Summer force moved to coast in August and beach party ACF was stationed at Seaford. We were CB but managed to get to Brighton Aug 16, Sunday for see Isobel. On Monday our party; Pte. Barry, Barrows, Sheppard, Dixon, Sedore, Nelson, Blooming and myself under Mr. Doherty traveled to port smooth and worked till late at night loading the s.s. Sargento. These were loaded that night by FMR under smoke.

We were taken outside town and loaded on tracks for a big estate were we were CB and. At 1400 hrs next afternoon we were taken to docks and loaded on the Prince Charles and were told of the raid which was no surprise. We boarded the ACF around 02.00 hrs. Our explosives were aboard. Our party carried close to 500 lbs of HE. My charge was cone shaped and weighed over 60 lbs. We were to blow up the tank wall in front of the town.

Shortly after skiing we saw tracers in the distance forth Commandos had run into E boats and many turned back as the Coastal defenses would be alert.

At 0520 hrs, we landed under heavy fire opposite Coassin and we crawled for about 400 yds opposite the tobacco factory and got half our explosives to the sea wall. Got down to the beach and started swimming around 1200 hrs but could make no headway as the tide was coming in and was taken prisoner by a German with an MG.
We were taken to the hospital then marched 1815 feet to a large building where we slept on a rocky floor that night. That day I was given a pair of pants and shoes by a Red Cross worker. We boarded a train for Verdun and were put in an old French camp. The food was very bad, our meals were of black bread with one bowl of soup per day. After a couple of weeks we were pretty weak. We were given French army bread here. On Sept. 16 we were given a loaf of bread (3 days' ration) and a can of bully and margarine. Then we boarded the train for Germany. The box cars were too crowded and at night we had to lay on our sides with our feet crossed to have enough room. We spent 5 days and three nights had quite a hard time as ventilation was bad. We reached 813 and were searched and given a shower. We were surprised when we were given a Red Cross box per week. On Oct. 8 all Degwe men were marched to No. 2 Compound and their hands were tied, Red Cross cut off. Ward and got extra rations from. On Oct. 12 Red Cross was continued with 2 parcel weekly. On Dec. 1 were were chained and they did not bother us. Before that near the end of Nov. we moved to No. 6 Compound where it was not so crowded with plenty of water. The guard was cut. The school opened before Christmas but it was nearly impossible as there was so much trouble. The men used the wash room only for 00-41.
1. Officers said we were pirates and did not have international protection.

Women were tied together 7 AM - 9 PM and hands tied behind their backs. It was cold. Some people had their faces banged into the wall.

2. People decreased as we went on to given fractions of our meals. Don't think we could survive on German rations.