

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.

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/87 (9/42)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$1.
HUTHUM GERMANY MR 945622 EMMERICH Sheet \$4103 1/25,000	1st Apr 1945	0700	Weather—Scattered clouds. We had a quiet night and arrangements are made for baths on possibility of staying all day in this location. A Protestant Church Parade is held in the morning, with various coys at different times.	m
		1215	Information from Brigade that we are to be prepared to move on one hour's notice after 1400 hrs. It is to be a march North to gain contact, with SQN of tks and sqn of Recce in sp of Bde. Our task is from SEEDEN ZEDDEN North to WEHL.	
		1300 1420	CO goes to an "O" Gp at R Wpg Rif HQ and gets information. We push off xxx marching in order B Coy, C Coy, Tac BnHQ, A Coy, D Coy, BnHQ and Sp Coy.	
		1730	Have reached position MR 977663 where we stop and short "O" Gp is held while coys feed. We are going to proceed mounted, with B and C Coys on tanks and D and A Coys on Sp Coy and Sp Arms vehicles.	
KILDER MR 960726 DOETINCHEM Sheet \$4003 1/25,000	2nd Apr 1945	2045	New BnHQ location established at MR 960726 (ref map DOETINCHEM \$4003, 1/25,000) Coys have taken up temporary positions in vicinity while an "O" gp is held to discuss plans of attack on WEHL in sq 9524. Patrols are sent to probe suspected defences on south side of rly tracks, as civilian sources state they have prepared to defend the town.	m
KILDER MR 960726 DOETINCHEM Sheet \$4003 1/25,000		0700 0200	Weather—some light rain, dull and cold wind. All patrols have now returned and a picture of problem in hand is built up. Enemy are dug in SOUTH along tracks and a second defence line would seem to be established around town of WEHL. It is then planned to start attack at 0400 hrs with a preliminary dusting up from arty and 4.2 Mortars before hand. A coy on left flank D Coy right, each with section of Wasp flamethrowers. Opposition is quite stiff but by 0600 hrs both coys are on objective in South side of town. Then C Coy left, B Coy right pass through and fight through to NORTH boundaries of town, with Wasps and also aided by troop of tanks. One tank is knocked out by an SP gun from NORTH end of the town.	
WEHL MR 952746 DOETINCHEM		0925	B and C Coys now completely consolidated, and BnHQ moves in to town, taking up position MR 952746. Coy Locations are as follows: A Coy—951750, B Coy—951749, C Coy—950750, D Coy—953748. There is still considerable hostile mortar fire landing in	

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$2.
WEHL MR 952746 DOETINCHEM Sheet \$4003 1/25,000	2nd Apr 1945	0925	the town from the vicinity of woods in sq 9374. Two patrols are sent out to buildings in front of woods and they establish fact that enemy are still there. Civilian sources also bear this out. We have taken a considerable number of dirty cracks from higher formation that we were taking too long and that the job was an easy one, but events are now proving otherwise. A total of 79 PW have been taken this morning. Elements of 8 Cdn Inf Bde push through us NOENH toward LAACKEPPEL in sq 9578. R Wpg Rif and 1 S Scot R are to push EAST toward DIDAM sq 8972, and ZEVENAAR sq 8571.	W
WEHL, MR 952746 DOETINCHEM Sheet \$4003 1/25,000	3rd Apr 1945	0700 0015 0430 0900 1300 1400 1900 2000	Weather— Dull—scattered showers. Bde advise us we are to send a coy at first light to day to clear woods in sq 9374 and then return. Plan is laid for D and A Coys to do job of clearing woods. By 0730 hrs they are started and by 0900 hrs the woods are reported clear, 20 PW having been taken. We are given task of mopping up area in our locality covered roughly by triangle within the map references 9079, 9068 and 0074 (ZEVENAAR Sheet \$4002), B coy, mounted in carriers, set out at 1400 hrs. Meanwhile a picture show is being shown by the Canadian Legion in a Hall in B Coy area. Our area is reported clear by B Coy Comd; A/Major Howat and Bde HQ are happy. Some areas were difficult to check, being already overrun by our own tps. An impromptu dance for the men is held in a village hall. Everyone seems to have a good time.	W
WEHL, MR 952746 DOETINCHEM Sheet \$4003 1/25,000 VORDEN MR 013904, ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803	4th Apr 1945	0700 0200 1100 1430 1600 1700	Weather—Cool WEST wind, scattered rain clouds. Bde advise no move before 1400 hrs today. We expect to go for DEVENTER in sq 9207 (ref map \$3702, ZUTPHEN, 1/25,000). Bn "O" Gp—preparations for the move. Later information shows we will not necessarily go as far as DEVENTER. I 9 Cdn Inf Bde on meeting still resistance from ZUTPHEN, and we are going to come EAST of the town. We shove off at 1430 hrs and arrive in area by 1600 hrs, with locations as follows: BnHQ—0139, A Coy—018895, B Coy—016893, C Coy—017893, D Coy—015895 (Ref Maps STEENDEREN \$3903, ZUTPHEN \$3803, 1/25,000). CO visits Bde HQ and we are to move up behind 4 Cdn Inf Bde units and clear along SOUTH side of bly tracks toward ZUTPHEN!	W

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	
			Sheet \$3.	
VORDEN, MR 013904	4th Apr	2300	Bn "O" Gp--preparations for move--We are to move embussed in TCVs. Move to take place as soon as possible after 2330 hrs.	<i>W</i>
VORDEN, MR 013904.	5th Apr	0700	Weather--Drizzling rain all day.	
ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803	1945	0100	Moving has been delayed somewhat, but vehicles get on the move and after a delayed trip get into position ready to attack. MR'HR is set for 0536 hrs. BnHQ set up at MR 009977 (ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803.1/25,000).	
SCHEGGERT MR 009977		0536	Attack goes in as planned with B Coy left, C Coy right. Fighting is not hard, with some mortar fire, and the coys get to the objective.	
ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803		0530	B Coy in position at MR 972972 (ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803 1/25,000).	<i>W</i>
1/25,000		0820	C Coy in position at MR 972975. A Coy left and D Coy right, then pass through and with little difficulty get to the objectives, A Coy at MR 966971, and D Coy at MR 968976.	
EEFDE, MR 971972.		1400	BnHQ moves into position at MR 971972. Engineers have started bridging in A Coy location and CSR and RWR expect to move through to NORTH as soon as it is complete.	
ZUTPHEN Sheet \$3803.		2100	DF tasks with Arty, MMG and 3" Mortars laid on and everyone hopes to get a full night of sleep.	
EEFDE, MR 971972	6th Apr	0700	Weather--Scattered clouds and showers.	
ZUTPHEN, Sheet \$3803	1945	1030	Bde advise us we are to move at 1200 hrs NORTH toward DEVENTER (Sheet \$3703, BATHMEN, 1/25,000). CSR and RWR are moving NORTH now.	
1/25,000		1200	Coys commence to move. By 1400 hrs all the coys have moved into position as follows (Sheet \$3703, BATHMEN, 1/25,000). A Coy--967030, B Coy--\$71022, C Coy--9640285, D Coy--967032. BnHQ is located at 964028. RWR are into sq 9605. CSR are sq 9404. There are scattered sp and mortars firing and scattered snipers. It appears there are defences out in front of DEVENTER which will have to be taken out. We set up DF and SOS fire plan and wait for further orders.	<i>W</i>
JOPPE MR 964028		1200	A patrol from the Scout platoon went EAST and contacted ESSEX SCOTS, 2 Div at MR 003020.	
BATHMEN Sheet \$3703				
1/25,000				
JOPPE, MR 964028	7 Apr	0700	Weather--clear and bright.	
1945	0945		We are to be prepared to move at 1200 hrs. OO goes to BdeHQ for "O" Gp and on	<i>W</i>

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet 54.
JOPPE, MR 964028 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 OKSE MR 984051 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 1/25,000	7th Apr 1945	0945 1200 1340	<p>return a Bn "0" Gp is held. We are to move to positions on south side of SCHIPBEEK CANAL in vicinity of Sq 9805 and 9905.</p> <p>Coys are on the move and by 1340 hrs are in position as follows, having met no opposition: A Coy--986051, B Coy--989057, C Coy--983054, D Coy--990053, BnHQ at 984051. Area is quiet. We expect to cross canal tonight by bridge at MR 965036 (Ref Map BATHMEN Sheet \$3703, 1/25,000) Two patrols crossed canal at our front to feel out ground on other side. Were sniped at from various positions.</p> <p>Bn "0" Gp. Attack is teed up for tonight. We are to cross bridge, pass through R Wpg Rif to road junc at MR 966068, then attack EAST with road as axis to clear woods as far as 986069 (Sheet \$3703).</p> <p>A Coy XXXX are crossing start point now, which is bridge over canal.</p>	W
OKSE, MR 984051, BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 MR 965069 KOLMSCHATE 1/25,000	8th Apr 1945	0700 0800 1200 1300 1500 1700 coys	<p>Weather--dull in the morning, clear and bright in the afternoon.</p> <p>All coys now in position as follows: A Coy--996067, B Coy--979068, C Coy--974068, D Coy in 979065, BnHQ at 965069. The attack has been very successful with extremely light casualties. Approximately 35 PW taken. They are mostly good troops, although from miscellaneous units and organized into companies hastily.</p> <p>A Coy push on further to secure a firm start line for afternoon attack. They locate at MR 963073.</p> <p>A Bn "0" Gp is held. Attack for this afternoon is NORTH-WEST to ZIJKANAAL in vicinity of ACHTERHOEK in sq 9507, and bridge at MR 956081. We are also going to try to get a bridgehead over canal if bridge is still in. In sp of us we have sqn of tanks, and sqn of Crocodiles, in addition to normal sp arms. A well tied in plan, with close support from tanks and flamethrower crocodiles and coys kick off about 1500 hrs.</p> <p>In a short time prisoners are coming back in large groups--the crocodiles seem to be a great inducement to them. Progress is very steady and rapid, and by 1700 hrs all are on objectives, with locations as follows: A Coy--954078, B Coy--956082, C Coy--957076, D Coy--960078. BnHQ moves to MR 963072. Casualties have been quite light, the majority having been suffered from shelling on getting up to SL. A total of 80 PW have been taken during the afternoon attack. Bridge however, in front of B Coy position is blown in centre, so we are entirely on SE side of canal.</p> <p>Some sniping from across the canal. Scattered shelling in area. Contact patrols</p>	W

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$5.
KOLMSCHATE, MR 965069 Sheet \$3703 BATHMEN	8th Apr 1945	1700	for contact with R Wpg Rif at MR 954069 are laid on. Bde advise we do not need to expect a move tonight. However, we may have to put a platoon across canal at bridge to cover RCE bridging operations.	W
KOLMSCHATE MR 963072 Sheet \$3703 BATHMEN 1/25,000	9th Apr 1945	0700 0010 0655	Weather--dull and misty during morning--cleared during afternoon. Bde want sub-unit to form bridgehead as soon as possible. Force is consolidated across bridge. Otherwise night has been reasonably quiet. Considerable noise East of us during night was 1 C Sect R who are moving up toward our right flank.	
		0900	C Coy is going to cross bridge and gain firm hold on far side of canal for covering bridging operations.	
		1130	CO to Bde "O" gp. We do not expect to move until tomorrow morning. Brigadier is extremely pleased with results of our operations during past few days, and realizes we have done more than our share of fighting. He promises to soft-pedal us for a few days to give us a break.	W
		1300	C Coy is all across canal with HQ set up at MR 9507 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703. During afternoon, considerable sniping from WEST side of canal into A Coy area, in addition to persistent mortaring, cause several casualties.	
		1900	We are to change over with R Wpg Rif tonight and go back into reserve area, as R Wpg Rif and C Sect R are to do initial attacks into town of DEVENTER (Sheet \$3702 and \$3703).	
		2200	A large number of enemy came across canal and surrender. The total amounts to 35. It is difficult to understand, as they have been very active on the defensive up to now. Most of them say our artillery fire was the reason, as they had nothing but small arms, and were not eating very regularly.	
KOLMSCHATE MR 963072 KOLMSCHATE MR 967068 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 1/25,000	10 Apr 1945	0700 0400 0830 1400 2100	Weather--clear and very warm. Change over with R Wpg Rif and we move into the following positions: BnHQ--at 967068, A Coy--966069, B Coy--963068, C Coy--967066, D Coy--962068. Men are going to mobile bath, which is a pleasure to attend since the day is so warm and sunny. A picture show is also in operation, and some much needed relaxation. We are warned to be prepared to go into area just SOUTH of DEVENTER in sq 9306 to clear up to edge of town. Balance of day is spent in waiting. "O" Gp. Plan is laid to go into the area allotted to us. QUEENS OWN RIF are to	W

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet \$6.	
KOLMSCHATE MR 967068	10th Apr	2100	form a bridgehead for us over bridge at 945070 (Ref Map BATHMEN, Sheet \$3703, 1/25,000). H-Hr is set for 0200 hrs.	u
KOLMSCHATE MR 967068 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 KOLMSCHATE MR 952066 BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 1/25,000	11 Apr 1945	0700 0310	Weather—clear and very warm. All coys have gone on to their objectives with no opposition and no casualties. Coy HQs are located as follows: A Coy—930057, B Coy—931062, C Coy—927063, D Coy—927059. Tac BnHQ is set up at MR 952066. As the roads into the area are almost impassible to vehicles, BnHQ does not go farther into the area. C Coy take bridge at MR 929066 intact and proceed to clear area beyond it. A patrol from D Coy is sent to contact elements of 7 Recce Regt at EPSR in sq 9404 (Bathmen Sheet \$3703). Our area is now considered clear. R Wpg Rif and 1 C Scot R have completed clearing town of DEVENTER. We now expect to withdraw to a Concentration area. Recce party goes to area in sq 9610 to recce cone area for unit. Balance of Bn moves and by 1800 hrs are in posn as follows: BnHQ MR 964109, A Coy—960105, B Coy—969109, C Coy—969108, D Coy—963103 (BATHMEN Sheet \$3703). We expect to be able to stay put at least for the night. A picture show is shown to whole Bn in the open air. The weather is perfect, and everyone turns in to get a good night's rest. The CO, Major R J Orr, has been on the go without any worth while sleep for several days, and all personnel of line companies have also had little chance for rest.	u
GR. VELDE MR 964109 WECHELERVELD BATHMEN Sheet \$3703 1/25,000	12 Apr 1945	0700 0900	Weather—slightly overcast, very warm. We have no news of a move as yet. A Echelon moves into area MR 967109. Leave men who have been to England have returned. Considerable interior economy is being undertaken if time permits. Honors and awards are being written up and submitted for men who have shown gallantry in recent actions. The day passes very quietly. Another picture show in the open is shown in the evening.	u
GR. VELDE MR 964109 WECHELERVELD BATHMEN	13 Apr 1945	0700 1100	Weather—Bright and warm. The countryside is getting very green and many flowers are coming into bloom. CO goes to Bde HQ and is advised we are to move off in the direction of ZWOLLE (Sheet \$3402, 1/25,000)	u

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$7.
GR. VELDE ELSHOF, MR 958236 RAALTE Sheet \$3603 1/25,000	13 Apr 1945	1230	We move off ambushed, A,B, Sp Coys and BnHQ moving first and move into the following locations: BnHQ—958234, A Coy—956236, B Coy—959236, sheet \$3603. Sp Coy vehicles then return to old area to left C and D Coys and bring them up to this area. There has been no contact with enemy on this move. Area is considered fairly clear as 9 Bde units have moved through here, but stray enemy hiding out may be expected. Our ultimate objective is to attack and capture ZWOLLE. It is not known whether or not the town is strongly held, but elements of recce units have been close in without difficulty. However, we plan to be prepared to meet opposition. After being forced to travel by secondary roads due to blown bridges the unit without contacting enemy arrived at ITTERSUM on SE outskirts of ZWOLLE. From the information received from the underground which is very much in evidence in the area, it appears that the enemy has withdrawn across the river to HATTEM and left only a few tps to defend it. A young lady member of the underground went into ZWOLLE at 2300 hrs to see what she could learn. We are prepared to go into the town in the morning. Only activity is sound of occasional gunfire from direction of HATTEM and sound of demolitions. Patrols sent out in immediate area. No enemy contacted.	u
HOOG ZUTEM MR 903326 Sheet \$3502 HATTEM 1/25,000	14 Apr 1945	0700 0030	Weather—cool and overcast. All sub units are in position near ITTERSUM, south of ZWOLLE. So far no enemy have been contacted. Two men of the Dutch underground who were in ZWOLLE yesterday report that only a small number of enemy tps remain in ZWOLLE. The enemy has been evacuated across the river IJssel to HATTEM. They had valuable information of minefields and defences of the town and were sent back to Bde HQ.	
		0500	The Bn is to cut the road between ZWOLLE and R IJssel tonight. At 0500 hrs A Coy moved off and proceeded to OLDENEEL and thence to SCHELLE, meeting no resistance. C Coy moved up to SCHELLE and A Coy continued WEST to NIEUWE WERK and cut the road between ZWOLLE and the R IJssel. Meanwhile B Coy moved NORTH through ITTERSUM and continued toward ZWOLLE along the rly track to 894348.	u
		0915 1000 int	At 0915 Lt L Bergeron, Scout Offr rode into ZWOLLE on his motorcycle and after recceing it, returned to report it clear of enemy. Another patrol at 1000 hrs went into the town and were mobbed by the civilian population who were out to greet them in large numbers. B Coy then moved into the town followed by D Coy and BnHQ.	

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ZWOLLE MR 888358 Sheet \$3402 ZWOLLE 1/25,000	14 Apr 1945	2230	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>Sheet \$8.</p> <p>The underground turned over several PWS they were holding for our arrival. These with about 20 others that had been picked up during the night and who had given up without firing a shot brought the days total of PWS to 49. After having supper in ZWOLLE where BnHQ was at MR 888358 the Bn moved to area 890345 for thenight. At 2230 we were notified that we were on 1 hours notice to move from 0700 hrs tomorrow. No rest for the weary!</p>	W
ZWOLLE MR 888358 Sheet \$3402 ZWOLLE, 1/25,000	15 Apr 1945	0700 0800 0930 1200	<p>The weather--dull, cloudy and cold with showers.</p> <p>After a very quiet night the Bn was ready to hit the trail again at 0800 hrs. This time STEENWIJK, North of MEPPEL which was occupied by the R Wpg Rif was our objective. Two coys, left at 0930 hrs on our own rpt and the remainder were loaded on a sqn of tanks from the 27 Armd and moved off at 1200 hrs. The route was EAST to DALFSUN, West to PEOPERSHOEK and North through ROUVEEN to MEPPEL. BnHQ was at 883683, KOLDERVEEN, North West of MEPPEL. B Coy continued on to STEENWIJK and located at 883683, C Coy at 901659, D Coy at 922595. No sign of enemy in the area covered today.</p>	W
KOLDERVEEN, MR 938607, SCHOOL HOUSE Sheet \$3202 STEENWIJK 1/25,000	16 Apr 1945	0700 0800 1800 2000	<p>We expect to be in this area for 3 or 4 days but that sounds too good to be true.</p> <p>The carrier platoon was out making a sweep of the surrounding area and returned with seven nondescript looking characters in German uniform. They say they are soldiers. Could be!</p> <p>Our arrival in this area is the occasion for great celebrating among the civilian population and there is more orange ribbons than at an Orangemen's pa rade. The girls are getting better looking too! Or perhaps we need leave badly.</p> <p>Weather--a fine sunny day.</p> <p>Coys are still in the same posns and the carriers continue to scour the country looking for Jerry without any success. Our only communication between coys and BnHQ is by DR as the coys cover such a large area that laying line is out of the question and the distance is too great for 18 sets. Bde HQ which is still at ZWOLLE has two relay stations between here and Bde HQ. The local underground is very active in this area and at times are a bit of a nuisance with their enthusiasm to be helpful. Carriers and D Coy went out at 1800 hrs to check on civilian report that enemy are in KUINRE and BLANKENHAM, sq 7267 and sq 7664</p> <p>At 2000 hrs CQMS Hoskins of D Coy came pedalling into BnHQ poste-haste on his</p>	W

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			Is t In The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$9.
KOLDERVEEN NR 938607 SCHOOL HOUSE Sheet \$3202 STEENWIJK 1/25.000	16 APR 1945	2000	"liberated" velocipede with the alarming news that 20 Jerries had moved into D Coys area after they had pulled out. After a quick appreciation by the CO, the Scout Platoon under Lt L Bergeron were sent out on Carriers to round them up while BNHQ personnel took measures to protect BNHQ. The "enemy" proved to be a patrol of the Dutch underground who had not been issued with arm bands. COMS Hoskins doesn't wish to discuss the matter further. D Coy moved into KUIJRE sq 7267 (Sheet 2A, DEN HELDER) and found that the enemy had pulled out to the NORTH. Civilians gave them a great reception. Apparently the enemy is evacuating the area by boat from LIEKKER, North west of KUIJRE, and are thought to be crossing to AMSTERDAM. 15% of each coy were permitted to go into MEPPEL or STEENWIJK for the evening.	W
KOLDERVEEN NR 938607 SCHOOL HOUSE Sheet \$3202 STEENWIJK 1/25.000	17 APR 1945	0700	Weather--A grand day with a bright sun. One of the nicest days so far this spring. No change in the coy positions. D Coy are now 22 miles away from the BNHQ and are having a very good go of it. As our only communication between coys is by DR the Dispatch Riders are very busy people. The carriers are going to hold KUIJRE and D Coy is being brought back to their former position at 922595 this afternoon. 2 Sections of Carriers, a section of 3" Mortars and a couple of anti-tank guns are occupying the town of ZWARTLUIS sq 8750. D Coy is back in their old position by 1830 hrs. Instead of being relieved by our carriers their former positions were taken over by the R de Chauds. All coys are busy cleaning up and doing necessary maintenance on vehicles. The troops are taking advantage of the opportunity to fraternize and 15% were permitted to go MEPPEL or STEENWIJK. There has been no sign of the enemy anywhere in our area.	W
KOLDERVEEN NR 938607 SCHOOL HOUSE SHEET \$3202 STEENWIJK 1/25.000	18 APR 1945	0700	Weather--continues fine and bright. A very quiet day with all coys paying a visit to the mobile baths and getting a change of clothing. A moving picture was shown in the afternoon in D Coys' area by the Auxiliary Services. At 1300 hrs the Bde Comd, Brigadier Gibson paid a visit to the CO and advised him that we were to move at 0830 hrs tomorrow to the area North of GRONINGEN (EMDEN	W
		1300 0830		

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	sheet \$10.
KOLDERVEEN MR 938607 SCHOOL HOUSE sheet \$3202 STEENWIJK	18 Apr 1945	1300	---Sheet 1/100,000. Coys were advised. This is the longest we have remained in one spot since crossing the RHINE and already many have become bored with the inactivity and are eager to get going again. Locations: BnHQ--938607, A Coy--948574, B Coy--874680, C Coy--901659, D Coy--924594, Sp Coy--920668, Carrier Platoon--875506. MR Sheet M1 and 2A 1/100000.	W
KOLDERVEEN MR 938607 SCHOOL HOUSE sheet \$3202 ONDERDENDAM MR 232273 sheet \$2605 WARFFUM 1/25,000 XXXXXX	19 Apr 1945	0700 0830 1600	Weather continues fine and bright. After an early breakfast the regiment pulled out for the new area passing the SP at 0830 hrs with B, C, and Sp Coys teeing in on the convoy behind BnHQ as we passed through STEENWIJK. The Bn arrived in their areas without incident. By 1600 hrs all coys were in. BnHQ was at 232273, A Coy--270285, B Coy--232273, C Coy--240236, D Coy--185271. Immediately on arrival the troop of A Sqn 7 Cdn Recce Regt attached to the Reginas continued on to the North and made a sweep of the area including WARFFUM, USQUERT, BAFL0, (Sheets \$2505, 2605) in search of the enemy. None were found and from information received from the underground and civilians it appears that our area is clear. All indications are that he has pulled EAST and is attempting to evacuate to EMDEN via DELFZIJL sq \$4526 (EMDEN, sheet L1, 1/100000) One forlorn looking PW was picked up in A Coys area and 7 PWs were turned over to D Coy by the underground in their area. Three of the latter were not in uniform They said they were labourers who were put in infantry a short while ago and had not been issued with uniforms. The others were ground personnel of the Luftwaffe. R Wpg Rif contacted our A Coy at 271283 during the night.	W
ONDERDENDAM MR 232273 sheet \$2605 WARFFUM 1/25,000	20 Apr 1945	0700 1600	Weather--fine and clear until 1600 hrs then light rain. The Carrier Platoon left early in the morning and covered the area WEST of WINSUM (D Coy in sq 1826) going as far as KORKIM in sq 8427 approx 40 kilometers to the WEST. They returned at 1600 hrs and reported the area clear SOUTH of the REITDIEP River to DOKKUM. C Coy moved up to USQUERT (sheet \$2505 1/25,000) and were in posn by noon. So far no contact has been made with the enemy but information is that there are a small number at UITHUIZEN and at ZANDEWEER which places are in the area assigned to the R Wpg Rif at ROODESHOOL, Sq 3536 and UITHUIZERMEDEN, sq 3236, & are also reported a small number of the enemy. The underground in the area are very enthusiastic and are a source of a lot of information but it is a bit of a problem trying to separate the wheat from the chaff. Seemingly each kixx tries to outdo the other in being helpful and a large percentage of the information is	W

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ONDERDEN DAM MR 232273 Sheet §2605 WARFFUM 1/25,000	20 Apr 1945		1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet §11.	
		1600	not reliable.	
		1600	At 1600 hrs B Coy moved off to take UITHUIZEN sq 2935, and arrived at 1845 hrs without contacting any enemy.	
		1945	At 1945 hrs A Coy in MIDDELSTUM sq 2628, reported shelling from heavy guns firing from the NORTH. No casualties to the Coy but 2 or 3 civilians were hurt. Only four shells were reported.	m
ONDERDEN DUM	21 Apr 1945	2000	B Coy was consolidated by 2000 hrs and a section of carriers went on a recce to the SOUTH. No enemy found. A Coy sent in 20 PWS and liberated the head of the underground. PWS were in hiding and were turned over by civilians.	
		2100	At 2100 hrs D Coy reported themselves in position at ZANDEWEEER sq 2933 without any trouble	
		0045	Weather cool with a brisk wind. Overcast with the sun breaking through once in a while. We are to occupy ROODESCHOOLO, sq 3536, and GARSHUIZEN, sq 3131 at first light today.	
		0900	A Coy is now in posn at GARSHUIZEN and is sending patrols beyond the town. No contact with the enemy.	u
		0930	A section of carriers sent up to ROODESCHOOLO reports it clear and C Coy moved up to occupy it. By 1100 hrs they were in.	
		1200	Troop of 7 Recce Regt is now moving from ROODESCHOOLO toward SPIJK, sq 4033. They have been forced to withdraw owing to heavy mortar and shell-fire from 401345.	
		1300	A Coy has now moved into ZANDT, sq 3630	
		1325	D Coy in ZANDT and moving through to ZIJLDIJK, sq 3434.	
		1450	Bn HQ now at ROODESCHOOLO, MR 353365.	
			B Coy is now moving up to 400321 after passing through SPIJK with the only opposition being sporadic but ineffective shellfire from the direction of DELFZIJL which is the point toward which the enemy has been withdrawing in this area. A number of heavy guns are reported along the coast around DELFZIJL and throughout the day they have been firing intermittently on the areas held by our Coys without much effect. DELFZIJL may prove a hard nut to crack if the enemy elects to fight but during the last two or three days several boats have been seen leaving in the direction of BUNNEN. The town is ringed by defences.	
		1645	D Coy reports br at 396314 has been blown. An 88 mm gun is firing from sq 3830 but they can not pin-point it. Movement in the area occupied by the bn is restricted as the enemy has blown quite a number of bridges.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet #12	
DLINZE 386314 Sheet 2606 STEREMDEN 25000	21 Apr 1945	2030	Bn HQ has moved up and is in GODLINZE, MR 387315. Patrols are being sent out to the bridge at 400311. D Coy has just reported that there were 20 enemy at 401317 armed only with SA. Explosions were heard there and it is thought they are demolishing the AA site that is there. Civilians reported 200 enemy troops passed through last night going in the direction of DELFZIJL.	W
		2150	A patrol of 20 Germans on bicycles was engaged by C Coy. 3 or 4 were killed and the remainder retired in disorder. Otherwise the night was peaceful.	
	DLINZE 386314 Sheet 2606 STEREMDEN 25000	22 Apr 1945	0630	Weather clear and cold with a strong wind from the WEST. Coys report a quiet night except for a few shells from the vicinity of DELFZIJL landing in C Coy area. Positions remain unchanged during the day. It is planned to move Bn HQ to sq 4132 in the afternoon but a recce party from The Perth Regiment (5 Armd Div) arrives with instructions to take over from us this evening.
1800			Slidex message from Bde HQ advises that Perth Regt will take over from us during the night and we will move to a conc area in BEERTA, sq 4809 (Sheet 2807, 1/25000) at first light. By 2330 hrs take over is completed and Bn HQ and D Coy withdraw to ZANDT in sq 3530 for the night. B and C Coys move to ROODESCHOOI, sq 3536.	
DLINZE 386314 Sheet 2606 STEREMDEN 25000		23 Apr 1945	0630	Weather warm and bright. We are on the move to conc area and arrive without incident. CO goes to Bde HQ for O Gp at 1000 hrs. A Coy is relieved from duties at GROWINGEN and moves up after the rest of the battalion. Bn HQ sets up at MR 488090 (Sheet 2807, 1/25000). Coys are located throughout the town. As we are getting close to the German border once more the change in the attitude of civilians is quite noticeable. No flags are out and cheers are a rarity.
	1700		Bn O Gp. We have been allotted area between 55 and 65 EASTING and NORTH to the coastline. Positions along the main rd between BEERTA, sq 5608 (Sheet 2808) and NIEUWE BEERTA, sq 6211 (Sheet 2809).	
	1800		Recce party goes to recce areas and returns.	
		2130	B Coy moves off for new area.	
		2230	Bn HQ is moving off. Remaining Coys are also on the move. Locations: Bn HQ 621107, B Coy 617106	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
NIEUWE BEERTA MR 617106 Sheet 2808 1/25000	24 APR 1945		1ST Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment Weather very clear and warm. The night passed very quietly. A Coy is in posn at MR 607103 and C Coy is at MR574117. Two recce patrols were sent out by the scout Pl; one along the road EAST to OUDEZIJL, sq6410 and the other along the road NE to DRIESBURG, sq6212. No enemy were encountered.	
		1030	We are advised by Bde that a coy of R Wpg R will be moved to 596136 (Sheet 2708, 1/25000) to act as pivot.	
		1145	A Coy moves off toward right flank and take up posn at MR 623133 (Sheet 2709, 1/25000). There is considerable shelling from 88 mm guns but no casualties are suffered.	
		1330	D Coy moves off on the same axis as A Coy and takes up position at MR 627129 (Sheet 2709) Plans are laid to attack gun posns along coast tonight. B Coy to move off to right flank in preparation for second phase with C Coy. Phase I consists of A and D Coys attacking straight NORTH from their posns to the coast.	
		2050	B Coy moving off.	
		2300	Tac Bn HQ moves off to new location in A Coy area.	
		2345	Tac Bn HQ at MR 623133. B Coy are in posn at MR 640137 Weather very clear and warm.	
OUDEDIJK MR 623133 Sheet 2709 1/25000	25 APR 1945	0100	A Coy and D Coy hit start-line. Fighting is stiff and considerable shelling is covering SL. Once Coys get going ahead the going improved and by 0330 hrs A Coy is on its objective having taken 14 PWs. As day commences to break more P W are taken who were attempting to get away by boat.	
		0900	D Coy has had a stiff battle all the way, using flame-throwers and arty but are now on objective.	
			A Coy HQ at 617154; D Coy HQ at 616154	

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			1st Bn Regina Rifle Regiment	
			Sheet 14	
			Phase II has been called off as it is considered impracticable in daylight. The ground is perfectly flat and approaches to objectives are limited to one or two.	
			An amn and food dump has been found in D Coy area at MR 646158.	
			Total PWs taken by A and D Coys xxx is 52.	
		0930	A Coy reports that whole battery at 597161 have come in to surrender. There are 80 of them. A Coy has been sent in to occupy the posn. There are 4 x 105 mmguns in the posn in concrete emplacements. However the combined work of Spitfire bombing and artillery fire during the past day had knocked out two and the whole posn was well hit. There is also a range-finder and small barracks complete with canteen. No beer!	W
		1300	Our area is quiet now and all coys are relaxing and getting some rest. The troop of 7 Recce Regt attached to us are sent out to see if the balance of the area between us and the Westar Regt is clear as it is our responsibility.	
		1330	G O C comes down to look over 10.5 Gm guns with a view to possibly turning them around to fire on EMDEN as there is plenty of amn for them.	
		1700	7 Recce report balance of our area clear although several bridges are out. It is now considered that our task is finished in this spot. We are expecting to be relieved here so we may move on to further tasks.	
	26 Apr 1945		Location same.	
			Weather very clear and warm.	
		0800	The night has been very quiet. We are to move this afternoon to conc area in sq 8003 (Sheet 2810, 1/25000). Move will be by TCVs.	
		1900	Move is complete, including "A" Ech. All coys and Bn HQ are close together. Bn HQ location MR 80540332.	W
		2030	Coy Comds Conference. The C.O. advises we can expect to remain here 2 or 3 days. It will be a welcome break as much vehicle maintenance and interior economy is needed. Everyone settles down for a good night's rest	

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1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment			Sheet \$15	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	
MR 80540332 Sheet 2810 WEENER 1/25000	27 Apr 1945		<p>The weather is dull and cold with rain most of the day.</p> <p>The day is spent cleaning up and doing maintenance on vehicles. Everyone manages to get caught up on lost sleep. An ENSA show is held near Bde HQ in the afternoon and evening. The Canadian Legion is running a picture. We expect to be able to have the use of the Mobile Bath tomorrow.</p> <p>1800 "O" Gp. Lt-Col Gregory is going to Bde to act as Brigade Comd for 10 days. In his absence Maj D.G. Brown will act as CO until the return of Maj Orr who is on leave. The next operation of the 3 Cdn Inf Div is to cross the R LEDA at ESKLUM, sq 8013 (Sheet 2710, 1/25000). 9 Cdn Inf Bde are securing initial bridgehead by taking LEER. Plans are still fluid except that Regina Rif will do initial phase.</p>	u
Same	28 Apr		<p>Weather cool with intermittent showers.</p> <p>The mobile bath is operating and all coys are taking advantage of it. Church parades are being held by coys. The men are getting a good rest.</p> <p>1800 Bn "O" Gp. The plan for our phase of the attack is laid. C and B Coys will lead off with A Coy then D Coy following up. As the bridge is not expected to be in until about 1500 hrs we do not expect to be moving before mid-day.</p> <p>2100 We are advised by Bde that Coys will have to go across in storm-boats commencing first light as the Div Comd wants to exploit success of 9 Cdn Inf Bde. C and B Coys are to leave by tpt at 0730 hrs. Tpt will return and lift A and D Coys.</p>	u
Same	29 Apr		<p>0730 Cool and overcast with frequent showers. C and B Coys are on their way. News of 9 Cdn Inf Bde is that the oppoen they are running into has not been stiff.</p> <p>1100 A and D Coys move off. A/CO Maj D.G. Brown moves off with Comd Post. Coys cross the river in storm boats and march to forming-up area. Vehicles move up and cross by the bridge in the late afternoon arriving at approx 1900hrs. The town of LEER seems to have had the treatment and several fires are blazing. The crossing of the river was without incident and it is evident the enemy has pulled back if not out.</p> <p>1900 Locations: Bn HQ 808146 (Sheet 2710, LEER, 1/25000) A Coy 809148 B Coy 808147 C Coy 806148 D Coy 807145</p> <p>We have contacted HLI and find that they have not yet cleared our start-line.</p>	u

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1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment

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sheet \$16

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
LEER Sheet 2710 LEER 1/25000	29 Apr 1945	1910 1945 2130	<p>We are advised by Bde that we are NOT to move until ordered by them.</p> <p>Patrols which were sent out to our front have returned and report enemy opposed from 822154.</p> <p>H Hour is set for 2130 hrs with the arty plan commencing at 2100 hrs.</p> <p>C and B Coys start off but C Coy is having trouble at the SL from enemy mortars. Arty tasks are brought down again and from then on coys progress well with sp of Cross and tanks. By 2330 hrs C and B Coys are in posn.</p> <p>C Coy - 820158 B Coy - 826157</p>	<i>W</i>
LEER Sheet 2710 LEER 1/25000	30 Apr 1945	0015 0110 0900 1335 1400 1400	<p>Steady rain throughout the day.</p> <p>Tac HQ moved at 0015 hrs to LR 822157.</p> <p>Locations: A Coy 824152, D Coy 820155</p> <p>B and C Coys are patrolling forward.</p> <p>Phase IV is commenced, with B Coy left and D Coy right moving SOUTH toward the R IRDA. B Coy is finding the going stiff among the buildings, especially the German barracks. D Coy get ahead well. PW continue to come in. Our total for this operation so far is 105.</p> <p>B Coy firm on objective. They have had a stiff fight, taking about 35 PW the hard way. Even flamethrowers were used on buildings to convince the enemy further resistance was hopeless. They were convinced.</p> <p>Bn HQ moves to new location at LR 822149.</p> <p>We now expect to remain firm for at least a few hours.</p> <p>Maj R.J.Orr has returned from leave to Paris and assumes command of the Bn with Maj D.G.Brown as 2 i/c.</p> <p>9 Cdn Inf Bde have pushed NORTH to new location and Polish Div are expected to push us through R Wg R posn.</p> <p>There is to be NO move for tonight but we are warned to be on 60 minutes notice to move from 0600 hrs tomorrow.</p>	<i>W</i>

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1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.

SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S EVENTS

The month began with the Bn out of contact with the enemy who had pulled out after the fall of EMMERICH. With little delay we joined in the pursuit to regain contact and after travelling afoot and ambushed for several hours with no sign of the enemy, finally made contact near WEIL. After feeling out the enemy by patrols our attack on the town began at 0400 hrs 2 Apr after a preliminary dusting up by Artillery and 4.2" Mortars. The opposition was quite stiff but with the valuable assistance of 2 sec of Wasps and a troop of tanks B and C Coys who had passed through A and D were completely consolidated in the town by 0925 hrs. 79 PW were taken. For some time after the town was taken hostile fire was directed on it from the enemy still in the woods to the West but this was dealt with and by nightfall had ceased except for one or two guns which kept trying without much success. The next day the woods were cleared and a sweep was made of the area for several miles around by our carriers and inf coys who found only a few stragglers. R Wpg Rif and 1 C Scot R similarly cleared the area WEST of us with the same result. Meanwhile elts of 8 Cdn Inf Bde had pushed through toward LAACKEPPEL.

Next day the Bn moved off by TCVs toward ZUTPHEN where the enemy had apparently decided to make his next stand. After crossing the TWENTE CANAL by the Bailey Bridge EAST of ZUTPHEN we proceed to clear the area between the railway and the canal WEST to EBBE running into light opposition and having a few casualties.

ZUTPHEN being taken care of by the 8 Cdn Inf Bde we are ordered NORTH toward DEVENTER and take up position SOUTH of SCHIPBEEK CANAL to the EAST of DEVENTER. The enemy had apparently decided to defend DEVENTER and all bridges over the canal are blown with the enemy well dug in on the other side. A bridgehead over the canal is established by the R Wpg Rifles who had rather stiff fighting and the Regina Rif passed through them at midnight of the 7th and proceeded to clear the area to the EAST of DEVENTER. Our casualties in the initial stages of this operation were very light, most of them from shelling and mortar fire. With the help of a sqn of tks and sqn of Crocodiles the area WEST of KOLMSCHATE to the ZIJKANAAL is cleared. Assistance was given to one coy who were being held up by a 20mm gun by a Typhoon which noticed it and acted accordingly. An excellent demonstration of close support. A Coy is put across the ZIJKANAAL to provide protection for the engineers while they put in a bridge. Considerable trouble and delay is caused by heavy shelling and mortar fire directed on the bridge site and enemy snipers are very active in the area, and cause several casualties. It is not one-sided however as our own snipers have a field-day themselves. Late in the evening of the 9th the first sign of a break came when 35 enemy came over the canal to surrender. After the bridge is completed the R Wpg Rifles and 1 C Scot R go through us to clear DEVENTER meeting practically no resistance. The enemy having pulled out across the IJSEL RIVER. We then go through the Queens Own Rifles who were clearing the area to the South East of DEVENTER with the object of clearing up to the south edge of the town while the R Wpg Rifles and 1 C Scot R clear the town from the NORTH. Unlike the Queens Own Rifles who had run into heavy going the previous day we are greeted by silence and the area is clear of the enemy. The Bde's job was considered complete in this area.

The Bde then moves to a cone area North East of DEVENTER remaining there for a couple of days resting and preparing for the next move. At noon on the 13th we move off on another long trip to regain

WAR DIARY

1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.

SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S EVENTS

contact with the enemy with ZWOLLE as our objective. We moved up through territory which had been passed through by the 9th Cdn Inf Bde who had encountered only very light and scattered resistance, the enemy, according to the pattern he has followed ever since we crossed the RHINE has fallen back to ZWOLLE leaving small groups of 20 or 30 men to delay our advance. The major factor slowing us up is the number of bridges blown.

After moving up in the night to ITTE SUM, south of ZWOLLE, without opposition ~~and~~ except from occasional shelling from the direction of HATTEN the town of ZWOLLE was entered the next morning without an fighting after a patrol had been sent in. Jerry had withdrawn his troops to HATTEN on the WEST side of the R IJSSEL and had demolished all bridges the previous night. Those left behind were taken into custody by the underground forces in ZWOLLE and were turned over to us on our arrival.

The area WEST of the River IJSSEL being the responsibility of 43 (Brit) Div, the 7 Bde moves North to MEPPEL with the task of clearing the area NORTH of there to the sea. The German forces in WEST HOLLAND are now completely out off from GERMANY! This Battalion takes over the area NORTH of MEPPEL with one Coy at STEENWIJK and other coys spread over a large area. Our job is to clean up the area which is only lightly held and it is also in the nature of a rest as there is little organized resistance. It is merely a matter of rounding up scattered groups. With our coys spread over such a large area the only communication is by DR as the distance is too great for 18 sets. One coy was 22 miles from BnHQ with others not quite so far away. With BdeHQ still at ZWOLLE two relay stations are required to keep in touch with them and more often than not we are out of contact due to atmospheric conditions. The only sign of enemy in our area was at KUINRE where reports indicated the remnants of the Wehrmacht in this area collected prior to proceeding to LEMMER where they were evacuating by boat across the ZUIDER ZEE to AMSTERDAM. D Coy was sent out to handle this but the bird had flown before they arrived. The follow up on this part of the job was left to the R de Champs. We were four days in the area and the Carrier Pl covered the area with the assistance of the coys. Only a few stragglers were picked up in all this time and everyone managed to relax and appreciate the good weather. By this time everyone was eager to get going again.

On the 19th we moved off at 0830 hrs and passed through GRONINGEN which had been occupied two days previously, and continued NORTH to clear the area to the NORTH SEA. This task was similar to the one just completed except that the enemy who were withdrawing to DELFZIJL put up a show of resistance which increased as we closed in on this port. Coast guns firing from BORKUM ISLAND to the NORTH were a bit of a nuisance and heavy guns in the DELFZIJL area continued to fire. It was though DELFZIJL, which was ringed with defences would cause a lot of trouble as it was strongly held. Eventually the port was hemmed in with the R Wpg Rif to the South and this Bn closing in from the North and West. Movement in the area was restricted owing to the blowing of so many bridges.

As the Brigade is required elsewhere we are relieved by the PERTH Regt (5 Armd Div) who finally

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1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.

SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S EVENTS

take DELFZIJL when the enemy surrenders just as they are preparing to go in on it. Over a thousand PWs were taken. But before this happens we are well on our way with the next job. After going to EEKSTA to the WEST of GRONINGEN we commence the task of clearing the area between 55 and 65 Eastings NORTH to the coast. This is done in the next two days with only a few casualties from MG and Small Arms fire. A little fire from 88 mm guns and the 105 mm coast guns was encountered but these caused few if any casualties. In the final phases of this operation it was found impractical to attack during daylight as the ground was flat without cover of any kind for advancing troops. To help take out the four heavy guns on the coast which were the centre of resistance 12 Spitfire bombers were turned on them and medium arty was used quite liberally. When the infantry went in using flame-throwers to help handle any tough spots the enemy were glad to call it a day. One group of 80 surrendered at 0900 hrs next morning. They constituted most of those defending the battery of heavy guns. Two of their guns had been knocked out by the Spits and arty the day before but the others were undamaged. After a final sweep through the area by the 7 Recce our task is complete and we relax for a day before hitting the road again to repeat it at another point.

Since crossing the RHINE operations have followed a definite pattern with the enemy holding up our advances with extensive demolitions and leaving small groups of infantry with Small Arms, bazookas and the odd 88 mm gun to delay us. The men left to man these points fight well considering the lack of training or cohesion evident in their make-up but only up to a point. Once this point is reached they give up readily in a body and seem glad to be finished with the whole hopeless business. The breaking-point comes sooner in each successive operation and our major difficulty is keeping contact with the enemy owing to the number of bridges destroyed.

On the 26th The Bde moves to a cone area South of LEER which town is to be the next task. We have two days to get cleaned up and prepare for our part of the show.

The 9th Cdn Inf Bde established a bridgehead across the River LEDA using storm boats and crossing at two points South West of LEER. The initial crossings ran into rather heavy mortar and shell fire but once ashore advance against light opposition and by nightfall the bridgehead is well established although the bridgehead site is under shell fire for some time. Fortunately it is not very accurate and by noon the next day the bridge is in and this Bn crossed over with its vehicles, the coys having already crossed by boat, and proceeds to carry out its part of the job according to plan. On the whole opposition is not stiff but a group holding out in the German barracks give quite a little trouble. With the help of tanks and Crocodiles as well as our own flame-throwers this is soon dealt with. Our casualties on the whole operation were extremely light with most of them being from Small arms fire. A good bag of PWs is taken (240) most of them being Marines with little enthusiasm for fighting.

WAR DIARY

1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.

SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S EVENTS

The town of LEER is considered clear and the 9 Cdn Inf Bde have well on to the NORTH.

It is evident that the enemy has once more withdrawn and is pulling out to EMDEN or AURICH where he is expected to make his next stand. In the face of the superiority in everything which confronts the enemy further resistance must seem rather futile to the most ardent NAZI and the PW we have taken of late are of this opinion. Mechanised movement has almost ceased to exist owing to lack of petrol and enemy armour is noticeable only by its complete absence. There is a felling in the air that the end will come in a matter of days. The last month has seen the complete smashing of the WEHRMACHT as an efficient fighting machine.