

Lorne Covell – 14 October 1944

Lorne joined the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment of the Canadian Army and served with them in England and Italy. He was killed in action as the regiment was attacking the town of Bulgaria, as they moved toward their target of Cesena. Lorne is buried in the Cesena British Empire Cemetery, Plot 3, Row D Grave 1. He was the oldest son of Henry Covell and Florence Looby of Rideau Ferry, Ontario.



Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in P.S. Regs. Vol. 1.

Title pages will be prepared.

WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

M.P.M.
45/P.2.2

Original, duplicate and triplicate forwarded to O. i/o 2nd Echelon for

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, to Append initial
BULGARIA M.R.7656047.	14 Oct 44. (cont'd)		<p>role for the night in case of enemy infiltration. At 1700 hrs "B" Coy reported that one Panther tk had entered the Bn area, and that four more were seen coming from GAMBETTOLA towards the rly tracks. The tks were ordered fwd at once and the Panther was knocked out by one mounting a 17 pdr. The remaining four withdrew, to the extreme disappointment of the 8 tks and 3 SPs waiting in ambush for them. Although it was supposed that there was a number of Inf in support of these tks, none were seen due to the very good cover afforded them by the heavy foliage, and they supposedly withdrew after the first Panther had been knocked out. In view of a possible return, a tp of tanks and a tp of M LOs remained with the Coy, harbouring in Coy HQ area, and a guard, in case of enemy infiltrating as far as their posn, was placed around them. Also the Panther Tk, which had been KOed, was guarded, until personnel of the Pioneer pl arrived later during the night, blowing it beyond further repair.</p> <p>The night passed quietly, apart from heavy shelling and mortaring in the whole Bn area. Fixed lines of enemy Spandau fire also harassed the fwd elements of the Bn during the night. Strong patrols were sent fwd of "C" Coy early on the morning of 15th Oct and they made contact at M.R.646049, and 646040. It was learned that GAMBETTOLA had been taken by the NZ tps during the night, meeting little opposition, the Enemy having withdrawn upon the capture of BULGARIA.</p> <p>Over 60 PWs were captured during the day, 55 being taken at BULGARIA. It was also estimated that a possible 100 further casualties had been inflicted on the enemy, a large number of whom were killed.</p> <p>The Bn suffered 15 casualties in the fighting during the day. Seven were wounded and evacuated, two of whom, B55295, Pte J.M. Tasse, and C12366, Pte E.J. Springett, died later in Hospital. The eight killed outright were, C79300, Cpl S.H.B. Smith, B127613, Pte T. Atkinson, C5560, Pte H.E. Brant, MM, C118513, Pte F.J. Black, A102412, Pte K.H. Royan, C53981, Pte L.H. Covell, B75305, Pte M.E. Edmonds, and C75599, Pte D.L. Crawford.</p>	
	15 Oct 44.		<p>The RCR sent contact patrols to "C" Coy at 658045, at 0200 and 0430 hrs, to ensure that the area was clear of enemy.</p> <p>At 1330 hrs "B" Coy were reported to be in a posn at M.R.646041. Shortly after occupying this posn they reported that they were being counter-attacked, but the attack was broken up by Tank, M LO and Coy fire power before it was launched.</p>	