

MAJOR GENERAL FREDERICK WHITMORE (ERIC) BURCH CSI CIE MC DL (1903-09)

He was born on 1 November 1893. Mobilised for WW1 in 1914 with York Troop, East Riding of Yorkshire Yeomanry and commissioned into the East Yorkshire Regiment, 1914. During WW1 he served on Western Front, Egypt and India. He was awarded MC in 1916 and his citation reads " For conspicuous gallantry in action. He visited all the strong points established in the enemy's lines and assisted in their consolidation. Later, he assumed command and carried out his work with great courage and determination"

Remained in Army after the end of WW1 and served various roles in India. At start of WW2 he was assistant Military Secretary to Commander-in-Chief, India. In 1941 he was promoted to Brigadier and to Major General in 1942. Throughout WW2 he continued to serve in India and the Middle East, resulting in him being awarded the CIE (Companion, Order of the Indian Empire) in 1944. Following his successful organisation of India's Victory Celebrations in New Delhi in 1946, he was appointed Chief of Staff and Commander-in-Chief, Baroda State Forces, India and awarded CSI (Companion, Order of the Star of India).

He retired from the Army on 7 October 1949. In retirement he was Area Controller, Civil Defence, North East Essex (1950-1964) and Chairman of Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council from 1959 to 1963.

He died on 20 December 1977 at the age of 85.

His diaries and papers for the period 1914-39 are held at King's College London in the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archon/searches/locresult_details.asp?LR=99