

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.

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WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

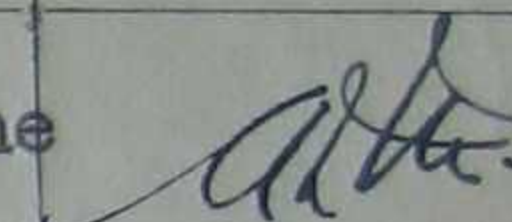

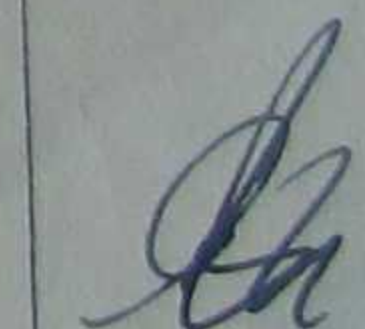
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M.F.M. 11

A.F.C. 2118

1 Mil. 4

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to appendices and initials
Pippingford Park. Ashdown Forest Sussex England.	1 Dec	0900	Bn. acting as working party building roads, paths, drains, ditches, putting up part partitions, stoves, stovepipes in huts, laying linoleum in N.A.A.F.I., putting in telephone lines which connect up PM, HQ, all coy offices, Pmr. R.A.P., Q.M., T.O. and both officers' mess at Pippingford Park and Chelwood Vetchery.	 App. 1
		1215	First Pt. I D.O. issued in the Field	
		1530	Shortage of bread at dinner due to lack of supplies at new Bde Supply Pt. Bugle & Brass and Bn. octet broadcast over B.B.C. Lieut. T.E. Dalton acted as announcer. Capt. J.C. Clough made arrangements. Capts. R.C. Clarkson, M. Delamere, Lieuts. W.D. Stewart, S.M. Lett, T.E. Dalton, Sgt. H. Salmon sang. Cpl. J. Fooks was accompanist. Adv. Party at Pippingford Park consisted of 4 officers under Maj. J.G. Spragge, 7 W.Os and Sgts, 94 rank and file. Total of all ranks 105. Rear party at Aldershot consisted of 1 officer Lieut. R.A. Harris, 1 W.O. 1 Sgt. 5 rank and file, total all ranks 8. Marching out strength from Aldershot 29 Nov. '41, 5 Regtl staff officers, 24 coy officers 4 W.O.s and staff sgts, 30 sgts, 540 rank and file. 603 total of all ranks with 2 staff sgts and 2 rank and file attached. Total all ranks including on command, on leave or furlough 37 officers, 6 W.O.s, 5 C.Q.M.S., 39 Sgts., 54 Cpls., 656 rank and file and a total of 797 all ranks. Capt. D.J. Lequesne Adj. went to 8 C.I.B. as M.C.O., Capt. A.G. Cherrier returning to Bn.	
	2 Dec	0900	Bn. remained on fatigues endeavouring to get camp cleaned up in one week.	
		1030	37 L.A.D. moved into Home Farm, Pippingford Park. All ranks made broadcast over C.B.C. their Christmas greetings to Canada. Limit of broadcast 100 words per man.	
	3 Dec	0900	Bn. continuing work. Several holdups due to delay in arrival of rubble from bombed buildings in London which is being used as a foundation for paths and roads. There have also been several delays in the delivery of cinders for surfacing of paths. R.A.P. has been established approx 1 mile North of entrance to camp on Nutley-Wych Cross rds with M.T. garage 100 yds farther North. Mr. N. Morriss owner of Pippingford Park has world's largest collection of cranes including birds from South Africa and China. Mr. Nuffold owner of Chelwood Vetchery has a collection of paintings valued at £250,000. Lieut-col. MacKendrick is staying at Chelwood House.	

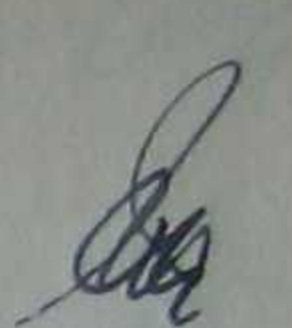
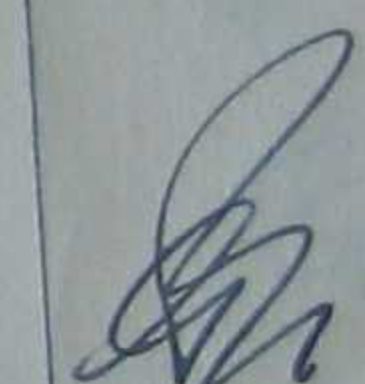
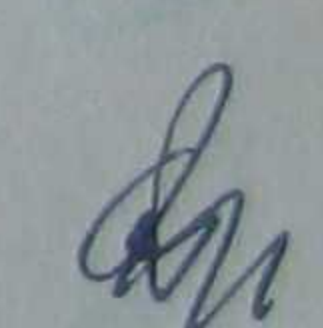
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Pippingford Park Ashdown Forest Sussex England	3 Dec	0900	Drinking water at camp comes from artesian well. Other water is pumped from river at foot of Park. Lights and stoves still not in mess halls. Men line up for food as lack of containers makes system of table orderlies impossible. Capt. A.G. Cherrier posted to H.Q. Coy. 100 all ranks who formed adv. party given 24 hrs. special leave in view of excellent work done in camp.	
	4 Dec	0900	Duties continued in form of camp construction. A great deal of cooperation has been given to Bn. Major Andrew Rutherford and particularly by Lieut. Murray Franks 1st. Bn. R.C.E. Corps Tps. The bull-dozer on loan to us has facilitated removal of stumps. R.C.E.'s proceeding with building of shelves, partitions and light locks in huts. Attempt is being made to have huts which are very dark whitewashed. Lieut. J.H.K. Booth and 3000.R.s to form adm. staff at 3 Cdn Div. Battle Drill School for 3 inch mortar course. Maj. Jock McClain attached to Bn. as observer. Maj. McClain a former officer of this Bn. was adjt. of I.T.C. Camp Borden, Canada and then at N.D.H.Q. Ottawa. A year ago today H.Q. Coy plus Bn. H.Q. left Newfoundland for Canada.	
	5 Dec	0900	Roads drains ditches and paths progressing well. Sewage water and light big problem at present. The drainage system doesn't include latrines, the refuse from which is disposed of, by civilian contractor. Refuse from kitchen is sold to civilian contractor except tea leaves which are used for cleaning huts.	
		0930	Hrs and 1155 hrs. Daily O. Gp O.C., 2 i.c. Coy Comds. Adjt. I.O. T.O. Q.M. and Works Officer Lieut. S.M. Lett. In event of Air Raid men to remain in huts with one fire watcher outside.	
	6 Dec	0900 1400	Work continued with instructions to break off at 1200 hrs. 1 truck left for Brighton and 5 for East Grinstead for men on pass. Pt. II Orders issued by 2nd. Echelon Field Return of Other Ranks Field Return of Officers. Parade state 29 Nov. '41. Marching Out state 29 Nov. '41.	  App. 2 App. 3 App. 4 App. 5 App. 6

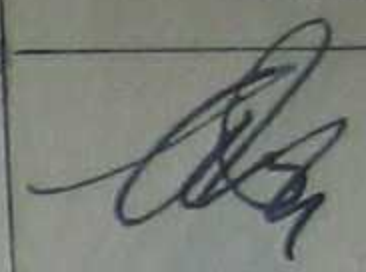
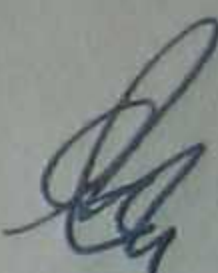


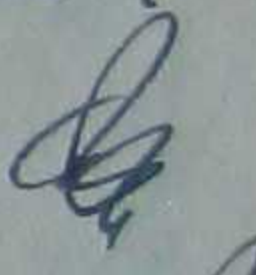



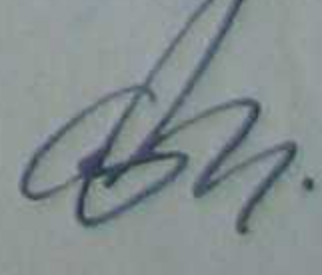
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Pippingford Park Ashdown Forest Sussex England	7 Dec	0935 1100	Church parade by coys to N.A.A.F.I. chaplain Hon. Capt. J.C. Clough R.C. Church parade N.A.A.F.I. Hon. Capt. Hickey, Chaplain.	        
	8 Dec	0900 1130 1430	Priority work continued. Cdn. Corps security started. Capt. Stuart 17 Bn. Sussex Home Guard liassed with O.C. Q.O.R. and stayed for lunch. O.C., Maj. McClain, Sigs Officer & I.O. liassed with Adjt 17 Bn. SX Home Guard at South Hartfield House, Colemans Hatch.	
	9 Dec	0900	Bn. started Battle Drill Trng. on coy basis. One duty coy, one work coy, two coys on trng. Rifle coys sent poor shots to Broadwater Range for coaching and firing .303 rifle	
	10 Dec	0900	I Sec. A.A. Pl. and 9 from each rifle coy attended Aircraft recognition lecture and movie at East Grinstead. Adjnt and two I Sec. N.C.Os attended Div course in codes.	
	11 Dec	0900	Bn. cleaning up camp, one coy on duty doing fatigues, one as work coy, two on trng.	
	12 Dec	0800 0900	Bn H.W. & H.Q. Coy personnel with less than average trng on rifle taken to Broad water Range, 995555 sheet-125 near Tunbridge Wells. Under individual coaching and with special instruction from Armourer Staff Sgt. Walters R.C.O.C. and Sgt. Fred Tate No. 5 pl. all 63 passed and 8 got possibles. Men fired only at 100 yd range. Major G.F.C. Pangman started battle drill school for O.C. or 2 i.c.'s coys, C.S.M.'s and either pl. comds. or pl. sgts. Course to run 10 days when Bn. will take trng.	
	13 Dec	0900 1900	Half day trng. and work on lines. Major Hudson and adjt guest of Capt. A.M. Stuart, Chuck Hatch Hall, Hartfield. Capt. Stuart is 2i/c "C" Coy 17SX H.G.	
	14 Dec	1000 1100 1600	Bn church parade to N.A.A.F.I. R.C. Church Parade 2 i.c. Adjnt. and "A" Coy officers guest at tea of Major H.D. Ryder, O.C. "A" Coy, 17SX H.G.	
	15 Dec	0900	Bugle Band and Brass Band made a recording for B.B.C.	

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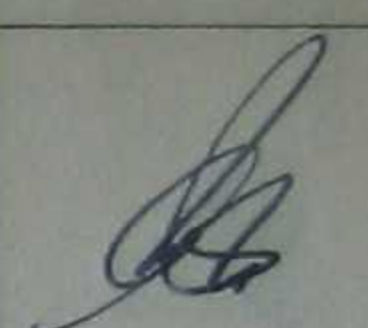
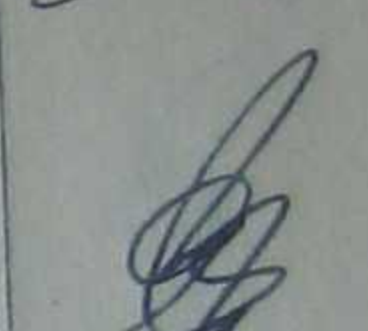

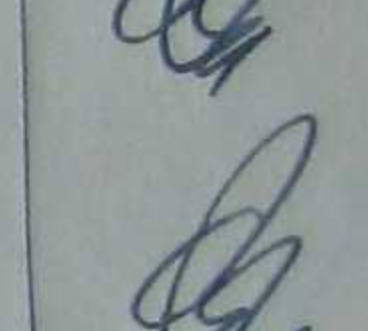
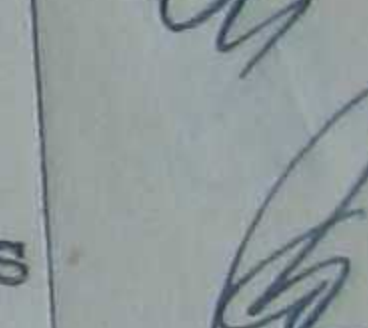
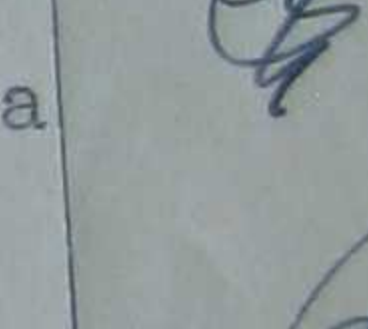
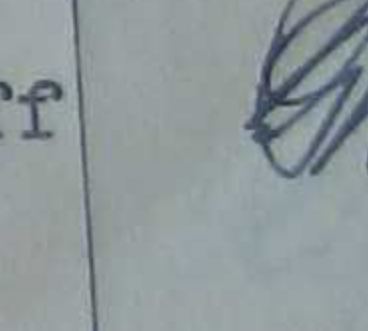
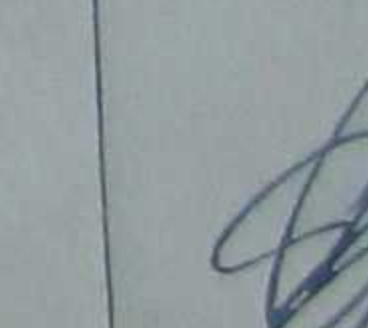
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Pippingford Park Ashdown Forest Sussex England	15 Dec	0900	Trng. in accordance with syllabus. O.C. left on Study Gp. course, Tunbridge Wells. Lieut. R.A. Harris transferred to 8 C.I.B. as Staff Learner.	       
		1330	En. snipers on Pippingford Park range under I.O.	
	16 Dec	0900	Work in camp progressing well. En. is Divisional Duty En. This, along with Unit fatigues requires two companies.	
		1130	En. office had rather disturbing day. In total punishment totalling 89 days pay and as many days C.E. was dealt out to various offenders.	
		1600	The I.O. left for Aircraft recognition course.	
	17 Dec	0900	Training as per syllabus.	
		1230	Reports that Unit Battle Drill is quite successful.	
	18 Dec	0900	Training in accordance with syllabus.	
		1420	Maj. A.M. Stuart of Chuck Hatch, dropped in with plans for hospitality for men on Xmas day. Plans for this scheme had only been tentative up to this time.	
	19 Dec	0900	Training in accordance with syllabus. The daily change of fatigues companies seems to be bearing fruit. This daily change means that all companies have a chance to do some training.	
		1600	Maj. G.F.C. Pangman's Battle Drill Course finished. All concerned seem very pleased, if a little tired. It was quite a strenuous course.	
	20 Dec	0900	Training as per syllabus.	
		1500	Lieut. J.H.K. Booth, C.Q.M.S. Gale, Cpl. MacLeod, Rfn. Nicholson, the administrative staff of Corps Military School returned to the Unit for duty.	
	21 Dec	0900	Holy Communion in Recreation Hut.	
		1000	Voluntary Church Parade - Chaplain Hon. Capt. J.C. Clough	
		1100	Voluntary R.C. Church Parade in Recreation Hut. Chaplain Hon. Capt. Hickey. Lt.-col. MacKendrick returned from Corps Study Group.	
		1600	Capt. A.G. Cherrier, Lieut. R.D. Meland, Lieut. C.N. Bradshaw were entertained by Mr. Owens and his family at Holly Hill.	

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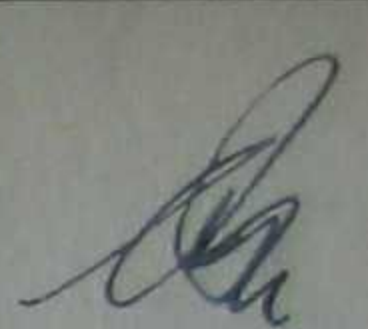

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Pippingford Park Ashdown Forest Sussex England	22 Dec	0900	Training in accordance with syllabus.	
		1145	Plans were made for Battle Drill School to include one platoon per Coy for one week. The course will continue until all platoons have had a week's course. The course itself should greatly improve the fighting efficiency of the unit.	
	23 Dec	0900	Training as per syllabus which allows for sub-units training. Battle Drill is proving of great interest to the men.	
	24 Dec	0900	Great activity in decorating Mess Halls and preparing for Xmas.	
		1500	Children's party held for refugee children in and around village of Nutley. Great success	
			The party was organized by Hon. Capt. J.C. Clough, Padre.	
		1830	Six N.C.Os were entertained at dinner by Mr. Buckman head garner at Chuck Hatch.	
	25 Dec	0900	No training and the first Christmas away from home for most of us.	
		1000	English and Roman Catholic Church Services held in unit lines followed	
		1300	by a real Christmas dinner and a free issue of Beer.	
		1500	Eighty two O.R.s leave for various homes in the locality for afternoon tea. Many men were surprised at themselves at going out for tea but later discovered that tea can mean anything. The people of the neighbouring villages have been wonderful and everyone of us are very desirous of showing some form appreciation. All the A & Q work for the Tea Party was done by Maj. A.M. Stuart of the 17th Bn. SX Home Guard and the Adjutant. Lieuts. R.D. Medland and W.D. Stewart, dined with Maj. Stuart, Chuck Hatch 1930 hrs.	
	26 Dec	0900	Training as per syllabus.	
		1000	"B" Coy have the day off as they were all on fatigues on Xmas Day.	
		2000	B Mess at Pippingford House holding large scale party. For most of the guest and also the hosts, this is the final fling of the Christmas Season.	
	27 Dec	0900	Training in accordance with syllabus.	
		1115	Maj. A.M. Stuart came in to see Adjt. It appears that Christmas Tea Party was quite a success.	
	28 Dec	1000	R.C. Church Parade held in Recreation Hut.	
		1100	C. of E. Church Parade held in Recreation Hut.	
		1615	Lieuts. R.D. Medland and N.R. Pilcher had tea at Mr. J.R. Owens Home at Holly Hill.	

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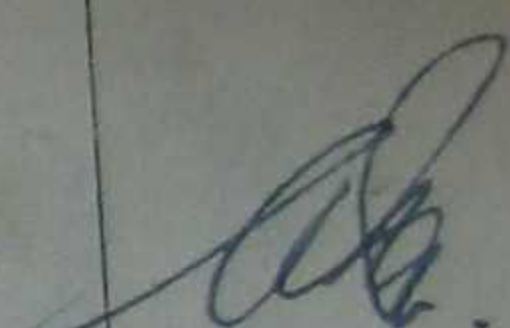
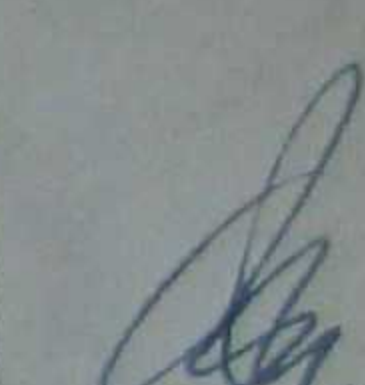
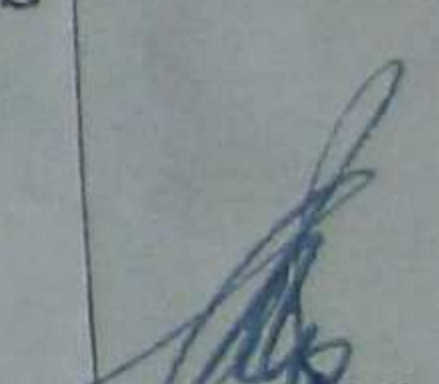
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Pippingford Park Ashdown Forest Sussex England	29 Dec	0900	Training as per syllabus. All Coys have one platoon on one weeks Battle Drill school. This makes total of 4 platoons taking the course this week. The same system to carry on for three weeks Fatigue system has been altered to fit in with the Battle Drill School. Two Coys now do Duties and Fatigues for two days.	
		1400	Unit guard now changes at 1400 hrs. daily. This unables the inspecting officer to make a more detailed inspection than was heretofore impossible.	
	30 Dec	0900	Training in accordance with syllabus.	
		1100	C.O. was notified that detachment of R.C.E. and R.E. working in Camp are to leave at 0800 hrs, on 31 Dec. This makes work most difficult in camp area as the unit will have to do all the maintenance work and some of the construction. A new detachment is expected to move in, in the near future.	
	31 Dec	0900	R.C.E. and R.E. detachments left this morning.	
		0915	Lt.-col. MacKendrick went out on road recce.	
		1330	Recreational Training.	
			Unit Fire Order	

App 9

(H.C. MacKendrick) Lt.-col.
Comd. The Q.O.R. of C.(AF)