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Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

1st BN. ESSEX SCOTTISH RETIMENT CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

M.F.M. 11 40/P & S/37

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea	1 Jan	a 43	It takes all kinds of experiences to make a regiment and to-day the ESSEX SCOTT- ISH REG'T experienced something it has never felt before - three officers under Close Arrest - the threat of a G.C.M. A very foolish impulse carried out to an unfortunate conclus on by Lieut. J.C. COCKBURN of 'A' Coy; Lieut. M.L. HARLEY of 'C' Coy and Lieut. W.O. CHRISTIANSON of 'A' Coy resulted in damage to W.D. Vehicle No. CL 4205790 and injury to Mrs. Stella Coulson, a civilian. A fourth is implicated, CVICE breat A Doucette	SHR
			It will make this regiment a sadder but wiser unit and serve as a sobhering influence if nothing else. The first day of this New Year was a holiday to all except all ranks on essential duties. 'B' Coy was still on Bat le Drill School (4th Cdn. Inf. Bde.) at GOODWOOD PARK - MR 3229 - 0.S. Sheet 133 - 1" to 1 mile. Brigadier M.H.S. PENHALE, had an at home between 1100 hrs and 1200 hrs. Major H.J. Kennedy, M.C. (A/2 i/c Bn) represented LtCol J.H. Mobhersill; other officers attending were: Capt. R.H. Lund (Adjt), Lieut. S.A. Rands (I.O.) and two officers from each coy. There, in comradeship with representative officers from our sister Bns., the R.R.C. AND R.H.L.I., they drank a toast to the New Year. In the bn, no special celebrations were arranged for NEW YEAR'S DAY. Pork was served at noon; Sunday routine followed. The R.C. Church Parade heard Mass in St. Nicholas Church at 0845 hrs.	SAR
	2 Jan	n 43	The weather was cool with slight rain in the afternoon. All coys except 'B' Coy (away on Battle School) trained in Close Order Drill and each coy had a spare period for ABCA lectures etc. A detail of four men from each rifle coy reported to the Musketry Officer, Lieut. J.S.D. MACLELLAN, for the purpose of improving and repairing the 30 yd, 110 yd and 200 yd rifle ranges - work will take virtually a week. In the afternoon O.Rs. had a firee afternoon except those doing necessary duty. All the tpt personnel were C.B. for continued work on trucks, the webs being washed by bucket and brush for economy in the use of water.	SAR
	3 Ja	n 43	The weather was cool as the Prot. Church Parades marched off to the skirl of bagpipes. The Methodist Church, FELPHAM, was filled to overflowing at 1015 hrs, with ESSEX SCOTS. R.C. Church Parade heard Mass at 0845 hrs, attending St. Nicholas Church LtCol J.H. Mothersill returned from his weal-earned leave.	SAR

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M.F.M. 11 40/P & S/37

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea	3 Jar	43	Two British unarmed mines washed up on the beach causing unusual activity and depriving the I.O., Lieut. S.A. Rands, of his meagre free time. One mine was partiall embedded in front of 'B' Coy Beach Area (MR 419195) and the other was static at MR 428196 - O.S. 1" Sheet 133.	* SAR
	4 Jan	43.	Monday brought the first snow, not a typical Cdn blizzard but a few undersized flakes churning in air reminding one of the milling crowds at a tube station - getting no where. Great activity (?) and an attempt to get down to business again. 'C' Coy proceeded to 4 Cdn Inf Bde, Battle Drill School under Capt. F.A. WANSBROUGH, approx. 100 all ranks strong. 'A' Coy trained in P.T. which included exercises with the rifle for 15 mins to develop shoulder and stomach muscles, dressed in denim, boots, carrying amn and rifle. Thirty mins was de oted to cross-country running. P.T. was followed by Battle Drill and Fieldcraft with attention given to personal camouflage, movement care, movement cross country and selection of lines of advance. 'A' Coy still energy to devote a three hour period in Night Trg. 'B' and 'D' Coys trained in inter-coy sports competition, Battle Drill and Fieldcraft followed by an ABCA discussion. Bn.H.Q. were on bn duties in the morning and in the afternoon trained in Close Order Drill followed by a nine mile route march. At a meeting of officers at 1930 hrs, the C.O. laid down a definite ruling on offrs' duties and trg. The little Y.M.C.A. gift boxes for Christmas finally arrived. They contained soap, comb, notebook, chocolate, shaving cream toothpaste and gum.	
W.	5 Jan	43.	The weather was cold and the muddy lanes nearby were slate hard. 'A' Coy made a nine mile route march, followed by gas trg, a review in T.O.E.Ts. in rifle and Bren Gun and practiced in phoenetic alphabet and 36 set. 'B' Coy trained in P.T., Battle Drill and Fieldcraft with emphasis on personal camouflage, cross country movement and selection of lines of advance. 'D' Coy devoted the day to range practice: rifle and 2" mortar in the A.M., with T.S.M.G. and Bren Gun in the P.M. 'Sp' Coy trained in Gas Warfare, specialist duties, P.T. Battle Drill and fieldcraft: reviewed T.OE.T. in Bren Gun and rifle and practiced phoenetic alphabet on 38 set. All tpt have been centralized near Shangri-La (Bn.H.Q. Mens' Mess) under closer guard since the episode	

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WAR DIARY

LST BN. ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

M.F.M. 11 40/P & S/37

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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-	Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Mi -4 Se	Middleton Son- Sea	N Date 1		on the 1 Jan 43. A lecture on 'AFRICAN AND COLONIAL TPS' was interestingly given by Col. MacDonald at the Phoenix Club at +400 hrs. Capt. T.E. McCoy, Bde I.O., at 1930 hrs, lectured to all offrs in Bn.H.Q. Offrs' Mess on INTELLIGENCE. It was a good sound lecture appreciated by all. A small fire in the A.A. Pl Billet resulted from the wood beam holding the hearth of the fireplace being overheated. LtCol. JH. Mothersill went to Bde for Bde Comds' Conference.	Sel
		6 Jan	43.	What a dismal day! Spraylike rain all day with chill damp penetrating all buildings. 'A' & 'D' Coys trained in Battle Drill as well as devoting three hours to Night Trg. 'B' Coy made a nine mile route march, trained in gas trg, reviewed T.O.E.Ts. and M.I. in Bren Gun and rifle. All ranks in 'B'B Coy were instructed in phonetic alphabet and practice in the use of the 38 Set. 'Sp' Coy fired on the range, trained at P.T., Battle Drill and Fieldcraft and one discussion and one discussion on ABCA subjects. Lieut. E.L. Cohen attended a demonstration at Ordance. It was startling in some respects - new weapons both Cdn and British being shown.	
		7 Jan	43.	There was slight rain in the morning followed by a remarkably dull afternoon. 'A' Coy participated in organized sports, Battle Drill and "indulged" in a lively ABCA discussion. 'B' Coy devoted the whole day to firing on the ranges, usinf rifle 2" Motar, T.S.M.G. and Bren Gun. 'C' Coy is still away from the bn. at Bde Battle Drill School. 'D'Doy devoted three hours of night trg after a full day at P.T. and Battle Drill. 'Sp' Coy made a nine mile route march, trained in gas warfare and personnel not on specialists duties paltered in organized sports. The Q.M. finished quite a job - checking all 1098 equipment in the bn. LtCol J.H. Mothersill and Capt. R.H. Lund (Adjt.) were invited to 'Sp' Coy Offrs' Mess for dinner being entertained by Capt. S.C. Reade acting as 'Sp' Coy Comd.	SAR
1	II.	8 Jan	43.	Clear and cold weather. All available personnel in Bn. marched with bagpipes to Theatre Royal BOGNOR REGIS to see three trg films: one on camouflage of vehs, gun emplacments, bldgs, etc, one on security and the other an German Paratroops. Attending were the 2 1/c, Major H.J. Kennedy M.C., Lieut. S.A. Rands, and a few other offrs who	SAR

18t BN. ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
Middleton -fin- Sea		-	were not to inconvenienced to get away. Bn tps was inspected by Brig M.H.S. Penhale, at 1015 hrs, who inspected the Bn.O.R. as well. The vehs have had a lot of work done to them but it is hard to please Brigs - some time - he will be back. Trg continued in the afternoon along the normal lines.	SUR
	9 Jan	43.	Weather seemed almost Cdn; the ground froze hard. Orders state that there will be no more shooting with service rifles of grouse, rabbits etc. As if we Canadians ever have! The bn. less 'C' Coy trained in Close Order Drill followed independent coy inspections of clothing and web equipment etc. Coys turned out smartly. Operation Instruction No 2 dated 7 Nov 43 is amended: 'A', 'B'g and 'C' Coys will each provide inlying piquet consisting of one pl to be on duty each night from one hour before dark till one hour after daylight. Each sec will establish a listening post of two men at each M.G. posn.	Sak
	10 Ja	n 43.	R.Cs. heard Mass at 0845 hrs, at St. Nicholas Church. Prot. Church Parade was voluntary. Lieut. S.A. Rands, I.O. and A.22221 R.L.W. Everts (I Sgt) went to Bde at 1400 hrs for a three day course in INTELLICENCE - the first of a series of three day courses. An attempt is being made to lay down a Battle Drill for 'I' Work.	SUR
	10 70		All details of Intelligence were covered including arial photography, Battle Boards and Situation Maps. DIEPPE proved the true value of all 'I' personnel knowing how to interpret aerial photography while under pressure from lack of time. Capt. E. McCoy, Bde I.O., was the chief instructor. Able and exact, he has risen from Sgt to Capt in something like a year and a half. He is the first I.O. in the Bde to standardizetrg in all three bns so that the three bns from the standpoint of Intelligence - feel more like a regt of three bns than a brigade of three separate bns. At Bde an opportunity was given for all I.Os. and 'I' Sgts to help solve the short comings of present intelligence procedure as regards the bns. For the speedy rescue of an air bird, P.O. Candillon, FORD, from the channel, A.21537 Cpl (A/Sgt) Coughlin, J.T. of 'B' Coy was awarded the British Empire Medal. (Full details vide War Diary month of Nov 42.)	South

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WAR DIARY 1st BN. ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

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-	Place Middleton on- Sea	Page 5.						
-	Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials			
Mi Se	-on-	ll Jar	1 43.	A welcome contrast in weather - bright, sunny and warm. 'A' Coy fired on the ranges, trained in P.T. and devoted three hours to night trg. 'B' Coy trained in gas warefare, semaphore, Bat le Drill, Fieldcraft, ABCA lecture, R/T Procedure as well as loading and unloading vehicles. 'D' Coy trained in P.T. reviewed T.O.E.Ts., R/T Procedure, loading and unloading vehs.	SeaR			
		12 Jan	43.	Sky overcast and intermittent rain. Despite the cloudy weather 'A' Coy made a nine mile route march followed by a coy exercise. 'B' Coy trained in P.T., Battle Drill and Fieldcraft, W.T., R.T., semaphore, loading and unloading vehs and three hours were devoted to night trg. 'C' Coy came back from the Battle Drill Dchool after an extensive period of Bat le Drill et al. 'D' Coy left the bn. area for 4 Bde Battle Drill School. 'Sp' Coy made a nine mile route march followed by gas trg and specialist duties.	SUR			
	.21	13 Har	43.	The fresh S.W. Wind brought rain all day; clouds were omnipresent. Heavy rain at night flooded small areas in the vicinity and low places in the net of narrow winding roads. 'A' & 'C' Coys trained in gas warfare, P.T., Battle Drill and Field-craft. After an A.B.C.A. leature the coys trained in R/T, semaphore loading and unloading vehicles. 'B' Coy made a nine mile route march and trained in semaphore. 'Sp' Coy fired on the ranges - 2" Mortars fired smoke stressing low trajectory. Hip firing received special attention in small arms. A sea mine exploded at 1930 hrs, on the beach in front odf 'A' Coy area (MR 415193 - O.S. SHEET 133, 1" to 1 mile). No one was injured. Windows in '6' Coy Orderly Room were damaged and tubular scaffolding parallel to the beach front breached. Civilian damage was nile	SAFA			
	E .	14 Jar	43.	Brief showers, cool and windy. 'A' & 'C' Coys fired at CISSBURY RANGE in the morning. 'B' Coy trained in gas, W/T/, R/T, and semaphore. 'Sp' Coy trained at specialists duties. It is realized that lack of petrol has disrupted trg, but maintenance can be stressed in preparation for trade testing, carrier drill, flag signals, blackboard lectures. The mortar pl has a blackboard lecture and parade square drill for pl. tactics. The A/Tk Platoon trained in camouflage, selection of gun posns, gun drill and map reading. The Pioneer pl. trained at witing in the morning and	SUR			

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WAR DIARY 1st BN. ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

M.F.M. 11 40/P & S/37

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials		
Middleton			laying and clearing minefields in the afternoon. Brigadier H.M.S. Penhale inspected all vehicles in the bn. Capt. D. Mackenzie was appointed En. Fire Officer.	SH		
Sea	15 Ja	n 43.	Bn. Trg was interupted slightly by the middle of month pay parade. Friday was an awfully cool day. 'A' Coy trained in gas warfare, P.T., Battle Drill and Fieldcraft and unloading of pl. vehicles. 'B' Coy fired on the ranges. A register was set up to indicate the qualifications and grade of shot of each man. The 2" Mortar, smoke was fired, low trajectory being stressed. 'B' Coy devoted 45 mins to. P.T.; 15 mins of exercises, 30 mins cross-country running with light web and rifle. 'C' Coy went on a nine mile route march. Major J.D. Mingay, B.M. and Capt T.S. Jones, S.C., inspected to M.T.	SHR		
	16 Ja	an 43.	All coys trained in Close Order Drill followed by Coy Comds inspection. From Monday to Friday parade ground smartness, so far as dress is concerned, is not emphasized; emphasis is put on care of weapons. Neglect is considered a serious offence and is severly dealt with. At Coy Comds Inspections on Saturday, however, men are expected to turn out with web, battle dress, etc, in smart appearance. The afternoon was free for those on essential duties.	SAR		
	17 Ja	an 43.	Prot. Church Parade was piped to Methodist Church Hall at 0930 hrs. R.Cs. heard Mass at 0845 hrs, at Middleton Church Hall. The Mortar Pl left for one week in shooting. Unit Adv Party, Trg. C.T.C ROTHESAY, left Q.M. Stores at 1530 hrs, for Scotland.	SAH		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	18 Ja	an 43.	Weather warm with rain later in the day. All coys trained as normally. Intelligence Sec. was briefed for forthcoming signal exercise 'PICKWICK'. This will be the first time this unit has used French maps, 1/50,000, while actually doing a scheme on English terrain. 'C' Coy went on an 'ISLAND EXPRCISE' which lasted during the night; one pl protecting a mythical island while being invaded by the gremainder of the Coy.	Spark		
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MF.M. 11 40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton - on - Sea.	19	Jan 43	Weather was good followed by rain and mud. Bn. HQ. left at 0730 hrs for Divisional scheme "PICKWICK", the object of which was to exercise Bn. HQ. in signal proceedure generally, and inparticular the new phonetic alphabet; to exercise Bn. HQ. in operational moves; to practice Bn. HQ. in the issueing of orders in the field. Bn.O.C. was Major H.J. Kennedy, M.C. (Vide Appx - Exercise PICKWICK). One hundred and twenty-five All Ranks (72 Drivers) left the bn area at 1500 hrs for ten days trg in Assautt Landing at ROTHESAY, Scotland.	SUR
	20	Jan 43	Weather unsettled, rather cold. Exercise "PICKWICK" ended at 1252 hrs. Both rain and mud detracted from the scheme. BHQ, the Intelligence and Signal sections, however, had excellent accommodations through the courtesy of the R.A.F. at an aerodrome, vicinity TANGMERE. (For "I" Log of scheme Vide Appx). Lieut S.A. Rands,	201
			1.0. and A22221 Sgt Everts, R.L.W. left bn area for Ser2 three day course at Bde at 2130 hrs. Trg at Bde included: Engineer Intelligence, Map reading Advanced, Aerial Photography (theory and interpretation) as well as, solving "I" requirements in theoretical minor tactical situations. Major H.J. M.C. was appointed Unit	38
			Security Offr with Lieut. S.A. Rands, I.O as asst Unit Security Offr. "A" coy left for 4 Cdn Inf Ede after being relieved by C.R.U. "D" Coy returned from Eattle School after intensive trg. "B" coy marched out to an ISLAND exercise at approx. 1500 hrs, one pl in defence, two pls in the attack. Major "Tommy" Jones and Major Gilmour from 2 Cdn Div gave lectures in the evening to offrs of the unit. Major Jones lecturing on "A" work, such as correct submission of forms, used in every day life in the army and Major Gilmor spoke on Court Martial, Summaries of Evidence, etc.	SOAR
	21 ;	an 43	Weather in the morning, good; sunshine in afternoon. "B" coy returned from ISLAND exercise at approx 0900 hrs. "C" coy make a nine mile route march. "D" coy trained in gas warfare, P.T., ABCA discussion and semaphore, "SP" coy trained in specialist duties. A sea mine washed ashore at MR 402192 - right of "A" coy posn. It was soon rendered safe after being reported to the R.N.O. at LITTLEHAMPTON BOR. from 2 1/c down tackled the pile of "BUMPPH" that had accumulated in their absence.	SOUR

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Page	8			
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
Middleton - on - Sea	22	Tan 43	Weather excellent: "B" coy made a nine mile route march followed by a coy exercise. "C" coy fired on the ranges and devoted three h urs to night trg includi movement by night, observation by night and night march, cross country. "Sp" coy trained in specialist duties. "D" coy marched out on ISLANDexercise.	
	23 :	lan 43	Weather was good. "B", "C" and "Sp" coys trained in close order drill followed by Coy Comds inspection. "D" coy returned from ISLAND Scheme. At 1500 hrs the I.O and I Sgt returned from the Bde "I" School. During the afternoon the offrs played a terrific game of grass hockey against the ladies from the Middleton Sports Club but loss in the dying moments off the game by a 5 - 4 score. They challenged the winners to a game at a later date so as to gain their rewenge.	SUR
	24 3	en 43	Excellent weather - almost Spring weather with radiant sunshine and cool breezes. Prot Church Parade was voluntary. R.Cs heard Mass at Middleton Church Hall. All men except those on the necessary duties were free.	SAR
	25 3	an 43	Cold and windy: "A" coy still away on 4 Cdn Inf Bde Battle School. "B" and "C" coys trained in P.T.; Battle Drill and Fieldcraft with emphasis on personal camouflage (preparation for battle); Individual fieldcraft; tactical crossing of obstacles (sec control stressed); selection lines of adv by pls. H/Major G.D. Johnston gave a lecture: "The British Way and Purpose", first of sixteen lectures arranged by coy comds. Lieut. A.J. Hodges, Sigs Offr, conducted classes in18 and 38 sets and R/T procedure for sec leaders of "B" and "6" dows. Bn. HQ. trained in Close Order Drill, made a nine mile route march and practiced semaphore signals. "D" coy proceeded by route march tolagoon 319164 leaving bn area at D830 hrs. Assault and recce boats were at 319164 -0.S. Sheet 133, 1" to 1 mile. The object of this River Crossing Exercise was to Teach Coys the proper use of assault boats; to practice pl and coy comds in issuance of proper orders; to exercise coy in boat drill to cross a river silently; to make an opposed crossing by day and by night. A meeting of the Unit Selection Committee was held for the purpose of selecting additional O.C.T.U. cnadidates. Several candidates were enterviewed and it was dedided to recommend A21931 CSM Graham W.R., A21223 Sgt Tobin R.T. and A21773 A/RQMS Garnham for O.C.T.U.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea	30 Ja	n 43.	The party of five offrs and 125 O.Rs. who had proceeded to ROTHESAY on C.T.C. returned via rail. 4 offrs and 95 O.Rs. in the morning and the last at 1930 hrs in the afternoon with all tpts and equipment. Varied stories were told about the trg which was chiefly water proofing of vehicles but all seemed to think that SCOTCH are best. The weather was rainy and a wind approaching gale strength caused several mines to be washed ashore along the bn. front. All coys trained in Close Order Drill, Care and Maintenance of Weapons and also Kit Inspection.was held. One pl of 'B' Coy on 'Island' Scheme. 'Sp' Coy was duty coy. The men transferring tho the American Army were reboarded in the morning and afternoon (25 personnel were affected). The weather did not deter the offrs and women grass hockey team - they played and the offrs taking advantage of the weather gained revenge. At night the O.C. and offrs of the unit held the first party since DIEPPE. It was declared a grand success in all respects. Music was supplied by a band (4 pieces) from FORD AIRPORT and was good. Brigadier MacCarter (6 Bde) and Brigadier M.H.S. Penhale (4 Bde) attended as well as the B.M., Major Don Mingay, Essex Scot, Najor T.S. Jones, D.A.A.G., 2 Gdn Div, Major Larry Deziel, Essex Scot and many other friends of the unit.	SAR
	31 Ja	n 43.	Church parade called off. Gale reaching velocity of 70 m.p.h. cau sed more mines to be washed ashore and affording practice for bren gunners and a few snipers in the afternoon in sinking mines. The wind was the highest of the year and caused damage all along the coast. The mines were of German origin in the past week and 4 mines exploded in coming in contact with tank obstacles along the coast. Police evacuated civilian population who were within 500 yds of the mines, thereby preventing casualties. Two mines have been sunk to date by fire from weapons manned by personnel of this unit. A And B Coys each accounted for one. This day was also noted by the fact that the Bde Battle School closed up but for clean up parties after a very busy 2 1/c wassBuring which time a great d great deal was accomplished and this unit can feel proud of Major B.J.S. Macdonald (2 1/c) for the part he played as chief instructor. There is no doubt that definite benfeits were obtained and a great deal was done to obtain a higher and more uniform trg throughout the Bde. Bde Staff can also be proud of the energetic support they gave the school and Brigadier Penhale, 4 Cdn Inf Bde Comd must feel well satisfied that all the time and effort expended were well spent. The unit both individually and collectively have definitely benefited from attebdance at the School.	Sup

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton - on - Sea			<u>APPENDICES</u>	
			1. Part I Orders	
			/2. Part II Orders	
			-3. Training Syllabus	
			4. Training at C.T.C ROTHESAY.	
			- 5. Operation Instruction No 2 - Amendment No 1	
			6. River Crossing Exercise	
			7. Field Return of Officers	
			8. Field Return of Other Renks	
			9. Intelligence Summary - Exercise "PICKWICK"	SAND
			10. Battalion Dinner in Honour 2 Cdn Div and 4 Cdn	OHN
			Inf Bde Staffs, 13 Oct 42.	
			Lt Col. J.H. Mothersill. E.D. COMMANDING OFFICER BSSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT.	