

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/F & S/37 (3072)

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

Place	Date	Hour	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Chateau, 946713	1 Jul	44		Sky overcast during most of the day. Bn are quite happy in new area. Standing patrols report no enemy activity during night in our area. Dominion Day celebrated by mere digging. No difficulty in getting to dig. The problem is to keep people from digging out of sight.	
		0940		Four mortar bombs fell on track near bridge. D Coy report dud shells, possibly 88 mm falling in their area at intervals during the day.	Jsh.
Chateau, 946713	2	0425		Weather remains dull and cloudy. At 0425 hrs, #9 pl, A Coy sighted enemy patrol, estimated strength of 40 men. Fire was exchanged and enemy patrol withdrew when our arty fire was brought down. No known casualties on either side. Intermittent shelling by enemy during night of 1/2 Jul. Some meaning "Minnies" (multiple barrel mortar) reported to be landing fairly close. D Coy will have beef steak again. Cow steps on their minefield at 0240 hrs. Bn HQ suspicious of incident.	Jsh.
		1015		Lt-Gen Stewart, Chief of General Staff, First Cdn Army visit this HQ at 1015 hrs.	
		1630		Maj-Gen R F Keller, GOC 3 Cdn Inf Div, and Maj-Gen C Foulkes, GOC 2 Cdn Inf Div visit this HQ at 1630 hrs.	
		1900		Lt-Col F M Matheson, Officer Commanding held conference at 1900 hrs. Patrols and operations are discussed.	
Chateau, 946713	3			Night of 2/3 Jul quiet except for our arty laying down some fire uncomfortably close to A Coy. Bde Auxilliary Officer arrive at their A Ech. Recco patrols night 2/3 Jul under cmd of Lt J Meeney and Lt L Bergeron does some fine work. The latter patrol had us worried when they didn't report in until 1124 hrs.	
		1600		Lt-Col F M Matheson, CO attends conference at HQ, 7 Cdn Inf Bde at 1600 hrs. Orders for Operation "Windsor" by 8 Cdn Inf Bde are given. See appendix #6.	Jsh.
		1900		CO holds 0 Gp at 1900 hrs. Orders for Operation "Windsor" given. 7 Cdn Inf Bde less R Wpg Rif provide some fire support for operation. Carrier pl and one pl of D Coy are to move forward during operation and to occupy area 95857035. See appendix #6.	Appendix #6
		1430		Units of 8 Cdn Inf Bde and Sp arms are moving up into posn for operation. Brig McGill, Cmd 5 Cdn Inf Bde visited the Commanding Officer at 1430 hrs. Sqn of Typhoons heat up enemy area to the east by rockets.	Appendix #6

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Chateau, 946713	4 Jul	0500	During night 3/4 Jul, enemy shelled Bn area at intervals. Little damage and no casualties. Operation "Windsor" proceeds. Arty program begins 0500 hrs. Barrage last 150 mins. During the operation, throughout the day, we are mortared and shelled heavily. Carrier pl and 16 pl, D Coy move forward and occupy area 962705, until 0457 hrs the next day when they are relieved by two patrols.	
		0500	At the conclusion of days fighting progress summarized made by 8 Cdn Inf Bde and R Wpg Rif as follows ; N Shore Regt - 971693, R de Chaud - 968685, Q O R of C - 964690, R Wpg Rif - 953683. Maj-Gen R F Keller, GOC 3 Cdn Inf Div arrive at this HQ at 0500 hrs and proceed with the CO, Lt-Col F M Matheson to bn OP at 951709 to observe the diversion by Sqn 27 CAR operating across our front and to the north. Lt-Col F M Matheson and other personnel at OP had some "near misses", one dud shell landing on edge of CO's slit trench, and many live shells landing within a few yds. Casualties during the day numbered ten. Other than enemy shelling during night 4/5 Jul there was little activity. Our patrols report little of importance.	Jeh.
Chateau, 946713	5	0457	Shelling of our posn continues during the night. Task force of carrier pl and one pl of inf withdrawn from forward posn at 0457 hrs. Shelling continues during the day, several landing in Bn HQ area, including one which hurled itself in the pent - house on the side of Bn HQ office truck. But we were lucky and no damage done.	Jeh.
Chateau, 946713	6	0930	Enemy planes drop bombs in Bn area at 0213 hrs. Heavy mortars also land a few during the night. Lt-Col F M Matheson attends conference at HQ, 7 Cdn Inf Bde at 0930 hrs.	
		1400	Bn O Gp held at 1400 hrs and plans for future operations were discussed. The bn has suffered a number of casualties from our Hawkins Grenades. More care will be taken in future in handling, laying and recovering these mines.	Jeh.
		2030	More shelling at 2030 hrs.	

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Chateau, 946713	7 Jul	0930	CO and IO attend O Gp at HQ 7 Cdn Inf Bde at 0930 hrs.	
		1400	CO holds bn O Gp at 1400 hrs. Orders for Operation "Charnwood" were discussed. See appendix #7	Appendix #7
			Bn moves to assembly area beginning at 2000 hrs.	
		2200	Bn in position at 958737 at 2200 hrs.	
		2200	Very large formation of Lancasters and Halifaxes (estimated hundreds) bomb to east of us near Caen. Flak heavy at first but petered out.	JGH.
		2300	CO discussed Operation "Charnwood" with Coy Comds at 2300 hrs. Shelling during the night 7/8 Jul, one casualty.	
Assembly Area 958737	8	0730	Cade word "Hilary" at 0730 hrs and bn on 30 mins notice to move. See appendix #7	Appendix #7
			Bn told to move to the forming up position for Operation "Charnwood". Story of Operation as per appendix #4 Casualties ; Capt W L C White, killed in action. Wounded Maj C S T Tubb, Lt W C White, Lt A E Smith, Capt G Shearer, Capt M Douglas, Lt J J Brundige and Lt Wilkinsen. Maj E Syme shell shocked. Capt Ceepor appointed A/OC Sp Coy.	Appendix #4 JGH.

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Place	Date	Hour	1st Bn THE REGINA RIFLE REGIMENT Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
	8 Jul 44		<p>Operation "Charnwood" as told by A/Maj J C Treleaven, OC B Coy. (Acting 2IC at this time)</p> <p>Gas suffered in ass area were 4 killed and 2 wounded. B coy moved up to FUP at approx 1700 hrs from assembly area. Our coy was shelled all the way down to FUP. In coming near AUTHIE approx 500 yds away, 2 MGs opened up on us from front and from left flanks. The coy was in an open field and the leading section with the 2 IC got across a gap to bldgs near village. They continued to fire on the rest of the coy, and I, the 2IC, arrived at the start line with one section. The section suffered 2 cas on the way down. Remainder of coy with Maj E G Syme, Coy Comd arrived about 15 mins later. Considerable sniping with several MGs was still at large in AUTHIE at this time. It was 30 mins before coy was formed up ready to move to objective, 10 and 12 pls forward with 11 pl following up. All reached objective under hy mortar fire about 30 mins later and consolidated there. The mortar fire was very hy and the cas suffered were numerous. We mopped up around objective. MGs and mortar CP, and two tks were firing on us from ABBEY and the coy took protection in strong point area. Total cas during the day was 61 all ranks including Maj Syme, exhaustion, and Lt Brundige, wounded. Lt McNinch was wounded but still carried on. C and D coys passed through us while consolidating and we gave them covering fire.</p>	<p>for</p>

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	8 Jul 44		<p>Operation "Charnwood" as told by Sgt Wilson R E, C Coy.</p> <p>C coy moved off from assembly area to start line approx 1725 hrs. As we were moving towards AUTHIE, we ran into heavy mortar fire and suffered several cas on this side of AUTHIE. We arrived there about 1815 hrs. We waited there for B coy to move forward and formed up on the start line. After 30 mins in AUTHIE, we moved along axis of advance towards first objective, which B coy was clearing and consolidating on. We passed through B coy and ran into very heavy mortar fire and fire from two tks. D coy was also pinned down. One LMG was in pillbox at corner of ANCIENT ABBEY and one LMG sniper was on top of the ABBEY. Here 13 and 14 pls went right flanking, with 15 pl giving covering fire and moving up slowly. At ENDING this stage, heavy cas were suffered in all pls, Capt W L C White, Lt W C White, and Lt A E Smith killed, and Maj C S T Tubb, Lt Wilkinson, CSM Adams, Sgt Wilson A C, wounded, plus a large number of ORs. Coy then withdrew to B coy's posns on orders from Maj Tubb before he was wounded. Remainder of coy still in action amounted to about 21 men all ranks. About 15 of these crawled back to AUTHIE on their own, the remainder staying in B coy's posns. At AUTHIE, the 15 men reported to Maj A S Gregory and were used as SBs. They returned to B coy during the night and next morning moved with B coy as a pl to the rear of the ABBEY and took up defensive posns on orders from Capt J C Treleaven, OC, B coy. Reinf received at the ABBEY were 9 men plus 2 Offrs, Lt Fowle and Lt Colwell, and this remaining pl was attached to B coy for all purposes.</p> <p>Total cas suffered for the day was 85 approx all ranks.</p>	<p>JBL.</p>

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	8 Jul 44		<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment</p> <p>Operation "Charnwood" as told by A/Maj D G Brown, OC B Coy</p> <p>B coy left assembly area about 1730 hrs, and were under shell fire all the way down, arriving at AUTHIE about 1800 hrs. Gas suffered on the way down was one killed, one wounded and 1 jeep knocked out. Coy formed up on start line and received orders to move off about 1845 hrs. We proceeded along axis of advance to first objective and suffered one more gas from MG fire on the way to the first obj. Coy moved forward on axis passing through B coy and moved forward with fire and movement to within 500 yds of the ABBEY. We were then pinned down with heavy MG fire from 2 tks at corner of ABBEY, dug in pillboxes and MG on top of ABBEY. 16 pl went left flanking, but were forced to withdraw under heavy MG fire. We then moved 17 and 18 pls in an assault on the ABBEY under cover of 2" mortar and tk smoke about 2230 hrs and gained our objective. We then consolidated and dug in on E side of bldgs. Village at this time was not cleared. 16 pl moved up with balance of coy and consolidated in general area of ABBEY bldgs. Several MGs continued to fire on us during the night about 200 yds S of coy area along ABBEY wall. At first light we cleared all bldgs in ABBEY area and moved whole coy forward and inclusive of ABBEY bldgs.</p> <p>Gas suffered 4 killed and 11 wounded from time of leaving assembly area to time of gaining XI objective. PW taken 3.</p>	Jbh

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Place	Date	Hour	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
St Juliet, Caen	12 Jul	1100	Regina Rifles mount the first ceremonial guard in the city of Caen at Place St Martin. Guard is 100 strong consisting of 3 Offrs, 5 sgts and 100 ORs. Cdn flag unfurled at Place St Martin near the monument. Ranks opened and guard was inspected by the new Corp Comd, Gen Simmons, and then marched off. Guard will patrol Caen in parties of 1 Offr, 1 Sgt and 20 ORs. Tour of duty will be 24 hrs and they will maintain discipline of military tps stationed in Caen, prevention of drunkenness, looting etc, also to assist civilian population and civil affair administration now established. Town Major and 2 Civil Affair Offrs will allot other duties possibly to this guard. Capt J Treleven as guard comd.	Jsh
		1430	Four Me 109s shot down around Bn area.	
		1930	Bn area shelled for 15 mins but with no casualties.	
St Juliet, Caen	13	1000	Four of our snipers go to 1 C Scot R down on R Orne for sniping and observation.	
		1700	New guard is mounted this afternoon at Place St Martin under comd of Capt H Jones.	
		1830	CO called to Bde HQ to receive instrs. Goes on recce for new bn posn in WNS and SDG areas.	
		1915	CO calls C Gp to issue instrs regarding the move to the new area.	
		2300	Bn moves starting 2300 hrs. Order of march is B, B. Bn HQ, A and C Coys.	Jsh
			Coys move in and take over area starting about 2330 hrs under hy mortar and arty fire. Shelling continues spasmodically of Bn area till about 0300 hrs. Casualties, 3 injured plus several civilians in our area. Bn HQ established (advance HQ) by 2330 hrs. Remainder of Bn HQ in position by 0200 hrs. All coys in position at 0230 hrs. Line is laid to several coys at that time and all coys lines in by 0700 hrs.	
Caen, GL4678	14	1030	Fairly quiet morning. Coys settling in, completing digging and improving or adjusting posns. Lt-Col F H Matheson and Maj A S Gregory go on a recce for a better posn for Bn HQ, and while away, they visit several of the coy localities.	
		1700	Bn HQ moves to a new posn at 1700 hrs, a large attractive house, at WR 015677.	
			CO attends conference at HQ 7 Cdn Inf Bde.	
		2100	C Gp held at 2100 hrs and plans were discussed for future operations.	Jsh
			A Coy straffed by MG fire from Me 109 but suffered no casualties.	
			Intermittent firing and shelling during the night but no casualties.	

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Caen, 015677	15 Jul 1200		1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	
			CO and IO attend O Gp at Hq 7 Cdn Inf Bde at 1200 hrs. Orders given to send half of each bn back to rest.	
		1300	CO goes on a recon to the allotted rest area at Epron 029729.	
		1545	CO returns and holds O Gp at 1545 hrs. Instructs A and D Coys to get ready to move to rest area. C Coy is taking over A Coy's posn and the carrier pl is relieving D Coy. B Coy is in ^{same posn} reserve . Change over completed and A and D Coys move to Epron by transport by 2000 hrs. One half of Bn Hq move off at 2230 hrs. Lt-Col F M Matheson, Capt L K Gass, Capt Buckvale remain behind in Comd Gp while Maj A S Gregory, Lt C M Rahill, Lt J E Loughlin, and Lt Webster go back to rest area.	
Caen 015677	16	2130	Bn Hq heavily shelled at 2130 hrs. Two cas; 1 scout and 1 signaller.	
		2330	Lt L Bergeron, Scout pl Offr, takes out recon patrol to rly bridge R Orne, 1000 yds to our left front to ascertain condition and if still occupied by the enemy. Cpl W McCaig takes out small fighting patrol to house across rly, several hundred yds in front of B Coy area reported to be occupied by the enemy. Further heavy shelling of bn area during the night. Bldgs around Bn Hq hit, but we suffered no cas.	Jeh
		0430	Lt L Bergeron's patrol returns about 0430 hrs with info that rly bridge is destroyed and occupied by enemy who seem entrenched on the opposite bank. The patrol did not cross the river. Cpl McCaig's patrol report that the house in question is occupied by the enemy. The patrol was discovered by the enemy and had to withdraw without taking any prisoners or cleaning out the house. A Wpg Rif patrol takes two prisoners on the opposite side of the river and also reports that the south part of Caen below the river is held by 2 coys of 21 SS PGR tps. CO receives orders to move the remainder of the bn back to rest area. 7 Resce coming in to relieve the bn. C Coy arrives in rest area at 1700 hrs, B Coy about 2300 hrs with the remainder of Bn Hq and Sp Coy. CO's carrier, with the comd gp arrive about 2345 hrs.	Jeh
Epron	17	0900	Very quiet night at EPRON, much air activity, enemy - allied, N and E of this sector. No shelling or bombing here.	
			CO goes to conference at Bde Hq at 1200 hrs calls O Gp 1415 hrs. Discussion ^{of} plans for pass-river crossing at CAEN tomorrow.	
			Major Knox, Lt Fraser RWRs arrive to guide COs recon gp to former RWR GP at Church Near River in downtown CAEN. CO takes 5 company comds, IO, Lt Bergeron on recon at 1630. Party returns about 1900 hrs. Lt L Bergeron takes a patrol across river at 2300 hrs & returns with infm.	
			CO goes to meet French Resistance gp leaders at 2000 hrs and then to Bde O Gp, TIC and IO there also. Several Air burst shells over BHQ. 2 cas at about 2030 hrs. Otherwise no shelling during night.	Jeh

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
Eprea	18 Jul		OPERATION "ATLANTIC"	
		0600	Terrific air blitz and artillery bombardment concurrent - 1000 bombs on factory in SE CAEN alone - total planes in this operation said to number over 4000.	
		0800	Bn on hours notice to move to Conc Area as from 0800. CO, IO go to Bde 1030 hrs. Intercept "Waler Able". Receive orders to send recon patrol (Lt Bergeron) across river this afternoon at 1300 to see if enemy are still there. Also move bn starting about 1230 to conc area in St JULIEN and be ready to do river crossing that afternoon if recon patrols finds out enemy has left. Coy Comdrs called in about 1130 and final plans for move and eventual crossing tied up. D left and A right to do first crossing with 3 platoons up. C to follow B, B to follow A. All coys to consolidate after clearing portion of CAEN to conc ^{final objective} , on lateral road running East - West and about 500 ^m South of destroyed rr br on river. Recon patrol moves off to river area about 1245. IO and 2 DRe signaller and 46 set accompany patrol for comm back to COs carrier. Patrol crosses river successfully without drawing fire and moves South about 200 yds where 1 MG opens up and kills one man. Finally draws out fire from 4 or 5 MGs. Comm Gp pinned down by fire from opposite banks. Carrier. Comm pear - One PW taken.	
		1500	About 1500 hrs A & D coys move down to start line and await orders to commence crossing. C & D Coys follow. Carrier Pl & Mortar Pl to give covering fire from N banks plus arty barrage 15 minutes before crossing commences. BHQ moves to start line area.	
		1700	Barrage starts on S side of river. Scout pl moves back to N banks through it - Free French Guide killed by shelling on this side - believed to be our arty falling short but can't ascertain for certain.	
		1715	1715-1730. Crossing commences. A & B Coys get across successfully and in good time and move fwd cleaning out snipers. D Coy held up as several assault boat trucks hit and destroyed on this side.	
		1830	D across and C following. All coys on final objective about 2100 hrs. IO goes to recon BHQ area on southside - takes 1 Sgt with him returns about 2300 hrs. This HQ visited by Lt-Gen Simmonds, and Brig Fester.	
		2330	Advance BHQ and Command Gp cross to South Side and set up in large dirty house on banks of river. Rear BHQ remain at start line. CO calls in coy comdrs and gets their final posns. Orders adjustment to A (Not fwd enough) and D (too far forward). No counterattacks or heavy shelling during night. Several snipers still at large.	

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Caen	19 Jul		1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	
		0800	Coy's settle in and rearrange areas as ordered by the CO. All snipers cleaned up. PW taken up till new numbers about 60 - 70 and more coming in. We suffer about 18 casualties during the operation, 3 killed plus one French guide. Lt M C Bulmer killed and Lt W Grayson & Capt Huckvale wounded.	
		1200	Two class 9 bridges & one class 40 bridge open across the river now, also the road through the town is cleared. LO from Bde brings news of future plans. R Wpg Rif to cross the river and to occupy Cernelles area with 1 C Scot R right and R Wpg Rif left. We then move up behind as rear bn just to the outskirts of town and several hundred yds behind R Wpg Rif. Lt L Bergeron ordered to take recon patrol to Cernelles to see if still occupied. With 3 men, he scouts about three quarters of Cernelles village and returns with 7 PW and word that only a few snipers remain in that area. He leaves his three men there till R Wpg Rif enter the village. 1 C Scot R and R Wpg Rif, followed by Bde HQ cross the river and move to objectives as ordered. They pass through us starting about 1230 hrs. They reach pen and are consolidated about 1830 hrs. Some confusion, and heavy shelling slow them up in getting to final objective. Big "Tank Battle" in Bras, next village to the south of them.	
		1700	CO calls O Gp at 1700 hrs and issues orders to move to the outskirts of the town. B Coy following Bn HQ, A Coy right, D Coy followed by C Coy left.	
		1900 1930	Bde orders move at 1900 hrs. Bn starts to move off at 1930 hrs. PW taken by the regt in S Caen crossing operation number between 80 and 180. No opposition met in move to new area.	J6L
Faubourg de Vaucelles	20	0800	All quiet, Advance now at least 4 to 5 miles SE of us with armour and 2 to 3 miles SE with inf. CO and IO go to Bde to find out future operations. Informed of sit - we will likely remain here today. SDG highers go under cover of 7 Cdn Inf Bde and move up and occupy Bras, taking over from KOSB, 15 Br Div at 1200 hrs today. Gds armoured Div leading advance on our sector about 5 miles SE in area of Freneuville. Lt L Bergeron reports in that his patrol relieved last night by R Wpg Rif and spent a pleasant day in Cernelles as his patrol were the first Br tps in village and the inhabitants laid out an excellent meal for them, also bottles of wine in celebration of liberation from the Hun. Scout pl, less one patrol now back at A Ech and ready for the next job. Total booty at Cernelles total 7 PW, 2 mc in good running order and 2 bottles of cognac.	
		1600	Lt-Col F M Matheson, CO, and Lt J E Laughlin, IO, attend O Gp at HQ 7 Cdn Inf Bde to discuss future intentions and lessons learned in last operation.	J6L

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Faubourg de Vaucelles	20 Jul	1900	<p>Coy Comds conference at 1900 hrs and many items discussed including future intentions, lessons learned in the last operation, present plans, promotions and admin notifying of cas and personnel killed, burial, letters to deceased.</p> <p>Brig Maj, P W Bennett calls at this HQ and gives us news of advance of 6 Cdn Inf Bde on our right - going well and 2 Arm'd Bde to go through with drive to high ground 6 miles south of this area.</p> <p>3 Cdn Inf Div to reorganize and form a firm base in this area. Many arty and arm'd units moving up through us.</p> <p>Patrol policy will be the same as last night.</p>	Jeh.
Faubourg de Vaucelles	21		<p>Night of 20/21 Jul very quiet with some shelling in areas to the ^{RIGHT} left of us in general area of Fleury-Sur-Orne.</p> <p>During morning, the odd explosion, possibly mine or booby trap. One in H Coy causing 1 casualties.</p> <p>Fairly quiet day, except that our own med arty moves into our back yard and dispel any ideas we have of resting or quiet relaxation. This invasion of 5.5s and 7.2s causes C and D Coy to move their Coy HQs and and C Coy has to move again as a tp of these decide to park on their back door step.</p> <p>Tactical situation on our front remains much the same. 8 Bde moves up forward and to our left. 9 Bde forward in Bras-Hubert-Felle area. 6 Bde of the 2 Div on our right forward flank advanced yesterday to St Andre - Sur - Orne and 61 grid line. SSR heavily counter attacked and driven back from Herrieres. They suffer heavy casualties and withdraw back behind 5 Bde. R Wpg Rif moved back behind us and HLI went up to take over their position.</p>	Jeh.
		2200	<p>Short Coy Comds conference held at 2200 hrs to discuss promotions mainly.</p>	
Faubourg de Vaucelles	22		<p>Night of 21/22 fairly quiet except for our arty in our area who have been active for 24 hrs now. One or two German planes over Caen bridgehead and river area, apparently after the new constructed bridge over the R Orne. Nothing dropped in our area.</p> <p>Weather is cloudy, cool with odd showers.</p> <p>Bn makes most of their spare time and static period to reorganize coys. Sub units re-equip and train new men where the conditions permits and much of records and current work which fell behind in the last 2 weeks ^{is} started again.</p>	Jeh.
		1430	<p>Lt-Col F M Matheson goes to conference at HQ 3 Cdn Inf Div at 1430 hrs.</p> <p>Hitler's Buzz Bomb is seen in the sky and landed in Caen City area N of R Orne between 1730 and 1800 hrs. This causes much interest and a little concern at Div HQ who asks for as many details as possible and would like to know if this was premeditated attempt at the front line or one destined for England falling short.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (3072)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	
Faubourg de Vaucelles	22 Jul		Tactical picture unchanged. No further advance on our front. Some regrouping of 2 Div still going on.	
Faubourg de Vaucelles	23	1100	Cloudy and very cool day. No activity during the night except the usual one or two planes (enemy) over our area. Mobile bath unit visits our Bde and this unit has its facilities starting 0830 hrs. 200 men put through each hour and clean clothing exchanged for soiled. RC Church Parade held at 1100 hrs. Protestant Church Parade after each coy's bath parade. Picture Show "Standing Room Only" sponsored by the Cdn Legion by coys this afternoon.	
Faubourg de Vaucelles	24	1800	Weather remains cloudy and cold. Quiet morning after relatively quiet night. Lt-Col F M Matheson called to conference at HQ 3 Cdn Inf Div at 1800 hrs, followed by Gp at HQ 7 Cdn Inf Bde. Orders given here ^{for} operation "SPRING" of which we will have an attack role. Regina Rifle Regt to start off third phase with attack in LA HOGUE. Phase 1 involves NNS attack in TILLY LA CAMPAGNE. Phase 2, HLI taking out CARCELLES - SEQUEVILLE. After our attack, CSR to swing through SEQUEVILLE LA CAMPAGNE which will have been attacked, and gone through by Gds Armd Div, our ammd support, and on to SW edge of large wood, our final objective. RWR then to go through us to N and E side of wood. If all this is successful, we will likely be ordered to move into wood, occupying central and east edge. Gds Armd Div to go through this area before us, clearing SEQUEVILLE LA CAMPAGNE wood of strong opposition. We will have the usual strong arty preparation and support, and the whole operation will be preceded by light bombing and fighter bomber programme, especially on towns and wood, the latter being treated with 12 hr delayed action fragmentation bombs. 2 Div will be doing an attack programme on our right flank in conjunction with ours. CO, IO, Gds Armd Div representatives, Arty representatives return to Bn HQ and, Bn O Gp is called and orders given for our proposed attack on LA HOGUE. We will move to ass area along rly embankment 075628 about 0615 hrs tomorrow. Attack plan; C coy left, B coy right, followed by D and A coys. 1 Sqn 10 CAR in support. Plans are made for support programme of our Div. Map traces, Enemy information teed up. Very hectic time in getting everything in readiness due to the short notice given us for this operation, but all arrangements finally completed. Whole of ORNE brhead and VAUCELLES area under comparatively strong fighter bomber attack 0100 to 0200 hrs. 25 Jul. Many bombs land in our area as well as around the SE of us in medium arty area. We suffer 5 cas, including one killed. Am dump and several vehicles of different units MIX around us were hit. Flares and burning am light up the night. Bn HQ takes cover in air raid shelter in rear of bldg. Very little sleep by every one night 24/25 Jul.	<i>John</i>

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Place	Date	Hour	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials	
Assembly Area 075628	25 Jul	0615	Order to move to assembly area received about 0615 hrs, and forward coys on the way about 0630 hrs, followed by Bn HQ and rear coys at 0700 hrs. All sub units in KATE (Assembly Area) by 0730 hrs. We dig in and wait for orders to move to FUP. CO calls in coy comds at 0830 hrs and final plans of our attack of LA HAGUE are discussed. Our location in bridge on rly embankment 075628. Confused and contradictory reports on NNS attack on TILLY LA CAMPAGNE come in all morning and it is finally established that their attack was not successful, although elements are still fighting in the village up to 1600 - 1700 hrs. Several reports of strong enemy posns and tks N and E of Tilly merely add to the confused picture. We suffer 5 cas including 1 Offr when shells land in ass area at 0940 hrs. At 1250 hrs, shelling or mortaring causes 4 more cas including 1 Offr. Shelling of our posn not by us as we are not under enemy observation, and have some protection from rly embankment, but to date it has been very damaging and all ranks have been ordered to stay in close by their slit trenches in order to prevent any further cas.			Jeh
		1550	Lt-Col F M Matheson is called to Bde HQ at 1550 hrs and is informed of NNS attack not being successful and we are ordered to stay here tonight. Rocket firing Typhoons are a welcome sight on our front, and several targets are attacked and bombed late today.			
		2250 2345	One or two more cas are suffered by shelling at 2250 hrs. Area bombed and strafed by aircraft (enemy) at 2345 hrs. One bomb landed about 25' away from Bn HQ and about 3' from the slit trench of L/Cpl Pretty of provost section which completely buried him up to the neck. He is dug out unhurt, shaken and amazed at his fortune in escaping injury. 5 to 10 bombs land on area altogether. No cas suffered.			
Assembly Area 075628	26	1100	Quiet night after 0100 hrs. All ranks stand to ordered by CO from 0515 to 0545 hrs. Bright, clear day seems in the offering and spirits arise when hot breakfast arrives at 0800 hrs. Sit on TILLY seem to be in favour of the enemy, and believed to be still in enemy hands. This is confirmed at 1100 hrs when NNS move back through us to the rear, and we are informed that they are being pulled back to CORNELLES to reorganize. On our right 2 Div is in VERIENS again with RHLI, RRC occupying most of the town. FMRs also advanced in yesterdays attack. More spasmodic shelling of this area and the high ground on our right and rear, but for every shell the enemy drops on us, IMA our arty, (fd and med) reply with about 20. Rocket firing Typhoons and tree top racing Spitfires patrol the front and shoot up anything that moves in the enemy area. The bn continues to dig in, and improving ^{their} our posns for defence, mainly, as we are not sighted tactically for defence.			Jeh
					Protection	

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Assembly Area 075628	26 Jul		1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment	
		1350 1915	<p>Lt Webster injured in one of our burnt out tks, while inspecting radio net and makes. Third Officer was suffered in the last 36 hrs. It was believed to be a Browning gun which went off, causing ricochet inside.</p> <p>CO goes to Bde HQ to get the latest information at 1350 hrs.</p> <p>Bn CO called at 1915 hrs and information includes : enemy conc of tks and inf from FRENCH FONTENAY LE HARMION to LA HOGUE. Our intention ; LA HOGUE attack is off, we are to stay here, to hold this posn and adjust posns for def. We are also to prepare for an attack on TILLY in three or four days time. Patrols ordered out at night and returning in the daytime. A/Tk guns particularly alert. Orders given to coy COs to go to rest at Bn HQ whenever possible.</p> <p>Many formations of rocket firing Typhoons go after the Hun again, and this makes everyone very happy, as we have seen the results of some of their hits on vehicles and posns before.</p>	Jeh
Assembly Area 075628	27		Night of 26/27 Jul relatively quiet here. A few enemy planes were over our area and bombs were dropped, but none landed in bn area. Main excitement is sharp enemy counter attack on VERIERS which is beaten off by 2 Div and arty from both 2 and 3 Divs. This is several miles SW from our own posn, but the battle is easily heard and all coys are informed as to what is going on.	
		0700	<p>Weather at 0700 hrs is clear and bright again.</p> <p>More Typhoons and Spitfires over battle area again this morning.</p> <p>CO and several of the coy comds go back to rear Bn HQ VAUGELIES, where LOBs and Orderly Room remains set up, to rest. They send down the coy 2ICs to take their place.</p>	Jeh
		1200	<p>No shelling of bn area up to 1200 hrs.</p> <p>Information at Bde HQ includes ; Sit remains static on Corps front, any attack that we will have to make is postponed a further 48 hrs.</p>	
		2115	<p>Capt Smith, FOO 12 Cdn Fd Regt, attached to us for this operation, killed about 1635 hrs several hundred yds along rly embankment from B coy FDL, by enemy mortar fire, while out on a recon for an arty OP. Cas to us - nil, while several of our men near the spot where the shells landed.</p> <p>Shelling of the gen area of B, A, Bn HQ, at 2115 hrs. No cas.</p>	

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Assembly Area 075628	28 Jul		A few enemy planes over our area during night, but no bombs were dropped in our area, and hrs of darkness are generally quiet.	Jeh.
		0930	CO is called to Bn Comds conference at Bde HQ at 0930 hrs. Plans for future ops discussed (TILLY LA CAMPAGNE) and other subjects.	
		1300	COY Coy Comd conference is held at 1300 hrs and future operations, morale, and adm were discussed. Spasmodic shelling occurs during the morning, but none fell in our area. We do, however receive a heavy shelling of all bn areas from 1530 to 1600 hrs, with at least 30 arty and 10 mortar shells landing. Gas suffered here are 7, including 1 man killed, plus 1 CH of O Offr in hy mortar pl, in our area, wounded. Damage; one or two phone lines cut. Coy Comds and CO go back in the afternoon to rear Bn HQ to rest, returning at last light. Situation on Corps front remains static.	
Assembly Area 075628	29		Quiet night and morning experienced with usual once or two planes over, and no bombs dropped on or near our posn.	Jeh.
		1330	Shelling by 105 mm occurs at 1330 hrs and 15 to 20 shells land in bn area. No cas suffered.	
		1345	CO and 2 IG called to Bde HQ at 1345 hrs. Maj A S Gregory, 2 IG receives word of our move to rest area late tonight. CO is informed, who orders a recce of new area.	
		2200	O Gp at Bde HQ called about 2200 hrs, and at 2245 hrs, we receive the order to move on 30 mins notice.	
		2330	Bn O Gp at 2330 hrs. Orders are given for the move of the bn to COLOMBY SUR THAON, new rest area, tonight. Order of march B, A, Bn HQ, C, and D coys, Vehicles and Comd Gp to move next morning, as no vehicles are allowed to cross Orne bridge till word received tomorrow from Bde HQ. 4 Cdn Arm Div has moved intoday and takes over general area of 8 and 9 Bdes on our front. This move goes on in daylight, with as much noise and activity as possible to let the enemy know that armour is moving in, so as to hold as many of his forces and armour here as possible, and aid the new American drive. Our role the past few days has also been one of holding enemy forces to this front as much as possible.	

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Colomby Sur Thaon	30 Jul	0030	Coy's start to move to new area COLOMBY SUR THAON about 0030 hrs. Routes: COLONBELLES - VAUCELLES - CAEN - via main road through CAEN - COURSEUILLES SUR MER to COLOMBY SUR THAON. All coy's on move by 0115 hrs and Bn HQ Comd Gp vehicles start moving about 0130 hrs arriving at rear Bn HQ in VAUCELLES about 0145 hrs. Sp coy and other vehicles in F Ech, move to A Ech and remain there till orders come to move today. Only essential ration vehicles for marching tps allowed across R Orne tonight and these go to B Ech LIBISEY, taking up breakfast to marching tps at 0700 hrs this morning.	
		0300	By 0300 hrs, B, A, Bn HQ marching tps are all ^{well} on their way to the new area. C and D coy's held up at Orne bridge waiting for several sections which got lost behind and not separated, to catch up to the main body of the coy. Fwd coy's reach the new area by 0630 hrs and followed by D coy at 0700 hrs and C coy at 0730 hrs.	
		1130	Scout pl leaves at 1130 hrs for the new area.	
		11000	Adj't goes to Bde HQ to receive instrs about A Ech move to new area today. We are to leave XXXXXXXX SP (Orne bridge 078678) starting 1345 hrs in groups of 4 - 6 vehicles. Group comds are given orders by CO at 1200 hrs. We leave here for Div meeting pt where provost picquets start (046673) at 1300 hrs. Move commences and we ^{continue} starting pt about 1340 hrs. No com to Bde during move as Div has ordered radio silence north of R Orne. We are not advised of this however and stay on along with RWR and CSR, trying to call Bds all afternoon.	
		1630	Gp 1 arrives at COLOMBY SUR THAON at 1430 hrs by way of CAEN - BURON - CAIRON - N to THAON - E to COLOMBY SUR THAON. All vehicles in new bn area by 1500 hrs. CO goes to Bde HQ at 1630 hrs, and calls bn conference at 1930 hrs. Instrs issued re: what we will do in the rest area. First priority is complete reorganization, XXXXXXXX re-equipping and trg of new men, and getting the bn in condition and ready for the next round. Facilities for recreation, entertainment, etc, however, will be excellent with picture shows, visits to the beach, and sports programme laid on. Offrs and Sgts messes will be organized if possible while in rest area.	JER

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Colomby Sur Thaon	31 Jul		<p>Bn settles down in new area - C and D coys situated in grassy orchard with their HQs in large ^{farm} army bldg. A and B coys in another group of bldgs in orchard yard. W and E of C and D coys, Bn HQ in the middle in well treed yard. The owners house being occupied by the owner and two or three other evacuated families, we are fortunate in getting a smaller and cleaner bldg for Bn HQ. Offrs sleeping quarters, Bn ^{HQ} offices and a small mess downstairs, with mixed sleeping quarters upstairs. The general bn area is good, unscarred by war, clean and well cared for, and although we are crowded in certain areas, everyone is quite comfortable and happy. The bn is quite happy to be in a quiet section and out of the shelling area.</p> <p>HQ and Sp coy are W of D coy, with vehicles along roads of trees and walls.</p> <p>2 sections of Mobile Bath Unit are made available to this unit for today and all coys take advantage of these.</p> <p>Shows put on today by Cdn Legion Aux Services, 3 in number, showing "The Hard Way" and this plays to packed houses each time.</p> <p>The casualty list of the Regiment from 6 Jun 44 to 31 Jul 44 is as follows ;</p> <table><thead><tr><th></th><th><u>KILLED</u></th><th><u>WOUNDED</u></th><th><u>MISSING</u></th><th><u>TOTAL</u></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Officers</td><td>13</td><td>24</td><td>Nil</td><td>37</td></tr><tr><td>NCOs</td><td>36</td><td>84</td><td>Nil</td><td>120</td></tr><tr><td>Men</td><td>136</td><td>377</td><td>8</td><td>521</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td><u>678</u></td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Approximate PW taken - 250</p> <p>Approximate enemy killed and wounded - 500 (at least)</p> <p>Wounded personnel now returned to unit; 3 Offrs, 15 ORs</p> <p> Lt-Col Officer Commanding, Regina Rif.</p>		<u>KILLED</u>	<u>WOUNDED</u>	<u>MISSING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	Officers	13	24	Nil	37	NCOs	36	84	Nil	120	Men	136	377	8	521					<u>678</u>	JEL.
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