

ANTHONY MATTHEW COOPER (R35-39)

He was born on 1 February 1921 and served in Algeria, Middle East and Sicily with Royal Artillery during WW2. Between 1948-50 he served in Malaya and Singapore, followed by time in Hong Kong and Royal Ordnance. Retired from Army in 1968 as Lt. Col. and initially joined Rolls Royce, before International Computers. Retired in 1986.

He wrote a book titled "Somehow They Knew: A True Love-Story". As the title implies it is a true love story that starts during WW2. An artillery officer about to go overseas on active service meets a pretty girl in a small village in the south of England. She is a talented draftsman in the drawing office of a key wartime research establishment. They fall in love. His embarkation leave turns into a whirlwind courtship. Separated by war and duty, they never lose hope that one-day they will be together.

There is a first-hand account of the Allied landings in North Africa and the invasion of Sicily. A charming picture is painted of the day-to-day life of the young girl as she awaits his return, with fascinating glimpses of life in wartime Britain.

Their dreams come true and they are married. In the post-war years their life together is rich in travel and adventure; the scene moves to Singapore, Hong Kong, America and France.

It also mentions a couple of times **General Sir Pat Howard-Dobson (R33-40)**.

In 1994 he published a book on the experiences of his father in the Great War, titled "*We Who Knew*" and it is considered by many to be one of the best accounts of life in the trenches on the Western Front. The book is an edited version of actual journals kept by his father (Matthew) during the First World War. It describes his father's two years of trench warfare in Flanders, including an account of the battle at Messines.

He now lives in France.

