

S E C R E T

S
5B/4-5
5 Cdn Inf Bde
22 May 41

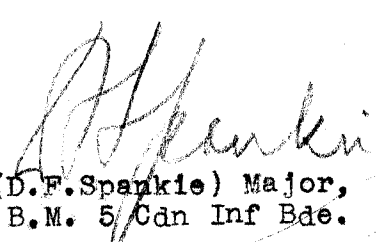
BN EXERCISE "C O B R A".

I. OPENING NARRATIVE

On D - 3 the Germans invaded ENGLAND and by D - 2 the following situation had developed:-

- (1) The main blow fell on EAST ANGLIA and the Germans penetrated inland to a depth of about twenty miles. In the HOME COUNTIES AREA all attacks were repelled. Parachute troops had been used on a large scale in the INDUSTRIAL AREAS in the MIDLANDS and detachments had been dropped at the main crossings of the river THAMES, apparently with a view of providing reinforcements to the EAST ANGLIAN AREA from the SOUTH.
- (2) 0300 hrs on D - 1 German landings were attempted at many points on the EAST and SOUTH EAST and SOUTH coasts of ENGLAND. At 1100 hrs CDN CORPS was ordered to "STAND TO". 1600 hrs sitreps stated that Germans had made successful landings in the EAST ANGLIA at CROMER G 66, GREAT YARMOUTH G 92, and FELIX STOWE M 75. On the SOUTH coast landings at SOUTHWOLD M 99, EASTBOURNE R 01, LITTLE HAMPTON Q 42 have had a small measure of success but situation is in control. Many parachute troops have been landed in the MIDLANDS and detachments have been dropped at the main crossings of the river THAMES at MAIDNHEAD L 30, WINDSOR Q 49, STAINES Q 49, WALTON ON THAMES Q 58, KINGSTON ON THAMES Q 68 and LONDON, where confused fighting is going on in the streets.
- (3) 2400 hrs on D - 1 G.O.C. 2 Cdn Div called a conference and at 0100 hrs on D, Comd. 5 Cdn Inf Bde issued orders to Bde O Gp.

(Note:- D will be the day upon which Bn and supporting arms will carry out exercise.)


(D.F. Spankie) Major,
B.M. 5 Cdn Inf Bde.

DFS/FE

RHC

BN EXERCISE IN "DEPLOYMENT" AND "ATTACK"

S E C R E T
2DS(G) 4-0-16
HQ 2 Cdn Div
19 May 41

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The exercise will be done by each bn of the 2 Cdn Div
 - (a) During the first week:

RHC → 27 May - one bn 4 Cdn Inf Bde plus supporting arms
30 May - one bn 5 Cdn Inf Bde plus supporting arms
 - (b) During the second week:

Week commencing 22 Jun

 - one bn 6 Cdn Inf Bde plus supporting arms
 - one bn 4 Cdn Inf Bde plus supporting arms
 - (c) Positive dates after first week will be notified later.
2. Object of Exercise

To exercise a bn gp in deployment and in the rapid attack.
3. Opening Narrative

Appendix "A".
4. "COBRA"

The exercise will be known by code word "COBRA". All orders, messages, telephone conversations, etc., will begin and end with "COBRA". If the exercise is cancelled prematurely the order, message, etc., will begin "NEGATIVE COBRA".
5. Enemy
 - (a) Enemy will be represented by 8 Cdn Recce Bn (14H).
 - (b) Enemy will wear soft caps and fly red flags on vehicles.
 - (c) Tpt will be provided by 8 Cdn Recce Bn (14H).
 - (d) Establish liaison with Chief Umpire (Col. E.L. Armitage, HQ 2 Cdn Div) regarding time to be on the ground, RV etc.
6. Group

Bn group will consist of:-

 - One inf bn
 - One bty fd arty
 - One tp A Tk arty
 - Recce pty RCE (not represented on ground)
 - One MG coy
 - One det fd amb
7. S.A. Fire

Enemy will use blank amn, but this amn should be used sparingly. Enemy will draw blank amn during the week previous to the exercise. Bn participating in exercise will not be issued with blank amn.
8. Ammunition

No live ammunition will be carried by any tps during the exercise except as detailed below.
9. A.A. Protection

Two pls Tor Scot R (MG) under comd bn doing the exercise for AA protection. They ONLY will carry live amn. Comds will arrange direct with comd Tor Scot R (MG).

10. Conference

At the conclusion of the exercise, Corps Comd will address the officers, during which time unit will form up and immediately afterwards will march past Corps Comd in column of route.

11. Movement

- (a) Outward move by MT, routes see trace attached Appendix "C". All units and sub-units "under comd" for move.
- (b) Inward move by March Route, see trace attached.
- (c) Enemy will return to bks area on conclusion of exercise by same route as shown for outward move.
- (d) Tp Lifting Tpt will return to bks area when tps have debussed.

12. Traffic Control

One sec 2 Cdn Pro Coy will provide traffic control. Liaison direct with comd concerned.

13. Control

- (a) Scheme will be controlled by umpires as detailed Appendix "B" attached.
- (b) Umpires will wear white arm bands and fly white flag on vehs.
- (c) It is important that this HQ receive early warning of change of umpires. Units will supply one of equal rank to replace umpire unable to attend from that unit.
- (d) Further instructions re RVs etc., will be notified later.

14. Representation of Bde HQ

Bde HQ concerned will issue the necessary orders for the move of the bn gp. During the move the Bde Comds' Gp will move with the Bn Comd so that further orders may be issued. Timing etc. shown on trace Appendix "C".

15. Secrecy

In order that all bns in division may gain maximum benefit from this exercise it is important that all ranks be cautioned against divulging detail of exercise to units who have not participated.

G.G. Simonds
for (G.G. Simonds) Lt-Col.,
G.S. - 2 Cdn Div.

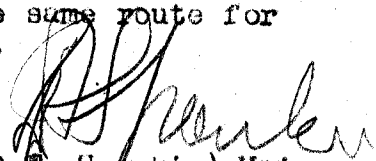
S E C R E T

5B/4-4
5 Cdn Inf Bde
29 May 41

Exercise 'COBRA'

Additional instructions regarding M.T.
and Supporting Arms

1. Only marching personnel will march past Corps Commander.
2. M.T. of Battalion carrying out exercise will form up in rear of marching personnel and if the Corps Comd desires M.T. to be reviewed the vehicles will move past saluting base at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.i.h. and 15 V.T.M. after marching personnel are clear.
3. Supporting arms and Services will not be reviewed by Corps Comd.
4. Battalion Comd will issue orders to Supporting arms to form up and return to barracks as soon as exercise is completed.
5. Supporting arms may use same route for return march as for outward move.


(D.F. Spankie) Major
B.M. 5 Cdn Inf Bde

DES/JP

"SECRET"

5BS/7-2
5 Cdn Inf Bde
29 May 41

EXERCISE "COBRA"

Orders to Be Given by Bn. Comdrs. to Sec 14
Tp Carrying Coy. - RCASC

1. Immediately tp carrying vehicles are released by Bn. Comd in exercise "COBRA" they will proceed to HORSELL COMMON and RV x rds 434796 under comd of sec comd 14 Tp Carrying Coy. They will then proceed back to barracks area via KNAPHILL 4078.
2. *En en* route to HORSELL COMMON after release by Bn Comd, no troop carrying vehicle will move north of line, -rd Junc 394840, -rd junc 393830, -x rds 412823, -bend in rd 419825, ~~to~~ rd junc 438814.
3. This is necessary in order that Tp Carrying vehicles will not cross in front of battle area and thus create an unreal picture.

D.F. Spankie
(D.F. Spankie) Major,
B.M. 5 Cdn Inf Bde.

SECRET

5BS/4-0
5 Cdn Inf Bde
27 May 41.

EXERCISE "COBRA"

Additional Instructions

1. *and* On capture of enemy positions at STAPLE HILL, x rds 406843 (PILL BOX) the exercise will end. Bn Comd will then order all officers to assemble at STAPLE HILL for an address by Corps Comd. In the meantime tps will form up ready to march past.

2. Bn gp will form up SOUTH of rd in valley about 410841.

3. The Bn Gp will march past the Corps Comd. and return to Barracks. The Corp Comd is taking the salute at foot of MONUMENT HILL 405849.

ROUTE: x rds 406843 - rd junc 396863 - rd junc 338814
FRIMLEY 3177 - rd junc 310752

A halt for supper may be made in area 345813.

FORMATION (When marching past)

route
Column of ~~three~~, A Echelon first line transport of H.Q. Coy and rifle coys moving with coy H.Q. and platoons - 30 yds distance between platoons. B Echelon transport following in rear of battalion group.

Marching personnel will change to open formation and move on either side of road on reaching rd junc 396863. This will be carried out on the move to avoid any check to troops passing the saluting point.

IF THE COLUMN IS CHECKED OWING TO LEVEL CROSSING GATES AT SUNNINGDALE BEING CLOSED, TROOPS WILL MOVE OFF THE ROAD EAST OF TITLARKS FM 4085 TO AVOID CAUSING A CHECK OPPOSITE SALUTING POINT.

ARMS:

Rifles will be slung on right shoulder whilst marching past.

COMPLIMENTS:-

Troops will march to attention and officers will salute when passing Corps Commander

D.F. Spankie
(D.F. Spankie) Major,
B.M. 5 Cdn Inf Bde.

DFS/FE

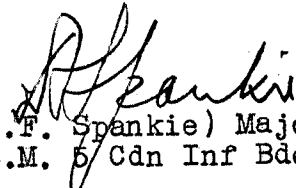
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29 May 41

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(D.F. Spankie) Major
B.M. 5 Cdn Inf Bde

DFS/JP

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "B"

2 DS(G) 4-0-16
H.Q. 2 Cdn. Div.
20 May '41.

UMPIRES FOR EXERCISE "COBRA"

Chief Umpire - Col. E.L. Armitage, O.B.E.

Asst. Chief Umpire and Bn HQ. - Major C.G. Pirie, R.H.L.I.

HQ Coy - Major ^{GE LOCKWOOD} ~~G.D. MacLachlan~~, Calg. Highrs.
Lieut. J.E. Mingay, 4 Cdn Inf Bde.

A Coy - Major W.J. Moogk, HQ 2 Cdn Div.
Capt. A. Young, R. Regt. C.
Lieut. C.W. Ferguson, 6 Cdn Inf Bde.

B Coy - Major F.K. Jaspersen, Essex Scot.
major Capt. H.C.A. Hervey, VD. Calg. Highrs.
Capt. B.R. Ritchie, R.H.C. →

← C Coy - Major E.W. White, S. Sask. R.
Capt. R.M. Campbell, Camerons of C.
Lieut. K.W. MacIntyre, Essex Scot.

D Coy - Major J.A. Leclaire, Fus. M.R.
Capt. F.H. McDougall, S. Sask. R.
Lieut. ~~W.F. Stikeman~~, 5 Cdn Inf Bde.
Capt V Leduc

Spare -) -

Arty) -

A Tk) -

MG) - to be detailed if required by
formation or unit concerned.

Sigs) -

Meds) -

Enemy Umpires - Officers of sqn supplying enemy.

Spare Umpires - Capt. P.E.R. Wright, 4 Cdn Inf Bde.
Capt. V. Leduc, 5 Cdn Inf Bde.
Capt. J.S. Adam, 6 Cdn Inf Bde.

CONFERENCE

Chief Umpire will hold a conference of all Umpires at 0900 hrs, 24 May 41, at Maida Barracks Lecture Room. This will be followed by an all day recce on the ground. Haversack lunches and ALDERSHOT COMMAND one inch maps will be taken.