

5th Berks Bn. Home Guard.

From The Officer Commanding  
To every individual Member of the Battalion.

**Our Assault on Germany will take place this Spring and the Home Guard will probably be the only combatant troops left in Britain.** I wish every man in this Battalion to be fully aware of what is expected of him when the enemy replies with major Air-borne Raids on this Country—which he is certain to do, for any diversion, however suicidal, will be a necessity to him. **The tougher the time we give the Huns on the Continent, the more likely he is to come here and try to sabotage our lines of Communication and our vital War Factories.**

If these Hun Raiding Parties are left to their own devices **even for a few minutes**, incalculable harm may be done by cutting telephone wires and electric cables, or by blowing up railway lines and bridges, etc., etc.

**IT RESTS WITH US, THE HOME GUARD, TO DEAL WITH THESE RAIDERS PROMPTLY, EFFECTIVELY, and CONCLUSIVELY.**

Immediately there is a Raid, or that there is reason to believe that there may be a Raid, the Home Guard will be **mustered**. What does this entail? Namely:—

**THAT THE HOME GUARD WILL GIVE UP THEIR CIVILIAN JOBS AND BECOME FULL-TIME SOLDIERS, PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT.**

Every Member of this Battalion will report **immediately** for duty at his Platoon or Section H.Q., with equipment, as already instructed.

If a man is in Category II (Certain Transport, Public Utility and Agricultural Workers have been notified to this effect) he must report **within 48 hours**.

Any cases of wilful absence will be dealt with as in the Regular Army.

Home Guards will be required to live together at, and fight from, their Platoon or Section H.Q. for any period of time. Food will be prepared by the Lady Home Guard Members of this Battalion. If the Military situation demands it, cows may have to go un milked, and important civilian work left undone.

**THE TROOPS THAT THE GERMANS WILL SEND OVER HERE WILL BE MOST CAREFULLY SELECTED TOUCHS. THEY WILL BE GUNNING, QUICK-THINKING, RUTHLESS AND VERY BRAVE.**

**I KNOW THAT THE 5TH BERKSHIRE BATTALION HOME GUARD WILL BE QUITE EQUAL TO THEM.**

And when they come, remember these Maxims:

**SPEED! INITIATIVE!**

**WELL-CONTROLLED AND ACCURATE SHOOTING!**

(Because every Round of Ammunition is very precious to us).

P. W. K. CARR, Lt. Colonel,  
Commanding 5th Berkshire Bn. HOME GUARD,

Drill Hall, Wantage,  
Berks.