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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date 1941	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
ALDERSHOT.	FEB. 1		A NORMAL DAY. THERE WERE NO AFTERNOON TRAINING AND ALL RANKS WHO HAD NO SPECIFIC DUTIES WERE FREE FROM 1200HRS.	Rao
	2		CHURCH PARADE WAS HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH IN SEARCH FOR PROTESTANTS AND AT ST. MICHAEL'S GARRISON CHURCH FOR THE R.C.O. THE COLONEL AND A/ADJUTANT MADE A RESCUE OF THE AREA OVER WHICH AN ATTACK EXERCISE WILL BE HELD BY THE REGT. ON 5 FEB. 41.	Rao
	3		2/LIEUT. A. D. MOTHERSILL, BROTHER OF LIEUT. J. D. MOTHERSILL AND CAPT. D. J. MOTHERSILL, R.C.O., WHO HAS RECENTLY ARRIVED IN THIS COUNTRY FROM CANADA VISITED THE REGT AND GAVE THE OFFICERS INTERESTING SIDE-LIGHTS ON CONDITIONS AT HOME.	Rao
	4		LIEUT. J. A. WILLIS RETURNED TO THE UNIT FROM BARON'S CORVALESCENT HOME. HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE COMPLETELY RECOVERED BUT INSISTS THAT HE IS FIT. A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER IN THE OFFICIAL PERSONNEL. LIEUT. WILLIS BECOMES A/T.C. OF HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, LIEUT. R. F. SHERIDAN, R.C.O. BECOMES A/T.C., LIEUT. H. J. KENNEDY BECOMES A/CARRIER PL. OFFICER, LIEUT. E. S. MCCORMICK BECOMES A/T.C. AND LIEUT. L. J. COOKE CONTINUES AS A/ADJUTANT. SYLLABUS FOR THE WEEK ATTACHED. (APPX. 2)	Rao APPENDIX 1
	5		THE GOVS WERE EXERCISED IN NORMAL TRAINING THROUGHOUT THE DAY BUT IN PREPARATION FOR THE ATTACK SCHEME SCHEDULED FOR 5 PM. ALL RANKS WERE CONFINED TO BARRACKS AFTER 1800HRS AND LIGHTS OUT SOUNDED AT 2115HRS. LT-COL. PEARSON AND THE A/ADJUTANT ATTENDED AT THE REGT. HQS. OFFICE AT 1900HRS TO RECEIVE HIS ORDERS AND SUBSEQUENTLY A MEETING OF THE OFFICERS OF THE UNIT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DIVIDING THE COLONEL'S ORDERS. THIS EXERCISE IS INTERESTING IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT ALL OPERATIONS ARE TO BE CONDUCTED BY SMALL UNITS. THE COLONEL ISSUED OPERATION ORDER #2, GIVING PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS. (SEE APPX. 2)	Rao APPENDIX 2
	6		REVEILLE WAS AT 0345HRS, BREAKFAST AT 0500HRS AND FALL IN AT 0545HRS. THE HEAD OF THE COLUMN PASSED THE DRN. S.P. AT 0600HRS. THE REGIMENT DEBUNKED IN THE AREA ALLOCATED AND MARCHED TO AN ASSEMBLY AREA WHERE THEY WAITED UNTIL THE ATTACK EXERCISE STARTED. THE WHOLE SCHEME WAS MOST INTERESTING AND PREDICTIVE AND ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER WAS UNPLEASANT, IT WAS APPRECIATED BY ALL RANKS. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EXERCISE THE REGIMENT HAD A HOT MEAL AND STARTED FOR HOME VIA MARCH ROUTE AT 1800HRS ARRIVING AT 2100HRS. THE MEN WERE TIRED BUT NOT BY MEANS MUCHLY. THERE WAS SOME SUGGESTION THAT THE A/ADJUTANT COULDN'T TAKE IT MUCH OF SCARCE WAS A FALSE REPORT.	Rao
	7		AFTER A REFRESHING REST THE REGIMENT RETURNED TO NORMAL TRAINING DUTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRAINING SYLLABUS. THE C.O. WAS CALLED TO A CONFERENCE WITH THE BRIGADE COMMANDER AT 1700HRS AT WHICH TIME HE WAS ADVISED THAT THE BRIGADE WOULD BE VISITED ON 7 FEB. 41 BY SIR JOHN DILL, CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL GENERAL STAFF. (SEE PROGRESSIVE ATTACHED, APPX. 3)	Rao APPENDIX 3
	8.		THE REGIMENT MOVED OFF TO THE AREA ATTRIBUTED TO IT FOR DISTINGUISHED VISITORS EXERCISES AT 0800HRS. THE GOVS ALL HAD AN HOUR TIME TO ARRANGE PROGRAMMES TO BE INSPECTED AND THE DRN. ARRIVED AT 1130HRS. AFTER A RATHER HURRIED INSPECTION THE DRN. HAD LUNCH IN THE FIELD AND RETURNED TO BARRACKS AT 1400HRS.	Rao
	9.		A NORMAL, ROUTINE MORNING. THE AFTERNOON WAS TAKEN UP GENERALLY BY PREPARATION NECESSITATED BY COLONEL'S PEARSON'S EXPECTED ABSENCE ON LEAVE.	Cao
	10		COLONEL PEARSON LEFT AT 1000HRS FOR HIS LEAVE. ORDERS WERE RECEIVED FROM REGT. HQ. IN CONNECTION WITH A DIVISIONAL EXERCISE INVOLVING ALL FORMATION HEADQUARTERS IN THE 2 DIV. COLONEL MOTHERSILL AND LIEUT. MCCORMICK MADE A RESCUE OF THE GENERAL AREA ALLOCATED TO THE REGIMENT AND DECIDED TO ESTABLISH HQ. AT THE HEAD OF THE WELLINGTON HOTEL NEAR ALDERSHOT. (SEE APPX. 4 FOR RESCUE REPORT). LIEUT. D. J. GUEST WAS NOTIFIED THAT HIS DR. WOOD WOULD COMPETE IN THE REGT. SKILL AT ARMS COMPETITION. HE WOULD COMPETE IN THE REGT. FINALS COMMENCING 0800HRS, 10 FEB. 41.	Cao APPENDIX 4
	11		C COY COMPILED A BATT. PARTY OF 36 MEN, 3 DRIVERS AND 3 OFFICERS FOR THE REGT. FINALS SKILL AT ARMS COMPETITION. THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE DR. 811TH THE EXCEPTION OF THE DR. H.Q. SCHEME GROUP CARRIED OUT NORMAL TRAINING. THE SCHEME GROUP CONSISTING OF THE A/T.C., 2/LIEUT. MOTHERSILL, THE A/ADJUTANT, THE A/T.C., ONE SIG. OFFICER, 4 INT. MEN, TWO Q.M. CLERKS, A COOK, 7 DRIVERS AND 22 SIGNALLERS, LEFT THE BARRACK AREA AT 0600HRS AND ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES AT THE WELLINGTON HOTEL AT 1000HRS. CAPT. S. COOKE OF THE CAMDEN HIGHLANDERS, DR. 811TH, ARRIVED AND REPORTED AT 1200HRS. THE REGT. WAS DESIGNED TO TEST COMMUNICATIONS AND DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION RESERVE. THE REGT. WAS REQUIRED TO MOVE TO THE WELLINGTON HOTEL AT 1200HRS. REGT. DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION RESERVE ARRIVED AT 1200HRS, SPOTTED, ETC. AND THE REGT. ARRIVED AT ITS NEW DESTINATION AT 2115HRS.	Cao

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PAGE TWO

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ALDERSHOT	FEB. 21		THE COMMUNICATION SILENCE CONTINUED UNTIL 1200HRS. THE PARTY ARRIVED BACK IN THE BARRACKS AREA AT 2430HRS. (SEE APPX. 5 FOR LOG) MAJOR C. H. WILLIAMS ACTED AS G.O.C. AND LIEUT. D. T. PEADE ACTED AS ADJUTANT DURING THE SILENCE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED. SYLLABUS FOR THE WEEK ATTACHED, SEE APPX. 6.	<i>Reo</i> APPENDIX 5
	22		LIEUT. D. T. PEADE WAS ADVISED THAT HIS PL. HAD WON THE G.O.C. COMPETITION IN THE SKILL AT ARMS TEST. LIEUTENANTS J. A. TILLIS AND L. A. DEZEL HAD AN INTERVIEW BY THE G. O. C., GENERAL VALUE, IN THE MORNING IN CONNECTION WITH PENDING PROMOTIONS. THE BATTALION WAS NOTIFIED OF A G.O.C. ATTACK WHICH WOULD COMMENCE ON ONE HOUR'S NOTICE AFTER 2000HRS THIS DATE.	<i>Reo</i> APPENDIX 6
	23		THE UNIT UNDER COMMAND BY MAJOR J. H. BENTONNEAU WAS ENGAGED FROM 0245HRS UNTIL 2200HRS THIS DATE ON A BRIGADE ATTACK EXERCISE. THE MOVE BY H.T. TO THE DEMARSH POINT AT BILFORD WAS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT INCIDENT. THERE WAS A LONG PERIOD OF INACTIVITY UNTIL ORDERS FOR AN ATTACK WERE RECEIVED AT 1200HRS TOO LATE FOR THE MID-DAY MEAL TO BE RECEIVED. THE EXERCISE WAS COMPLETED AT 2200HRS AND AFTER A HOT MEAL WAS SERVED THE TROOPS RETURNED BACK TO BARRACKS, A DISTANCE OF 20 MILES. H.T. WAS FORMED UP IN CONVOY AND RETURNED TO BARRACKS UNDER LIEUT. R. F. MURRAY, M.G. HOT DRIVING AND CAME HOME SEVEN HRS ARRIVAL AT BARRACKS.	<i>Reo</i>
	24		DUE TO THE STRENuous EXERCISE OF YESTERDAY'S DATE A CHANGE WAS MADE IN ROUTINE TO PERMIT SILENCE TO BE ONE HOUR LATER THAN USUAL. THE BRIGADE COMMANDER WITNESSED A PRACTICE OF LIEUT. D. T. PEADE'S PLATOON WHICH WILL COMPETE FOR THE COMMAND CHAMPIONSHIP TOMORROW. HE EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS BEING PLEASED WITH THE PERFORMANCE. A PHOTOGRAPHER ACTING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HIGH AGENCY TOOK NUMEROUS PHOTOGRAPHS FOR PUBLICATION IN NEWSPAPERS ABROAD. A RUE CONFERENCE WAS HELD AT THE STATION, DURHAM, IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTACK SILENCE OF 13 FEB. 41.	<i>Reo</i>
	25		THE FINALS IN THE SKILL AT ARMS COMPETITION FOR THE ALDERSHOT COMMAND WERE HELD THIS DATE COMMENCING AT 0800HRS. IN THIS CONNECTION THE G.O.C. INSPECTED LIEUT. D. T. PEADE'S PLATOON AND EXPRESSED HIS BEST WISHES FOR THEIR SUCCESS. THE BOTHERSILL BROTHERS POSED FOR A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE AFTERNOON.	<i>Reo</i>
	26		THE USUAL CHURCH PARADE FOR ALL RANKS AT 0800HRS WAS FOLLOWED BY A QUIET DAY.	<i>Reo</i>
	27		SYLLABUS FOR THE WEEK ATTACHED, APPX. 7. COL. PEARSON RETURNED FROM LEAVE AND EXPENDED HIMSELF WELL RESTED.	APPENDIX 7
		SOME TRAINING INCLUDED A THREE-MILE RUN FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHOOSING A TEAM TO REPRESENT THE REGIMENT IN A FIVE-MILE RACE TO BE STAGED BY 2 SDU. DIV.	<i>Reo</i>	
		COL. PEARSON RECEIVED RECORDINGS MADE AT THE 1900HRS AT HOME ON NEW YEARS IN THRORE.		
	28		THIS WAS ONE OF THE QUIETEST DAYS EXPERIENCED BY THE UNIT SINCE RETURNING FROM BRITAIN. A WORKING PARTY OF 10 MEN UNDER 2/LIEUT. TURNER RE-ARMED BOMB SHELF FOR THE SOUTH ALBEMARLE COMMAND.	<i>Reo</i>
	29		THE DAY WAS SPENT IN PREPARATION FOR THE VISIT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING TO DURHAM. COLONEL PEARSON ATTENDED A CONFERENCE AT 0800HRS AND HELD THREE CONFERENCES WITH HIS COY LEADS. THEN ALL ARRANGEMENTS WERE COMPLETE. AT ABOUT 1800HRS AN ORDER WAS RECEIVED CANCELLED ALL ARRANGEMENTS DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND CONTROL.	<i>Reo</i>
	30		DUE TO CANCELLATION OF THE DISTINGUISHED VISITOR PROGRAMME, NORMAL ROUTINE TRAINING AS LAID DOWN IN THE SYLLABUS WAS FOLLOWED. 275,000 CIGARETTES WAS RECEIVED BY THE UNIT FROM THE RIBBLE SMOKES FUND COMMITTEE FOR DISTRIBUTION AMONG ALL RANKS. INFORMATION HAVING BEEN RECEIVED THAT LIEUT. J. D. HUNTER WAS THE FATHER OF A BABY BOY, AN INFORMAL CELEBRATION WAS HELD IN THE OFFICERS' BARRACKS...AN INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENT IN CONNECTION WITH FORTHCOMING DIVISIONAL EXERCISES WAS RECEIVED TODAY, COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED AS APPX. 8.	<i>Reo</i>
	31		THE BATTALION ADVISE WAS RECEIVED PERTAINING TO THE DIVISIONAL EXERCISE TO BE HELD 26, 27 AND 28 FEB. 41. A CONFERENCE OF BATTALION COMMANDERS WAS HELD AT 0800HRS AT 1000HRS TO DISCUSS AVAILABLE DETAILS AND TO MAKE RETENTION MAPS. THE G.O.C. HELD A CONFERENCE OF ALL OFFICERS THIS EVENING AT 1930HRS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCOMMODATING THE OFFICERS WITH THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION. AN OFFICE TRUCK WAS DELIVERED FOR USE BY 0800HRS. IT APPEARS TO EXTREMELY SMALL, BUT MAY PROVE EFFECTIVE.	<i>Reo</i> APPENDIX 8
	22		FOLLOWING THE PARADE THE G.O.C. AND A/ADMIRALITE MADE A RIDE OF THE AREA OVER WHICH IT IS EXPECTED THE PROPOSED DIVISIONAL EXERCISE WILL BE HELD. THEY WERE MET IN THE AREA AT 1400HRS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH COY AT WHICH THE COYS ASSEMBLY AREAS WERE ALLOCTED. ALL OFFICERS THEN MADE ROUNDS OF ALL ROUTES WHICH MIGHT BE USED. THE FINALS IN THE FIVE MILE ROAD COURSE WERE HELD AT 1000HRS. THIS UNIT PLACED	<i>Reo</i> APPENDIX 9

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Place	Date 1941.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
ALDERSHOT, ENGL.	FEB. 23		SUNDAY. - THE USUAL CHURCH PARADE WAS FOLLOWED BY A QUIET DAY. THE FIVE SETS OF OFFICER BROTHERS, THE MCKERSILLS, DEZIELS, WILLIAMS-GUEST, GREENS AND TURNBULLS HAD A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN WITH THE COMMANDING OFFICER.	ccw
	24		MAJOR F. K. JASPERSON RETURNED TO THE BN. FOR DUTY FOLLOWING AN ABSENCE OF 10 WEEKS ON COMMAND. TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 26 FEB. 41 ATTACHED AS APPX. 10. THE SIGNALS EXERCISE SCHEDULED FOR 26-28 FEB. 41 WAS CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORPS EXERCISE SCHEDULED FOR 26-28 FEB. 41. NOTIFICATION WAS RECEIVED THAT THE BN. WOULD BE HOST AND WOULD QUARTER AND BATION BARRACKS 11 OFFICERS AND 210 OTHERS OF THE NO. 1 CLOSE SUPPORT BOMBER CONTROL, FOR AN UNDETERMINED PERIOD COMMENCING 25 FEB. 41.	ccw APPENDIX 10.
	25		THE AIR FORCE PERSONNEL MENTIONED YESTERDAY, HAVE ARRIVED. OTHER RANKS WERE QUARTERED IN THE LECTURE ROOMS AND THE OFFICERS WERE QUARTERED IN HAIDA HOUSE OFFICERS' CLUB. EXCEPT FOR ROUTINE PREPARATION FOR THE DIVISIONAL EXERCISE SCHEDULED FOR 26-28 FEB. 41, NORMAL TRAINING WAS CARRIED ON. ATTACHED WILL BE FOUND APPX. 11, RECORD DETAILS FOR THREE DAY TRANSPORT MOVE, DATED 25 FEB. 41.	ccw APPENDIX 11
	26		THE DIVISIONAL EXERCISE (D.D.C.) COMMENCED AT 0600HRS. A MOVEMENT ORDER WAS PUBLISHED, SEE HQ CO SICK BLDG. INSTRUCTION NO. 7 ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH D.D.C. HQ. ADMINISTRATION INSTRUCTION NO. 7. (SEE APPENDIX 12.)	ccw APPENDIX 12
	1700		THE REGIMENT MOVED BY H.T. TO A POINT OF DILEMMA NEAR FERNHURST ARRIVING ABOUT 2200HRS. THE AREA WAS SWARMED OF BUILDINGS AND THE MEN REQUIRED TO BIVOUAC. THE WEATHER TURNED TO RAIN AT 2100HRS AND CONDITIONS BECAME UNPLEASANT FOR BIVOUACED PERSONNEL.	ccw
	0030		ENEMY PLANES DROPPED A NUMBER OF BOMBS IN THE AREA BETWEEN 2045 & 2400HRS BUT NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AND NO DAMAGE DONE. THE HQ CO HQ ISSUED ORDERS FOR A MOVE TO AN ASSEMBLY AREA AT 0030HRS AND THE BATTALION MOVED ACCORDINGLY BY H.T. AT 0200HRS VISIBILITY WAS BAD AND THE ROADS WERE SLIPPERY. ONE TROOP CARRYING BUS BEGAN SLIPPING AND BLOCKED THE MOVEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES FOR TWO HOURS. UPON ARRIVAL IN THE ASSEMBLY AREA AT 0745 HRS BREAKFAST WAS EATEN IN A BLINDING RAIN AND AT 0900HRS THE BN. MOVED TO A RENDEZVOUS DESIGNATED BY THE HQ CO HQ, IN PREPARATION FOR A MOVE TO AN ATTACK STARTING LINE.	ccw
	0300		THE HQ CO HQ ISSUED FURTHER ORDERS AT 0200HRS AND THE BN. MADE A FURTHER MOVE ON MARCH ROUTE TO A FORWARD ASSEMBLY AREA WHERE THE COMMANDING OFFICER ISSUED ORDERS FOR THE ATTACK.	ccw
	0600		THE CEASE FIRE ORDER WAS GIVEN AT 0200HRS AND THE BN. MOVED BACK TO AN ENCLUSTED POINT IN PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE BACK TO BARRACKS. ORDERS WERE RECEIVED WHICH REQUIRED THE BN. TO PASS THE HQ. S.P. AT 0600HRS.	ccw
	28		THE BN. ARRIVED BACK IN BARRACKS BETWEEN 0300 & 0600HRS. REVEILLE WAS SOUNDED LATE AND NORMAL TRAINING WAS SUSPENDED FOR THE DAY TO ENABLE THE MEN TO CLEAN AND GET ASLEEP. THE ONLY PARADE CALLED WAS A BN. MARCH PARADE, WHICH WAS TERMINATED SATISFACTORILY.	ccw
			REGIMENTAL ORDERS, FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1941 -----	APPENDIX 13
			PART II ORDERS, FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1941 -----	APPENDIX 14
			WEEKLY FIELD RETURNS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1941 -----	APPENDIX 15
			WEEKLY OFFICER RETURNS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1941 -----	APPENDIX 16
			BATTALION STRENGTH (AS OF 28 FEB. 41, 2350HRS): 36 OFFICERS AND 722 OTHER RANKS.	

R Pearson
LT-COL.
COMMANDING ESSEX BATTALION (OVERSEAS)