

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

1st Bn., HUNTER SCOTTISH REGIMENT
CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

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

1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea.	1 May		Weather broke fine and clear and the Bn Parade scheduled on the trg syllabus was held. Pipe band and C.A.C. Band were present to make the parade very successful. Col. Mothersill has returned from C.M.H.Q. (London) in time and the parade became a practise for the forthcoming Bn. Inspection by Brigadier SAGER, ED. During the afternoon two comp coys, under Major H.J. Kennedy, MC in command, paraded in the Wings for Victory, parade. Capt. F.A. Wansbrough acted as 2 i/c and Capt. R.H. Lund acted as Adj. in his normal roll. All coys detailed personnel and a good show was put on by all ranks. Also present in the Middleton Parade were the R.A.F. Regt, Home Guard and the C.A.C. Bands' with the W.A.A.F., A.T.S., N.F.S., Essex Scot and the Pipe Band. The bands supplied the martial music. Brigadier J.W. Sager, ED took the salute as the parade passed on its way to the Middleton Sports Grounds. In the evening most of the units' offrs attended a dance given by the Middleton Sports Club for the 'Wings for Victory Week'. The Sgts held a successful dance at the Masonic Hall in HOGNOR REGIS - everyone enjoyed themselves! The C.O., 2 i/c, Adj., Pmr., and Padre attended both dances.	Roh
	2 May		Sunday - Church Parades normal. Weather poor - cloudy, showers and windy. A Coy under Capt. H.W.P. Thomson took part very successfully in a "Wings for Victory" parade at WALBURTON. The unit turned out a comp coy for the occasion, as well as the pipe band. Col. Mothersill went to a lecture on Camouflage at REDHILL. Capt. D. Mackenzie s.o.s. to take coy comds course at C.T.S. Lieut. M.J. Heffernan to take Junior Leaders course at No. 4 Wing, C.T.S., Theddon Grange near Alton.	Roh
	3 May		Bn prepared for 'BEACH' throughout the morning. Major Kennedy informed that he will be att to 2 Div. RCASC so Major R.J.S. Macdonald, who lately returned to the unit will act as 2 i/c. Exercise 'BEACH' commenced at 1330 hrs. This Bn. Exercise drawn up by 2 Div embodied the attack of a hedge-hog, defence and their defence. At 1400 hrs the bn crossed the S.P. on way to area for Exercise 'BEACH'. At 1630 hrs, 'F' ECH crossed S.P. During the night the bn bivouaced in farm area 545294 and patrols were sent out to gain information. Upon their return all patrols were briefed by the I.O. of the 2 i/c, Major Macdonald. A greatdeal of information was not obtained as the enemy shifted considerably. The bn suffered approximate losses of 20 O.Rs. in missing and killed or wounded.	Roh

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton-on-Sea.	4. May		<p>Lieut. R.B. Taylor reporting to the O.C. Rear Party is from the R.C.C.S., releasing Lieut. Pope to coy duties.</p> <p>Breakfast at 0515 hrs. At 0630 hrs the C.O. and I.O. went forward to make recce. A right flanking attack on the eastern part of enemy hedge-hog position went in at 0902 hrs. 'A' Coy fire coy, 'B' & 'C' coys right flanking. Attack successful but coys on forming were counter attacked and wiped out by another coy of enemy which had been withdrawn from the western hedge-hog. At 1000 hrs C.O. and I.O. made a recce of HIDDEN HILL for a defensive position. The disposition of the enemy was not known. The disposition of the coys was: 'C' Coy - left flank, 'B' Coy - centre hedge-hog, 'A' Coy - right flank, 'Sp' Coy - area between 'A' and 'B' Coys. Patrols were sent out during the night and about 16 prisoners were taken.</p>	<p>Rel</p>
	5 May		<p>Soon after dawn fog came down so that visibility was about 50 yds. The enemy (Fus de Mor) concentrated their attack on 'C' Coy but were repulsed with the following losses: 2 platoons, 2 mortars and 4 carriers. The enemy C.O. and several prisoners were taken. The Essex "Combat Team" worked very efficiently throughout the fence. At 0845 hrs the order 'Cease Fire', Exercise 'BEACH' was given. 'P' Echelon moved off at 0900 hrs and proceeded independently to billets, followed by marching troops. Throughout the whole exercise the troops showed keen enthusiasm. Competition between patrol ran high for the honour of bringing in the most prisoners. All felt that a great deal had been learned about the hedge-hog defence, and this knowledge was increased by the experience gained in both attacking and defending such a locality.</p> <p>Lieut. T.E. Martin left to take Regtl Offrs A.A. Course (CMHQ 716A). Lieut. E.H. Pope, Sig Pl Comd and Pnr Pl Comd put on demonstrations at the Middleton-on-Sea Sports Club with their respective pls. as part of a Services Demonstration. Mine laying and signal procedure were demonstrated by the pls. A meeting of all offrs was called to discuss Bde Inspection etc, at Bn.H.Q. Lieut. W.C. Wilson celebrated his birthday with several of the other offrs in the Bn.H.Q. Mess after the meeting.</p>	<p>Rel</p> <p>Rel</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, reference to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea.	6 May		Throughout the whole day the sky was very overcast with threat of rain which fell in light showers during the afternoon. To-day all coys were busy with preparation for inspection tomorrow by Brigadier J.E. Sager, ED. Web equipment is being blanched to perfection in order that the whole Bn. will turn out with a smart efficient appearance tomorrow. All vehicles and transport are having a final shake and check-up to-day. It is a well known fact that this Brigadier is keen on transport and he will expect to see it in first class shape. There is plenty of good hard work being done to-day for the inspection and we hope that the Brigadier finds everything to his satisfaction on the morrow. 53 O.Rs. posted from the unit to the Cdn Base Depot proceeded today with A/Major Reade as O.C. Party. These trained personnel will act as refts to 1 Div Units. P.G.C.M. held for P.40823 Pts. Burgess, found guilty of stealing a brother soldiers clothing.	Rah
	7 May		The weather fine and clear with a fresh south-west wind blowing. Coy parades fell in at 0730 hrs and coy comds made a last minute check up on personnel. Coys then proceeded to the Middleton Sports Club Grounds where the Bn. formed up for the inspection. The C.O. gave final instructions to all ranks regarding the inspection and parade ground movements were practised prior to the Brigadiers arrival at 0845 hrs. The general salute was given after which the Brigadier commenced his inspection starting with the Bn.H.Q. The Brigadier had the B.M. - Major J.D. Mingay and the S.C. - Capt. A.J. O'Donohoe in attendance. The Brigadier gave the most thorough inspection this Bn has ever had, paying particular attention to little of dress such as the second hook on the Battle Dress collar, being done up. Throughout the inspection the Bn was standing at ease, something which is very essential, yet unusual. Senior N.C.Os. were checked in some detail by the Brigadier as well as offrs. At 1110 hrs the last coy had been inspected and this was followed by a march past with the Brigadier taking the salute. After a few words by the Brigadier the parade was dismissed for meals. The Brigadier and his staff were guests at the Bn.H.Q. Officers' Mess for the noon meal. The Brigadier carried out the inspection of transport personally and was well pleased with what he found. During the afternoon inspecting teams of Bde Officers' checked	Rah

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -On- Sea.			all men in coys on genral knowledge, Contents of respirator and haversack were checked to make sure that all were carrying proper contents. During the afternoon all orderly and offices were inspected and the officers were well pleased with the results. Billets and kitchens were found to be in particularly good shape. By approx 1630 hrs the inspection was completed and quite a sigh of relief could be heard around many billet areas. Inspections are considered necessary it seems but will always be a soldiers 'HATE'. However, its may and its spring cleaning time so the Brigadiers' inspection served two purposes - satisfied his curiosity and we cleaned house.	Ref
	8 May		The day broke with a terrific gale sweeping in from the channel. Spacmotic showers fell throughout the days. All coys were present at the Middleton Sports Club for a Bn Parade. Following Bn. Parade Coys had a period of squad drill. General clean up of billets and equipment completed the morning. The 2 i/c and I.O. made a recce of trg area no. 7 for trg exercise which commences Mon morning. Three officers and five N.C.Os. of the R.C.A.F. were attached to this unit to-day for a period of two weeks during which they will observe organization and trg of an inf bn. A dance was held at the Bn.H.Q. Officers' Mess with Brigadier J.E. Sager, ED and several members of his staff in attendance. The dance was rather a colourful affair with the officers' of the land, sea and air forces in attendance. Music was supplied by the R.A.F. Band of the Ford Airport. Essex Scot officers from C.M.H.Q. BACK DOWN TO A DECENT LEVEL WERE PRESENT. Majors Lorne MacDonald, Ralph Shepherd came from C.M.H.Q. Major L. Deziel from Div, Major Don Mingay from 4 Bde with L.O. K Rands, Major "Tommy" Jones, D.A.A.G. (2 Div). Sir Richard and Lady Gregory were present as were a number of the sports Executive and friends of the unit from Middleton Area.	Ref
	9 May		Still no let up in the weather and the wind continues to blow furiously. Church parade for all ranks voluntary to-day so undoubtedly the Padre with be rather a lonesome man. All ranks not on essential duties have the day off and relaxation should be on the syllabus. All offrs are, it is stated, well on the way to recovery. Inspite of the after effects the dance was considered a huge success.	Ref
	10 May		Due to the l---y weather the original trg planned for to-day was called off and the time was spent on a recap of weapons . Even the batmen took a going over. A busy day was	Ref

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Middleton -on-Sea.	10 May		planned for 11 May 43 by the 2 i/c, Major Macdonald. C.O. called a meeting of all coofrs and N.C.Os. with the view to the War Loan - asking for the combined efforts of all personnel pointing out the necessity for co-operation and the soundness of the investment itself - Lieut. Ely of Bde gave a very plausible explanation, to the meeting - Essex over the top is hoped. Major H.J. Kennedy, M.C. was attached w.e.f. this date to 9 Armd Fd Regt for trg prior to his return to Canada and the Staff Course.	R.H.
	11 May		Reveille 0400 hrs and breakfast 0500 hrs, At 0600 hrs, 'A' & 'B' Coys moved off by march route to trg area no. 7. At 1100 hrs 'F' Echelon and 'p' Coy moved off, to the same area. Exercise commenced at 1300 hrs with a demonstration of the PIAT by Lieut. S.B. Macdonal. The PIAT a new anti-tank weapon looked very formidable in this demonstration. It looks life-like and is a real tank "BUSTER". It may also be used as a mortar, a point that must not be overlooked. During the afternoon there were four phases of trg that were carried out by each coy. Capt. Hunden was in charge of the grenade throwing and all ranks had plenty of practice in this phase. Mortar men under the direction of Sg.t Collie spent the afternoon blasting away on the 3" mortar. Lieut. S.B. Macdonal supervised pl attacks on High Titten, MR.527307, ref map sheet 133, 1" to 1 mile. This was the first opportunity for many men who have recently come up from the Holding Unit to fire these weapons and to acquaint themselves with the blasting and noise which the firing of the different weapons produce. It was valuable trg and good practice for all who participated. During the evening 'A' Coy under command of Capt. D. Campbell took up a defensive position in NORTHDOWN FARM MR.522091, ref sheet 133, 1" to 1 mile. At 2200 hrs 'B' Coy under command of Capt H.C. Laird make a left flanking attack. 'A' Coy withdrew and quickly and made a successful counter attack. Patrols were active during the night and sleep was out of the question. Major S.C. Readd was President of a Court Martial at the R. Regt C. Lt. Col. Mothersill attended a dinner at 'A' Mess in honour of the new Divisional Commander, Major General Burns. All Lt. Cols and above attended the very successful dinner.	R.H.
	12 May		At 0600 hrs 'A' Coy reversed the procedure and carried out an attack on 'B' Coy. This was completed by 0630 hrs. The road was now the main object and at 0730 hrs a hot breakfast was several minutes, late. At 0815 hrs his troops proceeded to return to the area. 'F' Ech proceeded on a head arrived at the unit area at 0915 hrs.	R.H.

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Middleton on Sea.	12 May		Marching troops reached unit area at 1545 hrs. It had been rather a tough grind but everybody was in good condition on arrival back at unit area. This afternoon all coys are having organized rest and it has been well earned. At 1930 hrs all officers of the unit and attached attended a Buffet Dinner at the Bn.H.Q. Officers' Mess. It was an occasion of farewell wishes to Major H.J. Kennedy, MC and to Captain A.M. Hayes who are leaving shortly for Staff Courses in Canada. Both officers expressed their regret in leaving the bn, and hoped to be back again soon. At 1300 hrs a party of 36 O.Rs. left the unit for R.U. They were the overage and medically unfit being returned in accordance with Mobilization Orders. Many old timers were amongst the party such as Ptes. Eddy Dupuis, the C.O's. dvr, Pte. Edwards the Officers' Mess Cook., L/Cpl. Burd of 'A' Coy, Loie Rusak the tailor, 'Pop' Rigrose and many others who will be missed around the area. He C.O. was like that, and said in a few words that he hated to see them go.	R.H.
	13 May		The weather was fair with southerly winds and temps ranging from 78 to 55 degrees. 25 officers and 300 O.Rs. rose at an early hour for a move to the Long Siberia Ranges. At approx 0700 hrs tps moved in marching column to Bogner Regis Ry Station. The boarded a special train for Brookwood and thence on foot again to ranges. The remainder of the morning was taken up with zeroing rifles etc. and firing practice commenced at approx 1300 hrs. The 1st practice was 5 rds grouping at 100 yds and the majority of the men were put through in the afternoon. A party was detailed to arrange for sleeping accommodation. The men returned from the ranges to tents about 1930 hrs, cleaned up and were allowed to leave the area. The C.O. and Capt. H.W.P. THOMSON reported to Div for instr on MAGPIE. Both are to act as umpires, Lt. Col. Mothersill as Bde Umpire and Capt. Thomson as a unit umpire. Major H.J. Kennedy left for attachment to 9 Armd Pd Regt upon the completion of which he will have to report to N.E.T.D. prior to reporting to Brockville Staff College.	R.H.
	14 May		Reveille at 0600 hrs, breakfast 0600 hrs and then away to ranges for another full day. All indications were for another fine day but no one anticipated the extreme heat later endured. The 100 yd, 5 rd grouping practice was completed, then a practice in grouping application and snap-shooting was run off at 200 yds. Butt Party was given relief before completion of the day and so every man proceeded through the different relays before the day ended. There was a marked improvement in the shooting and generally speaking all ranks	R.H.

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Middleton -on- Sea.	14 May		qualified in one class or another - good or bad. Brigadier Sager was in attendance and he explained to the coaches the capacity in which he wished them to act and at completion of day they were commended on their fine job which was quite evident by the good shooting. A few of the coaches were namely A/CS.M. Murray, Sgt. Dickson, Cpls Lucas, Anders n and others. The Butt Party did an excellent job under the supervision of Lieut. L.J. Courtin. Lieut. S.H. Bull was in charge of the firing point. O.C. Party was Major B.J.S. Macdonald who expressed his pride in the good show. After a hot supper the moved off on foot to Brookwood Station, entrained and returned to Bognor Regis. Obviously the men were inspired by the remarks on their work as they burst into song upon entertaining and there was no let up until they reached their billets at Middleton at approx 2400 hrs. The 'I' Section under command of Lieut. W.C. Wilson I.O. spent a very instructional day at 4 Cdn Inf Bde, H.Q., Intelligence Office, on Arial Photographs. The morning was taken up with lectures and after luncheon and tea an exercise incorporating all the principals given in lectures. The A/Tk Pl went to BEACH HEAD Ranges for a shoot under the direction of Lieut. E.C. D. Washer Capt. H.W.P. Thomson, O.C. H.Q. Coy was in charge of the party. Shoot most successful and helped to give the Pl a bit of action in firing practice - something that is very much needed.	Rel
	15 May		Weather cont inues fair but wind shifted to N.W. decreasing towards evening. Middleton has had some rather nasty weather as of late. Middleton although well situated on the south coast has a record for exceedingly bad weather during the winter months. Middle of the month pay parade for O.R. commencing 0800 hrs, in the following order, BN.H.Q., H.Q., 'Sp', 'B', 'C' & 'A' Coys. A new appointment has been created that of Unit Security Officer, which is being filled very capably by Major B.J.S. Macdonald. The officers of Bn.H.Q. were at noon honoured in having as their	Rel

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Middleton -on- Sea.	15 May		<p>guests Brigadier M.F. Gregg, VC, MC, Lt. Col. A. Amundsden, both recent arrivals from Canada to study and observe trg in England. The R/Hon Lord Milne, GCB, GCMG, DSO and Lt. Col. J.H. Mothersill, ED had pleasure of dining with Sir Richard and Lady Gregory. Returning to-day to the unit from 5 C.T.S. Battle Wing are Lieut. G.A. Rau, Lieut. F.B. Walton, Lieut. Hodges, Sgt. Invison, Cpl. Little, Cpl. Charetti and Cpl. Earle. A party of 39 O.Rs. proceeded to Bde to form part of a comp Guard of Honour for Lt. Gen H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, KG, KT, KP, GCB, GCMG, GCVO on the 20 May 43. The Essex group under Lieut. 'Sandy' Washer, C.S.M. Bristow, Sgt. 'Jimmy' Hamilton will be in for it - spit and polish and plenty of it. It is rumoured that they will even press their shoe laces???? (They did).</p>	Rh
	16 May		<p>At this time of year it is much enjoyable to hold church parade in the open air and the unit was fortunate in having a bright, warm day for the occasion. All coys paraded to Middleton Sports Club for the outdoor service conducted by our Padre Captain J. Cardy. Parade was called at 0900 hrs. All ranks wore battle dress. Needless to say our Pipe Band was in attendance. One small black cat nearly stole the show by his antics in front of the Padre. A welcome guest here was Lieut. 'Bud' Lunch of No. 3 C.I.R.U. who spent the week-end here.</p>	Rh
	17 May		<p>Friday finds us still being favoured with nice weather. A skeleton Bn.H.Q. staff is busy preparing for Exercise 'MAGPIE' which begins 18 May 43. Due to loss of fifty-three over-age and category men who were transferred to No. 3 C.I.R.U. and also special guards, coy trg was somewhat hampered, but where possible, trg was carried out as per coy syllabus. Sprv G.W.C. Ginn (Aux Services) Y.M.C.A. was responsible for the presentation of the film "In Which We Serve", shown at the Phoenix Club this evening to other ranks. In the morning Capt. Lund and Lieut. Cohen proceeded to Div to attend an 'A' & 'Q' meeting pertaining to a move to the summer camp at HALMAKER. (We are going to miss Middleton.) Areas and handling of stores were the chief topics. Tentative move for the Essex, 8 Jun 43, and the unit will be the last to move. Of course we will move first and either eight days sooner or later!</p>	Rh

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Middleton -on- Sea.	18 May		<p>Brigadier J.E. Sager, ED reviewed the inspection and Exercise 'BEACH' at a conference of officers at "Chenies". Generally speaking NOT bad - Brogadiers speaking NOT GOOD. Lieut. F.B. Walton proceeded on a five day security course.</p> <p>At 0800 hrs, personnel participating in Exercise 'MAGPIE' moved off in vehs. Total personnel taking part from this bn were 25 all ranks. Purpose of exercise was to (a) breakout from shallow bridgehead formed by other troops. (b) pursuit with special reference to moves of H.Q. by bounds and problem of maintaining contact, comm incidental to such moves. (c) passing of information. Exercised commenced at 1000 hrs. Officers taking part were as follows:- Major B.J.S. Macdonald, A/Officer Commanding, Capt. J.C. Cottrell, R.C.A.P.C., acting as Adjutant, Lieut. Wilson, I.O., Lieut. Taylor, Signal Officer. Lt. Col. Mothersill was chief umpire for Bde and Bn Umpire was Capt. H.W.P. Thomson. Ultimately we took up a hedgehog posn area PETWORTH and were by-passed by 5 Cdn Inf Bde. It was in this area we bivouac for the night. Back with the unit again, A/Capt. D.J. Hunden, 2 i/c 'C' Coy left to-day on a two week course for Coy Comds in Night Battle Drill. Concert Party to-night, presented for an audience of some 200, the play, 'ALL ABOARD'. 'Sp' Coy is on Bn. Duties for the week. Other coys carried out tag or tried too. The weather was quite hot to-day, appreciated by all especially by those on Exercise 'MAGPIE'. To-day another eighty all ranks left for PADDOCKHURST PK, where they will be doing a Corps Guard, at Adm Corps H.Q. is as follows: Eighty all ranks were taken from the following coys in the following breakdown: 50 all ranks 'B' Coy, 30 a 1 ranks 'C' Coy, including Capt R.J. Harris and Lieut. Courtin who were officers in charge of the party. The 2 i/c Major B.J.S. Macdonald was as mad as hell! Bang! Goes another trg syllabus. They do everything to help upstairs and we need the trg. If you are not dressing and undressing for a Bde Gd og Honour, your're providing window dressing for Corps.</p>	<p>Rol</p>
	19 May		<p>To-day makes the ninth consecutive day of fair weather and indications are for it to continue. Referring to Exercise 'MAGPIE' again, the Cease Fire order came through from Bde at 1210 hrs, as dinner was eaten in haste and party moved off for Bn Area, Middleton at 1245 hrs arriving at 1415 hrs, With the coys trg was carried</p>	<p>Rol</p>

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Middleton -on- Sea.			as per syllabus, wherever possible. Apart of the officers consisting of Major S.C. Reade, Capt. J.A. Wansbrough, Lieut. G.A. Ponsford and Lieut. R.L. Cohen made a recce of the new bn area to which the bn expects to move at an early dated and plotted coy areas. It will be sad for all ranks when the bn leave Middleton, but it will be a break for the unit. It needs to get together officers and men for trg and morale. With Major Macdonald in charge of the training watch the unit climb to a new height. But providing gds seriously hampers the trg and the situation is now serious. Strength State 630 all ranks classification.	Rok
	20 May		Weather continues fine. Coys carried on with and all those available for to-morrows parade, cleaned and pressed uniforms and blanccoed webbing to prevent a bad turn for the visit of the guard of honour for the Duke of Gloucester, which is to put on a demonstration. All officers and N.COs. attended a security meeting at Littlehampton. Lieut. Baxter and Lieut. MacLellan are back with the unit again. The former was on P.E. of Mortar Wing and Lieut. MacLellan was attending a Carrier Course at No. 3 C.I.R. U.	Rok
	21 May		The day for the demonstration to be given by the Guard of Honour which performed for the Duke of Gloucester. All personnel who could be available were paraded to the Middleton Sports Club at 0830 hrs, to witness the demonstration. At 0930 hrs the Guard arrived from Bde accompanied by Brigadier Sager and allranks reveiued with pride the performance of these men who had become quite proficient in their drill with such a short period of trg. The Brigadier spoke to the bn on matters such as dress and conduct of the soldier and used the guard which had been brought up to such a high standard of efficiency under his personal supervision as an example. After this fine show we undoubtably have a greater appreciation for the Brigadiers' regard for precision and exactness. Lt.Col. J.H. Mothersill, ED spoke to the guard and expressed his delight in watching the demonstrations and also his intentions to have the whole bn brought up to a similar standard. The weather to-day was fair and warm and a nice evening of sft-ball between the officers and the shoemaker which was played at the	Rok

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Middleton -on- Sea.	22 May		Middleton Sports Club. Giving credit where its due the officers tried hard but couldn't get a lead on the 'cobblers'. The Padre and I.O. were down to serious playing when they collided and the Adjt was right into the game as usual with his sensational catches etc., at the back of the plate. Lieut. W.H. Pope is leaving the unit for No. 3 C.I.R.U. where he will be on P.E. Coys carried on with training as best they could.	R.H.
	22 May		The weather was fine this morning until approximately 1000 hrs when it became cloudy and a little rain fell at 1100 hrs. Coys went on with training in the morning and those not on Bn. Duties had the afternoon free. An adm party of 1 sgt and 11 men proceeded to Camp to look after the canvas etc., The preparation of the HALNAKER CAMP has become a duty of Major S.E. Reade. Coy Comds meeting, move and general set up of the camp was discussed.	R.H.
	23 May		The Padre made a tour of all kitchens on Saturday and announced at the noon-day meal that Communion would be held to-day at the Y.M.C.A. at 1000 hrs and requested a good turn-out. The weather was clear and fairly warm and many of the over-age original members of the bn, recently preferred No. 3 C.I.R.U. to this unit, but were back again on the week-end to take advantage of our grand weather. The officers had an enjoyable afternoon in Bn.H.Q. Officers' Mess, where tea was served. Major 'Larry' Deziel paid the unit a visit and stayed for dinner and tea.	R.H.
	24 May		Owing to cancellation of trg syllabus last week in its greater part, all available troops will receive trg as laid down for last week and in addition all tps must be classified into three groups: (a) Trained soldier, N.C.O. material, (b) trained soldier, (c) others. This grading will be preliminary to organization. Lt.Col. Mothersill and Major Macdonald proceeded to Bde to attend Pm Comds trg conference. Lt. T.E. Steele joined rotation from No. 3 C.I.R.U. Lieuts Morgan, Hodges, and Pope want to No. 3 C.I.R.U. and rotation. These officers will be missed but they are good officers and they will do good at the R.U. on reinforcements. Size of the advance party at Halnaker increase. Meeting of selection committee, C.O., 2 i/c, Adjt, and	R.H.

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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12th BATT. BRITISH SCOTTISH REGIMENT
CANADIAN ARMY (OVERSEAS)

FORM 11
40/P 26 1/37

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton-on-Sea.	25 May		<p>all Coy Comds present. More important promotions were the boost in rank for Sgt. Logan 'A' Coy, Pte. Battle, H.Q. Coy, Cpl. Stannard, H.Q. Coy to A/C.S.M., A/L/Sgt. and A/Sgt. respectively. Several other ranks were confirmed in their ranks in No. 1 Platoon.</p> <p>Weather cloudy at 1400 hrs the rain began to fall. Training went on as usual and a continuation of classification of tps into categories. At 1500 hrs all available men were paraded to the beach opposite the Phoenix Club for a demonstration landing by a section of the 12th Commandos. It so happened that the tide came in more rapidly than expected and the section was unable to put on the display effectively. At 1800 hrs, all ranks paraded to the Phoenix Club to see the films 'Infantry Section Leader' and 'Map Reading'. These films contained much information and pointed out the desirable qualities of a good Section Leader and were appropriate at this particular time, when all ranks are being graded for N.C.O. material. Lt. Col. Mothersill proceeded to No. 3 C.I.R.U. with other bn comds of the Bde. Brigadier Sager was O.C. Party. The C.O. was able to arrange the return of several 'key' personnel on the following draft. Major Reade reports success at HALNAKER CAMP, still no definite word of 'D' day. It looks like the normal <u>TARFU</u>.</p>	Rsh
	26 May		<p>To-days training went as usual along with classification of tps. Some coys are making preparation 'awaiting' order to move to new area, as a result, the Sports Parade, scheduled for this afternoon was cancelled. At 1500 hrs, the beach patrol reported a mine floating in to shore. 'A' Coy opened fire on it with rifles and caused it to sink before reaching the shore, at Ebb-tide. It will be taken care of by the proper authorities. In the evening th officers listened to a most interesting lecture by Captain Graham McLaughlin of the R.R.C. who spoke on the African Campaign. He served four months with English Regiments. All officers learnt more from this lecture than they have for months and all were envious of his experience. Weather fine, but air had a definite 'blue tinge' when word was received that the unit would move to HALNAKER on the 28 May 43. 'TARFU' was correct - unit moves final instrs given and the unit moves first instead of last. The G.E. of course was instructed to prepare other unit camps before Halnaker and everything will be piled up. Usual test to maintain order</p>	Rsh

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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.	27 May		<p>a chaos worked out by higher fmn.</p> <p>The weather continued fair again to-day but training was interrupted due to move to new area, at HALNAKER. 'B' & 'C' Coys moved to-day and remainder of bn will be leaving to-morrow. 53 personnel were taken on strength from No. 3 C.I.R.U. and are posted to the various coys. Lieut. W.C. Wilson, I.O. left to-day on a two days course on A.B.C.A. which is being held at Chatham House, St. James Sq., London. He accompanied the 2/i/c, Major B.J.S. Macdonald who would be terminating his course by proceeding on leave. H/Capt. Cardy also attended the course. The eighty other ranks under Captain Harris and Lieut. Courtin returned from the visit to Corps. They moved by march route from BOGNOR REGIS on the road to HALNAKER.</p>	Rh
	28 May		<p>Remainder of the Bn moved to new location. Bn.H.Q. closed down at Middleton-on-Sea and opened up at HALNAKER at 1200 hrs. O.C. rear party is Major C.S. Reade. Light and variable wind to-day with temperature ranging from 52 to 60 degrees. Bn.H.Q. was busy getting established. General opinion of the camp good. It is to in order (more or less) by Mon, 31 May 43. Of great opportunity is the nearness of the Mortar and Rifle Ranges which have been badly needed for the trg of personnel. Probably now the 2" Mortar will become known to all instead of being a foreign weapon. To-day word was received the Col. Mothersill was to vacate command of the regiment w.e.f. 26 May 43. and Major B.J.S. Macdonald will take over command of the unit w.e.f. 27 May 43. Auth C.M.H.Q. M.S.5935 dated 28 May 43. Col Mothersill now has had command of the unit since DIEPPE and has experienced just about every difficulty imaginable, new officers, new other ranks from top to bottom and a consequent lack of qualified coy comds. He had to contend with the short sighted policy of higher fmn who insisted that the bn would have to re-organize and at the same time would carry out an operational role on the coast in a location that was undeniably difficult as the unit was distributed along the coast, in a civilian area whilst control made things a bit difficult and awkward. In spite of these difficulties he has made a good job of re-</p>	Rh

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Middleton -on- Sea.	29 May		<p>organizing the unit and it is rather rubbing it in to have the unit move to such a set up as HALNAKER CAMP, a move he has advocated from the beginning, just as he has to relinquish command of the bn because of the inevitable over-age, something no one can do anything about. It is with great relief that the command is to be passed to an Essex Scot and to one such as Major Macdonald, who is well qualified to take over the bn. There is little doubt that the unit will continue to improve, aided greatly by Lt. Col. Macdonald's knowledge of training methods and his varied experience.</p> <p>This morning found the unit pretty well settled and all the coys busy cleaning up. A visit from the Brigadier at 1000 hrs so everyone got right up and went to work so as to have good things in good shape, before his arrival. However the Brigadier did not show up and it is concluded the Bde Area must have demanded his attention. At noon the camp was beginning to take on a tidy appearance as a results of the morning efforts. The whole bn is camped in a fairly heavy wood at the south end of Home Fm Estate which is surrounded by a high stone wall which eliminates the necessity of so many guards. Numerous trails branch out from the main road running from the gate to HOME FARM, which henceforth will be named London Street. Bn.H.Q. is located on the north side of Oulette Ave. at M.R.338277. All the trails have been named after streets in Windsor, Ont., due to a suggestion b R.S.W. Potts. Thanks to the usual tireless efforts of Supervisor Ginn of the Y.M.C.A. the boys enjoyed the showing of highly rated films such as 'Pride of the Yankees'. Before the picture Capt. Cardy requested of the men to feel it their duty to attend the Church Service to be held in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, Sunday morning. Capt Cardy and Lieut. W.C. Wilson returned to the unit this evening having vrompleted a course on A.R.C.A. Those attending the course had the pleasure of hearing such speakers as the Hon., Vincent Massey, Anthony Eden and other noted personalities from Australia, Africa and India. The weather was fine and warm with light variable winds.</p> <p>Bn had time out for a rest. All ranks have been very much busy and short leaves were held up in view of the needfor getting settled. Church Services were</p>	<p>Roh</p> <p>Roh</p> <p>Roh</p>
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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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

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

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Halnaker	31 May		<p>were both voluntary and both padres expressed pleasure as the attendance was quite good. Drop in temperature - looks like rain.</p> <p>All ranks busy in getting into fatigues and into getting the camp area in shape because to-morrow its back to the trg syllabus again if its possible to follow the trg syllabus, at all. The biggest trouble the poor bn comd has to contend with are the amendments sent down, from Bde and higher fm to assist (?) him in carrying it out. No. 3 Platoon did get in some Mortar practice during the day and it looks like we can credit them with some very nice shooting. In fact at the end of the day the whole camp had a tidier appearance. As predicted - rain fell during the early morning, but it was fine for the clean-up.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>B.J.S. Macdonald</i> (B.J.S. MACDONALD, ED) Lt.Col., Officer Commanding, Essex Scottish Regiment.</p> <p>/BJSM/jd</p> <p>NOTE:</p> <p>Lt. Col. B.J.S. Macdonald did not actually take over command of the bn until his return to the unit on the 28 May 43. He proceeded on leave with effect 29 May and as he had proceeded on an A.B.C.A. Course on the 27 May 43 was not informed of his taking over Command of the unit till a telegram caught up to him in Dublin.</p>	<p><i>Roh</i></p> <p><i>Roh</i></p>

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1st BN., THE ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT
(CANADIAN ARMY OVERSEAS)

APPENDICES TO THE WAR DIARY

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| Appendix | 1. | - | Part I Orders. |
| | 2. | - | Part II Orders. |
| | 3. | - | Weekly Syllabus of Training. |
| | 4. | - | Weekly Field Returns. |
| | 5. | - | Movement Orders - Movement Instructions -
Operation Orders - Operation Instructions. |
| | 6. | - | Demonstration - miscellaneous etc. |

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