

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

(DECEMBER) WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGIMENT

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Worthing	1	0700	A report has just been received from C Coy OP to the effect that during the night a plane displayed a red flare in the vicinity of C Coy OP, and that one of two men, presumably enemy, tried to get through the wire on beach. Apparently some shots were fired by the sentry on duty, but man escaped unharmed. Upon investigation later in the day, the above report proved to be groundless.	<i>leleB</i>
		2	0700 Coy's carry on according to syllabus. 1000 Lt.-col. Ernst reviewed HG posts, 4 and 5 Bn's 1300 Acting GOC, Brig Potts visited this HQ this morning and accompanied by Major Hebb proceeded to Sisbury Ring and inspected new battle HQ Major HV Wier, CSM WOOD and L/Sgt Young of the Halifax Rifles arrived from Canada today and will be attached to this Unit for a period of three months. 1600 Lt.-col. Gregg VC. visited this HQ today and conferred with Major Hebb in the absence of Lt.-col. Ernst. 1900 Movies at C Coy tonight under the auspices of the Auxiliary Services.	Appx 7 <i>leleB</i>
	3	0700	Coy's carry on as per syllabus	<i>leleB</i>
		1030	West NSR band broadcast a program to Canada through the BBC. Lt.-col Ernst and the MO accompanied the band	Appx 7 <i>leleB</i>
		1600	Lt.-col Ernst visited the rear party at Keston, and was quite satisfied with the work that has been carried on since the Unit left in November.	Appx 7 <i>leleB</i>
	4	0700	Coy's carry on as per syllabus. Nothing of import during balance of day.	Appx 7 <i>leleB</i>
		5	0900	Lt.-col Ernst and Adjt attended a conference between Fd Units and Holding Unit in order to find out if closer co-operation could be obtained between the Units.
	1000		2 i/c, Major Hebb inspected battle posns in Coy area.	
	1115		Major Shipwright, comd A Coy HG called at this HQ	
	2000		Lt.-col Ernst left for KETTERING where he will act as an umpire in an areodrome exercise "Scorch"	<i>leleB</i>
			Field Return: Officers 32 Other Ranks 766 Special Increment: Officers 5 Other Ranks 83	Appx 5 <i>leleB</i>

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Worthing	6	0900	Major Hebb and Lieut Archibald attended a conference at Bde with reference to O Gp and new dispositions.	L.L.B.
		1100	Major Courtney and Major Stehelin returned from 48 Div (London) where they have been attending a battle drill course at Chelwood Gate.	
		1330	Bn O Gp conf of Coy comdrs to pass on the Brigadiers comments received this morning at Bde. These orders dealt mainly with defense scheme which will not be put in effect till approved by Corps Comdr on Dec 15	
	7	1000	Usual church parades to West Tarring Church, while B Coy attended at Lancing.	L.L.B.
			Lieut Bent left for Aldershot where he will attend an I O's course for a period of two weeks	
	8	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 L.L.B.
			Lieut Johnson, Bde I O and Lieut Higgins called at this HQ and conferred with Adjt.	
			1100	
	9	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 L.L.B.
			Nothing of import happened throughout the day.	
	10	1900	Officers Mess meeting at Sky Ring	L.L.B.
			0130	
1300			O.C. 49 Edmonton Regt. lunched with the Officers of West Nova Scotia Regt. at Sky Ring	
1400			Lt.-col Ernst proceeded to CHANCTONBURY RING to make recce for taking up def posn there. Owing to heavy mud, car became bogged and the O.C. was forced to thumb his way back to HQ	
1100			A lecture on the battle of PERSIA was held at HIGHDEN HOUSE in the Carlt & York area? This was a very interesting lecture.	

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Worthing	11	0800	Coy's carry on as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>letsB</i>
		1030	Brig Ganong visited this HQ and conferred with Lt.-colErnst	
		1945	Worthing Police advised this office that a plane had been seen to crash off Worthing Pier.	
	12	0800	Coy's carry on according to syllabus	Appx 7 <i>letsB</i>
		0900	Wreckage washed ashore near Worthing Pier proved to be from British Bomber	
			Field Return: Officers 32 Other Ranks 761 Special Increment: Officers 6 Other Ranks 83 " 7 " " 83	Appx 5 <i>letsB</i>
	13	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>letsB</i>
		1630	Meeting of Bn O Gp in preparation for GOC's tour on the 15th. At this conference orders which originated from Lt.-gen.Montgomery were to the effect that there would be no OP's or sentries posted on beach and none other than normal sentries would be posted at HQ in future.	
	14	0900	Usual Church parades to TARRING CHURCH	Appx 3 <i>letsB</i>
		0915	CO's conference at Sky Ring re GOC's visit tomorrow, training campaign for winter and discipline. Later in the morning the CO made a tour of the battle posns on the DOWNS.	
		1430	Sgt Colbran and Cpl Stone while patrolling the beach in the vicinity of Worthing Pier, found the body of a New Zealand airman. No doubt one of the victims of the plane crash of Dec 11th. Coast Guard and the Worthing Police were informed of this.	
		1800	Candidates for the assault school assembled at their billets 17 Broadwater Rd. The school will be conducted by Lieut Oxley of this Unit, together with Lieut Cannon, R22R and Lieut Smith of the Carlt & York R.	
	15	0800	Coy's continue training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>letsB</i>
		0915	GOC visited Bn area and made a great many changes in our battle disposns. Gissbury Ring is to be abandoned and A Coy will take up battle posn at Highden Hill. B and C Coy's are still to occupy Steyning Round Hill but their arc of fire and general sitings will be completely changed	

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Worthing	16	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>lets</i>
		1100	Major Gemmel called at the Officers Mess and accompanied several officers sitting localities	
		1500	Capt. Cattermole of the Worthing Home Guard called at this HQ and discussed beach defences. Nothing further to report for today.	
	17	0800	Coy's carry on as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>lets</i>
		1000	Lt.-col. Ernst visited Chanctonbury Ring area.	
		1500	Sgt ² / ₂ Freeman of C Coy and Sgt Garber, Bn HQ visited the Mansion House in London, the official residence of the Lord Mayor, where they were received by the Lord Mayor, Sir John Lourie and Lady Lourie, Viscount Massey and Mrs Massey. During the Lord Mayors address, Nova Scotia was outstanding and mentioned several times. This was a very colourful affair and was much appreciated by the 'boys'	
	18	0900	Lt.-col. Ernst proceeded to Brigade with sketch of defended localities.	<i>lets</i>
			1100	
		1500	The Brigade Major visited this HQ and conferred with Major Hebb.	
		1900	D Coy held a dance tonight at South Lancing.	
	19	0800	A party of 5 OR's proceeded to the 4 Fd Coy and demonstrated 2 and 3 inch mortar to Sappers and Engineers.	<i>lets</i>
		1000	The remainder of C Coy moved to new area at WAPPINGTHORNE Fm.	
1930		Meeting of all officers at Sky Ring re instruction and training.		
		Field Return: Officers 32 Other Ranks 762	Appx 5 <i>lets</i>	
20	0800	Coy inspections	<i>lets</i>	
	1000	C Coy has completed move to new area at WAPPINGTHORNE Fm		
	1700	Ptes Garnier, Fowler and Savornoch boxed at the Metropolitan Police Tournament at Hove. Garnier won his fight while the other two lost theirs.		
	1900	A Regimental dance was held at the Connaught Hotel for members of this Unit.		

Instructions regard: preparation of War Diaries; (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

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M.F.M 11.
1914/8.37

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Worthing	21	0930	Usual Church Parades to West Tarring Church	Appx 3 <i>lclB</i>
		1100	C O's conference at Sky Ring re Christmas entertainment for the men	
		2200	Lieut Bent returned from Aldershot where he has been attending a S E Comd Int Course	
	22	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>lclB</i>
		0900	Lt.-col.Ernst attended a lecture at Haywards Heath, when the speaker was Gen.Montgomery. The subject was training and general discussion re Bde and Coy comdr.	
		1500	Lt.-col Ernst proceeded to Highden Hill and conferred with Capt Millard re siting and defense.	
	23	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>lclB</i>
		0900	Lt.-col.Ernst and Lieut Bent went to Bde for an interview with Corps camouflage officer Lieut JK Sandbrooke. Later they visited battle posns in Bn.	
		1300	A T.E.W.T. was held in which officers comd pls took part. The subject was defense, and the ground chosen was Highden Hill.	
	24	0800	Training as per syllabus	Appx 7 <i>lclB</i>
		1000	A party consisted of the following officers and NCO's proceeded to London where they put on a broadcast over the BBC: Capt Worth Lieuts Archibald, Beck, Day, Isnor and Smeltzer. CQMS Hopper and Sgt Fiendel. Lt.-col.Ernst accompanied this party to London.	
		1300	Capt Watson, OC 77 Bty 3 Fd Regt RCA called at this HQ and discussed siting of guns on Friesland feature.	
1900		C Coy sponsored a dance at Wappingthorne Fm tonight. The guest of honour was Lady Howard owner of Wappingthorne estate. Major Gemmel returned to This Unit from Holding Unit.		
25	1100	Brigadier and B.M. visited the Officers Mess.	<i>lclB</i>	
		Later in the morning the CO and officers visited various mens messes passing the seasons greetings etc.		
		1500 1900		Lt.-col.Ernst and Major Hebb were guests at the home of Col.Grace HG's A Bn dinner was held for our officers at the Findon Manor Hotel. This was much enjoyed by all who attended

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Worthing	26	0800 1130	Bn continuing normal duties Brigadier Ganong visited this Hq Lieut Felton special weapons officer 4 Bn HG and offered to put on a demonstration of HG weapons should we desire it	lbb
			Field Return: Officers 30 Other Ranks 755 Special Increment: Officers 7 Other Ranks 84	APPX 5 lbb
	27	0900 1500	Coy inspections Major Hebb and Lieut Bent visited A and B Coy's and inspected selective posns. Lieut Bent has been appointed camouflage officer.	lbb
	28	0930 1100	Usual Church parades to West Tarring Church. Capt Smith B Coy proceeded on Coy Comdrs course at Lavington House	lbb
	29	0800	Training as per syllabus D Coy proceeded to Friesland where they carried on with digging pits in Coy area. Bivouaced over night and returned to Worthing in the morning.	Appx 7 lbb
	30	0800 1030 1500	Training as per syllabus The remains of Sgt Sullivan who met with a fatal accident on Christmas Eve at C Coy, were buried in Brookwood Cemetery with Capt Addie officiating. The burial party consisted of Sgts from the entire Bn while C Coy provided the firing party. Lt.-col. Gregg VC visited this Hq and conferred with Lt.-col. Ernst.	Appx 7 lbb lbb
	31	0830 1100 2000	The R.A.P. gadget show was put on at Div this morning. This Unit took third place in this show. Capt Letourneau was in charge of the exhibit. A Coy started work at Highden Hill digging weapon pits and trenches. C O visited Highden Hill and Friesland and inspected progress made in tasks. Lt.-col. Ernst and officers of this Unit sponsored a New Years dance at Steyne Hotel. Bde was represented by the Brigadier and the B.M. also Capt Addie. At midnight the Brigadier expressed his greeting and best wishes for the coming year and hoped we would all be back in Canada a year from tonight	Appx 7 lbb lbb A. A. Ernst lbb