

42-V-2  
NOV-43

OR

Title pages will be prepared. WEST N S R

~~XXXXX~~  
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~  
~~XXXXX~~

(Erase heading not required)

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded  
to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.  
NOVEMBER 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CAMPOBASSO	1	1300	D Coy move to the factory area, K of C now occupy their former H Q. An Ensa party showing in town today, the usual quota of tps being granted a pass and tpt to attend. Also an officers shop was opened in Campobasso today.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	2	1400	Brig Gibson requested that a Bde sports program be drawn up to include trg. Band of the R T R gave a concert this area.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	3	0800	Lieut R E Campbell and the Bn I Sec attend a three day I course at H Q 3 Cdn Inf Bde. This is to stress the importance of and to lay down a system of reporting. All Brens zeroed at range (563302). Snipers practise same area in the afternoon.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	4	1330	E F I stores drawn and issued today. Victory bonds value of \$27,600 have now been subscribed for within the unit. Cdn tps in Italy have now topped the million dollar mark set for the Div and attached. Lt Col M P Bogert attended an O Gp at Bde H Q.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	5	1115	Bn parade at which Brig Gibson expressed his pleasure at being given comd 3 Cdn Inf Bde. He also pointed out the importance of maintaining good military discipline while in this rest area. Following this all unit officers and brig Gibson had tea at the C Os quarters.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
	6	1300	Orders received West N S R be prepared to move to Carovilli 2445. Bn O Gp at which warning order is passed on. Also a program of patrol trg as laid down by Brig Gibson is discussed. 100 personnel to attend Ensa concert at Savoy in town.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

*[Handwritten signature]*

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# WAR DIARY

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

42-N-3  
NOV-43

M.F.M. 11  
40/P & S/37 (0/42)

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

Title pages will be prepared. WEST N S R

NOVEMBER 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CAMPOBASSO	Nov. 7	0845	Lt Col M.P. Bogert and Capt H M Eisenhauer proceed by jeep to area S Angelo 3129, and from a near by high feature studied the area of the town of Sessano to which West N S R may move shortly in order to cover the deployment of arty in the area of Pescalanciano.	
		0900	Part of Sask L I Sup Gp and H Q 3 Cdn Inf Bde attended Prot march parade in this unit H Q area. Later today orders were received that one Coy (C Coy) would be moved fwd to cover R C E s repairing the demolished roadway between Carpinone and Sessano. The disease, "yellow jaundice" is becoming more prevalent. Preventative instructions were issued.	
		1800	The Commanding Officer, Lt col. M.P. Bogert attended a dinner at Hq, Carleton and York Regt.	<i>REB</i>
	8 <del>8</del>	0830	Lt col. M.P. Bogert and Capt. H.M. Eisenhauer go forward to Carpinone near where the Germans have blown the road by near the top of the cliff, requiring the services of a tunnelling Company to make a new road.	
		1030	Lt General Dempsey, commander 13 Corps, visited Carpinone and discussed the situation with Lt col Bogert and Major Pritchard, R.C.E. "C" Coy left the Campobasso area in Transport and in the early afternoon were in Carpinone, where they slept in a Railway tunnel. The wet rainy weather continues. It should be noted that climatic conditions are now such that continual exposure will probably affect the health of the troops, unlike the warm dry weather of Sicily during the summer months. Three L.A.D. personnel on this date inspected the vehicles of West N.S.R. and found them to be in a satisfactory condition.	<i>REB</i>
	9	1200	"C" Coy moved from Carpinone to Sessano. Five mules were under command to assist in transporting rations and blankets, etc., as the road is still impassable for transport. The Northern route via Civitanouva and Torella is also blocked by demolitions. During the afternoon Sp Coy, West N.S.R., provided a large working party to clean out a school in Campobasso, under orders from A&Q 1 Cdn Div.	<i>REB</i>
	10		Lt. J.H. Jones, Sigs Offr., WEST N.S.R, succeeded in establishing wireless communication with "C" Coy at Sessano. Due to the distance a relay set was placed at Cawtelpetroso, but even this link was not always secure.	<i>RW</i>

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# WAR DIARY

OR

42-N-4  
NOV-43

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

Title pages will be prepared.

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## ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

1943

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Campobasso	10		A series of War Artists' exhibition paintings are on display at the Beaver Club, Campobasso.	REF.
	11	1000	"G" Coy at Sessano sent a patrol to Carovilli, and found the town to be unoccupied by the enemy. Capt. J. R. Cameron and Capt. A. . . Rogers returned to the Unit to-day. Capt. Cameron will act as Sp Coy Comd., Capt. Rogers of "H" Coy.	REF.
		1100	R.C. personnel of West M.S.R., with Lt Blanchard in charge of party attended an R.C. Memorial service in Campobasso.	
	12	1000	Lt col A. P. Bogert visited Hq 3 C.I.B. During the day Capt. Campbell, Unit Paymaster, and Mr. Louis, of C supervisor, travelled by mule to Sessano the latter to deliver VI stores to "G" Coy, the former to supply the wherewithall to purchase same. Information was received on this date that P40650 Pte Ameriault is MIA in Germany. This soldier was reported missing at Cateranova, Sicily on the 3th July 43 and if the first known MIA from West M.S.R. to have been taken by the Germans since the landing in Sicily. Engineer road repairs near Carpinone are not proceeding speedily and two or three days <del>XXXXXXXXXXXX</del> are required before the road Carpinone-Sessano are opened to traffic.	REF.
	13	1000	Lt col M P Bogert proceeded to Naples on leave. Major NSI Waterman is acting CO during Lt Col Bogert's absence. Capt C R Day has been informed that he will leave shortly for England for a period of instructional duty.	REF.
	14	1200	Warning order received for move to Carovilla area at 1200 hrs 15 Nov 43. Major NSI Waterman attended the Wde Order Gp at 1530 hrs where he received orders for the move. West M.S.R. will be positioned in and about Carovilla and will must send patrols to Vasto Girardi 2152 and Rocca Sicura 1943 on arrival, with a recce patrol operating from Vasto Girardi to Carrato two miles to the south.	
		1900	By "G" Gp at which Major NSI Waterman issued orders for the move. The route will be by way of Torella and Civitrouva i.e. the North route rather than by way of Carpinone and Sessano.	

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# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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42-N-5  
NOV-43

M.F.M. 11  
40/P & S/37

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NOV 2 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CAMPORBASSO	14		Capt D Dodge and Lt H Lynch along with two spts of the Cameron's of Canada became members of this Unit providing replacements for a similar number of Officers and NCOs returning to England on instructional duties.	RBC
	15	0700	Recece party under command Major W. Waterman, Capt Wiserheuser and Taylor, Lts Doane, Himmelman and Blackhard, with Dns leave Bn Area on route to Carovilla. On crossing the Biferno near Castro Pignano it was noted <del>xxxxxxxx</del> that the rising waters were rapidly making the passing of the diversing impossible and in fact West Bn did not move on 15 Nov 43. The recece party arrived at road junction 285399 near Cascolanciano at 0935 hrs, where areas were selected by Brigadier Gibson. Recece party then proceeded to Carovilla. No transport could enter the town because of blown bridge on outskirts. Coy areas were selected and named. "A" Coy bordering town square, "B" Coy west entrance to the town at 240453, "C" Coy Vaglio 2343, "D" Coy west end of town at 242457, "E" Coy in village of Castiglione 2547. The recece party remained at Carovilla.	RBC
	16	0330	Guides to take this Bn to meet the remainder of the Bn. However, West Bn did not move from Campobasso until later, arriving at 1330 hrs, having come by way of the south route. "D" Coy was deployed in area 2549 to cover 1 Cdn Pz Regt in that area. It rained incessantly throughout the day. At 1730 hrs "B" Coy sent a patrol of one PI under command Lt G H Romkey, to Vasto Girardi by way of Cerreto. This town was found to be unoccupied by the enemy. One PI of "B" Coy proceeded to Rocca Sicura. After an all night attempt by Lt J H Jones to establish 18 set communication with the patrol at Vasto Girardi it was found that the link would only function to Cerreto with a link at "B" Coy HQ. No transport could enter "B" Coy area and rations, etc, were taken forward by mules along the railway from near Carovilla.	RBC
	17	0700	Capt Buchanan, FOO, from 1 Cdn Pz Regt, RCA, proceeded to Vasto Girardi. His 22 set on mules provided the chief means of intercommunication with "B" Coy patrol at Vasto Girardi.	
		0900	Lt B D Hersey commanded a patrol which using carriers most of the route receded area Fogliarone 1948. Following his return about 1600 hrs a platoon from "A" Coy (Lt Doane) was sent to Fogliarone to prevent any attempt by the enemy to destroy the village. About 1500 hrs a German patrol of from 10 to 15 men approached Vasto Girardi and were fired upon by Lt Romkey's platoon. Four of the enemy were killed, the remainder withdrew.	RBC

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# WAR DIARY

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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42-N-6  
NOV-43

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

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1743.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CAROVILLA	17		The enemy were identified as paratroops. Following this threat of strong German patrols in the area another platoon (Lt Kirk) was sent to Vasto Girardi from "B" Coy.	<i>R.P.C.</i>
	18		After first light the standing patrol of one platoon from "A" Coy returned from Rocca Sicura. Carriers and jeeps can now reach "B" Coy area. R 22c B and Carly & York B arrive at Vasto Girardi and Andorra road junction 2650, thus relieving West IGR of main patrol commitments. At 1530 hrs the two platoons of "B" Coy return from Vasto Girardi. Shortly before noon the third platoon of "B" Coy commanded by Lt Blanchard was sent by the orders to Sgt S. Pietro, 1554. This patrol encountered a German patrol at 175520, after a brief fight at close quarters three of the enemy were seen to be hit, possibly killed, and Pte Colp 5 of our patrol was mortally wounded. As the German patrol outnumbered his own rather heavily, Lt Blanchard began to withdraw toward Vasto Girardi when a Coy of R 22c enroute to S. Pietro appeared. Art fire was directed on the area and the enemy withdrew. Our patrol then returned to its Coy area.	
		2000	A patrol from "C" Coy (Lt C B Cochran) was sent to Rocca Sicura as a German patrol had been reported near the town on the previous night. This patrol however encountered no enemy. The pioneer platoon under supervision of Lt D Hersey was employed in the all day task of sweeping the Lge Maintenance area for mines. Some German wooden box mines were found. During the afternoon "A" Coy moved from Carovilla to Foglianone.	<i>R.P.C.</i>
	19		<sup>PI</sup> The pioneer was again employed to check the secondary road from Pescolanciano to main road junction. About 0830 hrs "C" Coy began to move to Foglianone. Meanwhile a patrol of "A" Coy (Lt Doane) advanced from Foglianone towards Castel di Sangro, leaving a second patrol at S. Pietro station. The forward patrol encountered enemy two miles east of Castel di Sangro and did not enter the town. It is expected that West IGR will soon move complete to the S. Pietro area. Air photos available at Pde HQ show little shelter for troops in this area. The town of S. Pietro was completely demolished by the Boche as part of their scorched earth policy, south of the Sangro River.	<i>R.P.C.</i>
	20	0830	West IGR was ordered to move to S. Pietro area at 1000 hrs today. Orders for the move were "B" Coy to be transported from Carovilla to Vasto Girardi, the same transport to	<i>R.P.C.</i>  <i>R.S.</i>

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# WAR DIARY

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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NOVEMBER 1943.

42-14-7  
NOV-43

M.F.M 11  
40/P & 5/37

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WEST NSR

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials	
S.PIETRO	20	0900	<p>return and transport "D" Coy. Meanwhile, "A" and "C" Coys would march from Paglianone to the S.Pietro area via Vasto Girardi. HQ Coy and BnHQ. Would move forward later with own transport.</p> <p>A recce party, Lt col M P Bogert, Capt A W Roge s and Capt H M Eisenhauer, proceed to Vasto Girardi where Capt Buchanan, FOO, from 1 Fd Regt joined the party. Proceeding on foot from S.Pietro station the recce party climbed the feature 1260. Coy posns were chosen, Capt H Burns having meanwhile come forward, "D" and "B" Coys were given patrols tasks for night 20-21 as follows: "D" Coy to send a patrol into Castel di Sangro and to recce the river line from the town to river junction. "B" Coy patrol to cross river farther east and if possible enter the town of Rocca Cingue Miglia. No transport was allowed west of Vasto Girardi and it was about 2200 hrs before the bn was in posn. BnHQ and HQ Coy remained at Vasto Girardi and Sp Coy at Carovilla to avoid congestion.</p>	<p>App 4</p> <p>Rk</p>	
		1900	<p>Major McNeil and Capt Archibald, each with a Platoon Comd, Lt Cochran and Lt Lynch respectively, reported at BnHQ and were given patrol tasks to begin at first light on 21 Nov 43. These patrols roughly duplicated in daylight the patrols of "B" and "D" Coy.</p> <p>With effect this date, Capt W H P David becomes TO West NSR, Capt C E Bent becomes TO HQ 3 Cdn Inf Bde.</p>		
		21	<p>During the morning BnHQ and HQ Coy moved forward. The personnel were housed in the tunnel of an otherwise demolished tile factory. A Bn OP was immediately established on the high ground from which Castel di Sangro, Rocca Cingue Miglia, Pietrofarsi and Roccasaro were visible. Barely was this OP established when at 1230 hrs a German patrol which had concealed itself on a rocky knoll 300 yds North West of the OP opened fire on a patrol from "D" Coy under Capt Dodge returning from Castel di Sangro and also on a patrol from "B" Coy under Lt Romkey, which was going out to the right of the knoll. The enemy being paratps had numerous automatic weapons but were driven from the feature with one killed.</p>		
			1400	<p>Capt Dodge reports his patrol returned from Castel di Sangro. The patrol had been in the town for some hours without incident but were fired on from point 1009 on returning and also from the rocky knoll as described above. About 1900 hrs Lt Lynch's patrol returned having carried out a valuable recce of the river line in the Castel di Sangro area. Lt Cochran finding the river to be over 4 feet deep in the area East</p>	<p>App 4</p> <p>R</p>











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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

42-1-11  
NOV-43

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

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WEST NSR

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NOVEMBER 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
S.PIETRO			At 1400 hrs and 1800 hrs a film "Second Chorous" was shown in Sp Coy area by <del>Supervisor</del> Supervisor James Losie, K of C. At 1400 hrs two planes, believed to be Spitfires Mk VI, no markings identified, strafed Sp Coy area, causing no personnel casualties, but damaging one anti tank gun and several vehicles.	<i>Ret.</i>
	29	1400	Lt col Bogert and IO attend "O" Gp at Bde HQ. Brig Gibson revealed that 1 Cdn Div was to move to the Adriatic coast to replace 78 Div in 5 Corps. 78 Div is now well across the Sangro river. West NSR is to move to Agnone on 1 Dec and on to Casalbordino on 4 Dec 43, providing flank protection for the remainder of the Bde Gp from Agnone to Castiglione before joining the Bde coln. At 1530 hrs Lt col Bogert revealed these coming events at a Bn "O" Gp.	
		1600	Mobile Officers shop open at Vastogirardi. 42 reinforcements arrived today. Capt J W K Smeltzer is attached to BnHQ to assist the adjt in Boards of Adjustment, Court-martial documentation, etc.	<i>Ret.</i>
	30	1145	An enemy shell, believed to be from an 88 mm dropped 50 yds from BnHQ, apparently firing counter-battery on 1 Fd Regt in the vicinity. Several more shells fell during the day, especially at dusk. No casualties were caused on West NSR. Major Waterman proceeded to Agnone to complete billeting arrangements.	<i>App 4</i>
		1600	The Bde IO Capt R D Prince visited BnHQ with latest intelligence summary. Some concern if felt regarding the shortage of officers, the Bn is now 9 officers under strength.	<i>Ret.</i>

*Waterman*  
Major  
A/Comd. West NSR