

Peter Jeffreys

Evacuation from Dunkirk

As darkness began to fall the battalion closed on the mole. There were a lot of troops closing on the mole and one wondered whether the back of the queue, as we seemed to be, we'd get on to that mole tonight. Well we moved slowly and we gradually found ourselves moving closer to the mole. And, of course, as darkness came down we could get into closer formation. If you were widely dispersed converging on the mole, of course, queue jumping and discipline would have been much more difficult. But as the night came on we were able to get into close formation. And eventually in the dead of night we got to the end of the mole and proceeded slowly up the mole. Well one was closely packed going up and as we went up there was still a good deal of enemy shells dropping round the mole. But, of course, a mole, ten or fifteen yards wide, was not a very easy target and the shells that missed the mole simply fell into the sea, so there again they were not very dangerous. But there were casualties on the mole, we saw one or two dead bodies.