

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
Unit West Nova Scotia Regiment.

Month and Year November 1940

(Erase heading not required)

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. M.F. Gregg, V.C.M.C.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Roedean School nr. Brighton	1	0400	Two large bombs dropped miles from any building, on the Downs. This is the first sign of aerial activity we have seen for some time. Six stretcher-bearers attached to the Unit to-day from RCAMC. this will enable to band to be recalled from the Companies again. <i>POSTED STRENGTH. OFFICERS - 21 ORANKS - 748 ATTACHED -</i>	<i>App II</i>
	2.	1000	Major J.A. Hebb "A" Coy. Commander proceeded to Company Comdrs. School for 5 weeks Course.	<i>App VI</i>
	3.		During last night a heavy gale created a heavy sea and all night we could hear mines being exploded on the beach below the cliffs. Some of those near the School shook the buildings. F43634 Cpl. J.A. Deveau "D" Coy. and F42560 Cpl. Jefferson, K.M. "C" Coy. returned today from Corps Junior Leaders School.	<i>App</i>
	4.		Lt. Col. Gregg returned to the Unit today after his illness which kept him from moving to the Coast when the Unit moved.	<i>App</i>

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Roedean School nr. Brighton	5		<p>Sjt. Instr. Tullett, Army School of P.T. who has been attached to the Unit for the past few weeks returned to-day to the 15Bn. Queen's Royal Regiment.</p> <p>The Unit has been so far away from the usual air-raids at our billets in Woldingham that that sort of thing had been more or less forgotten. However we heard to-day that some of our</p> <p>875 Rear party: F49725 L/Cpl. F.E. Blakeney, F49820 Pte. L.J. Richard, F41646 Pte. L.J. Smith, F40647 Pte. J.N. LeBlanc, F40590 Pte. R.W. Bond, F42661 Pte. L.J. Muise and two men returned from leave, F29868 Pte. W.F. Ferguson and F40640 Pte. L.E. Hopkins; had a very narrow escape when two bombs wrecked the house next to the one in which they were sleeping. Pte. R.W. Bond received a slight injury. These men then proceeded to rescue the people in the wrecked house. They have been warmly praised by the local A.R.P. Wardens (Subsequently L/Cpl. Blakeney was cited in Army Orders).</p>	<p><i>Appendix II</i></p> <p><i>Appendix II</i></p> <p><i>Jan 4</i></p>

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Roedean School nr. Brighton	6		There is not a great deal to record because the Unit is so scattered that Unit activity of any kind is out of the question. Nothing but routine guards and patrols. Instructions received today that Canadian Soldiers are not to enter bombed buildings or assist in rescue operations, except where absolutely necessary.	<i>App. IV</i>
	7		Lt. J.R. Cameron "B" Coy. returned to duty today from Corps HQ Training School, where he has been instructing.	<i>App. VI</i>
	8		New combination mountings for A.A. and A/Tk rifles were received today for all our Platoon trucks.	<i>App. II</i>
	9		A group of Officers from the P.P.C.I.I. reported today to make a recce. of the Unti area in preparation for taking it over at some time in the near future. It was found today that all the Hand Grenades issued to the Unti are defective. Sabotage is suspected, by higher formations	<i>App. B I</i>

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Roedaen School nr. Brighton	10		Another party reported in today from the P.P.C.L.I. to recce. this area.	
			Plans now being made for the return to billets at Woldingham and every one seems to look forward to the return.	<i>JWG</i>
	11		Armistice Day-- The Unit celebrated by carrying out routine duties and patrols. Lt. Col. Gregg attended a ceremony at Brighton.	<i>JWG</i>
	12		Word received today that our Shoulder titles have been approved by Ottawa.	
			The Unit entertained at dinner tonight for the visiting Officers from the P.P.C.L.I. Lt. Col. A. Block, 15th Bn. Q.R.R. and staff, were also in attendance, together with Brigadier C. B. Price and Staff. The dinner was a great success and it speaks well for the cooks that they were able to do such a fine job with limited material to work with.	<i>JWG</i>

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Roedean School nr Brighton	13		Lt. D. McG. Archibald joined the Unit today as a reinforcement, and is posted to "D" Coy. F40594 Sjt. R. E. Mervin "B" Coy. and F41575 Sjt. M. L. Zinck, proceeded to Army School of P.T. at Aldershot today for a Boxing Course.	<i>App. VI</i>
	14		Capt. J. B. Granville attached today as our new Padre. "C" Section 12 T.C.C. today ceased to be attached to this Unit. This is the last of the attachments that made up the compact "Z" Group of which the Unit was so proud. The Unit today turned over to the P.P.C.L.I. the area which for the past month we have come to know so well. A formal ceremony was carried out at Guard Change and the Nova Scotia flag was lowered to return once more to the staff in front of "Southdean" at Woldingham. The change over was made very smoothly and the Unit moved out in M.T. Convoy, joining the	<i>App. VI</i>

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Roedean School nr. Brighton	14		- Brigade Convoy at HURSTPIERPOINT. The move "home" was made without incident. Everyone seemed glad to get back to Woldingham which is becoming more and more like home daily.	
			The I.O. attended a lecture at MERSTHAM, on Military LAW, given by the D.J.A.G. Eastern Command.	<i>J.F.G.</i>
			Pay Parades today occupied most of the time.	
	15		The Officers have ordered the newly approved Field Service dress cap which looks quite smart. The body of the cap is dark blue with gold piping and flesh coloured insert in the crown, with the Unit Badge done in fine gold thread.	
			We received today a small quantity of steel visors for steel helmets, designed to protect the face from flying splinters. these are to be tried out as an experiment.	<i>J.F.G.</i>
	16		Nothing of note occurred today. The time was spent mostly in getting settled again and planning for the future as it	

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Woldingham Surrey	16		- seems that we may be hear for some time.	
			A meeting of Comapny Commanders was held at which L.Col.Gregg outlined the plans he had in mind for winter training.	<i>Gregg</i>
	17		Training carried out under Company arrangements. 4 Niessen Huts to be erected in the Company areas were received today and there has been considerable scratching of heads in an endeavour to sort out the pieces and to try and start erecting one hut.	<i>Gregg</i>
	18		Word received today that HON.J.L.Ralston, the Minister of National Defence is to visit the Division. The C.O. has asked H.Q. if it can bearranged for him to inspect this Unit for the Minister's native Province, and to be entertained at lunch by the Unit. After some discussion at a meeting of Company Commanders it was decided to make quite a few changes in the dispositions of	<i>Gregg</i> <i>11/18/40</i>

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Woldingham	18		- W.O's and N.C.O's among the Companies in order to smarten the Unit up a bit.	<i>M/ry V</i>
			It was also decided that Major H.M. Bryson "A" Coy take over "HQ" Coy. and that Major J.A. Hebb "HQ" Coy. take over "A" Coy.	<i>M/ry V</i>
	19		Training carried out under Company arrangements.	<i>Euy</i> <i>Print II</i>
			Lt. Col. Gregg, Capt. P.H. Stehelin and Lt. J.O. Millard, went to Brigade HQ to participate in an indoor Map Exercise.	<i>Euy</i>
	20		The Unit sent out a convoy of 30 odd Lorries to haul coal from Isleworth of the Thames. This is apparently going to be regular affair since it is not easy to obtain coal by rail. The boys don't think much of the idea naturally.	<i>Euy</i> <i>Supp V</i>
	21		The funeral of Pte. C.J. Chiasson "D" Company was held today at Brookwood cemetery. A firing and burial party was provided from "D" Company. Pte. Chiasson died as the result of injuries received when he was struck, in the blackout, by one of our own trucks.	<i>Euy</i>

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Woldingham	22		Major W.C. Gemmell acted as umpire today in an exercise carried out by 1 Cdn. Inf. Bde.	<i>M.F.G.</i>
			All Bn. H.Q. Officers and some of the Company Officers today moved into private homes where they are to be billeted in order to make the space available in the Unit billets for the men.	<i>M.F.G.</i>
	22		The Unit carried out an all day route march today for the first time in many months. The whole Unit stood up to it very well and it is planned to have a regular weekly march of at least 20 miles.	<i>M.F.G.</i>
	23	0400	Two heavy bombs in the "A" & "B" Coy. area this morning. These are the first near ones since we came back from the Coast. No damage done to buildings.	<i>M.F.G.</i>
		1900	Lt. Col. Gregg attended a dinner at Brigade Headquarters at which the Unit band played.	<i>M.F.G.</i>

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Woldingham	24		Major W.C. Gemmell appointed to Command the Field Punishment Camp which is to be opened soon at Div.H.Q.	
			F39701 Sjt.M.E.Varner "HQ" Coy. proceeded to Div.H.Q. where he is to undergo a short Course before being attached to the Staff of the new F.P.Camp.	
			F39679 Sjt.H.S.Cunningham "C" Coy. proceeded to Pl.Weapons School near Dorking for a 4 weeks course.	
			Lt.G.L.F.McNeil proceeded to Bisley to take a Small Arms Course.	
	25			
		1900	Major A.A.Ernst, gave a Lecture to all officers at the Bn.H.Q Mess tonight on Gas. This subject is Major Ernst's hobby and he certainly does know his Gases and always gives an interesting talk.	
			F39681 Sjt.E.F.Quinlan proceeded to Sigs.School where he is to take a short Course in R/T.	

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Woldingham	26		The Mobile Bath Unit has been set up near Caterham and is now available to the Unit on Three afternoons each week. F39908 Cpl. K. L. Cook returned today from a six weeks Course in cooking at Guildford.	<i>Jew</i>
	27		A Working Party was sent to-day to Purley Ice Rink to help in getting the Rink ready for skating. The Division have taken over the Rink for the Winter and it is hoped to get a Hockey League organized as well as skating.	<i>Jew</i>
	28		The Lt. Col. Gregg and the Company Commanders proceeded to Weybridge to hear a lecture by Hon. L. S. Amery.	
	28		As this was the Unit's day for going to the Mobile Bath Unit the Companies marched off independently and went by a round-about 12 mile Route ending at the Baths. After Bathing the men marched back to billets.	<i>Jew</i>
	29		Lt. Col. Gregg, Major Harris, The Adjutant and I.O. and all the	

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Woldingham	29		-Company Commanders proceeded to a RV near GOUDHURST, Kent to take part in a T.E.W.T. .	<i>Gregg</i>
	30		Pay Parades occupied most of the day.	
			F49875 L/Cpl. F. E. Blakeney "A" Coy. proceeded to Blackpool today where he is to be the guest of the City, together with a party of ten from the 1 Cdh. Div.	<i>M. F. Gregg</i>
			A meeting was held today of all the Educational Officers from the Companies, at which Lt. Col. Gregg outlined the plans being formulated to carry out educational work during the winter, for the troops.	
			a Dance was held at the Woldingham Golf Club for the men of the Unit. 75 members of the W.A.A.F. were invited and the dance was a decided success. The Regimental Dance Band provided music.	<i>M. F. Gregg</i>
				<i>Gregg</i>