

DUNSMORE, HAROLD

RANK: WARRANT OFFICER II

DECORATIONS:

YEARS OF SERVICE: 1942-1965

SHIPS:

OPERATIONAL SERVICE: WWII, FAR EAST & MIDDLE EAST, ITALY, GREECE

UNITS: COMMANDO TRAINING

Early life. 4 uncles in RM, another one in RN. Former service in Home Guard, joined Corps in Jan 1942. Lymptstone, straw filled mattresses, 22 men to a hut. After 6 weeks training promoted to Lance Corporal and remained there as rear rank instructor. To Dalditch – (Woodbury, Devon), miserable conditions., thence to Isle of Wight as part of 11 Bn.

Ship to Cape town, leave (R&R) there, then to Egypt to make up losses of 11 Bn following disastrous raid on Tobruk. Maj Sankey becomes CO as Lt Col, further training. Battle of Alamein (guns audible) at this time but did not take part.

To Ceylon in 1943, jungle training, then Bombay, Poona for further training and exercises. Christmas dinner 1944 – amusing description of preparing turkeys etc. Visit by Mountbatten who announced they would return to UK. A bout of malaria. Passage to UK, docked in Glasgow.

NB. Dates are somewhat inaccurate. Bn embarked for Egypt Feb 41, Tobruk was Sep 42, Alamein was Oct/Nov 1942, Bn back in UK in 1943.