

Thursday 10

Wrote to Edna and Mum. Packed truck ready for move tomorrow.

Friday 11

Up at 5:45. Left at 7:10. Travelled 30 miles south with 6 Bde. in desert formation. Dug in - put up bivvy. General Knowledge quiz at 'Lofty's' truck 7 till 8:30. Rained during night.

Saturday 12

Breakfast 8:15. Raining. Quite dry inside my tent. Read 2 Life Magazines. Order to move. Left at 2 P.M. Travelled 30 miles S.W. Dug in. Rain stopped. Desert bare of all vegetation - smooth with tiny pebbles. Rained again. Slept in truck.

Sunday 13.

On again some 40 miles. Camped for night. Fine and stary. Somewhere S.E. of El Aqheila.

Monday 14

Left at 6:50 A.M. on next stage. At 4 P.M. passed through enemy wire. Had shave and wash at lunch time. Six of our fighters flew over. Now south of El Aqheila. Enemy not aware of our presence. Saw Marada away to South. Not bad going. Would be impassable after rain though. Went on till 11 P.M. Stopped for night.

Tuesday 15

On again at 10 A.M. Have travelled 607 miles since leaving Messa Matruh on 20 Nov. Heavy shower at 8 A.M. Rest of day sunny. Went on till 10 P.M. Trucks fired upon by enemy A.Tk. guns. Vehicles hurriedly dispersed. Attached to C. Coy. Dug in. Heavy enemy mortaring during night. Bursting bombs made terrific din in Wadi. Finished my slit trench at 2 A.M. Cold night!