

1/6th Bn. The Queens Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary December 1943

DECEMBER 1943

Area 3629.

- 1st Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Bn. continued training according to programme.  
"C" Coy had a day's leave. Weather unsettled.
- 2nd Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Training continued according to programme. Weather rainy.
- 3rd Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Main body of the Bn. left the area at midday for the amphibious exercise "SURFACE".  
A skeleton staff remained behind. Weather rainy.
- 4th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. The personnel on Bn. courses had not gone on the exercise "SURFACE" and continued  
with their own training.  
1530 hrs. the Bn. returned from the exercise.  
The main part of the exercise was cancelled owing to bad weather. Weather today rainy.
- 5th Dec. C of E and R.C. Church Parades were held in the Bn. area. Weather unsettled.
- 6th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Bn. continued training according to programme.  
0830 hrs. "A" Coy went on days leave to Naples. Weather unsettled.  
1330 M.O's Inspection.
- 7th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Training continued according to programme.  
0830 hrs. Officers' Day was held. Weather fine.
- 8th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Training continued according to programme.  
0830 hrs. "C" Coy together with personnel on "I" course went on a days leave.
- 9th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev. Training continued according to programme.  
0830 hrs. "D" Coy went on days leave to Salerno.  
1330 Medical inspection for those who did not attend on Dec. 6th.  
0930 hrs. Command HQ held conference for all SNC's in HQ Coy.
- 10th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev.  
0830 hour's Training continued according to programme.  
1100 hrs. C.O. held conference. Coy Comdrs and I.O. attended.  
1400 hrs. All local courses came to a conclusion.  
1500 hrs. Instructions issued for the amphibious exercise.  
1700 hrs. Adjutant left for a conference at Bde. Weather continued rainy periods.
- 11th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
0800 hrs. Bn. marched off to the docks at CASTELAMMARIA DI STABIA (8932  
0930 hrs. Bn. arrived at docks.  
1030 hrs. Bn. embarked on L.S.I's.  
1100 hrs. L.S.I's moved out of harbour, left the one carrying "B" Coy this broke down and "B" Coy  
disembarked and marched back to village.
- 12th Dec. 0010 Bn. arrived at SALERNO harbour and disembarked.  
0015 Bn. marched off to northerly direction.  
0200 hrs. Bn. reached billeting area between CARVA and NOCERA.  
0700 hrs. Bn. improved amenities and generally cleaned up.  
1900 hrs. transport arrived and the Bn. in bust and proceeded to VICO EQUENSE (3629).

2115 hrs. Bn. arrived this VICO EQUENSE where a hot meal was ready. Weather rainy periods.

- 13th Dec. Rev. 0630 hrs.  
0830 hrs. Training continued according to programme. Weather cold and dry.
- 14th Dec. Rev. 0630 hrs.  
0830 hrs. Training continued according to programme.  
1200 hrs. C.O. held conference for all Coy commanders.  
1500 hrs. Bn. held a cross country run of two miles. Weather cold dry.
- 15th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev.  
Training continued according to programme. Weather dry warm.
- 16th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev.  
0813 Training continued according to programme.  
1200 hrs. C.O. held conference, following attended. All Coy Comdrs, Adjutant Q.M. I.O. and RSM.  
Weather fine.
- 17th Dec. 0630 hrs. Rev.  
1000 hrs. Medical Inspection.  
1100 hrs. Valises stacked prior to transportation to transit area. Whether fine.
- 18th Dec. 0300 hrs. Rev.  
0345 hrs. breakfast.  
0430 hrs. Bn. formed up and marched out of VICO EQUENSE.  
Order of March. "A" "B" "C" "D" HQ Coy Bn HQ.  
0600 hrs. Bn. arrived station CASTELLAMARE DI STABIA where they entrained.  
0715 hrs. Train pulled out.  
1000 hrs.. Train arrived CASORIA north of Naples Bn. detrained and began marching.  
1030 hrs Bn. arrived transit area.  
Weather dry cold
- 19th Dec. 0700 hrs. Rev.  
1000 hrs. Church Service is held in camp.  
Weather fine warm.
- 20th Dec. 0100 hrs. Rev.  
0200 hrs. breakfast.  
0415 hrs. Bn. formed up and began marching to NAPLES dock.  
0800 hrs. Bn. arrived NAPLES dock.  
1030 hrs. Bn. embarked on the troopship "BOISSEVAIN".  
1600 hrs. H.T. "BOISSEVAIN" sailed out of NAPLES.  
Weather unsettled.
- 21st Dec. At sea.  
0600 hrs. Rev.  
1000 hrs. ships rounds.  
1100 hrs. boat drill.  
1230 hrs. dinner.  
1700 hrs. Tea.  
Weather dry windy
- 22nd Dec. 0600 Rev.  
1000 hrs. Ships inspection.

Ships routine as usual.  
Weather warm

- 23rd Dec. 0600 hrs. Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
1200 hrs. Convoy arrived at ORAN. Weather fine.
- 24th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
Weather unsettled.
- 25th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
Ships routine as usual. Less inspection.  
Weather unsettled.
- 26th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
Weather unsettled.
- 27th Dec. 0600 hrs. Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
0600 hrs. convoy sailed out of ORAN.  
Weather rainy
- 28th Dec. 0600 hrs. Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
Weather unsettled.
- 29th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
Ships routine as usual.  
Weather fine.
- 30th Dec. 0600 Rev.  
10:30 hrs. C.O. addressed the Bn. who were assembled for this purpose in one of the Mess decks.  
Weather fine
- 31st Dec. 0600 hrs. Rev.  
2000 hrs. Bn. presented concert Party Show on the ships stage.  
Weather, High Winds

Lt. Col. M. FORRESTER MC  
Commanding Officer,  
1/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment.

31/12/1943.