

1/7th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary August 1943

AUGUST 1943

Area HOMS.

- 1st Aug. N.T.R.
- 2nd Aug. 0930 hrs. Div. Comdr. Maj. Gen. G.W.E.J. ERSKINE DSO inspected A/Tk Pln. and presented a brass plate donated by the Women of Canada to the gun which destroyed most German tanks during the N. African Campaign. The following were decorated at the same time, Sgt. STUART J. MM, Cpl. DICKENS A. MM, Pte. ROWE J. MM, Pte. SNEATH A. MM, Pte. BURCHELL T. MM.
- 3rd Aug. 1000 hrs. A/Tk . held a competition shoot with one R.T.R. 1430 hrs. Combined Ops. training. Coys were shown a specimen beach layout and were explained also the beach organisation. Throughout the day J Bty. 3 RHA demonstrated handling & shooting of 25 pdr. 1700 hrs S.O. arranged demonstration W/T procedure and 38 set.
- 4th Aug. Training on Coy bases in Bn. area.
- 5th Aug. 65 A/Tk Regt. gave a demonstration of handling and firing 17 pdr. A/Tk gun.
- 6th Aug. 0730 hrs onwards Bn. practised landing from L.C.I's.
- 7th Aug. 1400 hrs Bn. held a swimming gala. Races were held for novices and experience swimmers. It was noticeable what great progress had been made by the Bn. in this direction during its stay in HOMS. Bn. strength 31 officers 706 O.R's.
- 8 Aug. N.T.R.
- 9th Aug. Training on Coy basis.
- 10th Aug. 30 Corps Comdr. Lt. Gen. HORROCKS DSO. MC. visited Bn. Capt. P.C. FREEMAN evacuated to M.D.S.
- 11th Aug. 2330 hrs. Bn. route march route HOMS -CUSSABAT - MSINDRA - CORRADINI. Total distance 55 miles.
- 12th Aug. Bn. route march continued.
- 13th Aug. 2200 hrs Bn. returned from march. In the final of the 7th Armd. boxing competition Queen's L.I. Bde. beat RASC by 9 bouts to one. Sgt. CHAMBERLAIN and Ptes. GWYNNE, LINCOLN AND LUTON of this Bn. all won their fights. Bn. strength 31 Officers 706 O.R's.
- 14th Aug. Training on Coy basis.
- 15th Aug. Exercise torties. Maj. N.J.P HAWKEN MC evacuated sick.
- 16th Aug. 0900 hrs returned from exercise. Lt. R. A. BURTON evacuated sick.

- 17th Aug. Training on Coy basis. Capt. K.A. JESSUP took over Comd. of HQ Coy.  
Capt. J FRACIS transferred from "D" Coy to HQ as Adj. Capt. G.H. COURCHEE transferred from "A" Coy to "D" Coy as Coy Comdr. 2/Lt. R J. ASHWORTH transfer from "C" Coy to HQ Coy (Battle Patrol).
- 18th Aug. 22nd Armd. Bde. exercise no. 1 and 2. Object to practise deployment of advanced guard of Armd. Div. moving along a road.
- 19th Aug. Training on Coy basis.
- 20th Aug. Notification has been received that 6089725 L/Cpl. McDOUGAL 80 has been mentioned in recognition of Gallant and Distinguished Services in the Middle East prior to 23rd October 42.
- 21st Aug. Training on Coy basis.  
22nd Aug. Ditto.
- 23rd Aug. Bn. exercise.
- 24th Aug. Conclusion of exercise.
- 25th Aug. N.T.R.
- 26th Aug. Training on Coy basis.
- 27th Aug. Training on Coy basis. Captain G. H. COURCHEE attended 56 Div. Exercise as observer.
- 28th Aug. Major J SYKES-WRIGHT and 5 O.R's left on advance party. Shooting competition held on Bn. range including falling plate, snap shooting and 2-inch Mortar.
- 29th Aug. U/M officers were posted to this unit from 155 Transit Camp, Lt. A.T.P. LARGE, Lt. W.J.V. LANE, Lt. A. REED, Lt. H.R. REED Lt. J. DUNSTON, 2/Lt. J CHANEL, 2/Lt. C. FRY, 2/Lt. E MARTIN and 10 O.R's.
- 30th Aug. 0930 hrs. Officers W.O's and Sgts attended lecture given by Maj. Gen. G.W.E.J. ERSKINE DSO at LEPTIS MAGNA.
- 31st Aug. Training on Coy basis. Bn. strength 38 officers and 719 O Rs.

D.S. Gordon DSO,  
Comdg,  
1/7th Bn. The Queen's R.R.

31.8/43.