

The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



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THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(37)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.
 "Mysore," "Serangapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsular,"
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02."
 The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914,"
 "Messines, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"
 "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," "Albert, 1916," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"
 "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume,"
 "1917," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Pillclem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"
 "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre,"
 "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baileul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal
 du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,
 1917-18," "Struna," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915,"
 "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18,"
 "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (77th Foot).
 5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).
 6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia).
 Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.
 Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

Territorial Army Battalions.

1/7th Bn. 2/7th Bn. 8th Bn. 30th Bn.
 9th Bn. 595 L.A.A., R.A., T.A.
 1st and 2nd Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

Affiliated A/A Units of the Territorial Army.

— (7th City of London) Searchlight Regiment R.A.
 — (St. Pancras) Searchlight Regiment R.A.

Dominion and Colonial Alliance.

CANADA.

31st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Ontario.
 21st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.
 50th H.A.A. Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.
 2nd (Wentworth) Field Artillery, Royal Canadian Artillery.
 The Royal Rifles of Canada.

NEW ZEALAND.

The Wellington Coast and Taranaki Regiment,
 Toki, Taranaki, New Zealand.

HONG KONG REGIMENT.

British Army Post Office, 1, Hong Kong.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

"The Die-Hards" is published in March, June, September and December, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE TYPED IN TRIPLICATE, AND BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish the contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

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Chief Editor: Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C.
Asst. Editor (Business): Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

EDITORIAL

Our last issue contained a magnificent contribution from the 1st Battalion in Korea. At the same time we experimented with a change to larger, and we thought, more dignified headings. We are glad to say that in a letter just received from the Battalion they express themselves as delighted with the way their notes were presented.

This is good news, for we feel that it is a great effort on the part of the Battalion to produce such historically valuable material to time and under such appalling conditions.

In this issue we have a continuation of the unit's story, partly from the unit direct and partly from Major Willoughby, in hospital with a rupture. It should again be of outstanding interest to all readers.

Our mercenary mind deplures the fact that, though all copies of the Journal are sold out, it is adding no cash to our funds when many people are queuing up to read these accounts from those who have copies. Our own copy is getting worn to rags passing from persons of the Army, Navy and Air Force, all anxious to read something unvarnished and direct from a unit.

Our printers, who are always most helpful, have suggested that the new headings warrant a new type for the subject matter and, as they are the experts, we shall take their advice. If it does not suit your eyesight, let us know.

We have to apologise to the Romford Branch for omitting their notes in the last issue. As all who knew him will realise, it was an accident and no disrespect was meant to ex-C/Sgt. Boddington, an obituary to whom appeared in the notes. We hope that such accidents will not occur in future.

Omissions remind us that the cost of printing is going up and, therefore, unless a vast improvement occurs in advertisement receipts and numbers of subscribers, the Association will have to subsidise the Journal. We who run it, therefore, have got to reduce the cost as much as possible. This will certainly mean keeping strictly to a limit of size, and we therefore ask all contributors to remember this and to produce short articles or one clearly divided up.

We get a large number of appeals frequently in the form of lengthy letters. In future, these will be summarised to save space.

A further change will be that all Die-Hards Club Notes will be given one place in the Journal and not attached to Unit or Depot notes. This, we think, will be tidier than the present arrangement.

Finally, we have heard from many sources that Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., has relinquished command of the 1st Battalion and that Major R. A. Gwyn has been given command. It would not surprise us if this is true, as it is high time that Lt.-Col. Man had a change, which they say is as good as a rest. Lt.-Gen. H. G. Martin wrote in *The Telegraph* of April 30: "From Brigadier Coad himself to company commanders and warrant officers, those in responsible positions in the original 27th Brigade have had to bear a great abnormal strain." Such a strain cannot go on for ever, and it would be grossly unfair to allow a C.O. to go on until he cracks up. The Army and the Unit are better served if he is given fresh duties and, we hope promotion, in recognition of his sterling work, however hard it may seem at the moment of parting.

If command has fallen to Major Roly Gwyn, all will be delighted, since every letter arriving from Korea has thrown light on the magnificent work he has done as 2IC and the value of his tremendous sense of humour, when there was little if anything to find anything but foul and wretched.

We wish him every success during his period in command, and trust that by now he has been able to bring the Battalion safely away.

Appeals

The Army Rifle Association. Gen. Sir Gerald Tempier, K.B., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., points out that only 28 serving officers are members of this Association. We hope that when Regular officers are less engaged in practice shooting they will give this matter their attention. The subscription is still only 5s. per annum.

The Resettlement of Ex-Regulars

The Advisory Council have now issued their report, which should be available in all administration offices. Space prevents us publishing details in this Journal, but all Regular soldiers should ask to see it and study it.

March, 1951, Issue

Due to a printers' error it is regretted that the Regiments against 2/Lt. I. S. Rutherford and 2/Lt. P. A. S. Wollocombe were shown as R.A.O.C. and R.W.K. respectively. These officers are both, of course, Middlesex Regiment. The printers have apologised for the error.

4th BATTALION—MONS

Arrangements have been completed for the unveiling of a plaque at Obourg Railway Station to commemorate the firing of the first shots of the Battle of Mons by the 4th Battalion on August 23, 1914.

The suggested dates are August 23 or 26, 1951. Will any ex-member of the 4th Battalion desirous of attending the unveiling kindly communicate with the Secretary, Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

1st Battalion NOTES

WHOOOPS-A-DAISY (continued)

The Chinese behaved very badly over New Year's Day. The Journal notes for the last issue were incomplete when, in the early hours of January 1, we were ordered to move forward to meet their attack. This narrative takes up the story again.

By the end of November the forces of the United Nations had been surprised and out-manoeuvred by the Chinese offensive driving down the centre of Korea through Kunuri.

By December 1 everyone and everything appeared to be in headlong retreat. An attempt was, however, being made to form some sort of delaying line north of Pyongyang. In the central sector this was about 25 miles north-east of the capital, blocking the main road from this direction, the chief threat being from the east flank.

The Argylls had marched off from the Brigade area at Chasan to extend this line south-eastwards. In the half light of this bitterly cold evening the dark mass of rocky hills that was their objective looked desperately big to be held by one battalion. No one knew whether or not it was already occupied by the enemy.

The next morning the Australians moved south and then east to continue the line. By the afternoon their transport had returned to lift us, and we moved off with orders to harbour for the night as Brigade reserve and to get as much rest as we could. We arrived as dusk was falling with the first flakes of the winter snows. In the meantime, our harbour area became a part of the defensive line and, not knowing who was on our right and left or how the ground lay, we hacked and dug our way into the frozen hills as best we could, and prayed for an early dawn.

By eight o'clock it was known that the Argylls were being pulled back to our area. It was also learned that an Australian patrol moving north along their withdrawal route had met enemy astride it and had had to retire in the face of superior numbers.

The Battalion prepared to move off in the night to help the Argylls back, if this was necessary, but in the early hours the news came through that they had been successful in making a detour. Our rations and ammunition lorries were unloaded into the snow and sent off to meet them, together with our reserve rum ration. By dawn they were all back with us, much to our, and their, relief.

With daylight, an adjustment was made in the Brigade's dispositions. The Australians came back across the river to high ground on our right and closer

to us. We extended to our left to reduce a gap of two miles between ourselves and the 1st U.S. Cavalry Division who, in their turn, stretched westwards to cover the main north-south road eight miles away. The Argylls dug into a reserve position to our rear. In between them and us, alongside a lateral road, were Battalion and Brigade H.Q. with our transport and some attached artillery and a newly arrived American 4.2-in. mortar battalion that was to remain as part of the 27th Brigade for many months to come.

The wind had dropped, it had stopped snowing, but the sky was heavy. The white sameness of the landscape was broken only by the black crags and cliff faces of the mountains to our right and by belts of fir trees to our left. Amongst the foothills of the mountains and across a ford lay a rough road which led up through our defences, past Battalion H.Q. and on to the main road. During the afternoon the Air Force reported 20,000 Chinese a few thousand yards away and advancing down this road. Within half an hour an air strike of fighters came over and machine-gunned and rocketed this area. We could see the tracers striking the ground and floating off into the sky again in ricochets, but so far as we could make out there was no other movement. A small bomber force appeared and also attacked the area. These attacks continued in a procession of American aircraft until the light began to fail. We then settled down to make what we could of the night.

Not a single Chinaman had been seen anywhere by us. An Australian patrol had found one dead cow and two dead civilians where the Air Force had claimed to have wiped out an enemy battalion, but that was all. For some time we had felt that the Intelligence evaluations were getting a bit out of hand, but even so most of us that night dug a little deeper and camouflaged a little more thoroughly than usual. The river ford was roughly a mile in front of us. It was covered by one of our platoons as an outpost. During the night we were warned for a long move. By eight o'clock the following morning the 1st Cavalry Division had gone. At 9.30 we moved off along the only road available, across the front to the main road eight miles back.

As had so often happened before, there was not enough transport to lift us. The Battalion travelled "hard." Many hung on to the mudguards of already overlaid lorries. One Company lay in threes on the Jeep trailers belonging to the 4.2-in. Mortar Company; a method of travel to which we were to become much used. In this fashion we travelled for 15 miles in the arctic cold and choking yellow dust.

The main road was very congested by refugees struggling southwards, as much to escape from United Nations' bombing as from the Chinese. Most of the women were carrying small babies and many were leading a child as well. The tragedy of their plight was made more poignant by a merciless wind that swept down the valley.

About noon we passed through the outposts of the 29th Infantry Brigade, who were covering the withdrawal of the 8th Army through Pyongyang.

In the earlier days, rightly or wrongly, we had assumed that the arrival of this Brigade would be the signal for our return to Hong Kong. It had therefore been rather natural, in our tired and more forlorn moments, to natter "Come on, 29th Brigade." In fact, once or twice a few had even gone so far as to infer that they were a bit slow in arriving. However, by all reports, they were a strong, well-equipped Independent Brigade Group with the latest arms and equipment; in fact, a real show piece—"Buy British; its best." Thus they had come to be known by us as the "Festival of Britain boys." Well, here they were at last, caught up in the same stupendous military mess-up as ourselves. We were delighted to see them and they gave us a glorious welcome as we passed through them. Pretty well every basic sentiment and rugged epithet were joyfully hurled from one side to the other. The colourful texture of the soldier's vocabulary could not have been better displayed. Englishmen are not as a rule so communicative to each other when they meet in foreign countries. Dr. Livingstone would have been badly shaken. The 29th Brigade looked very smart and business-like. They must have appeared a strange contrast with us in our worn and dusty motley of American and British winter clothing.

We skirted the eastern suburbs of the city to join a main road running south-east. Pyongyang looked, if possible, more gaunt and miserable than it had seemed to us less than two months previously on our way north. The great girder bridges over the river still lay broken and twisted, and beyond them black columns of smoke showed where military stores were being burned. It was a discouraging scene of desolation and abandonment. The road south-east led across an open plain and into the mountain mass of central Korea, at that time marked on situation maps with a red circle enclosing the sinister phrase "Concentration of organised guerrillas."

There was no shelter of any sort from the wind which blew remorselessly the whole afternoon. For those hanging on to mudguards and jeep trailers it was a test of endurance. As our column moved slowly on towards the mountains we began to overtake the retreating R.O.K. Army. They were a wretched and dispiriting sight struggling back in ragged and varied uniforms. They had no transport of any sort and must have been trudging southward for many days.

Where the road entered the mountains we caught up the tail end of the 9th Corps. It was beginning to get dark. In the next eight hours we barely covered 30 miles. A nose to tail column of trucks, tanks, bulldozers and transporters intermingled with R.O.K.s and

refugees stretched for 20 miles southwards into the night and seemingly lost itself in endless passes and defiles.

Sometimes the traffic would be halted for as much as an hour while a bulldozer forced its way up against the traffic. More often, after a halt of 20 minutes or so, the stream would move slowly on for a few thousand yards and halt again. The dust was awful. The cold was worse. At every halt we searched about for wood or dead grass and lit a fire. Sometimes we were lucky in stopping by a blazing log fire. The crowd pressing in invariably resulted in scorched clothes. But it was worth it. Almost anything would have been worth it. At one halt a lorry carrying R.O.K.s drew into the side and the occupants offered a refugee and wife with one small child a lift. Their bedding, all they possessed, was flung on to the lorry. Just at that moment the traffic moved on without them, taking the bedding with it. It was 1 o'clock in the morning.

By 2 o'clock the Battalion had reached the harbour area in frozen cotton fields by the side of the road. A few vehicles and all the machine gun and mortar carriers were missing, but the latter were known to have run out of petrol several miles back.

At 9 o'clock in the morning the Adjutant drove north, back along the road to discover what had happened to these vehicles. After having covered about 15 miles of deserted road he suddenly came across a party of our Corps of Drums helping some American wounded. Guerrillas had apparently machine-gunned the road from a nearby hill and the well-known cry of "road block" was in the air. One of our own trucks was standing bullet ridden at the side of the road, and a little farther on a village was on fire with a number of trucks burning furiously nearby. Mortar bombs, grenades and small arms ammunition on board were going up well. One mile farther on, by itself, our "Ops" truck containing, among other valuables, a large consignment of Regimental Christmas cards, had been well and truly shot up, while ahead on a hill a large crowd of "viewers" were holding their breath as this rather solitary party continued its inspection up the road until it reached the head of the long column of vehicles halted below them. In a very short time the road was in use again.

It is not often that the appearance on the field of battle of Adjutants shorn of all their old regalia of swords, white chargers and spurs has this salutary effect on the enemy. By this time contact had been clearly broken with the Chinese and the retreat had been orderly. On December 7 the Battalion took over the protection of the 9th Corps H.Q. at Mudong.

That evening "Retreat" was sounded from Battalion H.Q. Unfortunately Corps H.Q. were still under some apprehension about guerrillas and one or two members, hearing bugle calls as night closed in on them, were considerably put out of countenance and feared the worst. However, alarm was not widespread, since, in the words of a senior member of the Corps staff, it did sound "kinda jazzy."

Two days later guerrillas were reported to be working in the area of a long pass 15 miles north of the Parallel; we were therefore put under the command of the

187th Airborne Brigade and moved south to this pass. The next day, December 10, was uneventful. At 4.30 the following morning, in the inky blackness, we came down from a number of very inhospitable peaks to continue the withdrawal over the Parallel, and by the afternoon the Battalion was settling into a reserve area in the foothills immediately north of Uijongbu. This town is about 15 miles north of Seoul and was the first town to be entered by the North Koreans last July. It was absolutely flat when we were there. It has since been liberated for the second time and, doubtless, is now flatter still.

In this area we stayed until New Year's Day opened "Whoops-a-Daisy" the second. In the meantime came the Christmas "holidays."

Christmas Holidays

The days between December 11 and January 1 were days of uncertainty. The 8th Army had had more than a jolt, it had had the fright of its life. The spectre of the Red flood glowered from the wild country north of the Parallel. The snow silenced the tread of countless of thousands of fanatical Chinese moving southwards through the night and massing for the moment when a single toot on their silly little trumpets would launch them forth on an enterprise that would make any of Ghengis Khan's expeditions sound like a bank holiday. Circumspect drivers in Truck Companies carefully conserved their "bug-out" gas, i.e., enough to take them to Pusan. The stage was all set for the big "bug-out." "Get to your marks." "Get set." Bang! Bang! False start. Civilians only this time. The population of Seoul began to move off. Whither? Southwards, that was all. In this rather restless atmosphere we settled down outside Uijongbu as Corps reserve for use when a rear guard was required. In the meantime we were given the task of combing the mountainous country to our east for guerrillas and anything else likely to go "boomp in the night." These patrols proved a pretty good waste of time and were soon stopped. Banditry in Korea is traditional. Like most bad men of this profession they live in the mountains, hold the villagers in fear and loot the prosperous traveller. Their numbers and proximity are always exaggerated by rumour and, generally speaking, they are pretty elusive gentlemen. In time of war they are endowed with intense loyalty to the enemy and are renamed guerrillas. The tales from the villages all follow the same pattern. "Many enemies came here two days ago and took away one ox." And there it was, with the cry on our lips "Always enemies yesterday, never enemies today," we gave up mountaineering and concentrated on the domestic scene.

Overnight a strange shanty town sprang up. Architectural tastes varied, but the trend was generally between "Tidworth Tudor" and "Klondyke Revival."

Having, at any rate temporarily, won the battle of the cold, we were able to concentrate on re-equipping, N.C.O.s' cadres, shooting, mending clothes, washing and relaxing. The cold, clammy hands of apprehension rested lightly on the 1st Middlesex. Christmas Day was described in the last issue of this Journal. We shall

never be able to thank England and Hong Kong fully for making our Christmas what it was.

After Christmas the number of enemy troops north of the Parallel was known to be increasing. The volume of refugees mounted. The call-up of every male citizen was speeded and armies of "Volunteers" doubled through the streets of Seoul. The Government was still alleged to be in session in the Capitol building. But with two notable exceptions the city was on the verge of panic and everyone was getting out as fast as they could.

The two exceptions were the vendors of "White Horse Scotch Whiskey (Oriental Type), made in Seoul" and the British Legation.

This is not to suggest that these two had anything in common, and it is quite unthinkable that this brand of whiskey ever crossed the threshold of the Legation. The label on the bottle bore eloquent testimony to the effect of the contents. It read:

"ACCOMPLISHMENT"

"This whiskey jstheproud acotnplishment of anarthssible dFSfh which y s diamond djsjtiller sjded by the nellowing hand of fjme. Count thiswllskey among your most fauzedguests." Some whiskey!—Some acotnplishment!

Time was running out and we were on the brink of another "bug-out." Not, however, as we had supposed an "all-time high (or low)" in "bug-outs." Shortly after Christmas Gen. Ridgeway had taken over command of the 8th Army. As we have subsequently learned, he is not the man to let things get out of hand very easily.

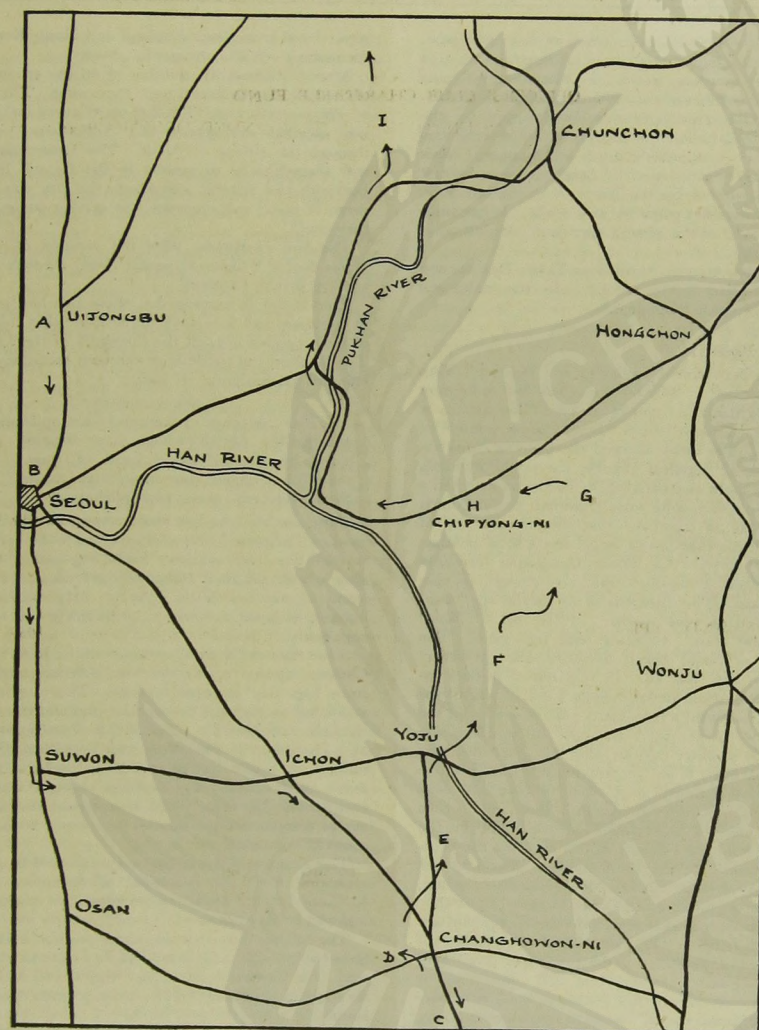
Some time in the first few hours of the New Year the Chinese crawled up to the wire defences with thick straw bags that are used for rice. The weight of the attack fell on the 2nd R.O.K. Division and the flank of the U.S. 24th Division. The R.O.K.s collapsed. The 24th Division with their flank wide open were forced to retreat. At 6.30 a.m., the 27th Brigade were ordered to move north to take up positions through which the two R.O.K. Divisions could retreat, and thereafter to act as rearguard until another line could be occupied south of Uijongbu.

The progress of the enemy advance could be roughly estimated from the behaviour of American fighter-bombers circling ahead and sweeping to machine-gun and rocket the enemy.

The Aussies took up a temporary position a few miles ahead of us. By early afternoon they had made contact with the Chinese. At sunset they were withdrawn through us and the Argylls to a position two miles south.

In the twilight the last of the air-strikes came over and poured cannon fire, rockets and napalm bombs into the broken ground and villages immediately to our front. And then it was dark. To our left, beyond the Argylls, the barren mountains made a ragged outline against the western sky. On our right the last of the refugees had disappeared southwards down the railway line and, beyond, another range of mountains straggled up into the night. Ahead glowed the flames from burning villages. The rest was silence. Those who under-

MAP OF CENTRAL FRONT SHOWING AREA OF BATTALION'S OPERATIONS FROM MID-DECEMBER TO THE END OF MARCH



- A. Battalion concentration area, December 11-January 1
 B. Defence positions, January 3-4.
 C. Concentration area, January 5-6.
 D. Defensive position, January 7-February 2.
 E. Patrol area, February 3-13.
 F. Hill 112 operation, February 14-21.
 G. Operations, February 22-March 13.
 H. Concentration area, March 13-25.
 I. Operations, March 26-31.

stand these things will not be surprised to learn that a number of outwardly mundane subjects were exercising the mind of the British soldier during the evening. Firstly, because it immediately concerned him, was the performance of the new Tommy cookers. The hesitant blue flames flickering at the bottom of the trench were the subject of much earnest conjectures and profound philosophy to those not on look-out duty. Secondly, because it should have immediately concerned them, was the fate of 20 or 30 fat turkeys that had been carefully kept for New Year's dinner and were now goodness know where. And, thirdly, as a sort of obligato to the other two, were the football results just received on typed sheets from "B" Echelon.

At ten o'clock the Argylls were ordered back. At midnight we started to edge back, Company by Company. There was some delay in getting the vehicles out of the frozen paddy and up the icy banks on to the road. An ambulance rolled over on to its side and blocked the exit for a time, but there was no interference from the enemy and by 2 a.m. the whole Battalion was safely through the Aussies' outposts.

By daybreak the whole Brigade was concentrated as Corps reserve amongst the bombed-out schoolhouses and buildings in the northern outskirts of Seoul.

Except for ceaseless air activity it was a quiet day. Once again Cyril Page of the B.B.C. distinguished himself by quite innocently driving through the American forward positions and well into enemy territory.

The next day, January 3, the Chinese broke through, and the situation rapidly began to become fluid, with air-strikes going in on the wrong side.

In the afternoon we were ordered to take up a rear-guard position to cover the main forces through Seoul and across the Han River. This was a task for which we had been warned before Christmas and a detailed reconnaissance of positions covering the main easterly bridge over the Han River.

However, it is in the nature of retreats that new plans are produced at the last moment and we were eventually required to use the westerly bridge.

The Uijongbu-Seoul road is divided from the north-westerly approaches to the city by a spine of almost inaccessible mountains that end at the outskirts of Seoul. Here a ridge runs eastwards to form the base of a capital L. The new plan required us to hold the highest peak in the range and about three-quarters of the ridge, while the Australians held the remainder and blocked the main road. The Argylls were to hold the enemy to the north of the city. Eventually, when the main body of the 9th Corps were through, they were to retreat into the city and provide relatively close protection for the bridge. We and the Australians would then retreat through them.

These positions were hastily reconnoitred and, in the failing light, we struggled and clambered up into the mountains and were soon swallowed up in the night. From these rocky spurs looking back on Seoul a great pall of red smoke hung over the city. Several large fires were burning and the impression was of many Church spires silhouetted against the flames. The

sweat of climbing was cold on us. The warmth from our boots had thawed the snow and our feet were soaking. Now our boots were freezing over our wet feet. We were very hungry. Moscow must have felt and looked like this to Napoleon's Army. It may, too, have been better for them, for then, at what seemed to be our moment of greatest anguish, far down below us in the warmth and shelter of Battalion H.Q. a bugler sounded "Cookhouse." The call floated up to us and echoed about the mountains, bringing with it a dreadful vision of inequality of hardship and the enormity of indifference. Strong silent men have been carried away in straight-jackets and timid domesticated men in bowler hats have committed all sorts of extravagances under lesser strains. However, it was all a terrible mistake, and the whole incident drifted innocently into a beautiful Fleet Street legend of the British rearguards defying the Chinese buglers with their own.

While the loyalty of Companies was being examined in this way it transpired that two officers who had been given leave in Seoul had not been notified of the changed operational situation. The Adjutant and the Intelligence Officer set off hot foot for the Chosin Hotel in the centre of the blazing city.

On arrival this building lay in a dark silent island amongst flaming office blocks. Pinned to the massive doors of the main entrance fluttered a single sheet of notepaper. Shadowy, furtive figures in search of loot appeared for a second in the red glare and were gone. The doors creaked uneasily. By torchlight they read the writing on the paper.

"TO ANYONE IN 1/MX.

"If you are looking for either 2/Lt. Lawrence or 2/Lt. Fothergill of 1/MX. you will find them in Room 14 or the kitchen, probably the latter.

"(Signed) S. FOTHERGILL, 2/Lt.,
 "1/MX."

They were in neither of these two places. They were in the dining room eating Kellogg's Corn Flakes and jam by the light of the fires outside.

Before midnight the Australian outposts were withdrawn under heavy pressure.

It was estimated that the bulk of the main forces would be clear of Seoul in the early hours. This would allow us to withdraw at about 4 a.m. Exchanges of mortar and machine-gun fire between the Aussies and the Chinese continued during the night, but shortly before 4 a.m. the Battalion was warned to prepare to hold its present position for another 12 hours.

Three hours later the Aussies were ordered to withdraw forthwith, to be followed by us when they were clear.

It was well after 9 o'clock before all Companies were down off the mountains and had formed up in a mixed column of tanks, trucks and carriers in the city's outskirts. The column eventually moved off through the deserted city, passed through the Argylls and crossed the Han river.

Once over the river we again found ourselves at the tail end of a long column of halted vehicles.



Lt.-Gen. Gale talking to officers of the Middlesex Regiment. In the background is a typical Korean building, used as the Battalion H.Q.

In the early afternoon we reached the walled city of Suwon, about 20 miles farther on. There we turned east to Ichon and then south again to a harbour area 25 miles beyond Changhwan-Ni. Most of the Battalion were in before dawn. In spite of having travelled 120 miles by road we were now only 35 to 40 air miles from Seoul.

"C" RATIONS

There is something about a "C" ration that stirs one's earliest childhood memories. Birthday presents, Christmas presents, surprise presents, all arrived in mysterious little boxes and half the thrill of the occasion was in tearing the package open and wondering what one was going to find inside. Alas! All too often the discovery was an anti-climax; the vision of a superb railway engine became the dull reality of a new pair of shoes; the splendour of a six-bladed penknife faded to the mediocrity of a propelling pencil. But still, there had been a thrill, and that made up for a lot of disappointment.

Of course one has been presented with too many "C" ration boxes during the last six months or so for there to be much sense of mystery left—just as a child who receives too many gifts becomes blasé about them.

But as someone once said, "Hope springs eternal . . ." and at the crucial moment when one has torn the sticky paper that fastens the box, and is about to lift the lid, there is always a sudden wild hope that today something will be different; or if not actually different, at least that one will find one's favourite menu—frankfurters and beans instead of meat and noodles—ham and lima beans rather than hamburgers—chicken and veg. (or anything!) rather than beef stew. And then there is the moment of opening the B2 tin; the burning question of whether one will find chocolate rounds or jelly discs, and what type of jam will it be today?

Yes! One knows the "C" ration too well nowadays. One is accustomed to eating crackers instead of bread, and to imbibing large quantities of ascorbic acid. One has become expert in the heating of tins and the defreezing of fruit cocktail. The can spanner holds no terrors; "Camels" and "Chesterfield" are an accepted part of daily life; the "Waldorf" still performs its age-old function. But while there is still the coyly shuttered cardboard box to tease one's appetite and stir one's memories, the "C" ration will always hold a certain fascination and never quite be reduced to the prosaic status of mere "grub."

RECCE PARTIES FORWARD, HARBOUR PARTIES BACK!

On January 6 we moved forward to a temporary defence line in the area of Changhwan-Ni, while harbour parties went many miles farther south to examine another temporary defence line. And then, of course, there were other defence lines farther back and back and back. Intelligence maps showed an ever-swelling build-up of Chinese field armies south of Seoul until it seemed that this flood must sooner or later brim over. "Bug-out" preparations continued and we solemnly rehearsed our plans for a retreat, sign-posted the paths, and prepared ourselves for an advance. It was rather a mystifying period altogether. The Australians carried out a number of reconnaissances in force without meeting any serious resistance, and then one day the whole of the Cavalry Division swarmed through us in a gigantic sortie. Other divisions did the same elsewhere without running headlong into awful trouble and we were able to relax a little and direct some of our effort to combating the cold. In the event of a retreat, there was no direct road south for us and we

were operating on the minimum of transport, which meant we were rationed to one blanket a man. The thermometer only once registered as low as 63°F. of frost, but the temperature was seldom above zero and pneumonia and influenza started to take their toll.

The days passed uneventfully. We played football in the snowy paddy fields and organised treasure hunts in and about our defences. We wrote home and we waited on the football results. In two weeks we were joined by the 16th Field Regiment, Royal New Zealand Artillery. It was a great day for us when they arrived. They have been marvellous. If in future notes they are not mentioned as much as they should be it is not because we have got into the habit of accepting them as a matter of course, it is because from the day of their arrival they have so identified themselves with us as to be a part of us. We arrived in August without any artillery and ever since had had to take what was going. Often there was none. When a unit was spare it would be loaned to us until it was required elsewhere. Observation officers came and went in the middle of battles and usually in the middle of the night. Anti-aircraft artillery relieved "mediums" and were in turn relieved



Lt.-Gen. Gale talking to the R.S.M. of the Middlesex Regiment (R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M.). In the background is Major Gwyn, the acting Commanding Officer of the Battalion

by 105-mm. guns—a sort of revolving stage business. Registration of defensive fire tasks had to be carried out often in the dark. It was all very bewildering. "If ever the wit of man exceeded itself 'twas in the invention of artillery," wrote an Elizabethan soldier in similar circumstances. In any case, medium artillery is not suitable for the close support of infantry. Accurate though they may be when engaging a target 200 yds. ahead, a lot of stuff comes back, as they say. Flat trajectory A.A. guns in mountainous country also have disadvantages, very quickly appreciated by sitting on almost any hill crest in a direct line between the target and the guns.

As every infantryman and gunner knows, the two must be a team, which can never be with daily chopping and changing. Furthermore, as every honest gunner will admit, there is nothing to the simple direction of artillery fire. It is only when the infantry soldier is forced into improvisation that he is apt to run into difficulties. In this respect it was natural that there should have been that state of affairs in early September, when only one artillery observer was available for seven miles of river line.

One evening, with about 20 minutes of daylight left, the sniper Sergeant returned hot foot to Battalion H.Q. to say that he had seen an enemy tank on the far side of the river. So cunningly was it concealed that it was very doubtful if anyone else would be able to recognise it from the greater range of the small prominence behind the H.Q. Now this was intelligence of peculiar and urgent significance to Battalion H.Q., who had spent much of the previous night trying to discover the point of emission of a great many shells that went "whiz bang" very close to them. With a breathless audience of signallers, clerks and the aid post, the British genius for improvisation unfolded like some giant water lily until the wax petals stretched backwards against its leaves, lush and provocative.

From the small hill the sniper Sergeant shouted fire orders to the C.O. halfway down. The C.O. shouted them on to the Adjutant who was outside the Command Post tent. He, in turn, passed it on to the Signal Officer in the tent. The Signal Officer rang up our 3-in. mortar observation post who were within shooting distance of the American observer, and the American observer, after a quick check that this wasn't going to put anyone on the wrong side in danger, passed the message on to the guns. It was superb, it was tremendous—send three and fourpence we are going to a dance! There is a book by Liddel Hart called "The Strategy of the Indirect Approach," it needs a new chapter on the control of artillery.

Thus it was that when the New Zealand artillery arrived they were more than welcome.

On February 1 two Companies were moved about 25 miles eastwards to just south of Yaju, and the remainder of the Battalion joined them the next day. Yaju was once a prosperous town on the south bank of the Han river. All that was left of it was a waste of rubble, ashes and twisted corrugated iron. The frozen river comes up from the south, flows east and west past the town and turns north again.

In the next two days we were joined by the remainder of the Brigade, and, as Corps reserve, prepared for an ever increasing number of defensive tasks. There was one facing north-west with the Brigade right flank on the river. There were two or three facing north and east and there were a couple of doubtful starters across the river. The river was more or less the Corps boundary with the 2nd Division on our right. It was very difficult to discover what was happening across the river and where anybody was from one minute to the next. The Intelligence Officer spent many weary and lonely hours driving about the neighbouring Corps area and collecting very valuable information and enormous traces.

Our defensive positions along the river were dug, and we rather unsuccessfully tried to break the ice by defensive fire registrations.

On February 12 the enemy were reported to be making headway in a drive down Central Korea on Wonju, 30 miles to our east. There were ominous reports of the Battalion being cut off, of artillery being lost and of retreat. The 23rd Regiment, containing the French battalion were cut off at Chipyeong-Ni, 25 miles to our north, but they were standing their ground and inflicting very heavy losses on their attackers. They were showing that this could be done and it was good.

The next day there were many reports of narrow escapes by units, and a second Company of the 2nd Division was sent to reinforce one that was blocking the main road south from Chipyeong-Ni, about six miles north of Yaju. The Argyles were moved across the river three miles north to Tangu-Ri on the Chipyeong-Ni road and about the same distance south of the American road block. We were warned to be ready to join them next day. There was a series of orders and counter-orders and we finally left at one hour's notice from first light.

Over the River

Early the next morning, February 14, the Brigade, with the 1st Middlesex leading, was ordered to pass through the road block and join up with 23 Regiment at Chipyeong-Ni. Reconnaissance parties were waiting in the Argyle position for the Battalion to arrive, and at about 9.30 a lot of firing broke out up the valley and a number of wounded Americans came down the road saying that their road block position had been surprised and over-run at 8 o'clock, and that they had had heavy casualties. Estimates of the enemy strength varied between a brigade and a division.

Troop-carrying transport arrived late, and the Battalion could not move off till mid-day. The road ran along the left side of a broadish valley. The advance started with "B" Company scrambling along the top of the hills on the right, "C" Company doing the same on the left, while "A" Company, followed by "D" Company, moved up the road. All went smoothly for the first two hours. At 2.30 p.m. men were seen digging and running about on a solitary feature in the middle of the valley (Point 122) and about 600 yds. ahead. At first we thought that they might be remnants of the American companies, but through glasses their uni-

forms looked too light and some of them appeared to have a white stripe down the backs of their jackets.

They were also digging individual weapon pits facing south. Good enough! We immediately engaged them with artillery and mortars. The majority went to ground but quite a number continued to run about and stood up in their trenches. It seemed to be a Chinese characteristic to "mild about" when shelled, like a newly-raked out heap.

By this time "C" Company were well forward on the hills and in a good position to cover "A" Company forward in an attack across the paddy.

The teamwork of supporting arms was perfect; 25-pdr. and 3-in. mortar fire was splendid, and the Vickers guns firing from their carriers crept forward along the road and well up. There was one Chinaman who for a long time stood up in his hole on the near slope and appeared to be cleaning his rifle. He seemed quite oblivious of being attacked until a long burst of machine-gun fire churned up the earth 2 yds. below him. He came out of his hole like a Roman candle and scampered off over the hill and out of sight.

Although from the south this hill looked a single feature, it turned out to be a long, deeply ravined piece of ground about 900 yds. in depth and 200 yds. wide, with a single meandering spine running along the top and turning right and left at the far end. It was surrounded by paddy fields, with a village at the south end. Although the Chinese retreated grudgingly spur by spur, two-thirds of the hill were quickly captured. They made a final stand in an entrenched position on the last ridge, but a series of quick outflanking moves by "A" Company forced them into retreat as it was getting dark.

While this last phase was in progress, "D" Company closed up behind "A" and "B" and "C" Companies came down from the flanking hills to consolidate into one strong Battalion position for the night, with Battalion H.Q. and the 3-in. mortars at the southern end. Meanwhile, the Australians had moved forward along the hills on the left of the road and were digging in a mile and a half to our rear.

It was vital to use the remaining few minutes of the failing light to register defensive fire tasks, sight the machine-guns and readjust positions. The next few hours were spent in furious digging, distributing ammunition and laying telephone cables. Except where the sun had melted the southern sides of the spurs, everything was still covered with snow. The moon was up and visibility was good.

Stand-to was ordered at 4 a.m., by which time the moon had set. At 5.10 a.m. the Chinese came in, supported by mortars and machine-guns, blowing bugles and small tin trumpets sounding like the call of a pheasant, and calling "Are you English?" From then until 6.45 there was hardly a lull.

It is quite impossible to describe accurately or in detail what happened in that time. The main attacks, which came in waves, fell on "A" (Dowse) and "D", who were on the northern end. The right flank platoon of the former was overrun after they had run out of ammunition—one section was temporarily taken prisoner

while the remaining two sections managed to pull back into higher ground and carry on the fight. Everyone stood their ground and there were many cases of hand-to-hand fighting. Stanley Fothergill's batman had his rifle taken from him by two Chinese, but in the melee managed to seize one of their tommy-guns and killed them both. "A" Company's line went out and their wireless set went out of action. The 4.2-in. mortar F.O.O.'s set had a grenade through it very early on, and the only means of communication we had with the Company was via the New Zealand F.O.O., Lt. Roxburgh, who put up a wonderful show throughout—shooting with one hand and working his set with the other.

"It is no good my picking out individuals for praise—they were all wonderful, and the sight next morning with 48 dead Chinese right in the Company area is past all description. As I went round at first light, I was met everywhere with broad grins, our wounded coming back to the R.A.P. all laughing and joking, men firing at the retreating Chinese in the valley, people standing up and cheering as our prisoners came back, having broken away from their captors. I believe it was the most exhilarating moment of my life. We learnt later from interrogated prisoners—we took 12—that it was a battalion attack. They certainly meant to stay, as they had brought picks and shovels and their medical unit, and had even got an M.M.G. on our position before they were turned off."*

Lt. Roxburgh was subsequently awarded the Military Cross for this action.

Later in the morning "C" Company were sent forward and across the valley to collect enemy wounded. While engaged in this task, Brigade H.Q. sent a message requesting them to go farther north and occupy a spur of hill on the right of the valley, in order to protect the flank of the Australians who were advancing along the hills on our left. As the Company were crossing the open ground below this spur they came under heavy fire from the spur itself and were pinned down for nearly four hours. The machine-guns in carriers moved out to their support and, with the help of artillery and mortar fire they were extricated with very light casualties.

In the meantime, the Australians had been halted and the Argyles had come up to a hill to our right rear. A number of enemy could be seen crossing and recrossing the valley ahead and one man, whom it took a very long time to pick off, was slowly and deliberately planting mines in the road.

Early the following morning a small group of refugees coming down the road was our first intimation that the Chinese had gone. "C" Company then had the satisfaction of revisiting the scene of their misfortune of the previous day and of finding every evidence of a hasty retreat. By the evening the westerly road to Chipyeong-Ni was reported clear and convoys were using it freely.

On the 18th we again took the lead in a blinding blizzard and occupied some very rugged hills 1,500 ft. high. Every ridge and gully concealed well-prepared but deserted defences. At the time, these hills seemed

* Extract from letter to the Colonel of the Regiment from the Commanding Officer at the time.



Men of the Middlesex Regiment Mortar Platoon with their locally "acquired" pets (seated, bottom left: L/Cpl. Bill Carvill of Uxbridge; standing, left: Pte. John Downs of Battersea; standing, right: Pte. Reg. Higgs of Camberwell).



One of the hazards of living in Korean villages is the constant threat of fire due to the grass roofs and walls of the houses. These photographs show men of the Middlesex Regiment putting out a fire in the roof of the Regimental Command Post, with the help of young Korean "camp followers."



Pte. John Rudd of the Middlesex Regiment with his dog. This dog has been trained for guard duties and Rudd claims it is as good as two sentries. John's home is at 111 Grosvenor Road, Forest Gate, E.7.

mercilessly high, but they were truly a foretaste of future mountaineering.

The advance took us through the village in which the road-blocking force had been overrun. Except that the Chinese had robbed the dead of their boots, everything was exactly as it was when the last man had been killed. As in some macabre waxworks the scene told the tale in all its tragedy more eloquently than words.

For the next two days we edged forward among the mountains, and then it started to rain. The frost was too deep for the roads and paddy fields to collapse altogether into mud, but the Han River behind us suddenly rose 5 ft. The ice broke up and came groaning and piling down the river, to brush aside the pontoon bridge which was our supply line.

The relief of Chipyeong-Ni and the advance had begun to produce a very different feeling in the Army as a whole, and Gen. Ridgeway's influence was beginning to be felt everywhere. By this time the drive on Wonju was being held and the enemy line formed a salient with ourselves at the westerly neck.

The plan was now to advance eastwards as a part of a counter-offensive to pinch out the salient. The Canadians had just joined us and they and the Aussies turned eastwards and led the Brigade advance. After ten miles they were held up by very determined resistance from razor-backed ridges which commanded a long pass. Progress was slow on the whole front and the enemy managed to gain enough time to withdraw most of their forces. The Brigade then turned north and followed them up, keeping them on the move. It was a slow, heart-breaking business, up mountains and down the other side across the valley and open again—no blankets and very little transport; and in the middle of it all the winter and the wind returned to make the nights miserable.

We were close on the heels of the Chinese but they usually managed to slip away during the night.

By March 11 we were faced with our final objective for this phase of the operation. The attack involved ourselves and the Argyles crossing a wide valley to secure the foothills of a range of mountains on the far side as a preliminary to the capture of the heights by the Brigade.

All went well in the first phase, but when the Australians crossed the valley and began to climb they were attacked on their right flank. It then transpired that the R.O.K. Division who were supposed to be attacking abreast of us had decided to wait for 24 hours. "C" Company, the mortars and machine guns were then sent down to reinforce the Brigade right flank to enable the Australians to continue.

The R.O.K.s attacked the next day and all went well. The day after the Brigade was relieved by the 1st Cavalry Division and we were all able to go back a little way into reserve for a few days much-needed rest and refit.

"WIRELESS OPERATOR"

How many wearied hours, how many days

Between two worlds, strangely alone,
They stumble up the mountains ways

Talking into their microphone?

These trumpeters of modern wars

Whose calls transcend the skies and ring
About the unnumbered corridors

And down their starlit wandering.

From many a faithful friend unseen

They garner in the urgent news.

Something that was or should have been

Theirs is to echo not to choose.

Theirs, too, to echo some forlorn

And hard-pressed ally's call for aid:

Thus from some distant hill is drawn

The tumult of another blade.

Not for these men the quiet relief

Of speeding help to their distress.

"Thanksgiving" throws a dice with "Grief,"

While these alternatively press

Against their tired obedient ears

The salt of other people's tears.

ANONYMOUS

The human race is three at least,
The Man, the Woman and the Beast.
And in the plainest of years
It is the man who always wears
The trousers in his married home
Be it of mud or castled stone.

But now it is the woman's claim
That Man and Beast are just the same.
Only there stays within his thrall
The hatstand in the entrance hall.
One solitary island there
Of purely masculine wear.

A pity thus that Man should bear
These silly symbols of despair,
Disreputably old and stained
Three times discarded, thrice regained—
His self respect has joined the dead
Felt albatross about his head.

But travel eastwards to Korea
Where Men are Men and Women wear
A different kind of trousers here.
And you can see them by the scores
Cutting the wood and scrubbing floors,
While sitting in the sun on mats
Are all the men in marvellous hats.

In Uijongbu they affect
A style that portrays intellect.
While on the Naktong there are rows
Of chimneyed hats black as the crows
And strangely perforated too
To let their wisdom vapour through.

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Oh, there are hats as proud as cats,
And caps with leathery flaps like bats,
And pyramids of plaited straw
From Kumchongdon and Kagangor.
But women go bareheaded here
For Man is Master in Korea.

ROLL OF HONOUR

KILLED IN ACTION

22149044 Pte. R. Streeter	..	8/ 9/50
22157374 Pte. K. Tredgett	..	21/ 9/50
19038980 Pte. F. Hayfield	..	22/ 9/50
397411 2/Lt. G. A. White	(R.A.O.C.)	22/ 9/50
22328207 Pte. D. Russell	..	22/ 9/50
22328215 Pte. E. West	..	22/ 9/50
22177587 Pte. B. Bristow	..	22/ 9/50
19034049 Cpl. J. Pentony	..	26/ 9/50 (died of wounds)
22132503 Pte. J. Sharpe (S. Staffs.)	..	23/ 9/50
22187748 Pte. R. Botten	..	27/10/50
22198188 Pte. C. Collier	..	27/10/50
14189156 Pte. D. Page	..	27/10/50
370959 Lt. G. Sander	..	31/10/50
5671584 Pte. A. Ireland (K.S.L.I.)	..	4/11/50
397965 2/Lt. J. M. Lock	(R.A.O.C.)	29/11/50
22233224 Pte. W. Freakley	..	30/11/50 (died of wounds)
6460551 Pte. G. Ellison (Glosters)	..	14/ 2/51
22168035 Pte. R. Bennett	..	15/ 2/51
22166307 Pte. G. Minton (K.S.L.I.)	..	15/ 2/51
22196543 Pte. D. Pitt (K.S.L.I.)	..	15/ 2/51
14490716 Sgt. D. Hummerstone	..	15/ 2/51
22200473 Cpl. R. Peeg	..	15/ 2/51
22140130 Pte. G. Harris	..	15/ 2/51
22101316 Pte. W. Carroll	..	16/ 2/51 (died of wounds)
22180421 Pte. W. Heath (S. Staffs.)	..	13/ 4/51 (died of wounds)
22211596 L/Cpl. R. Stanford	..	14/ 4/51 (died of wounds)

MISSING

397104 2/Lt. J. C. Bucknall	..	20/ 9/50 (believed killed)
22200425 Cpl. R. Weaver	..	15/ 2/51 (believed P.O.W.)
22144108 Pte. A. Maile	..	15/ 2/51 (believed P.O.W.)

WOUNDED IN ACTION

97 All Ranks

ADDITIONAL LIST OF CASUALTIES AS PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS ON MAY 2, 1951

Officers—Wounded	2/Lt. E. W. Martin.
Other Ranks—Killed	22229594 Cpl. T. Amos.
Other Ranks—Wounded	22168047 Pte. T. Carrol.
22360972 Pte. R. Clarke.	22157342 Pte. J. Lofts.
22330494 Pte. D. Everett.	22287446 Pte. New.
22198133 Pte. W. Gayner.	22517146 Sgt. J. Perkins.
14466536 Cpl. R. Harmer.	22187791 Pte. R. Russell.
22204884 Pte. R. Jenner.	22328208 Pte. E. Sabin.
	21124794 Cpl. K. Sutton.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS

British Empire Medal .. 6199886 C/Sgt. (D/M.) C. Holdford.

UNITED NATIONS KOREAN CAMPAIGN

Distinguished Service Order Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, O.B.E.
Military Cross .. 2/Lt. C. L. Lawrence
Military Medal .. 2549004 Pte. L. R. Cobby.
Mentioned in Despatches .. Lt. G. Sander (posthumous).
19034049 Cpl. J. Pentony

(posthumous).

14187910 Sgt. E. J. Birmingham.

14472830 Pte. L. A. Mead.

6202181 Cpl. J. Field.

14475343 Dmr. G. E. F. Matthews.

Major R. A. Gwyn

American Bronze Star .. 2/Lt. G. A. White (R.A.O.C.)

(posthumous).

14490176 Sgt. D. B. Hummerstone

(deceased).

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

On December 24 a short ceremony was held at the 27th Brigade H.Q., at which Maj.-Gen. Frank W. Milburn, the acting Commander of the United States 8th Army, handed over to Brig. Coad a Presidential Unit Citation.

The right to wear the ribbon has since been disallowed, but as a record of the occasion the text of this unique citation is given below:

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

(Translation) September 29, 1950.

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

The President of the Republic of Korea takes profound pleasure in citing

for outstanding and heroic performance of duty in the field of battle during the period September 5-September 15, 1950,

THE 27TH BRITISH INFANTRY BRIGADE

for the Award of

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

for holding a critical sector of the Nakdong River line during the height of the enemy's attack, and for its participation in the general offensive of September 16 in which it crossed the Nakdong River and attacked toward Kumchon.

This marked and brilliant performance of duty by each individual member of the 27th British Infantry Brigade is in accordance with the highest traditions of military service.

This citation carries with it the right to wear the Presidential Unit Citation ribbon by each individual of the 27th British Infantry Brigade which served in Korea in the stated period.

(Sgd.) SYNGMAN RHEE.

CITATION FOR M.C.

At 0830 hours on September 22, 1950, 2/Lt. Christopher Lansdown Lawrence was ordered, with his platoon, to lead the attack on a hill 300 ft. high which dominated the line of advance of his unit, the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.). His advance was at first unopposed, but when he began to work his way around the flank preparatory to the assault, his platoon was held up by heavy fire from the top of the objective and from an adjacent spur.

After directing the fire of the supporting tank, he personally led his platoon in the assault and captured the position. By this time this feature had become the object of considerable mortar and small arms fire from three sides as there were no friendly troops on either side. Quite undaunted, this young officer continued to direct the fire of his platoon and of the two supporting tanks, thus inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy, as subsequent investigations conclusively proved.

The action of this officer with his platoon made possible the further advance of the rest of the Battalion on their adjoining objective.

The success of this platoon in the operation, with the support of at most two tanks from positions at the rear, was entirely the result of the very fine example of leadership, initiative and determination which this officer displayed over a period of several hours in the face of a superior enemy force.

SGT. D. B. HUMMERSTONE

Citation for the recommendation for the award of a foreign decoration

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The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers
The Royal Warwickshire Regiment
The King's Regiment
The Devonshire Regiment
The Suffolk Regiment
The Somerset Light Infantry
The East Yorkshire Regiment
The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment
The Royal Leicestershire Regiment

The Gloucestershire Regiment
The Worcestershire Regiment
The East Surrey Regiment
The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry
The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
The Border Regiment
The Royal Sussex Regiment
The Royal Hampshire Regiment
The South Staffordshire Regiment
The Dorsetshire Regiment
The Welch Regiment
The Essex Regiment
The Sherwood Foresters
The Loyal Regiment
The Northamptonshire Regiment
The Royal Berkshire Regiment
The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry
The King's Shropshire Light Infantry
The Middlesex Regiment
The Wiltshire Regiment
The Manchester Regiment
The North Staffordshire Regiment
The York & Lancaster Regiment
The Durham Light Infantry
The Royal Ulster Rifles
The Rifle Brigade
The Royal Army Service Corps
The Royal Army Medical Corps
The Royal Army Ordnance Corps
The Royal Army Educational Corps
The Royal Army Dental Corps
The Intelligence Corps
The Reconnaissance Corps

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South Korean Policemen was mustered and put under a British officer.

Sgt. Douglas Bryant Hummerstone was one of four sergeants attached to this force, whose task it was to guide each Police commander in the tactical handling of his men.

In spite of complete lack of military training and suitable equipment, handicapped by the absence of interpreters, and in the latter stages by the disappearance of the Company Commander himself, Sgt. Hummerstone, by his untiring efforts, in a very short time formed his men into a most efficient fighting body.

On the evening of September 1 he personally planned and directed a "platoon" attack on a large mountain feature from which the Police had been forced to withdraw three days before. Almost entirely due to his personality and determined leadership, this assault was an immediate success. Some 30 enemy were routed, and equipment left behind included two heavy machine-guns and a quantity of ammunition.

The fact that after only ten days this isolated Police detachment with, at first, little stomach for such a military task, could turn from a purely passive and defensive role to attack a properly trained and entrenched enemy proves the value of this non-commissioned officer's personality and leadership.

2/Lt. G. A. WHITE

H.Q., Eighth United States Army Korea (EUSAK)
Office of the Commanding General, A.P.O. 301
General Orders Number 68, February 12, 1951

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS)

By direction of the President, under the Provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 9, 1918 (W.D. Bul. 43, 1918), and pursuant to authority contained in A.R. 600-45, and message, Commander-in-Chief, Far East, C.X. 59446, August 8, 1950, the Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded posthumously to the following named officer of the British Army:

397411 2/Lt. Geoffrey A. White, R.A.O.C.

Lt. White, while serving with the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, attached to the United States 1st Corps, distinguished himself by gallantry in action against the enemy in Korea on September 22, 1950.

Lt. White was ordered to lead his platoon of "D" Company in an attack on a hill near the Nakdong River. This hill was strongly held by an enemy force supported by mortars and self-propelled guns. The attack was successful, in spite of the precipitous slope and intense enemy rifle and automatic weapons' fire. Reaching the crest of the hill, Lt. White's platoon encountered intense fire from an enemy position on a previously hidden spur of the hill. Undaunted and thinking only of the best method of silencing this enemy fire, he directed his men forward into positions while continuing to stand in full view of all members of the platoon and in full view of the enemy. In the course of this action Lt. White was mortally wounded.

The success of the platoon in capturing its objective in the face of such odds was very largely due to the leadership of this officer who, throughout, took no account of his personal safety and thought only of his

duty and the welfare of his men. The courageous devotion to duty and gallant sacrifice of Lt. White reflected great credit on himself and the military services of the United Nations. Entered the military service from Kent, England.

News letter from Major G. W. P. Hodding, T.D.

40th Infantry Division Battle School,
B.A.P.O.

March 29, 1951.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

Many thanks for your letter. I feel that I ought to have written before but life has been very busy. It was so nice seeing Dick Bellers and Clinton Nolda on their way through to Korea. Unfortunately I only knew they were coming about 12 hours before they arrived. I went out to meet the ship and found that Dick was suffering from a nasty chest cold, probably brought on by the rapid change of climate in flying from England to Singapore. The only member of the draft that I knew was Sgt. Perry, but they all seemed in very good heart.

The next morning, Sunday, January 28, an interesting ceremony took place on the quarter deck of H.M.S. *Unicorn*. At 10.00 hours the quarter deck was packed tight with the Middlesex draft and as many of the ship's company as possible. The Regimental band was in attendance and a short Divine Service was conducted by the captain (Capt. J. Y. Thompson, R.N.).

After the service Dick Bellers presented a replica of the Regimental badge on behalf of Col. Andrew Man. This was to commemorate the association between H.M.S. *Unicorn* and the Regiment formed during the lift of the Battalion from Hong Kong to Korea between August 25 and August 29, 1950. The captain, after accepting the badge on behalf of his ship, said that it would be placed in a glass case and take its place with other trophies on the quarter deck.

He reminded those present that the Battalion had recently spent 90 days continuously in the line and said that the equivalent of this in the Navy would be to spend the same period at sea at action stations. This did not compare with a slit trench in the Korean winter. He concluded that the ship could be justly proud of their association with such a famous and gallant Regiment.

After the ceremony the band played selections on the quarter deck which were much appreciated. The ship spent four days in Hong Kong and departed on January 31.

I wanted to give the draft a good send off and had the ship been alongside it would have been simple enough to have a band at the quayside. As she was anchored in midstream some other method had to be devised so I rang up young Jones (son of Col. Jones) in the R.A.S.C. Boat Company and got a flat bottomed assault craft into which I embarked the combined bands of the Middlesex and the Argyles. For half an hour we cruised round the aircraft carrier playing cheerful music, ending with the regimental marches of all the

drafts on board. Whilst the *Unicorn* was slipping her moorings we set out in the direction of Lyemun Gap, and in due course as she sailed past us the bands struck up "Auld Lang Syne."

Dick Bellers, with a thick muffler around his throat, got up from his sick bed to wave goodbye, and so another draft departed to join their gallant comrades in Korea. I think that they all enjoyed their stay in Hong Kong, but I wish that I could have had more warning of their arrival so as to have done more for them.

And now for some news of the Band. The new Bandmaster, Mr. Jackson, is an extremely nice fellow and a competent musician. Under his supervision the Band have reached a very high musical standard. They have been kept very busy during the absence of the Battalion. Unfortunately, there are not too many paid engagements out here and there are seven military bands to share them. The races and concerts in the botanical gardens are two regular sources of income, and as a result of extremely hard work by the Bandmaster, the dance band has improved enormously and many more dance engagements are coming our way. Mr. Jackson has made quite a name for himself as a solo oboist and plays in the Sino British Orchestra.

Cpls. Bayton and Bently returned from Kneller Hall in December, 1950, having both been awarded prizes at the end of their course. They have strengthened the Band, but I fear that in about two years' time we shall lose them both as potential Bandmasters.

A big event this winter in Hong Kong was the massed bands display. I produced the display and it was the subject of very favourable comment from Gen. Sir John Harding and the Vice-Adjt.-Gen., who was in Hong Kong at the time. As a result of the liaison between H.M.S. *Unicorn* and the Regiment, the captain offered to take the Band to Kure on his next trip.

The trip was approved by the G.O.C. and the Band sailed on Saturday, March 17. On arrival in Japan they were to go to the Joint Reinforcement Holding Unit to play for the troops there. I expect them back here about April 24. I managed to get a certain amount of new uniforms from Ordnance prior to their departure and they departed looking extremely smart. I am sure that they will do credit to the Regiment whilst in Japan.

I hear, but not confirmed, that Col. Andrew Man has given up command of the Battalion and that an officer from the Royal Warwicks has been appointed to command. I suppose it is inevitable, but nevertheless sad, that someone from the Regiment cannot get the appointment.

I am due to sail for the U.K. on May 23, arriving Southampton about June 20. I have been asked to bring the Colours, the Albuhera Cup and the Mess silver with me. I feel that such valuable property should not go by train and wonder if Gerry Porter can obtain a 3-ton truck to meet the ship at Southampton. Perhaps you could be good enough to ask him on my behalf.

Regarding the Band Fund, it would appear that all the documents in my possession relate only to the Band Fund of the former 1st Battalion and the present 1st Battalion (57/77th). The investments of £575 are, I feel sure, the property of the 1st Battalion and there

is no entry whatsoever to support any cash balance of £432 14s. 8d. being transferred from the 2nd Battalion Band Fund. I can say definitely that this amount has not been credited to the present fund.

I shall come and see you soon after I arrive home. In expect to be going to my mother's flat in the Hampstead garden suburb, so shall not be very far from the Depot. I would be grateful if you would pass on any of the contents of this letter which might interest the Editor of the Journal.

March 30

I have just seen Brigadier Coad, and he has confirmed that Col. Andrew Man is relinquishing command of the Battalion, but that the officer from the Royal Warwicks is only going to command temporarily until a permanent C.O. is appointed.

A draft of time-expired N.S. men sailed for the U.K. today in the *Empire Orwell*. C/Sgt. O'Keefe, who is going on pension, also sailed. Norman Clayden should have flown to Japan this morning to join the Battalion, but bad weather delayed the aircraft.

I don't think I have any more news to tell you. I will let Gerry Porter know my definite date of arrival.

I hope that you are keeping fit and not overdoing it.

Yours ever,

GEORGE HODDING

WITH THE COMMONWEALTH FORCES IN KOREA

BY

CAPTAIN A. B. HAYTER (*Military Observer in Korea*)

Pictured here at his post is 2/Lt. Ian Rutherford of 46 Bathgate Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19, who at 20 years of age is commanding a platoon with the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment in Korea, and who prominently featured in a recent night attack by the Chinese Communists, when his platoon, nicknamed the "Shiney Three," successfully repulsed and inflicted heavy casualties on a numerically superior enemy force with only slight loss to his own platoon.

Ian, who left school to go to the Sandhurst Military Academy, joined the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade in Korea early last December, and has already gained the confidence of his men in the field, who consider him a successful and inspiring leader. "It's being with such fine men," he said, "that makes my job easy. We have N.S. men, Regulars and Reservists, and they're all grand soldiers. They naturally don't like being here, but they also realise the importance of their task of representing Britain under the United Nations and are proud to be fighting alongside the Australians, Canadians and New Zealanders."

Only son of Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, Ian, a Regular officer, played for the London Scottish Rugby team whilst at school, and hopes to be back in England soon to take up his favourite sport again. "There's no place for games out here—" he said, "too many hills and few amenities. We just enjoy life among the platoon, spending our leisure time planning what we'll do when we get back home."



2/Lt. Ian Rutherford

CANADIAN REGIMENTS IN KOREA

By CAPT. R. MAURICE HILL, M.B.E., T.D.

PART I

Each of Canada's "Permanent" or, as we at home would describe them, Regular infantry regiments is now represented in the Commonwealth force which is serving under the United Nations banner in Korea. Though young in years by comparison with the British Regular battalions alongside which they are now fighting, each of these Canadian units can already point to a list of battle honours and a tradition of sterling service proving them to be not unworthy to stand in line as companions in arms with such regiments of old renown as the Gloucestershire Regiment (of back badge fame), the Middlesex "Die-Hards" and the Royal Ulster Rifles.

By virtue of age the Royal Canadian Regiment can claim the first and foremost place, for this is "the senior infantry unit in the Permanent Force of Canada and sole infantry unit of the period previous to the Great War (1914/18)." The Regiment began its career in 1883 when it was formed as the Infantry School Corps, its original function being "to train officers and other ranks in all aspects of infantry drill and warfare so that the Infantry School Corps should attain in the country the status of a model upon which all infantry training, discipline and ceremonial should be based." Throughout nearly 70 years existence the Regiment has always, in peace and war, been a worthy model which other

Canadian regiments could take as their example in all matters pertaining to infantry drill, training and ceremonial.

The original instructors of the Infantry School Corps went through a special course of training with the Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment (now the Green Howards), who were then stationed at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Infantry School Corps was less than two years old when it received its baptism of fire, fighting against the half-breeds and redskins who went on the war-path in the North-West Rebellion of 1885.

In 1892 the regimental title was changed to "The Canadian Regiment of Infantry." In the Birthday Honours of 1893 H.M. Queen Victoria granted the title of "Royal," with permission to wear on badges and buttons the Imperial cypher "V.R.I." This device, surmounted by a crown, in the centre of a large silver star, is still worn as a cap badge by the Regiment.

In 1898, at the time of the Yukon gold rush, when much of the lawless riff-raff, not only of the American continent but of the whole wide world, converged on the Klondike by way of Dawson City, the Regiment sent three officers and 130 men (known as "The Yukon Field Force") to assist the North-West Mounted Police in preserving law and order in a wild waste land populated by some of the most disorderly and least law-abiding people on earth. More than once the Yukon Field Force had to put out some very dangerous fires which threatened to destroy Dawson City completely, most of its buildings being of wooden construction. The task of the Yukon Field Force was not made any easier on some occasions when civilians would manage to loot casks of liquor from saloons, with dire results to the public peace or to their own safety. To the men of the Yukon Field Force who, in the protection of life and property, peace and public welfare, endured terrific blizzards and bitter cold (a temperature of 40 degs. below zero in winter was regarded as comparatively mild) or oppressive heat (in summer the temperature rose into the nineties, "the sky poured rain and the mosquitoes could pierce a gunny-sack"), Canada owes a great debt of gratitude. It has been well said that "in effecting the march over the Teslin trail and the passage down the rivers of the Yukon, the Force had accomplished a feat of no mean order," but their guardianship of a civilised, lawful way of life in the face of such tremendous difficulties was an even greater feat.

In the Boer War of 1899-1902 The Royal Canadian Regiment serving alongside British Regular battalions did very good work. At the Battle of Paardeberg the Royal Canadian Regiment and the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry swept forward side by side in a bayonet charge which has been described as being "superb as an exhibition of dauntless courage."

In September, 1914, the Royal Canadian Regiment relieved a British Regular battalion—the 2nd Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment—in Bermuda, being the first Canadian unit to proceed on service overseas in World War 1. After a spell of garrison duty there, the Royal Canadian Regiment crossed the Atlantic and landed in France on November 1, 1915, to commence a three

years' spell "of service, of sacrifice, of loyalty, and of honour, to add to the proud traditions that were the heritage of the Royal Canadian Regiment from the past." September, 1914, saw the Royal Canadian Regiment, fresh and eager, relieving the 2nd Lincolns in a sunny semi-tropical island. In November, 1917, the position was reversed when the 2nd Lincolns relieved the R.C.R., battle-worn and weary, but still with their tails well up, in the dark hours of a wet and dreary night on Passchendaele Ridge.

For "most conspicuous bravery" at the Battle of Cambrai, September 27-October 1, 1917, Lt. M. F. Gregg of the R.C.R., who had already won the M.C. and bar, earned the V.C. by, among other things, "personally killing or wounding 11 of the enemy, leading his men through a gap in the wire and taking an enemy trench, 25 prisoners and 12 machine-guns. Though twice wounded, he continued to lead his company until finally disabled by a third severe wound."

On the morning of November 11, 1918, No. 5 Platoon, R.C.R., commanded by Lt. W. M. King, having entered Mons, proceeded cautiously through the deserted streets of the town "amidst utter silence," until they reached the Grande Place, where they were met by the chief of police and conducted to the Hotel de Ville, where the burgomaster and aldermen were waiting to welcome the first Allied soldiers to deliver their city from the enemy. Lt. King was the first Allied officer to sign the Golden Book in which the names of distinguished visitors to Mons are recorded. Near Mons, over four years earlier, the British Regular Army had fought its first battle of the 1914-18 war; now, on the day of the "Cease fire," the honour of leading the way back into Mons again had fallen to the Regulars of the Canadian Army. At approximately the same time, only two or three miles away, men of the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment were firing their last shots of the war on practically the same spot where some of them (as members of the 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment) had fired their first shots in August, 1914.

Ever since 1925 the Royal Canadian Regiment has been allied with the Gloucestershire Regiment, and both Regiments are now serving together in Korea. Sometimes the association between allied regiments of the home and overseas forces is less close and effective than one could wish, but that is not the case so far as the alliance between the R.C.R. and the Gloucestershire Regiment is concerned. To both Regiments the alliance is a real bond of union. An instance of this occurred not so very long ago when the Royal Canadian Regiment provided a guard of honour (100 strong, with King's Colour and Band) for the Governor General of Canada (Field Marshal Viscount Alexander of Tunis) at Brockville, Ontario. On this occasion, as a mark of the alliance between the Regiments, the Band of the R.C.R. played the regimental marches of the Gloucestershire Regiment as well as their own. Incidentally, Field Marshal Viscount Alexander described the R.C.R. guard of honour as "one of the best guards I ever had the honour of inspecting," and that, coming from an officer who spent so many years in the Irish Guards, is praise worth having!

In the early days of World War 2 the R.C.R. arrived in Great Britain and they crossed the Channel to France with the so-called "Second B.E.F." early in June, 1940, but the tide of German success was then at its height, and the "Second B.E.F." was withdrawn without having become seriously engaged with the enemy. For the next three years the R.C.R. were in England, but at dawn on July 10, 1943, they once more took their place in the forefront of battle, landing as a first wave assault battalion on the soil of Sicily. On this, their first day of serious fighting in World War 2, the new generation of the R.C.R. showed that the Regiment's proud traditions were in safe keeping and that the fighting spirit of the R.C.R. was as high as ever. On this day they captured Pachino airfield, along with Italian prisoners greatly outnumbering themselves, and consolidated at nightfall on high ground five miles from the beach where they landed. Throughout the Sicilian campaign they were in the thick of the fighting, and they were also very frequently and very heavily engaged in the campaign on the Italian mainland which followed. In February, 1945, the R.C.R. left Italy, travelling via France and Belgium to Holland, in time for the final overthrow of the German Army in Europe. The R.C.R. particularly distinguished themselves in the assault and capture of Appeldorn.

To be continued

BATTALION ROLL OF HONOUR

Members of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment who were prisoners of war in Japan after the fall of Hong Kong in 1941, made an Honour Roll of members of the Battalion who died in action at Hong Kong or subsequently as prisoners of war in Japan. The roll was embroidered with wool from unravelled socks and other scraps of material.

It passed into the possession of a Buddhist priest at Nagano who preserved it in his temple. Recently the priest asked Mr. Lewis Bush, representative of the British Film Corporation in Tokyo (himself a former prisoner-of-war from Hong Kong), to arrange for its return to the Regiment.

This month Mr. Bush handed the Honour Roll to Lt.-Col. Andrew Man, commanding the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment in Korea. Two members of the Battalion now serving with it in Korea were among the original party of Middlesex men in Japan, as was Lt.-Col. Man's brother, Capt. Christopher Man.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM NOTES

The Museum has now been painted and is again open to visitors. Unfortunately, no firm date is available for the improved heating and lighting to take place. However, it is looking better than ever and, at long last, the services of a full-time museum orderly are now available. This duty is being carried out by L/Cpl. Males.

Two medallions have been presented to the Regiment by Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel. Both are for the Egyptian Command Cricket Championship, 1921-22, one for the winners of the Group and the other for runners-up in the Command.



Depot Notes

There is now considerable activity in preparation for the reopening of the Depot for recruits' training, which is due to take place on June 21. Our first intake is expected to be 60. It is learned that the following officers are to be posted to the Depot: Capt. A. D. C. Eales (O.C. Training), Lt. G. G. Norton (Adj.) and 2/Lt. P. S. T. Lane (Assistant Training Officer).

On April 20 we had the G.O.C.'s annual inspection, which was carried out by the Chief of Staff, London District, Brigadier W. M. Sale, O.B.E. We are confident that the report will be satisfactory. After the inspection the Brigadier and his accompanying officers had lunch in the Officers' Mess with the Colonel of The Regiment and other officers.

Forthcoming Events. We are looking forward to a record number of past and present "Die-Hards" at the Old Comrades' Reunion at the Depot on Saturday, June 30.

Births and Marriages. We offer our hearty congratulations to Sgt. Bignell on the birth of his daughter, born at Hendon on March 28, 1951, and to Pte. Ward on his marriage which took place at Lewisham on December 26, 1950.

Major Farrow, M.B.E., Capt. Thomas, M.C., and O.R.Q.M.S. Dyer and C.Q.M.S. Phillips went to Shorncliffe on Thursday, April 5, to discover the mysteries of N.S. men joining the Army.

Majors G. O. Porter and Heywood and Capt. Thomas have accompanied the Colonel of The Regiment in recent ceremonies in connection with the adoption of T.A. units in the county of Middlesex. On each occasion the ceremonies were most inspiring and impressive.

The Depot entered a team of seven in the London District Rifle Meeting, which took place at Pirbright ranges on April 25. Of our seven entrants, five won cash prizes, the highest being Pte. Haskett's.

In the next issue of the Journal we hope to inform all "Die-Hards" as to how we fared with our first intake.

On April 26, 1951, we welcomed home a draft of 55 N.S. men who have been serving with the 1st Battalion in Korea. These men, having completed their term of national service, are now due for release and will continue their training with the respective T.A. unit nearest to their homes. We hope that they will soon settle down to civilian life and keep in touch with the Regiment and attend Old Comrades' reunions whenever possible.

7th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

With the approach of the summer months, the activities of the Battalion increase, culminating in annual camp which, this year, will be at St. Martin's Plain, near Shorncliffe, Kent from July 15-29. This area is well known to the members of the Battalion who have been with us since 1949, and there is no doubt that, with reasonable weather, the camp period should be very enjoyable. During the past three months we have been pleased to welcome two officers who have already seen service with the Regiment—Capt. R. J. P. (Bob) Cummins, who is well known to all, and also Pat Pielow, who served with the 2nd Battalion in Palestine and is a brother of Tony. Bob Cummins is about to take over all the administrative duties in the Battalion, such as P.M.C., P.R.I., Officer IC Sergeants Mess, N.C.O.s' Club and Canteen. In addition, we welcome the Rev. J. H. Fuller as our Padre and Dr. N. K. Dryden as our M.O., both of whom will be a great asset to the Battalion.

We congratulate our C.O. and Mrs. Green on the birth of their daughter in March. The Battalion 2IC, Major Ellis, is at present on a course (Senior Officers', Tactical) at Earlstone Park learning how to control and command higher formations (nothing less than an Army Group!).

On April 5 we had a very enjoyable lecture from Major I. R. Burrows, M.B.E., on the Russian Army. We hope to see him again on Albuhera Day at the All Ranks' Ball.

The strength of the Battalion continues to increase steadily, both with volunteers and N.S. men, of whom we receive, approximately, six every other Thursday. We offer all these a cordial welcome to the Battalion and, to many, the Regiment, since, to date, out of 80 N.S. men less than five have ever served with the Regiment previously. We have, so far, persuaded seven to volunteer and we have several more who are "interested". We are certain that a successful camp this year will encourage many more.

Although the Corps of Drums is a very "live" concern under Drum-Major Poulter, we have not been so fortunate with our Band so far. Despite a good collection of instruments, Bandmen seem hard to attract. The Band is shortly to move back to Hornsey and, under the leadership of Mr. Gardner, M.B.E., who has recently taken over the duties of Bandmaster, we hope that it will soon develop that same spirit as the Drums already have.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Since the last jottings in *The Die-Hards* were published, the Company has had its first "close-up" look at the N.S. men when "H.Q." Company, together with "B" and "C" Companies, spent a weekend on the range at Pirbright. The week previous everybody had been hoping, if not praying, for the wet weather to break and, with much luck, we managed to choose a fairly fine weekend, if a little cold. All sections of

"H.Q." Company were well represented, together with a full attendance of our N.S. men, which not every Company was able to boast. The shooting cannot be said to have been of too high a standard, but in view of very high cross winds on the range, it was better than expected and much benefit and experience was gained. During the weekend we were visited by both the Brigadier and our own C.O. and it can be said, quite truthfully, that they were both impressed, if only with some of the hair fashions displayed. It is a great pity that the commitments of the N.S. men do not permit of more regular training, because in time a good Company spirit will certainly evolve. We can look forward to our next weekend without the misgivings that preceded the last.

Signals Platoon

The Platoon is growing. Our small stores are almost bulging with recently issued equipment and even our N.S. intake is steadily increasing. We were pleased to see that everyone was present on the Tuesday devoted to T.O.E.T.s and also at the Company weekend at Pirbright. All seemed to enjoy themselves—particularly Sgt. Hills—who was heard to mutter on Sunday morning, "Where art thou, Moriarty?" If the weather is, as we think, showing signs of improvement, we will be able to, at long last, organise a Signals exercise. Our congratulations go to Cpl. Chapman on his promotion to sergeant and Pte. Jackson on his appointment to lance-corporal, and we have no doubt that they will both prove their value at annual camp in July.

Drums

It was great news that the 1st Battalion are being given a "break" after their stay in Korea. Our best wishes to them and may we soon hear more good news of them and some signs of their returning to England. (Special wishes to Drum-Major Holdford.—The Drummers.) Having had a very bad spell of wet weather, we are now getting a little sunshine, which reminds us that we have a number of engagements this summer, some of which are as follows:

- May 19—Programme, together with "The Cossack Riders," Twickenham.
- June 2—Beating Retreat at Enfield.
- „ 16—Programme at a garden fete, Finchley.
- Aug. 27—Beating Retreat at the Festival of Britain, Battersea Park.

We wish Mrs. Poulter a speedy recovery after her serious operation, and we are very glad to hear she is going on well.

By the time these notes are in print we shall have said goodbye to Capt. and Mrs. Jeffcoat. Capt. Jeffcoat has been our Adjutant for over two years and we shall miss him very much indeed. He will hear more of this when we give his wife and himself a traditional Drummers' farewell. We also welcome our new Adjutant, Capt. Pearce-Gould, and sincerely trust that he may have a happy stay with the Battalion.

Camp period will soon be here and it is hoped that we shall have a full complement of Drummers throughout. Again may we remind ex-Drummers that we shall be

pleased to hear from them or see them in person at any time.

M.T. Platoon

Since the last issue of the notes we have been able to get down to more training, in view of the improved weather and the lighter evenings. The second weekend in April we went to Pirbright to fire our rifle and Bren instructional courses, and it can safely be said that the Platoon acquitted themselves well. We have several newcomers to our ranks, Pte. Gibbons who joined us from the R.A.F., and Ptes. Wood and Blumson, who have volunteered from National Service, all of whom we welcome. Cpl. Thomson and L/Cpls. King and Derbyshire are to be congratulated on their promotion; L/Cpl. King has since left us to train the Sniper Section. We offer our heartiest congratulations to Cpl. Thomson on his marriage and wish both him and his wife the very best for the future.

"S" Company

The weekend, March 17-18, saw "S" Company at Pirbright on the ranges and managing to put up good average scores in spite of very bad weather.

The loss of Capt. Baker and C.Q.M.S. Harris to "A" and "C" Companies, respectively, is keenly felt, but their painstaking ground work is much appreciated and will undoubtedly bear fruit when the M.G. Platoon, under the command of 2/Lt. Clutson, is tested at annual camp. We are now preparing for a rifle and L.M.G. classification weekend at Pirbright and annual camp, and hope, after them, that more N.S. men will follow the example of the few and become volunteers.

3-in. Mortar Platoon

Since the last publication of this Journal the 3-in. Mortar Platoon has been extremely active as regards training, our numbers including N.S. men having reached the 18 mark. The three N.S. men have proved themselves a great asset to us, two being trained Mortar men, the other, Pte. Humphreys, being a volunteer for the T.A. We have adopted him as "muscles," due to the fact that he seems quite capable of manhandling a complete Mortar by himself. We have also had three more volunteers, namely Cpl. Popham, Ptes. Tooby and Pte. Parrott, all of whom are most welcome. We have found that, generally speaking, response has been poor and spasmodic at full weekend training, due to work and family ties, and as teamwork is essential to the Platoon it was agreed that the system of Sunday training be instituted. This idea has gone well and attendance for training has increased rapidly, the ground being used in the area of Mill Hill, Enfield, Potters Bar and Alexandra Park. It seems inevitable that in the most desolate places a crowd gathers to watch us at our work, some of the chaps suffering from acute stage fright by the state of their drill sometimes. On our last Sunday the crowd was most interested and asked many questions, the gist being—were the drill bombs we were using really silent explosive and, to our horror, were we part of the Festival of Britain? The standard of training is definitely improving, all personnel passing

their T.O.E.T.s, with the exception of the new recruits. By annual camp the lads will be in the advanced training stage, so that the Rifle Companies will have to look out for themselves regarding supporting fire. From recent rumours in the Battalion regarding the shortage of transport available for annual camp, it looks as though it will be necessary to issue the 3-in. Mortar Platoon with three red sports cars for the ensuing camp in order to transport us about. Whether, of course, the Platoon Commander will agree is neither here nor there and subject, of course, as to whether his present car will last out. One Sunday it successfully transported eight men, two complete Mortars and six cases of bombs to the Enfield area without any ill effects, as yet. The recent weekend camp held by "S" Company was quite successful, although it was *slightly* damp on the range, but we must say that the N.S. men took it very well.

M.G. Platoon

Within the first quarter of 1951 the Platoon has seen not a few changes. Capt. Baker has left us to take over command of "A" Company at Highgate, in which we wish him much success, and 2/Lt. Clutson has taken over command. At the same time, our Platoon Sergeant left us to take over the position of Colour-Sergeant in the newly formed "C" Company; we also wish him the best of success. We would like to congratulate Cpls. Whitterton and Wotton and Pte. La Roche on their promotions. The Company, ably represented by the Platoon, did well to score the highest marks in the inter-Company competition at Enfield. Sgt. Simmonds was able to fill a vacancy at Netheravon for a machine-gun course in mid-April. Although numbers are not great in the Platoon and we would welcome any newcomers, keenness is high, and we look forward to the coming of summer, when training in the evenings can take place outside.

Anti-Tank Platoon

During the past three months nothing extraordinary has taken place in this Platoon. We are pleased that an N.S. man, Pte. Dawson, has now decided to become a T.A. volunteer and we hope our two other N.S. men will follow his example after camp. We congratulate Cpl. Hollis, M.M., and L/Cpl. Brooks on their promotion. Brooks is also a member of the Battalion shooting team. We have at last managed to "persuade" the London Scottish that they do not need two cleaning rods for one gun and thereby we hope that the Q.M. (Major Newman) will now look upon the Anti-Tank Platoon with a more favourable eye.

"A" COMPANY

We welcome our new O.C., Capt. L. F. Baker from "S" Company, and hope he will enjoy a long stay with us. At the same time we congratulate Sgt. Montague and L/Cpl. Stead on their promotions. The Company had a successful weekend at the range at Pirbright with "S" Company in March, though shooting was marred by the very bad weather. However, we emerged wet but cheerful from the ordeal. We were pleased to meet

our N.S. men on this weekend, but blamed the weather for its reluctance to give the C.S.M. the support he deserves in his recruiting campaign for volunteers. We hope it will be more obliging in July at camp, when L/Cpl. Stead exhibits his latest (and at present highly secret) aid to efficient soldiering. The Company had a very pleasant evening on February 23, when we entertained the G.P.O. and friends at a social, and again on March 10 when the British Legion (Highgate Branch) supported us for a further convivial evening. Thanks to the efforts of our gallant few, and particularly C.S.M. Jennings, we are making a name for ourselves locally on the social side. Sgt. Carter and L/Cpl. Armstrong also deserve special mention for their good work. The Company Club continues to flourish; a committee has been elected and, with their help, it is hoped the Secretary will banish for ever the Company colour from the canteen account book!

"B" COMPANY

Since the appearance of the last issue of this Journal the Company has been steadily increasing its numbers and has been fairly active of late. We welcome to the Company the following newcomers: Ptes. L. Harris, Green, McIntyre, Rider and Worrall. Also we would like to put on record the fact that the first of our N.S. men in the person of Pte. Thompson has become a volunteer. Harris and McIntyre have had no previous service and are in the process of going through their recruit training. The others have had varying degrees of service and are on a refresher course. Congratulations are due to the following members of the Company on their well-deserved promotion: Cpls. Leahy and Webb to sergeant, L/Cpls. Hudson and Barnard to corporal and Ptes. Gill and Layton to lance-corporal. On April 14-15 we attended weekend training at Pirbright with "H.Q." and "C" Companies to fire an instructional course on both rifle and L.M.G. This was also the first obligatory weekend of the N.S. men. The weather was very kind to us and, in consequence, we had a very successful weekend in more ways than one. The Company are being formally "adopted" by Enfield Urban District Council on Tuesday, April 24, 1951. The O.C., Capt. H. E. Rawles, together with C.S.M. Tostevin, C.Q.M.S. Howes, Cpl. Hudson and Pte. Rider, will be attending this function to accept the resolution on behalf of the Company. The second part of this affair will be held on Saturday, June 2, when the Company will be marching through Enfield preceded by the Corps of Drums, and later the Drums will be Beating Retreat on Chase Green to round off the ceremony. We are indeed honoured and proud to be adopted by the local authority.

"C" COMPANY

"C" Company was re-formed on March 1. This was a great step forward in the direction of our pre-war establishment and was occasioned by ever-increasing numbers in the strength of the Battalion. The Company, commanded by Capt. R. B. L. Garbett, has C.S.M. Burrell as the Company P.S.I., with C/Sgt. Harris, and Sgts. R. A. King and F. C. Carter as the senior N.C.O.s of the Company. The latter three we con-

gratulate on their promotion. We welcome to the Company 2/Lts. Pielow and Holm, Sgt. E. Regester (from the Reserve) and Cpl. A. Carnie, all of whom have joined since the Company was formed. The Company's strength is still little more than a platoon, which includes about 20 N.S. men. After seeing them carrying out their T.O.E.T.s at Hornsey and on the ranges at Pirbright for the weekend April 14-15, it was noted that their standard was high. On the whole, they shoot well and we are pleased to realise that this is the type of man who is serving the 1st Battalion so well. We are looking forward to seeing them again at Pirbright in June and annual camp in July. We also hope that they may visit us of their own free will in the meantime. Since the Company has re-formed we, together with "H.Q." and "S" Companies, were entertained and challenged by "B" Company at Enfield to a shooting match on the miniature range. With the aid of two spare men from "B" Company, we were able to gain third place and, in future, we hope and intend to do better.

BATTALION RIFLE CLUB

The Battalion has just started a Rifle Club in an attempt to cause all ranks to take more interest in the sport of rifle shooting and thereby improve the standard of shooting within the Battalion. A meeting was held on January 25, when members were invited to attend to discuss the various aspects and to choose a committee for the ensuing year. Twenty members of all ranks attended and, at the time of writing these notes, we have a membership of 46, which looks very promising. C/Sgt. Colbourne has been appointed Club Secretary (he still thinks he can shoot well) and other good shots include Capt. Hands, Sgts. King and Whitterton and L/Cpls. La Roche and King. Miniature ranges are available at all times for practice and competitions and the 30-yds. range at Mill Hill is always made available to us by the courtesy of the O.C. Regimental Depot whenever it is required. The problem is getting practice on the long range. We have not been able to get any up to the present, owing to the non-availability of a long range within a fairly close distance from our H.Q., but we still have hopes.

Since forming we have arranged and fired two matches on the miniature range. The first, with the Regimental Depot, was fired at Hornsey, and we are glad to say that we beat them by a margin of 81 points. A return match was arranged to take place at Mill Hill on the 30 yds. range, but had to be cancelled owing to the Depot not being able to produce a team. (Perhaps they could not find one good enough to reverse the tables!) The second match was arranged with No. 484 (M.) H.A.A. Regiment R.A., at Willesden on March 5, 1951, and we won with a handsome lead of 175 points. We are visiting the 1st L.I.R. at the Duke of York's H.Q. on Thursday, April 26, when two teams of eight from each unit will compete against each other. The Battalion has already fired three times against this unit and the result has been two draws and one win for us. I can see no reason why our wins cannot be increased to two. The result will be published in our next issue of the Journal.

Sports

This month will see the last of football and basketball for the season, and cricket and, for the fitter of the Battalion, athletics take their place. Sgt. Howland is to be congratulated on his promotion and we wish him and all others who enter success in the T.A. Athletic Meeting in June. We have six cricket matches arranged for the season and we have the makings of a good side, including the C.O. and our new Adjutant, Capt. Pearce-Gould, 2/Lt. Blackler, Sgts. Wotton and Colbourne. The traditional Officers v. Sergeants match will, of course, be played during the annual camp. We hope to have a combined Battalion and families day sports meeting on the middle Sunday of camp.

Entertainments

Since the last issue of *The Diehards* the 7th Battalion has held the usual monthly dances which are always a success, thanks to the "regulars" who attend each time. At present we are busy making preparations for the All Ranks' Albuhera Ball on May 16, which, we hope, will be well attended by both serving members and old comrades.

OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS	
Commanding Officer	Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.
2 IC	Major W. D. Ellis, T.D.
Adjutant	Capt. E. A. H. Jeffcoat.
Quartermaster	Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E.
Intelligence Officer	2/Lt. P. C. Kay.
Administration Officer	Capt. R. J. P. Cummins.
W.T.O.	2/Lt. P. S. Liddell.
R.M.O.	Capt. N. K. Dryden.
Padre	Rev. J. H. Fuller.
R.S.M.	W.O. E. J. Pike.
Bandmaster	B.M.C.H. Gardner, M.B.E., A.R.C.M.
R.Q.M.S.	W.O.2 N. Alexander.
O.R. C/Sergeant	C/Sgt. R. D. Colbourne.
Band Sergeant	Sgt. W. J. Gilyatt.

"H.Q." COMPANY	
Company Commander	Capt. E. G. Daniels.
M.T.O.	Lt. J. D. Gunnell.
Signals Officer	2/Lt. D. J. Blackler.
P.S.I.	Sgt. J. C. Morgan.
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. W. J. Huggins.
Drum Major	D/M. H. T. Poulter.
M.T. Sergeant	Sgt. J. E. Moran.
Signals Sergeant	Sgt. G. A. Hills.
Pioneer Sergeant	Sgt. J. G. Johnson.
Battalion Sports N.C.O.	Sgt. G. D. Howland.
	Sgt. J. A. Flack.
	Sgt. E. C. Leggett.
	Sgt. F. R. Gribble.
	Sgt. K. W. Chapman.
	Sgt. W. Savers.
Attached	Sgt. M. Moore (A.C.C.).
Attached	Sgt. E. W. Richards (R.E.M.E.).

"A" COMPANY	
Company Commander	Capt. L. F. Baker.
Platoon Commander	Lt. M. E. Baldwin.
Platoon Commander	2/Lt. E. Clarke.
P.S.I.	W.O.2 H. Jennings.
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. R. I. Baker.
Sergeant	Sgt. L. R. Montague.

"B" COMPANY	
Company Commander	Capt. H. E. Rawles.
Platoon Commander	Lt. A. E. Bird.
Platoon Commander	2/Lt. A. Dir.
P.S.I.	W.O.2 L. J. Tostevin.
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. N. J. Howes.
Sergeants	Sgt. M. S. Leahy.
	Sgt. J. S. Webb.

"C" COMPANY	
Company Commander	Capt. R. B. L. Garbett.
Platoon Commander	2/Lt. P. J. A. Pielow.
Platoon Commander	2/Lt. F. Holm.
P.S.I.	Sgt. A. Burrell.
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. R. Harris.
Sergeants	Sgt. F. Carter.
	Sgt. R. A. King.
Attached	Sgt. E. E. Regester.

"S" COMPANY	
Company Commander	Capt. A. J. Hands.
Mor. Platoon Comdr.	Lt. R. G. Garrett.
Mor. Platoon 2 IC	2/Lt. G. R. Fox.
M.M.G. Platoon Comdr.	2/Lt. M. A. B. Clutson.
Anti-Tank Platoon Comdr.	Lt. R. J. Leighton.
Assault Pioneers Comdr.	2/Lt. I. N. Henderson.
P.S.I.	Sgt. A. Kenrick.
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. W. R. Payne.
Mor. Platoon Sergeant	Sgt. P. G. Hutchings.
M.M.G. Pl. Sergeant	Sgt. F. N. Simmonds.
Anti-Tank Pl. Sergeants	Sgt. W. E. Payne.
	Sgt. H. H. Whitterton.
	Sgt. R. A. Wotton.

11th PARACHUTE BATTALION (Middlesex) T.A.

The Battalion held the annual rifle meeting on March 31 and April 1 at Aldershot. The results were exceptionally good, considering the appalling weather conditions.

"B" Company are to be congratulated on winning both the Commanding Officer's Rifle Cup and the Commanding Officer's Weapon Training Cup for the second year running.

Sgt. McCreedy distinguished himself by winning the Individual Weapon Training and the Individual Rifle Cups, an exceptionally good performance. Sgt. McCreedy is also to be congratulated on winning the Decentralised Individual Small Bore T.A. Championships with the remarkable score of 598 out of a possible 600.

On March 8 the Battalion held the annual inter-Battalion boxing content with the 10th Parachute Battalion. The 11th Battalion gained a decisive victory by winning every one of the 11 fights. Although this result appears an overwhelming victory, there were, in fact, a number of very close fights, in particular the fight between Pte. Garner, 11th Battalion, and Capt. Ross, 10th Battalion. Pte. Garner did extremely well to beat an experienced opponent on points.

C.S.M. Lud won the Challenge Cup for the best performance of the evening by knocking out Pte. Drummond, 10th Battalion, in the second round.

The Battalion team was as follows: Pte. Davie, Pte. Ward, Pte. Little and Pte. McMullen, who all won on points; Pte. Haines, who won by a technical K.O. in second round; Pte. Garner, who won on points; C.S.M. Lud, who won by K.O. in second round; Lt. Mitchell, who won by K.O. in first round; C.S.M. Carlton, who won by technical K.O. in second round; Lt. Easterbrook, who won by K.O. in second round; and Major Corby, who won by K.O. in second round.

Maj.-Gen. Rathsbury kindly presented the cup to the 11th Battalion and congratulated both teams on their excellent performance.

The Battalion lose Major C. P. B. Moggridge in May, and we all wish him luck in his new appointment. We

also take this opportunity of welcoming his successor, Major J. Warwick-Pengelly, who arrived in the Battalion on April 25, 1951.

We regret to announce the fact that R.S.M. "Dusty" Miller is also leaving us to take over R.S.M. of one of the battalions of his own regiment. He has given this Battalion long and loyal service and we shall be sorry to see him pass on.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T. & A.F. ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951, AT 2.15 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Brigadier E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., I.P., A.D.C., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., I.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. G. Lervill, M.C., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major G. O. Porter, R.S.M. F. Britton, Sgt. E. Fletcher, Mr. A. Todman, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major W. D. Ellis, T.D.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the last meeting having been circulated were signed by the Chairman as correct.

2. **Secretary's Report.** The Secretary's report having been circulated with the Agenda was accepted by the Committee.

3. **Audited Accounts.** In the absence of Lt.-Col. Robbins, Col. Beach explained the various Association Accounts to the Committee. Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox suggested that the subscriptions from "Die-Hard" Clubs be shown as a separate item. After discussion:

(a) It was proposed by Col. Beach, seconded by Lt.-Col. Fox and approved by the Committee, that the audited accounts for 1950 be accepted.

(b) The Committee approved that Messrs. G. Dixey & Co. continue as Auditors to the Regimental Association.

(c) The Committee approved that audited accounts be published in the "Die-Hard" Journal in an abbreviated form in order to save space.

4. **Journal Committee's Report.** Brigadier Procter informed the Committee that he had received a communication from the publishers regretting that due to increased wages and cost of materials the price of production will be increased, but to what extent they were unable to say.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox and approved by the Committee that a vote of thanks be recorded to Brigadier Procter for his hard work in connection with the production of the Journal.

5. **War Memorial Committee's Report.** (i) Col. Beach informed the Committee that—

(a) The construction was proceeding in accordance with schedule and despite the recent inclement weather the contractor was up to his time chart;

(b) Two cottages have had bathrooms installed on the ground floors for disabled occupants who were unable to mount the stairs;

(c) Application for the loan of £7,000 had been initiated.

Sub-Committee's Report. (ii) Col. Beach informed the Committee that half the applicants for the cottages were interviewed on Saturday, April 21, and the remainder were being interviewed on April 28, 1951, after which date it would be possible to make a list of selected occupants.

After discussion the Committee approved of the system adopted by the Selection Committee in the selection of tenants for the cottages.

Names of Cottages. (iii) It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Rooke, seconded by Brigadier Baker and approved by the Committee, that the names of the Cottages be deferred until the Battle Honours for the 1939-45 War had been approved by the War Office. It was confirmed that 10 cottages should be named after famous battles of the 1939-45 War and that they should not be named from previous wars and campaigns. It was also confirmed that the remaining 10 cottages should bear the name of distinguished individuals who lost their lives in the 1939-45 War. Both these proposals were considered proper as funds for the cottages had been raised for a memorial to those who fell in the 1939-45 War.

6. **Regimental History Report.** Brigadier Procter informed the Committee that the sum contributed towards the production of the Regimental History was £1,030 10s. 0d. He also stated that unfortunately the production would be delayed until the end of the year due to the illness of Commander Kemp. The Committee agreed to retain the services of Commander Kemp and Brigadier Procter promised to inform him of this decision.

7. **Mrs. Mabel Renny Legacy.** This subject was deferred to a later meeting.

8. **Hong Kong Memorial to the 1st Battalion.** Lt.-Col. Roberts informed the Committee that he had instructed Messrs. Maile, of Euston Road, to prepare a Bronze Tablet at an estimated cost of £65 15s. 0d., and that he would inform the Committee when it had been completed in order that members may view the work prior to its despatch to Hong Kong.

9. **Other Business.** The Chairman informed the Committee that due to the unavoidable absence of the Colonel of the Regiment, it devolved upon him to perform a pleasant task.

He wished to pay a well-merited tribute to a member of the Association who had voluntarily devoted considerable time and skill in setting difficult and highly technical problems connected with the Regiment. He referred to the Legal Advisor, Major Hardcastle. On behalf of the Committee he sincerely thanked Major Hardcastle for his untiring efforts and asked him to accept, as a token of gratitude, a small plaque suitably inscribed and bearing a silver badge of the Regiment.

Major Hardcastle, deeply impressed with gratitude, offered his sincere thanks and said that it was always a joy to serve the Regiment.

10. **Next Meeting.** The Committee approved that the next meeting take place on Thursday, July 26, 1951, at 2.15 p.m., at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30 p.m.
A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX T. & A.F. ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, 59 GREEN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1, ON THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951, AT 3.30 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Brigadier E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., I.P., A.D.C., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., I.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. G. Lervill, M.C., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major G. O. Porter, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major W. D. Ellis, T.D.

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of the last meeting having been circulated were signed by the Chairman as correct.

2. **Secretary's Report.** The Secretary's report having been circulated was accepted by the Committee.

3. **Audited Accounts.** The Committee approved that the audited accounts for 1950 be adopted.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox that the Income Account should show the dividend from £500 2½% National War Bonds held by the Club from 3rd Battalion separately. The Committee approved.

4. **Other Business.** The Committee approved that the Menu for the Officers' Club Dinner for 1951 be that selected and recommended by the Chairman.

5. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be held at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1, on Thursday, July 26, at 3.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4 p.m.
A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

GOLF

Spring Meeting, 1951

"To Captain Middlesex Regiment Golfing Society, Golf Club, Hendon. Gout and rheumatics prevent me being with you. Good wishes for a successful day. Stumps."

Dear Stumps,

Thank you for your message, much appreciated, and your wishes which, as far as I was concerned, were fulfilled.

It was sad that so many could not or would not make the effort to attend, but even so it was a pleasant day.

Everyone was concerned that in your prime, physically, gout should have raised your foot to the stool once reserved for the tender toes of portly grandfathers.

Unfortunately these complaints do not adhere to fixed rules and strike the undeserving as well as the likely candidate.

You will be sorry to hear that Charles Whinney was stricken with acute appendicitis and therefore was absent once more. Looking round, the words of Omagh Khayyam came to me in parodied form and I thought: "And when Thyself with clay-soiled foot shall pass

Amongst the balls star scattered on the grass
And in thy joyous Round shall reach the Spot (the 19th presumably!)

Where I made one—turn down an empty glass."

Fortunately we were not required to drain and turn down a glass for each absent member—it would have been too much.

We were all delighted to have with us "Sambo" (Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel), and although he is not allowed to play we rejoiced to see him looking so well again and appreciated his enthusiasm in coming up just to lunch, watch and encourage.

With such small numbers the meeting was compact and informal, and the weather was the usual Hendon and obliging sort, distressing no one other than myself, who alone went out in the afternoon without a hatting and therefore suffered painfully for the omission when hail descended indecently hard on the thin thatch for a short while.

"Nobby" will add the official results, but you will note that they are not bad. The Captain of the Society shook himself, and everyone else, by producing his best ever of 77 for the scratch prize, and had, of course, said that numbers did not warrant a scratch sweep! The Chief Editor won the handicap prize with 77-7=70, because, like the Royal St. George's, we pay no attention to those new-fangled handicaps. Bywaters was runner-up of the handicap with a nice 72 due to a very good second half recovery. How he does it I do not know, but Gerry (I should say Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall), with no practice, had a 76 net and only failed to produce a 72 or 73 because of a couple of airy fairy shots off the tee.

In the afternoon foursomes Bywaters and Norman Gilbert, more bronze than any handsome man could hope to be in England, set a very hot pace and despite a creek finish won easily.

There was some doubt as to whether the numbers warranted a second prize, but the prizes were all there engraved and who could more worthily have them, despite the score, than Andy and Guest who do so much to keep the Society alive?

Will the English Golf Union and all please note that both the morning and afternoon rounds took 2½ hours only.

Those present kindly confirmed our hint and so I can now say that the Autumn Meeting will be held at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, on Saturday and Sunday, September 22 and 23, 1951.

On Saturday we shall play our own usual competitions. This will be followed by a dinner at the club house. On Sunday there will be a match versus a club side.

Yours,
"PROGGINS."

RESULTS

SCRATCH COMPETITION

Brigadier N. P. Procter	77*
Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	85½
Capt. J. Bywaters	86
Major G. B. Anderson	93
Capt. R. E. Guest	98
Major J. G. P. Hunt	104
Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe	105
Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert	No return
Lt.-Col. G. Lervill	No return

*Winner †Runner-up

HANDICAP COMPETITION

Brigadier N. P. Procter	77-7	70
Capt. J. Bywaters	86-14	72
Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	85-9	76
Major G. B. Anderson	93-14	79
Capt. R. E. Guest	98-16	82
Major J. G. P. Hunt	104-18	86
Lt.-Col. T. S. Wolcombe	105-18	87
Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert	No return	
Lt.-Col. G. Lervill	No return	

FOURSOMES & BOGEY

Lt.-Col. Gilbert and Capt. Bywaters	2 down
Major Anderson and Capt. Guest	9 down
Brigadier Procter and Lt.-Col. Wolcombe	11 down
Lt.-Gen. Bucknall and Major Hunt	14 down

FOR THE OLD

Flashback to the 2nd Battalion, 1910. Do you remember these events? The Battalion stationed in the Channel Islands, half Battalion in Guernsey, half Battalion in Alderney.

Order of battle: C.O., Lt.-Col. Norrie; Adj., Capt. Owen; 2IC, Major Ward; Q.M., Capt. Allen; "A" Company—O.C., Capt. Denham, C/Sgt. Shelbourne; "B" Company—O.C., Capt. Spence, C/Sgt. Combie; "C" Company—O.C., —?—? C/Sgt. Woolmer; "D" Company—O.C., Capt. Bicknell, C/Sgt. Morgan; "E" Company—O.C., Capt. Ramsey, C/Sgt. Cox; "F" Company—O.C., Major Storr, C/Sgt. Clifford; "G" Company—O.C., Major Abel, C/Sgt. Lawson; "H" Company—O.C., Capt. Odling, C/Sgt. Bence; R.S.M. Hancock; C.Q.M.S. Weimers; O.R.C/Sgt. Willson. All subject to correction.

The visit of the Swedish ship, when the officers and crew came ashore and visited the various Messes and canteen, and the subsequent sequel to the return visit of the members of the Sergeants' Mess to the ship. How we youngsters laughed to see all the Colour-Sergeants paraded outside the Orderly Room—"On a peg" for boarding a foreign ship without permission.

The tragic death of Bill Duffy from drowning. I saw the other two N.C.O.s who went in with him, at the last Annual Dinner at Mill Hill.

The departure of Major "Cabby" Ward from Alderney to take over command of the 1st Battalion—how his carriage was manhandled to the boat.

And finally the departure of the Battalion for Bordon in October. What a send-off the Islanders gave us. Was it the 18th Royal Irish who relieved us? Who knows the names of the officers carrying the Colours on the day we left?

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
To Grants and Allowances:				By Grants and Donations:			
100 Regular Forces Employment Association ..	50	0 0		950 Army Benevolent Fund ..	450	0 0	
42 Sundry Charities ..	51	15 0		60 51st Highland Division Trust Fund ..	60	0 0	
1,602 Individual Cases ..	1,606	2 3		747 M.C.C. Sunday Entertainments Fund ..	690	0 0	
200 Cottage Homes ..				35 P.R.I. 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment ..	157	18 4	
P.R.I. for Maintenance ..	60	0 0		10 P.R.I. 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment ..	10	0 0	
1,944				452 Sundry ..	495	11 5	
" Spion Kop Reunion ..			1,767 17 3				1,863 9 9
" Donations to "Die-Hard" ..			5 12 9				
10 " Clubs ..			10 0 0				
20 " Wreaths ..			21 6 0				
3 " Inscribing Roll of Honour ..							
146 " O.C.A. Reunions ..	188	18 2					
90 " Less Contributed thereto ..	120	18 6					
56			67 19 8				
" Remembrance Day Expenses ..			8 12 8				
53 " Administration Expenses:							
63 " Postage ..	64	13 8					
278 " Printing and Stationery ..	319	2 0					
21 " Secretaries' Salaries and Expenses ..	29	9 9					
4 " Travelling and Office ..	3	0 0					
24 " Bank Charges (Cheque Books) ..	18	18 0					
443 " Insurance ..							
52 " Audit Fee ..			480 5 7				
" Furniture and Fittings—							
524 " Amount written off ..							
" Balance being Excess of							
Income over Expenditure			319 17 2				
£3,052			£2,681 11 1	£3,052			£2,681 11 1

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
ASSOCIATION FUND:				INVESTMENTS:			
Balance at January 1, 1950 ..	25,101	5 0		(a) At Mid-Market Price on			
Add Excess of Income over				December 31, 1948 ..	4,362	5 6	
Expenditure for the Year ..	319	17 2		(b) At Cost or Par Value ..	20,626	1 11	
25,101			25,421 2 2	(Mid-Market Price at			
CREDITORS:				December 31, 1950,			
20 Roll of Honour ..	20	0 0		£24,531 10s. 1d.) ..	24,988	7 5	
19 Audit Fee ..	18	18 0		CASH AT BANK ..	461	12 3	
10 Printing and Stationery ..	10	10 0		8 STOCK OF BADGES ..	19	10 6	
2 Donation received in respect				1 FURNITURE AND FITTINGS at			
of 1950 ..				Nominal Value ..	1	0 0	
51			49 8 0				25,470 10 2
MRS. M. RENNY (Legacy) ..	2,000	0 0					
Interest accrued ..	3	6 8					
			2,003 6 8				
REGIMENTAL HISTORY:							
Amount Subscribed ..			75 10 0				
£25,152			£27,549 6 10	£25,152			£27,549 6 10

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

February 16, 1951.

RENNY CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
To Grants and Allowances ..				By Interest on Investments—Gross ..			
617 " Administration Expenses:				2 " Refund of Bank Charges ..			
60 " Salaries ..	112	0 0					
2 " Postage ..	1	5 5					
7 " Audit Fee ..	7	7 0					
" Stationery ..	6	2 10					
69			126 15 3				
31 " Excess of Income over							
Expenditure ..			72 11 5				
£717			£722 5 2	£717			£722 5 2

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
ACCUMULATED FUND:				INVESTMENTS, at Cost or Par Value ..			
Balance at January 1, 1950 ..	22,160	13 10		(Mid-Market Price at December 31, 1950,			
Add Excess of Income over				£19,800 5s. 4d.) ..	22,105	8 8	
Expenditure for the Year ..	72	11 5		63 CASH AT BANK ..			
22,161			22,233 5 3				135 3 7
CREDITOR:							
7 Audit Fee ..			7 7 0				
£22,168			£22,240 12 3	£22,168			£22,240 12 3

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

February 16, 1951.

COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
To Land Agent, Eastern Command for Rent ..	24	0 0		By Grant from Eastern Command in Aid of			
45 " Repairs and Renovations ..				22 " Rent ..			22 0 0
6 " Water Rate ..	5	15 4		58 " Interest on Investments—Gross ..			57 14 4
12 " Insurance ..	11	15 0		8 " Excess of Expenditure over Income ..			
1 " Audit Fee ..	1	1 0					
" Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	37	3 0					
£88			£79 14 4	£88			£79 14 4

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	1949 £	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				INVESTMENTS:			
ACCOUNT:				(a) At Mid-Market Value at December 31,			
Balance at January 1, 1950 ..	3,592	4 6		1948 ..	1,874		1,873 17 0
Add Excess of Income over				(Mid-Market price at December 31,			
Expenditure ..	37	3 0		1950, £1,770 os. od.) ..			
3,592			3,629 7 6	1,653 NEW COTTAGE HOMES, at Cost ..			1,653 0 7
PROVISION FOR FUTURE RE-				255 DEBTOR—Eastern Command ..			170 0 11
PAIRS AND MAINTENANCE:				CASH AT BANK ..			
Grant from Regimental Association							
Charitable Fund ..	200	0 0					
Less Expended on Repairs							
and Renovations ..	133	10 0					
200			66 10 0				
CREDITOR:							
1 Audit Fee ..			1 1 0				
£3,793			£3,696 18 6	£3,793			£3,696 18 6

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

February 16, 1951.

OFFICERS' CLUB ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1049			1049		
To Donations:			By Donations, Subscriptions		
20 O.C. Deposit for P.M.C.	30	0	and Entrance Fees ..		444 17 6
Rangeon Cathedral			" Interest on Investments—		
5 Fund	—	—	Net	42 8 4	
S.A.A.F.A. Officers ..			" Interest on Investments—		
Branch	3 3 0		Gross	30 0 0	
25			72		
" Expenses of Cricket Week	170 15 4	33 3 0	" Refund of Bank Charges ..		72 8 4
39 Less Received	28 16 0		" Contributions to Winter		
155			56		
150 10 4			Cocktail Party	57 15 0	
9 Less Stock of Cricket Balls	8 4 3		56		
			Less Expended thereon ..	55 1 10	
146					2 13 2
36 " Golf Meeting		142 15 1			
199 " Dinner	152 14 6	37 15 0			
132 Less Received	103 1 0				
67			49 13 6		
36 " " At Home "	20 1 6				
Less Received	5 9 6				
8			23 12 0		
12 " M.C.C. Season Tickets ..		9 0 0			
" Wreaths		7 17 0			
12 " Remembrance Day Ex-					
penses		5 8 8			
60 " Administration Expenses:					
Salary and Expenses ..	60 0 0				
Postage, Printing and					
Stationery	17 8 10				
6 Audit Fee	6 6 0				
2 Sundries	— — —				
88			83 14 10		
" Provision for Income Tax					
Payable on 3% Defence					
Bonds Interest		115 10 0			
77 " Excess of Income over					
Expenditure for the Year		11 9 11			
£495			£519 19 0		£519 19 0

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

1949 £		<u>£ s. d.</u>	<u>£ s. d.</u>	1949 <u>3,496</u>			1949 <u>3,496</u>	
	ACCUMULATED FUND:					INVESTMENTS, at Cost	3,496	10 2
	Balance at January 1, 1950	3,787	1 4			(Mid-Market Price at December 31, 1950, £3,497 4s. 10d.)		
3,787	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year	11	9 11			STOCK OF CRICKET BALLS	8	4
				3,798	11 3	CASH AT BANK	417	7 10
	PROVISION FOR INCOME TAX on 3% Defence Bonds					LEGAL EXPENSES RECOVERABLE	18	0
	Interest			115	10 0			
	CREDITORS:					INVESTMENTS HELD IN TRUST FOR 3RD BATTALION: 500 2½% National War Bonds, 1952-54, at Par Value	3,941	0 3
6	Audit Fee	6	6 0				500	0 0
—	Golf Prizes	12	5 0					
				18	11 0			
	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN AD- VANCE			8	8 0			
	FUNDS HELD IN TRUST FOR 3RD BATTALION			3,941	0 3			
500				500	0 0			
<u>£4,301</u>				<u>£4,441</u>	<u>0 3</u>		<u>£4,441</u>	<u>0 0</u>

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., *Chartered Accountants,*
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

February 16, 1951.

OFFICERS' CLUB CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

1940			1940		
EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
45	To Grants	22 2 0	50	By Grant from Army Benevolent Fund ..	50 0 0
1	" Audit Fee	1 1 0	36	" Dividends from Investments—Gross ..	35 15 6
4	" Legal Charges	—	1	" Subscriptions and Donations	—
37	" Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	62 12 6			
£87		£85 15 6	£87		£85 15 6

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

1949						1949					
	ACCUMULATED FUND:		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
	Balance at January 1, 1950	1,299	8	2		1,141				1,141	3 6
	Add Excess of Income over										
	Expenditure for Year ..	62	12	6							
1,299					1,362	0	8				
	CREDITOR:										
	Audit Fee										
					I	I	0				
£1,300					£1,363	1	8			£1,363	1 8

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., *Chartered Accountants,*

February 16, 1951.

THE "DIE-HARDS" JOURNAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1949 £		£	s. d.	1949 £		£	s. d.
	To Cost of Printing and Distributing (Five			131	By Advertisements	182	13 10
358	Issues)	584	18 3		Interest on Post Office Savings Bank		
60	„ Salaries and Expenses	60	0 0	5	Deposit—Gross	5	6 10
	„ Sundries	2	2 0	196	„ Subscriptions	280	15
—	„ Audit Fee	4	4 0	2	Refund of Bank Charges		
				88	„ Excess of Expenditure over Income	176	8 7
<u>£422</u>		<u>£651</u>	4 3	<u>£422</u>		<u>£651</u>	4 3

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

1942	ACCUMULATED INCOME	£	s.	d.	1940	MUSEUM, at Cost	£	s.	d.
338	Balance at January 1, 1950	249	6	10	25	DEBTORS:			
89	Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year	176	8	7	20	Units for Bulk Issues	36	18	0
					40	Advertisements	100	16	11
249	BANK OVERDRAFT				60	6 STOCK OF JOURNALS			137 14 11
	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE				6	CASH AT BANK:			2 0 0
75	CREDITOR:				210	Post Office Savings Deposit	216	4	2
4	Audit Fee				27	Lloyds Bank Ltd., Current Account	—	—	—
					237				216 4 2
£328		£380	19	1	£328				£380 19 1

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

February 16, 1951.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,

WAR MEMORIAL FUND

RECEIPTS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1950

1949		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	RECEIPTS:						
	Donations (including Income from Seven-Year Covenants—Net) ..				826	4	8
	INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS:						
3,925	Investments—Gross ..	512	10	0			
513	P.O.S.B. Deposit ..	84	4	4			
98	Bank Deposit ..	11	19	2			
3							
606					608	13	6
4,531					1,434	18	2
	Less Payments:						
	Publicity and Advertising Expenses ..				—	—	—
54	LESS Administration Expenses:						
	2 Postage ..	1	9	5			
	— Bank Charges ..	5	0	0			
	10 Secretary's Expenses ..	10	0	0			
	8 Audit Fee ..	8	8	0			
	8 Legal Charges ..						
28							
82							
£4,449					£1,414	15	0

BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1950

[illegible]

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Account is correct.

February 16, 1951.

G. DIXEY & CO., *Chartered Accountants,*
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

NEWS FROM "DIE-HARDS" CLUBS

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION (D.C.O.)
UXBRIDGE AND DISTRICT "DIE-HARDS" CLUB

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS,

During the past year under review we have once more seen the black clouds rise and find our 1st Battalion once more committed to defend the rights of those people who desire to live in peace and at peace with the world. This war, like all wars, has and will cost lives; I wish you all to remember those "Die-Hards" who have given their lives in the present campaign in Korea.

Fortunately all clouds have not been black as regards this Branch, because once again we can boast of an increase in numbers and much better attendances at all monthly meetings during the past year. The following are the figures for 1949 and 1950:

	1949	1950
Members who have served in the Regiment on the books	148	156
Club Members who have annual subscriptions	76	92

Meetings have been well representative of all members. All functions and gatherings have been well attended. Our meetings become more and more like an evening in the Mess—cards, darts and those wonderful tales (some they have done and many they haven't).

I really think the R.Q.M.S. must have had quarters and billets a long way from the Sergeants' Mess as the preparations for the road are carried out most methodically each month.

Your Committee have been most active during the whole year, and have with great success produced or arranged during the year the following events:—

- (a) Visited and assisted two most hard cases of our time. In both these cases we referred them also to the Regional Association who put them on their feet once again. We are most grateful for their prompt action and do assure them that these cases have benefited and taken advantage of that help.
- (b) Six other cases were dealt with and gifts of fruit, etc., were given in each case, and a small grant was made by this Committee to two other cases.
- (c) During the year the local representative of the S.S.A.F.A. has been requested to visit and assist some of our cases, and we are most grateful for his ready for us, prompt, tactful and most pleasant manner in which this was carried out. These cases were assisted in a most generous manner.
- (d) On the social side of life in the Club I am pleased to report that the dances, well run by the Dance Committee, have been of great assistance in maintaining a large extent by these dance moneys and we are most indebted to the hosts of the Drill Hall for another year of valuable help and assistance. In March a most excellent Dinner after-dinner entertainment was arranged at The Golden Lion Hotel, Hillingdon by the Die-Hards and their guests spent a most enjoyable evening. I must not repeat the dose on Friday, March 30, 1951. In June we were able to compensate our wives and sweethearts for our long absences by taking them to the seaside for a day. It was the first time that I and I cannot let this pass without saying how much I admired the fine general of all those who took part. All on time at each place, picnic areas left spotted, everyone ready to give a hand. You made the day and my work a pleasure. Many thanks.

- (e) Twenty-eight members attended the Regimental Reunion Dinner at Mill Hill and we were pleased. This function took the form of a Dinner once again. I do have a small matter to say here: that I was disappointed that members put down for this and did not turn up. Will members please remember they make the others late for the event by hanging on for them, money is wasted on the tickets which have to be paid for, and the turn out that much weaker.

During the year a Special General Meeting was held to decide the future allotment of the trophies of the late 4th Company, 8th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (TA). This meeting was unable to reach a final agreement and it is hoped to hold another one in the near future. It would be most helpful if those Old Members, who are not in the Club would join and give over their views to the Club. It is hoped that the letters and remarks from outside the Club are far from helpful in this most difficult task that our President has undertaken.

Mr. President, on behalf of all members, I thank you for that fine picture you gave us of the situation regarding these trophies at the first meeting. It is the earnest wish of all members that your labours will be crowned with very satisfactory results in the very near future.

I am convinced as an old soldier that the donors of these trophies intended them to be for keen competitive spirit to encourage a higher standard of efficiency at training and sport. They never meant them to be a memorial to anyone.

It is hoped that the above-mentioned trophies will be on view at the Annual General Meeting in 1951.

On behalf of you, Sir, the Chairman and members of this Branch, I wish to thank the following for their continued help and support during the last year, namely: The Officer Commanding and all ranks of 561 Company, R.A.S.C. (Parachute Brigade) (T.A.), our two Honorary Members, the Secretary of The Middlesex Regimental Association, and Local Branches of kindred Associations. Uxbridge.

May I indulge here to say a most hearty "Thank You" to you Mr. President, Mr. Chairman and my Committee for your fine co-operation and hard work during the past year. The success of this Branch and its smooth running can only be attributed to this fine team spirit.

With this report you have attached the Balance Sheet for the year ending December 31, 1950. This shows an expenditure of £52 13s. 10d. over income. Carried forward: To 1950—£334 6s. 9d.; to 1951—£281 12s. 11d. Total over expended, 1950: £52 13s. 10d.

Our unusual and heavy items for the year were as follows: Office equipment, £42 17s. od.; appeals over normal, £10 5s. od.; Regimental Dinner subsidy, £8 16s. od. On viewing the Assets you will find on taking property into consideration we are only £22 3s. 10d. below 1949.

This situation I consider is very satisfactory and I shall have every confidence in asking that this Balance Sheet be "adopted"

My forecast for 1951 is that purses will be tightened up and proceeds from dances will be very much less than in the past. This means that members will have to put some very hard work into 1951 if they wish to maintain the Club at its very high standard at functions and meetings, and finances will have to be watched.

Mr. President and members, I have nothing further to report and finish with my very best wishes—prosperity and good health to you and yours in 1951.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. BELL, *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.*

ROMFORD

During the last quarter our activities have been somewhat curtailed due to the very inclement weather. The highlight was the dinner and concert which we held at the Eastbrook Hotel, Dagenham, on December 8, which unfortunately our Secretary was unable to attend due to illness. The dinner was as near perfection as could be reasonably expected in these days, and the entertainment was absolutely first class. Altogether a very good time was had by all who attended, and it was a unanimous vote that further such activities be pursued.

Regrettably, the next part of our notes must take the form of an obituary to our very good friend C/Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. H. Boddington.

Obituary

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of C/Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. H. Boddington, Regimental No. 9372, who served with the 1st Battalion from 1903 to 1925, which occurred on Monday, January 22, 1951, at his home in Chadwell Heath.

Mr. Boddington was a very popular member of the Romford Branch and was greatly respected by all the members and, in fact, by every other person with whom he came into contact. As a scribe I find it very difficult to pay tribute to him and I can find no better words than "He was one of Nature's gentlemen and a 'Die-Hard' to the core of his very being."

Mr. L. C. W. Timson, B.E.M., represented the Regiment and the Romford Branch, and placed wreaths on the grave in respect of both.

Among the many past members of the Regiment who attended the interment were Messrs. Stevenson, Parsons, Burton, Brazier and Garrett. A guard of honour was

formed at the graveside by members of the Romford Branch of the Old Contemptibles' Association, led by their Secretary, Mr. V. C. Jarvis.

Mr. Timson and Mr. Stevenson both served with Mr. Boddington in Germany after the first world war. I quote here Mr. Timson. "He had many attractive qualities as a man, and was essentially a soldier. His calmness of manner never became ruffled even under the worst of circumstances and conditions. In spite of bad health he always attended the Branch meetings whenever weather permitted, until he knew the end was near."

I can state here that as far back as October he knew that he was near the end of the road, but even then his thoughts were with those he was leaving behind. We have said our last farewell to a "Die-Hard," but his memory will live with us through the years.

We extend our very deepest sympathies to his widow and daughters in their grievous loss.

HORNSEY

Owing to the notes for the Journal having to be in the hands of the Editor so early, it was not possible to give an account of the Annual General Meeting in the March issue. The meeting was held in Hornsey on the first Wednesday in February and was well attended. The election of officials was the first item and all serving were again elected to their offices for a further year. The Chairman, after thanking all for their services, gave a brief summary of events during the past year and said how pleased he was to see the Club still flourishing after its five years of existence. The Treasurer produced the statement of accounts and it was seen that the Club was financially keeping its head above water. It was proposed to hold a Club dinner on May 12, and after some difference of opinion as to whether ladies should be invited, it was put to the vote and the decision was against ladies coming. It has, however, since been decided that ladies shall come in after the dinner. A full account of the dinner will be given in our next notes. It is with regret that we hear that the Adjutant of the Battalion, Capt. Jeffcoat, has almost finished his tour of duty and will shortly be leaving us. We wish him God-speed and every success in his future career, and hope that his successor will give us the help and encouragement that he has given. We have heard it rumoured that a "Diehards" Club is likely to be started in the Enfield district. This will probably mean that some of our members will transfer their affections, but what is our loss will be their gain, and we feel sure that there are enough ex-members of the Regiment in that locality to be able to get a good club going. We are all very pleased to hear that the 1st Battalion are being withdrawn from Korea to Hong Kong for a well-earned rest. We send our greetings to all other "Diehards" Clubs.

ENFIELD

Now that the Middlesex Regiment has taken back the T.A. Centre at Enfield, it is hoped to re-start the "Diehards" Club there. All those interested should contact ex-C.S.M. Whitcombe, who is the caretaker at the T.A. Centre and who is anxious to re-form the club as soon as possible.

OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

2/10th BATTALION BRANCH MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

On Saturday, May 5, 74 old comrades of the 2/10th Battalion (1914-1918) gathered at the Bolton Hotel, Earl's Court, for their 23rd Annual Reunion Dinner.

Mr. W. A. Lovegrove was in the Chair and the following guests honoured the occasion. The Colonel of the Regiment, Col. Maurice Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., and the Rev. A. H. Rees, the Vicar of Chiswick Parish Church, which is the church wherein the Colours of this Battalion and those of the 1/10th are laid up.

After an excellent meal Col. Maurice Browne gave a very interesting account of the service being rendered by the Regiment in Korea, which was attentively followed with great interest by all present.

The toast to "Our Guests" by Mr. Chas. Rush was responded to by the Rev. A. H. Rees, who spoke of great affection for the old comrades of the 2/10th and how much he and his parishioners looked forward to the Annual Combined Remembrance Service held each year on Remembrance Sunday for the 1/10th, 2/10th, 3/10th and 4/10th Battalions.

This 2/10th branch has recently renewed the memorial in Chiswick Parish Church and replaced the wooden memorial with one of stone, which was dedicated last November.

A presentation was later made to the Secretary of this branch by the Colonel of the Regiment to commemorate his 21 years' service, and took the form of a silver tobacco box very suitably inscribed.

The name and address of the Secretary is:

A. H. Cumming,
73 Ringford Road,
West Hill,
S.W.18.

who would be pleased to receive the names of any ex-members of the 2/10th who are not on his roll.

OBITUARIES

CAPT. E. N. Appelbe

On March 13, 1951, after a long illness patiently borne, Capt. Edward Napier Appelbe died. He came of an old Huguenot family long settled in County Cork, and was the elder son of the late Brigadier-General E. B. Appelbe, C.B., C.M.G., who had a long and distinguished career as one of "K's" men in Egypt and South Africa.

Appelbe was born in Cairo in 1887. He received his education at the Diocesan College, Rhondebosh, South Africa, and at Skinners School, Tunbridge Wells. He always amusingly claimed that whilst in the Cadet Corps at the former school he was entitled to the South African War Medal as the Corps provided some guard duties.

In 1906 he was gazetted in the 3rd Battalion the Royal Munster Fusiliers, and in 1908 he transferred to the Line and was posted to the 1st Battalion the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) then stationed at Allahabad. The following is a summary of his service: 1908-1914, 1st Battalion, India and Aden;

1914-15, 1st and 2nd Battalions, France; 1915, Invalided home and promoted substantive Captain; 1916, Adjutant, 5th Battalion, Chatham; 1918, Staff Captain, Palestine; 1921, Seconded to the Egyptian Army; 1925-32, 2nd Battalion, India, Sudan and Colchester.

In the latter year he retired, having reached the age limit of his rank. All ranks then serving in the 2nd Battalion were very grieved to lose his services.

It was during the retreat from Mons that he sustained the heart strain from which he never recovered, and which was responsible for the lingering illness of the last two years of his life.

In 1938 Appelbe was appointed Equipment Officer in the R.A.F. with the rank of Flight Lieutenant, and spent the second world war as Adjutant of the R.A.F. Gas School, Salisbury Plain, until he finally retired in 1945. Under a naturally reserved manner he concealed a kindly disposition which the writer, amongst others, remembers with affection and which showed at its best when dealing with N.C.O.s and men of his own Company with whom he was extremely popular.

He will be remembered by his contemporaries as a man of many hobbies and as an indefatigable shikari. In connection with the former there are many stories told of enormous boxes of kit containing collapsible boats, shooting and fishing gear and carpenters' tools far exceeding the official allowance appearing on each occasion of a change of station.

FUNERAL OF ZULU WAR VETERAN

Mr. Richard Luscombe

Members of Torquay Navy and Army Veterans' Association formed a guard of honour at the funeral of Mr. Richard Luscombe (98), Torquay's Zulu War veteran who died at 26 Cavern Road on April 18.

A service was held at Union Street Methodist Church and was conducted by the Rev. J. Mackay (Minister).

Mr. Luscombe was the oldest member of the Torquay Navy and Army Veterans' Association. Born at Blackawton, he joined the Middlesex Regiment at Devonport when he was 18.

In an address, Rev. Mackay said Mr. Luscombe had been a soldier of the Queen in his early days. But he was also a true soldier of the King of Kings.

"His relationship with this church goes back many years," said Rev. Mackay. "He was a Sunday school teacher, a member of the ministers' class, a trustee of one of the circuit churches, and a loyal worker and supporter in many ways. With the simple faith that was characteristic of him he always brought the first-fruits of his allotment here, carefully cleaned and prepared to offer to God."

"He had known trouble and faced much sorrow, but nothing ever embittered him. He retained to the end of his long life a genial, happy, friendly spirit that endeared him to all who knew him."

Rev. Mackay said, in his home Mr. Luscombe was revered for his lovely character. There was in him nothing of the peevishness that sometimes came with old age.

The Regiment was represented by ex-B/Sgt. P.

Edwards who also took a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

C.S.M. T. A. Capel

The late C.S.M. T. A. Capel died suddenly on April 28, 1951, aged 66 years. A letter of condolence was sent to his widow and a representative of the Depot attended the cremation service at the Golders Green Crematorium on May 4, 1951.

He joined the Regiment in which his father and grandfather also served on September 1, 1903, and was discharged to pension on August 31, 1924.

R.Q.M.S. G. Wilkinson

No. 6496 the late R.Q.M.S. G. Wilkinson died on March 12, 1951, but notification was received too late for a representative of the Association to be present at his funeral.

WAR MEMORIAL FUNDS

DONATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1950, TO MAY 8, 1951, INCLUSIVE

	£	s.	d.
Alderman J. D. Craig, further donation	250 0 0
Twickenham Welfare Comforts Fund	138 13 1
Messrs. Langdon and Every	52 10 0
595 L.A.A.S.L. Regiment R.A. (Mx.) T.A. (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment)	34 13 0
Mayor of Edmonton	31 14 0
Enfield and District "100" Luncheon Club, further donation	26 5 0
Borough of Hendon, further donation	18 6 7
Borough of Acton Ratepayers' Association	5 12 2
Ex-Sgt. J. Palin	1 10 0
A. C. Chidley, Esq., further donation	1 1 0
Birkbeck Hygienic Laundry	1 1 0
Mrs. P. Lindley-Smith, further donation	1 0 0
Mr. C. W. Reeves	1 0 0
Capt. W. O'Donoghue	1 0 0
Hornsey "Die-Hards" Club Collecting Box	17 10
C.S.M. P. Maloney	10 0
Mr. G. L. Lloyd, M.M.	10 0
Mr. J. Dunstone	5 0
Mr. W. G. Taylor, M.S.M.	5 0

"THE SCOTTISH LION ON PATROL"

BEING THE STORY OF
15TH SCOTTISH RECONNAISSANCE
REGIMENT, 1943-1946

May be obtained (price 15s.) from M. R. Riesco, 70 Coombe Road, Croydon, Surrey.

The text, illustrated with photographs and maps, covers the Regiment's antecedents; its formation in 1943; its days in Northumberland, Yorkshire and Sussex; the part it played in the battles in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany; and the many duties which it undertook as part of the British Army of the Rhine until the Regiment was disbanded in 1946. Many of those who fought in the Regiment have written of their experiences.

In his foreword Col. Grant Peterkin says that the book is "the simple story of a very happy family... it will refresh the many pleasant associations and friendships within both Regiment and (15th Scottish) Division and with many members of the 2nd Army with whom we had the honour to work." These included the 6th Guards Tank Brigade, the 6th Airborne Division and the Special Air Service.

Governor presents HKVDC Colours to the Hongkong Regiment

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grant-ham, presented the Hongkong Regiment with their Colours at a very impressive parade at the Hongkong Cricket Club ground yesterday afternoon.

The Colours, consisting of the "King's Colour" and the "Regimental Colour," replace those of the H.K.V.D.C. lost during the war. The Volunteer Colours were buried to prevent them falling into the hands of the Japanese, but on the cessation of hostilities they could not be found and a new set was ordered from the Royal School of Needlework.

Following the Royal Salute, the Colours were placed on piled drums in the centre of the parade ground and the regimental call was sounded by the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.).

To a fanfare of trumpets His Excellency, accompanied by Col. L. T. Ride, C.B.E., E.D., Commandant of the Hongkong Defence Force, Lt.-Col. T. G. Fisher, M.B.E., Deputy Commandant, and Col. H. B. L. Dowbiggin, O.B.E., together with the officiating clergy, left the saluting base and took up a position at the piled drums.

Addressing Bishop Hall, Lt.-Col. Owen-Hughes said: "Reverend Sir, on behalf of the Regiment we ask you to bid God's blessing on these Colours."

Bishop Hall: "We are ready so to do."

The Consecration

The Bishop then commenced the consecration ceremony.

The parade was called to attention and, laying his hand on the Colours, the Bishop said: "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do consecrate and set apart these Colours, that they may be a sign of our duty towards our King and our country in the sight of God. Amen."

His Excellency then presented the Colours to the Regiment.

In slow time the Colour bearers rejoined the Colour party while the Band played the National Anthem, and His Excellency and party then returned to the saluting base for the march past.

After the march past, His Excellency took the Royal Salute before the parade marched off.

ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL, ARBORFIELD

Too little is known of the Army Apprentices School, Arborfield, and we are, therefore, glad to publish an article on the school by Major H. Marsh, The Middlesex Regiment, who is in command of "A" Company, the Champion Company. Also at Arborfield from the Regiment are Capt. E. Thompson, M.C., and Adj. and C.Q.M.S. A. Goodge.

An initial outlay of 2s. 6d. gives a technical trade training worth £1,000 at the Army Apprentices School.

It is extraordinary how little is known in the Army and still less in civil life about the Army Apprentices Schools, the vitally important work they do for the Regular Army and the enormous value they are to the boy who is lucky enough to get to one of them.

If only enough parents realised the real value and scope of the remunerative and high-grade trades for which the Army now trains its apprentices free of charge there would be a long waiting list for the three Army Apprentices Schools now operating in England today.

For the sake of brevity the basic facts about these schools are tabulated below.

Object of the Schools

It is primarily to train apprentices as technical tradesmen for the Regular Army, with a view to their becoming senior non-commissioned officers, warrant officers and commissioned officers in the Corps to which they are posted when they leave the schools. Direct entry to R.M.A., Sandhurst, of suitable apprentices and preparation of candidates for technical commissions is an additional object of these schools.

Trades Target at Army Apprentices Schools

Chepstow (Mon.): Blacksmithing, electrical fitting, sheet metal work, welding and motor vehicle repairing.

Harrogate (Yorks): Bricklaying and masonry, carpentry and joinery, clerical, draughtsman (archt), electrical, painting and decorating, plumbing and pipe fitting, surveying, and telephony and telegraphy.

Arborfield (Berks): Armourer, draughtsman (mech.), fitting, instrument repairing, telecommunications, turning and motor vehicle repairing.

Cost of Training

No fees are payable by parents, but the average approximate cost to the Army for three years' apprentices' technical training is estimated at £1,000.

Conditions of Entry to Schools

Competitive examinations are held twice yearly in June and December. Boys must be between 14½ and 16½ with minimum height of 4 ft. 7 in. and minimum weight of 5 st. 4 lb. Entry fee for examination is 2s. 6d.

Leave with Pay and Allowances

Two weeks' leave is given both at Christmas and at Easter, also four weeks' leave in midsummer. Suitable holiday homes are arranged for apprentices who for any reason cannot spend their leave with parents, guardians or friends. They receive free return train tickets three times a year on leave and, with their accumulated pay and ration allowance, apprentices take anything between £10 and £25 home to spend while on leave.

National Savings and Allotments to Family

Apprentices are encouraged to save weekly for their holidays. The Army also arranges weekly Post Office

Savings accounts for the apprentices and for any allotments they may wish to make to assist their parents.

Conditions and Period of Service

Boys accepted for training must serve "with the Colours" until the age of 18 and afterwards a minimum of eight years with the Colours and four years with the Reserve.

Apprentices found to be either morally or educationally unsuitable are removed from the schools.

Rates of Pay and Allowances at Army Schools

	Per day
	s. d.
Apprentices receive on joining	2 6
After one year	3 6
After two years	4 0
On attaining the age of 17½	7 0
On attaining the age of 18	8 0
On leaving school as four-star (third class) tradesman	10 0

N.B.—Compare this with the pay of a second-lieutenant, who up to 1938 received 9s. 8d. per day.

A ration allowance of 3s. 4d. per day is given when on leave. Clothing, food, accommodation, medical and dental treatment are provided free of charge. A clothing allowance of 1s. 1d. per week is credited for upkeep of clothing.

Organisation of Army Schools

They are military boarding schools run on the lines of modern public school and are commanded by Colonels Commandant. They have accommodation for about a thousand apprentices in each school, and all ranks are subject to military law.

Each school has five companies commanded by senior regimental officers whose duties are similar to those of a house master of a civilian boarding school; they are responsible for the welfare of the apprentices, their living conditions, pay, clothing and discipline. It is mainly they who correspond with parents about their son's progress and welfare, although much of this is done by the Commandants as well. Apprentice N.C.O.s perform the duties of house and school prefects and take their responsibilities seriously though they have no power of awarding punishment.

Technical and educational training occupies the greater part of the three years' training which is divided into six terms. An adequate number of qualified civil and military instructors ensure that all apprentices have ample opportunity of becoming qualified tradesmen and reaching the standard of First-Class Army Certificate of Education. The more advanced students take matriculation and some study for inter B.Sc. examinations whilst still at school. Apprentices may also take City and Guilds of London Examinations. All education given is, of course, connected with the trade being taught to each apprentice.

The schools have resident chaplains with their own chapels, regular church services are held and apprentices are confirmed by visiting dignitaries of the Church of

England. Other denomination chaplains visit the schools weekly for their religious instruction classes, interviews and services.

Sport and Physical Training

Extensive playing fields and modern well-equipped gymnasiums staffed by qualified instructors from the Army Physical Training Corps, combine to develop the apprentices into really healthy, physically fit men who become real assets to their units and clubs in the world of sport. Keen rivalry exists between the Service schools, nearby units and civil schools in all games including athletics, boxing, cross-country running, shooting and basket-ball. School colours are awarded for outstanding sporting merit. Evening activities include fencing and badminton, voluntary P.T. and basket-ball.

Food and Recreation

Ample and excellent food is provided under the skilled supervision of an officer of the Army Catering Corps.

All companies have their own indoor games rooms in addition to billiards and recreation rooms provided by the NAAFI together with well-stocked restaurants.

Dances, films and "live" shows are organised regularly, and extensive library facilities give a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and technical books.

Apprentices make a small subscription from their pay towards the cost of their sports and entertainment, which includes an average of nearly two modern films per week.

Every apprentice is encouraged to have a hobby in addition to his trade and these include carpentry and model making, camera, stamp, cycling and music clubs, whilst other school activities include a military brass band, a pipe band, a school orchestra, an amateur dramatic club and choral society.

Conclusion

Any parent with an intelligent and ambitious boy can confidently send his son to one of these schools. Many serving and retired officers as well as warrant officers, N.C.O.s and business men in all walks of life have boys there now.

All parents receive detailed reports each term concerning their sons' progress and are encouraged to visit or write to the officers under whose control their sons are, regarding any problem they may have.

It is important to stress that over 90 per cent. of all trades taught by the Army are recognised by civil Trade Unions, and this ensures that a qualified Army tradesman can be assured that his training is fully recognised by all civil employers and that he will be welcomed into a similar technical trade when he leaves the Army for civil employment.

Further detailed information and application forms may be obtained from the Under Secretary of State for War, The War Office (AG10), London, S.W.1, or from any of these schools.

THE steep rise in the price of wool and other raw materials last autumn is inevitably leading to higher prices for finished garments.

Foreseeing this rise, however, we have placed large orders well in advance for cloth at the old rates, and so long as these stocks last, Suits and Overcoats will be obtainable at 1950 prices.

In our Ready-to-Wear Department the craftsmanship of bespoke tailoring is allied with the economy of modern methods of production; and it is therefore the recognised resort for men who dress well.

Lounge Suits .. £18-10-4 to £29-10-6

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Cashmere Trousers .. £9-10-5

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Black Jacket and Vest £19-4-1

British Warm .. £29-16-9

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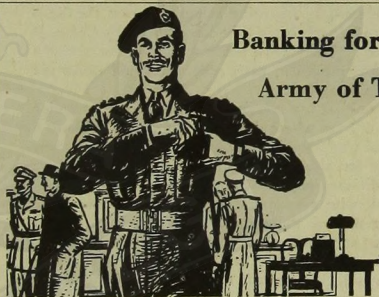
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