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WAR DIARY

SECRET

..... THIRD BATTALION P.P.C.L.I. .... FOR OCTOBER, 1953  
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICIES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
CT 188119	1 Oct 53		<p>The weather was very clear and warm.</p> <p>Baker and Dog Companies took part in a withdrawal exercise. Companies took up Battle Positions and on the order to withdraw, Dog Company left first, followed by Baker Company. Tactical Headquarters withdrew in their armoured half-track, (used for the first time). The main difficulty encountered was the darkness of the night and the inability to tape routes causing troops to encounter great difficulties in moving cross country.</p> <p>The Exercise was successfully concluded by 0100 hours on the Second.</p>	<i>don</i>
CT 188119	2 Oct 53		<p>The weather continued fair and warm.</p> <p>The Battalion's advance party under Second Lieutenant E R W ANDERSON, the Assistant Adjutant, left for SEOUL hence to KURE and then to home. This party consisted of one Officer, two Warrant Officers, six Sergeants, two Lance Corporals, and six Privates. They are expected to leave KURE for CANADA by plane, on or about the Seventh of this month.</p> <p>An honours and awards parade was held in PATRICIA PARK, to-day and the decorations won by personnel with this battalion were given out. Recipients were: Major C E C MacNEILL, who was awarded the MBE; Captain D A ELLIOTT, who was awarded an MID, and Sergeant L STEADMAN, who was awarded the MM. Sergeant V D COLE, was awarded an MM but he was not present as he had been previously returned to CANADA.</p> <p>Major L W BASHAM, commanded the parade ably assisted by the Regimental Sergeant Major, WO 1 LEE.</p>	<i>don</i>

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CT 188119	3 Oct 53		<p>Cool most of the day turning warmer towards evening.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel M F MacLACHLAN MC CD, and Major A C BRETT, Battle Adjutant, went out today to inspect the Regulating Centre, Road Blocks, Observation Posts, and Police Posts.</p> <p>The Intelligence Section journeyed to the First Marine Division today to promote foreign trade. (Scrounging is illegal.) The main success of this venture was in the use of the camera to preserve the scenery thereabouts for posterity. The "YANKS" are not as gullible as they used to be. We have more luck with the LIMIES.</p>	<i>DOM</i>
CT 188119	4 Oct 53		<p>Very warm during the day and not uncomfortably cool in the evening.</p> <p>Sunday again, with its regular church parades, late sleeping, no shaving (if you can get away with it), and a general lack of something to do.</p> <p>The Battle Adjutant made a recce of all 3 PPCLI Road Blocks, Observation Posts, and Boundary fences. It was found during this inspection that the fence marking the SOUTHERN boundary of the Demilitarized Zone was badly in need of warning signs. The Battle Adjutant directed the Intelligence Section to make a complete survey of the SOUTHERN boundary of the Demilitarized Zone</p> <p>On the part of the Other Ranks, the day was spent mostly by making final visits to neighbouring units to visualize how their friends, who are going to remain behind for the completion of their tour, feel about our going home. A friendly gesture on the Other Ranks part.</p>	<i>DOM</i>
CT 188119	5 Oct 53		<p>Weather remaining fair.</p> <p>An Operation Order arrived from Brigade detailing procedure to be</p>	



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CT 188119	5 Oct 53		<p>followed in the event of a resumption in hostilities.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer and Battle Adjutant prepared a Battalion Plan based on the Brigade Order.</p>	DM
CT 188119	6 Oct 53		<p>Weather still fair during daylight, cool at night.</p> <p>At 0900 hours the Commanding Officer held a conference detailing the Battalion's Position in any future outbreak of hostilities. The plan is known as OPERATION WINDMILL.</p> <p>Company Commanders were directed to carry out recce of their new operational rolls as soon as possible.</p> <p>Friday was set as the day by which the Battalion must be fully prepared for Operation WINDMILL.</p> <p>In the afternoon all Company Commanders were engaged on preliminary recce of their projected areas.</p>	DM
CT 188119	7 Oct 53		<p>The weather continued to be warm by day, cool by night. All Company Commanders and Platoon Commanders continued to recce their projected "WINDMILL" areas, and to draw up tentative battle plans.</p> <p>At 1030 hours Lieutenant R A FORBES and his Anti-tank Platoon from Support Company relieved Charlie Company on the Battalion Regulating Centre, Road Blocks and Observation Posts.</p> <p>In the afternoon Lieutenant FOY and Lieutenant BLOCKBERGER of the Lord Strathcona's attended a conference given by the Battle Adjutant, 3 PPCLI, on security Commitments. The Strathcona are slated to take</p>	DM

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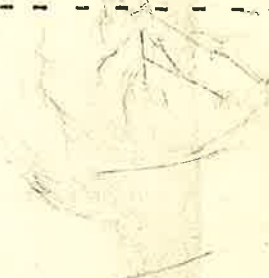
LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICIES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
CT 188119	7 Oct 53		<p>over these commitments from 3 PPCLI on 14 Oct 53.</p> <p>Following the conference the three officers left on a tour of the Regulating Centre, Road Blocks, and Observation Posts.</p> <p>The Battalion Intelligence Section carried out a detailed recce of the WINDMILL positions.</p>	<i>dm</i>
CT 188119	8 Oct 53		<p>Weather today was fair and warm turning cooler towards evening.</p> <p>Companies carried out normal training as per syllabus, while Company Commanders and Platoon Commanders continued preparations for Operation WINDMILL.</p>	<i>dm</i>
CT 188119	9 Oct 53		<p>Weather continued fair and warm with the regular cool evening.</p> <p>Lieutenant R J CAMPBELL, and a party of thirty-seven (37) other ranks left for PUSAN this afternoon. On Sunday they shall hold a Commemoration service at United Nations Cemetery in PUSAN.</p>	<i>dm</i>
CT 188119	10 Oct 53		<p>Weather today was very warm and sunny and again it was quite cool in the evening.</p> <p>A CANADIAN Concert Party of two females and three males entertained the Battalion in PATRICIA PARK. Their act was somewhat overshadowed by Lieutenant R G GRAHAM's introduction to the audience of good ways to invest in War Bonds.</p> <p>In the evening Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters held a very successful smoker.</p>	<i>dm</i>

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LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICIES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
CT 188119	11 Oct 53		<p>The weather was clear and warm throughout the day but turned cool during the night. A great rain storm hit this sector around 1830 hours.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer held a Company Commander's Conference on possible future Battalion Operations. At this meeting was graded <b>MOST SECRET</b>, no minutes were taken.</p> <p>In the afternoon the Battalion Intelligence Section took over manning number six Observation Post, (CT 157154). The Battalion Intelligence Section Sergeant, Sergeant JONES H W, was in charge of this Post.</p> <p>At night a storm lashed the Battalion Area, but no damage was reported.</p>	 <i>ADM</i>
CT 188119	12 Oct 53		<p>After yesterday's rain storm, the weather today turned mildly cold. The evening was quite cold and the temperature fell several degrees during the latter part of the night.</p> <p>To the joy of all, the Advance Party of the Second <b>CANADIAN HIGHLAND BATTALION</b> arrived in the afternoon. The party, consisting of twelve Officers and two Other Ranks was piped into our lines by three pipers from the <b>ROYAL SCOTS</b>.</p> <p>The Highlander's Advance Party consisted of Company Commanders or their Second in Command and key Headquarters personnel.</p> <p>Tonight the Officers of 3 R22eR held a farewell party for the Patricia Officers. The VAN DOOS lived up to their reputation as the Division's best hosts.</p>	<i>ADM</i>



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LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICIES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
BT 188119	13 Oct 53		<p>Weather remained fair but cooler.</p> <p>The personnel sent to PUSAN for the Memorial Service returned to-day breathing sighs of relief after travelling all night on the "PUSAN RAMBLER".</p> <p>The men on duty in six Observation Post were thoroughly shocked when at 0755 hours this morning five Orientals appeared on their doorstep. The cool headed "Patricia's" quickly arranged a surrender, possibly due to the fact that this was the intention of the visitors, even though these people were armed to the teeth. This glory could not last forever however as Division heard of our good luck and rushed the "prisoners" away.</p> <p>Reports from the Observation Posts continue to pour in and point to large numbers of enemy in the Demilitarized Zone. These do not necessarily constitute violations as the enemy are authorized to employ up to one thousand men on the Division front.</p>	
CT 188119	14 Oct 53		<p>Weather unchanged.</p> <p>This day at 1200 hour saw the termination of our activities in the Regulating Centre, Road Blocks and Observation Posts. As much as we hated to relinquish this duty the (Gee Gees) LdSH(RC) in the end overwhelmed us and we were forced to vacate. Even so, we still retained our role in primary defence with its midnight schemes and shall do so to our last breath in Korea.</p> <p>Corps exercise "Scram Three" was put into motion at 0900 hour this morning. 3 PPCLI hurriedly occupied company battle positions and screen positions with a minimum of confusion. All companies were</p>	

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CT 188119	14 Oct 53		<p>in position within 70 minutes of "H" hour. The only real problem seemed to be due to the length of the Exercise which ended at 1400 hours. This necessitated the feeding of the screen which is in place and is inaccessible by vehicle.</p> <p>During the exercise the Advance Party of the 2nd RHC were able to observe the actions of the Battalion in taking up its battle positions.</p>	<i>ADM</i>
CT 188119	15 Oct 53		<p>Weather becoming cooler at night extending almost to midday.</p> <p>All Company Commanders were busily engaged in briefing their opposite numbers from the BLACK WATCH. Much of the day was spent in reconnaissances of the ground the Battalion will operate over in the event of hostilities.</p>	<i>ADM</i>
CT 188119	16 Oct 53		<p>Weather was quite warm during daylight hours and turned cooler towards evening and by early morning it was quite cold.</p> <p>Companies carried on with normal training and continued practicing on their withdrawal exercises. Recces were carried out by Company and Platoon Commanders accompanied by their opposite numbers from the BLACK WATCH.</p> <p>The price of ASAHI beer has been reduce from twenty-five to twenty cents per bottle effective today.</p>	<i>ADM</i>
CT 188119	27 Oct 53		<p>The weather was cool and dry all day with the usual cold night.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer held his parade this morning on PATRICIA PARK. After his parade he spoke to the men to explain the probable</p>	

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CT 188119	17 Oct 53		<p>future role of the Battalion in CANADA. Many were surprised to learn that the Unit formerly slated for CALGARY is now going to report to PETAWAWA after leave. It seems that great changes are in store for us. The sailing date has been settled for somewhere in the vicinity of the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth of October.</p> <p>Following the inspection the Battalion marched past the saluting base, the Commanding Officer, taking the salute.</p> <p>An extremely interesting and gay party took place in the Sergeants Mess this evening commemorating the Battalion leaving KOREA. Officers and Sergeants of other Units were invited and quite a crowd was gathered in all.</p>	ADM
CT 188119	18 Oct 53		<p>Weather continuing colder.</p> <p>Church parades were conducted for both Protestant and Catholic denominations by Padres from the Advance Party of the BLACK WATCH.</p> <p>Following the Church parades the Companies returned to their lines for an afternoon of organized sports.</p>	ADM
CT 188119	19 Oct 53		<p>Weather was warm during daylight, cold at night.</p> <p>Battalion parade held this morning in preparation for the GOC's parade.</p> <p>The Battalion is practising the march past in column of route and close column of platoons. Prior to the Commanding Officer taking over the parade, the Regimental Sergeant Major drilled the Battalion, paying particular emphasis to arms drill.</p> <p>In the evening the Commanding Officer held a Commander's Operations Group for Company Commanders to discuss Operation WATCHDOG, and other subjects.</p>	ADM



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OT 188119	20 Oct 53		<p>Weather was quite warm during daylight hours cooling later in day.</p> <p>The Battalion again held a two-hour rehearsal for the GOC's forthcoming inspection. Timing is still the worst feature of the Battalion drill.</p> <p>The Officer's Mess Farewell Party at night was a great success. Guests included The General Officer Commanding, Major General MURRAY, and the Brigade Commander, Brigadier J V ALLARD plus members of all Canadian Units in KOREA. The RCA band supplied a fine background while six Nursing Sisters provided the feminine touch. A very nice buffet lunch was served to conclude the evening.</p>	DOM
OT 188119	21 Oct 53		<p>Weather continued mild.</p> <p>Battalion parade again this morning. Timing is improving, and the results of the previous days rehearsal are bearing dividends.</p> <p>In the afternoon all ranks prepared for our date of departure by stencilling kit bags, and TAT boxes.</p>	DOM
OT 188119	22 Oct 53		<p>Weather very warm by day, very cold by night.</p> <p>Rehearsal for the GOC's inspection continued, and considerable improvements were noted over previous periods.</p> <p>In the afternoon evidence arrived showing that we were close to our embarking date. Two Canadian Customs Officials began the inspection of our personal kit, on the conclusion of which the kit was sealed and locked.</p>	DOM
OT 188119	23 Oct 53		<p>Weather was fair.</p> <p>A full dress rehearsal was performed this morning and the Battalion seems to be</p>	

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GT 188119	23 Oct 53		<p>in great shape for the GOC's parade tomorrow. In its new outfitting of Battledress and Green Berets, the Unit on parade is a very smart sight.</p> <p>In the afternoon the personnel who had not been inspected by the Customs had their kit inspected, and sealed.</p> <p>Personnel continue to work in preparation for our departure from KOREA. Everything is being cleaned up, and accounted for in preparation for the hand over to the R.H.C.</p>	DOM
GT 188119	24 Oct 53		<p>Weather, rain and more rain, clearing in mid-afternoon.</p> <p>The GOC's Inspection was held today at 0900 hours. A sudden rainstorm caught the Battalion on parade just as Lieutenant Colonel M F MacLACHLAN was taking over the parade. Although the rain and hail continued throughout, the parade went on. The GOC, Major General MURRAY took the salute from the reviewing stand. Everyone meticulously turned out for the occasion disappointed that there could be no inspection to reward their efforts but made up for it by facing rain and putting on a good show.</p> <p>Prior to the march past, Major General MURRAY made a brief speech of farewell. Following the march past the GOC was entertained in the Officers Mess.</p> <p>In the evening the Officers Mess, Headquarters, 25 CDM Inf Bde, held a farewell for 3 PPCLI officers. During the course of the evening, Brigadier J V ALLARD presented a plaque to 3 PPCLI to commemorate the Battalion's association with 25 Brigade.</p>	DOM
GT 188119	25 Oct 53		<p>The day was spent in preparation for Operation WATCHDOG which commenced tonight. During the Operation a platoon from each company shall man their Battle Positions by night. At 1830 Operation WATCHDOG commenced, and by 1930 hours all sub units were</p>	

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OT 188119	25 Oct 53		in position. byThe job of each man was made more difficult by an intermittent rain lasting all night.	
OT 188119	26 Oct 53		<p>Weather continued to be cool by day, and cold by night.</p> <p>The Battalion spent the day preparing for their departure. Last minute inoculations were given, and blood tests taken.</p> <p>The Companies held their final QM parades, and the Battalion is now ready to embark . At 1830 hours the Second day of Operatiin WATCHDOG commenced.. There were no incidents to report.</p>	<i>DOM</i>
OT 188119	27 Oct 53		<p>Weather warm by day, cold at night.</p> <p>At 1330 hours the entire Battalion assenbled at PATRICIA PARK for a muster parade. The Commanding Officer gave a brief talk to the troops, explaining to them the ferthcoming reduction of the Unit to NIL strength, and thanking them for their performance on the GOC's parade.</p> <p>Following the Commanding Officer's talk the Battalion was broken down into drafts based on the Personnel Depets in CANADA where the soldiers would be reporting to on conclusion of their leave.</p>	<i>DOM</i>
OT 188119	28 Oct 53		<p>The day was cool and cloudy. Heavy rain fell in the evening.</p> <p>The day was spent in preparation for temerrows move. Final inspections were made and the Battalion area was cleaned up.</p>	<i>DOM</i>



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CT 188119	29 Oct 53		<p>Reveille was at 0200 hours, breakfast commenced at 0230 hours.</p> <p>At 0300 hours the first troops embarked in EOASC Troop Carrying Vehicles, and by 0430 hours the last troops moved out of the Battalion Area.</p> <p>The Battalion travelled in packets of two Companies per packet. The route passed through TOKOHON, UIJONGHU, SEOUL and INCHON. The Battalion completed their arrival at INCHON at 0900 hours. At INCHON HARBOUR a farewell speech was read to the Battalion on behalf of General TAYLOR, General Officer Commanding Eighth Army.</p>	
INCHON HARBOUR			<p>At 1500 hours the first troops boarded a landing craft to take them to the troopship, USNS MARINE LYNX. By 1800 hours the Battalion was all aboard the troopship and was visited by Brigadier J V ALLARD who bade the PATRICIA'S farewell.</p> <p>The MARINE LYNX lay at anchor in INCHON HARBOUR all night, permitting the troops to acquire their "sea legs" by degrees.</p>	<i>SPM</i>
ABOARD USNS MARINE LYNX ANCHORED IN INCHON HARBOUR	30 Oct 53		<p>Reveille found the Marine Lynx still at anchor in INCHON HARBOUR.</p> <p>The Battalion commenced their first full day aboard ship by being instructed as to their new duties..</p> <p>Personnel were divided by compartments, and given various tasks to ensure that the Interior Economy of the ship will be maintained.</p> <p>Various parties are detailed to look after the cleanliness of stairwells, latrines, decks, and troop compartments, as well as providing clerks, Military Police, and kitchen fatigues.</p> <p>In addition to the PATRICIA'S the MARINE LYNX carries approximately 1500 American troops; making a total of 2500. As the troopship only displaces 12,000 tons, she is carrying a very large number of troops,</p>	<i>SPM</i>

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ABOARD USNS MARINE LYNX ON THE YELLOW SEA.	30 Oct 53		At 1030 hrs the MARINE LYNX weighed anchor, and sailed from KOREAN shores. The Battalion lined the decks to bid farewell to the country they have lived in for a year. The sea was very calm and everyone was in high spirits.	
ABOARD USNS MARINE LYNX ON THE YELLOW SEA.	31 Oct 53		Reveille found the MARINE LYNX off the SOUTHERN tip of KOREA, but out of sight of land.  The YELLOW SEA continued smooth, and troops lined the decks to watch flying fishes, and porpoises.  In the afternoon we entered EAST CHINA SEA which was noticeably rougher than the enclosed sea we had left.  For entertainment motion pictures shows are run daily and a "live" ships amateur show is being organized .  To-night we passed the island chain running SOUTH of JAPAN, and entered the PACIFIC OCEAN.	DM

M & MacLachlan  
(M F MacLachlan) Lt col  
Comd 3 PPCLI

# THIRD BATTALION PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY

## LIST OF APPENDICES

TO

### WAR DIARY FOR OCTOBER

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III	OPERATIONAL LOG	X	
IV	MONTHLY NEWSLETTER (OCTOBER)	X	
V	MONTHLY NEWSLETTER (SEPTEMBER)	X	
VI	COMPANIES TRAINING SYLLABI	X	
VII	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - PUSAN	X	X
VIII	3 PPCLI OP INSTR NO 15	X	X
IX	CODE WORDS FOR REPORTING IN POSITION	X	X
X	ACTION IN THE EVENT OF A WITHDRAWAL	X	X
XI	3 PPCLI PATROL TASK TABLE FOR WYOMING AND WELLAND POSITIONS	X	X
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XIV	STANDING ORDERS FOR OPERATIONAL SECURITY PATROLS	X	X
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XVII	DAILY STRENGTH RETURN	X	
XVIII	ORDERLY OFFICER REPORTS	X	
XIX	COMMANDING OFFICER'S CONFERENCE	X	X
XX	THE CROWN NEWS	X	X
XXI	FAREWELL LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR	X	X
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