

in when the infantry closed. In some cases they let the tanks through, bombing them at close quarters but turned it in when the infantry got up. Guns, foot, tanks & aircraft seem to have co-operated perfectly & the staff work & command must have been splendid. I've told you before that the Western Desert Army is a very fine one.

By Wed. afternoon the It. were surrendering freely and the supporting divisions made no effort to help, but batted for Libya, harassed by R.A.F. and the Armoured Division and the Navy. They apparently suffered dreadfully near Sallum, where they had to think out of the coastal plain sparsely as if passing from Sumner over Seaborough Hill to Tynkin's Mistake.

Today I hear that our Armoured Cavalry are near Bardia - the It. ^{strongest} base in Libya & that the tally of prisoners is up to 37,000. I was in Matruh this morning & saw hundreds of prisoners being ferried to a deboyon for transport to Alex & the railway working to capacity on the same Tark. You all this our casualties will certainly be under 1000, 600 they say, out of about 15000 men - at the most engaged.

I can't get over it that we missed