

WAR

Dieppe Summary

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY BY THE

**ARMY BUREAU OF
CURRENT AFFAIRS**



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No. 28

October 3rd, 1942

Lines of Thought

1. Given an infantry division and normal supporting arms to defend the area around Dieppe covered by the map on pages 6-7 against German sea-borne attack, how would you and your men set about it? It would probably help to get an N.C.O. or man to prepare an account of what he would do if he suddenly found himself G.O.C.

2. How many of your men know reasonably well how an infantry division is made up, what to expect of the various arms, and how they work together?

3. What second front lessons emerge from Dieppe? Do you think a second front will mean relatively static, or highly mobile warfare?

4. Extract from the "Royal Engineers Journal" for June, 1942: "ABCA could do much more in descriptions of the rape of Poland, the murder of Russian civilians, the wholesale starvation of the Greeks, the agony of the Czechs. . . ." Do you agree, or do you think the continued publication of such facts, however well authenticated, defeats its own end by breeding indifference?

5. It is desirable that your men should understand that there are usually good reasons for any shortage of equipment or difficulty in obtaining spares. See page iii, "How much is Enough?"

Savings Quiz

(Answers on back cover.)

1. What is the point of saving?
2. How much does a Savings Certificate cost, and how does it increase in value?
3. What is the position if a man wants to cash Savings Certificates quickly?
4. A man who buys a bottle of whisky gives the State the taxes on it. Isn't this better than lending money in National Savings Certificates, when he not only gets interest, but in the end gets the money back?
5. What is inflation?
6. What does inflation mean in practice?
7. If you buy now you get more for your money than if you save it and buy later, when prices are higher. Therefore, why should you save?
8. How can National Savings Stamps be obtained?
9. As in fact the amount of war weapons that we can build depends simply on the amount of material, plant and labour available, what is the point of War Weapons Weeks?

(1) The Dieppe Story
written in outline

Reconnaissance in Force

AT Dieppe on August 19th last, a force of several thousand men was landed, Churchill tanks were successfully put ashore, and material losses were inflicted on the enemy. The object of this article is to examine very briefly, so far as can at present be done, the objects and the course of this important operation.

Mr. Churchill has described its objectives in general terms to Parliament. He said: "The raid must be considered a reconnaissance in force. It was a hard, savage clash, such as are likely to become increasingly numerous as the war deepens. We had to get all the information necessary before launching operations on a much larger scale. . . . I personally regarded the Dieppe assault, to which I gave my sanction, as an indispensable preliminary to full-scale operations."

It Had to be Fought For

The price was high; 3,350 of the approximately 5,000 Canadians who went were either killed, wounded or missing. But it was extremely important that we should have an opportunity for gaining practical experience in the landing of a large military force on an enemy-occupied coast, and we were particularly anxious to test our arrangements for the landing and employment of heavy tanks. The information required was considered to be vital to the general offensive programme under which the United Nations are now working; and it could only be obtained by fighting for it.

In addition to these wider strategic objectives, the raid also had local and tactical objectives: the destruction of important enemy installations in the Dieppe area.

The Forces Taking Part

Considerable forces of all three services were employed in delivering and supporting the attack. The naval force included no vessels larger than destroyers and was primarily composed of landing and support craft of the types familiar to troops who have undergone

training in combined operations. The large air forces included aircraft from all Operational Commands of the R.A.F. in addition to Canadian, New Zealand, United States, Polish, Czech, Norwegian, Belgian and Fighting French units.

The military force delivering the assault was mainly composed of Canadian troops, comprising large elements of two brigades of a Canadian infantry division, a battalion of a Canadian Army Tank Brigade, and detachments of all arms and services. Also taking part were Special Service Brigade troops: Nos. 3 and 4 Commandos, the Royal Marine "A" Commando, a detachment from a United States Ranger battalion and a small contingent from the Inter-Allied Commando (No. 10).

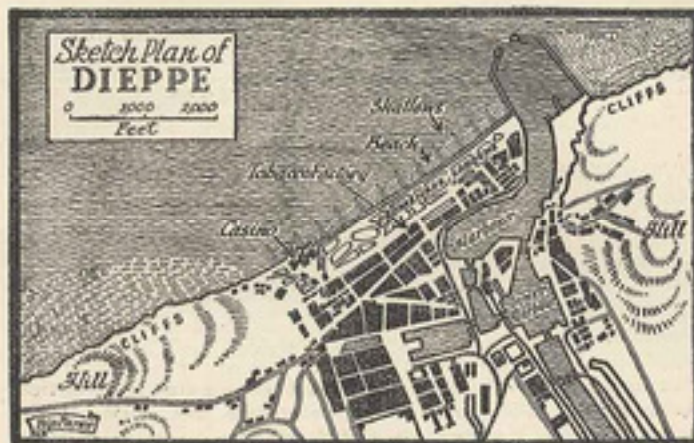
The Dieppe Area

A glance at the map serves to demonstrate the nature of the tactical problems involved. Dieppe is a considerable town lying at the mouth of the River D'Arques, which provides it with an excellent harbour. Most of the coast on either side of the place consists of cliffs which make landing from the sea practically impossible; but at two points, each a little more than a mile from the town—Pourville to the west, and Puits to the east—there are areas of low ground allowing access to the interior. The beach in front of Dieppe itself is practicable for landings, but close on either side of the town there are headlands commanding this beach.

Since May the enemy has been engaged in strengthening his defences all along the French coast and the Germans had turned Dieppe into an extremely strong place. The front of the town was very heavily wired, and here and elsewhere there were many strong pill-boxes and fortified houses. On every beach there was a sea-wall which the Germans had wired. Guns of many types, from heavy coast artillery downwards, were in position, some in concealed emplacements in the cliff faces. On the French coast the German garrisons "stand to" in varying states of readiness when conditions of moon and tide are particularly favourable for raids.

Plan of Action

The military plan provided that Special Service Brigade troops should attack important enemy coastal batteries at Varengeville, about five miles west of Dieppe, and Berneval, about six miles east. It was very desirable to put these guns out of action to ensure the safety of our naval forces offshore and the success of the main landings. Simultaneously with the Special Service Brigade attacks Canadian troops were to land at Pourville and Puits and push inland. The troops landed at Puits were to seize the east headland, in order to prevent the enemy positions there from enfilading the beaches in front of Dieppe itself. The main attack was to go in on these beaches



after a naval and air bombardment. Canadian infantry would deliver the attack, and Canadian tanks would support it.

The Operation Begins

The vessels carrying the troops, and the naval vessels escorting them, crossed the Channel under cover of darkness, preceded by minesweepers clearing the way for them. The crossing was made without the knowledge of the enemy until they had the miserable luck to meet some German coastal vessels a few miles off the French coast. The landing craft carrying No. 3 Commando, who were to make the landing at Berneval, came upon a small convoy consisting of a German tanker moving up the Channel under escort. In the darkness an engagement followed, at least one German vessel being sunk, and the landing craft carrying the Commando were forced to scatter. This chance encounter must have put the defences on the alert.

Thanks to this encounter, the main body of the Special Service Brigade troops destined for Berneval never got ashore; but a small party of them did land and operated with great courage against the German battery position. Although they could not attack it, they subjected it to mortar-fire and sniping to the extent of interfering considerably with the battery's fire, and afterwards withdrew successfully.

On the other flank at Varengeville, No. 4 Commando had much better fortune. It achieved surprise, got ashore, carried the battery,

took prisoners, destroyed the guns and ammunition, and then withdrew: a very fine performance.

About Twenty Minutes Late

The encounter with the tanker and her escort had unfortunate results for the assault at Puits. Here the Royal Regiment of Canada had been scheduled to land at 04.50 hours; but as a result of action taken to avoid the naval engagement the landing craft came into the beach about twenty minutes late, and in daylight instead of twilight. The enemy, warned presumably by the gunfire at sea, was thoroughly awake and manning his pill-boxes and fortified houses. As the Royals touched down, they were greeted by a murderous crossfire. They rushed in with great gallantry, trying to come to grips with the sheltered and almost inaccessible enemy; but mortar and machine-gun fire cut them down by scores on the beach, and they obtained nothing better than a temporary lodgment. As a result the headland east of Dieppe was not cleared, and the guns here were able to fire on the beaches in front of the town, and on craft offshore.

Much greater surprise was attained at Pourville on the other flank. The South Saskatchewan Regiment landed here with little initial opposition, captured prisoners, cleared enemy positions and established a bridgehead. Through this bridgehead passed the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada. This unit proceeded to exploit inland up the valley of the River Scie. They penetrated for about two miles and inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy before the order to withdraw brought them back to the beach.

The Main Attack Goes In

Dieppe itself was attacked on the right by the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, and on the left by the Essex Scottish. Close behind these units came the first wave of Churchill tanks of the 14th Canadian Army Tank Battalion (Calgary Regiment). Here Canadian tanks went into action for the first time, for no distinctively Canadian armoured units fought in the last war. Here also the enemy met the Churchill for the first time.

In spite of bombardment by the Navy and by Hurricane bombers, the enemy's concealed posts in the headlands east and west of the beaches, and his positions in the front of the town itself, immediately opened a most intense fire, and the attacking units suffered heavily from the first moment of the assault. The first wave of Churchills got ashore successfully, and some of them immediately crossed the sea-wall, got on the promenade and penetrated into the town. Others, however, did not get off the beach, and a number of them were soon immobilised. Nevertheless, their crews continued to fight their guns, engaging the enemy positions to good effect. There were cases in which, when the whole crew of a Churchill had been killed

or wounded, an infantry soldier entered the tank and fought its six-pounder until all ammunition was exhausted.

The Sappers, whose business it was to clear the way for the tanks, had a particularly difficult and dangerous task and performed it with great courage. Many of them, however, fell under the violent storm of fire that swept the beach; demolition stores were destroyed in some cases; and the sea-wall was not breached as fully as had been hoped. This contributed to keeping some of the tanks on the beach.

They Entered and Cleared It

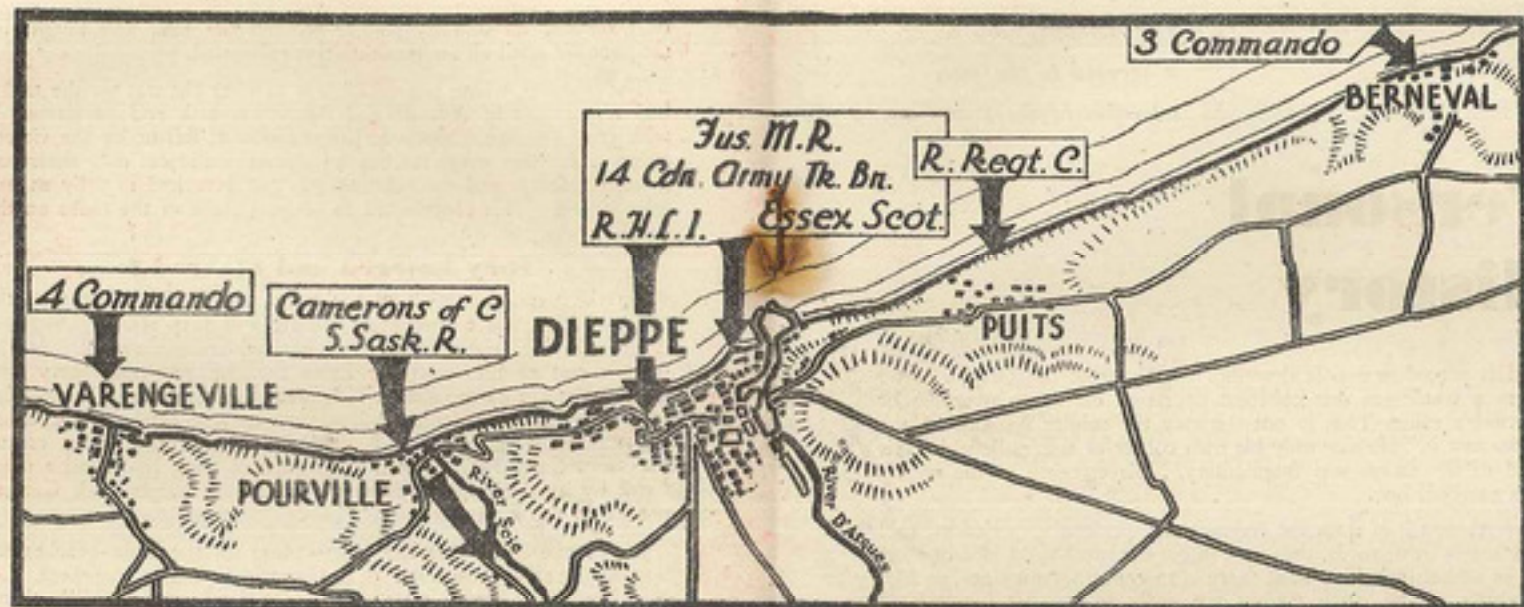
On the western section of the beach the R.H.L.I. attacked the casino, which was a prominent feature and very strongly fortified. After suffering heavy losses they entered and cleared it. At the eastern end of the town the Essex Scottish ran into heavy wire obstacles swept by crossfire, which made advance almost impossible; in spite of all difficulties, however, detachments of the Essex penetrated into the town. Similarly in the vicinity of the casino, parties of the R.H.L.I. got through (one of them by-passed a road-block by breaking into a cinema theatre) and fought with German patrols in the streets.

About one hour after the first landing on the main beaches the floating reserve, composed of a French Canadian regiment, Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal, were ordered to land and establish themselves on the beach and on the edge of the town of Dieppe. Parts of this unit also succeeded in entering the town and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.

The Withdrawal After the Raid

As always in such operations, withdrawal after the raid proved a difficult and dangerous task. The Germans had brought up not only additional infantry but mobile artillery and many mortars. Their heavy mortars in fact proved most formidable weapons throughout the operation, and particularly at this stage, when extraordinarily intense fire was organised on the beaches and the sea approaches. In spite of this fire the Navy came into the beaches with the very greatest gallantry to take off the troops, and destroyers closed the beach until they almost grounded, firing into the enemy positions at point-blank range to cover the withdrawal. Casualties among the troops were heavy in this final stage, and there were many acts of gallantry as officers and soldiers defied the German fire to carry wounded comrades to the boats.

As the flotillas sailed back towards England, the R.A.F. spread above them an umbrella which prevented any serious interference by enemy aircraft. Throughout the operation, indeed, the co-operation of the Air Force was magnificent, and the reports written



Drawn by Spc Frank Shaddock - Survey Directorate - First Canadian Army H.Q.

by Canadian soldiers on their experiences testified again and again to their appreciation of this support.

As for the Navy, no praise could be too high for the courage and self-sacrifice with which it supported the landing force. Here again we have the evidence of dozens of Canadian soldiers who set down on paper expressions of their gratitude and their admiration.

Upon the conduct of the troops themselves, there is no variance of opinion. All the units engaged, Canadian, British and Allied, fought with a determination never bettered in the last war. No troops in 1914-18 were given more dangerous tasks than those faced by the men who attacked Dieppe; and no troops emerged from the test with greater credit.

What the Operation Accomplished

The raid is still being most carefully studied with a view to extracting from it every possible lesson, and at the present time there is no intention of putting these lessons into print; for we intend that they shall work to our advantage and not the enemy's.

Nevertheless, every intelligent person can see certain things which

the operation demonstrated. He can see that a large naval force crossed the Channel and, thanks to powerful air support, remained off the French coast for many hours with the loss of only one destroyer and a certain number of landing craft. He can see, too, that in spite of the great strength of Dieppe a strong military force including heavy tanks was successfully landed on its beaches. The significance of these events is sufficiently obvious.

It Was a Curtain-raiser

It is of great importance also that in this operation the organisation of combined command as between the three services worked absolutely perfectly.

Moreover, as Mr. Churchill put it, "This raid, apart from the information and reconnaissance value, brought about an extremely satisfactory air battle in the West." In this battle the enemy suffered such heavy losses in aircraft as seriously to affect his air strategy.

Dieppe was a curtain-raiser. Its importance cannot at this moment, as Mr. Churchill has said, be fully told or appreciated. Nevertheless, it is more than likely that when future historians tell the tale of the campaigns that liberated Europe from Hitler, the story of Dieppe will have an important place.

(2) *The Dieppe story as
it seemed to the men
who fought there*

Personal History

THE preceding article describes the shape of the Dieppe battle as a whole—as one coherent operation extending over ten or twelve miles. That is not the way the soldier fighting on the beaches saw it. He saw only his own corner of the battlefield. His record of the action was fragmentary. His estimate of the enemy was a personal one.

Nevertheless it is from the fragmentary, personal experiences, told in the men's own words, that we can get the most vivid idea of what such an action feels like, what there is to expect. And since, in Mr. Churchill's phrase, such clashes are likely to become increasingly numerous, here are some personal stories of the men who were there.

Approach and Landings

As we neared the coast of France we saw the finest fireworks display, coloured lights, bursting shells, tracer bullets—well, all it takes to make what we call a modern war. About 1,000 yards from shore the Company Commander gave the order to prepare to land. We scrambled up on deck of the "R" boats after being cramped up in the bottom for over nine hours. Gee, but it sure felt good to think that we would be able to stretch our legs again on land. Everyone feeling in the best of spirits and to make us feel still better our company piper starts playing "The Hundred Pipers." Well, we all knew that tune, as it is the company march past.

The "R" boat grounds on a gravel beach with shells bursting pretty close, everyone jumps off at the bow, led by our company commander, and rushes forward a matter of 50 yards to an eight-foot wall. It sure was a disappointment on getting there to find the ugliest looking barbed wire stretching right from the top of a wall a distance of 12 feet. Well, the boys didn't hesitate long. Some of us kept firing at the German pill-boxes where snipers and M.G.'s were busy. Those with wire cutters got working, and within 10 minutes had two pathways cut through the wire. Now was our chance to get going.

Over the wall we went and rushed across the main road and took cover on the river bank. . . .

C.S.M. —

The Officer Changed Tanks

It was getting light now, and as we approached the beach we were being fired upon by several heavy calibre guns. The door was let down as we hit the beach and out went the tanks. The first one was stopped by a direct hit from a six-inch gun on the pier, but the second one followed on just the same. Then it was that an officer came out of the first tank with his face streaming blood and one eye shot out, jumped into the second tank, swung the gun turret around and let two quick shots go from the six-pounder. With those two shots he silenced the gun on the pier, which to that time had been doing heavy damage to our craft.

Sgt. —

The Engineers Unrolled the Matting

The craft beached. The front door went down, the first tank moved off on to the beach. The gravel was thick and the sea wall presented no gaps. The tank was unable to get along. Then the Engineers went on the beach, calmly unrolled the matting to assist the tanks. Fire at this stage was very heavy, casualties were already numerous. A captain of the Engineers, wounded in the shoulder, kept on directing the men, who calmly carried on with their tasks.

Major —

The Wire Sprang Back

I had a clear view of the tanks as they left the craft. The first tank was hit three or four times, but kept going. It went through the wire, but, much to my surprise, the wire seemed to spring into place again, after the weight of the tank had passed over it. . . . Our third tank, Cayell, which was towing the scout car Hector seemed to get stuck half on the beach and half on the ramp. Our captain reversed, and so pulled the ramp from under the tank, but, at the same moment, a shell burst on the ramp and broke both winch cables. The tank now released, rapidly pulled the scout car through the wire and also tore through the wall. The last I saw of the scout car it was tearing like Hell up Foch Boulevard.

Sgt. —

The Runner Took the A./Tk. Rifle

I was platoon runner for my platoon commander. I followed him into the water and went to the bottom. My "Mae West" brought me to the surface. I took over the anti-tank rifle with 20 rounds. The Navy put up a barrage on the top of the cliff. All the time we were being machine-gunned and mortared. Ten Germans ran along the top of the cliff towards another pill-box, and I knocked off four of them. A man by me was hit, and I told him to get behind the A.L.C., which was behind us. I flopped down and fired four mags. into the dug-out where I saw the rest of the Germans go. I tried to get help to the wounded man as I got his ammunition. Another man was shot in the eye also. He grabbed hold of me, and we grabbed the first man between us. In this manner we covered the 15 feet to behind the A.L.C. I went back to the beach where I had left my rifle and fired at places where

I thought snipers were likely to be. Then the mortars opened up, and all I remember was a big flash. When I came to I was lying with my arms stretched out in front of me. There was a rifle nearby, but every time I tried to get it a sniper would try for me, so I dug myself into the bank. Private —

The Corporal Got Into the Casino

On nearing the shore the door dropped, and out we went into heavy M.G. and mortar fire. Everyone in front of me flopped down, so I flopped down also. Just in front of us was a row of barbed wire. The lieutenant and the corporal blew a gap in this with a bangalore, and we ran ashore into a street along the left-hand side of the casino. Not more than 10 feet to our right was a pill-box full of enemy; also four windows in the casino second and third floors, from which M.G. fire was coming. Corporal — and Sergeant — were closest to the pill-box, and they each dropped grenades, which temporarily stopped the fire from this point. . . . We sneaked along the wall of the casino and into it. I stopped in the casino till what I believed to be German artillery started firing on it, then I went into a slit trench just off the building. We had two prisoners before we had been in the casino long.

Lt. Corporal —

Mortars

His mortar bombs kept landing 10 to 15 feet from you, and as long as you were well down they didn't hurt you; a direct shot was required to kill. Pte. —

Their artillery fire is not so good and not so effective as mortar fire. I saw dozens of shells landing in the water about 25 feet off-shore, all in the same place, and no effort to correct range. Pte. —

The Germans seemed to use their mortar and machine-guns conjunctively. With the M.G.'s they forced us to take cover and then they opened up on us with the mortar. This proved very effective and very deadly. Lieut. —

Snipers

His snipers took a heavy toll. Much more thought must be given in future to sniper training from cover and the use of cover, even when only poor cover is available. C.S.M. —

I noticed that snipers did not show their faces. They stand away back in the middle of the room. Pte. —

Grenades

I found out that a Jerry hand grenade can be outrun—they take five to twelve seconds to explode. Pte. —

Incidents

I would like to mention an act of bravery by a man who is now missing. He was himself quite safe from fire behind the wall we got to. He looked back to the beach and saw a corporal, who was hung on the fence near me. He got a pair of wire-cutters and went out into that beach under heavy M.G. fire and cut the corporal loose. He then

began to run him through the remainder of the wire and brought him back to the shelter of the wall. Pte. —

A sapper ran the length of a L.C.T. with a burning rucksack which was filled with explosives. Lt.-Col. —

I strayed from my section and joined with three other men and we went up to the casino and chased four Jerries upstairs and went after them into a little cubby-hole. We also found one sniper and I went after him with my bayonet, and killed him. That is the first German I have killed with steel. . . . Pte. —

In the Town

A group of Germans surrendered to us and we disarmed them. During the charging of the casino Corporal — did good work with grenades. He would crawl up to throwing distance while I kept the snipers' heads down with the Bren. We then took an all-round defence position at the front of the casino. There were snipers and machine gunners in the buildings across the square. Under orders from the captain, I kept potting away at their positions. There were some very strong posts on a hillside to the right. I silenced one of these, along by the end of the stone wall. Then a sniper appeared at the window of one of the hotels. I let him have a couple of bursts, then he did not move any more. Then to make sure I fired another magazine into the room. Almost immediately smoke and flame came out of the window and in two or three minutes the whole building was in flames.

Later on, about ten o'clock, I noticed two men in the archway between two of the hotels. I held my fire to make sure who they were and when they came into view I saw they were our own men. They were trapped by fire from a post on a hill to the right. I reported to a corporal and he got a two-inch mortar and laid a smoke screen across the open space and I neutralised one M.G. post with my Bren. At the same time one of our tanks took care of the main gun position on the hillside. We gave the men the high sign and they rushed across to the casino, only one being wounded slightly. Pte. —

The Colonel

The last time I met the Colonel we were over the bridge. There was heavy gunfire coming down on the road and as I joined a group of men who were held up I heard the Colonel speak, and he said: "We must get ahead, lads. We need more men up front as quickly as possible. Who's coming with me?" I replied: "We're all going with you." He said: "Good lads. Let's go!" We ran up the road with the Colonel leading, disregarding all danger. After about 40 yards we stopped. Soon the Colonel said: "Are you ready again?" We answered, "O.K., sir," and away we went again right up to the road-block. Next time I saw him was about 15 minutes before the evacuation order came in, and I was wounded. I made my way down to the R.A.P. which was at a road junction

leading to the bridge. I asked the stretcher-bearer, "What's the Colonel doing here?" He replied: "He's packing the wounded in on his shoulders." The Colonel fought hard right up till the last man reached the bridge. He and Major — put out two machine-gun posts at the back of the hotel, making it possible for men to reach the bridge. I saw the Colonel on the bridge. He seemed to be wounded badly in the face and leg. He kept talking into the No. 18 Set, and directing men on the bridge and into the A.L.C.s. Nothing seemed to stop him making his objective. Sgt. —

Morale

The Company Commander had no way of communicating with anyone, so decided we would carry on and do as much damage as possible. So we swung left from the river towards a small village where we knew the enemy were. Snipers and M.G.s seemed to be in every house, so we got busy on them and were doing a fairly good job clearing them out with rifles and grenades, when all of a sudden they opened up on us with their mortars, it sure was hell. Our casualties sure started mounting then, every corner you turned you seemed to run into mortar fire, and they sure could place their shots. Well, there was no stopping the boys then, they were seeing their pals for the first time being killed and wounded at their side, and the only thought that seemed to be in everyone's mind was to have revenge. It sure was great to see the boys with blood all over their faces and running from wounds in their arms and legs, not worrying about getting first aid, but carrying on in a systematic manner clearing out the Nazis from the houses just the same way as they trained to do. C.S.M. —

Re-embarkation

We were getting on fine with the job when about 11.30 hours a runner got through to us from somewhere and told us to fall back to the beach as the A.L.C. boats were on their way to pick us up. On arriving at the beach, the boys who were able to walk helping those who were seriously wounded, we found to get to the A.L.C.s we had to cross the open beach a matter of 700 yards. I knew it was going to be hell getting to the boats as we could see the bullets knocking up the sand and shells bursting right along the beach. Well, nothing for it but make the attempt, and off we go; but the Nazis' gunners sure took a heavy toll. It was pretty hard to see the boys being knocked out after all they had done; those left crawled and dragged a pal along with them until they got near a boat, then others who had been fighting on the right side of the river helped to get them on the boats. Our troubles weren't nearly over yet, for the Germans kept sniping at men on deck of the boats, and sure got their mark time and time again. At last we were picked up by a destroyer which cruised back and forward under a smoke screen and then set sail for home. C.S.M. —

● *Where do the spares go? Who gets the weapons, and why?*

How much is Enough?

WHY does a unit suddenly have some of its weapons temporarily taken away from it? Why has another unit still not received its full establishment of equipment? Why has a third got enough weapons, but not enough spares?

The obvious and principle reason is that the bulk of available weapons are sent to the theatres where they can be used to kill Germans *soonest*, e.g., to Middle East or Russia. Preparations for the Second Front absorb most weapons not required for these existing theatres of war. The margin between weapons required and weapons available is rapidly becoming narrower. But those units with a less immediate operational role will naturally be late in feeling the effects of this improved supply.

Production and supply are the keys to all campaigns. Unless we have the weapons with which to fight we cannot fight properly. *And yet, until this war ends, everything we want will be in short supply.*

Spares and Equipment are the Same

What are spare parts? They are bits of the equipment itself. They are, in fact, absolutely the same as the bits of the equipment. Or, to put the whole thing a different way round, every equipment merely consists of spare parts fitted together. If you put a few of these parts together and keep the other separately, you get a few equipments and a lot of spare parts. If you put all these parts together, you get a lot of equipments and no spare parts at all. The tricky business is to decide when to stop putting them together—to decide how many spare parts you will have at the expense of main equipments.

Why Is Production Unbalanced?

If, and it's a big if, you ever do get all the factories in Britain and North America lined up so that each is producing the right amount of everything—well, they wouldn't stay right.

We plan to make so many 2-pr. guns. So many are to go on carriages for anti-tank regiments. So many are to go on tanks. It's all nicely worked out. The factories start work and the guns pour into the Ordnance depots. Then the tank programme is altered. We produce twice as many tanks. So we haven't got enough 2-prs. to go round. Or, the Americans give us some tanks. We like them very much. But we think we ought to fit a few British items of equipment

to them. But we've only ordered enough of these items of equipment to fit our own tanks. When we fit them to the additional American tanks, we're short.

These are reasons for unbalanced production over which we have some control. In addition, a good fog in one district, a train late in another, a torpedo in the Atlantic, all mean that supplies may not arrive on time and throw the whole thing out of gear again. An automatic machine may break down. A lack of components results. A lucky bomb hits a wagon load of components wanted by another factory to complete its weapons . . . hundreds of things may and do happen to upset every planned programme.

Must Go Where They're Wanted

In this situation, with spares in short supply, the aim must be to send them where they are wanted most.

Spares in Britain can be centralised and held at depots. Communications are good and in emergency a vitally needed part can be got to anything within a few hours, even if factories have to be raided direct to get it.

Overseas the problem is different. There are no factories to raid. Therefore equipments sent to overseas theatres must take their spares and accessories with them.

Savings Quiz Answers

(Questions inside front cover.)

1. (a) To help the country ; because in saving money you are saving labour and material which can be better used for vital war purposes. (b) To help yourself—in an emergency, or after the war.
2. 15/- ; increases to £1 0s. 6d. in ten years.
3. They take about a fortnight to cash. In an emergency telephone, if possible, the Repayments Enquiry Branch, Money Order Department, G.P.O. Savings Certificate Branch, London, N.7 (Archway 4021) for advice.
4. The State would rather get the money by loan and pay the interest and repay the loan, because then no labour and material at all are subtracted from the war effort to make the bottle and transport the whisky.
5. When, owing to the diversion of our resources to war needs (as now) fewer goods are made for normal purposes, there is as much money as before, but there is less for it to buy. Competition for the few goods that there are sends prices up.
6. It means that everybody becomes steadily poorer and poorer, since increases of pay always lag behind the general increase in prices.
7. Everyone who refrains as much as possible from spending helps automatically to keep prices down. Self-interested people can, of course, always take advantage ; the reason for voluntary saving is not temporary personal profit, but the lasting benefit of all.
8. From the N.A.A.F.I., or from the officer in charge of pay parade.
9. Production of war weapons depends upon the amount of material, plant and labour made available for them—that is, upon the amount released from non-essential production. War Weapons Weeks increase these personal economies.