

MONTHLY WAR DIARIES WILL BE ENCLOSED IN WAR DIARY COVER (CAPF 16 47A). INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPILING WAR DIARIES ARE PRINTED INSIDE ITS COVER

WAR DIARY

SECRET 1

..... 3. P. P. C. L. I. FOR December 1952
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
Ref Map KORFA 1/50,000 MUNSAN NI MAJON NI	1 Dec 52		<p>The morning broke cold and damp. A cloud buildup was prevalent in the morning, and by noon the sky lowered to envelope the hilltops. A drizzle of rain started in the late afternoon and increased to a fairly heavy downpour by last light. Those in tents found that the canvas absorbed much of the water making living in them cold and uncomfortable. Those in bunkers kept relatively dry and warm. The number of soldiers in fire boys and weapon pits got wet and cold but carried on with equanimity.</p> <p>Today at 0645 hrs 3 PPCLI completed the relief of the Black Watch. Trace P shows the disposition of the battalion in detail. Much of the day was spent getting settled.</p> <p>Mean Our Signals Platoon received a new 40 line switchboard. This will facilitate better line communications which are provided to five rifle companies (including C Company 1 RCR), MMG, Mortars, Pioneers and Drums. In addition to these there are also the numerous phones and lines strung throughout the Main HQ camp. Trunk lines were established to 1 RCR, 1 R22eR, Bde HQ, 3/1 Marine, F Echelon and A Echelon. There is a spare line to 1 RCR for use if a counterattack by them is called for. It is estimated that there is about 50 miles of cable to be maintained within the battalion area. Normal wireless communication has also been established and will be maintained.</p> <p>Our "Blitz" wiring crew commanded by Lt Pitts was out last night and now have a good portion of their task complete. The party of one officer and thirty other ranks, working in three teams often laid three hundred yards of concertina wire in the re-entrant at MR 104106. The wire was laid in three lines of triple concertina twenty-five yards apart. They were not annoyed by the enemy but two of the party were killed when one of them stepped on an anti personnel mine. A screening party of one officer and twenty other ranks was provided by 1 BW on WARSAW, and a party of one and six was on the spur at MR 102106. The screens reported no enemy activity. The wiring party reported seeing bodies of three dead enemy in the area being wired.</p>	<i>Trace P</i>

MAIN 9 TAC
MR 119085

A Coy 103095

B Coy 104100

C Coy 103100

D Coy 114087

R Coy 115096

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///	1 Dec 52		<p>Heavy padded coats and a number of enemy stick grenades were also seen. Lt Pitts feels that a used path up the re-entrant has now been sealed. At 1620 hours, C Company suffered two casualties from enemy mortaring. It was a stray bomb which overshot the hill and landed in the company administration area. Shortly afterwards they had one man accidentally shot in the company by one of his comrades.</p> <p>1 RCR, being the reserve battalion, are to continue to lay defensive wire where our A Company had been working before we relieved 1 BW. Tonight on account of the rain, the task was delayed.</p> <p>With darkness tonight came many reports of enemy activity. Four enemy were seen at MR 117102. When fired at, went to ground and disappeared. Enemy movement was reported by the patrol at MR 108105, enemy voices were heard at MR 107103, they were just outside #5 Platoon's area. There were noises of vehicles in the valley, and Burp gun fire at MR 100103. By 2000 hrs, it appeared that we would be having a busy night, and such was the case, though no definite results are known.</p>	<p>APPX C3-5</p> <p><i>JMP</i></p>
	2 Dec 52		<p>As the night progressed the rain turned to snow, and by early this morning visibility was good. The temperature went down and it became very cold.</p> <p>An enemy mortar which had been reported firing from MR 106108 was silenced by our 4.2" and 81 mm mortars. Our patrol on WARSAW sighted six enemy on the finger of the feature at MR 105105. Our patrol withdrew, the enemy followed, an Artillery task was fired, then all was quiet and there was nothing more seen. Flairs tripped at MR 122097 were believed to have been caused by animals as at this time (0050 Hrs) visibility was excellent and nothing had been seen. A D Company patrol was followed by twelve enemy, Artillery discouraged them somewhat and they retired in the direction of the SAMICHON River.</p>	

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///	2 Dec 52		<p>At 0232 hrs ten Platoon reported fresh digging at MR 115104. They also reported split toe foot prints in the snow all the way up from FINGER.</p> <p>At 0650 hrs a reconnaissance patrol under Lt Campbell, which had been sent out to investigate, returned and discredited the report.</p> <p>At 0600 hrs Lt Col Wood took Lt Col Bingham of the RCR, and Major Galway RCE to see C Company position. The purpose of the trip was to familiarize the CO 1 RCR with the area in the event a counter-attack may be necessary. RCE have a tunnelling project in progress.</p> <p>The temperature went down to 6° last night, and the rain turned to snow in the early hours this morning. With about three inches of snow on top of the rain that fell yesterday, life in the forward positions is anything but pleasant. During the day, the sun won its way through the clouds, but it was to little avail. A cold strong wind from the northwest persisted and prevented the snow from melting except where traffic beat it into the soft earth. By mid-afternoon the temperature was at 23° and the ground was freezing considerably. By 2300 hrs the mercury dropped to -20° which, along with the icy ground made it extremely cold.</p> <p>During the early morning B and C Company ^{es} were Mortared from behind WARSAW. Counter-bombardment was called down by Shell Drake and the enemy mortar was soon silenced.</p> <p>In the early evening four patrols were established, and until they came in at 2345 hrs there were reports of enemy movements. The enemy were engaged by our Artillery and Mortar with unknown results.</p> <p>The Blitz wiring party was again out tonight. The project was completed before midnight. It had been estimated that the job would require at least four nights for its completion. It was finished in two. One of the ten men teams was reported to have laid one hundred yards of wire in nine minutes.</p>	

AM

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///	3 Dec 52		<p>Early this morning the temperature had gone down to -4°. During the day it remained cold. The sun came out and the sky was clear. The moon supplied good light during the night, and visibility was aided by the snow.</p> <p>During the day C Company received the brunt of enemy mortars and shell. Approximately thirty were received between 0845 hrs and 1600 hrs. Two soldiers and three Korean Service Corps were wounded by mortars. The KSC were in the administrative area of B Company.</p> <p>Thirteen patrols were established at last light. There were several reports of enemy movement and enemy digging. Artillery and mortar fire were directed so as not to encourage the enemy to become too bold.</p> <p>Major Harris (2 1/c 25 CRG) spent the past few days with the battalion. This afternoon he visited D Company and then returned to A Echelon for the night.</p>	
	4 Dec 52		<p>It was another clear wintery day. The snow is still with us and the temperature is ranging below freezing during the day, and near zero during the night.</p> <p>A patrol had gone to investigate the DYKE feature (MR 119104) under command of Lt Worthington, returned at 0550 hrs. It reported that they reached the objective without finding any evidence of the enemy. On the return journey it was noted that there was evidence of enemy on the north side of DYKE. The patrol commander considers that the position is suitable for a layup and that it could be defended as an outpost.</p> <p>At 0900 hrs the Commanding Officer, Battle 2 1/c and Intelligence Officer went by jeep to examine Line Kansas positions, and to locate a new position for Main HQ. A suitable location was found at MR 256032.</p> <p>Company Commanders were ordered to have their command posts on Line Kansas completed by fifteen December. A good deal of blasting will be necessary as the features there are extremely rocky.</p> <p>Sounds of digging and movement around SEATTLE and RONSON are becoming common. The night noises and the number of casual sightings made during the day suggest that a new unit is now to our front.</p>	

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+++	4 Dec 52		<p>They, like we, are getting to know the area and are developing their positions.</p> <p>The greatest hazard to the men in the hills is the cold. To date there are very few stoves installed in bunkers. Open fires are being used to heat water and food, but there is no arrangement to heat the bunkers. The Trades Section of the Pioneers are busy making trench heaters. They are simple contraptions made from shell casings. They burn diesel fuel which is fed by a rubber hose through a drip carburetor into the base of the shell casings which acts as a splash pan. Small holes are drilled near the bottom of the shell casing to allow draught. The stove pipe is made from mortar bomb containers. They are a very serviceable heater. Within the next day or so, all bunkers will be equipped with them.</p>	<i>MA</i>
	5 Dec 52		<p>The day began with several reports of enemy activity. A patrol to WARSAW reported the sound of underground digging at MR 105108. Enemy snipers were again active in the RONSON area. The enemy appears to be bothered with the cold as are we. Several reports of smoke from fires were reported in the early morning. All were engaged by artillery or mortars.</p> <p>Enemy movements in the valley and in the area of DYKE were engaged by artillery. Sounds of screams were heard by personnel of D Company after an artillery shoot at 2100 hrs.</p> <p>For the past several nights forward units of the Commonwealth Division have been reporting that the enemy are busily engaged in digging. It is considered that this is normal activity and the only way he can maintain the earth works that are being shelled during the day.</p> <p>At 0930 hrs this morning the CO briefed Lt Campbell of D Company for a fighting patrol to SEATTLE, MR 100103. The task of the patrol was to determine the extent of new enemy construction at MR 100103, and if possible to capture a prisoner. Lt Campbell spent the day preparing his men. They are to leave at 0250 hrs 6 December 52.</p>	

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///	5 Dec 52		<p>A close liaison is being maintained between us and our flanking units. Direct lines from our switchboard lead to the 3rd Bn 1st Regimental 1 Marine Division, and to 1 R22eR. This afternoon Lt Col Wood visited Lt Col Altman of the Marines. A great deal of inter-battalion support is possible if it can be arranged and coordinated.</p> <p>At 1700 hrs Lt Graham was ordered to clear a mine field so that the RCR wiring party could proceed with their task tonight. At 1930 hrs he reported that all was in readiness. The wiring is being done in front of D Company position. To date they have not been bothered by enemy activity, and the job is proceeding well.</p>	<i>WAC</i>
	6 Dec 52		<p>The fighting patrol of Lt Campbell and twenty-six men assaulted SEATTLE at 0250 hrs. The enemy were taken completely by surprise and a short fire fight ensued. The patrol suffered one casualty and claim to have inflicted seven on the enemy. On the return route the enemy directed mortar fire on the patrol, and neutralized the firm base on RONSON with small arms fire. Lt Campbell was wounded slightly by a mortar bomb fragment, and Pte Mudd at the firm base was killed.</p> <p>This morning enemy fire smoke was again engaged by artillery. The results are not known. The tanks engaged a tunnel on feature BETTY GRABLE, of the ten rounds fired there were eight direct hits. A total of fifteen mortar bombs landed in the C Company and Anti Tank Platoon Areas. There no casualties or damage reported.</p> <p>There were six reconnaissance patrols and three standing patrols sent out at last night. Four groups of enemy were sighted and engaged with unknown success. Two of our patrols were engaged by light mortars. The RCR wiring party was out again. They were wiring in front of B Company. At 2230 hrs they suffered one casualty and returned.</p> <p>This morning the field Security Section apprehended a Korean civilian who was being employed in our A Echelon. It was learned that the Korean in question had been supplying rations for line crossers. A Security Policeman is being detailed to make a thorough investigation on the other Koreans employed there.</p>	<i>WAC</i>

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///	7 Dec 52		<p>By observations made this morning, it was evident that the enemy were again digging on SEATTLE last night. Three enemy were seen working there at 0020 hrs this morning. The artillery could not reach the target so it was engaged by mortars. The tanks shot up several targets this morning with good results. They reported that they have destroyed one observation post, and one tunnel. Their rounds had no effect on a large bunker situated at MR 091129.</p> <p>Active enemy mortars were engaged in the morning, afternoon and evening by artillery. A total of eighteen mortar bombs were reported to have landed in the battalion area. They caused no casualties or damage.</p> <p>Seven reconnaissance patrols, two standing patrols and one ambush party were despatched tonight. Patrols on WARSAW, RONSON and FINGER reported groups of enemy in their localities. They withdrew, the enemy were engaged with artillery, and the patrols returned. They had nothing further to report. There were reports of enemy movement in the valley and at MR 102104. Both were engaged by artillery with unknown success. The remainder of the patrols returned with little or nothing to report.</p> <p>Due to the cold nights it has been the practise to relieve the standing patrols at midnight. To date there have been two cases of frost bitten feet. Both men were evacuated.</p>	
	8 Dec 52		<p>It was another cold clear day with the temperature ranging between 20° and 30°. The snow on the northern slopes of the hills slightly lighted an otherwise dark night.</p> <p>The companies are continuing to work on line KANSAS. Company Command posts are being dug, and defensive wire is being laid.</p> <p>At an early hour this morning (0540 hrs) the Brigade Commander, and the CO 1 RCHA arrived. At 0550 hrs accompanied by the CO, they left the Command post on their way to C Company. There they observed the front, and inspected the conditions of defenses.</p>	<p><i>AMC</i></p>

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///	8 Dec 52		<p>Later in the morning, the Commander Royal Engineers inspected the progress of a tunnelling project on the HOOK. He was also interested in the conditions of the roads.</p> <p>There were seven reconnaissance patrols and two standing patrols sent out at last light. They were all to return at first light or on completion. The standing patrols were relieved at midnight.</p> <p>A total of twenty nine mined shells and mortar bombs landed in the battalion area during the day. Two casualties were caused by one of the mortar bombs.</p>	JMG.
	9 Dec 52		<p>At an early hour (0230 hrs) this mornin it was reported that enemy mortar fire had inflicted some casualties in C Company area. Approximately thirty more bombs were received at noon.</p> <p>They caused no damage. At 1715 hrs two soldiers and one KSC received wounds from mortar fire on C Company.</p> <p>During the evening three battle accidents occurred. All casualties were evacuated.</p> <p>There were six reconnaissance patrols, two standing patrols and two ambush parties sent out at last light. Several enemy patrols were reported across the front. Some were engaged with small arms, others with artillery. Indications were that in each incident the enemy dispersed, then regrouped and proceeded on his way.</p> <p>The RCR wiring party was to go out tonight, but wireless communication to the screening party was not satisfactory. They returned without laying any wire.</p>	JMG.
	10 Dec 52		<p>It was a comparatively quiet day. Aside from several enemy being sighted during day light and some nonsense with a sniper shortly after first light there was little else to report. The tanks and artillery engaged enemy earth works on PHEASANT with good effect.</p>	

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///	10 Dec 52		<p>There were six reconnaissance patrols, three standing patrols and one ambush party despatched tonight. The RONSON patrol was fired on by .30 caliber MG from BETTY GRABLE and again from SEATTLE. They suffered no casualties. The patrol at MR 127097 engaged one enemy who was proceeding south. He disappeared toward the SAMICHON. The rest of the patrols were quiet. The RCR wiring and screening parties were out again tonight. Their work is proceeding slowly due to the frozen ground.</p> <p>The inter-battalion boundary is being changed so that the north west bank of the SAMICHON will be included in our area of responsibility. This will allow us to fire on targets in that vicinity without first checking with the unit on our right.</p>	<i>JML.</i>
	11 Dec 52		<p>Today there was relatively little enemy activity. In the late afternoon five mortar bombs were received in C Company area. During the afternoon our artillery engaged known enemy positions on ROME and SEATTLE.</p> <p>At 2045 hrs word was received from Brigade HQ to the effect that the enemy were having wireless checks every five minutes. In the past he has followed this procedure prior to launching an attack. It is anticipated that he may try one tonight. There is no indication as to the locality of his interest. It was later learned that a strong probe was put in against the USM on ^{our} left.</p> <p>At 2359 hrs the relief of C Company by D Company commenced. Everything went well and at 0200 hrs the relief was effected and the command changed. C Company now occupy the position vacated by D Company.</p> <p>Nine standing patrols were established at last light and stayed out until first light. The patrol at RONSON withdrew and directed artillery fire on enemy movement in the vicinity. They returned to their post and had nothing further to report during the night. All the other patrols were quiet.</p>	

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LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
///	11 Dec 52		<p>A reconnaissance patrol of twelve men under Lt Bell (A Company) went out last night to search the northern slopes of the WARSAW feature. They were to discern if the enemy were digging tunnels on the feature. The patrol covered the objective without encountering any enemy and returned with the answer that they ^{enemy} were not building defenses there.</p> <p>The companies are continuing to improve their defenses in the present positions. They are also busily engaged completing their tasks on Line Kansas. The frost is well into the ground by now and this makes for slow progress on digging operations.</p>	JMC
	12 Dec 52		<p>The weather is continuing clear and cold. The temperature range is between 25° and 35°. A fresh wind of about 5 knots blew from the north east. The night was dark except for an hour or so in the early morning when the moon was up.</p> <p>There were nine standing patrols out tonight. They encountered nothing out of the ordinary. It was a quiet uneventful day.</p> <p>Today A Echelon received two winterization kits for squad tents. They contained enough lumber for a floor and a frame. The frame is as high as the top of the shirt of the tent. One is to be used for the officers mess, and one for the Orderly Room and pay officer established in a squad tent with a connecting door to the Adjutant's office in the van. It will facilitate ^{make} a more compact and more efficient administration centre along with economy of canvas and personnel.</p>	JMC
	13 Dec 52		<p>Except for patrolling there has been little other activity. There were seven standing patrols, one fighting patrol, one ambush party and a daylight lay up. At 1905 hrs the RONSON patrol reported that they heard whistling and the sounds of people coming up the crawl trench. The patrol withdrew and the position was engaged by artillery. At 1955 hrs when the patrol returned all was quiet until at 2109 hrs a small group of enemy were heard.</p>	

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###	13 Dec 52	←	They were again engaged when our patrol withdrew. Tonight the enemy addressed the Canadian Troops on the wireless set. He spoke clearly and in good English. The text of the message was "surrender and be assured of a swift repatriation."	<i>MM.</i>
	14 Dec 52		At 1845 hrs eleven Platoon reported an enemy group of undermined size moving so close to their position that they could not be safely engaged by either mortar or artillery. Eleven Platoon engaged them with small arms with unknown success. The enemy withdrew. At 1900 hrs A company reported enemy in their vicinity. Mortar HE and flares were fired. Nothing was seen but A company insisted that the enemy was still there. Nothing more came of it. At 2000 hrs the RCR wiring party reported that about ten enemy were seen on the ridge at MR 100100. Later about twenty enemy were seen at MR 099099. They were engaged by artillery. They withdrew to the area of SEATTLE. Artillery was placed on the known paths towards SEATTLE. Our patrols were established as usual. They returned with nothing to report.	<i>MM.</i>
	15 Dec 52		Late last night and early this morning a torrent of rain fell. It lasted less than an hour as the storm passed on its way south. It was accompanied by a cold north wind. The temperature ranged between 15° and 32°. The dry frozen ground absorbed much of the water and the ground surface remained relatively dry. The day remained cold and the snow did not melt. Rebuilding of bunkers in the battalion area is well advanced. Most of the companies have rebuilt or strengthened existing bunkers on their hills, and a good number of new bunkers have been and are being erected. At Main HQ work on a new command post is well underway. In addition many bunkers for living quarters have been completed. There are still some people living in tents. Before the unit is relieved by 1 RCR around the end of this month it is hoped that there will be bunker accomodation for everyone.	

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##	15 Dec 52		<p>As for building bunkers, the RCE are cooperating marvellously. They are building all of the large ones. Prefabricated bunkers are now the vogue. They consist of a number of timbers cut to the proper length. All that is required is to dig a hole the right size and set up the timbers. From there on it is a simple matter to sandbag and build up with earth and rock. Some reinforced concrete slabs are being made available for observation posts.</p> <p>On the line of prefabrication, there are also weapon slit covers. They are a framework made from steel pickets which sit over the weapon plits and are anchored there with sandbags. They allow the rifleman to safely occupy his slit during a bombardment and still be in a position to observe and use his weapon in the event of an enemy attack.</p> <p>An ambush party to DYKE consisting of one Sgt and twelve men sent out by A company was not very successful. In the words of A Company Commander: "It was abortive. The greatest single factor brought forth as a result of the ambush was the reiteration of the requirements for time to effect adequate reconnaissance, planning, and the briefing of all concerned."</p>	
	16 Dec 52		<p>It was a fine cold day. In the early morning a heavy haze hung in the air. Koreans predict snow. Light clouds shaded the sun most of the day, and toward evening they became much more dense and a dark night descended.</p> <p>A Blitz wiring party under Sgt Cole successfully laid wire between ROMSON and D Company. This was done without interference from the enemy. There is still about one hundred yards to do.</p> <p>At 1645 hrs the FOO with B Company reported seeing two Canadian soldiers on PHEASANT. When the full story was unfolded it was found that four soldiers from B Company had left their platoon positions without permission. They had all been under the influence of alcohol. One fell asleep at MR 110106 and was apprehended and returned to his position with no trouble. One returned to his position after searching out WARSAW.</p>	

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///	16 Dec 52	←	The other two, one a corporal, went to PHEASANT, became involved in a fire fight during which they claim to have killed five enemy. They returned through B Company unharmed. They reported seeing the bodies of three US Marines near MR 118108. All four soldiers were sent to A Echelon under close arrest.	M6
	17 Dec 52		The signals exchange at A Echelon moved from its position beside the Orderly room to the base of the hill. Several factors prompted the move. The wireless aerials can now be erected at the top of the hill in order to give a greater reception and transmission range. It will not be necessary to erect poles for telephone lines. Previous to the move all lines from the switchboard ran across the yard where they were frequently torn down by vehicles. Now the lines run along the base of the hill, and thence to the telephones and only one has to cross a road. This one is to the orderly room and it is buried. The linemen's job at A Echelon is now a simple one, and his efforts can be put to maintaining more of the trunk lines. Operations during the day were confined to seven uneventful standing patrols. The enemy is continuing to dig on SEATTLE and BETTY GRABLE. Several mortar bombs were received in the battalion area during the early morning. There was no harm done.	M6
	18 Dec 52		The enemy seem to be rushing the Christmas season. This afternoon A Company received a variety of propaganda leaflets in their area. It is suspected that they were despatched by enemy artillery shells. They were all of the (Tear jerking) type. (Lonely parents, forlorn children and wayward wives). There was also some music and a distorted message which mentioned Americans and War. The texts of the message indicate that the enemy are of the opinion that British troops are still in the area. Though the enemy is impudent he is also becoming careful. This morning the usual fire smoke from his positions was not seen.	

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LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES (OFFICER'S INITIALS)
///	18 Dec 52		Until today the routine had been to engage his cooking fires with artillery mortars. It appears that he has resigned to put up with a cold breakfast.	
	19 Dec 52		<p>Snow greeted us this morning. About midnight last night a light snow began to fall, by morning there was about an inch on the ground. The temperature remained low, ranging between 15° and 25°. During the day the sky cleared and a cold wind persisted.</p> <p>This morning, Major MacNeill the battalion 2 i/c held a meeting of company 2's i/c. It was brought out that companies were not submitting accurate ration returns. Other points discussed were the plans for Xmas messing, lack of discipline of drivers and echelon personnel; shortage and waste of certain supplies and equipment, and the improper use of company transport. Common sense and economy are the criteria to be used. In order to finish defensive earth works in the battalion area, three additional companies of KSC are being put to work. They are being supplied and supervised by the Royal Canadian Engineers. They will work in forward positions in shifts during the hours of darkness and during daylight on the reverse slopes. Tunnels, bunkers, trenches and revetments on the HOOK and flanking features are priority projects and must be completed as soon as possible.</p> <p>In the early hours this morning (approximately 0400 hrs) Major McPhail was buried when a sandbag wall of his bunker collapsed. He was asleep in his sleeping bag when it happened. The weight of the sandbags on him, and the confinement of his sleeping bag rendered him practically immobile. With one hand free he tore a hole through the sleeping bag liner, but he could not move his hand sufficiently to dig all the way out. His head was pinned down by several sandbags, but there was a breathing space. His greatest fear was that the stove had been knocked over. Finally at about 0700 hrs his houseboy arrived and uncovered him. Major McPhail was evacuated through the RAP to the ADS for a thorough examination. There was no physical injury to him except for his throat.</p>	<i>MA</i>

MONTHLY WAR DIARIES WILL BE
 ENCLOSED IN WAR DIARY COVER
 (CAP 16 47A). INSTRUCTIONS
 FOR COMPILING WAR DIARIES
 ARE PRINTED INSIDE ITS COVER

WAR DIARY

SECRET

16

..... 3. P.P.C.L.I. FOR December.. 1952.....
 (UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
///	21 Dec 52		<p>There was more snow last night. By daylight there was about two inches down. The temperature remained low ranging between 10° and 20°. The day was clear and bright and a northwesterly wind blow at 10 knots. The moon was up until about midnight, then a dark night descended.</p> <p>The snow on the roads made driving very treacherous. There were a number of vehicle accidents which caused quite a strain on unit transport. D Company received more than thirty enemy mortar bombs in their area today. There were no casualties and no damage done. Normal standing patrols were established. They had nothing to report.</p>	<i>JML</i>
	22 Dec 52		<p>Light snow fell again during the night. The weather was much as it was yesterday.</p> <p>Activity during the day was confined to patrolling by both sides. A R Company patrol directed artillery fire on enemy movement. They later exchanged grenades, and again Artillery fire was brought down. Other patrols were quiet.</p> <p>At daylight was seen the results of enemy activity for last night. There were Christmas trees and banners on RONSON. Christmas gifts and cards were also found.</p> <p>S/Sgt Charters was relieved as RQMS by W02 Ludtke. Charters was promoted to W02 and went to A Echelon to assume the duties of HQ CSM.</p>	<i>JML</i>
	23 Dec 52		<p>Activity for the day was normal. Patrols had little to report.</p>	<i>JML</i>
	24 Dec 52		<p>Seven standing patrols, one reconnaissance patrol and one ambush party were sent out tonight. They reported normal enemy movement and directed artillery fire on known enemy positions. The reconnaissance was very well conducted and the patrol learned considerable about the enemy on several features. The ambush party had one man killed by enemy mortar fire while they were on their way in.</p>	<i>JML</i>

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WAR DIARY

SECRET

17

..... 3 P.P.C.L.I. FOR. December. 1952.
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
///	25 Dec 52		<p>The weather for Christmas day was clear and bitterly cold. The temperature ranged between 20° and minus 5°. A cold wind started blowing at first light and continued through the day until evening.</p> <p>A and B Echelon enjoyed their Christmas dinners. The men were traditionally served by the officers and senior NCO's. The Commanding Officer and the RSM visited both echelon and extended greetings of the season to the men. The remainder of the battalion will celebrate Christmas on New Years Day.</p> <p>Capt Meisner with a composite company (eight Pl, A/Tk Pl and the Band) relieved R Company so that they could celebrate Christmas Day with their unit.</p> <p>The front was quiet during the day.</p> <p>Last night the command post and all companies were visited by the QM, Adj and TO. They extended Christmas Greeting while the day was young.</p> <p>The arrived home at 0630 hrs.</p>	<p><i>at 0630 hrs the Brigade Commander arrived at Main, and with Lt Col Wood, visited all the key positions and wished the officers and men as merry a Christmas as their circumstances could provide.</i></p> <p><i>JML</i></p>
	26 Dec 52		<p>Last night and early this morning B and D Companies were subjected to sporadic mortar fire. There was no damage reported. Known enemy positions were harassed by our heavy weapons as were areas where enemy movement was reported. Normal patrols were established and reported a quiet night.</p>	<p><i>JML</i></p>
	27 Dec 52		<p>The weather was extremely cold during the day and night. Water in tents and bunkers froze even where fires were burning. The temperature ranged between 15° and 5° below zero.</p> <p>Reconnaissance of our company positions is being carried out by officers and NCO's of 1 RCR. They are to relieve 3 PPCLI by 2300 hrs 28 December 52.</p> <p>Activity for the day was confined to patrolling and shelling on both sides. There were no contacts with the enemy.</p>	

MONTHLY WAR DIARIES WILL BE ENCLOSED IN WAR DIARY COVER (CAF 16 L7A). INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPILING WAR DIARIES ARE PRINTED INSIDE ITS COVER

WAR DIARY

SECRET

18

.....3 P.P.C.L.I.....FOR...December 1952.....
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
##	28 Dec 52		<p>Retreat was sounded by the Bugles at A Echelon today. Several officers and three visiting US Army Officers saluted as the flag was lowered. The Drums and Bugles under Sgt Prest then countermarched in quick and slow time to complete the ceremony.</p> <p>The relief of 3 PPCLI by 1 RCR was carried out without mishap. The change in command took place at 2150 hrs. 3 PPCLI minus C Company went back into the reserve position which they were occupying in November. C Company is holding a large company area at the front, and are under command of 1 RCR.</p>	
C Coy 114081	29 Dec 52		<p>Scattered light snow flurries throughout the day warmed the air somewhat. The temperature was well above freezing and snow melted as it reached the ground.</p> <p>The battalion is getting settled into the reserve area. There is sufficient canvas for everyone and the RCR have left much of it standing. The area is well developed against the cold and a comfortable stay there is the expected.</p>	
D Coy 103100	30-31 Dec 52		<p>The weather became quite cold on the morning 30 December and the temperature stayed down for the two day period. The time was spent in getting everyone cleaned, and preparing for Christmas / New Years festivities which are to be held the 1st day of January 53.</p> <p>Lorraine McAllister put on a show for all companies. She had lunch with Sergeants and tea with Officers. She was a great success and was warmly received by all ranks.</p> <p>A small party was held in the Officers Mess. C.O. and his chorus (Of junior officers) visited B and D Companies smokers later in the evening.</p>	
B Coy 109100				
A Coy 103095				
R Coy 115096				
MAIN & TAC				
119085				

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

LIST OF APPENDICITS

WAR DIARY

Appx	A	1	"A" Coy Activity for December	o
	A	2	"D" Coy Activity for December	o
	A	3	Mortar Platoon Activity	✓
	A	4	QM Activity	✓
	A	5	MOs Report for December	✓
	A	6	Padre's Report for December	✓
	A	7	1952 Bond Drive	✓
	A	8	Sigs Platoon Activity	✓
	A	8	Formation and Unit Record	o
Appx	B	1	Operations Log	o
	B	2	3 PPCI Int Summary	✓
	B	3	25 CIB Ops/Int Summary	o
	B	4	1 Comwel Div Ops/Int Summary	o
	B	5	EUSAK Tactical Summary	o
	B	6	Patrol Reports	✓
	B	7	Operation Instruction # 2	✓
	B	8	Handover Notes	o
	B	9	Confirmatory Notes	o
	B	9	Brigade Commander's Conference Notes	o
Appx	C	1	Part II Orders	✓ 14970 15524/31 Dec 52
	C	2	Part I Orders	3970 674/24 Dec 52
	C	3	Admn Instructions	o
	C	4	Nominal Roll KIA	o
	C	5	Nominal Roll WIA	o
	C	6	Nominal Roll Battle Accidents	o
	C	7	Summary Casualty Return	✓
	C	7	Strength Return	o
Appx	D	1	SDS Schedules	o
	D	1	Line Route Diagram	o
Appx	E		Training	o
Appx	F		News Paper clippings	o
	F		Census News	o

TRACES

Ref maps REFER 1:50000
HANSON N.I.
MUNSRAN N.I.

WAR DIARY

A2
A2

MORTARS PLATOON

1 In action line Jamestown approximately 1500 hrs
30 Nov 52 one remainder W/C 1 Black Watch until 0900
hrs 1 Dec 52.

2 No unusual occurrences but perifle supporting
tasks in two ambush patrols by D Company, as well
as the fighting patrols commanded by Lts Campbell and
Barnett.

3 Observed fire had been placed on several enemy
locations with good results and for the period approx-
imately 425 - 81 MM bombs have been expended, several
hundred 3 inch mortar bombs have been expended from the
section of mortars on loan from Black Watch .

4 The platoon area was visited by the Commanding
Officer on 7 Dec and coffee was "served" in the Command
Post with L/Cpl Georgia pouring.

5 The platoon is now completely dug in with the
exception of Pl HQ, who owing to its small size, and
other activities, has only been able to achieve about half
security.

6 Sgt Oakley C F has been promoted to S/Sgt and assumed
the duties of CQMS of Support Company. His place has been
taken in the platoon by Sgt Jones D V.

7 Daily work parties have been going to line Kansas
and good progress has been made in evering and digging.

8 The platoon strength now stands at 2 and 46 including
attached personnel.

1800 Hrs 14 Dec - 1800 Hrs 21 Dec 52

1 During the period a total of 89 - 81 mm and 401-3 inch
mortar bombs were fired on opportunity and brassing targets.
At 1655 hrs 16 Dec fire was requested by B Company in
assistance of the "Ettinger Esseapbe", and 21 bombs
were fired. At 0405 hrs 1 Dec, 14 bombs were placed
near DF(SOS) 6 when an enemy patrol approached a screening
patrol for our "Blitzkreig" evering party.

2 Additions to the platoon during the week include
Sgt Cook J now MFC at B Company replacing Cpl Miller,
who has gone forward to be MFC in the HOOK.

3 Visitor of the week (only) was IRGR mortar officer,
who dropped in on the morning of 16 Dec, expressing some
concern over his courier attack mortar position being occupied
by one of our rifle platoons.

4 Tragidly of the week was the misfortune of Pte Thomas A R
who on opening a promising looking parcel from home, found
it contained 100 Hersey Bars.

5 Ammunition on hand:
(a) 81 MM

- M 3 - 1304 (Fuze 1752)
- M 56 - 358 (Fuze M 52)
- M 56 - 495 (Fuze M 53)
- M 56 - 163 (Fuze M 77)
- M 57 - 305 (Fuze M 52-M 77)
- M 301 - 27 (Fuze M 84)

WAR DIARY

Page 2

MORTARS PLATOON (Cont'd)

5 (b) 31inch Mortar
HE - 851
Smoke - 31

1800 Hrs 21 Dec - 1800 Hrs 28 Dec 52

1 The platoon fired normal opportunity and harassing tasks and a special allotment of 300 bombs was released by G-3 for this purpose. During the period a total of 191-81 MM bombs was expended and approximately 400 3 inch bombs.

2 These were as highlights and 25 Dec was spent a normal day and was the day on which the largest number of bombs was fired.

3 1 RCR - MFCs arrived on 26 Dec and were placed with our MFCs on Pl 121. The Hook and B Company.

⁴The relief of the Platoon by 1 RCR was complete by 1200 hrs 28 Dec and by 1400 hrs the platoon was installed in their Wyoming line area in three equal tents.

1800 hrs 28 Dec - 1800 hrs 4 Jan 53

1 The period has been mainly spent on cleaning up of the men and equipment and preparation of syllabi for the platoon and battalion training commencing 5 Jan 53.

2 The platoon was visited by the Brigadier on 2 Jan and he saw them doing weapon and vehicle maintenance.

3 A large turkey dinner, with beer and trimmings was served to the men by the officer and senior NCOs on 1 Jan. During the meal the company was visited by the CO who assisted for awhile in serving the men.

⁴A company smoker was held during the evening of 2 Jan with enough beer for three bottles per man. Although hurriedly organized it was well conducted and members of the platoon had an enjoyable time.

5 The platoon has been engaged since Friday afternoon in digging a 9'x 7'x 12' 6" hole to enable the RCF to erect a bunker for the battalion training purposes.

6 At about 0930 hrs 2 Jan a shot was heard from the direction of the company entrance gate. The shot was fired at, and entered the tire of the A/Tk Platoon 3/4 ton truck, by Pte Sniddan P M. Sniddan was on guard at the time and the driver of the truck had failed to stop for the second time during Sniddan's tour to allow him to examine the work ticket. No one has failed to stop since that time.

(J T Hodge) Lt

WAR DIARY

QM
Week Ending 7 Dec 52

A3
A3

With the moving of the battalion into the line on 30 Nov-1 Dec 52 the "Q" department was kept busy supplying trench heaters and equipment to make the sojourn in the hills as comfortable as possible.

The trench heaters issued consisted of a 20 pounder shell, ten 25 pounder charge casings, six feet of rubber hosing, four feet of copper tubing and a valve. The heaters were issued on the basis of one per bunker and although some difficulty was found with leaky valves, by the end of the week every one was fairly comfortable.

Two members of the QM staff are now in hospital, Pte Cox burned himself with hotwater about three weeks ago and has not returned and L/Cpl Wiley disappeared into the abyss of medical channels on 4 Dec 52 with a sore throat and hasn't been heard of since. This has caused some rearrangement in the operating procedure of the QM stores but no serious dislocation.

Winterization kits for two squad tents were received this week and one is being used to reorganize the BOR.

The QM and RQMS made their weekly call on the companies on 7 Dec 52 but found that after making the hill to "B" Coy the afternoon was just about gone.

Some equipment is still in short supply but all in all the unit had a good week on the "Q" side.

Week Ending 14 Dec 52

SH 17532 RQMS Ludtke C.O. arrived on the unit on 13 Dec 52 from Canada. He had been held in Canada pending the closing out of 3 PPCLI "Q" accounts at Walmswright.

L/Cpl Wylie and Pte Cox returned from hospital during the week and now the QM stores is functioning with all its personnel.

Clothing is still in short supply as the monthly bulk indent for December has not arrived. With the exception of steel helmets, however new arrivals and/or reinforcements are getting pretty well equipped.

Week Ending 21 Dec 52

This week saw the arrival of good quantities of clothing and equipment badly needed by the unit, steel helmets, battledress, handkerchiefs and socks were received and quickly distributed.

The MRBU broke down again this week causing a major crisis as regards to socks. It was necessary for the QM to arrange for the washing and drying of 1500 prs of socks and for awhile the QM staff were alerted with washboards, soap and tubs at the "ready" position. Fortunately, however, the RT came to the rescue and the socks were washed in a washing machine.

To dry the socks, the showers at B echelon were closed for two days and ropes were strung up.

This new notion of the QM was a matter of great discussion in B echelon for several days and it is still not safe to talk about socks to the QM.

A trip was made by the QM to Seoul on 18 Dec 52 to secure lumber for the construction of tables and benches for the various Men's Messes. It was a successful trip and a 2 1/2 ton truckful of fairly decent boards was secured.

WAR DIARY

Week Ending 21 Dec 52 (Cont'd)

On Friday 19 Dec 52 RQMS Ludtke and two other senior NCO's, were invited to an "At Home" given by the Durham Light Infantry. Some difficulty was experienced in finding the DLI. On the way home the little expedition deemed it wiser to spend the night with the 11th Marines. As this unit was 22 miles from A echelon 3 PPCLI it must be presumed that either:

- (a) They liked the Marines
- OR
- (b) They were lost.

However at 0900 hrs 20 Dec 52 they returned to the fold tired but happy(?)

The QM and RQMS visited A Coy on Sunday 21 Dec 52 and there were no complaints.

Things went well on the "Q" side this week with more control being gained on distribution of all types of stores and equipment.

Week Ending 28 Dec 52

A very quiet week in the "Q" department with normal supply being maintained.

Due to the fact that the majority of the unit will be celebrating Christmas on 1 Jan 53, all rations for consumption on this day were drawn on 23 Dec 52 and have been stored at B Echelon.

Christmas Day was celebrated at B Echelon on 25 Dec 52 with the QM, RQMS and Teck Sgt assisting in the serving of the men's meal.

On Christmas afternoon the QM and RQMS called on various sub-units of the battalion and a good time was had by all.

Tentage and stores were obtained during the week to provide all ranks of the unit with comfortable accommodation while in the reserve position.

The men will be sleeping in squad tents with another tent provided for an eating mess.

(C A H Kemsley) Capt
QM 3 PPCLI