

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. I

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

R-840, III.2 (#9)

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (8/42)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet § 1.
DRIEHUIZEN 496, MR 714586, sheet 12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	1st Dec 1944	0700 0930	<p>Weather--Fairly clear--no rain. Cold.</p> <p>GOC of Div, Major General Spry, visited us. It took the form of a more or less informal talk. He spoke of what we had done in past months, and possibilities of things to come. Then allowed us to shoot questions at him for several minutes. This type of visit from higher Comd is very popular with the men, as it makes them feel at ease and not feel that something is being poked down their throats.</p> <p>Immediately following the departure of GOC, Coys carried on with training as per syllabus.</p> <p>D Coy returned from turn at Guard Duty on Ammunition dumps, located at sq. 4754--Hertogenbosch sheet § 5 -- 1/100,000</p>	<p>RAS</p> <p>APPX §</p>
DRIEHUIZEN 496, MR 714586, sheet 12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	2nd Dec 1944	0700 0900	<p>Weather--Intermittent showers, quite cold.</p> <p>Training continues as per syllabus.</p>	<p>Appendix §</p> <p>RAS</p>
DRIEHUIZEN 496, MR 714586, sheet 12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	3 Dec 1944	0700 0900	<p>Weather--Intermittent showers of rain throughout the day.</p> <p>Training as per syllabus carried out by the companies.</p> <p>Company Commanders reced routes for counter attack roles which affected our Regiment.</p> <p>Church Parade was held with Padre- H/Capt Perdue in charge. See Pt 1 Orders.</p> <p>Regimental Dance held from 1900 hrs till 2230 hrs in Lower Ball Room at the Wintergarten, NIJMEGEN. Refreshments were served and a enjoyable evening was spent by all personnel. Brigadier Spragge, was a guest at the Dance.</p>	<p>Appendix §</p> <p>Appendix § 1</p> <p>RAS</p>
DRIEHUIZEN 496, MR 714586, sheet 12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	4 Dec 1944	0700 0900	<p>Weather--cold and miserable with occasional showers of rain throughout the day.</p> <p>Training carried on as per syllabus.</p> <p>Discussion was held at Brigade in the morning, CO and Company commanders in attendance with some members from other Units in the Bde there also. This discussion was known as Exercise "Indian"--wood fighting tasks. In the afternoon HMA all Sgt. and Officers attended a discussion on a set piece attack with Major Orr in charge of the discussion.</p>	<p>Appendix §</p> <p>RAS</p>
DRIEHUIZEN 496, MR 714586, sheet 12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	5 Dec 1944	0700	<p>Weather--Weather cool with the odd bit of sunshine in the morning and after-</p>	<p>RAS</p>

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. sheet 52.	
DRIEHUIZEN \$496, Map Ref 714586, sheet \$12 NW, 1/25000 GROESBEEK	5 Dec 1944	0900 0830 1345 1600	<p>Training carried on as per syllabus.</p> <p>Recce party of 2IC, RM and IO went out at 0830 hrs to the Queens Own Rifles Area. at 1345 hrs company Recce parties went out to Queens Own Rifles Area and on their return Queens Own Rifle Personnel recce-ed Regina Rif area. CO and IO went out to the Queens Own Rifle area at 1600 hrs but the Queens Own Rifle CO was away at the time. Discussion was held on Exercise "Buffalo" with Sergeants and Officers in attendance.</p> <p>CO and Company Commanders were taken up in aerial OPs to view the enemy Positions on our front.</p>	Appendix 5 RAB
DRIEHUIZEN 714586, \$12NW GROENLANDEN 753639, \$6SW 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	6 Dec 1944	0700 1500 1730	<p>Weather--clear and cold.</p> <p>Morning was spent in packing up and preparing to move to new area.</p> <p>At 1500 hrs vehicles moved off to new area, marching troops having moved off earlier in the afternoon. Our new area is a mass of mud and water. Change over was completed at approximately 1730 hrs. IO Group was held at 2000 hrs when the CO discussed items of interest in our new area.</p>	RAB
GROENLANDEN 753639, \$6SW 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	7 Dec 1944	0700 0800 2200	<p>Weather-clear and cold, and bright.</p> <p>Night was very dark and quiet. Coys have settled in fairly comfortably in buildings. Most of area is flooded, and it is necessary to stick to roads or dykes.</p> <p>Day passes without incident.</p> <p>A boat came down river into A Coy location; boat contained an American soldier who had been taken prisoner shortly after airborne landing in September. Two were Frenchmen who had been taken off to Germany to work in war plants. Other one was Dutchman who came along to get out. After getting them warmed up a bit they were hustled off to Bde HQ.</p>	RAB
GROENLANDEN 753639, \$6SW 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	8 Dec 1944	0700 1430	<p>Weather-fairly clear but cold; Night has been quiet.</p> <p>O Gp. We are to change over with R Wpg Rif on 10th Dec. Higher formation wants us to plan sports to give men recreation. We expect to go out into Div rest again on 20th of this month, and will be out for Xmas. Therefore plans are being laid for Xmas dances and meals.</p>	RAB

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet 3.	
GROENLANDEN 753639, \$6SW 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	9 Dec 1944	0700 1330	Weather--It snowed during the night and a blanket covers the ground, but disappears during the day. Recce group go to new area to check it over.	RS
NIJMEGEN GROENLANDEN 753639, \$6SW 00IJ 760634, \$6SW 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	10 Dec 1944	0700 1630 1900	Weather--Scattered clouds and cold wind. Rain as darkness falls. Move to new area begins. BnH Q locates at MR 760634. By 1900 hrs all sub units are in position as follows: A Coy--762633, B Coy 763623, C Coy 775630, D Coy 764643, SP Coy --762633. The evening settles in very dark. A patrol from the Scout Platoon consisting of Lt L Bergeron and 11 Men is going out to houses at MR 783619 (NIJMEGEN 1/25,000) Area to be shot up a bit and get a PW if possible.	RS
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	11 Dec 1944	0700 0400 1800	Weather- Cold and clear, some wind during the night. Patrol returned. Found an enemy platoon occupying buildings at MR 783619 (NIJMEGEN \$6SW, 1/25,000) and after lying up and drawing a flare and some fire, returned. Any other enemy activity has been very limited. The day has passed very quietly. Another patrol to the same objective as last night is planned for tonight. This is in the form of a Recce patrol to go in after the buildings at 783619 (NIJMEGEN, \$6SW, 1/25,000) have been pounded up a bit by 4.2 Mortars and MMGs. The patrol went out and found positions were still occupied, and were unable to get any identifications from bodies on the ground.	RS
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	12 Dec 1944	0700 0445 1800	Weather--Cold wind, clear in early part of day but clouded over in the afternoon and rain as darkness falls. Considerable enemy mortar activity, with bombs landing in C Coy posn, causing several mortar reports were obtained by OPs and it is expected they will be taken on by Arty and 4.2 Mortars. Balance of day has been very quiet.	two casualties. RS
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	13 Dec 1944	0700 0400	Weather--Rain during the night--foggy during morning and some mist all day. Patrol of one NCO and two Riflemen went out to Houses at MR 787627 (NIJMEGEN sheet \$6SW, 1/25,000) to see if they were occupied by enemy. Find a tank on road NW of houses and concertina wire strung from it to water on both sides. Enemy were occupying positions behind it.	RS

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet \$4.	
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	13 Dec 1944	0700 1330	All Coys report a very quiet night. No enemy activity. "O" p. A fighting patrol is planned for the early morning. Lt J Laughlin and his platoon (\$15) is to go to H ouses at MR 783619 (NIJMEGEN \$6SW, 1/25,000) and attempt to get PW. In conjunction with this patrol, Sp by 3 Div Arty, 4.2" Mortar and MMGs has been laid on. Medium arty on Objective from 0300 to 0304. Box Barrage around area from 0300 to 0330 hrs. In addition our own 3" Mortars will assist. B Coy and C Coy will engage enemy posns on their respective fronts with SA fire. A very elaborate fire plan to get a few PW but higher formations deem it necessary in order to get identifications.	RaS
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	14 Dec 1944	0700 0300 0400	Weather--Very foggy all day, and cold. Fire plan to cover patrol gets under way. See appendix Patrol returns. Have been unsuccessful in capturing a PW as enemy, even after the heavy KONK, are still manning MGs on the Objective. Also enemy mortar tasks are laid on fringe of area. Total casualties were one Killed, seven wounded. One of the wounded is missing, believed taken P. Balance of day is very foggy and quiet.	Appendix \$ RaS
00IJ, 760634 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN	15 Dec 1944	0700 0600	Weather--clear during morning, dull and cold during afternoon. There has been frost during night as a thin skim of ice is on water. Patrols for night have returned. A patrol from "C" Coy to tank house at MR 782623 (NIJMEGEN 6SW, 1/25,000) laid "doggo" all night but no enemy came near. A patrol from Scout platoon went on reece along dyke from CSR B Coy at MR 754618 south to dyke then SE along dyke. Encountered mines but no enemy.	RaS
0IJ, 760634 1/25,000 JMEGEN 3639 Sheet \$6NW	16 Dec 1944	0700 0730 1600 2000 2100	Weather--clear and cold. Night has been quiet with little enemy activity. Move to new area. It is same position we held prior to moving to this location BHQ moves and locates at 753639 00IJ, (Nijmegen) Sheet \$6NW 1/25,000. Sub Units commence to move at 1800 hrs and by 2000 hrs are in position as follows: (Nijmegen Sheet \$6NW, 1/25,000). A Coy--743652, B Coy--734614, C Coy--747619, D Coy--755644, SP Coy--737639. Night is quiet, raining and coys settle down after contact patrols are set up between them.	RaS

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	
			Sheet \$5.	
00IJ, 753639 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN Sheet \$6NW	17 Dec 1944	0700 0800	Weather--cold and wet. Some Light rain. Night has been quiet. Pioneers checked dyke from 754615 EAST to 766610 (Nijmegen, 6 NW, 1/25,000) for mines and booby traps. Found to be clear. Balance of day has been quiet. Arrangements are continuing for Christmas parties and dances. Sports committee is in full swing and volley ball, tournaments, swimming etc., are being run.	RaB
00IJ, 753639 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN Sheet \$6NW.	18 Dec 1944	0700 0800 1330 2100	Weather--cold with misty rain. Night has been quiet. Recce patrol went over dyke that pioneers had cleared previous night and further along to MR 769610. Still no enemy encountered. "O" Gp--concerning move to Div Reserve location. We are not going back to previous Div reserve location, but to large monastery at 724588 (NIJMEGEN \$6NW, 1/25,000). Expect to move by 1800 hrs 20 Dec 44. Balance of day is quiet.	RaB
00IJ, 753639 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN Sheet \$6NW	19 DEC 1944	0700 0800 0900 1000	Weather--Heavy fog, hanging throughout the day. All coys report quiet night. Recce party to new area. Recce party from NNSH arrives to recce our posn, as they are to take over from us.	RaB
00IJ, 753639 1/25,000 NIJMEGEN Sheet \$6NW	20 Dec 1944	0700 0730 1400 1800	Weather--light mist during morning. Clears somewhat as day wears on then mist gathers in as dusk falls. Coys report a quiet night except for some shells falling in A Coy area, apparently meant for NIJMEGEN BRIDGE! Change over commences, with Mortars, D Coy, B Coy, A Coy, C coy in that order being relieved. BnHQ moves at 1600 hrs. All are in position in new location by 1800 hrs. Whole Bn is in one large building at MR 723588 (Nijmegen, \$6NW, 1/25,000)	RaB
NEBO Monastery 723588				
NEBO MONASTERY, 723588 NIJMEGEN 1/25,000	21 Dec 1944	0700 0830	Weather--Mist is still hanging in air. No rain. Coys have set up syllabus of trg and xxx regular periods of parade are in order. Parties are being arranged and BnHQ, Sp Coy and D Coy are being held tonight.	RaB

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. sheet \$6	
NEBO MONAS- TERY, 723588 NIJMEGEN 1/25,000	21 Dec 1944	1330 1800 1800	"O" Gp. Lt Col Gregory gives us up to the minute news on enemy counter-attacks on 1 US Army front. Balance of "O" Gp is taken up with admin and trg details. LO from Bde HQ Brings us information on areas of responsibility while in reserve position. It covers possibility of enemy dropping parachutists in area, and we are to have one company to be ready to go at all times.	RaS
NEBO MONAS- TERY 723588	22 Dec 1944	0700 0830	Weather--light mist which clears--scattered clouds during the day. Training as per coy syllabi.	RaS
NEBO MONAS- TERY, 723588	23 Dec	0700 0830	Weather--Clear and cold. Training as per coy syllabi.	RaS
NEBO MONAS- TERY, 723588 NIJMEGEN 1/25,000	24 Dec 1944	0700 1000 1400 1530	Weather--clear and cold. Church parades--special Christmas music, etc. "O" Gp at Bde--We are informed we are to go into line again tomorrow. We are to take over from 4 Cdn Inf Bde of 2 Cdn Div. Recce party goes to new locations and gets information from Royal Regt of Canada.	RaS
NEBO MONAS- TERY, 723588 NIJMEGEN 1/25,000 GROESBEEK	25 Dec 1944	0700 0900 1600 1930	Weather--clear and very cold. Recce parties from coys go to look over new posns. Bn commences move. By 1930 Hrs all coys are in position, and located at posns as follows: Ref Map GROESBEEK \$12 NW, 1/25,000---BnHQ at 757548, A Coy at 759542, B Coy at 758553, C Coy at 763545, D Coy at 762549.	RaS
GROESBEEK 757548, \$12NW 1/25,000 GROESBEEK	26 Dec 1944	0700 1000	Weather--continued clear and cold, clear moonlight nights. Conference at Bde HQ. It is planned to change coy positions and mine fwd areas against possible tank threat. On teturn, CO makes rounds of coys, studies their positions and makes tentative plans for new locations. We do lateral patrolling for contact only.	RaS

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Sheet \$7	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment		
GROESBEEK 757548, \$12NW 1/25,000 CONVENT	27 Dec 1944	0700 0930	Weather--continued clear and cold. CO-ordinating conference at Bde HQ. Plans are discussed for changing locations and approved. Nights of 27/28 December and 28/29 Dec are to be employed in minelaying and preparing new positions. Bn moving coys back on to higher ground, it will be possible to cover ground, XXXXXX in front just as well at the same time being able to move more freely.		RaB
GROESBEEK 757548, \$12NW 1/25,000 CONVENT	28 Dec 1944	0700 0730 1900	Weather--Unchanged. Situation seems unchanged on our front, with scattered mortaring, and some MG fire coming from widely dispersed spots. Approximately 800 mines were laid during the night. Bn "O" gp. plans for changing our coy locations discussed and laid on. Commences 1930 hrs and finishes 2200 hrs on the 29 Dec 44. Counter-attack plans laid.		RaB
GROESBEEK 757548 \$12NW 1/25,000 CONVENT	29 Dec 1944	0700 0730 1930 2200	Weather--Day commences foggy--clears by noon. Companies report little change in activities during night. Majority of minelaying work is now complete, so that outpost positions and new coy areas are now well defended against tanks. It is planned to lay some further A/P fields to cut roads. Companies commence shuffling to new locations. Outpost positions are first established consisting of one pl from each coy located as follows: (Ref Map GROESBEEK \$12NW, 1/25,000)--A Coy--vicinity of rd junc 766544, B Coy--767552, C Coy--767549, D Coy 762556. This is completed by 1930 hrs and by 2200 hrs. Coys have taken up positions as follows: A Coy--756544. B Coy--756555, C Coy--759549, D Coy--750555. Nothing of interest happens during balance of evening. Final details on privilege leaves to England. First ones to go have been chosen by the draw system out of list of eligible.		RaB
CONVENT GROESBEEK 757548 \$12NW	30 Dec 1944	0700 0900	Weather--Clear and cold. CO and IO go to Bde "O" Gp. Reveals a change in policy to reserve Bn. GOC feels they should be further behind fwd bns and to this end 1 C Scot R are to move by last light today, to area sq 7254 (GROESBEEK-12NW-1/25,000). Expect		RaB

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			<div>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</div> <div>Sheet 5 9</div> <p>During the month of December the unit has been employed in a static role. This type of warfare is quite different from that experienced since "D" Day, and although not as strenuous, it is at the same time a strain on the nerves.</p> <p>However, it has been possible both while in the line and while out in reserve, to improve the general efficiency of the troops, and especially develop the team spirit by carrying out training. This has generally been impossible up to now as companies and platoons have been unable to practice men together in handling of weapons, tactics, etc. Thus morale and men's confidence in their ability to handle weapons has been greatly improved.</p> <p>Fitness has been well looked after by a very complete sports programme and it is felt that the health of personnel on the whole is well up to par.</p> <p>Extras over the festive season were well laid on and enjoyed by all. parties and dances were planned for each coy and BnHQ, although unfortunately the move into the line on Xmas day made it impossible for C and B Coys to have theirs, which were scheduled for 26 Dec. All the fixings were available for Xmas dinner.</p>	

RS