

# Second World War Unit War Diary – 44th Royal Tank Regiment - Cotter

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WAR DIARY				44th Bn Royal Tank Regiment
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Lt.Col. E.D.Rash				Army Form C 118
JULY 1943				
(Erase heading not required.)				
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Alexandria	Jun 23		'A' Sqn embarked on L.S.T's.	
Tripoli	29		'A' Sqn arrive at TRIPOLI. Personnel taken off ships to transit camp.	
Suez	Jul 1		D day personnel sailed from SUEZ to PORT SAID.	
Tripoli	7		'A' Sqn re-embarked on L.S.T's	
	8		'A' Sqn sailed.	
	9		L.S.T's joined D day convoy.	
Sicily	10		D day.	
	0615		TULO party leave HMT ORONTES	
	0715		TULO party receive following casualties by shell fire on landing:- Capt CDR CONNOR, MC & Bar and KP HOARE - missing believed killed, Lt RH Gush - wounded, 2 OR's missing believed killed, 3 OR's wounded.	
	0915		Main body leave HMT ORONTES	
J 023144	1030		Main body disembark and move to assembly area J 023144	
	1815		Capt HONNIBALL and 8 'A' Sqn tanks disembark and were immediately de-waterproofed and prepared for action.	
	1830		Warning order received for move.	
	1900		50 Div C.O. No.2 received. 'A' Sqn to be in 50 Div reserve south of CASSIBILE village.	
			I.O. and 2nd i/c recce. a leaguer area south of CASSIBILE village.	
	2015		Capt HONNIBALL and 8 'A' Sqn tanks move to area J 0519	
			Major FR LINDSAY to Div with a scout car to act as L.O. to tanks.	
J 023144	2130		Remaining 8 tanks of 'A' Sqn disembarked and proceeded with de-waterproofing.	
			C.O. & I.O. to Div Hq.	
			Various vehicles and scout cars disembarked during day.	
			Lt. AM WILSON evacuated sick.	
	11 0530		Major FE WHITTAKER and 8 remaining tanks moved to J 0519 and join Capt HONNIBALL	
	1200		9 tanks disembarked.	
	1430		L.S.7. set on fire by bombing, 1 O.R. wounded. 9 tanks, 5 Jeeps and 2 8-cwt P.U's lost.	
	1700		C.O. & Adj't to Corps Cmdr and Brigadier CURRIE, 4 Arm'd Bde.	
	1930		Sgt Brand seriously wounded by own naval gunners firing inshore during an air raid.	
	12 0500		S.S. burnt in bombing attack, no casualties no losses.	
			During the day 18 tanks and 13 'B' vehicles off-loaded.	
	1400		Warning order received to move at 1630 hours. No area given.	
	1530		Verbal message through I.O. to move to area J.0431 route through SYRACUSE.	
	1630		I.O. to 4 Arm'd Bde to report and to J 0431 to recce leaguer area.	
	1700		Bn less 'A' Sqn left AVOLA.	

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