

Russell Collins**Preparations for a Reconnaissance Patrol**

When enemy guns are fired what one does is to take a quick bearing with a compass. The bearing from which the flash comes, the time, the time of day, and then you count the interval between the flash and the shell arriving and then report it on a little form and sort of hand it in. And one spent a long time doing that, and, of course, the gunners were able to deduce from that where the enemy gun batteries were. And the other thing we did we were provided with some very good aerial photographs of the approaches to the river, the crossing points, and I spent hours pouring over these things and committing them absolutely to memory and I knew in my mind very clearly the whole of the sort of area that was going to be our approach to the river.