

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/87 (9/42)

ORXZ

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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

Title pages will be prepared.

West I S R

(Erase heading not required)

NOVEMBER 1944.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|-----------|------|------|--|--|
| CATTOLICA | 8 | | Weather cloudy and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4 <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1400 | Ten men from each coy attended a sports afternoon of 21 RTR at RICCIONE Stadium. | |
| | 9 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4 <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 0845 | Coy comds attended rehearsal of 1 Cdn Inf Div play, which is a part of 1 Cdn Corps study week, at Dante Theatre RICCIONE. Capt Garber and seven other ranks arrived as reinforcements and were allotted to Coys. | |
| | | 2000 | Picture at Acadia Theatre, "Follow the Boys". | |
| | 10 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4 <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1430 | Capt W H P David returned to the unit today after having spent some time in hospital, he was wounded in the attack on SAN LORENZO. 17 Platoon of "D" Coy, Lt W T Hollinger put on a good demonstration, in deployment, covering fire and taking up hasty positions. Bn Signallers under Lt R E MacDermott providing communication, i.e. loud speaker and Lt D A Campbell gave running commentary as the exercise progressed. Major F E Hiltz attended study period at 1 Cdn Div. | |
| | | 1745 | The CO, Lt col A L Saunders returned to the unit after a seven day tour of duty. Meeting of all WOs and Sgts in the Sgts Mess. | |
| | 11 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4 <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1400 | Considerable time was spent this afternoon by the Mess committee and other willing helpers decorating the Officers' Mess in preparation for a dance this evening. Confessions were heard in the afternoon until 1800 hrs in the office of the Chaplain at 3 CIB HQ. | |
| | | 2030 | The dance at the Officers' Mess was well under way at this time. The special guests were 15 Polish Nursing Sisters. Conversation was somewhat restricted due to language difficulties, but with the use of words of various languages and gestures of | |

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| CATTOLICA | 11 | | international recognition intercommunication was carried on. In all it was a most successful party and the end of the evening found Canadian-Polish relations considerably strengthened. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 12 | 1000 | Weather fine and cool. Protestant Church Service was held at the Embassy Theatre followed by a service of Holy Communion. Mass was celebrated at the parochial church CATTOLICA. | |
| | | 1330 | CO, 2 IC, Coy Comd and Coy 2ICs held a trg conference at BnHQ. Points discussed were Coy Exercises in Attack and Assault boating to be held during the following week. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1830 | The CO, Lt col A L Saunders entertained as his guest Major W S Murdock former Chief of Staff, Kiska Expedition. Major Murdock was Lt col for a year, reverting to the rank of Major to rejoin his old unit the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. | |
| | | 1900 | There was a singsong at the Embassy Theatre, Cattolica. | |
| | 13 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. Two officers and thirteen other ranks arrived as reinforcements and were allotted to coys. The two officers were Capt G F Johnston a former Coy Comd of this Unit while in England and Lt D R Bews who was formerly Mortar Pl comd. | Appx 4. |
| | | 1800 | An ENSA Concert Party named "The Cat's Whiskers" presented a concert "You Hotels Me" at the Embassy Theatre. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 2015 | A second performance of the was presented. | |
| | | 2030 | A dinner was held by "D" Coy in the Embassy Theatre Cattolica. The guests of guest of honour was Lt col A L Saunders, other guests were, The Adjt Capt A J W Dyer, the Padre, Capt L F Wilmot, the Battle Adjt Capt C F Spence and the RSM, RSM Callaghan. Master of ceremonies was Cpl Ashe of "D" Coy. Speeches were given by Lt col Saunders, Capt Wilmot and Lt Campbell who spoke for Major J K Rhodes "D" Coy Comd. The CO, in his speech highly commended the Officers and NCOs for the effort they had put forth to make possible this evening of recreation for the men. He also stated that the Regiment's own ^{battle} reputation was such that any member of the Regiment could and should be justly proud of it. | |
| | | | Lt F A Embree has today taken over the duties of Bn Intelligence Officer. | |

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

~~GRZ~~

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| CATTOLICA | 14 | | Weather cloudy and cool. Trg as per syllabus. GOOs Parade which was to be held this morning was cancelled. | Appx 4. <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1800 | The "Cats Whiskers" concert Party presented "You Hotels Me" at the Embassy Theatre. | |
| | | 2000 | A Picture, "Madame Curie" was shown at the Acadia Theatre. | |
| | 15 | | Weather cloudy and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1400 | All Coy comds attended a demonstration and lecture on how to bring down arty fire on targets and how to give corrections. Major G Brown 1st Fd Regt RCHA gave the lecture. | |
| | | 1400 | The CO, 2IC, Signal Officer and IO attended a demonstration TOMBA di PESARO 999795. The demonstration was the employment of all Bde Mortars 4.2 and 3 " from a common OP. The object being to decide the feasibility of such a method. The Brigadier in his discussion afterwards stated that it had many limitations, the chief one being the time element. | |
| | | 1900 | A Dinner was held by "A" Coy in the Embassy Theatre. The guest of honour was Lt col A L Saunders. Other guests were the Battle Adjt Capt J F Spence and the Padre Capt L F Wilmot. | |
| | | 1900 | The roar of artillery xxx fire can be heard up the coast towards RIMINI this evening it was a salute for Maj Gen Vokes who was leaving as GOC 1 Cdn Div. The salute was one salvo of six guns for each month Gen Vokes was in command of this Div. | |
| | 16 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1400 | All Officers, WOs and Sgts attended a demonstration at 977876 on the loading and operation of a storm boat. | |
| | 17 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. A "Mine Circus" conducted by the RCE for a period of two days ended today. The object was to familiarize troops with the different types of mines employed by | Appx 4. <i>FAB</i> |

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~~TOP SECRET~~

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1 NOVEMBER 1944

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| CATTOLICA | 17 | | the enemy in this theatre of war; one the mine the latest, known as the "non-metallic" was the chief interest. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 18 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 1330 | CO, 2IC, Coy Comds and Coy 2ICs attended a TEWT at MONTE ABBANO 9686. Confessions were heard in the office of the RC Chaplain at Main Bde HQ from 1530 hrs until 1830 hrs this afternoon. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 19 | | Weather fine and warm. | |
| | | 1000 | Protestant Church service was held at Embassy Theatre. Mass was held at the parochial Church of Cattolica. | |
| | | 1430 | Trg Conference was held at the COs office to discuss the trg for the following week. CO, 2IC, Coy Comds and Coy 2ICs attended a TEWT at MONTE ALBANO 9686. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 20 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 0815 | CO, 2IC, Coy Comds and Coy 2ICs attended a TEWT at 005864. The object of this series of TEWTs is to familiarize Coy 2ICs in the tactical handling of Coys. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 21 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | <i>FAB</i> Appx 4. |
| | 22 | | Weather fine and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 1000 | All Officers of the Bn attended a demonstration at the mouth of the R. COMA 977876. Various means of transporting equipment across narrow bodies of water were shown, as well as the new OLAFSON bridge, so named for the designer Capt Olafson comd 3 IAD. It was announced that 6 spans, 90 ft of Bridging, would be carried by each Inf B. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1400 | This afternoon the unit was honoured by a visit by the new Corps Commander Lt Gen Foulkes, CBE. EFI issued today, one bottle of beer per man, with Officers, WOs and Sgts receiving one bottle of Whiskey or Gin. | <i>FAB</i> |

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| CATTOLICA | 23 | | Weather cloudy. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 1400 | The IO proceeded to 1 Cdn Div HQ to attend a meeting at which all Bn IOs were present. The meeting had to do with information on future operations. One and Officer and ten other ranks arrived as reinforcements and were allotted to boys. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 24 | | Weather cloudy and cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 1230 | The CO held an "O" Group at 847993 where he issued his order to Coy Comds for exercise "River Crossing" which is to take place at this location 25 Nov 44. | |
| | | 1430 | The CO had a conference at which further details for exercise "River Crossing" were discussed, also he gave a general picture of forthcoming operations. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | 25 | | Weather rainy and very cool. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |
| | | 0600 | Early breakfast in preparation for move to 847993 locality of exercise "River Crossing" | |
| | | 0700 | Bn embussed and moved off to carry out exercise. | |
| | | 1130 | Exercise over Bn embussed for Bn area, arriving back at 1300 hrs. After the exercise the Bde Comd held an "O" Group of all officers at which he discussed the exercise, pointed out the mistakes made and explained how such mistakes could be remedied. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 2000 | A very successful "smoker" was held by the WOs and Sgts at their Mess. | |
| | | 2030 | The course of the evening saw another successful Saturday night dance at the Officers' Mess. | |
| | 26 | | Weather cloudy and cool. | |
| | | 1000 | Protestant Church Service held in the Embassy Theatre and RC Church Service at the parochial Church of Cattolica. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1100 | The CO, 2IC, Coy Comds and IO attended a Div conference in Dante Theatre RICCIONE. This conference had to do with the future operations. | |
| | | 1200 | The Bn is now on 24 hours notice to move as from this time. | |
| | 27 | | Weather, continuous downpour all day. Trg as per syllabus. | Appx 4. |

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| CATTOLICA | 27 | 0900 | The CO held a conference with Coy Comds And IO. Recce Party consisting of one officer per coy proceeded to RV at 42742 497749 to recce billets for the Bn to move to on 28 Nov 44. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1300 | A number of Officers and NCOs proceeded to area 747987 where a demonstration was shown of the "CROCODILE" flame-thrower. | |
| | 28 | | Weather cold with frequent showers. | Appx 1 <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 0600 | Recce Party consisting of representatives from each coy under comd of Lt Fair proceeded to staging area, XXXXXXXXXX OSEMATICO, 726123. | |
| | | 1115 | Bn moves off by TCVs as per movement order, arriving at staging area at 1333 hrs. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 2100 | Bn moved off for concentration area in TCVs. | |
| | 29 | | Weather is cloudy and very cool. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 0100 | Bn arrived in concentration area 471230, each coy being guided to their billets by the recce party previously dispatched for this purpose. | |
| | | 0900 | CO and IO attended Bde "O" Group. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | 1100 | CO returned from Bde and immediately called his own "O" Group. There was no immediate move expected. | |
| | 30 | | 2000 Movement Order received from 3 CIB HQ. Bn to be ready to move at 1200 hrs 30 Nov 44. | <i>FAB</i> |
| | | | Weather cloudy and cold with occasional showers. | |
| | 1200 | Move postponed until further notice. | | |
| | 1530 | Received warning order, prepare to move as from 2400 hrs. | | |
| | 2130 | CO attended "O" Group at HQ 3 CIB. | | |
| | 2230 | CO returned from Bde HQ and immediately held his own "O" Group. Bn to move at 0630 hrs 1 Dec 44. | | |

*F. E. Hilky Maj.
1/ Comd West N.S.R.*