

AWM373

**Korean War Unit Diaries - British Infantry
Brigades and Commonwealth Division
Headquarters**

War Office: British Commonwealth Division of
United Nations Force War Diaries, Korean War

Diary number: WO281/144

Title: Headquarters 28 Infantry Brigade,
February 1952



AWM373-WO281/144

EXTD CLOSURE
75 YRS

W0281/144

[Handwritten signature]
29/8/95
023/6h ad

CLOSED
UNTIL
2028

ACCELERATED
OPENING

SAFE
2781
ROOM

These papers were extracted from

W0281/143

By MOD

SECRET

28 BRITCOM Inf Bde INTREP No 40. 26 Feb 52
Based on info received up to 261200I

W.D.
After January 26 Feb
Intercept to Alpha A
[Signature]

1. 25 CDN Inf Bde NO contact.
2. 28 BRITCOM Inf Bde
 - (a) 1 KOSB
 - (i) 0800 hrs 3x60mm mor bombs fell in D Coy area. 0800 - 1200 hrs Enemy sniper on pt 133 CT 1216 engaged D Coy. 1100 hrs D Coy observed 12 enemy moving from pt 133 (CT 1216) to pt 166 (CT 1216). Tks and MMGs engaged.
 - (ii) Patrols:- All patrols returned with NTR.
 - (b) 1 KSLI
 - (i) 1230 hrs 2 enemy observed at CT 138194. 1315 hrs 2 enemy observed at CT 133194. 2045 hrs 2 friendly WIA on minefd in front of D Coy. 0745 hrs enemy movement observed at CT 139194.
 - (ii) Patrols:- B Coy Recce patrol to CT 136187 heard enemy movement at CT 139186 (believed to be sentry post). At CT 139185 enemy voices were heard endeavoring to quieten a barking dog. B Coy Standing patrol heard sound of digging at CT 124180.
 - (c) 3 RAR
 - (i) 1300 hrs 1 enemy at CT 161191 engaged by MMGs. 2200 hrs Arty placed on enemy movement on pt 227. (CT 1518). 1120 hrs 2 enemy observed at CT 155190.
 - (ii) Patrols:- At 0015 hrs A Coy Standing patrol at CT 162182 observed 4 enemy moving WEST at CT 161182. All other patrols returned with NTR.
 - (d) A Sqn 5 DG

1230 hrs Bunker at CT 118210 burst into flames after being engaged by tks. Fire lasted 30 mins. 1317 hrs Bunker at CT 121185 engaged by tks and destroyed. 2045 hrs Tp in sp 1 KOSB engaged crawl trench on pt 166 (CT 1215). 2250 hrs Tp in sp 1 KOSB engaged crawl trench on pt 166 (CT 1215). 0305 hrs Tp in sp 1 KOSB engaged bunker on pt 133 (CT 1216). 0430 hrs Tp in sp 1 KOSB engaged bunker on pt 133 (CT 1216). 1130 hrs Tp in sp C Coy 3 RAR engaged enemy movement on pt 227 (CT 1518).
3. 29 BRIT Inf Bde NO contact.
4. 15 US Inf Regt NO contact.
5. Enemy arty on Bde front

No of shells received NIL
No of mor bombs received 11

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6. Counter - Intelligence

A suspected enemy agent - LEE SUNG HAI was recently arrested in SEOUL. LEE who is aged 17, is malformed and appears to be about 8 years old. He is approx 3 ft 10 inches tall and weighs about 55 lbs. LEE disclosed that after trg at the NKPA Army Boys school he was evacuated through refugee channels to an orphanage in SEOUL. He absconded from there in Aug 51, and went to SUWON where he obtained info regarding K 13 Airfd, and tps stationed in vicinity. This info was passed on to another member of his group on return to SEOUL. LEE displayed a brilliant mind and a keen sense of judgement. It is evident that he would never be suspected of having the capabilities for performing an int mission because of his physical appearance, his orphan status and sympathy arousing background. LEE's diminutive stature; which made him appear only half his true age, is proof that UN Units should NOT minimise the use of children - or those who appear to be children, as espionage agents of the COMMUNISTS.

7. Weather

27 Feb 52:- Clear with increasing scattered to broken high clouds.

Sunrise 0709. Sunset 1824. Moonrise 0758. Moonset 2040.

Moonphase New Moon.

8. Enemy Capabilities

NO change from INTREP No 35 dated 21 Feb 52.

9. CCF Discipline and Indoctrination

At Appx A is an interesting report based on the interrogation of a CHINESE PW, showing the discipline and indoctrination technique of the CCF.

K. Gregson
Capt,
Intelligence Officer,
23 BRITCOM Inf Bde.

/ JB

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Appx 'A' to 28 BRITCOM
Inf Bde INTREP No 40
dated 26 Feb 52

CCF DISCIPLINE AND INDOCTRINATION

A 23 year old CHINESE PW, formerly a pl ldr (equivalent) with the duty of apprentice med offr, has thrown interesting lt on the psychological techniques of discipline and indoctrination emp by the CCF. He reported as follows:-

The CCF did NOT believe in punishment by confinement, fines, physical violence, or official tongue-lashings for its tps. Rather than use these methods, which were considered savage and insulting to a man's dignity, it attempted to correct all offenders by humiliating them, by making them confess their crimes in public (at "self confession" meetings), and by "enlightening" them concerning their mistakes.

Typical treatment for an offence would be carried out along the following lines: For example, a soldier might write his mother that he was currently at T'AIAN, that he was lonely and suffering from the cold, and that he was eagerly looking forward to an early discharge. After the letter had been censored, the matter would be brought up the following morning at a coy fmn. The Political Offr would read the letter to the entire coy and ask the assembly to offer criticism.

Ardent COMMUNISTS would start the criticism by giving their views on why the letter was unmanly, uncommunistic, insulting to the CCF and to the writer's fellow tps, and why it reflected the imperfect indoctrination of the writer. Gradually, the whole coy would become fired with excitement, and every man would join in with the accusations.

The prisoner stated that he had gone through this experience once and that the psychological impact was such that he felt as if he wanted to crawl into the nearest hole. He felt that he would much rather have been slapped by the offr or beaten by the men in the coy or even sent to jail. He could NOT keep the tears of humiliation from flowing when he was ordered in front of the coy, to list his violations of the rules and swear never to make such mistakes again. CCF tps, he said, by far preferred physical punishment to public ridicule, which involved a lose of face that persisted forever.

After such a "denunciation meeting" the offender was called into the Political Offr's office for a heart-to-heart talk. The Political Offr never shouted, called names, or used threats, but was always "kindly and fatherly". He sometimes spoke to the offender for hrs regarding his duty to the CCF and to the COMMUNIST Government. By the time the offender was dismissed, he had been so humiliated that he developed a strong desire to improve himself, as well as an enthusiasm to go out and serve COMMUNISM, even at the cost of his own life.

The prisoner felt that psychological techniques of this type developed in CCF tps a respect and loyalty to their army which made them far better soldiers than the CN. tps, who fought without conviction because they were ordered to do so.

(Extracted from GHQ ISUM No 3444. 13 Feb 52) Comment: This is but another example of the measures undertaken by the enemy to increase the efficiency of his army. Its effect is reflected in the small no of deserters from the CCF.

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