

Wednesday 16.

Enemy mortaring area. Our 25 pds. and 6 pds. replying. Deepened my hole. Hurricanes and Spitfires overhead. We are on one side of Wadi Matrafin 5 mls. from sea. Observed several Jerrics 2000 yds. away on opposite side of Wadi trying to pull out their A/Tr. guns (5) Our 25 pds. shelled them. Went with C. Coy. at noon to attack tentative 2000 yds. away. Captured 4 50 mm. A/Tr. guns intact with ammunition. Fired upon by Spanish machine gun and A/Tr. gun. No casualties. German staff car captured. Got some loot - Jerry knife, fork, spoon, goggles, pipe. Saw one Jerry lying dead: blown to pieces by one of our shells. Leg lying 20 yds. away. Observed German Mk. IV tank set on fire by one of 25 Bn. 6 pds. Moved back to Bn. H.Q. Bde. shifted South some miles. Camped for night.

Thursday 17

Moved S.W. at 8 A.M. Marks of Jerry Mark IV tanks in ground. They sneaked past last night - between us and 5 Bde. Off to Tripoli via desert route. Passed 4 "Long Toms" in action. Saw some Jerry prisoners in trucks. Shelling in distance. Halted for night. Dug in. Jerry expected to break through tonight. Went to bed with boots on.

Friday 18

"Jerry" has escaped us. Went West during the night, between the road and the sea. Heard that Laddy is P.W. and wounded (slightly) in face by shrapnel. Was in ambulance on Wednesday 16th. going to A.D.S. when captured by German column escaping to rear of our position. Sunny day. Shaved; washed. Washed sox etc.:- Many of our fighters overhead. No enemy planes.

Saturday 19

Sunny day. Took things easy. Patriotic issue - chocolate and tin of fruit (between 3). Lecture by F.S.S. Corporal at 3.30 P.M. on Tripoli. Listened to B.B.C. at 6 P.M.

Sunday 20

Church Parade at 9.30 A.M. Windy day, but sunny. Shift to beach tomorrow. Listened to B.B.C. News at 6 P.M.

Monday 21

Shifted to new area between main road to Tripoli and the sea. Passed Nofilia en route (Italian Fort and Mosque; also wells.) Arrived 2.45 P.M. Dug in bivvy. Cold night.