

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

JUNE 1943.

Area M 545365.

- 1st June. Weather hot & fine.
Day was declared a holiday and celebrations were enjoyed. A sports meeting was held and prizes had. The leave party returned after 4 days in TRIPOLI.
- 2nd June. C.O. Lt. Col. THICKNESSE resumed Comd. of the Bn. on returning from leave. The Junior & Senior Cadre Courses started. A party was sent into TRIPOLI to take part in parade celebrating the Kings Birthday. Weather warm & fine.
- 3rd June. Specialist Training commenced. There was no training in the afternoon but continued in the evening. A party went to TRIPOLI for the day. Weather warm & fine.
- 4th June. Weather warm & fine. Training continued as previous day. Otherwise N.T.R.
- 5th June. Weather warm & fine.
Training as previous day but stopped at noon day being a half.
- 6th June. Weather warm & fine.
Church Service held in Bn. area after which C.O. inspected Lines.
- 7th June. Weather warm & fine. A conference was called by the Army Comdr. at TRIPOLI which was attended by most of the Bn. Officers. The Army Comdr. (Gen. Montgomery) mentioned his visit to LONDON and spoke of his warm reception given to him there.
He said he was unsure of our future Operations but warned us to be prepared for active Service in any part of Europe. The Officers returned to Bn. area at 1700 hrs. Training had been carried on as the programme.
- 8th June. Weather warm & fine. Later very windy.
Training continued as before. A sports committee was set up.
- 9th June. Weather warm & fine. Training continued as on previous day. The Bn. was visited by Inspector of Arms.
- 10th June. Weather warm & fine. Training continued according to programme otherwise nothing to report.
- 11th June. Weather warm & fine.
Training was continued according as per programme.
- 12th June. Weather warm & fine.
Training continued until 1230 hrs. the afternoon being a holiday.
- 13th June. Weather warm & fine.
Bn. Church Parade at 0830 hrs. Service held in Bn. area. C.O. inspected the Lines at 1030 hrs. and spoke to Pln. Comdrs. At 1200 hrs. on the next form of training.
- 14th June. Weather warm & fine.
In the morning training continued as usual. The C.O. Lt. Col. R.N. THICKNESSE spoke to the Bn. at 1600 hrs. on our future plans. He stated that we were to be instructed by a very competent person on or about the 18th June at TRIPOLI area. He also said specialist courses were to be. The

second course starting on July 12 after which we will probably be under a new type of training. He said it might be combined Ops. training.

- 15th June. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued according to programme. Officials appointed for rifle shoot.
- 16th June. Weather fine and warm.
First specialist courses were brought to a close and C.O. addressed trainers.
At 12:15 hrs. This concluding first specialist courses. A special operational order was issued for action in event of enemy Para troops being dropped in area.
- 17th June. Weather fine and warm.
Day was spent cleaning up in preparation for inspection by Gen. LYNE at TRIPOLI. Signals course was carried on.
- 18th June. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. inform inspection was postponed until 21st June. Coy training was continued.
- 19th June. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. informed they were to move to TRIPOLI what area for inspection at 0600 hrs. on the 20th preparations were made for the move.
- 20th June. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. moved off at 0630 hrs. reveille being 0400 hrs. Bn. travelled all day and leagued in inspection area 20 Km West of TRIPOLI along TRIPOLI-BEN GARDANE Rd coma they arrived at leaguer area at 1630 hrs.
- 21st June. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. held rehearsal for inspection at 0930 hrs. and paraded on the roadside at 1800 hrs. His Majesty King George the VI arrived to inspect the Div. at 1600 hrs. and reached 1/6th Queen's at 1630 hrs. Immediately after the inspection the Bn. embussed and started back for HOMES. There was a meal taken at 2200 hrs. by the roadside. The Bn. reached TARHUNA by 2400 hrs.

22nd to 26th June missing.

- 27th June. Weather fine and warm.
Bn. attended memorial service at LIPTON MAGNA at 1000 hrs. Day Sunday was a holiday.
- 28th June. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued as per programme. Brigadier Whistler DSO inspected the Bn.
- 29th June. Weather fine and warm.
Training continued as per programme.
- 30th June. Weather fine and warm.
Training as per programme in the evening there was a Boxing exhibition in Bn. ring.

Lt. Col. R.N. THICKNESSE, DSO.
Comdg.
1/6 Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

30/6/1943