



War Diaries
85th Heavy Battery
Royal Canadian Artillery

A sub-unit of
15th (Vancouver) Coast Brigade
Royal Canadian Artillery
Canadian Active Service Force

Library and Archives Canada material

*The 85th Heavy Battery is proudly perpetuated by the Gunners of the
15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA in Vancouver, B.C.*

March 1941

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~
~~TRIPPLICATE~~

(Strike out where not applicable)

WAR DIARY

OF
85 Heavy Battery, R.C.A., (A.F.) York Island B.C.

Ser. No. 390

FROM March 1st 1941 TO March 31st 1941

VOLUME 19

WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

ORIGINAL

M.F.M. 11

A.F.C. 219

1302-540 (2042)

H.Q. 075-23-1007

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. 1/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to appendices and initials
85 Bvy Bty RCA (AF) York Island B.C.	March	1	Mr. A.M. Hurst Y.M.C.A., arrived from Vancouver to arrange for educational and recreational facilities for the members of the York Island Garrison. Letter to D.D.S. & T.O. re Pte Boyer (Baker) and Sgt Patterson (Cook) both in Hospital Wire to D.D.S. & T.O. re the above. Weather ; Rain.	<u>File</u> <u>Append</u> 8-1 "A" "E"
		2	Mr. A.M. Hurst returned to Vancouver. L/Sgt Patterson sent down to Shaughnessy Military Hospital with suspected fractured leg, accompanied by B.Q.M.S. Upton V. Armament Sgt Lower arrived from H.Q. to change Clicker Gear Drums. Weather : Cloudy.	
		3	Letter to H.Q. M.D. No. 11 re Wireless Communication. Letter to O.C. 15 Coast Bde. re application of Capt. A.L. Foreman and Lieut. D.G. McGavin to transfer to the Canadian Armoured Brigade. Wire received from Vancouver Defences re Supply Officer arriving on 4th -5-41. Wire to O.C. 3rd S/L Bty re arrival of S/L Personnel Wire to D.M.O. re one case Rubella. Weather $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloudy.	1-4 "A" 6-1 "A" "E" "E" "E"
		4	Lt C G Webber, R.C.A.S.C. arrived from Vancouver to look into bread situation. Lt H V N Bankes reported for duty with 85 Bty at York Island 8 O.R.S 10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS arrived for wiring D.R.F. and other necessary wiring. Pte Martin arrived from Dist. Depot to replace Pte Boyer (Baker) Wire from D A & Q M G re S/L Personnel. Letter Wire from D D S & T O re M.V. "GENERAL CALDWELL" Wire to O.C. 15 Coast Bde re application of Capt. A.L. Foreman & Lt. D.G. McGavin re overseas draft	"E" "E"
			Wire to D.M.O. re quarantine for Rubella Wire to HQ MD No. 11 re S/L Personnel and necessity for extra Hut Weather : Bright.	"E" "E" "E"



PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island

by

Mar. 1st/1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 60

60-1 DUTIES : SUNDAY MARCH 2nd/1941.

Officer of the Watch -	2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer -	Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sgt. -	L/Sgt. Cartwright, W.	
Orderly Bdr.	L/Bdr. Mackie, D.A.	

60-2 FIRE PICNIC - L/Bdr. Mackie, D.A., L/Bdr. Coltsman, Gnr. Confrey, McKay, Schofield, King.

60-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
Bdr. Engelen, Gnr. Young, Kincaid, Richmond, Rolland

60-4 IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE - ACTIVE FORCE - M.F.M. 88.

(a) In order that personnel of the Canadian Army Active Force who were not required to register under the National Resources Mobilization Act may be identified when on leave in civilian clothes or when wearing recreational dress, M.F.M. 88, Identification Certificate, has been printed and will be requisitioned for by Officers Commanding Units through the usual channels.

(b) M.F.M. 88 will be issued by Officers Commanding Units in Canada to all Officers, Nursing Sisters and Soldiers who were serving in the Active Forces prior to August 21st, 1940, and who were not required to register under the National Resources Mobilization Act.

(c) M.F.M. 88 will be carried at all times.

(d) Members of the Active Force, taken on strength subsequent to August 21st, 1940, will retain their National Registration Certificates and will not be issued with M.F.M. 88.

(e) On discharge, the Officer, Nursing Sister or soldier will surrender M.F.M. 88, which will be attached to Discharge Documents by the Officer carrying out the discharge. The individual being discharged will be instructed to register at the nearest Post Office, vide R.O. 857.

Registration of Military Personnel at York Island will begin at a time to be announced in Part I Orders by the Officer Commanding York Island.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

88th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

1st March,

41

D.D.S. & T.O.
Room 317
Vancouver Barracks
Vancouver, B.C.

BREAD

1. The baker, Pte. Boyer, is in Hospital suffering from a poisoned hand and will not be fit for duty for some time.
2. To make matters worse, I/Sgt. Patterson, our Cook, fell and has a suspected fractured leg. Under the circumstances we cannot use the flour you sent up yesterday.
3. Until the next rations arrive on Tuesday I am buying as much bread locally as I can obtain and propose to send the bills to you for payment. The local supplies are not very large and it is doubtful if we will have enough but will get by on other rations.
4. I have telegraphed you this morning asking you to substitute bread for flour on the rations leaving Monday, arriving Tuesday.
5. Last night I telegraphed H.Q. MDXI asking them to instruct District Depot to send up another baker in place of Pte. Boyer.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JRP/KMB

c.c. H.Q.; H.D.XI

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TO ALL PARTS OF
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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 1st 1941

941 ^{FIVE}~~FOUR~~ A.P. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C YORK ISLAND B.C.

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND B C
KKE MARCH 1/0011 Hrs.

D D S & T O
VANCOUVER

942 RATION INDENT NO ONE PART TWO FOR FIRST TO SEVENTH
MARCH SUBSTITUTE BREAD FOR FLOUR 250 LOAVES LETTER
FOLLOWING

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

2 CIV ED

27 NEW

PRINCE RUPERT MAR 1/1000

O C 85th HEAVY BATTERY R C A

YORK ISLAND B C

PRI 27 R C O C /O LEFT HERE LAST C P R BOAT STOP PLEASE

ARRANGE WITH X V TO PICK UP

AREA COMMANDER

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

3 CIV

18 MBW

VANCOUVER MAR1/2020

O-C YORK ISLAND

K17091 OMR BARNETT MOTHER CRITIGALLY ILL WISHES SEE SON AT GENERAL
HOSPITAL VANCOUVER

O C 15 VAN COAST BDE RCA

85th Heavy Battery., B.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE - MARCH 1st/1941.

		Offrs	O.R's	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	2	72	74	
	Employed		20	20	
	Stn Hospital		4	4	98
	Shaughnessy Hosp.		1	1	
	Att'd Bde HQ		5	5	
	Att'd 88th Bty	1	2	3	
	On Command	1		1	
	Purlough		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
10th Fort Sig Coy RCOS	Employed		3	3	3
4th Fort E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MDXI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	
Sub-Depot MDXI RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
Sub-Depot MDXI	On Furlough		1	1	
13 Pld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
D.D. MDXI	Stn Hospital		1	1	1
R.C.N.		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		8	149	157	144

RATION STRENGTH -- 144

J. E. Piercy
 (J.E. Piercy) Major, B.C.A.
 Officer Commanding
 York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.

by

March 2nd 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 61

61-1 DUTIES : MONDAY Mar. 3rd 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- 2/Lt W A S Clayton	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2/Lt W A S Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt Cartwright W	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr Mackie D A	

61-2 FIRE PICQUET - L/Bdr Mackie D.A., L/Bdr Rose C.M., A/L/Bdr Caldwell, Gnr. Tully, Cox, Amos.

61-3 GUARD MOUNTINE - 1800 Hrs.

L/Bdr Foote, Gnr. O'Reilly, Innes, Shore, Mattocks.

61-4 CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING BEVERAGES

(a) P.7568 Boy Thomson H.W., being under age, is not permitted to enter the Wet Canteen, nor be served with beer. It is strictly forbidden for any member of the Garrison to supply him with beer either by purchase or otherwise.

Anyone violating this rule will be severely dealt with.

(b) Members of the Guard are not allowed to enter the Wet Canteen. It is pointed out that while on Guard Duty they are issued with live ammunition, and it is essential that no man be under the influence of intoxicating liquor while of Duty.

The N.C.O. of the Guard will visit the Post at Courtney Bay at least once every three hours during his tour of duty.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

/PHE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.H.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

XXXXXXXXX MARCH 2nd 1941

943 ~~Three~~ THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

Commanding Officer

Shaughnessy Hospital, Vancouver B.C.

March 2nd 1941

**944 PATIENT BEING TRANSFERRED TO SHAUGHNESSY THIS DATE
VIA C.P.R. PRINCESS ADELAIDE STRETCHER CASE.**

O.C. York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C

MARCH 2

OC SHAGHNESSY MILITARY HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER B C

945 OUR 944 PATIENT ARRIVING ON UNION S S GARDENA NOT
PRINCESS ADELAIDE STOP ARRANGE AMBULANCE

O C YORK ISLAND

Diam
85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.

York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE - MARCH 2/41

Offrs O.R.s Total Total at
York Isd.

85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	2	21	73			
	Employed		20	20			
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	95		
	Shaughnessy		2	2			
	Bde H.Q.		5	5			
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3			
	On Command	1		1			
	Furlough		1	1			
86th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2		
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1		
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7		
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCE	Employed		3	3	3		
4th E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4		
HQ MDXI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1		
Sub-Depot MDXI RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2		
15th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1		
	Furlough						
Sub-Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1			
Dist. Depot MDXI	Stn Hospital		1	1	1		
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9		
Civ. Employees of the DBO			18	16	16		
			146	154	142		
			147	155	143		
Y.M.C.A.			1	1	1		
R C O C			1	1	1		
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX							
	Ratio	STRENGTH	143	8	148	156	144
	Ratio	Strength		144			

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 3rd 1941

by
MAJOR J.E. PIERCE, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 62.

62-1. DETIES - Tuesday Mar. 4th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- 2/Lt. W A S Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- 2/Lt. W A S Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- E/Sgt Cartwright W	
Orderly Bdr.	- L/Bdr Mackie D A	

62-2. FIRE PLUMET - Bdr. Garrett F C, L/Bdr Mackie D A,
Gnr. McCortney, McKay, Larson, Ellis Gatenby.

62-3. GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 Hrs.

L/Bdr Beaulieu, Gnr. Harman, Mackie, Upton,
Alford, Blackburn, Richmond.

62-4. PAY OFFICE

Pay Office will be open during the
following hours:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY	- 11:00 to 12:00 Hrs.
&	16:00 to 17:00 Hrs.
Saturday	- 10:00 to 12:00 Hrs.

J.E. Pierce
(J.E. Pierce) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

SECRET

1-4

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 3rd 1941

Headquarters,
MD XI, VICTORIA B.C.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATION - YORK ISLAND

1. The Wireless Station at York Island is open from 0600 Hrs until 2130 Hrs daily, but in practice it does not open usually until 0700 Hrs. After 2130 Hrs. we are not able to communicate with Vancouver or Victoria until the following morning.
2. If an attack took place between 2130 Hrs and 0600 Hrs it would be impossible for us to notify you of the attack.
3. I would respectfully point out that a vessel could slip past York Island during the night, and proceeding at 25 knots could be at Vancouver before we could notify them at the opening of the W/T in the morning.
4. This would eliminate any value this Fort has as an outpost, to notify Vancouver or Victoria of any enemy attack proceeding past York Island during these hours.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/PBS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 3rd 1941

Officer Commanding
15th (VAN) Coast Bde R.C.A., A.F.,
Bessborough Armouries,
Vancouver, B.C.

CANADIAN ARMoured BRIGADE

1. Reference Vancouver Defences C/L of Feb 10th 1941, File 29-0-1.
2. It is requested that the names of the following Officers be submitted to Headquarters, Vancouver Defences, who are desirous to be considered to fill vacancies in the Canadian Armoured Brigade. - Capt. A.L. Foreman 85th Hvy Bty RCA AF
Lieut. D.G. McGavin 85th Hvy Bty RCA AF.
3. The qualifications of the a/m Officers are on file at Bde. H.Q.
4. For your information and necessary action, please.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

/PEH

C.C. to H.Q. Van. Defences.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

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I CIV ED

15NEW

VANCOUVER MARCH 3/1505

O C YORK ISLAND

946 SUPPLY OFFICER WILL ARRIVE NATIONAL STEAMSHIP FOURTH MARCH

VAN AREA

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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D.N.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 3rd 1941

946 TWO A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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YORK ISLAND B C
March 3/41

IN CIPHER

O C 3 S/L BTY RCA AF VANCOUVER

947 ADVISE ARRIVAL OF S/L PERSONNEL

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 3rd 1941

948 RUBELLA ONE CASE STOP CARRYING OUT QUARANTINE
AS BEFORE.

OFFICER I/c STATION HOSPITAL
YORK ISLAND B.C.

85th HEAVY BATTERY, R.C.A. AF
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE - March 3rd 1941

		Offrs	O.R.s	Total	Total at York Island.
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	2	69	71	
	Employed		18	18	
	Stn Hosp		2	2	91
	Shaughnessy		3	3	
	Bde H Q		5	5	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	On Command	1		1	
Furlough		1	1		
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
10th Fort Sig Coy RCG	Employed		3	3	3
4th E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MDXI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot MDXI RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MDXI	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MDXI	Stn Hosp		1	1	1
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
R.C.O.C.			1	1	1
Civ. Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
A M Hurst YMCA			1	1	1
Totals		8	144	154	140
Ration Strength			140		

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding York Island

PART I ORDERS

85th Hwy Bty R.C.A. A.F.

BY

MARCH 4th 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 63

63-1 DUTIES - WEDNESDAY MARCH 5th

Officer of the Watch - Lt. D.C. McGavin RCA
Next for Duty - 2/LT. W.A.S. ClaytonRCA

Orderly Officer - 2/LT. W.A.S. ClaytonRCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.C. McGavin RCA

Orderly Sgt. - 1/Sgt Cartwright W
Orderly Bdr - 1/Bdr Mackie D.A.

63-2 FIRE PICQUET - Bdr Garrett, 1/Bdr Mackie, Gnrs. Anderson,
Cox, Olsen, Agnew.

63-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 Hrs.
Bdr. Hamrell, Gnrs. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Innes,
Henkel, Merritt.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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I CIE

26NBW

VICTORIA MARCH 2/1600

O C YORK ISLAND

839 ADVISE WHETHER ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE AT YORK ISLAND

FOR TWO OFFICERS AND FORTY TWO OTHER RANKS 3 S/L BTY URGENT

D A Q M G ELEVEN

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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2 CIE JA

57 NEW

VICTORIA MAR 4/1855

O C YORK ISLAND

846 M V GENERAL CALDWELL WILL REPOY YORK ISLAND MARCH 10TH
ARRANGE INSPECTION POLAR FORCITE AND OBTAIN CLEARANCE
FROM SKIPPER AND RELEASE VESSE! MARCH 9TH STOP SERVICE
PERSONNEL TO BE ATTACHED YORK ISLAND ALL PURPOSES STOP
ADVISE WHICH UNIT ATTACHED FOR RATIONS AND QUARTERS STOP
SERGEANT MACKENZIE SKIPPER GEN CALDWELL

D D S & T O HQDXI

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER	SENT TO	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 4th 1941

948

THREE A.P. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 4th

O C 15TH (VAN) COAST SIDE RCA

950 FOLLOWING OFFICERS CAPT A L FOREMAN AND LIEUT D G MCGAVIN
REQUEST TO BE SENT ON OVERSEAS DRAFT INSTEAD OF OFFICERS
JUNIOR TO THEM IN SERVICE STOP CAPT FOREMAN WILLING TO
REVERT STOP MAY THIS BE ARRANGED PLEASE

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 4th 1941.

951 Observe in R.O. Three two eight no quarantine
required for Rubkella may I act on this.

Officer I-c Station Hospital,
York Island, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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NIGHT LETTERS

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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

YORK ISLAND B B MARCH 4/

HQ MDXI VICTORIA

952 YOUR 839 ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE FOR 2 OFFICERS 32 O.R.S STOP
TEN O R S RCCS ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY TODAY STOP SUGGEST DEO
ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS BUILD ANOTHER HUT IMMEDIATELY MATERIAL
NOW ON ISLAND

O C YORK ISLAND

88th Heavy Battery, R.C.A. AF
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

March 4th 1941

		<u>Offrs</u>	<u>O.R.s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Isld.</u>
88th HVY BTY RCA AF	On Parade	3	69	72	
	Employed		18	18	
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	92
	Shaughnessy		3	3	
	Bde H Q		5	5	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	Furlough		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3 S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Empl.		11	11	11
4th ESM Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQMDKI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot MDKI RCAMC	Empl.		2	2	2
3th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MDKI	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MDKI	Employed		2	2	2
R.C.O.C.			1	1	1
West. Regt (MG)			3	3	3
R.C.N.		1	8	9	9
No. 11 Det RCASC		1		1	1
Civ. Emp. of the DEO			16	16	16
		9	157	166	153

RATIONS STRENGTH

153

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Brevé heading not required)

ORIGINAL

M.F.M. 11
A.F.C. 217
I.M.E.-5-40/1943
H.Q. 075 00 1000

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be destroyed to O. U/o 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Serials, references to appendices and initials
85 Hvy Bty RCA AF York Isld. B.C.	March			<u>File</u> <u>Append</u>
	5		Master Gunner Blake arrived from Bde H.Q. Lt. C.G. Webber RCASC returned to Vancouver Armament Sgt Lower returned to HQ MD No. 11. Letter to C.C. 15 Coast Bde and names submitted for Artillery Training Centre. Letter to Mrs. Nicholson, Lions Riding and Polo Club re welfare Wire to D.M.O. re need of N.C.O.s for Hospital Staff Weather ; Dull and Rainy.	4-6 "A" 5-7 "A" "E"
	6		Lt. E.J. Hatfield arrived York Island Weather ; Rain	
	7		Lt. E.J. Hatfield left York Island. Wire from Vancouver Defences advising of 2 Officers 35 O.R.s 3rd S/L Bty arriving York Isld. Weather ; Rain	"E"
	8		Master Gunner Blake left York Island for Bde H.Q. Lt. G.E. Seldon, Lt. G. Fanning, and 30 O.R.s 3rd S/L Bty arrived York Island. Letter to DEO re parts for Electric Lighting Plant. Weather ; Rain.	8-4-1 "A"
	9		RCASC M.V. " GENERAL CALDWELL " arrived from Prince Rupert with Sgt MacKenzie in charge, Cpl Herriott deck hand and A/Cpl Collins Engineer. Weather : Bright.	
	10		Letter to D S & T O re safety of passengers on board "General Caldwell" Wire to M.D. No. 11 re Breakdown of Power Plant and Army W/T out of communication. Engine of Power Plant broke down, wired for parts to RCE Works Officer, over Navy W/T. Weather : Bright.	7-2 "A" "E"
	11		Capt. W.J. Cole arrived York Island Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re stretcher bearers and Establishment Letter to D.O.O. re Chevrolet Truck Weather : Bright	5-1 "A" 7-2 "A"



ART

P A R T I O R D E R S

95th Heavy Battery, RCA, AF

by

March 5th 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 64

64-1 DUTIES - THURSDAY March 6th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lieut. H.V.N. Bankes RCA
Next for duty - Lieut. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Officer - 2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - 2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sgt. - L/Sgt Cartwright W.
Orderly Bdr. - L/Bdr Mackie D.A.

64-2 FIRE PICQUET - L/Bdr Mackie D.A., L/Bdr. Wright P.B.,
Gnrs. McKay, Agnew, Tully, Schofield.

64-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 Hrs. ^{from 5.00}
~~A/Bdr Bevan~~ J.L., Gnrs. Harman, Mackie D.E.,
Upton, Alford, Blackburn, Richmond.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

4-6
85th Heavy Battery RCA, AF
York Island, B.C.

March 5, 1941.

SECRET.

O. C. 15th. (Vanc) Coast Bde. RCA, AF,
Vancouver, B.C.

Artillery Training Centre.

1. Reference your letter 4 March 1941
your file 4-9, the following names
are submitted:

K17027 B.S.M. Lockhart,
K17030 Sgt. Cox, S.D.
K17026 Sgt. Ramsden, E.
K17031 Sgt. Davidson, G.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major R.C.A.
O/C 85th. Heavy Battery RCA, AF.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER

SENT TO

SENT BY

REC'D BY

TIME SENT

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

VANCOUVER Mar 5/1600

O C YORK ISLAND

ONE STOP TWENTY FIVE TONS COAL WILL BE SHIPPED NEXT SAILING
OF BORDER PRINCE

D D S & T O

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

D.M.O.

YORK ISLAND MAR. 5 /41

VICTORIA B.C.

953 THREE A.P. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

YORK ISLAND B.C. MAR 25/41

954 PENDING DECISION OF THIS QUESTION MAY I PROMOTE
PRE. ROBERTSON TO A/SGT. AND PTE SNOW TO A/ CPL THE
NEED IS URGENT STOP NO PERSONEL ON THIS STAFF WITH ANY
AUTHORITY WHATEVER.

OFFICER i/c STATION HOSPITAL

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

YORK ISLAND MARCH 5

D D S & T O
VANCOUVER

955 UNDERSTAND COAL CONTRACT EXPIRED STOP PLEASE ARRANGE PURCHASE
25 TONS BULK COAL SHIPMENT NEXT SAILING BORDER PRINCE

O C YORK ISLAND

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., AF
York Island, B.C.

March 5th 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Isld.</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	69	72	72
	Employed		18	18	
	Stn Hosp		2	2	92
	Shaughnessy		3	3	
	Sde H Q	I	5	5	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	Furlough		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3 S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
10th Fort Sig RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
Hq MEXI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Furlough Employed Employed		1	1	1
13th FlA Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub Depot	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MEXI	Employed		2	2	2
R.C.O.C.			1	1	1
West. (ND) Regt.	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.N.		1	8	9	9
No. 11 Det RCASC		1		1	1
Civ. Emp. of the DEO			16	16	16
		9	154	163	150

RATION STRENGTH 150

J. E. Piercy
(J. E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.

by

MAJOR J.E. FIERCY - OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 65

March 6th 1941

65-1 DUTIES - Friday March 7th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lieut. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lieut. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2/Lt. W.A.S.. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sgt.	- L/Sgt. Cartwright W.	
Orderly Bdr.	- L/Bdr. Mackie D.A.	

65-2 FIRE PIQUET - L/Bdr. Mackie D.A., L/Bdr. Wright P.B., ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Gnr. Gatenby, Olson, Larson, A/L/Bdr. Caldwell.

65-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 Hrs.
L/Bdr. Foote, Gnr. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Henkel,
Shore, Merritt.

65-4 MOVING PICTURES AT KELSEY BAY.

In view of the limited accomodation on Thursday Night for the Picture Show at Kelsey Bay, The number of personnel from York Island will be restricted to twenty O.R.s.

Preference will be given to men on Duty on Friday. The show on Fridays is special for Soldiers and as many as the boat will take without overloading will be permitted to go.

65-5

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

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NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

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AND RADIO
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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

RUSH I EXTRA
VICTORIA MARCH 6/1045

O C YORK ISLAND

877 REF N S - 38 DASH THUR DASH SEE P F B - 111 CERTIFICATE OF
DESTINATION NOT YET RECEIVED WHAT ACTION TAKEN REPLY BY WIRE

G S O M D X I

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES

DAY LETTERS

NIGHT MESSAGES

NIGHT LETTERS

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AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF

RUSH I EXTRA
VICTORIA MARCH 6/1126

O C YORK ISLAND

876 PERMISSION GRANTED DHR APIDE CF 823325 FLY OVER YORK
ISLAND 1145 HOURS ~~KNOWNTEN~~ ENROUTE PORT ALICE

G S O M D X I

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

D.M.O. Victoria, B.C.

FROM **O.C. York**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

6-3-41

957

Three

A.F.

Patients

in

Hospital.

O.C. York Island, B.C.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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TIME FILED

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C MARCH 6

G S O

MD XI VICTORIA

958 YOUR 877 CERTIFICATE IN MAIL

O C YORK ISLAND

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 6th 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Ofprs.	O.R.s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	69	72	
	Employed		19	19	
	Stn Hosp		2	2	93
	Shaughnessy		3	3	
	Dde H.Q.		4	4	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 56th	1	2	3	
56th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3 S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
Dde H.Q.	Master Gunner		1	1	1
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
11th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed	1		1	1
4th E & M Coy RCE AF	Employed		5	5	5
Hq MD XI RCAMC	EMPLOYED	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Furlough		1	1	
1st Depot MEXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MD) Regt.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		9	154	163	151

Ration Strength - 151

John
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island B.C.

BY

March 7th 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 66

66-1 DUTIES - March 8th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	R.C.A.
Next for duty	- Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	R.C.A.
Orderly Officer	- Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	R.C.A.
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McCavin	R.C.A.
Orderly Sgt.	- L/Sgt. Cartwright W.	
Orderly Bdr.	- L/Bdr. Mackie D.A.	

66-2 FIRE PICKET - L/Bdr. Mackie D.A., L/Bdr. Wright P.B.,
Gnr. Anderson, McCartney, Agnew, Confrey

66-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1900 Hrs.

A/Bdr. Engelen A.L.D., Gnr. Harman, Mackie D.E.,
Upton C, Alford, Blackburn, Richmond.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

NUMBER

SENT TO

SENT BY

REC'D BY

TIME SENT

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

D.M.O.

YO K ISLAND

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 27TH 1941

959 THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

- DAY MESSAGES
- DAY LETTERS
- NIGHT MESSAGES
- NIGHT LETTERS

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AND RADIO
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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF

I CIV

RT/JØ

24 NBW

VANCOUVER MAR 7/1231

O C YORK ISLAND

951 TWO OFFICERS 35 OTHER RANKS THIRD SEARCHLIGHTS TO
COMPLETE DETACHMENT ARRIVING SAYWARD 1000 HOURS
8TH MARCH

ARE A COMMANDER

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

2 CIV

RT/JO

13 NBW

VANCOUVER MARCH 7/1700

O C YORK ISLAND

952 SEARCHLIGHT RATIONS ARRIVE CATALA SATURDAY MORNING

OFFICER I/C SUPPLIES VANCOUVER

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 7th 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		Offrs.	C.R.'s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	69	72	
	Employed		19	19	
	Stn Hosp		2	2	93
	Shaughnessy Hoop		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		3	3	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed		7	7	7
Bde H.Q.	Master Gunner		1	1	1
10th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
11th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed	1		1	1
4th E & M Coy RCE AF	Employed		5	5	5
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13 Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		9	152	161	151

RATION STRENGTH -- 151

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

Diary

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

8th March, 1941.

No. 67

67-1 DUTIES : SUNDAY March 9th, 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- 2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.W. Banks	RCA
Orderly Sgt.	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bdr.	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

67-2 FIRE PICKET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnrs. McCartney, Cox, A., Gatenby, Confrey.

67-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
Bdr. Bennett, Gnrs. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Adzich, Merritt, Henkel, Shore.

67-4 PARCEL POST.

In future all parcels received in the mail will be signed for ~~max~~ to eliminate any losses.
(MQ.MDXI C/L d/4-3-41)

J. E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

8th March,

41

Mrs. J.R. Nicholson
Chairman Women's Committee
Lions' Gate Riding and Polo Club
509 Richards Street
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mrs. Nicholson:

Thanks for your letter of 1-Mar-1941 which arrived on the last mail. Our men have all settled down now for another spell on this Island. We have had one or two cases of German measles but has not affected the rest of the men.

Replying to your request as to how many men are fixed for woollen comforts, we could use 100 turtle neck scarves and 55 sweaters. While at Point Grey we received 65 sweaters and some plain scarves but soon after a draft left for overseas and we now have approximately 30 recruits who have nothing in the way of woollen comforts. The strength of this Battery is about 104.

Referring to your request about the movie films, I did not know they were on the Island till last week. These films have now been shown and I am returning them on this mail. Until you wrote I did not know where they came from.

Our Recreation Hall needs a considerable amount of doing up but we had Mr. Hearst of the Y.M.C.A. on the Island last week and he promised that he would do what he could to get the Y.M.C.A. to supply us with some furniture and games. Until I know what he is going to do I am not asking for any more from you for the Canteen.

Thanking you for your interest in our men which is much appreciated by them all.

Yours truly,



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/KMB.

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

8th March,

1

Mrs. J.R. Nicholson
Chairman Women's Committee
Lions' Gate Riding and Polo Club
509 Richards Street
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mrs. Nicholson:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I received from Mrs. Willoughby, who is the mother of Gnr. Harry Willoughby who was at York Island till he went overseas about a month ago.

Why this man didn't fix his mothers' allowance before going overseas I do not know. I am asking Capt. Harrison, Paymaster in Vancouver, to look into this case and find out what is holding the matter up.

The reason I am writing this letter is that possibly some of your ladies would like to visit Mrs. Willoughby, who states she is 75 years of age and having a hard time.

Yours truly,



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/KMB

c.c. Paymaster, 15th (Van) Coast Bde.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

March 8th 1941

Officer Commanding
15th (VAN) C coast Bde R.C.A., A.P.
VANCOUVER B.C.

TRANSFERS

1. Lieut. D.G. McGavin has paraded before me and applied for a transfer to a Vancouver Battery. The reasons he wishes to transfer are that in Vancouver he has a better chance of being selected on an overseas draft. When he was up here previously he missed an opportunity of going overseas and events of this week, when Junior Officers were chosen to proceed overseas without an opportunity being given him to volunteer, have heightened the impression long prevalent on York Island, that York Island is forgotten when overseas volunteers are wanted. My predecessor Major DuMoulin wrote a strong letter about York Island being omitted from a previous draft, but I accept your assurance made to me in Vancouver that York Island would not be omitted from overseas drafts.

2. His service is quite satisfactory on York Island when he is doing good work, but he wishes to go overseas in the R.C.A. at the earliest opportunity.

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

8th March,

1

District Engineer Officer
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

CANOPIES.

1. Reference your letter V 36-2-36 regarding canopy over kitchen ranges.
2. Please find enclosed sketch giving location and over all sizes of same.
3. The chief cook remarked to both Major Piercy and myself that owing to the benefit of the 15 foot high ceiling he would much prefer not to have the canopy as he regarded it as a very fertile dust collector.
4. Would you please send three heaters for the Searchlight personnel.
5. For your information, please.

JST

(R.A. Mann) Superintendent
York Island, B.C.

RAM/KMB



85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

8th March,

1

District Engineer Officer
M.D.XI
Victoria, B.C.

DEDUCTIONS MADE ON CONTAINERS.

Reference to your letter regarding
containers.

1. I shipped yesterday
via the S.S. Border Prince to the
R.C.E. Office, 41st & Willow Street
Vancouver, B.C.

7 empty 45 gallon gasoline drums
1 empty 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon oil drum

2. For your information,
please.

(R.A. Mann) Superintendent
York Island, B.C.

RAM/KMB



85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

8th March,

1

District Engineer Officer
Headquarters, M.D.XI
Victoria, B.C.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

1. Spr. DeRochie, in charge of this plant, informs me that there is a leakage of oil past the piston rings causing waste of oil. This plant has used 3 gallons of oil in two days.

2. He states that he requires:

9 Piston rings - Part no. 10-4-18
3 Piston scraper rings - Part no.
10-4-22.

3. Will you please forward the above to this Battery.



(J.R. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

c.c. 4th Fortress E & M Coy. RCE. AF.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O

VICTORIA B.C.

YORK ISLAND B.C.

MARCH 8th 1941

961 THREE A.P. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

19 RUSH 1 EXTRA

O C YORK ISLAND

VICTORIA MARCH 8 1500

915 CANADIAN AIRWAYS C P 8283251 PASSING OVER YORK

ISLAND APPROXIMATELY 1300HOURS THIS DATE

GENERAL STAFF MD 11

RT/RN/1530/8th.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

March 8th 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	67	70	
	Employed		19	19	
	Station Hosp		2	2	91
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	35	37	37
Bde. H.Q.	Master Gunner		1	1	1
10th Port Sig Coy RCSC	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
15th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Purlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MO) Regt.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	179	189	177

BATTERY STRENGTH -- 177

J. H. Tierney
(J.H. Tierney) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I. ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

9th March, 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCEY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 68

68-1 DUTIES : MONDAY March 10th, 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.C. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Next for duty	- 2/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bdr.	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

68-2 FIRE PICKET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Wright, Cnrs. McKay, Tully, Agnew, Schofield.

68-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours
L/Bdr. Mackie, Cnrs. Harvan, Mackie, D.E., Upton, Blackburn, Richmond, Alford.

(J.E. Piercey) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

YORK ISLAND

VICTORIA B.C.

MARCH 9th 1941

962 FOUR A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. YORK ISLAND

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

MAJOR J.E. FIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

10th Mar, 1941.

No. 69

69-1 DUTIES : TUESDAY March 11th, 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.W. Bankes	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, F.A.	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

69-2 FIRE PICQUET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnrs. McKay, Tully, King, Christensen.

69-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
Bdr. Hammell, Gnrs. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Adzich, Merritt, Henkel, Shore.

69-4 USE OF ROWBOATS.

- (a) Personnel of York Island are forbidden to use rowboats except in the course of duty, or by permission from the B.S.M. or the Orderly Sergeant.
- (b) They will be instructed as to the limits in which they may be allowed to proceed in rowboats due to the treacherous currents.

J.E. Fiercy

(J.E. Fiercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

10th March,

41

D.S. & T.O.
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

M.V. GENERAL CALDWELL.

1. Will you please advise me as to the number of passengers which can be carried on this vessel when sailing in the vicinity of York Island. I am informed that it will be necessary to have a Federal Steamship Inspection Certificate as specified in Dominion of Canada Shipping Act, otherwise in case of accident the O.C. York Island would be criminally liable and the skipper of the vessel would have his certificate endorsed and be unable to command a vessel when he returns to civil life.
2. Life Saving Equipment - This vessel is equipped with a dinghy, 10 foot long and about 2 foot 6 inches wide, capacity 3 persons, 6 life belts stowed underdeck. I have supplied him with 3 more life belts but it will be necessary to increase this very materially to comply with the Steamship Inspectors Safety requirements.
3. Passenger Accommodation.- Apart from the crew's quarters, which should not be used for passengers, the only accommodation underdeck is a small after hold, depth varying from 3 foot 6 inches to 1 foot 6 inches, entered by a hatch 3 foot 10 inches by 5 foot 10 inches. I doubt very much whether the Federal Steamship Inspector will allow any men to be put in this after hold.
4. For your information, on various occasions we have had to carry 40 to 50 men across Johnstone Straits to Kelsey Bay. Last Saturday we had to bring 2 Officers and 30 O.R's, with about 5 tons of baggage, stores and rations, from the S.S. Catella at Kelsey Bay.
5. This vessel is comparatively shallow draft, drawing 4 foot aft, 2 foot 6 inches forward, with no hand rails aft of the funnel, and I doubt very much whether it is safe to carry passengers on deck across Johnstone Straits when the usual summer westerly wind is blowing.
6. Regardless of whether it is necessary or not to have a Federal Steamship Inspectors Certificate, I suggest that it would be advisable to have a vessel comply with the safety laws of Canada, as I presume the Department of National Defence does not wish to endanger men's lives by breaking laws.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/EMB

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND B C

MARCH 10

HQ MD XI VICTORIA

963 ISLAND POWER PLANT BROKEN DOWN CONSEQUENTLY UNABLE USE ARMY
WIRELESS STOP REQUEST SHIP PER BORDER PRINCE FROM VANCOUVER
TONIGHT POWER PLANT FOR WIRELESS STOP NAVY PERMITTING USE
THEIR WIRELESS SUBJECT THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND B C MARCH 10/1030

R C E WORKS OFFICER VANCOUVER

964 ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT BROKEN DOWN STOP SHIP BORDER PRINCE
THREE CONNECTING ROD BEARINGS NUMBER AA - 8-1-08- x12
ALSO 3 SETS BEARING SHIMS AND ONE PISTON RING COMPRESSOR STOP
SHIP ITEMS OVER LETTER EIGHT/ SAME BOAT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF.—

YORK ISLAND B C MARCH10

O C 3RD S/L BTY
NORTH VANCOUVER DRILL HALL

965 CONTACT UNION STEAMSHIPS CO AND HAVE CATALLA DROP OFF ONE
VALISE OF BLANKETS AT KELSEY BAY

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND B C MARCH 10.

11TH FORT SIGS VICTORIA

966 POWER PLANT BROKEN DOWN USING NAVY GENERATOR PLEASE MAKE
REPAIRS EVERY TWO HOURS.

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

VICTORIA MARCH 10/1155

OFFICER COMMANDING 85TH HEAVY BATTERY
YORK ISLAND B.C.

925 IF COMPRESSOR NO LONGER REQUIRED SHIP IMMEDIATELY TO EVANS COLEMAN
AND EVANS VANCOUVER AND NOTIFY THIS OFFICE

DIST DIRECTOR ENGINEER

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

VICTORIA MARCH 10/1700

O C YORK ISLAND

940 IMPOSSIBLE SHIP RADIO STATION POWER PLANT TONIGHTS BOAT STOP
STILL AWAITING PARTS ^{OP} ~~STOP~~ WILL SHIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

STOP

SIGNALS OFFICER ELEVEN

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

March 10th, 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'E</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	2	67	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital	1	5	6	92
	Shaughnessy Hosp		4	4	
	Bds. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		1	1	
	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCOS	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M Coy RCE AP	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Purhough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.G.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	186	196	182

RATION STRENGTH -- 182

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, N.C.
by

11th March, 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 70

70-1 DUTIES : WEDNESDAY March 12th, 1941

Officer of the Watch	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

70-2 PINK PICQUET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Coltman, Gnr. McCartney, Cox Gatenby, Conroy.

70-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
A/Bdr. Thompson, Gnr. Harman, Mackie, H.E., Upton, Alford, Blackburn, Richmond.

70-4 MEAL HOURS FOR THE PERSONNEL OF YORK ISLAND.

BREAKFAST

7 A.M.

Gun Crews, Civilians, Wireless, Navy, and Engineers reliefs.

7.15 A.M.

Guard and Searchlights.

7.30 A.M.

Headquarters and all other off duty personnel.

LUNCH

12:00 Noon

Gun crews, Civilians, Wireless, Navy, and Engineers reliefs.

12:15

Headquarters and all other off duty personnel.

12:30

Remainder of Gun Crew, Wireless, Navy, and Engineers.

SUPPER

5 P.M.

Gun Crews, Civilians, Wireless, Navy, Engineers, Guard.

5:15

Headquarters, searchlights, and all other off duty personnel.

5:30

Remainder of Gun Crews, Wireless, Navy, and Engineers.

70-5 HOSPITAL.

Except in extreme emergency, accident, etc. any men wanting medical attention other than at morning sick parade should parade with the Orderly Bombardier at the Hospital.

(J.E. Piercy) Major., R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

A.L. Farnell

Per

SECRET

5-1

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

11th March,

41

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

ESTABLISHMENT.

1. The M.O. has stated that if this Garrison goes into action it would be necessary at least to have 8 men to act as stretcher bearers to carry wounded from any place on the Island to the Hospital because the establishment of the Hospital does not permit them to use any men for this purpose.
2. I request that consideration be given to increasing the strength of this Battery, 1 N.C.O. and 8 men to act as stretcher bearers, and that if approved, application be made to Ottawa for this increase.
3. I would respectfully point out that the present establishment of this Battery is on the same basis as the Batteries in Vancouver or Victoria, where Infantry supply men for defence outside the vicinity of the Fort, whereas on this Island the Infantry have been withdrawn and consequently the present detachment has to supply men for duties which it was considered 1 Officer and 40 O.R.'s would be necessary to fulfill.
4. Under the circumstances I have told the M.O. that if this Garrison went into action we could not guarantee to supply men for stretcher bearers as all employed men and spare Gunners are needed to act as Infantry in local defence.
5. The M.O. states that the stretcher bearers section should be specially allotted for this purpose and undertake other duties while being trained, and would automatically assume this duty in case of action, as it might be the case of saving many men's lives. I approve of his recommendation but have had to point out the insufficient number of men on the existing establishment.

J. E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

11th March,

41

District Ordnance Officer
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

ATTENTION D.O.M.E.

CHEVROLET TRUCK-CHASSIS NO. 632182
ENGINE " C4390441

1. This truck was sent up here in September 1940 for use on York Island.
2. On arrival of truck I reported that the truck was too light and in too bad shape for use on the roads on York Island. Major DuMoulin, the O.C. York Island from October 1940 to January 1941, also had considerable trouble and incurred expense to the Government in repairs.
3. This engine needs a new cylinder head and numerous other parts but before any further expense is incurred I request that an officer be sent up to inspect it to see whether or not it should be condemned for use on York Island.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 11th, 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		Offrs.	O.R.'s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	2	69	71	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital	1	5	6	94
	Shaughnessy Hoop		4	4	
	Bde. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M Coy RCA AF	Employed		5	5	5
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MO) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
HQ MD XI		1		1	1
Totals		11	189	200	186

RATION STRENGTH -- 186

J. E. Tiercy
(J.E. Tiercy) Major., R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

ORIGINAL

M.F.M. 15

A.F.C. 218

1 M3-540 (2/24)

H.Q. 1773 24/10/48

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to G. 1/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to appendices and initials
85 Hvy Bty RCA AF York Island B.C.	March			
	12		Weather : Bright.	
	13		Capt. W.J. Cole, Headquarters M.D. No. 11 Audit Board Left York Island. Weather : Bright.	
	14		Hon Maj. A. Madden C.C.S., arrived York Island from Vancouver Letter to O.C. 4th Fort. Coy RCE AF re Water Supply Letter to D.S. & T.O. re supplies required fro M.V. "General Caldwell" Letter to District Officer re Clicking Gears. Pay Parade at 1000 Hrs. Wire to Lt. P.F. Docherrill re Adding Machine for Canteen. Weather : Fair	8-1 "A" 7-2 "A" 9-1 "A" "E"
	15		Letter to D.O.O. re Ross Rifles Mk. III Letter to O.C. 15 Coast Bde re Target Practice Weather: Cloudy.	9-1 "A" 4-2 "A"
	16		Divine Service C of E at 2400-Hrs, 2000 Hrs. Divine Service R.C. at 0730 Hrs. Major A. Madden left York Island Wire to O.C. 3rd S/L Bty re parts for Searchlights. Weather : Rain	"X"
	17		Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re additional berth accommodation at wharf. Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re Mechanical Equipment. Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re Fire Hazard. Weather : Rain	7-2 "A" 8-4 "A" 4-1 "A"
	18		Weather : Cloudy	



027

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

by

12th March, 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 71

71-1 DUTIES : THURSDAY March 13th, 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

71-2 FIRE PICKET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Wright, ~~xxx~~ Gnr. Larson, McKay, Olsen, A/L/Bdr. Caldwell.72-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
L/Bdr. Foote, Gnr. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Adzich, Merritt, Henkel, Shore.72-4 DIVINE SERVICE.
Divine Service will be held on Sunday March 16th 1941 at 2000 hours in the Men's Mess Hall.72-5 HEATERS.
It has been reported that coal is being used in stoves designed for burning wood and this is causing damage to the stoves besides being an unnecessary waste of money when wood is so plentiful.
In future only wood must be used in wood stoves.


(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER	SENT TO	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK
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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

D.M.O.

YORK ISLAND B.C.

VICTORIA B.C.

March 12 1941

~~DE~~ 963 SEVEN A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

28 RUSH I EXTRA

VANCOUVER MAR 12/1022

O C YORK ISLAND

955 RETEL 969 TEN DAYS COMPASSIONATE LEAVE GRANTED K17078

GNR A L HARMAN COMMENCING MARCH 13TH

O C AREA HEADQUARTERS

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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AND RADIO
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THE WORLD

NUMBER	SENT TO	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK
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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF.—

RUSH I EXTRA
VANCOUVER MAR 12/1400

O C YORK ISLAND

956 HAVE EXAMINATION VESSEL MEET CATALA PICK UP VALISE
BLANKETS ARRIVING PM TODAY

O C 3RD S/L BTY VANCOUVER

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

- DAY MESSAGES
- DAY LETTERS
- NIGHT MESSAGES
- NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER	SENT TO	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA

YORK ISLAND

MARCH EX 12th

970 REQUEST REPLY TO OUR WIRE NUMBER
four, please.

Nine Fifty

A-1/3 Station Hospital.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

March 12th 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	2	70	72	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital	1	5	6	95
	Shaughnessy Hosp		4	4	
	Bde. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M Coy RCE AP	Employed		5	5	5
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Furlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MO) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the BEO	Employed		16	16	16
HQ MD XI		1		1	1
Totals		11	189	200	187

RATION STRENGTH -- 187

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island

Plain

PART I ORDERS

88th Heavy Battery., R.C.A. AP
York Island, B.C.
by

13th March, 1941.

MAJOR J.E. FIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 72

72-1 DUTIES : FRIDAY March 14th , 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.E.	

72-2 FIRE PICQUET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnrs. Sgnew, Schofield, King, Christensen.

72-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1800 hours.
A/Bdr. Engelen, Gnrs. Mackie, D.E., Upton, Blackburn, Richmond, (and 1 to be detailed)

72-4 PAY PARADE.
Pay Parade for the 88th Hvy. Bty., RCA. AP., York Island, will be held at 1000 hours, Friday 14-Mar-1941.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

13-3-41

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

971 FIVE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

ISLAND, B.C.

O.C. YORK

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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DAY LETTERS

NIGHT MESSAGES

NIGHT LETTERS

2 CIV

14 BLU

VANCOUVER MAR/ 13 / 1604

O. C. YORK ISLAND

960 DISTRICT CHAPLAIN RC LEAVING VANCOUVER TONIGHT VIA. UNION
ARRANG. MAST

AR-A COMMAND-R

V

RT/JW/1630/13th

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

March 13th 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	68	71	
	Employed		17	17	
	Str. Hospital		6	6	94
	Shaughnessy Hosp		4	4	
	Bde. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 88th	1	1	2	
	On Leave.		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	37	39	39
1st Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		9	9	9
4th E & N Coy RCE AF	Employed		5	5	5
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Purlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed	X	1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DPO	Employed		16	16	16
XXXXXX					
Totals		10	190	200	186

NATION STRENGTH -- 186

J. E. Piercy
(J. E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

by

14th March 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 73

73-1 DUTIES : SATURDAY March 15th, 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. D.G. McCavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Bgt. Thackeray, P.A.	
Orderly Bombardier	- L/Bdr. Beaulieu, J.L.	

73-2 FIRE PICKET - L/Bdr. Beaulieu, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnrs. Larson, Olsen, Catenby, Cox, A.

73-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
Bdr. ~~Connett~~, Gnrs. Lawrence, O'Reilly, Adzich,
BONNETT Merritt, Henkel, Shore.

73-4 RETREAT.
Until further orders Retreat will be sounded at 1830 hours.

73-5 EDUCATIONAL COURSES

- For the information of those that are taking the Canadian Legion War Services Educational Courses there are now available in the Canteen a series of books covering the various subjects.
- These books have to be signed for, and returned to the Canteen as early as possible, they are only here for a limited time and have to be returned to the Canadian Legion, and are only to be used by those taking the courses.

73-6 SECURITY OF MILITARY INFORMATION:

All ranks of the CASP are warned against communicating either ~~verbally~~ verbally or in writing, any item of information respecting Naval, Army or Air Force matters which may be of value to the enemy. In particular private correspondence should make no mention of the following:

- The disposition, movement, or projected movement of warships, merchant ships, troops or aircraft.
- Details as to numbers, armament, equipment or condition of ships of all kinds, troops of aircraft.
- Any measures which have been taken or which are projected for the defence of any place.

Accordingly, officers and other ranks are forbidden to:

- Insert advertisements or letters in any publication inviting strangers to communicate with them.
- To enter into correspondence with strangers in response to advertisements or other invitations.
- In any other way to communicate with strangers by letter or otherwise concerning anything of a military nature.

for
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

RCA

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

14th March,

1

Officer Commanding
4th Fortress E & M Coy RCE, AF.
Seaforth Camp
Vancouver, B.C.

WATER SUPPLY

1. Will you please arrange for your personnel to take over the operation of the Water Supply system on this Island. This involves pumping the water from the tank under the Officers Mess to the tank higher up the hill which is done by one of three Fire Fighting Pumps.
2. The R.C.A.S.C. are supplying a water barge equipped with a pump which should be delivered about the end of March and this pump will also have to be operated.
3. We have no mechanics or artificers on our Battery strength and have had to use our Battery District Gunner but would prefer you to operate it as you supply the mechanical part of the Fort.
4. Your man also should look after the maintenance of the Tractor and the drag saw.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

14th March,

1

Officer Commanding
88th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., A.P.
Point Grey Fort
Vancouver, B.C.

LOCAL RECOGNITION SIGNALS.

1. Apparently your signature was obtained by the C.X.O. for a typewritten sheet of Local Recognition Signals (For use by minor war vessels and Harbour Craft entering West Coast Defended Harbours) listing pendants and names of vessels.
2. Could this be located, please, as the C.X.O. has been instructed to destroy same by fire and your copy can not be found.

(A.L. Foreman) Capt., R.C.A.
85th Heavy Battery., R.C.A., AP.

ALF/KMB



85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

14th March,

41

D.S. & T.O.
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

M.V. GENERAL CALEWELL.

1. Sgt. McKenzie, Skipper of this vessel, has requested me to order the following materials:

Crescent wrench - patent No. A.118 - length 18"
McLennan & McFeely Catalogue
Page 4B

Blow torch - patent No. 800
McLennan & McFeely Catalogue
Page 22

Soldering copper- Patent No. 2 - with handle
McLennan & McFeely Catalogue
Page 26

1 row acid core
solder - 5 lbs.

1 small bottle muriatic acid

2 round ship fenders - patent No. 610 - tarred
hemp netted rope covering
cork filled. Size 43"-52"
McLennan & McFeely Catalogue
Page 1799

2. He also requested that three tons of scrap iron, in length not over three feet, preferably steel rails, be supplied to act as balast as this vessel has no balast in her and rolls very much.

3. Would you please arrange to ship this by S.S. Border Prince leaving Vancouver Monday evening, 17-Mar-1941.

J.P.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/XMB

c.c. D.D.S. & T.O.
" Sgt. McKenzie

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

14th March,

1

District Armament Officer
15th (Van.) Coast Brigade, R.C.A., A.F.
Bessborough Armouries
Vancouver, B.C.

CLICKING GEAR - 4.7 GUNS.

1. Recently new clicking gears were installed on these guns for use with auto-sights. These have been tested and we find that there are 15 clicks each way making 30 in all.
2. At 4,000 yards, 30 clicks only make a difference of 75 to 100 yards and at 2000 yards it is much less. It appears to us that there must have been some mistake as the total correction at less than 50 yards on the clicking gear either up or down is useless.
3. Would you please take steps to find out what is being done.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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AND RADIO

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TIME SENT

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 14

LIEUT P F DOCKERILL
15TH (VAN) COAST BDE R C A

973 PLEASE HAVE ADDING MACHINE SHIPPED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE URGENTLY
NEEDED HERE

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

VICTORIA B.C.

YORK ISLAND

MARCH 14 1941

972 FIVE A.F. PATENTS IN HOSPITAL

O.C. York Island B.C.

2 CIE

M

26 RUSH ONE EXTRA
VANCOUVER MARCH 14/1935

O C YORK ISLAND

962 RETEL 974 K17132 GNR CURRY J C GRANTED SEVEN DAYS COMPASSIONATE
LEAVE COMMENCING FIFTEENTH MARCH

O C VAN DEFENCES

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

HEADQUARTERS
VANCOUVER DEPENDENCES
VANCOUVER B C

14TH MARCH 1941
YORK ISLAND B C

974 K17132 GUNNER CURRY J C REQUEST COMPASSIONATE LEAVE
STOP REPORTED WIFE IN GENERAL HOSPITAL VERY ILL
HOME ADDRESS 2548 27TH AVENUE EAST

O C YORK ISLAND

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

14th March 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	70	73	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital		4	4	94
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Hdq. H.Q.		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		1	1	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCGS	Employed		9	9	9
4th E & M Coy RCE AF	Employed		5	5	5
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Purlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R. A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	190	200	186

RATION STRENGTH -- 186

J. E. Piercy
(J. E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

Diary

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island.

by

18th March 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 74

74-1 DUTIES : SUNDAY March 16th 1941.

Officer of the Watch - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Officer - Lt. H.V.N. Banks RCA
Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sergeant - L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.
Orderly Bdr. - A/Bdr. Thompson, J.

74-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Thompson, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnrs. Schofield, King,
Confrey, McCartney.

74-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Beaulieu, Gnrs. Young, Groome, Sydney, Ramsay,
Smith, Newell.

74-4 R.C.'s
Confession will be held in the Library for R.C.'s from 1600 to 1700
hours, Saturday 15-March-1941.

74-5 MASS - R.C.'s.
Mass for R.C.'s will be held in the Library at 0730 hours, Sunday
16-March-1941.

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

15th March,

1

Officer Commanding
15th (Van.) Coast Brigade, R.C.A., A.P.
Bessborough Armouries
Vancouver, B.C.

STRENGTH.

1. K74933 Gnr. Appleton, J. has a brother whom he wishes to bring into the Battery. His brother is at present in the Irish Fusiliers.
2. The Battery is at present up to strength but should soon have a vacancy when you transfer L/Sdr. Dyer to another Battery. When this happens will you please leave this open so that we can arrange for a transfer for Gnr. Appleton's brother.

J. E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

15th March,

1

District Ordnance Officer
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

RIFLES.

1. Recently we received instructions to hand in all Ross Rifles Mark III re-chambered which was done. Since then we have been issued with Ross Rifles Mark II.
2. The sights on a number of these rifles appear to be inaccurate, especially the battle sights.
3. A number of the barrels also need looking over and possibly condemned as they are badly pitted.
4. I request that Armourer Sergeant Irvine or a substitute armourer be sent up to look over these rifles and bring them into fit shape for active service.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JRP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 15th 1941

Officer Commanding
15th (VAN) Coast Bde R.C.A., A.F.,
Bessborough Armouries,
Vancouver, B.C.

TARGET PRACTICE

1. The Battery will be unable to carry out the Target Practice during the week of March 17 - 22nd as the Signallers are busy coupling up the D.R.F., Loud Speakers etc. in the Ø'Pip through the new buried cable.
2. Night Practice. I suggest that it will be far preferable to fire at least a few full charge rounds so that the Officers would have practice in spotting splashes by searchlight. One inch aiming rifle would not be so much practice as the searchlights make the vicinity of the Island almost like daylight.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

JEP/PBW

SECRET85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 15th 1941

Headquarters,
M.D. XI,
VICTORIA B.C.WAR DIARY - FEBRUARY 1941

1. Enclosed please find War Diary for the month of February 1941, made up as follows:

(a) Original Copy plus:

Copies of correspondence Appendix "A"
 Copies of Part I Orders " " "B"
 Copies of Part II Orders " " "C"
 Copies of Daily Strength State " " "D"

(b) Duplicate and triplicate copies of War Diary.

2. Please acknowledge receipt.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

Enc
/PEW

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER

SENT TO

SENT BY

REC'D BY

TIME SENT

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND MARCH 15/

O C 15TH (VAN) COAST BDE RCA
VANCOUVER

978 FIVE HUNDRED RDS FIRED ON VICKERS COURSE ON BTY CHARGES STOP
EMPTIES IN SACK IN PT GREY QUARTER STORES

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

O C YORK ISLAND

1 CIV

RT/JW

36 BLUE

VANCOUVER MAR15/1100

961 ATTENTION CAPTAIN FOREMAN SHORTAGE S A A POINT THREE
NOUGHT THREE AT POINT GREY STOP WAS AMMUNITION ON
BATTERY CHARGE USED FOR VICKERS COURSE IF SO HOW MANY
ROUNDS AND ADVISE DISPOSITION OF EMPTIES

O C 15TH COAST BDE

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

15-3-41

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

975 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK.

05th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, R.C.

15th March 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		Offrs.	O.R.'s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	68	71	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital		4	4	92
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Rde. H.Q.		7	7	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		2	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
1st Fort Sig Coy RCAF	Employed		9	9	9
4th Fort EAM Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Purlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt.	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Chaplains		1		1	1
Totals		11	189	200	184

NATION STRENGTH -- 184

J. S. Tiercy
(J.S. Tiercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.

by

MAJOR J.M. PIERCY, Officer Commanding.

No. 75

March 16th 1941

DUTIES: MONDAY MARCH 17th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. D.G. McGavin R.C.A.
Next for duty - Lt. H.V.N. Banks R.C.A.

Orderly Officer - S/Lt. W.A.S. Clayton R.C.A.
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin R.C.A.

Orderly Sgt. - L/Sgt. Cuddeford T.
Orderly Bdr. - A/Bdr. Thomson J.

75-2 FIRE PICKET - A/Bdr. Thomson J., L/Bdr. Wright R.B.,
Gnr. Gatenby, McCartney, Larson, Olsen.

75-3 GUARD MOUNTINE - Bdr. Hamrell C.D., Gnr. Hazard, Brunt,
McEwan, Barnett, Wazner, Fairburn.

75-4. DIVINE SERVICE

Divine Service will be held today - Sunday March 16th,
at 2000 Hours, in the Mens' Mess Hall.

J.M. Piercy

(J.M. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

16-3-41

D.M.O.

Victoria, B.C.

977 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

O C 3RD SEARCHLIGHT BATTERY RCA AP

NORTH VANCOUVER B C

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 16TH 1941

979 MUST HAVE NEGATIVE CARBON BRUSH AND NEGATIVE SPRING CONTACT
RIBBON AT ONCE TO PUT NUMBER ONE LIGHT BACK INTO OPERATION

O C YORK ISLAND

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island.

16th March 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF				
On Parade	3	69	72	
Employed		17	17	
Stn. Hospital		3	3	92
Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
Bde. H.Q.		7	7	
Att'd 51st		1	1	
Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
On Leave		2	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On parade	1	1	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	1
3 S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		9	9
4th Fort E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2
13th Flg Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1
Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9
Civilian Emp. of the DHO	Employed		16	16
Chaplains		1	1	1
Totals	11	189	200	185

RATION STRENGTH -- 185

J. E. Tierney
(J.E. Tierney) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

88th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

17th March, 1941.

No. 76

76-1 DUTIES : TUESDAY March 18th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA
Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Officer - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA
Next for duty - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA

Orderly Sergeant - L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Thomson, J.

76-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Thomson, Bdr. Bonnett, Gnrs. King, Christensen,
McKay, Gatenby.

76-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Mackie, Gnrs. Young, Groome, Sydney, Ramsay,
Smith, Newell.

for *A.L.7 overman Call.*
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

17th March,

1

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

ADDITIONAL BERTH ACCOMMODATION AT WHARF.

1. The M.V. General Caldwell has now been delivered and I understand the Water Scow should be delivered in a few weeks.
2. The D.E.O. sent up Lt. Ruffell to investigate the situation and he agreed that additional berth accommodation was necessary, also that it will be necessary to build tanks etc. at the source of supply on Hardwicke Island. Since then we have received no report whatever and would request information as to when accommodation for these vessels and water system will be installed.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JVP/KMB

8-4
85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

17th March,

1

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT.

1. I request that the 4th Fortress E & M Coy be instructed to send up two men to operate the mechanical equipment on my charge and keep the tools in good condition.

2. For your information we have three pumps and will have another two when the water scow arrives.

3. In addition there should be some mechanic who is capable of making repairs to the tractor, motor truck and drag-saw. One of these men should be able to file a cross-cut saw. I propose to use these men to pump water, operate the drag-saw and look after the mechanical equipment.

4. Without these skilled men the mechanical equipment on my charge can not be properly looked after which incurs expenses in repairs and overhaul. I am informed that the 4th Fortress E & M Coy have men capable for this work.

J.H.P.

(J.H. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JHP/KMB

c.c. O.C., 4th Fortress E&M Coy. R.C. AF.

17th March,

41

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

FIRE HAZARD

1. This Island is covered with trees and fallen timber. During the months of June, July and August it is very dry and the fire hazard is very considerable. The largest forest fire in British Columbia last year occurred within 10 miles of this camp. This matter was taken up with the D.R.O. in January, 1940, who obtained an allotment for about \$6,000 and sent up civilians to commence the clearing, but owing to delay in starting the work, this appropriation was not expended as the men had to be sent home owing to the fire hazard.

2. I request that civilian employees be used to use up the unexpended balance of the appropriation, which I am informed is about \$1,200, and that in addition consideration be given to further appropriation to reduce this fire hazard.

3. I respectfully point out that the Department of National Defence has spent several hundred thousand dollars in the fort and camp at York Island, all of which is endangered by forest fires. In addition, in the event of an attack by an enemy during the summer months, this fort could be put out of action by a few incendiary shells or bombs. While it would not be necessary to make the whole Island fire proof, it could be decreased by clearing underbrush etc. at no great cost to the public.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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NIGHT LETTERS

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AND RADIO
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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

2 CIV

RT/ED

22 NEW

VANCOUVER MARCH 17/1925

O C YORK ISLAND

965 RE TEL NO 979 NEGATIVE CONTACT AND SHUNT ASSEMBLY CONTAINED
IN SPARE PARTS BOX ITEM NO 25 ON SHEET 14 40 948

O C 3RD S/L BFF

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

17-3-41

D.M.B.

VICTORIA, B.C.

978 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

88th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

17th March 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		Offrs.	O.R's	Total	Total at York Island
88th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	69	72	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital		3	3	92
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		7	7	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 88th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		2	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
Sr S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCGS	Employed		8	8	8
4th Fort E & M Coy RCE AP	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster(MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	188	198	183

RATION STRENGTH -- 183

J. E. Piercy
(J. E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.
by

18th March 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 77

77-1 DUTIES : WEDNESDAY March 19th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Thomson, J.	

77-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Thomson, L/Bdr. Rose, Gns. Larson, Olsen,
King, K.R., Schofield

77-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Foote, Gns. Hazard, Brunt, McEwan, Barnett,
Wammer, Fairbairn.

77-4 PAY OFFICE.

(a) Attention of All Ranks is again drawn to Pay Office hours:

~~Exx~~ MONDAY TO FRIDAY - 1100 to 1200 hours.
& - 1600 to 1700 hours.
Saturday - 1000 to 1200 hours.

(b) Personnel will apply at the Pay Office wicket and not the Orderly Room.

77-5 POSTAGE.

Mail leaving York Island must have the correct postage; 3¢ for one ounce and under and 2¢ for each additional ounce.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

18th March,

1

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

EMPLOYMENT OF BOYS.

1. We have had sent to us P7568 Boy Thomson, H.W. He is 17 years of age on the 26-June-1941, weight 172 lbs., height about 5' 8" and the M.O. advises me, after careful inspection, that he is well developed physically and quite able to do the work of an ordinary Gunner, around the guns.

2. The question has arisen as to whether boys of this age can be used at the guns and I request that a ruling be given as to whether, provided this boy is medically fit, he can be ordered to perform a Gunners' duties otherwise, I will have to ask for his discharge. I know that in peace time, N.P.A.M's took boys to camp who carried on as Gunners and can find no reference in C.A.S.F. Routine Orders or in K.R. & O. to say he should not do so and request you give a ruling to this effect.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/YMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

18th March,

41

R.C.E. Works Officer
41st & Willow St.
Vancouver, B.C.

PARAMOUNT JUNIOR PUMP

1. By Union Steamship, we are shipping you tonight the crank-shaft housing, two pistons, two connecting rods and one broken crank-shaft.
2. The crank-shaft housing has to be tested and if not true has to be made so. The two pistons have to have new pins fitted and the rods lined. New connecting rod bearings are needed. The broken crank-shaft has to be replaced. Please also send up a complete set of gaskets. We require two compression rings and one oil ring for piston.
3. Will you please instruct Pumps & Power to make a better job on these repairs than they have been doing on our previous shipments. This pump has only run for 2½ hours before it broke down.
4. In addition the Paramount Cub was sent down to have the magneto re-magnetized and apparently they paid no attention to these instructions because it is in just as bad shape as it was before.
5. Will you please arrange to send up these parts immediately or alternatively send us up the other Paramount Junior Pump now down for repairs, as we have only one pump on the Island. (Paramount Cub) The number of people living on the Island has been increased and if this pump breaks down we will not be able to maintain a constant water supply.
6. Please treat this as urgent.

J. H. Piercy

(J.H. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

18th March,

1

R.C.E. Works Officer
41st & Willow St.
Vancouver, B.C.

MULTNOMAN GASOLINE DRAG SAW - Model YK #80493.

1. Referring to our letter of the 6-Mar-1941 requesting some spare parts for this machine and also stating that we were sending down some shafts, bearings to be rehabited and fixed up.

2. Will you please arrange to ship these as soon as possible, no later than the sailing of the S.S. Border Prince on 24-March-1941, as we need to use this saw.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

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DAY MESSAGES
 DAY LETTERS
 NIGHT MESSAGES
 NIGHT LETTERS



CANADA

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1 CIP	CIV					

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND MAR 18/0900

981

 O.C. 3RD S/L NORTH VANCOUVER

ITEM TWENTY FIVE NUMBER K FOUR FOUR FOUR NOUGHT NINE FOUR EIGHT

NOT IN KITS SUGGEST REMOVE FROM LAMP NOT IN USE IF NO SPARES AVAILABLE

IMMEDIATELY

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DOMINION OF CANADA

Form No. 1
 302,191-4-47

Write Plainly

Give Full Address

Use no Figures or Abbreviations

All Messages are received subject to the following conditions: The Government shall not be liable for damages arising from failure to transmit or deliver, or for any error in the transmission or delivery of any telegram, whether happening from negligence of its servants or otherwise, or for delays from interruption in the working of its lines, or for errors from illegible writing, beyond a refund of the amount received for sending the same, except in the case of error in a repeated telegram. To guard against errors, the Government will repeat back any message for a payment of twice the regular rate for transmission, and in that case it shall not be liable for damages amounting fifty times the amount received for sending and repeating any such message. In no case will the Government be responsible for the destruction of cipher or obscure telegrams, whether repeated or not.

The Government shall not be liable for any act or omission occurring beyond its own lines, but will endeavor to forward telegrams by any other line necessary to reach their destination.

F. G. King, General Superintendent.

Sent No.	Sent by	Received by	Time Sent	Time Filed	Check

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to:

To Major Percy York Esq March 18 1941
 Heriot Bay to day 39 night letter Paid

cordial invitation to members of His Majesty's force stationed at York Esd to attend show & dance at Luadra Island social Hall (Howland harbour) on Saturday March 22nd. Percentage of proceeds to Canadian Red Cross. Special rates will apply. signed Secretary M. Gervard.
 Luadra Island Credit Union

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

I CIE

RT/RA

18 NBW
VICTORIA MAR 18/NFT

O C YORK ISLAND

83 CANADIAN AIRWAYS RAPID E C F DASH BNG PASSING OVER YORK ISLAND
APPROXIMATELY 1400 HOURS TODAY

PACIFIC COMMAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

3 CIV

RT/JW

31 NW
VANCOUVER MAR 18/1542

O C YORK ISLAND ATTENTION
O C SEARCHLIGHT DETACHMENT

966 THRASHER STATES THORNBUR TOLD HIM THAT HETHORNEUR GOT TEN
DOLLARS CHANGE MORNING 14 DECEMBER AT NATIONAL BISCUIT
FACTORY WILL HE STATE THIS IN COURT

O C 3RD S/L BTY NORTH VANCOUVER

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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D.M.O.

MARCH 18th, 1941

VICTORIA, B.C.

980 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

18th March, 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	69	72	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hospital		3	3	92
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		7	7	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		2	2	
59th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCSC	Employed		9	9	9
4th Fort E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Flg Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (NO) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DNO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	189	199	184

NATION STRENGTH -- 184

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Brass heading not required)

M.F.M. 11

A.F.C. 219

1100-5-40 (2/12)

H.Q. 377530 (148)

ORIGINAL

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. 1/c 2nd Edition for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to appendices and initials
York Island E.C. 65 Hvy Bty RCA AF	March 19		Capt. N. Darling and Capt. T.L. Harrison visited York Island for the day and night. Weather : Rain	File Append
	20		Report of Sgt MacKenzie re Stranding of M.V. "General Caldwell" Letter to D D S & T O re Oil Supply Letter to R.C.E. Works Officer re Tractor Parts. Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re Stretcher bearers Weather ; Rain	7-2 "A" 8-2 "A" 8-4 "A" 5-1 "A"
	21		Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re "Personnel" of Bty and Establishment Weather : Rain	6-2 "A" "D"
	22		Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re "General Caldwell" and Water Scow Weather : Rain	7-2 "A"
	23		Weather : Rain	
	24		Weather : Rain	
	25		Cpl Jackson & three Sigs. returned to their H.Q., having completed the necessary wiring. Paramount Cub Pump broke down, wired for parts and return of Paramount Junior Pump Weather : Cloudy & Showers.	
	26		Major G ^u ernsey and Lt. Setterfield arrived from Vancouver for full charge 4.7 and 1 st aiming practice. S/Sgt. Smith ROCC arrived to investigate clicking gears. Practice Shoot carried out three series 20 rounds each, 1" aiming. 14-aiming-1-series 20 rounds full charge 4.7 All practice very satisfactory. Weather : Cloudy.	



024

McKay

PART I ORDERS

85TH Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

19th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 78

78-1 DUTIES : THURSDAY March 20th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA
Next for duty - Lt. H.V.N. Barkes RCA

Orderly Officer - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Sergeant - L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Thomson, J.

78-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Thomson, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnr. Confrey, Olsen,
McCartney, McKay.

78-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours
A/Bdr. Engelen, Gnr. Young, Groome, Sydney,
Ramsay, Smith, Newell.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

31 RUSH
VANCOUVER MAR 19/2045

O C YORK ISLAND

~~ROBERTSON GRANTED TEN DAYS COMPASSIONATE LEAVE STOP UNABLE
TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE AS MANS HOME IS AT SHAWNIGAN LAKE
ON ISLAND SUGGEST INVESTIGATION OF CASE BE INSTITUTED THROUGH
HEADQUARTERS VICTORIA~~

~~AREA HEADQUARTERS~~

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

Received in Cipher

42 NEW VICTORIA
MARCH 19/1904

O C YORK ISLAND

111 PERMISSION GRANTED U S S TEALTO PROCEED VIA CANADIAN
WATERS EN ROUTE SEATTLE TO SITKA DURING PERIOD 24 TO 28
MARCH AND FOR SOUTHBOUND TRIP OF U S DESTROYER BALLARD
FROM SITKA TO SEATTLE DURING PERIOD 6 TO 10 APRIL 1941

GENERAL STAFF MDXI

PACIFIC CONTROL



GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 19

HEADQUARTERS
VANCOUVER DEFENCES.

984 K62044 GNR ROBERTSON P F WIFE GOING TO HOSPITAL REQUEST
COMPASSIONATE LEAVE TO LOOK AFTER FAMILY PLEASE REPLY
IMMEDIATELY SO THAT HE MAY LEAVE TONIGHT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

OC 3RD SEARCHLIGHT BATTERY

19TH MARCH 1941
YORK ISLAND B C

NORTH VANCOUVER B C

983 RETEL 966 SENDING REPLY WITH CAPTAIN DARLING
ON BOAT TONIGHT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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TO ALL PARTS OF
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TIME SENT

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

MARCH 19th., 1941

Victoria, B.C.

982 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.

March 19th 1941

85th Hvy Bty RCA AF		Offrs.	O.R.s	Total	Total at <u>York Isld.</u>
	On Parade	3	66	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		4	4	90
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		9	9	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	On Leave		2	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	-	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCAF	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort M&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MEXI RCAMC	Employed	1	-	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
15th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MEXI	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot MEXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R. A. S. C.	Employed		3	3	3
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
Civ. Emp. of the D.E.O.			16	16	16
15th (V.N) Coast Bde RCA AF		2	-	2	2
Totals,		12	184	196	181

RATION STRENGTH

181

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding York Island.

Diary

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

20th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 79

79-1 DUTIES : FRIDAY March 21st 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Thomson, J.	

79-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Thomson, L/Bdr. Wright, Cnrs. Larson, Gatenby
*McKay, Schofield.

79-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
Bdr. Bonnett, Cnrs. Hazard, Brunt, McEwan, Barnett,
Wanner, Fairbairn.

79-4 WEARING OF CHEVRONS AND BADGES OF RANK ON GREATCOATS.

- (1) The following instructions regarding the wearing of chevrons and badges of rank on greatcoats are promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned.
- (2) Chevrons and badges of rank will be worn on both arms of greatcoats in the following manner:-
 - (a) Warrant Officers, and also Staff Sergeants wearing 4 bar chevrons.--Below the elbow, the lower edge of the Warrant Officers badge $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches and the point of the 4 bar chevron 9 inches from the bottom of the sleeve, point upwards.
 - (b) N.C.O's.--Above the elbow, the points of the 1 bar chevrons 9 inches, the 2 bar $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches and the 3 bar $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the top of the sleeve, point downwards.
- (3) It has come to notice that Warrant Officers and N.C.O's of certain units formerly clothed in cloaks but now issued with greatcoats are continuing to wear their chevrons and badges of rank on their greatcoats in the manner prescribed for cloaks. This is contrary to regulations and in future all such personnel wearing greatcoats will wear their chevrons and badges of rank in the manner indicated in para. 2 above.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 20th 1941

Headquarters,
Vancouver Defences,
Vancouver, B.C.

DEFENCE ELECTRIC LIGHTS

ATTENTION: CAPT. A.C. CAMERON

Ref your letter S.606, d/ 16-3-41.

1. On checking the D.N.D. Nos. of the Searchlights at York Island, the Nos. 52, 55 and 98 are correct.
2. For your information, Please.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

ALF/PBW

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 20th 1941

D.S. & T.O.
VICTORIA B.C.

M.V. "GENERAL CALDWELL"

1. Enclosed is report of K52323 Sgt MacKenzie C.A., re stranding of the m/n Vessel for your information.
2. Due to his ignorance of Tidal Currents around York Island and Kelsey Bay, he has touched bottom several times, but this is the first time the Vessel has been definitely ashore to my knowledge.
3. As far as I can see the Vessel was not harmed in any way except possible scratches on the planks.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

Enc.
JEP/PBW

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 20th 1941

D.D.S. & T.O.,
Vancouver Barracks,
Vancouver, B.C.

OIL SUPPLY

Ref. your letters of March 17th and 18th, 1941,
file ST/VAN 8-3, ST/VAN 8-3.

1. Ref. para. one of the letter March 17th.
Diesel Oil has only been purchased locally from the Oil
Co. at Kelsey Bay. No. Shell Diesel has been purchased.
2. Possibly the error arose from the fact that
C/Sgt. Brown of the RCE, who was installing the Electric
Light Plant, asked us to order one drum of Golden Shell
Lubricating Oil which is the Oil recommended by the makers
of the Gardner Diesel Engines. This drum has been supplied
and the oil now in use.
3. I understand that the C.C. 3rd S/L Bty. is in
favor of using Lubricating Oil grade Red Indian from the
McCall Frontenac Oil Co.
4. I judge from your para. 2 that you are shipping
this up.
5. Will you please advise me what arrangements you
are making with regard to the supply of Diesel Oil, and
Lubricating Oil for the Searchlights, as it is not clear
to either C.C. 3rd S/L Bty Det. York Island, nor to myself
who is to do the ordering. Should this be done by C.C.
3rd S/L Bty Vancouver or C.C. York Island. I request a
ruling on this point. It is immaterial to me who does the
ordering as long as we have a definite ruling.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/PDW

C.C. to C.C. 3rd S/L Bty RCA AF

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

20th March,

1

R.C.N. Works Officer
41st & Willow St.
Vancouver, B.C.

INTERNATIONAL TRACTOR T-40 Serial No. TDC 2599

1. Under separate cover we are forwarding parts for lubricating oil filter which does not fit this machine. Will you please ask the International Harvester Company to give the Department credit for this return.
2. These parts were taken from Instruction Book for Model TD-40, which was sent up to us with the Tractor. It appears to us however, that this is the wrong Parts Book, as the Model on the Tractor itself is T-40, which possibly accounts for the trouble we have had in getting wrong parts.
3. Will you please ask International Harvester Company whether the Model T-40 is the same as Model TD-40, and if they are different ones please send up Parts Book for Model T-40. At the same time will they please send parts for Model T-40 pressure regulating valve.

J.P. Piercy
(J.P. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/YMB

c.c. International Harvester Company.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

20th March,

1

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

ESTABLISHMENT - STRETCHER BEARERS

Reference your VS 38-2-5-3 dated 15th
March, 1941.

1. Enclosed is a list of men who are not available for duty. This shows that out of a strength of 104, 23 are not available for various reasons, mostly medical. Under the circumstances that only leaves me with 81 O.R.'s to man two 4.7" guns continuously, man two Maxim Machine Guns, two Lewis Guns, supply Guard and all numerous fatigues around the Island.

2. Under the circumstances, I think that you will agree it is impossible for us to provide 8 Stretcher Bearers.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

March 20, 1941.

VICTORIA, B.C.

985 - ~~XXXX~~ FOUR A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, P.C.

March 20th 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	65	68	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		4	4	89
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		9	9	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	29	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MO) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ. Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		10	184	194	178

RATION STRENGTH

178

J. E. Piercy
(J. E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

95th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

21st March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 80

80-1 DUTIES : SATURDAY March 22nd 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- L/Sgt. Cuddeford, T.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Thomson, J.	

80-2 FIRE PICKET - A/Bdr. Thomson, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnr. Confrey, McCartney, King, K.R., Larson.

80-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Beaulieu, Gnr. Young, Grooms, Sydney, Ramsay, Smith, Newell.

80-4 PICTURE SHOW AT KELSEY BAY.

As the show on Thursday nights is primarily for the residents of Kelsey Bay, a limit of 25 men from York Island will be allowed to go on that night. Only men whose duties would prevent them from going Friday night will be permitted to go Thursday and names must be submitted to the Orderly Sgt. before noon Thursday.

The Friday night show is for soldiers and as many men can go as transportation is available for. Names must be submitted to the Orderly Sgt. by noon Friday. It is pointed out that normally the "N.V. General Caldwell" will be limited to carrying 30 men.

80-5 LAUNDRY

Attention of All Ranks is drawn once again to the fact that Laundry must not be left to soak in the tubs for more than an hour or two. Instances have occurred where Laundry has been left to soak for days. This practice must cease immediately.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 21st 1941

Headquarters,
MD. II., VICTORIA, B.C.

PERSONNEL - 85TH HVY BTY R.C.A., A.F.

1. Reference your letter VS.38-2-5-3, dated March 15th, 1941, instructing that stretcher bearers are to be supplied from the spare Gunners on the Establishment.
2. This raises the question of the strength of the 85th Bty to be maintained on York Island. Enclosed is a list of the men of the 85th Bty who are away for various reasons, mostly Medical. As each Medical case is sent down, the M.O. York Island explains the reasons, and I consider that no unnecessary cases are being sent down. The principal reason is that York Island Station Hospital is only equipped for slight accident and sickness cases, and is consequently not equipped with X Ray and other expensive apparatus which modern medicine considers necessary for diagnosis and treatment.
3. In addition the question of leave is coming up, as most of the men are due for leave now, which will mean we will be short another ten or fifteen men.
4. The attached list shows that we are short over 20% of our total strength. In addition to manning the 4.7 guns, Maxim M.G.'s and Anti-Aircraft LMG's since the Infantry guard of 40 All Ranks has been withdrawn, this Bty is made responsible for the local defence not only of the Fort but of the Island itself.
5. I would respectfully draw your attention that in case of attack this Bty, in all probability would be short of 15 to 25% of its personnel away for various reasons mentioned. This condition is not new as my predecessor Major R.T. DuMoulin experienced the same difficulty in keeping the strength up, due to the isolated situation.
6. In Vancouver the Batteries can be reduced below full strength owing to leave without any danger, as leave men and reinforcements can be called on short notice, but this is impossible at York Island.
7. If it is desired to maintain this Garrison at full strength, it will be necessary to station additional men here, either from the District Depot or elsewhere to take care of this situation as even our full Establishment is insufficient to guard the Island without any Infantry support, or any possibility of reinforcements at short notice.
8. The above is a question of policy which I am not competent to decide, but refer to you for consideration.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

Enc.
JEP/PMB

C.C. to 15th (Van) Coast Bde RGA AF

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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H.M.C.

March 21, 1941.

VICTORIA, B.C.

986 - ~~MSG~~ TWO A.P. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

83th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 21st 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Offrs.	O.N.S	Total	Total at York-Island
55th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	67	70	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	89
	Shaughnessy Hosp.		3	3	
	Bde H.O.		9	9	
	Att'd 31st Bty		1	1	
	Att'd 50th Bty	1	2	3	
	On Leave		3	3	
50th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	-	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	On Parade & Employed	2	37	39	39
1st Fort Sig Coy RCGC	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort E & M Coy RCE	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1	-	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Furlough		1	1	
13th Fld Amb RCAFC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot MDXI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (1E) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.N. R.C.N.		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		10	104	194	178

Station Strength

178

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

Diary

PART I ORDERS

95th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.
by

22nd March 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING

No. 81

81-1 DUTIES : SUNDAY March 23rd 1941.

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.G. McEvin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- Sgt. Ramsden, E.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.	

81-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Coltsman, Gnrs. Gatenby, Olsen
McKay, King, K.R.

81-5 GUARD MOUNTING - 1930 hours
Bdr. Hammell, Gnrs. Hazard, Brunt, McEwan, Barnett,
Wammer, Fairbairn.

J. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

ORDERED BY
002904

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

22nd March,

41

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

M.V. GENERAL CALDWELL.

Reference your letter 17-Mar-1941 and 19-Mar-1941, file 34P-3-1.

1. Reference para 2 your letter 17-Mar-1941. Fenders: These fenders are to be used for going alongside a ship when putting passengers aboard or taking them off in Johnstone Straits. They are more efficient than truck tires and would probably save their cost in a very short time in saving repairs to the General Caldwell.

2. Reference para 3. Ballast: Sgt. McKenzie has stated that sand would not be advisable as ballast because bags break and sand would get into bilges and then into the pumps and clog them. The main reason for scrap iron is that it is heavy in proportion to volume and takes less room than sand or gravel. The space under the floor is very limited, which accounts for our request for old rails.

3. Reference para 1 your letter 19-Mar-1941. Will you please arrange to send up life-belts so one life-belt will be available for each passenger, also please ask the D.E.O. to authorize use of lumber and carpenters on York Island to make boxes for these life-belts, to be placed on deck so they will be ready and available in case of accident. It is suggested that a life-raft be supplied as the present dinghy only carries three men.

4. Reference para 2. The D.E.O. has not yet commenced construction of a berth for this scow, neither has he made any arrangements for building a loading berth at proposed site for obtaining water. It is suggested that the scow be kept at Esquimalt till this berth is constructed, even though of cost of freight on S.S. Border Prince, and is suggested that the D.E.O. be instructed to expedite this work to save the Government money.

5. Reference para 3. Sampson Posts: The existing planks on the fore-deck are considered not to be large enough, or strong enough to stand the drag of the scow. This is concurred in by the Naval Officers on York Island.

6. Reference para 4. It is immaterial to us whether Sgt. McKenzie and his crew sleep ashore or afloat. The suggestion was made to sleep ashore and considered they would be more comfortable than in their confined berths afloat. At present however, they are all sleeping afloat.

7. Reference para 5. The boom and mast of this vessel are not long enough to lift drums of Diesel Oil, weighing 450 pounds, from the after-deck onto the wharf. Sgt. McKenzie tried out the line on the boom and it broke, with a comparatively small load, much less than 1,000 pounds. It is pointed out that the rise and fall of tide at York Island is at times 17 feet, and the present mast and boom are very unsatisfactory. I am investigating the question of a double and single block, but he suggested what is really needed is a longer mast with brace down to the keel, with stronger boom, also a nigger head winch driven off the main engine, be supplied, similar to those used on fish boats. This will however involve work by a shipyard and would take some time.

7. Reference para 7. Apparently there was a little difficulty regarding meals at a regular hour for the crew of this vessel. I have given orders that they have to have meals whenever they come in no matter how irregular, and think that will be satisfactory. If he wishes, I am quite agreeable to him going on subsistence, but would point out that Staff Sgt. Stenger has stated several times that they have difficulty in making both ends meet on the Kitchener as allowance is very small.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

c.c. Sgt. McKenzie, C.A.

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :-

22-3-41

~~Rec. works office Vancouver.~~

DEO Vick.

959

Your 175th Request ^{nearly done} one ^{at} elbow, one shot suppl. one hose pipe
union all three webbs cleantops 5000 Send chain tongs for paper

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:

D.M.O.

Victoria, B.C.

March 22, 1941

987 - TWO A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

3 CIV

AK/JW

25 NEW

O C YORK ISLAND

VANCOUVER MAR 22/1420

970 PLEASE HAVE GNR STEPNEY D T 3RD SEARCHLIGHT BTY TAKE FIRST
AVAILABLE BOAT REQUIRED AS WITNESS COURT TRIAL ADVISE TIME
OF ARRIVAL

O C 3RD S/L BTY

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

VAN COUVER B C MARCH 22/1000

O C YORK ISLAND

WILL ARRIVE TO CONDUCT PRACTICE ON TWENTY SIXTH

DISTRICT OFFICER

58th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., AF.
York Island, B.C.

March 22nd 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Offrs.	C.R.s	Total	Total at York Island.
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	66	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	68
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde. HQ		10	10	
	Att'd 31st Bty		1	1	
	Att'd 58th Bty 1		2	3	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	-	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCAF	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort E & M Coy RCE	Employed		4	4	4
Hq MXI RCAMC	Employed	1	-	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot MXI	Employed		1	1	1
Dist Depot No. 11	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (ME) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	124 105	124 105	128 176

Station Strength 176

J. E. P. J. J.
(J. E. P. J.) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

*Notes on
File*

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

23rd March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 82

82-1 DUTIES : MONDAY March 24th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Officer - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
~~Orderly~~Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sergeant - Sgt. Ramsden, E.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.

82-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnr. Confrey, Olsen,
Larson, McCartney.

82-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Mackie, Gnr. Young, Groome, Sydney,
Ramsay, Smith, Hewell.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

VANCOUVER MAR 22/1025

R A MANN CIVILIAN FOREMAN R C E
YORK ISLAND

175 ADVISE SIZE OF HOSE CONNECTION AND WHAT THREAD AT END OF WHARF STOP

REPLY BY WIRE

DEO

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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TIME SENT

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF (—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 23, 1941.

989 - TWO A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 23rd 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Offrs.	O.R.s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	65	58	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		3	3	68
	Shaughnessy Hosp		3	3	
	Bde H.Q.		10	10	
	Att'd 31st Bty		1	1	
	Att'd 58th Bty	1	2	3	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	-	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
10th Fort Sig Coy RCGS	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort EAM Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
Hq WEXI RCAMC	Employed	1	-	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fla Amb. RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist. Depot	Employed		1	1	1
W. Minster (ME) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A. S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees for the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		10	165	195	176

Ration Strength 176

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

Despatch

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island
by

24th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 83

83-1 DUTIES : TUESDAY March 25th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- Sgt. Ramsden, E.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.	

83-2 FIRE PICKET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnr. McKay, King, K.R. Larson, Schofield.

83-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Foote, Gnr. Hazard, Brunt, McEwan, Barnett, Wammer, Fairbairn.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

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D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 24, 1941.

990 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF

O. C.
15th. (Vanc.) Coast Bde.,

Vancouver, B.C.

March 24, 1941.

992 - YOUR WIRE 24 Mar. STEWARD PTE. ROBERTSON
IN VANCOUVER / ADDRESS 1126 WEST 13 AVE. HE TOOK
BIBL ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS FOR JAN. WITH HIM. FEB.
NOT YET RETURNED. PROBABLY LT. WEBER, OFFICER I/c
SUPPLIES HAS THEM. NO ONE HERE CAN COMPLETE MARCH
ACCOUNTS TO DATE. NEED STEWARDS' AID.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

1 CIP

RT/JW

22NBW

VANCOUVER MAR 24/1655

O C YORK ISLAND

SEND HOSPITAL STEWARD TOGETHER WITH ALL DIET RECORDS JANUARY
FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE AND ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH REQUIRED VANCOUVER
DEFENCE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE

O C 15TH COAST BDE

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

24th March 1941.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	65	68	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		3	3	88
	Shaughnessy Hoop		2	2	
	Bde. H.Q.		10	10	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	2	3	
	On Leave		4	4	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	37	39	39
7th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		6	6	6
4th Port E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb. RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		10	187	197	176

RATION STRENGTH -- 176

J.E. Pieroy

(J.E. Pieroy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

P. 100

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

by

25th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 84

84-1 DUTIES : WEDNESDAY March 26th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. H.V.N. Hanks RCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Officer - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sergeant - Sgt. Ramsden, E.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.

84-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Coltsman, Onrs. Tully, Cox, A. Olsen, A/L/Bdr. Caldwell.

84-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
A/Bdr. Thomson, Onrs. Young, Groome, Sydney, Ramsay, Smith, Hewell.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

25th March,

1

Officer Commanding
88th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
Point Grey Fort
Vancouver, B.C.

SMALL ARMS TRAINING COURSES
(CASP & NPAM) 1940.

Reference your 5-9 d/12-March-1941.

1. The m/n training manual was left in the bottom left hand drawer of desk in the Officer's Room in the Battery Office.
2. In the same drawer was left a Militia Book No. 50 with musketry records of the 85th Battery. I would appreciate very much if this book could be located and returned to York Island, please.

(H.V.N. Bankes) Lieut., R.C.A.
85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.

HVNB/KMB



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

25TH MARCH 1941
YORK ISLAND B C

R C E WORKS OFFICER

VANCOUVER B C

994 PARAMOUNT CUB PUMP CYLINDER CRACKED STOP SHIP TONIGHT
PARTS FOR PARAMOUNT JUNIOR SENT LAST WEEK ALTERNATIVELY
SHIP OTHER PARAMOUNT JUNIOR PUMP STOP URGENT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B.C.
MARCH 25/

O C 10TH FORT SIG COY RCGS

995 PLEASE SEND RELIEF TONIGHT FOR SIGNALMAN JACKSON SENT TO
VANCOUVER BY M O

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 25, 1941

993 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

25th March 1941

		Offrs.	O.R.'s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	65	68	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		3	3	88
	Shaughnessy Hoop		25	25	
	Bde. H.Q.		186	186	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	21	22	
	On Leave		23	23	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Fort Sig Coy RCSS	Employed		6	6	6
4th Fort E&M Coy RCR AF	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb. RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster(MG) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
Totals		10	186	196	178

RATION STRENGTH -- 178

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

P. 1011

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.
by

26th March 1941.

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 85

85-1 DUTIES : THURSDAY March 27th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. D.G. McSavin RCA
Next for duty - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA

Orderly Officer - ~~2~~-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sergeant - Sgt. Ramsden, E.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.

85-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Wright, Gns. King, K.R.,
Schofield, McKay, Larson.

85-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
Bdr. Bonnett, Gns. Hazard, McEwan, Barnett, Wamner,
Fairbairn, Latibeaudiere.

85-3 PAY PARADE

Pay Parade for the 85th Hvy Bty RCA at 0900 Hrs. March 27th.

J. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

Piercy

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 26, 1941.

996 - THREE A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

Officer Commanding

District Sub-Depot No.11

Vancouver B.C.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ York Island

Mar 26

997 Re letter HQ 22-J-314 Advise date of arrival
of relief for Pte. Jenner. Urgent.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

25 NBW

1 CIV AK/ED

O C YORK ISLAND

VANCOUVER
MAR 26/0900

FOUR NINE MOTHER OF K73619 GUNNER BRUNT W R DIED THIS
MORNING HIS WIFE WISHES HIM RETURN VANCOUVER AT ONCE

O C 15TH COAST BRIGADE R C A

AK/ED/ 26th/0933


85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

26th March 1941

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	65	68	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp		3	3	88
	Shaughnessy Hosp		5	5	
	Bde. H.Q.		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd s/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		2	2	2
4th Port EAM Coy RCE AF	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb. RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
P.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
R.C.O.C.			1	1	1
xxxxxx Bde. H.Q.		2		2	2
Totals		12	180	192	174

RATION STRENGTH -- 174


 (J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
 Officer Commanding
 York Island.

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Brass heading not required)

ORIGINAL

M.F.M. 11
A.P.C. 219
1.9.11-543 (2045)
H.Q. 1773-06-1124

Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded
to O. 1/c 2nd Echelon for disposal.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references to appendices and initials
	<u>March</u>			
85 Hvy Bty RCA AF York Island B.C.	27		Pay Parade at 0900 Hrs. Weather : Rain	<u>File</u> <u>Append</u>
	28		Letter to D.O.O. re Truck Letter to O.C. 3rd S/L Bty re spare parts & personnel Weather : Cloudy & Showers	7-2-4 "A" 9-10 "A"
	29		Capt. Green DDS arrived on "Catala" Mr. Gray, civilian instructor of General Electric arrived to instruct S/L Personnel. Wire to D.D.S. & T.O. re changed sailing date of "Border Prince" Major W.F. Guernsey left aboard "Kitchener" with Major McKay. Weather : Fair	
	30		Church Parade all personnel on York Island 1415 Hrs. Weather : Fair	
	31		Capt. A. Greene left for Rock Bay via "General Caldwell" Letter to HQ MD No. 11 re Fire Hazard Wire to RCE Works Officer re Pumps & Drag Saw. Wire to District Officer re Aldis Signalling Lamps Weather : Rain	2-0 "A" "E" "Z"



087

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.
by

27th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 86

86-1 DUTIES : FRIDAY March 28th 1941

Officer of the Watch - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA
Next for duty - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA

Orderly Officer - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA

Orderly Sergeant - Sgt. Ramsden, E.
Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.

86-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnrs. Larson, Olsen, Confrey,
McCartney.

86-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Beaulieu, Gnrs. Young, Grooms, Sydney, Ramsay,
Smith, Newell.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER	SENT TO	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK
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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

YORK ISLAND B C
March 27th 1941

PAYMASTER
15TH (VAN) COAST BDE

999 PLEASE MAIL LAST PAY CERTIFICATE K73339 PRIVATE BOYER
TO NUMBER ELEVEN DISTRICT DEPOT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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NIGHT LETTERS

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

O.C.

Esquimalt Military Hospital.
Esquimalt, B.C.

March 27, 1941.

101 - M.F.M. ONE CAPT. J.A. MURRAY RETURNED TO
O.C. B.M.H. - 26-2-41 - DULY SIGNED.

MEDICAL OFFICER i/c
STATION HOSPITAL
YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 27/

0 CSrd S/L BY R C A

DELL HALL NORTH VANCOUVER

100 ACQUITTANCE ROLL RECEIVED MARCH 26 WILL RETURN FIRST BOAT

G E SELDON LIEUT

0 C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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THE WORLD

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 27, 1941.

998 - ONE A.F. /PATIENT IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

27th March 1941.

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.'s</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island.</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	67	70	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp		1	1	88
	Shaughnessy Hosp		5	5	
	Bde. H.Q.		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Port Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		2	2	2
4th Port E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb. RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Employees of the DEO			16	16	16
R.C.O.C.			1	1	1
Bde. H.Q.		2		2	2
Totals		12	180	192	174

RATION STRENGTH -- 174

J. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.P.
York Island, B.C.
by

28th March 1941

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

No. 87

87-1 DUTIES : SATURDAY March 29th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. D.G. McCavin	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. H.V.N. Bankes	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- Sgt. Ramsden, E.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Engelen, A.L.D.	

87-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Engelen, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnr. King, K.R.,
McKay, Cox, A., A/L/Bdr. Caldwell

87-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
Bdr. Hammell, Gnr. Hazard, McEwan, Curry, Barnett,
Wammer, Fairbairn.

J.E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., AF
York Island, B.C.

March 28th 1941

D.O.O.,
ED XI,
VICTORIA, B.C.

CHEVROLET TRUCK - LIGHT DELIVERY

1. Please refer to my letter of Sept. 1940, file 7-2, written soon after this Truck arrived at York Island, in which I stated that this Truck was unsuitable for use on the muddy and hilly roads at York Island, and will be a continuous source of expense.
2. This prophecy has been amply fulfilled, as evidenced by the numerous letters written by my relief Major R.T. DuBoulin asking for spare parts.
3. I wrote on March 7th of this year asking that an Ordnance Officer be sent up to look over this truck and have it condemned as it needs new cylinders and also new parts, and I do not consider it worth while that the Dept. spend more money on a truck which is over nine years old and I am informed that it has been written off once already by your Dept.
4. I request that the Dept. supply us with a one ton truck, four speed transmission, and dual balloon tires suitable for working over rough roads and hilly country. Speed is not essential, in fact the truck should be geared to travel at low speeds as most of the time it would be travelling uphill over very rough and muddy roads. A truck of this kind is necessary to move stores from the wharf to the camp and Fort and also to the Searchlight Implacements at different parts of the Island. At present we have to use the Tractor belonging to the R.C.E. for this purpose. This tractor was supplied for clearing land and is not very suitable hauling stores as it tears up the all the roads, but as it is the only means we have, we have to use it.
5. I request that this letter be given prompt and carefull consideration, and permission be obtained from R.E.H.Q. for issue of a suitable truck.

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/PMS

C.C. to D.B.H. & F.C., Vancouver.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 28th 1941

Officer Commanding,
3rd S/L Bty R.C.A., A.F.,
Drill Hall, North Vancouver.

NEGATIVE CARBON CONTACT & SHUNT ASSEMBLY
BREAKDOWN DEFENCE ELECTRIC LIGHTS

1. Replying to your letter of March 25th, file 8-5-2. Lieut. Seldon informs me that this was due to the burning out of the Negative Carbon Contact and Shunt assembly. If the four spare parts for this had been sent up with the box of spare parts, there would have been practically no interruption of the working of the Searchlights, and the lights were back into operation as soon as the part arrived.
2. Apparently this is a very small matter, and is hardly worth a Court of Inquiry, so I suggest that this be cancelled.
3. Will you please arrange to send up the balance of the men of this detachment, as Lieut. Seldon is short handed, and has already lost one man, who was called back to Vancouver.

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

JEP/PEW

C.C. to Lieut. Seldon

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



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NIGHT LETTERS

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 28, 1941.

102 - TWO A.F. PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 28

R C E WORKS OFFICER
VANCOUVER

103 YOUR LETTER 24 REQUIRE PIPE VISE CAPACITY TO 3 INCH PIPE STOP
RANGE MAKER FAWCETT TYPE FRONTENAC NO NUMBER VISIBLE STOP
RUSH PARTS PUMPS AS NO PUMPS SORKING STOP PLEASE NOTE BORDER
PRINCE SAILING SUNDAY

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

12 NBW

2 CIV ED/AK

VANCOUVER
MAR 28/1050

O C YORK ISLAND

53 PLEASE HAVE BOAT MEET CAPTAIN GREEN CAPELLA SATURDAY
MORNING

O C 15TH COAST BRIGADE

AK/ED/28th/1245

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF :—

QC YORK ISLAND

VANCOUVER MAR 28/1041

976

MAJOR R MACKAY AND ENGINEERS FROM OTTAWA WILL ARRIVE YORK ISLAND

ABOUT 11 OON MARCH TWENTY EIGHT ON KITCHENER

O C 15 COAST BRIGADE

AK/ED 28/1240

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A.A.F.
York Island B.C.

26th March 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Offrs.	O.R.s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	66	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn Hosp		2	2	88
	Shaughnessy		6	6	
	Bde HQ		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 85th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		3	3	
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	-	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Fort Sig RCSS	Employed		3	3	3
4th EAM Coy RCE AF	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MEXI RCAMC	Employed	1	-	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Arb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist Depot	Employed		1	1	1
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO			16	16	16
R.C.C.C.			1	1	1
Bde HQ		2	-	2	2
Totals		12	182	194	175

Ration Strength

175

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

by

MAJOR J.E. FIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING.

29th March 1941

No. 88

88-1 DUTIES : SUNDAY March 30th 1941

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Next for duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Next for duty	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sergeant	- Sgt. Davidson, G.	
Orderly Bombardier	- A/Bdr. Hammell, G.D.	

88-2 ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ -
PIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Hammell, L/Bdr. Wright, Gnrs. Larson, Olsen,
Confrey, McCartney.

88-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
L/Bdr. Mackie, Gnrs. Young, Groome, Sydney, Ramsay,
Smith, Newell.

88-4 SECURITY OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS

- (1) Users of the telephone must remember at all time that conversations are liable to be over-heard.
- (2) No matter, the knowledge of which might be of value to the enemy, should ever be discussed over an open line. The consequence of any such indiscretion may be the loss of many lives.

88-4 CHURCH PARADE

Divine Service will be held on the Parade Ground
at 1415 Hrs. Sunday March 30th 1941, for the York Island Garrison.

All ranks will wear Serge with Anklets.

(J.E. Fiercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS



CANADA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

March 29, 1941

104 - ONE A.F. PATIENT IN HOSPITAL.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF.—

~~DDS & T O~~

YORK ISLAND B C
29TH MARCH 1941

~~VANCOUVER B C~~

~~105 PLEASE NOTE CHANGED SAILING DATE OF BORDER PRINCE NEXT TRIP~~

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF:—

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 29

D E O

VICTORIA B C

106 KITCHENER LEFT WITH MAJOR GUERNSEY AND ORDNANCE ARTIFICER
TRAVELLING VIA VANCOUVER STOP WILL ARRIVE MONDAY AFTERNOON

O C YORK ISLAND

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., AF.
York Island, B.C.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

29th March 1941

		OPPRS.	O.R's.	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	66	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	88
	Shanghnessy		6	6	
	Bde. H.Q.		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		3	3	3
4th E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist Depot	Employed		1	1	1
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO			16	16	16
Bde. H.Q.		1		1	1
TOTALS		11	181	192	173

RATION STRENGTH -- 173

J. E. Fiercy

(J.E. Fiercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

Diary

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.
by

MAJOR J.E. PIERCY, OFFICER COMMANDING. 30th March 1941

No. 89

89-1 DUTIES : MONDAY March 31st 1941

- Officer of the Watch - Lt. D.G. McGavin RCA
- Next for duty - Lt. H.V.N. Bankes RCA
- Orderly Officer - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
- Next for duty - 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton RCA
- Orderly Sergeant - Sgt. Davidson, G.
- Orderly Bombardier - A/Bdr. Hammell, G.D.

89-2 FIRE PICQUET - A/Bdr. Hammell, L/Bdr. Rose, Gnrs. Larson, McKay,
King, K.R., A/L/Bdr. Caldwell

89-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 hours.
A/Bdr. Engelen, Gnrs. Hazard, McEwan, Trim, Barnett,
Fairbairn, Bevan-Fritchard.

J.E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., AP
York Island, B.C.


DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

30th March 1941

		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R's</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total at York Island</u>
85th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	3	66	69	
	Employed		17	17	
	Stn. Hosp.		2	2	88
	Shaughnessy		6	6	
	Bde. H.Q.		6	6	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		3	3	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AP	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AP	Employed	2	36	38	38
10th Fort Sig Coy RCSC	Employed		3	3	3
4th E&M Coy RCE AP	Employed		7	7	7
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	Leave		1	1	
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist Depot	Employed		1	1	1
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO		16	16	16	16
85th Hvy					
No. 11 Det. R.C.O.C.			2	2	2
C.C.S.		1		1	1
General Electric (Civilian)			1	1	1
Totals		11	184	195	176

Ration Strength

176


 (J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
 Officer Commanding York Island

Diary

PART I ORDERS

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 31st 1941

by

Major, J.E. Piercy, Officer Commanding

No 90

90-1 DUTIES - TUESDAY APRIL ~~21st~~ 1st.

Officer of the Watch	- Lt. H.V.N. Banks	RCA
Next for Duty	- Lt. D.G. McGavin	RCA
Orderly Officer	- 2-Lt. W.A.S. Clayton	RCA
Orderly Sgt.	- Sgt Davidson G.	
Orderly Bdr.	- A/Bdr Hammell G.D.	

90-2 FIRE PIQUET

A/Bdr Hammell G.D., L/Bdr. Wright P.B., Gns Larson, Olsen,
Confrey, McCartney.

90-3 GUARD MOUNTING - 1830 Hrs.

A/Bdr. Thomson J., Gns Mackie, Bowler, Kinkaid, Alford,
Richmond, Rudrum.

J.E.P.

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island

any men available for the purpose of reducing the fire hazard unless I take men from essential military work. 2-0

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

31st March,

1

Headquarters
M.D. XI
Victoria, B.C.

FIRE HAZARD

Reference your letter 53-3-36 Vol. 1 dated 25-March-1941.

1. Please refer to my letter 6-2 dated 21-March-1941, which shows that this Battery is short over 20%, and is consequently finding difficulty in carrying out its military duties.
2. Further this Battery has nearly 1/3 of its strength, new recruits, who have not been in the army for more than a month or six weeks. These men have to be trained as soldiers as it would hardly be wise to put them to clearing before they are trained soldiers.
3. Under the circumstances I regret to inform you that I have hardly any men available for the purpose of reducing the fire hazard unless I take men from essential military work.



(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.

JEP/KMB

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 31

R C E WORKS OFFICE
VANCOUVER

110

HAVE REQUESTED 15TH COAST BDE INSTRUCT GNR CHRISTENSEN H
AT PRESENT IN VANCOUVER TO CALL ON YOU EXPLAIN DIFFICULTIES
WITH PUMPS AND CONDITION OF DRAG SAW

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

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DAY MESSAGES
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AND RADIO
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TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

York Island B.C
MARCH 31

15th (VAN) COAST BDE RCA
VANCOUVER

109 PLEASE INSTRUCT CDR CHRISTENSEN H CALL/^{AT}~~SEA~~ RCE WORKS OFFICE
TO EXPLAIN NECESSITY PARTS FOR DRAG SAW AND PUMPS

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
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CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 31

R C E WORKS OFFICER
VANCOUVER B C

100 YOUR LETTER TWENTY NINTH ESSENTIAL SHIP PUMP CARDENA TUESDAY
OR VENTURE WEDNESDAY STOP BORDER PRINCE REFILLING TANK WEDNESDAY
NOT RETURNING BEFORE FOLLOWING TUESDAY STOP INSUFFICIENT CAPACITY
IN UPPER TANK WITHOUT PUMPING FROM LOWER TANK STOP TELEGRAPH
WHAT YOU WILL DO

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES

DAY LETTERS

NIGHT MESSAGES

NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

NUMBER

SENT TO

SENT BY

REC'D BY

TIME SENT

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON THE BACK HEREOF —

D.M.O.

VICTORIA, B.C.

107 - ONE A.F. PATIENT IN HOSPITAL 30-3-41 and 31-3-41.

O.C. YORK ISLAND, B.C.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
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TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
DAY LETTERS
NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 31

D O
15TH VANCOUVER COAST BDE RCA

111 SEND IMMEDIATELY NEW ALDIS LAMP STOP OLD ONE SENT TO YOU
SOME TIME AGO FOR CONDEMNATION STOP ALSO SEND TRANSFORMER
SO THAT ELECTRIC LIGHT SYSTEM CAN SUPPLY CURRENT FOR LAMP
STOP ALSO TWO BATTERIES TO REPLACE EXISTING BATTERIES NOW
WORN OUT STOP IMPERATIVE SHIPMENT NEXT MAIL STOP LUCAS
USELESS DAYLIGHT SIGNALLING

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

DAY MESSAGES
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NIGHT MESSAGES
NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

YORK ISLAND B C
MARCH 31/

O C VANCOUVER DEFENCES

112 KI9117 GNR GOUDEAU M C AWARDED 21 DAYS DETENTION STOP PLEASE
ARRANGE ACCOMMODATION VICTORIA NO DETENTION FACILITIES HERE STOP
UNION VESSEL LEAVING TUESDAY NIGHT

O C YORK ISLAND

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



CANADA

RADIOTELEGRAPH SERVICE

ADMINISTERED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—OTTAWA, CANADA

CLASSES OF SERVICE

- DAY MESSAGES
- DAY LETTERS
- NIGHT MESSAGES
- NIGHT LETTERS

TELEGRAPH, CABLE
AND RADIO
CONNECTIONS
TO ALL PARTS OF
THE WORLD

2 CIV

ED

25 NW

VICTORIA
MARCH 31/1905

O C YORK ISLAND

367 APPROVAL GIVEN FOR U S DESTROYER ROCKS NUMBER 232 TO PROCEED
SEATTLE TO ALASKA VIAL CANADIAN WATERSON APRIL SECOND AND THIRD

GENERAL STAFF ELEVEN



85th HEAVY BATTERY, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 31st 1941

DAILY STRENGTH STATE

		Offrs.	O.R.s	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	67	70	
	Employed		17	17	
	Sta Hospital		1	1	68
	Shaughnessy Hosp		6	6	
	Ede H.Q.		7	7	
	Att'd 31st	I	1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
	On Leave		2	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	x	1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	36	38	38
2nd Port Sig Coy RCGS	Employed		3	3	3
4th Port E&M Coy RCE AF	Employed		6	6	6
HQ MDXI RCAMC	Employed	1	x	1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
	xxxxx		1	1	
13th Fl'd Amb RCAMC	Employed	1	1	1	1
No. 11 Sub-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
No. 11 Dist-Depot	Employed		1	1	1
R.C.A.S.C.	Employed		3	3	3
Royal Canadian Navy		1	8	9	9
Civ Emp of the DEO			16	16	16
No. 11 Det R.C.O.C.			2	2	2
C.O.S.		1	x	1	1
General Electric (Civilian)			1	1	1
Totals		11	162	193	175

Ration Strength 175

J. E. Piercy
(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.,
Officer Commanding York Island.

85th Heavy Battery, R.C.A., A.F.
York Island, B.C.

March 9th 1941.

DAILY STRENGTH STATE.

		Offrs.	O.R's	Total	Total at York Island
85th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	3	67	70	
	Employed		19	19	
	Stn Hospital		2	2	91
	Shaughnessy Hoep		3	3	
	Bde. H.Q.		5	5	
	Att'd 31st		1	1	
	Att'd 58th	1	1	2	
58th Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1	1	2	2
31st Hvy Bty RCA AF	On Parade	1		1	1
3rd S/L Bty RCA AF	Employed	2	357	359	37
10th Fort Sig Coy RCCS	Employed		8	8	8
4th E & M Coy RCE AF	Employed		4	4	4
HQ MD XI RCAMC	Employed	1		1	1
Sub-Depot RCAMC	Employed		2	2	2
13th Fld Amb RCAMC	Employed		1	1	1
Sub-Depot	Parlough		1	1	
Dist Depot MD XI	Employed		1	1	1
Westminster (NS) Regt	Employed		3	3	3
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY		1	8	9	9
Civilian Emp. of the DFO	Employed		16	16	16
Totals		10	180 270	190 280	178 276

RATION STRENGTH -- ~~276~~ 178

J. E. Piercy

(J.E. Piercy) Major, R.C.A.
Officer Commanding
York Island.