

1/5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary January 1944

Area NAPLES.

JANUARY 1944.

21st Dec. to 4th Jan.

In convoy en route to ENGLAND. From midday December 23rd to first light December 27th at ORAN where other troopships joined convoy. Night 27th December passed through straits of GIBRALTAR berthed off GREENOCK early morning Jan 4th. A completely uneventful trip.

5th Jan. Sunday. Disembarked during day at intervals by lighter to GREENOCK where entrained and travelled via EDINBURGH, NEWCASTLE, YORK, LINCOLN AND KINGS LYNN TO HUNSTANTON.

6th Jan. Monday. Key personnel start leave.

7th Jan. Tuesday. Major R.F.H. COWEN assumes Comd. of the Bn. in the absence of leave of Lt. Col. M. ELRINGTON, DSO, OBE.

8th Jan. to Wednesday Jan. 26th

Bn. on 14 days leave, leaving in two main parties by special train on Jan 7th, 8th and 10th.

13th Jan. (The London Gazzette) Padre V.C. Castle was mentioned in despatches.

22nd Jan. Lt. THEARLE P.A. LT. CLARKE B.J., Lt. H CROOK WT. Posted to Bn.

23rd Jan. Lt. CHURCHILL R.W. Lt. Sadler D.C. Lt. SALDE A.J.W., Lt. BROOKMAN J.N. Lt. WEEKLY L.J. Lt. WEAVER S. posted to Bn.

25th Jan. Brig. L.G. WHISTLER DSO (2 bars) relinquished Comd. of the Bde. to take over 160 Brig. (59 Div.).

27th Jan. Thursday, Awards, DCM Sgt. S. LOWMAN.

MM. Cpl. CORRIE G. and Pte FROST C.

Complementary message received from mayor of Guildford on return to England of Bn.

Farewell message from Lt. Col. M. ELRINGTON DSO, OBE expressing good wishes to Bn. on leaving to assume Comd. of a Brigade.

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| Appointment. | Messing Officer- | Lt. C. DIXON |
| | Band President- | Capt. D.J. BARTON |
| | Entertainment- | Capt. G.A. CAMPBELL |
| | Boxing- | Lt. D.A.V. LAVERS |
| | Football- | Lt. F HEATHCOAT |
| | Rugby- | Maj. R. ELLIOTT |
| | Athletics- | Lt. G.F.A. COLE. |

28th Jan. Friday, N.T.R.

29th Jan. Saturday, N.T.R.

30th Jan. Sunday, N.T.R.

31st Jan. Monday, Cadre course for Officers and N.C.O's started, duration 2 weeks.

Lt. Col. M. Elrington,
Comdg,
1/5th Bn. the Queens royal regiment. (leaves on 27th Jan.)