

## **William Albert Weightman**

William Weightman was born in October 1925 at Middle Herrington in Sunderland, where his father was a farmer. William was at Durham School when the Second World War began. He served in the school's Junior Training Corps and in 1940 joined the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Durham Home Guard, serving as a Private in the Signals Platoon.

In August 1943, William Weightman, after serving for a short time in the Queens Royal Regiment, applied to join the Indian Army. He attended an Officer Cadet Training Unit in India and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in July 1944. In late 1944, William Weightman joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion DLI in Burma and fought with the battalion until the end of the war in Burma and Malaya.

In September 1946, William Weightman returned to England and joined the Parachute Regiment. In 1948, he left the Regular Army and joined the 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion Parachute Regiment (old 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion DLI) in Gateshead. After later service with the Royal Air Force Regiment and Army Cadet Force, Bill Weightman finally retired from the Army with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

*William Weightman was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum in 1991 at his home in Richmond.*