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WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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3/19A MFM 11
40/P&S/37 (5028)

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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.
LEER MR 822149 Sheet \$2710 1/25,000	1st May 1945	0700 0900 1300 1500	Weather—cold with rain most of the day. No move as yet. We are waiting for 9th Cdn Inf Bde to continue to move North. We expect to be right flank protection. Recce party goes to new area and coys start moving at once. We are all in position. Locations—BnHQ—816187, A Coy—815182, B Coy—817183, C Coy—810198, D Coy—816186. 9th Cdn Inf Bde have moved further North. Our front is facing East but to 1 C Sect R is EAST of our B Coy so our front is not very large. The 9th Cdn Inf Bde are meeting no actual resistance but many demolitions tend to delay their progress. Most PWs (many in civ clothes) claim the bulk of enemy troops are withdrawing to within the defences at EMDEN or WILHELMSHAVEN. We do not expect to move tonight so everyone settles down for a good night's rest.	S
LEER MR 822149 Sheet \$2710 1/25,000	2nd May 1945	0700 0900 1045 1330 1400	Weather—warm with scattered clouds. Coy's are resting and preparing men for leave, etc. Picture shows are set up by the Auxiliary Services and a picture show is shown at 1045 and 1330 hrs. The day is quiet and we are advised that no move will take place until tomorrow The news of the capitulation of the German Army in Italy and of the death of Hitler providing the main topic of conversation among all ranks. Bets are being laid as to the date of the collapse on this front. Most of them are very optimistic but a few of the more conservative still think it will take a few weeks yet.	S
LEER MR 822149 Sheet \$2710 1/25,000 First FRIEDEBERG MR 921234 Sheet \$2611 1/25,000	3rd May 1945	0700 1000 1100 1400	Weather—Cold with heavy showers. Bn "O" Gp—Recce party goes to the new area. The Bn moves off to a cone area in sq 9223 (sheet \$2611). The area is a woods without sign of human habitation so we are all out in the open. As the weather is very unsettled and it looks like we will be here overnight in a short time all available tarps and canvases are put up in an interesting conglomeration of shelters. and not too soon as rain begins to fall intermittently for the rest of the day. Our new location is 921234 (Sheet \$2611)	S
First FRIEDEBERG MR 921234	4th May	0700 1000	Weather—Remains cold and cloudy with showers. "O" Gp for the CO at Bn HQ.	S

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First Friedeborg Sheet \$2611 1/25,000	4th May 1945	1230 1400 1600	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. CO returns from Bde with the plan for the coming attack on AURICH, to be done in several phases, with conc area HOLTRUP-WRIESSE in sqs 8837-9036 (Sheet \$2511) Bn "0" Gp is called and the CO outlines the phases, conc area and general plan to coy Comds. A recce party goes to the vicinity of WRIESSE. Bn moves off with line coys marching and vehs following. The roads are badly cratered but the area is clear of the enemy.	Sheet \$2.
WRIESSE MR 904371 Sheet \$2511 1/25,000		2000 2015 2100 2100	By 2000 hrs all coys are in position. AM Bn "0" Gp is ordered for 2130 hrs. A signaller comes in to the Ops Room with the news that BBC has just announced that the war in this sector is over. We sit tight until the news is broadcast at 2100 hrs, still having heard nothing, from BdeHQ on the subject. The news states that German troops in Holland, North West Germany and Denmark have agreed to surrender unconditionally to 21 Army GP effective 0800 hrs 5 May 45. The Bn "0" Gp is forgotten and everyone sits down and tries to figure things out. Everyone is going around with a silly grin on his face and trying to let the significance of it all trickle through. Finally official notification comes through Bde HQ about the "Cease Fire" and we are told to sit tight. The balance of the night is spent in "quiet meditation" by a small number but the majority calmly go to bed with little celebrating. What can be done on water? For the past two days large numbers of Allied PWs having been coming along the roads, the majority of them Jugo-Slavs who greet us with very sharp military salutes. Today a group of Russian PWs with their high fur caps passed through and many forced labour civilians are also trekking along the roads afoot and on bicycles, they are intending to get home as soon as possible. We remain in our present location, throughout the day awaiting word from Bde as to what lies ahead for us. Naturally little work is done except that	S
MR 904371 Sheet \$2511	May 1945	0700 0800		S

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regt.	Sheet \$3.
WRIESSE MR 904371 Sheet \$2511	5 May 1945	0800	absolutely necessary and from all sides are heard the subject of the prospects for an early return to Canada or of volunteering for Burma. The latter is merely for purposes of livening up things or to curb the most optimistic.	S
WRIESSE MR 904371 Sheet \$2511 1/25,000	6th May 1945	0700 0900	Weather--cold and wet. At 0900 hrs the Bn moves off with the coys marching and pass through AURICH where the GOC takes the salute. The Bn then proceeds to the area for which we are to be responsible. It seemed rather strange to pass German troops marching in the opposite direction, many still armed and under the escort of one or two Provosts. BnHQ sets up in requisitioned houses at UTARP, MR 833572, (Sheet \$2310, 1/25,000) with A Coy taking over barracks at BARKHOLT, MR 872574 (Sheet \$2311) which were in the process of being evacuated by German troops. B Coy went to OSTERTERSUM, MR 861569, C Coy to WESTOCHTERSUM, MR 850573 (Sheet \$2311) and D Coy to SCHWEINDORF, MR 825564. Sp Coy occupied WESTERHOLT MR 815556.	
UTARP MR 833572 Sheet \$2310 1/25,000			The barracks at UTARP are still occupied by German troops who will be evacuated in a day or two whereupon the quarters will be occupied by BnHQ. Meanwhile, we are occupying houses that have been requisitioned in the area. In our area we have 19 OFrs and 110 ORs under the comd of Col Funk.	J
UTARP MR 833572 Sheet \$2310 1/25,000	7th May 1945	0700	Weather--A slight improvement with the sun putting in an appearance for a short time. A general clean-up takes up the time of the troops. The officer in command of the German troops in this area has been instructed to concentrate his troops in two or three points in preparation for their removal. As yet we have not received detailed instructions as to our job. Many armed German soldiers still are seen on the roads and roaming about but this will soon be available. A moving picture was shown by the Auxiliary Services to two coys today. It will be shown to the others tomorrow. Our "B" Echelon is to be moved up from the Div Adm Area at 1500 hrs tomorrow.	S

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet #4.
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet #2310 1/25,000	7th May 1945	0700	Signal personnel have been withdrawn from the coys and HQ Coy is functioning once again as a coy. A message regarding the unconditional surrender of all German forces was received from Bde HQ.	S
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet #2310 1/25,000	8th May 1945	0700 0800 0830	Weather---a fine day with a very warm sun. The round-up of the men under the German Officer in this area continues. Small groups are spread all over this part of the country and it will take another day or two to round them all up. An arms-dump is set up at BdeHQ and all coys bring in their contributions. Several German automobiles are in evidence on the roads in the Bn area with everything in the way of transportation getting a good work-out by the sightseers in the Bn. This morning all coys were on parade at 0830 hrs and the morning was spent in inspecting weapons and shortening up drill. The afternoon was devoted to sports with soft-ball being the most popular. Every effort is being made to prevent the troops getting browned-off. Capt Clark is in charge of the sports programme for the Bn and is being assisted by representatives from each coy. It is proposed to devote the morning to training and the afternoon to organised recreation. By tomorrow the German troops occupying the barracks in BdeHQ area will be gone and we will take over the buildings for our use.	S
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet #2310	9th May 1945	0700 0800 1400	The weather continues fine and warm. All coys spend the morning on training and the afternoon on sports. A decided improvement in discipline and appearance of the men with uniforms well pressed and the Officers and NCOs and there is still a lot of room for improvement. A certain amount of slackness and informality regarding saluting has crept in while we were on operations and is now being rectified. German troops occupying the buildings in BdeHQ area move out in accordance with instructions while those in the Coy areas do likewise. A few stragglers still come in from the surrounding country and are turned over to Sp Coy to evacuate	S

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UTARP NR 833572 Sheet 2310 1/25,000	9th May 1945	1400 1630	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment to the Div collecting point. CO's conference was held in the recently evacuated HQ of German tps, with all officers present. Lt Col Gregory outlined the Bde policy regarding discipline, training, and recreation. Every effort is being made to keep the men occupied with a large part of their time to be devoted to educational and recreational pursuits. In the evening many hotly contested soft-ball games were played on the fields that have been laid out by the sports committee. All vehicles not on the establishment of the Bn are to be brought in to BnHQ by 0900 hrs tomorrow & where they will be held pending disposal. Weather—fine and very warm. Detailed instructions are issued to the Coy Comds at an "O" Cp regarding the checking of the areas allotted to this Bn. See Appx. The tasks which will take several days are begun. All houses and buildings are to be searched for arms and equipment which will be brought in to a dump at BnHQ. Regular parades are held every morning and there is a very marked improvement in the dress and deportment of the troops. To judge by the enthusiasm shown on the ball field the morale of the troops is very high. New uniforms have been issued to quite a number and more will be forthcoming soon. It is proposed to bring clothing and equipment up to the scale used in England and kit bags will be issued. The Dental Section attached to this unit is being kept very busy doing all coys.	Sheet 5. Appx 5. " 8
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet 2310 1/25,000	10 May 1945	0700 0800	Weather—fine and very warm. Coy parades in the morning. As there are many new men in the Bn who are not familiar with the arms drill of a rifle regiment a good deal of time is spent in teaching them. It is hoped that they will acquit themselves favorably tomorrow on the Bde rehearsal parade. The checking of the allotted areas continues and quite an interesting collection of weapons comes in, even a few ancient flint-locks. Personnel not occupied with the checking of the areas spent the afternoon on	Appx 57. 8
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet 2310 1/25,000	11 May 1945	0700 0800		

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UTARP NR 833572 Sheet \$2310 1/25,000	11 May 1945	0700 0700	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. sports. BnHQ which has been occupying several requisitioned houses pending the removal of the German troops in HQ area moves into the barracks and an Officer's Lounge and recreation room is set up in the former German HQ building. However as the accommodation does not handle everyone some are still occupying requisitioned buildings. A pub in the BnHQ area is requisitioned for a men's Mess Hall and a Sjt's Mess. The Mess Hall is quite a good size and may be used to show moving pictures.	Sheet 56. S
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet \$2310 1/25,000	12 May 1945	0700 0630 1900	<p>The weather is fine and warm.</p> <p>After an early breakfast at 0630 hrs the Bn moved off by TCVs to the airport at NR 9550, for a brigade rehearsal parade in preparation for an inspection on Monday by the GOC, returning in time for lunch.</p> <p>The afternoon was devoted to sports.</p> <p>A meeting of the Sjt's Mess was held in the Mens Mess Hall and officers were elected. This is the first time since the Bn left England that all the Sjts have been able to really get together and get to know each other.</p> <p>An unfortunate accident occurred this afternoon when Rfn J C Bisschop, of Sp Coy was drowned while swimming in an abandoned quarry in the area. He went down instantly before anyone was able to get to him. The body has not yet been recovered as the water is about 40 feet deep but efforts are continuing. Instructions are issued that in future all bathing will be done under supervision and only in pools approved by the HQ.</p>	S
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet \$2310 1/25,000	13 May 1945	0700 1030 1100	<p>The weather—A grand day with a bright sun.</p> <p>A compulsory church parade was held in a church in C Coy's area at 1030 hrs with H/Capt M J Rosbach officiating. RC personnel attended church service in ESSEMS at 1100 hrs.</p> <p>In the afternoon the troops were left to their own devices and some went swimming while others played softball. A moving picture was shown in the Men's Messhall to personnel of BnHQ and HQ Coy.</p> <p>Despite all efforts to recover the body of Rfn Bisschop from the quarry it had not been</p>	S

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UTARP NR 833572 Sheet 523101945 1/25,000	13 May		1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. recovered at a late hour tonight. A diving-suit is being obtained tomorrow. We are advised of a move to take place in the next day or two. The whole 3 Cdn Inf Div is moving to Western Holland to the area west of APPELDORP. 2 Cdn Inf Div will take over in our present area. Recce party is warned to be ready to leave at 0700 hrs tomorrow.	Sheet 57. S
UTARP NR 833572 Sheet 523101945 1/25,000	14 May	0700	Weather—slightly overcast with a strong wind blowing with short spells of bright sunshine. Rain showers in the afternoon. Recce party leaves for the new area. The morning is devoted to training and putting the final touches to the clearing of our area. All coys have collected quite a large number of weapons and ammunition as well as other enemy equipment. In the last day or two several more German soldiers have been rounded up and sent to the collecting point.	
		1130	"Q" Gp. The G issued instructions regarding the move to the new area which will take place tomorrow. Timings have not been received yet but we expect the move to be an early one.	
		2000	The Bn travelled enbussed on TCVs to the airfield in sq 9550 where the 7th Cdn Inf Bde was inspected by Major General G Simonds, GOC, 2 Cdn Corps. Major General Simonds addressed the troops and expressed his thanks for the splendid work this Bde had done. He also advised us that withing the next few weeks plans for the return to Canada of long service men would be well under way. The 3rd Cdn Inf Div was to be the formation retained in this country as occupational troops with the 1st, 2nd, 4th Arm and 5 Arm Bde being withdrawn. This does not mean that this Div will remain as constituted but that the long service men will be replaced with men from other formations whose service is shorter and by men now in England who are being brought over. After the address and march past by all ranks, the troops marched about a mile to a hangar on the field, and enjoyed a concert put on by the Army Show. After a brief suspension of the concert the Bn returned by TCVs at	S
			vehicles were loaded in preparation for the move tomorrow.	

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UTARP NR 833572 Sheet §2310 1/25,000	15 May 1945	0700 0300 0330 0515 2400	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. The weather--dull and cloudy with showers in the morning. Clearing in the late morning and continuing fine and bright the remainder of the day. Reveille. Breakfast. The Bn moves off enbussed en route to the GP which is crossed on time, and after travelling until 2400 hrs and covering 206 miles arrive in our zone. area with BNHQ at HARSKAMP, NR 641949, Sheet §2 UTRECHT, 1/100,000. Everyone is pretty tired and in short order they are bedded down for the night.	Sheet §8. Appdx §9. S
HARSKAMP NR 641949 Sheet §2 UTRECHT 1/100,000	16 May 1945	0700 0800	The weather--fine and warm. The Bde is to move into UTRECHT tomorrow and take over from 146 Inf Bde, 49 Div. Our recon party leaves in the morning to liaison with the KOYLI from whom we are to take over. The remainder of the Bn relaxes and enjoys the grand weather. In the afternoon 20% of each coy is permitted to go to APHELDORN where there are several army canteens. Each coy provides its own transport. As we are to leave for UTRECHT at 0515 tomorrow next turn in early.	(WR) S
HARSKAMP NR 641949 Sheet §2 St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT, 1/25,000	17 May 1945	0700 0300 0515 0800	Fine most of the day with showers in the afternoon. Breakfast. The convoy pulled off at 0515 hrs and proceeded to UTRECHT arriving at 0800 hrs where it dispersed to the Coy area. BNHQ was set up in St. Ludgerus School, NR 185935. A Coy--187914, B Coy--203916, C Coy--175955, D Coy--178945, Sp Coy--190915, HQ Coy--182951. (Sheet §376, UTRECHT, 1/25,000). The remainder of the day was spent getting settled and set-up in the new area. Offrs and Sjts are billeted out. Plans are afoot for the entertainment of the troops during their off-parade hours and arrangements made for the use of fields for sport. There are a large number of German troops in the area in the process of being dealt with by the Military Government. Some are permitted to move about unhindered in the performance of their duties but after 2200 hrs they must be off the streets. For civilians and allied personnel curfew is 2300 hrs. Ammunition and supply dumps in the area are guarded by the coys, also a bakery that is operated in the town.	S

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet 59.
St. LUDGERUS 18 School NR 185935	May 1945		Due to the lack of coal and the damage done to lines and power-houses in the city there is no electrical power and many industries are at a standstill. Walking-out privileges are granted to the men in the evening.	8
St. LUDGERUS 18 School NR 185935 Sheet 5376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	May 1945	0700 0800	Weather--continues fine and warm. Coy parades were held at 0830 hrs and the morning was devoted to training and PT under Coy arrangement. The disposal of German stragglers, Dutch SS, German deserters and forced labour, etc., rounded up in this area is being taken care of by Sp Coy who deliver them to the camps set up by the Military Government according to their status. The afternoon is taken up with sports and in the evening a moving picture is shown by the Auxiliary Services in the Olympia Theatre for the ORs who are permitted to bring a civilian guest. Plans for dances and entertainment are under way and every effort is being made to keep the troops happy and fit.	8
St. LUDGERUS 19 School NR 185935 Sheet 5376 UTRECHT 1/25,000 EX	May 1945	0700 0800	Weather--continues fine and warm. Parades under coy arrangement are held in the morning. A marked improvement in the turnout of the men is evident and as soon as all shortages of kit are replaced little trouble is expected on that score with all having more time to pay to such things. Walking out privileges were granted to the men in the afternoon and evening and were spent by most trying to explain to the natives that all Canadians do not own tobacco plantations. Apparently with little success. Cigarettes have almost become the recognized means of exchange in this country and it is amazing what can be obtained for one package. The Auxiliary Services showed a picture at the Olympia Theater and beer was available to ORs and their guests in the lobby.	8
St. LUDGERUS 20 School NR 185935 Sheet 5376	May 1945	0700 1000 1300	Weather--no Change. Still fine and warm. RC Church parades were held at 1000 hrs, one at St Anthony's Church for A, B, and Sp Coys and the other at BnHQ for BnHQ, HQ, C and D Coys. Protestant church parade was held at a church in B Coy area at 1300 hrs.	8

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			Sheet §10.	
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376 1/25,000 UTRECHT	20 May 1945	1400	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>For the remainder of the day the troops were left to their own devices except for those guarding dumps and German camps. A "pick Up" ball game was played by BnHQ personnel in the afternoon with the CO and 2IC taking part.</p> <p>We were honoured today by a visit from our former CO, Col Matheson who is now with the occupational forces.</p> <p>Each coy sent 12 men in a 15 cwt to visit AMSTERDAM, leaving at 1400 hrs and returning at 2300 hrs. These "tours" will continue daily with parties going to The Hague, Rotterdam or Amsterdam.</p>	S
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	21 May 1945	0700 0800	<p>Weather--cloudy with showers throughout the day.</p> <p>The movement of German troops in this area to camps at HILVERSUM sq 2407 (Sheet §368 1/25,000) is under way and will take several days. It is being handled by another formation. Our task is the guarding of dumps, troops, and equipment in our present area and the rounding up of stragglers and deserters for dispatch to the relative camps.</p> <p>All coys spend the morning on parades and training and the afternoon is free as the weather prohibits the usual sports programme being carried out.</p> <p>A move is in the air. We have received instructions to send recon parties to make a check on accn in the area allotted to the west of ARNHEM. No move will take place until our task is completed here which will take a few more days. Meanwhile the orderly room is working overtime on the paperwork connected with the re-allocation and return to Canada of long-service men.</p> <p>Each coy sent 10 men to be spectators at a Victory Parade and Inspection by Queen Wilhelmina of Holland at the Hague. They left BnHQ at 0400 hrs and returned in the late afternoon.</p>	S
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376	22 May 1945	0700 0830	<p>Weather--cloudy with showers. Temperature down.</p> <p>Coy parades and training in the morning for personnel not occupied with guards, and handling German pws in our area. Sports in the afternoon, volley-ball and soft</p>	S

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St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376	22 May 1945	0830	ball being played in all coys. In the morning a recce party was sent to prepare for the forthcoming move. As usual each coy sent a truck to Amsterdam for personnel wishing to see the sights. And the Auxiliary Services ran another moving picture in the Olympia Theatre for the troops and their guests. All vehicles are being checked, overhauled and re-painted in the next few days. Coy dances are being arranged and B Coy has already picked tomorrow as the date for theirs.	§
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	23 May 1945	0700 0830	Weather--cloudy and dull with short spells of bright sunshine. The movement of German troops from this area is proceeding well and every day sees several columns pass through en route to HILVERSUM area in a curious collection of transport and effects. Coys spend the morning on parade besides supplying guards and escorts for German Troops in their areas. The afternoon was devoted to sports and each coy sends a truck to AMSTERDAM for the sightseers who are turned loose on the city until 2300 hrs. All vehicles in the Bn are undergoing a PCMR inspection and are being repainted this is keeping the transport people very busy. B Coy hold a very successful coy dance and a good time is had by all the men of the coy as well as by the Dutch meisjes.	§
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	24 May 1945	0700 0830	Weather--cloudy and dull with brief spells of sunshine. Cooler. The usual coy parades in the morning and sports in the afternoon. Regt BnR which is in C Coy area moves out at 0545 hrs to go to a camp in the HILVERSUM area. They move under their own officers with a small escort. Information regarding the forthcoming Federal election and the Ontario provincial election is distributed to the troops in the form of official pamphlets supplied to us and Lt R A Seaman, Intelligence Officer is put in charge of arrangements for voting.	§
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 SCHT	25 May 1945	0700 1000	Weather--cloudy and cool. At 0000 hrs the advance party left for OOSTERBEEK to prepare for the arrival of the Bn which is to move there in a few days. The advance party consisted of 1 NCO and 3 ORs from each coy and from BnHQ and the entire Pioneer Platoon. Lt Daiken is OC of the advance party. The Pioneer Platoon will check the area and houses in the	§

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St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 1/25,000 UTRECHT	25 May 1945		1ST Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. area which we will occupy for mines and booby-traps. This is the area where the paratroops made their famous last stand outside of Arnhem and has been heavily mined and booby-trapped by both the English and the Germans. 5 Coys carried on independently with sports in the afternoon. A very successful dance was held in the evening by the Sgt's Mess. 5 Offrs and 105 reinforcements arrived today and were posted to the coys. quite a number of them were former Reginas returning from Hospital. A Jewish thanksgiving service for all Jewish personnel was held at the Synagogue in the town and several of the Jewish faith from the regiment attended. The Legion Auxilaury Services presented a show up in the centre of Utrecht at the Rembrandt Theatre, entitled "Hello Johnny Canuck". There was a large attendance from the "Johns". The show was very good and received a good deal of applause.	Sheet §12. §
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 1/25,000 UTRECHT	26 May 1945	0700 0830 1330	Weather--heavy rain nearly all day. Owing to the inclement weather the morning was spent by the tps not engaged in guarding dumps and equipment, in interior economy. The inspection and re-classification of vehicles by ROEME is nearly complete and a very favorable report is expected. Saturday routine is observed as was formerly the case back in the training days in England and the troops are free to go to town after dinner. The inspection of vehicles is almost complete by the evening and all vehs not yet repainted have been grounded until they have been done. The Officers held a very successful dance up in the town and a wonderful time was had by everybody. Many guests, mostly members of the unit who have been away and returned were present, including Col P M Matheson, DSO. Highlight of the affair was the distributing of souvenirs by Capt Luxton, in the form of an issue of the "John's Journal"	§ Appx §11.
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet §376 1/25,000	27 May 1945	0700 1000 1300	Cloudy and dull with rain most of the day. RC Church parade held at 1000 hrs in the BnHQ area. Voluntary Church parade at 1300 hrs for the protestants. All weapons from Bn HQ and HQ Coy were inspected by the Bde armourer today. Other coys will have their weapons inspected tomorrow.	§

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Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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3/19A MFM 11
40/P&S/37 (5028)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet \$376 1/25.000 UTRECHT. HOLLA RD	28 May 1945	0700	1st bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	Sheet \$115
		0830	Weather—cloudy and cool with showers. Heavy rain with thunder and lightning late in the evening.	
		1400	Guarding of German tps, dumps and equipment continues to be our major function in the area and personnel not required for this are kept busy in the morning as usual, with training parades and the afternoon is devoted to sports.	
		1400	At 1400 hrs the CO held an "op" Cp and instructions were given regarding administrative, training and educational problems. The necessity for the maintenance of efficiency and discipline on the part of every offr and HQ was pointed out and any slackness in this regard will be remedied.	
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet \$376 Sheet UTRECHT 1/25.000 HOLLAND	29 May 1945	0700	Major F T Turner who has just come to the Bn has been appointed Sports Officer and he will devote all his time to arranging a sports programme that will keep the troops interested and fit. Capt S A Clark is in charge of the educational program being laid on. The regiment is being canvassed for people with teaching experience to assist Capt Clark. The educational program is to commence next Monday with five periods a week being devoted to "civic affairs and Canadian citizenship". These are compulsory for all ranks. Besides this there is a voluntary program available to those interested which will include correspondence courses in a variety of subjects that will be of assistance to the men when they return to civil life. The voluntary program will be in the afternoon and those not participating will be occupied on Sports.	
		0830	The Voting commences for the Federal Election. Lt R A Seaman is in charge of the polls.	
		0700	Weather—cloudy and cool with several short thunder showers.	
		0830	Usual training parades and training under coy arrangements in the morning. Coys are still guarding the German dumps and captured equipment, tps etc.	
			C and D Coy start off the Bn Tableid Sports. All individuals are expected to participate. The Sports are held on the BnHQ playing field in a park not far from BnHQ.	
			D Coy holds their coy dance in a dancing school up town. A Good time is had by all ranks. There was enough of the liquid refreshments to keep all ranks happy.	

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3/19A MFM Y1
40/P&S/37 (5028)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet \$376 UTENCHT 1/25,000	30 May 1945	0700	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet \$14.</p> <p>Weather—Showery and cloudy. This seems to be typical weather in Holland. Still there are quite a few beautiful sunny day also. They however are usually livened up with a short shower. The weather here really is changeable. One minute the sun is shining, the next it is raining, then the wind blows a gale and stops as suddenly as it starts, it is warm and close and then shortly after everything cools off and it gets fairly chilly even.</p> <p>The voting for the Ontario provincial elections commences. There are only a few of the Regiment from Ontario but they turn out well for the voting.</p> <p>C and D Coys continue and finish up their share of the Tabloid sports. Very successful results are obtained.</p> <p>The Auxiliary Services hold further picture shows in the evening and they are well attended. The Dry and Wet canteens are also well filled every evening.</p>	S
St. LUDGERUS School NR 185935 Sheet \$376	31 May 1945	0700 0830 1800 2000	<p>Weather—cloudy and cool with the usual two or three showers during the day.</p> <p>The voting still goes on for both the Ontario and the Federal elections. There is a fair turn out as the coys are coming down in shifts to vote.</p> <p>A and B Coys take their turn in the Tabloid Sports and half the coys are finished by the afternoon. The remainder will go through the following day. Winners of the different events will be able to qualify for the Bn team to go to the Bde Tabloid Sports.</p> <p>The Legion Dry Canteen opens from 1800 to 1900 hrs and a very large queue forms up in front of the buildings as everyone tries to get in while the cigarettes and chocolate bars last.</p> <p>BnHQ and HQ coys hold their OBE dances up in the city at one of the large dancing schools. It is a fairly large place and accommodates most of the coy. There are plenty of girls and the liquor flows freely so everybody manages to be happy. In fact the liquid dynamite proved too much for some of them for they ended up in the prone position. However everybody behaved themselves and no harm was done.</p>	S

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Sheet #15	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>The month of May saw the end of hostilities in the European Theatre. Although the trend for several days prior to VE day pointed to the complete collapse of Germany at an early date, the end of fighting left everyone with a feeling of anti-climax--it didn't rouse in any of us an immediate feeling of jubilation, but rather of relaxation. Since then, for the balance of the month, duties have been varied, mostly in connection with disposal of German troops and materials remaining in our areas. Much time has been given to sports and recreation. All ranks have been given opportunities to volunteer for occupational duties in Europe or for service in the Far East forces. The majority are looking forward to repatriation to Canada, but up to the end of the month 26 ORs had volunteered for Occupational duties and 4 Officers and 74 ORs for the Far East.</p> <p>Rehabilitation and Educational program is being organized and will be in full swing early in June.</p> <p>The only additional decoration awarded this unit during May was to Major J G Baird, who received the Distinguished Service Order.</p>		

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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.	
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376	1st June 1945	0700 0800 1900	<p>Weather—Scattered showers.</p> <p>Companies having tabloid sports. Transport personnel are getting vehicles in shape for the inspection on 6 June 1945.</p> <p>Legion Shows are on every night at 1900 hrs.</p>	§
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	2nd June 1945	0700 0830 1330 1845	<p>Weather—clear and warm.</p> <p>Regular parades—short periods of drill in preparation for the 6 Jun—balance of time on sports and recreation.</p> <p>First group of men for repatriation to Canada leave—20 ORs in all. Their first stop is at §4 CBR Bn—NIJMEGEN.</p> <p>Officers Educational briefing—all officers of the unit attend. Capt Willis, Bde Education Officer, outlines scope of Education plan. Capt Giar, Unit Education Officer summarizes syllabus for first period (Syllabus for first week—Appendix B/Capt Jamieson outlines material of Padre's hours.</p>	§ Appx §12.
St. LUDGERUS School	3rd June	0700 1030	<p>Weather—Fine.</p> <p>Voluntary Church parades both Protestant and Roman Catholic.</p>	§
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	4th June 1945	0700 0830 0900 1000	<p>Weather—Fine</p> <p>Coy's brushing up on Drill. Transport working hard on vehicles, re-painting, etc.</p> <p>Voting for Ontario Provincial Elections ends today. Total of 34 votes cast for the Provincial Election.</p> <p>Educational and Rehabilitation lectures under way. Everyone is attending, either morning or afternoon. Balance of day devoted to sports and recreation.</p> <p>Unit sports team for Bde meet on 7 June is doing some stiff training.</p>	§
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet §376 UTRECHT	5th June 1945	0700 0800 1000	<p>Weather—Fine.</p> <p>Last minute details of the Divisional Parade are being ironed out. TO recon route that parade covers.</p> <p>CO., Lt-Col Gregory A S, is acting Bde Comd. Major Orr assumes T/Comd of the Bn. Major D G Brown is the ZIC.</p>	§

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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
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet \$376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	6th June 1945	0700 0730	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet \$2.</p> <p>Weather--Dull. Some light showers.</p> <p>A memorial Service commemorating H-Hr on D-Day, 6 June 1944 was held in the WERKSPoor Plant in Utrecht, MR-227 182927. In addition to all ranks at present with the Bn., attending several former members now with 107 Bde were present. These included Col F M Matheson, DSO, ED, Major C J Radcliffe (Now AACMG, 7 Cdn Inf Bde), Major R G Shawcross, Major Shearer, Capt W G Burgess, Lt A Massé, and Lt J A Wood, CSM J A Snyder, Sgt C W Smith. The service followed program as given in appendix. List of those killed in action with the Regt., or who died as a result of wounds received in action, as read by Major D G Brown, is found in the appendix also. There is also a list of honours and awards included in the appendix.</p> <p>Soon after the memorial Service, companies prepared to move to vicinity of SP for the march past in the afternoon. See Appendix for details of the parade. The weather held out well, and the parade was an impressive sight, with all Bn "P" vehicles as well as marching troops. General H D G Crerar, GOC-in-C, 1 Cdn Army took the salute, On the saluting stand as well were Corps and Div Comds of 1 Cdn Army. A highlight during the parade was when I/Cpl D Daly, of the Bn Provost Section, presented copies of the "John's Journal" to General Crerar, just prior to 7 Bde Gp passing the saluting base. This paper (See appendix \$9) was edited by Capt E C Luxton, 2IC Sp Coy from material submitted by the various companies, and printed with the co-operation of a local printing office.</p> <p>In the evening a dance "Farewell to Operations" for all officers of 7 Cdn Inf Bde, Sp Arms and friends was held at JAALBURG restaurant, UTRECHT.</p>	Appx \$6. Appx \$6. Appx \$8. Appx \$9
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet \$376 UTRECHT 1/25,000	7th June 1945	0700 1000 1400	<p>Weather--warm and sunny.</p> <p>Educational classes as per syllabus.</p> <p>Bde Sports meet, held at MR 227896; Utrecht--1/25,000.</p> <p>Bn Tabloid team and entries for 3 Open track events attended the meet. Bn team made an excellent showing and were nosed out by the C Scot R team by 4 points. 25 spectators from each company attended from the Bn.</p>	Appx \$12.
St. LUDGERUS School MR 185935 Sheet \$376	8th June 1945	0700 0900	<p>Weather--Scattered clouds--cool wind.</p> <p>An advance party goes forward to new area which we expect to move to within a few days, vicinity of EEDE.</p> <p><i>Educational classes as per syllabus</i></p>	Appx \$12