

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/37

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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WEST N.S.R.

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SEPTEMBER 1942

| Place    | Date | Hour   | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks, references to Appendices and initials |
|----------|------|--|--|--|
| NEWHAVEN | 1    | 0800   | Maj J.A.Hebb attended a T.E.W.T. at H.Q. 3rd Cdn Inf Bde. This was for the purpose of exercising 2 i/cs in command of Bn gps.<br>West N.S.R. provided 12 officers, 18 Sjts and a number of Cpls to act on the control staff of exercise "Breaststroke" while 1 Cdn Inf Bde carried out this exercise. Maj F.B.Courtney of this unit was chief control officer. | Hmg<br>App 5                                   |
|          |      | 2000   | Lecture at 3 Bde H.Q. on combined operations training given by Lt-Col A.H.Fraser, formerly Bde-Maj of 6 Cdn Inf Bde.<br>A farewell letter was received from Maj-Gen G.R.Pearkes in which he expressed his disappointment at being unable to say farewell to the tps in person.   |  |
|          | 2    | 0800   | Training as per syllabus.<br>A German pilot that had been shot down and rescued from the channel was given in custody of this unit for delivery to London or thereabouts.<br>Tps entertained this evening by show, "Rookies" provided by Auxiliary Services.   | Hmg<br>App 4<br>App 5                          |
|          |      | 3  | 1100   |  |
|          | 4    | 1200   | Lt-Col M.P.Bogert returned from <sup>Barnard's</sup> <del>Barnham's</del> Castle, Co. Durham where he had been on a course.  | Hmg<br>App 2<br>App 3                          |
| 1400     |      | Bn parade on Recreation Ground at which a certificate on vellum given by the Royal Humane Society, was presented to Pte (Gunboat) F.Smith of B Coy in recognition of courageous work performed by him during the drownings in Adur River 6 Jan 42. After the presentation Bn drill was carried out.<br>Field Return. |  |  |
| 5        | 0800 | Training as per syllabus.  | Hmg<br>App 4   |  |
|          | 1600 | The C.O. held his weekly conference re training for the coming week.<br>The weekly dance sponsored by the Aux Services at Drove Hall was well attended.  |  |  |

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| NEWHAVEN | 6    |      | An exceptionally quiet Sabbath. No Protestant church parades. Entertainment as per  | App 5<br>Hmg                                   |
|          | 7    | 1000 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended a discussion at Bde H.Q. re exercise "Viking". This exercise is in the nature of combined operations.<br>Information was received today to the effect that Maj J.A. Hebb is to attend a Senior Officers school beginning 10 Sep 42. This is a bit embarrassing due to the fact that Maj Hebb proceeded on seven days leave on 7 Sep 42.   | Hmg  |
|          | 8    | 0800 | Training as per syllabus.   | App 4  |
|          |      | 1600 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended a conference at Bde H.Q. re exercise "Viking". Following the discussion he had dinner there.  | Hmg  |
|          |      | 2000 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert, Maj P.H. Stehelin, Maj F.B. Courtney, Capt W.R. Moore, Capt G.F. Johnston and Lieut J.R. Cameron attended a lecture given at Bde H.Q. by Lt-Col Horton of the Royal Marines, This lecture was on combined operations.   | Hmg  |
|          | 9    |      | This morning Lt-Col M.P. Bogert and Lieut J.R. Cameron attended a briefing re exercise "Viking" This was held at 2 Bde H.Q. where they have an excellent large scale model of the area where the exercise is to be carried out. In the afternoon Lieut J.R. Cameron attended a conference Div H.Q. re administrative matters, chiefly on the wastage of paper.<br>Maj J.A. Hebb has finally been apprehended by the police at Inverness, Scotland, Maj Hebb proceeded on seven day leave on 7 Sep 42 but is "wanted" to attend a senior officers course commencing 10 Sep 42. | Hmg  |
|          | 10   | 0800 | Training as per syllabus.   | App 4  |
|          |      | 1830 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert gave a lecture at 5 Cdn Inf Bde H.Q. This lecture was based on Lt-Col M.P. Bogerts' personal experience in the Libyan Campaign.<br>This afternoon officers of this unit attended a lecture given at H.Q. 3 Bde by Lord Lovat (Col) 4 Commandos. In the recent raid on Dieppe Lord Lovat led the party which attacked the German guns on the right flank. Following Lord Lovat's speech another was given by Maj Young of 3 Commandos who raided the guns on the left flank.  | Hmg  |
|          | 11   | 0815 | Maj J.A. Hebb proceeded on senior officers course.<br>Lt-Col M.P. Bogert, Lieut J.R. Cameron, Adjut, Lieut H.M. Eisenhower, 1.0), Lieut J.H. Jones, S.O., Coy commanders and all available platoon commanders proceeded to 2 Bde H.Q. to attend a briefing of plans for "Viking".   | Hmg  |

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| NEWHAVEN | 11   | 1930 | A lecture, giving a picture of the Dieppe raid, was given at 3 Bde H.Q. by Brigadier Mann. Officers of this unit who attended were, Lt-Col M.P. Bogert, Maj P.H. Stehelin, Maj F.B. Courtney, Capt W.R. Moore, Capt G.F. Johnston, Lieut J.R. Cameron, Adjt, and Lieut H.M. Eisenhauer, I.O. Field Return.   | Hmg<br>App 3                                  |
|          | 12   | 0815 | Five officers of this unit attended an arty shoot for the purpose of practising the indication of targets to the arty.   | Hmg   |
|          |      |      | 1000 Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended a conference at Bde at which the final orders for "Viking" were given out.  |   |
|          |      |      | 1500 Bn O Gp. re "Viking".   |   |
|          |      |      | 1900 The movement order for the forthcoming exercise was received from Bde. <del>XXXX</del> A, B, C, and D Coys were paid today.   |   |
|          | 13   | 0930 | Church parades as per  | Hmg<br>App 1                                  |
|          |      |      | 1230 Following church parade Bn H.Q. and H.Q. Coy were paid. Movement order for exercise "Viking" was issued to the Coys.  |   |
|          | 14   | 1200 | Morning spent in preparation for exercise "Viking".  | Hmg   |
|          |      |      | Tps push off on move to the concentration area which is just S W of Hailsham. The intense heat made the march of fifteen miles extremely uncomfortable.  |   |
|          |      |      | 1700 Arrived at concentration area. After a hot meal the tps were assigned to their various boatloads. (The "boats" were, of course, purely imaginary, and the general opinion of the rank and file was that boating trips of this nature were hard on the feet) Except for the imaginary boats everything possible is being done to make the exercise as realistic as can be under the circumstances. |   |
|          | 15   | 0200 | Reveille and light meal. At 0300 hrs the tps push off for the "anchorage".   | Hmg   |
|          |      |      | 0430 A, B and C Coys are on the "beach". D Coy was supposed to be held in reserve, but due to an error by the "naval commander", was prematurely landed at this time.  |   |
|          |      |      | 0600 All Coys on their first objective. Remainder of the exercise proceeded according to plan and "Cease Fire" sounded at 0900 hrs. Tps retired to concentration area where they had breakfast and commenced the return march at 1120 hrs. Lunch was served En route and tps arrived at the billets at 1700 hrs.   |   |



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| NEWHAVEN | 16   |      | Eight L C P (L) have been made available to this unit for a short period for training purposes. One hundred and sixty personnel taken from A, B and C Coys and under the direction of Maj F.B.Courtney commenced training with these boats.   | Hmg  |
|          |      | 1600 | Conference at Bn H.Q. re training for the following week.   |  |
|          |      | 2000 | Lt-Col M.P.Bogert attended a conference at Bde H.Q.   |  |
|          | 17   | 0900 | Lt-Col M.P.Bogert and Lieut J.R.Cameron viewed the training being carried out by the Coys in conjunction with the assault craft.  | Hmg  |
|          |      | 1430 | A conference for I/O.s of the Bde gp was held at Bde H.Q. for the purpose of discussing arrangements for an intensive two day period of training for I personnel in their duties. The conference was attended by Lieut H.M.Eisenhauer of this unit.   |  |
|          |      | 1830 | Lt-Col M.P.Bogert gave a lecture to officers of the Bn in A Coy mess.   |  |
|          |      | 2000 | A practise night landing was carried out by Bn personnel in the assault craft. This was declared by naval officers in charge of the L C P s to be one of the most successful practises they had yet been on.  |  |
|          | 18   | 1000 | Lt-Col M.P.Bogert and Lieut J.H.Jones contacted the local A.A. authorities to discuss and recce their posns for a special system of A.A. defence in which we are to participate.  | Hmg  |
|          |      | 1400 | In the weekly Bn parade this afternoon special emphasis was placed on the rehearsal for the G.O.C.s inspection to be held on the morrow.<br>Field Return.   |  |
|          | 19   |      | Reveille was at 4 A.M. and at 0600 hrs the tps crossed S.L. on march to Firle Pk where the G.O.C. will inspect the Bde. Arrived at Firle Pk at 0830 hrs and after a short break, carried out a practise of the ceremony. Maj-Gen H.L.N.Salmon, M.C., arrived at 1100 hrs and after inspecting the tps gave a short talk in which he expressed his pleasure at being given command of the 1st Cdn Div. Following this the tps had lunch and marched back to Newhaven arriving at 1630 hrs.<br>In the evening Lt-Col M.P.Bogert and Lieut J.R.Cameron attended an informal party at the fort, given by officers of the 521st Arty unit. | Hmg  |

App 3

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| NEWHAVEN | 20   | 1000 | Church parades at the usual times. Maj Jones, senior Protestant Chaplin 1st Cdn Div, gave the sermon at the Protestant service.<br>Six O.R.s this unit proceeded to Eastbourne on Map-reading course.   | APP 1<br><i>Hmg</i>                            |
|          | 21   | 0800 | An N.C.O. class started this morning scheduled to run for four weeks.   | APP 4<br><i>Hmg</i>                            |
|          |      | 1200 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert contacted the clerk of the town council to arrange for a discussion on the mutual defence of Newhaven.   |  |
|          |      | 2000 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended a sigs exercise for Bn commanders at Bde H.Q.   |  |
|          | 22   | 1100 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended a lecture given by Gen Skaines in the Capitol Theatre, Tunbridge Wells. The General stressed the point that <del>in</del> this war must be regarded as a crusade in which the individual must be subordinated to the cause.   | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |
|          |      | 1600 | Weekly training conference held at Bn H.Q. at which the information received from the Bde commander the previous evening was passed on to all concerned.  |  |
|          |      | 1900 | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert again attended the W/T procedure exercise at Bde H.Q. in company of the other Bn commanders of the Bde gp. Lt-Col Tweedie of the C & Y R mentioned that in conversation with Maj Carson of the C & Y R one of the naval officers at Newhaven remarked on the high standard of performance reached by West N.S.R. personnel while using the L C P craft. This officer declared that they were better than the tps trained to go to Dieppe.  |  |
|          |      | 23   | 0800 Training as per syllabus.<br>1930 Lt-Col M.P. Bogert attended the W/T procedure exercise at Bde H.Q.<br>Arrangements have been made for those interested in boxing to train three nights each week at the R.A. gym in the fort. This with a view to forming a unit team.   |  |
|          | 24   |      | Applications as required of three officers, three sjts and 16 cpls for return to Canada on the instructional staff were submitted to Bde H.Q.<br>Arrangements were made with the C & Y R and R22eR for taking over of duties in this area during our absence on exercise "Invader". In the afternoon a preliminary discussion of the exercise was held. Exercise is scheduled to take place on 28, 29 and 30 Sep 42.<br>1800 Lt-Col M.P. Bogert gave a lecture on the encounter battle and the set or planned type of attack. Following this he outlined the duties of the officers holding the various appointments in the unit. | <i>Hmg</i>                                     |

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| NEW HAVEN | 25   | 0800   | Training as per syllabus.   | App 4  |
|           |      | 1200   | Lt-Col M.P. Bogert lunched at Bde H.Q.  |  |
|           |      | 1400   | Weekly Bn parade taken by Maj W.C. Gemmel, O.C. Hq Coy but dismissed by Lt-Col Bogert on his return from Bde. | Hog  |
|           | 26   | 0800   | Training as per syllabus. Nothing unusual occurred today.   | App 4<br>Hog                                   |
|           | 27   | 0930   | Church parades as per<br>The Protestant service was taken by O & Y R chaplin.                                 | App 1<br>Hog                                   |
| 28        | 1030 | Bn O gp conference on exercise "Invader". In the first phase of this exercise, West N.S.R. takes the part of a Bn in the attack as from an established bridgehead.   | Hog   |  |
|           | 1730 | Bn in concentration area at a point just East of Saltdean. Bde O gp conference at 1800 hrs. The Bn put in the attack during the night according to plan. The weather was abominable, being cold and windy night 28/29 with heavy rain from early 29 onwards.   |   |  |
| 29        |      | Operations were suspended at approximately 0900/29 after West N.S.R. had successfully attacked the more important posns. The tps have a hot meal and endeavour to get a bit of rest despite the driving rain. Night 29/30 this unit will play the part of S.S. Regiment der Fuehrer and endeavour to defend the same posns against the R22eR. The exercise went according to plan this night except that the R22eR made a valiant charge up the wrong hill on one occasion. Still raining very hard all night. | Hog   |  |
| 30        | 0900 | "Cease Fire". The tps had breakfast in the pouring rain, following which they filled in all slit trenches etc. and marched back to billets. The balance of the day was spent in cleaning and resting up.   | Hog   |  |

*M.P. Bogert Lt Col -  
O.C. West N.S.R.*