

Saturday 3.

Overcast - windy. Took Div. I. Summary round Coys.
Very happy - parcel from Edna (Ginger nuts - knitted gloves - perfect fit; Valet blades) and parcel from Mum (Sax; handkerchiefs + rep.) Parcel sent on from Bob Holmes - from Harriet Club (Timaru)

Sunday 4

Church Parade 9.30 A.M.
Wrote to Mum. Sent Mother's Day Card to Mum.
Evening - went to A.D.S. for Song Service. Went in captured German troop-carrier. (Bussing Nag)

Monday 5

Norm. left for Div. and O.C.T.U.
Promoted to rank of Sgt.
Went to Bde. & made copy of going map.
8 Army to attack tomorrow (4 A.M.)

Tuesday, 6

Artillery began 4 A.M. Still going at 8.30 A.M.
Heard that attack has been successful.
4 Indian Div. on left flank, 50 Div in centre, 51 (Highland Div. on right.) 50 Div. held up by A/Th. ditch.
Our planes much in evidence.

Wednesday 7.

Left at 8.15 A.M. Moved parallel to GABES - SFAX road.
Met many prisoners coming back. Several groups of about 1000 - mostly Italians.
Inspected crashed J.U. 88 Bomber. Hell of a mess.
Moved at dusk through gap in minefield & through narrow gap in hills. Reached staging near 10 P.M. Tea.
Received letter from Edna & from Mum. (Jan 24.)

Thursday. 8.

Moved on for 13 miles. Lovely day. Saw five lots of 18 bombers fly over (Mitchells & Bostons.) Great clouds of smoke & dust where bombs burst. More Italian P.W.'s coming in - some in trucks - some walking - unescorted. Many enemy trucks & motorcycles.
Boiled up for lunch. Four Fock-Wulf fighter-bombers dived down ahead. Dropped bombs. One fighter received direct hit. Turned over and over. Wallop! Flash of flame! Pilot still in plane. One petrol truck set on fire.
Stayed for night in same spot. Dug slit trench.
Listened to B.B.C. news at 7 P.M.
To bed 7.30 P.M.
Cold wind blowing from lake on our left.