

Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

WAR DIARY

M.F.M. 11
40/P & S/37 (3072)

Original, duplicate and triplicate () be forwarded to O. i/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Title pages will be prepared.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to Appendices and initials
VAREL 2734. . Sh. L2 helfshaven. 00,000. <u>MANY.</u>	1st. Jul. Sun.		<p align="center"><u>1st. Bn. The Black Watch (R.H.R.) of Canada.</u></p> <p align="center"><u>War Diary for Month of July, 1945.</u></p> <p>Weather - warm with very heavy thunder showers. Breakfast this morning was at 0700 hrs. and at 0830 hrs. the Bn. embussed for the drive to BAD ZWISCHENAHN, MR 1810, where we arrived around 1000 hrs.. Immediately upon arrival practically all the troops headed for the midway where there were stalls all the traditional 'fun of the fair', and prizes for the winners at all sorts of games of chance. It must be admitted that the biggest business was done by those purveying hamburgers, coca-cola, or beer. Just before noon there was a very heavy rain shower, and those unfortunates who were unable to get under cover were drenched. There was momentarily a unanimous intake of breath when the first of a series of imitation mortar bombs started whistling - habit dies hard! Among the other attractions were a miniature Calgary Stampede, where the winners in a steer riding competition won a flight in an observation plane. A "Typhoon" on exhibition elicited a great deal of interest among the men from the ground forces. CWAC and ENSA shows ran during the day, and from a nearby camp a group of Russians put on a concert which, interrupted by the frequent showers, lasted the greater part of the day. In the afternoon an horse race was run. Pte. LECLAIRE, L.W.J., B116930, of C Coy., riding in the BLACK WATCH colours and representing 5 C.I.B., was the winning jockey. This race had to be run over due to an objection being lodged and sustained, so, to prove it was no accident, LECLAIRE repeated the win, and was presented with a cup by Maj-Gen. A. BRUCE MATHEWS, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D., G-O-C. 2nd. Cdn. Inf. Div.. After the race there was a march past of the three services, the navy being represented by a detachment of the Royal Navy from WILHELMSHAVEN, and the Army by the 4th. Bde.. Following the marching troops came floats symbolising the various branches of the army, and the nine provinces of our Dominion. The float prepared by this unit was based on a very famous cartoon which appeared in the "Maple Leaf" some months ago, entitled "A Moaning What?", and caused many a laugh along the route.</p>	

VAREL
MR 2734.
Ref. Sh. L2
Wilhelmshaven.
1:100,000.
GERMANY.

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VAREL MR 2734. Ref. Sh. L2 Wilhelmshaven. 1:100,000. <u>GERMANY.</u>	1st. Jul. Sun. (contd)		The float constructed by the REGIMENT de MAISONNEUVE was that representing the Province of Quebec, bearing the names of all the units from the province, and was a most magnificent effort. The massed pipe-band of the Division played for the march past. In the evening an exhibition game of baseball was played against a team from the 29th. U.S.Div., who won by 2-1. This was followed by an exhibition of steeple-chasing upon the conclusion of which some Cossacks from the Russian camp took over the horses and gave a demonstration of mass riding and jumping. The trip back to VAREL was commenced at 2030 hrs..	<i>THW</i> APPX-9
	2nd. Jul. Mon.		Weather - showery. This morning the recce party, under Maj. E.S.DUFFIELD, left for the new area in Holland to which we will be moving at an early date. During the day a small draft of reinforcements arrived and were allotted to the Coys.. All files are being cleared of any extraneous matter and cut down to an operating minimum. In the evening the recce party from the HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY of CANADA, C.O.F., arrived to look over the accommodation in this area which they will be taking over from us when we move out.	<i>THW</i> APPX-9
	3rd. Jul. Tues.		Weather - showery. Men for the C.O.F. who had been absent when the large draft left, departed this morning for their new units. Plans are being evolved for the move to Holland. Since this will be the last move of the Division, as a Division, everything is being done to ensure that it will be a fitting climax to all the many moves we have made in the past.	<i>THW</i> APPX-9
	4th. Jul. Wed.		Weather - fair and warm. At 0500 hrs. this morning the advance party consisting of 2 Officers and 20 ORs. left for the new area. taking with them 20 vehicles, and the Q.M.Stores. This party will be used to prepare the area for our arrival and as most of the men will be living under canvas, there is a large task ahead of them. One 60 cwt. truck, with a trailer, carrying lumber, left in the evening to arrive at the new site in the morning. In view of the work to be done it was decided to send the Pioneer Platoon with this morning's party. The first half of the Bde. Track and Field meet was held this afternoon at the sports ground of the REGIMENT de MAISONNEUVE - the meet to be completed tomorrow afternoon. Our boxing	

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VAREL MR 2734. Ref. Sh. L2. Wilhelmshaven. 1:100,000. <u>GERMANY.</u>	4th. Jul. Wed. (contd)		team competed against a team from the Tank Bn. of the 29th. U.S.Div., and won five out of the six bouts staged. Cpl. WATSON, A.C., D81613, won by a Knock Out, and Pte. POTTER, D.E., F7335, by a technical K.O..	APPX-6 JAW
	5th. Jul. Thur.		Weather - fair and warm. The guards which we have had out, at the rifle range at WARDENBURG,, and at the Russian camp, have now been taken over by the HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY of CANADA? C.O.F., and since our section of Carriers has also returned from EMDEN, the Bn. is now complete again. At 1630 hrs. an O Gp. was held when the details of the move, scheduled for Saturday, were given out. In the afternoon the Bde. Track and Field meet was completed. The BLACK WATCH won the championship with a total of 51 points, the runners-up being the REGIMENT de MAISONNEUVE with a total of 32. A stage show was presented by the men from one of the units in the U.S.Army, and held in the Hotel Allee at 1800 and 2000 hrs.. Attendance was by allotment, 75 men from the Bn. attending each performance.	APPX-6 JAW
	6th. Jul. Fri.		Weather - fair and warm. At 1000 hrs. this morning, with Lt. J. B. NIXON in charge the advance party left for the staging area near OLDENZAAL, where the Bn. will be stopping overnight on its trip to Holland. On arrival there they will be met by the Bde. reps.. The Bn. today occupied itself in preparations for the move - cleaning up of the area wherever necessary, packing of stores, equipment, and personal kit. Word received from Maj. E.S.DUFFIELD, indicates that he has been successful in finding within the new area accommodation for offices, and messes in buildings, and H.Q. Coy. will be housed in the hotel in which the offices will be set up. It is anticipated that by the time the Bn. arrives most of the canvas will be up and wired for electricity, and cookhouses, latrines and ablutions set up. Today Maj. V.E.TRAVERSY, O.C. the BLACK WATCH, returned from his duty trip to England, to the new area.	APPX-9 JAW
	7th. Jul. Sat.		Weather - fair with scattered showers. At 0700 hrs. this morning all the carriers left, to travel as a Brigaded column to the staging area, where it is anticipated they will arrive around 1600 hrs.. At 0900 hrs. under the charge of Capt. H.B. YUILE, the Q.M., the Coy. cooks, water, and ration trucks pulled out. In the morning the coys. gave a final clean up to the area and billets and these were	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SECTION~~

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VAREL MR 2734 f. Sh. L2. hlmshaven. 1:100,000 GERMANY.	7th. Jul. Sat. (con)		then inspected by the Coy. Commanders. At 1300 hrs. the Bn. embussed in Coy. vehicles and TCVs. left VAREL and reached the Bde. SP at MR 261312, fifteen minutes later. The route took us through OLDENBURG - ALHORN - CLOPPENBURG - LONINGEN - HASELUNNE - LINGEN - NORDHORN, to OLDENZAAL, MR V4514, where we arrived at 2315 hrs.. The cooks had a hot meal ready, and after that the men bedded down in the open fields in the area.	APPX-9 JAW
LD OORN area. MR 694993 f. Sh. 2. recht. 100,000 land.	8th. Jul. Sun.		Weather - fair and very warm. This morning Hon. Capt. A. REOCH, our padre, held a voluntary Protestant Church service in the open. The Bn. was not called upon to recommence the move until 1300 hrs. so the men spent the greater part of the morning lying in the sun. Today's move took us through HENGEL - GOOR - LOCHEM - ZUTPHEN - and APELDOORN to the Dis. P. at Z721056 where we turned South to our new area in Sq. 6999, arriving there at 1715 hrs.. This area is principally sand dunes and small trees, and although only 6 1/2 miles from APELDOORN in a direct line, by road the distance is 14 1/4 miles. Before the Bn. left the staging area, Capt. H.D. FREESTON, C.O. of C Coy. and 10 ORs. left on repatriation draft for Canada. Lieut. J.B. MULHEARN will be in Command of C. Coy..	 JAW
	9th. Jul. Mon.		Weather - clear and very warm. The Coys. set to this morning to complete their lines. Latrines and wash stands were improved, tents floored, hot water boilers built and notice boards erected. Work has been commenced on the construction of a sports field. In the evening one 60 cwt. truck per coy. was laid on for Recreational transport to APELDOORN. The K. of C. showed movies at 1800 and 2000 hrs..	 JAW
	10th. Jul. Tues.		Weather - clear and very warm. Maj. J.F. BAILEY returned to the Bn. and the command of D Coy. this morning. A few men were despatched to the C.O.F., having been absent on leave when the original draft left. Two Officers and 35 ORs. left today for leave in AMSTERDAM. After the movie, shown at 1800 hrs., a wet canteen was opened for the men. The dry canteen is now open daily from 1230 until 1430 hrs.. Orders today announce that, within the camp area, ORs may wear as little or as much as they choose, dependent upon special company arrangement. In the prevailing warm weather this is much appreciated by the men who show a marked preference for the former.	 JAW

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref. Sh. 2. Utrecht. 1:100,000 <u>Holland.</u>	11th. Jul. Wed.		Weather - clear and warm. At 0900 hrs. Maj. V.E.TRAVERSY, O.C. the BLACK WATCH, held a Coy. Commanders meeting. A swimming hole, about one mile South of the camp has been placed out of bounds until such time as a report can be received on the water. The Bde. Track team are living with us just now, but will be moving to APELDOORN shortly. Twenty-one ORs. left today on Canada repatriation draft. In the evening Maj. V.E.TRAVERSY, the C.O., and Maj. E.S.DUFFIELD, O.C. of A Coy., with two sergeants and one private, attended the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM, as the guests of the Army Commander, Gen. H.D.G.CRERAR. It is hoped that in the not far distant future this show will be presented for the delectation of all ranks.	APPX-6 MW
	12th Jul Thu		Weather - Fair and warm. The water at the swimming hole is now pronounced fit for use. So the battalion is filling in its leisure hrs by sun-bathing and swimming. 20 men left on the Can Repat Draft today. Recreational tpt now leaves at 1730 hrs for APELDOORN and leaves the car park there on the return trip at 2230 hrs.	MW
	13th Jul Fri		Weather - Fair and warm. UK leave party left today. 1 offr and 17 OR's went to the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM. Allotments for this show will continue to come from 5 Cdn Inf Bde from time to time. 40 men left on a swimming party at the 5 Cdn Inf Bde swimming pool in the afternoon. Services for Jewish personnel are being held in AMERSFOORT tonight and tomorrow morning and on Sun morning at UTRECHT. The brass band of the R.C.C.S. was scheduled to give a concert in the afternoon but arrived too late. Capt B.S. LEWIS left for the C.O.F. today. A Bull-dozer was acquired and is now busy in levelling off some of the sand dunes for the sports field. All amn was turned in to coy stores today.	APPX-8 MW
	14th Jul Sat		Weather - Fair and warm. Maj D.C. MENZIES, Lts W.K. MACFARLANE, H.S. ROBERTSON, F. BERTRAND, 2 sgts, 1 cpl, and 1 pte left on the Can Repat Draft today. Capt E.D. PRICE is now A/OC of Sup Coy. A 12 man draft was t.o.s. today. Recreational tpt will now leave at 1330 hrs on Sat and Sun instead of in the evening. Pay Parades were held in the morning.	MW

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 UTRECHT 1/100,000 HOLLAND.	15th Jul Sun		Weather - Fair and warm. 1 man was sent to CAPF today. Services for Jewish personnel were held at UTRECHT this morning. Protestant and R.C. voluntary church parades were held this morning. Another swim party was organized and went to 5 Cdn Inf Bde swimming pool. 2 small grass fires were started in the camp area, but no damage was sustained. 1 offr and 4 OR's came in on a reinforcement draft. Lt P.M. MACKENZIE returned from the hospital where he was undergoing an operation. The sgts' mess is now functioning.	MW
	16th Jul Mon		Weather - Fair and warm with very light wind. 12 OR's left for the CAPF this morning. A "short arm" inspection took place in the afternoon. All amn which was turned in was inspected. After supper a draft of 1 offr and 10 OR's came in. Capt F. REA from 1st Cdn Army HQ was a guest at the Offrs' Mess in the evening. 50 men went to the swimming pool in APELDOORN instead of the one at 5 Cdn Inf Bde. C.S.M. JACKSON, J.R., D-81820, now attached to the ROYAL 22nd REGT, is visiting the Bn. for a few days.	MW
	17th Jul Mon Tue		Weather - Clear and warm. Today 2x60 cwt loads of amn were delivered to the dump at WIJCHEN MR E614594. 1 man left for the CAPF and 3 men went to PARIS on leave. The usual swim party went to the APELDOORN pool. At noon 36 men left on the weekly leave party to AMSTERDAM. The REGT DE MAIS vs 6th Lt A/A softball game was played today and was won by the 6th Lt A/A with a score of 8-0. 75 men attended. 14 men went to the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM. Maj G. JARVIS, formerly of this Bn and now in 1st Cdn Corps, visited for lunch.	MW
	18th Jul Wed		Weather - Fair and warm. 1 man left for the CAPF this morning. The swim parade was held again at the APELDOORN pool. 6 men went to the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM. No recreational tpt was available today as it was being used for the A and C Coys' dance at the Kit Kat Club in APELDOORN. Lt-Col R.H. ELLIS, A/Comdr of 5 Cdn Inf Bde, and Brig F.D. LACE, A/GOC 2 Cdn Inf Div, visited here on a tour of inspection in the late afternoon. A Jewish service was held in AMERSFOORT. A year ago today this Bn was first committed in action on the crossing of the ORNE RIVER at CAEN. A lot has happened since then and few of the men who took part in	

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/100,000 HOLLAND.	18th Jul Wed (con)		that operation are left. The thoughts of those who do remember will today turn back to that sad but glorious chapter in the history of this regt.	MAW
	19th Jul Thu		Weather - Fair and warm. The M.O., Capt G. DECHENE, and 21 OR's left for the CAPF today. The swim parade was held as usual and this coupled with the mobile bath kept trucks shuttling back and forth all day. 3x60 cwt loads of amn completed the turn-over of amn to the dump at WIJCHEN. Recreational tpt to APELDOORN was again available. 6 reinforcements arrived and the new M.O., Capt B.A. SEYMOUR. The off-hrs were filled in, as usual, with sports, movies in the evening, and canteen parade.	MAW
	20th Jul Fri		Weather - Occasional showers but warm. 5 men from HQ Coy attended the "Meet the Navy" show. The AMSTERDAM leave party returned and everyone is quite pleased with the accn and entertainment which greeted them on their arrival there. The daily swim parade came off uneventfully. The preliminaries of the 2 Cdn Inf Div Track and Field Meet were held at HILVERSUM.	-APPX-6 MAW
	21st Jul Sat		Weather - Cloudy with heavy thunderstorm. The 2 Cdn Inf Div Finals in the Track and Field Meet held at HILVERSUM was attended by the C.O., Maj V.E. TRAVERSY. From this Bn, D-86461 Pte FLEMING, J. placed in the running broad jump and the hop, skip, and jump, and D-83000 Pte FRECHETTE, E. placed third in the 3 mile run. Pte FLEMING, J. also came first in the 1 mile relay. During the morning a Padre's hr was held at 1100 hrs. Recreational tpt left for APELDOORN at 1330 hrs in accordance with the new week-end schedule. Maj C.S. MACLAREN, A/2 i/c, left this morning as a member of the recce party on the proposed sight-seeing tour of the Ruhr Valley. The proposed tour which will cover a period of 6-7 days will take in AMERSFOORT, NIJMEGEN, TILBURG, ANTWERP, LIEGE, BASTOGNE, AACHEN, REMAGEN, COLOGNE, ESSEN, OSNABRÜCK, and return via most direct route. The purpose of the recce party	APPX-6

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/1000,000 HOLLAND.	21st Jul Sat (con)		will be to arrange accn, rations, conducted tours, etc. and also to est the exact routes. A Normandy tour is also being arranged covering a period of 7-9 days and passing through such famous places as CALAIS, DIEPPE, FALAISE, and CAEN. In addition to these, a 48 hr tour will commence by 26 Jul taking in UTRECHT, ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, and THE HAGUE, and boat trips leaving SPAKENBURG will commence Sat 28 Jul.	RAW
	22nd Jul Sun		Weather - Cloudy with light breeze. A voluntary Protestant and R.C. church parade was held in the morning. Recreational tpt left at the usual time, 1330 hrs, for APELDOORN. The day was very quietly spent by all with table tennis and the movie at night being the main source of amusement.	APPX-8 RAW.
	23rd Jul Mon		Weather - Fair to cloudy and warm. Lt J.A.B. NIXON left for CANADA in the morning on compassionate leave and Maj R.F. DAVEY and Capt E.D. PRICE went on their UK leave. Capt A.R. HANNA went to the CAPF in the morning. The swim party again attended the APELDOORN pool and the recreational tpt left at the usual week-day time, 1730 hrs. A Bn bus service commenced today and tpt will leave for APELDOORN at 1330, 1400, 1430, and 1500 hrs. They will return at 1400, 1430 hrs and 2 trucks at 1630 hrs. This bus service will run in the afternoon only and passes will be required by all those wishing to make use of it. Starting today the dry canteen will be available by coy parades only. It has been announced that 2 coys will be paraded each day. 2 men xxxxxx left on the Can Repat Draft today. The Adj, Capt S.E. GRIFFIN, attended an A & Q meeting at 2 Cdn Inf Div in the afterfoom. A 1 man reinforcement draft arrived today.	RAW.
	24th Jul Tue		Weather - Fair and warm. A sight-seeing party of 30 men left for AMSTERDAM in the morning. The AMSTERDAM short leave party consisting of 2 offr, 2 senior N.C.O.'s, and 32 OR's left also. The swim parade came off as usual. During the afternoon 2 offr and 22 OR's went to the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM. Individual boxing competition started today at 1400 hrs in the Maple Leaf Stadium in APELDOORN. This will be a 5 Cdn Inf Bde competition and from these fights an all-star team	APPX-6

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/100,000 HOLLAND	24th Jul Tue (con)		will be chosen for the 2 Cdn Inf Div meet. The pipe band will be in attendance throughout this event. THE BLACK WATCH team has undergone strenuous trg and have high hopes of giving a good show. The Bn softball team has started serious trg in preparation for the coming game with the REGT DE MAIS. 1 mandarrived on the reinforcement draft. No bus service ran today.	MW
	25th Jul Wed		Weather - Partially overcast and warm. 22 OR's left on UK leave this morning. At 1000 hrs a short Memorial Service was held in memory of those who were killed in action at St ANDRE and during the operation which began with the crossing of the ORNE RIVER. A year ago to the day, after spending some three days under murderous fire on barren Hill.67, the battalion went forward to capture the ridge above St ANDRE. Here the Germans had concentrated a formidable array of maching guns and the deadly 8.8 cm Flak 36. Forced to fight their way to the start line at the very beginning, the coys advanced over ground which gave little or no protection. Coy after coy was cut to pïeces by the hail of fire which swept the area. Few returned from this attack, and it is to those who laid down their lives on the ridge that this service was especially dedicated. The service began with the C.O., Maj V.E. TRAVERSY, explaining the reason for it and was followed by a hymn, the 23rd Psalm, and then The Lament played by the pipe band. There was no swim parade today. In the afternoon all carriers and A/tk guns were turned in to the dump near ARNHEM. During the boxing competition of the previous day our Bn team won two out of four fights - 1 K.O. and 1 by decision. The competition continues today. B and D Coys held a dance at the Kit Kat Club in APELDOORN in the evening.	APPX-8 MW
	26th Jul Thu		Weather - Fair to cloudy and warm. The swim parade was held as usual. 1 man went on the Can Repat Draft in the morning. 2 loads of QM stores were turned in during the day. The Boxing Contest came off with the team from this Bn being Div Champs since 4 Cdn Inf Bde and 6 Cdn Inf Bde entered no contestants. No movies were shown as the K of C hall was being made ready for the Sgts' dance in the evening. The dance was a success with a good attendance of local girls and a few CWAC's. The music was supplied by the pipe band in the modern manner sans pipes. Normal recreational tpt was resumed in the evening.	MW

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APELDOORN area. MR 694993 Ref Sheet 2 1/100000 HOLLAND	27th Jul Fri		Weather - Overcast and windy. 88 all ranks journeyed to THE HAGUE on an all-day tour this morning. The swim parade was held and recreational tpt was available in the evening. The softball game scheduled for the afternoon, THE BLACK WATCH vs the REGT DE MAIS, in the first 5 Cdn Inf Bde championship play-off was postponed on account of rain. No bus service ran in the afternoon.	MW
	28th Jul Sat		Weather - Partially overcast and windy. 5 men left on the Can Repat Draft in the morning. The swim parade went to the pool in APELDOORN and recreational tpt left camp at 1330 hrs. Very little happened today and a very quiet Sat was spent by all.	MW
	29th Jul Sun		Weather - Overcast with showers. 5 men went on UK leave in the morning and 3 men on the Can Repat Draft. A voluntary Protestant service was held at 0930 and 1000 hrs and a voluntary R.C. memorial service was held at 1100 hrs. A service for Jewish personnel took place in UTRECHT at 0930 hrs. The first game of the 5 Cdn Inf Bde championship play-off was held in the afternoon at 1430 hrs between THE BLACK WATCH and the REGT DE MAIS. Sadly enough, THE BLACK WATCH team was thoroughly whipped with a score of 25-3. There was a fair attendance at the game. Recreational tpt left for APELDOORN at 1330 hrs.	MW
	30th Jul Mon		Weather - Overcast and cool. During the morning a Padre's Hour was held at 0830 hrs and the swim parade went to APELDOORN. Maj D.W. TURNBULL, D.A.A. & Q.M.G., who is leaving for Canada, visited the Offrs' Mess for lunch. Maj C.S. MACLAREN, A/2 i/c, returned from a recce to the proposed Ruhr Valley tour. A Padre's Day took place at 1000 hrs in the Dutch Presbyterian Church in HARDERWIJK MR 556188. There was no bus service in the afternoon but recreational tpt left at the usual time.	APPX-8 MW
	31st Jul Tue		Weather - Overcast and cool. 36 all ranks left for AMSTERDAM on leave in the morning. The swim parade took place at the usual time. The second softball game scheduled for the afternoon between THE BLACK WATCH and the REGT DE MAIS was postponed. In the afternoon 1 offr and 22 OR's went to the "Meet the Navy" show in AMSTERDAM. Bus service and recreational tpt was available in the afternoon and evening.	MW