WEST NOVA SCOTIA REGIMENT

WWII WAR DIARY

Place

Date

Time

Entry

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

1 Feb 41

Company Inspections were held this morning by Major A.A. Ernst, Officer Commanding the Unit.

A Picture was put on at the YMCA to-night for the troops.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

2 Feb 41

To-day being Sunday, Church Parades were held as usual at St. Paul’s Church, Woldingham, with the Band in attendance. The Commanding Officer held a conference at Bn HQ to discuss the Training Syllabus for the following week. All Company Commanders, the Adjutant, and the Intelligence Officer, were present.

A goodly number of the troops took part in Hymn Singing at the YMCA to-night.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

3 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted mostly in the use of Weapons, and the Section of the Attack.

HQ Coy was busy to-day hauling coal.

Cpl Banguay F.A., Cpl Wright F.C., Cpl Kennedy J.A., L/cpl Francis J.J.P., and L/cpl Ashley W.L. reported to 3 Cdn Inf Bde Hqts to-day for a week’s course on the Handling of Incendiary Bombs.

All Officers and NCOs attended a lecture to-night at the Warlingham Hospital, on “Air Warfare in the Near East.”

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

4 Feb 41

Training this morning consisted of Company Drill. This afternoon the Unit went on a Training March with A Ech Vehicles in the line of March in their normal places.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

5 Feb 41

All the Unit except “D” Coy went on a 15-mile Route March. “D” Coy took part in a Demonstration put on by the 5 Cdn Fd Amb of Rendering First Aid and Evacuating Casualties.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

6 Feb 41

All the Officers of the Unit took part in a TEWT in the Edenbridge-Dryhill Area. The TEWT was to practise Orders and Rapid Deployment.

The Other Ranks trained to-day in the Platoon in the Attack, under the supervision of the CSMs and Platoon Sgts.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

7 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted of the Company in the Attack, and was under Company arrangements

Lieut C.B. Higgins, the Intelligence Officer attended a demonstration of the Use of Gas in the Livens Projector.

A Table Tennis and Checkers Tournament was held to-night at the YMCA for the Troops.

Strength Returns - Officers - 29 - Other Ranks - 734

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

8 Feb 41

Company Inspections were held by the Commanding Officer this morning.

A Dance was held at the YMCA for the Troops to-night.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

9 Feb 41

To-day being Sunday Church Parades were held as usual at St. Paul’s Church, Woldingham.

Rev Mr. Stone addressed the troops to-night at the YMCA.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

10 Feb 41

This morning training consisted of Loading and Unloading of Platoon Trucks, and Embussing and Debussing Exercises. This afternoon all Companies were busy turning in Barrack Room Stores in preparation of the “Fox” Exercise we go on to-morrow.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

11 Feb 41

The Unit moved to a position of readiness at Smarden for the Divisional Scheme “Fox” which is being held in that area.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

12 Feb 41

We went into the attack on the “Fox” Exercise to-day along with the rest of the Brigade in the Pay Street Area. Our job was to help capture the line Pay Street, which we did successfully.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

13 Feb 41

The Unit returned home early this morning from the “Fox” Scheme. Everybody was tired and rather glad to get home. The remainder of the day was spent in a re-drawing Barrack Room Stores and getting straightened away in our billets.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

14 Feb 41

The day was spent in Company Drill and Pay Parades. A, B, C, and D Coys being paid to-day.

The CO, Coy Comdrs, Adjt, and the IO attended a discussion by the Brigadier on the “Fox” Exercise, at the Drill Hall at Caterham.

Strength Returns - Officers - 29 - Other Ranks 733

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

15 Feb 41

Company Inspections were held by the Commanding Officer this morning. Bn HQ, and HQ Coy held Pay Parades to-day.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

16 Feb 41

To-day being Sunday Church Parades were held as usual at St. Paul’s Church, Woldinham [sic.], with the Band in attendance. A free Concert was put on for the troops at the Capitol Theatre at Caterham, by a Troop from the Windmill Theatre, London. The Band went to Caterham this afternoon to take part in the celebrations for War Weapons Week.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

17 Feb 41

Anti-gas Training was carried on to-day throughout the Unit.

Message Practise in Syllabic Code started to-day. From now on three messages per day will be sent from Brigade to us and we will send three to them daily.

The Intelligence Officer left to-day for Bisley to attend a three-weeks course in Scouting, Sniping, and Observing.

All the available Officers and NCOs of the Unit attended a Lecture on “The Navy and the War” at the Warlingham Hospital this afternoon.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

18 Feb 41

Capt C. Letrourneau, our Sports Officer, attended a Sports Meeting to-day at the Purley Ice Rink.

A 10-mile Route March was held to-day.

One-third of the Battalion were given TAB Inoculations to-day.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

19 Feb 41

Bath Parades were held to-day. Another third of the Bttalion were given TAB Inoculations to-day.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

20 Feb 41

A 17-mile Route March was carried out to-day by the Unit. The remaining third of the Battalion were given TAB Inoculations to-day.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

21 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted of Loading and Unloading Platoon Trucks, Map Reading, and Embussing and Debussing Schemes. Bath Parades were held to-day. Capt C. Letourneau, the Unit Sports Officer, attended a Sports Meeting at 3 Cdn Inf Bde HQ to-day.

Strength Returns - Officers - 32 - Other Ranks - 743

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

22 Feb 41

Company Inspections were held by the Commanding Officer this morning.

A Dance was held at the YMCA to-night for the Troops with the WAAFs from Kenley as Guests.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

23 Feb 41

To-day being Sunday Church Parades were held as usual at St. Paul’s Church, Woldingham, with the Band in attendance.

One hundred Officers and Other Ranks attended a Stage Show at Warlingham Hospital, put on by some French Players from London.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

24 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted of Anti-gas and Weapon Training. From 0900 hrs to 1630 hrs to-day, communication between the Unit and Brigade was wireless only. This was for the Signalers’ training.

Lieut R.H. Beck the Unit Transport Officer held an Inspection of all Unit Vehicles to-day.

L/cpl DesChamp W.D. of the Unit Provost Section was married to-day at St. Paul’s Church, Woldingham. The Provost Section formed an arch with drawn revolvers for the couple when they emerged from the Church.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

25 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted of Deployment Drill, and a 9-mile Route March.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

26 Feb 41

Training to-day consisted of Practises on the Range with the .22 Rifle.

The Brigade Vehicle inspection was held to-day at Caterham. Our Unit were the Winners.

Twelve NCOs from the Unit wen to the 4 Fd Coy, RCE, to-day to attend a three-day Wiring Course.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

27 Feb 41

A 20-mile route March was held to-day by the Unit.

A number of the troops attended a show put on by some Dancers at the YMCA to-night.

All the Officers of the Unit attended a Lecture at Bn HQ y Lieut G.W. Theakston, on his Junior Leaders Course.

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

28 Feb 41

Range Practices were held to-day with the .22 Rifle.

Commanding Officer and all the Company Commanders attended a Bridging Demonstration at Dorking by the Royal Canadian Engineers.

All Mess and Canteen Officers and NCOs are busy to-night making up their monthly statements.

Strength Returns - Officers - 32 - Other Ranks - 739