

1/6 Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary July 1942

JULY 1942

1st At Sea	Arrive Cape town early morning no blackout. Troops allowed to send airgraphs and E.F.M. cables. Allowed ashore until 2359 hrs. wonderful reception by inhabitants. Troops entertained etc. Captain Souttar put ashore with malaria.
2nd Cape Town	Route March in morning with Drums. Troops ashore afternoon and evening.
3rd	Route march cancelled owing to proposed change of berth for ship which did not actually take place. Troops ashore afternoon and evening until 2059 hrs.
4th At sea.	Left Cape Town. Fwd Bren guns dismounted as bad weather is expected.
5th	Normal parades again.
6th	Change from Battle Dress to P.T. shorts denim blouse Report of an overboard. Turns out to be hoax.
7th	Parades as usual. Weather calm.
8th	Parades as usual.
9th	Parades as usual.
10th	Madagascar seen on port side.
11th	Parades as usual.
12th	Church Parade.
13th	Training as usual.
14th At sea.	Training as usual.
15th	Ship rolling considerably, Special patrols on decks at night looking for signals reported by another ship in convoy as having come from Strathallen.
16th	Training as usual.
17th July	Arrived at Aden. Refuel and leave same day alone. A.A. balloon burst when taken aboard.
18th Red Sea.	In Red Sea. ship with 1/5 Queen's on board also near us. Kite flown in place of A.A. balloon
19th At sea.	Church Parades.
20th	Baggage being packed ready for disembarkation.
21st	Disembarked at Suez. Spend night in transit camp.
22nd In the field.	Entrain for Khatatba at about 1100 hrs arriving Khatatba about 2000 h. Move in transport from station to no. 36 distributing camp. Some troops under canvas others in the open.

23rd Khatatba.	Drawing tents and excavating tent sites. Troops rest in afternoon.
24th	Training commenced - Training hours 0830 to 1230 hrs. Rest in afternoon. Training at night.
25th	Voluntary Church Parades in local cinema.
26th	Coys. doing battle drill and gradually increasing doubling etc. as troops get acclimatised.
27th	Normal Training
28th	Lt. Col. Gibbs and Major Smith. M.B.E. went on course at Cairo on "Tactical Handling of A/Tk. Guns. "2/Lt. Pearce went on Tank Hunting course at I.D.B. Course of lectures at Div. on Training start. 2 officers daily attend one of whom lectures other officers at 1700 hours.
29th July	Major Trench assumed command of Bn. D.M.T. and D.D.M.T. visited area but did not visit this Bn.
30th	Normal coy. Training.
31st	Adjutant, held Drill parade at 0630 hrs.

Lieut. Col. D.L.A. Gibbs,
Comdg. 1/6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

In the Field 5 Aug. 42

Nominal Roll of Officers 9th August 1942

T/Lt.-Col.	D. L. A.	Gibbs	Queen's	
Major	R.	Tudor Smith, M.B.E.	"	"
T/Major	A. R.	Trench, M.C.	"	"
T/Major	G. J. H. D.	Collins	"	"
Capt.	J. R.	Priestley	"	"
Capt.	F. A. H.	Wilson	"	"
Capt.	R. d'A.	Mullins	"	"
T/Capt.	A. J. S.	Cox, M.C.	"	"
T/Capt.	G. F.	Pescod	"	"
T/Capt.	G. E.	Smith	"	"
T/Capt.	I. P.	Thomson	"	"
T/Capt.	J.	Jack	"	"
T/Capt.	T. J.	Kilshaw	"	"
T/Capt.	J. H.	Mason	"	"
A/Capt.	C. J. G.	Woolley	"	"
Lieut.	R. T.	Shaw	"	"
Lieut.	H. S.	Morshead	"	"
Lieut.	B. G. D.	Miller	"	"
Lieut.	K. D.	Kettle	"	"
Lieut.	D. V.	Bartlett	"	"
Lieut.	U. G.	Spratt	"	"
Lieut.	C. M.	Wilson	"	"
A/Capt.	V. R.	Goodridge	"	"
Lieut.	D. W. M.	Anderson	"	"
2/Lieut.	E. B.	James	"	"
2/Lieut.	T. K.	Maybee	"	"
2/Lieut.	H.	Owen	"	"

Course

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2/Lieut.	D. V.	Smith	“	“
2/Lieut.	R. G.	Pearce	“	“
2/Lieut.	W.L.	Johnson	“	“
2/Lieut.	D. F. W.	George	“	“
2/Lieut.	I. R.	Reid		
2/Lieut.	A. C. F.	Norman	“	“
2/Lieut.	G.	Scott	“	“
2/Lieut.	J. S.	Logan	“	“
Lieut.	A. D.	Foster (Quartermaster)	“	“
Capt.	L. R.	Taylor,	R.A.M.C.	
Rev.	B. J.	Grant	R.A. Cl. D	