



**“C” Company, 1st Bn. The Royal Ulster Rifles
6th Airlanding Brigade, 6th Airborne Division
June 6-14, 1944**



Order of Battle

Company Headquarters

Company Commander: Major Bob Hynds (WIA July 7, 1944)

Second-in-Command: Captain Hugh Weldon

Company Sergeant Major: CSM C. S. McCutcheon (KIA March 24, 1945)

Company Quartermaster Sergeant: Color Sergeant Richard Boyce

Combat Platoons

No. 15 Platoon: (Platoon Commander Unknown)

No. 16 Platoon: (Platoon Commander Unknown)

No. 17 Platoon: (Platoon Commander Unknown)

No. 18 Platoon: Lt. M. Gann

Weapons Platoon (from Battalion Support Company)

Anti-Tank Platoon: Lt. Richard Quinn (KIA June 16, 1944)

Support Platoons

“C” Troop, 211th Airlanding Light Battery, Royal Artillery: Captain Hugh Ward (KIA June 12, 1944)

Light Tank Troop, “A” Squadron, 6th Airborne Armored Reconnaissance Regiment

Operation Mallard

The 1st Battalion The Royal Ulster Riflemen departed Brize Norton airfield at 1840 hours on June 6, 1944. The battalion landed on LZ-N, near Ranville, at 2100 hours. They were greeted by German mortars and a degree of small-arms fire. These, however, did very little to hinder the forming up of the Battalion and only one casualty was sustained. The battalion formed up in less than an hour and moved to Le Bas de Ranville to await orders.

The Ulstermen were assigned the task of enlarging the southern sector of the Orne River bridgehead by capturing the villages of Longueval and Sainte Honorine. “C” Company occupied the high ground called ‘Ring Contour 30’ between Ranville and Sainte Honorine with the mortars, anti-tank guns, and machineguns of the Support Company at 0200 hours on June 7th. From this position the company could support the assault on Longueval and Sainte Honorine. Longueval was occupied without incident, however the attempt to move on Sainte Honorine



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was dogged by communications difficulties and determined German resistance. The Ulstermen were forced to retire to Longueval having suffered in excess of one hundred casualties. Major Hynds and Captain Wheldon were awarded the Military Cross for gallantry while covering the retreat.

The Ulstermen remained in this area for the following week and endured a great deal of shelling and numerous harassing attacks throughout, although no truly serious attempt was made to dislodge them. On the 13th June, with the 51st (Highland) Division arriving to assume responsibility for the southern flank, the 6th Airlanding Brigade was moved northwards and the 1st Royal Ulster Rifles were ordered to relieve the beleaguered 12th Parachute Battalion in Bréville.



Men of the 1st Battalion
The Royal Ulster Riflemen
move off from LZ 'N'.
(IWM)

Sources:

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G. G. Norton, The Red Devils: The Story of the British Airborne Forces, Leo Cooper: 1971.

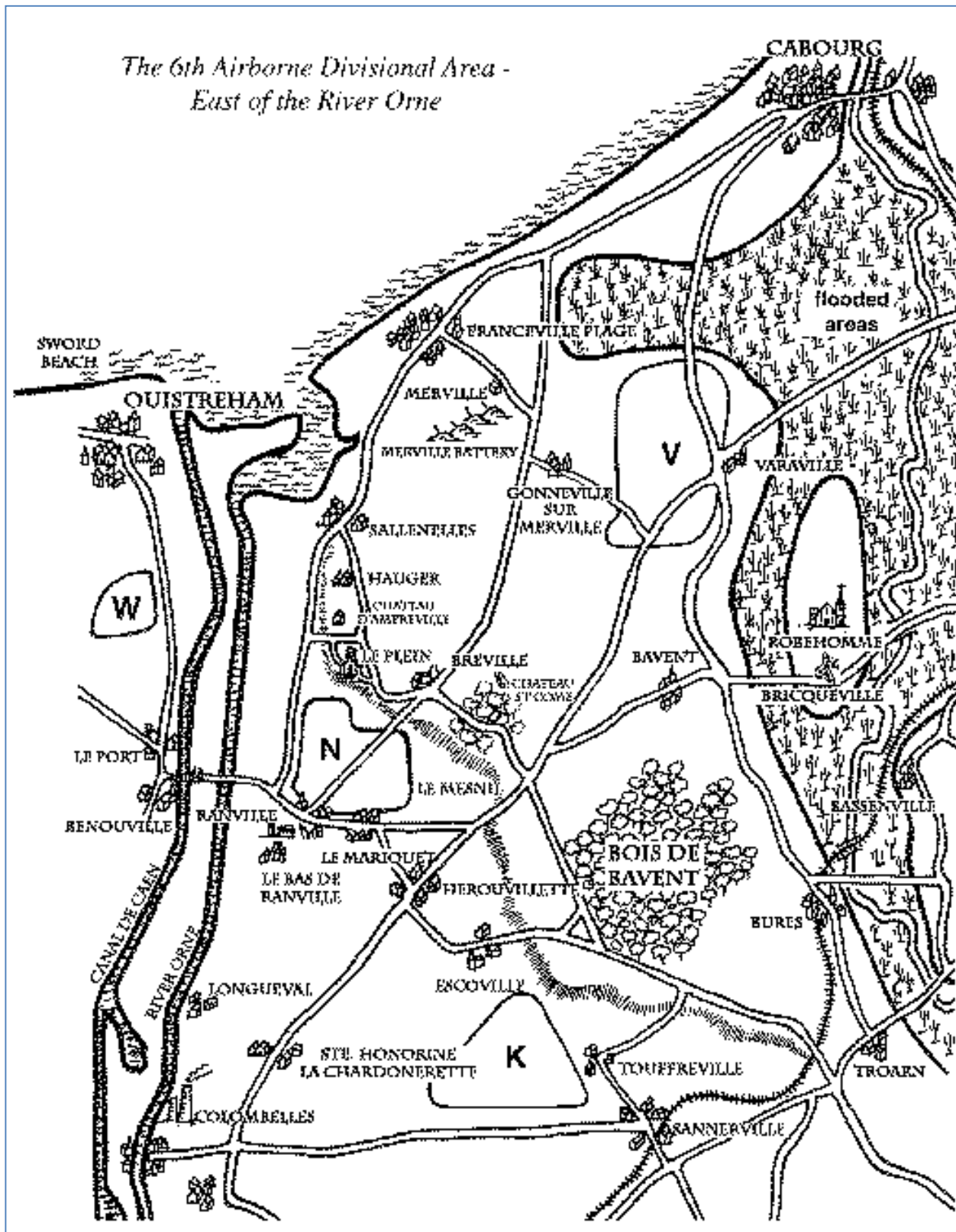
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Major Bob Hynds



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British Airlanding Company

| | |
|---|----------|
| Company HQ with 1 PIAT team | 85 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (Full) | 230 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (Full) | 230 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (Full) | 230 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (Full) | 230 pts |
| Airlanding Anti-tank Platoon (Full) | 175 pts |
| Airlanding Battery, RA (Full) | 140 pts |
| Airlanding Armored Reconnaissance Platoon (Full) | 205 pts |
| (with OQF 3” Howitzer and 2 Littlejohn Adapter Options) | |
| Priority Air Support (Typhoons) | 220 pts |
| Total | 1745 pts |

Seize & Hold Mission Alternate List

| | |
|---|----------|
| Company HQ with 1 PIAT Team | 85 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (with Coup-de-main Option) | 375 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (with Coup-de-main Option) | 375 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (with Coup-de-main Option) | 375 pts |
| Airlanding Platoon (with Coup-de-main Option) | 375 pts |
| Airlanding Armored Reconnaissance Platoon (3 Tanks) | 155 pts |
| (With OQF 3” Howitzer and 2 Littlejohn Adapter Options) | |
| Total | 1740 pts |