

War Diary

1st Bn The Black Watch (Inf) of Canada.

25 Mar 45.

To: HQ. Sp. A. B. C. D. QM.

Following message from the PRIME MINISTER is to be read to all troops as soon as possible:-

" I rejoice to be with the Chief of the Imperial General Staff at Field Marshall Montgomery's HQ at 21 Army Cp during this memorable battle of forcing the RHINE. British soldiers, it will long be told how, with our Canadian brothers and valiant U.S. Allies, this superb task was accomplished. Once the river line is pierced and the crust of German resistance is broken, decisive victory in Europe will be near. May God prosper our arms in this noble adventure after our long struggle for King and Country, for dear life, and for freedom of mankind."

Signed "Winston Churchill"
Prime Minister & Minister of Defence.

Message Priority IMMEDIATE.

War Diaries
Ser 126
Appx 11t
MAR 1945

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

Bde.

For Action

TO

RHC.
(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

A 92 restricted @ 2 Cdn Corps message A 920 4241735A
 reads quote @ following message from the PRIME
 MINISTER is to be read to all the troops early
 as possible @ Message begins @ Our repulse to be
 with the chief of the IMPERIAL GENERAL STAFF
 at Field Marshal MONTGOMERY'S headquarters at
 21 H. G. during this memorable battle.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
 BY ANY MEANS { EXCEPT } WIRELESS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
 FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MES-
 SAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

SIGNATURE

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Time System Op.

THI or TOR

Time cleared

(GV483) Wt. 49355/367. 990,000 Pads 2/44. B. & S. Ltd. 48-244.

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

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1 (GY 483) Wt. 49325/367 990,000 Pads. 2/44. B. & S. Ltd. 48-244

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GR

Originator's No.

*adventure after our long struggle for King and
Country for dear life and for freedom of mankind.
Signed WINSTON CHURCHILL Prime minister and
minister of defence. Message ends. Unquote.
all informell. immediate priority*

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TOP SECRET

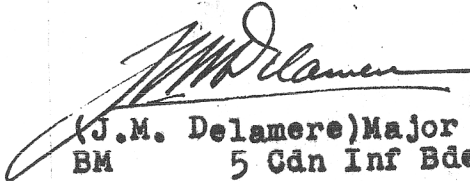
5B/5-3
5 Cdn Inf Bde
23 Mar 45

R.H.C.
R de Mais
Calg Highrs

PERSONAL MSG FROM FIELD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY

1. Herewith copies of personal msg from G-in-C to all tps under cmd.
2. The scale of issue is sufficient to provide 1 per pl or equivalent cmd.
3. This msg will be read to all tp on D day.

JMD/JLB
POST/DRLS


(J.M. Delamere) Major
BM 5 Cdn Inf Bde

21 ARMY GROUP

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE C-IN-C

(To be read out to all Troops)

1. On the 7th February I told you we were going into the ring for the final and last round; there would be no time limit: we would continue fighting until our opponent was knocked out. The last round is going very well on both sides of the ring—and overhead.
2. In the WEST, the enemy has lost the Rhineland, and with it the flower of at least four armies—the Parachute Army, Fifth Panzer Army, Fifteenth Army, and Seventh Army; the First Army, further to the south, is now being added to the list.
In the Rhineland battles, the enemy has lost about 150,000 prisoners, and there are many more to come; his total casualties amount to about 250,000 since 8th February.
3. In the EAST, the enemy has lost all POMERANIA east of the ODER, an area as large as the Rhineland; and three more German armies have been routed. The Russian armies are within about 35 miles of BERLIN.
4. Overhead, the Allied Air Forces are pounding Germany day and night. It will be interesting to see how much longer the Germans can stand it.
5. The enemy has in fact been driven into a corner, and he cannot escape.
Events are moving rapidly.
The complete and decisive defeat of the Germans is certain; there is no possibility of doubt on this matter.
6. **21 ARMY GROUP WILL NOW CROSS THE RHINE.**
The enemy possibly thinks he is safe behind this great river obstacle. We all agree that it is a great obstacle; but we will show the enemy that he is far from safe behind it. This great Allied fighting machine, composed of integrated land and air forces, will deal with the problem in no uncertain manner.
7. And having crossed the RHINE, we will crack about in the plains of Northern Germany, chasing the enemy from pillar to post. The swifter and the more energetic our action the sooner the war will be over, and that is what we all desire: to get on with the job and finish off the German war as soon as possible.
8. Over the RHINE, then, let us go. And good hunting to you all on the other side.
9. May "the Lord mighty in battle" give us the victory in this our latest undertaking, as He has done in all our battles since we landed in Normandy on D-day.

B. L. Montgomery

Germany,
March, 1945.

Field-Marshal,
C.-in-C.,
21 Army Group.