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Personal Message from the Army Commander

It was the proudest day of my life when I was appointed to take over the Eighth Army from Lieut.-General Sir Oliver Leese, Bt. It will be difficult to follow two such distinguished Commanders as my predecessors, but I shall do my utmost to maintain your great traditions, and to look after the interests of all sections of this famous Allied Army.

I fully appreciate the special problems and hardships which long service overseas has imposed on many soldiers in the Eighth Army. We must go all out to finish the job quickly.

The Germans are not yet beaten and are still fighting hard on all three fronts; but their difficulties are increasing rapidly.

With your whole-hearted support, Eighth Army, together with our comrades of the American Fifth Army, will play an essential and decisive part in the final defeat of the enemy in Europe.

Best wishes and success to you all.

R. L. McCreery

Lieutenant-General.

Main Headquarters,
Eighth Army.
12th October, 1944.



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Personal Message from the Army Commander

This message is to say good-bye to you all. My orders to take over an Army Group came at short notice; this makes it impossible for me to see you and thank you personally.

You have fought your way in nine months from Cassino to Florence, from Ortona to Rimini. Now you have smashed the Gothic Line and broken out into the Plains.

The name of the Eighth Army, with its Desert Air Force, has never stood higher than today. You may be sure that you will have a decisive part in the final stages of the war in Europe.

To Lieutenant-General Sir Richard McCreery, who assumes command today, I hand over with complete confidence. His long connection with this Army is known to many of you.

I leave our great Eighth Army, and my many friends among its formations, with real regret. This Army has, and always will have, a spirit of comradeship all its own. I shall always remember with pride your friendliness and cheerfulness in good times and bad, and the confidence you have placed in me throughout our battles.

I thank you all and wish you Good Luck.

Oliver Reese

Lieutenant-General.

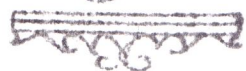
Tac H.Q., Eighth Army.
1st October, 1944.

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Invitation



Brigadier Ian Strachan Johnston
requests the pleasure
of your presence
at the marriage of
Lieutenant (N/S) Doris Warren
and
Captain Thomas Johnston Reith
at
Pensione Belvedere,
Miramara, Italy.
Monday Sixteenth of October 1944
at fourteen hundred hours
and
afterwards at
The Officer's Mess
H.Q. Eleventh Canadian Infantry
Brigade.



RSVP