



# WAR DIARY

~~SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

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.

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

Title pages will be prepared.

West N S R

(Erase heading not required)

August 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Near FLORENCE	7	0800	Weather warm in the morning but much cooler late in the day. Bn moved by tpt as per movement order	RE
		1100	All sub-units in posn at new area. Tac HQ established at 720620, near FLORENCE.	
		1130	Lt col R S E Waterman went to Brigade.	
		1430	Lt col Waterman has a discussion with his coy comds.	
Near FLORENCE	8		Weather fine and warm. Indications this morning are that we are going to move again to a new area.	RE Appx 1
		2200	Bn moved off by tpt as per movement order	
SIENNA	9	0200	Bn arrived at staging area near SIENNA Q8216, and remainder of night was spent sleeping.	RE Appx 1
		0730	Bn continued move as per movement order.	
		1545	Bn arrived area 6583PERUGIA Sheet 122. BnHQ established at 654835.	
PERUGIA	10	1630	Lt col R S E Waterman went to Bde. Weather this date fine and very warm.	RE
			One or two showers during the day but weather generally fine. Trg carried out under Coy arrangements.	
			Weather fine and warm. Trg under coy arrangements.	
		1900	H/Capt L Wilmot held bible discussion which was well attended.	
		2100	File "Lifeboat" was shown.	
PERUGIA	12		Weather fine and warm. Rifle ranges selected. Officers will hold a shooting competition tomorrow. Pay Parade was arranged and there was an EFI issued which included half a bottle of beer per man.	RE
			Weather very hot.	
PERUGIA	13	0830	Roman Catholic and Church of England Church parades were held, after which the Church of England observed Holy Communion.	RE

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~~INTELLIGENCE SECURITY~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	13	1000	Rifle Competition held by the officers and also a competition between the best other ranks in the regiment and the officers.	J.P.E.
		2100	<del>Fixed</del> Film "Dangerous Night" was shown.	
	14	0800	A & B Coys carried out a scheme in the Bn area and other sub-units carried out trg under their own arrangements.	J.P.E.
		1630	Adjt Capt A J W Dyer and IO Capt R E Campbell attended a discussion at Bde HQ re methods of reporting in future operations.	
		1900	Coy Comds attended discussion at BnHQ. Brigadier J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE paid a short visit to BnHQ.	
	15	0800	Weather fine and warm. Trg as per syllabus. A representative group from the bn which included Lt col Waterman, Major Cameron and Major Hiltz attended a parade which included representatives from all sub-units <del>so</del> 1 Cdn Div where they were addressed by the Eighth Army commander Lt Gen Sir Oliver Leese.	Appx 4
		2100	Film "Dangerous Cheat" was shown.	J.P.E.
	16	0700	Weather again fine and warm. Trg carried out under sub-unit arrangements. Officers and senior NCOs attended river crossing exercise carried out by the R 22eR, which was umpired by <del>the</del> Brigadier J P E Bernatchez DSO OBE, and Major Robertson OBE Brigade Major.	J.P.E.
	17	0700	Weather fine and warm. Officers and Senior NCOs carry out a river crossing TEWT where the Bde HQ staff were spectators.	J.P.E.
	18	0900	Weather rather cool with occasional showers during the day. Rece party proceeded to area S3836 IESI where Bn was expected to move in the near future.	J.P.E.
		1100	Bn "O" Group, movement order issued.	
	19		Occasional showers throughout the day.	Appx 1







# WAR DIARY

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

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~~INTERNATIONAL SECURITY~~

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BORGO S. MARIA	30	0700	Both patrols report back to BnHQ and are briefed by the IO. The river was found to be fordable throughout our area, and both patrols having crossed the river reported the nearest mines to be approximately 300 yds north of the far bank. Approaches were good and river 30 yds wide. Neither patrol encountered any enemy opposition.	
		0830	Coy Comds, C & D Coys ordered to recon daylight approaches and coy posns to and on lateral road south of river FOGLIO area 0575/0675, with a view to moving coys down in daylight.	
		1030	C & D Coys Comds left the Bn Area on a joint recon.	
		1300	Recon patrols returned and informed the CO that the area was unsuitable to move to in daylight as it was all under enemy observation.	
		1330	Two Italian civilians were interrogated by the IO and their information was that the enemy had retired across the river two days previously and that area across the river was heavily mined.	
		1400	"O" Gp held at Bn HQ. CO issued orders for attack on the Gothic Line. B Coy under comd of Capt J H Jones MC ordered to attack and secure point 133 square 0277 after which remaining coys were to move forward under COs orders and secure bridgehead across river FOGLIO.	
		1600	B Coy moves across the start line 053753/043745 without any enemy opposition. A, C & D Coys form up ready to form bridgehead when B Coy secures objective.	
		1630	B Coy crosses river and advances towards objective.	
		1640	B Coy runs into enemy minefield. Unable to find route through or around so continue cautious advance.	
		1710	Leading platoons B Coy reach gulley 037758 and push on to lateral road 038766/030756.	
		1715	B Coy comes under enemy small arms fire and has several casualties <del>xx</del> due to Schu mines.	
		1730	Forward pls B Coy reach lateral road and come under heavy enemy small arms and mortar fire.	
		1830	Despite numerous efforts to push forward B Coy forced to consolidate on lateral road area 038766/030756.	
		1930	A, C & D Coys under Major R G Thexton, Capt S D Smith and Major A Nicholson respectively ordered by CO Lt Col R S E Waterman DSO to form bridgehead across the river FOGLIO.	
		2040	All four coys firmly dug in north of the river.	

