

Sunday 12 May 1940

After several months of phoney war the unit has left HQ and moved in to Belgium, setting up a temporary HQ near Waterloo on the banks of the River Dyle across which is German Army Group A (approx 500000 fully equipped with modern weapons). The French to our south and the Belgians to the north. The Germans are 20 miles to our East..

We have been called in to see the CO.

Have been formed up into an Intelligence Section led by Capt McKie with Lt Smythe as 2ic. Latest intelligence is that a local Belgium doctor has been experimenting with paranormal material on his patients. We have been detailed to find the asylum and recover any and all materials relating to the occult/paranormal or deny them to the enemy.

Priority is recovery.

The asylum is likely to hold thousands of inmates. The asylum is St. Rienne 1m from Ottenburg which is 2m North of Wavre. It is the other side of the Dyle but not yet in German hands.

The doctor is Dr Barbieur.

Secondary element is to recover passenger from a Hawker Hector of X flight who provided info to doctor at no. 8 casualty clearing station having been helped initially after the crash by Dr Barbieur. Passenger is Major James Smythe of 4/7 Royal Dragoons (Lt Smythe's brother).

Have available 1 possibly 2 armoured cars, 1 Matador Truck, 2 Austin 8 cars from own unit. In ammo truck have 100 grenades, 200lbs plastic explosive, sufficient rifles and Brownings, 8 Bren, 4 vickers heavy mg, 4 2in mortars with 100 rounds he, 8 rifle grenade mounts and 48 mounts, 15000 rnds rifle. No19 radios in truck and armoured cars with 15mile radius.

Requested restraints or manacles, tranquilliser darts and rifles, small detachment to assist with detention of prisoners, riot shields, truncheons, torches, ropes, heavy sledge hammer. Receive injectable tranquillisers (20), 2nd APC, torches, rope, torches, sledge hammer, extra petrol to aid in destruction (4 x 5 gallon drums), 100lbs plastic explosives in a trailer, and 2 BSA motorbikes and have attached Lt Brockley and 9 platoon of 14th Royal Fusiliers and Sgt Brian Beesley of 7 Field Regiment RA.

Quickly assemble team with 2 APC, 14 Royal Fusilier's truck, and our own truck.

APC 1: McKie, Ginger (driver), Owen

APC 2: Smythe, Evans, Kelly (driver)

Truck: Williams, Webb (driver), Arnold, Beesley.

All carry Thompson SMG, 2 Brownings (1 with silver ammo), and an SMLE.

Order of March: APC 1, 14 Fusiliers, ammo truck, APC 2.

Choose to take main road to Wavre at 1000. By 1200 travelled 5 miles to River Dyle. At Dyle crossing point is a hamlet that has been taken over by military. RMP on gate duty over bridge.

Manage to edge way forward and drive on for another 40 minutes.

Williams spots a glint 100 yds off the road to the left. Radios halt to the convoy and jumps out of vehicle. As he does so hedge to right explodes as a mortar misfires, but 4 rounds are still in the air. Smythe and Evans manage to close their hatches just before a round strikes their vehicle, destroying the pintle mounted 30 cal, 25lbs plastics explosive, and a 5 gallons fuel. Webb stops vehicle and drops down in the footwell. Two more rounds hit the trucks which absorb the energy. Evans and Owens fires suppressing rounds at the hedge. APC 1 accelerates off.

McKie takes to the remaining 30cal.

Williams casts invisibility and starts towards the hedge. Smythe sticks his head out of the turret to see if he can direct Evans' fire. A mortar round hits McKie's APC wounding McKie. Two more rounds miss their targets deviating in to the field, but a mortar round hits the 14 Fusiliers Bedford with most of the platoon still inside it. The Bedford explodes. Evans continues with suppressing fire, as does Kelly.

Webb waits for surviving Fusilier's to climb on board, McKie continues to drive forward. Williams continues to run towards the hedge but Smythe spots the 4 mortar pits and further troops up ahead. Further rounds fall, all seeming to aim for the truck. Bullets start ricocheting off the APC and Evans fires towards where the hedge converges on the road. Finally the Fusiliers' climb on board and Webb guns the lorry forwards. Owens aims for the mortar pits.

McKie ducks down and casts Mage armour before coming up again. Williams continues to the hedge. Smythe ducks down in to the turret while Rogers keeps driving and Evans fires towards where the hedge converges on the road. Owens directs his fire towards the mortar pits. Webb is wounded by incoming fire from the pits.

Webb calls for the passengers in the rear to prepare grenades. McKie puts his head up out of the turret to see a lot of troops in the hedge. Redirects Owen to fire at the hedge. Williams makes it to the hedge where he sees that the mortar pits have been destroyed by machine gun fire. He continues down the hedge line, casting Mage armour before he does so. Smythe pulls out his rifle and shoots at a target in the hedge, taking a man down. Rogers reaches the hedge and continues on down the road at speed. Evans continues to fire at the hedge but misses, while Owens manages to hit and clear more hedge. Webb continues to drive.

McKie starts to shoot towards the German troops with his Lee Enfield hitting one of them. Williams sees the troops running away about 150yds away from him so starts to head back towards the Fusiliers vehicle. Smythe continues to shoot at the running troops and ROGERS comes to a halt. Evans shoots at the running troop while Kelly comes to a halt behind APC 1. Kelly brakes.

McKie turns around to check on the survivors. The APCs take up over watch while the Matador returns back to the overturned Bedford which is burning fiercely. The Matador is damaged and both APCs have lost ariels, the PE, the external weapons and their wing mirrors. Also have 5 German paratroopers coming towards us. On interrogation find they are part of a brigade (about 5000 troops) that has been dropped ahead of the advance but which has scattered. They have been dropped in a linear pattern along the east side of the Dyle perpendicular to our road.

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Leaving the captured Germans in the care of the Dutch and Belgium refugees, who had 'collected' arms to protect themselves we decided to proceed towards the asylum across country. Sgt Arnold directs us across a farm track towards our destination avoiding the main tracks.

Having lost the Bedford Truck the remaining soldiers from the 14th Fusiliers are loaded in to the Matador truck along with the FOO. Sgt Arnold moves to the commander seat of one of the APC McKie moves to the Matador.

We send a report of the ambush and the enemy parachutists to HQ.

Cutting across country we find there is no one in our way. We come to the farm at the bottom of the track and see we have 4 fields to cross. Successfully crossing several fields we come make it to firmer tracks to the north of Wavre until reaching a position about 0.25 mieles from the Asylum, although we cannot see it as the area is heavily wooded. As there is no sign of enemy combatants we continue to drive towards the asylum. The track drops down towards a metalled road.

Sgt Arnold dismounts from the APC and scouts the junction. It is clear. The convoy moves forward which Sgt. Arnold rejoins and we continue towards the open wrought iron gates of the asylum. The asylum appears ahead of us. Two fusiliers are left at the gates, which are closed, with orders to alert us if enemy troops approach. They are left one of the motorbikes.

The convoy drives up to the front of the building and parks up.

We dismount and set the vehicles strategically, the Matador backed up to the main door with the APCs on the flanks, the two gunners staying in them. The second motorcycle is taken out of the Matador to enable us to scout for an alternative escape route. The Fusiliers take up defensive positions. Ginger is tasked to jury rig repairs to the radio and antennas.

The party is made up of Smythe, McKie, Williams, Kelly, and Arnold McKie senses something 'scratching at his mind'. Issuing a warning we open the asylum door into a large, round foyer with three sets of double doors leading off it. The ceiling is domed with mosaics and murals on the floor and walls. It is deserted. Internal windows overlook the foyer at one of which McKie spots a figure whom he calls down. The figure releases a grenade as we see that, below the white coat, he is wearing a German uniform.

Smythe and McKie dive out of the main door while Williams and Arnold dive over the reception desk. Kelly takes the full force of the grenade and is wounded, however he is able to fire two bursts from his Bren gun at the doctor, hitting twice. Williams joins in shooting at the doctor and hits him. Smythe returns through the door shooting a burst from his Thompson SMG hitting the doctor twice. Arnold unslings his rifle and fires but misses. McKie warns the troops outside of what is taking place before moving inside where the figure steps back from the window.

The doors to our left burst open as a group of Germans rush in, taking Kelly down. As Webb moves to the right windows burst open and the sound of an mg34 rings out, wounding Rogers as he tries to repair the arials.

There is a boom from the wood which hits Owens APC.

Rogers runs to the drivers seat of his APC.

Inside the foyer Williams throws a grenade towards the corridor but it ricochets down the opposite corridor. Smythe grabs the prone Kelly and, assisted by Arnold, pull Kelly towards the door. McKie issues orders to the FOO for him to call in artillery fire while fusiliers throw petrol cans through the open door of the asylum.

Evans fires at the enemy artillery piece hitting it.

Rounds start to hit the building around the lorry, and an artillery round hits the door. Smythe, McKie and Williams receiving wounds.

Webb, moving along the front of the building on the motorcycle, weaves towards the tree line away from the mg34s. Rogers starts the engine of his APC and puts it in to gear. Inside the foyer williams casts glitter dust on the enemy troops.

Smythe throws Kelly onto the back of the truck assisted by Arnold.

With ten of the Germans blinded by glitter dust McKie shoots at the two who are still moving and kills them.

Evans shoots at the vehicle hitting it twice. Owen shoots at the gun and hits.

The Germans shoot at the vehicle and damage the building further.

Webb is shot at again by the mg34 and is wounded again.

Williams receives a wound from 'small glowing balls of energy'.

Webb continues to ride away from the building towards the trees.

Rogers pulls the APC in front of the lorry to shield it from the artillery piece.

Williams stays back by the building.

Smythe runs towards the second APC where he jumps in to the drivers seat. Kelly is stable in the back of the lorry but Arnold checks him.

McKie assesses the situation and, seeing the Fusiliers have the drums on the steps, orders them in to the lorry once they have kicked them in to the foyer.

Evans and Owens continue to fire at the gun and vehicle.

A round from the artillery piece and hits the building.

Three grenades are lobbed from the building, with two landing in the lorry.

Webb continues to move towards the wood line.

Williams throws one of his grenades in through the door of the asylum and heads towards the driving seat of the lorry.

Arnold grabs one of the grenades and throws it out of the lorry.

McKie jumps out of the APC and heads towards the truck
Evans fires at the gun and misses, as does Owen.

The fusiliers fail to throw the grenades out but one of the fusiliers throws himself on one of the grenades and Arnold throws himself on Kelly. One grenade goes off wounding Williams who falls unconscious as he is heavily fatigued.

The grenade which was thrown out by Arnold explodes

Another round hits Arnold's APC but does not damage it.

Webb, riding through the woods, sees the gun position and loops around to come around from the flank. He comes to a stop to remove a grenade from his webbing.

Rogers sees the second motorcycle from the gate coming towards him with 2 fusiliers on it.

Williams climbs in to the passenger seat of the truck where the FOO is using the radio in the footwell.

McKie climbs in to the driving seat of the lorry and begins to drive

Evans shoots at the half track but misses.

The motorcycle spins round and joins the convoy between the two APC.

The truck is hit by rounds from the half track.

Arnold continues to cover Kelly, but is hit by machine gun rounds.

The front APC begins to take rounds from a half track coming through the gate.

Webb moves silently towards the gun position, pulling out a grenade.

Rogers carries on driving towards the half track sitting in the gate.

Williams takes cover and begins to heal himself.

Arnold takes out a grenade and throws it through the door of the building.

Evans shoots at the armoured car sitting in the gate and hits it twice.

The Germans hit the truck with the artillery piece.

Webb throws a grenade in to the ammunition behind the field gun then steps behind a tree and readies his Thompson.

Rogers floors the APC towards the half track in the gate, as does Smythe.

Evans continues to shoot at the same half track, hitting it twice.

Behind us there is an explosion as Arnold's grenade explodes igniting the fuel. Similarly the grenade in the ammo box explodes causing a massive explosion. Seeing only a huge crater Webb moves back to the bike.

The truck is now stationary so Williams jumps out. Arnold grabs some AT grenades and asks McKie for orders. Williams is ordered to try and heal Kelly.

Evans shoots at the half track and hits it once, causing damage. Owens shots bounce off the armour.

There is an almighty explosion from the front of the building as artillery rounds begin to fall on the building.

Rogers APC finally reaches the half track and rams it. The half track is forced in to the ditch and is destroyed. The gun on the APC is destroyed

Williams orders Kelly to be passed down and heals him.

McKie jumps in the back of the lorry and finds the fusilier sgt alive but badly wounded. Evans, seeing nothing to shoot at, keeps his head down.

Webb reaches his bike and manages to start it up.

Rogers begins to slow down, as does Smythe.

Arnold begins to check the remaining bodies in the back of the lorry, but reckons they are all dead. McKie lowers the sgt down to Williams.

Evans puts his head out of the turret and, seeing there is no lorry following them, calls out to Smythe that they have lost the lorry.

Webb continues to ride through the wood.

Hearing from Evans that they had lost the truck Smythe comes to a halt and orders Evans to signal to Owen to stop.

McKie and Arnold grab some rifle grenades from the lorry. Williams continues to heal Kelly.

Evans signals to Owens to stop.

Beasley shouts that the radio is bugged.

Rogers continues to drive.

Smythe comes to a stop.

Arnold suggests to Beasley that they take the ariel from the truck to mount on the APC.

McKie then dismounts and grabs the sgt to head for the gate.

Evans continues to try and get Owens attention.

Williams heals Kelly again while Arnold waits for Beasley to remove the ariel.

Owen finally sees that the other APC has stopped and calls down for Rogers to stop.

Webb continues to drive off.

Smythe orders Evans out of the APC to see if he can locate the truck.

Arnold sees dozens of German troops begin to pour out of the wings of the asylum. This is confirmed by McKie who orders everyone to run for it.

Evans runs towards the gate to see what he can see.

Williams heals himself and then runs for the gate.

Webb breaks out of the wood line and on two a track.

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With the Matador destroyed the group travelling in it decide to bolt for the gateway. Arnold starts first, weaving up the driveway towards the gate.

As Smythe attempts to turn the vehicle in the road Evans begins laying down suppressing fire towards the building. With the smoke from the half track obscuring the aim he misses. McKie, Arnold and West begin running towards the gate also. Webb turns his bike towards the running figures and begins to head their way. At the same time a half track comes round the side of the building.

Owen shouts at Rogers to turn the OCs vehicle round. He does this successfully with a three point turn.

Kelly joins the fleeing group while Williams drags the engineer behind him, angling his shield towards the gun shots.

The running group sees two half tracks moving from either side of the buildings.

Smythe continues to turn the vehicle with Evans laying down ineffective suppressing fire, whilst Rogers keeps turning the vehicle. The group from the matador continue to run towards the gate and away from the encircling half track that begin shooting at the fleeing group and Beasley and Arnold fling themselves to the ground. Webb turns towards the pinned soldiers.

Smythe, having turned the armoured car around, drives towards the gate with Evans still firing the 50cal as suppressing fire. Rogers, having also completed his turn, heads for the gate. McKie continues running towards the gate, Williams spots Beasley and Arnold cowering and orders them to run while still running. Webb rides towards Beasley and calls for him to 'hop on'. Kelly continues to run.

Under the continued shooting from the half tracks Beasley and West dive for cover again. Smythe, now through the smoke, starts to drive at high speed towards the running group. Whilst one half track stops at the lorry the other continues towards the group. Evans fires at it, hitting it with two rounds. Williams runs towards West Tory and get him running. Webb stops by Beasley and hauls him over the tank of the bike. Owen and Rogers continue driving at high speed towards the gate. Kelly, McKie and Arnold continue to run but Arnold again dives for the ground as he is shot at. Webb, Beasley and the bike fall over as suppressing fire finds them.

Smythe drives down the line of fleeing figures towards the fallen bike. Evans continues to fire at the half track hitting it twice. Rogers passes through the gate, slowing down as he is unsighted. With McKie pinned Williams casts 'glitter dust' at the gunner, hitting it and covering the half track. The rest of the group are pinned.

Williams keeps his shield angled towards the building but receives a hit from the machine gun on the half track. Arnold runs towards Smythe's vehicle.

Williams glitter dust effects the driver and the half track rumbles past the fallen bike. Webb and Beasley are now surrounded by a number of Germans.

Smythe slows down for Arnold who leaps on the turret of the moving armoured car. Evans shoots at the half track nearest Williams hitting it three times. The other armoured car continues at high speed towards the group. McKie stops and loads a rifle grenade. Williams casts invisibility successfully and grabs on to the half track which he glitter dusted. Webb, surrounded by German troops, attempts to pull grenades out of his webbing surreptitiously. Kelly jumps on to Smythe's armoured car.

Beasley surrenders to the Germans.

Arnold loads a grenade on to his rifle.

The Germans around Webb order him to surrender.

With rounds rattling off the armoured car Kelly and Arnold are pinned.

Williams detects another presence on the side of the half track.

A grenade flies towards McKie and lands on the ground near him.

Smythe heads towards McKie with Evans shooting towards the large group of Germans heading towards the armoured car.

Rogers continues towards Smythe's armoured car.

McKie continues to run towards the gate and the second armoured car.

The half track on which Williams is secreted has come to a stop. He jumps off the half track and runs in the same direction as McKie, angling his shield towards the half track. He is hit by three rounds that wound him and cause him to fall into unconsciousness. Webb gets up carefully, with two grenade pins in his hands. He then tumbles over Beasley and the bike to take cover. Beasley attempts to turn for it and is mown down. Two of the Germans shoot at Webb and wound him, seven step backwards from the grenades but two remain.

Smythe's armoured car is hit and takes damage to the suspension, slowing it down. However Smythe continues to drive, this time away from the oncoming troops. Evans continues to fire suppressing fire at the Germans, but Kelly has been knocked off. West is unfortunately run over by Smythe.

Rogers skids to a halt near McKie and Kelly. McKie jumps in to the empty commanders seat in the armoured car.

Webb's grenades go off, wounding him in the process. He then throws his final grenade at the retreating Germans whilst moving right, towards the nearest woods.

Kelly gets up off the ground and starts running flat out towards the gate. As he passes Smythe's armoured car he fails to jump on again.

Williams invisibility wears off.

Arnold fires a rifle grenade at the nearest half track, hitting it and blowing the gunner and the gun off the top of the half track.

Webb's grenade is scooped up by a German but fails to throw it before it explodes. Unfortunately Webb is killed by the remaining Germans.

McKie shoots the rifle grenade at the following half track causing a critical hit and destroying it, and the eight Germans within it. This sets up a huge plume of smoke to conceal the battle field.

Kelly jumps on to Rogers armoured car as it drives by.

Smythe's armoured car reaches the gate and moves to one side to allow Rogers armoured car through. As they do so the motorcycle roars up with the two Fusiliers on the top telling us that Panzers were heading our way. Quickly Kelly moves to the driving seat of Smythe's armoured car and Smythe resumes the commanders seat. The motorcycle leaves us as we head away from the villa and towards base across country.

We hit the Wavre road at about 1600. It is still clogged with refugees but we are now moving in the same direction. We pass through our own lines at 2300 and return to base.

We immediately report to the Colonel. Upon receiving the report the Colonel hands the command of the team to Smythe.

Smythe immediately requests that the armoured cars are repaired. One can be repaired in time, but the one with axle damage needs 24 hours. The following are requisitioned:

Artillery Tractor
12 Rifle Grenades
24 Hand Grenades
6 smoke grenades
Bren gun
3 Lee Enfield
Camouflage netting
Sand boards

A medic will be attached in the morning.

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Monday 13 May 1940

Having requisitioned further supplies, including 10 anti tank mine, 12 lbs plastique and 20 time pens, a Scammell pioneer artillery tractor and a Ghurka driver/medic.

Setting off before dawn.

Armoured Car - Arnold (commander), Evans (gunner), Rogers(driver)

Pioneer - Smythe (commander), Rana (driver),

Cross Doyle early in morning before refugees get moving, although a small camp is developing at the check point. We reach the lanes on the other side and move slowly South from the road. Consulting the map we find we are too far to the west of the asylum so adjust our route accordingly to arrive half a mile from the Asylum at 0930.

McKie casts Mage armour on himself, Smythe, Arnold

Evans and Arnold manage to camouflage the vehicles. Kelly remains behind to man the gun on the armoured car and monitor the radio. Rana carries the radio.

Arnold, Evans, Cpl James scout forward of the main party, taking a route to the East of the asylum. Evans and James spot a half track and artillery piece dug in at the top of the avenue to the north of the asylum. Arnold sees something in the tower, some Panzers and a machine gun nest.

The party move down the tree line to the west of the asylum. The scouts move towards the corner of the field with the main group 200metres behind. This scouts soon make out a tank, with hatches up, on the end of the building and a machine gun hidden in a window. After half an hour of observation Evans and Arnold move further around to the front of the building to look at what is left of our former battlefield. It seems that every tree has been cut down and every statue destroyed in front of the building. Sitting in front of the building is a panzer tank with a 240 deg arc of fire. The front of the building is very quiet. After making these observations they sneak back to the main party.

The party remain hidden.

Mid afternoon a half track leaves the utility building and circles around the building on a patrol.

About 1600 we hear the sound of diesel engines coming up from the south. After about 20 minutes appear round other side of buildings and to the utility building. One stops outside

the building, the other goes in. They appear to be unloading diesel fuel in to the building. After half an hour they leave.

The half track comes out of the building and takes up position by panzer, which moves to the utility building to refuel. Over the next hour and a half two more Panzers and another half track refuel, the latter half track seems to be the one damaged in the previous engagement.

As it gets dark the tanks start up their engines and begin to light up the area with their headlights and spotlights. We also hear aircraft flying overhead.

We hear the very distant sound of gun fire and explosions.

McKie prepares the demo charges in the tree line. He then moves, under cover of a cloak of invisibility, to the nearest tank and lays the charge. Moving then to the tank at the front of the building he lays the next charge. He finally moves to the last tank and lays the final charge. He then returns along the front of the building towards the group, using the noise of the tank to help mask his movement. About half way along the front he treads on a twig, which is heard by someone in the building who fails to spot him as they look out of the window.

The group moves forward along the line of shrubs towards the utility building, much of the time on their belt buckle. The remainder of the group follows in a dispersed pattern until all are close to the main utility building. McKie recasts Mage armour on himself, Smythe and Rana.

The scouts see that the railway goods shed is open. Inside they can see goods vans and a light coming from them. Sgt Arnold calls the main party forward and, as they do so, hears the half track start up and move along the tree line the group are following. The half track pulls forward, stops and a door opens at the back. A light spins round and shines directly at McKie's position.

- Owen throws a grenade in to the half track.
- Arnold unslings his rifle
- Evans takes a shot at the spotlight, but misses.
- McKie is unable to move
- Rana charges in towards the Germans.
- Rogers
- Smythe shoots at the Germans with his Thompson, taking out one.
- Smythe is wounded.
- The half track starts turning round.
- James shoots at the Germans, hitting one of them.

The grenade goes off, throwing the remaining German out of the half track. Owen manages to throw another grenade in to the back of the half track.

Arnold shoots at the halftrack's spotlight and takes it out.

Evans takes up a defensive stance, keeping an eye on the building behind them.

Rana takes out one of the Germans.

McKie is still unable to move.

Rogers shoots in to the combat and hits one of the Germans.

Smythe manages to kill another of the Germans.

The half track continues on in a random direction, the driver having been killed by the grenade.

Evans sees 8 soldiers getting out of the wagon and heading towards the fire fight, at the same time an alarm bell begins to toll.

James throws a grenade at the Germans approaching from the goods shed.

There is another explosion from the half track which is moving away.

Owen draws his Thompson and takes out another German.

Arnold throws a grenade and then moves out of the blast radius.

Evans takes out another German with his SMLE.

Smythe survives a will power roll.

Rogers shoots again at the German he had aimed at before and kills him.

Smythe takes out another of the Germans

Two of the Germans in the goods shed falls on the grenades thrown towards them.

Arnold and James are hit with fire from the shed.

James pulls a pin on a grenade and holds it ready for the Germans.

Owen takes another German out from the half track.

Arnold takes two shots at another of the Germans, hitting once and killing him.

Evans pulls out his Thompson and, hitting three times, kills another German.

Rana takes out the last of the Germans from the half track.

Rogers shoots at the last German

Smythe moves to McKie to defend him.

James manages to throw his grenade, despite being hit, and it lands in the middle of the advancing Germans taking them out.

Owen reloads.

Arnold ducks in to the shed and searches around. He sees a long shed containing German supplies around a track with some wagons.

Evans follows Arnold into the shed and begins to check it out.

McKie begins to move. He sees the mess all around him, and hears a tank moving towards their position.

Rogers can no longer see the figure he shot at.

Smythe grabs McKie and runs towards the goods shed.

Entering the goods shed Smythe opens the door while McKie covers the opening.

Inside the shed there is a narrow room with two sets of doors on either side and another at the end.

Choosing the left hand door Evans prepares to open the door, while Smythe holds a grenade in preparation. McKie and Rogers stand opposite the door prepared to fire in if necessary. Arnold watches the other two doors.

Evans opens the door, standing to one side.

Inside the room are 4 Germans, wearing red crosses. They seem to be bagging up medical supplies.

McKie calls for the Germans to put up their hands, Evans brings his gun to bear while Smythe holds his grenade. ROGERS see the Germans raising their hands.

McKie orders the Germans out of the room and on to the floor,

Evans enters the room to look around. Inside he sees stairs to the right and further dors beyond.

Arnold begins to look for rope which he finds easily

Smythe begins to interrogate the prisoners. They give name rank and number, while Smythe asks them where the prisoners are - they say that they do not know but are obviously lieing. He asks again. The corporal, the senior ranking man, suggests we may find something of interest in the chapel.

Calling Rana through we suggest that he replenishes his supplies from the boxes. He hands out extra supplies to the rest of the squad and comments that there are enough supplies for two companies worth of men.

Using the same pattern as previously we open the next door. There appears to be a laundry, in a right mess. It is piled high with bed sheets soaked in blood.

McKie and ROGERS creep up the stairs while the rest of the party cover the doors of the room.

They see a two storey spiral stair case, followed by a short corridor then a four storey spiral staircase. As they climb up the ringing of the bell gets louder.

McKie lifts the trapdoor with his shoulder but fails to lift it. He then asks ROGERS to try but he fails too. He tries again and again the door doesn't budge. McKie sends ROGERS down then takes some of the plastic explosives and places it on the trapdoor. He successfully blows it and the remains of the trapdoor rain down, along with an ammo crate of machine gun ammo. He climbs back a up but can see nothing but, as he does so, hears a grenade fall past him.

The grenade explodes harmlessly.

McKie returns to look again and can vaguely make out where the hatch was. The bell stops tolling. Telling ROGERS to cover him McKie moves back up the tower, successfully creeping up most of the way. The smoke begins to clear at the top and, as Mckie climbs up, he sees two

Germans peering down with MP35 in hand. He fires at them with his pistol and kills one of them. ROGERS cannot see anything but leaps aside as another grenade falls from the trap door. The second German shoots at McKie, who is protected by 'protection from arrows'. McKie shoots again at the German in the hatchway killing him, his body falling through the hole to the landing below.

McKie continues up the ladder and throws a grenade through the trap door, and it is kicked back down. A sub machine gun pokes down firing indiscriminately through the hole and McKie grabs for it but misses. A head then comes through the hatch and two grenades are placed on the stairway. McKie jumps through the hatchway and is hit three times, causing him to fall unconscious with fatigue.

ROGERS, having returned back to the group to let them know what is happening, requests help. All has gone quiet.

Owen calls to the group that a tank is approaching.

Smythe orders Arnold and ROGERS to assist McKie in taking the tower. They move quietly up the tower and, as they come close to the top, three grenades come rolling down the steps. ROGERS moves through the hatch to escape it, Arnold follows him and finds three Germans, a body and McKie laid out flat.

The grenades explode. Below the rest of the group hear a large explosion and a lot of dust comes from the stairwell.

In the belfry two Germans attempt to clear their jammed weapons whilst the third shoots and wounds ROGERS. He returns fire at two of the Germans, wounding one of them. Arnold shoots at the German who has fired at them, killing him. He changes target and hits the wounded German, killing him.

The remaining German drops his gun and pulls out two grenades. Arming them he drops them on the floor.

ROGERS rapidly shoots at the German, wounding him. Despite being attacked by the German Arnold slides one of the bodies on to the grenades before they explode. Although much of the damage is soaked up by the body all in the tower receive wounds. The German picks up his weapon and shoots at Arnold but misses. ROGERS shoots at him in return and kills him.

ROGERS checks McKie. Arnold throws the MG34 down through the hatch.

As they look through the hatch they see that the stairs have caved in completely.

Evans inspects the damage and finds that it cannot be cleared easily.

Suddenly three grenades come through in to the narrow room, Smythe dives for cover behind the medical supplies and throws a grenade, killing those in the room. Evans does the same. They then both dive in to the laundry room and tie the handles of the room together.

In the tower they hear grenades go off. Having finished the rope they tie McKie to one end and lower him down the east side of the tower, he ends up dangling 10ft from the roof. Arnold climbs down after McKie until he reaches the bottom of the rope where he releases McKie who drops to the roof. Togs fails to climb down and falls to the roof, sustaining damage. They then

begin to move along the roof until they are on the side of the building where they lower McKie down and climb down themselves. McKie needs first aiding after being dropped.

In the laundry Smythe and Evans begin to search for an alternative way out of the room.

Arnold sneaks in to the goods shed and, reaching Owens and Rana, requests help. They bring Rana to McKie who then begins to give him medical aid.

Arnold asks for information on what they head inside.

Arnold sees a section size unit of troops moving towards them. He signals the team to take up position defending the medic and McKie.

They begin shooting at the advancing Germans.

A pair of grenades come sailing through the night to land near the group. ROGERS dives inside the open door, followed by Owens who pulls McKie with him helped by Rana. James follows suit. Arnold dodges in to cover just as the grenades explode, taking some damage.

A grenade comes in through the door.

ROGERS dives outside pulling McKie with him. Rana follows as Owens attempts to throw a grenade while diving out of the door. The grenade sails waywardly in to the darkness. Arnold dives out of cover before the grenade explodes without further harm. The remaining members of the German squad begin to run away. Arnold shoots both of them.

Rana renders medical aid to McKie, Arnold, Owens,

With McKie conscious he resumes command of the group. He orders Arnold to scout ahead through the goods shed to look for Smythe and Evans. The remainder of the group follow behind.

He reaches the double doors to the utility shed which are closed. Pushing the door gently he hears a number of mechanisms being cocked. He returns to McKie and reports.

McKie decides to blow the doors with the rest of the group taking cover. He sets the charge successfully blowing the doors off. Inside the Germans are not injured by the explosion but some are stunned.

Smythe and Evans hear the explosion from the door.

McKie throws a grenade through the now open door while Owen lays down suppressing fire. ROGERS adds another grenade through the door which misses and lands in the boxes on the left. Arnold throws a grenade brought the door.

Smythe unites the door and lobs a grenade through.

The Germans retreat from the room.

McKie's grenade explodes.

McKie holds his action and Owen moves in to cover.

ROGERS grenade explodes in the boxes, but he holds his action.

Smythe's grenade goes off as he takes cover inside the laundry room with Evans.

Mckies team begin to move in cautiously to the now clear room. The doors opposite are open and a further corridor may be seen beyond. They scavenge 4 grenades from the Germans. Arnold calls for Smythe that the coast is clear and he and Evans join the party. As he does so Smythe cures minor wounds on McKie.

Opening the doors to the right Smythe finds a bakery. There looks to be a door in the opposite wall.

McKie recasts protection from arrows.

The team moves through the bakery along the walls. Smythe can hear something coming from one of the cupboard. He opens the door and finds a very scared looking man inside. He calls Evans across to interpret in French. He recounts that the Germans came in and shot everyone. He has been hiding in the cupboard since. He explains the doors at the end of the

The team decide to run for the chapel. McKie prepares a charge for the tank.

McKie is tasked to sabotage the tank. Casting invisibility he heads for the tank.

The remaining group run for the chapel from the open door of the bakery. Evans is just over half way when the firing starts from quite a range. They pile in through the door and enter a long corridor with doors off on all sides. To the left are double doors to the left which lead to the main foyer. Evans sprays a random burst of suppressing fire in to the room beyond, and the group follow on. On the left are two heavy metal doors that should, according to the baker, lead to the chapel. The doors have been tied and Arnold cuts the rope. The rope is tied to the door handle of the door that is to be opened to aid in closing if needed.

Arnold pushes the door open and the stench is overwhelming.

Shining in the torches we see a long chapel with stacks of bodies inside. Evans remains on the door with the rest beginning to search. As they do so the bodies begin to move.

McKie begins to move off and, as he does so, feels a cold stabbing sensation in his back. The baker has shot at him. He drops his gun and pulls a knife with which he attacks McKie and takes him down.

0515 1940May14

Half a mile N of Wavre

Setting up camp above the NE junction of the railway line 1m south of a further junction. Get to the ambush point through a number of lanes and finally across country, arriving on a rounded hill top on the East side of the valley 300yds above the railway. There is a small wood on the hilltop into which we can conceal the vehicles. The armoured car is positioned to overlook the track with extra camouflage to conceal it.

Setting the mines on the railway tracks, stacking one on top of another with plastique to augment the explosive potential, and one either side.

The set up is completed by 1130.

It is a hot spring day.

Rana - tractor

Owen - gunners seat, armoured car (50 cal)

Smythe - drivers seat

Rogers - commanders position (30 cal)

Arnold - sniper position in wood line to right of armoured car (sniper rifle)

Kelly - in wood line to left of carnivores car (Bren)

Evans - behind wall to right of armoured car

McKie - behind wall to right of armoured car

James - behind wall to right of armoured car

McKie casts mages armour on Arnold, James, Evans, Rogers and himself. James builds himself a foxhole

An hour passes and we hear a roar. Above us we see wave upon wave of German aircraft.

Between 1300 and 1330 there appears to be a massive thunderstorm S, SW of our position.

By 1400 there appears to be thunder to our west.

By dusk nothing has happened and the noise is drawing down. Rogers moves to the wireless in the tractor to listen to the traffic on the net. There is nothing being broadcast anywhere. The tractor moves a little higher to see if there is anything on the net and picks up encoded British traffic. It appears to be signals from forward parties of Queens Own Cameron Highlanders - despite heavy bombing line still holding.

Decide to withdraw from position back to our own lines under cover of dark. Use short cuts to avoid more populous routes.

McKie hears roar of an engine, the wrong pitch for our own engine. He drives the armoured car off of the road and into the neighbouring field. ROGERS sees the armoured car move out of ten road and follows it. There is a huge explosion to our left and the tractor takes some damage from a bomb dropped by an aircraft that has flown off.

Smythe decides to move away from original route which the drivers manage. Arnold keeps a lookout from the tractor window.

At about 0400 reckon we are approaching the Dyle. Radio traffic has increased but we are unable to decrypt it as there is so much going on. We are listening to an infantry division and ascertain that something big is happening. Stop short of the bridge and Arnold and James move down towards it to scout out the road. Bren guns open up at them.

We signal that we are friendly via the radio set and are told to wait and then proceed with caution. We do so and make it through the British lines where we are stopped and questioned by an officer from the Royal Berkshires to identify who we are. We convince him we are British and are let through then proceed to HQ where we make our report to the CO.

James is MiD for his rescue of Arnold in Wavre.

James and Rogers volunteer to go back to the ambush site on motorbikes escorted by the

armoured car, which is ordered to not proceed beyond the Dyle. As they approach the river the front line has changed and there is a full on assault occurring. The armoured car turns back at the river as instructed. When the bikers arrive at the bridge they find that not only artillery rounds but mortar rounds are also landing at the bridge indicating that German troops are far closer to the British front line. As there is will be no chance to exploit any intelligence from the ambush site the mission is seen as not viable and is abandoned. They turn around and are back at base by lunchtime. The assault in the Dyle starts at 1600, by 2000 the bridges are blown and forward units are falling back. By first light of 1940May16 SIE fall back to Menin, losing communication about the same time as the Dyle.

Fall back to secondary positions.

By 1940May18 all back to Svelte

Sun 1940May19 embarkation points at Dunkirk are being built. SIE moved to Calais as they are a high value target. Op Dynamo begins and SIE are moved to the UK in the first wave.

Postscript

On 1940May16 an armoured train arrives from the North in Wavre. It turns around and is loaded with passengers. On the return trip to the North it pauses briefly after an explosion on the line then continues on its way undamaged.