George Iceton

Rations at Gazala

It was, what we'd been getting it was bully stew, McConnachie's stew. McConnachie's were great; we used to think so anyway. Tinned fish and later on we started getting tins with rolls of bacon in. It was bacon cut in slices and rolled all the way so you could just get hold of the paper and stretch it out and you got a row of slices of bacon. But they were to cook. It was great though when it was cooked, I mean that was something really new. Occasionally we would get bread, white bread in the Army square loaves, but by the time we got it the outside and most of the inside was full of dust. No matter how they tried to cover this bread the dust got in. And when you see bread today in the supermarket all wrapped up in cellophane and all this it's really annoying to think of the sand that we ate. Because to be fair to the lads driving the stores truck who went to collect this bread, they did everything, everything possible. But when you've got a canopy on the top and a vehicle travelling along sand it's sucked inside, inside the canopy. I mean if you see photos of lads travelling in the desert they're white, purely white, and caked. Not dust on, it's caked on. So the bread was always sand in.