

Trooper W. H. Emmott (3rd Royal Tank Regiment)

Wilfred Hartley Emmott joined up in July 1940 and, in June 1942, he was sent to North Africa with the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment (3RTR). He was one of those who "...cheerfully went to war in tin cans, closely surrounded by a lethal mixture of petrol and ammunition"¹.

3RTR saw heavy action during the battle of Galzala^{2,3}, in May and early June 1942, and it seems likely that Wilfred joined his unit shortly after the fall of Tobruk, on June 21st 1942. Having withdrawn to El Alamein, 3RTR was reformed as part of 10th Armoured Division¹.

3RTR was heavily involved during the second battle of El Alamein, in October 1942, not only in conventional tanks but also in mine-sweeping flail tanks called Scorpions².

Trooper Emmott was killed on October 25th 1942, the second day of the battle^{4,5}. He was buried in the El Alamein War Cemetery⁶.

His death was reported in the Craven Herald⁷:

On Active Service

Death in Action

Mrs. Emmott, the wife of Trooper Wilfred Hartley Emmott, 32, Main Street, Farnhill, has received official intimation that her husband was killed in action in the Middle East on Oct. 25. Trooper Emmott enlisted in July, 1940, and went abroad five months ago. He was 30 years of age, and had resided in Farnhill since his marriage almost six years ago. In civil life he was employed by Messrs. Briggs Bros., printers, Silsden. A keen cyclist, he was



Tpr. W. H. EMMOTT at one time a member of the Bronte Wheelers and the Kaighley Road Club, and had won many trophies in long-distance road events.

References

- 1 <http://www.royaltankregiment.com/en-GB/ww2.aspx>
- 2 <http://www.desertrats.org.uk/orgarmour.htm#3RTR>
- 3 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Gazala
- 4 <http://www.desertrats.org.uk/battles1942.htm#Alamein>
- 5 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Battle_of_El_Alamein
- 6 <http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2093670/EMMOTT,%20WILFRED%20HARTLEY>
- 7 Craven Herald, November 27th 1942