

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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1st Bn., ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Slinfold Camp 1	MAR	44	<p>Reveille was at 0615 hrs this morning and first parade at 0730 hrs. There was a careful check-up on dress of all ranks so that the bn would be turned out in A-1 condition. Dress for the occasion was walking out dress plus web belt. Around 0820 hrs the Regt moved off for Christ's Hosp when it arrived around 0925 hrs. Here the units of 4 Cdn Inf Bde, incl HQ 4 Cdn Inf Bde, R. Regt C, R.H.L.I., Essex Scottish, 4 Cdn Fd Regt, 4 Cdn F.D.S., 11 Cdn Fd Amb and 4 Cdn Inf Bde Wksp RCOG, were formed up in an open square fmn. Bde unit was formed up in two groups separated by about ten yards. Offrs were in review order. At 1015 hrs two provosts on MC heralded the arrival of the Inspecting Party. Brig Lett ordered the General Salute when Gen Montgomery came onto the field, and the pipe band from the Regt played the salute. The Inspecting Party consisted of Gen Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, KCB, DSO, Capt Spooner, ADC; Lt Gen K. Stuart, CB, DSO, MC; Lt Col T. Warren; Major R.O.H. Carver; Lt Gen G.G. Simonds, CBE, DSO, Maj Gen C. Faulkes, CBE. On the command "Inwards Turn" the forward coy of each regt turned about, and the offrs spaced themselves along the front of each of the coys. Gen Montgomery and the inspecting party then walked down between the coys. On completing all units, the bde gathered around a jeep which Gen Montgomery used as a speaker's platform. The Gen spoke briefly expressing his wish to know the men who were going to be fighting with him in the coming Second Front. In knowing them he would have confidence in them and they, in turn, would, he hoped, have the same confidence in him. On completion of his short address, three cheers were given for Gen Montgomery who then made his departure. The bde then marched past a stand near the N.E. side of Christ's Hosp grounds where Brig Lett took the salute. In the afternoon, Col Macdonald inspected all pls of the bn and marks attained for best turn-out are to count on pl competition II which is now in progress. All personnel from the RAP except the M.O. left around 1600 hrs for 11 Fd Amb for one week. During their absence, their duties will be carried out by personnel from Fd Amb. On returning to Slinfold Camp there was a special bn march past at the camp entrance where CSM Merry took the salute. In the evening all offrs of Bde HQ and the three bns in the bde gathered at the RRC Offr's Mess at a farewell party for Brig Sager. The party took the form of a buffet supper and the supply of liquid refreshment was more than ample. During the evening Col Macdonald, as senior Bn Comd in 4 Bde, spoke briefly on behalf of the offrs of the Bde. In well chosen words he bade farewell to Brig Sager and wished him every success in whatever new appointment should be his. Brig Sager replied fittingly and related a couple of humorous stories which were new to the Bde. Three hearty cheers were then given for the retiring Brig.</p>	<p>of J</p>

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	2 MAR 44		Sp coy temporarily forgot that they are a mechanized outfit and went on a 15 mile route march today. The pl competition No II continued today with pls doing an exercise on the attack in an area between RACKHAM 4833 and GREATHAM COMMON 4834. Lts Martin, Goodenough, Havill, McDonald and Zaldin each put their pls through the exercise during the day. The adjt, Capt Tilston went to 2nd Echelon and 3 CIRU today to do some admin work. Col Macdonald and Major Jones are being kept busy, day and night it seems, on a play depicting how an attack is planned. Lt Wilson was ordered to bed by the M.O. today with a case of influenza.	FF
	3 MAR 44		Pl competitions continued today with Lts Morgan, Pope, and Cropp taking their pls through the attack exercise. C coy took over as duty coy. The Mortar and Carrier pls went to Lee Place Ranges for rifle practice, while the A tk pl used the sub calibre range at Findon. In the afternoon Bn HQ went on an exercise 'Movie' which gave practice in arranging the vehicles of Bn HQ when they move into a new position. Lts Martin and Goodenough took their pls on a 38 hr exercise. In the evening Sp coy put on a play in the 'Y' cinema. It featured the theme of Fagan foreclosing the mortgage on the homestead and was quite good. Sgt Wold was director of the show and turned in a very able performance.	FF
	4 MAR 44		SAT was given over to admin and interior economy after a busy week. 'D' Coy went to Sunoak Grenade Ranges for the day. At 1505 hrs, Cpl Dorey, W.G. of 'B' Coy went into the RAP and soon after passed away as a result of a heart attack. A Court of Inquiry was immediately convened with Major Clarke as President. Around 1600 hrs a coy comd's 'O' gp was held and trg for the coming week discussed.	FF
	5 MAR 44		Protestant Communion was held at 0915 hrs and regular Protestant Church parade at 1000 hrs. R.C. parade was held at 1115 hrs. Both services were held in the YMCA hut. HQ coy and Bn HQ spent the entire day at Kithurst Ranges and a large proportion qualified in all targets fired. Capt Alec Hayes dropped in to the Mess during the afternoon and says that the next rugby game to be played on 19 MAR 44 should be as good or better than the last. Several availed themselves of the opportunity to see a show in Horsham during the afternoon. In the evening the picture "Stanley & Livingstone" was shown in the 'Y' Cinema.	FF

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	6 MAR 44		<p>The week began with P.T. at 0715 hrs and although there was considerable grumbling, the exercise was good and needed by most personnel in the regt. At 0900 hrs, Lt W.C. Wilson, Unit Educ Offr left with a party of thirty all ranks on an educational tour of St Pauls Cathedral and the Tower of London. Attendance on the tour was a reward for personnel in the bn who have shown good results in general efficiency throughout the past month. A coy went to Kithurst Ranges, B & Sp coys had 15 mile route marches followed by coy trg. D coy had trg in storming a pill box, woods clearing and street fighting. Major Laird and Capt Burgess made a recce of the Hawkin's Pond Area. Major Jones and a skeleton staff left at noon on Exercise "Plot", a signal exercise which is to terminate TUE afternoon. In the evening all offr's and sgts gathered in the sand model hut. Major Laird gave a lecture on river crossing and night attack using the model of the Hawkins Pond Area as an example. Capt Burgess then gave a short talk on the composition and movement of F echelon (Now called A-1 Echelon). The meeting was then thrown open to discussion and many interesting questions came up. In the evening an ENSA show visited the regt and after doing their performance in the 'Y' cinema had lunch in the offr's mess.</p>	FF
	7 MAR 44		<p>Reveille was at 0630 hrs this morning and due to the early departure of several coys for trg areas, P.T. was dispensed with. At 0800 hrs, A&B coys and the 'I' sec went out to the area of Hawkins Pond 6548. During the morning trg in handling the assault boats was carried on. In the afternoon D coy moved out to the area. Around 1700 hrs all coys moved back to the Assembly Area in region of wood 642491. When Sp coy vehs arrived all were placed in a veh park specially arranged for A-1 Echelon. An 'O' Gp was called at BnHQ and Maj Laird, A/CO gave the orders for a night river crossing and assault on enemy position. Around 1845 hrs, the rifle coys started moving forward over a route which had been taped and lighted. Provost were stationed at TC pts. As the coys approached the FUP, pl guides met each pl and guided it to a posn which had been taped by the 'I' Sec. 'C' Coy was fire protection coy and B coy fatigue coy. Zero hr was 2000 hrs and at this time B & D coys silently moved from the FUP to the SL which was the river's edge. Due to the fact that several of the boats were not serviceable, it was not possible to move all personnel across the river. A-1 Echelon next moved up on word being received that the objectives had been taken. The exercise was carried out in a most efficient manner, all personnel were kept completely in the picture throughout. On completion of the move of A-1 echelon, the coys were transported back to Slinfold Camp. In the evening, Col Macdonald took part in a skit</p>	FF

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			depicting night attack. The performance took place at HQ 4 Cdn Inf Bde and from all reports scored a successful premiere.	
	8 MAR 44		A&B Coys went to trg area 5 to practice for the exercise which is to take place on the same ground on FRI. In the afternoon, the ofrs and sgts of Sp coy also went to area 5 to recce the area. D coy spent the day at Kithurst Ranges. Some personnel from the 'I' Sec spent the day at 4 Bde HQ designing a portable cloth model to be used in a demonstration. In the evening there was a Bingo game in the YMCA.	JS
	9 MAR 44		Reveille was at 0645 hrs with P.T. at 0700 hrs. With the advanced reveille of several mornings past it would seem that spring is near at hand. At 0730 hrs, Maj Laird, Lt Chauvin and about 30 ORs left by MT for Brookwood Cemetery to attend the funeral service of the late Cpl Dorey, W.G. of No 12 pl. The service was in charge of Father Dalton. A firing party was provided from No 12 pl. Cpl Dorey has been a popular and efficient NCO in the bn and his many friends in the regt will miss him greatly. At 1030 hrs, Maj Thomson gave a talk to the ofrs on the recent pl attack exercises. Dinner was served at 1100 hrs. The Bn paraded in battle dress, anklets, web belt and balmorals at 1145. Then followed the sizing of the bn and the parade was handed over to Col Macdonald, at 1235 hrs. The Bn then moved off in single file toward Five Oaks and then south about a mile toward Billingshurst. At this point the regt was divided into two equal parts and lined up in threes facing inwards on each side of the wood and the ofrs were in review order. Several 'right dress' movements were carried out during the next couple of hours and finally the Division arranged in similar fashion was ready for the arrival of the D.V. Around 1530 hrs, His Majesty, the King, arrived by car at Five Oaks where the guard of Honour was positioned, and was met by Maj Gen C. Faulkes, CBE; G.O.C., 2 Cdn Inf Div; LtCol C.R. Archibald, GSO I and LtCol L.A. Deziel, AA & QMG. The Senior Ofrs of HQ 2 Cdn Inf Div were then presented to his Majesty. The King then walked south through the tps of RCA, RCE. Div Sigs, RCASC, RCAMC, REME, 4 Inf Bde, 5 Inf Bde, 6 Inf Bde and 2 Cdn Corps Tps. Around 1545 hrs, His Majesty reached the lines of the Essex Scottish Regt and as the pipe band played he inspected the Unit, pausing briefly to speak to various members of the regt. On reaching the end of the Essex Scottish lines, Brig Lett called for three cheers from the 4 th Bde. The King saluted and then proceeded to 5th Bde further south on the road. The period of waiting for his Majesty's arrival had seemed extremely long, yet the inspection seemed very short. On completion, the unit moved back to camp.	JS

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			Col Macdonald proceeded to 'A' Mess at 2 Cdn Inf Div where afternoon tea was served to his Majesty and invited guests. In the evening a very successful 'Smoker' was held in the Sgts Mess.	
10 MAR 44			Reveille was at 0700 hrs, but there was no P.T. due to the fact that A, B, C and Sp coys were moving off to trg area 5. At 0830 hrs the tps moved off in separate convoys of wheeled and tracked vehs and travelled to Thunderbarrow Hill in the Downs north of Shoreham-by-Sea. In the morning A coy supported by 2 Btys of Arty and 2 secs of mortars moved forward under a creeping barrage, past objective I, 'Intermediate Ridge' and on to Objective II, 'Far Ridge'. The barrage was well laid down and the attack went in well. Then followed a short period of digging in after which the 'enemy' counter attacked and Maj Thomson called down Arty fire on a DFSOS task. A few of the shells fell to the right of the area and all personnel used the slit trenches to fullest advantage. Fortunately the arty POC immediately stopped the fire and no accidents occurred. A valuable lesson was learned however; and the lads will likely not have to be encouraged in their digging so much in the future. In the afternoon, C coy attacked 'Intermediate Ridge' with less Arty sp and the same mortars. Around 1700 hrs, the regt left for camp. The AAC of S.E. comd was present during the morning and expressed the opinion that our safety precautions were First Class.	FD
11 MAR 44			The morning was spent for the most part in admin and interior economy. A 3 day unit gas instructors course was started with Lt A.J. Hodges as C.I. The Padres Hour was held at 1100 hrs for all coys with exception of D coy which is duty coy. The RC hour consisted of Confession and Easter Communion. Father J.A.A.G. Larimee, Sr Chaplain RC, from 2 Div HQ was present for this service, along with Father Dalton and other R.C. padres. At noon a meeting of all offrs of the mess was held. Maj MacKenzie took over his duties as President and Capt Burgess as Vice President. Lt Jones remains as Treas and Lt Wilson as Secretary. Various items of interest to the mess were discussed and it was decided to purchase a tunic for the Pipe Major and 2 new kilts for the band. In the evening a social evening was held in the offrs mess. The music was supplied by Lt D.A. Johnston's Orchestra from the Lake Superior Regt and was excellent. The supper was one of the best we have seen at such a function and Capt McIntyre is to be complimented for his efforts. There were several guests from other units, incl Brig Lett, Lt Col Young of R.R.C., Lt Col Whittaker, R.H.L.I., Lt Col Drury, 4 Bd Regt, Col A.S. Pearson of 1 C.R.U., formerly C.O. of the regt, Lt Col	FD

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			Deziel, AA & QMG and several other Essex Scottish Offrs who came down from 3 CIRU. The enjoyable evening came to a close all to quickly as the orchestra played the National Anthem at 0100 hrs.	
	12 MAR 44		Church parades were voluntary and the day was one of rest for practically everyone in camp except the duty coy. At 1400 hrs the C.O. held and 'O' Gp to discuss trg for the coming week. In the afternoon and evening several visited Horsham for recreation.	FF
	13 MAR 44		MON again and P.T. at 0715 hrs. The weather was fine so that the business of early morning physical exercise was not so bad. At 0800 hrs, LtCol Macdonald left for 2 Corps HQ as this week is study week for the offrs of 2 Cdn Corps. A, B and C coys went on a route march for the day. At 1300 hrs, A-1 Echelon vehicles under comd of Capt Burgess moved out of the camp and travelled to Christs Hosp where it was just in the rear of the marching tps. At twenty minutes to each hour the Ech moved forward to another parking area. Three of these moves were made and seemed quite successful. At noon the A tk pl moved off for a 3 days shoot at Beachy Head. Today one of the largest drafts for some time arrived at the unit from 3 CIRU. There were five offrs, Lts R. Goodenough, C.J. Jeffrey, W.L. Hogan, F.J.J. Lynch and D.J. Patterson and one hundred and ten ORs. This will be a special rft coy for the regt and will be in charge of Capt D.W. McIntyre for special trg. In the evening half of the offrs of the bn went to the RRC camp to witness a skit depicting 'Night Attacks'. The opening scene took place in a hospital room where three offr patients were discussing the tough luck they had had on a recent night attack. Several good points were brought out concerning the night attack. Capt Stewart Bull, our L.O. at 4 Bde was one of the patients in this part of the play. The second scene took place a few hours later and in this our LtCol Macdonald played the leading role, namely that of a bn comd who had made a successful night attack. He used the hospital swimming pool as a model and with a few charts which he had used in a previous lecture he reviewed the bn doing a night attack using the 'long tail' formation. At the conclusion there was a short discussion in which Brig Lett, Col Macdonald and officer spectators took part.	FF
	14 MAR 44		The rft coy was rudely awakened to life 'in the field' by P.T. at 0715 hrs. Although there were a few stragglers in the morning marathon, the majority kept up fairly well and should soon be in as good physical condition as the regulars. The Scout pl of forty men left today for special trg at Findon. They are i/c of Lt J.A. Chandler. Lt	FF

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			<p>Wilson went on a recce of Ash Ranges this morning to make arrangements for their use on THU. Intensive trg in GAS started for all coys in the bn today with the exception of D coy, the duty coy. Trg will be under the direction of WCOs who recently took the 3 days regt'l course. In the evening a meeting of all offr was held in the offr mess and the pl attack exercise held a week ago was discussed. Major Thomson gave the marks obtained by the pls in phase I. Col Macdonald adjourned the meeting at 1915 hrs in order to permit the offr to attend a show put on in the YMCA hut by a Canadian Army Concert Party. The show was excellent and it brought out the fact that Canadians do enjoy shows by Canadians. Around 2100 hrs, the offr meeting resumed and Majors Laird and MacKenzie commented on phases 2 & 3 respectively of the exercise. At the conclusion of their remarks, Col Macdonald spoke briefly to the offr and emphasized the fact that not a minute is to be wasted between now and the time we go into action. He stressed the great responsibility that every offr has when he leads men into battle and also brought out the fact that every offr and man in the unit must be in the very best physical condition by the end of the month.</p>	JF
	15 MAR 44		<p>The second day of concentrated GAS trg was carried on today. Capt Cohen, the QM reports that twenty watches are missing from his stores so a Court of Inquiry has been convened with Maj D. MacKenzie as President to inquire into and report on the missing time pieces. Four Pd Cdn Offrs, namely Lts Jarbert, Lavoie, Dupont and Cardin who have been att to the regt for trg returned to 6 CIRU today. Capt Cottrell was kept busy throughout the day doling out the mid-month pay roll. Around 1700 hrs the A tk pl returned from firing practice at Michael Dean. In the evening all offr who had not attended the skit 'Night Attack' went to the RRC camp to see the second performance.</p>	JF
	16 MAR 44		<p>At 1000 hrs, A coy, Int Sec, B coy, C coy left by MT for Ash Ranges. The cookers had been sent up earlier so that dinner was ready when they arrived. The weather was typically English and the drizzle of rain made visibility rather poor. At 1300 hrs No 2 Range was taken over from the R.R.C. A coy and the Int Sec fired, B coy supplied the butt party and C coy supplied the coaches. Firing continued until about 1800 hrs, when supper was served. A coy left about 1830 hrs to return to Slinfold Camp. Several of those who were spending the night at the ranges went into Aldershot for the evening. Throughout the day, Lt Ponsford was kept busy taking a Summary of Evidence in the case of Cpl Pettit's accident while driving the YMCA station wagon. The picture "Adventures of Tartu" was shown in the 'Y' cinema in the evening.</p>	JF

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	17 MAR 44		Reveille was early this morning and at various times, the first one being at 0515 hrs. HQ coy and trg coy were the only ones left in camp to take P.T. At 0645 hrs, D coy left by MT for Ash Ranges. A coy took over as duty coy for the following week. During the morning Capt Cottrell paid the members of the Cdn Army Concert Party. At Ash Ranges B coy fired in the morning while C & D coys fired while B coy formed the butt party. Sp coy spent the day trg at Kingley Vale. In the evening, all offrs ent to the RAP to take their TsOET in First Aid. From all reports the party held by Lt Frank Chauvin's pl was quite a success. The affair took place in the Cpls Mess and during the evening a sing song was enjoyed along with a fine lunch and liquid refreshment. At 1130 hrs, 4 Cdn Inf Bde put on its skit on Night Attack at 2 Cdn Corps HQ. LtCol Macdonald again played the role of Inf Bn C.O. and the 'show' was up to its usual high standard.	FF
	18 MAR 44		Being SAT, there was no P.T. this morning. However, it was a grand spring morning and everyone was up at the usual time. The morning for most coys was spent in adm and gas trg. Capt Cardy and Maj Dalton held their Padres Hour at 1100 hrs. The rft coy 1 left at 0830 hrs to spend the week-end trg at Kingley Vale. Ly Lynch gave short talks on German weapons to various coys throughout the day. For this demonstration five German MGs of last war vintage and an 8.1 cm German Mortar were made available. The men showed a keen interest in the weapons and it is regrettable that more of the modern type MG34's and MG42's etc, are not available for instructional purposes. In the evening, Maj MacKenzie and Lt Herman represented the regt at a dance held in the offrs mess of the R Regt of C.	FF
	19 MAR 44		Reveille was at 0730 hrs with breakfast at 0800 hrs. At 0900 tpt moved off for Horsham to take about one hundred and fifty offrs and men to the railway sta where they caught the train for London. It was the occasion of the second Rugby Game between the American Army Team and Canadian Army Team. The day was bright and just right for tossing that 'pigskin' around. The Americans had a much stronger team than in the previous game and the final score was 18-0 in their favour. The Regt had five players on the team. Capt Alex Hayes acted as coach. At half time the massed pipe bands, of which our regt's 1 band formed a part, put on an excellent show. It consisted of some 72 pipers and 48 drummers, and their varied coloured kilts presented a picture which stood out in contrast to the commonplace khaki. Following this the Americans massed five coys on the field and in typical American fashion, put on a short review for the spectators.	FF

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	20 MAR 44		<p>Another week is under way and Exercises seem to be on the way again. Throughout the day everyone was preparing for Exercise "Push" which begins on TUE. At 1400 hrs Capt Hayden and a gp of men from the American Engineers Camp called in at the Unit to view weapons and equipment used by our tps. At 1530 hrs Lt Col Macdonald held an 'O' Gp to complete all arrangements for the Exercise. At 1730 hrs, Maj Jones attended a lecture on Air Sp at Dorking. At 1800 hrs, Lt Wilson gave the offrs a brief talk on the use of the Map Reg Point Code and Lt Herman gave a talk on the use of Slidex. The picture "The Human Comedy" starring Mickey Rooney was shown in the 'Y' cinema in the evening.</p>	JS
	21 MAR 44		<p>The morning was spent loading vehicles in preparation for the scheme. The day was dull and there was a slight drizzle. The Court Martial of Cpl N.M. Pettit took place this morning. He was defended by Capt Burgess and Lt Ponsford was prosecuting offr. Sentence is to be promulgated later in the week. Capt F.A. Tilston left today on a 2 wk tactics course at Barnard's Castle. During his absence Lt A.H. Zaldin will be A/Adjt. Lunch was at 1130 hrs. Bn moved past Bn SP at Five Oaks at 1312 hrs and arrived at conc area just east of Firlie Park at Map Ref 9226. A Capt from the English army gave a short lecture at 1830 hrs on the use of Phantom Radio. Super was served at 1900 hrs. Lt Col Macdonald and the I.O. went to an 'O' Gp at Bde HQ at this time. An 'O' Gp was then held at BnHQ and coy comds were put in the picture. Normal guards were laid on for the night and soon the majority of personnel were turned in. During the night a number of enemy planes flew overhead and the display of Ack Ack (for those who were awake) was very colourful.</p>	JS
	22 MAR 44		<p>'Stand To' was at 0600 hrs and although the air was crisp everyone was on the job when the C.O. called around to inspect the coys. The bn moved off with C coy leading at 0830 hrs and caught up to the R.H.L.I. Regt at GLYNDE. Here they moved into GLYNDE PARK to witness a demonstration on the 17 pdr A tk gun. The advance then continued till the bn reached RINGMER when lunch was eaten. Around 1400 hrs, Lt Col Macdonald went to Bde to become A/Brig and Maj T.S. Jones became A/C.O. Essex Scots. The ERC which was leading the bde bumped enemy at Upper Clay Hill but a coy attack succeeded in overcoming the opposition. Their final action of the day, a bn attack, was at Birches Fm around 1600 hrs. At this time an 'O' Gp was held at in the wood in grid 9035 just East of Plashett Park. A recce patrol under comd of Lt Chandler was sent out to recce the area around X rds 9236. They were successful in bringing in</p>	JS

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			three PW. During the night only guards were on duty so that most personnel were able to bed down for a good nights rest.	
	23 MAR 44		'Stand To' was from 0600 hrs until 0630 hrs and at 0800 hrs the bn moved off behind the RHIL who were leading bn in the bde. The enemy had carried out many demolitions in Uckfield so that the town was by-passed to the west. The advance continued north of Maresfield and finally strong opposition was encountered by the RHIL on the high ground about two and one half miles north of Maresfield. A bn frontal attack went in at 1600 hrs and was successful in driving the enemy off the position. The bde then consolidated in this position for the night, the Essex Scottish using the area around Spring Garden in grid 8945. A fighting patrol from the scout pl was sent out to area Nutley and succeeded in bringing in three PW. These along with their documents and patrol report were sent on to Bde. Today marked the first publication of the unit's Newspaper, "Macdonald's Musings". The Editor, Capt J.C. Cottrell and Reporter, CSM P.T. Logan, did a first rate job on gathering the local and world wide news. The tps are looking forward to issue # 2 with keen interest.	J.C.
	24 MAR 44		Reveille was at 0530 hrs and at 0710 hrs the bn moved off as the leading bn in 4 bde continuing the advance northward. Maj T.S. Jones was still A/C.O. as LtCol Macdonald moved from the post of Brig to asst Chief Director of the exercise. In Sp of the bn was one bty, 4 Pd Regt RCA and under comd one tp 2 A tk Regt, one pl R.C.E., one MMG Coy, Tor Scots; one pl 4.2" Mortar, Tor Scots; and one bearer sec, 11 Pd Amb. The RRC and RHIL followed the Essex Scots in that order. Then was a delay of about 45 min at X rds 9047 (report line 'Bike') while the pars cleared a minefield. The advance then continued until C coy was pinned down by fire from Gills Lap. Maj Jones then went fwd and contacted Maj MacKenzie, OC of C coy. It was estimated that an enemy of probably one coy str held Gills Lap. The A/C.O. decided to put in a bn attack. 'H' hour was 1300 hrs. The attack took the form of a left flanking with A & B coys main effort. The attack went in well on time and the only hitch was when F Ech came forward too soon. At 1500 hrs the Bn moved off for Slinfold Camp. General opinion is that Exercise "Push" was well conducted and that a great deal was learned from it. Major Clarke is to be complimented for the fine job he did in arranging the scheme. For entertainment in the evening the YMCA showed the picture "For Ever and a Day" Major Jones, Major Laird, Capt Cohen and Lt Wilson report a very enjoyable evening at the Lake Superior Regt.	J.C.

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	25 MAR	44	<p>The morning for the most part was spent in admin and interior economy. Lt Col Macdonald and the coy comds went to trg area 7 on a recce for the night attack which is to take place next week. In the afternoon, Majors Jones and Thomson and Lts Wilson, Chandler and McCrimmon attended a lecture on Sniping at West Grinstead Pk. The sigs pl had an opportunity of 'marrying up' with tanks when two sqns of Shermans came to the camp for a couple of hours in the afternoon. Capt J.A. Baxter's promotion appeared in the Blue Sheets today and the officers received the usual free liquid refreshment to celebrate the occasion. Major Clarke is to be complimented on his appointment as G2 trg at Army. Several offrs and ORs took advantage of a week end pass as the future trg syllabus seems to be using up several week ends. Sgt C. Musson who has been Orderly Room Sgt for longer than most of us can remember, and Sgt Acheson who has been pay sgt for some time, both reverted to ptes today and went back to the business of learning a rifleman's duties. The C.O. spent an enjoyable social evening at 2 Div HQ. In the evening Pte Morton's truck which had taken personnel into Horsham was stolen from the parking area in Horsham. It was found by the CMP in the ditch near the T-rd at Slinfold. No one was in the vicinity. Lt Patterson, picket offr, had the truck removed from the ditch and brought back to camp.</p>	<p>FF</p>
	26 MAR	44	<p>SUN was perhaps the finest day we have had so far this spring. The sun shone throughout the day and several lads enjoyed a bit of baseball and sun bathing. The R.C. church parade was held at 1115 hrs in the 'Y'. The 'I' Sec spent the day constructing a sand model of the area to be used for Exercise 'Night'.</p>	<p>FF</p>
	27 MAR	44	<p>At 0815 hrs all offrs met in the sand model room where the C.O. gave everyone a briefing on Ex "Night". HQ personnel went to Colgate Ranges for the day. All pls spent the morning in a 10 mile speed march, with the object in view of getting everyone in under the 2 hr 10 min mark. The best time reported was by the A tk pl which did the march in 1 hr, 48 min. Practically all pls were within a few mins of 2 hrs. Throughout the remainder of the day, each pl was given a period in the model room for briefing on Ex "Night" and the remainder of the trg for the day consisted of a recap on mines. In the evening the MO carried out TsORT in First Aid for offrs and NCOs.</p>	<p>FF</p>
	28 MAR	44	<p>Reveille was at 0600 hrs this morning and at 0715 hrs, Maj Jones and Lt Wilson left to recce the Assembly Area for Ex Night. At 0800 hrs the Bn left the camp by MT and</p>	

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

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Title pages will be prepared.

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			<p>arrived at Kithurst Hill in No 7 trg area around 0930 hrs. After a recon of the enemy posn which for purposes of the exercise was of coy strength, located on the ridge north of Lee Fm, Lt Col Macdonald gave out his orders for the rehearsal which was to take place at 1400 hrs. The 'I' Sec taped out the SL, long tail and coy posns in accord with the method laid down for night attacks during the 2 Corps study week. At 1400 hrs, the rehearsal took place. The Bn then moved back to the Assembly area. The tape was lifted but the wire marking the posns was left in place. At 2030 hrs an 'O' Gp was called and orders given out for the 'Night' attack. The regt had in sp. 4 Pd Regt, RCA; one sqn 22 Cdn Armd Regt; B coy Tor Scots; 2 Pd Coy R.C.E. and 11 Cdn Pd Amb. The attack was frontal, long tail method with D rt, A lt, C follow up and B reserve coy. H hour was 2300 hrs, The guides brought the coys into posn and the attack went in sharp on H hour. The minefd took about twenty five minutes to breach and at 2340 hrs the success signal was given by A and D coys. C coy then went through to consolidate on the fwd slope.</p>	
	29 MAR 44		<p>After the attack was completed, 'I' Ech was brought up and amm unloaded. Weapon pits were dug and the posn prepared to withstand counter attack. The night was cool but the exercise of digging helped one to keep warm. At dawn a PD SOS task was brought down by the arty just south of the feature ahead of the objective and the tks put in a counter attack. Weapon pits were then filled in and the bn moved to the North edge of the downs near Kithurst Hill where breakfast was served. The regt arrived back in camp around 1000 hrs. The rest of the day was given over to rest. At 1440 hrs a party of twenty five offfrs and ORs went to London by train to see a play "Desert Highway" at the Playhouse Theatre. This trip was sponsored by 2 Div Educ authorities. The play was of a fairly serious nature but the acting was excellent and everyone enjoyed it very much. The party arrived back at Horsham at 2315 hrs.</p>	<p>FF</p> <p>FF</p>
	30 MAR 44		<p>When PT parade was called, the air was crisp and the ground white with frost. However, after fifteen minutes of exercise everyone was warmed up. Pay parades were completed and all coys went on an 18 mile route march to gain some conditioning for the 40 miler which is to come off in the near future. In the afternoon the C.O. went to a meeting which had been called at 2 Corps HQ. On arriving there he learned that it had been cancelled but notification to this effect had 'bogged down' on the way. The C.O.s feelings are perhaps best summed up by saying that he was not at all pleased with such admin. The picture "True to Life" was shown at the 'Y' in the evening. Lt</p>	<p>FF</p>


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	31 MAR 44		<p>Havill's pl held a little party at a pub in Horsham. The food and beverage refreshment were voted as being excellent.</p> <p>MAR certainly went out like a lion if one can judge by the large number of activities around camp. Coy trg was carried on and at the same time reparations were under way for two exercises which are to begin on 1 APR 44. Maj Laird and Maj Thomson each took a group of patrol leaders into the Drill Hall at Horsham to brief them for Exercise "Sham". In this exercise the H.C. of Horsham will defend the town against two forces one of paratps and one of glider tps which are to be broken up into patrols. A and C coys will supply the personnel for these patrols and there should be plenty of action. Preparations were also going on for Exercise "Step" which also begins on Saturday. LtCol Macdonald spent the day in London. In the evening a Cdn concert party, the Bandoliers, put on a very fine show for the rather small audience in the 'Y'. The Cpls held a dance and although there were not enough females to go round, the affair was quite a success.</p> <p> (T.S. JONES) Major, A/Commanding Officer, ESSEX SCOTTISH REGIMENT.</p>	<p>95</p>