

WAR DIARY , WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGIMENT, C.A.S.F.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	1 May	0815	Training as per schedule.	
	40	1315	The Bn paraded to the sports field and each company carried on with organized sports.	

On Parade 717 all ranks.
Sick 31 "
Total strength 783 " "

H.P.J.

Appx, V

WAR DIARY

<u>Bla66</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	
Guillemont Barracks	2 May 40	0815	Training as per schedule.

Initials

On parade	716	all ranks
Sick	31	" "
Total strength	783	" "

Aggr I
H.P. G.

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	3 May 40	0815	Training as per schedule.	
			On parade 715 all ranks.	
			Sick 31 " "	
			Total strength 783 " "	

W.R.J.
Appx V

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	4 May	0900	Clothing parade for Bn H.Q. The rest of the Bn carried on with training.	
	40	1230	The weekly sightseeing tour went to SOUTHAMPTON today. The visiting troops were greeted at the Civic Centre by the Mayor and at least a thousand people of Southampton. During the ceremony of welcome, the city police band played several selections outside the building. The party then entered the great Guild Hall and were guests of the Mayor at an afternoon tea. The Mayor and several Councillors made sp speeches of welcome, which were responded to by Major Ernst. The party was then shown over the beautiful Civic Centre buildings, which were built at a cost of \$4,000,000. They visited the art galleries, library, law courts and the offices of the city employees. After this, the Rotarians took groups of 15 and visited various points of historical interest, including the Bar Gate, ##### parts of the old town wall; St. Christopher's Church, built in 856 A.D., and Tudor House Museum, which contained relics of the Stone Age presumed to be 5,000 years old and dug up in the vicinity of Southampton. They were also presented by the Curator with small pieces of Roman pottery dating back 1100 to 1400 years. These were dug up from a Roman camp within two miles of the city. The tour ended with a very enjoyable sing song on the steps of the Civic Building.	H.P.F.

On Parade 699 all ranks.
 Sick 29 " "
 Strength, total 784 " "

Appx V

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	5 May 40	0945	Church parade at St. Christopher's Church, Cove.	<i>Appt III</i>
			On parade 659 all ranks.	
			Sick 29 " "	<i>H. P. J.</i>
			Total strength 784 " "	<i>Appt V</i>

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	## 6 May 40	0945	The officers and P.S.M.s went out to recce an ##### area for a scheme of a Ba in ##### , the scheme to take place tonight. retirement	Am I (1)
		2015	The Bn. left barracks, the coys going to their R.V. for the retirement and the coy comdrs going to their ### respective coy H.Q.s.	
		2045	The coys left their R.V.s for their positions, and by 2100 hrs they were all in their respective positions. After each coy had occupied its position, it marched back to barracks. The men were given hot tea before going to bed.	N.B.J.
			On parade 636 all ranks Sick 28 " " Total strength 784 " "	Am I

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	7 May	0815	Bn parade. Coys then carried on with regular training as per schedule.	
	40	1100	Rarties went out to make a recce of the route to be followed in the Bde scheme for the following days.	H.P.G.

On parade	602	all	ranks.
On leave	117	"	"
Sick	33	"	"
Total strength	781	"	"

Appx V

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>												
Guillemont Barracks	o May 40	0900	Today the large Ede scheme began. The CoQ. and Adj. left for the CROTHORN trenches, our first position, at 0900 hrs.	Appx I (1)												
		1045	The coy guides left barracks.													
		1235	The rest of the En left barracks and proceeded to their positions in the trenches.	N.P.J.												
		1545	All positions pre occupied.													
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td>On parade</td> <td>589</td> <td>all ranks.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>On leave</td> <td>129</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sick</td> <td>35</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total strength</td> <td>781</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> </table>	On parade	589	all ranks.	On leave	129	" "	Sick	35	" "	Total strength	781	" "	Appx I
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WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks	9 May 40	0745 1115	The 2 i/c and guides left barracks for the Fleet Trenches. The Brig. met the 2 i/c at Pondtail Bridge to give further orders and instructions.	<p>Appt I (1)</p> <p>N.B.J.</p> <p>Appt I.</p>
			<p>On parade 589 all ranks.</p> <p>On leave 129</p> <p>Sick 35</p> <p>Total strength 781</p>	
"	10 May 40	0600 1500	The "Cease Fire" was sounded, and the troops embussed and returned to barracks. The I.O. was called back from the Snipers' School in order to assist the Adj during the present emergency connected with the ### alarm and precautions to be taken against an invasion of this country by the Germans.	
	13 May 40	1400	Our Bn went to the Bde sports finals at Delville Sports Grounds and defeated all other units of 3 Bde. They are now ready to enter the Div meet.	
	12 May 40		Owing to the danger of parachute troops making a landing here, each Bn has to detail a Stand to Company, which will be on trucks and fully armed during the hours of dusk at night and morning. "B" Coy was the first coy to perform this duty in our Bn. They went on this duty at 2130 today. The seven O.R.s from this Bn returned from the Div Snipers' School, after a very successful course. The W.N.S.R. delegation did exceptionally well in all phases of the course. L/Cpl Embry, F. A., of "A" Coy., led the entire class in sniping and was awarded a medallion, presented by the directing staff for his marksmanship. Lt. H.P.B. Jenkins was a close second, and L/Cpl Shaw, J.M. of "B" Coy, placed 3rd and Pte. Zwicker, G.E. of "D" Coy placed 7th. Other W.N.S.R. members of the team at the school also did well. L/Cpl Toole, H.E. of "A" Coy, was outstanding in scouting and stalking.	<p>N.B.J.</p>
			<p>On parade 652 all ranks.</p> <p>On leave 79</p> <p>Sick 33</p> <p>Total strength 785</p>	

Appt V

WAE DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Guillemong Barracks	14 May 40	0800	The Bn spent the day practising Woods Fighting.	Appx I (1)
			On parade 733 all ranks. On leave 1 Sick 32 " " Total strength 782.	Appx V H.B.F.
	15 May 40	0800	General training by Coys.	Appx I.
			On parade 731 all ranks. Sick 33 Total 781	
	16 May 40	0800	General training by Coys.	(Appx I (1)). Appx II.
		1415	The C.O. and other members of the R Gp proceeded to the vicinity of Norris Bridge to make a recce for a night attack.	
		2330	The troops embussed and proceeded to Chestnut Copse, where they rested till the time to march to assembly areas.	
			On parade 714 all ranks. Sick 29 Total 764 A "	
17 May 40		0145	The Coys arrived at their assembly areas after marching from Chestnut Copse.	H.B.F. Appx V
		0330	The Bn "attacked" three objectives in the dark.	
		0500	On the completion of the exercise, the troops marched by coys back to barracks.	
			On parade 713 all ranks. Sick 30 Total 764	
		1600	The Brig. called the officers and P.S.M.s of the Bn to a meeting in our officers' mess and bawled us out in no uncertain terms for the mess we had made of our night fighting. He said that this Bn had slipped back in training and discipline and leadership during recent weeks, and that we were definitely not fit to meet the Hun as we are now.	H.B.F.

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Initials</u>
Gullemont Barracks	10 May	0000	Nothing of importance except the weekly inspections of the Coys by the 2 i/c. On parade 712 all ranks. Sick 25 Total 757	APPX I
	17 May	40	Church parades. On parade 711 all ranks. Sick 24 Total 756	W.B.F. APPX I.
	20 May	0000	Training by coys.	
	20 May	1330	The R Gp proceeded to vicinity of ELSTEAD where they met the B.M. to receive orders for and make a reeve for an exercise of Bn in defence.	APPX I (1)
		1330	Our O Gp proceeded to ELSEBAD .	
		0000	Training by coys	
	21 May	0500	Our F Gp arrived at their assembly areas in woods near ELSTEAD. During the morning the carrier pl of the C. & Y. Regt. blundered into our area and were all captured, along with their officer, Lt. Witty.	
			After an afternoon of resting and sleeping, the troops spent the night digging and wiring their positions. During the night the C & Y organized a raiding party under Lt Clark to recapture their carriers. This raiding party entered our Bn H.Q. position by a roundabout route which was out of bounds and in the ensuing fight Lt Clark received an injury to his eyes from a round of blank ammunition.	W.B.F.
			On parade 713 all ranks. Sick 24 Total 756	APPX I.
	22 May	0900	The troops arrived back in barracks sooner than planned, because of the heavy rain that fell during the early morning.	
			This afternoon we received a draft of reinforcements from Canada. Most of them detrained at Farnborough North station and were met by the W.N.S.R. band and marched up to our barracks. The remainder came to Government Siding, Aldershot, and were brought here in trucks.	APPX III W.B.F.
			On parade 713 all ranks. Sick 24 Total 756	APPX I

WAR DIARY

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>			<u>Initials</u>
Guillemont Barracks.	23 May 40	0800	Training by Coys.	On parade 711 all ranks. Sick 21 Total 922 New reinforcements 167 " " .	Approx N.B.G.
"	24 May 40	0800	Training by Coys.	On parade 703 all ranks. Sick 19 Reinforcements 165 Total 917	Approx N.B.G.
"	25 May 40	0900	The I.O. went with the Bde T.O. to make a recce of Route B of the J. C. Plan. The rest of the Bn spent the day making preparations for a M.T. move.	On parade 708 all ranks. Sick 22 Reinf. 165 Total 918	N.B.G.
"	26 May 40	0400 0400 0607	On parade 708 all ranks. Reveille. The M. T. move out of the barracks streets to take up their positions on the MINLEY ROAD in readiness for the troops who will march to the embussing point.		Approx N.B.G.
WARMINISTER CAMP		0731	The convoy moves out and takes the long road to WARMINISTER CAMP.		
		1232	The convoy reached its destination without any trouble. Going through ANDOVER we met 2 Cdn Inf Bde and commented unfavourably on the organization and spacing of their M.T.		
		1400	The remainder of the day was spent in making recces by the R Gp and in settling down in Camp by the rest of the Bn.	On parade 708 all ranks. Sick 22 Reinf. 165 Total strength 918.	
WARMINISTER CAMP	27 May 40	0930	The Bn marched out and occupied a reserve position on the plains.		N.B.G.
"	May 40				

WAR DIARY

Initials

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>		
WARMINISTER CAMP	28 May 40	2100	During the night "A" and "B" Coys went forward went forward to dig for the R22eR which was occupying one of the forward positions. Both coys got lost and wandered around for over an hour before finding their correct digging positions.	
"	28 May 40	0500	"B" Coy sent a wiring party to the R22eR.	
		1800	The rest of the morning and the afternoon was spent in resting. The I. Sec. worked all day correcting the enlargement of the map. Orders were received to move the Bde back to COVE. Most of the Bn spent the evening in packing up and getting ready to move. "C" Coy went on a digging job early in the evening. Mr. Parker and his scouts practised their gentle art, finishing up by marching back to WARMINISTER CAMP by compass across country.	H.B.G.
"	29 May 40	0300	The Pl trucks came out to the Bn and loaded pl stores.	
		0400	The Coys marched independently back to camp, to prepare for the trip back to GUILLEMONT.	H.B.G.
		0930	The Bn moved back to Guillemont Barracks by the same route and in the same order as for the outward journey.	
		1425	Arrived at Guillemont.	
		1440	All troops debussed.	
		1800	The troops were paid as soon as they debussed. The evening was spent in preparing for another M.T. move --- this time on "Active Service". The real "War Diary" of this Bn is about to begin.	
GUILLEMONT BARRACKS	30 May 40	0800	Today was spent in packing up and getting ready to move. An Adv Party, under Major Harris and Lt. Parker proceeded to NORTHAMPTON to select billets.	H.B.G.
"	31 May 40		Another day spent in last minute preparations for an M. T. move. The I.O. spent the day on a Bde road recce to NORTHAMPTON.	
		2130	All-troops in the busses and the M.T. of "Z Gp" lined up in the woods with the head of the column just inside the gate on the MINLEY ROAD.	Appx VI
		2240	After the R22eR and the H.Q. details of 3 Bde had moved past our starting point, the 2 i/c signalled the convoy to start, and The West Nova Scotia Regiment began its trek to intervene in the Second Great War.	H.B.G.

WAR DIARY

Initials

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Road to	31	2317
Northampton	May	40

We passed the Bde S.P. a few minutes late, owing to the lateness of 3 Bde H.Q.

On parade	706 all ranks.
Sick	20
Reinforcements	167
Total strength	916

ABG.
A. V.