
Rudel Hankey

This is my story.

Sometime in Sept 1942 I had just turned 18, I joined up to go into the Army. I went to Carlisle to start my army life. After training we were sent to join the Kings Liverpool Reg in Westerham in the south of England. After a few months we boarded a ship to go overseas. We landed at Port Said, Egypt, then on train to Port Suez, under canvas in the desert for two to three weeks. We then boarded another ship and landed in Bombay, India, then we transferred to the 2nd Batt Manchester Reg at Visapore. We trained for two months then we boarded transport to go all the way across India to Calcutta. Then we left Calcutta on a ferry along the Bramapoter River until we came to a railway siding, then we left the ferry, onto the railway for two or three days until we got to a place called Dimapore. We then left to travel by road, getting near the end of the travel to the front line. On the first day of May 1940 I was in the front line with the 2nd Batt Manchester Reg.

Part Two

After the War had left Kohima behind to keep up with the Japs, we walked along the road until we came to Imphal. We kept going walking all the time until we came to a small town called Yev and Shewbo. Carried on till we got to Chinwin River at Kalawha.

Over the Chinwin River on to Mandalay, but turned south away from Mandalay to the next big river to Rangoon but before we got there we had to fly out of Burma to Calcutta to board ship to Rangoon. On landing we moved up the road to Mingaldong. It is here where I had my 20th Birthday and was here when the war ended.

Back to Madras, India for some time then home in 1946.