

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

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

Aug 43

| Place  | Date   | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|--------|------|---|--|
| SICILY | 31 Jul |      | found to be about two miles South of PELOSO.  |  |
|        | 1      | 0600 | As soon as the posn of the bn was learned the advance on PELOSO was continued and at 0800 hrs the bn was on its objective. B Coy immediately began to move fwd to pt 399 (5992), according to orders of the Bde Comd.   | E.R.H.   |
|        |        | 1000 | A Ech moved into bn area to prepare a meal, and shortly afterward the enemy opened up with shellfire, killing one man in C Coy and wounding Lieut G F Romkey. At this time C Coy was moving off to follow B Coy, which was now under shellfire and only 200 yds from pt 399, which was soon secured. Although the coy was subjected to considerable enemy shellfire, casualties were very light.  |  |
|        |        | 1600 | A Cpl from 3 Bn 3 Parachute Rifle Regt (German), was captured by Pte O S Foster, BEM near B Coys posn and brought to Bn Hq by CSM Freeman. He was sent back to Div Hq, where he proved to be a very valuable PW.  |  |
|        |        | 2030 | D Coy, Bn Hq, A Coy proceeded from M PELOSO to area point 399. On reaching rd junc 593-904 orders were received from Brig Penhale not to move ant troops unto M CRISCANA, our planned objective, but to assembly the entire bn in or near B Coy's area. C Coy had joined the bn at 593904 and the whole now moved to 5991, straddling the main highway West of B Coy's posn. Here the bn dug in before first light.   |  |
|        | 2      | 0830 | At first light patrols went fwd to M CRISCANA and on returning reported no enemy seen. D Coy pushed fwd to M CRISCANA and after advancing about 700 yds met heavy opposition from enemy carefully concealed in the lower ground before M CRISCANA, and having many automatic weapons. Shortly before noon A Coy moved fwd farther to the rt to assist D Coy, but on reaching high ground about 604923 was pinned down by enemy fire. Fighting continued throughout the day, B Coy directed arty fire, with good effect, upon enemy posns. | E.R.H.   |
|        |        | 1900 | Brig Penhale and CRA 78 Div decide at Hq West NSR that an attack on M CRISCANA will not take place tonight. Shortly after their departure at 2000 hrs, the enemy fired about ten shells into Bn Hq area, wrecking the 22 set and killing two men. Immediately after dark A and D Coys moved to the rear portion of the bn position to reorganize. C Coy moved fwd on B Coys right flank to cover this move and to guard against possible enemy attack. During the day the bn had lost about 17 killed, incl Lieut. C C Reeves, A Coy.     |  |
|        | 3.     | 0600 | Fighting patrols advanced to the foot of M CRISCANA and met no enemy. Further resce   | E.R.H.   |

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

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGENT

(Erase heading not required)

Aug 43

| Place  | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |   |        |
|--------|------|------|---|--|---|--------|
| SICILY | 3    | 1800 | showed the feature was now unoccupied. Burial parties went out. 3 Cdn Inf Bde reverts to comd 1 Cdn Div from 78 Div. 1 Cdn Inf Bde moved into the high ground on our left flank during the day.   | P.R.G.   |   |        |
|        |      | 4    | 0800  |  | West NSR leaves area 5991 and marches through REGALBUTO to a posn one half mile east of the town (576955), 3 Cdn Inf Bde now being in reserve.  | P.R.F. |
|        |      |      | 1030  |  | B Ech arrived in unit area bringing fwd the large packs for the first time in the campaign. All ranks busied themselves with cleaning up  |        |
|        | 1830 |      | First EPI supplies reached the unit and were distributed to all ranks.  |  |   |        |
|        | 1930 |      | Lt Col Bogert leaves for O Gp at Bde Hq. This proved to be non-operational. Admin points and lessons learned during the past week were discussed.   |  |   |        |
|        | 5    | 1530 | Same position. Personnel continue with cleaning up, <del>including</del> Div historian visits West NSR and receives the story of our part in the campaign so far from Lt Col Bogert.  | P.R.G.   |   |        |
|        |      | 1830 | Lt Col M.P. Bogert attends O Gp at Bde Hq. R22eR is to move fwd tonight and seize a bridgehead over River SIMETO around 6997. West NSR to move up tomorrow and attack in conjunction with 78 Div on night 6/7 Aug to capture high ground immediately North of ADEHNO. |  |   |        |
|        |      | 6    | 0730  |  | CO, IO, and Coy Comds proceed to Bde Hq then through CATERANUOVA on a recon from the heights of CENTURIPA. Here Brig Penhale outlined the general plan of the attack with reference to the ground. At 1000 hrs Brig Penhale was urgently called to his Hq, and on returning to the Bn area at 1130 hrs, orders had already been issued to move West NSR fwd towards ADEHNO. | P.R.G. |
|        | 1200 |      | At Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde Lt Col Bogert learned that ADEHNO had been occupied by 78 Div and that the attack by West NSR would therefore be unnecessary. The Bn is now to move to an area two miles NW of ADEHNO to cover the left flank of 78 Div moving to the North.      |  |   |        |
|        | 1400 |      | West NSR embusses at 575957 and proceeds along the track North of the river SELSO, across the River SEMERA TROINA, debussing at 657982 about 1600 hrs. Meanwhile Lt Col Bogert had gone fwd and contacted Hq 2 Cdn Inf Bde and the Seafarths.                         |  |   |        |
|        | 1800 |      | West NSR moves fwd on foot, C Coy leading. On reaching the open country around 6797,  |  |   |        |
|        |      |      |   |  |   |        |

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

40/P & S/37 (9/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

Aug 45

| Place  | Date | Hour                         | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|------|------------------------------|--|--|
| SICILY | 6    | 1800                         | the enemy put down some shellfire along the rd which caused no casualties. The Bn moved off the main rd to the North and at 1930 hrs was in posn on its objective.<br>Bn Hq was established on the West bank of the river because the sheer banks of the river would not permit the 22 set vehicle to cross. The br across the river along the mainhad into ADEMO had been blown by the enemy. | App4<br>261/II<br><i>[Signature]</i>           |
|        | 7    | 0100<br>0600<br>1630<br>2100 | F and A Echls arrive in Bn Hq area<br>Rations were put on mules and sent across the river to the coys. The day passed quietly, 78 Div now preparing to enter BRONTE<br>Lt Col Bogert attended conference of unit comds at Hq R22eR about 703900<br>Long range enemy guns fired 48 rds into and near bn area. Some shells straddled A Coy area but no casualties were caused.                   | <i>[Signature]</i>                             |
|        | 8    |                              | Tps clean up and swim in the river. Lieut Guy acting as assistant adjt wof this date. The LOBs join the bn. It is now known that 1 Cdn Div has now finished its part in the operation and is moving back to reorganize and rest(?).  | <i>[Signature]</i>                             |
|        | 9    | 0510<br>0900<br>1430<br>1730 | Reece party leaves to reece new area.<br>Lt Col Bogert attends conference at Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde. He orders to move.<br>Brig Penhale and members bde staff visit West NSR and make use of our bathing facilities.<br>Lt Col Bogert, offrs of Bn Hq and coy comds visit CASA SCIARRONE for pre-arranged tea party.   | <i>[Signature]</i>                             |
|        | 10   | 2000                         | Maj R S K Waterman, IO, and coy comds proceed to new area for further reece.<br>Orders received at Bde Hq by Capt C B Higgins for move on the morrow. All coys were ordered to return to the West bank of the river to avoid traffic conjection in the morning near br at 700955   | <i>[Signature]</i>                             |
|        | 11   | 0600<br>0700<br>1430         | West NSR embusses in Sp Coy area and slowly proceeds to bde SP, rd junc 690968, which was crossed at 0700 hrs. The Div Sp, REGALBUFO rd junc was crossed at 0845 hours.<br>Route - CATENANUOVA and as shown on app4 through SCORDIA to FRANCOFONTE area.<br>Bn arrives in new area about 1430 and occupied posns near the cross-roads 813474.....  | App4, 281/IIIX<br>273-I<br><i>[Signature]</i>  |

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

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

Aug 43

| Place             | Date | Hour                 | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------------------|------|----------------------|---|--|
| <del>SICILY</del> | 11   | 1500                 | Arrangements were made to spend some time in this area.   |  |
|                   | 12   | 1630<br>1830         | The day was spent in further preparation of the area, with special emphasis on sanitation measures. An anti-malaria officer visited the unit during the day.<br>Lt Col Bogert addressed all officers re dress, leadership, and discipline.  |  |
|                   | 13   | 1100<br>1815         | Brig Maj Gen Wionas, GOC 1 Cdn Div visited the unit area, accompanied by Brig Penhale and members of the bde staff.<br>Meeting of the normal Bn "C" Gp to discuss lessons learned during the past few weeks. Some of the things decided were: (1) The time required by inf to carry out a move was not in some cases fully appreciated. (2) Rest was much desired before carrying out a night move. (3) Value of patrols often lost by delay in reporting info gained. (4) Long range small arms fire should not hold up inf; there was too much tendency to regard every rifleman as a sniper. (5) Codes and cipher are only used with difficulty at night; more use should be made of report lines and code names for points. (6) FOO often more useful at Bn Hq to which targets may be passed on 18 set, rather than with fwd coy in contact with the enemy. (7) MG should be near Bn Hq during a move in order to remain in the picture. |  |
|                   | 14   | 0900<br>1000<br>1100 | Trg conference at Bde Hq attended by Lt Col Bogert. Brig Penhale discussed some points already laid down in the trg directive. Following this conference Maj Pearson, air liaison officer, discussed the air aspect of the operation with unit comds.<br>Bn C Gp to discuss trg. Route marches, sports, and the digging of coy defensive positions for training and observation purposes are the highlights of the coming week's trg.   | App 5  |
|                   | 15   | 0700<br>1030<br>1930 | Sunday - A special service to give thanks for victory thus far was conducted today...<br>Holy Communion. At 0800 hrs Bn formed up in A Coy's area for special service, followed by a marchpast before Lt Col Bogert.<br>Lt Col Bogert proceeds to Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde for a meeting of unit comds.<br>Meeting all coy sports officers to arrange soft-ball schedule.   | App 5  |
|                   | 16   | 0700                 | Unit NCOs' school begins trg under direction of Lieut R G C Cunningham.   |  |

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

M.F.M. 11  
40/P & S 37 (0. 32)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA WEST

(Erase heading not required)

AUG 43

| Place  | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials   |  |
|--------|------|------|--|--|--|
| SICILY | 16   |      | Capt D McC Archibald assumes comd of HQ Coy.   |  |  |
|        |      | 1000 | Lt Col Sales, Divisional Technical expert, visited the unit and conferred with Lt Col Bogert.  |  |  |
|        |      | 1500 | Maj J E Stahelin leaves West NSR on being MOB 1 Cdn Div HQ. During the afternoon Capt C W Bullock, OC West NSR when it proceeded Overseas in 1939, visited the unit.   |  |  |
|        |      | 1830 | A Coy beats B Coy (22-15) at softball.   |  |  |
|        | 17   | 0645 | Meeting of B Coy to discuss recommendations for changes in the Lt scale. Suggestions were: (1) more jeeps, (2) smaller vehicles for pure so that they could move farther fwd. (3) small food insulators capable of being carried by mule or man instead of a superfluous number of larger ones. Lt Col Sales again visited the unit and inspected a number of weapons. Lt Col Bogert visited HQ at 1500 hrs. |  |  |
|        |      | 18   | 1500   | Maj R W Westerman begins a series of lectures to coy comds. Subject today - Combined Ops.  |  |
|        |      |      | 1800   | An officer from 1 Cdn Fd Dept, RCA lectured to all officers West NSR on arty support, explaining the various methods by which officers could call for arty fire on their own wireless sets.  |  |
|        |      | 19   | 0845   | A and B Coys proceeded to the bathing beach (9662) by tgt for a day in the surf. Lt Col M P Bogert also "joined in the fun".   |  |
|        |      |      | 1430   | Capt H Farr, HQ OC, confers with 2IC and adjt on admin points.   |  |
|        |      | 20   | 0945   | West NSR leaves unit area en route to the parade ground at 8050 where 3 Cdr Inf HQ at 1220 hrs was addressed by Gen Montgomery, who said that he was not anxious when he gave the Canadians their task, and that they had done their task "magnificently". |  |
|        |      | 1300 | Air photos were received in respect of a future operation, on which we are soon to embark.   |  |  |
|        | 21   | 0830 | C and B Coys to the bathing beach. During the day a personal message was received from Gen Montgomery, thanking all ranks of the Eighth Army for their part in this most successful operation.   |  |  |

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

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

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required)

Aug 43

| Place  | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|------|------|--|--|
| SICILY | 22   | 1000 | Lieut General McNaughton, GOC in C First Canadian Army, visited West NSR, accompanied by Maj Gen Simonds, GOC 1 Cdn Div, and Brig Penhale, Comd 3 Cdn Inf Bde. Gen McNaughton spoke to all officers at Bn Hq, expressing the pride the people of Canada and the remainder of First Cdn Army felt in the achievements of 1 Cdn Div.<br>The majority of bn personnel spent the afternoon at the bathing beach. | L.S.E.   |
|        |      | 1900 | Brig Penhale, Maj Pangman (BM), Capt Dare (SC) and Lt Cols Bernatchez (R22eR) and Pangman (Carlton & York), also the PMLO, attended a dinner at Bn Hq West NSR (CASA NOVA SCOTIA).   |  |
|        | 23   | 1530 | A squad from each coy paraded at Bn Hq dressed as all personnel in a rifle coy will be dressed for the assault in the coming operation and at all times on which they in that order of dress.  | L.S.E.   |
|        |      | 1730 | Lt Col M P Bogert briefs all coy comds on the forthcoming operation. In a landing by 1 Cdn Div, West NSR is to be left bn of the assault bde (3 dn Inf Bde). A and B coys will land in the initial assault, followed by C Coy and D Coy, the latter being in reserve for the landing, but later leading the attack inland, followed by C, A, and B Coys in turn.   |  |
|        | 24   | 0800 | Lt Col M P Bogert proceeded to Hq 1 Cdn Div.   | L.S.E.   |
|        |      | 0930 | NCOs school demonstrated assault landing to all coys. Maj R S E Waterman supervised the demonstration, commenting on different features of the assault. After the demonstration coys practiced LCA trg and assault landing until noon.   |  |
|        | 25   | 1515 | In the absence of a representative from 1 Cdn Fd Regt, Maj R S E Waterman practiced all junior officers in calling for arty support. At the same time coy comds studied air photos for the coming operation.   | L.S.E.   |
|        |      |      | 0700   |  |
|        |      | 1400 | Lt Col Bogert briefs coy comds with reference to the model at Bde Hq.  |  |

*M. P. Bogert Lt Col.*

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

40/P & S/37 (2/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

AUG 43

| Place                 | Date | Hour                            | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-----------------------|------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| FRANCOFONTE<br>813474 | 26   |                                 | Balance of WE tpt arrived at SYRACUSA. Capt D McG Archibald with a number of drivers proceeded to SYRACUSA and returned to unit lines with most of the tpt. A portion, however, could not be unloaded and drivers were left at SYRACUSA to bring fwd the remaining vehicles on the following day.   | Hmg  |
|                       | 27   |                                 | West NSR rear party, under comd Capt W R Moore, arrived from ENGLAND, having sailed directly from ENGLAND to SICILY during the past two weeks   | Hmg  |
|                       | 28   | 0830<br><del>0830</del><br>2030 | Lt col M P Bogert proceeded to the MESSINA area to observe across the straits of MESSINA the area in which 1 Cdn Div will land in the forthcoming operation.<br>Lt col M P Bogert describes to all officers of West NSR the part which the unit will play in the coming operation. On D day 13 Corps is to attack the REGGIO area across the straits of MESSINA, 1 Cdn Div landing at REGGIO town with 5 (British) Div on the left. 1 Cdn Div will attack with 3 Cdn Inf Bde fwd, the bde attacking with two fwd bns, Carlt & York rt and West NSR left, <del>xxxx</del> , landing simultaneously. Thus West NSR would be one of the first bns of all the ALLIED Armies to land on the mainland of EUROPE.<br>The objective of West NSR is two forts overlooking the town of REGGIO. A and B Coys will land in the first wave, rt and left respectively, while the advance to the forts will be lead by D Coy, followed by C Coy, taking the North and South fort respectively. West NSR will then reorganize in the area of the forts. | Hmg  |
|                       | 29   | 0640<br><br>1800                | All available assault scale personnel West NSR proceeded by MT to AUGUSTA to carry out a rehearsal of the assault landing. Two landing practices were carried out in the harbour about two miles South of the town. Maj Gen Simonds, GOC 1 Cdn Div, expressed the view during this rehearsal that even in an opposed landing probing for mines must be done before the assault tps cross the beach. The end of the practice about 1645 hrs was punctuated by enemy air attacks on the harbour and by unusually heavy showers of rain. After supper at 1700 hrs West NSR embusses and arrives in FRANCOFONTE area about 2030 hrs. During the day the DUKWS and all assault scale vehicles to be loaded on LSTs and LCTs left for the assembly area.  | Hmg  |

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

40/P & S, 37 (9/43)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal

Title pages will be prepared.  
WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required)

Aug - Sep 43

| Place                 | Date  | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-----------------------|-------|------|--|--|
| FRANCOFONTE<br>813474 | 30    |      | During the day all pls carried out assault landing trg with special emphasis on the probing of mines as suggested by Maj Gen Simonds on the previous day. Complete kit inspections were also held.   | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |
|                       | 31    |      | During the morning the RSM of the R22eR was shown the method by which West NSR will carry picks and shovels on the man during the coming operation; ie attached to the haversack with the supporting strap from the pack. At 1400 hrs Brig Penhale also inspected and approved of this method.<br>Lt col M P Bogert visited Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde at 1500 and at 2000 hrs.<br>2100 2 LAA recce party reported at West NSR. They are included in West NSR landing table. | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |
| 315445                | 1 Sep |      | During the morning all final documentation was completed. The balance of the assault scale tpt left for the assembly area.   |  |
|                       |       | 1400 | West NSR proceeds by MT to the CATANIA docks for embarkation to the assembly area. Tea was provided at the docks, after which the bn embarked on several craft, Bn Hq being on LCI(L) 283. The craft put to sea about 2000 hrs, proceeding North to an area about five miles South of MESSINA  | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |
|                       | 2     | 0100 | LCI(L) 283 gives Bn Hq a dry landing on the beach at 315440. The bn was guided into an assembly area immediately adjoining the beach, where it remained doggo all during the day, the area being subject to observation from the mainland of ITALY from 7 -8 miles away. Lt col Bogert was given the latest infm available at Bde Hq at 0900 and 1100 hrs.   | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |
|                       |       | 1300 | Coy comds were shown the REGGIO area. The forts and the ground leading thereto were visible from the assembly area.<br>Rations for 2 Sep were provided by a British staging camp in the assembly area.   |  |
|                       |       | 2130 | West NSR assembles in compact serial groups just clear of the beach. Although the strait was quiet, a large fire on the enemy side, believed to be at the South fort, lit up the water from time to time.  |  |
|                       | 3     | 0045 | West NSR embarks and about 0230 hra all craft put to sea, proceeding NE toward REGGIO.   |  |
|                       |       | 0345 | Our arty opens up with a crashing barrage. Medium shells blasted the beaches near REGGIO. A rocket ship, firing hundreds of 6 lb HE bombs per minute, gave the Southern beaches the "once over". The smoke from the arty was so dense that the naval personnel had considerable/in finding the beaches. It was not until about 0500 hrs  | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |

diff/c4687

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

40/P & S/37 (9/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA R GT

(Erase heading not required)

Sep 43

| Place  | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|------|------|---|--|
| REGGIO | 3    | 0500 | (H plus 30) that A Coy reported having landed. B Coy was landed partly in REGGIO and partly two miles North of our own beaches, but quickly pushed on to its task. Bn Hq and D Coy landed in an ideal posn at 0545 hrs, and in a few minutes all coys were advancing to the forts in the proper order (D, C, Bn Hq, A and B). The march up to the fort was somewhat difficult because of the steep slope, but at 0715 hrs both forts were in our hands. They were unoccupied, except for two sjs in the North fort. Four 280 mm mortars, four 75 mm guns, and two 20 mm guns were captured. | Amg  |
|        |      | 0830 | An enemy gun fired over the forts into the harbour beyond. Sixty-four of our guns were turned on the ill-advised offender; silence followed.  |  |
|        |      | 0900 | German planes dive-bombed REGGIO harbour. No damage was reported.   |  |
|        |      | 1500 | Fifty-five Italian soldiers and sailors gave themselves up from their posns in the nearby hills. At 1515 hrs in accordance with instructions from Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde, West NSR proceeded by march route and Mt to the area of REGGIO airfd. A Coy remained in the area of the forts. Lt col M P Bogert, IO and Coy Comds meanwhile accompanied Brig M H S Penhale on a recce of the new area. About 1800 hrs all coys were in their new areas. Lens - B Coy - 466425, C Coy - 468424, D Coy - 451426, Bn Hq and Sp Coy - 463424.  |  |
|        |      | 1515 | Patrols were sent out, but no enemy were encountered. A patrol from Carlt & York Regt meanwhile advanced along the South coast rd to MELITO.<br>Our only casualty during 3 Sep was one man sick.  |  |
| 463424 | 4    | 0900 | Maj Pangman, BM 3 Cdn Inf Bde, arrived at West NSR with orders for a patrol to be sent through CARDETO to the main MELITO - GAMBARIA highway at 614466. This patrol of about two secs in MT under comd Lieut D Kirk, B Coy, had the task of determining if a suitable rd could be made along the route they took, and also to contact if possible a patrol of Carlt & York Regt moving North from MELITO. At noon this patrol was very near CARDETO. During the afternoon A Coy moved into the new bn area (460421).  | Amg  |
|        |      | 1930 | Patrol returned. Lieut Kirk reported the track unsuitable for MT. At CARDETO the mayor, with official sash, and 300 of the populace had turned out to welcome him.  |  |
|        |      | 2030 | Orders were received that West NSR was on one hour notice from 0800 hrs tomorrow.   |  |
|        | 5    |      | Move scheduled for 1200 hrs delayed because of traffic difficulties on the main axis of 1 Cdn Div advance; ie, road REGGIO - DELIANUOVA (6761). Possibility of proceeding along South coast rd also suggested. No move during night 5/6 Sep. Heavy rain overnight.  | Amg  |

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

40/P & S 37 (9/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.  
EST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required) SEP43

| Place  | Date | Hour                         | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|------|------------------------------|--|--|
| 463424 | 6    | 1030                         | West NSR leaves area in LT en route to DELIANUOVA, crossing Bde SP in REGGIO(439461) at 1110 hrs. At 1230 hrs orders were received to send fwd a recce party to LE GAMBARIA. This party, consisting of Lieut-colonel Bogert, IO, and Coy Comds, met Brig M H S Penhale <del>at REGGIO</del> about 1530 hrs. It was learned that 2 Cdn Inf Bde tpt could not proceed fwd to DELIANUOVA because of blown brs, and that 3 Cdn Inf Bde would spend the night in the GAMBARIA area. West NSR area (610534) was in a spruce forest. All coys were in this area before darkness. Due to the altitude, nearly 4000 ft, the night was cold. Heavy rain added to the discomfort.   | Hme  |
| 610534 | 7    | 0830<br>1100<br>1730         | Rum ration issued. Dull cloudy morning gradually breaks into a fine day. Lt col Bogert receives orders at Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde for continuation of the advance at 1400 hrs. The main plan has now changed and 3 Cdn Inf Bde is to move to LOCRI through DELIANUOVA, S CRISTINA, track 775636 - 867715, and GERACE.. West NSR crossed the Bde SP (rd junc 608537) at 1400 hrs. Considerable delay was caused by tpt ahead. Head of coln arrived at DELIANUOVA at 1730 hrs. West NSR debussed about 687622, had a hasty supper, and at 1930 hrs proceeded fwd on foot, B Coy leading. The route was largely uphill and at midnight the bn was about three miles from rd and track junc 775636.   | Hme  |
| 775636 | 8    | 0150<br><br>0500<br><br>0800 | A long halt was made at 675647 until 0300 hrs. About 0430 hrs West NSR arrived at rd <del>and</del> track junc 775636. After proceeding along the track for about 300 yds it appeared to peter out and a halt was made until the track could be found at first light. A runaway mule startled the resting tps at 0530 hrs and about 0545 hrs without warning machine carbines, Brens, and rifles began firing. A party of Italian paratps had contact -ed West NSR and already their comd was a prisoner. Apparantly they had been bivouac-ing less than 100 yds from our own tps. A lively engagement ensued, while A Coy moved around to the right to cut off the enemy. The paratps fought unusually well for Ital-ians, although we soon had 57 prisoners and six of the enemy were dead. A pl from the Edmonton Regt nearby chased the remaining paratps from the area. This short action was rather costly: CSM Foley of C Coy was killed, Capt A W Hardy (the LO) and Capt R G Thexton were wounded, as were Sjt Cunningham, Sjt Shanks (who died later) and several others. West NSR resumed its march as far as 802465, where a halt was made for a meal, the advance being continued at 1130 hrs. Rations for the a/m meal had been brought fwd in Jeeps. Lt col Bogert's jeep, carrying the 22 set, had come fwd earlier. | Hme  |

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

40/P & S/37 (1/43)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required) Sep 43

| Place  | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------|------|------|---|--|
|        | 8    | 1500 | West NSR arrives at main highway 867715 and proceeds South toward LOCRI. Jeeps ferried the tps from 867715 to the blown br at 925672. At another blown br 400 yds farther on the bn halted for the night.   | <i>Ang</i>                                     |
|        |      | 2000 | News was received that ITALY had unconditionally surrendered. Italian soldiers fired flares and small arms from the heights overlooking GERACE in celebration.  |  |
| LOCRI  | 9    | 0815 | West NSR followed R22eR toward LOCRI, and occupied a posn about 960627 two miles north of the town. Rations were carried over the blown br and tpted to the bn on vehicles which had come up the coast rd. It was well after noon before any tpt could cross the  | <i>Ang</i>                                     |
|        |      | 1600 | blown br. At 1600 hrs Lt col Bogert attended an O Gp at Hq 3 Cdn Inf Bde (982623). No move tonight, but anticipate move on 11 Sep to area CATANZARO.  |  |
| 925672 | 10   | 1430 | Coys were tpted to the beach at LOCRI for a swim, each coy having about 45 min for  |  |
|        |      | 1700 | swimming. Part of the lt scale tpt and the LOBs arrived in the bn area.   |  |
|        |      | 2030 | Lt col Bogert attended an O Gp at Bde Hq now at SIDERNO (006656). Orders were received to move to the CATANZARO area by MT and LCI(L)s on 11 Sep. These orders were passed to coy comds at Bn Hq at 2130 hrs. Packs were reloaded and preparations made for an early move on 11 Sep.  | <i>Ang</i>                                     |
|        | 11   | 0645 | LCI party under Maj R S E Waterman marches to the beach at LOCRI for embarkation.   |  |
|        |      | 0700 | Lt col Bogert, IO, SO, and coy comds proceed by jeeps to an RV at the rd juns South of CATANZARO, where, at 1030 hrs Brig Penhale allotted areas to the bn comds, after which a recce of West NSR area was made. Coy posns were chosen thus: A Coy - 310390, B Coy - 312392, C Coy - 305385, D Coy - 320380, Bn Hq - 304387. All coys were in posn by 1800 hrs, the LCIs having landed on the beach in the West NSR area. | <i>Ang</i>                                     |
|        |      | 2000 | Lt col Bogert attended O Gp at Bde Hq. Anticipate three day stay in present area.   |  |
| 304387 | 12   | 0815 | Lt col Bogert issues orders for day's activity, and outlined general plan for future  |  |
|        |      | 1245 | operations. At 1245 hrs West NSR marched to Lt Col 3 Cdn Inf Bde, where at 1500 hrs, Maj Gen Simonds, GOC 1 Cdn Div, addressed the bde, outlining future plans, and issued orders regarding looting, dress, and conduct while in a conquered country as a conquering army.  |  |
|        |      | 1845 | Lt col Bogert outlines tomorrow's trg to incl three hour pl route marches, with no water-bottles and with emphasis on strict march discipline.  | <i>Ang</i><br><i>Lt Col Bogert</i>             |

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

40/P & S/37 (9/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required)

13 -30 Sep 43

| Place                       | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-----------------------------|------|------|--|--|
| CATANZARO<br>304387         | 13   |      | <p>At the opening of this Diary the following appointments are held at West N S R :</p> <p>CO, Lt col M P Bogert; 2ic, Maj R S E Waterman; Adjt, Capt C B Higgins; IO, Lieut H M Eisenhauer; Sigs Offr, Lieut J H Jones; Coy Comds: HQ Coy, Capt C L Putnam; Sp Coy, Capt D MacG Archibald; A Coy, Capt J W K Smeltzer; B Coy, Capt J R Cameron; C Coy, Capt(A/Maj) G L F McNeill; D Coy, Capt A W Rogers.</p> <p>0700 During the morning from 0700-1100 hrs pls, following a number of specified routes, carried out three-hour route marches without waterbottles. Coy comds and 2ics checked the pls at intervals for spacing and general march discipline.</p> <p>1000 The Senior Protestant Chaplain 1 Cdn Div visited H/Capt Brundage at HQ West N S R.</p> <p>1200 Lt col Bogert attended an O Gp at Bde HQ. Preliminary orders were received for a move to the VILLAPIANA area (RU1041) on 16 Sep 43. Intelligence Summary received.....</p> | <p>App 1(a)</p> <p>Hmg</p>                     |
|                             | 14   | 0800 | O Gp at Bn HQ to outline general plan of move on 16 Sep. Communion services were held at 0730 and 0900 hrs. The day was spent in rest and cleaning up. Preparations were made for a recce party to go fwd to VILLAPIANA on 15 Sep.   | <p>Hmg</p>                                     |
|                             | 15   | 1000 | <p>Recce party, consisting of Lt col M P Bogert, IO and Coy Comds with DRs and runners, proceeded to the VILLAPIANA area, arriving 1745 hrs at a RV about 1 mile South of the town. It was then too late to recce the area before darkness, and the recce party bivouaced near the RV.</p> <p>Meanwhile at CATANZARO West NSR prepared for a move by tpt and LCI(L)s to the new area.</p>  | <p>Hmg</p>                                     |
| FRANCA-<br>VILLA<br>RU 0739 | 16   | 0700 | Main party leaves CATANZARO area as per movement order.....  | <p>App 1(b)</p>                                |
|                             |      | 0800 | <p>Recce party at VILLAPIANA recce a portion of the bde area near the town of FRANCAVILLA (RU 0739). This area was allotted to West NSR by Brig Penhale at an O Gp 1100 hrs, and was occupied by the recce party. About 1700 hrs unit tpt began to arrive. A portion of this tpt was immediately unloaded and used to ferry the LCI party from the village of TREBISACCE eight miles along the coast to the North. The bn was in posn by 2230 hrs.</p> <p>2230 Meanwhile Lt col Bogert had received orders from Brig Penhale to carry out an operation entailing finally the capture of POTENZA, the approach to POTENZA to be made</p>  | <p>Hmg</p>                                     |



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

40/P & S/37 (B/42)

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.  
WEST NOVA SC TIA REGT

(Erase heading not required) Sep

| Place              | Date | Hour                 | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|--------------------|------|----------------------|--|--|
| LAURENZANA<br>6705 | 18   | 2200                 | (cont'd) R Coy, A Coy, went fwd to investigate brs at LAURENZANA. At 2236 hrs a loud explosion indicated the possible blowing of another br.   | <i>Hm</i>                                      |
| LAURENZANA         | 19   | 0500<br>0600<br>0800 | A Coy went fwd to blow br just beyond LAURENZANA to cover engineers making diversion. Lt col Bogert reced in area of br, while the remainder of the bn came fwd at 0730 hrs. About 0800 hrs the diversion was passable by jeeps and MCVs. A Coy moved fwd on foot, followed by the comd party and D Coy. A Coy was hard on the heels of the enemy, and German sappers blew a crater on a steep slope about a mile ahead (6611). D Coy assisted the engineers to fill the crater, which was soon passable to jeeps. Meanwhile A Coy and the comd party continued fwd on foot. On rounding the corner at 6512, enemy sappers blew the br across the river there and fired on the leading tps, slightly wounding Capt Buchanan, FOO fr 1 Fd Regt. Three inch mortar fire and a rapid adv by A Coy caused a hasty withdrawal by the enemy. An enemy lorry was found burning on the rd near the br. | <i>Hm</i>                                      |
|                    |      | 1100                 | The adv to ANZI continued, A Coy leading. 1:100,000 maps are again available. Another blown br was discovered near ANZI (5140). D Coy continued on foot for a short distance while the remainder of the bn embussed on TCVs now across all previous obstacles. While at ANZI three German lorries were sighted on the rd at 588151. They withdrew on being shelled by one of our tanks, which were now at the head of the vehicle coln.  | <i>Hm</i>                                      |
|                    |      | 1730                 | The adv continues, and after crossing long areas of roads studded with Teller mines, the coln arrived at a posn overlooking POTENZA (5324) about 1930 hrs. Here Lt col M P Bogert issued orders for an adv into the town after the moon rose at 2300 hrs. D Coy was to go fwd and cover the engineers clearing mines to the br near the town (515255). Later C and D Coys. were to adv into POTENZA, A Coy covering the engineers and B Coy moving when ordered. No general move fwd was attempted before midnight.  |  |
| POTENZA<br>527254  | 20   | 0200                 | About 0200 hrs the bn was conc in the area of the blown br, B, C, and part of A Coys moving fwd in TCVs. A TCV backed off the rd near the br, exploding a Teller mine which wounded Lieut R Guy, A Coy and 16 ORs. Three men of B Coy were injured when their TCV struck a crater caused by an exploded Teller mine.   |  |
|                    |      | 0300                 | About this time small arms fire was heard. A patrol under comd Lieut Carol (A Coy) had intercepted a party of enemy apparantly attempting to blow another br near the town. The enemy withdrew. D and C Coys advanced towards the town, while Bn HQ was est  | <i>Hm</i>                                      |

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

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

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required) Sep 43

| Place             | Date                | Hour     | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------|---|--|
| POTENZA           | 20                  | (cont'd) | at bend in rd 527254, a posn which overlooked the town. To maintain comm with the HQ, BN HQ was kept south of the blown br, which could not be crossed by the AT veh.   |  |
|                   |                     | 0700     | Small arms fire, 2-in mortar fire, and arty fire were heard near POTENZA about first light and later reports from D, C Coys and a pl of 2 Coy indicated that there were tanks in the town and a rather large number of automatic weapons. All possible assistance was given by our tanks, MGs and arty on the feature near the N. Maj Gen Simonds GOC 1 Cdn Div at HQ West N S R (1000 hrs) said the excellent view of the battlefield was like a sand-table model. About 1300 hrs a tp of tks entered the town, followed at  |  |
|                   |                     | 1400     | hrs by Lt col Bogert's jeep and the remaining tks, tipping the remaining two pls of C Coy. No opposition was met. A Teller mine exploded under a tk about 525285, wounding Lieut Keefe of D Coy. D Coy was at this time advancing to a posn about 1 mile North of the town on the main highway. About 1730 hrs Carlisle York Regt passed through West N S R on the rd to the North, while 2222R covered the West of the town. Four men of D Coy were killed in the day's fighting. Lieut Travers of C Coy was also wounded. A small number of the enemy were killed and an anti-tank gun and its trailer were abandoned in C Coys area. |  |
|                   |                     | 1830     | West N S R moved to a posn NW of POTENZA: A Coy, 516273; B Coy, (less two pls later relieved by the CYR) 521298; C Coy 518285; D Coy 519290; BN HQ 517288. A mobile patrol under comd Lieut R W Bullock was ordered by HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde to proceed westward along the main highway from POTENZA. This patrol contacted recon elements of the Fifth Div at SATRI NO 3817. The people of TITO (4121) proclaimed their gratitude to their "liberator" in a rather amusing letter (attached copy App 4). Patrol returned about 2000 hrs.  |  |
| POTENZA<br>517288 | <del>20</del><br>21 | 0630     | Unit tot moves into coy areas. West N S R remained in this area all day. Capt Thrupp returned to duty at HQ 1 Cdn Div. Capt Smith, LG 2 Tch visited West N S R about 1600 hrs. A picquet of two pls West N S R assisted in policing POTENZA. Int Summary.....   | App 1(e)                                       |
|                   |                     | 22 1100  | Lt col Bogert proceeded to O Gp at Bde HQ, and with Brig Penhale reconed a new area NE of POTENZA to be occupied by West N S R. At 1300 hrs coy comds were allotted their respective areas, and by 1500 hrs the bn was positioned: BN HQ, 538296; A Coy, 534303; B Coy  |  |

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

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

1ST NOVA SCOTIA REGT

(Erase heading not required)

SEP 43

| Place             | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-------------------|------|------|---|--|
| POTENZA<br>538296 | 22   |      | Cont'd. 538303; D Coy, 541300; C Coy, 540295. Sp Coy and tpt <del>WEREA</del> were near A Coy.  | hrs  |
|                   | 23   | 0830 | O Gp at Bde HQ. Received infm no move from present area until 1 Oct, due chiefly to maintenance problem. At 1500 hrs Lt Col Bogert and IO RV at HQ R22eR and accompany Brig M H S Penhale on a recce of the fwd patrol area, proceeding as far as ACIRENZA and returning via WAGLIO(6231) at 1915 hrs.  | hrs  |
|                   | 24   |      | Apart from normal routine the only event of note was the activity of a patrol under Lieut R W Bullock, which, moving East on the main highway from POTENZA, made contact with 1 Cdn Inf Bde and 78 British Div, the latter a div of the Fifth Corps operating on the East coast, having landed at GARI.   | hrs  |
|                   | 25   |      | Another quiet day. Fwd patrols of R22eR have now reced the area of SPINAZZOLA, VENOSA, and FORENZA without encountering any enemy. At 1800 hrs Lt Col Bogert was a guest at a dinner at HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde. Reports indicate a general withdrawal by the enemy of all his main forces to a line on the River PO in the North of ITALY.  | hrs  |
|                   | 26   | 0730 | Communion service followed by a church service at 0845 hrs. At 0930 Lt Col Bogert and IO accompanied Brig Penhale and other unit comds to SPINAZZOLA, returning at 1845 hrs. At 0200 hrs this date all watches were set back one hour. First light is now about 0500 hrs and last light about 1830 hrs. Intelligence Summary No 3.....  | App1(f)  |
|                   | 27   |      | Kitbags and bedrolls were brought to the unit area by the QM, Capt C F Whynacht. Arrangements (later cancelled) were made for A Coy to relieve the fwd patrol of Carlt & York R on the SPINAZZOLA, GENZANO, FORENZA circuit, the whole patrol to be under comd Maj R S E Waterman, 2ic West N S R.  | hrs  |
|                   | 28   | 1100 | Lt Col Bogert and Capt C B Higgins (adjt) visit Bde HQ. Infm received of a wide out-flanking movement by 1 Cdn Div via FOGGIA and CAMPOBASSO to cut off about three German divs in the NAPLES area. At 1300 hrs the bn O Gp was informed of the coming operation. 1700 Lt Col Bogert attended an O Gp at Bde HQ. Move for tomorrow postponed until <del>next</del> 30 Sep, when a longer move will be made to the PALAZZO area. Four officers | hrs  |

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

(Erase heading not required)

40/P & S/S/1/1/1/1

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal

Title pages will be prepared.

WEST NOVA SCOTIA RCT

| Place   | Date | Hour             | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|---------|------|------------------|---|--|
| POTENZA | 28   | (Continued)      | . and 92 OR reinforcements were brought fwd from the DMA. During the night 28/29 Sep a heavy electrical storm, accompanied by high winds and torrential rains heralded the advent of the rainy season.  | Hm   |
|         | 29   |                  | Weather clear, high wind. During the morning Lt Col Bogert and about 75 spectators fr West N S R attended the Div Sports at the POTENZA stadium. Orders were received from HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde to move to the area PALAZO on 30 Sep, crossing Bde SP at 0935 hrs, as per movement order.....   | Hm<br>App 1(d)                                 |
|         | 30   | 0915<br><br>1600 | West NSR in unit tpt and 17 TCVs crossed Bn SP en route to PALAZO. Good progress was made and the new area was reached about 1300 hrs. The bn was situated compactly around Bn HQ at 661609, just East of PALAZO.<br>Lt col Bogert and IO proceed to HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde (1/2 mile West of PALAZO). Brig Penhale informed commanding officers that 3 Cdn Inf Bde would probably NOT move fwd until 2 Oct 43. The adv of 1 Cdn Div fwd elements to begin at 0430 hrs 1 Oct, RCR and 14 CTR leading. | Hm   |

*M. P. Bogert. Lt Col*