

## **William Henry Partridge**

William Partridge was born in April 1920 and joined the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in April 1939 at Chilwell in Nottinghamshire. In 1940, William Partridge was selected for officer training and was sent to the Officer Cadet Training Unit at Dunbar. In August 1940, Second Lieutenant Partridge was commissioned in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

After service in England, Lieutenant Partridge was attached to the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion DLI in July 1942, then fighting in the Middle East in the Gazala Line. William Partridge served with the battalion at the Battle of El Alamein and then in the advance westwards across North Africa as the German and Italian forces retreated.

In March 1943, Captain Partridge was severely wounded in his legs by shell fire as 9 DLI fought the breakthrough the German defence line at Mareth. He was then evacuated to hospital. After recovering from his wounds, William Partridge was ruled unfit for further active service and was transferred to the Weapon Training School in Palestine.

At the end of the Second World War, Bill Partridge returned home and was demobilised from the Army.

*William Partridge was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum in 2001.*