



Doug Glading

30/6/2026

Last Update 3/8/2026

6. The Story of Edward Dominey

Lance Bombardier Edward Lionel Dominey, of the 275 Battery of the 59th (Duke of Connaught's Hampshire) Anti-Tank Regiment Royal Artillery, died 22 May 1940 Age 20.

The 20th Guards Brigade was training at Camberley on the morning of May the 21st when orders were received from the War Office to proceed immediately to Dover for service overseas. Less than twenty-four hours later it arrived at Boulogne. to defend the vital Channel port and protect the retreating British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and Allied troops.

Three merchant ships and the destroyer HMS Vimy loaded the 2nd Battalion Welsh Guards (approximately 972 men) and the 2nd Irish Guards plus the 275th Anti-tank Battery RA, arriving in Boulogne at dawn on the morning of 22 May.

Boulogne is bisected by the River Liane. The Welsh Guards with 275 Battery were deployed to the east of the Liane.

Logistical preparations were markedly deficient, as the brigade departed without adequate maps, radios, mortars, etc., and possessed only partial anti-tank capabilities insufficient against the anticipated armored threats. The guns arrived on lorries, but could not be reloaded onto them to be moved. The guns were not properly dug in. Tools were very short and the gun crews only tried to dig themselves in, not the gun.

So the Guards Brigade deployed with insufficient anti-tank guns for the five-mile-plus perimeter. The Guards own anti-tank company had 6 guns and 275 Battery (which would normally have 12 guns) probably only had about 4 or 5.

They faced an experienced German Panzer division supported by dive bombers, artillery, and overwhelming infantry. The Guards were steadily forced back into the town, fighting street by street and suffering heavy losses. At 3pm, with the Guards preparing to make a desperate last stand, messages were received advising that they were to be evacuated by 8 Royal Navy destroyers on a daring under-fire evacuation.

Unfortunately the anti-tank gun crews had suffered severe damage where they were dug in and **Edward Dominey** was killed in action 22nd/23rd May 1940 age 20 – within a day or so of landing in France. (image right of his death record)

DEATHS 1939 - 46 (ENTRY FORM)								5763
REGT OR CORPS TO WHICH THE PERSON BELONGED AT TIME OF DEATH								FORM RH
Part I	Army No (1)	Rank (2)	Name in full (Surname first) (3)	Age (4)	Country of birth (5)	Date of death (6)	Place of death (7)	Cause of death (8)
	5498904	Lt/Adm.	DOMINEY, EDWARD LIONEL	20	ENGLAND	22/23-5-40	B.E.F.	Killed in Action Special Mission Overseas
Part II	1 DECORATIONS - ENTER <u>one</u> in each space							
	2 PARENT CORPS } i) at time of death RA OR REGT } ii) on 1 Sep 1939 HANTS (RA)							For War Office use 3000 3083 46 323 320
	3 RANK held at time of death Lt/Adm.							
	4 PLACE OF BIRTH WIMBORNE SOUTHAMPTON HANTS.							
	5 PLACE OF DOMICILE LUTTERFIELD FAREHAM							
	6 DATE OF DEATH (in figures, e.g. 11/12/44) Enter in boxes ..							DAY MONTH YEAR 22 5 40
	7 THEATRE OR COUNTRY WHERE FATAL WOUND SUSTAINED OR DEATH OCCURRED FRA/BEL							For War Office use 21
Record Office Stamp NB - FOR INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION & DISPOSAL OF FORM RH H.A. (C.A. & A.A.) Records SEE WOM 19/GEN/1252/AG 1(Records) DATED 5 SEP 46.								

- He is buried in Outreau Cemetary , Departement du Pas-de-Calais, France



Catisfield connection:

The Dominey family lived in a house called Edna on Highlands Road (opposite today's Place House Close).

John's father was Edward Dominey, a professional gardener.



His mother was Gertrude, brother Stanley (b 29/6/1923), sister Edna (b 3/3/1933).