

Russell King

Fighting Patrol

This fighting patrol we were told that we were going to try and attract the fire, of all things like you know, which wasn't very pleasant. But anyway we made our way, I remember, along this hillside and along the cactus and the odd sort of bad going. I remember this officer, company commander actually, he pulled me back quite quickly because he must have seen they had a trip wire across this gap, and, of course, we all stepped over it then, told blokes to step over this trip wire. And we hadn't gone, oh, maybe about another 50 yards I think. Big German stood almost right in front of us and shouts "*hände hoch*", and, bugger, all hell was let loose. As I say it was meant to attract fire. It was like bloody fireworks day, Guy Fawkes Day. I think all the bloody German Army went to panic stations, because talk about attracting fire, I think we did. We attracted all the bloody fire that there was.