

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 (9/42)

~~GRANAROLA~~

~~WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGIMENT~~

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

Title pages will be prepared.

West N S R

(Erase heading not required)

January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
GRANAROLA	1	0100	<p>A recce patrol of one NCO and two men from "C" Coy returned after reaching point 370326. They heard enemy movement along the railway and on the other side of the canal. They could also hear mortar firing from 365324 and what sounded to be enemy fire orders.</p> <p>0200 At this time there seems to be a feeling at higher level that an enemy attack across the Senio is impending. Bde informed this Bn, stand is to will be 100 %.</p> <p>0905 Brig J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE paid a New Year's visit to this HQ. He also made a tour of the coys, the CO having left on the same journey prior to his arrival.</p> <p>1105 The CO left for 3 CIB HQ to visit the Brigadier and is then going on to attend a Div Comds "at home" from 1100 to 1300 hrs.</p> <p>1305 It has just been learned that Capt C F Whynacht, unit QM, has been awarded the MBE. Capt Whynacht came overseas with the West Nova Scotia Regiment in 1939 as QMS of "A" Coy, later winning his commission, at which time he took over as Quartermaster and has served in this capacity until the present time.</p> <p>1440 "C" Coy recce patrol of 1 NCO and two men have returned after recce'ing to a point 37003256. They observed two enemy in a trench on the canal bank, whom they watched for a period of twenty minutes. They then moved to another posn where they could observe the railway crossing the canal 36873220. They could see no enemy movement at this point.</p> <p>1515 Recce patrol from "B" Coy has returned after reaching a point 372332. They observed building 37073332, where they saw several enemy moving in in and out of the building. As they were moving back five enemy ran out of the building to the nearby trenches. It appeared quite evident that they were discovered and the enemy were preparing for them.</p> <p>1745 A recce patrol from "C" Coy of 1 NCO and 1 man has returned after reaching a point 36933240, where they saw one of the enemy on near side of the canal moving in the direction of the railway. They stayed at this posn at ^{until} last light.</p> <p>1935 A recce patrol left from "B" Coy to recce area 369330 but returned a few minutes later reporting enemy digging in, in canal. Sin mortar and medium arty fire was brought down and patrol then went out to finish recce.</p> <p>2245 "B" Coy recce patrol returned after having recce'd to a point 369330. They stayed there for 10 minutes and heard no sound or enemy movements. Bridge at 369330 is definitely blown.</p>	<p><i>286</i></p>

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January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials	
GRANAROLA	2	1725	An enemy SP or heavy mortar firing into "B" Coy posn from 369330 has been engaged by 4.2 Mortars.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>	
		1810	One offr and 23 ORs have arrived at this HQ as rfts and were allotted to coys.		
		2245	Contact patrol from "A" Coy on returning from 6 Cheshire Regt passes on information that it is suspected that it is suspected that enemy are in area dressed in British battle dress.		
		2245	A Recce patrol from "C" Coy of 1 NCO and 2 men reached a point 369320. From this point they could hear enemy vehicular movement on far side of canal and troop movement around house 366324.		
		2335	A recce patrol from "B" Coy proceeded to a point 369330. They also report enemy vehicular movement on far side of canal.		
	3		0045		Light mortaring on "C" Coy posns and Light shelling and mortaring on BnHQ area.
			0630		"B" Coy OP observed enemy SP firing directly opposite them on further side of canal. This was engaged by arty and the fire was observed to fall in the area of the SP.
			0845		The CO and Major J K Rhodes left for HQ 3 CIB.
			0900		Two ORs from each rifle coy, one from Sp Coy and one from BnHQ left for 48 hr leave in Riccione.
			1130		Sherman tanks engaged houses 366323 and 367323. They scored six direct hits.
			1130		The IO proceeded to Bde to get fire plan for the coming show.
			1240		"C" Coy engaged by heavy enemy mortar fire, shortly afterwards "B" Coy report heavy mortaring in their area.
			1430		CO held an "O" Gp at this HQ where plans for future operation were discussed. 3 Cdn Inf Bde is to close up to Canal Naviglio when xxxxxx 2 Cdn Inf Bde have occupied Granarola 3532. The objectives of this unit are areas 367331, 364325, 363334, and 359329. 2 Cdn Inf Bde is to put in their attack tonight.
			2225		Recce patrol from "C" Coy reached a point 50 yds from building 36623220. They heard enemy movement and voices within the building. The Patrol Comd did not think there were many enemy in the building.
			2255		"B" Coy recce patrol proceeded to 369329, they heard enemy movement and voices slightly beyond this point.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

~~RANKS LISTING AND DATES OF SERVICE~~

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GRANAROLA	3		Weather this date was fine and cold.	
		4	0100 "C" Coy area under heavy mortar fire, the coy suffering three casualties. "B" Coy also heavily mortared, suffering two casualties.	
			0105 A recce patrol from "C" Coy reached a point 36653220 and reported enemy still there. They were fired on by MG but suffered no casualties.	
			0150 Due to the heavy enemy mortar fire on B" & "C" Coy areas, a counter-mortar fire plan is being carried out. This was later reported by "C" Coy to be satisfactory.	
			0400 "B" Coy are under shell fire from tank or SP from area 369330. Medium arty fire is brought down on area.	
			0645 "D" Coy is ordered to move to 367314 as soon as morning meal is served, with "C" Coy sending a recce patrol to houses at 36623220 and "B" Coy sending recce patrol to 36973300.	
			0815 "C" Coy recce patrol reached a point 36623220 where they observed enemy movement.	
			0830 "B" Coy recce patrol is now back and they report that point 369330 is strongly held by enemy. Patrol suffered one fatal casualty.	
			0845 "D" Coy are now moving forward with support of arty fire 3" and 4.2" mortar.	
			0930 "D" Coy are now at 363328 and are digging in, having met some opposition.	5
			"A" Coy are to go to 362317 and as soon as "D" Coy are firm, are to proceed to 369329.	
			1155 "D" Coy report their locations as follows: Coy HQ 363325, sub-units at: 36143258, 36083250 and 36343245.	
			1245 Cab Rank has been operating at 1215, 1245 and 1325 hrs. One of our own pilots bailed out of his plane and was last seen drifting towards our FDLs. "C" & "B" Coys are notified to be on the watch for him. At this time "D" Coy are in the area of buildings 357323 and will contact to the left as soon as the shelling quiets down.	
			1300 "A" Coy are on objective 362312 with casualties - four wounded.	
			1308 "D" Coy are now ordered to occupy buildings 36123268.	
			1345 "A" Coys posns are very indefinite, CO goes forward to rectify the situation.	
			1400 "A" Coy has been forced to withdraw due to the very heavy MG fire. Posns are as follows: 368327, 367328, 365324.	
	1550 The Bde Comd and Major Brown (Bde Arty Rep) arrive at this HQ and plans for tonight's attack were discussed.			
	1730 The MO advised this HQ that battle casualties for today are 14, five of which were fatal.			

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~~TOP SECRET~~

~~FOR THE USE OF THE BATTAL~~

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West N S R

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January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials		
GRANAROLA	5	0950	CO left this HQ to visit all coys.			
		1110	On instructions from 3 CIB one coy of this Bn will occupy la Palazzo 358336.			
		1310	A patrol from "C" Coy found railway bridge over road at 35773360 blown. They started through the blow but were fired on by schmeiser. The railway banks are approx 25ft high and there were several slit trenches on embankment not occupied. From this posn banks of river Senio appear to be about 30 ft high. They could see no enemy movement but could hear digging to their front.			
		1505	The Bde Comd paid a visit to this HQ.			
		1715	"C" Coy have occupied area la Palazzo 358336 reporting posns as follows: HQ and 1 Pl at 36083338, 35893345, & 35893364.			
		1925	The CO ordered a fighting patrol of 1 & 10 to go to bridge 362347.			
		1935	Intentions: "B" Coy are to go forward and occupy posns astride road 362333, 367341.			
		2030	A recce patrol from "C" Coy has left to recce house on left of road at 357337.			
		2200	"B" Coy are now moving forward.			
		2330	"C" Coy recce patrol to 357337 report much enemy activity around and near buildings Weather this date fair fair and cool. A very quiet day with little mortaring or shelling.			
		COTIGNOLA	6		0003	Enemy has blown houses across track at 357336.
					0035	"B" Coy have now consolidated in new posn, locations as follows: HQ & 1 Pl 36473372, 36393372, 36533380.
					0100	Recce patrol from "C" Coy of 1 NCO & 3 men reached a point 357335, heard enemy movement from direction of houses 357337.
0845	CO left this HQ for Main BnHQ					
1250	A recce patrol from "C" Coy reached the point 357336 and found the houses blown. It is believed the houses were blown in order to provide the enemy with a better field of fire from banks of the river Senio.					
1345	The CO proceeded to HQ 3 CIB.					
1535	Bde informed this HQ that our "D" Coy will relieve "C" Coy of the CYR at 1800 hrs. A recce party is to be sent to recce posns of "C" Coy CYR.					
1555	"C" Coy ordered by CO to have standing patrol occupy buildings 357336 during the hours of darkness. Strength of the patrol is to be six or seven men.					

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40/P & S/87 (9/42)

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X2RZ

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January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
COTIGNOLA	6	1900	"D" Coy have taken up new posns, locations as follows: 36453432, 36553406, 36653428.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
		2030	"C" Coy report that a standing patrol is not possible at 357336 as enemy are still in that area.	
2150	Enemy have blown house at 357338. One pl of "B" Coy is to take up posns in area 362339. One sec is to go fwd and dig in while being covered by the other two. "B" Coy must also establish an outpost at 358341.			
2300	In accordance with requirements laid down by 3 CIB several changes had to be made in pl posns of the Coys. "C" Coy moved one pl to 359331. "D" Coy have changed posns. They are as follows: 36403446, 36303446, 36503430 and 36483423. Weather this date was very disagreeable with rain, sleet and snow.			
7	0035	At first "B" Coy found it impossible to establish posn 362339 due to very heavy enemy mortar fire. By 0135 hrs they were in this posn and in the process of consolidating.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>	
	0215	"D" Coy are now consolidated in new area.		
	0230	Posns of coys at this time are as follows: "A" Coy - 36573316, 36663306, 36803307. "B" Coy - 36203399, 36383371, & 36553380. "C" Coy - 35883356, 36083338 & 35993310. "D" Coy - 36403446, 36303446 & 36503430 & 36483423.		
	0300	"B" Coy outpost is now established on river bank at 358341.		
	0955	CO leaves for Main BnHQ.		
	1103	"B" Coy report that houses at 360343 are clear of enemy.		
	1135	CO leaves for forward coys.		
	1425	An SP firing in "D" Coy area scored two hits on Coy HQ houses. There were no casualties.		
	1705	"B" Coy suffered one casualty wounded from enemy mortar fire. "D" Coy is still being shelled by an SP.		
	1750	A recce patrol from "D" Coy of 1 NCO & 2 men reached a point 36163440. They did not contact enemy but ran into enemy wire with mine signs on it. Patrol returned without interference, suffering no casualties.		
	1805	A recce patrol from "C" Coy to 358339 found area unoccupied.		
	1930	An engineering party proceeded to "B" & "D" Coys to carry out a wiring and mining programme in front of their posns as laid on by Bde.		
2000	"B" Coy outpost has started to tunnel through dyke at 358341.			
2230	"B" Coy outpost at 358341 hear much enemy activity and vehicular movement on and behind opposite bank.			

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COTIGNOLA	7	2230	"D" Coy have now established an outpost at 361344. The CO has ordered a recce patrol to proceed to the river Senio to find out if there are any mines or wire on the river bank and also to see if there are any bridges within their view.	<i>ill</i>
		2359	Weather today cloudy with snow in the morning. A very quiet day with light mortaring and shelling in the forward area.	
	8	0105	"C" Coys patrol which was to establish an outpost at 357339 were forced to return before reaching objective due to enemy occupying immediate area. The patrol will make another attempt as ordered by the CO. They will be accompanied by a fighting patrol of 10 men which will provide covering fire while outpost is being dug in.	<i>J.P.</i>
		0210	The RCE ofr reported to this HQ that mining job at "B" Coy had been completed.	
		0615	"B" Coy patrol which recce'd to river Senio in front of their posns, report water gap 30 to 45 feet wide, slow running and no obstacle such as wire or mines could be seen.	
		0715	"C" Coy now have a standing patrol established and dug in at 358339. Enemy is dug in on opposite side of near bank.	
		0920	"D" Coy have observed six enemy dugouts on far bank 360344 which appear to be manned.	
		1325	For the past hour "D" Coy has been heavily mortared. Arty has been brought down on suspected enemy mortar posns.	
		1510	"B" Coy is under fire from enemy SP or tk from an undetermined posn.	
		1920	An enemy fighting patrol or raiding party of estimated strength 25 to 30 came in on "C" Coy outpost at 35813396 overpowering and taking prisoner six men and killing one. Following is the official report of the action as turned in to 3 CIB: Report on Action at outpost 35813396, sent to 3 CIB at 0700 hrs 9 Jan 45. "The object of this outpost was to command the railway bridge 357339 and to act as a warning post for "C" Coy. The outpost consisted of six weapon pits dug in, in the dyke. The outpost was manned by six men in the actual posns armed with 2 Bren Guns and 20 mags four TSMGs and 20 mags. Included in the six men was the section commander, a Cpl. In charge of the post was a Sgt who remained in the house 5843394 with the phone. Change-over took place every four hours at night with one sec manning it throughout the day. In this case the change-over took place at 1800 hrs. The first inkling that this HQ had that an action was taking place was at 1920 hrs when a report was received from "C" Coy that a fighting patrol had come in on their outpost, details to be sent later. All the warning that the coy received that an attack was taking place was a short conversation over the phone with the Sgt. The conversation, "Sgt: "we are being attacked	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
COTIGNOLA	8		<p>Coy Comd - "Do your best to drive them off". Sgt - "They are coming in from all sides we are surrounded" After the last sentence the phone went dead. In the house in addition to the Sgt was one man with a flame-thrower and three men of the next relief. All six men in the outpost were taken prisoner plus the operator of the flame-thrower and his weapon. The Sgt and the other three men in the house escaped. This was the Sgts story: "It was'nt long after the change-over. The Bren gun opened fire with a couple of bursts from the dyke. I sent the flame-thrower up to the coy posn and reported to coy HQ that we were being attacked. In a few minutes they were coming in from all sides firing rifle grenades and automatic weapons. There were 25 or 30 of them and they were wearing zzzz parkas. They were yelling phrases such as "hands up", "you're surrounded", "come out there is no use fighting". The Sgt made his escape by jumping out of an upstairs window and out among the vines, the other three made their escape in a similar manner through back doors and windows. There stories run on a similar line to the Sgt's and confirm his statements. Following this action a pl was sent from "A" Coy to "C" Coy area as rfts in the event that the attack should develop into something on a larger scale. At 2345 hrs a fighting patrol of one & ten was sent out to 35813396 followed by a standing patrol. Personnel were supplied by "A" Coy. They went through fwd pl to dyke clearing houses at 358339 which were unoccupied. They proceeded along dyke to railway bridge with standing patrol following in bounds. They reached a point where the railway crosses dyke when fired on by MG from wreckage of bridge. Simultaneously they were fired on by MG and rifle grenades from across the river. In addition the enemy put up several flares. Both patrols moved back in a direct route to the fwd pl. The casualties were first reported as three "missing", one of the missing men turned up later reporting the other two had been wounded, one he thought quite seriously. It was intended that the standing patrol would re-occupy the outpost posn but the NCO in charge was not staisfied with the posn and intended to dig a new one nearer to the bridge. They were caught in the fire that engaged the fighting patrol and withdrew with them. No further attempt was made to establish an outpost on the dyke.</p> <p>2155 An enemy patrol of approx 10 men came in on "C" Coy posns, they were engaged by Bren Gun fire and went to ground. They were not seen again.</p> <p>2240 CO proceeded to "C" Coy.</p> <p>2345 Mining at "D" Coy outpost 361344 now complete.</p> <p>Weather this date - snow, rain and sleet.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>

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WAR DIARY

CBX

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January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
COTIGNOLA	9	0055	A recce patrol from "D" Coy recce'd buildings 362346 and found them unoccupied but badly damaged.	
		0530	Contact patrol to the 6 Cheshire's have nothing to report.	
0830		Major J R Cameron proceeded on a recce to area 431348 which is the area this Bn is expected to move to on being relieved.		
0955		"C" Coy are being engaged by enemy mortars.		
1140		"C" Coy recce patrol reached a point 358336 when they were fired on by enemy from 357336 and forced to return. This posn was then engaged by PIATs.		
1150		The Brig and Bde IO have arrived at this HQ and are discussing with the CO, plans for the re-establishment of the outpost at 35813396.		
1430		A relief has now been completed between "A" & "B" Coys.		
1915		"A" Coy now have an outpost consolidated at blow in railway 35783360 and have searched buildings at 35783360 and found them unoccupied.		
2320		Bde Comd paid a visit to this HQ. Throughout the day a considerable amount of enemy vehicular movement could be heard in and around the town of COTIGNOLA which is directly opposite our rt forward coy. Weather today fine and cool, becoming quite cold towards evening.		
.		10	0130	
	0225		A recce patrol from "A" Coy of one NCO and 4 men, recce'd to a point 358339. They heard much enemy movement around the house.	
	1015		A recce party from the 48th Highrs of Canada arrived at this HQ to recce the Bn area. It is expected that they will relieve relieve us within the next few days.	
	1105		The CO accompanied by the Battle Adjnt of the 48th Highrs made a tour of all coys.	
	1250		"A" Coy recce patrol returned reporting buildings left of blow in railway 357336 clear of enemy.	
	1355		"A" Coy outpost are being being troubled by snipers firing from river bank. So far they have suffered no casualties.	
	1545		Own aircraft are now bombing and strafing COTIGNOLA.	

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WAR DIARY

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~~WAR~~

~~INTERNATIONAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE~~

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COTIGNOLA	10	1820	This HQ has been informed by 3 CIB that relief of this unit by 48th Highrs of Canada would begin tomorrow evening at 1730 hrs.	
		1830	32 reinforcements arrived at this HQ and have been allotted to coys.	
		1830	After arty, mortar and MG preparation a strong fighting patrol from "A" Coy reached a point 358339. They started up the dyke at this point and came under heavy mortar and small arms fire. They suffered two casualties and were forced to withdraw. The enemy was dug in all along the top of the dyke.	
		2225	Contact patrol from 2/6 Queens contacted "A" Coy, NTR.	
		2310	Contact patrol from CYR contacted our "D" Coy, NTR. Weather this date was fair and cold.	
	11	0210	Contact patrols from friends on left and right have nothing to report.	
		0530	Due to enemy mortar fire it was necessary to suspend the wiring programme at "B" Coy for a short while. Two of the bombs were phosphorous.	
		1030	"B" Coy observed five men on reverse slope on near bank of river at 358339. It is suspected to be an enemy mortar posn and our own 3" mortars are engaging it.	
		1600	"D" Coy have been under fire from a heavy mortar from an unknown ^{pos} across the river.	
		1830	Relief of this Unit by 48th Highrs is now under way.	
	2300	Relief of this Unit by 48th Highrs of Canada is now completed. The TCVs that brought up the 48th Highrs conveyed our troops back to the new area. Weather today was fine and quite cool.		
RUSSI	12	0200	Bn is now settled down in new area, locations as follows: BnHQ 431348, "A" Coy 419353, "B" Coy 419353, "C" Coy 423351, "D" Coy 425349, Sp Coy 427349.	
		0830	Pay parades were held at BnHQ, coys being paid in the following order, B, C, D, A, Sp, HQ & BnHQ.	
		1400	A picture show, "It Happened Tomorrow" was shown at GODO at 1400 hrs, 1730 hrs & 1930 hrs. 75 vacancies were allotted to this Bn. Also tonight a picture, "Calling Dr. Gilispie" was shown at RUSSI at 1400 hrs, 1730 hrs & 1930 hrs. 66 vacancies were allotted to this Bn. There was an EFI issue this afternoon.	

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RUSSI	12	1745	40 Other ranks arrived at this HQ as rfts and were allotted to coys.	EAB
		2100	Notification was received from Bde that this Bn would move to a new area tomorrow 13 Jan 45. Weather fine but very cold.	
	13	0830	Bn got under way to carry out new move to new area.	EAB
		1100	Move is now complete, Bn is deployed in following posns: BnHQ 403316, "A" Coy 404311, "B" Coy 395327, "C" Coy 402326, "D" Coy 397316, Sp Coy 404316. The remainder of the day was spent getting settled in the new area. Weather this date was cloudy with rain.	
	14	0930	RC Church Parade was held in the church at BnHQ 403316.	EAB
		1400	The Battle Adjt, Capt D I Rice proceeded on a recce of the concentration area at MEZZANO for Phase 3 of the Counter-Attack role as laid down by 3 CIB for this Bn. A "Director of Trg" Offr arrived at this HQ from Army HQ.	
	1500	CO held a complete "O" Gp which was attended by all supporting arms. The three phases of the counter -attack role were explained to all concerned.		
	1800	Weather this date was rainy and very disagreeable.		
15	0900	Trg as per syllabus	Appx 4 EAB	
		Coy Comds carried out recce of counter-attack posns Phase I & II. They were accompanied by Unit MG, A Tk & Mor Pl comds. This evening a film is being shown at both GODO and RUSSI for personnel of this Bn. Weather this date cloudy and cool.		
16	0800	Trg as per syllabus	Appx 4	
		The CO, & Battle Adjt proceeded to area of MEZZANO to recce posns for (NORTH SWITCH LINE) a phase in the counter-attack role.		
	1000	All coy comds proceeded to area MEZZANO where they joined the CO & Battle Adjt to recce their respective coy posns in the counter-attack phase "North Switch Line" They were accompanied by the tk rep, arty rep, arty A/Tk rep, SLI MG rep and own supporting arms reps.	EAB	
	1400	The CO met the acting Bde Comd Lt col H P Bell-Irving DSO at MEZZANO where they discussed plans concerning the counter-attack role.		

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January 1945

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
RUSSI	16	1630	<p>8 offrs 1 CSM and 4 dvrs with jeeps from the Independent Jewish Brigade reported to this HQ. They are on attachment to this Bn for a period of from 5 to 7 days. Their task is to observe and learn how an inf bn operates in the field. In the evening a film was shown at both RUSSI and GODO for personnel of this Bn. Weather this date was cloudy and cold, there were light snow flurries in the early evening.</p>	
	17	0900	<p>Trg as per syllabus Capt C E Bent, Sp Coy Comd Sp Coy Comd, proceeded on a recce of concentration area for "North Switch Line" square 4942.</p>	Appx 4.
		1015	<p>CO proceeded to Bde HQ.</p>	
		1415	<p>It has just been learned that Major J K Rhodes has been awarded the DSO. He received this award for outstanding service in the Savio River action in the latter part of October 1944.</p>	
		1430	<p>The CO proceeded on a recce of a new phase in the counter-attack role for this Bn</p>	
		1530	<p>24 Other ranks arrived at this HQ as rfts and were allotted to coys. Weather this date fine and cool.</p>	
	18	0830	<p>Trg as per syllabus. A recce party consisting of: CO Coy Comds, Battle Adjnt and IO proceeded to the Loyal Edmonton Regt area 3840. It is expected that this Bn will relieve the LER on the night 19/20 Jan 45. Weather this date was fine and cold.</p>	Appx 4.
	19	0900	<p>Trg as per syllabus. CO held an "O" Gp at Bn HQ at which plans for the move tonight were discussed.</p>	
		1730	<p>The Bn embussed in TCVs for new area.</p>	
		1830	<p>TacHQ are now established in new posn at 38554040.</p>	
		2145	<p>Change-over complete, locat ions as follows: "A" Coy 36804142, "B" Coy 37224204, "C" Coy 36674057, "D" Coy 37874071.</p>	
		2325	<p>"B" Coy heard considerable enemy movement to their immediate front. 3" Mortar brought down and was highly satisfactory. Weather this date cloudy with rain and sleet.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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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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January 1945

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SAGNACAVALLO	21		observed evacuating the buildings when the fire first started. A number of direct hits were made on other buildings in the area as well.		
		1945	A sniper working with "A" Coy today got two probable kills.		
		2100	"A" Coys right pl posn ^{ave under} MG fire and rifle grenades from river bank 365417.	Fdb	
		2205	Own sentries on bank at 369421 engaged enemy on reverse side with hand grenades. From sound made by enemy at least one casualty was inflicted.		
			Weather this date was fine and warm.		
		22	0115	"C" Coy observed an enemy patrol of 4 to 5 men approaching their posn. Sentries let them get to within 50 yds and then opened fire. Enemy went to ground and crawled away. No casualties were inflicted.	
			0215	Contact patrols to the left and tonight have nothing to report.	
			0430	A fighting patrol from "A" Coy of 1 & 10 reached a point 36704186. Here they heard movement and coughing which was coming from 100 yds to their right. Patrol spread out and approached this posn, an unoccupied weapon pit, occupants having apparently withdrawn on approach of patrol. Patrol returned to coy without suffering any casualties.	
			0705	"C" Coy now have an outpost established "7 men strong" at CASA CATELINI 36114087.	
			0800	Capt W E Garber, "D" Coy Comd, left this morning for 1 Cdn Corps HQ to attend a demonstration on the latest type of eqpt for winter and mountain warfare.	
			1150	"B" Coy observed an enemy working party at 367421. Area was engaged with 3" mortar fire.	
			1755	"A", "B" & "C" Coys all report sounds of enemy activity (constructional noises) at 358409 and 364417. These targets were engaged by our own 3" Mortars.	Fdb
			1950	Due to enemy bazooka and MG fire, "C" Coy find it necessary to abandon their outpost 36114087.	
			2143	During the past half hour the enemy has used a great number of flares, some multi coloured ones.	
	Contact patrol to friends on left has returned - NTR. One of our snipers working from 363408 obtained one positive kill and two possibles throughout the day. Another sniper at 366412 also scored a certain kill. Weather Weather this date fine and cool.				

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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BAGNACAVALLLO	25	0440 1025 1130 1600 1945 2250	<p>patrol. One man was wounded and one dazed by shock.</p> <p>"C" Coy contact patrol returned from contacting friends of the left /NTR.</p> <p>Bde Comd paid a visit to this HQ.</p> <p>CO made a tour of all coys.</p> <p>A German stretcher Bearer came in through the right fwd pl of "B" Coy with a white flag. He was immediately sent to Bde HQ where it was found that he was carrying a message in regard to stretcher bearers working in the dyke area. He was brought back from Bde later and sent back to his own lines with a message that no enemy stretcher bearers would be allowed on this side of the river. Note: A blind-fold was used on the enemy stretcher from fwd coy to rear area and back.</p> <p>"D" Coy has now relieved "B" Coy, pl posns being the same. Change-over was completed without incident.</p> <p>"A" Coy have been under heavy MG fire for the past twenty minutes, believed to come from 36704192. This posn was engaged by 3" mortar and MMG and was very effective. Weather throughout the day was fair and cool, some snow during the night.</p>	<p><i>Handwritten initials</i></p>
	26	0225 0315 0710 0800 1005	<p>A large enemy patrol, strength 15 to 20 men, attacked "C" Coy outpost 36114087. They were wearing white camouflage suits and were not noticed until they were very close in on the posn. One of the enemy a Cpl reached the door of the building and was shot dead there. In the fire fight that resulted the outpost was forced to withdraw back to the Coy area. Art and MMG fire was then laid down on the outpost posn. It is certain that some of the enemy other than the Cpl must have been killed or wounded.</p> <p>A fighting patrol from "A" Coy reached a point on the dyke 367419. They attacked two enemy slit trenches killing two enemy in one by hand grenades and the occupants of the other made their escape. At the same time patrol observed ten or twelve enemy approaching in their direction from left. A fire fight resulted and it is quite certain several other casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Patrol made its way back to the coy area without suffering a single casualty.</p> <p>"C" Coy outpost at 36114087 was re-established without difficulty. One enemy dead was found at the post.</p> <p>Personnel of last nights fighting patrol from "A" Coy proceeded to BAGNACAVALLLO for a day of recreation.</p> <p>Bde Comd paid a short visit to this HQ.</p>	<p><i>Handwritten initials</i></p>

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BAGNACAVALLO	26	1130	One of our snipers working in "D" Coy area scored a kill at 368421.		
		1745	It has just been learned that F5187 Pte Minard A K has been awarded the Military Medal. Pte Minard is one of the Regimental Signallers and has been awarded this medal for gallantry in the Savio River action, in the latter part of October 1944.		
		1930	"D" Coy at this time are being heavily mortared, one bomb hitting the house and causing a fire in the upper story. The fire was extinguished and there was no casualties. Our own 3" mortars put down fire on a suspected enemy mortar posn across the river.		
		2025	"D" Coy is still being heavily mortared, suffering one casualty.		
	2230	An enemy MG firing from 36474170 is causing trouble with "A" Coy wiring party. MMG and mortar fire have been brought down and appears to be very effective. Weather this date fine warm, with rain.			
	27	0010	Contact patrol to friends on left from "C" Coy has returned - MTR. One of the pioneers has been wounded by enemy mortar fire while working in "A" Coy area.		
		0050	An enemy working party was observed at 364414 by "A" Coy. MMG harassing fire is being brought down in that area for the next half hour.		
		0240	Due to the brightness of the moon "A" Coy's wiring party had to discontinue their work.		
		0320	Pioneer offr has been ^{wounded} working in "A" Coy area while supervising mining and wiring.		
		0630	An ambush patrol from "D" Coy has returned, having seen no enemy all night.		
			"C" Coy fighting patrol had to be postponed for 24 hrs due to the fact that the brightness of the moon made it impossible to move about without being seen.		
		0800	"B" Coy proceeded to BAGNACAVALLO on a recreational trip and will return at 1700 hrs this evening.		
		0840	Own aircraft very active against enemy occupied buildings on far side of the river.		
		1205	The Acting Bde Comd Lt col H P Bell-Irving ^{ps} paid a short visit to this HQ.		
		1425	"A" Coy killed one enemy in trench on dyke out in front of their posns. Shortly afterwards four other enemy were observed to come over the dyke and carry him away.		
		1550	"D" Coys outpost has been under a heavy barrage of hand grenades from the other side of the dyke. They are returning the compliments thickened up by 2" mortar bombs.		
	1800	This HQ has been informed that Lt H D MacHattie, pioneer offr, who was wounded last night while on a working party with "A" Coy, has died as a result of his wounds.			

