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Horse Guards, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2AX

Falklands War 2 April to 14 Jun 1982



2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands War.

Two troops from B Squadron, The Blues and Royals were sent with the Task Force. The vehicles - combat vehicle reconnaissance (tracked) or CVR(T) - were transported aboard the M/V Elk while their crews sailed on the SS Canberra. The crews with their Scimitars, Scorpions and a single Samson, arrived at Ascension Island before moving onto HMS Fearless for the amphibious landing at San Carlos.

After the initial landing they set up perimeter security for the beachhead from dug-in vehicle positions, and acted as logistics carriers, shuttling stores from one place to another over the boggy ground.

Many thought at the time that this terrain would defeat the CVRTs with the troops playing little part in the future operations. But after some lobbying by their officers they were tasked to support 45 Commando in their yomp along the northern route, and 3 Para tabbing to Teal Inlet.

Having navigated minefields and marsh, they arrived for the key night battles to be fought across the high ground above Port Stanley. The first attack was opened by 3 Para assaulting



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Mount Longdon. After achieving initial surprise, the enemy were soon returning fierce and heavy accurate fire. 4 Troop provided much needed fire support with their 76mm into enemy positions. But the battle was to last 6 hours.

One technique used by the troops proved very effective. It was known as 'zapping': "...the CVR crew would engage the Argentine position with a brief burst of machine gun fire provoking a response, which was promptly silenced by the main gun. The 30mm RARDEN cannon, with its high velocity and great accuracy, was much favoured for this technique. Few Argentines felt able to reply after being 'zapped.'"

When supporting infantry, the Blues and Royals proved critical, especially firing them into positions at night. The two troops provided fire support for 2 Para during the Battle of Wireless Ridge and for the Scots Guards during the Battle of Mount Tumbledown, evacuating casualties off the mountain on their engine decks. On 14 June 1982 they rolled through the streets of the newly liberated Port Stanley.

Museum information:

From XX 2021 to XX 2022 the Museum will be exhibiting artefacts from the conflict and delving into the personal stories of the soldiers who served there.

More information to follow... on contents, events and key activity dates + family Falkland's penguin trail

Current artefacts list:

Falklands pistols: Argentine colt + 9mm Falklands bayonet (Mick Flynn) Argentine rifle Argentine steel helmet Model Scorpion Copy of the surrender telex Documentation collection from Stanley Selection of photographs (Refitted Panhard AML90 – restoration paid for by HCF)

Plus input from: 3 (already identified) RHG/D Falklands veterans

Plus possible input from officers: Mark Coreth who captured the Panhard (outside of London) Robin Innes-Ker, Roger Field (London based)

Plus: Input from wider Regimental family; loans, stories, oral history recordings TBC