

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

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

40/P & S/37 (3072)

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

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The Perth Regiment C A (CIP)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	1/2/44		<u>TUESDAY</u> Lt-Colonel Rutherford toured all coy positions in the morning. The afternoon passed very quietly with occasional mortaring. Protective and ambush patrols were laid on for night 1-2 Feb. D Coy moved into reserve position behind Bn Hq in area 259043. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and warm. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 758 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 708 other ranks.	Rub.
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	2/2/44		<u>WEDNESDAY</u> Enemy patrol contacted No 8 Platoon at 0030 hrs, fired a few bursts of MG fire and withdrew. No other engagements occurred during night. Lt Colonel Rutherford toured F.D.Ls in the morning. There was nothing to report during the day. Routine patrols were laid on for night 3-4 Feb. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and warm. <u>STRENGTH INCREASE</u> 3 other ranks were taken on strength from I C B R D. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 2 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 759 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 708 other ranks.	Rub.
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	3/2/44		<u>THURSDAY</u> Day passed very quietly and there was nothing to report with the exception of routine mortaring and MG fire. Ambush and protective patrols to our F D L were laid on by fwd coys for night 3-4 Feb. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and warm. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 759 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 708 other ranks.	Rub.
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	4/2/44		<u>FRIDAY</u> Major Andrew took over Comd of Perth Regiment in absence of Lt Colonel Rutherford. A Patrol from B Coy which recce'd to house 250049 reported they had been fired upon 70 yds in front of house and could not reach their objective. There was nothing to report during the day with the exception of routine mortaring. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and warm. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 759 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 708 other ranks.	Rub.
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	5/2/44		<u>SATURDAY</u> Patrol sent out from B Coy from 1800 to 0500 hrs reported they had made no contact with enemy after laying up in area 24905. The CO and Coy Comds of Northampton Regt, 78 British Div visited Bn and toured F D Ls with Major Andrew. At 1500 hrs a mortar bomb fell near "B" Coy kitchen. A rough check of casualties were 13 killed and 22 wounded. D Coy relieved B Coy at 2000 hrs without incident. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 2 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 757 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 706 other ranks.	Rub.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCASHIRE 147.I	6/2/44		<u>SUNDAY</u> A German fighting patrol of approx 11 men bumped 8 Platoon at 0200 hrs. They were engaged by 8 Platoon and 3 Germans were killed in the engagement. No other contact was made with the enemy during night. Snipers were sent from 1 Coy at first light to positions 249056, 249057. Burial service for dead of previous day's mortaring was held at 1130 hrs. Final count of casualties was 14 killed, 5 died of wounds and 18 wounded. Arty programme was laid on to shoot White House 256054 at 2000 hrs. Nothing to report from coys during the day. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain and snow. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 757 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 706 other ranks.	<i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2404, 2405 Sheet LANCASHIRE 147.I	7/2/44		<u>MONDAY</u> Brig Kitching held an "OC" group at 0830 hrs and advised that 11 Cdn Inf Bde were to change their respective positions, the Perth Regt to change with the 5th Essex Regt. Lt Colonel Rutherford left at 1100 hrs to recce the new area, having the Coy Commanders join him at 1430 hrs. With the exception of slight shelling and mortaring in the afternoon no incidents were reported from the Coys. Protective and ambush patrols were laid on for night 7-8 Feb 44. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with snow and rain. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 42 other ranks were struck off strength, 14 killed, 23 wounded and 5 on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 715 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 664 other ranks.	<i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2404, 2405 Sheet LANCASHIRE 147.I	8/2/44		<u>TUESDAY</u> Nothing to report during the night from all coys. The officers of 3p Coy plus Capt Statten, Medical Officer and Lieut Morgan, Sig Officer rec'd the new area which we were going to take over while numerous offrs of the 8 Punjabs visited the Perth Regiment. A and B Coys received some mortaring from 1100 hrs to 1130 hrs otherwise all was quiet during the day. Routine patrols were laid on for night 8-9 Feb 44. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain and snow. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 715 <u>STRENGTH</u> 664 other ranks.	<i>Rub</i>



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Area Sqs 2404, 2504 Sheet LANCIAFO 147.I	9/2/44		<u>WEDNESDAY</u> Take over by 8 Punjabs was completed by 0200 hrs. All coys. were in area 2504 at 0300 hrs. The Bn rested during the day and the move to the new area started at 1500 hrs. Order of march was A, D, C and B Coys. A Coy arrived in area Sq 2811 at 1745 hrs and take over from Royal 22nd Regt was completed by 2000 hrs. A Coy baker was 286116, B Coy baker was 287105, C Coy baker was 291118 and D Coy baker was 275109. Protective and ambush patrols were laid on for night 9-10 Feb 43. Lt Col Rutherford took over command of The Perth Regiment. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with snow and rain. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 715 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 664 other ranks.	<i>Rut</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIAFO 147.I	10/2/44		<u>THURSDAY</u> No incidents were reported from the Coys during the day. Lt Col Rutherford toured the F D Ls during the morning accompanied by Maj-Gen Burns and Brig Kitching. 2 Recce Patrols from the Scout. 11 were laid on to recce to the river bed in front of our F D Ls. Number one patrol to leave at 0001 hrs and number two to leave at 0012 hrs 11 Feb 44. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and cool. <u>STRENGTH INCREASE</u> 4 other ranks were taken on strength on discharge from hospital. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 2 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 717 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 666 other ranks.	<i>Rut</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIAFO 147.I	11/2/44		<u>FRIDAY</u> Recce patrols reported in at 0400 hrs with valuable info which was immediately passed on to Bde. Info was received at 1900 hrs that C Coy were to be relieved by A Coy of the Westminster Regt and in turn C Coy would relieve the fwd coy of the Irish Regt who were withdrawing from the line for a rest. C Coy's move was completed by 2055 hrs without incident. Contact and recce patrols were laid on for night 11-12 Feb 44. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain and snow. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 4 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 713 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 662 other ranks.	Appx 3 Appx 4 <i>Rut</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIAFO 147.I	12/2/44		<u>SATURDAY</u> Bn HQ moved to area 301115. Move was completed by 1200 hrs. There was light mortaring and shelling in Bn area in the afternoon. Patrols were laid on for night 12-13 Feb 44. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with snow and rain. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 713 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 662 other ranks.	Appx 4 <i>Rut</i>

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Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	13/2/44		<u>SUNDAY</u> No 1 recce patrol from scout pl reported at 2345 hrs, after a thorough recce of the river from 277115 to 277118, they had not found a spot for crossing because of the high banks and enemy interference. No 2 listening patrol reported at 0600 hrs they had not seen or heard enemy from position area 277115. Lt Col Rutherford toured the F D Ls in the morning accompanied by Lieut F Stubbs a member of the S A A F attached to the unit for a few days. There was heavy mortaring and shelling in the Bn area in the afternoon. A Recce patrol was laid on to cross the Arielli at 277118. Patrol reported at 2300 hrs they had successfully crossed the river but the path on which they crossed was not suitable for tanks. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 713. <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 662 other ranks.	<i>Ref</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	14/2/44		<u>MONDAY</u> Major M Andrew assumed command of the unit while Lt Col Rutherford attended a meeting of 1 Cdn Corps in LANCIANO. The Bn front was very quiet during the day. A patrol from C Coy reported at 2200 hrs they had recced the Arielli River from 279119 to 279121. In this area the banks were steep and in many spots the slopes to the river were extremely steep. Patrol from Scout platoon reported at 2245 hrs they did not reach house at 277119 because of extreme darkness. Valuable ground and river reports were brought back. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair and cool. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 5 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 708 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 657 other ranks.	<i>Ref</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2911 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	15/2/44		<u>TUESDAY</u> Lt Col Rutherford attended a meeting at Bde. Lt Col Snow took over temporary command of 11 Cdn Inf Bde filling vacancy of Brig Kitching D.S.O. who was departing for England as B.G.S. 2nd Cdn Corps. Lt Gen H G Crerar GOC 1 Cdn Corps paid a visit to the unit in the afternoon. NTR from fwd coys during day. Bn HQ moved at 1700 hrs in former Bde HQ map reference 302117. Scout Pl patrol reported that house 277116 was occupied by enemy. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold with rain. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 708 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 657 other ranks.	APPX 3 <i>Ref</i>



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Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	16/2/44		WEDNESDAY Patrol from C Coy reported at 0300 hrs that they had located 3 enemy occupied positions across the Arielli area 279121. Lt Col Rutherford accompanied by Lt Col Snow, acting Bde Comd toured F D Ls in the morning. 6 mortar shells dropped in D Coy area at 1635 wounding one man. Patrol from Scout Pl confirmed at 2330 hrs that house 277116 was occupied by the enemy. C Coy patrol recce'd Arielli River from 279119 to 278119, no crossing was found between these two points. WEATHER Cold with rain and snow. STRENGTH INCREASE 31 other ranks were taken on strength. 2 from hospital, 29 from 4 Bn C B R D. STRENGTH DECREASE 2 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. FEEDING STRENGTH 737 STRENGTH 37 offrs 686 other ranks (revised).	Appx 3  <i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	17/2/44		THURSDAY Lt Col Rutherford toured F D Ls in the morning. Several mortar bombs dropped in D Coy at 1700 hrs. MTR from A, B, C Coys during the day. Scout Platoon recce patrol reported at 2300 hrs they had recce'd Arielli from 278119 to 277118 but could find no suitable crossings. WEATHER Cold with rain. FEEDING STRENGTH 735 STRENGTH 37 offrs 686 other ranks.	  <i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	18/2/44		FRIDAY A Coy patrol reported at 0330 hrs they had recce'd the Arielli River to point 277119 but could not find a suitable crossing. Lt Col Rutherford accompanied by Capt Mitchell, Adjt toured the F D Ls. B Coy relieved C Coy during the afternoon. Recce patrols from Scout Pl and A Coy were laid on for night 18-19 Feb 44. The C O visited coys during afternoon accompanied by Douglas Amaron, Press representative. Flares for direction of arty shoot were fired at 1900 hrs from A Coy. 20 mortar bombs landed in A Coy area from 1900 hrs to 1930 hrs. WEATHER Cold with rain. FEEDING STRENGTH 735 STRENGTH 37 offrs 686 other ranks.	Appx 4 Appx 11  <i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	19/2/44		SATURDAY Recce patrol to 278119 reported at 2045 hrs they could follow path to river. Another attempt was to be made at first light. Patrol to house area 275119, 275118 reported at 0300 hrs it was impossible to reach this area because of the extreme darkness. The fwd positions of A and D Coys were machine gunned between 0600 - 0700 hrs. There was a slight mortaring in Bn area during the day. 2 Recce patrols were laid on for night 19-20 Feb. WEATHER Cold with rain. STRENGTH INCREASE 10 other ranks were taken on strength from 4 Bn C B R D. FEEDING STRENGTH 737 STRENGTH 37 offrs 695 other ranks (revised)	Appx 3   <i>Rub</i>

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Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	20/2/44		<u>SUNDAY</u> Maj Gen GOC 5 Cdn Armd Div toured P D Ls with Lt Col Rutherford in the morning. Details were laid on to recce ford 297118 in preparation for an ambush patrol the following night. Air photo interpreters visited the unit in order to give Lieut Chamberlain, patrol leader, a description of the ground he would be covering. Lieut Downes and 12 other ranks went on 8 days leave to Eighth Army Rest Camp at San Spirito. NTR from coys during the day. Lieut Fisher reported at 2025 hrs his recce patrol to ford 278118 had not reached objective because of extreme darkness. <u>WEATHER</u> Cold and rain. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 737 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 695 other ranks.	<i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	21/2/44		<u>MONDAY</u> Details for ambush patrol at Ford 297118 were laid on in the morning. Lieut Chamberlain was to command a patrol consisting of 12 all ranks. 2 Air Photo interpreters visited the unit in order to give a clearer picture of the ground around the ford. Slight shelling was received in A Coy area during the day. Ambush patrol left at 1800 hrs for area 277118. <u>WEATHER</u> Cloudy and cool. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 737 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 695 other ranks.	<i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	22/2/44		<u>TUESDAY</u> Ambush patrol under Lieut R S Chamberlain reported at 0500 hrs no contact had been made with the enemy. NTR to report from coys during the day. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 5 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 691 other ranks.	Appx 3 <i>Rub</i>
Area Sqs 2811, 2812 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	23/2/44		<u>WEDNESDAY</u> Ambush patrol at 277118 under Lieut Asbury reported at 0400 hrs no contact had been made with the enemy. Recce patrol to find new path across Arielli reported at 2300 hrs they had recce'd to house 273119 and then withdrawn because of suspected enemy ambush. Lt Col Rutherford attended a meeting at 11 Cdn Inf Bde at 1100 hrs. Bn HQ moved during the morning to Roalti, which was to be the rest centre for the unit for the next 7 days. CBH "C" Coy was relieved by one sqn RCDs by 1200 hrs. 3 coys of CBH relieved A, B, & D Coys by 1715 hrs. All coys arrived in Roalti by 2000 hrs. The Perth Regt put on patrols in area sqs 2811, 2812 for night 23-24 Feb. <u>WEATHER</u> Cloudy and cool. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 691 other ranks.	Appx 3 <i>Rub</i>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Area Sq 3109 Sheet PANCIANO 147.I	28/2/44		<u>MONDAY</u> Training under coy arrangements was carried out according to syllabus. Lt-Col Snow, Brigade Commander was guest at lunch. At 1330 hrs he spoke to all offrs and NCOs of the unit. He advised he was expecting big things from the Perths as soon as the weather permitted active operations. Until the weather cleared active patrolling would be carried out. B and D Coys carried out night firing. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair <u>FENDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 36 offrs 691 other ranks.	<i>Ruth</i>
Area Sq 3109 Sheet PANCIANO 147.I	29/2/44		<u>TUESDAY</u> General inspection by Maj Gen Burns GOC 5 Cdn Armd Div was held at 1130 hrs. After the inspection, Maj Gen Burns spoke to unit reviewing their activities up till that time and commenting on future operations. He was guest of honour at lunch held in the Officer's Mess. After lunch Lt Col Rutherford left for Sorrento where he was to spend his leave. Major M Andrew assumed command of the unit. At 1400 hrs a recce party consisting of 20 offrs left Roalti to recce area sqs 2710, 2810, 2709 and 2819, sheet Ari 1/25,000. This was the area now occupied by the Nestr Regt who we would be relieving the following day. <u>WEATHER</u> Fair <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> 8 other ranks were struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FENDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 36 offrs 683 other ranks.	Sh <i>Ruth</i>
<i>M. W. Andrew, Major a/cmd.</i>				

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Area Sq 3109 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	24/2/44		<u>THURSDAY</u> Ambush patrol under Lieut R S Chamberlain reported at 0330 hrs no contact had been made with the enemy. Recce patrol reported at 0430 hrs they had recce'd 200 yds past Pal, Map Reference 275117 and had run into trip wire across path. The first day in the rest area was spent by members of the unit having a general clean up. Baths were laid on in the morning and 3 barbers were available through the co-operation of the Aux Services. <u>WEATHER</u> Cloudy and cool. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> One other rank was struck off strength on admittance to hospital. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 37 offrs 690 other ranks.	<u>Rut.</u>
Area Sq 3109 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	25/2/44		<u>FRIDAY</u> Lt Col Rutherford and Coy Commanders attended an Eighth Army meeting in Lanciano. Present at the meeting was Sir Oliver Leese, Commander of the Eighth Army and other senior formation commanders. 3 shows were held in the church for the benefit of the men. <u>PAY PARADE</u> Capt McCabe held a pay parade in each coy. Capt Statten unit Med Officer left for Bari on a 7 day course on Malaria. <u>WEATHER</u> Rain <u>STRENGTH INCREASE</u> One other rank was taken on strength from X 4 list. <u>STRENGTH DECREASE</u> Lieut D B A Menard was struck off strength to X 9 list. <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 36 offrs 691 other ranks.	<u>Rut.</u>
Area Sq 3109 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	26/2/44		<u>SATURDAY</u> Majors Tipler, Snelgrove and White, along with Capt Ridge attended a meeting at 0900 hrs in Lanciano. Trg was carried out by coys according to syllabus. Films were shown in church during the day. <u>WEATHER</u> Rain <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 36 offrs 691 other ranks.	APPX <u>Rut.</u>
Area Sq 3109 Sheet LANCIANO 147.I	27/2/44		<u>SUNDAY</u> Trg was carried out during the day according to syllabus. A and C Coys carried out night firing. <u>Entertainment</u> Moving pictures were shown in church during the day. <u>WEATHER</u> Cloudy and cool <u>FEEDING STRENGTH</u> 732 <u>STRENGTH</u> 36 offrs 691 other ranks.	<u>Rut.</u>