

APPENDIX I

BENITO EXERCISE

- 16 Apr 41. Passed Bde. S.P. at 0640 hrs and arrived in concentration area, Brooks Green at 1030 hrs. Established B.H.Q. in garage of Dr. Scott, who had been attached to a B.W. Bn. in '14 - 18' campaign. All ranks were advised to rest, to be peaceful and quiet and store up energy for another night activity, however, 5 Cdn Inf Bde did not produce any operational activity and the air (actual) traffic was intense. "D" Coy. enjoyed a little bombing, no casualties. London heavily bombed.
- 17 Apr 41. Recce, parties working on anticipated areas acquainted themselves with all the local farm yards. After dark the Bn moved to the Assembly Area at Sandgate Park, paused for an hour or so, shook itself again and marched to the forming up area in wood on Highden Hill (all Guildford, Horsham & Petworth area) where previous hill climbing brought them all to ground to rest. The attack started at 0430 hrs. Shaking off their lethargic state again, by first light the umpire enemy saw our troops advance and held them up for four hours. After the Arty. fire on the enemy had been substantially increased, the R. de Mais, Calg. Highrs. and 1 R.HC. were allowed to advance. Messing arrangements were abominable and the men became convinced the lack of meals was part of the exercise. While going the objective, the rain came, then food, then return at 2100 hrs. on foot to the former Assembly Area., where the R.C.A.S.C. troop carriers filled with sleeping forms & started back to the Concentration Area arriving -
- 18 Apr 41. at 0130 hrs., the Brooks Green inhabitants were asleep so the Bn. bedded itself in trucks and ditches. Fair weather helped.
- 19 Apr. 41 Cleaned up and organized early lunch and back to barracks by 1900 hrs. Many lessons had been learned. From all points of view it had been a good scheme and was enjoyed into the bargain.

APPENDIX LI

GIFT FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH

27 Apr 41. Quiet of Officers' Mess Sunday evening, disturbed by a Courier ringing the door bell, heretofore unheard. To the great pleasure of all the Officers a large bowl of Canadian violets with a note in the Queen's hand was received "as a reminder of home".