

MONTHLY WAR DIARIES WILL
BE ENCLOSED IN WAR DIARY
COVER (CAF 16 7A). INSTRUCTIONS
FOR COMPLETING WAR DIARIES ARE
PRINTED INSIDE THIS COVER

WAR DIARY

SECRET

.....3. PPCLI.....for... FEB. 53.....
(Unit or Formation) (Month and Year)

REFERENCE TO APPENDIX
AND OFFICER'S INITIAL

LOCATION

DATE

HOUR

SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION

1 Feb 53

Today and yesterday were devoted to clearing up the camp area and establishing comfortable living quarters. A reshuffling of personnel was necessary as companies claimed their men from the echelons, and the HQ establishments withdrew their men from the companies. Garrison life all over again, a pleasant prospect.

A patrol under the supervision of the commanding officer flushed out a number of prostitutes and patronizing Patricias. The girls had established their places of business in small shelters and caves on the hill just behind the battalion area. They were turned over to the Field Security, and the soldiers were charged so as to discourage future exposures to a prevalent disease. One is foolhardy to believe that either the soldiers or the prostitutes will be completely discouraged, but a number of soldiers will benefit.

The youngsters from the Korean villages close by are becoming a nuisance. They are a thieving and elusive lot. During the day they turn up all over the camp area without being caught by the RPs. They walk off with everything that takes their fancy and, if caught assume complete innocence. During the night there are four pairs of guards which patrol the perimeter of the camp. This was instituted to discourage burglary raids which other units have experienced.

2 Feb 53

The weather is becoming a little warmer the past few days and it is continuing clear. It is ideal weather for training.

Training commenced today, and all sub units started off on a four week program. The training for rifle companies is designed to meet the specifications for Leading Infantrymen. Specialists courses in the supporting weapons, driver operator and stretcher bearer will be conducted in the unit. Courses on Hygiene, projector operator and intelligence are offered within the division, whilst the Div Battle School in Japan will run courses on supporting weapons, driver operator and Drill instruction.

Munwan-ni SE
sheet no 6527-1SE
GR 2225 9335

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	2 Feb 53		<p>The battalion is beginning to function again as such. The shower unit was moved with B Echelon and is being set up by a spring. Every soldier in the unit can shower at least twice a week. The canteen is also getting organized. Along with the dry canteen there is a large wet canteen, and a theatre tent. A large sports field has been leveled off and the hockey team is still winning. All efforts are being made to keep the men from wanting to go elsewhere for entertainment.</p>	A
	21 Feb 53		<p>ANTENNA</p> <p>Operation Antenna was a wireless scheme designed to exercise Bde & Div mainly. Bns acted as umpires. Since only wrls RT procedure & the channels of incoming messages was to be examined Bns were not required to take part in full strength. 3 PPCLI consisted of CO's rover, Bn 2i/c, battle Adj, Sigs Offr & I O.</p> <p>By the exercises conclusion several lessons were learned & flaws discovered. 25, 28 & 29 Bdes destroyed the airborne enemy which landed near the Div.</p> <p>The communication channels within the Div were able to practise new RT procedure.</p> <p>On the afternoon of 21 Feb the band of Central Command (RCR) entertained us with an open air concert. In the evening they put on another concert in the theatre tent. They did not play military music, but to the delight of many they did homage to current and semi classic numbers. A large enthusiastic crowd attended both performances.</p>	
	23 Feb 53		<p>Northland was started at first light. R22R made the first move. I RCR & 3 PPCLI passed through to their respective objectives. The most notable incidents of the scheme being the loss of a start line and the non appearance of the noon meal.</p> <p>All comds were given the opportunity to practise new RT procedure.</p>	f

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	23 Feb 53		Several important lessons were brought back to mind namely map using in hilly country, time appreciation for Korean terrain and the need for clear concise orders.	
	24 Feb 53		<p>During the month the unit lost a large number of officers. Lt Halahan and Lt Woodward were posted to the instructional staff of the Div Battle School. Lt Beeman went to HQ Bde as the Intelligence Officer: he was replaced in that appointment here by Lt Worthington. Lt W E Anderson(RCCS) went to HQ Bde as did Lt Graham. At present we are doing without a Pioneer Officer and will do so until 2/Lt Pilcher becomes qualified at the Div Battle School. Another officer slated for Bde HQ as Staff Learner is Capt Rogers the present Adjutant. Capt Marchessault will be employed as the "A" man effective 1 March. Capt Campbell who has been recovering from burns he received 1 Jan returned to the unit on 20 Feb and he will assume command of MMG Platoon. Padre MacGregor(RC) was rotated and was replaced by Padre Mann. Other officers due for rotation the first week in March are Capt Gelpke MO, Padre Moorhead(P), Lt Anderson A/QM, Lt Hodge 21/c Mortars Lt Howard A/Adjt and 2/Lt Rhodes. The replacing regimental officers have been getting acquainted with their new jobs and are ready to take over as soon as the officers are rotated. This leaves the Rifle companies very short of junior officers. A Company have two, B one, C none, D one. The senior officers and NCOs in the companies have their hands full keeping up with training, administration and preparing for Bde exercises. Some platoons are commanded by corporals. An effort is being made to have replacement officers flown over early in March.</p> <p>The weather during the month was beautifully mild considering the time of the year. Two light snow flurries in the first week adorned the countryside.</p>	

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			<p>It dissipated within the week. The paddy fields were covered with ice and supplied many natural rinks of various shapes & sizes. As the month progressed the ice melted and a great deal of frost came out of the ground. The roads within the camp and the entrance across the paddy field were becoming very soft by the end of the month and it is becoming quite a task for vehicles to move except in four wheel drive. Attempts are being made to maintain the road across the paddy field. Tons of heavy rock are being dumped there but it is being pushed down into the soft earth. An alternative route had been plotted by the Engineers and it will be used if the entrance road falls away.</p> <p>Our shower unit, which is established on the edge of a paddy began to sink when the stoves thawed the ground. Lumber and other materials were used to keep it afloat and operations were not suspended more than one day.</p>									
	26 Feb 53		<p>The unit hockey team started well ahead of other units this winter. The unit brought with it equipment enough to be independent of Bde. Practice started with the formation of ice on the Imjin. The team was managed by Capt K C Crook and coached by Lt R A Forbes. The games played and the resultant scores are</p> <table><tr><td>HQ 25 Cdn Inf Bde</td><td>15 - 0</td></tr><tr><td>Engineers</td><td>12 - 0</td></tr><tr><td>191 Workshop</td><td>13 - 1</td></tr><tr><td>37 ADS</td><td>15 - 0</td></tr></table> <p>The finals were played between Patricia's and the Royal Twenty Second Regiment. Two games brought the Patricia's team the Gossilen trophy for the third consecutive year. Volley ball has been and still is the major sport in the Bn. All Coys have courts set up and occupied at every spare moment. The officers team for the first time in two years managed a win over the Sgts & WOs who until this time were the undoubted champions.</p>	HQ 25 Cdn Inf Bde	15 - 0	Engineers	12 - 0	191 Workshop	13 - 1	37 ADS	15 - 0	
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			<p>Plans, preparations and eliminations are in progress for a bn sports meet to be held in the month of March. Conditions of the ground has interfered with sports and in fact with all movements in camp. The frost is rapidly leaving the ground which being of a heavy clay mixture retains the water. The resultant product being mud to a very considerable depth.</p> <p>Transport has been reduced to the absolute minimum number of runs and has been banned in most parts of the camp area in order to maul the roads as little as possible.</p>	

H F Wood
(H F Wood) Lt col
Commanding 3 PPCLI

APPENDICES TO WAR DIARY

Dup.

1. Slate of Officers ~~45~~
2. Padres report
3. Bn intelligence summary
4. Training programme
5. RT procedure exercise
6. Confirmatory notes Co's "O" Group
7. Bn commitments
8. History of 3 PPCLI
9. Crown news
10. Newsletter
11. Part 2 Orders 117024d/28 FEB 53.
12. Bde Int Summary 204152 27 d / 21 FEB 53.
13. Part 1 Orders
14. Exercise Northland
15. Div "I" Summary
16. Photographs
17. News paper clippings
18. Concert Party
19. Map of area
20. Strength return
21. Notes on RT Procedure
22. Notes on Chinese defence