

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
Tweseldown	1/9/41		Training as per syllabus.	<u>EJI</u>
"	2/9/41		A night move was carried out by 5th Bde. tonight. Our Bn started out by moving 14 miles by M.T. and ended up by marching the last 7 miles to camp. It was a clear night and the move went successfully, the Bn returning to camp at 0100hrs.	<u>EJI</u> Appx 5
"	3/9/41		Reveille at 0700hrs due to last night's move. No events today.	<u>EJI</u>
"	4/9/41		"B" Coy left on 3 days' self-contained move to Edenbridge, Kent.	<u>EJI</u>
"	5/9/41		Major I.L.Ibbotson left on 7 days privilege leave today. Due to recent poor results in rifle shooting, special instruction is being given to all unclassified shots by our weapon training officer, Mr. Johnstone. An advance party from "A" Coy and the Carrier Pl. left for Salisbury Plain, where the Coy and the Pl. are to train for ten days with the Cdn ARMY TK. Bde. One year ago today this unit arrived in the Aldershot Area. Conditions were certainly vastly different then, with the "Battle of Britian" being fought.	
"	6/9/41		C.O's parade in the morning. "A" Coy left for Salisbury Plain and "B" Coy returned from self-contained move. A soccer game was played this p.m. in Aldershot between our team, and that of a British Q.C.T.U. We won 3-0. Brigadier Whitehead has gone on leave. During his absence Lt.Col. K.G.Blackader will assume command of 5 Bde. and Major S.D.Cantlie will be acting C.O. of the Bn.	<u>EJI</u>
"	7/9/41		Church parade in the NAAFI tent here. The Calgary Highrs. padre preached a good, simple sermon. Today was proclaimed a day of national prayer by H.M. the King. Our softball team defeated the Camerons of Canada this afternoon by a score of 9-3.	<u>EJI</u>
"	8/9/41		Training as per syllabus.	<u>EJI</u>
"	9/9/41		The Bn. tpt went for a 25 mile M.T. move tonight, to improve our M.T. march discipline. Only enough personnel to man the vehicles participated and the move went successfully. Bde swimming meet at Aldershot Command Pool won by the Bn. 4 new Officers arrived today from the Holding Unit, to be attached for all purposes, - Lieuts. H.T.Carstairs, J.D.Colsan, J.A. Fraser, and V. Wilson-Smith.	<u>EJI</u> Appx 6

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Tweseldown	10/9/41		Weather good, Preparations for exercise "PUNTING", which is to be a river crossing exercise. Lt.Col.K.G.Blackader visited "A" Coy and the Carrier Pl. at West Lavington on Salisbury Plain, where they are training with the CDN ARMY TK. Bde. Brigadier Worthington who commands the latter formation had nothing but praise for our two units.	<u>S.M.</u>
"	11/9/41		Weather good. Exercise "PUNTING" started this p.m. The Bde. Comd. Gp. started off at 1500hrs ahead of the coln. which moved at 1800hrs. The scheme consisted of an attack across Hawley Pond, which for the purpose of this exercise was considered a part of the River Hart, Zero hour for the crossing was 2230hrs and the exercise ended at 0400hrs when the tp. carriers arrived back in camp, having picked up the unit, after the latter had reached its objective the railway line between Cove and Fleet.	Appx 7 <u>S.M.</u>
"	12/9/41		A day of rest after last nights exercise, with everyone enjoying a sleep. Weather fine.	<u>S.M.</u>
"	13/9/41		Major S.D.Cantlie took the C.Os parade this morning. The Bn today had an unofficial but distinguished visitor, Mr. R.E.Sherwood, the famous American Playwright, who is visiting England for his govt., and who expressed his desire to see the Bn. Mr. Sherwood who served in the last war as a private in the 42nd Bn. was shown through the camp and seemed very interested in everything he saw. At lunch in the Officer's Mess he told of his departure from Canada, which was to be kept most secret. He had simply been told that he was to fly across and that he would be notified in due course of the time of his departure from the Ritz in Montreal where he was staying. One evening it was whispered in his ear that he should be prepared for an early move next morning. The following morning the telephone rang in his room and it was announced that "someone" was waiting for him downstairs. He went down and the shroud of secrecy was lifted, when he saw a robins egg blue R.C.A.F. car outside the door, with "Atlantic Ferry Service" painted on it in large letters. A fine way of keeping his means of transportation and time of departure a secret! After lunch Mr.Sherwood met and chatted with two men with whom he had served in the last war, RQMS Emo and L/Cpl Mercier, our postal Cpl. We had a soccer game today with the Calgary Highrs. our team winning 7-0.	Appx 8 <u>S.M.</u>
"	14/9/41		No church parade today. A baseball game this afternoon with the Regiment of Maissonneuve, our team winning 19-3. Major Jaquays left for Ash ranges with 200 casuals who failed in	

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Tweseldown	14/9/41		the last Bn classification shoot. They are to bivouac on the ranges until Tuesday morning.	E J
"	15/9/41		A very small Bn today with "A" Coy and the Carriers away and the casuals on the ranges.	E J
"	16/9/41		"C" Coy went to Bagshot to practice a demonstration scheme, which they are to carry out for the benefit of the CDN OCTU.	E J
"	17/9/41		No events. Training as per syllabus.	E J
"	18/9/41		No events. Training as per syllabus.	E J
"	19/9/41		Training as per syllabus. "A" Coy returned from their period of training with the Tank Bde full of enthusiasm about the lessons learned there. Div. Swimming meet. Won by the 4th Bde the 5th Bde getting 3 points, 2 of which were contributed by the Bn. D-81625 Pte. Parker and D-81445 Pte. Mayall winning in their classes.	E J
"	20/9/41		C.Os parade. Exercise <u>Malcolm</u> today and tomorrow. This exercise was in cooperation with the H.Q. and the civilian services also had their part to play. The general idea of the scheme was a German invasion followed by our usual move to counterattack on the Southdowns. An additional feature was the fact that our route towards the south, running through Guilford Herham and Godalming was infested with paratps. and airborne tps. The task of the 5th CDN INF Bde was to clear the routes south for the 2 CDN DIV. It was a most successful scheme with fighting going on all night and not until Sunday morn were we able to move SOUTH and take up a posn. north of R. ARUN just East of BUCKS GREEN 5252. The night was very hectic with all coys fighting hard to mop up the enemy airborne tps. The new #18 sets proved of tremendous value as the C.O. was able to keep in direct and immediate touch with the Coy Comds. all through the scheme.	E J 94x9
"	21/9/41		We returned to camp at 1700hrs.	E J
"	22/9/41		The entire Bn busy putting their bell tents inside Marquees for additional warmth and comfort as we are not going to move from here until the middle of next month. The C.O. held a meeting today of all Officers, giving some suggestions, especially to the Junior Officers to increase their efficiency.	E J

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Tweseldown	23/9/41		Wonderful warm weather. Just after lunch a photographer from the "TATLER" arrived to take photographs of the Officers of the Bn. We had rather a lot of fun before the photographs were finally taken and a number of not too complimentary remarks about appearances were tossed to and fro in a good humoured way.	<i>S.M.</i>
"	24/9/41		Clear sunny weather. The 2 i/c Major I.L. Ibbotson and the I.O. went to Eastbourne to contact the 1st Bn The Liverpool Scottish, who we shall be relieving next month. All ranks are looking forward to moving to this area.	<i>S.M.</i>
"	25/9/41		Reconnaissance for concentration area for exercise "BUMPER" which starts on Saturday and which is to be the largest scheme we have ever taken part in.	<i>S.M.</i>
"	26/9/41		Training in the morning. In the afternoon packing and preparation for the exercise.	<i>S.M.</i>
"	27/9/41		At 1032 we passed the Bn S.P. as part of the Bde Gp. and moved to a concentration area in the vicinity of Lower Beeding 6546, where we were established at about 1500hrs. During this exercise the Cdn Corps is to assist in counterattacking in an area north of London in the Eastern Command, which has been rather successfully invaded, whilst the situation in the south has been brought under control. Theoretically we received our reinforcements in the concentration area, after having cleared up the situation in the south.	<i>S.M.</i>
	28/9/41		See Log for Exercise "BUMPER"	<i>Appx 10</i>
	29/9/41		See Log for Exercise "BUMPER"	
	20/9/41		See log for Exercise "BUMPER"	
			During this scheme which was definitely a most successfully one, we were extremely fortunate in having pleasant weather and it may be said that all ranks enjoyed the week it lasted. There was an excellent team spirit and all pulled together. A great deal of improvement was noticeable in our M.T. discipline and in the speed with which we managed to move from one area to another. Brief, verbal orders were all there was time for, and the whole scheme was the nearest to real action we have yet seen. The carriers, commanded by Capt. Knox did an excellent job, as indeed did all the coys. Sandy, a small town within our final area, had a most exciting time, when we descended upon them, the	<i>S.M.</i>

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			<p>last night before we returned. The scheme by then being over, a great number of the men spent the evening in Sandy, having a gay time. Our men always seem welcome wherever they go, and as one young shopkeeper said "Sandy has never had anything like this happen to it before".</p>	<p>2911</p>
				<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i> H.H.</p>