

CANADIAN UNIT WON CASINO AT DIEPPE

Ranged Through and Beyond Town and Participated in Bitter Street Fighting

ONE SURPRISE LANDING

Group Got Ashore Without Knowledge of Nazi Sentries and Went to Work

WITH THE CANADIAN COMMANDO RAIDING FORCE, Aug. 19 (Delayed) (Canadian Press)—

Units of two infantry regiments, the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and the Essex Scottish of Windsor, Ont., with a Calgary tank regiment carried the main attack of the Dieppe raid right into the town itself and battled the Germans through the streets to capture the main portions of the town.

In flank attacks, units of the South Saskatchewan regiment and the Cameron Highlanders from Winnipeg landed at Pourville, two miles west of Dieppe, and the Royal Regiment from Toronto went in at Puits, one mile east of the port.

A small group of United States Rangers was included in the force, attached to various regiments. They landed and fought with combat troops. Several of them engaged in the bitter action during the landings and in subsequent engagements on shore. Right by my side a young American sergeant, Ken Kenyon of Minneapolis, knocked off a German sharpshooter from a window of a house with a dead-eye shot.

Units of Les Fusiliers Mont Royal, a French-Canadian battalion, served as floating reserves and finally were sent into Dieppe.

Dieppe was left with many parts of the town burning, and as the raid fleet sailed for England I could see from the vessel which I was aboard a pall of smoke hanging over the port. Several strong gun positions and batteries of coastal artillery were destroyed, a radio direction-finding station was smashed and hundreds of Germans were killed. The Canadians also brought back a number of German prisoners.

At 5 A. M. units of the South Saskatchewan Regiment eased into Pourville beach and landed silently in the dark without opposition. They got right into Pourville, a former health resort, before the Nazi sentries heard them. An alarm was given and the Westerners skirmished with the Germans, fought a duel with a fortified position that gave trouble from a hilltop, and battled up the valley of the River Scie for several hours.

The bravery of the youthful colonel of the regiment, who comes from Vancouver, was the talk of every man who saw him in action.

The vital action switched from Pourville to Dieppe, where our destroyers came in to within 200 yards of shore and fired point-blank at buildings and targets along the front, preparing the way for the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and the Essex Scottish. It was nearly dawn now and the fighter planes came in on their low-flying "beat up" of the town. They whistled over the promenade, with flak streaking past them, and fired their cannon shells into the buildings occupied by the Germans.

The Nazi machine-gunners got down to business as they spotted the landing craft making for the broad beach. Bren gunners on the approaching vessels exchanged shots with pillboxes and then the infantry hit the shore and flooded over the beach. Royal Canadian Engineers came with them to carry out demolitions and smash tank barriers barring the way into Dieppe's main streets.

The Calgary regiment's tanks rumbled onto the beach and with heavy tank guns crashed shells into any handy target where Germans were located.

At the west end of the promenade at Dieppe is a casino taken over by the Nazis. Units of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry attacked it and after a sharp engagement occupied it. But even

RANGER SHARPSHOOTER



Sergeant Kenneth Kenyon of Minneapolis, Minn., who became possibly the first American infantryman to shoot a German when he brought down a sniper at Dieppe.

Associated Press Wirephoto

then it took some time to clean up snipers in the building.

Street Fighting Heavy

The Hamilton unit then pushed into the town and went through some of the heaviest street fighting of the raid. Street fighting had been a fundamental part of the Canadians' combined operations training and it served them in good stead in the dark and dingy streets of Dieppe.

Units of the Essex Scottish landed on the left flank of the Hamiltons on the main beach, and after attacking across the open promenade, where they lost a few men, they worked through buildings and warehouses alongside the harbor. The pillboxes stopped them for a while, but they fanned out pretty well through the central section of the port. There were many grim street fights.

Concrete barriers blocking the roads to the center of Dieppe from the promenade proved temporary obstacles for the Canadian tanks, but between the shellfire from the sea and the demolitions by the engineers they finally broke through, thundered around the Dieppe streets and roamed into the open country beyond, on the lookout for any enemy armored forces which might have been on the scene.