

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

60420 ✓

..... 3. Bn. PPCLI..... FOR..... JANUARY. 53.....
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

+++
Pade Reserve Poon
Ref Maps KOREA
1:50,000 MUNSAN NI
MAJON NI
Bn HQ - MR143058

LOCATION

DATE

HOUR

SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION

REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND
OFFICER'S INITIALS

1 Jan 53

The month and the year began with the cold clear weather which had prevailed during December. ~~was~~ Christmas and New Year's Day were celebrated by the battalion in the present reserve area. C Company was relieved by a composite company of RCR so that they could revel with the rest of the unit.

"C" Company had moved into the right company position in area Pt 146 on the 27 Dec 52. The position is a relatively quiet one and routine patrols and wiring tasks are being carried out. As the company is under command of 1 RCR they are designated as P Company.

On the night 31 Dec 52 a telephone broadcast was made from the officers mess at A Echelon to P Coy by Miss Lorraine MacAllister. The line hookup was taken up by 1 RCR who connected all their rifle companies. The broadcast was clearly received by all platoons in P Company and also by two patrols in the Samichon Valley.

Parcels from the Woman's Auxillary Vancouver and IODE were distributed to a large number of soldiers who had not received parcels. They were greatly appreciated.

To add to the celebrations of Christmas and the New year several fires lighted the night sky. B Company kitchen was completely destroyed by fire, and Capt Scott Campbell was badly burned when his tent and sleeping bag burned while he was in bed. Capt Campbell was evacuated through various hospitals and ended up in the Britcom Hospital at Kure Japan.

2 Jan 53

The Brigade Commander and the Commanding Officer visited the company areas at an early hour this morning. The main point of interest was accomodation. The unit is well

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

WAR DIARY

SECRET 2

..... 3. Bn. PPC. LT. FOR JANUARY 53.
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES OFFICER'S INITIALS
///	2 Jan		<p>off for canvas though most of what we have has been borrowed. Fires are taking a heavy toll on the small type tents.</p> <p>Today all Company Commanders received detailed instructions on the training policy for the month of January. A number of courses are to be conducted; there will be demonstrations, and the bulk of the battalion will undergo refresher training on all general military topics.</p> <p>The training program also includes two days each week to be devoted to preparing defences on line Kansas. The hills had not been occupied before, and Section all-round defences are to be developed on the virgin hills. Everything is to be laid out so that sub units mutually support one another. A great deal of pain is to be taken to ensure that the best use can be made of weapons. Rather than occupy low ground with soldiers, it will be covered with fire.</p>	
	3 Jan 53		<p>Much time is being spent in getting settled and there are considerable efforts being devoted to improving living conditions. Morale is high and the men appear happy to be out of the hills.</p>	
	4 Jan 53		<p>Major Bruce was evacuated to Britcom Hospital in Seoul with suspected penicilin poisoning. His hands and joints are badly swelled.</p> <p>C Company ^{is} are having a quiet time of it in the Line. As P Company 1 RCR they occupy an area almost large enough for a battalion, and the platoons are widely dispersed.</p>	

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

WAR DIARY

SECRET 5

3 Bn PPCLI

JANUARY 53

(UNIT OR FORMATION)

FOR

(MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
44	5 Jan 53		<p>As reserve battalion of the Brigade we have certain responsibilities. There is the counterattack role which dictates that one company plus support elements are alert and ready to move on short notice.</p> <p>We are responsible to send wiring parties each night to continue the work that 1 RCR had been doing while 3 PPCLI were occupying the forward position. This requires one platoon each night, and all platoons including those from Support Company take their turn. There is also the responsibility to supply the guard at WIDGEON Bridge during the hours of darkness. This is a long cold vigil.</p>	<i>M.</i>
	6 Jan 53		<p>Kit inspections were conducted by all sub units. It was found that a great deal of kit had been left behind or had been lost. Where there were no legitimate reasons for the shortages the men replenished their kits on repayment. They find it an expensive medium and will probably take more care to ensure that it will not be lost again.</p> <p>After more than a week in reserve some of the more restless soldiers are trying to "swan off" on visiting trips without having leave from their companies. This is easily kept in hand, as in order to visit anyone outside the unit except 1 RCR, they must cross a bridge. Our guard at WIDGEON and the C Pro C at HARLIQUIN deny them the use of the bridges unless they possess written passes. Vehicles are not to convey unauthorized personnel over either of the bridges.</p>	<i>M.</i>
	7 Jan 53		<p>The clear cold weather is continuing and to date it has been an ideal winter.</p> <p>Courses in the supporting weapons are progressing well.</p>	

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 4

..... 3 Bn PPCLI
(UNIT OR FORMATION)

FOR..... JANUARY 53
(MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENT AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
444	7 Jan		and are working diligently and are suprisingly interested. The unit patrol course and the driver operator's course are proceeding according to the syllabus. The battalion will continue to be well off in specialists, tradesmen and qualified heavy weapons personnel even after the repatriation of a large number of these people in March.	
	8 Jan 53		<p>Yesterday the battalion "stood-to" on an hour's notice to move. This was ordered by the Brigade Commander because of the increased shelling on RCR positions. There had also been an intercept received by Brigade to the effect that "the Hook will be attacked within 48 hours". Nothing came of this however but the battalion continued to "stand too" until 9 Jan 53.</p> <p>Lt Peacock was posted to Brigade as junior Liaison officer. He has spent several months more in the Far East than any other platoon commander.</p> <p>Most of the companies are becoming sports minded. They all have volleyball teams and competition is keen. There are also three soccer teams that knock one another about considerably.</p> <p>The unit hockey team is getting well organized. They found a good sheet of ice on which to practice each day. They are very confident as to who will have the winning team in the brigade and hence the division. A good number of last year's players are still with us, and under the capable guidance of Lt R A L Forbes (Olympics 1948) they intend to give a good account of themselves.</p> <p>The commanding officer held an Orders Group to-day. The main points discussed were the promotion of NCOs and the disposition of 4 new officers, which arrived today.</p>	

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

WAR DIARY

SECRET

5

..... 3 Bn PPCLI FOR JANUARY 53
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENT AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
44	8 Jan 53		<p>Four reinforcement officers arrived at B Echelon today. They will remain at B Echelon for the night and thence to their allotted appointments in the morning. Capt Bean replaces Capt Campbell as 2i/c D Coy. Lt A Gale takes command of 11 platoon since Lt Pitts had been attached to Jr NCOs School at Uijongbu as an instructor. Lt Farvolden joins B and 2/Lt Pilcher goes to C company.</p>	<i>MB</i>
	9 Jan 53		<p>Last night and this morning the weather turned very mild. A south wind brought in the warm front and for a while it appeared as though we were in for some rain. Such was not the case. About three inches of the ground surface melted, this made foot and vehicle travel greasy and treacherous. The Koreans do not consider it with any significance.</p> <p>Captain Basham who is to relieve Captain Kemsley as Quartermaster has been working at the QM Stores for the past week. He will assume duties as QM by the middle of the month. Captain Kemsley will become 2i/c C and Captain Meisner will go as 2i/c B Company.</p>	<i>MB</i>
	10 Jan 53		<p>The weather has been mild again today. More frost has come out of the ground and roads are becoming quite muddy.</p> <p>The training programme, work on Line Kamsas, wiring parties, sports and recreation are all contributing to fill the days for the soldiers, and are preventing anyone from becoming bored to any extent. For the evenings there is the movie projector which gives a show every night. Companies have also established recreation tents where indoor games are played. The occasional smoker organized by companies adds to the pleasantness of being in reserve position, although living accommodations are crowded, the men are comfortable. The rations are good and as a result morale is very high. A phrase</p>	

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 6

..... 3 Bn PPCLI FOR JANUARY 53
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENT AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
44/	10 Jan		that is commonly heard from the soldiers who have been here longer than others is; "In comparison to other periods spent in reserve, we are laughing,"	JH.
	11 Jan 53		A Company relieved E Company as P company under command of 1 RCR. The relief was effected smoothly and in very quick time. C Company came into the reserve area and will devote the next few days at interior economy.	JH.
	12 Jan 53		The weather started to cool off last evening, and by this morning the temperature was near zero. The sky was clear and a cold wind blew strongly from the north. Our hockey team resumed practise this afternoon. Captain Marchessault left today for a short liaison trip on the HMS GLORY. It is an aircraft carrier operating in the Yellow Sea from KURE Japan. Being an air enthusiast he will probably enjoy himself. .	
	13 Jan 53		The unit is suffering from an acute shortage of jeeps and 2½ ton trucks. The BLR certificates read 23 Jeeps and 6 2½ ton trucks. This necessitates a close control over the use of vehicles and much cooperation and coordination by the users. The weather is continuing cold and clear and the men find that tents are not nearly as warm as bunkers. They are happy here though and are not over anxious to go back to the front. The RCR are having a quiet time of it lately. Shelling has fallen off considerably and their normal patrolling reveals that the enemy is not too aggressive at the present. Training and administration is continuing to occupy most of the soldier's time. Work on Line Kansas is progressing slowly due to the frozen ground.	JH.

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

WAR DIARY

SECRET 7

..... 3 Bn PPCLI FOR JANUARY 53
(UNIT OR FORMATION) (MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENT AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
111	14 Jan 53		C Company held a buffet supper and a smoker. Along with many good things to eat, a rum punch was served. It was attended by the CO, Adjt and several other regimentally employed officers and ORs. Everyone had an enjoyable time and went to bed early. Tomorrow is still a working day.	JPL
	15 Jan 53		Capt P L MEEK was posted to HQ 1 Comwel Div as GSO 3. He was relieved ^{replaced} by Capt C A H KEMSLEY as 2 i/c C Company.	JPL
	17 Jan 53		The Drums and Bugles played retreat at the Britcom Hospital in SOEUL this evening. The CO and Adjt went there to observe the ceremony. On the way home, Sgt Prest and the Band assisted in putting out a fire which threatened a Korean Village. The Lieutenants of the Battalion held a reception in the A Echelon Officers Mess. All Lieutenants who work directly with the unit from other establishments were invited. A number of American officers also attended. A buffet dinner was served after which sing songs and story telling brought the party to a close at a respectable hour.	JPL
	18 Jan 53		The Band played for the graduation at the Junior NCOs School. The parade was attended by the CO, Adjt the four company Commanders and the RSM. Two Patricias came among the top five of the class.	JPL
	20 Jan 53		Lt Col Wood attended a conference at Bde HQ today. He returned and had his company commanders instructed to assemble in his caravan the following day. On 22 Jan the battalion was informed that 1 Comwel Div would move into a corps reserve area. Reconnaissance were laid on ^{carried out} immediately by the CO and 2i/c, and B Echelon were ordered to start moving.	JPL

MONTHLY WAR DIARIES WILL BE
ENCLOSED IN WAR DIARY COVER
(CAPT 16 27A). INSTRUCTIONS
FOR COMPILING WAR DIARIES
ARE PRINTED INSIDE ITS COVER

WAR DIARY

SECRET 8

..... 3 Bn PPCLI
(UNIT OR FORMATION)

FOR JANUARY 53
(MONTH AND YEAR)

LOCATION	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REFERENCE TO APPENDICES AND OFFICER'S INITIALS
///	23 Jan 53		<p>A further reconnaissance of the reserve area was made by Maj MacNeil and a new area was selected across the road. The only difficulty being that a road must be constructed across a paddy field. The Engineers will do this and there will be no fear until the frost starts coming out of the ground.</p> <p>All company commanders made their reconnaissance and will start to prepare their areas for occupation.</p> <p>The weather was beautifully warm today, and instead of frost in the morning, a heavy fog rolled up from the river and rice paddies.</p>	<p>MPH</p>
	24 Jan 53 to 31 Jan 53		<p>B Echelon moved the QM stores to the new area and the remainder of the Echelon moved in the two days following. On the 28th Jan A Echelon moved complete with tent floors and garbage cans. All that was required later was to send a cleanup party there the next day. That night it snowed however, and the cleanup party wasn't too successful. They will return there as soon as the snow has melted.</p> <p>On the 29th the remainder of the battalion moved. The move went--if not smoothly--not too roughly. The Commonwealth Division was relieved by 2 US Army Division. The vehicles which delivered the American soldiers were used to transport our troops back.</p> <p>The new area to which the unit moved is situated between and upon paddy fields. There are several villages near by, and the villagers are immediately becoming a nuisance. They may not be thieves, but they don't hesitate to take anything which is outside and unguarded. There are the problems of preventing the men from procuring poisonous liquor, and from fraternizing with prostitutes (a great percentage of which who are infected). Firm Whom</p>	<p>MPH</p>

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

WAR FLARE

SECRET

3 Bn PPCLI

FOR.....JANUARY 53

(UNIT OR FORMATION)

(MCINTH AT) CAR)

[illegible]

(H F WOOD) LT COL
COMMANDING 3 PPCLI

APPENDICES FOR WAR DIARY

January 1953

- Appx 1 - Pt I Orders 17025d/304ANS3. /
- 2 - Pt II Orders 75010d/294ANS3. /
- 3 - Standing Orders (orig) /
- 4 - Fire Orders /
- 5 - News Letter orig. / ?
- 6 - Casualty Return Digest / ?
- 7 - State of Officers / ?
- 8 - Letter from Brig Calquhoun orig. /
- 9 - SDS Schedules /
- 10 - Visiting Officers orig. /
- 11 - 25 CIB Op Instr # 44 /
- 12 - 3 PPCLI Op Instr # 3 /
- 13 - Confirmatory Notes 10 Jan /
- 14 - Confirmatory Notes 14 Jan /
- 15 - Trg Programme (Specialists Courses) /
- 16 - Engineering Course Instruction /
- 17 - Driver Operator Course orig. /
- 18 - Refresher Training Instruction /
- 19 - Demonstration /
- 20 - Unit Patrol Course orig. /
- 21 - 3 PPCLI Int Summary /
- 22 - 25 CIB Ops/Int Summary /
- 23 - 1 Commel Div Ops/Int Summary orig. /
- 24 - Newspaper Clippings /
- 25 - Photographs, Maps, Traces. /
- 26 - Casualty States 1 Jan, 11 Jan, 21 Jan, 31 Jan