

2nd BATTALION, EAST SURREY REGIMENT

1943

Appendix

March

COLERAINE

Mar 1st	0001: A/Tk Pl. go on 21 days concentration for training. New draft from 30 th Bn. Buffs go to Magilligan Camp for training. Capt. R.E. Smith I.O. attends course on demolition at Portrush.	280
Mar 2nd - 5th	0001: Nothing to report	
Mar 6th	1000: C.O. attends cloth model exercise "Lobster" at H.Q. 45 Div. at Ballymena.	
Mar 7th	1000: C.O. attends cloth model exercise "Lobster" at H.Q. 45 Div. at Ballymena. I.O. Capt. R.G. Smith returns from course on demolition at H.Q. 259 Fd. Coy. R.E. Portrush.	
Mar 8th	1100: 2/Lt. F. Rice leaves to attend Gas Course at Winterbourne Gunner, Dorset.	
Mar 9th	0001: 2 Surreys Standing Order (War) issued.	
Mar 10th	0001: Nothing to report.	
Mar 11th	0900: 2 I/c and 3 Offices umpire to Devons Bn. Exercise at Portstew Art. 1600: Rehearsal Parade for Bn. Comd.'s inspection.	
Mar 12th	0900: Bn. Ceremonial Parade and Inspection by Comd. 134 Inf. Bde. Brig. W. Carden Roe, M.C., followed by general admn. inspection of billets, documents etc. by Brig. and Bde. staff.	
Mar 13th	0001: Nothing to report.	
Mar 14th	1400: Three Officers umpire test of local M.G. defences.	
Mar 15th	0001: Nothing to report.	
Mar 16th	0900: C.O., Adgt. and Coy. Comds. attend cloth model exercise "Handling of Bde. support group in defence and attack" held by Bde. Comd. at H.Q. 134 Inf. Bde.	
Mar 17th	1100: C.O., Adgt. and 8 Officers attend A.A. battle drill demonstration given by 6 Devons and managed by 134 Inf. Bde. at Portstewart. 1300: Lt. J.L. Johnson (No P/15233) reports to unit on new posting from 1/5 Leicesters after employment as instructor at 148 pre-O.C.T.U. Trg. Bde.	
Mar 18th	1700: Range party reports back from Magilligan Range after 3 wks. training for and firing War Course. Capt. R.E. Smith, I.O. assumes duties of Adgt. during absence on leave of Capt. J.L. Sime.	
Mar 19th	0900: One Pl. per rifle coy., struck off all duties for 3 wks.,	

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- commences Pl. Battle Training.
1515: Visit from G.O.C. B.T.N.I., Lt. Gen. H.E. Franklyn, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C. to Bn. to inspect training.
- Mar 20th 0900 – 1630: C.O., A/Adgt., and A/I.O. attend 45 Div. T.E.W.T. “Defence” in Bellaghy area.
- Mar 21st 0900 – 1630: as for 20th Mar.
1500: 2/Lt. F. Rice reports back after recall from Gas Course.
- Mar 22nd 0900 – 1300: as for 21st Mar.
1400: 2/Lt. F. Rice despatched on embarkation leave prior to reporting for service overseas with the draft serial R.N.H.Z.W.
- Mar 23rd 0730 – 1830: Bn. Exercise “Nursery” directed by Bde. Comd. Brig. W. Carden Roe M.C.
- Mar 24th 0001: Nothing to report.
1700: Lecture by Bde. Comd. on Exercise “Nursery”.
- Mar 25th 0900: Major B.J. FitzG. Donlea M.C. assumes command of the Bn. during the absence on leave of the Comd. Offr. Major F.J. Reed reports for course on 'Tactical Wire', Barnard Castle., until 8 Apr. 43.
- Mar 26th 1100: Acting C.O. meets A.A.G. (L). B.T.N.I. at H.Q. 134 Inf. Bde.
- Mar 27th 1600: Capt. J.L. Sime re-assumes duties of Adgt. on return from leave. Capt. R.E. Smith re-assumes duties of I.O.
- Mar 28th 1030: Church Parade Service attended by Bde. Comd. 134 Inf. Bde., 2 Surreys and 6 S.L.I.
- Mar 29th 1430: 264 ORs. report to the Bn. after posting thus: 141 ORs. from 30 Manchesters, 123 ORs. from 30 E. Lancs.
- Mar 30th 0900: Bn. Comd. inspects newly-arrived draft. Capt. A.G.H. Culverhouse assumes comd. of Bn.
1015: I.O. attends all-day “J” conference at H.Q. 45 Div. at Ballymena.
1200: Maj. B.J. Fitzg. Donlea reports at Junior Leaders School for CO.'s refresher course at Castlewilliam until 2 Apr. 43.
- Mar 31st 1000: Capt. Culverhouse attends conference at H.Q. 134 Inf. Bde. ref. Div. cloth model for “Hatter”.
1800: 350 Officers and ORs. attend showing of film 'Desert Victory'.