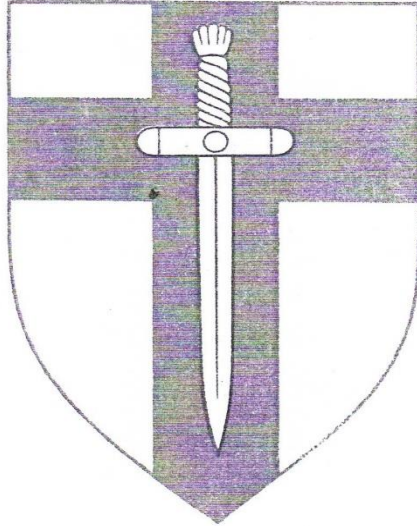


Extract from War Diary of the Normandy Campaign

67<sup>th</sup> (SUFFOLK) MEDIUM REGIMENT  
ROYAL ARTILLERY (I.A).



Campaign in North West Europe  
6<sup>th</sup> June 1944 to 5<sup>th</sup> May 1945

**THE BATTLE IN THE BRIDGEHEAD AND BREAKOUT TO THE RIVER SEINE**

24 June 1944	Regimental advance party under the command of Major G.F. Lushington, R.A. sailed for Normandy
26 June 1944	231 medium Battery Regiments 'A' and 'B' under the command of Major E.K. Gregory, R.A. embarked at Royal Albert Docks, London
27 June 1944	Regional Head Quarters (RHQ) and 232 Medium Battery embarked; ship was SS <i>Fort Kaskaskia</i> . Advance party landed in Normandy
29 June 1944	The main body of the Regiment disembarked at Arromanches over 3 days. No waterproofing casualties (to vehicles) during landing
2 July 1944	Night deployment in heavy rain. At 16.29 hours the Regiment fired its first round against the enemy
4 July 1944	Operation WINDSOR (350 rounds per gun) in support of the 3 Canadian Infantry Division. Objective Carpiquet Airfield
8 July 1944	Operation CHARNWOOD in support of 59 Infantry Division. This operation and Operation WINDSOR eventually led to the capture of Caen
9 July 1944	In support of 53(W) Division attack on Esquay and Feugerolles-sur-Orne
10 July 1944	Early morning deployment in open cornfields sloping towards enemy positions on high ground south of Caen. Considerations of range compelled deployment here and both

	batteries deployed in the only available shallow valley. Considerable hostile shelling took place throughout this period and the Regiment sustained its first casualties to personnel and considerable casualties to equipment in RHQ and Batteries. Importance of digging was forcibly impressed on all ranks and lessons learnt were not forgotten, saving many lives during the rest of the campaign.
11 July 1944	Captain G W D Ormerod, R.A. 'C' Troop Commander was killed while receiving orders preparatory to establishing an Operational Position on Hill 112
18 July 1944	Batteries were deployed at Marcelet in support of 2 Canadian Infantry Division and 43 (W) Division operations to clear salient west of Caen. Orchard and village of Maltot finally cleared by Canadians. Captain R C Furlong R.A. joined the Regiment to command 'C' Troop
24 July 1944	Batteries moved back to positions in 'Happy Valley' for Operation SPRING the following day in support of 43(W) Division and 53(W) Division. The objective was May-sur-Orne and Verriers. Operations by 2 Canadian Infantry Division around Tilley-La-Campagne supported
26 July 1944	Regiment's residue party, under Lieutenant R D Cranston rejoined
28 July 1944	Captain H Whitcombe R.A. joined Regiment 'B' Troop. Regiment in close support of 59 Infantry Division. A great variety of targets engaged whilst in action here
30 July 1944	In support operations by 30 Corps, in particular 50 (N) Division. These operations around Caumont and Viller Bocage were, in fact, the beginning of the 'Breakout' from the bridgehead
5 Aug 1944	In support of an attack by 59 Infantry Division to secure bridgehead over River Orne. This position chiefly to be remembered by the destruction, filth and horrible smells
6/7 Aug 1944	Night Deployment. Enemy, supported by numerous Tiger Tanks counter-attacked in strength the bridgehead over the River Orne held by 59 Division. This attack was eventually beaten off. Division Commander credited the Regiment with 5 Tanks knocked out. Continued with support of 2 Canadian Corps attack South East of Caen
11 Aug 1944	Early morning deployment. In support operations by 59 Infantry Division clearing of Foret De Grimbosque, south from Orne bridgehead
13 Aug 1944	Deployment on open ground North of Thury-Harcourt which was burning furiously. Regiment remained in action here for one night
14 Aug 1944	Regiment crossed River Orne. Passed knocked out German tanks and deployed on open ground. First news of Allied landings in Southern France received here
15 Aug 1944	In support of 59 Division advancing towards Falaise
17 Aug 1944	Early morning deployment: Regiment captured its first Prisoner of War, a German found wandering on road near 231 Battery's gun area Night deployment: A difficult route into Regimental area helped by artificial moonlight
18 Aug 1944	Deployment on edge of Falaise pocket. Fired at enemy tanks trying to break out of the pocket (Range 2,300 feet)
20 Aug 1944	Falaise pocket liquidated. 59 and 67 Medium Regiments came under the command of 15 (S) Division for the Division's advance to the River Seine
24 Aug 1944	Regiment harboured South East of Falaise for one night before the advance with 15(S) Division to the Seine. The first clean fields!
25/26 Aug 1944	Regiment driving towards the River Seine behind leading elements of 15(S) Division. Advance was littered with wrecked and abandoned enemy vehicles and equipment
27 Aug 1944	Deployment approximately 4,000 yards West of River Seine. Assault crossing of Seine by 15 (S) Division supported. Only slight opposition encountered
29 Aug 1944	Night deployment approximately 1,000 yards West of River Seine to cover bridgehead. Assault crossing highly successful