

A/ep. 15

1ST. BN. THE BLACK WATCH (RHR) OF CANADA C.A.S.F.
OPERATIONAL MEMORANDA

SECRET

#1
25 Jan 41.

1. DEFENCE MAPS

In view of the probably relief during February of Bns. holding forward sectors it is of the first importance that up-to-date maps of defensive dispositions should be available. These will include:-

- (a) A 1:25,000 map of the area showing all defended localities, including Home Guard with arcs of fire of weapons in these localities, arcs of fire of supporting artillery, wire and minefields.
- (b) A sketch to be kept at each locality showing the exact layout of defences, arcs of fire of all weapons in the locality, location of pill-boxes and wire. These sketches must show clearly what the locality will be when complete, what work has been done and what still remains to be done. It is suggested that the full detail is shown in pencil and that it is inked in as the work is completed.

Sketches should be on a scale of approx 6" to 1 mile but the exact scale or type of sketch is immaterial as long as it is perfectly clear.

2. SEARCHING OF PRISONERS

It has been brought to notice that the fur-lined leg boots worn by German Air Force personnel are capable of concealing revolver or documents.

3. NOTICES MARKING MINEFIELDS

All Notice Boards marking minefields will be removed on ACTION STATIONS.

4. DANGEROUS OBJECTS WASHED UP ON SHORE

There have been several instances recently of unidentified objects being washed up on the seashore. These may be German explosive sweep cutters which are dangerous and should not be tampered with. Many casualties have occurred through unauthorised persons dealing with these explosive cutters, and if any are reported this Div HQ will be informed immediately and a guard will be placed on the object until the services of a naval mine expert can be obtained to render it safe.

5. W.S.D.R.O.#40 is republished:

OCCUPATION OF BUILDINGS FOR DEFENCE PURPOSES:

Units wishing to use bldgs for defence purposes including the construction of defence works will arrange to take over the bldg or such part of the bldg as they require in direct consultation with the S.A.Q.C. Preston Barracks, Brighton. "Instructions for Quartering 1940" copies of which may be obtained from the S.A.Q.C.

6. FALLING AIRCRAFT

In event of aircraft or airmen falling into the sea the exact time of striking water should be noted so allowance can be made for drift.

Accutell Lt.-col.
for Commanding, C.A.S.F.
1st Bn The Black Watch
(RHR) of Canada C.A.S.F.

1. DE

SECRET

1. It is the responsibility of all Coy Comds to see that the following routine is followed and work attended to:
 1. All ranks must wear respirators for at least half an hour each day.
 2. Grenades in possession of Coys must be detonated, under proper supervision, ready for action; and where necessary distributed to posts.
 3. A.W. Bombs which will be issued on the basis of seven boxes per Coy must be kept cool; preferably in a slit trench.
 4. The fifty rounds of SAA in the possession of each man must be carefully checked periodically.
 5. All water bottles will be filled with fresh water and checked daily. This is in addition to reserves of water that must be provided for in each defended locality.
 6. Coy Comds must arrange that preserved rations will be issued to each man on the order "ACTION STATIONS".
 7. Coy Comds are reminded that it is their responsibility that Coy Battle HQs and Coy FAPs are gas-proofed. Where it is not possible to arrange gas cleansing centres efforts should be made to make use of civilian arrangements.

W. Mitchell Lt.-col.
Commanding,
1st. Bn. The Black Watch
(RHR) of Canada, C.A.S.F.

FMM/V

OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM

#4 SECRET
31 Jan. 41.

1. REQUISITIONING OF PRIVATE PROPERTY:

- a. It is understood that in the event of buildings or private dwellings being required in order to complete the defence schemes, particularly in the two Fwd Bns areas, it is primarily the responsibility of Coy Comds to arrange the requisitioning of the buildings or dwellings required and it is essential that arrangements should be made to have this carried out as quickly as possible.
- b. Should difficulty be encountered however, kindly refer the matter to this H.Q., and all possible assistance will be rendered.

2. COY LOCALITIES: MAPS

- a. In order to expedite turning over your area to relieving units and particularly in the event of having to do so on very short notice it has been deemed advisable that each Coy Comd should prepare a large scale map of his various localities.
- b. The map should show the work that has been completed and should have attached to it a schedule showing work to be completed.
- c. You will assist incoming units in picking up the threads and be in a better posn to carry on the defence of the posns as planned.

3. ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES:

Formations will report immediately to this H.Q. whenever assistance is given to Civil Authorities in connection with air raids. Reports will specify the units concerned, maximum strength of personnel employed and probably duration of task.

4. INDISCRIMINATE USE OF TORCHES:

- a. It has been reported to the I Sec by the ROTTINGDEAN Police that tps stationed in ROTTINGDEAN are chief offenders in connection with non-compliance with regulations governing the use of torches. This has also been commented upon by civilians.
- b. The following points regarding the use of torches has been obtained from the BRIGHTON City Police:
 1. diameter of lens must not exceed one (1) inch.
 2. light must be dimmed and newspaper is recommended as the best material.
 3. under no conditions must a coloured lens or coloured paper be used due to the danger of this being confused with signals.
 4. torches must be carried pointing down and never seawards.

5. REMOVAL & DESTROYING OF MINE FIELD WARNING SIGNS:

- a. Each Coy Comd is responsible for the removal and destruction of all signs indicating mined areas within his bn area.
- b. Proper measures should be taken to insure these signs can be removed quickly and with safety to the personnel on this task.
- c. The signs will only be removed on receipt of the order ACTION STATIONS.

6. DISCIPLINE

- a. It has been brought to the attention of Bde HQ that many soldiers
over:

- of this Bde Gp still go to, or around, BRIGHTON dressed improperly: i.e., no gaiters, respirators, or steel helmets.
- b. It has been also reported that W.D. Vehicles are used to carry civilians, male and female.
 - c. Coy. Comds are responsible to take necessary action to insure that soldiers will not go out when improperly dressed and that W.D. Vehicles are not used to carry civilians.

7. DELIVERY OF SUPPLIES:

- a. It has been brought to our attention that unit vehicles used to carry supplies, i.e., bread, etc. are not clean.
- b. Due to the fact that proper containers cannot be obtained at the present time, it is requested that vehicles used for deliveries be kept scrupulously clean and that great care must be taken in the handling of all supplies.
- c. For immediate action please.

M. W. T. G.
Lt.-col.
Commanding,
1st Bn The Black Watch
(RHR) of Canada, C.A.S.F.