

Wartime West Sussex 1939 - 1945:
HOME GUARD AND OTHER VOLUNTEER UNITS

Home Guard inspection programme, Rustington, 1941

Admission by Programme, 3d.

No. 7 (Rustington) Platoon, "C" Coy., 6th Battalion
(West Sussex)

HOME GUARD

Inspection and Assault at Arms

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1941,
at 5 p.m.

— LITTLEHAMPTON TOWN BAND. —

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

1. Inspection.

" Discipline does not consist merely in smartness on parade— it consists in all working as a team and obeying a permanent or temporary leader promptly, vigorously and intelligently—like a member of a team on the football field, or of a gang on the roads or in a workshop or a business.

The foundation of efficiency lies in discipline which, firstly, makes us work together under leadership; secondly, makes us do the work according to a method thought out by experts; and, thirdly, establishes a system in which we do the job in accordance with the intention of our Commander.

It involves sacrifice of self-interests for the welfare of the whole."

2. March Past.

3. Display of Marching and Arms Drill.

" Drill is the orderly execution of tasks, actions or movements required of us by the Commander in accordance with clear rules which have been practised until our action is almost automatic. In short, if we are prepared to accept discipline under appointed leaders, drill is the stuff to make it practicable for us to do what they say.

It is no good saying ' I will do what I am told ' unless we know how to do it and have tried it out and are sure that we can do it."

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4. Invitation Tug-of-War.

Teams of 8 from :

Angmering Platoon

East Preston Platoon

Ferring Platoon

Southern Railway Section

5. Machine Gun Display.

Every member of the team must be able to rectify stoppages or faults in the dark, and must be able to do so instantly either by observing the position of any part of the weapon or by touch. Tests will be made of individual members of the team.

6. Inter-Section Tug-of-War (Teams of 8):

No.....Section v. No.....Section
No.....Section v. No.....Section

7. Field Work.

" Fieldcraft. The Home Guard must develop the instincts of the primitive hunter. If the hunter failed he lost his dinner. If the Home Guard fails he will lose his life. War, in whatever form, is a battle of wits—therefore the Home Guard must be alert, inquisitive and observant. He must learn the use of ground—how to take cover and hide himself, both when moving about and when stationary. How to see without being seen. How to remain motionless for long periods. How to use his cunning. . ."

Part I. Picquet Duties :

(i.) How *not* to do it.

(ii.) How to do it.

Part II. Fieldcraft.

The display will take the form of lessons in alertness, approaching the quarry unobserved, and inculcating absence of the least noise.

8. Inter-Section Tug-of-War—Final.

9. Message Relay Race (Teams of 4 from each Section).

A verbal message will be given to the first volunteer in each team. He will pass it to another volunteer at the Woodbine Corner who will pass it to a volunteer at the junction of Mill Lane, Worthing Road, who will pass it to a volunteer at Conbar Avenue, who will write down the message at the saluting point.

Points : Time.

Correctness of message.

No. 1 Section. No. 2 Section No. 3 Section No. 4 Section.

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10. Assault at Arms—Inter-Section Competition, for Cup.

1 N.C.O. and 6 Volunteers per Section to be entered.

" Initiative, knowledge, technical skill, determination, moral courage and—above all—guts are the qualities required in every member of the Home Guard. The basis of efficiency is organisation, discipline and individual effort, and on his individual effort may depend the security of the whole line."

1. Alarm

Points	Time	Smartness
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2. Bayonet Fighting

Points	Efficiency	1st point
		2nd point
3. Bombing

Points	Position	Target standing
		„ prone
4. Gas Alert and Firing

Points—Time of adjustment of respirators
„ loading and firing

An Inter-Section Musketry Competition has been held, points to count towards the Cup. The result is as follows:

No. 1 Section,	points
No. 2 Section,	points
No. 3 Section,	points
No. 4 Section,	points

Total Points:	No. 1 Section.....	No. 2 Section.....
	No. 3 Section.....	No. 4 Section.....

11. Invitation Tug-of-War—Final.

12. The Battle of the Recreation Ground.

" Attack is the best means of defence. Attack—attack—and then attack again."

—————
God save the King.

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