

Stanley Deville Wood

Stanley Wood was born in November 1916 in Willington, County Durham, where his father was a newsagent. After Stanley left his local school when he was 13 years old, he was given a place at the Friends' School in Great Ayton. When he left there he found work as an office boy.

In early 1939, Stanley Wood joined the Territorial Army, 504th Searchlight Regiment, and did his basic training at Darlington. When the Second World War began, the unit was mobilised and moved to Bridlington.

In early 1941, Stanley Wood was selected for officer training and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in a Searchlight Battalion. In 1943, he was posted to the RAF to work on radar and then in 1944 was sent on an infantry training course in Scotland.

In 1944, Stanley Wood was posted to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in India and joined the 2nd Battalion DLI shortly after the fighting at Kohima. He then took part in the advance down through Burma. 2 DLI was then moved to India to prepare for a seaborne attack on Rangoon.

When the Second World War ended, Stanley Wood left India in January 1946. On arrival in Liverpool, he was taken to hospital but was later demobilised from the Army.

Stanley Wood was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum in 1990 at his home in Darlington.