WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
BAGNACAVALLO	1	0230 0330 0845 0945 1115 1410 1615	The right fwd plateen house of D Goy 37184242 received two direct hits from enemy rockets. The upper part of the house was completely demolished and several of the eccupants buried under the debris. In spite of this there was only one slight easualty. Note: A PW taken by our friends on the right informed them that the enemy were going to engage a house at 371434 with rockets, the rockets to be launched from behind the west bank of the Senio River. This information was received by this HQ at 0800 hr much too late to be of any value. Contact patrol from B Goy contacted left flanking unit, NTR. Our own snipers shot one enemy in weapon pit at 373426. Later he was dragged over the dyke by his comrades. D Coy engaged an enemy weapon pit at 373426 with PIAT. The pit was occupied by two of the enemy who had been firing rifles in the D Coy area. One very near miss was made and no further firing came from the pit. Our own snipers working from "A" Coy area scored one kill and one possible. The CO, Lt col F E Hilts, paid a visit to "A" Coy. Considerable enemy movement was observed by "A" Coy just fwd of their FDIs. MMG fire was brought down, results unknown.	
		2100	"C" Coy relieved "A" Coy taking over identical posns. Change-over carried out without incident. Fighting patrol from "B" Coy as per input Patrol Report. Weather this date fine and cool.	Appx 1
X	2	0030 0330 0800 0930	"B" Coy contact patrol to left flanking unit returned, NTR. For the past half hour "D" Coy area has been engaged by rifle grenades and rockets. The right fwd pl in particular is the hot spot. "A" Coy proceeded to BAGNACAVALLO on recreational trip for the day. The usual enemy activity is observed on "D" Coy front. Several enemy appeared on the bank to the right of the right fwd pl. Some rifle grenades fell in the pl area but caused no casualties. Our own snipers working in "D" Coy area scored one kinzwarker kill on the dyke at 36784202.	Zac

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
BAGNACAVALLO	2	1145 1300 1310 1405 2115 2220	The left fwd pl of "D" Coy was quite heavily mortared. Due to Mor Reps sent in our own 3-in Mor engaged a known enemy mor posn at 367421. The Bde Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE, paid a visit to this HQ. "C" Coy observed two of the enemy digging in at 364415. The area was immediately engaged with 3" mor. "D" Coy received 15 to 20 grenades in the area of their right fwd pl. The compliments were promptly returned to the enemy who were on the other side of the dyke only a few yards away. "D" Coy seems to be the focal point for enemy fire. Their area is still being heavily mortared. The rt fwd pl again received a direct hit on the house. Two rockets also landed very close to Goy HQ. Fighting patrol from "C" Coy as per patrol report. A wiring party from "C" Coy was interfered with by an enemy patrol and had to return to the coy area. The enemy were dispersed by 3" mor fire and the wiring party went out again under covering fire from the coy. "D" Coy area again under mor fire. Weather this date fine and cool.	Appx 1
	3	0300 0600 0730 1020 1400 1800	Contact patrol from "B" Coy contact the left flanking unit, NTR. An unidentified party of 10 or 11 proceeding west along the rly in the area of Rear Bn did no answer the challenge of the guard. They were fired on and dispersed still moving in a westerly direction. During the night there was increased enemy mortaring and shelling of the Bn area, also considerable harassing small arms fire. The CO, accompanied by the IO, Lt F A Embree, visited "D", "A" & "B" Coys. Four enemy were observed coming over the dyke in front of "D" Coy's rt fwd pl posn at 37204247. They were carrying what appeared to be demolitions. They were engaged by s mall arms fire and made a hasty withdrawal. No casualties were inflicted. The CO proceeded to Rear BnHQ. Since early morning the whole of the Bn area has been under very heavy shell and mor fire. Fighting patrol from "C" Coy as per partrol report.	App x 1.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
BAGNACAVALLO	3	2300	"B" Coy contact pa trol contacted left flanking unit, NTR. Weather this date rainy, foggy and generally very disagreeable.	Las
	4	1000 1105 1345 1420 1955 2030	Contact patrol from "B" Coy contacted left flanking unit, NTR. CO proceeded to Rear BnHQ. During the night the fwd coys carried out wiring and mining of their respective areas. Own airforce is operating on the far side of the river. For some days now they have been trying to hit a tower which it is suspected the enemy is using as an OP. Again the bombs missed by a small margin and the tower is still standing. CO proceeded to "B" Coy. The tower mentioned above has finally been knocked down. This was accomplished by the heavy arty (7.2) scoring three direct hits at the base of the tower. "A" Coy relieved D Coy occupying same pl posns. Change-over was completed without incident. Since last light the enemy has mortared and shelled the fwd coy area very heavily. One casualty was suffered in "B" Coy. Counter measures were taken on known enemy mor and gun posns. "B" Coy fighting patrol as per patrol report. Weather this date very mild. The roads are in a very bad state and wehs are allowed to be used only for essential purposes. During the day our own snipers scored two possible kills on enemy in trench at 36204139	Appx 1
		0945 1105 1615 2000 2225 2235	Considerable enemy vehicular movement was heard on the far side of the river directly in front of "B" Coy. CO proceeded to "A" Coy. The Ede Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE paid a casual visit to this HQ. CO paid a visit to Rear EnHQ. Throughout the day our own snipers working in "C" Coy area scored two possible kills at 362413. Contact patrol from "B" Coy contacted left flanking unit without incident. "A" Coy heard considerable enemy movement to their front and 3" mor was immediately brought down on area 367421. This was a registered mor target due to the fact that	Lab

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
BAGNACAVALLO	5	2400	enemy movement is heard in this area practically every night. A propaganda broadcast over the PA set was put on in "C" Coy area. This was preceded by a few minutes mor fire to arouse the enemy and make sure he would hear it. Weather this date was fine and comparatively mild.	Fal
	6	0100	enemy targets followed by another propaganda broadcast. This broadcast was not considered azame as successful as the first due to continuous enemy MG fire which drowned out the loud speaker.	
			put up but no enemy movement seen or heard. The Coy Comd considers it quite probable the mines were exploded by dogs, several having been observed at different times and on different sectors of the En front.	that LOB
		1125	An enemy observed in treach at 36224138 was shot by one of the Bn snipers working in "C" Coy area.	
		1800	Throughout the day the Bn snipers working in the fwd coy areas observed the usual enemy activity. Periscopes were observed at various places along the river bank.	
		2210	"B" Coy contact patrol contacted left flanking unit, NTR.	A 7
		2345	A fighting patrol from "C" Coy as per patrol peport. Weather mild margaration throughout the day becoming cool towards night.	Appx 1.
	7	0345 1045	"B"Coy contact patrol contacted left flanking unit, NTR. One enemy deserter came into "C" Coys fwd area and was taken PW. He was from 2 Coy 956 Regt of 362 Inf Div.	
		1730	Own snipers working in "C" Coy area observed a group of enemy 4 of 5, at Casa Guerra 364414. Mor fire was immediately brought down in that area. The arty OP later reported that this fire was very successful, all bombs landing in target area.	2
		1745	A broadcast over the PA system scheduled for 2400 hrs tonight had to be cancelled due to the fact that records sent from Div were found to be in the Italian language.	Tab
		1810	A shower of small mor bombs came down in "A" Coy area. One of the pl comds Lt E M McKinnon was seriously wounded.	7000
		1925	"D" Coy relieved "B" Coy, taking up same posns. Change-over was completed without incident.	

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February 1945.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
BAGNACAVALLO	7	2335	"D" Coy contact patrol to left flanking unit has returned, NTR. Weather mild and reasonably warm.	FOR
	8	0350 0730 0900 1430 17155 1800 2015 2155	All coys report night has been very quiet so far. "A" Coy report they are using a new weapon (V.5). It consides of two pieces of angle iron driven into the ground with a piece of inner tube attached. With it they were able to hurl 36 grenades a distance of 100 yds or more. "D" Coy contacted left flanking unit without incident. The IO left to attend a course on photographic interpretation at San Severo. An acon recce party one rep from each coy left this morning for RUSSI to recce billets now occupied by L Edmn Regt. The LER will be relieving this unit the night of the 9/10th Feb 45. This morning the CO, Lt col F E Hiltz, left on a seven day leave, the 2IC Major J R Cameron assuming command in his absence. En snipers working with "D" Coy observed three enemy on top of bank carrying timber. They shot the last man and the other two jumped down behind the dyke at 36104125. A recce party from LER arrived at this HQ to recce En area in view of relieving this unit night 9/10th Feb. At this time left fwd pl of "A" Coy was be ing mortared by kmk light enemy mortar. Two tanks of the 48 RTR attached to this Unit, engaged known enemy mor posns this afternoon at Casa Gallina 350419. They fired 45 rounds and hitswere made on buildings in and around target area. "A" Coy report an explosion just to the left of their rt fwd pl. This set fire to som of the ha ystacks near the bank. Cause of the explosion was unknown. A broadcast over the PA system which was scheduled for 2400 hrs had to be cancelled due to a breakdown in the machine. "C" Coy engaged enemy movement at Casa Guerra 364414 with 20 rds of 3" Mor fire. Weather this date was rain;	Las
	9	0445	"D" Coy contacted left flanking wastk unit without incident. "D" Coy outpost at 361409 after be ing heavily mortared was overrun by the enemy, three men missing and one wounded.	200

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February 1945 5

Place -	Date	How	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
BAGNACAVALLO	9	0540 1100 1335 1430 1445 1800 2200 2250	The relief of this unit by LER started with "B" Goy which occupied whe res posn. The change-over was completed without incident. As each coy was relieved they moved of in the TCVs of the relieving coy and proceeded to RUSSI 4333.	FAR
RUSSI	10	0700 0900 0900	One Offr and 16 other ranks left this morning on their way to Canada on 30 days leave. The A/Comd Major J R Cameron held an "O" Group attended by all coy comds. Points discussed were as per West NSR directive (reserve area) Pay Parades were held for all coys and during the day their was an EFI issue. The day was spent in adjusting adm problems. The Coy comds proceeded on a recce of area (BLACK COPPER) see trace, one of the areas allotted to this Bn in our counter-attack role as laid down by Bde. Major W W Mair has taken over comd of "B" Coy. Major Mair recently came to this Unit from H & PER. Prior to joining the H & PER he served with the Special Service Force. A CWAC show called "Live Show" was put on at GODO this unit being allotted 100 seats. Weather - showers in morning, goggy in the afternoon.	Appx 5.
	11	1000 1130 1500	Protestant Church Parade at Dome Theatre, RC Church parade at Ritz Theatre. Major J R Cameron attended a conference at HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde at which Lt Gen E W Sansom MAZDZEZEZE and the GOC 1 Cdn Div, Maj Gen H W Foster DSO. Reinforcement problems were discussed and assurance was given that this unit would be brought up to full war establishment within the next few days. Major Cameron held a conference at which all coy comds were present.	TOR
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Place Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
RUSSI 1à		The Bn had allotments for two shows tonight, one "Live Show" at GODO and the other was a picture "Standing Romm Only" at the Ritz Theatre RUSSI. Weather this date was mild.	Fal
12	1330	Trg as per syllabus. Major J R Cameron accompanied by all coy comds, proceeded on a recce of GOLD and	Appx 4
		GRENVILLE (see trace), two of the counter attack tasks for this Bn. Show tonight at Ritz in RUSSI "Andy Hardy's Double Life". "Live Show" is still playing at GODO. Weather this date was quite fine.	Appx 5
13	1400	Trg as per syllabus. Major J R Cameron proceeded to Bde on adm matters. Major D W McAdem has been appointed G3 of 1 CBRGp and left today to take up his new duties. Major J R Cameron attended Bn Comds conference at 3 CIB HQ. Topics discussed were	Appx 4
	130	current training and discipline. All Coy Comds agtended a coy comds conference at 3 CIB HQ. Topics discussed by Bde Comd were training, discipline and mam management. Last evening there was a complete re-allocation of the Bn transport, the unit having received several new vehicles as well as a number of replacements. Shows tonight same as last evening. Weather fine and quite warm.	Tal
14	1000	Trg as per syllabus. Bde Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE, paid a visit to this HQ. The Tk rep Capt Kingston from B Sqn 48 RTR came to this Unit to tie in the tk tasks	Appx 4
		for the present operational role of this Bn, COPPER, BLACK and GRENVILLE(as per traces The picture showing at the Ritz this evening is Bing Crosby in "Going My Way". Weather today fine and quite warm.	Appx 5

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices are initials
RUSSI	15	1830	Trg as per syllabus. One officer and sixty-three other ranks arrived as rfts and were alloted to coys. Picture this evening same as last night. Weather fine and warm.	Appx 4 ARE
	16	0900	being training. Bee Comd paid a visit to this Unit.	Appx 4
		1930	The Officers of this Unit held a Mess Dinner at the Council Chambers RUSSI, invited guests included the Bde Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez D S O, O B E. Show at the Ritz Theatre tonight "Michael O'Shea in "Jack London". Weather today fine and warm.	, Care
	17	1900	Trg as per syllabus. The CO, Lt Col F E Hiltz arrived back from leave. Picture show tonight same as last night. Weather fine and warm.	Appx 4
	18	0930 1000		Las
	19		Trg as per syllabus. Show at the Ritz tonight Bing Crosby in "The Road to Morocco" During the day the CO, Lt col F E Hiltz, inspected each coy in turn. Dress was full marching order. Weather was fine and warm today.	Appx 4 Fall
	20	1330	Trg as per syllabus. The Bde Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE paid a visit to this unit and was a spectator at the Pl exercise put on by C Coy with the Wasp.	Appr 4

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
RUSSI	20		A Geographical film of Canada is being shown at the Ritz tonight. Weather today fine and warm.	Fal
	21		Trg as per syllabus. A Dedication Service was held at the Unit Cemetry MR 441326 near RUSSI. It was attended by the entire Bn. 55 rfts arrived and were alloted to coys. Show at the Ritz tonight "The Road to Morocco". Weather this date fine and warm.	Appx 4. Appx 5 ABB
	22		Trg as per syllabus. Bn Ceremonial Parade and March Past. The GOC Maj Gen Em H W Foster DSO inspected the Bn and afterwards presented the Bronze Star to F33186 Sgt Devidon L H. The Bronze Star is a USA military decoration and was awarded to Sgt Devidon who was in the 2nd Co 3rd Regt 1 Special Service Force for: "Heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy near Mt OURS, FRANCE, 13 Sep 44. When his Bn Comd asked for volunteers to make up an assault section for a highly dangerous attack against enembunkers, Sgt Devison readily volunteered. The esmaning fight was so fierce and at such close range the enemy was forced to abandon the posn, resulting in the capture of	ny
			five prisoners and the surrender of 25 more later in the day at which time it was learned that an enemy attack by four coys had been completely frustrated and 32 casualties were inflicted by the daring assault of this section of 14 men. The actions of Sgt Devison are in keeping with highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the Allied Nations? "A" Coy carried out Coy exercise "PITCH". (see exercise PITCH) A prize of £5-0-0 is to be awarded to the person composing a Regimental Song for the	70-0
	23		Unit. Contestants maximaxibe may use the music of any song in existence but the words must be original. Entries are to be in no later than 2359 hrs 25 Feb 45. Show at the Ritz tonight "Andy Hardy's Double Life". Weather fine and warm. Trg as per syllabus. "D" Coy carried out exercise"PITCH" (see exercise PITCH)	Appx 4. Appx 5.

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Place Dat	e Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices are initials
RUSSI 23		"C" Coy carried out exercise "PITCH" (see exercise PITCH) During the day Muster Parades were held in all coys, Capt C H Smith being mustering officer. The CO and officers of this Unit had an "At Home" at the Officers Mess. Among the guests was the Bde Comd, Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE. Picture at the Ritz tonight "Standing Room Only". Weather fine and warm.	Appx 5.
24		Trg as per syllabus. A Recce party under comd of Eapt D A Campbell consisting of one Cpl from each coy proceeded to CESENATICO (sheet 100-1 SE) to recce/staging area for the move in the near future.	Appx 4
		"B" Coy carried out exercise "PITCH" (see exercise PITCH) The Officers, WOs & Sgts of the Bn participated in an interesting exercise held in square 4336. It was a company exercise, medicate the coy being made up of officers, WOs & Sgts of 3 CIB. This Bn supplied Coy HQ and one Pl, with CYR and R22R supplying one pl each. Major W E Garber acted as Coy Comd. Brig Bernatchez acted as Bn Comd insofar as he issued the initial orders for the exercise. Umpires were the three Bn Comds of the Bde and the Bde Major. After the exercise was over the Brigadier, the Three Bn Comds and the Bde Major led a discussion in which faults were pointed out and lessons to be learned from the exercise. The LO, Lt F A Embree, returned from course. Picture at the Ritz tonight "Standing Room Only".	Appx 5
25		Weather today fine and warm. RC Church service was mk held at the church near BnHQ. Protestant Church Service was held in the Dome Theatre RUSSI.	
		An advance party under comd Capt D I Rice left for PORTO SAN GIORGIO at 0730 hrs this morning. It considted of one offr per coy, his batman and a Sgt cook. The purpose of this party is to recce accommodations in S. GIORGIO, second staging area, for move and to guide coys from DP to individuals areas. Weather today fine and warm.	Zal

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices an initials
RUSSI	26	0900	Trg as per syllabus. A conference was held in the Officers' Mess attended by all officers and the RSM. Movement Order for the coming move was issued and the details were discussed. Arrangements were also made for the turn-over with the 6/13 RFFR a Bn of the 19 Bde 8 Ind Div. Coy Comds and Sp Coy offrs RV'& as Officers' Mess with Officers of RFFR and proceeded Bo recce the counter attack areas. Weather today fine and warm.	Appx 4. Appx 1
	27	0900 1000 1800 2330	Trg as per syllabus. An "O" Gp was held at the Officers' Mess, attended by all Coy Comds, QM, MO, IO, Sigs O & TO. Final details for the move tonight were discussed. Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE paid a visit to this HQ. Bn at this time was dispersed along the secondary rd RUSSI-GODO leaving billets clear for the relieving Bn. Move as per movement order. Weather this date warm, very heavy fog early morning and throughout night.	Appx 4 Lab Appx 1.
	28.	0300 1330 2100	Bn at this time settled down in first staging area CESENATICO. Move was completed without incident in spite of heavy fog. Move as per movement order. Move today went along very smothly and Bn now settled down in second staging area, PORTO S. GIORGIO. Weather today fine and clear.	Appx 1.