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Author(s): Lieutenant-Colonel J.G. Spragge.

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Keywords: Normandy ; Battle of Normandy ; D-Day ; Second World War ; Canadian Army ; Canadian Army ; Queen's Own Rifles of Canada ; 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade ; 3rd Canadian Infantry Division

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WAR DIARY

OF

1 Bn The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (AF)

FROM 30 May 44 TO ²⁹~~30~~ June 44



VOLUME XLIX

APPENDICES 1 TO 113

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/3

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Chilworth 842385	30 May 44	0630 0900	Reveille - rather dull and a slight bit colder All "briefing" of coys having been fully completed the day is spent in last packing, sports, route marches and bath parades. A and B coys, the assault coys have been warned to be ready to move off first thing tomorrow morning.	RER
Chilworth 842385	31 May 44	0500 0615 0900 1200	Early Reveille for A and B coys who have breakfast, turn in blankets and form up. Both A and B coys move off from camp under their respective Coy Comds - Major H E and C O Dalton. They are loaded on T C Vs outside the camp gate and proceed to their transit camp. A great part of the rest of the Bn were gathered to see them off as we will not see them again until we arrive in France. C and D coys carry on with preparation for move. The camp has now practically filled up again with parts of the L S T serials - C coy under Maj Nickson is J32 Serial and D coy under Maj Gordon is J30 Serial. Both these offrs are boat comds and such being the case the rest of the serial comes to them to be assembled. Needless to say there is now quite a variety of units in the camp. Beach group, Airborne Engineers, RCE etc etc. The morale amongst the men is exceptionally high and about all one can hear talked about is the assault and what the individual thinks about it. Everyone is on edge and wants "D" day to dawn as soon as possible.	RER
Chilworth 842385	1 Jun 44	0630 0900 1330	Reveille - quite cool and dull with a hint of rain in the air. No serials are to move out today so for the most part an easy day is had by all. D coy, however, proceed on a route march. C Coy have a parade of their serial to get everyone formed up in their respective boat loads. This is necessary to avoid confusion in loading onto the L S I. Alternate B HQ also travels in this serial and consists of the 2 IC, Maj Lett, the Adjutant, Capt Weir, W J, the M O, "I" and Sigs Sjt and representatives from each of these latter sections. This set up is to try and avoid all of B HQ being wiped out in one foul swoop.	RER
Chilworth 842385	2 Jun 44	0630 0900	Reveille - bright and warm C coy and other att personnel prepare themselves to leave for the docks - this party consists of approx 400 men	RER

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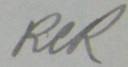
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	6 Jun	0600	Finally the word comes and the men file silently to their respective boats. After very little confusion they are packed in and the boats lower away. Due to the waters roughness it isn't long before quite a few of them are quite sick - needless to say Capt Kirsch, the M O, is right up at the head of the list. At this point we are still about 7 miles of the coast of France. Intermittent gun fire can be heard but nothing tremendous has developed as yet.	
		0715	All hell breaks loose as the artillery and various support weapons cut loose with all they have. The shore can now be seen but it is fast being obscured by smoke being caused by our shells landing in the town, Bernieres Sur Mer MR 7F-9965	
		0720	Word received at B HQ from higher formation that "H" hour has been postponed for thirty minutes. No reason is given but later it develops that the D D tanks and AVREs were behind schedule. This word only reached "C" coy as they were a few hundred yards of the beach at 0745 when they were beginning to think they WERE would be assaulting the beach. Up to this time there has been no sign of action on the beach but now a few A Tk shells begin to drop around the L C As which makes the heads go down in fast order. Unfortunately the postponement has definitely messed up the supporting fire and all that is firing now is an L C F which cruised right in close to shore and let loose with a lot of tracers.	
		0805	The assault coy got the word to go in. As yet no D D tanks or AVREs can be seen which looks rather ominous.	
		0815	A and B coy touch down - B coy immediately catch a packet of trouble as they are landed in front of a very heavily defended posn at MR 7F-998995. Several of the L C As of both coys are blown up by mines but only the front two or three men are injured on this. A coy are a little better off than B for they are at least able to get off the beach at MR 7F 989855. However, as soon as they hit the railway they come under very heavy mortar fire and are pinned down. Their casualties here begin to mount up - Lt P C Rea is wounded and Sgt Charlie Smith takes over and does a very good job in extricating his pl until he too is wounded. The balance of A coy have managed to get through and carry on with the job. B coy meanwhile have really caught quite a packet. Lt Herbert and Cpl Tessier do a damn fine job in outflanking the enemy posn and finally the remnants of the enemy surrender. The coy has suffered very heavily. Major C O Dalton, Lt McLean, Lt Herberts, CSM Wallis have all been wounded while Sgt Harris and Morrisson have been killed. However some of the men under Cpl "Red" Suddes and K F Scott carry on with their job,	

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		0830	of clearing up around the beach exits although many of them are wounded to some extent. C and D coys and Alternate B HQ touch down. The casualties amongst the L C As is quite heavy almost half of them being blown up by under water mines. However the personnel get ashore without too much trouble and pass through the assault coys on the way to their positions. By now the D D tanks and AVREs are on the beach but don't seem to be getting any place. The support all around has been very disappointing as far as we are concerned for none of the beach defences have been touched and this has caused very high casualties amongst the assaulting coys.	RCK
		0900	B HQ arrive on shore, link up with Alternate B HQ and proceed through the town where a temporary HQ is set up at MR 992848. Alt B HQ detach themselves and set up in a house at MR 994854 where they earn all rights to the house by putting out a fire and gaining the everlasting thanks of the owners. At this time it is noticed that a cafe just a hundred yards off the beach is opened up and selling wine to all and sundry. Just about now the C O appears to be missing but after a frantic search he is found up forward with Brig K G Blackader who has now come ashore.	
		0940	There is considerable delay at this point while the coys assemble. B coy casualties being so heavy they gather just off the beach and try to sort themselves from out. A coy having extricated themselves from the posn on the right flank proceed to their F V P. The R de C have now landed but are prevented from passing through us by the very accurate fire of a battery of 88 mm guns located just south of Bernieres sur Mer.	
		1000	The 88 bty having been finally taken care of the R de C move ahead followed at a discreet distance by C and D coys mounted on tanks and other available vehs	
		1400	Several stops on the road before Beny -sur Mur MR 9880 is clear enough to move in. Here there was more delay while the R de C went on to capture Basly MR 9979.	
		1500	C and D coys on their tanks go forward at top speed to seize their objective and take up posns and this is accomplished without much difficulty. B HQ and other sub-units follow up more slowly but the whole Bn is in posn by 1730 hrs. B HQ is established on outskirts of Anguerny MR 0077. The only opposition at this time was encountered in the village of Anguerny. Several groups of prisoners were taken in here. The Bn was isolated for some time until the R de C finally located at the	

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ANGUERNY France 014775	7 Jun 44	0100	west end of Anguerny and Colomby sur Thaon. The N S R regiment remained back at TAILLEVILLE - MR0082 and HQ 8 Cdn Inf Bde was at Beny sur Mer MR 9880 for the night	
		1200	Quite a bit of excitement and confusion was caused by a truck load or so of "Jerries" arriving in the centre of the village, however these were dealt with in short order. The whole night was marked with confused bits of fighting. An enemy patrol broke into B HQ but was dispersed, the offr in charge being taken prisoner.	RCR
		1300	HQ 8 Cdn Inf Bde set up in Arguerny in vicinity of our B Coy.	
		1400	Prisoners kept coming in in quite a steady stream - most of these were young fellows about 16 years of age and great amusement was caused by one of them who was wearing a great coat about 15 sizes too large.	
	Alt B HQ is still established in their house at Bernieres Sur Mer and all their available time is spent wombing the beaches for missing personnel and visiting the wounded in the B D S at MR 999855. All the lads there are quite cheerful - the walking wounded are being shifted onto various craft and being shipped back to merrie England. The lads who fell on the beach itself were rather a disheartening sight - many of them trained for years and only lasted for a few moments in action. Many a good man was lost on these beaches but they did a wonderful job. There was much activity during the day, tracking down snipers in the village of ANGUERNY - more prisoners were taken including a chauffer found sleeping in a German staff car. At least twelve German vehicles, half tracks and lorries were taken captive in our area and included one staff car and one armoured O.P.			
ANGUERNY France 014775	8 Jun 44	0300	The night still occupied with the rooting of snipers - also some shell fire landed in our areas. Contacted by the 3 Br Div with a view to their attacking tomorrow through our D coy posn. ANISY 0175.	RCR
		1200	B Ech is now established at BASLY 9979 and Alt B HQ moves up to join them. Other-	
		2000	wise a fairly quiet day is spent although a certain amount of shelling still continues. Funeral service held in BERNIERES MR 997854 for 36 of our men killed in the initial stages of the assault - service taken by our padre Capt J C Clough.	
ANGUERNY France 014775	9 Jun 44	0700	With the exception of a certain amount of shelling and sniping things seem to be running along fairly normally - men improve their slit trenches and try to catch up a bit in sleep.	RCR

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		1500	Word received that due to very heavy casualties of the 7 C I B substained in area BRETTEVILLE l'ORGUEILLEUSE MR 9271 that the QOR will come under comd of the 7 C I B and be ready to move by 1700 hrs.	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><i>RCR</i></p> <p>Appx "3"</p> <p>Appx "4"</p>
		1700	Marching troops are picked up by T C Vs - D Coy however is held up by shelling, which is brought down on their posn because of the 3 Br Div attacking CAMBES MR 0173. However they manage to extracate themselves and catch up. Bn is finally set up in posn at BRAY MR 9473 in accordance with the att trace. Slit trenches are of course the first priority. It certainly hasn't taken long for the lads to realize that a hole in the ground is the safest place there is. A Ech is at this time established at 945739 and B ech 945761. Things are by now getting back to a little more battle procedure. All our vehs are now in and we were very lucky in only losing two carriers in the landing. Alt B HQ has now moved more forward and is established with A Ech	
BRAY, France 944737	10 Jun 44	0430	Stand to - a fairly normal night is spent with only the odd bomb landing in our area. Most men have now adopted the policy of sleepin right in their slit trenches.	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><i>RCR</i></p> <p>Appx "5"</p>
		1200	Word received that the balance of 8 Cdn Inf Bde will be moving into this area and that the R de C will take over our posn.	
		1500 1900	Bn moves to new posn area NEUF MER MR 945742. Intelligence summary number 3.	
NEUF MER, France 946742	11 Jun 44	0430	Stand to as usual- a fine day is in the offing.	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><i>RCR</i></p>
		1000	Day being spent in clean up and further digging of slit trenches - rumours of an attack to be put in but nothing definite as yet.	
		1100	Word received that the Bn will attack and seize the high ground south of CHEUX MR 9066. This is to be done by D coy passing through the Regina Rifles at NORREY IN BESSIN 9270 and seizing C MESNIL PATRY MR 8970. The balance of the Bn will then swing through them and by pass CHEUX seizing the high ground at C HAUT de BOSQ MR 9066. For this operation the Bn will be under comd of the 6 Armd Regt.	
		1300		

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		1300	<p>Coys pull out on board their tanks and proceed to their F U P disembarking on NORREY en BESIN and forming up at 919704. The word is given and they proceed along with the tanks across the field toward their objective. Not much time elapses until all hell breaks loose from the enemy lines in the way of mortar and M G fire and the casualties are considerable. Before long there appears to be very few of the lads not wounded. At this time Lt H G W Bean gathered Sgt Sammy Scrutton and 7 other ranks and pulling a right flanking movement managed to sneak in to the town itself. As soon as the enemy spotted this the enemy became a little rattled and our lads were able to pick off at least 50 of them. However things were pretty hot and it appeared that the balance of D coy had been dispersed. Taking over a tank that came on the scene the party boarded it and returned NORREY-en-BESIN. For this action Lt Bean is being recommended for the military cross and Sgt Scrutton for the military medal. Out of the party of nine that went out only four came back unscathed one being left in the town, two being killed and two being brought back wounded. All in all it was a very sorry day for the Bn. When D coy called the roll 96 were listed as casualties although 58 of these were missing. The days show cost us two Coy comds. Major H E Dalton and Major J N Gordon both of whom were wounded. Lt Fleming is missing as are CSM Forbes, Sgts Mitchell and McLaughlin. However, while the day was very costly from the Bn point of view it is believed by higher formations that the show broke up a Divisional attack by the enemy, so it was not all in vain.</p>	<p>REC</p>
		2000	<p>The following personnel of the unit have so far been recommended for decorations. Major C O Dalton for the D S O for his action in the initial assault. Lt W G Herbert for the M C and Cpl Tessier and Rfn Chicoski for the Military Medal for their valour in seizing enemy posns on B coys objective in the initial assault. Sgt Charles Smith for his handling of his pl under heavy mortar fire in the initial assault. Lt H G W Bean and Sgt Scrutton for their action in D coys attack on this date.</p>	
		2115	<p>Informal Church Service held by Capt Clough which drew quite a large gathering.</p>	
NEUF MER, France 946742	12Jun 44	0430 0900 1500	<p>Stand to held as usual. Looks like quite a quiet day and after yesterday most of the lads can stand it. Word received that we are to move back to our old posh at BRAE MR 942737, A Ech</p>	<p>REC</p>

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		2000	to remain in present location. B Ech now being established at CAMILLY MR 951765. Interpretation Report No. 2	Appx "6" <i>AK</i>
BRAY, France 942737	13 Jun 44	0430 0900	Stand to as usual - Weather bright and warm. Bn has a very quiet day being in more or less a reserve posn and by the time the day is finished very good posns are being manned. All these are in accordance with Appx 3 & 4 att to this volume.	<i>AK</i> Appx "7" Appx "8" Appx "9"
		1000	Instrs re Bde PW cage. Instrs re Sanitation. Interpretation Report.	
		1400	Both A and B coys busy themselves in laying defensive minefield under direction of the Pioneer Pl. 3 Cdn Inf Div Intelligence Summary d/13 Jun 44. Trace of M M G tasks.	Appx "10" Appx "11"
BRAY, France 942737	14 Jun 44	0300 0900	Quite a noisy night due to enemy aircraft over our beaches. Another quiet day is spent with coys still improving their posns, minefields and booby traps. A and B coys are now practically surrounded by booby traps and are in a very good defensive posn.	<i>AK</i>
		1500	Apparently A coys booby traps and trip wire work very well for two cows and a horse have just been killed by them. All the local cooks immediately dash out for a supply of fresh meat and are quite successful.	
		1600	A 14 man patrol under Lt Elliott of B coy is organized to go out to-night. It is found that for this patrol an issue of night vision glasses would be a great help.	
		2300	The usual night row starts as a few enemy aircraft appear overhead. 3 Cdn Inf Div Intelligence Summary No. 6. " " " 7. Screed on reporting of infmn.	Appx "12" Appx "13" Appx "14"
BRAY, France 942737	15 Jun 44	0430 0900	Stand to has now been delegated to one man per section (in B HQ) who has to get up at stand to. This as can well be imagined is quite a popular move as far as the men are concerned. Another quiet day with still further improvement in coy posns. Screed re suspect civilians.	<i>AK</i> Appx "15"

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			8 Cdn Inf Bde Daily Int Summary 8 Cdn Inf Bde M G Tasks Trace of Enemy posns Patrol Screeed for night 15/16 Jun 44. 1000 Patrol which was sent out last night to area CARPIQUEST 9669 did not have an awful lot to report except the finding of a pile of apprx 40 dead Germans. This is of course news that is well received by our lads. 1100 Discussion about setting up an OP out in front of B coy. It is decided to have this set up to be manned by the "I" Sec and B coy. 1400 B coy keeps themselves busy with laying a dummy minefield south of their posn.	Appx "16" Appx "17" " 18 " 19 <i>RR</i>
Bray, France 942737	16 Jun 44	0530	Quite a rude awakening by four FCKE-WULFs straffing the streets of BRETTEVILLE. While this is some distance away the noise is certainly not lacking in quantity. Coys still improve posns.	<i>RR</i>
		0900	We receive two Frenchmen from the coys who are eventually turned over to the security personnel. 9 Cdn Inf Bde Patrols. 8 Cdn Inf Bde Screeed re Patrols	Appx "20" Appx "21"
		1000	Balance of day spent in more working of booby trapping of coy areas. Alt posns are now set up for the coys.	
		1200	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary 8 " " " Sitrep 3 Cdn Inf Div Int Summary	Appx "22" Appx "23" Appx "24"
BRAY, France 942737	17 Jun 44	0430	Stand to after a rather noisy night with arty and aircraft quite active.	
		1100	Rumour received that we are to move to-night, but as yet no details are available.	
		1300	Rumour of the move is confirmed and the 8 Cdn Inf Bde to take over the posns held by 7 Cdn Inf Bde. QOR will exchange with the Regina Rifles at BRETTEVILLE MR 9571 with one coy stuck forward in MORREY-EN-BESSIN MR 9270. The move will be done piece by piece and will not be completed until early tomorrow morning.	<i>RR</i>
			8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary Patrol Pro-forma March Table 8 Cdn Inf Bde 7 Cdn Inf Bde Route Trace Screeed re preparation of traces Report on Patrols night 16/17 JUN	Appx "25" " 26 " 27 " 28 " 29 " 30

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		1800 2100	Major S M Lett and Lt R C Rae proceed to new area of BRETTEVILLE on recce. Troops move out on line of march towards new posns and transport stands by to move later at night. A Ech to be located at SECQUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN MR 921744 and B Ech at 984783 just to the S W of BASLY	RKR
BRAY, France 942737	18 Jun 44	0130 1100	Veh convoy get under way and after a short uneventful trip arrives at BRETTEVILLE B HQ established at 922719 in an old German barracks. Quite a few of the lads have discovered practically what seems to be inexhaustible supply of various liquors and wines. Quite a lot of trouble is experienced as some of the boys are so tired they can't judge their capacity properly. However the matter is quickly brought under control by having picquets set up to guard the various stores; also a patrol under Capt Jack Price rounds up all the liquor that can be found in the town. About 130 bottles are rounded up which makes quite a dump. Some trouble is also had with looting but this is quickly and severely brought under control. Maj Nickson O C C coy has also instigated a police block on the road leading to his posn at NORREY-EN-BESSIN. It has been found that too much traffic soon brings down the enemy fire and naturally we try to avoid this.	RKR
		1200	Proposed Patrol for night 18/19 Jun 44 Appx 31 Trace of coy locations " 32 " " A Tk defenses " 33 " " DF & DF (SOS) Tasks 16/17 Jun " 34 " " Enemy disposition " 35 " " DF & DF (SOS) Tasks " 36 Screed re Snipers report " 37 " re combat lessons " 38	Appx 39 " 40 Patrols night 17/18 Jun 44 Patrol report 17/18 Jun 44 Report of Regina Rifle Patrols 17/18 " 41 Cobat less #1 re patrol masters " 42 Proposed Patrols 19/20 Jun " 43 " " 19/20 " " 44 3 Cdn Inf Div Int Summ # 9 " 45 " " Bde " " 18 Jun 44 " 46 3 Cdn Inf Div Int Summ # 10 17 Jun 44 " 47
		1300	Balance of day quiet with only occasional mortar bombs falling in C Coy area. RCE party arrives and proceeds to B coy area to demolish some K O Tanks which are there. Some confusion is caused when these charges go off as C Coy think they are coming under fire. While naturally our boys have learned an awful lot in the past two weeks they are naturally on edge and jump pretty fast towards the friendly protection of slit trenches.	
		1500	8 Cdn Inf Bde - 19 Jun 44 - Daily Int Summary	Appx 48

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BRETTEVILLE, France 922719	19Jun 44	1700	Balance of the day spent quietly with most of the boys trying to get as much sleep as possible.	RKR
		2115	Informal service held by Capt Clough in one of the nearby barns with an attendance of about 65 or seventy.	
	19Jun 44	0400	Stand to with conditions none too good. The good weather seems to have finished for it is now pouring rain.	RKR
		0600	C coy seem to be having quite a time observing the enemy just a few hundred yards to the south. The enemy seem to be trying to draw our fire so they can chart our posns but we are not falling for that in the least and are gradually taping their posn to enable our big push XXXXXXXX to go through.	
		1000	Word is received that the various high comds of the 15th Scottish Division will visit us tomorrow to recce the situation with a view to their attacking through us in the next day or so.	
		1200	Information is received from C coy that they have now plotted what they think are most of the posns out in front of them and wish an "I" man to plot them. One is immediately sent to them to spend the night there and find out what infmn he can.	
		1300	Screed re patrol reports Report on Patrols night of 18/19 Jun 44	
		1930	Draft of 62 reinforcements arrived at B Ech and are distributed to the coys. C O's meeting of Coy Comds mainly on administrative matters with several interesting points brought out - Sgt Overholt is mentioned as a possible sgt to fill the vacancy of Sniper Sgt opened up by a new W E. Also a new "I" class is to start with representation from the coy. This is to fill the vacancies caused by casualties which have hit this section quite hard and also to try and form a reserve. It is also decided to have a rum issue for tomorrow morning - the weather is quite cold and wet and it certainly will be welcomed by the men.	
		2200	Five mortar shells land in C coy area and cause damage to the extent of the loss of one 15 cwt truck and one man who was wounded	
		20Jun 44	0530	

Appx 49
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
		0800	3 Cdn Inf Div Sitrep Rep Patrol report for night of 19/20 Jun 44 Proposed Patrols for night 20/21 Jun 44 Daily Int Summary QOR of C. Int Summ #10 18 Jun 44 Trace of enemy dispositions as seen from C coy	Appx 51 2 52 " 53 " 54 " 55 " 56
		1000	It appears at first sight as though we are being invaded by the Free French Army but it soon develops that they are the French Cmdrs of the district and are putting the regular Gendarms back into local power. There will be five of them in the town and they will control the local population but will report to us each day for any instructions. We are also giving them transportation to enable them to bring flour into the district as they only have a supply enough to last 24 hours.	<i>PCR</i>
		1115	Several high offrs of the 15 Scottish Div arrive to recce the ground for their attack through us. Put all them together with the French Officials still around it looks like an Army HQ.	

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WAR DIARY

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
BRETTEVELLE France 922719	21 Jun 44	1700	Balance of day fairly quiet but with a considerable number of visitors from the 15 L Div coming in after infmn, Int Appreciation of CHOUX area Int Summary #12 3 Cdn Inf Div Int Summary 8 Cdn Inf Bde Report of Sniper Observation Patrol 3 Cdn Inf Div Sitrep Report Traces re Minefields in Bretteville Area 3 Cdn Inf Div Standing Orders	<i>RRR</i> Appx 57 " 58 " 59 " 60 " 61 " 62 " 63
		2200	QOR Daily Int Summary 8 Cdn Inf Bde Sit Report Activities of "A" Coy 20 Jun 44 Trace re Div Adm Lateral Routes.	" 64 " 65 " 66 " 67
		0700	We receive a few enemy shells in our Bn Area but fortunately there are no casualties.	
		0800	The usual day starts with many offrs of 15 L Div around after infmn to enable them to push through us easier. Quite a bit of concern is caused by A Coy locating a German wireless set concealed in a barn only a couple of hundred yards from their posn. It is believed that someone sneaks in and sends out infmn to the enemy. If he shows up to-night he'll get a warm reception.	<i>RRR</i>
		1745	CO's meeting of all Coy Comds and all Patrol Masters, to co-ordinate a new system of patrols. To be sure of maintaining patrol superiority we are sending one fighting patrol area 915705 and one to area 935705, also C Coy is to recce the river Muc	Appx 68
		2030	Our 3" Mor get a little shoot on suspected enemy mor area of ST MOUVIEU. A prompt reply is soon received and things are rather warm in the mortars area for a short time. OP Reprts to C Coy 8 Cdn Inf Bde patrol reports A coy sniper patrol reports QOR of C patrols for night 22/23 Jun 44	Appx 69 " 70 " 71 " 72

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BRETTEVILLE FRANCE 922719	22Jun 44	0700	Patrol Report on Nights Activity	Appx 73 RER Appx 74 Appx 75 " 76 " 77 " 78 " 79 " 80			
		0800	War Correspondant, Ralph Allan of the Toronto Globe and Mail pays the regiment an early morning call. As he can now mention the unit by name he is after a story and is taken to A Ech to get details and names etc.				
		0930	Quite a sensation is caused by Capt "Benny" Dunkelmann unearthing what is believed to be an underground tunnel. All the various Majors get together and from infm derived there is a possibility that these run all the way to CAEN and intermediate points.				
		1000	Patrols for night 22/23 Jun 44				
		1300	Padre and a Burial Party go to area C Mesnil PATRY to bury some of our men of D coy				
		2200	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary to 0900 22 Jun 44 Interrogation Report by Capt Dunkelmann Daily Int Summ QOR 8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summ to 0900 hrs 21 Jun 44 Screed re Shell Reps				
		2300	Stand-to for all coys - an attack seems to be developing from C coys left flank accompanied by heavy M G and Mor fire.				
		2359	Our DF tasks 224 & 227 called for which brings down a concentration of two regiments plus one medium bty.				
		BRETTEVILLE, FRANCE 922719	23Jun 44		0050	Reports received from 8 Cdn Inf Bde of tanks moving in from left flank but irrespective of this coys are all advised to send out all ordinary patrols. Shortly after this all became quiet but this period only lasted for a very few minutes when it started all over again. Lt Pickup who had gone down to NORRY en BESSIN to pick up casualties was buried under a falling wall but managed to get out Okay. During this fracas C coys carrier was hit and went up in flames. Also communications were broken with BHQ and it appeared as though every time they went out on the air the mortar fire came down again. Although about a total of about 2000 mor bombs fell, casualties as far as the QOR were concerned were very light only one man being killed.	RER
					0530	All coys advised to stand down but to keep definitely on the alert.	
0900	Morning spent with coys changing posns. A coy moves to C coy, C to D coy and D to A. This gives C coy a rest for they have been taking quite a beating in NORREY en NESSIN. Suspected Enmy Mors QOR of C Patrol Report 8 Cdn Inf Bde Patrol Report						
8	" " " " " " for night of 23/24 Jun 44						
8	" " " " " " for night of 23/24 Jun 44						
				Appx 81 " 82 " 83 " 84			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
BRETTEVILLE FRANCE 922719	24 Jun 44		N Shore R Patrols	Appx 85
		1000	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summ 23 Jun 44	" 86
		1500	3 Cdn Inf Div Int " 23 Jun 44	" 87
		2120	Quite a bit of excitement caused at B HQ by rather a hot bit of shelling.	" 88
		2200	Daily Int Summ 23 Jun 44	" 89
			Trace of unit Mor Fire Plan	" 90
		0500	Normal stand-to with the weather bright and warm	
		0700	Patrol Report of 23-24 Jun 44	" 91
			A very quiet day being spent by all ranks trying to catch up on some much needed sleep	<i>RER</i>
		1500	4-2" Mor of C M of O engaged targets in MARCELET MR 9468	" 92
BRETTEVILLE FRANCE (922719)	25 Jun 44		Patrol Programme for 24/25 Jun 44	
		2100	Some enemy sighted area 913697 - arty and our own 3" mor fire immediately brought to bear and while the effect could not be seen the fire was right on the target.	" 93
			Daily Int Summ 24 Jun 44	" 94
			Patrols for Night 24/25 Jun 44	" 95
			8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary 24 Jun 44	
		0320	Request from 49 Div on right to lay smoke for their attack but due to the shortage of time this is found to be impossible.	
		0415	Quite a racket is caused when the whole corps artillery open up in support of the 49 Div advance on FONTENAY le PESNEL MR 8767.	" 96
		0730	Patrol report of night 24/25 Jun 44	
			A large flight of fortresses fly over in the direction of CHEUX 9167. Quite a lot of flak is sent up but they fly on unperturbed.	<i>RER</i>
		0800	It seems as though it will be quite a noisy day due to all arty supporting attack of 49 Div on FONTENAY le PESNIL and ROURAY on right flank.	
1115	H/Capt Clough holds Holy Communion at B HQ with quite a good attendance.	" 97		
	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary	" 98		
1930	Extract from Toronto Globe and Mail 8 Jun 44			
	Quite some excitement caused by a dud 170 mm shell coming to rest right outside B HQs door. However, RAF bomb disposal squad soon clear it away.	" 99		
	44 L Bde O O #2	2 100		
	2100	QOR Int Summ 25 Jun 44		

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BRETTEVILLE FRANCE 922719	26Jun 44	0100	A very unfortunate incident occurred in which Cpl George Hadley of B Coy was shot and killed while trying to connect with 17 Recc on our left flank. All during the night units of the 15 L Div are forming up in a position for their projected attack.	
		0700	Patrol Report for Night of 25/6 Jun 44 Bde Patrols for Night 25/6 Jun 44	Appx 101 " 102
		0730	Zero hour for the 15 L Div and an awful uproar breaks loose as the Corps arty opens up on their targets and the inf and tanks move fwd.	
		0930	Quite favourable reports received from our front in that the 15 L Div are now in ST MAUVIEU MR 9268 and have also reached the main road at about 904680.	RER
		2100	Daily Int Summ QOR " " " 8 Cdn Inf Bde Word is received that there will be move to our rest area before first light tomorrow.	" 103 " 104
BRETTEVILLE FRANCE 922719	27Jun 44	0700	QOR Patrol Report	" 105
		0800	We are invaded by a large party of the Hampshire Regt, 43 Div who are taking over our posn here in BRETTEVILLE. Also receive word to be on one hours notice to move after 0900 hrs. Trace of coy disposition at BRETTEVILLE Daily Int Summ 8 Cdn Inf Bde	" 106 " 107
		0900	Rather a dismal dau with intermitted showers coming down. There seems to be quite a bit of confusion in regard to our move but it will be probably straightened out in due course. From reports coming in A coy must have had a very miserable night being under constant shell fire.	RER
		1500	Finally get under way to our rest area. The coys were under the impression they would be transported but the only transport that appears is their feet.	
	1900	Finally get established in new area of Cairon. B HQ is set up in old German camp at 971747. Daily Int Summ 27 Jun 44	" 108	
CAIRON, France 971747	28Jun 44	0400	Stand-to is limited to one man per section and day is spent cleaning up and getting a much needed rest.	
		1800	Men parade in groups of ten to N SHORE R lines where a mobile bath unit is set up needless to say while the water was scarce this was enjoyed by all.	
		1830	A Coy suffer some shelling and casualty to the extent of one killed and one wounded. 8 Cdn Inf Bde Int. Summ 26 Jun 44	" 109

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WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37(9/42)

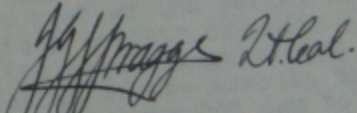
OR

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CAIRO, France 971747		2100	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summary 28 Jun 44 xxx QOR of "C" " "	Appx 110 " 111
	29 Jun 44	0800	The beginnings of an easy day. However this is somewhat broken by the receipt of warning order to be ready to move to-night.	
	0900	8 Cdn Inf Bde Int Summ 29 Jun 44	" 112	
	1330	Further men proceed to mobile themselves.		
	1500	M O Inspection and Muster Parades held by coys.	" 113	
	1800	The "Big 2" Bugle - month of Jun	ROR	
1900	Casualty Reports to date include killed, 113, Wounded 131 and Missing 26.			
			 (J. C. SPRAGGE) Lt-col Comd 1st Bn The Q O R of C.	

SECRET

ORIGINAL
DUPLICATE
TRIPLICATE

(Strike out where not applicable)

WAR DIARIES
App's checked
Date 24 Jun 1947

WAR DIARY

OF

1 Bn The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (AF)

FROM 30 June 44 TO 31 July 44

Lewis
1/17



VOLUME XL

APPENDICES 1, 3 TO 27

ORIGINAL

21 JUN 1947

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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40/P & 5/37

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1st Bn The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada *(Erase heading not required)*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CAIRO 970748	30 Jun 44	0400 0900	Normal stand-to held Coys have another day in rather a restful atmosphere Trace of enemy dispositions Trace of Coy dispsoms Trace of A - Tk Defences	Appx 5 " 6 " 7 <i>Rck</i>
CAIRO 970748	1 Jul 44	0400 0930 1700 2000	Normal stand-to - not at all popular, of course. C.O. called to Bde for conference at 1000 hrs. Word is received that the S.D. & G Highlanders are to make a diversionary attack on GROUCHY 9872 to-night at 2245. In the meantime "D" Coy construct a rd block at 969744 which will be in operation at night only. For some reason or other the attack on GROUCHY is cancelled	<i>Rck</i>
CAIRO 970748	2 Jul 44	0800 2200	Another lazy day although there are signs of near future activity - it is still the intention of the Bde to capture CARPIQUET 9769 and to aid us in this the Gds Bde at MARCELET 9468 are sending out patrols to get what infm they can for us. Our attack will probably take place the day after to-morrow. Daily Int Summary Do's & Don'ts for Duty Offrs Trace Bde Area & responsibilities	Appx 8 " 9 " 10 <i>Rck</i>
CAIRO 970748	3 Jul 44	0800 1130 1300 1730	Still in semi rest area but will probably move to F.U.P. tonight or possibly this afternoon. C.O. off to O Group at Bde H.Q. Bn gets under way to F.U.P. for attack at first light tomorrow. Bn H.Q. now established at woods 137682 and outside of rather consistent shelling a fairly quiet night is had.	<i>Rck</i>
MARCELET 937682	4 Jul 44	0330	Early reveille and a bite to eat before the bn starts off on its days battle. Our objective is the control buildings in the eastern half of square 9767 and of course cannot be attacked until a firm base is established in CARPIQUET 9769 which is the job of the F Shore R and the R de Chaud. For this operation the R.W.R. are under command 8 C.I.B. and have as their objective the south hangers at 962673.	<i>Rck</i>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
		0700	C.O. & I.O. leave for O.P. on east side of MARCELET to watch early stage of battle. The N Shore R., R. de C. & R.W.R. are well under way - the former two are proceeding according to plan and have got well on way to objective. The R.W.R. however have met considerable trouble and are being held up.	
		1100	R.W.R. finally reach objective and Q.O.R. get in posn on west edge of CARPIQUET 965690 in preparation for their share of attack.	
		1400	Our attack postponed due to R.W.R. being forced off their posn in the south hangars. The day is a very rough one with continual shell and mortar fire on our posns. At the moment we are in a very precarious situation with enemy on three sides of us. However a solid base is formed and will be held at all costs.	RCH
CARPIQUET 965690	5 Jul44	0800	After rather an uncomfortable night due to continued shell and mortar fire the bn rises for another day although nothing of any importance occurs.	
		1700	F Ech vehs move up and are very lucky in getting in without losing a vehicle.	RCH
CARPIQUET 965690	6 Jul44	0800	Still in posn and still catching considerable from "Moaning Minnie" 88's and what have you.	
		1200	R.W.R. are to revert under command 7 C.I.B. and will be relieved by "B" Coy Q.O.R. at 955678. This to take place immediately. C.O.C. holds conference in the command post and we are told we will have to hang on in our present posns for two more nights and one day. Then there will be a big attack on our left flank by 3 Br Div and the 7 & 9 Odn Inf Bdes. This attack will have as its objective the capture of CAREN.	RCH
CARPIQUET 965690	7 Jul44	0800	Another normal night and day complete with insistent mortaring and shelling of our posns.	
		2000	Feelings are relieved considerably by the sight of hundreds of heavy bombers "softening-up" the north side of CAREN. It certainly helps to cheer the men up after the pasting we have been taking the last few days. Contrary to former opinions the Bde will have a job to do in to-morrows operation. After the left flank is secure the QOR will take their original objective, the adm blags 9767 while the R de C go after the south hangars 9667.	RCH
CARPIQUET 965690	8 Jul44	1000	"B" Coy returns from their posn at MARCELET being relieved by a coy of R de Chaud. A great deal of noise is heard from the north where the 9 C.I.B. is in operation. During the afternoon quite a sight is had of the enemy retreating in confusion from AURHIS 9871	
		1700	GALMANCHE 0073 and several other towns in this area are reported to be in our hands. However due to the passage of time, our attack is postponed till to-morrow morning.	RCH

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CARPIQUET 965690	9 Jul 44	0900	Coys proceed to far end of CARPIQUET for attack - C & D Coys up.	RKR
		1000	Barrage opens and coys proceed with assault. Few actual enemy are encountered although some casualties are sustained by arty and mortar fire. However forward coys report "ABIE" by 1030 hrs and are soon in posn and consolidated.	
		1600	F Ech vehs move up to bn and outside of the occasional shell things are quite peaceful. BHQ is established in a former air raid shelter which is very solid - too bad we didn't have it in our former spot. A very unlucky day for Sjts with Sjts Tarzwell, Styles, Murray & Jones all being killed.	
CONTROL BLDG CARPIQUET 976679	10 Jul 44	0900	Things rather quiet although we receive word to be on one hours notice. The N Shore R are now in BRETTEVILLE SUR ODOU 9966 while the R de Chaud are at JUMEAUX 9866.	RKR
		1500	The carrier pl are sent out to recce area of LOUVIGNY 0165 and also woods to north of town. If these are not too strongly held will probably move fwd.	
		1900	Considerable enemy activity area LOUVIGNY and move fwd is postponed.	
		2315	A Coy sent out on patrol to area woods 010660 for infm.	
CONTROL BLDGS CARPIQUET 976679	11 Jul 44	0630	"A" Coy return from their nights activity having been under heavy mortar fire but having been successful in pinpointing several M.G. posns.	Appx 11 RKR
		1400	Considerable excitement is caused by approx 16 enemy planes zooming in overhead - however they receive a very hot reception and no less than four are shot down. Some elements of the F.M.R. of the 2 Cdn Inf Div arrive to recce the posn in preparation for taking over to-morrow.	
		2300	"B" Coy proceed out on patrol to do the same job as "A" Coy did last night. Int Summary	
CONTROL BLDGS CARPIQUET 976679	12 Jul 44	0900	Quiet normal day with some elements of F.M.R. still around on recce.	Appx 12 RKR
		1400	We are again visited by about twelve enemy planes with two or three being shot down.	
		1600	Recce party proceeds to new area and rest of bn prepare to move in early evening.	
		2000	Vehs and tps get under way - going out in small lots to prevent enemy seeing too much movement at once. The F.M.R. come in the same way.	
		2330	Tps are finally established in their rest area. GAIMANCHE 019731. The lads are not pleased with the spot at all for the bldgs are completely wrecked - there are dead animals and Germans all over the place and it is certainly not a spot to put the mind at rest. However the best is made of a bad go and the men bed down.	

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GALMAYCHE 019731	13 Jul44	0600	Breakfast is had and they boys get away in groups of about a hundred to the mobile baths. These are very much appreciated especially as clean clothing is issued to each and every man.		
		1500	The K of C arrive and set up to show as many pictures a day as they can. This is certainly appreciated.		
GALMAYCHE 019731	14 Jul44	0930	A very restful day although an "O" Gp is called for at Bde. Apparently our future is to relieve the 7 Cdn Inf Bde in CAEN so they can have a few days rest.	RKH	
		1530	All plans for relieving the 7 C.I.B. are cancelled although just what we are going to do still remains a mystery.		
GALMAYCHE 019731	15 Jul44	0900	Half of the bn load into transport and are taken to ST AUBIN 0184 for a swim or anything else they want to do. These will return about 1300 hrs and the rest will go down till evening. Meanwhile plans for operation "ATLANTIC" are being formed.	RKH	
GALMAYCHE 019731	16 Jul44	0900	Rather a lazy day spent by the troops with several shows put on by the K of C. Plans for operation "ATLANTIC" still being formed.	RKH	
		1600	Word received that only essential transport will be moved after 2400 hrs to-night.		
GALMAYCHE 019731	17 Jul44	0900	Preparations and recess for operation "ATLANTIC" still continue although the tps are not informed due to security reasons. Actually it entails crossing the River Orne north of CAEN and attacking south through factory at 0769 and has as an objective of the 3 Cdn Div the capture of VAUCHELLES on the south and east bank of the River ORNE.	RKH	
		2000	Coy's proceed by foot to F.U.P. at 088719.		
		2230	F Ech transport move off for F.U.P. and the bn is finally complete in area by midnight.		
			BIE O.O. #15 "ATLANTIC" Appx		13
			OPERATION "ATLANTIC" - Movement Table "		14
	Arty table & trace "	15			
	S Bde Adm Order 2 "	16			
	3 Cdn Div Adm Order #2 "	17			
"OF ATLANTIC" 088719	18 Jul44	0500	The men having been issued with twenty four hr packs cook themselves a bite to eat and prepare themselves for the day's battle	Appx 18 RKH	
		1800	An unlucky day for offrs with Lt's Rayner, McLeod & McNeilly all being killed.		
		1900	F Echelon vehs start to move up to fwd posn but due to mines are stopped for the night at 095707.		

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GIBERVILLE 091678	19 Jul44	0700 0900	F Ech joins the bn without trouble and the bn is complete once more. Ccs returns now coming in show that the battle yesterday was rather expensive in that we suffered 76 casualties. However as we took upwards of 500 prisoners, killed more than 200 and captured a great deal of his equipment, it certainly was not in vain.	RLR
GIBERVILLE 091678	20 Jul44	0900 2000	Rather a rotten day with plenty of rain and lots of mud - signs of the bn moving fwd but nothing definite as yet. Move for to-day cancelled but bn will be prepared to move by 0700 hrs to-morrow. Daily Int Summary	Appx 19 RLR
GIBERVILLE 091678	21 Jul44	0600 0900 1200 1400	Weather still rather demoralizing with the rain pouring down. Various "O" Ops are held and we find that we are to move to GREENHEVILLE 0863 - probably quite warm as far as shellfire is concerned but fairly safe as the R de Chaud will occupy SOLIKAS 0862 and FOUR 0962 and the W Shore & SOUMGURUS 0761. Cops start to move off at intervals. F Echelon transport moves off and the bn is in posn by 1500. HQ set up - in quite a solid house at 087643. Coy dispositions A Tk Dispositions Daily Int Summary	RLR Appx 20 " 21 " 22 RLR
GREENHEVILLE 087643	22 Jul44	0800	Outside of quite insistent shelling a quiet day is spent with the men improving present posns.	
GREENHEVILLE 087643	23 Jul44	0800 2130	With the exception of the usual rather heavy shellfire, a quiet day is spent. Word comes through that the Cdn Corps plus 7 Arm Div less 8 Cdn Bde will attack to-morrow morning at about 0800 by aid of searchlights with the objective of the high ground south of ROZUANCOURT and GARCILLES SUCQUEVILLE. Daily Int Summary	RLR Appx 23
GREENHEVILLE 087643	24 Jul44	0800 1000	After a very noisy night caused by enemy aircraft and shellfire the shellfire increases in intensity probably caused by the attack of the rest of the corps. Word received that our tps have reached first objective but with a very difficult time - the advance seems to be definitely held up.	RLR

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GREENTHEVILLE 087643	25Jul44	0800	Our friend "Jerry" really got the high score this morning with a direct hit on the "I" section truck. This shell also got a trailer, 2 M/Gs and wounded Sjt Laffradi and four other men. The biggest loss in this was the month's war diary especially as we have no other record of the months activity. However bigger problems than it have been solved so we imagine it will be to.	RER
		1500	Other than still being under intermittent heavy shellfire the day is quite uneventful. An unlucky shell killed Lt B H McRoberts of "D" Coy.	
GREENTHEVILLE 087643	26Jul44	0100	Fairly heavy air attack with some bombs dropped in the area. However there are no casualties.	RER
		1400	Word is received that we will exchange posns with the N Shore R in BOURGEBUS 0761. As the enemy appear to hold WILLYCAMPAGNE 0760 in some considerable strength, this should be interesting. Move will take place during hours of darkness to-night.	
		2000	Recco parties proceed to BOURGEBUS to tee up the situation there.	
BOURGEBUS 076616	27Jul44	0010	Coys start off at half hour intervals.	RER Appx 24
		0230	C.O. and BHQ personnel arrive in BOURGEBUS and the bn is in posn once more. Situation as far as shell-ing goes is very little different from our last posn - its still pretty constant.	
		1000	Day spent in improving posns as much as possible without showing too much to the enemy just across the way. Most of P Ech vehs have been left north of GREENTHEVILLE 089648 as it would be a little too risky bringing them down here.	
		2130	Daily Int Summary	
BOURGEBUS 076616	28Jul44	1230	Something must have "Jerry" worried for he let loose with a heavy mortar barrage which was right on BHQ and "C" Coy posns. However only a few casualties were caused.	RER Appx 25 RER Appx 26
		0700	Patrol Report - night 27/28 July	
		1300	We establish an O.P. in church 078614 but is not very satisfactory due to enemy observation & sniping	
		1700	Elements of the 4 Cdn Div - Arm'd, pay us a visit - the units represented were the Lincoln & Welland & South Alberta Reg't. The reason they are here is that they expect to put on a big drive in the near future & are getting the general "dope" and lay of the land.	
		2130	Daily Int Summary	
2300	Something must have "Jerry" excited again for quite a heavy concentration is put down right on our area - possibly 75's.			

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Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

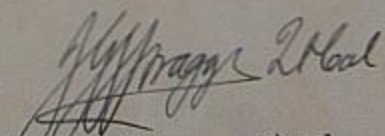
OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/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
BOURGUEBUS 076616	29 Jul 44	0300	The Sun definitely must think there is something up for very heavy concentrations are dropped during the night - probably inf 75's. However due to the fact that the men are very well dug in only one casualty is suffered.	Appx 27 <i>RLK</i>
		0700	Patrol report night 28/29 July 44	
		0900	The beginnings of quite a quiet day. However no one trusts "Jerry" a bit and so everyone still sticks pretty close to their slit trenches.	
		2100	Section leaders and a few other elements of the Lincoln and Welland Regt arrive to spend the night with us - the reason is just to get a little experience of what it is like in the front line	
BOURGUEBUS 076616	30 Jul 44	0730	Major Lett, Bn 2 i/c leaves on recce.	<i>RLK</i>
		0900	Another quiet night and the beginnings of a quiet day once more.	
		1200	Further elements of the Lincoln and Welland Regt arrive. They are to relieve us to-night and the entire 3rd Cdn Inf Div is to go out of the line for a rest.	
BOURGUEBUS 076616	31 Jul 44	0010	The first coy of the relieving Lincoln and Welland's arrive and "C" Coy set out by route. Due to the ticklishness of the situation around BOURGUEBUS great care has to be exercised in this change over to avoid too many casualties by enemy fire.	<i>RLK</i>
		0330	The tps are picked up by TCVs at 038679 and lifted to their rest area nr FONTAINE HENRY 978790. Everyone beds down for a couple of hrs much needed sleep.	
		1200	The lads begin to stir once more and take stock of the situation - the area is quite good and certainly very quiet - the guns can only be heard very faintly and there doesn't even seem to be any AA in the neighbourhood. "A" Echelon is established here also - the K of C truck arrives and soon has pictures showing at full tilt plus a loud speaker for gramophone records.	
<u>CASUALTIES SINCE "D" DAY</u>				
Killed in Action & Wounded	Died of Wounds	OFFICERS	OTHERS	
		7	162	
		17	278	
Battle Exhaustion			39	
				 (J. C. STRAGGS) Lt-col Comd 1st Bn The QOR of C

SECRET

ORIGINAL
DUPLICATED
TRIPLICATED
(Strike out where not applicable)

WAR DIARIES
Appxs Three
Date - 24 Jun 1947

WAR DIARY

OF

1st Bn The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, (AR)

FROM 1 August, 1944 TO 31 August, 1944



VOLUME

1/15CRM

1. 2. 4-31

APPENDICES 1 TO 2

ORIGINAL

AUG 1944

758

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment) are contained in FS Regs Vol 1.

WAR DIARY

3/19A MPM 11
40/P&S/37 (1028)

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Title pages will be prepared.

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1st Bn the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	1Aug44	0830	(THAON) map of area A day of complete rest for practically everyone. Parties are taken down to semieres-sur-mer where a good swim is had by all. This is the first opportunity many of the lads have had to see again the place they landed on that memorable day almost two months ago. The K of C is running full speed with several shows a day - a very good picture too "The Sullivan's". Daily "I" Summary	Appx 4 SLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	2Aug44	0630 1230	It begins to look as though the rest is over. All coys have training parades while the "I" section is taken down to Sde HQ for the beginning of a four morning brush up course. Rather a rushed parade is finally formed up and the rest of the Sde arrive for an inspection by the G.O.C., Major-General Keller. After a rather informal inspection, the men gathered round and the General said a few words about past present and future actions. He was quite optimistic and thought that to-days war news was the best that had been forthcoming since the beginning of the war, nearly five years ago. Needless to say this buoyed up the men's morale considerably.	Appx 5 SLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	3Aug44	0630 0830 1300 1700 1800	Beville Trg and reorganization parades continue throughout the morning. Half the Bn march to the caves of Fontaine Henry to see the Odn concert party consisting of half a dozen Cdn Army men and above all five G.W.A.O.s. The concert was a huge success and no doubt will be talked about for weeks to come. The Sjt's Mess (in a marquee) has its opening - official opening however will not be till to-morrow evening. Balance of Bn parade to concert in Fontaine Henry. These men also vote it a huge success.	SLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	4Aug44	0630 0830 1600 1800	Beville. Again trg parades continue throughout the day. Coys are taking turns on the nearby ranges for zeroing weapons and bringing up their shooting. The snipers and scouts are still in trg at "B" Echelon as also are the men being trained in the use of the flame-thrower carrier on carriers. Troops receive their weekly bottle of beer which as always is very welcome. Official opening of the Sjt's Mess with all Sjts being present. There certainly are a lot of new faces. As a matter of interest only five of the original rifle coy sjts are now with the Bn. Quite a party gets under way after the meal and as usual with such functions carries well into the night.	SLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	5Aug44	0630	Beville - rather dull and wet.	SLB

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3/19A MFM 11
40/P&S/37 (5028)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	5AUG44	0800 1300 1600 1900 2200	Coys carry on with parades, some in preparation for an inspection by the Corps Commander this afternoon. Sde forms up in our area for the inspection by Lt-Gen Simmonds, our Corps Comd. He, like other Generals seems to have the habit of informal inspections and after the inspection the men gather round to hear a few words from him. He too appears to be very optimistic over the outcome of the present conflict. Meeting of all oftrs re-coming operations. K of C show pictures in the caves of Fontaine Henry. Oftrs and Sjts unite to see a movie held in the Sjts Mess. There appear to be signs of our rest period coming to an end and rumours are flying thick and fast.	JLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	6Aug44	0630 0945 1000	Beveille - still a little dull and damp. R.O.'s fall in for church parade held in N Shore Lines. Protestant compulsory service held in lines and taken by the Padre - Capt Stewart.	JLB
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	7Aug44	0630 0830 0930 0930 1400 1400 1730	Beveille - Misty and damp, but the day soon showed signs of brightening up. Coy parades - Coys are utilising every spare minute in training new men. Voluntary Church service Rumours are quite accurate as to pending operation. ssg news listened to very closely all day. Oftrs at C.O.'s "O" Group. Demonstration of German mines by R.O.S. Everyone seemed to be very interested, more so than they were back in England. Bath Parades. Shows by N Shore in caves of Fontaine Henry. "I" Summary	JLB Appx 6
FONTAINE HENRY 975789	8Aug44	0530 0630 0800 0800 1030 1100 1430	Beveille - Misty and cool. Early breakfast as the battalion is on one hours notice at 0800 hrs. All coys busy packing for move. Much comment on heavy planes that flew overhead during the night. Word from sde that attack was already under way. Dinner and haversack lunches were handed out. Orders came to move and the convoy moved out at 1200 hrs. Convoy was held up in CAAN due to Flying Forts dropping their bombs in the wrong places. Casualties in Allied forces as a result.	JLB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	8Aug44	1430	Arrived at our area and men proceeded to dig in, although we are moving up some time to-night. General Keller was reported slightly wounded in hand. Brig slackader acting G.O.C. and Col Spragge acting Brigadier.	JL
		1700	"O" Group at sde. Reg't advised to dig in securely as no move likely till early morning.	
S. of COMBELLIS	9Aug44	0300	Map - CAEN Reveille and early breakfast. the men went back to sleep again after being advised of no immediate move.	Appx 7 JL
		0830	Men told to be ready to move at 0930. weather clear and warm.	Appx 8
		1100	Convoy started to new area arriving there at 1430. Operation Order "TOTALIZE".	
		2300	Coys started moving out at $\frac{1}{2}$ hour intervals.	
LANGANERIE 096499	10Aug44	0300	"F" Echelon arrived at area 096499.	Appx 9
			Map Bretteville-sur-Laize	
		0500	Jerry started his shelling very early this morning.	
		0900	Breakfast. weather clear and warm.	
		1000	"A" Coy getting accurately shelled and casualties light - so far.	
		1700	this town is really a hot spot and there has been shelling off and on all day. Some casualties suffered.	
		1730	"O" Group and details of coming attack gone over with coy commanders.	
		2000	H Hour and the arty laid down quite a barrage. "B" Coy was the assault coy and two of the leading sections got into the town without a shot being fired on them. No sooner were they in town than Jerry tanks got behind them and cut them off.	Appx 10
			Task table arty. "A" Coy advanced across field under low angle shelling from 88's mixed with mortars 100 yds from the start line. Coy came under heavy fire from automatic weapons. The advance kept on and the enemy retired leaving some equipment. In the hedge some snipers had remained after our men had gone through, they fired at our boys backs. 9 Pl on the right followed by 7 pl went through second hedge, about 300 yds to the right two scout cars and a tiger tank pinned them down on a forward slope. They were in a wheat field and everytime the grain moved it was fired on. On the left 8 pl came under very heavy fire of all types, but they continued their advance through the hedge.	JL

JL

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	10Aug44		At this time "a" Coy 200 yds to the left and rear, were stopped completely. Message was sent back saying the coy needed support from tank or arty. Coy stayed where they were until dark and then withdrew to regroup for another assault.	
		0100	Moved back to own area. Considering the heavy fire the casualties were very light. One killed, 7 wounded, 1 missing. The senior NCO's did an exceptionally good job in controlling platoons.	
		2000	"a" Coy. H hour. "a" Coy started advancing. The axis of advance was along road. After advance of 500 yds they bore left. There were tanks firing on them from an unknown source and Major Mills the Coy Comd was wounded. Snipers and MG's were firing from the woods on the right. When the coy arrived at the woods they swung over to the right and Cpl Bairstow became separated from the Coy. He ran into some enemy - killing two and taking six P.W. There was plenty of sniping and automatic weapons firing in the woods. 88's and mortars started firing when the coy were 150 yds from the woods screening in the woods prevented communications. There was approx 4 tks in woods. 12 pl as told by Cpl Kessler - We followed barrage closely and waited at the edge of woods until barrage lifted. Two pls got forward but 12 pl was pinned down in wheatfield until dark. We made our way back to the road where we met Major Cottrill who put us in positions to meet possible counter attack.	
			As told by Sjt Suddes - 10 pl. We got into woods and into some buildings. There were snipers and MG's firing constantly. Camouflaged tanks waited until we got into woods and then cut us off. At this point Cpl Samaria did an outstanding job of keeping the morale of the boys up and preventing them from becoming disorganized. We were helped out by a platoon of H Shore K and Lt Robertson of "C" Coy, N.S.R. organized a "do or die" task. When the rest of us were pinned down he went forward on a recon. How he stayed alive is a miracle. He assisted us greatly in getting out our wounded plus remainder of the coy.	Jdo
		2000	H hour - "C" Coy advanced, 13 pl right, 14 pl left and 15 pl in reserve. All went well until coy reached crest of slope then enemy tanks opened up. 14 pl seemed to get the most of it as they were on slightly higher ground. 13 pl with Coy H.Q. close behind kept on going under small arms fire. Then guns swung over to 13 pl and MG fire increased, 13 pl, coy H.Q. and 15 pl were pinned to ground. Capt Martin, Coy Comd was wounded and signaller was killed by shrapnel. Forward section of 13 pl reached hedge but could go no further due to the heavy firing. This section could see some of the enemy tanks and sniped some of their personnel. By this time all pl offers were casualties. Mfn Kneller of 15 pl had taken over his platoon and was trying to organize the remainder of the coy. He was told to get down and protect himself, but he kept running all over the place under very heavy fire trying to get the men together, he was still doing this when he was killed. As soon as darkness set in the men who were able to get out in ones and twos. Stretcher bearers went out later for casualties.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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3/19A MFM 11
40" P&S/37 (5028)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
AN TAUX	11 Aug 44	0730	Breakfast - clear and warm. Coys here for regrouping arriving here at 0600 hrs. Boys were quite happy when told that breakfast was so soon. The chief topic of conversation was the battle of the previous night. The day was spent cleaning weapons and themselves. Everyone is hoping we will be here for a few days but no such luck. Daily "I" Summary	Appx 11 <i>SL</i>
		1300	A few shells fell during the morning and afternoon causing casualties among them our Padre H/Capt Stewart who was evacuated. This makes the second Padre we have lost.	
		1500	Sde "O" Group.	
		1830	En "O" Group.	
		1930	Coy Comd's went out to recce area we are taking over from Royal Winnipeg Rifles at Bretteville le Rabet.	
		2100	Coy start out for new area and last coy arrives at 0130 hrs. There is a 100% stand-to to-night.	
BRETTEVILLE LE RABET 100504	12 Aug 44	0730	Breakfast. Weather clear and warm. The expected counter attack by the enemy didn't materialise, probably due to the heavy concentration of arty fire that was put down during the entire night. Mr Rae our I.O. left for the rest centre this morning.	<i>SL</i>
		2000	There has been intermittent shelling during the day causing casualties to two attached men from the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa.	
		2200	Patrols went out but didn't contact enemy. Daily "I" Summary	
BRETTEVILLE LE RABET 100504	13 Aug 44	0730	Adm Order for "TALIULAH" Breakfast. Weather clear and warm. Coys improving positions.	Appx 12 Appx 13 Appx 14 <i>SL</i>
		1515	Coy Comds went out to recce new area.	
		1530	Major Lett acting C.O. to Sde "O" Group.	
		1815	Men from BHQ left to reserve and clean up new quarters after cleaning up for three hours word came through that a recce officer was to go to Sde as the area had been changed.	
		2130	Polish armour moved in to take over our posns and coys moved out one at a time and moved by route march to MOSKOWSKA.	
		0200	Last coy arrives at area. Major Lett and Capt Weir stayed at old position to make final preparations for coming operation which is on a large scale. scumbing trace A Air support plan Daily "I" Summary	

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WAR DIARY

3/19A MPM 11
407 P&S/37 (5028)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
ROSEBANKSMIL	14Aug44	0730	Breakfast - warm but quite a ground mist which showed signs however of lifting shortly.	
		0830	Company Comd's "O" Group.	
		0930	C.O. left for Sde "O" Group	
		1030	Final "O" Group and preparations for move to start line.	
		1100	Convoy of Priests and half-tracks loaded with troops left area.	
		1200	H Hour and alternate H.Q. moved off to area SOIGNELLES. On arriving at high ground overlooking town found it being heavily shelled. Turned back and parked convoy along edge of field just south of ROSEBANKSMIL.	
		1400	Heavy bombers came over. Some mistake was made and quite a number of bombs were dropped on our own troops despite the fact that yellow smoke and flares was sent up as a warning. This business of close support by heavy bombers hasn't seemed to work out as far as Canadian troops are concerned.	JLB
		1600	Word came back from "D" Coy that objective had been reached but was a little behind schedule.	
		1800	QOR take objective MEZIANES and are on both sides of River LAIZE and casualties were light.	
			Alternate BHQ in La Croix M.R. 133505.	
		2030	Over 400 P.W. are just marching along the road. The operation must repeat must be going well. Capt Weir is Johnny on the spot with his camera.	
MAIZURES 174473	15Aug44		Map - St Pierre Sur Dives	Appx 19
		0600	<u>Breakfast-actually it was our supper of last night.</u>	
			Weather clear and mild.	
			Morning spent with coys improving their positions. Several documents were sent to Sde and there proved to be valuable information in them.	
		1200	On a check up of our casualties they seemed to be very light.	
		1400	A reinforcement of officers arrived. Among them were three former QOR men who had returned to Canada for their OCTU training.	
		1800	All though there has been no warning order to move come out as yet.	
		2000	No move to-night, but all vehicles are left loaded pending an early morning move.	
		2300	Enemy planes came over and there was considerable bombing. An ammo dump was hit and the explosions from that explos kept up throughout the night. Our casualties were of a minor nature, caused by falling ack ack shrapnel. The R.A.P. were kept busy all night fixing up Polish Casualties that came in.	JLB
			Sde I.C. had his vehicle knocked out and spent the night here.	

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40/F&S/37 (5028)

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MAIZERIES 174473	16Aug44	0700	Daily "I" Summary OP TALLULAH Breakfast and the weather, is still clear and warm. The topic of conversation was chiefly on the bombing last night.	Appx 20 Appx 21
		1000	Trace in from division and we find we are right in the middle of an SOS task so a hurry up call to the F.C.O. is put through and the situation is normal once again.	86
		1300	Weapon inspection.	
		1330	Bde "O" Group	
		1600	Lt Auld and some of his scouts went out to recon the area we are to move into. Major Lett, A/C.O. returned from "O" Group with the word of no possible move.	
		1800	Lt Auld arrived back here and took his entire platoon back with him to do patrol work to-night. Object to see if woods in area are clear.	
		1900	Coy Comd's meeting.	
MAIZERIES 174473	17Aug44	0630	Reveille. Weather clear and warm.	22
		0800	C.O. left on recon of new area and we are on one hours notice to move.	
		0900	Coy Comd's called to meet C.O.	
		1100	Marching troops leave to assemble at FERRIER.	
		1230	"F" Ech leave for FERRIER and disperse in orchard until further notice. Coys are on reverse slope of hill overlooking the area we are to move into namely DAMBLAINVILLE.	
		1900	"F" Ech arrive at area and three coys have already moved into town and taken up posn's. The remaining coy "B" is moving in after dark as they have to dig in on forward slope of hill.	
		2000	H.Q. move into town - 100% stand-to 2230 . 50% all night.	
DAMBLAINVILLE	18Aug44		DAMBLAINVILLE MAP -	
		0800	Breakfast. Weather clear and mild. One of local residents returned and gave a couple of the lads a drink. This town, unlike others we have been in, isn't damaged very much.	22
		1200	There has been a little shelling this morning mostly in "B" Coys area. No casualties. An amusing incident happened this afternoon. Rfn W Maharg and Rfn "Bud" Edward were on their way to this area with petrol. they took the wrong road and wound up in enemy lines. Five Jerries came out and paid them 4500 francs to take them prisoners.	
		1630	"O" Group at Bde and Col Spragge is back as C.O. there is word of a move and the area is known but when the move is to take place has been divulged as yet. not The BHLI have a recon in to take over our positions.	

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DAMBLAINVILLE	19Aug44	0630	Daily I Summary Weather clear and very warm. Coys started moving out. Leap frogging ahead to GRAND MESNIL 310379 and took up positions.	Appx 23
		0830	"F" Ech moved to orchard close to village.	
		1200	En HQ took up position in GRAND MESNIL. Excellent poem for them as they were six barrels (large) of cider.	
		1315	Shortly after lunch, En HQ was shelled causing casualties and setting fire to barn in which H.Q. was situated situated. Several trucks were damaged by shrapnel and we were forced to move back 500 yds. A 60 cwt carrying ammo was hit and set on fire. There wasn't a chance of getting anything off loaded. The driver done a good job in driving it to an area where it would do the least damage. The C.O. had an advance H.Q. in GRAND MESNIL. Enemy planes overhead at night but no bombs were dropped in our area.	ASB
GRAND MESNIL 310379	20Aug44	0630	Map FALAISE Weather still good. Recco in from Black Watch (2nd Div) who are to take over our positions. We were to take over hill feature 230 at 333361. Coys moved out as they were relieved.	Appx 24
		1730	En HQ left area.	ES
		1500	C.O. went out in carrier but kept in touch with EnHQ by wireless.	
			Daily I Summaries	Appx 25 & 26
		1900	En HQ stopped just off road while coys got into position. Coys encountered no opposition when taking positions.	
			"F" Echelon held back as roads were mined and the pioneers went ahead to clear them.	
		2100	"F" Ech arrived at area and supper was served after dark in a slight drizzle. It rained throughout the night and the sige had a tough job in laying lines to coys.	
333361	21Aug44		Weather raining and visibility nil. Sixty PWs who had been out off started to drift in. They were a mixed bunch. Russians from a labour bn, SS troops Wehrmacht. The bag included one RSM. Two Maguis also came in looking for an L.O. Rain continued throughout the day and coys improved poems.	ASB
		2000	"A" Coy sent out strong fighting patrol to ST GERVAIS object - to ambush suspected enemy patrol. Sde slipped up and sent in N Shore R patrol also. This patrol came into town in carriers. Result no Jerries showed up.	

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1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
333381	22Aug44	0800 1000 1300 1400	Weather clearing up but very misty. "G" Group - weather quite clear and the surrounding country can be seen for miles around. Men busy cleaning themselves and weapons also trying to dry blankets. Major Dalton who was wounded on "B" Day returned to reg't and is to comd "A" Coy. Other changes are Capt Malone another old QOR officer is back as 2 i/c in "G" Coy. This is the first time he has been with the reg't since we left England.	SB
333381	23Aug44	0600 0730 1300 1530 2030 2200	Reveille and the order to move has come in - weather dull and slight drizzle of rain. 10V arrive and this is a nice break for the coys as they fully expected to march. Traffic was heavy on the road and progress was slow. Convoy pulled off road and dinner was served. Convoy moved on. Road was lined on both sides with various types of burned out enemy equipment and vehicles however there was a noticeable lack of artillery burned out. Coys debussed and marched to assembly area followed by "F" Ech. Coys moved into town of ORSBO and C.O. set up an HQ in town. Hear SHQ at 643720. Rained all night.	SB
643720	24Aug44	0700 1100 0900	Map ORSBO Reveille and still raining. "F" Ech move into town of ORSBO. French people are quite enthusiastic about our arrival. We advanced 23 miles in the day. Sde "O" Group Our plan has been changed and we are to take a new route. In the house where we have our H.Q. is a young girl of 14. The Jerries shot her father yesterday when they were forced out of this town. Left ORSBO at 2000 hrs and bedded down in an orchard five miles N.E.	Appex 27 SB
	25Aug44	0230 1230 1800 1900	Reveille. Left area 0400 hrs. Until first light progress was slow due to the darkness. Arrived at 908846 and a combined breakfast and dinner was concerned. Civilians were gathered around all afternoon. We always thought Canadians were good scroungers but these french people have us beat. Convoy formed up and every vehicle was carrying men from the coys. Received word that Col Spragge was to be Brigadier of 7th Sde and left immediately to take over his new command. Arrived at area and coys took up posns.	SB

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WAR DIARY

3/19A ^{FORM 11}
49/P&S/37 (5028)

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to OIC 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

(Erase heading not required)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	26 Aug 44	0630 0700 0800 1000 2000 0130	<p>Reveille. Clear and warm.</p> <p>Sde "O" Group</p> <p>CO's "O" Group</p> <p>Coys start marching off to objectives. Our task is to mop up wooded areas along axis of advance. The attack is in three phases and the first two are taken without opposition</p> <p>Approaching third objective coys are pinned down by fire from a 75.</p> <p>An artillery barrage is called down and proved very effective forcing the enemy to withdraw.</p> <p>All coys in positions and settled for the night.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>
LE THUIT	27 Aug 44	0700 0915 1600	<p>Map BRIGNE</p> <p>Reveille. Fair and warm.</p> <p>Word from Sde that no move likely to-day. The boys immediately start in to get cleaned up a bit. All told we have advanced sixty eight miles in the past three days.</p> <p>A Coy left for Liv fatigues but due to poor organization on Liv's part the coy wound up at "A" ech where they stayed for twenty four hours.</p>	<p>Appx 29</p> <p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>
	28 Aug 44	1600	<p>Reveille fair & warm.</p> <p>There is a report of no move to-day & everyone is quite happy about it as it gives all of us a chance to re-organise and clean up.</p> <p>Bath parades all available transport is used but still some of the coys had to march. Total distance five miles.</p> <p>Daily "I" Summary</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p> <p>Appx 30</p>
	29 Aug 44	0600 0900 1000 1100	<p>Reveille - dull and raining. The order was given out that all men were to be washed and shaved before breakfast.</p> <p>Definite signs that our brief rest is coming to an end.</p> <p>K.C. came up with rations of chocolate bars, matches etc. This pleased the boys as chocolate and matches were sorely needed.</p> <p>Coys just told there would be no move to-day. Everyone quite happy about it as it gives a little extra time to get things straightened out.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>

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WAR DIARY

3/19A MFM 11
40/P&S/37 (5028)

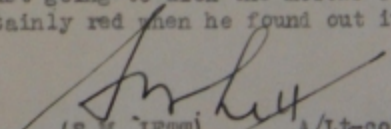
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	30Aug44	0500 0700 0900	Reveille - Raining, which is nothing unusual. Boys moved off with our own transport carrying all the men they can pile on. Crossed the Seine at ELBOEUF and the convoy starts to speed up. This operation is in three phases and no opposition was met in any of them. Our final objective was the village of BOOS, but we went quite a distance past there before bedding down for the night	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	31Aug44	0630 1200 2100	Map - NEUFCHATEL Reveille - clear with a strong hint of rain in the air - Col Lett is now En Comd. The chateau where we are staying is owned by a Vice Admiral Durand - Viel, retired, of the French fleet. RSM Hartnell arranged a guard of Honour, 14 O'R's which was commended by Capt Weir, Adjt and quite an impressive ceremony was held when the Tricolour was unfurled and hoisted to the top of the flagpole. There were tears in the eyes of all the French people that witnessed it. The flag was autographed by Major C O Dalton, 2 i/c in the absence of Lt-col S M Lett. En moved on again, but no one seems to know just how far we will go to-day. All along route civilians handed out flowers and every vehicle has at least one bouquet on it. An impressive sight was seen en route. Five maquis marching a batch of sixty German prisoners along the road. Our boys gave the Maquis quite a hand. En moved into positions, supper was served and after the C.O.'s "O" Group everyone settled down for the night. A rather amusing incident happened during the night. Our scouts were out on a patrol, one of them came upon two mortars and reported it to Cpl Overy who was in charge of the patrol. The Cpl went forward very cautiously and removed the sights, he was just going to kick the mortar over when he was challenged by a member of the crew. The cpl's face was certainly red when he found out it was a QOR mortar detachment.	Appx 31 <i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
			 (S M LETT) A/Lt-col Comd let En The Q O R of G	

QOR of C

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WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (3072)

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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The Queen(s Own Rifles of Canada

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Chilworth 842385	2 Jun 44	1130	J32 serial have an early lunch in order to move off at 1215.	RCK
		1200	J32 serial form up and after the roll being checked move off to the T C Vs just outside the gate.	
Chilworth 842385	3 Jun 44	0700	Reveille - very bright and warm	RCK
		0800	D coy form up and move off to the docks in T C Vs. As B HQ are the only persons in camp a very quiet day is spent by these personnel. The remainder of the Bn are all about their respective craft and are having the usual shipboard good time.	
Chilworth 842385	4 Jun 44	0030	B HQ forms up and is lifted to the Royal Pier, SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS, where they board the command craft, L C H 239 after the usual amount of confusion. There are about fifty on board this time but conditions have been fixed up considerably and almost everyone has a bunk or hammock to do some snoozing in.	RCK
		1130	Word has been received that "D" day has been postponed for 24 hours. The men are very worried about an indefinite postponement. The water is quite roughy and if we miss this set of tides craft will be off loaded and troops returned to respective camps which of course will be sealed. This period would last from 14 to 28 days and the lads would sooner have anything happen than that.	
ROYAL PIER Southampton	5 Jun 44	0900	Normal lazy shipboard day.	RCK
		2000	As no word has been received to the contrary, it is taken that "D" day will be tomorrow and this is officially given out to the men which is a huge relief to all concerned. The real maps are issued, grenades are primed and a good many "last" letters are written. The spirit is very high and if the Hun could have a look at our lads tonight it would shake him considerably.	
English Channel	6 Jun 44	2300	One by one the ships of the convoy weigh anchor, form up and proceed out to sea. A very impressive and never to be forgotten sight.	RCK
		0315	"D" day begins with a very early reveille - spirits are very high but naturally one can feel the nervous tension in the air. Unfortunately the water is still quite rough. Breakfast is served and all men who wish it are given a good shot of good old Navy rum.	
		0500	Men are all dressed and await the order to load into L C As.	RCK