

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  
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
Tented Camp. Open Winkins. Sheet 133 341309.	1st Sept.		<p>After a filthy wet August, the morn of a new month dawned fine, clear and cool; let us hope it continues as we are a little weary of the everlasting dampness! The TEWT and Signal Exercise "STRANGLEHOLD-FLOOZIE" came up without incident. The exercise was down to Company Commanders and despite trouble with our No. 18 sets we managed to keep the scheme rolling. Major Rawlings was in command the C.O. being acting Brigadier. It was our first try with the new signal procedure and although many comments emanated from the B.M. we seemed to keep clear of any issue of wrath! We returned to camp at 1430hrs.</p>	APP # 5 <i>D.S.</i>
	2nd Sept		<p>The Battalion scheme scheduled today for training area No. 7 Exercise "CHARLES" was cancelled due to a Corps Order forbidding our using the ranges, rather <del>inopportune</del> UNFORTUNATE but then the weather does not look as promising as yesterday. Major Ritchie having gone out with his company had to be stopped as his plan was to use area No.7. The I.O. just managed to catch him before he moved on to the forbidden ground, decidedly annoying as he had marched 20 miles only to be put off the shoot.</p>	APP # 6 <i>D.S.</i>
	3rd Sept		<p>Raining, don't tell me that we are to have another month like the last. Today is the anniversary of our entry into this war, three years gone and a fourth starting without much apparent change and no indication of a finish in this year. His Majesty having called a day of prayer our service was conducted by Capt. Ottiwell of the Calgarys in the absence of Capt. MacKay. He spoke rather well and was a pleasant change. During the afternoon the C.O. 2 i/c, Adjt, I.O., Coy Comdrs attended a meeting on yesterdays scheme at Bde.H.Q. All difficulties were aired, and the umpires gave us the benefit of their views. Tonight is the first of two nights compass marching over a course laid out by Bde. It is a platoon competition for time. Six platoons tonight and the remainder tomorrow at half hour intervals from 2100hrs. Those of us going out today will have trouble as the rain and fog are not conducive to good work.</p>	<i>D.S.</i>
	4th Sept.		<p>Two company exercise this morning B &amp; D being the participants. Today will I hope be memorable as we are warned to be ready to move into Billets rather soon. No one will be sorry to leave Open Winkins as the rain and heavy foliage have made it a most uncomfortable stay. During the afternoon the C.O., 2 i/c, Adjt and I.O. together with the Staff Captain made a recce of the new area which is to be "SELSEY BILL" EAST &amp;</p>	<i>D.S.</i>



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	4th Sept		<p>WEST WITTERING all three of which are on the coast and roughly SOUTH of CHICHESTER. With a few exceptions the houses are good although absolutely filthy and after a bit of hard work there appears to be no reason why all ranks should not be most comfortable. Captain Griffin is back once again.</p>	
	5th Sept		<p>The weather is being rather more kind, as yesterday and today have been beautiful. Recces of the new areas continue the C.O. and I.O. doing the Job. There are a number of Jerry built houses allotted to us that are nothing more than summer bathing cottages however I think we can skip these. The Sigs. Officer came with us to look over the communication problems. Sgt. Marsh and Pte. Graham two of our DIEPPE mortar men attended a party given by the R.A.F. at KENLEY AERODROME. The idea being Dinner, Drinks and a general look around coupled with an opportunity to meet some of the air-force personnel who supported them during the show. Unfortunately, Sgt. Marsh tells me the men were all called out unexpectedly on operations. The food and drinks, however, were good and appreciated. I am told that our men met the only two sailors who sustained no injuries on their ship. Mr. Candler our Anti-Tank gunner attended a lecture and demonstration presenting the Universal Carrier as a <sup>medium</sup> machine for carrying the 2 pdr. mounted on it, as opposed to being towed by a 5 cwt as is now in practice. He was not unduly impressed.</p>	
	6th Sept		<p>Capt. Weaver the 5th Bde. R.C. Padre had a parade in our lines this morning. We were warned that the Hun had dropped leaflets, showing DIEPPE pictures, during the night. These we were told must be turned into Bde. and not be allowed to be circulated. They are quite good and do not appear to be too harmful, rather more useful as numbers of prisoners can be identified. Val Traversy found a leaflet container unopened and hundreds of the papers inside; from it we were able to reconstruct the distribution method. The bomb is of galvanized iron sheeting suspended in the plane by an eye and hook arrangement and can be released as ordinary bombs. They are electrically detonated and explode freeing the pamphlets, the one we found never opened. Shortly before lunch today the C.O. speaking as he thought to John Rolland said "Have a drink John" immediately there was a chorus of "yesses" and the Johns all lined up "Rolland, Duchastel, Taylor and Sharp"! It is rumoured that Peter Candler formed in on the end of the line claiming a middle name but was ruled out.</p>	APP # 7



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	7th Sept		<p>The autumn is upon us, cool and clear this morning and starting to get breezy in a tant. The C.O. has decided to put two coys in SELSEY so Capts. Stevenson and Fraser were dispatched to look over the area. An anti-raid plan has to be submitted to Bde. so the C.O., I.O. and Adj. looked over our new ground with this in mind. Due to having some seven miles of Coast as a Bn front it became obvious that two coys be up manning strong points whilst two should be pulled back on an alarm. More complete details will be appended when received. Lieut Anyon called a Subaltern's meeting this evening during which several minor details were discussed and settled. <span style="float: right;">J.P.</span></p>	
	8th Sept		<p>During the day's recce with C.O. and Major Mitchell we were told that our allotted billets had been suddenly changed and that we were to use BRACKLESHAM BAY instead of the WITTERINGS. This was duly examined and is entirely untenable for Winter quarters. Rather a disappointment as previous houses were quite good. A tank circus was held today at which we had some eighty representatives. The so called Circus consisted of various German and British models on trailers available for inspection. In the air there was considerable searchlight and A.A. activity during darkness. <span style="float: right;">J.P.</span></p>	
	9th Sept		<p>Raining again. B and D Coys go over the Bde. Assault course set up near-by. Once again it is to be a time competition by platoons like the Compass march. There appears to be more uncertainty about the billeting situation which badly retards our plans. The Canadian Army Show entitled "The Kitbags" was brought in by the K of C. and was well attended and enjoyed by all ranks. Lieut.H.G.MacKenzie and 5 O.Rs came from WITLEY today. <span style="float: right;">J.P.</span></p>	
	10th Sept		<p>The C.O. and I.O. made a recce for exercise "CODFISH" to be held next Friday, the I Platoon are to supply the enemy. D-81292 Sgt.Tessier R.E., is S.O.S. to N.E.T.D. to proceed to Canadian O.C.T.U. he is a good man and should prove a credit. Capt. Capt.D.H.Taylor and D-81407 Sgt.Nicholson,H.E. arrived back from the R.A.F. school of Paratroops only to be immediately forwarded to N.E.T.D. to be S.O.S. They looked very fit and were quite impressing with their Paratroop wings. They are sold on this new departure and are most enthusiastic about their new unit. <span style="float: right;">J.P.</span></p>	



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	10th Sept		One cannot help feeling that Donnie Taylor as Senior Captain and as a person is a decided loss, however we can draw consolation from the fact that he will go far and do us credit, he is, after all, still a Black Watch Officer. All 5 Bde Officers attended a lecture this evening by Lt.Col.M.P.Bogart commander of the West Nova Scotia Highrs. His subject was the Libyan campaign and his knowledge was gained during his attachment to the East from the R.C.R.s Col Bogart was at one time with the Black Watch.	
	11th Sept		Exercise "CODFISH" went off under a blazing sun, a definite success despite our <sup>ONLY</sup> having two coys available. The 2 i/c commanded with the C.O. directing. Tattoos is ordered for 2300hrs in future. This is half an hour earlier than usual. Lieut.H.Q. MacKenzie is struck off strength, this Unit today to 2 C.D.I.R.U.	APP # 8
	12th Sept		<sup>WEDD</sup> A Battalion parade was called this morning and a few simple movements in Bn Drill. We heard today that Major Charlie Petch the former 2 i/c of D Coy recently with the 8th Recces has been promoted to Lt.Col to command the North Nova Scotia Highrs. It has become increasingly evident that our move to new quarters will be shelved until the middle of next month, this is most unfortunate as we have had our share of this.	
	13th Sept		The Protestant parade was held here at 0930hrs whilst the R.Cs went to the R de M lines. Capt.MacKay is back. The first of a series of Educational classes was held in CHICHESTER this morning. The representatives from this Bn were numerous and as the classes are voluntary it is a good sign. Some of the subjects are French, English, German, Typing and Shorthand, maths, metalwork, etc. The C.O. had a birthday today.	
	14th Sept		Two more companies went over the assault course with the C.O. in attendance. He expressed the opinion that it was easy, he didn't try, time was pressing. The weather is dull conforming with the amount of pertinent material available for the diary today.	



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	15th Sept		<p>At least the weather is still a topic for this chronicle which appears to lack "meaty subject matter". Decidely cool early but fine and clear throughout the day. The kind of day on which one expects to see the colours appear on the maple trees! Liaison was set up with the 8th Bn Sussex Home Guard. In view of our somewhat delayed move it became necessary to let them know of our movements as they had rather expected us in their area before this date. <span style="float: right;">2/5</span></p>	
	16th Sept		<p>Today the C.O. attended a meeting at Bde. H.Q. at which the following points were decided upon. That in all future schemes no ball ammo should be carried when blank is used. This is an old ruling revived and one that had fallen into disuse due to the necessity of men being trained to carry their full complement of ammo. Due to the number of Bde. fatigues it was decided to name a Duty Bn each week who would carry out all work during that period. All Coys must train to, and be able to carry out marches of 10 miles in two hours, this being done each week. Exercise THROTTLE and SKIRMISH have been fixed for the 23rd and 28th respectively. <span style="float: right;">2/5</span></p>	
	17th Sept.		<p>All coy commanders are spending a day in the new areas with a view to making plans for their anti-raid roles. It is done at this early stage due to the possibility of our having to rush down to the coast and man positions. This role will be known as Bugbear "Selsey" "East" or "West" Wittering". The Duty Coy is C.B. for this purpose. Our favorite gripe being the weather, we can say with a certain amount of malice that it continues to be dull. <span style="float: right;">2/5</span></p>	
	18th Sept.		<p>Exercise MANN used up most of our day and was generally felt to be a success, although rather doubtful in the later stages. The early part consisted of a Bde. "Stand-to" in anti-invasion positions which incidentally are in this immediate area; after an inspection by the Brig. which passed muster we took up the role of invading para-tps and attacked the R de Mais and Calgary positions, two companies against each. The resultant claims and denials heard from both sides may be imagined and shortly after contact was made we received the NEGATIVE from Bde. During the afternoon we went to Horsham where all officers of second Div. heard a most interesting lecture from the B.G.S. Brig. Church Mann. His subject was DIEPPE from its inception throughout the <span style="float: right;">2/5</span></p>	



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	18th Sept		action with a summation dealing with lessons learnt and conclusions. He spoke for more than three hours without his audience showing any signs of restlessness or lack of interest.	J.P.
	19th Sept.		The Battalion paraded as a whole in the morning for general smartening up work and inspection by the C.O. Capt. Boswell came back from Shillinglee as did Capt. MacLaurin and the carriers from the Battle School. Mackenzie, Chambers and MacDuff all appear most fit as a result of their battle training. Good news came to us that Murray Mather was a prisoner, also our I.O's brother Dan Doheny is behind German wire. Nothing on Colson or Barrett yet. The weather? Yes your right, dull and wet.	J.P.
	20th Sept.		Sunday being a day of rest there is little to report. No church parades were called, the rain would undoubtedly have made them most unpleasant. Jim Carnegie got his Captaincy today which is effective during his term of office as Adjutant.	J.P.
	21st Sept.		Rain. Capt. Boswell acting as unit Gas Officer and properly clad in anti-gas clothing administered liquid mustard gas to all ranks. They were allowed to carry out personal decontamination whilst one volunteer from each Coy left the gas untouched, the resultant blisters will be a good object lesson to the men. Bob MacDuff was posted to 1st Bde as L.O. starting today, he has only been here a short time, but the C.O. feels that all junior officers should get this job over early.	J.P.
	22nd Sept.		The 2 i/c released D.M. gas this morning during the half hour period of respirator wearing, some of our members took an experimental whiff, and now know this type too well. Preparations for Exercise THROTTLE are going on as scheduled. Major Mitchell and John Duchastel looked over the "Selsey" area billets, and are not impressed. Our allotted Holiday Camp is not exactly winter-proof. The C.O. attended a meeting at TONBRIDGE called by the commander of the New South Eastern Command, Lieut. Gen. Swain. All officers commanding were present and the usual points taken up by a new G.O.C. were the subject; Morale, training, etc.	J.P.
	23rd Sept.		Exercise THROTTLE got us up at 0300hrs, this morning with breakfast at 0330hrs and an approach march to Bogner Regis.	J.P.

APP #9



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	23rd Sept.		<p>The scheme started here at 0900hrs and we fought all the way back to this area. It was decidedly slow for all ranks and due to being road-bound interest was sadly lacking. The Corps Commander General Creer together with General Roberts were in attendance and 5th Bde. was put through a number of unexpected situations. Umpires were legion and the traffic congestion frightful. Almost a decent day where we were but I understand the rain was unabated at Open Winkens. It is reported that we repeat THROTTLE next week for the Minister of National Defence Mr. Ralston.</p>	J.P.
	24th Sept.		<p>As usual after rain we suffer for an extra day inside. Beautiful but windy which causes our leafy fellows to shed what moisture they have managed to store up. Our pioneers have been away for the week doing training under Bde. engineers as a result they produced a demonstration this afternoon to show off their new found knowledge. I understand that although something was learned, the total accumulation of new ideas will not tax the men unduly. In the evening all BHQ Staff and Coy Commanders went to a meeting at Bde. presided over by Gen. Roberts. The theme was Exercise THROTTLE and to say that we were handed over the coals from the Brig. down, would, I think, be a masterpiece of understatement. Suffice to say the meeting adjourned about eleven and we were allowed to go our several ways and settle down to lick our wounds.</p>	J.P.
	25th Sept.		<p>The weather continues to be malodorous. After due consideration it is felt that the billets allotted to the Coys going to SELSEY BILL are not fit for winter habitation. after all a Holiday Camp on the South Coast calls for sunshine and gentle zephyrs not the usual. Captain John Taylor having just completed the GHQ Battle School at Barnards Castle is undoubtedly due to receive an excellent report by dint of having been demanded by General Staff to report as instructor. He won't go without a fight on our part as we feel he has had his share of work away from the Unit. He doesn't want to go. Val Traversy has started in to learn the job of Adjutant as rumblings are heard as to the possibility of an early departure of Jim Carnegie to Staff. Jim has <sup>EARNED</sup> carried any promotion coming his way by dint of hard efficient work and the choice of his successor is indeed a popular one. This evening saw the start of a Bn Soccer league and may I say with justifiable pride that BHQ managed to trim A Coy by no mean margin 4 to 1.</p>	J.P.



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	26th Sept		The day produced exactly nothing, except that it was freezingly cold, wet and miserable.	ms
	27th Sept.		No church parades being laid on the morning was passed in rest and slumber, very pleasant. Last week we played a baseball game against the Americans, our team being chosen from the Bde. We won the first encounter by a 1 to 0 account, an excellent brand of ball being produced. The play-off was this afternoon in CHICHESTER a double header being on the bill. A large crowd assembled and were entertained by our game, the band of the Sussex Regt., our noisy spectators and lastly wareslightly dampened by the ever spasmodic showers. Oh Yes! the final result? We lost 4 to 1, 1 to 0. The C.O. entertained the U.S. Officer Manager in our mess after.	ms
	28th Sept.		Today was taken up by the TEWT THROTTLE 11. for officers down to Coy Commanders. It seemed interminally long, and followed the same lines as THROTTLE 1. with the exception that today we were obliged to swallow the solutions of the directing staff, which in many cases differed entirely from our choice of tactics. The idea of repeating the old exercise in this way is to help us to put on a better show for Mr. Ralston, or if you wish, the inevitable rehearsal. The R de Mais moved to their new area as did the advance elements of the Calg. Highrs. We are badly held up by the lack of suitable accommodation in SELSEY BILL. Overcast.	ms
	29th Sept.		The semi-finals of the Bde assault competition were held this morning with our best platoon under Tom Anyon competing against the Bde Defence Pl. We won by some ten minutes. The Calg Highrs beat the R de Mais thus putting the two Highland units in the finals slated for tomorrow. If the rain will desist we may see some excellent times. General Roberts saw this morning's effort prior to an inspection of the defences we have planned in the new areas. He appeared satisfied and expressed the desire that we should move as soon as possible even if we have to resort to canvas as a temporary measure. The C.O. had a meeting of Coy Commanders at which it was decided that A, C & D coys would move before the end of the next week; and that H.Q. and B would get out early next week; this naturally, requires a minimum of distractions and can only be done if nothing unforeseen turns up, THROTTLE 11 for Mr. Ralston would kill it.	ms



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	30th Sept.		<p>Small meeting at Bde. this morning prompted by what is claimed to be an act of grand larceny in the eyes of the owner. During THROTTLE we are accused of stripping a bushel and a half of apples from some farmer's tree (note singular) never in its wildest hey-day did this worthy shrub produce the quantity equal to <del>his</del> amount of our supposed indiscretion. This morning our assault team was beaten by the Calg. Highrs team, a close race, and Tom Anyon claims moral victory and the best individual time to be on our side. This evening our D Coy under George Jarvis performed for the R.A.F Regt. They demonstrated with tracer, the fire power of a company and 3# mortars. The air force co-operated by dropping flares over the range, all in all a most effective display and the spectators were duly impressed. In summarizing one can safely say that the month has been a dull one particularly from the point of view of the weather. The continued rain and dampness is beginning to tell, indicated by the outcropping of the common cold throughout our ranks. Our move to new quarters which is expected daily will not come any too soon. Numerous fatigues continue to disrupt training. Donnie Taylor has left us after so long, Major Hamer hangs on the verge of his transfer to ordnance and Mather is a prisoner. Nothing yet on Peter Barrett or John Colson. And so the war goes on.....</p>	<p><i>Kauthe</i> (S. D. CANTLIE) LT. COL. O.C. 1ST. BN. THE BLACK WATCH. (I.R.B.) OF CANADA <i>Int.</i></p>