

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.

WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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(Erase heading not required)

FEBRUARY 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials		
NEWHAVEN	1	0800	The subalterns school under direct supervision of Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O., commenced with twelve subalterns in attendance. School is to run for a period of one week, 1 Feb to 6 Feb 43, and is intended as a refresher course in Pl weapons, map reading, tactics up to the Coy level and allied subjects. The N.C.O.s of the Bn are carrying out the normal duties of the subalterns during this week of training. They are providing duty officers at Bn H.Q. and are carrying out the training of Coys under the supervision of the remaining available officers. The new No 4 Mk 1 rifles have been issued to the unit. They are to be zeroed by the Bn snipers this week before distribution.	Hong App 4		
		0800	The subalterns school continued its' programme and a T.E.W.T. dealing with the attack was presented by Capt R.G.Thexton. B, C and Sup Coys carried out a tactical exercise using live ammunition in Trg Area 3. The general scheme was the Coy in the attack.	Hong		
		0800	The subalterns school continues with the programme of training. At 1400 hrs a T.E.W.T? "Temporary Occupation of a Defensive Position" was given by Capt A.W.Rogers.	Hong		
		0800	D Coy carried out an exercise in Trg Area 3 similar to that carried out by the other Coys on 2 Feb. Due to the fact that A Coy is duty coy this week they were unable to take part in these exercises.			
		1400	Bn ceremonial parade was held at the Recreation Grounds. R.C.A.S.C. band was in attendance. Also at this time a T.E.W.T. was held at the subalterns school under the direction of Lieut J.K.Rhodes subject being, "Clearing of a Defended Village".	Hong		
		1730	The R.C.A.S.C. band gave a concert to the tps at Drove Hall, Newhaven.			
		2000	A T.E.W.T. was held for the subalterns school by Lieut G.R.Guy. This took the form of a night exercise, "Night Operations".			
		0800	Training as per syllabus.			
		1300	The Bde cross-country race took place, teams of fifteen being entered from each unit. Coy Comdrs conference was held at which the re-organization of the unit was fully discussed and plans for the change-over completed.			
		2230	The unit sub-cadre returned from C.T.C., Inverary.			
						App 4
						Hong

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NEWHAVEN	5		Field Return.	App 3 Hony
	6	0800	Training as per syllabus.	App 4 Hony
		0900	Sup Coy inspected by the C.C.	
		1100	Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O., delivered a final talk to the Subalterns before the close of their school. This Subalterns week of training has proved to be of great benefit to all participating.	
		1500	Capt Putnam, of the instructional staff at C.T.S. and Capt Crouse who is still in hospital called on the unit today.	
	7	0700	The rifles of A, Sup Coy and Admin Wing were taken to Bo-peep range to be zeroed by the best available marksmen of the Bn today.	App 1 Hony
			Church parades as per Re-organization of the Bn down to a 3 Inf Coy basis as opposed to 4 Inf Coy basis commenced on this date and is to be completed by 14 Feb 43.	
	8	0800	Training as per syllabus.	App 4 Hony
		1200	A Bn exercise was carried out in Trg Area 3. This was in the nature of a two Coy attack with supporting arms on two enemy posns while a third enemy locality was being contained by the supporting arms, i.e., 3" Mortars and carriers in dismounted action. Exercise completed at approximately 1630 hrs.	
	9	0830	Maj-Gen H.L.N.Salmon addressed all officers of 3 Cdn Inf Bde Gp at the De Luxe Cinema.	Hony
1000		The G.O.C. addressed all N.C.O.s of the same gp at the same place. Authorization was received for one Inf Coy only (new W.E.) to provide fwd anti-raid and Bn stand-to reserve.		
10	0800	Training as per syllabus.	App 4 Hony	
	1645	There were several alerts during the day. At this time a Do 217b was brought down in the Bn area by an A.A. Battery stationed in this area. A picket was detailed by this unit to guard the wreckage from souvenir collectors.		
	1930	A T.E.W.T., "Maple 3", held at Bde H.Q. was attended by Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O., Capt J.R.Cameron and Lieut H.M.Eisenhauer. Subject was "Occupation of a Defensive Posn"		

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NEWHAVEN	11	0800	Training as per syllabus. Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O., proceeded to Ashford to attend a lecture subject of which was "Minefields and their Removal".	App 4 H
		2300	The tps had a light lunch and prepared to move off for Exercise "Invader 3". This was a night exercise WIKOK in which the Bn moved North across the downs from Peacehaven and attacked Southease Bridge. After securing the bridge they moved on to the high ground at Itford Hill and consolidated. The exercise ended at 0730 hrs 12 Feb 43.	
	12	0930	The tps arrive back at billets from the exercise. Maj J.A.Hebb proceeded to London to attend a course of lectures on International Affairs.	H
		1330	The G2 L Cdn Corps visited the unit this afternoon. Pay parades as per Field Return.	App 1 App 3 H
	13	0800	Training as per syllabus. The balance of the Bn get paid as per	App 4 App 1
		1300	Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O., attended the wedding of Maj-Gen J.H.Roberts, D.S.O., M.C.	
	14		Church parades as per Lieut W.A.Himmelman proceeded on an Assault and Engineering course, 14 to 20 Feb 43.	App 1 H
		1345	The Bn I Sec under Lieut H.M.Eisenhauer, I.O., proceeded to Hailsham and demonstrated for the benefit of the 20 Bn Hailsham Home Guard, "Proper I Office Procedure." Maj J.A.Hebb returned to unit.	
	15	0800	Training as per syllabus. Q.M.S.I.Ward of the Physical Training Corps is attached this unit for a period of one week for the purpose of setting up an assault course.	App 4 H
	16	0800	Training as per syllabus. B Coy marched to Snaphill Range and carried out a Coy field firing exercise. Capt D.MacG.Archibald proceeded on an A.M.L.O. course, 15 to 26 Feb 43.	App 4 H

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NEWHAVEN	17	0800	Training as per syllabus. Four boxers of this unit proceeded to Heathfield to take part in the Div eliminations for purpose of making up a team for the Army finals. Only two of these however, could make the required weight. L/Cpl Falls T.R. of the Regt Police won in the heavyweight class, while Pte Garnier of B Coy won in the welter class.	App 4 Hng	
		18	1030	The D.A.A.G., 1 Cdn Div called to discuss with Maj J.A.Hebb, Maj F.H.Stehelin and Lieut C.F.Whynacht certain items in the hand-over board between Lt-Col A.A.Ernst and Lt-Col M.P.Bogert.	Hng
		1400	The C.O. attended a Bde O gp on Exercise "Present".		
		1600	Bn O gp on Exercise "Present". Field Return.	APP 3	
	19	0730		Exercise "Present". The Bn crossed the start line, the Lewes-Brighton rd junc, on the march to the concentration area of 3 Cdn Inf Bde, in the vicinity of Dallington. A recce party under the I.O. proceeded by "jeep" to the concentration area to make bivouac arrangements.	Hng
				1330	B Ech vehicles moved from the Bn area, i/c of Q.M. to the area of Beaufort Pk.
			1600	F & A Ech, i/c Capt C.E.Bent, T.O., moved off over the same route as the marching tps. The Bn arrived at the concentration area, vicinity of Glydes Fm(103347) at 1630 hrs. Less than an hour later the transport arrived and a hot meal was served following which the tps made themselves as comfortable as one blanket per man would permit them to for for the night.	
			2145	The C.O. and I.O. attend an O Gp at Bde where it was revealed that our final objective is Forest Row, near East Grinstead. Bde will move via Dallington, Heathfield, Hadlow Down, Buxted and Poundgate to Forest Row, a distance of nearly thirty miles. Order of march is R22eR, C & Y.R. and West N.S.R. crossing the Bde S.P. at 0840 hrs 20 Feb 43.	
		2230	Bn O Gp.		
	20	0545	A hot breakfast was served and at 0730 hrs the Bn crossed the Bn S.P.(Redpale Fm) and crossed the Bde S.P. with perfect timing slightly over an hour later. F Ech vehicles moved by bounds during the ten minute halts of the marching tps, and were tucked away	Hng	

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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EXERCISE "PRESENT"	20		<p>under cover before the next hour began. This movement of tpt by bounds was one of the main features of the exercise, and it worked very well on the whole. The West N.S.R. being in reserve had an uneventful day until the late hours of the afternoon. Reports were received that the R22eR was in contact with the enemy in the Five Chimneys' area, and about 1400hrs the C.Y.R. took the lead, followed by the West N.S.R. At 1630 hrs the C.Y.R. came under fire from Crow's Nest Hill (9147) while the West N.S.R. were approaching the Poundgate road junction (9347). Brig. Chas. Foulkes immediately made plans to attack the area Crow's Nest Hill to Kings Standing, but this was cancelled as the Divisional Commander was apparently working on another plan and did not wish the Bde to become entangled with the enemy.</p> <p>1830 Lt-Col. R.D.King accompanied by the I.O. proceeded to Bde HQ (Buxted Park) where inxx instructions were received to bivouac in the Poundgate area, the West N.S.R. to be North of the Crowborough - Maresfield highway. The Bn was accordingly bivouaced in this area following a hot meal which had come up in the meantime.</p> <p>2130 Another O Gp was called at Bde HQ and plans were issued for the attack on the morrow. The general plan was that 1 Cdn Inf Bde would capture the high ground at Marl pits, Camp-Hill, and King's Standing. Then 3 Cdn Inf Bde, West N.S.R. leading, would pass through and capture the following positions: West N.S.R. - Chelwood Vetchery; R 22e R - Wych Cross; C.Y.R. - Chelwood Gate. At the Bn O Gp which followed the Bn Commander gave his plan for the attack which consisted of a left flanking movement to capture Chelwood Vetchery, moving via Camp-Hill, and Nutley through the wood at (8747), with B Coy rt. fwd., C Coy left fwd. and A Coy in reserve. The remainder of the night, except for some enemy patrol activity, was quiet. Our own patrols protected the Engineers while they cleared lanes in the minefield at (924477).</p>	<p><i>St</i></p>
	21		<p>The morning attack was delayed by the fact that 1 Cdn Inf Bde did not secure it's objectives until nearly 1300 hrs. The West N.S.R. then proceeded according to plan to the area Mill Wood (8747) from which they assaulted Chelwood Vetchery under arty. support against heavy M.G. fire. The objective was secured at 1700 hrs and the Bn dug in and moved up F and A echelons.</p> <p>2100 A hot meal was served to all tps.</p> <p>2200 Lt-Col. R.D. King and the Adj. Capt. J.R. Cameron attended a Bde O Gp. Immediate withdrawal was ordered.</p>	<p><i>L</i></p>

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EXERCISE "PRESENT"	21 22	2230	M.T. moved off while the marching tps covered the rd 870478 to 890477 until the remainder of the Bde had cleared at 1345 hrs. The marching tps then proceeded via Maresfield to Little Horsted where a tot of rum and a hot meal awaited them. Following three hours rest the Bn moved off at 1000 hrs, and, the exercise now being at an end tactically, marched to Newhaven arriving at 1400 hrs. The remainder of the day was spent on a well deserved rest.	<i>hrs</i> <i>hrs</i>
NEWHAVEN	23	0915	The C.O., I.O. and Coy Comdrs proceeded in two carriers with two 18 sets to Beddingham Hill to attend a T.E.T. designed to practise Inf officers in calling for their own Arty support. Methods used were those outlined in A.T.M. 44 page 32. Ended at 1600 hrs. Maj J.A.Hebb and Maj P.H.Stehelin attended an umpires conference re exercise Present. Pte Foster O.S. of B Coy attended an investiture at Buckingham Palace where he was presented with the B.E.M. in recognition of meritorious service during the drownings on Adur River in Jan 42.	<i>hrs</i>
		1030	The Div catering advisor toured the cookhouses of this unit and consulted the unit messing officer re the most approved methods of cooking.	
		1500	The advance party under Capt C.R.Day proceeded to Tunbridge Wells. This is in connection with the Bn range classifications which will be carried out during the next three days. Bn will go in three parties, one each day, and will travel to and from range each day by train. Only a butt and ammunition party will stay at the range area (Hawkenbury) for the entire three days.	
	24	0545 1845	Range practises as per A meeting was held at Bde H.Q. of Adjts, Q.M.s and T.O.s to discuss the recent division of Bn tpt into F, A and B Echelons.	App 4 <i>hrs</i>
	25	0530	Warning was received of the imminence of a raid on or an attempted landing at Peacehaven area. Bn ordered to stand to and the action was reported to Bde H.Q. from whence the warning had come. Bn was ordered to stand down at 0640 as the information was found to be incorrect. Range parties as per	<i>hrs</i> App 4

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NEWHAVEN	25	1330	The Anti-tank Pl proceeded to Burling Gap where they fired the 2 pdr with full charge. Results were fair.	H H
		1545	Lt-Col Farquharson, A.D.O.S. 1 Cdn Div visited the unit and discussed ordnance problems with the C.O., Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O. and the Q.M. Lieut C.F. Whynacht. A composite Coy made up from the Bde and under command of Maj P.H. Stehelin of this unit departed for Inverary to act as enemy to the 2 Cdn Inf Bde during their period of Combined Ops trg. A Pl of B Coy under Lieut W.A. Himmelman was supplied by this unit.	
	26	0545	Range practises continue and will finish today.	H H
		0830	Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O. proceeded to Haywards Heath to attend a lecture. Capt D. MacG. Archibald returned from the A.M.L.O. course.	
		1900	T.E.W.T. at Bde H.Q. was attended by C.O., 2 i/c, Coy Comdrs, Adjt and I.O. Field Return.	App 3
	27	0800	Training as per syllabus.	H H
		1345	Coy Comdrs conference to discuss in general outline the administrative arrangements which would be necessary for the Bn move to C.T.C. Lt-Col R.D.King, D.S.O. and a number of other personnel of this unit attended the Army individual boxing championships in London. Two contestants were entered from this Bn, L/Cpl Falls T.R. and Pte Garnier A.F. both of whom won in their class. (Details later)	
	28	1530	Due to the illness of H/Capt R. Phillips Prot church parades were cancelled. R.C. as per The advance party i/c Capt C.R. Day entrained for Inverary. This is in connection with the Bn move to C.T.C.	H/ Appl H

W.A. Himmelman