

Title pages will be prepared.

Sheet 1

WAR DIARY  
OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
		P		
1			<p>Revelles were sounded at 004 hrs and fall in at 004 hrs. The Bn convoy moved off at 004hrs in the worst weather this unit has experienced since landing in England. A thick heavy fog shrouded was falling and a penetrating breeze was blowing.</p> <p>The unit arrived in its concentration area at 120hrs and coys took up positions assigned to them by Major J. H. Nethercill who acted as C.C. Recon Party.</p> <p>Bn HQ was established at a fine old Estate farm and pre arrangements were made to provide sleeping accommodation in barns and out-buildings.</p> <p>At 1410hrs an order was received cancelling the whole exercise, as a result of which, orders were issued for return to barracks.</p> <p>The move back was carried out without incident and the unit was installed at 1845hrs.</p> <p>Training programme for the week attached as appx 1.</p>	APPENDIX 1
2			<p>Lieut.-Col. A. D. Pearson was notified of his appointment as a GHQ DIV representative on the G.O.T.U. Selection Board. His duties with the board will be to interview H.Q.C's recommended for GHTU and to select those to receive this training.</p> <p>A new training syllabus was completed to cover the three days during which the unit was supposed to participate in the BDUITO exercise and training thereunder was carried out. (see appx 1)</p>	
3			<p>Advice was received that the G.O.C., General Odium, would make an inspection of vehicles of this unit on 4 Apr 41 at approximately 150hrs, and arrangements were made accordingly.</p> <p>An issue of 50 cigarettes was made from the regimental stock to all ranks and this totalled 30000 distributed.</p>	
4			<p>The G.O.C. inspected unit vehicles this date and was accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Weeks, Major Francis and Capt. Neighen, all of the divisional staff. After a very exhaustive inspection the G.O.C. expressed himself as thoroughly satisfied with the condition of the the Transport and indicated that he would give the drivers some extra leave for their excellent work.</p>	
5			<p>Way to another unit to inspect transport. His halted near the parade ground and he viewed the usual Saturday Battalion parade was witnessed by the G.O.C., General Odium, the unit of his proceedings for some minutes.</p>	
6			<p>The Protestant Padre, R/Captain Paton, announced from the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church that Germany had declared war on Yugoslavia and Greece. A short prayer was read for our new Allies.</p>	

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	7		The Bde Comd conducted an inspection of Barracks and regimental services and expressed himself as being quite satisfied with the conditions existing in the whole barrack area. Training Program for the week commencing 7 apr 41 attached as appendix 2.	APPENDIX 2
	8		A Course for all officers in the use and maintenance of motorcycles was started to qualify officers to ride the vehicles. Cos were engaged on range work and in attack exercises.	
	9		An inspection of the dispersal area to be used in the event of air-raids was made by the cos who expressed themselves as satisfied. A challenge was received by the Offrs' Mess from the Srgts' Mess for a game of soccer football to be played 10 apr 41. Reports on the inspection of vehicles by the C.C.C. 4-5 Apr 41 are attached as an appx.	APPENDIX 2A
	10		Morval training was varied by pleasant visit from a Mrs. Cantlie of Glasgow and a Miss Kendall, nursing sister in charge of diet at 1st Neurological Hospital. They were escorted by the Bde. Comd who made a comprehensive inspection of running facilities and barrack room layout for the purpose of assisting in organising the facilities for their own units. The afternoon was spent in Sports and the Srgts. and Offrs. battled in a lively game of football which resulted in a 6 - 1 victory for the Srgts.	
	11		Good Friday! Due to the exigencies of the time no holiday was declared for this day and training was carried out according to syllabus. A Church parade for all ranks was ordered at 1500hrs. The Protestant group paraded to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and the R.O.'s paraded to St. Michael's Church. Instructions were received to the effect that the exercise HUNTO previously cancelled was scheduled for the <del>16th, 17th, 18th and 19th April 41.</del> 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th April 41.	
	12		The usual bn parade was called at 0900hrs. C coy was not included as that coy was employed on a withdrawal exercise under comd of Capt. W.J.S. Knox, coy 1 i/c. Major B.J.S. Macdonald commanding "C" Coy was acting as an umpire with the 1st Bde on an exercise. The Missing offr delivered a lecture to A Coy on missing problems following Bn parade. The Bde Comd and Mac-Major attended and expressed themselves as quite pleased with the subject & the method with which it was handled.	

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Aldershot	1941			
Apr.	13		<p>Rector Sunday!</p> <p>Church services were arranged to permit C. of H's, R.G's and other denominations to have separate parades. The R.G's went to St. Michael's Garrison Church, C of H's went to St. George's Church and all other denominations attended St. Andrew's Church.</p> <p>The day was spent quietly with a number of officers making准备 for the DUNKIRK exercise.</p> <p>Instructions were received to the effect that 75% of unit transport would be dispersed outside Aldershot Town limits.</p>	
	14		<p>Normal training was carried out in accordance with the Training Programme. (Att'd for week.) APPENDIX 5</p> <p>A meeting of all officers was called by the Commanding Officer for the purpose of a preliminary discussion of arrangements for the DUNKIRK Exercise.</p>	
	15a		<p>Colonel Pearson, who is a Gdn Div representative on the O.C.T.U. Board was away and will continue to be employed in this capacity until 31 Apr 41.</p> <p>Preparations were made for the DUNKIRK scheme now, trucks were loaded, equipment put into shape, etc.</p> <p>Three officers from Royal Art Coy of No. 1 G.L.H.U. were attached to the Bn for the duration of the scheme. Lieuts A.D. Nethersill, D. Green and P. Aubrey reported at 1300hrs this date and were attached to A, D &amp; G Cos respectively.</p> <p>Maj J. H. Nethersill, acting O.O., issued his orders at 2230hrs.</p>	
	16		<p>The Bn moved at 000Ghrs in convoy arriving in a concentration area near WINDSOR FOREST at approximately 1300hrs and immediately settled down to await orders.</p> <p>There was considerable air activity during the early hours of the night which was plainly visible by the Bn personnel. Two enemy aircraft were reported to have been brought down in the area.</p> <p>The O.Offs of Bn.H.Q. were treated to dinner at DUNSTON Farm, a picturesque old building dating back to the sixteenth century.</p>	
	17		<p>The A/O.O. received the Mds Comds orders at 0630hrs and a recce party reported to Bde H.Q. at 0730hrs.</p> <p>A recce was made by coy comds of both pcos of assembly and the fwd areas from 0900hrs until 1530hrs and during this quiet period the personnel of the Bn enjoyed a variety of sports and took advantage of the lull to obtain the rest which would be required for the nights activities.</p> <p>Orders were received at 1800hrs that the Bn would move to the pos of readiness as recced earlier to arrive at 0330hrs and would then move to the starting line as laid down to make an attack at 0500hrs. The move to the assembly area was completed without incident.</p>	

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Aldershot	1941.			
	APP. 18		<p>The Bn moved from the assembly area near Aldershot Station to the 5th points which constituted the attack Start Line and the attack was launched without incident at 0500hrs. There was extremely little opposition due to the fact that the Bn took such excellent advantage of the artillery barrage which was provided and both objectives as laid down in the Bde Com's orders were taken by 0700hrs. The first objective was taken by A &amp; D Coys and the final objective by C &amp; D Coys. All points were consolidated and preparations were made to meet an expected counter attack which did not develop. At 1800hrs the Bn moved back to the assembly area used the night previous near Aldershot Station and from there to the concentration areas.</p>	
	19		<p>Food was served in the concentration area at 0200hrs and again at 0700hrs. Orders were received at 0800hrs that the Bn would move back to be ready at Aldershot at 0800hrs. The return move was accomplished without incident and the Bn was back in time to enjoy a hot meal at 1200hrs. Captain Charles A. Turnbull's promotion to the rank of Major was proclaimed this date.</p>	
	20		<p>All Church parades this date were voluntary and except for essential duties there was no activity of an unusual nature.</p>	
	21		<p>Training Programs for the week commencing this date attached as APPENDIX 4. Due to the restrictions on the use of R.F. on Sundays all training was directed toward personal improvement of the individual in the use of weapons. Notifications was received of the appointment of Captain G. H. Clarke as Staff-Captain of the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade. No news or notification has been received concerning Captain L. R. McDonald or Lieutenant K. W. MacIntyre, both of whom attended the same school as Capt. Clarke.</p>	APPENDIX 4
	22		<p>Lieut. MacIntyre reported to the Bn for duty; whether this is to be temporary or permanent is not known. The Bde Com notified the C.C. that the Bn would be visited by Sir Patrick Duff, an official of the British High Commissioner's Office in Canada. Lt.-Colonel A. S. Pearson completed his work on the C.C.T.C. Board for the present.</p>	

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Aldershot Place	Date Apr 25	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			<p>Sir Patrick Duffy visited the Bn this date accompanied by Major-General Odlum, Brigadier Tapp and others. He inspected a display of special training staged for the occasion and also inspected transport, barrack facilities and messing arrangements. He was high in his commendation of the officers in charge of the various departments visited and was particularly pleased with the cakes and tea which were provided by the Messing Staff.</p> <p>At the lunch hour the Pipe-Band played for the members of "A" Bnss and their guests.</p> <p>It was learned that Major A. R. Roy had been appointed G.H.Q. of the Can. Corps and that Major H.W.J. Peterson had been appointed Bde-Major of the 4 Can Inf Bde. The new D.M. was a visitor at the Battalion Orderly Room this date. The loss of Major Roy will be keenly felt by this unit as he has at all times shown a keen and kindly interest in its welfare.</p>	
24			<p>A normal day with nothing of interest to report.</p> <p>Operation Order No. 16 for the En route march scheduled for 25-26-27 Apr 41 were issued. (attd) APPX. 5</p>	
25			<p>The Bn commenced the three day route march leaving barracks at 0700hrs. The scheduled distance was covered without incident and there was little evidence of ill effects.</p> <p>Billets for all personnel were found in outbuildings and buildings in the vicinity of WEMBLEY through the kind generosity of the owners of the various properties.</p> <p>Br. Headquarters were accommodated on the farm estate of L. Gardiner, Hoquio, and a very pleasant evening of entertainment and refreshments was provided for the officers. Brigadier Tapp, Major A. R. Roy, Capt. H.W.J. Peterson and Capt. L. R. McDonald were interested visitors.</p>	
26			<p>The scheduled distance this date was also covered without incident and the Bn was comfortably billeted in and around BURSTWICK with A &amp; B coys in the village of BASING.</p> <p>Br. H.Q. was quartered on the estate of Capt. W. Mythe, an officer in the GOVT CHARGE. The accommodation and the courtesy and consideration extended by all concerned was exceptional.</p>	
27			<p>The last leg was completed at 1700hrs which brought the Bn back to Bns, tired but happy. The Bde Comd reviewed the column as it entered Aldershot.</p> <p>There were exceptionally few casualties considering the arduous nature of the trip and the C.O. was pleased with the performance.</p>	
28			<p>Captain L. R. McDonald was returned temporarily to the Bn for duty, having satisfactorily completed the Junior War Staff Course at Lingfield. Normal training was carried out and there were no reports of any ill effects from the route march exercise. (Syllabus for the week attached.) APPX. 6</p> <p>The Bde Staff entertained the Field Officers &amp; Adjutants of the Bde at the cocktail hour in honour of Major A.R. Roy who is to assume his duties as G.H.Q. Can. Corps on 1 May 41.</p>	

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Aldershot	19 APR		Nothing of unusual interest to report this date.	
	30		<p>Capt. R. G. Stebbins has been attached to this unit from R. do St. H. for regimental duty for a period of three months, having recently satisfactorily completed the Junior War Staff Course at Lingfield.</p> <p>A test was made of the unit defences against fire bomb attack at 1700hrs when three Lysander planes flew over the Bk area dropping incendiary bombs; Capt. D. MacCrea, B.M., I.O. lurking in the shadows caused considerable consternation by dropping practice fire, smoke and H.E. bombs and passing around casualty cards of various types.</p> <p>UNIT STRENGTH AS OF 30 APR 41: 36 Officers and 740 Other ranks.</p> <p>FIELD RETURNS AND VEHICLE OFFICER RETURNS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 41. * * * * * APPENDIX 7</p> <p>REGIMENTAL ORDERS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 41. * * * * * APPENDIX 8</p> <p>IRISH SCOTTISH ORDERS PART II FOR MONTH OF APRIL 41 AS ISSUED BY 2nd Echelon * * * * * APPENDIX 9</p>	

*A. G. Pearson*  
(A. G. Pearson) Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding  
IRISH SCOTTISH REGT.C.A.(O's)