

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

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

MAY 1943

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

Title pages will be prepared. WEST N.S.R.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CRIEFF, SCOTLAND	1	0430	The Bn arrived at Crieff. Some trouble was had in finding the Coy locations due to the fact that the advance party had not as yet arrived, however the tps got straightened away and had a hot meal prepared for the advance party which duly arrived at 1600 hrs. Today and Sunday spent in getting settled in the new area.	C/Sk
	2	1700	The unit M.T. arrived.	App 4 C/Sk
	3	0900	All officers and senior N.C.O.s of the unit assembled at H.Q. Coy mess hall to witness a demonstration of how the Mor Pl will take their weapons into action in Mountainous country. In view of the fact that the weapons and ammunition plus the mens' kit will be carried on the man, using Everest carriers, no one envies them their role in that type of warfare. P.T. exercises designed to limber the muscles used in mountain climbing were also demonstrated by Capt King of the Instructional Staff.	
		1020	All officers and N.C.O.s paraded to the Hydropathic to attend a lecture on "Fighting and Tactics in Hill Country". Pay parades as per	App 1 C/Sk
	4	0800 0900	A half hour of P.T. as demonstrated by Capt King. Bn move off on a 14 mile march through the hills. For many this was their first go at mountain climbing. Despite the heat and rough going the distance was covered in nine hrs which wasn't at all bad in view of the rugged nature of the country. Lectures and training as per	App 4 C/Sk
	5	0800 1800	Training started today with a lecture by one of the instructional staff on the use of the compass in moving in the hills. Following this an exercise was carried out in which each Pl was given a series of points to march on using the compass in conjunction with the map. All officers and senior N.C.O.s paraded to the Hydro to a lecture on "Hill Tactics". A reinforcement draft of four officers, Lieut E.N.Doane, Lieut N.B.MacNab, Lieut G.C. Romkey and Lieut D.L.Rice, and 14 O.R.s joined the unit today.	App 4 C/Sk
6		Trg today consisted of cliff scaling practise for the entire Bn. A unit M/C course started this A.M.. The senior officers are very busy working on G1098 establishments and loading tables.	C/Sk C/Sk	

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CRIEFF.	7	0600	The Bn start on a two day hike over the hills. This was in the nature of an endurance test. The Bn proceeded in two parties, one half covering A route and the second half going over B which was A in reverse. The weather today was not too bad on the whole, but snow was encountered at 1500 ft and squalls of almost blizzard intensity from there to the top of Ben Mor (the highest point of the climb, 4000 ft). The tps enjoyed this on the whole, being a change from the regular routine, also the climate was much like that of our own Nova Scotia winter.	CSA
	8	0700	The hike continues but the weather is much worse today. The peaks are shrouded in cloud and snow, while on the hills the gale fairly picks the men off their feet. At 1000 hrs the Instructional Staff decided the weather was too rough and the march was finished over a route through the valleys. But it was far from pleasant here as the snow changed to a driving rain as one came down out of the hills. This was one of those rare occasions when the tps were really glad to see the Pro Sgt who had the M.T. at the R.V. an hour earlier than was laid down.	CSA
		2000	It-Col R.D.King and Capt C.B.Higgins attend a conference at Bde H.Q. re W.E.	
	9		No church parades today. Pay parades as per Officers and N.C.O.s attended a demonstration of how to load a mule or pack horse. No mule or horse was available for this purpose so a table was used instead. Twenty four N.C.O.s took a short course as instructors on the Piat bomb. Officers lectures as per The A Tk Pl rejoined the unit today along with their new 6 pdr guns.	App 1 App 4 CSA
10	0900	Conference at Bn H.Q. re exercise to be carried out today and tomorrow.	CSA	
	1130	Bn march eight miles to a concentration area approximately 2 miles South of Comrie, arriving at 1530 hrs. On this exercise the tps carry all weapons plus one blanket, great-coat, change of underwear and spare pr of serge trousers besides their normal battle order less helmets. The Sig Pl are the unlucky ones in this case as half must carry double packs while the other half carry equipment. A Pl of C Coy was detailed to help the Mor Pl with their weapons. Heavy equipment and double packs were carried on the Everest carriers. This is an ingenious device with which a man can take the load of a mule, or almost.		

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INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY

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CRIEFF	10	1530	Capt C.B.Higgins and Capt C.F.Whynacht attend a conference at Bde H.Q. to discuss the general points arising out of our training here.	
		1630	Bn O gp. The Bn will push off at 1800 hrs, cross the River of Rockhill and proceed along the track on the North side of the river to a wood at 1938 where they will halt for supper. This was Compo ration and prepared by the man in his mess-tin.	
	11	1100	The Bn move to put in a left-flanking attack on enemy posns on the high ground around the village of Lochearnhead. The distance to be covered is ten miles, no track worthy of the name can be followed to the objectives. The weather is very bad, snowing and raining alternately. Direction can only be maintained by using the compass. However the tps got over the route in good order and arrived on the objectives on time, 0800 hrs.	CSH
		1400	After consolidating on the posns the tps had breakfast, again prepared from Compo ration. The Bn proceed by M.T. back to the billet area. Every one very tired and all agree it was a very tough little exercise. The vehicles are being brought up to War Establishment. The first practise shoot carried out with the new 6 pdrs proved quite satisfactory. The health of the tps remains very good.	CSH
		12	Coys busy zeroing weapons today less C Coy which started to carry out a fd firing practise but had to cancel it due to the extremely foggy weather.	
	13	1800	All Pl comdrs attend a conference at which the C.O. discussed the standard of trg.	CSH
		0800	Training as per syllabus.	App 4
		1500	Capt C.B.Higgins and Capt C.F.Whynacht attend a Q conference at Hamilton.	
		2130	It-Col R.D.King, D.S.O. attended a conference at Bde H.Q.	CSH
	14	0800	C Coy put on a demonstration of mine-lifting as it will be carried out by the Inf. Each of the other Coys attended this in turn. First of all Lieut Riley of the R.C.E. gave a lecture on the general layout of minefields as used by the enemy. This was followed by C Coy plus a detachment of R.C.E. putting in a daylight attack across an uncleared mine field. Two methods of clearing these mines were demonstrated (a) short arm detector method, (b) prodding. Field Return	App 3 CSH

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CRIEFF	15	0800	Coys zeroing weapons and doing mine lifting exercise as per syllabus. Forty-eight hr leaves granted for this week-end only, all personnel must be back with the unit by 18 May 43.	App 4 CBM
	16		Church parades as per The local Bn of Home Guard had a busy day, doing several parades and march-pasts. The skirl of the pipes was a pleasant sound to the West Novies.	App 1 CBM
	17	0800	Coys on range and seeing film "Next of Kin" alternately as per syllabus. Pay parades and dental inspection as per	App 4 App 1 CBM
	18	0700	An advance party of approximately 45 all ranks proceeded by M.T. to Camp Shira, Inveraray, arriving at 1700 hrs. Remainder of Bn trg as per syllabus.	App 4 CBM
	19	2100	Bn move to Inveraray by rail as per Lt-Col R.D.King D.S.O. to Bde H.Q. to receive instructions re trg to be carried out during the period of our stay here.	App 4 CBM
		2230	Bn conf re trg.	
	20	1700	Rifle Coys carry out trg as per syllabus. The C.O. and Coy comdrs recce an area suitable for the trg to be carried out to-morrow.	App 4 CBM
		2130	Bn O gp re trg for tomorrow.	CBM
	21	0900	Three drivers report to Town Camp for a short waterproofing course.	
		1000	100 all ranks attend a lecture given by an R.A.S.C. officer on supply and rations in the field. In the course of this lecture he showed the contents of the various ration packs and offered several suggestions on how to prepare same.	
		1330	Bn stretcher bearers and 10 O.R.s of C.Coy take part in a medical exercise.	
		1400	A and B Coy carry out assault landing practise. C and D Coys do a fd firing exercise at which Lt-Gen A.G.L.MacNaughton was present for a short time.	
		1500	Lt-Col Stillman and Maj Anderson of the Regt Funds Board visited the unit on duty.	
		2030	The C.O. held a short trg conference. Field Return.	App 3 CBM

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CRIEFF	22	0730 1400 1900	Coys trg as per syllabus. O gp re Exercise Eagle 2. Remainder of the afternoon spent in preparation for same. The assaulting serials embark at Inveraray Pier to go aboard S.S. Duke of Argyll.	App 4 <i>CRB</i>
	23	1800	Exercise Eagle was in the nature of an assault landing. Enemy was supplied by another unit of the Bde Gp. At 0300 hrs the tps landed on Ardna Slaite and pushed on to capture and consolidate on the high ground beyond. Cease fire at 0730 hrs. In the afternoon A, B and D Coys do L.C.I. trg. Lt-Col R.D.King D.S.O. proceeded to London on duty..	<i>CRB</i>
	24	0700	C, H.Q. and Sup Coys carry out L.C.I. trg. Bn move back to Crieff as per App 4. This concludes a very successful period of trg which went off without incident.	<i>CRB</i>
	25	0800	Trg as per syllabus. Weapons that have not, as yet been zeroed are being done today. Eight new sniper rifles with telescopic sights issued today.	App 4 <i>CRB</i>
	26	0800 1100	Trg as per syllabus. The C.O. returned from London today. Conference at Bde H.Q. re administrative matters.	App 4 <i>CRB</i>
	27	0800	Official photographers were on the ground to get some pictures of the tps carrying out trg which consisted of a hike through the hills today.	<i>CRB</i>
	28	0800 1100	Trg as per syllabus. Brig M.F.Gregg V.C., M.C., called on the unit today and spent the balance of the day visiting officers and O.R.s. Field Return.	App 4 <i>CRB</i>
	29	0800 1700	Training as per syllabus. Loading of light scale vehicles completed today. Brig Penhale visited the unit.	App 4 <i>CRB</i>

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Grieff	30		Church parades as per	App 1
		1330	Conference re trg for the coming week at Bn H.Q.	CRM
	2030	Conference at Bde H.Q. attended by THE Lt-Col R.D.King, Capt C.B.Higgins and Capt C.F. Whynacht.	App 4 CRM	
	31	0800		Training as per syllabus.
	1300	A demonstration of the 4.2" Mor attended by all officers and senior N.C.O.s.		

nothing more