



WHERE TO FROM HERE

THREE AND A HALF YEARS AFTER HITLER INVADED POLAND IN SEPTEMBER, 1939, THE END OF THE WAR IS NOT IN SIGHT.

GERMANY HAS SUSTAINED SEVERE DEFEATS AT THE HANDS OF THE RED ARMY. THE BRITISH ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS FROM N. AFRICA TO SICILY. JAPAN'S ONWARD MARCH IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AND TOWARDS INDIA HAS BEEN CHECKED, AND SOME ISLANDS RETAKEN.

YET BOTH GERMANY AND JAPAN REMAIN STRONG, AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE WHATEVER OF QUICK AND EASY VICTORY.

Hitler Germany and its allies can be defeated in a relatively short time, but this will not take place unless the United Nations strain every nerve and pool their military, economic and diplomatic resources in a common war strategy.

The war against the Axis Powers can only be conceived as a whole, despite the fact that the Soviet Union is not at war with Japan, nor is the U.S.A. at war with Finland, and so on.

THE CRUX OF THE WHOLE WAR MUST LIE IN THE DEFEAT OF HITLER GERMANY, WHICH IS BY FAR THE STRONGEST AXIS MILITARY POWER.

Japan gained a vast empire in a short space of time. It over-ran great areas with little resistance - for the simple reason that there was little resistance to overcome.

C

Concentrate on Germans

Germany's achievements have been more substantial. In 1941, which brought the Soviet Union into the war, the German military machine was the most powerful then known in history.

About 250 divisions, or 3,000,000 men marched over the Soviet border. Against this military machine, fed by the industrial resources of all Europe, the Red Army has had to battle almost alone.

Britain and the U.S.A. have provided assistance in the shape of raw materials and military equipment. About five German divisions have been engaged by the Anglo-American forces in N. Africa.

Occupied Europe and Germany and Italy themselves have been subjected to heavy

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OUTSIDE THE UNIT.

and continuous bombardment from British and American planes, thus reversing the position when Britain had to face the whole weight of the Luftwaffe.

The British Navy has kept the sea routes open for the Allies.

Vast Battlefield of the East

The Red Army has won victories of a kind unequalled in the history of warfare. Millions of Axis troops have been killed. Stupendous quantities of war materials have been captured.

YET DESPITE THIS, HITLER AND HIS ALLIES REMAIN IMMENSELY STRONG. THE OPENING OF AN ANGLO-AMERICAN OFFENSIVE ON THE CONTINENT WILL SPELL THEIR FINAL DOOM.

In the Pacific there is room for sober confidence, but none for complacency. The Japanese have been checked in New Guinea and the Solomons, and the tide is beginning to turn.

They have been beaten in battles by the U.S. Navy.

While Japan retains possession of the vast territories stretching through Hong Kong through the East Indies to the S.W. Pacific, there can be no grounds for complacency in Australia, New Zealand, or any other Allied country.

Here again, the full weight of the oppressor has been borne almost entirely by one country - China. For six years she has grappled almost unarmed against one of the cruellest and most bestial of foes.

THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF HARD FIGHTING AND HARD WORKING TO BE DONE BEFORE A COMPLETE AND VICTORIOUS PEACE IS WON.



MAJOR

The Battalion Mascot

THIS IS THE WINNING ENTRY IN THE FIRST OF OUR FORTNIGHTLY CONTESTS FOR ITEMS FOR AN UNOFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE UNIT. TO THE WING OF D COMPANY WE OFFER OUR THANKS - AND TWO CARTONS OF CIGARETTES

MAJOR'S origin and how he came into the Battalion have caused much controversy and discussion. First it was said that he was given to the Old Original 29th by an Indian policeman. Then it is stated that he belonged to a nearby farmer when the Old Originals were camped at Namaka.

HOWEVER, HE STAYED WITH THE UNIT WHEN OUR BOYS RELIEVED THE OLD ORIGINALS AT NAMAKA ON MAY 23, 1941. WHERE HE CAME FROM, SOMEBODY MUST KNOW!

He was a wise old dog was "Major", and he had a way of his own of treating coconuts. He used to hold them in his front paws and tear the husk off with his teeth. Then he would take them in his mouth and toss them in the air with a jerk of his head until he broke them.

At Nasese he caused a lot of fun in the wet canteen by rolling empty beer bottles around the floor. When the wet canteen closed he made straight for the recreation hut and caused no end of entertainment with the boys who played quids. If you took him on at tog-o-war he would nearly wrench your arm off.

IT WAS NOTHING TO FIND HIM MISSING AT TIMES, AS HE OFTEN VISITED ARTILLERY, A.S.C., ENGINEERS AND FIELD AMBULANCE. BUT HE ALWAYS CAME BACK TO THE UNIT. HE SEEMED TO PREFER THE INFANTRY.

"Major" returned to camp from one of his tours to find us packing up for our return for New Zealand. He stayed very close to camp and on Tuesday morning, June 30, he was with us on the wharf at Suva.



If our boys tried once, they must have tried a dozen times to get him on board the "President Coolidge". But each time we got him on the ship's officers chased him off.

FINALLY WE SAILED AT 7.15 A.M. ON FRIDAY, JULY 3, AND "MAJOR" WAS ON THE WHARF WITH THE BAND TO BID US FAREWELL.

When I got back to Papakura after my first leave, however, I received a pleasant surprise. "Major" was in camp! He had been put in a crate placed in one of the trucks, lowered into the hold and brought to New Zealand on the following trip by the 34th Battalion.

the boat the same way as he went on. One of our drivers found him with the 34th at Manurewa and brought him back to the unit.

ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS HE WOULD JUMP ON THE LEAVE TRAIN AND GO TO AUCKLAND WITH THE BOYS. HE HAS ALSO BEEN SEEN ON THE AUCKLAND TRAMS, AND HAS PUT ON A VERY HURT AND DISGUSTED LOOK WHEN THE CONDUCTOR CHASED HIM OFF.

On Monday, September 21, the unit marched to Hunua, and it was "Major" again who led the way. It was always his keenest desire to sleep in front of the large open fire in the Y.M.C.A. But he got short shrift, because our Y.M.C.A. representative slept there himself!



On Friday, October 9, we started on our long trek to Karapiro P.W.D. Camp, Major leading all the way and resting when we did. On arrival he immediately became a favourite with the young school-children of the camp.

WHEN WE WENT INTO THE KEMAIS, "MAJOR" WAS AGAIN ON THE SCENE. HE COULD OFTEN BE SEEN TRAVELLING BACKWARD AND FORWARD ALONG "TOI TRACK", AND WENT FROM COMPANY TO COMPANY DURING THE WEEK WE WERE THERE.

Whenever we went on a Battalion "stunt", to capture 905 or 995, he was always on deck. On Fridays we had a regular Battalion route march and he was always in the lead, but on November 20 he started to drop back after an hour or two and did not finish the march.

This was very unusual for him, and when he appeared at the dance on Saturday night it was thought he was working a "bracket". But on Sunday he was too weak to raise his head. He was gently placed in a truck and taken to a nearby veterinary surgeon who administered a painless death.

"MAJOR" WAS BURIED ON THE HILL OVERLOOKING THE PARADE GROUND, AND WAS ACCORDED A FUNERAL WITH FULL MILITARY HONOURS. THE CHILDREN OFTEN USED TO CARRY FLOWERS AND PUT THEM ON HIS GRAVE, AND I HONESTLY THINK THEY MISSED HIM AS MUCH AS WE DID.

"MAJOR'S" COLLAR, WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO LIMB IN HIS GRAVE, NOW IS IN A PLACE OF HONOUR IN D COMPANY'S ORDERLY ROOM...

The next period about which we want news is the Namaka era - bright, personal as possible, and as unofficial as you like. To help us in covering every aspect of the history...

STOP PRESS PAGE

GOOD OLD STOUGH FIRST BLOOD AGAIN

Although our Battalion failed to carry off any championship at the Brigade Boxing Tournament on Thursday night, the members of the boxing team gave a good account of themselves, and were by no means disgraced.

Lucas (11.1) a member of a well-known Gisborne boxing family showed good form in defeating his first opponent Cpl Binge, by the short route, the bout lasting only 1 min 15 secs. In the final of the middleweight championship, however, he failed to display the same aggressiveness against Spr Duncan and dropped the decision.

Pte H. Donald (10.7) fought pluckily against the champion, Wright, whose superior reach and weight enabled him to carry off a close decision.

Keen to avenge Donald's defeat Cpl Downes later took up the attack against Wright. Though our Geo proved a shifty, fast-hitting boxer he was unable to cope with the long reach of his opponent. This was the best bout of the evening.

Sam Stock (9.8), a pretty boxer to watch, gave a very scientific display against a particularly heavily built opponent, Hansen, who won the lightweight title.

THINKING the W.A.A.C's had all gone, the mess orderlies were head down in the washing up troughs. Oaths flashed like summer lightning..

Behing their backs a missy emerged from the cookhouse and gazed on them --- and listened to them.

"You poor b---'s", she said. "I've just finished five weeks of that!"

AGAIN THE YANKS!

The game played at Ouonghi between the 8th Brigade and U.S.M.C. was won by the former 24 - 10. The marines showed much better form than in the previous game, especially in their forward play. The back line, however, lacked thrust and speed off the mark.

Nevertheless their keen bustling forwards showed that they are picking up the finer points of the game. Their line out play was particularly good and some of our forwards could take a lesson from their high jumping and quick despatch of the ball to their backs. In the open, however, the quick crisp passing of our back line, interspersed with breaks through and dummies by the inside backs decided the issue.

For Brigade Jordan was again outstanding, scoring 4 tries. Lockner and Barlow scored one each and Barlow converted two, and Lockner one.

Although the game was rather scratchy the Battalion entry in the new B rugby competition opened up in fine style by defeating the 23rd Fd Coy by 23 - 3.

A certain amount of "scone-doing" was a feature of the game, and Capt Gonder proved it was hard to keep out of a fight -- even as referee.

An outstanding game was played by Groathead, who scored 14 of the points, made up of 2 tries and 4 conversions. The other scorers were Galbraith, Thorn and Thurston, who followed up a "starvation" first half with some spectacular runs.

Both forwards and backs played well and it was in the open play that the team again showed its superiority.

MANY people have said hard things about the H.Q. Coy canal system -- which must rival that of Mars. And more were said when some of the W.A.A.C's tried to jump the Grand Canal -- one going right out of sight!"

WITH STICK AND BALL

In the first games of the Brigade Hockey competition, the A team again won, but only by a narrow margin, while the B team was unlucky to go down by the only goal scored.

Reaping the benefit of good grounds to practice on, the 34th Battalion gave the A team a hard tussle. The score 1 - 0 was made up of a penalty bully put to good effect by Cox.

Many opportunities were again lost in the circle, while the backs were weakened by absentee-ism. The game was fast and open, however, and gave promise of a most interesting competition.

The advantage territorially was all in favour of the B team in their match against the 36th. This was rather unexpected, but the steadiness of the pressure showed that it was no accident.

The Battalion has reason to be pleased that it can find two teams that can hold their own in open competition.

AFTER waiting on the girls for a few minutes, a mess orderly could stand it no longer. He bolted out and fled into the cookhouse.

"I couldn't think of anything to say" he stammered, very red in the face.

Although there were fewer in the enclosure and on the hill the race meeting was again most successful. The tote handled 1930 dollars, and increase of 330 dollars.

AND NOW TOWARDS THE CUP.

When the story of the "Fighting 29th" is written, no small part will be given to its football triumphs.

On Saturday last the Battalion team got its first B.B. win towards running off with the Barraclough Cup by defeating the Div. A.S.C. in a most exciting and gruelling game.

Even our normally placid G.O. stood up in the stirrups and rode and encouraged the 14 man team to victory. Efforts by gentlemen riders to pocket him proved unavailing.

Even Ted McKenzie, after forcibly becoming a spectator, could scarce forbear to cheer.

The highlight of the game was when Eastwood took his pass as cleanly as a bullet from a marksman, and bounding in the air, thrust his head back and, like the proverbial wounded stag, tore down the line in a pretty run that finished up under the posts.

On the other hand, an air of tragedy quietened the 29th "blokes" when Geo Bolt secured from Bill Wright right on the line and failed to score a beautiful try over the deadball line! So, Bill Wright's lead to his tackler's solar plexus was quite wasted.

The crowd was with Bob Barlow when he nipped through an opening no doubt opened by the terrific look of determination on his face, and all crashed with a resounding thud when he was brought down by a rather lucky flying tackle.

The bone in Skipper Burke's knees made him angry (the welling shortage of personnel) and everyone was mighty glad when he touched down after receiving from Barlow.

Yes! It was a great game and an indication that perhaps some of the crowd were right after all in saying that "we can beat you - sixteen men with fourteen".

A period of rest is being enjoyed by some of the hard workers of the team, and who are we to say that they should not have it.

Yes! The Barraclough Cup is nearing our lips. Let's hope there is no slipping with this cup.

What? No, I did NOT say again NOT to offer 10 points in, Mr Tulloch.

There's no meal ticket about me, Archie.

BATTLE of the GIANTS.

Considerable interest has centred around the forthcoming special challenge race of three miles between two well-known B Company athletic rivals, "Rushing" Russ and "Tiny" Tomson.

Russ has proved his ability during past performances as a B representative, and his supporters can be assured of a very sound performance. He is training assiduously and has been seen on several occasions returning from a five mile spring at 0545 hours.

Although an unknown quantity in the unit, Tomson has competed successfully in New Zealand with such well-known long distance champions as Savidan, Fuller, etc. He can remember one occasion when he registered 49th place in a field of half a century, the other men having died en route.

The outcome of this contest is eagerly awaited by their respective supporters, and "The 29th" recommends its large public to be in at the kill.

Still Tops!

Someone said a few days ago after the swimming sports, "You've only got Rugby team now." But what about the hockey?

It hasn't been beaten yet, and I don't think it will.

The team made short work of the 36th by 5-1 last Saturday, but even then did not play right up to form. Something was wrong with the shooting of the forwards. The half line again excelled in stick manipulation, with Capt Burton specialising in tommy shots.

Goals went to Cox (3), Simon and Rough.

THE YOUNGER BROTHER

The Battalion B hockey side only drew with the 34th B. One up, it lost a victory on penalty corners, first by not converting any themselves and secondly by having a goal register against them from one.

The sole scorer was McPherson.

But combination is engaging in, and another victory should not be long.

The only concrete fact so far to hand about the Barraclough Cup contest is that we are as yet unbeaten. Except of course, those who offered too many points

Having much the better of the game, the Battalion Soccer team beat the 20th Fd Coy by 2 goals to 1. The game due to be played yesterday was postponed.

Prominent on the hockey calendar in the near future is a game between the Battalion A and B teams. Naturally interest is running fairly high.

BLAZE AWAY

HIT OR MISS by Winchell

Surely the event of the week has been the fire organised and "controlled" by H.O. Officers' Mess. Naturally details are hard to obtain, as the only independent witness was killed on the spot.

It all happened over a rat - some say a mouse, but then again there are rumours that it was a dog, a pedigree cow, the organiser of the Sergeants' Concert. Anyway they wanted to kill it.

The prey's first mistake was to get in a tree - a 'oller tree - near the mess. Its second mistake was in coming out again, but as the tree had been filled with petrol and somebody found to throw a match into it (he'll never raise his eyebrows again) one can understand how the rat etc felt about it.

He was a goner, however, for someone either stood on him, bit him (which is unlikely) or shot him with a pistol (which is impossible).

Then, of course, the fire.

Oh, yes, the fire.

Lovely things, fires. Warm, and all that sort of thing.

Throw some water on it. Nearly exit the mess tent. Wink takes to the river.

Organise a water cart. Oh, good. But the fire was brought up on water. It was probably trying to get at the beer in the mess locker.

Fire extinguishers... No, brother, not THIS fire.

Curse at it, throw things at it, drown it, pour in some Chili Con Carne, but at last.

And time for supper.

"Excuse me, sir. Excuse me. Er, please please, sir. SIR... HEY! THERE'S A FIRE OUTSIDE!"

Oh, yes. A fire. Rather early in the year, don't you think. WHAT?

And so again. Water, oil, benzine - throw on anything you can think of. Cut at the tree with an axe, but LOCK OUT. YOU'VE CUT ALL THE TENT ROPES.

Blow lights out. But it takes no notice. Obviously a civvy fire. How did it get in here. Memo: See the guard sergeant.

But whatever you do, don't dig up the lawn and throw that on the fire. Please don't. Please...

They've done it.

It's out.

With the officers playing at Guy Fawkes and the Sergeants making sand castles, it will soon be over to you.

FAMOUS last words -- when you come into my company of soldiers.

HEARD in a Company truck -- Don't do your scene so much, or we will soon be calling you Nato.

YOUR eyes are not deceiving you, fellows. That was the Colonel and the Major in training. Selector Strang is watching with interest.



IN R.O.'s -- Condoms will be used only for the purpose of issue. We wonder what other use the Adjutant has found for them.

THE RINGMASTER of Waugh's Circus has relinquished his post to join Smith and Jones floor show.

JIMMY COSSER is reported to be saluting every time he enters his gorgeous new canteen.

NEWS FLASH! THE APPLE JUICE HAS TURNED ALCOHOLIC... INDISTINGUISHABLE, EVEN IN COLOUR, FROM HIGH OCTANE GAS...

WE WONDER if the respirator idea came from a suggestion by Corporal Strachan?



THE TIDE has turned at last! B and C Company buglers have been scampering to their own well-loved call.

QUARTERMASTER Sturmer wishes to announce that his brewery has been taken over by Pte Brown.

IN A GLORIOUS day of Q-ing, Archie Strang burned up the company wood-pile - snoking out hornets, he said. We understand his designs on the new mess bure were foiled by the rain.

Come on officers! The N.C.O.'s want to play you at Rugby... Are you going to let this pass?



FEMININE INVASION.

Dear Daffodil

BUSH telegraph had nothing on the 29th Battalion when news of the impending arrival of a party of W.A.A.C.'s reached here on Friday. For hours before the party arrived, men slipped away from their jobs, and the road was lined with crowds of men eager to catch first glimpses of those rarities - New Zealand women.

When they eventually arrived here, the girls debussed and were subjected to the candid, critical gaze of half the Battalion.

A quick whip round B.C. Company produced sufficient messing gear for a "Dan's Special". After mess the girls mixed with a few of our lads and found a number of old friends - well, at least judging by the fond farewells and osculations afterwards we hope they were OLD pals.

Hats off to the Padre who pounced on the prettiest of the bunch to the intense annoyance of Major Rees. Later the Padre attempted to use the well-worn excuse of "just my cousin". The C.C. did well for himself also - two well in fact.

For many it was their first trip away from New Zealand, and they were keen to learn about this "beautiful" country. Snow Skinner's little friend is reputed to have said, "How I would love to see a mosquito; I have never seen one before." Another fell in love with the nikouli trees and has carried away a cutting to plant in her garden.

UNDER WATER.

Perhaps foreseeing a descent from the highest high, the 29th hardly raised a cheer at the Brigade Swimming Sports. But we came at least third! And anyway it would be hard to find a more pleasant spot to break our monopoly.

Highlights of the day were a medley race by Lieut. McCorkindale and scrummage tactics by the Padre. And, of course, we had two thirds in the boat races. Up the Sergeants!

Our B points received a boost from only one first - Thorn in the diving. Congratulations! Others who did well for the Battalion, but not quite well enough, were Biddiston (2nd and 3rd in backstroke events), McKinlay (2nd in 33yds free-style), Metcalfe (3rd in 33yds breaststroke), and Cox (3rd in 100yds breaststroke).

We also managed by frantic splashing to come second in the flying squadron relay. But it was a little late to catch the 36th, who won with 31 points, or the 34th, who were second with 21 points.

Jollings
B Company sergeants have had yet another fire. The inconsequential at work again?

Journalistic enterprise was shown by a C Company rat who got an inside view of the news from the wireless set. We regret to say that he is no longer in a position to pull the wires...

With so many rough diamonds about it was impossible to get a square deal at the races.

Second prize in the "unofficial history" contest went to Sgt Loveridge, for an account of a trip "inside Fiji".

As part of the efforts to compile a record of the doings of the Battalion, Pte Kendall of D Company has been appointed "unofficial" artist. If you have any photographs of various places of past activities, lend them to him.

MAY I SEEK YOUR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING A DIFFICULT PERSONAL PROBLEM?

Here are the facts.

I sleep very early at night and my rest is disturbed by vague dreams and other more serious things. When I awaken in the morning I feel languid and tired out and get very touchy and annoyed and resent having to get out of bed at the first reveille call.

Can you tell me what is the matter with me and help me find a remedy.

Yours,

ANXIOUS

P.S. A piece of wood in the bed is no use.

DEAR ANXIOUS,

I am truly disturbed at your distressing malady. At first the solution seemed easy, since on Friday I noticed several attractive companions for you. But then I remembered that women begin by resisting a man's advances and end by blocking his line of retreat.

Therefore I seek more substantial consolation for you.

The Colonel told me that there is no need for you to worry about reveille. The vague dreams are the psychological result of inaction, and Mr. Jones told me that you will not have them long.

The "other more serious things", I expect, are red ants. A little petrol applied to the blankets, followed by a match, will relieve you of all your troubles if you do this just after you get into bed.

I am glad that you have confidence enough to come to me....

Daffodil

WHY don't YOU come to "Daffodil"? "Esse your soul and find the RIGHT WAY. Everything treated, of course, in the strictest confidence"