

1/6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary August 1943

AUGUST 1943.

Area M. 545365.

- 1st Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Church Parade (C of E) held in Bn. area.
- 2nd Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. was allowed to use landing craft in HOMS harbour to practise embarking and disembarking. "D" Coy took advantage in morning "C" Coy in afternoon. "C" Coy disembarked in 4 minutes 40 seconds which was fastest time for Bde.
- 3rd Aug. Weather fine and warm.
HQ Coy used landing craft in morning. Coys carried out training programme.
- 4th Aug. Weather fine and warm with high wind.
Training continued as per programme. Programmes were now arranged so as to include route marches in preparation for any "Operation" where transport was unavailable.
- 5th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued. Day was "Officers Day" which concluded with a wireless battle at 1700 hrs.
- 6th Aug. Weather fine and warm with high wind.
Training was continued Route March is being arranged for HQ Coy, 2 and 6 Plns went 10 miles in morning and A/Tk Pln. went on 20 mile march in evening.
- 7th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training was continued in morning. Wireless exercise for Staff Officers in the afternoon.
- 8th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Church parade held in Bn. area.
- 9th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued as per programme. In afternoon C.O. spoke to Bn. on Bn. training and on War situation.
Bn. rested in preparation for Bde. 3 day Route March starting on 11th.
- 10th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. fell in at 2350 hrs.
- 11th Aug. Bn. marched off at 0001 hrs. and marched throughout the night. There was an hrs. halt at 0500 hrs. and Bn. continued at 0600 hrs. finally reaching Leaguer area 3131 at 0800 hrs. Bn. rested until 1730 hrs. and moved off again at 1750 hrs. Route CUSSABAT across country too and then to 3544. Bn. reached CARRADINI at 2200 hrs. and had tea and one hrs. break Bn. continued marching for remainder of day.
- 12th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. continued marching and reach leaguer area at 0045 hrs. and bedded down for night. Day was spent resting and Bn. started off again at 1600 hrs. and reach Road junction 430065 at 1815 hrs. where T.C.V's were waiting. Bn. arrived in billet area at 1900 hrs. having marched 41 miles in 48 hrs.
- 13th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
There were foot and rifle inspections at 0900 hrs. and then training under Coys was continued.

- 14th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued as per programme. Wireless scheme for junior Staff Officers in afternoon.
- 15th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Disembarkation training held. Bn. moved to training area at 1015 hrs. and returned at 1800 hrs.
- 16th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued as per programme, route March is being introduced twice weekly.
- 17th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training under Coy arrangements carried out as per programme. Bn. learned that Pte's BATES and DONALDSON of Signal Pln. had been "Mentioned in Despatches".
- 18th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training under Coy arrangement. I leave party (210) left for four days at rest camp.
- 19th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued under Coy arrangements.
Adjutant held a conference with Bn. officers on the Bn. scheme for 20th.
- 20th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training as per programme. A Scheme was held to practise Bn. and Coy H.Q. on operations in close country with fwd. body consisting of one Coy of infantry, tanks and guns. Communications on the scheme were very successful. In the evening the officers entertained S.N.C.O's in the Officers Mess.
- 21st Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Coy training continued as per programme, in the morning HQ Coy completed a 15 mile route march.
- 22nd Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Church parade (C. of E.) held in Bn. area. C.O. inspected M.T. and Bn. Lines. Leave party returned 2200 hrs.
- 23rd Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued. Packing for impending move
- Days 24th 25th and 26 27 missing**
- 28th Aug. ? Rd. The journey was without incident and the Bn. reached leaguer area 4502666 at 1500 Hrs. Vehicles preceded direct to waterproofing point.
- 29th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Waterproofing was completed by 1400 hrs. Day was spent settling in new area.
- 30th Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Daily leave for maximum number of personnel was granted.
Bn. M.T. being waterproofed the Bn. was immobile.
- 31st Aug. Weather fine and warm.
Divisional Commander spoke to officers at Bde. HQ at 1100 hrs.

Lt. Col. THICKNESSE DSO

Comdg.

1/6th Bn. Queen's The Queen's Royal Regiment.

31/12/1943.