

WAR DIARY OF THE SEVERN ESTUARY COASTAL DEFENCES 1939/45
COMPILED FROM DOCUMENTS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT
KEW

WO 166/2065: Cardiff Fixed Defences War Diary 1940/41

WO 166/7287: Severn Fixed Defences War Diary 1942

WO 166/11261: Severn Fixed Defences War Diary 1943

WO 166/14955: Severn Fixed Defences War Diary 1944

WO 166/1733: 531 Coast Regiment War Diary 1941

WO 166/7153: 531 Coast Regiment War Diary 1942

WO 166/7187: 570 Coast Regiment War Diary 1942

WO 166/11463: 570 Coast Regiment War Diary 1943

WO 166/15051: 570 Coast Regiment War Diary 1944

WO 166/16867: 570 Coast Regiment War Diary 1945

WO 166/7188: 571 Coast Regiment War Diary 1942

WO 166/11464: 571 Coast Regiment War Diary 1943

WO 166/15052: 571 Coast Regiment War Diary 1944

WO 166/1769: 130 Coast Battery War Diary 1941

WO 166/7191: 130 Coast Battery War Diary 1942

WO 166/1774: 145 Coast Battery War Diary 1940/41

WO 166/7195: 170 Coast Battery War Diary 1942

WO 166/7566: 351 H.A.A. Battery War Diary 1942

WO 166/11676: 351 H.A.A. Battery War Diary 1943

WO 166/1842: 365 Coast Battery War Diary 1940/41

WO 166/1843: 366 Coast Battery War Diary 1941

WO 166/3547: Glamorgan Fortress Coy. War Diary 1939/40

WO 166/3570: 29 (Railway) Survey Coy. War Diary 1940/41

WO 166/5600: 116 Pioneer Coy. War Diary 1940/41
WO 166/10008: 116 Pioneer Coy. War Diary 1942
WO 166/3937: 930 Port Construction & Repair Coy. War Diary 1941
WO 166/8348: 930 Port Construction & Repair Coy. War Diary 1942
WO 166/3874: 690 General Construction Coy. War Dairy 1941
WO 166/8290: 690 General Construction Coy. War Diary 1942
WO 166/8315: 719 General Construction Coy. War Diary 1942
WO 166/12240: 719 General Construction Coy. War Diary 1943
WO 166/2286: 45 A.A. Brigade War Diary 1941
WO 166/7402: 45 A.A. Brigade War Diary 1942
WO 166/11219: 45 A.A. Brigade War Diary 1943
WO 192/155: Flat Holm Fort Record Book 1939/45
WO 199/1638: Coastal Defences (Southern Command) 1940/42
WO 199/1639: Coastal Defences (Southern Command) 1942/43
WO 199/1640: Coastal Defences (Southern Command) 1943
AIR 29/448: No.45 Air Sea Rescue Unit R.A.F (O.R.B) 1942/46
Lineage Book of British Land Forces 1660/1975 Vol. 2 (1984)

EXTRACTS

1939

28.08.39:

Glamorgan Fortress Coy. R.E. (c/o Major G.W. Luen R.E.) operating generators at Nell's Point and Friar's Point batteries - both on Barry Island (A detachment was also at Mumbles).

1940

17.05.40:

Glamorgan Fortress Coy. R.E. re-designated 588 (Glamorgan) Army Troop Coy. R.E.

26.06.40:

8 o.r.'s from 2nd Super Heavy Bty. R.A. and 47 o.r.'s from 52nd Heavy Regiment R.A. reported for duty in 365 Bty. at Portishead.

04.07.40:

50 rounds C.P.C. and 161 cartridges arrived at 365 Bty. Portishead - 14 practice shots fired.

10.07.40:

100 rounds H.E. arrived at 365 Bty. Portishead.

22.08.40:

Calibration series - 365 Bty. Portishead.

05.09.40:

531 (Glamorgan) Coast Regiment R.A. (T.A.) formed by re-organisation of Glamorgan Heavy Regiment R.A. (T.A.) in Cardiff Fire Command with A and B Btys. A/531 was at Nell's Point, B/531 probably at Cardiff.

07.10.40:

During September Flat Holm was the subject of a reconnaissance and this information was included in a report which recommended the following arrangement for the Severn Estuary.

Severn South Fire Command (Deputy F.C. Brean Down).

Steep Holm (Garden Bty.) 2 x 4"; Brean Down 2 x 6"; Portishead 2 x 6" Naval Mk. VII. Portishead will receive operational information from C.F.D. Severn, and when necessary, from Deputy F.C. Brean Down.

Severn North Fire Command. (F.C. Flat Holm).

Nell's Point 2 x 6" Mx. VII (Examination Bty.) and 1 x 4"; Cardiff 2 x 12 pdrs (when mounted); Lavernock 2 x 6"; Flat Holm (Farm House Bty.) 2 x 4" (Light House Bty.) 2 x 4"; Steep Holm (Summit Bty.) 2 x 4".

15.10.40:

B/531 (probably Cardiff) moved away to join 21st Coastal Artillery Group, place taken by 366 Bty.

18.10.40:

21st C.A. Group formed at Mumbles with 401 and 402 Batteries grouped.

22.10.40:

B/531 joined 21st C.A. Group (559 Coast Regiment).

31.12.40:

366 Battery at Portishead and 366 Battery at Cardiff incorporated in 531 Rgt.

1941

03.03.41:

At 23.30 hrs a stick of H.E.'s fell across 366 Bty. at Cardiff. The first bombs fell close to No.2 magazine, moving the reinforced concrete roof approx. ¼". No.2 war shelter was splashed with shrapnel. Some huts also suffered blast. All communications cut-off. Capt. R.G. Hickson noted as o/c.

09.03.41:

Bristol Channel Coastal Defence Artillery - from H.Q. Southern Command:- As a step towards implementation of the Bristol Channel Scheme (12 x 6" guns) it is recommended that sites be prepared at once for 2 x 6" gun batteries (4 guns) on Flat Holm. Anti-Aircraft Command should be consulted when selecting these sites. Detachment of 8 men arrived at 365/531 Portishead to take up L.M. gun positions from 145 A.A. (Z) Bty. Bristol.

27.03.41:

192 Bty. regimented in 531 Rgt. on formation (probably for deployment at Newport).

01.04.41:

A/531 at Nell's Point renumbered 130/531.

11/12.04.41:

During a raid on Bristol L.M. guns at Portishead battery fired on enemy aircraft.

13.05.41:

03.05 hrs, 3 pdr. practice seaward by 365/531 Portishead. A detachment of 366/531 arrived Portishead.

14.05.41:

6" ½ charge practice seaward shot by 365/531 Portishead. detachment of 366/531 left Portishead.

17.05.41:

6" ½ charge seaward practice shot by 365/531 Portishead.

18.05.41:

Incorporated 366 Bty. (Cardiff) by now regimented in 531 Rgt. Major D.P. Horsley noted as o/c 531 Rgt.

30.05.41:

2/Lt. I.T.Goodchild R.E. and 5 o.r.'s of the 29th (Railway Survey) Coy. R.E. (Leeds) sent on detachment to Barry Island for work on the Flat Holm and Steep Holm on behalf of the War Office Tn.5 and Cardiff D.C.R.F.

05.06.41:

Cardiff Heavy Anti Aircraft sites J4 (Lavernock), J5 and J6 allocated an anti-shipping role as secondary to their primary duty of A.A. defence.

10.06.41:

Lt.Col. Bolt and Capt. Marson visited 365/531 Portishead for a practice shoot. Major R.C.Hickson of 366/531 (Cardiff) took over 365/531 Portishead from Capt. J.S.Lee.

13.06.41:

At 07.00 hrs a small tanker was seen at 195° about 1700 yards from 130/531 at Nell's Point. No special signals were hoisted and so one "bring to " round was fired. The vessel, which failed to stop, disappeared into the mist, but was later identified as the "S.S.Overton" en-route for Burnham. 2/Lt. Goodchild of 29th (Railway Survey) Coy. R.E. relieved by 2/Lt Whitehead at Barry Island.

20.06.41:

2/Lt Whitehead and detachment of 5 o.r.'s of the 29th (Railway Survey) Coy. R.E. left Barry Island for Plymouth.

30.06.41:

116 Pioneer Coy. previously employed at No.2 S.R.D. Barry Docks moved from Hayes Lane Camp, Barry Docks, to Wenvoe Camp prior to deployment on Flat Holm and Steep Holm.

01.07.41:

145 Bty. (Lavernock) incorporated in 531 Rgt. ex. Independent. O/c Captain R.D.Smith.

03.07.41:

930 Port Construction & Repair Coy. R.E. moved from Woolmer, Hants. to Barry Island. The Company, under Major D.P. Bertlin marched to the barracks of 531 Coast Rgt. at Nell's Point.

04.07.41:

10.00 hrs M.V. "Assurity" made its first voyage to Flat Holm with 930 P.C.& R. Coy. (less H.Q. and 18 o.r.'s). Coy. H.Q. established at 42 Redbrink Crescent, Barry Island.

05.07.41:

M.V. "Assurity" conveyed stores etc. to Flat Holm where a camp was set up and the old Cholera Hospital turned into a messing room, kitchen and recreation room. The old laundry was used as a detachment office, and arrangements were made to convert the base of the light house into an officer's mess.

06.07.41:

M.V. "Assurity" conveyed stores to Flat Holm. Major Bertlin visited Flat Holm and Steep Holm. H.Q. Section 930 P.C.& R. Coy. commenced work on the Stores Dump at Ping Pong Sidings, Barry Dock. This was to be used as a Base Stores for the unit.

07.07.41:

M.V. "Assurity" conveyed stores to Flat Holm and Steep Holm. An advanced party of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men have proceeded from Flat Holm to establish a camp on Steep Holm. Work commenced on the 'T' head on Flat Holm.

08.07.41:

Emergency rations for 7 days landed on Steep Holm. Sand, steelwork and cement delivered to Flat Holm for the first time. 1 officer and 40 o.r.'s arrived for 145/531 (Lavernock). 531 Rgt. o/c noted as Lt.Col. E.M. Bolt.

09.07.41:

M.V. "Assurity" to Flat Holm. Major Bertlin visited Flat Holm, Steep Holm and Brean Down by H.M. motor launch.

11.07.41:

Arrangements made by 930 P.C.& R. Coy to purchase 3 dinghies at Barry Dock.

12.07.41:

At 08.00 hrs a detachment of 1 Sergeant and 32 o.r.'s of 116 Coy. Pioneer Corps, to be attached to 930 P.C.& R. Coy. were taken to Flat Holm by M.V. "Assurity" to work on jetty construction.

13.07.41:

Heavy Storms. Major Bertlin and Captain McLeod from Barry for tour of duty on the islands by H.M. Motor Launch "Wanderer".

14.07.41:

At 07.00 hrs a detachment of 1 Sergeant and 32 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. moved to Brean Down to work on roads and general construction. 30 men of 116 Pioneer Coy. moved to H.Q. 930 P.C.& R. Coy. for duty at Barry Docks. M.V. "Assurity" to Brean Down with stores.

15.07.41:

Stormy, rough sea. Sgt. Rock of 930 P.C.& R.Coy. left Barry at 17.00 hrs on R.N.P.S. "New Roseland" to deliver stores to Flat Holm and Steep Holm. At Steep Holm 3 men (3379057 Sgt. John Harwood, 1057223 Cpl. Goffton Cyril Bull, and 101668 Spr. W.B. Moyse) were embarked to be conveyed to Flat Holm. Whilst disembarking at Flat Holm in a choppy sea the dinghy capsized and these men drowned. The body of Moyse was recovered off Sully Island 21/7 and buried at Sunderland; Bull at Portishead 22/7 where he was buried; and Harwood at Weston super Mare on 26/7 where he was buried. 170 Coast Bty. arrived at 531 Rgt. for temporary attachment at Nell's Point.

16.07.41:

170 Bty incorporated in 531 Rgt ex. Home Forces.

19.07.41:

At 08.00 hrs a detachment of 1 Sergeant and 32 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. proceeded to Steep Holm to work in conjunction with 930 P.C.& R.Coy. on roads and jetty construction.

25.07.41:

Men of the Royal Corps of Signals visited the islands to establish W/T signal stations to work with the shore station at Barry Island.

29.07.41:

R/T set installed and communication set up between Nell's Point, Brean Down and Flat Holm.

31.07.41:

R/T communication to Steep Holm established by Nell's Point.

01.08.41:

Excavation work at Steep Holm for 'T' head complete and erection of superstructure commenced.

03.08.41:

Instructions received from the War Office to construct a tramway up the side of Steep Holm.

05.08.41:

Orders received to cease work on pier construction at Brean Down and to transfer No.3 Section 930 P.C.& R. Coy to Steep Holm.

06.08.41:

First party of contractors men arrived on Flat Holm and were accommodated separately from the military camp.

09.08.41:

At 16.00 hrs 31 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. returned from Brean Down.

10.08.41:

170 Battery moved away from 531 Rgt. to join 560 Coast Regiment.

11.08.41:

188 Bty incorporated in 531 Rgt ex. Home Forces (Brean Down). At 10.00 hrs Lt. Forbes and 50 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. proceeded to Steep Holm to work in conjunction with 930 P.C.& R. Coy. for work on camp construction and building gun emplacements under orders of the Garrison Engineer, Severn Defences.

12.08.41:

No. 3 Section 930 P.C.& R. Coy. withdrawn from Brean Down, to at H.Q. Barry, then sailed for Steep Holm.

14.08.41:

The 'T' head has been constructed on Flat Holm, with the exception of the 'L4' trestles on top. Lt. R.F.Spoule replaced Lt. Forbes at Flat Holm, 116 Pioneer Coy.

15.08.41:

Section No.3 930 P.C.& R. Coy. withdrawn from Steep Holm.

17.08.41:

All labour has been concentrated on the tramway up the hillside on Steep Holm.

25.08.41:

Transport of materials to the islands held up, due to the barge "Yumbi" sustaining damage. 1 x 6" B.L. Mk. VII gun, No. 23432, 3 x 90 cm Mk. V Anti Aircraft Searchlight Projectors, and 4 Lister Diesel Generators, arrived at Lavernock.

27/29.08.41:

145/531 (Lavernock) took part in Exercise "Drake".

30.08.41:

All materials to complete the work of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. on Flat Holm and Steep Holm have now been delivered to the sites.

02.09.41:

Pedestal mounted No.1 gun emplaced at Lavernock.

03.09.41:

Main party of 690 General Construction Coy. R.E. arrived at Wenvoe Camp, near Cardiff. Captain F.Smith c/o.

05.09.41:

Lt. R.Forbes and 30 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. left for Brean Down on detachment in tented accommodation. Their duties were to be road making, unloading stores and materials, clearing the gun sites, and digging out and removing old cannon from their former sites.

06.09.41:

Advanced party from No.4 Section 690 G.C. Coy. left for Steep Holm under L/Sgt. Rogers.

07.09.41:

Jetty at Flat Holm completed, only 20 men of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. now remain on Flat Holm.

08.09.41:

Remainder of No.4 Section 690 G.C. Coy. left for Steep Holm at 04.30 hrs. Boat left 05.30 hrs.

09.09.41:

Section No.1 690 G.C. Coy. moved from H.Q. to Flat Holm under 2/Lt. Fitzgerald. Left Barry Docks 06.30 hrs. The 6" piece at Lavernock removed from No.2 emplacement.

10.09.41:

Section No.3 690 G.C. Coy. moved to Steep Holm under Captain Smith. Boat left 07.00 hrs. Section No.2 690 G.C. Coy. moved to Flat Holm under the officer commanding. Boat left 07.30 hrs. Reinforcements of 100 o.r.'s from 116 Pioneer Coy. sent to Steep Holm where work is proceeding on the road up the cliff face, gun sites, hutting, loading and unloading stores. The labour was heavy but the men were working well for 12/14 hours per diem. Similar work was taking place on Flat Holm but the conditions were not so hard or difficult. A new 6" piece was mounted at No.2 emplacement at Lavernock.

11.09.41:

Captain Smith left H.Q. 690 G.C. Coy. for Steep Holm on launch. Tide was too strong to get ashore and rough weather made it impossible to land at Barry, so Smith returned to Cardiff instead.

14.09.41:

Captain Smith o/c 690 G.C. Coy. visited Flat Holm and Steep Holm.

16.09.41:

Lt. Forbes and 30 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Corps returned from Brean Down.

17.09.41:

The first two 4.5" dual purpose guns, predictors etc. brought from Barry by a Tank Landing Craft (TLC 24) and landed on West Beach, Flat Holm. Daily party of 116 Pioneer Coy. working at the R.E. Dump at Barry Docks was reinforced by 15 o.r.'s from the Brean Down detachment. This party loaded the steamers and barges with all the stores, materials etc. for Flat Holm and Steep Holm, including some very heavy machinery.

18.09.41:

The two top legs of the tramway up to the top of the cliff on Steep Holm completed. Work has now commenced again on the pier. Only 6 men of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. now on Flat Holm. Generators, projectors etc. landed on Flat Holm.

19.09.41:

The remaining two 4.5" dual purpose guns, predictors etc. landed on Flat Holm. Lt. Forbes and 30 o.r.'s of 116 Pioneer Coy. returned from Brean Down.

20.09.41:

A Tank Landing Craft arrived to convey the guns to Steep Holm. Shields fitted to No.2 gun at Lavernock.

21.09.41:

Unsuccessful attempt to land 6" guns, equipment and mules on Steep Holm.

23.09.41:

25 o.r.'s ("Q") of 116 Pioneer Coy. sent to Steep Holm on detachment.

24.09.41:

Mules landed on Steep Holm.

25.09.41:

Winches have now been installed at Flat Holm and 2 x 4.5" dual purpose guns mounted at the South Site. These became operational soon after. The emplacements for these guns were not, however, begun until a year later. At Steep Holm the winches have been delivered and are awaiting installation.

26.09.41:

Jetty foundations completed at Flat Holm and Steep Holm. 200 H.E. shells, 200 C.P.C. and 254 cartridges arrived at Lavernock.

28.09.41:

930 P.C. & R. Coy. commenced withdrawing machinery and tools from Flat Holm. 2/Lt. Moffat and Spr. Browne of 690 G.C. Coy. to Steep Holm to set out Nissen huts.

29.09.41:

168 x 6" practice shells arrived at Lavernock.

30.09.41:

4 x 6" naval guns, generator and equipment, less two pieces, landed on Steep Holm where the building of the wing wall is progressing. Strength of 930 P.C. & R. Coy. H.Q. Barry 2 officers, 69 o.r.'s; Steep Holm 2 officers, 68 o.r.'s; Flat Holm 1 officer and 7 o.r.'s. Disposition of 116 Pioneer Coy; two Sections at Flat Holm; three Sections at Steep Holm; six Sections on the mainland. During September an average of 48 o.r.'s of the Pioneer Corps were attached to 930 P.C. & R. Coy. at Steep Holm, together with 2 from the Royal Artillery and one man from the Royal Army Medical Corps. 12 o.r.'s from the Royal Artillery have formed a working party at H.Q. for loading stores at Barry Docks.

01.10.41:

Remaining 2 x 6" naval guns landed on Steep Holm.

02.10.41:

Lighter "Yumbi" sunk, all cement lost.

06.10.41:

At 20.50 hrs a Ju 88 of III/KG 30 flying from Melun in France dropped a mine in the sea between Steep Holm and Brean Down.

07.10.41:

Trestling completed for the jetty at Steep Holm. At 20.45 hrs a mine dropped by a Ju 88 of III/KG 30 flying from Melun in France fell on Flat Holm. Total casualties 29 injured including 4 o.r.'s of 690 G.C. Coy. cut by flying glass, one o.r. of 116 Pioneer Coy. injured by flying glass and one suffering shock, and a sapper of 930 P.C. & R. Coy. and equipments of 4.5" dual role battery and buildings damaged. Barry Docks closed to shipping.

08.10.41:

The Steep Holm winches installed on the "lay-by's". At 18.00 hrs medical stores were dropped on Flat Holm by an aircraft.

09.10.41:

Barry Docks still closed to outgoing vessels. The Admiralty announced that the launch "Corrigoyle" must be armed to go to Flat Holm to fetch the casualties. 10.00 hrs more medical stores dropped on Flat Holm by an aircraft.

10.10.41:

Ports opened 12.30 hrs. "Corrigoyle" tried to get to Flat Holm and Steep Holm but owing to tides and rough sea only made Flat Holm - 5 serious casualties evacuated. Motor Launch "Peter Piper" also got to Flat Holm with rations, but MV "Assurity" detailed for Steep Holm did not sail as the skipper could not be found. Position of rations on Steep Holm getting serious - on 4 days reserve rations. Also water question very serious.

11.10.41:

Boat sailed at noon and managed to get rations ashore at Flat Holm.

12.10.41:

Section No.2 930 P.C. & R. Coy. withdrawn from Steep Holm and Flat Holm.

13.10.41:

Company Quarter Master Sergeant 690 G.C. Coy. went to Flat Holm with winter clothing and mail.

16.10.41:

Timber jetty at Flat Holm completed. Rations at last delivered to Steep Holm.

17.10.41:

Ladders fixed to jetty at Flat Holm.

19.10.41:

Launch landed at Flat Holm but it proved impossible to get Captain Smith of 690 G.C. Coy. off the island. Dinghy swamped and oars lost. He had to remain on Flat Holm all night.

20.10.41:

Launch fetched Captain Smith of 690 G.C. Coy. from Flat Holm at 11.00 hrs. 189 Battery incorporated in 531 Rgt. ex. 524 Coast Regiment (for deployment at Steep Holm (N)).

21.10.41:

Mooring rings fixed in the rock surrounding the jetty at Flat Holm.

27.10.41:

116 Pioneer Coy. transferred to No.60 Group from No.42 Group, Pioneer Corps.

29.10.41:

The laying of timber decking on the jetty at Steep Holm completed, but coping work on the masonry wall held up due to a lack of sand.

30.10.41:

Steam Launch "Haslar" left 15.00 hrs and landed rations on Steep Holm, but could not make Flat Holm as it was getting dark.

31.10.41:

Strength of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. H.Q. Barry 2 officers, 61 o.r.'s; Steep Holm 2 officers, 31 o.r.'s and 44 attached Pioneer Corps; Flat Holm 1 W.O. and 5 o.r.'s. Steam Launch "Haslar" sailed at 13.00 hrs to Flat Holm and Steep Holm.

01.11.41:

Channel still closed to motor vessels. Only one boat (steam) in use for both islands. No materials have been taken over for over a week. Telephone connection established with Flat Holm at 11.55 hrs.

03.11.41:

Steam Launch "Haslar", towing Motor Boat "Peter Piper" called at both islands.

05.11.41:

At 13.00 hrs endeavours were made to change over personnel of a Section of 116 Pioneer Coy. on Flat Holm. Steam Launch "Haslar" sailed to Flat Holm towing a barge, but after landing only 5 men, due to rough seas, received a wireless message that a casualty at Steep Holm was to be picked up. Left Flat Holm 19.00 hrs, went to Steep Holm to pick up casualty and arrived Barry 23.00 hrs.

08.11.41:

Steam Launch "Haslar" sailed at 13.15 hrs towing Admiralty Launch "Corrighoil" with rations. 427 Bty. (Newport) incorporated in 531 Rgt.

09.11.41:

Help given by 930 P.C.& R. Coy. at Steep Holm to land telephone cable from Brean Down.

10.11.41:

4 Nissen huts have been delivered to the Nell's Point Battery site for the accommodation of H.Q. 930 P.C.& R. Coy.

13.11.41:

Detachment on Steep Holm reduced to 30 men of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. and 40 o.r.'s of the Pioneer Corps.

14.11.41:

Painting of the jetty on Flat Holm completed.

18.11.41:

The decking to the jetty at Steep Holm completed, and fendering is being fixed. H.Q. 690 G.C. Coy. moved from Wenvoe Camp to Penarth.

25.11.41:

Men and rations landed at Steep Holm for the first time since the 19th.

26.11.41:

At 14.00 hrs "Q" Section 116 Pioneer Coy. was withdrawn from Steep Holm.

01.12.41:

The designs for the low-water jetties at Flat Holm and Steep Holm have now been completed.

03.12.41:

Work on painting the jetty at Steep Holm commenced.

05.12.41:

Boats sailed to both islands, but only landed at Steep Holm. The boat to Flat Holm turned back when ¼ mile off due to motor launch which it was towing exploding and injuring the engineer.

09.12.41:

Work on the jetty head extension at Flat Holm commenced.

15.12.41:

430 Bty. joined 531 Rgt. (Brean Down - soon to be deployed at Cardiff).

18.12.41:

Accommodation in huts now available for all ranks 116 Pioneer Co. in camp, and on Flat Holm and Steep Holm, but rather cramped on Steep Holm.

19.12.41:

Cardiff Fire Command was re-organised into three separate Fire Commands under H.Q. Fixed Defences Severn. It comprised Flat Holm F.C.; Docks F.C. (Cardiff); and Brean Down F.C.

In 531 Rgt. 192/531 was disbanded (probably Newport to which 427 Bty. was later deployed). 145/531 (Lavernock), 188/531 (Brean Down) and 189/531 (Steep Holm (N)), joined the new 570 Rgt., while 365/531 (Portishead) and 366/531 (Cardiff), joined the new 571 Rgt.

571 Coast Regiment R.A. temporary H.Q. established at Portishead pending removal to Brean Down on completion of new accommodation. Major R.G. Hickson (o/c 365 Bty. Portishead) appointed Officer Commanding on authority of Commander Severn Defences. Work commenced on the foundations of the low-water jetty at Steep Holm. 365 Bty. at Portishead and 366 Bty. at Cardiff (soon to be deployed at Brean Down) regimented to 571 Rgt.

570 Coast Regiment R.A. formed under Major C.W. Galloway R.A. H.Q. at "Craiglands", Redbrink Close, Barry Island, Administrative Offices at Barry Pier Station. 188 Battery at Brean Down (soon to be deployed at Steep Holm (S),

189 Battery on Steep Holm (N) and 145 Battery at Lavernock all regimented to 570 Rgt.

21.12.41:

Telephonic communication established between Steep Holm and the mainland.

24.12.41:

A detachment of 351 Heavy Anti Aircraft Battery (ex. Lavernock Fort) sent to Flat Holm to man 2 x 4.5" guns (North Battery). Officer Commanding 690 G.C. Coy. went to Steep Holm to stay over Xmas. Boat carried normal 3 days rations and Xmas fare.

26.12.41:

A detachment of 440 Battery, 127th Light Anti Aircraft Regiment sent to Flat Holm to man the two 40 mm guns. Officer Commanding 690 G.C. Coy. returned from Steep Holm with excellent report on Xmas dinner and appreciation from unit personnel and attachments. Varied reports from Flat Holm!

1942

01.01.42:

Boats sailed to Flat Holm and Steep Holm. Major M.Thompson R.E. noted as o/c 690 G.C. Coy. Four Sections of 116 Pioneer Coy. on Flat Holm, three on Steep Holm.

03.01.42:

All men of Pioneer Corps and R.A.M.C. on Steep Holm attached to 930 P.C.& R. Coy. ceased to be attached. Now attached to 690 G.C. Coy. The detachment of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. on Steep Holm numbering 1 officer and 36 o.r.'s becomes attached to 690 G.C. Coy. for rations and accommodation.

09.01.42:

188/570 (Brean Down) attached to 571 Regiment for all purposes.

17.01.42:

Steep Holm (S) (Garden Battery) No.2 Gun mounted. Not yet ready for action.

20.01.42:

Major H.G. Mason M.B.E. R.A. posted to 571 Rgt. and assumed command vice Major R.G. Hickson R.A.

29.01.42:

A motor vessel reached Flat Holm with mail and rations, but it was too rough to sail to Steep Holm.

30.01.42:

On Flat Holm the steel for casting the beams of the low-water jetty was received at the beginning of the week and one beam has been cast. This is now awaiting transfer to the island. The foundations for the masonry portion of the jetty are all completed. Further work on improving the landing on the West

Beach is being carried out. On Steep Holm masonry work on the low-water jetty was continuing until the tides prevented any further work. The bottom portion of the uprights for the extension to the pier head has been placed in position and the erection of the scaffolding is in hand.

31.01.42:

Average distribution of personnel of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. during January:- H.Q. Barry 2 officers, 52 o.r.'s and 10 R.A.'s (attached). Steep Holm 1 officer, 21 o.r.'s and 10 P.C.'s (attached). Flat Holm 1 officer, 16 o.r.'s. Strength of 570 Rgt. 11 officers and 348 o.r.'s. 4½ Sections of 116 Pioneer Coy on Flat Holm, 3½ on Steep Holm.

07.02.42:

35 men of 188/570 moved off from Brean Down to their permanent station at Steep Holm (S). Unit ceased to be temporarily attached to 571 Rgt.

09.02.42:

Lt.Col. E.M. Bolt relinquished command of Fixed Defences Severn and posted to 570 Rgt. (in command). Lt.Col. (A/Col.) C.L. Ferard M.C. posted to Fixed Defences Severn (in command).

10.02.42:

Bad weather conditions constantly delaying construction work on Brean Down fort.

13.02.42:

Remainder of the men of 188/570 (Brean Down) moved to Steep Holm (S).

27/02/42:

The Director General Chemical Warfare and G.11 (C.W.) Brig. Lewis visited 531 R.H.Q. (Barry Island) and 130/531 (Nell's Point) to inspect A.G. equipment.

28.02.42:

Strength of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. H.Q. 2 officers, 38 o.r.'s; Flat Holm 1 officer 12 o.r.'s; Steep Holm 14 o.r.'s. Strength of 570 Rgt. 15 officers and 347 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 13 officers and 218 o.r.'s. 145/570 at Lavernock inspected by South Wales District Commander.

10.03.42:

145/570 Lavernock inspected by C.I.C Home Forces.

17.03.42:

2/Lt. Almond crushed his toes on Steep Holm.

20.03.42:

Practice Seaward by Nell's Point Battery 130/531.

27.03.42:

366/571 at Cardiff receiving 2 x 6" N.S. from Cardiff Docks. 27.3.42 to 7.4.42. 5 Pioneer Corps men now attached to 930 P.C.& R. Coy. on Flat Holm.

31.03.42:

At 11.30 hrs No.1 gun mounted at Brean Down was ready for action (430/571). Telephone line laid from No.1 gun to No.2 Searchlight.

01.04.42:

Strength 570 Rgt. 16 officers and 360 o.r.'s. Work of the mainland party of 116 Pioneer Coy. consists of loading steamers with stores and machinery for Flat Holm and Steep Holm. The island detachments are engaged in digging and erecting gun sites, searchlight emplacements, living accommodation, ammunition stores, cable trenches, and unloading material from steamers and barges.

04.04.42:

366/571 moved from Cardiff to Brean Down and 430/571 moved from Brean Down to permanent station at Alexandra Dock, Cardiff, and ceased to be attached to 571 Rgt. It then came under 531 Rgt.

07.04.42:

Gun shift from Cardiff to Brean Down completed. 366/571 ready for action at 17.00 hrs.

19.04.42:

571 Rgt. H.Q. moved from Portishead to Brean Down. Flat Holm and Steep Holm inspected by Lt.Col. Duncan Sandys.

23.04.42:

Practice seaward by 365/571 Portishead.

26.04.42:

It is the intention of Western Command to conserve military personnel by manning Portishead with almost entirely Home Guard. Projected Portishead Scheme:- Permanent Instructional & Maintenance Staff 20; C.A.S. (to be supplied on "Stand To") 16. Home Guard 75; Total 111. Although 365/571 at Portishead and 366/571 at Brean Down were in 8 Corps, Southern Command area, they were under the control of the Commander Severn Defences based in South Wales under Western Command. Between 23.07 and 23.25 hrs 351 H.A.A. Battery (Flat Holm North) fired 25 x 4.5" rounds at enemy aircraft flying at between 8 and 12,000 feet.

27.04.42:

H.Q. Severn Fixed Defences left 12 James Street, Cardiff and opened new H.Q. at Swanbridge, near Penarth.

01.05.42:

Detachments of 690 G.C. Coy. arrived at Barry Docks from Flat Holm and Steep Holm and together with H.Q. 690 G.C. Coy. moved off to Treglog Training Camp. Practice Seaward by 130/531 Nell's Point. Strength of 570 Rgt. 17 officers and 363 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 11 officers and 248 o.r.'s. 116 Pioneer Coy. has 1 officer and 95 o.r.'s each on Steep Holm and Flat Holm.

07.05.42:

Practice seaward by 130/531 Nell's Point. Practice seaward by 365/571 Portishead.

08.05.42:

Lt.Col. E.M. Bolt posted overseas. Major C.W. Galloway took over as o/c 570 Rgt.

11.05.42:

Practice seaward by 366/571 Brean Down.

14.05.42:

Practice seaward by 430/531 Cardiff.

18.05.42:

Detachments of 690 G.C. Coy. returned to Flat Holm and Steep Holm. Equipment on Flat Holm comprised 2 x 40 mm and 2 x 2 Light Machine Guns operated by "A" Section 465 Battery, 72nd L.A.A. Rgt., 4 x 4.5" 4.5" guns and a G.L. 581 Mk.II with 351 H.A.A. Battery, and at T663862 was a searchlight site controlled by 450 Battery, 67th Searchlight Regiment, although it was not yet operational.

23.05.42:

Lt.Col. Grindley C.R.E. No.14 H.Q. Command Troops Engineers visited the islands with o/c 690 G.C. Corps.

26.05.42:

Sir J.H.N. Marshall-Cornwall K.C.B. C.B.E. M.C. G.O. C-in-C Western Command inspected 145/570 Lavernock.

28.05.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 18 officers and 365 men.

30.05.42:

Major H.G. Mason and Captain R.E. Wilson made a flight over Brean Down during the afternoon to observe the camouflage.

31.05.42:

Strength of 571 Rgt. 10 officers and 218 o.r.'s.

01.06.42:

Colonel Ferard C.F.D. visited Brean Down in the morning. Lt.Col. D.S. Holt G.S.O.1 R.A. C.A. Western Command, visited Brean Down in the afternoon.

04.06.42:

Chief Signals Officer, Severn Fixed Defences, visited Brean Down and reported the progress of the communication installation very satisfactory.

06.06.42:

Lt. Gold-Lewis R.A. made a flight over Brean Down for the purpose of observing and photographing the camouflage.

08.06.42:

"C" Section 387 Battery, 118th L.A.A. Rgt. now listed on Flat Holm.

19.06.42:

Strength of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. Flat Holm 1 officer, 15 o.r.'s and 5 P.C.'s (attached); Steep Holm 1 officer, 1 n.c.o., 13 o.r.'s and 6 P.C.'s and 5 R.A.'s (attached).

20.06.42:

H.Q. Severn Fixed Defences re-designated H.Q. Coast Artillery, South Wales. and 559 Rgt. in the Swansea/Port Talbot area was incorporated in the defences. Lt.Col. R.A. King posted to 570 Rgt. as commander.

Fixed Defences Severn now comprised Flat Holm Fire Command with H.Q. & F.C. 570 Rgt., 145/570 (Lavernock), 188/570 Steep Holm (S), and 189/570 Steep Holm (N); Docks Fire Command (Cardiff) with H.Q. 531 Rgt., 130/531 (Nell's Point), 427/531 (Newport), and 430/531 (Cardiff), and Brean Down Fire Command with H.Q. & F.C. 571 Rgt. with 365/571 (Portishead) and 366/571 (Brean Down).

26.06.42:

As the number of Home Guard available for Coastal Artillery still falls far short of those necessary to bring the number of Army personnel allotted to Coastal artillery within the ceiling laid down by the War Office it has been decided that 8 batteries in Southern Command will either be disbanded or convert to Home Guard. In the case of those batteries to be converted to Home Guard 80 Home Guards will be required for each.

30.06.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 19 officers and 378 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 12 officers and 223 o.r.'s. 116 Pioneer Coy has H.Q. and two Sections at Wenvoe Camp, and 1 officer and four Sections each on Flat Holm and Steep Holm. The L.A.A. defences on Flat Holm (VP 510) were now operated by "A" Section 365 Battery, 112 L.A.A. Rgt. and were listed as Site 1 at T661864 with 1 x L.M.G. and 2 x 40 mm; Site 2 at T664861 with 1 x 40 mm and 1 x L.M.G.; Site 3 at T661864 with 3 x L.M.G.; and Site 4 at T664861 with 3 x L.M.G.

01.07.42:

At 12.00 hrs one Section of 116 Pioneer Coy. was withdrawn from Steep Holm, returning to Wenvoe Camp.

02.07.42:

At 12.00 hrs three Sections of 116 Pioneer Coy. were withdrawn from Steep Holm and four Sections from Flat Holm, returning to Wenvoe Camp.

03.07.42:

184 Bty. joined the defences from East Blockhouse. Moved to Flat Holm (N) and attached to 570 Rgt. (Relieved 189/570). Practice seaward from 365/571 at Portishead. Practice seaward from 366/571 at Brean Down.

04.07.42:

Detachments of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. on Steep Holm and Flat Holm withdrawn and work handed over to 690 G.C. Coy. Detachment on Steep Holm to proceed to Training Camp at Aberthaw. Strength of 930 P.C.& R. Coy. Flat Holm (jetty construction) 1 officer, 16 o.r.'s and 5 P.C.'s (attached); Steep Holm (jetty construction) 1 n.c.o., 10 o.r.'s and 6 P.C.'s (attached).

05.07.42:

Practice Seaward by 430/531 Cardiff.

06.07.42:

At 09.00 hrs 116 Pioneer Coy. left Wenvoe Camp for the Senny Bridge R.A. Practice Camp, near Brecknock.

07.07.42:

Major Mason of 571 Rgt. attended an investiture at Buckingham Palace to receive the M.B.E. decoration.

08.07.42:

Practice seaward by Nell's Point battery 130/531.

10.07.42:

Practice seaward from 366/571 at Brean Down. 187 Bty. joined the defences from Felixstowe and included in 531 Rgt. for deployment at Newport. 427/531 at Newport to relieve 226/514 at Gt.Yarmouth.

12.07.42:

Portishead is to be converted to Home Guard manning retaining a nucleus regular establishment of 2 officers and 28 other ranks.

19.07.42:

Practice seaward by 430/531 Cardiff.

21.07.42:

Practice seaward from 365/571 at Portishead.

22.07.42:

Practice seaward from 365/571 at Portishead.

25.07.42:

Practice seaward from 366/571 at Brean Down.

28.07.42:

Practice seaward by 430/531 Cardiff.

31.07.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 16 officers and 389 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 12 officers and 217 o.r.'s.

03.08.42:

Title of 690 G.C. Coy. altered to 690 Artisan Works Coy. R.E.

05.08.42:

Red Alert at 01.42 hrs. Cardiff site J16 (Flat Holm) operated by 351 H.A.A. Battery fired 27 rounds. No effect.

06.08.42:

600 rounds of S.A.P. 4.5" arrived at 351 H.A.A. Battery, Flat Holm. Holding now 800.

08.08.42:

Major M.W. McDonald R.A. posted to command 571 Rgt. Major H.G. Mason M.B.E. R.A. of 571 Rgt. posted to 561 Regiment to command. No.2 Gun on Flat Holm out of action.

09.08.42:

351 H.A.A. Battery on Flat Holm carried out an anti-tank shoot, the target being three empty petrol cans towed behind a single Hong Kong float.

10.08.42:

Heavy rain and fresh winds prevented a boat reaching Flat Holm where No.2 gun is still out of action.

12.08.42:

R.A.O.C. personnel taken to Flat Holm, where a change over of troop from 351 Battery H.A.A. also took place.

13.08.42:

Advanced party of 719 Artisan Works Coy R.E. left for B.C.I. Site "XF" (Steep Holm) during the morning on the duty boat.

14.08.42:

O/c 690 A.W. Coy. visited both islands with D.C.R.E. Major Wilson.

16.08.42:

Advanced party 719 A.W. Coy. to Penarth.

18.08.42:

365/571 at Portishead to join 511 Rgt. at Hartlepool. 184/570 at Flat Holm (N) attached to 571 Rgt. for deployment at Portishead. 205 Battery from 532 Rgt. at Pembroke Dock attached to 570 Rgt. for duty on Flat Holm (N).

19.08.42:

690 A.W. Coy. left for Training Camp at Sudbury, near Chepstow.

20.08.42:

365/571 regimented as an Independent Battery. 184/570 regimented to 571 Regiment.

22.08.42:

Practice seaward 3 pdr. sub-calibre by 130/531 Nell's Point.

23.08.42:

Practice seaward by 130/531 Nell's Point with Home Guard.

24.08.42:

Practice seaward by 130/531 Nell's Point. L.A.A. sites on Flatholm now listed as Site 1 at T660864, Site 2 T664863, and Site 3 at T662862.

25.08.42:

Practice seaward by 430/531 Cardiff.

26.08.42:

Practice shoot during the hours of darkness (evening) from 366/571 Brean Down. Cinema entertainment during the evening on Flat Holm.

27.08.42:

Practice shoot during the morning from 184/571 Portishead.

29.08.42:

H.Q. 719 A.W. Coy. moved to Penarth to replace 690 A.W. Coy. Sections No. 1 and 2 crossed to B.C.I. Site "XD" (Flat Holm) by boat at 06.00 hrs.

30.08.42:

No.'s 3 and 4 Sections 719 A.W. Coy. crossed to Steep Holm by boat at 06.00 hrs.

31.08.42:

Sections 1,2,3 & 4 719 A.W. Coy. working on coast defence works, installation and accommodation at Flat Holm and Steep Holm. Attached to 570 Rgt for rations and accommodation. Strength of 570 Rgt. 16 officers and 392 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 10 officers and 220 o.r.'s.

01.09.42:

351 H.A.A. Battery on Flat Holm reported S.A.P. prepared for action.

02.09.42:

C.A. Brigadeer and Col. Ferard visited Flat Holm for practice shoot. 16 rounds fired.

06.09.42:

Practice assault on Brean Down Fort by local Home Guard. Brig. R.J.P. Wyatt M.C., Commander Somerset and Bristol Area (Southern Command), visited Brean Down in the afternoon.

24.09.42:

Practice seaward by 187/531 Newport. A/T shoot with 75 mm mobile, 18 rounds.

14.09.42:

Searchlights renumbered. The Flat Holm searchlight is now known as FC 051 and was operated by 307 Battery, 37th Searchlight Regiment.

25.09.42:

Practice seaward by 187/531 Newport. A/T shoot with 75 mm mobile, 25 rounds. Practice seaward by 130/531 Nell's Point, 3 pdr. sub-calibre.

26.09.42:

On Flat Holm 481/98 replaced 366/112 in the L.A.A. role.

27.09.42:

Practice seaward by 430/531 Cardiff. 20 rounds H.E. shell (plugged).

29.09.42:

Practice seaward from 184/571 at Portishead.

30.09.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 16 officers and 402 men. Strength of 571 Rgt. 9 officers and 237 o.r.'s.

02.10.42:

Operation "Moorhen" (571 Rgt.) commenced.

04.10.42:

Operation "Moorhen" (571 Rgt.) terminated.

14.10.42:

170 Bty. included in 531 Rgt. (ex. Independent at Llanfwrog) took the place of 130/531 (Nell's Point) which became Independent and moved to Llanfwrog for the defence of Holyhead.

21.10.42:

"B" Section 351 H.A. Battery relieved "A" Section 351 H.A.A. Battery on Flat Holm. Battery H.Q. Penarth.

22.10.42:

Stormy weather. No duty boat sailed to Flat Holm, but S.S. "Hasler" endeavoured to put a boat ashore. The boat was holed in the attempt, but managed to regain "Hasler" without further incident.

23.10.42:

Weather very rough. An accident occurred to the launch proceeding to Flat Holm necessitating the Battery Commander, 351 H.A.A. Battery, and party to stay the night.

31.10.42:

Strength of 530 Rgt. 15 officers and 402 men. Strength of 571 Rgt. 10 officers and 236 o.r.'s.

01.11.42:

Concert in the evening on Flat Holm.

03.11.42:

719 A.W. Coy., less No.1 Section, to H.Q. at Penarth under Lt. Milnes from islands to Weston super Mare by sea, then by rail to Ilfracombe. No.1 Section to remain as holding unit on Flat Holm and Steep Holm sites (Western Command).

5/6.11.42:

Cinema show in the evening on Flat Holm.

06.11.42:

Practice seaward by 170/531 (Nell's Point) 6" ½ charge. Practice seaward by 430/531 (Cardiff). Practice seaward by 366/571 (Brean Down) (night) 20.00 hrs.

12.11.42:

One o.r. of 531 Rgt. died on Steep Holm.

17.11.42:

Two 4.5" guns on Flat Holm taken over by 205 Coast Battery. 26 o.r.'s from 351 H.A.A. Battery returned to Lavernock Fort.

20.11.42:

Brigade I.F.C. visited Flat Holm.

21.11.42:

Amputated 2A Predictor arrived on Flat Holm and put into action. Although dropped twice in transit by the R.A.O.C. it worked perfectly.

30.11.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 17 officers and 403 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 10 officers and 236 o.r.'s.

01.12.42:

Practice seaward by 366/571 at Brean Down (night) 20.00 hrs.

04.12.42:

No.2 Amputated Predictor received on Flat Holm for use in the South Battery. However, some difficulty was experienced with the Q.E. dials.

06.12.42:

Practice seaward by 184/571 at Portishead (day). Carried out mainly by personnel of 7th Somerset (Long Ashton) Battalion Home Guard. First Home Guard shot. 366/571 (Brean Down) practiced with the 75 mm gun in the afternoon. The Magslip at Flat Holm (South) replaced by R.E.M.E.

07.12.42:

H.Q. 531 Rgt. disbanded - completed by 31/12. The following batteries formerly with 531 Rgt. were regimented with 570 Rgt. (R.H.Q. Barry) 170/531 (Nell's Point), 187/531 (Newport), and 430/531 (Cardiff). The following batteries formerly with 570 Rgt. were regimented with 571 Rgt. (R.H.Q. Brean) 188/570 (Steep Holm (S)) and 189/570 (Steep Holm (N)). In addition 146 Bty. ceased to be regimented with 559 Rgt. (Mumbles) being re-regimented with 570 Rgt. for deployment at Flat Holm (S), and 205 Bty. (Flat Holm (N)) ceased to be Independent (ex Faroe Islands) and was regimented with 570 Rgt.

Bristol Channel Coastal Artillery on line Lavernock - Brean Down under Western Command:-

Lavernock 2 x 6" (map ref. 110/627896); arc of fire 235°-S - 040°; app. range 11,000 yards.

Flat Holm North 2 x 4.5" dual role A.A. & C.A. (map ref. 110/660863); arc of fire 350°- W - 160°; app. range 6000 yards.

Flat Holm South 2 x 4.5" dual role A.A. & C.A. (map ref. 110/662860); arc of fire 320°- W - 115°; app. range 6000 yards.

Steep Holm North 2 x 6" naval (map ref. 110/667820); arc of fire 050°- N - 216°; app. range 6000 yards.

Steep Holm South 2 x 6" naval (map ref. 110/672819); arc of fire 258°- S - 022°; app. range 6000 yards.

Brean Down 2 x 6" naval (map ref. 110/720805); arc of fire 036°- N - 180°; app. range 6000 yards.

08.12.42:

Coastal Artillery personnel (146 Bty.) took over Height and Range finding on Flat Holm (South) from 351 H.A.A. Battery.

12.12.42:

Colonel King visited Flat Holm.

13.12.42:

No duty boat to Flat Holm, but a special boat was sent to pick up an injured man.

14.12.43:

Change over of 351 H.A.A. Battery personnel on Flat Holm. "A" Section took over from "B" Section.

17.12.42:

Practice seaward (day shoot) from 366/571 Brean Down. Night shoot from 188/571 Steep Holm (S) and 189/571 Steep Holm (N) (day & night shoot).

21.12.42:

351 H.A.A. Battery on Flat Holm report that training of Coastal Artillery personnel is greatly hampered by fatigues.

24.12.42:

Cinema Show on Flat Holm.

26.12.42:

Concert on Flat Holm described as very good.

29.12.42:

A R.E.M.E. officer visited Flat Holm to inspect the 40 mm equipment.

31.12.42:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 24 officers and 650 o.r.'s. Strength 12 officers and 388 o.r.'s. Battery Commander, 351 H.A.A. Battery, visited Flat Holm and inspected equipment. Work also commenced on No.2 gun emplacement (South Battery).

1943

01.01.43:

Sufficient personnel of 570 Coast Regiment now trained on A.A. guns so 45th A.A. Brigade (H.Q. Penylan Court, Tygwyn Road, Cardiff) will hand over to 570 Rgt. certain A.A. equipment. 570 Rgt. are to man the guns (2 x 4.5") and instruments forming the North A.A. battery and command post on Flat Holm w.e.f. 09.00 hrs 3/1/43. The maintenance of all equipment, however, will be carried out by 351 H.A.A. Battery. The Section of 351 H.A.A. Battery relieved will be accommodated at Lavernock Fort. 306 Battery, 98th L.A.A. listed at Flat Holm.

02.01.43:

Stores and equipment handed over by 351 H.A.A. Battery to 570 Coast Regiment on Flat Holm and 205/570 took over operational duties with the heavy guns.

07.01.43:

Both Predictors on Flat Holm out of action, but these were replaced by unamputated predictors. North Battery out of action pending the arrival of No.7 Cable.

10.01.43:

R.M.O. carried out aircraft calibration of G.L. on Flat Holm.

11.01.43:

Four L.A.A. sites listed on Flat Holm. Site 1 at T660864, Site 2 at T664861, Site 3 at T664863, and Site 4 at T664862, all operated by "B" Section, 440 Battery, 127th H.A.A. Rgt. The H.A.A. was at T663863 operated by 3 Sections of 351 H.A.A. Battery.

15.01.43:

Air Co-operation exercise carried out on Flat Holm.

18.01.43:

440 Battery, 127th L.A.A. Rgt. replaced on Flat Holm by "C" Section 306/98.

20.01.43:

366/571 completed interchange of stations with 189/571. Move carried out in four hours. 366/571 now at Steep Holm (N); 189/571 at Brean Down. A training film was shown on Flat Holm.

21.01.43:

10.30 hrs - practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N). Full charge 4.5" dual role set range.

22.01.43:

10.30 hrs - practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point. 3 pdr. sub-calibre.

26.01.43:

11.00 hrs - practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point. 6" full charge auto-sights.

11.00 hrs practice seaward by 145/570 Lavernock. 6" full charge auto-sights.

27.01.43:

10.00 hrs practice seaward by 187/570 Newport. 75 mm A.T.M.B. 14.45 hrs -

practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point. 6" full charge Case II. 16.15 hrs

practice seaward by 145/570 Lavernock. 6" full charge Case II ranging salvoes.

31.01.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 26 officers and 605 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 17 officers and 398 o.r.'s. Holding of ammunition on Flat Holm 4.5" 600 x H.E. and 50 x Shrap. 40 mm H.E. x 2000.

01.02.43:

570 Rgt. took over the Heavy Anti-Aircraft commitment of 146 and 205 Coast Btys. on Flat Holm (146 at Flat Holm South and 205 at Flat Holm North). Equipments 4 x 4.5" dual role, (commitments were under 45th A.A. Brigade (South Wales)). Movement of personnel of 351 H.A.A. Battery from Flat Holm delayed.

02.02.43:

Flat Holm vacated by personnel of 351 H.A.A. Battery. These proceeded to Newport, Cardiff and Caerwent.

11.02.43:

Lt. J.D.H. Davidson R.E. and 28 o.r.'s of 719 A.W. Coy. R.E. returned to unit H.Q. at Instow, N.Devon, from Steep Holm and Flat Holm under authority of Chief Engineer Western Command. Practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point, 2 series and 145/570 Lavernock, 1 series.

13.02.43:

Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 3 series.

15.02.43:

Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport, 3 series and 430/570 Cardiff, 5 series.

16.02.43:

2 enemy aircraft engaged by unseen fire from the Flat Holm batteries. 8 rounds fired - no results. Strength of 571 Rgt. 26 officers and 586 men.

22.02.43:

At 14.00 hrs firing trials with "Universal" Automatic Sight to C.E.A.D.'s design carried out by 184/571 at Portishead.

28.02.43:

Strength of 571 Rgt. 18 officers and 365 o.r.'s.

28.02.43:

Strength of 571 Rgt. 18 officers and 365 o.r.'s.

12.03.43:

189/571 completed interchange of stations with 188/571. 189/571 now at Steep Holm (S) and 188/571 at Brean Down. 15.30 hrs - practice shoot by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 3 rounds fired.

13.03.43:

A German Fw 190 engaged at 7800 ft by Flat Holm. Extreme range - no results.

14.03.43:

Practice seaward by 430/570 Cardiff with Home Guard. 3 series 24 rounds H.E. plugged.

17.03.43:

189/571 at Steep Holm (South) to Care & Maintenance. Caretaker party of 12 men to be reduced by G.H.Q.

31.03.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 26 officers and 587 o.r.'s.

01.04.43:

"C" Section 306 Battery, 98th L.A.A. Regiment listed on Flat Holm.

15.04.43:

18.30 hrs - Practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point (with Home Guard), 2 series.

16.04.43:

Practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point, 3 pdr. sub-calibre.

18.04.43:

Practice seaward 09.30 hrs by 430/570 Cardiff, 5 series (3 with Home Guard).

19.04.43:

Practice seaward 09.30 hrs by 187/570 Newport, 3 series (1 with Home Guard).

20.04.43:

Practice seaward 19.15 hrs by 145/570 Lavernock, 1 series.

23.04.43:

One enemy aircraft engaged by 205/570 Flat Holm (N). 7 rounds - no results.

30.04.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 584 o.r.'s.

02.05.43:

20.15 - 21.35 hrs 6" seaward practice by Home Guard with 184/571 at Portishead.

04.05.43:

19.05 hrs - 6" seaward practice by 366/571 from Steep Holm (N). 19.05 to 23.30 hrs - 6" seaward practice by 188/571 from Brean Down. 20.00 to 20.15 hrs - 75 mm seaward practice from Brean Down by 188/571.

06.05.43:

Practice seaward 10.45 hrs by 146/570 Flat Holm (S), 2 series. Practice seaward 11.30 hrs by 205/570 Flat Holm (N) 1 series. Practice seaward 23.10 hrs (night) by 170/570 Nell's Point, 2 series.

07.05.43:

Practice seaward 01.00 hrs (night) by 145/570 Lavernock, 2 series. 23.32 hrs an enemy aircraft was engaged by dual role batteries on Flat Holm. 205/570 (North) fired 9 rounds and 146/570 (South) 5 rounds. Aircraft at 9100 feet - no results.

18.05.43:

02.52 hrs Flat Holm batteries engaged enemy aircraft at 4800 to 9200 feet. 205/570 (North) fired 108 rounds and 146/570 (South) 86 rounds. 35 minute engagement.

20.05.43:

Practice firing at air targets by 4.5" dual role batteries on Flat Holm. 146/570 (South) fired 55 rounds and 205/570 (North) 76 rounds.

27.05.43:

Interchange of 188/571 and 366/571. 188/571 now at Steep Holm (N) and 366/571 at Brean Down.

31.05.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 22 officers and 614 men. Strength of 571 Rgt. 13 officers and 271 o.r.'s.

06.06.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 187/570 Newport, 6 series.

07.06.43:

306 Battery, 98th L.A.A. Rgt. moved from Flat Holm. Equipment taken over by 282/82 (H.Q. Nore Park, House, Portishead).

08.06.43:

Practice seaward 16.30 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point, 4 series.

10.06.43:

Seaward practice by Home Guard with 184/571 at Portishead (day).

11.06.43:

6" seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down (day). Also at Brean Down a seaward practice 6 pdr. A/T shoot with Royal Ulster Rifles (day).

12.06.43:

Seaward Practice under 366/571 at Brean Down - 6 pdr. A/T shoot with Royal Ulster Rifles (day).

13.06.43:

Seaward practice under 184/571 at Portishead - Mixed Home Guard (day).

16.06.43:

Layout of Fixed Defences Severn:- H.Q. Fixed Defences Severn (H.Q. Swanbridge, near Penarth) controlled Fire Command Flat Holm, Fire Command Brean Down, and 559 Rgt. in the Swansea area.

Flat Holm Fire Command comprised Fire Command H.Q.; Nell's Point Battery, 2 x 6" Mk. VIII guns on Mk. II mountings, 4 x C.A.S.L.'s, 3 observation and fighting lights, and 1 beach light. Lavernock Battery 2 x 6" (1 Mk. VIII & 1 Mk. VII +) guns on Mk. II mountings, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation & fighting). Flat Holm (North) 2 x 4.5" Q.F. Mk. II dual role guns, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting). Flat Holm (south) 2 x 4.5" Q.F. Mk. II dual role guns, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting). Steep Holm (North) - for operational purposes only - 2 x 6" Mk. VII guns on P.VIII mountings, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting). In addition there are two A.M.T.B. batteries independent of the Fire Command and directly under regimental command of 570 Rgt. These are Cardiff (Home Guard) with 2 x 75 mm guns, 3 x 30° C.A.S.L.'s, and 2 x 45° C.A.S.L.'s., and Newport (Home Guard) with 2 x 75 mm guns, 4 x 30° C.A.S.L.'s, and 1 C.A.S.L. (observation light).

Brean Down Fire Command comprises Fire Command H.Q.; Brean Down Battery, 2 x 6" Mk. XII guns on P.IX mountings, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting). Steep Holm South Battery, 2 x 6" Mk. VII guns on P.VIII mountings, and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting). There is in addition a battery independent of Fire Command and directly under regimental command of 571 Rgt. This is Portishead (Home Guard Manned) with 2 x 6" Mk. VII on P.III mountings, 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (observation and fighting), and 1 x beach light.

17.06.43:

Practice seaward 20.00 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point, 3 series (Home Guard).

20.06.43:

Practice seaward 10.15 hrs by 430/570 Cardiff, 2 series (1 series Home Guard).

21.06.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 187/570 Newport, 2 series (1 series Home Guard).

22.06.43:

Practice seaward 20.00 hrs by 145/570 Lavernock, 2 series (Home Guard).

24.06.43:

Practice seaward 20.00 hrs by Flat Holm Bty's. 146/570 (South) and 205/570 (North), 4 series (2 series each).

30.06.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 622 o.r.'s.

08.07.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point, 80 rounds 1" aimable rifle and 14.30 hrs by 145/570 Lavernock, 80 rounds 1" aimable rifle. 23.00 hrs Searchlight practice by 170/570 Nell's Point.

10.07.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by Flat Holm Bty's. 146/570 (S) and 205/570 (N) (0.303"). 23.00 hrs Searchlight practice by 146/570 and 205/570 Flat Holm and 145/170 Lavernock.

11.07.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 145/570 Lavernock, 30 rounds 3 pdr. sub-calibre.

14.07.43:

6" seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down.

16.07.43:

6" seaward practice by 184/571 at Portishead.

22.07.43:

Searchlight practice 23.00 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point.

23.07.43:

03.28 hrs an enemy aircraft was engaged by 205/570 Flat Holm (N) with 6 rounds and 146/570 with 4 rounds - no results. Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 145/170 Lavernock.

24.07.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point, 1" aimable rifle. 23.00 hrs - Searchlight practice by 145/570 Lavernock.

26.07.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 146/570 Flat Holm (S).

28.07.43:

15.00 hrs - A.A. practice by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 6 rounds.

31.07.43:

01.40 hrs an enemy aircraft engaged by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 16 rounds fired and 146/570 Flat Holm (S) another 16 rounds - no results. Strength of 570 Rgt. 25 officers and 601 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 11 officers and 282 o.r.'s.

04.08.43:

No L.A.A. Battery listed on Flat Holm.

05.08.43:

4 x 2" Naval Unrotated Projectile Projectors (rockets) ready for action at 170/570 Nell's Point.

10.08.43:

75 mm seaward practice by 184/571 at Portishead.

11.08.43:

4 x 2" Naval U.P. Projectors (rockets) ready for action at 430/570 Cardiff.

12.08.43:

4 x 2" Naval U.P. Projectors (rockets) ready for action at 187/570 Newport.

13.08.43:

75 mm seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down.

16.08.43:

Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport. Colonel C.L. Ferard M.C. commander Fixed Defences Severn posted to Fixed Defences Forth. Lt.Col. R.A. King assumed command.

17.08.43:

Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 430/570 Cardiff.

18.08.43:

Practice seaward by 145/570 Lavernock.

19.08.43:

Practice seaward by 170/570 Nell's Point.

31.08.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 25 officers and 611 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 11 officers and 257 o.r.'s.

10.09.43:

Practice seaward 15.00 hrs with 75 mm mobile A/Tank by 145/570 Lavernock.

13.09.43:

Searchlight practice 21.30 hrs by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N), and 145/570 Lavernock.

15.09.43:

Searchlight practice 21.30 hrs by 170/570 Nell's Point.

17.09.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs with 75 mm mobile A/Tank by 187/570 Newport and 430/570 Cardiff.

18.09.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs with 75 mm mobile A/Tank by 170/570 Nell's Point.

19.09.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 430/570 Cardiff.

20.09.43:

Practice seaward 10.00 hrs by 187/570 Newport. Searchlight practice 21.30 hrs by 145/570 Lavernock and 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

22.09.43:

75 mm seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down (day) and 6" seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down (night).

23.09.43:

Practice firing 10.00 hrs (A.A.) by 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

26.09.43:

75 mm seaward practice by 184/571 at Portishead (day) and 6" seaward practice with 184/571 at Portishead by Home Guard (day).

27.09.43:

15.00 hrs - 2" Naval U.P. Projector practice by 170/570 Nell's Point.

28.09.43:

10.00 hrs - 2" Naval U.P Projector practice by 187/570 Newport. 6" seaward practice with 184/571 at Portishead by Home Guard (night).

29.09.43:

3 pdr sub-calibre shoot by 188/571 at Steep Holm (N) (day) and seaward practice by 188/571 at Steep Holm (N) (night).

30.09.43:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 25 officers and 615 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 12 officers and 262 o.r.'s.

14.10.43:

Practice seaward by 145/570 Lavernock.

18.10.43:

Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport.

20.10.43:

Lavernock (145/570), Brean Down (366/571) and Steep Holm (North) (188/571) ceased to have an operational role. These were reduced to Care & Maintenance under Western Command on the implementation of "Flood Tide". However, at Portishead 1 officer and 8 other ranks of 184/571 was placed under Home Guard (Mixed) Battery.

21.10.43:

Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

24.10.43:

10.00 hrs - 2" Naval U.P. Projector firing by 430/570 Cardiff, 187/570 Newport, and 170/570 Nell's Point.

25.10.43:

10.00 hrs - 2" Naval U.P. Projector firing by 187/570 Newport.

26.10.43:

10.00 hrs - Practice A.A. firing by 205/570 Flat Holm (N). Practice exposure of searchlight at Portishead by 184/571.

29.10.43:

75 mm seaward practice by 366/571 at Brean Down.

31.10.43:

2" Naval U.P. Projector practice firing by 184/571 at Portishead. Also 75 mm seaward practice by 184/571 at Portishead. Strength of 570 rgt. 25 officers and 585 o.r.'s. Strength of 571 Rgt. 13 officers and 245 men.

01.11.43:

571 Rgt. ceased to be operational.

07.11.43:

2" Naval U.P. Projector practice firing by 170/570 Nell's Point.

10.11.43:

State of Defences (570 Rgt.) as follows:-

146/570 Flat Holm (S), Close Defence (A.A.), state of readiness 5'; 205/570 (N) Flat Holm, Close Defence (A.A.), state of readiness 5'; 145/570 Lavernock, C & M; 430/570 Cardiff Home Guard (modified); 187/570 Newport, Home Guard (modified); 170/570 Nell's Point, C & M.

16.11.43:

A Lister generator set was taken out of the emplacement at Brean Down H.Q. 571 Rgt. for dispatch. 1 x 5 kw left in place and used for camp lighting.

18.11.43:

11.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 2 series. 12.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S), 2 series.

19.11.43:

A Lister 5 kw generator set (No. CS 42424) withdrawn from Brean Down H.Q. of 571 Rgt. sent to C.R.E., Wells.

26.11.43:

13.45 hrs - Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S), 2 series. 14.45 hrs - Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 2 series.

30.11.43:

Strength of 530 Rgt. 24 officers and 500 o.r.'s. Strength of 531 Rgt. 10 officers and 122 o.r.'s.

20.12.43:

11.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 1 series.

28.12.43:

All personnel of 145/570 vacated their position at Lavernock and assembled at Nell's Point. 2 caretakers remained on site.

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31.01.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 21 officers and 441 o.r.'s.

10.02.44:

21.00 hrs - Seaward practice by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 2 series.

11.02.44:

11.30 hrs - Seaward practice by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 4 series.

14.02.44:

10.00 hrs - Seaward practice by 187/570 Newport, 1 series.

20.02.44:

H.Q. Fixed Defences Severn closed at Swanbridge, re-opened Nell's Point, Barry Island. 570 Regimental H.Q. closed at "Craiglands", Redbrink Close, Barry Island, and opened at Nell's Point, Barry Island. 15.00 hrs - Practice seawards by 187/570 Newport (Home Guard), 8 series.

21.02.44:

570 Rgt. Administrative Offices closed at Barry Pier Station and re-opened at Nell's Point, Barry Island.

22.02.44:

10.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 1 series.

23.02.44:

10.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 (N) from Flat Holm, 3 series.

27.02.44:

09.30 hrs - Practice seawards by 430/570 Cardiff, 5 series.

29.02.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 20 officers and 434 o.r.'s.

27/28.03.44:

23.41 to 00.11 hrs - enemy aircraft engaged by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N). 6 targets flying between 12,600 and 28,000 feet at 300 - 350 mph, direction of approach south to north and south-west to north-east. 109 rounds fired - no results.

31.03.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 17 officers and 436 o.r.'s.

01.04.44:

Re-organisation of Coastal Artillery: H.Q. Fixed Defences Severn disbanded (completed by 20/4). H.Q. 571 Rgt., under Capt. J.H.Ford, disbanded so 184/571 Portishead, and the C & M parties of 188/571 Brean Down, 189/571 Steep Holm (S), and 366/571 Steep Holm (N) were regimented with 570 Rgt. In addition 145/570 Lavernock and 170/570 Nell's Point disbanded and reverted to Care & Maintenance. The composition of 570 Rgt. was now:- H.Q. 570 Barry Island; 205/570 Flat Holm (N); 146/570 Flat Holm (S); 430/570 Cardiff; 187/570 Newport; 184/570 Portishead; 188/570 Brean Down; 366/570 Steep Holm (N); 189/570 Steep Holm (S); 145/570 Lavernock; and 170/570 Nell's Point.

02.04.44:

15.00 hrs - Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport, 2 series.

08.04.44:

The C.A. No.1 Mk. V came into operation on Flat Holm.

20.04.44:

At 14.15 hrs launch ST 1513 from the R.A.F.'s No.45 Air Sea Rescue & Marine Craft Unit at Barry called to assist the W.D. vessel "Princessa" in difficulties near Flat Holm.

24.04.44:

09.30 hrs - Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport, 4 series.

28.04.44:

G.L. Mk. III (Gun Laying A.A. Radar) arrived on Flat Holm.

30.04.44:

14.30 hrs - Practice seaward by 187/570 Newport, 4 series. Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 603 o.r.'s.

15.05.44:

Two enemy aircraft engaged for 15 minutes by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N), no claim.

25.05.44:

Launch ST 1513 from the R.A.F.'s No.45 Air Sea Rescue & Marine Craft Unit at Barry called out to assist W.D. vessel "Princessa" drifting near Flat Holm. The launch stood by until the vessel was taken in tow by the tug "Blazer".

31.05.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 22 officers and 509 o.r.'s.

04 to 30.06.44:

Severn Fire Command - Practice seaward by all operational bty's of 570 Rgt.

30.06.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 492 o.b.'s.

19.07.44:

Severn Fixed Defences comprise:-

'Z' Works (Flat Holm (North) Battery), 2 x 4.5" (C.A. & A.A.) and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (M).

'Y' Works (Flat Holm (South) Battery), 2 x 4.5" (C.A. & A.A.) and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (M).

'X' Works (Cardiff) 2 x 75 mm Q.F. and 5 x C.A.S.L.'s (2 M & 3 F)

'V' Works (Portishead) 2 x 6" (Naval) and 2 x C.A.S.L.'s (M).

In addition Lavernock 2 x 6" (15°); Nell's Point 2 x 6" (15°), Brean Down 2 x 6" (N); Steep Holm North 2 x 6" (N); and Steep Holm South 2 x 6" (N) all on Care & Maintenance with 2 storekeepers at each.

23.07.44:

Practice seaward by 430/570 Cardiff.

24.07.44:

Radar trials on Flat Holm.

30.07.44:

Practice seawards by 184/570 Portishead.

31.07.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 467 o.r.'s.

02 to 30.08.44:

Practice seaward by all operational Bty's. of 570 Rgt.

31.08.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 25 officers and 487 o.r.'s.

30.09.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 23 officers and 480 o.r.'s.

02 to 22.10.44:

Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S), 205/570 Flat Holm (N), 184/570 Portishead, and 430/570 Cardiff.

31.10.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 24 officers and 479 o.r.'s.

23 to 30.11.44:

Practice seaward by 146/570 Flat Holm (S), 184/570 Portishead and 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

30.11.44:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 22 officers and 437 o.r.'s.

03.12.44;

Practice seawards by 430//570 Cardiff.

05.12.44:

Practice seawards by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

07.12.44:

Practice seawards by 146/570 Flat Holm (S) and 205/570 Flat Holm (N).

18.12.44:

Bty's on Flat Holm became non-operational.

31.12.44:

Strength of 570 Regiment 21 officers and 434 o.r.'s.

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31.01.45:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 14 officers and 303 o.r.'s.

28.02.45:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 12 officers and 261 o.r.'s.

31.03.45:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 11 officers and 201 o.r.'s.

30.04.45:

Strength of 570 Rgt. 11 officers and 204 o.r.'s.

01.06.45:

570 Rgt. disbanded (completed by 22/6). H.Q. 570 Rgt., 170/570, 184/570, 188/570, 189/570, 205/570, 366/570, and 430/570 disbanded.

22.06.45:

146/570, 147/570 and 187/570 lapsed into suspended animation.

Main Sources