

58 (Kent) HAA Regt

[\(WO 166/2348\)](#)

May 1940

Operation Order No 13; 23/5/40

INFORMATION

Additional AA defence is to be provided at Hawkinge aerodrome.

INTENTION

Half 264 Bty. will man 3" A.A. guns at Hawkinge aerodrome.

METHOD

Advance party, including 1 officer, will be sent on 23rd MAY 1940, reporting to H.Q. 75th Regt. Main Body will proceed afternoon 23rd May, 1940, reporting to Hope Farm, Map Ref: 673562.

ADMINISTRATION

Half 264 Bty., on arrival at Hawkinge, will be under the administration of 75th. A.A. Regt. for all purposes.

...

September 1940

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet	1/9/40	1100 / 1108	A raid of H.E.'s, D.O.'s and ME flying 15000 to 19000 ft engaged by S2, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25. The formation completely scattered by gun fire and then engaged by fighter.	
		1359 / 1425	A raid of 40+ J.U. D.O. ME – 16600 to 22000 ft engaged by S25 and BH West, latter site reporting 2 hit and fell out of formation. Two other small raids engaged by S2 & S4.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	2/9/40	0801 / 0810	20+ DO. And 49+ ME – 16600 / 22000 feet engaged by S15, 16, 17, 18. 2 enemy planes were confirmed shot down and a third possibly brought down.	
		1614 / 1642	Another large raid of 50+ DO, HE & ME engaged by S2, 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 25.	
	3/9/40		One daylight raid by 3+ ME 109 engaged by S25.	
		2125 / 2314	3 raids – unidentified – engaged by S2/3/15/16/17 & 25 – no plane was spotted or illuminated.	
	4/9/40	1313 / 1321	20+ JU, HE & ME – 15/16000 engaged by S4/5/15/16/17 and 25. Object appeared to be bombing of Chatham & Rochester, formation was broken up and flew off east.	
		2055 / 0044	Sporadic night raids by aircraft operating singly, flares were dropped and bombing carried out in Gravesend & Tilbury areas. 1 aircraft believed damaged.	
	5/9/40	1005	40+ JU, DO, CONDORS 13500 ft bombed Biggin Hill aerodrome – bomb dropped in wood on East side. Target engaged by B.H. East. Sporadic night raids by single A/C were engaged by S2 & 3.	
	6/9/40	1311	S25 engaged 6 [?] HE at 16000 and between 1755 / 1810 S2, 4, 15, 17 engaged 15+ ME 109 13 / 15000 who bombed vicinity of Thames Haven.	
	7/9/40	1655 / 1810	Intense aerial activity. Formations of up to 100 enemy planes formed [?] prelude to intense indiscriminate bombing of London. S25 shot down three [?] planes a ME at 1741, a DO 17 at 1755 and a ME109 at 1805. Stations S2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 17, 18 engaged these raids & S17 claim 1 plane hit and seen to ???, and S18 also claim one hit. 264 Bty move from Biggin Hill to Dover.	
	8/9/40	1236	A raid of 15 DO & ME109 were engaged by S18, at 15000 ft & Planes [?] destroyed.	
		2016 / 2347	Hostile planes engaged by S2/3/6 and 15. 3 [?] planes hit ???, one at 2250 by S15 and one at 2340 by S15; between 0206 and 0406 single planes engaged & GL reports that planes were probably hit at 0206 by S15 and 0339 [?] ???	
	9/9/40	1755 / 1811	1 ME110 engaged by S5, 158 Bty and shot down. 1 DO17 claimed shot down by S15. S2, 3, 5, 15 and 25 in action during this raid.	
		2224 / 0351	Continuous night raids by planes operating singly or in pairs – from 10000 / 18000 ft. 415 rounds were fired by S2, 3, 4, 5, 17, 18 who were constantly in action, firing salvos of 4 rounds, except on some few occasions when targets were illuminated. One plane appeared to be damaged by S3 at 0329 and also by S2 at 0331.	
	10/9/40	1730 / 1802	A raid of JU88 and DO215 bombed W. Malling aerodrome and were engaged by S25 and S2. From 2235 to 0353 continuous raids by single aircraft – engaged by S2, 3, 15,	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			17. One plane possibly damaged.	
	11/9/40	1525 / 1616	30+ HE, DO, ME from 8000 to 18000 ft engaged by S2, 3, 4, 17, 18, latter station claiming one enemy aircraft shot down and 1 damaged.	
		1111 / 1350	50+ DO17, JU88, ME 17000 to 18000 engaged by D1 – 1 brought down, as yet unconfirmed.	
		2105 / 0451	Aircraft operating singly engaged by S2, 3, 4, 15, 17, 18 – barrages of 4 rounds per target (unseen).	
	12/9/40	0958 / 1651	5 enemy raids during this period – each by single machines. Stations in action S2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25.	
	13/9/40		Slight activity only in the air, 2 raids by single planes engaged by S25. Usual night raids by single planes – 568 rounds fired by barrage method.	
	14/9/40	1435 / 1550	One raid of 9+ ME109 at 11000 engaged by S25. Usual spasmodic night raids.	
	15/9/40	1200 / 1202	20 HE + 10 ME at 14000 ft engaged by S25.	
		1430 / 1457	50+ HE DO ME engaged by S2, 4, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 25. 1 E/A landed on aerodrome at W. Malling, 1 E/A shot down by S25. S4 & S16 each reported one enemy plane crashed. Usual sporadic night raids.	
	16/9/40		Slight activity only today – 1 JU88 dropped 4 bombs on W Malling aerodrome and was engaged by S25. Normal night raids – unseen targets engaged.	
	17/9/40		Slight enemy activity – low cloud and poor visibility hampered picking up [?] of targets – Barrages No 5 & 6 employed. D1 at Dover 1605 & 1615 shot down 2 ME109 – confirmed. Engagement of unseen targets during the night.	
	18/9/40	0950 / 0951	12 ME109 at 20000 feet engaged by S15 / 17 – fighters then informed.	
		1244 / 1251	12 HE 19000 / 21000 ft engaged by S4, 15, 17.	
		1656 / 1721	18+ JU88 18000 / 20000 ft engaged by S2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 25, 2 enemy aircraft shot down reported by S17. Planes were flying N.W. direction but AA Barrage turned them away to N.E. and fighters then attacked. Usual night raids by single aircraft.	
	19/9/40	0948 / 1121	A single ME109 and a HE111 engaged by sites 2, 3, 4, 17 and 18. Sporadic night raids by single planes engaged by S2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 17, 18.	
	20/9/40		Minor air activity – usual night raids by single planes.	
	21/9/40	1110 / 1121	A raid of 3+ ME engaged by S4 and S25. Increased activity at night – 360 rounds fired by S2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 17 and 25. 208 Bty S17 report 1 E/A believed hit, S15 / 16 report	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			parachute seen dropping from plane. Arrival of Army class Intake postponed until 30 th September.	
	22/9/40		A quiet day with no aerial activity – raids by single planes during night.	
	23/9/40	0939 / 0950	3 Me 109 engaged in formation at 22,000 feet by S2, S3. Thought to be escorting bombers.	
	23/9/40	2103 / 0545	Raiders operating singly or in small groups, engaged intermittently by G.L. methods throughout this period, by S2, 3, 4, 15, 16,18, Object, considered to be bombing.	
	24/9/40	0840 / 0850	50+ ME's Flying in Formation at 20,000 ft were engaged by S5, 25, 17, 16, 15 & were turned from their course and were then engaged by friendly fighters. S.15 reports a parachute to have been seen to come from leading Plane.	
	24/9/40	1111 / 1151	11+ ME's flying at various heights reported to have been scattered by gunfire from S2, 3, 4, 5 and 25. One plane reported by S2 to dive sharply on Bearing 170.	
	24/9/40	1503 / 1557	Single DO 215 flying at 18000/21000 engaged by S15/17/25. This plane dropped Bombs close to S17.	
	24/9/40	2118	Raiders operating singly and flying at various heights caused S2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16 to engage in Barrage Firing.	
	25/9/40	1536 / 1540	S5 reported a single Do.215 flying at 5800 ft which was engaged by them. Result unknown.	
	26/9/40	2128 / 0240	Various raiders operating singly during this period were engaged, as unseen targets, by S2. 4. 15. A barrage of ten rounds was reported to have been fired by S.25.	
	27/9/40	1200 / 1242	A raid by 50+ He, Me, Do at 20000 ft engaged by S2, 3, 4, 5, 15 & 25. 2 planes reported shot down. One afternoon raid, and usual night raids.	
	28/9/40		Very quiet day – two raids by single planes, and usual night raids.	
	29/9/40		No activity – usual routine.	
	30/9/40	1345 / 1346	One single raider engaged by S15, 17, 18.	

October 1940

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet	1	0927 / 0928	One ME.110 was engaged at 24,000 ft by S.4. 1441/1442 One Do.17 was engaged at 27,000 ft by S.25.	
		1615 / 1616	Fifteen M.E. 109s were observed by S.25 and engaged at 18,500 ft.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	2	1007 / 1345	S.25 claim to have brought down one M.E.109 when numbers of these planes were engaged between 18,000 and 20,000 ft. Other stations also engaging these raids were S.5, 17, and 18. 1635/1647 Numerous M.E.109s were engaged by S.25 at 18,000 ft, the number estimated as being 25+	
	3		General Ryland [?] inspected the Army Class intake at Northumberland Bottom, and also G.S.18.	
	4		Regimental Commanders Conference was held at 28 th Bde H.Q.	
		1250 / 1251	One Do.17 was engaged by S.15 at 10,000 ft. 1315 hrs One Ju88 was engaged at 11,000 by S.2 only. 158 th H.A.A. Bty reverted to command of parent Regiment w.e.f. this day.	
	5	0744 / 0747	One Heinkel III was engaged by S.2, 3 and 25 at between 15,000 ft and 20,000 ft, presumably on reconnaissance. 1122/1128 Four ME109s were sighted by S17 and S25 and engaged at 22,000 ft, and between 1420 hrs and 1945 hrs seven more ME109s were engaged by these two stations, at 21,000 ft.	
	6	0918 / 0920	S.16 and S.18 were in action when what was believed to be a Dornier was sighted at 12,000 ft. S.4 engaged 19 Me109s 1015/1020, flying at 25,000 ft. S.2 and S.8 were in action at 1103 hrs when bombs were dropped in the Medway area by a Dornier, flying at 9,000 ft.	
	7	0945 / 0948	S.15 and S.17 were in action against a small formation of ME 109's, five being definitely seen at 0945/0948 hrs; they were flying at 24,000 ft.	
	8	1143 / 1150	15+ ME 109s flying in open formation at 23,000 ft, possibly engaged in a bombing raid, were engaged by S.17. 17 and S.18. Between 0842/2031 S.25 frequently in action against unseen E/A.	
	9	1446 / 1448	A formation of 12+ ME 109's was broken up at 24,000 ft when S15, S17, and S18 were in action. 1537/1559 S2, 3, and 16 engaged ME109s at 30,000 ft. S.25 also in action.	
	10	0857 / 0901	6+ ME109s were engaged when flying in open formation at between 20,000 feet and 24,000 feet by S.2, 15 and S.17. 1501/1502 One Do. At 17,000 ft was engaged by S.2 and S.3. 1025/2159 S.2 were in action during this period against different types of machines, DOs, HEs and MEs, on one occasion engaging E/A with S.A.A. [?] Bombs were dropped in close proximity to West Malling aerodrome.	
	11	0751 / 0914	One ME109 engaged on reccy at 20,000 ft was sighted and engaged by S.3 and S25. 1103/1114 S25 were in action against 4 ME109s at 20,000 ft. 1429/1433 S3, 15, 16,	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			and 25 were in action against 8+ ME 109s employed as bombers flying between 20,000 and 27,000 ft. 1610/1620 S3 and S25 were in action against 4+ MEs flying at 20,000 ft. E/A took avoiding action, but AA fire had no apparent effect.	
	12	1126 / 1127	Six ME109s engaged at 20,000 ft 3 rounds fired by S15.	
		1316 / 1354	Formation composed of 5 ME109 flying at various heights 22/25,000 engaged by S15, S16. The E/A on meeting gun fire rapidly changed [?] height.	
		1616 / 1622	20+ ME109 engaged S15 S18 [?]. S18 report one E/A believed to have been shot down not yet confirmed.	
		1905 / 2109	At 18,000 feet S25 was engaged in Barrage Fire & fired [?] 20 rounds.	
	13 th	1358 / 1359	A quiet day. 3 ME 109 fired at by S15, S16. They at once climbed out of range.	
		1417 / 1556	6 ME 109 were fired at by S15 S18 with result ?? Known. Barrage fire by S16, 17, 18 took place at 2135 at a height of 16000 feet.	
	14 th	0921	A solitary ME109 flying SE was fired upon by GS.3 [?]. During the day, another quiet one, a Junkers 88 was sighted flying alone at 1127 hrs & at 1230 hrs it took evading action & changed height it was engaged by S15/16/17/18 who fired altogether 109 rounds.	
	15 th	0922	6+ ME109 engaged flying Eastwards by S2 who fired 10 Rounds at height of 22000 feet. The same formation was probably the formation of 6 ME 109 engaged at 1015 at 22000 feet by S18 who reported having fired 6 rounds.	
		1135	1 ME 109 was engaged at 22000 feet & after 4 rounds fired by S3 they claimed, unconfirmed that it was shot down on bearing 120° / 130°	
		1245	1 ME 109 was engaged by S16/17/ who expended 6 rounds. This plane was flying at 22/23700 feet	
		1605 / 07	30 ME 109 flying in open formation were engaged, with no known result by S16/17/18 who fired 24 rounds	
			Today the new Cadre started to join the 205 HAA Training Regt at Arborfield, eight officers proceeding from this Regiment.	
	16 th		A quiet day & no engagement reports were rendered from Gun Sites of this Regiment.	
	17 th	0829	+6 ME 109 Flying out of Range of S2 were observed and two rounds were fired as indication to RAF fighters who were flying away from E/A.	
		1345 / 1633	9+ ME 109 were observed during this period flying towards London. They were	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			engaged by S3, S2, S17, S15. One plane was observed by S15 to be in difficulties. 37 rounds were fired altogether.	
	18	1705	One Ju 88 engaged by S18. No result known of 45 rounds expended. Major S Atkinson to Lt Colonel & in command of 59 th LAA Reg at LAA Practice Camp, Stiffkey, Norfolk.	
	20	1121	Between the times of 1121 – 1437 formations of ME109 were engaged by S3/15/18 without known result.	
		1534	7 ME109 flying at 32400 were scattered when S3 fired 4 rounds. At 2224 S18 fired 4 rounds “Young Barrage.”	
	21	1104	A quiet day. S15 fired 24 rounds at 11/13000 feet at unseen target ??? at 1310. At 1225 S2 engaged an unknown formation flying SE. Altogether 2 rounds were fired.	
	24	1943	S18 at 20000 fired 4 rounds “Young Barrage.”	
	25	0810	S2 fired 3 rounds at a Dornier flying S.W at 8600 [?] feet. Cloudy observation impossible. S2/15 at 0925 engaged a formation of ME 109’s flying in an Easterly direction at 24/28000. 3 rounds expended.	
	27	1352	12 Me 109s were engaged flying at 25000 feet – no result known only 2 rounds fired.	
		1652	50 Italian Planes were reported to be flying SE & were engaged 17/20000 feet by S17. These planes dropped some bombs & changed course. No activity report for remainder of the month of October 1940.	

November 1940

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet	1	1125	11 ME 109s engaged by S16 with no apparent effect, usual night firing “barrage” and unseen targets.	
	2	0840	20+ ME 109s engaged by S2. Two bombs seen to be dropped. Usual night firing “barrage” and unseen targets during which S15 shot down Ju 88.	
	3		No aerial activity during day but usual night firing.	
	4		Do Remainder of September Army Class Intake posted to Btys. Difficulties of accommodation at S2, S3, S15 and S25. Hop-pickers huts used as billets at S25, very unsatisfactory in present inclement weather.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	5		Moderate aerial activity during afternoon. ME 109s at heights varying from 30/17000 ft. S2 & S16 engaged. Heavy bombing during night in Gravesend Area. 35 Civilian Casualties, despite usual night firing by Btys.	
	6	1555	Low level bombing attack on S4 by a Heinkel IIIK, two bombs dropped. Four rounds fired when engine appeared to cut out. Usual night firing.	
	7		No aerial activity during day but usual night firing.	
	8		Very little aerial activity during day apart from dive bombing attack on Sheerness Dockyard. S2, [?] S4 [?] & S15 engaged targets. Usual night firing.	
	9		No aerial activity during day but usual night firing.	
	10		Do.	
	11		Slight aerial activity during morning when S5, S16 & S18 engaged with no apparent effect. No night activity.	
	12		Great aerial activity during day, S2, 16, 18 & 25 engaging, and usual night firing.	
	13		Up to midday or early afternoon slight activity when S2, S4, S15 and S5 engaged, one Ju 88 appeared to be hit by S4. Usual night firing.	
	14		Single planes flying over 20000 ft caused [?] engagement in the afternoon by S4, S15 & S16, the latter firing 8 [?] rounds at a Dornier which is believed was damaged. Usual night firing.	
	15		Single enemy a/c, mostly ME109s, made sporadic raids and were engaged by S15, S16, S17 & S18. Usual night firing.	
	16		Reconnaissance flights by ME109s. S2 & S4 engaged. Usual night firing.	
	17		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing.	
	18		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing.	
	19		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing. GL from S18 moved to S17, with E/F attach.	
	20		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing.	
	21		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing.	
	22		No aerial activity during the day but slight night firing.	
	23	1607	One ME109 engaged by S15 at 23000 ft. Little night activity.	
	24		One ME109 engaged by S25 and shot down. Rather quiet night.	
	25		During morning ME109s were engaged by S2, S15 & S17. 164 [264?] Bty took over D9	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
			on departure of 75 Hy AA Regt to th Midlands. A very quiet night.	
	26	1345	S2 engaged an ME110 apparently on reconnaissance. Small night activity.	
	27	0930	Five OFC despatched to 89 Hy A.A. Regt at Clacton as reinforcements	
		1500	28 th Bde School at Northumberland Bottom visited by Lieut. General S. R. Wason [?] M.C., Lieut Col H J Hedley TDRA in attendance.	
		1534	An ME 109 engaged by S2 and seen to be engaged by friendly fighters believed to result in its being shot down. Weather fine. Night activity in evening but quietened down later.	
	28		Considerable activity around midday, engagements by S4, S15, S16, S17 & S18 but enemy a/c very high. Usual night firing. Weather fine.	
	29		A quiet day with fine weather but night activity rather larger than of late.	
	30		A quiet day owing to frost and fog. S17 firing 8 rounds at ME 109s at 25500 feet but without effect. New M.O. Lieut H Firman [?] reported for duty. A quiet night.	

December 1940

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet	1		A quiet day although S2 engaged ME 109s on two occasions firing 11 rounds. Weather fine but frosty. A quiet night. Barrage balloon at S17.	
	2		Capt W M Dovare (?) RAMC left 58 th Hy AA Regt. Aerial activity very quiet during the day but small activity at night. Weather fine.	
	3		No aerial activity during day. Small at night.	
	4		No aerial activity during day. Small at night.	
	5		Barrage balloon left S17. No aerial activity during day, small at night, weather fine but cold.	
	6		Major L Jackson, TD, RA assumes command during absence of Lt Col H J (?) Hedley TD RA, at Buckhurst Park Withyham on Regimental Commanders' Course. No aerial activity during day or night.	
	7		Another very quiet day & night. Weather fine but cold.	
	8		Small day activity without any engagements, enemy a/c very active at night but no engagements, owing to friendly fighters being in the vicinity. Weather fine but cold.	
	9		A very quiet day and night.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	10		Another very quiet day and night. Weather fine but cold.	
	11		News received of the award of the Military Cross to 2/Lt P V Bennett R.A. (??? Bty). Small activity during the day when S2 engaged 1 ME 109 at 11000 ft without apparent effect. Weather fine but cold. Little night activity.	
	12		A fairly quiet day but during morning S2, S5 & S15 engaged ME 109s at 21000 ft and upwards. Small activity at night. Weather fine but cold.	
	13		A quiet day, foggy during the morning.	
	14		No day activity. Early morning mist but fine & quiet night.	
	15		No day activity. Early morning mist but fine & quiet night.	
	16		No day activity. Early morning mist but fine & quiet night. Lt Colonel Hedley returned.	
	17		No day activity. Early morning mist but fine & quiet night.	
	18		No day activity. S2 visited by Chinese Military and Naval Attaches. Very quiet night. Weather fine but cold.	
	19		No day or night activity. Weather wet.	
	20		No aerial activity. Firing practice at Milton (?) Ranges. Weather very cold and some rain.	
	21		Exactly as on 20 th .	
	22		No aerial activity, weather cold & wet.	
	23		No aerial activity whatsoever, weather very cold with mist & fog.	
	24		Usual Christmas routine.	
	25			
	26			
	27		No day activity but a lot from 1800 – 22 hrs at night. Weather cold.	
	28		No day activity and a quiet night. Weather fine but cold.	
	29		A quiet day, but noisy during early hours of darkness. Heavy raid on City of London. Weather finer but cold.	
	30		No day activity and a quiet night. Weather very cold & dull.	
	31		No day activity and although an alarm was given soon after darkness no enemy planes were heard. Weather cold & dull.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

January 1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Nothfleet	1		No day engagements. Weather cold with snow. Small night activity.	
	2		Do	
	3		Quiet day, weather cold. Small barrage firing at night.	
	4		Snow. Small barrage firing at night.	
	5		Weather cold. Fair amount of barrage shooting between 1800 hrs and midnight.	
	6		Snow and mist. Small day activity. S15 claiming a plane HK which crashed between Bow Green [?] and Swanley at 0850 hrs. Quiet night.	
	7		Single enemy planes engaged during day by barrage fire. Low cloud. No night action.	
	8		Very cold & frosty. No activity.	
	9		Cold but not freezing. Small activity during evening.	
	10		A cold day but good visibility. No action.	
	11		Slight rain & cold. Small activity during evening.	
	12		Warmer with good visibility. Active shooting of barrage during evening.	
	13		Ground mist during day, clear night, small evening activity.	
	14		Cold with some snow and poor visibility. S25 having small engagement at 2100 hrs on 17 th .	
	15			
	16			
	17			
	18			
	19		Cloudy during day turning very cold at night. Intense barrage activity by most sites between 1900 and 2359 hrs.	
	20		Heavy rain all day. One small engagement early morning.	
	21		Small reconnaissance flights by enemy during day S2 engaging. Low cloud with rain.	
	22		Rain low cloud & poor visibility. No action.	
	23			
	24			
	25			
	26			
	27			
	28		Barrage shooting in early morning. Rain & low cloud.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	29		Dull & poor visibility. Barrage shooting during evening.	
	30		Conference on 28 Bde TEWT presided over by Brigadier Bayne [?] Jardine at RHQ. Day activity from 1200 hrs. Weather cold with low cloud.	
	31		Small activity during morning and afternoon. Weather wet with poor visibility.	

February 1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet, Kent	1		No engagements. Weather dull & cold.	
	2			
	3		Weather dull & cold. S4 [?] engaged one Heinkel III at 2800'. Unseen target engagements by S18, S25.	
	4		Weather cold & dull during day but clear at night. No engagements.	
	5		Fine but cold weather. Evening engagements by S2, S4, S5 and S17.	
	6		Quiet day & night. Weather fine. First experiment "Milky" at S2.	
	7		No engagements. Weather cold & dull.	
	8		No engagements. Weather fine becoming very cold at night.	
	9		No engagements. Weather fine but cold.	
	10		No engagements. Clear & sunny during day – a clear but cold night.	
	11		No engagements. Bright sunny day, cold but misty [?] night. Bde Comds Administrative Inspection.	
	12		No engagements. Bright day early becoming misty & cold.	
	13		No engagements. Weather fine throughout the 24 hrs.	
	14		S15 [?] engaged unseen targets during evening. Weather fine, followed by rain.	
	15		Weather fine, frosty night. S17 engaging ME 110 during morning & S2 a ME 110 during afternoon.	
	16		Cold with high wind & some rain. S2 engaging with predicted concentrations.	
	17		Dull, some rain. S18 [?] firing at unseen target during evening.	
	18		Cloudy & very cold. No engagements. 206 Bty E Tp [?] to S12.	OO No 15 attached.
	19		Cold & windy with snow. Engagements by S2, S4, S5, S17, S18, S25 during evening.	
	20		Engagements by S5 early in the morning. S2, 4 & 15 in the evening. Cold but clear.	
	21		Cold & dull day. S2 & S15 [25?] engaging between 0001 and 0600 hrs.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	22		Clear day early becoming overcast. Engagements by S5, S2 & S4	
	23		Fine & cold. Engagement by S4 during evening.	
	24		Clear but cold. S5 firing predicted concentration.	
	25		Fine but cold. No engagements.	
	26		Cold & wet. No engagements.	
	27		Rain & wind. S18 firing predicted concentration.	
	28		Cold but clear. No engagements but 2 nd Milky experiment carried out at S15.	

Operation Order No 15; 17/2/41

58 HY. A.A. REGT. R.A. SECRET.

Ref. Map O.S. 1" to 1 Mile. O.O. NO. 15.

Sheets 115 and 116. Copy No. 10

17 FEB 41

INFM.

1. A Tp. of 167/59 Bty. at present in posn. at S.12 (ALLHALLOWS) R283964, is moving to Practice Camp on 18 FEB. 41. The period of Practice Camp is either one or two weeks according to weather conditions.

INT.

1. A Tp. Of 264/58 Bty. will relieve the Tp of 167/59 Bty. at S12

METHOD.

3. The relief will take place on 18 FEB. 41, and will be by road, to be completed by 1200 hrs. on that day.

4. An advance party consisting of one officer, one N.C.O. and 12 O.Rs. will proceed in Unit tpt. from S.17 to S.12 on 17 FEB.41., leaving at 0400 hrs. and carrying rations for two days.

5. Three 3-ton lorries from Bde. Pool will report to S.17 and three to S.25 at 0800 hrs. on 18 FEB.41.

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

6. One N.C.O. and 48 O.Rs. from S.17, and one officer and 30 O.Rs. from S.25 will proceed to S.12 on 18 FEB. 41, by Bde. Pool tpt. Loading will commence at 0815 hrs. and the convoy will move off at 0900 hrs.

Routes. From S.25. - LEYBOURNE, SNODLAND, HALLING CUXTON, STROOD, CHATTENDEN, SHARNAL STREET.

From S.17. - CHATTENDEN, SHARNAL STREET.

7. Guns, Stores, Cmd. Post Books etc., will be left in situ by 167/59 Bty. and taken over together with all operational information by the ingoing Site Cmd.

8. The Tp. of 264/58 Bty. will on taking over come under operational and adm. control of 55 Hy. A.A. Regt.

ADM.

9. The unexpended portion of the day's ration will be taken by both main parties.

10. Personal kit and bedding will be taken. Accommodation stores and equipment will NOT be taken.

INTER_COMN.

11. "Relief complete" will be reported to Bde. H.Q. and this H.Qs., by signal as soon as the outgoing Tp. has moved off.

12. Telephone Nos.- S. 17. GRAVESEND 4606.

S.25. WEST MALLING 2201.

S. 12. ALL HALLOWS 28.

H.Q. 58 Hy. A.A. Regt. GRAVESEND 1134.

H.Q. 55 Hy. A.A. Regt. STROOD 7124.

H.Q. 28 A.A. Bde. CHATHAM 3897.

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

ACK.

March 1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
Northfleet	1.3.41		Circulation of OO No 16 attached herewith. Very little enemy activity. 208 Bty (S5) observed ME 110 at 1305 hrs at 20,000 ft but could not engage & 264 (S25) engaged one unseen target at 20.30 hrs. Weather – Day – High Wind & Showers. Bright intervals. Night – Heavy rain & more wind.	Appendix I
	2.3.41		Normal routine – No enemy activity. Weather – Fine, bright intervals – visibility moderate.	
	3.3.41		Section of B Troop 264 Bty commenced Mobile Training at Brigade School. Slight enemy activity at night. 207 Bty (S2 & S4), 208 (S5 & S18) each fired predicted concentrations in the evening & 264 (S25) engaged one unseen target at 21.15. Weather – Day – Fine & bright – some cloud. Night – some rain.	
	4.3.41		206 Bty held TEWT. Balloon flown for calibration guns of 264 (S17). Slight enemy activity after nightfall 207 (S2), 208 (S5 & S18), 264 (S17) each fired predicted concentrations & 264 (S15 [?]) engaged two unseen targets. Weather – Fine & bright, visibility moderate.	
	5.3.41		SGCO requested 208 (S18) in future to render cloud reports at 0800, 1400, 2000 hrs. No enemy activity. Weather - Cloud, poor visibility.	
	6.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Rain, low clouds, poor visibility.	
	7.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Cloudy, rain, poor visibility.	
	8.3.41		Normal routine. Considerable enemy activity after nightfall. 207 (S2) engaged 2 unseen targets & fired one predicted concentration, 264 (S17) engaged one unseen target & 264 (S25) were in action constantly for 3 hours. Weather – Cloudy, poor visibility.	
	9.3.41		Section from B Troop, 264 completed Mobile Training. 208 (S5) relieved by 388/121 H.A.A. Regt. For mobile training. Considerable enemy activity after nightfall. 207 (S2), 208 (S18) both fired predicted concentrations and 264 (S17) engaged 1 unseen target and 264 (S25) were in action repeatedly for 2 hrs. 208 (S18) reported IB's dropped next field – put out by Fire Picquet – but on inspection in daylight 12 bomb craters observed & quantities of fine steel wire [?] found nearby. Weather – Rain.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	10.3.41		Normal routine. Slight enemy activity after nightfall. 207 (S2) engaged 1 unseen target & 264 (S17) fired one predicted concentration. Weather – Day – Cloudy Rain [?]. Night – very clear & bright.	
	11.3.41		Normal routine. Slight enemy activity after nightfall. 207 (S2) fired predicted concentrations, as did 208 (S18) & 264 (S17). 264 (S25) also engaged ?? unseen targets. 264 (S17) reported IB's on Bearing 270 about 4,000 [?] yds from site. Weather – Cloudy, fair.	
	12.3.41		Normal routine. Slight enemy activity after nightfall. 207 (S4), 208 (S18) & 264 (S17) all fired predicted concentrations while 264 (S25) engaged 1 unseen target. Weather – Cloudy – high wind.	
	13.3.41		Troop Football Team, 208 (S18) won Brigade Cup Final. Very slight enemy activity 207 (S4) firing one concentration. Weather – Clear & bright – very bright moonlight.	
	14.3.41		Normal routine. Considerable enemy activity. 207 (S2 & S4) & 264 (S17) fired several p/concentrations while 264 (S25) fired repeatedly at unseen targets. Weather – fair.	
	15.3.41		Normal routine. Considerable enemy activity. 207 (S2 & S4), 208 (S18) & 264 (S17) fired several p/concentrations, and 264 (S25) engaged several unseen targets. Weather – low cloud throughout day, ground mist at night.	
	16.3.41		207 (S4) moved to Brigade School for Mobile Training & were relieved by 208 Troop [?] having [?] completed training. Slight enemy activity – 264 (S17) fired 3 concentrations at 2200 hrs. Weather – Fair, visibility moderate.	
	17.3.41		Normal routine. Very slight enemy activity – 264 (S17) fired a concentration after dark. Weather – Dull, cold, visibility – poor. 2 P??? H. G. Visited 264 (S17).	
	18.3.41		Normal routine. Very slight enemy activity. 208 (S4) & 264 (S17) fired concentrations. Weather. Bright & sunny – clear & starry by night.	
	19.3.41		Normal routine. Considerable enemy activity after dark. 207 (S2) 208 (S4 & S18) & 264 (S17) fired numerous concentrations & 264 (S25) engaged several unseen targets.	
	20.3.41		Normal routine. Slight enemy activity. 207 (S2) & 264 (S17) fired concentrations. Weather – Fair.	
	21.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Fair.	
	22.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Rain, low cloud, visibility poor.	
	23.3.41		206 (S15) to Brigade School for Mobile Training, relieved by 207 B Troop. 207 B Troop from Brigade School to S15. No enemy activity. Weather – Fair.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	References to Appendices
	24.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – cloudy, bright intervals, cold wind.	
	25.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Cloudy, bright intervals.	
	26.3.41		264 (S17) visited by G.O.C. ?? Lt Gen Sir Frederick A Pile, BT [?] C.B., D.S.O., M.C., accompanied by Corps Cmdr, Div Cmdr & Bde Cmdr. No enemy activity. Weather – Fine.	
	27.3.41		Normal routine. Slight daytime enemy activity & 207 (S2) engaged ME 110 at 25,000 – changed course. Weather – Dull.	
	28.3.41		206 (S16) Field Check. No enemy activity. Weather – Dull.	
	29.3.41		208 (S18) Field Check. No enemy activity. Weather – Cold – bright intervals.	
	30.3.41		206 Rt Troop returned to S15 after Mobile Training. 207 B Troop returned to S4 from S15. Relief of S4 completed by 207 Bty. Weather – Cold, bright intervals. No enemy activity.	
	31.3.41		Normal routine. No enemy activity. Weather – Fairly bright, some rain.	

Operation Order No 16; 1/3/41

58 HY. A.A.REGT. R.A. SECRET.
 Ref. Map I" to 1 mile O.O. No. 16.
 Sheets 115, 116. COPY NO. 12.

1 MAR. 41.

INF.

1. The Bde. Comd. has decided on certain necessary changes in the accommodation and operational commitments of Units of this Bde.

INT.

2. Units will change Stations as outlined in para. 3. – 5. below.

METHOD.

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

3. On SUN. 9 MAR. 41 personnel of 264 Hy. A.A. Bty. who will have completed Mobile Training at NORTHUMBERLAND BOTTOM 0890 will move to DARTFORD BY-PASS 0092.

Any personnel unable to be accommodated there will be despatched, to WEST MALLING 1374.

4. On SUN. 9 MAR. 41 one Tp. 388 Hy. A.A. Bty. 121 Hy. A.A. Regt. will relieve 208 Hy. A.A. Bty. 58 Hy. A.A. Regt. at TWYDALL 2386.

5. On SUN. 9 MAR. 41 one Tp. 208 Hy. A.A. Bty. 58 Hy. A.A. Regt. on being relieved at TWYDALL 2386 will move to NORTHUMBERLAND BOTTOM 0890 and undergo one week's Mobile Training.

6. All moves will be arranged mutually between Units concerned, with copy of relative O.O. to this H.Qs. two days' previous to move.

ADM.

7. Any additional Tpt. required for moves will be obtained on application to this H.Qs.

INTERCOMN.

8. All reliefs and moves will be reported to this H.Qs. soon as complete.

9. Telephone Nos._

B.Q.H. 208 Bty. DARTFORD 4021. S.5. (TWYDALL) GILLINGHAM 5839.
 B.Q.H. 264 Bty. GRAVESEND 4606. LOWER CAMP, NORTHUMBERLAND BOTTOM
 B.Q.H. 388 Bty. ALLHALLOWS 64. GRAVESEND 4703.
 H.Q. 58 Hy. A.A. Regt. GRAVESEND 1134.

April 1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information				References to Appendices	
Northfleet Kent	1		Location	Duties	Strength		Weather	
			RHQ Springhead [?] Road	Usual routine.	O	OR's	ATS	Wet & cold
	2		Northfleet, Kent	Usual routine.	5	24	9	Wet & cold

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information				References to Appendices		
	3		Do	Usual routine.	5	24	9	Dull, rain	
	4		Do	Usual routine.	5	24	9	Dull, rain	
	5		Do	Usual routine.	5	23	10	Variable. High Wind, cold	
	6		Do	Usual routine.	5	23	10	High winds & cold	
	7		Do	Usual routine.	5	23	8	High winds & cold	
	8		Do	Usual routine.	5	25	8	Cold	
	9		Do	Usual routine.	5	25	7	Cold, some sun	
			Troop of 264 Bty to relieve Tp of 208 Bty at S21 on Apr 11						Appendix "A"
	10		RHQ Northfleet	Usual routine.	5	25	7	Cold wind	
	11		Do	Usual routine.	4	25	7	Fair & cloudy	
	12		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	8	Fair & mild	
	13		Do	Usual routine.	4	27	8	Fine & warm	
	14		Do	Usual routine.	4	27	8	Fine & warm	
	15		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	9	Warm & bright	
	16		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	9	Fine & mild	
	17		Do	Usual routine.	4	27	9	Fine, cloudy	
			Heavy raid on London during night 16/17						
	18		Do	Usual routine.	4	27	9	Warm, cloudy	
	19		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	9	Mild	
			Heavy raid on Thames Estuary & London. RHQ roof of drill hall damaged by PM 17 HE's, 2 PM's & 1000 IB's in close vicinity. No casualties.						
	20		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	9	Mild	
	21		Do	Usual routine.	4	26	9	Fine but cool	
	22		Do	Usual routine.	4	28	10	Fine	
	23		Do	Usual routine.	4	28	10	Cold wind, low cloud	
	24		Do	Usual routine.	3	28	10	Fine, cold NE wind	
	24/4/41		Major C H Edwards, OC 264 Bty, posted RA Depot Woolwich - ??? Dept Capt G E Irish assumed command 244 Bty. Lt Col H J Hadley departed on leave. Major M A Galbraith, OC 206 Bty, assumed command of 58 th Hvy AA Regt.						

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information				References to Appendices
			Capt J L Wilkes assumed command of 206 Battery				
	25		Do	Usual routine.	3 28 10	Fine, cold NE wind	
	26		Do	Usual routine.	3 25 10	Cold, cloudy	
	27		Do	Usual routine.	3 26 9	Cold & dull	
			207 & 208 Btys dept for Practice Camp, Ty-Croes, Anglesey. Lt Col H J Hadley going them there [?]. 2/Lt W A G??? Regtl O/O accompanying.				
	28		Do	Usual routine.	3 26 6	Mild	
	29		Do	Usual routine.	3 26 5	Fine	
			Tp 264 Bty relieve 308 Bty at S4 on 3 May				Appendix "B".
	30		Do	Usual routine.	3 26 5	Cold & overcast	

May 1941

Commanding Officer: Lt. Col. H.J. Hedley, T.D., R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information				Weather	General	References to Appendices
			Strength						
			Offs	WO	ORs	ATS			
RHQs Drill Hall, Springhead Rd, Northfleet, Kent	1		4	1	27	5	Fine & mild	Usual routine.	
	2		4	1	27	5	Cold Cloudy	Usual routine.	
	3		4	1	27	5	Cold & wet	Usual routine.	
	4		4	1	25	5	Fine & warm	Half Bty 264/58 relieved 394/90 Bty at D8 (Chalk Hole) & D9 (Czengell) Manston Aerodrome.	APPENDIX "A"
	5		4	1	24	6	Cold & dull	Usual routine.	
	6		4	1	24	6	Cold & dull	Usual routine.	
	7		4	1	22	6	Cold & dull	Usual routine.	
	8		4	1	22	6	Cold	Usual routine.	
	9		4	1	26	6	Cold	Usual routine.	
	10		4	1	26	6	Cold & overcast	207 & 208 Btys returned from TY-CROES Practice Camp. 207 to S2 & S4, 208 to S5 & S18.	
	11		4	1	26	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						References to Appendices
	12		4	1	26	6	Fine & warm	Lt. Col. H.J. Hedley reassumed Command of Regt ??? Major Galbraith. Capt. S.T. Mulholland assumed temporary command of 208 Bty during absence of Major Jackson.	
	13		4	1	27	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	14		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	15		4	1	27	5		Lt. Col. Hadley departed for Camouflage Course & command of regt devolved on Major Galbraith.	
	16		4	1	27	5		F.G.C.M. held for trial of Gnr Robins (206 Bty) who accidentally shot and killed Gnr Symons [?]	
	17		4	1	27	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	18		4	1	27	5		Lt. Col. H.J. Hedley reassumed command of Regt vice Major Galbraith.	
	19		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	20		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	21		4	1	27	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	22		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	23		4	1	27	5		2/Lt M.D. Holloway (206 Bty) apptd. Unit Commander [?]. Major H.A.R. Jones reported for duty ??? B.C. for 264 Bty.	
	24		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	25		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	26		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	27		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	28		4	1	27	5		Bty & Regtl Commanders Conference at 28 Bde	
	29		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	30		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	
	31		4	1	27	5		Usual routine.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

June 1941

Commanding Officer: Lt. Col. H.J. Hedley, T.D., R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information					References to Appendices	
			Strength				Weather		General
			Offs	WO	ORs	ATS			
Drill Hall, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent	1		3	2	23	5	Cloudy, cool	Usual routine.	
	2		4	2	22	5	Overcast, cold	Usual routine.	
	3		4	2	23	5	Overcast, cold	Major L. Jackson, O.C. 208 Bty struck off strength absent more than 21 days & posted R.A. Depot, Woolwich.	
	4		4	2	23	5	Warm & sunny	Usual routine.	
	5		4	2	22	5	Cold & wet	Usual routine.	
	6		4	2	22	5	Cold & wet	Usual routine.	
	7		4	2	21	5	Showery	Advised by 28 Bde that 206 Bty will come under W.O. control as from 14 June 41.	
	8		4	2	21	5	Sunny & warm	Instructions re 206 Bty cancelled further orders to follow.	
	9		4	2	21	6	Cold & wet	Lt. Col. Hedley left for ??? Course. Command assumed by Major Galbraith, OC, 206 Bty. Instructions from 28 Bde that 206 Bty will be transferred to 60 Hy AA Regt as of 10 July 41.	
	10		4	2	21	6	Cold & wet	Usual routine.	
	11		4	2	21	5	Fine, cold	Lt. Col Hedley returned from Course & reassumed Command vice Major Galbraith.	
	12		4	2	21	5	Fine, cold	Usual routine.	
	13		4	2	23	5	Fine, cold	Usual routine.	
	14		4	2	23	5	Dull & cold	Gen. Hyland visited & inspected S.25 (264 Bty).	
	15		4	2	23	6	Fine & warm	Instructions received from 25 AA Bde re 206 who are to join 60 th Hy. A.A. Regt on July 11 at Birmingham.	
	16		4	2	23	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						References to Appendices
			Strength				Weather	General	
			Offs	WO	ORs	ATS			
	17		4	2	23	6	Fine & warm	W.O. instructions received re Mob. of 206 Bty.	
	18		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	19		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Visit of R.A. (Woolwich) Band.	
	20		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Instructions from 28 Bde re moves as a result of departure of 206 Bty. Learnt that 419 th A.A. Bty for which this Regt provided cadre in April 41 are replacing 206 Bty.	
	21		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	22		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	23		4	2	28	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	24		4	2	27	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	25		4	2	27	6	Fine & warm	206 Bty to move 8 July.	
	26		4	2	27	6	Fine & warm	Major J.S. Williams assumed command of 208 Bty vide Capt. Mulholland.	
	27		4	2	27	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	28		4	2	24	6	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	29		4	2	24	6	Fine & warm	Advice recd from 28 Bde that Bde has now shot down its 200 th Hun – this Regt's share being 52 ³ / ₅ ths. Congrats. from Gen. Pile.	
	30		4	2	24	6	Fine & warm	Orders recd. from 28 Bde 206 Bty to report at Crewe.	

July 1941

Commanding Officer: Lt. Col. H.J. Hedley, T.D., R.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						References to Appendices
			Strength				Weather	General	
			Offrs	WO	ORs	ATS			
Drill Hall,	1		4	2	23	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	

HAA War Diaries – 58th (Kent) 1940-1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						References to Appendices
			Strength				Weather	General	
			Offrs	WO	ORs	ATS			
Springhead Road, Northfleet, Kent	2		4	2	23	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	3		4	2	22	5	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	4		4	2	24	6	Fine & warm	Preliminaries On 28 Bde Ground Defences & Gas exercise.	
	5		4	2	24	6	Fine & warm	Continued preliminaries of Bde [?] exercise & arrival of 419 Bty advance party	
	6		4	2	25	6	Fine & warm	Exercise proper commenced 1000 hrs.	
	7		4	2	31	6	Fine & warm	Exercise terminated at 0900 hrs. Arrival of 419 Bty main body.	
	8		4	2	29	6	Fine & warm	206 Bty separated to join 60 Hy AA Regt. Conference of Regt ??? on Bde exercise.	
	9		4	2	29	4	Fine & warm	Usual routine.	
	10		4	2	30	4	Fine & warm	Conference of COs ??? at 28 Bde on exercise.	