

1/6th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) War Diary February 1944

FEBRUARY 1944

- 1st Feb. Area KINGS LYNN 076385. Weather, Dull.
0630 hrs. Rev.
0900 hrs. Training continued according to programme.
- 2nd Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather Dull.
0900 hrs. Training continued according to programme.
- 3rd Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Dry & cold.
The Bn. was paraded for an address by the new Bde. Comdr. Brig. M.S. EKINS.
0930 hrs. ABC and delta companies carried on according to programme.
HQ Coy moved from their billets at the docks and came up into the town taking over fresh billets previously occupied by the K.R.R.C.
1100 hrs. The Mortar Pln. took over 7 Carriers.
1630 hrs. HQ Coy conference for Pln. sergeants. "T" Coy moved out to HILLINGTON 186448.
- 4th Feb. 0600 hrs. Rev. Weather Dry very cold.
0900 hrs. training continued according to programme 15% Bn. allowed on seven days leave.
- 5th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Dry & cold.
0900 hrs. Training as usual according to programme.
1230 hrs. Training finished for the day.
15% Bn. allowed on 48 hrs. passes.
1600 hrs. C.O. rtn. From leave.
- 6th Feb. 0700 hrs. Rev. Weather, Drizzle & cold.
1000 hrs. Church Parade.
- 7th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Dry & cold.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
0900 hrs. Officers Cadre Course commenced under Maj. W.L. JOHNSON MC.
The .O. gave an opening address.
0930 hrs. HQ Coy Comdr. inspected Billets.
1600 hrs. Maj. H. WOOD was attached to Bn. for all purposes.
- 8th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather Dry & cold.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
- 9th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Dry & cold wind.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
All personnel 5' 8 inches of above were paraded for selection for the coming Guard of Honour parade.
1400 hrs. Recreational Training.
- 10th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, wintery showers.

0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
1120 I.O. proceeded on a Course (German Army).

- 11th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold.
Training cont. according to programme.
- 12th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather Cold & dry.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
- 13th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather Cold & dry.
1000 hrs. R.C. Church Parade.
1045 hrs. Methodist – United Church Parade.
- 14th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather Cold & dry.
0900 hrs. Training cont. as usual.
“ “ N.C.O's Assault Course commenced.
“ “ Junior Cardre Course commenced.
- 15th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold & dry.
0900 hrs. Training cont. as usual.
- 16th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold, Drizzle.
- 17th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather Cold, slight drizzle.
0915 hrs. The Guard of Honour was inspected at KINGS LYNN station by the G.O.C.
(Gen. Sir B. MONTGOMERY)
1030 hrs. The Bn. marched to CASTEL RISING (187447) to join the remainder of 131
Bde. The Bde. was formed up for an inspection and later an address by the G.O.C. (Gen.
Sir B. MONTGOMERY). The Parade dismissed at 1600 hrs. when all formations marched
back to their respective areas.
- 18th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, cold & dry.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
- 19th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather Cold & dry.
0900 hrs. Training cont. as usual.
1400 hrs. Int. Coy Football.
- 20th Feb. 0700 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold with showers.
1100 hrs. Church Parade.
I.O. rtn. From Course.
- 21st Feb. 0630 hrs.
0900 hrs. Training as usual to programme.
The Queen's Depot Band arrived in the Bn. area.
- 22nd Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather, Dry & cold.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
Orders issued for the use of no. 3 Blanco. Green to be used on equipment. A Guest and
Band night was held at the Officers Mess. Some of those in attendance were, The Bde.

Comdr. (Brig. M.S. EKINS) Maj. U.L.P. Fisher MC, Town Mayor – Town Clerk – Chief Constable – R.N.O.

- 23rd Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Dry & cold.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
1400 hrs. Recreational Training. Bn. played football against the R.A.F.
- 24th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather, Dry & cold wind.
0900 hrs. Training as usual.
1200 hrs. early dinner.
1300 hrs. Bn. paraded to embus on T.C.V'S.
1345 hrs. Bn. left area for (N.E. of CASTEL RISING 137448) where they were formed up with the remainder of 131 Bde. for an inspection by H.M. King George VI.
His Majesty arrived with the Div. Comdr. (Maj. Gen. G.N.E.T. ERSKINE DSO).
After His Majesty had inspected the Bde. all ranks marched off to the embussing areas and proceeded back to billets. Bn. was back in the area 1700 hrs.
The Queen's Band was in attendance at this parade.
- 25th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold & wet
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
1600 hrs. Div. Comdr. (Maj. Gen. G.N.E.T. ERSKINE DSO) visited the Bn.
- 26th Feb. 0630 hrs. Rev. Weather, Cold and raining.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
1400 hrs. Inter-Coy football matches.
T Coy disbanded. Left their billets at HILLINGTON and rtn. To KINGS LYNN. Personnel rejoined their own Coys and some were transferred to Y Pln. Y Pln. Has been formed for the purpose of embodying personnel of the Bn. who are mentally or physically unfit.
The A/Tk Pln. Moved out to HILLINGTON (183438) taking over the billets previously occupied by T Coy.
- 27th Feb. 0700 hrs. Rev. Weather, Rainy periods.
1100 hrs. Both R.C. & C.E. Church Parades were held in the town.
- 28th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather, Cold & slight covering of snow.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme. O.R's in the Bn. handed in pistols .38. They will be issued with STEN guns instead.
- 29th Feb. 0630 hrs. Weather, Cold.
0900 hrs. Training cont. according to programme.
The Div. Comdr. (Maj. Gen. G.N.E.T. ERSKINE DSO) visited the Bn. to watch and inspect Training.

Lt. Col. M. Forrester DSO MC.
Comdg.
1/6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regt.

29/2/1944