

World War 2 - Medal Entitlement

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion served in North West Europe. The 2nd Battalion did not serve overseas but many individuals were transferred to the 1st Battalion and other regiments - some earning medals other than the France & Germany Medal. Awards of the Africa and Italy Stars are known.

World War 2 medals were issued un-named.

Those soldiers that served only with the Herefordshire Regiment were entitled to the following medals.

 The 1939/45 Star is a gold seven-pointed star with a crown at the top. The center features the letters 'GR' and 'VI' below it. The words '1939-1945 STAR' are inscribed around the inner edge of the star. It is suspended from a ribbon with vertical stripes of blue, red, and light blue.	<p>The 1939/45 Star</p> <p>Awarded for 6 months service in an operational theatre between 3rd September 1939 and 2nd September 1945.</p>
 The France & Germany Star is a gold seven-pointed star with a crown at the top. The center features the letters 'GR' and 'VI' below it. The words 'FRANCE & GERMANY STAR' are inscribed around the inner edge of the star. It is suspended from a ribbon with vertical stripes of blue, red, and white.	<p>The France & Germany Star</p> <p>Awarded for participation in operations in France, Belgium, Holland or Germany between D Day (6 June 1944) and VE Day (8th May 1945)</p>



The Defence Medal

Awarded for 3 years service for those who served in non-operational theatres subject to, or threatened by air attack.



The War Medal

Awarded to all full time members of the Armed Forces who completed 28 days of service between 3rd September 1939 and 2nd September 1945.



A typical 1st Battalion medal group for a soldier who enlisted in 1939, 1940 or early 1941. Those serving pre war could also be awarded the Efficiency Medal (Territorial).



A typical 1st Battalion medal group for a soldier who enlisted after 1941. Examples do exist of late enlistment soldiers who joined the battalion on operations later in 1945 and

therefore did not qualify for the 1939/45 Star and their entitlement is only the France & Germany Star and War Medal.



A typical 2nd Battalion group to a soldier who served with the battalion throughout the war and did not serve overseas.