



Crossing of Madhumati, Capture of Kamarkhali and Surrender of Pak 9 Inf Div

Back to Madhumati

My Squadron less two troops were placed under command 62 Mountain Brigade and ordered to move back to Madhumati, where 5 Maratha Light Infantry was holding western bank of Madhumati. We covered approximately 100 kms in about 8 hours or so. In the meantime to make up the tank losses suffered at Kushtia, my regiment sent two troops from B Squadron under Maj Chakraverty (Chuks) a brave and a very fine officer. B Squadron had already taken part in few battles under 9 Infantry Division and acquitted themselves with honour. These two troops were placed under command 7 Mountain Brigade. The Eastern bank of Madhumati was held by two battalions of Pak Army, with elements of recce and support battalion and artillery. On arrival, we were welcomed by heavy shelling. The boys had got so used to shelling that by listening to piercing whistle sound of shell through the air, they could guess likely location where the shell is likely to land. If the shell was coming close to their location, their reaction was, "Oh Sxxt" and they would hit the ground. I had just got back from recce of Madhumati looking for crossing places to watch this fun.

I was very tired and sat on ground leaning on to sprocket of my tank and dozed off. After a little while, my tank driver woke me up with a hot cup of tea. This tea is very distinct from normal tea. It has a bit of kerosene oil, diesel "flavour" with plenty of sugar and it is served hot. One is tempted to ask for another round. It is at this time that a man carrying dead body of

a young woman around 20 years or so came and laid it near the tank. He went away and returned after ten minutes carrying the dead body of a newly born baby. He was crying and trying to convey something which we could not understand. My boys gave him some water and he became calm. My Mukti Bahini fighter narrated his sad story. "The previous night three Pak soldiers

