of the Battalion at a time and 3 day Christmas or New Year leaves has enthused all ranks and has come as a welcome antidote to the depression caused by the continual wet days. Strength increase NIL, decrease 2.	DSD
"	23 Nov 40	0600 0600	The customary C.O'S parade followed by Company Commanders' parades, was held and in the afternoon the Battalion XI was once again Successful, beating a team from the 4th Field Regiment, R.C.A. by 5 goals to Nil. No increase or decrease of strength.	DSD
"	24 Nov 40	0600 0600	No parades. Voluntary Church parade was held to St. Andrews Church. As the G.O.C. 2nd Cdn Div. had granted permission for transport to be provided for a number of men to visit places of interest on Sundays, 100 men proceeded to Winchester Cathedral under the guidance of Hon. Capt. D.B. Mackay. No increase or decrease of strength.	APPENDIX 4. DSD
"	25 Nov 40	0600 0600	Monthly Muster Parade was held in the morning. All ranks had their respirators, anti-gas, subjected to inspection followed by a gas chamber test (tear gas) and disinfection. Sand-table schemes continued to be held in the evenings and gave most useful instruction to N.C.Os and platoon leaders. No increase or decrease of strength	DSD

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Aldershot, Eng.	26 Nov 40	0600 0600	<p>Training continued as per syllabus with each Company conducting their own route march of not less than 10 miles at least once per week. To make these marches more interesting and instructive platoon and section leaders were given map co-ordinates on which to march. This was found to be good practical application of the map reading instruction which has been stressed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	27 Nov 40	0600 0600	<p>One afternoon per week has been allotted to each Company as a sports period and inter-platoon and company rivalry in games runs high. This is not only an interesting break for the men but a tendency towards the English Army's training which has always laid great emphasis on all kinds of sports for both officers and men not only as a break from the monotony of drill but primarily as a means of infusing mental and physical alertness together with a spirit of team-work.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	28 Nov 40	0600 0600	<p>A small number of cases of scabies and body-lice has been found and prompt means of decontamination have been applied together with precautions against reoccurrence. In view of the filthy condition of the barracks when taken over by the Battalion it is to the credit of all concerned that no greater number of cases of this kind has occurred, it is felt that the strict insistence on bath parades has been of primary assistance in this connection.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	29 Nov 40	0600 0600	<p>Training continued in all phases of W.T. and sub-unit exercises but it should be mentioned that considerable strain has been laid on those responsible for this training due to the shortage of junior officers and the continual drain on N.C.Os caused by the numerous courses held by Div and higher formations. The Serjeants' Mess was recently visited by Cadet Bingham, late P.S.M. of the R.C.R., who had been frequently an Instructor of Black Watch N.C.Os in Canada. He is now attending the Cdn O.C.T.U. at Borden which has been formed for the purpose of granting Commissions to suitable candidates from the Canadian Army, a call for candidates from the 2nd Cdn Division will be made in December.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No increase or decrease of strength.</p>	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
"	30 Nov 40	0600 0600	<p>The first St Andrews Day to be celebrated overseas by the Battalion since the First Great War. In addition to an Officers' Dance and a Serjeants Dance one was held for the first time by the newly organized Corporals' Mess. All were very successful and enjoyable.</p>	<i>[Handwritten signature]</i>

*Van Being Appointed 2.
7 Nov '40.*

to: "BN. HQ" "B" COY "E" COY
"HQ" COY "C" COY "R.S.M."
"A" COY "D" COY "Q.M."

5 NOV 40

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
PRACTICE MOVE--7 NOV 40

REVEILLE-----0500 hours SECOND BREAKFAST--0610 hours
FIRST BREAKFAST-0530 " HALF HOUR DRESS---0630 "
MOVE OFF-----0700 hours

Coy's will parade under coy arrangements in sufficient time to take up
posn in the coln with A sch tpt included. B sch tpt will be brigaded
and will report to bde T.O. on bn parade-ground at 0845 hrs.

Order of March:

	Bn S.P.		Bde S.P.	
	Head	Tail	Head	Tail
Carrier pl	0659	----	0720	----
"D" coy	0700	0705	0721	0726
"BN.HQ"	0707	0709	0728	0730
"HQ" coy	0711	0718	0731	0739
"C" coy	0720	0727	0740	0747
"A" & "E" coys	0729	0736	0749	0756
"B" coy	0738	0745	0758	0805

The bn will move in coy blocks with approximately 200' between each
block. Coys will be broken down into secs in file or single file: each
sec moving on alternate sides of the rd with 50' distance between the
head of each sec. Coy tpt will follow in the line of march behind their
respective sub-units.

Dress:

Battle order: water bottle filled and carried at the side; gas-capes
rolled; ground-sheets under the flap of haversack; helmet covers should
be readily available; great-coats in packs; and one blanket per man
under the kinking straps of the pack (to be carried on pl truck).

amb C.P.s. will be established at ELSTEAD Xrds (345632) by 0900 hrs and
will follow coln to posn of readiness. A.D.S. will be established upon
arrival at posn of readiness. R.A.P. will be set up at Bn. HQ. QM
will arrange for a hot meal to be served men at posn of readiness.
COMMS will report the number of men who will be on parade at 1700 hrs
6 Nov 40 to the Orderly Room and Bn.QM.

Dive-bombing and gas spray practice by RCAF is expected during the exer-
cise. Fifty per cent of AA det's with NCOs will have guns loaded for real
protection against BA. Balance will not load guns and will practice
protection. Normal gas drill will be followed excl disposal of casual-
ties to personnel and clothing. Coys will ensure complete understanding
of these instructions by all ranks. The object of the exercise is to have
as many men as possible marching. Watches will be synchronized at 0600 hrs.

*SS - 7 Cantles
Capt Ady*

Mac Boney Appendix 4.

24 Nov 40

191 BN. THE BLACK WATCH (FHR) OF CANADA, C.A.S.F.

22 November, 1940.

TO: BR.H.Q., HQ, 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' & 'E' COYS.

SIGHTSEEING TOURS

1. The GOC has granted permission to units under his command to use a certain percentage of the motor transport in order that personnel may proceed on sightseeing tours to local points of interest on Sundays.
2. There are many places of both historic and military interest within the vicinity of Aldershot.
3. Tours are being arranged by H/Capt. D.S. Mackey to Winchester, Windsor, Oxford etc. Each of these points will be visited in turn.
4. In order to make this a success the party will be limited to 100 men (including drivers). Each Coy. participating will detail a warrant officer or sergeant, who will be responsible for the men in his Coy. An officer will be in charge of the party. It is expected that there will be time in excess of that used for sightseeing which the men may put to their own use.
5. Winchester Cathedral and The Round Table will be visited on 24 Nov. The convey will leave Aldershot Lines at 1300 hrs. Dress to be detailed later.
6. The following is the allocation to the various Coy's:-

BR.H.Q.	10
HQ	30 (including drivers)
'A'	25
'B'	25
'C'	10

7. Owing to the fact that 'B' and 'C' COYS. will be on duty, men from these Coys. will not be eligible for this trip

8. A report of the number of men who wish to attend should be given to H/Capt. Mackey not later than 1000 hours. Sat. 23 Nov. and a nominal roll of those who have attended these trips will be maintained by the Coys.

For Franklin Calk *Stent.*
A/Adj. Lt. 1st Bn. The Black Watch
(FHR) of Canada, C.A.S.F.

B.M.R. J.M.S.
1700
List of Names 05