

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.

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WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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Place	Date	Hour	1st Bn The Regina Rifle RegimentSummary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
CALAIS Sheet #38NE-844734	1 Oct 1944	0700	The night has been very cold with a high wind and considerable rain. Owing to poor communications contact with forward coys has been poor, but messages relayed through Shell Drake state that they are all firmly established in their posns, with no enemy opposition. At first light companies proceed to complete the checking of their respective areas and maintain rigid guard on all buildings to prevent possible looting. During the night engineers have been out checking area vicinity of bridges at 869758 to locate route for vehicles to come up. At the same time, road up to Pont De Cologne 880747 is ready, a bridge having been put up at 864742 by the engineers. Engineers report no possibility of getting vehicles through at 869758 as both bridges are blown and most of area inundated. However, they go out to clear road from Tac Hq back to 880747 as the CO still hopes to get vehicles up by this route into Calais. CO goes forward in amphibious jeep from Tac Hq, along with Asst Adjt to visit coys and recce new BnHq. Have to finish the tour on foot due to Jeep breaking down. Wireless silence is imposed commencing 1200 hrs today. By noon we realize vehicles will have to go in by route to west via RWR line of advance and at 1445 hrs new location of BnHq is established at 883771. This is the former Hq of the Commander of Calais Garrison, Col. Schoeder. They didn't suffer any lack of comfort or convenience. CO emerges triumphant with German Commander's hat. Remainder of Tac Hq move up on foot at 1800 hrs and all are settled to be comfortable. After arranging for COs conference for following day at 1030 hrs we are all set for some much needed rest.	
		1220 1445	What a hope! We are ordered from Bde to be prepared to move on tomorrow before 1200 hrs. It will be early but probably not before First Light.	
883771--Calais Sheet #38NE	2	0130 0645	Orders and timings for move came from Bde Hq. We are moving embussed in TCVs to pass Bde Sp (X rds, MR 809726) at 0645 hrs. Order of march is Regina Rif, RWR, Bde Hq and CSRs. A recce party of coy 2ICs goes forward at first light to recce new area, which is approx 60miles away, and guide us into new area. Weather--Day breaks cold and cloudy but about 0900 hrs begins to clear and as day wears on sun breaks through and finished with a beautiful sunset. At 0630 hrs vehicles are marshalled and ready to move, waiting for TCVs, which arrive at 0645 hrs. At 0730 hrs we are on the move. Move has gone smoothly and we arrive in new location and take up positions as	
		0630 0730 1400		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			Sheet #2	
883771-Calaix Sheet #38NE 392668--Sheet #40-POPERINGUE 1/50,000	2 Oct 1944	1400	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. follows: (Ref Sheet POPERINGUE #40: 1/50,000) BnHQ 392668, A Coy 386678, B Coy 392680, C Coy 375674, D Coy 388662, Sp Coy 393676, RAP 388678. After everyone has located, and got settled, they turn in for some much needed rest. Evening is very quiet. Coy Comds Conference for 1000 hrs tomorrow.	Ref
	3	0800	Weather----It has been raining DURING the night and most of our area is a mass of mud and water. Morning is unsettled with spasmodic rain and low, shifting clouds. Day finally clears and is quite sunny. A Echelon is with us, and shows by Legion are to be arranged. Bde advise us of conference of all officers there on 4th Oct 44 but is later cancelled. Vehicles and personnel leaving area are to display no unit of div signs or patches. 2IC, Adj and IO leave on a recce. Day goes quietly with personnel resting and cleaning up.	Ref
		1515	At 2345 hrs orders received from Bde for unit Comds to RV there at 0830 hrs	
		2345	4 Oct 44 to receive tentative plan and proceed to recce new area. Coy Comds to proceed with Bn IO to new concentration area to meet CO there.	
	4 Oct	0700	Weather--Heavy rain during night and still raining steadily all morning. Clears about 1400 hrs and bright for rest of day. Quite cool. At 0530 hrs message from Bde, advises of move to new area today. CO leaves for Bde at 0830 and Bde Recce party consisting of IO and 5 Coy Comds leaves for new area at 1000 hrs. where they will RV with CO.	
		0830	By 1030 hrs our vehicles are marshalled and move to SL at OOST CAPPELLE. Bde Column begins to pass SL at 1100 hrs in order of CSR, Regina Rif, RWR, H 7 CIB, N Shore R, A Coy CH of O, 14 Cdn Fd Amb. The move is made without incident through pleasant country side and we arrive at CLIEVES (REF MAP #21-31, 1/50,000 GHENT) in sq 0096 at 1600 hrs. Bn HQ located at 022961, A Coy 009965, B Coy -	Ref
		1030	C Coy 013955, D Coy 024958, RAP, 009959. Bn settles down for night after eating a hearty supper. Bde O Gp to be held at 1000 hrs tomorrow.	
		1100		
CLIEVES 022961, Sheet #21-31, GHENT 1/50,000 ZEEBRUGGE, BRUGES.	5	0730 1400	Weather --Clear and sunny with a cold wind blowing. A quiet night and most have been resting. CO and IO to Bde for O Gp at 1000 hrs. 1400 hrs Bn O Gp. Outline of forthcoming Operation "SWITCHBACK" ENEMY Pocket is being contained in area	Ref

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CLIEF 023961, Sheet #21, 31. 1/50,000 ZEENBURGE, BRUGES.	5 Oct 1944	1400	1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. from NEPHEX LEOPOLD CANAL 1504—8514 NORTH to the sea. 4 Cdn Armd Div have been doing this from poons on SOUTH bank of LEOPOLD CANAL. (Ref Maps 214 31 1/50,000) 3rd Div is going to assault and clear enemy from this area. 4 Cdn Armd Div to make two feint attacks. 7 Bde is to cross LEOPOLD CANAL and from bridgehead and swing left to AARDENBURG sq 0005 and MIDDELBURG (9593 & 9504). 8 Cdn Inf Bde pass through and move NW to SLUIS CANAL. 9 Cdn Inf Bde attack on extreme right with assault across SAVJAARDE PLAAT, and establish bridgehead. 7 Cdn Inf Bde then swing NE to link with 9 Cdn Inf Bde. 8 Cdn Inf Bde work North to coast. 7 Cdn Inf Bde then work West along coast, mopping up. To assist in the operation there are, under comd 7 Cdn Inf Bde: N Shore R, A Coy CH of O (NS), Det of 6 Cdn Fd Coy RCE, 1 Coy 14 Cdn Fd Amb., In SP: B Coy CH of O (NS), 5 Coy CH of O less 1 pl, 12 Cdn Fd Regt, 23 Cdn Fd Regt, 107 Med Regt, RA. In addition 4 Cdn Armd Div giving additional fire sp from present FBLs. Also Air sp or Typhoons and Medium Bombers on call. The operation starts with H Hr at 0530 hrs 6 Oct 44. A Coy will cross canal right at 017017 and B Coy left at 015016 to form bridgehead and push forward to EKDE (sq 0002). C & D Coy then pass through and push to MIDDELBURG. To assist cross, a heavy Arty program is laid on, and NG and Flamethrowers are to be used to cover tps while crossing canal in boats. N Shore R are providing carrying parties etc. for crossings. At the same time CSRs are crossing and pushing to AARDENBURG. RWR then pass through. Following O Gp, Coy Comds receive aerial photos and traces and balance of day is spent studying routes and enemy poon. Another short O Gp is held at 2000 hrs and last minute details are added. Coys move off in order D, C, B, And A commencing 2230 hrs. No vehs but coy carriers to come down as soon as possible after assault.	Sheet #3 R/S
CLIEF, 023961, Sheet #21, 31. 1/50,000 ZEENBURGE, BRUGES.	6 Oct	0730 0330 0630 0855	Weather has been clear and moonlit all night, but very cold. Cold wind all day, but no rain. Adj and IO move forward at 0030 hrs. C O at 0330 hrs. 216 moves forward with vehicles at 0630 hrs and BHL set up at 019013. Assault commences on time but A Coy is turned back by a concentrated NG fire. B Coy force crossing and hold poon with considerable casualties. D Coy goes in and after some difficulty force crossing and hold on despite continuous NG and Mortar fire, arriving on other side at 0855 hrs. C Coy follow on D Coy	R/S

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			<i>Sheet #4</i>	
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment:	
019013, Sh. #21, 31 Oct 1/50,000 ZEEBRUGGE, BRUGES.	6 1744	1020 1115	Axis and get across and firmly establish by 1020 hrs. MG and Mortar fire are continuous, many landing in area of BnHQ, along road. Fighter bombers attack targets in vicinity AARDENBURG at 1115 hrs. Continued counter attacks by enemy makes it impossible for our coys to move forward and A Coy are sent across. Fraise is due to our SP Artillery, who bring down tanks immediately on request, and break up what appeared to be several attempts at organized counter attack. Enemy became quiet during evening and darkness falls without a major counter attack being put in. O GP at 2330 hrs—CO reviews operation so far, and expresses his satisfaction and that of higher comd. That our coys have held to their bridgeheads despite opposition, which turned out to be much stronger than expected along this line of canal. Fact that we have been unable to advance to our objectives has not displeased higher Comd. Locations of Sub Units: A Coy 017019, G Coy - 021018, D Coy 013018, B Coy (NMR) have insufficient personnel left to carry on as a Coy and join A Coy.	Rab
019013	7 Oct	0145 0630 1830	Our front begins to liven up with MG and SA fire, and it would appear an attempt is being made to counter attack. Arty SP immediately brings appropriate SP tanks down and it seems to halt activities. This process continues most of night, with Arty droppin on any signs of activity. Dawn breaks after a cloudless, moonlit night. A fine day. Situation remains the same throughout most of day, with sporadic MG fire from enemy and several attempts to counter attack, which were halted by our Arty fire. Due to casualties we are organized into three fighting companies, remnants of B Coy (NMRs) amounting to about a dozen men being attached to D Coy. It has been impossible to assess casualties accurately as yet, but all companies have suffered considerably. Men are suffering from lack of rest and the odd case of jitters due to repeated threats of counter attack. Ammo problem is handled by establishing a dump to this side of canal at Kapok bridge, and it is kept up sufficiently to enable coys to draw at any time required. An advanced OP is also established at this end of bridge in a pillbox where A/Tk pl with Brens are established and Brens are placed along canal to cover our right flank on other side of canal. Two tanks come to us at 1830 hrs and are going down to take up posn to cover D Coy front from	Rab

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LEDE 019013 Sh. 521831	7 Oct 1944	1830 1700 0130 1905 2145	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>SOUTH side of canal. 1700 hrs CO reports to Bde with picture of our activities, and general situation, and returns with details of some plans for the coming night. RWAs are to move up through CSRs and attempt to work their way NW to contact our coys. 9 Cdn Inf Bde is to carry out its assault as in original plan 0130 hrs 8 Oct. At 1905 hrs D Coy report heavy counter attacks coming in on their front. Arty lay down DF task SKENNA and our own mortars fire DF task and attack wavers for about 50 minutes with strengths of approx 1 Coy coming in at times. Continuous Arty and Mortar shoots. and D Coy report both very effective. At 2145 hrs C Coy are counter attacked, and Arty and Mortars immediately bring down tasks, which are also reported very effective and attack is held well under control. Our BnH area is having repeated shelling at varying intervals from one or two medium guns. Attempts to locate their positions are unsuccessful and it would appear to be some good distance away, possibly out of our present Arty range.</p>	<p>R/S</p>
019013	8 Oct	0600 1700	<p>We have had a very noisy night in BnH area, with shells rocking buildings but no casualties being reported as yet here. Still unable to locate source of fire. Night is bright moonlight and cold. Dawn breaks with some mist hanging. Sky is clear and day is very warm.</p> <p>What appears to be counter attack flares up on D Coy front. Communications have been very bad all night due to shelling, but Arty and Mortar fire is brought down. Also the tanks who have been out of contact for some time, fire by observation across canal. Counter attack turns out to be enemy fighting patrol of about 15 men. After it has withdrawn, wounded enemy is brought in. He stated enemy on that front approx 125 in strength (incl 1 Capt and 4 Lts) Says they are badly split up and have not had food for 3 days. They sure can be active on empty stomachs! Tanks are waiting for enough light to take out enemy pillbox on D Coy front, which is right along canal bank. Unfortunately one is knocked out, by 88mm and the other is rendered helpless by having all its periscopes knocked out. Reinforcements are badly needed, and a few finally arrive, 92 in all. Four Officers came up last night and are posted. Three were previously with us either as HC Os or Officers, and is good to see them back.</p> <p>Situation remains same throughout the day. Ammunition and food are sent in.</p>	<p>R/S</p>

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1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.				
019013 Sh. #21431.	8 Oct 1944		regularly, and quantities of hot tea to each coy at supper time was greatly appreciated. At noon a half hour truce was held on D Coy front for each side in order to collect dead and wounded. In late evening, enemy shelling of BnHq begins again in earnest. Some shells appear to be of Red Arty size. CO goes to Bde Hq for conference. On his return we find he is going back for a few days much needed rest. Lt Col. Gilday, (Col of Cdn Gren Gds) is to command during the absence of CO.	RdS
019013	9 Oct	0630	Night has been clear and cool. Enemy shelling continues intermittently during night, with a particularly heavy shelling for about 90 minutes, beginning 0500 hrs. Lots of dirt flying with several casualties and several vehicles knocked out or damaged.	
		0500		
		0220	At 0220, one coy of RWR have contacted our C Coy and take up posn on our right. Balance of RWR will be moving up too.	
		0550	A stiff counter attack on D Coy was handled by Arty tanks. Due to telephone lines being continually knocked out, mortars could not be brought into action. Attack finally died out.	Res
		0700	At 0700 A/CO, Lt Col Gilday, and ID went to Bde to get infan. 9 Cdn Inf Bde put in their assault during night and latest reports state they are progressing favorably with moderate opposition. It is hoped they will draw some of enemy reinforcements who appear, from PW reports, to be coming to our front from vicinity of SLURS. RWRs are going to draw balance of their companies up to our right flank, and then we are to move up WEST along canal to form a firm bridgehead at bridge 006017. Engineers will then be able to erect a class 40 bridge and then 5 Cdn Inf Bde will pass through. Programme will be further developed when RWR have gained our area. SLURS will move into posn vacated by RWRs. During afternoon RWR attempt to advance their coys but are unable to do so, and plan has finally to be shelved. We ourselves, evolve plan to move our posn to the WEST somewhat in order to clear out the pillbox which has been bothering D Coy. It is to be done in two phases, C Coy will move WEST along Canal through A and D Coys and take up posn on D Coy left flank. A Coy will then move along through to take out pillbox at 009016 and take up position on C Coy left. Arty will give a 15 minute crump to H Hr at 0300 hrs. Flamethrowers	
		0300		

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. <i>Sheet #7</i>	
<i>LEDE</i> 019013 Sn. #21 & 31	9 Oct 1944	0300	to assist A Coy in assault on pillbox. The evening goes quietly, with the usual shelling conspicuous by its absence. A sitrep on 9 Cdn Inf Bde reveals they have landed successfully and are making steady progress against firm opposition.	<i>Rab</i>
019013	10 Oct	0250 0252 0345 0710 1400 1810 2035	Night has continued quiet. Very dark. Arty plan gets under way and C Coy takes off at 0252 completing phase I on reaching their objective at 0345. A Coy then takes off but come under heavy mortar fire and are left with one pl. A pl is taken from C Coy to assist with aid of flamethrowers reach objective and consolidate beyond pillbox by 0710 hrs. Coy Posns now are: A Coy 009018, C Coy 000017, D Coy same, 35 PW have been taken. They are odds and sods of different inf. formations. but are the real Nazi type, have no idea of surrender, and still think Germany will win the war. C O visits Bde at 1400 hrs and gets information from Brigadier. We expect to settle down in our posns for several days while 9 Cdn Inf Bde recce, and ALGONQUIN REGT advance in EAST sector. This may ease the situation on our front somewhat. Enemy shelling continues and at 1810 hrs D Coy reports stiff counter attack is coming in. Artillery and Mortars are laid on and fire steadily without let up. At 2035 hours they report front is quiet again. Wounded PW taken after attack states strength of attack was about 40 men, and believes all of them were either killed or wounded. Apparently the tune has changed, as he states quite a few are waiting to give up now.	<i>Rab</i>
019013	11	0400 1845	Night is fairly quiet--very dark and quite cool. At 0400 hrs D Coy reported enemy forming up again. Arty and mortar fire were brought to bear on them, which resulted in two PW being taken. They confirm reports that enemy are getting pretty tired and some are now thinking of surrendering. The morning then continues very quiet. Bde Comd visits us during morning and reviews situation and gives us an idea of what is coming. Planes are going to be patrolling entire area searching for targets and knocking them out. A Counter attack on A Coy front was laid on by arty fire and in 20 min all was quiet again. We can nominate 3 Ofrs and 10 ORs for 72 hour leave at DEAUVILLE.	<i>Rab</i>

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EEDE 019013 Sh#21&31 1/50,000 Fr. & Belg.	11 Oct 12 Oct 1944	1845 0700	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>So someboys are going to get a bit of much needed rest.</p> <p>Weather--night has been clear and cool and with no moon has been pitch dark. There has been no counter attack on our front this morning. This is probably as a result of C Scot R having moved one Coy (C) over to our left flank to straddle main road at 007007. Also R Wpg Rif have moved 3 Pls into southern tip of GRAAF-JAN at 017023. Our front has been very quiet, and shelling of our locations has practically ceased. BnH got quiet sleep for first night in several days. By establishing listening posts slightly forward of our "thin red line" along the canal, we plan to let more men rest. Cans of hot tea have been going out to them three times a day at 0700, 1500 and 2400 hrs, and today a mobile bath is settling up in MALDEGEM so if we can manage to get everyone a bath and change of clothing, it is hoped to ease the strain of long hours without rest. MO advises us there have been between 250 and 300 casualties go through RAF since 6 Oct, which is a grim reminder that this operation has been no push-over. It is the opinion that the past few days have seen some of the fiercest fighting since "D" Day. Lobbing grenades at enemy 10 yards away, and continued attempts at infiltration have kept everyone on the jump. Ammunition has been used up in an unbelievable quantities men throwing as many as 25 grenades each a night. Arty laid 2000 shells on our own front along in 90 minutes on the evening of 10 Oct and our own Mortar Pl expended 1064 rounds of HE in 3 hours. But we feel it has turned the trick. We have been able to cut enemy's ammunition route out of EEDE and PW have that lean and hungry look.</p> <p>1600 A/CO visited Bde Hq for a conference. It seems we may be here for several days without a move, so we are trying to re-arrange in order to give the maximum comfort.</p> <p>2330 Evening has been all quiet again. Just sporadic enemy sniping on Wpg front N of us.</p>	<p>Res</p> <p>Res</p>
019013	13	0700	<p>Weather has been clear and cool and dawn breaks with a bright sunrise and clear skies. Night has been very quiet, with flares being fired at various times but no enemy activity seen.</p> <p>During the day, enemy mortars are active and bothersome. Now that Arty is not so preoccupied with DF tasks they are looking for something to shoot at, so after we have located a few gun flashes, their aerial OP went into operation and several suspected mortar posns were plastered. Greatest difficulty has been observation of</p>	<p>Res</p>

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EEDE 019013 Sh#21&31 1/50,000 Fr.& Belg.	13 Oct 1944	0900	enemy fire and as there is no suitable ground for doing so, and mortars and guns at any distance cannot be observed even at night. As the strain has been relieved now, 30 men are sent out for a rest for 24 hours, the plan being to give all the men in the line a rest in this way. On their way out they get cleaned up at the mobile bath. The balance of the men are getting their baths throughout the day. Blankets have been brought in and distributed to the coys.	<i>KaS</i>
		1300	RCE are building a class 40 Bridge at 007017. By evening it is up.	
		1800	Mortaring of our BnH area goes on intermittently during the day, with the Arty hot on their trail and hopes of getting it before evening are high. The 7th Victory Loan Campaign is going well. Our quota has been raised to \$27,000 of which \$11,500 has been so far sold.	
019013	14	0800	Night has been very quiet, no shelling of our area to any extent. They seemed to be aiming at our class 40 bridge, but so far have not been successful. Some rain fell during the night but daylight comes with a bright sunny sky and a fresh SE wind.	<i>KaS</i>
		1800	Our men continue to get rested up by means of exchange within the companies, and a considerable improvement is noted. Patrols tonight consist of standing and listening patrols, which are placed on South side of canal at extreme ends of our line in order to prevent possibility of any enemy filtering around to our rear. Also it is our duty to defend the SOUTH end of the bridge which has just been erected at 007017. Tanks from 5th Arm'd Bde were across the bridge today and flushed several groups of enemy from posns in C Scot R area, then withdrew in evening.	
019013	15	0700	Night has been quiet with no enemy activity reported on our front. However they have continued to shell our positions, and especially the vicinity of bridge-- it is evident they wish to knock it out. Also it would appear they have become nervous since the tanks appeared across it yesterday and are possibly afraid of a major push from this direction. Weather has been clear and cool all night and remained so during the morning, but clouded up and commenced to rain intermittently in afternoon with a Strong wind. Rain settles in during evening and falls steadily for several hours, causing	<i>ReS</i>

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<i>EEDE</i> 019013 <i>Sh#21&31</i> 1/50,000 <i>Fr.&Belg.</i>	15 Oct 1944	1800	muddy roads leading to our posns. The day has passed quietly again, except for enemy shelling our coy areas. A few casualties have been caused by them, but the shelling seems to be haphazard, and in general direction of Bridge. Arty with aid of aerial 800 continue to engage targets suspected to have gun posns in them.	
		2000	A small conference is held to discuss possibilities of further advances. It is expected to enlarge our bridgehead, with R Wpg Rif moving NORTH to ST KRUIS area, C Scot R to area AARDENBURG and ourselves to vicinity of HEILLE. This move will be by feeling out enemy, as last minute information leads us to believe that enemy are withdrawing further NORTH and we wish to maintain contact with him. In our role, we will press into area of LOWER EEDE in sq 0002 as the C Scot R move Northward. It is planned to move B Coy, who have returned to us this evening after some weeks at Army Hq, into posn vicinity of lower EEDE with C Coy to foll w and take up a posn on their left to cover flank. Further plans will develop as Scottish encounter success.	<i>Rs</i>
019013	16	0800	Weather--Has rained most of the night but clears and is sunny for most of day. Cold wind from SOUTH and SE. Enemy shelling has continued to be heavy around area of bridge, but it is still intact. During the night C Scot R move two companies further North to area of EEDE and straddling main X Rds at 010028. Our A Coy at 0600 hrs moved across main road and are located at 005017. B Coy cross road and push NORTH following Scottish, and take up a posn 008030, 005030, 004026, with Coy Hq at 005025. "D" Coy is now WEST from their posn on canal and in afternoon plan to attack pillbox at 999017. Liaison with 3 A Tk regt on our left brings us the support of an M10 to aid B Coy in the attack, and by 1800 hrs they have cleared the pillbox and D Coy Hq is set up there. Seventeen PW have been taken in this attack and some information is obtained which reveals #3 & #5 Coy of 1037 Regt had been on that front with part of #5 Coy holding pillbox. Balance were held in reserve for counter attack but PW believe our mortaring prevented them putting in attack. General temperament of PW shows they have lost their spirit and do not expect this pocket to hold out as long as they had at first expected. By now, companies have settled in and report their fronts quiet with some mortaring still going on but not much enemy activity. C Coy have moved back to area and are resting.	<i>Rs</i>
		0600		
		1800		
		2000		

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M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (9/42)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Sheet #	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	11	
FEDE 019013-- Sheet #21&31 Fr & Belg. 1/50,000	17 Oct 44	0700	Weather--Weather is cold and unsettled. It has sprinkled rain during the night, but seen ^{SUN} breakthrough in morning. In late afternoon it again begins to rain and rains steadily for most of evening. The night has passed fairly quietly for most, with spasmodic mortar fire and sniping reported from B Coy.		
		1300	We are preparing to exchange various coys in line with others who have been drawn back to get rest. C Coy goes in to take over D and A Coy posns with H ₁ at 999017. A Coy moves back to ROKALSIJDE at MR 00250065 and D Coy to 021013.		
ROKALSIJDE 003006 Sheet #21&31		1600	BnH ₁ location is moved to ROKALSIJDE MR 003006. Move is made to facilitate speedier communications and contact as it is near direct highway. Fifteen men leave to go to an Army Show in GHENT. Our Victory loan Sales are going well and it is expected we will be able to meet and pass our quota quite easily. Lt R.P. Stewart, CM of C arrives in his official capacity as Deputy Returning Officer in connection with voting for men from Saskatchewan. He expects to be with us for two weeks while covering seventh Bde personnel. We have 17 Candidates to choose from, of whom one may be elected for this area. This one elected will be one of three to represent servicemen in the Saskatchewan House		
		2210	B Coy reports 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl and 12 Men of that coy, who were out as part of a patrol were apparently cut off, and the the remainder of the evening passes quietly.		
ROKALSIJDE 003006 Sh.#21 & 31	18 Oct	0800	Weather--Has been raining heavily all night and roads in to our localities are really tough. Day clears somewhat but later heavy showers come intermittently during the day. Steady drizzle during evening.		
		1000	Reece group consisting of 2IC, IO and representatives from coys go to area of BENTILLE--Sheet #22 & #32--GHENT 1/50,000--in sq 1101 to recon new area for unit.		
		1600	Bde are going into 3 Div Reserve and whole of A Coy and D Coy move off marching early in afternoon and BnH ₁ vehicles at 1600 hrs. C & B Coy, who are still in the line, wait to be relieved by Unit of Br Army, HLI of 52 Inf Div, and then move over later in evening by shuttle system of carriers from carrier pl. By evening all are located as follows:		
BENTILLE XXXXXX					

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet #12.	
BENTILLE 117021 Sheet #22 & 32, GHENT, 1/50,000	18 Oct 1944	1600	BnHQ--117021 A Coy--122022 B Coy--124023 C Coy--120023 C Coy--118022 Sp Coy--125019 All coys have located comfortable quarters and A Echelon have moved in close by. It is planned to have Shows by Cdn Legion set up to run daily. Dental Officer is also with us to check over teeth.	Rab
BENTILLE 117021	19 Oct 1944	0800	Weather--Considerable rain has fallen during the night and weather continues unsettled. Intermittent showers have occurred throughout the day. Everyone has had a good rest during the night, which was very much needed. During morning I O from Bde visits us and gives us picture so far as 8 Cdn Inf Bde and 9 Cdn Inf Bde are concerned.	
		1500	CO visits Bde and we expect to move to a concentration area as Div Reserve in vicinity of sq 1612 (GHENT 1/50,000). It is presumed that higher authority wishes us closer at hand, as it is suspected the enemy are trying to reinforce pocket from FLUSHING.	
		1530 1930	A show is being run by AUXILIARY SERVICES. A good location, housing approx 600 men has been located, and the boys enjoyed it. The show was "FRONTIER BAD-MEN". Bn Recce party XXXX goes to new area. CO and Adjt go to Bde for O Gp. Bn O Gp is called for 2200 hrs and it develops we are to move to a Bde Concentration area in vicinity of sq 1612 (Map IJZENDIJKE, #22NW, 1/25,000 as Div Reserve. We will be in lead of column followed by R Wpg Rif and C Scot R. TCVs are being made available and all will be riding. We are to be notified of timings later, but do not expect to move before 0900 hrs. Everyone turns in to get another night's rest, punctuated only by noise of the heavy artillery which is located close at hand	Rab
BENTILLE 117021,	20 Oct 1944	0800	Weather--Still very much unsettled with sprinkles during morning and steady rain most of the afternoon and evening. If this is the best month for weather here then we have something to look forward to.	
		0500 0900	Word comes that we are to pass the SP (NR 130982) at 1000 hrs. Vehicles are lined up and ready to move. We are bound we will pass that SP on time. We do all right, but are hold later we passed it three minutes too early. The move goes without incident and we arrive at our destination by 1200	Rab

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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 #13.	
WITEBRUG 152125, Sheet #22 & #32, GHENT, 1/50,000	20 Oct 1944	1200	hrs. We are located as follows: BnHQ--152125 B Coy 162127 C Coy 163121 A Coy--155127 D Coy--158124 Sp Coy--162126 The accomodation is slightly cramped to say the least, as we have Royal Artillery in the same area as well as some civilians. However, everyone is able to get under cover and out of the rain. Mobile bath is setting up shop and we expect baths tomorrow morning. Also Cdn Legion will commence showing films in the morning. Everyone turns in early after a rum issue at 2030 hrs. 2200--Message from Bde for CO--O Gp at 0900 hrs, 21 Oct 44. Lt-Col A S Gregory, formerly with us and lately recuperated from wounds received while Commanding Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg, arrived today and is renewing old acquaintances.	Rs
WITEBRUG 152125	21 Oct 1944	0800 1000 0900 0900 1130	Has rained most of the night and is still cloudy. However around 1000 hrs sky clears and we dream of seeing a sunny day for at least a few hours. We have seen the ultimate so far as the adaptibility of the Canadian soldier is concerned. We see a batman step inside a kitchen occupied by the natives of the country, and lo and behold there's a nice neat row outside the door--6 pairs of wooden shoes and one pair of Army boots. CO and Lt-Col Gregory go to Bde for O Gp and on return Bn O Gp is called for 1130 hrs. At the O Gp, Lt Col Matheson states he is no longer CO of the Bn and that Lt Col Gregory is now our CO. Col Matheson states in a few words his appreciation for co-operation during the past and that he is sorry to be leaving. Col Gregory then carries on with O Gp. After 9 Cdn Inf Bde have taken BRESKENS and consolidated their posns, 7 Cdn Inf Bde will move through and WEST along the coast, with C Scot R on the right, R Wpg Rif on the left. We will be in reserve, and will move to a concentration area in sq. 0917 as soon as 9 Cdn Inf Bde have cleared that area. CO passes on the personal congratulation Of Army Comd to 7 Cdn Inf Bde on their work on the LEOPOLD CANAL. It has not been in vain as some had thought, since 8 Cdn Inf Bde and 9 Cdn Inf Bde could not have made the progress they did without our drawing so much of the enemy's effort in either direction. The balance of the O Gp was a discussion concerning winter clothing and conditions we may expect to be fighting under in the future.	Rs

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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 # 14.	
WITEBRUG 152125 Sheet #22 & #32, GHENT, 1/50,000	21 Oct 1944	1130	<p>will</p> <p>The terrain is probably be our worst enemy, as study of aerial photographs shows nothing but dykes and fields, with little cover and undoubtedly tough in wet weather.</p> <p>For the balance of the day, companies are resting, testing weapons and generally bringing items of administration up to scratch. A Show is being run by the Can Legion, and the mobile bath is operating.</p> <p>CO and IO keep in close liaison with Bde HQ to watch progress of 9 Can Inf Bde. However although they are not meeting tough opposition, the going is slow so we are able to go to bed feeling secure in the advice that we will not move before noon tomorrow.</p>	RB
WITEBRUG 152125	22 Oct 1944	0730	<p>Weather is still cool and unsettled. Odd bits of rain sufficient to keep ground in soggy condition.</p>	
		1000	<p>Bde warns us that we should hold ourselves prepared to move today as our show may go on fairly soon. We keep in close liaison with Bde to watch progress of 9 Can Inf Bde movement into BRESKENS.</p>	
		1400	<p>C O reports to Brigadier and receives situation up to date. A Conference is called on his return at 1500 hrs and Coy Comds etc are given a brief summary of the past few hours.</p>	RB
		1730	<p>Coys are brushing up on weapons, testing and doing a lot of firing. Films are still being shown, and balance of companies are having showers. Pioneer Platoon is going around to Coys giving instruction on Flamethrowers.</p>	
		2100	<p>Sp Coy Comd gets two PW at MR 107154 while on a route Recce. They have very little infm for us as they were Marine Arty on coast who were put into inf in last few days.</p> <p>We get a SITREP from Bde--9 Can Inf Bde getting on slowly. We can expect to stay put until tomorrow.</p>	
WITEBRUG 152125	23 Oct 1944	0730	<p>Weather--Day begins clear and calm, few scattered clouds, but clouds up during afternoon and commences steady rain as darkness falls.</p>	
		0800	<p>0800-SITREP from Bde reveals little and we do not expect to move before noon.</p>	RB
		1330	<p>We are placed on one hour notice to move, and at 1500 hrs D Coy push off on</p>	

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet #15.	
WITEBRUG 152125 Sheet #22 & #32, CHENT, 1/50,000 Bn Buildings 112177 Sheet #22NW 1/25000 IJZENDIJKE	23 Oct 1944	1300 1730	foot followed by remainder of coys Route is tough in spots as it follows along sides of ridges more or less like dykes. Pass about 10CPW on their way out escorted by R Wpg Rif Guards. XXXXXX We have Tac Hq set up in farm buildings at 112177 with coys in posn as follows: Bde--112177 A Coy--096181 B Coy--102181 C Coy--102175 D Coy--094173 Sp Coy--092166 We are ordered by Bde to send a patrol out to MapReference 090151 to contact people on left at 0100 hrs. Ration and blanket trucks which are coming up later have had great difficulty in getting up. Hq Coy and D Coy get stuck and carriers are sent out to haul them out. Then we settle down in hopes that we will stay for the night.	Rs
Bn Bldgs 112177	24 Oct 1944	0700 1000 1100 2030	Weather-- Has stopped raining but is v ry cold with cold wind. Sky fairly clear most of day, but hazy. Patrol which was sent to 090151 to contact friends on the left (RWR) a pparently got lost as they returned at 0420 hrs having contacted no one. Examination revealed they had taken wrong route and ended up at 089161 (Ref Map CADZAND 22NE 1/25000). It does not look as though we will move for a few hours so we are making ourselves more comfortable. CO requested to report to Bde Tac Hq at once. There they have an up to date picture. On return Bn Conference is called for 1330 hrs, and picture of situation is passed on to Coy Comds etc. As R Wpg Rif and 1 C Scot R have moved west to form a line approx on 07 Easting Grid lin (Map CADZAND 22 NE) main road BRESKINS to SCHOONDIJKE is considered usable and a section of Carrier Pl is to Recce it to contact HLI who are in SCHOONDIJKE. Coy Comds are ordered to Recce routes from their present areas to points 086170, 084159, 085153 in case we are called on to move up, especially if at night. Coys are warned to hold themselves prepared to move on one hour's notice. Bde inform us to be prepared to move on, EVA and PATSY by first light tomorrow. Coy Comds of C and D Coy XXXXXX called in and remainder of Coys are warned. If we are called upon to attack, D Coy will take out EVA. C Coy will move	Rs

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.	
			Sheet \$16	
Bn Bldgs 112177 Sheet \$22NW 1/25,000 IJZENDIJE	24 Oct 1944	2030	after them to assemble at 075185. They will then be able to help D Coy if needed. If they are not needed, will move through 1 C Boat R at 067185, and lower coast to PATSY. Shell Drake is present and fire plan is laid on tentatively. Comd post will follow "C" Coy. As these plans are only speculative, in order to allow C and D Coys to make plans in advance, no further elaboration is made, and we settle down for night. Quiet with clear skies.	Rob
Bn Bldgs 112177	25 Oct	0630	Weather---Night has been clear and cold. Day breaks with clouds forming up. Cloudy all day with no wind or rain.	
		0700	Have had a quiet night. Sitreps from RWR and 1 CSR show little change, with RWRs in approx same posns, and 1 CSRs in.	
		0750	0750 Bde advise us to be ready to move immediately. COs to report there at once. At Bde we are given task to take out point at EDITH, EVA and JOY. After reviewing situation there, CO liaises with Comd of CSR regarding their fwd Coy posns and feasibility of employing Arty tasks on EDITH before our attack. On return Bn O Gp is held at 1000 hrs. Plan is as follows:	
		1000	Phase I: C Coy, with one det 3* Mortar to advance through KRUISDIJKE (Ref Map \$21NE) thence NE along canal through CSR posn in WILMA, to attack EDITH at 1245 hrs.	
		12 45	Phase II: D Coy along PLAAT.DIJKE to attack EVA at 1520	
		1520	Phase III--- Move into area 0818 to be prepared to take out JOY. Comd Post to follow along C Coy axis. RAP and BnHQ in vicinity KRUISDIJKE. Fire plan is laid on with Arty whereby Field Regts will fire on EDITH from 1240--1245. Then to raise fire. B Coy to remain in reserve.	
		1125	C Coy on the move and Tac BnHQ moves at 1245 hrs. Everything goes according to plan and C Coy attack goes in to EDITH on schedule. After getting it clear they come under heavy mortar and shell fire. They suspect that enemy may have an OP in tower in the town of GROEDE, which has been declared an open town, but Bde advise that until we have definite proof, nothing can be done about it. D Coy are moving up on schedule and attack EVA at 1520 hrs and have it cleared by 1700 hrs. A Coy and B Coy follow and take up posns at 089181 and 085176 respectively. Resistance had not been stiff and only one minor casualty suffered, D Coy posn is in strong pillboxes, and garrison came out to surrender	Rob
		1520 1700		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			Sheet 517	
079177 BOERENHOL Sheet 521NE 1/25.000 CADZAND	25 Oct 1944	1700 2000 \$2400	<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment.</p> <p>as they approached. Approximately 250 prisoners have been taken by D Coy by end of day.</p> <p>A Coy to move up to area JOY. They push off on axis of C Coy and pass through C S R to reach JOY by 2400 hrs.</p> <p>Companies settle down for night in good positions. Patrols from Scout Pl are laid on to 034183 to see if bridge is intact. Also to 050186, 048186 and to 070177 and 066176..</p>	Rab
079177 BOERENHOL	26 Oct 1944	0700 0730 0900 1100 1200 1545 1725	<p>Clear and calm night with little shelling in our area. Coys all report a quiet night with no enemy activities on their fronts.</p> <p>Patrols returned and report as follows:</p> <p>To 034183—Heavy shelling around the locality both by enemy and our own HF tasks and after three unsuccessful attempts to reach objective, patrol returned.</p> <p>Patrol to MR 051186 report buildings unoccupied. Patrol to MR 048186 report no enemy encountered or seen. Marching personnel could cross at that locality, but pretty muddy for vehicles.</p> <p>Patrol to orchard and buildings at 070177 and 066176. Found no enemy there.</p> <p>Streams of civilians on bicycles and walking with personal and household effects seen hurrying EAST on GROEDE-KRUISDIJK road. We contacted them and find they are leaving GROEDE because the town is being shelled by guns direction of FLUSHING.</p> <p>Prisoners continue to come in as they are cleared from coy areas. They are mostly miscellaneous tradesmen etc., who have been re-mustered to Infantry, and generally older class of men.</p> <p>Bie Comd visits us and allots us task of pushing along the coast toward point NARY to take out PATSY on the way.</p> <p>Short C Op and plan laid as follows. B Coy will attack strong point at 045793 at 1545 hrs. In their being successful C Coy will move through B and on to PATSY. Then A Coy push through B and C to take out strong point at 043189. D Coy to remain in present locality.</p> <p>After getting away to good start B Coy make steady progress and are on Objective with only one minor casualty. Coy HQ in position at 023188.</p>	Rab

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet §18.	
079177 BOERENHOL Sheet § 21 NR 1/25,000 CADZAND 079177 BOERENHOL	26 Oct 1944	2115 2230	C Coy have followed through and are now consolidated. A Coy move off, and at midnight are in posn--Neither C nor A Coy had any casualties--Large numbers of PW being taken. Location C Coy--032191, of A Coy -- 023188.	RS
050193 GATSHOEVE Sheet § 21 NR	27 Oct 1944	0700 1020	Weather--Considerable fog hanging on surface of ground. Calm and Cold. Fog turns to mist and light rain in the afternoon and evening. Considerable shelling. Move forward to new area. BnHQ being in D Coy area. Pill boxes are deceiving for doors and windows have been painted on them to represent people's homes. Locations : BnHQ--050182, A Coy--023188, B Coy--043194, C Coy--032191, D Coy--050182, Carrier Pl--050177. Rear BnHQ moved up to 079177 and arrived before 1000 hrs. On the completion of Bn moving out rear BnHQ moved in. Total PW taken today 108 including 2 Officers. One prisoner from 10 Coy Marines says that there are just the odds and sods left to fight now. They are living on hard tack. He expects that more will surrender when we make our attacks. Another prisoner, an Austrian, is very bitter towards the Germans and says he will give as much information as possible--says he has been a clerk in BRESKENS for 4 Years. 64 Div HQ is around CADZAND. Captain WOLLEMAN is his Officer. More prisoners will be coming. H.s not eaten since 5 PM yesterday. One Officer is from CADZAND and says there are about 50 prisoners who are Marines and are working with the Infantry. PW today include mariners, artillerymen, infantrymen, and para chutists. Some shelling in area around 1900-2000 hrs. Col and IO to Bde twice today. Artillery tasks being revised as enemy have one of our T00s. Everything fairly quiet rest of night, some trouble with telephone and wireless sets.	RS
050193 GATSHOEVE Sheet § 21NR	28 Oct 1944	0700	Weather is wet with rain in the evenings. Ground is ver muddy. D Coy is on the move and are now located in pillboxes along the coast west of BRESKENS. PW taken today are mostly from the Marine Artillery, one of them a cook from a vessel speaks good English--he and companion were taken to Brigade by staff Captain. CO and Tac BnHQ moved up to D Coy area with the remainder of forward BnHQ moving up the following morning. A,B,C, Coys all have objectives to take out after dark tonight and in the early mornin.	RS
050182 GATSHOEVE				

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			1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. sheet 19	
050182	28	0700	A and B had little trouble and C Coy had trouble with mines, "C" Element, etc.	Rab
050182 GATSHOEVE sheet § 21 NW CADZAND 1/25,000	29 Oct 1944	0700	All of forward BnHQ have now moved up to D Coys area in pill boxes. The boys are having considerable enjoyment in going through the various pillboxes and underground rooms as there is quite a lot of interesting articles left behind by Jerry. Patrol was sent out to CADZAND and reported that civilians say there are no enemy tps in the town. Bde informs us that we have another large area show on our hands. O Gp was held at 1600 hrs and companies started off around 1730 hrs. 1800 hrs Tac HQ on the move to new position. 4 PWs taken by Sp coy who found them in the ditch. O Coy have 30 PW. PW state that big guns in FLUGHING are controlled by underground cable from CADZAND and that CADZAND has several strong pillboxes along the coast line. Weather is much brighter today and it is somewhat warmer out.	Rab
006173 BAENST POLDER sheet § 21 NE 1/25,000 CADZAND	30 Oct 1944	0700	D Coy had some trouble in their attack on PHILLIPA. Had to withdraw and re-organize. We request that 1 C Scot R take on this job as we have a lot of work to do on XXXX the front without it is task. CSR are going to go through CADZAND and it looks like we will have the job of clearing up the guns on the coast and also a very strong pillbox. Typhoons attacked strong points from 1015--1030 and 1030--1045 approx caused some of our men to become casualties unfortunately. Some PW taken today and some are from the A/A gun that was shot up today, including 2 Luftwaffe and 3 Artillerymen and Infantry men. CO called to O Gp in the late afternoon. The Weather has remained wet and cold. Col returned from O Gp at Bde and called fro Coy Comds meeting at 2100 hrs. 8th and 9th Bde along with the 7th Bde are teeing up for a big attack. KNOCKE must be taken by 31st Oct 44. 1 Coy 1 C Scot R will attack with us.	Rab
006173 KAPELLE St. PIETER sheet §21 NW CADZAND 1/25,000	31 Oct 1944	0700	Our A Coy and B Coy made attacks on enemy strong points (Pill boxes) along the coast line but were unable to make very much headway and in fact B Coy asked for a Platoon to come to their assistance. CO of the 1 C Scot R said that he will do all that he can to help our A Coy with their task in fact we can send message to CSR and by them to our A Coy. This lasted all day long until late at night, when wireless sets operated well. 8th and 9th Bdes have made successful attacks	Rab

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006193 KAPELLE St. PIETER Sheet §21 NE CADZAND 1/25.000	31 Oct 1944	0700	on their objectives and in some cases they took many German prisoners by surprise. Six men of our A Coy have contacted R WR and 4 were evacuated by them. Four PW were taken to Bde by our CO and our interpreter. The CO did not return till about 2200 hrs. Some of our D Coy have reported to 1 C Scot R and are staying for the meantime. Our A Coy took 69 PW from Pillboxes this afternoon and they were taken to PW cage. This makes close to 80 PW for today from our Unit. The weather still remains quite cool but there is no rain tonight. The 1 C Scot R are sending out a Platoon at 0100 hrs and are going to make a attack on strong points around the life saving station. We are having very few casualties but tonight we lost one of our Officers from A Coy--Lt C C Williams.	Raf

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
			<p>1st Bn The Regina Rifle Regiment. Sheet 5 21.</p> <p>During the month of October the battalion has seen some of the fiercest fighting since they landed on the continent of Europe, on 6 Jun last. Notwithstanding this, the state of morale within the unit has remained comparatively high. Many have been looking forward to a rest of a few days, and it is generally believed that if the battalion were to go into a rest area, much could be done in the way of reorganizing and allowing everyone to relax and talk over past history together with other members of the battalion. Also to allow newcomers to become acquainted with their fellow Riflemen. Within the Division the unit has maintained its fighting efficiency both in vehicles and men well on a par with other Units.</p> <p>Administration has been kept well in hand even during the times of heaviest stress. The establishing of the 7 Bde NCOs School will do much to give NCOs and prospective NCOs a better ground work and prepare them in leadership of men prior to future battles.</p> <p>Fortunately during the month many Officers, NCOs and men have returned from Hospital and this helps to keep the percentage of seasoned tps high.</p>	