

William Herbert Wainwright Jalland

William Jalland was born in December 1922 in Stockport Cheshire. When the Second World War began, he was studying law at Manchester University and in 1940 he joined the Home Guard. In 1941, William Jalland was selected for officer training and went to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. In August 1942, Second Lieutenant Jalland was posted to the King's Own Royal Regiment and in 1943 sailed with the 1st Battalion to the Middle East. There he fell ill with meningitis and was sent to hospital in Egypt.

After his recovery, William Jalland was posted to the 8th Battalion DLI in Sicily. He arrived just after the battalion had fought the fierce action at Primosole Bridge. After the conquest of Sicily, 8 DLI, as part of the 50th Division, was ordered home to prepare for D-day and the invasion of France.

Lieutenant Jalland landed in Normandy on 6 June 1944 with 'B' Company 8 DLI and was involved within hours of the landing in the search for Brigadier Senior, commanding the 151st Brigade. William Jalland did not find the Brigadier but was himself taken prisoner but managed to escape and rejoin his battalion.

William Jalland fought with 8 DLI across Normandy and France and into Belgium and Holland. After a period as Liaison Officer at 151 Brigade Headquarters, he returned as Adjutant to 8 DLI, then back home in England.

In 1946, Bert Jalland was demobilised from the Army and returned to university. He was called to the Bar in 1950 and later served as a Circuit Judge in Liverpool then Manchester. William Jalland died in August 2000.

William Jalland was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum in 1991.