

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST IN OVERSEAS BULLETINS OR USE ON CLUB TAPES BEFORE 0830 D.B.S.T. ON THURSDAY 6.4.44. (i.e. FOR EVENING PAPERS). THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE EMBARGO.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT IN BURMA.

The Northamptonshire Regiment are serving in Burma. They are among the troops in the Tamu area in the Kabaw Valley, where they have resisted the Japanese forces attempting to break through into Manipur State. South of Tamu itself they have been among our most advanced troops on the whole of the Burma front, and as such have clashed with Japanese forces striking for the town of Tamu, the head of the road to Imphal.

The Northamptonshire Regiment have seen service in France and Flanders, Madagascar, North Africa, Sicily, and in Italy, where they fought with both the 8th and 5th Armies, distinguishing themselves in operations on the east and west coasts as well as in the centre of the Peninsula. The Regiment formed part of the original advance guard of the 1st Army in Tunisia. Some of the Northhamptons were among the leaders of the force striking towards Mateur along the coastal road when, organised as a mobile column of carriers, reconnaissance vehicles and infantry, they inflicted heavy casualties on the Germans, who lost at least 11 tanks in an attempt to dissipate this force. At one time the column was cut off, but it succeeded in regaining <sup>contact</sup> with our main body.

It is claimed for the Northhamptons that they were the first British unit to be engaged during the present war, when a patrol from the regiment exchanged shots with the Germans in the first week after the arrival of the B.E.F. in France.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

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