

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

(Unit or Formation)

for...

MARCH 1953

(Month and Year)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDIX AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
	1 Mar 53		The day was spent as will the next two in preparing the March rotation draft for departure. There were the usual percentage of additions, deletions and inoculations which always plague troop movements in the final stages of preparation. The frost continues to leave the ground making movement progressively more difficult. Several officers started work in new appointments. Lt R J Campbell as assistant OM(welfare), Capt M Marchessault as adjutant, Capt S Campbell to MMG Pl and 2/Lt E R Anderson as assistant adjutant.	4
	2 Mar 53		Training is being carried on following the same pattern as in the previous month. Platoons & companys are now coming to a point where field firing will be in order.	H
	3 Mar 53		The medical officer is very busy bringing all necessary inoculations & vaccinations up to date. Weekly hygiene inspections are being carried out all through the Bn. The MO is quite satisfied with construction and placing of latrines and kitchen sump pits.	A
	4 Mar 53		The medical staff has suffered loss through rotation to much the same degree as other specialists. Of necessity a battle first aid and hygiene course of two weeks duration has been set up and now nears completion. A divisional course on the subject of field hygiene produced six successful Patricia candidates.	A
	5 Mar 53		Sick parades are now held at 1630 hrs daily. The result has been a noticable drop in the attendance of that parade particularly on days of Bn exercise. Presumably the lead swingers & Hypochondriacs find the time of parade less practical than formerly.	f

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	6 <del>Mar</del> 53		The Bn experimented with five pairs of new type American boots. The results were not very encouraging and indicate that an wholly rubber boot is not the answer to cold weather in this country. The Medical Officer has submitted a report on the prevalence of VD in the unit. The statistics show that while the total numbers remain constant, two thirds of the cases are contacted in Korea.	A
	8 Mar 53		Each week all Coys spend some portion of training time on the field firing range. The result of this action is almost without fail, a worried call from an adjoining encampment determining that they are not the target. In all cases to date their fears have been unnecessary.	A
	10 Mar 53		The weather has not helped the Bn through the last week, rain or plain cloudy every day. The MSR is constantly condition red and the roads in camp have disappeared entirely despite the fact that the engineers have poured tons of gravel on them.	A
	12 Mar 53		The Bn shower unit continues to do an efficient job. The proprietor (Joe) has managed to keep the establishment high and dry, despite a tendency of his portion of the hill to slide into the paddy fields.	A
	14 Mar 53		Exercise Sangue. Deployment drills with a vengeance. The Bn moved at 0800 following up the adm recce groups. Sub units creaked through the day drawing past teachings back to mind. SOP no longer a small volume in a trunk but a live vital thing to be studied once again.	A
	17 Mar 53		The day was officially started on Sp Coy parade square where the commanding officer explained the significance of that day to newer members of the Regt. He carried on then and read aloud messages received from the first and second battalions plus messages from illustrious exmembers of the Regt.	A



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	17 Mar 53		The parade ended with the singing of The Ric - A - Dam - Doo, the Bn being led by a choir formed by the Sgts and WOs. Free issue of beer and the first broomball game commenced. Broomball was carried on throughout the day, Baker Coy emerging as the Bn broom experts. The highlight game was played between the officers mess and sergeants mess. This game produced the day's only major casualty. The evening produces a further free issue of beer bringing the day's total to five free bottles per man. A huge bonfire and a stage on the bn parade square were used to provide the evening's entertainment. Each Coy plus BnHQ provided some type of skit or music.	A
	18 Mar 53		Morning came early. Many members of the Bn rose at dawn to fill the roll of umpires or to provide the wireless communication for the umpires. There has been a very generous allotment of R&R leave vacancies. The Bn will be able to send a total of a prox 100 men in this month alone. There has been a sharpening up of processing in the L of C making it possible to give a man five days leave and expect him back in eight days. Only one group has been held up due to bad flying weather.	A
	20 Mar 53		During the week the Bn underwent a RCME weapons inspection. The results were quite good. The band and sniper sects were employed in rounding up a horde of orphans who had been raiding the camp.	A
	23 Mar 53		Exercise Gumbo, a follow up of exercise Sanguine. The Bn moved smoothly out at an early hour in spite of the mud which prohibited all vehicles larger than jeeps. The troops moved through the assembly area, FUP and over the start line to advance quickly to respective objectives. Operations moved so well that the scheme ended much sooner than anticipated.	A

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	25 Mar 53		The medical officer awoke to find that he had been the victim of a raid of the same nature that have been annoying other units. He was not completely stripped but lost only clothing. The sun has appeared at last and the roads are drying up. Some of the camp roads have reappeared but Sp Coy vehicles are still in a hull down position.	A
	27 Mar 53		The unit has been losing small quantities of rations over the last few weeks. To-day an identification parade was held. The star witnesses being prostitutes who have been the recipients of the missing rations. The parade unfortunately was successful.	A
	28 Mar 53		Today was a miserable one. At approx 1145 hrs one hundred Katecom troops arrived. They are small in stature but large in heart. 2-Lt E R Anderson has been appointed training officer for the group. They were allotted to Coys and split into training squads. Each squad has a corporal instructor and houseboy interpreters. In a matter of a few hours they (instructors and instructees) were working in perfect harmony despite the language barrier.	A
	31 Mar 53		The weather the past week has been ideal. The roads are now "Green". Most of the worst spots have been filled in and traffic now moves in normal fashion. The unit received word that eight reinforcement officers (subalterns) were enroute from Japan.	A

*C E C MacNeill*  
(C E C MACNEILL) MAJOR  
T/COMMANDING 3 PPCLI

1. Medical report (Feb)
2. Exercise DROP
3. Exercise SANGER
4. Exercise GUMBO
5. Exercise NEWMARKET
6. Officers slate
7. CO conference confirmatory notes
8. Concert party notes
9. Wireless exercise
10. Notes on Koreans
11. Program March 17
12. Newspaper clippings
13. Part 1 Orders
14. Part 2 Orders (Dup) 2570 39 d/21 MAR 53 ✓
15. Photographs
16. Intelligence summary (Bde)
17. Map of area
18. Div int summary
19. Bn int summary
20. ~~Newsletter~~ Hq 25 Bde Hq (Dup) ✓
21. Exercise Northland II
22. Exercise Newmarket II
23. Training time tables
24. Operation log Northland II