

## 1st/6th BATTALION, EAST SURREY REGIMENT

1940

Appendix

### **June LA PANNE**

Jun 1st Battalion arrived at La Panne. "HQ" Company approximately 02:00 hours. "B" Company approximately 03:30 hours. "A" and "D" Companies 05:30 hours. The shelling was intense and the Battalion became split up. Some started marching towards Dunkirk and others were embarking from the beach and many landed in England on 1 June 40.

### **YEOVIL (ENGLAND)**

Jun 2nd The remainder of the Battalion came back. The Battalion was split up still more and troops were sent to camps all over England.

Jun 3rd The Adjutant and some of Battalion Headquarters arrived at Barwick House, Yeovil, the reception camp for the 4th Division. From there the Battalions were sorted out and sent to their respective training areas. This Battalion was lucky in so far as it was in the same area as before it left England to go to France, when with the 44th Division.

### **MILBORNE PORT**

Jun 4th - 12th The Adjutant, Q.M., R.S.M. and 20 O.Rs arrived at Milbourne Port. A camp was found at Crundle Court, which the 5 K.O.S.Bs. had just vacated. From then onwards for the next 10 days Officers and O.Rs. began to come in from the various camps all over England to which they had been sent on returning from the B.E.F. A certain amount of equipment was obtainable, but this was slow in arriving. The Commanding Officer, 2 i/c, I.O., M.O. and Padre reported their arrival to the Battalion on 8 June 40. A list of casualties is attached. Leave so that all ranks were allowed to spend 48 hours at home was granted at home.

Jun 14th 11 Officers and 262 O.Rs. reported their arrival to the Battalion. A nominal roll of officers is attached showing employment.

Jun 15th "A" and "" Companies moved to the villages of Henstridge and Melbourne Port respectively. Companies training and generally getting sorted out. Divisional Commander visited the Battalion and, in the absence of the commanding officer on leave, was received by 2 i/c who showed him around the Camp.

Jun 19th Warning order issued for move of Battalion to Waterlooville.

Jun 20th O.O. No 16 issued for move of Bn. to Waterlooville. Brigade Commander addressed the Battalion at Crundle Court, and spoke of the Battalion's work with the B.E.F. and of the future, especially commenting on the very fine example set by the Commanding Officer.

### **WATERLOOVILLE**

The Camp was sited in a wood and the R.Es. were erecting camp structures when the Battalion arrived. The main role of the Battalion was to protect an area of approximately 20 sq.miles from parachutists.

Jun 24th Warning Order received for move of Bn. to the area of Wittering and Selsey.

Jun 26th 15:30 the Battalion moved by transport to area of Wittering and Selsey.

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Battalion HQ established at Nunnington Farm 223185. Companies all billeted in East and West Wittering.

### **WEST WITTERING**

- Jun 27th      The role of the Battalion was to deny to the enemy that part of England which we were defending, an area of approximately 12 sq.miles and 7 miles of coastline.
- Jun 28th      Companies moved into their allotted positions. "A" right, "B" right centre, "C" left centre, "D" in Selsey. C.O. went on a recce.
- Jun 29th      Battalion HQ moved to "Cattlegate" 245188. Companies selecting positions and preparing to dig in.