

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded
to O, 1st 2nd Echelon for disposal.

These pages will be prepared

September

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
Biggin Hill	1	0800	Sniper section together with Lieut. Higgins, proceeded to rifle range at WESTERHAM where rifles will be zeroed.	
		1000	Snipers return to Unit owing to the fact that the RAF have use of range for today.	
		2000	C O's conference with Coy cmdrs regarding "exercise" to be held tomorrow. This "exercise" for the purpose of manning action stations and slit trenches in the event of coming under fire.	
		1930	Movies at YMCA	
	2	0930	Personnel of Regiment in battle order, manned weapon pits and gun posns while personnel of Bn HQ orderly room took refuge in battle HQ, remainder of personnel were divided in groups and occupied slit trenches.	
		0945	Maj.-Gen. Pearkes together with Brig. Ganong visited and inspected Battle HQ, proceeding from there to individual Coy's on inspection.	
		1200	"Exercise" concluded. Maj. Bryson, 2 i/c, returned from ODIHAM airport where he has been attached to 400 sqdn undergoing a course in A I L O work.	
		1700	Lt.-col. Ernst was a guest at the Overseas League in London where, among others, he met General Jean Knox, Commanding the ATS.	
	3	0830	Coy's carry out general routine duties.	
		1330	Sports were held on the Cricket Pitch this afternoon. A game of soft ball between Bn HQ and C Coy was played and the score was 13 - 2 for Bn HQ.	
		1930	Movies at the YMCA	
	4	0830	Training - Fieldcraft Nothing of import for the balance of the day.	
		2000	Concert party at the YMCA	
	5	1000	A party of 15 officers arrived from Coy cmdrs School, Borden, who were shown over our area (defences etc.) by Lt.-col. Ernst who thoroughly explained the set up. Major Bryson, Lieut. Higgins and Lieut. Archibald proceeded to WOLDINGHAM and checked up on billets which had been used by this Unit.	
		1330	A Coy demonstration was put on by C Coy, manning weapon pits etc. This was for the benefit of officers from Cdn Training School. Coys in attack and defence.	
1930		Dance at Keston Hall. Unit band in attendance. STRENGTH RETURN: Officers 36 Other Ranks 743		

Appx VII
CSA

CSA

Appx III
Appx VII
CSA

Appx VII
Appx VII
CSA

Appx VII
Appx V CSA

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in J. S. Regs. Vol. 1.

Title pages will be prepared.

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September

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
Biggin Hill	6	0800	Collecting Barrack room stores in preparation to move to ASH RANGES.	CSA
		1000	Major Bryson, Lieut. Higgins and Lieut. Archibald again went to WOLDINGHAM to finish check-up on billets which had been used by this Unit	
		1515	Coy's crossed S P for ASH RANGES in the following order B A C D Coy's Bn HQ and HQ Coy.	
		1830	Bn arrived at ASH No.4, pitched tents and prepared for tomorrows shoot	
Ash Ranges	7	0800	Shoot commences. Details formed etc.	CSA
		0930	First detail "go to bat" at 100 yard range. All details followed through shooting for groups and practice.	
		1100	Church parade on range.	
		1330	Details continue firing.	
		1730	Shoot finishes for the day.	CSA
" "	8	0800	Details commence shooting for the day.	CSA
		1100	Brig. Ganong arrives at RANGES and confers with CO.	
		1800	Rifle shoot completed for the day. Tomorrow will be devoted to LMG.	
Biggin Hill	9	0800	Details continue practice with LMG.	CSA
		1800	LMG practice concluded and Bn prepare to move back to BIGGIN HILL.	
		1925	Bn crossed the SP for return trip to BIGGIN HILL area in the following order: B D C A Coy's Bn HQ and HQ Coy.	
		2230	Bn arrived back in camp.	
	10	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx VII Appx VII Appx VII CSA
1300		Sports at the Cricket Pitch		
1930		Movies at the YMCA		
	11	0800	Training as per syllabus. Nothing further of import for today.	Appx VII Appx VII CSA
1930		Concert party at the YMCA		
	12	0800	Training as per syllabus. Coy's busy completing wiring and weapon parts.	Appx VII CSA
1345		Bath parades, all Coy's		
1500		Major Harris returns from Inf Coy cmndrs School, S E Command.		
1545		C O held conference with all officers of the Unit. Brig. Ganong was also present		

CSA

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Full pages will be prepared

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Biggin Hill	12	1930	Bingo at the YMCA STRENGTH RETURN: Officers 35 Other Ranks 747	Appx VII Appx V CSM
	13	0830 1330	Training as per syllabus Pls from A B D Coy accompanied by the West N S R band, proceeded to BROMLEY where they paraded for "Salvage Week". The party was in charge of Major Courtney who was assisted by Capt. Jenkins, Lieut Curphy, Lieut. Isnor, Lieut Cameron and CSM Nauss. This parade started at 1500 hrs and our boys did their part in a splendid manner and received a good hand along the route of march.	Appx VII CSM
	14	0815	Coy's fall in for Church parades.	Appx III CSM
	15	0730 0830 1800 1930	C O and I O proceeded on recce in the vicinity of WORTHING on the south coast. Coy's carry on according to syllabus. Snipers go to range to try out new rifles Pl4's Exercise T and Ball. This was in conjunction with aircraft and Signals and was carried out on lawn in front of "Holwood" Movies at the YMCA	Appx VII CSM
	16	0800 0830 1400	Route march under Coy arrangement. Coy's carry on according to syllabus Lieut. Higgins proceeded to YALDING and interviewed the Secretary of the Kent Territorial Army, Capt. Stobford, re securing WESTERHAM range for practice for Div shoot.	Appx VII CSM
	17	0830 2100 1900	Coy's working as per syllabus. A/Tk personnel proceeded to ranges under Lieut. Bent. Officers of Bn HQ entertained the ladies with a sing-song and dance at "Nightens". Movies at the YMCA	Appx VII CSM
	18	0800 1930	Bn went on route march this morning 14 miles Concert party at the YMCA	Appx VII Appx VII CSM
	19	0800 0830 1330 2100	Lieut. Higgins proceeded to WOLDINGHAM range for rifle practice to prepare for Div shoot. Coy's carry on according to syllabus Brig. Ganong and Lt.-col. Ernst were guests of Lady Stanley at lunch today at "Holwood" A dance was held at HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde by Brig. Ganong and Bde Officers. Lt.-col. Ernst represented the Unit at this dance.	Appx VII CSM

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Biggin Hill	19		STRENGTH RETURN: Officers 36 Other Ranks 745	Appx V C/S
	20	0645	Lt.-col. Ernst and Major Bryson together with the I O and Coy cmdrs made a recce of the WORTHING area with regards to billets etc.	Appx VII C/S
		0830	Coy's carry on according to syllabus	
		1630	West N S R band proceeded to ORPINGTON to play for the Womens Aux Service "Salvage Day"	
		1930	Dance was held at Kesto Hall for the personnel of this Unit	
	21	0815	RC Church parade at the YMCA hut	C/S
		1000	C of E paraded to the Cricket Pitch where Church service was held. Lt.-col, Ernst attended a conference at Bde thence to WITBYHAM for demonstration of Tank Torpedoes. 53 of the personnel of this regiment composing a rifle team proceeded to ASH RANGE for 3 day practice. Capt Jenkins was OC party assisted by Lieuts Putman and Curphy.	
		1900	Sing song at the YMCA	
	22	0800	Route march under Coy arrangement. Funeral of Pte McIntyre of B Coy at Brookwood Cemetery.	Appx VII C/S
		1000	Major Bryson proceeded to ALDERSHOT where he attended or will attend a class in messing. Major Burgess and Lieut Webster of the 7 Bn Manchester Regt have spent day checking over buildings etc in preparation to moving in after this Unit leaves for the Coast.	
	23	1930	Movies at the YMCA	C/S
		0800	Route march for Coy's	
		1600	Rifle team returned from ASH RANGE where they have been undergoing practice since Monday	
	24	1930	Movies at the YMCA	Appx VII C/S
		0800	Route march under Coy arrangement	
1000		Major Bryson returned from ALDERSHOT where he has been attending a messing course		
25	2000	A select Military dance was held in the Bell Hotel, Bromeley. Personnel from this Unit attended including Lt.-col. Ernst and several officers	C/S	
	0600	Stand to for exercise "BUMPER" No passes tonight. Bn "CB"		
	1500	Order comes from Bde "Action Stations"		
	1600	Umpires for "BUMPER" exercise arrive and are detailed to the respective Companies.	C/S	

WAR DIARY

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Biggin Hill	25	1600 2100 2130	Coy's busy turning in Barrack Stores and preparing to move C O's conference for Coy Cmndrs re exercise "BUMPER" Lieut. Higgins holds conference for NCO's	
Coombhill	26	0813 1005 1215 1235 1800	A Coy pass Unit SP followed by Bn HQ A/Tk D C B and HQ Coy Unit cross Bde SP half hr late. This was due to Arty not being clear Unit arrive at concentration area COMBHILL 818555 Location report sent to Bde Coy's all in respective areas. The balance of the afternoon was spent digging slit trenches against air attack and various games of sport were indulged in. All sentries were warned to be on the alert during the night owing to 5 column activity which was apparently rampant STRENGTH RETURN: Officers 36 Other Ranks 743	CSA Appx V CSA
"	27	0630 1100 1200 1430 1445	Breakfast Quiet morning spent with games and sport Brig BM and IO visited this area when a trace of Unit area disposition showing slit trenches was handed to the Bde IO. Report from Transport Sgt that Bde petrol Pt was in the hands of the enemy. This was forwarded to Bde. Later this report proved to be false Code list changed. Div L O reported 5 column activity in Bde area, all Coy's notified. Officers played a game of soft ball with OR's, result: OR's 22 Offrs 17 Our CO played on the officers team.	
"	28	0930 1130 1430 1844	Entire Bn attended Church parade. A splendid sermon was preached by Capt Addie Bde L O advises there may be a move to the NORTH between midnight and noon tomorrow, if so we will use the route via GUILDFORD Game of soft ball between Officers and OR's Score 25 - 10 for the OR's We have just received a SITREP from Bde as at 2200 hrs 27 Sep: "Enemy": 17 corps reached line MURROW, WESTFEN, DODDINGTON, EARITH. 9 corps reached line SWAFFHAM PRIOR, BARNARDISTON, OVINGTON. Armed tps HAVERHILL at 1600 hrs but were repulsed. German 6 corps little progress NORWICH fell 2100hrs. Street fighting BURY ST. EDMONDS. Sabotage: Telephone lines and Post Office and attempts to pass false orders, Traffic direction signs also tampered with. "OWN TROOPS": Counter attack by 11 armed 18 Inf Div. Postponed until 28 Sep Bombing: Area impassable to traffic around LONDON, EAST of lines excl STAINES, incl UXBRIDGE, PINNER	CSA CSA

VAR DIARY

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Coombhill	28	1844	SITREP continued: HARROW excl ELSTREET, BARNET, ENFIELD. end sitrep.	Appx II CSA
"	29	0545 0615 0740 0845 1000 1130 1710 1935	Stand to for one hr Recce party to report to Bde at 0630 hrs. Word received from Bde that there will be no move before noon today C O and Adjt leave for conference at Bde. C O calls conference for Coy cmndrs for 1000 hrs C O's conference: Move NORTH to area in vicinity of MARLOW, pass Bn SP at 1440 hrs, Bde SP at 1520 hrs All times shifted ahead 50 mins and convoy to travel in "packets" and only "housing lights" to be used Head of Unit coln passed Bde SP 55 mins late Head of Unit coln passed Div SP	
Marlow	30	0155 0500 0755 0900	Bn arrived DP MARLOW. Tps snatched a few minutes rest. O C calls conference Coy cmndrs re move NORTH to TRING Bn passed Bde SP SITREP as at 0845 hrs: At 0800 hrs situation TRING was obscure with elements of "enemy" forces engaging one Bty 2 Fd Regt. and A/Tk Bty from 2 Bde. Umpires refused to make decision. Head of 3 Bde Gp then near HALTON 3229 enroute to TRING. Carlt & York R were ordered to clear TRING of enemy 0830 hrs B & D Coy's Carlt & York R pushing through TRING reaching Xrds 373370 A Coy occupied bridgehead 380332 C Coy moving via TRING wharf NEWMILL 381314 to cut off enemy and occupy bridgehead 391315 0840 hrs R22eR moved forward to assist in mopping up. Remainder of Bde Gp in coln with head near HALDON. end sitrep.	Appx II
		1030	SITREP: TRING situation cleared up and Units of Bde Gp moved into assembly area Carlt & York R established bridgehead along GRAND JUNC CANAL at 385335 R22eR at the moment is SOUTH of TRING ALDBURY with bridgeheads established along CANAL West N S R forming perimeter around TRING and TRING PARK. end sitrep.	Appx II
		1130 1315 1610 1745 1840	Bde reports location Bn arrive at TRING Tps snatch few hrs rest Word comes through from Bde to be prepared to move any time after 1700 hrs L O from Bde brings word that we shall move to new area at 2400 hrs with a possible night or dawn attack C O's conference with Coy Cmndrs when route was laid down for move tonight which will be	

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Tring	30	1830 2359	NORTH EAST through LUTON to GREAT OFFLEY where in all probability we will go into attack. Bn crosses Bde SP for new area at GREAT OFFLEY (second and final chapter of exercise "BUMPER" will be continued in the October issue of WAR DIARY)	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>CASH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>OK</i> <i>A.A. Evans</i> <i>for Col</i></p>