

The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. X No. 4

DECEMBER, 1951

PRICE 1/-

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57th and 77th)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.

"Mysore," "Seringapatam," "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," "17, 18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17, 18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," 1916, "18," "Albert, 1918," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fleurs-Corcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancrre Heights," "Ancrre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pilek," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Baillieu," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla," "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murmur, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Regular Battalion.

1st Bn. (Amalgamated with 2nd Bn. 1948).

Militia Battalions.

5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia). } In suspension.
6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia). }
Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.
Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

Territorial Army Battalions.

7th Bn. (1st/7th Bn. and 2/7th Bn. amalgamated after 1930-45)
8th Bn. (Now 11 Para Bn. T.A.). } [War.
9th Bn. (Now 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regt. R.A.). }
(9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.).

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.
102nd (Wentworth) Field Artillery, Royal Canadian Artillery.
The Royal Rifles of Canada.

NEW ZEALAND.

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

HONG KONG REGIMENT.

British Army Post Office, 1, Hong Kong.

Colonel of the Regiment: Colonel M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P.
Officer Commanding Depot: Major G. O. Porter.

Regtl. Agents—Lloyds Bank Limited, Cox's and King's Branch, 6 Pall Mall, S.W.1.

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Colonel's Christmas Message	90	Regimental Museum Notes	114
Editorial	90	7th Battalion Notes	115
From the Colonel's Newsletter	90	2/7th Battalion	116
Opening of Memorial Homes	92	Middlesex Regiment Officers Club	117
1st Battalion Notes	96	Mons Memorial	118
M.C. for Bravery in Korea	106	Obituary	121
Korea in Retrospect	106	Correspondence	122
Depot Notes	113	Canadian Regiments in Korea	125

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 TRIPPLICATE, 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.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to Secretary, Regimental Association, and crossed "— & Co."

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 5/- (Post Free)



Christmas Message

TO ALL RANKS PAST AND PRESENT

BY THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

"A DIE-HARD"

"God, Like Inglis, make of me
A Die-hard brave and true.
Like Picton give me will to see
Each conflict bravely through."

DOROTHY LONGE

These words were written many years ago by the daughter of my first Commanding Officer in the 1st Battalion and I commend them to your notice.

This is the season in which joy and praise fills all hearts, thanking God for the birth of His Son, who gave His life for many, and so we ask God to give us strength to play the part of a Die-Hard.

The nation is passing through grave and anxious times, but we have much to be thankful for at this time.

First and foremost for the honour won for the Regiment during nine months in Korea (August, 1950 to May, 1951). The 1st Battalion has added laurels to our crest. We owe a debt to the leaders, who trained and led our ranks. The low casualties and the victories won are the reward of careful training and the staunch, brave spirit of all ranks.

Secondly, we remember with gratitude the splendid and generous manner in which the citizens of our county supported the Fund raised by the Lord Lieutenant to give comforts to our soldiers serving in the 1st Battalion during the bitter winter of 1950-51, facing the rigours of climate and all the dangers of war. Nearly £5,000 was raised for this purpose and £4,000 was spent.

Thirdly, we thank God and the citizens of Middlesex for their generous support to the appeal launched by the Lord Lieutenant to build homes for our disabled soldiers as a splendid memorial to the courage of the "Die-Hards" who fought in our ranks during six years of war (1939-45) and to be a tribute for all time to those who gave their lives to uphold the honour of their Regiment, and moved onward to victory.

Finally, as always, I look forward to the future with confidence for I know all our members will ever pray that they may be worthy of their name "Die-Hard" and may face all dangers in the same manner as the verse above sets forth for our guidance.

M. BROWNE, Colonel,

Colonel, The Middlesex Regiment
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

EDITORIAL

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

In September we said that the Editorial would in future be cut down to save space. Unlike many promises, this is bound to be fulfilled as the Chief Editor now dons a bowler hat and, armed with an umbrella, joins the morning rush to offices and returns when the rush of ordinary toilers is over. There is, therefore, no time for pondering on platitudes for an Editorial.

* * *

The Regimental History is progressing and, we hope, will see daylight in the New Year. The cost will be 15s., which is a considerable reduction from the original estimate, and orders with cash may be sent to the Secretary, The Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, any time.

* * *

Amongst correspondence we would like to draw attention to the letter from Mrs. Sandell under "Die-Hards' Graves in Japan" and Major Ian Burrow's letter under "Our Memorial."

FLASH - STOP PRESS

The engagement is announced between Major Thomas W. Chattey, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), son of the late Mr. W. H. Chattey and Mrs. Chattey of Mundesley, Norfolk, and Pamela Ann, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Teesdale of California.

FROM THE COLONEL'S NEWSLETTER

Alliance Ceremony

On August 14 a combined ceremonial parade was held to commemorate the first anniversary of the alliance between our Regiment and the Hong Kong Regiment.

Hose Tops

At a recent ceremonial guard-mounting at the Governor's residence the Battalion again wore maroon hose tops for the first time since they were worn before the 1939-45 War, although I expect all ranks wore them up to the loss of Hong Kong.

On August 8 Col. Dowbiggin, Colonel of the Hong Kong Regiment, lunched at the Depot and charmed us with his stories. He knew all our 1st Battalion officers both in Hong Kong during the 1941 War and during their recent return there, 1949-51, and we were able to talk over many old friends and incidents. He was himself a P.O.W. there for four years and must have been a sore trial to his Japanese guards.

On August 14 Lt. Sharpe visited us on his return from Hong Kong. He is suffering from severe eye

trouble and I fear may lose one eye. He had suffered with it before but had recovered. This time the trouble recurred during severe shelling in Korea actions and has caused him to be sent home for treatment.

On August 15 Lt. Cain and I visited 11 of our wounded home from Korea and now in Cambridge Hospital: Ptes. Allchin, Bacon, Chapman, Gaymer, King (Queen's), Marlow, Paternoster, L/Cpl. Simmons (R.W.K.), Pte. Stewart (K.S.L.I.), Cpl. Sutton, L/Cpl. Watkins.

I was glad to find them all cheerful and contented. It is a revelation how these sufferers find now contentment when so many of us in safety at home are full of moans and complaints. Col. Man had visited them previously. All were full of praise for their officers' leadership and care of their men. I am glad to say L/Cpl. Watkins is now on the Depot Staff as Post Corporal.

Lts. Brown and Ramsay returned from the Far East in the *Empire Pride* on August 26 with a small draft of time-expired N.S. soldiers in 1st Middlesex. Lt. Brown is still suffering from his Korea wounds. Lt. Ramsay, in spite of gallantry in action, was unharmed and so is very well. He is to join 7th Middlesex.

I attended the "At Home" and sports meeting of 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A. (9th Middlesex), on July 14 at their Kingsbury Drill Centre. A most enjoyable afternoon, with excellently run sports, which included many amusing events. Local mayors were present. Later in the day an excellent tea was provided. I should mention the enjoyment given by their Regimental Band. They are to play at the Dedication Service of the Cottage Homes on September 15, and I feel sure the music will be a credit to the unit and a joy to the visitors.

Col. Man writes from H.Q., Catterick District, to say he is very busy learning about his command. No doubt the district is learning a good deal about their new A.Q.M.G.

Young 2/Lt. Murray Fox, son of Lt.-Col. Fox, T.D., 9th Middlesex, is now on duty here, so that son follows in his father's footsteps.

I have a letter from Mr. P. J. Hall, dated June 18, an old member of the Regiment, who was serving in R.S.M. Kerswill's time as a brother sergeant in 3rd Middlesex in South Africa, Hong Kong and Singapore. Whilst in the latter station he tells me he was the only member of the Battalion picked to represent the port in the 1910 inter-port rifle shoot, which the port won. He was the only member of the team to use the S.M.L.E. as issued. The others used the long Lee-Enfield rifle with the peep sight and other aids. He was for five years instructor to the 2nd A.I.F. and in charge of musketry. Many of the Division which suffered so seriously in Malaya in the 1939-45 War during the Japanese attack on Malaya in 1941, still, he says, remember their instructor at home as a "Die-Hard." Mr. Hall lives at Windaroo, Loftus Crescent, Holmbush, N.S.W., Australia.

Major Brinley Ayre writes from the Joint Services Staff College to tell me he is to join 1st Middlesex on completion of the course, which should mean about the end of October, I expect.

I am sorry to relate that No. 6205597 C/Sgt. E. B.

Shrager is now in Ward M11 of the Connaught Military Hospital in Hindhead. I heard from home on July 22. He returned to Accra from three months' leave in U.K. on December 9, 1950, and took up post of Chief Clerk to the West African Command and Training School again. He then had three months' very hard work to restore efficiency in the office, but, by April 26, 1951, broke down and was informed he showed signs of pulmonary tuberculosis and was sent home, landing on May 20, to go to the hospital he is now in. My readers will realise the shock to him and his wife, as it has been to me, as before he left again for West Africa he seemed well. Such an illness may well mean the close of what seemed to be a wonderful Army clerical career. However, I am glad to say the medical authorities say he is not a contagious case, nor is he a positive case, and what that means I cannot say. There seems to be a suspicion that the lung shadow is an old scar and, if such be so, the new outbreak can be cleared by November, 1951.

I was glad to regain touch at the Reunion Meeting on June 30 with Col. and Mrs. Moller. The former was at the Regimental M.G.T.C. from the start of the 1939-45 War as a Major.

Later he became a high legal officer in the B.A.O.R., from which he retired quite recently. I trust we shall now see more of him, as he lives in St. John's Wood, N.W.8, and has promised to appear at regimental functions.

No. 6193871 ex-Sgt. G. R. J. Cooper, M.M., has been awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal with four clasps. He can scarcely fit them on the ribbon. This soldier joined 9th Middlesex in 1911 and continued on the active list until the conclusion of the 1939-45 War, in which his final corps was the Royal Pioneer Corps. All previous service belongs to 9th Middlesex.

He gained the Military Medal for gallantry during service in 9th Middlesex in 1918 at the action of the crossing of the River Shargar in Mesopotamia. So he served in both World Wars with distinction. A remarkable record for 34 years.

He is now employed in the solicitors' firm of which Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., is principal. This ex-officer served in 9th Middlesex for many years and volunteered for service in R.A. at Calais, where he was captured and remained a P.O.W. till the war ended. His son served in 1st Middlesex in Korea and has recently returned to service in the 7th Middlesex as a T.A. Volunteer Officer.

Casualties

In a recent Korea casualty list appears the name of 22341624 Pte. R. Newman, attached to 1st K.S.L.I. Several of our men are attached so, and I trust their lives may be spared.

TO OUR READERS

Considerable inconvenience is caused to both the Editor and to the Reader owing to the fact that changes of addresses are not notified at once. If you change your address please let us know and so be sure of receiving your Journal regularly



Lord Latham talking to Mr. S. Saunders, late of the 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment. He is one of the first disabled to occupy one of the houses.

MEMORIAL HOMES FOR "DIE-HARDS" FAMILIES

Middlesex Regiment Disabled Men on a New Estate

Lord Latham of Hendon, Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex, unveiled a memorial plaque at Enfield on Saturday, September 15, when twenty houses built as a memorial to the men of The Middlesex Regiment who fell in the recent war were officially opened. Among the tenants are two veterans of the first World War—Mr. E. W. Killick, from Colindale, and Mr. S. J. Adams, from Finchley—and Mr. N. Williams, from Burnt Oak, who became disabled at Hong Kong in the last war.

A *Hendon and Finchley Times* reporter who visited the tenants on this unique memorial estate, found them all disabled ex-members of The Middlesex Regiment and their families. They occupy twenty houses built at Lavender Hill, Enfield, which were officially opened by Lord Latham and dedicated by the Bishop of London, the Right Rev. J. W. C. Wand.

Among the tenants are some local people. Mr. and Mrs. Williams and their two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Pat, have been at their new home, No. 11, Albuhera Close, for six weeks—and find it "lovely."

In Deansbrook Road, Burnt Oak, the Williams lived in one room. Now they have a centrally-heated five-roomed house, with a refrigerator, a range, and "room to move."

Mr. Williams, who is 34, was a Middlesex regular soldier for 12 years. For three and a half years he was a prisoner in Hong Kong. He became disabled in the battle to take the city.

But service as a Private with the "Die-Hards" had its better moments, and when Mr. Williams wants to "come the old soldier" and reminisce about the old days, he will not have far to go to find an audience. Neighbours of his in Lavender Hill are his two friends, Mr. Edward Collier and Mr. Leslie Landell. The three men were "squaddies" together in Hong Kong with the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.

"It was a good start moving in here and finding ready-made friends," said Mrs. Williams. "We were delighted when we heard about moving. We had nearly despaired of finding a place."

The Williamses met at a dance. Mrs. Williams was a Mill Hill girl from Manor Close. Mr. Williams is now working at a Kentish Town factory. He was born in Camden Town, but is well known in Burnt Oak as a Milling Road resident. He used to work as a civilian batman at Bentley Priory, Stanmore.

Mr. Williams is not the only soldier in his family.



General view of the ceremony in front of the new houses.

A brother was also a Middlesex Regiment prisoner of war, and the youngest of the Williams boys is following tradition. He, too, has joined the county regiment and is at present serving with the Middlesex contingent in Korea.

Across the way from the Williamses in Albuhera Close, busily settling in at No. 14, our reporter found 61-year-old Mr. E. W. Killick, a former Middlesex Sergeant in France, Belgium and Germany, who has lived for the past thirteen years in Hillfield Avenue, Colindale. He first joined the "Die-Hards" in 1910 and served in the 1914-18 war, being wounded in 1917. He rejoined in 1939 and served for a further five years. He and his wife lived at Finchley before they moved to Colindale.

Mr. and Mrs. Killick have a family of four daughters—they lost their only son in Holland, while he was serving in the R.A.F. Mr. Killick was an engineer's machinist at the Power Equipment Co., Kingsbury Road, Kingsbury.

His comment on his new home: "You have probably heard this already, but we think the places are wonderful." And Mrs. Killick echoed the sentiment. "Very wonderful," she said.

Three more people who have only good to say of the war memorial homes are 50-year-old Mr. Samuel John Adams, his wife and their fifteen-year-old daughter, Evelyn.

Evelyn, who went to Manorside Secondary School, Finchley, has just finished her first week as a shorthand-typist in the City. Her father, who was wounded in

the left leg at Ypres, is soon starting a new job as a lift attendant. The Adams family moved to Albuhera Close from Lichfield Grove, Finchley, a week ago.

"We are just about straight now," said Mrs. Adams. "The home is all that we had longed for. I think it is going to run itself more or less."

Said her husband, who was a 14th Battalion Middlesex Private in France for four years in the first World War: "Our big treat is having our own front door after all this time."

The Williams, Killick and Adams families are typical of the tenants of the new three-bedroomed houses. Husbands are very pleased with their garden spaces—some have already started work on them—and wives are delighted with their kitchenettes.

Each house is equipped with a refrigerator, given anonymously. The nominal rent is 5s. a week, but the tenants have agreed to pay 25s. a week, to cover rent, rates, gas and electric light. Members of the Knights of St. George have volunteered to tend the gardens of the badly disabled.

This practical form of war memorial is the result of an appeal launched by Lord Latham and Col. Maurice Browne, Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment, together with the Mayors and chairmen of the 26 borough and urban districts in the county. Chairman of the War Memorial Committee is Col. Gerald Beach, who, after 50 years with the Regiment, has just been compulsorily retired on reaching the age of seventy.



The
MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
WAR MEMORIAL
ORDER OF SERVICE

for the
Dedication and Opening Ceremony
of the Twenty Memorial Cottages
Albuhera Close, Lavender Hill, Enfield, Middx.

September 15th, 1951

DEDICATION: The Right Reverend The Lord Bishop of London

OPENING CEREMONY: The Rt. Hon. Lord Latham, J.P.
Lord Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex

Order of Service

1 The Regimental March will be played after the Lord Bishop of London has taken his place on the Platform, and as the Lord Lieutenant approaches from entrance to Cottage site.

2 Lord Latham, the Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex, will address the Lord Bishop of London as follows:—

“ My Lord Bishop, I ask you to dedicate to the Glory of God these Cottage Homes in proud memory of All Ranks of the Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) who gave their lives in the War 1939-45, and as a tribute to the Regiment for their share in the ultimate victory.”

3 The Lord Bishop will then dedicate the Cottages in Albuhera Close.

4 After the dedication, the following prayers for the Regiment will be read by the Chaplain:—

Prayer (A) “ Remember, O Lord, Thy Servants, who have laid down their lives for their Country and for their friends, especially those of our County Regiment, who counted not the price of their sacrifice even unto death. In that place of light whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished give them rest O Lord, Thou lover of men, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Prayer (B) “ O God of Hosts, be pleased in Thy mercy to protect and strengthen the Middlesex Regiment whatever dangers may confront the ‘ Die-Hards.’ Make their Commanders of All Ranks firm and clear-sighted, the men loyal and brave, that in conflict valour may abound, and when the strife is past virtue may be theirs—all this we ask for Christ, the Prince of Peace, His sake.”

5 Address by the Lord Bishop.

6 Hymn: “ O Valiant Hearts.”

7 God Save the King.

8 Blessing by the Lord Bishop.

9 Address and Unveiling of Plaque by Lord Lieutenant.

10 Address of thanks by the Colonel of the Regiment.

1st Battalion NOTES

EDITORIAL

Drum-head Service

On August 26 a Drum-head Service was held in memory of those of this Battalion who fell in Korea. A printed order of service was used in which, for the first time, appeared the full Roll of Honour. This is reproduced below.

The Service was conducted by the Rev. H. Penhallurick, M.A., D.A.C.G., who, in his sermon, spoke of our intense regimental pride in these men and the example set by them to those who may come after.

In the words of the Padre: "On this Sunday morning we remember them with thanksgiving, pray for those upon whom the burden of grief lies heavy and dedicate ourselves anew to do our duty that we shall keep faith with those who died."

General

The past quarter found the Battalion still firmly entrenched in San Wai Camp with, according to my diary, two highlights. The first, the Drum-head Service, is described above. The second was the celebration of the first anniversary of the alliance between ourselves and the Hong Kong Regiment. On August 14 the officers of both Regiments held a reception. This was attended by His Excellency The Governor, the Service Chiefs and many prominent civilians. It was a most pleasant occasion marred only by the rain which prevented the Beating of Retreat by the Band and Corps of Drums.

The Sergeants' Mess also combined with their counterparts. A full description is given in their notes.

Training and the normal hill-climbing contests continue. Our present forte is a Battalion demonstration to the Pre-Staff College students in the Colony. This is, to a certain extent, theoretical as our present numbers will not run to the Warminster level.

The reader will see mention of the Royal Norfolk drafts in the Company notes. These young men, having done their basic training at home, are attached to us for some three months. They are given further training and such experience of local conditions as will fit them to join the Battalion in Korea. They are extremely keen and only too anxious to see some active service.

On September 14, 2/Lt. P. B. Laurence and Cpl. Da Costa were among those representing the Army in

the Colony Inter-Services Shooting Competition. They are to be congratulated on their efforts and have tangible proof of their success.

Many officers and O.R.s have left us in the past few weeks. In particular, however, I must not close without mention of Major A. S. J. de S. Clayton. He was summoned at very short notice and all ranks will wish him the best of good fortune in his promotion and new appointment.

ROLL OF HONOUR

KILLED IN ACTION AND DIED OF WOUNDS

Sgt. D. Hummerstone.	Cpl. J. Pentony.
Pte. R. Streeter.	Pte. K. Tredgett.
Pte. F. Hayfield.	Pte. D. Russell.
Pte. W. West.	Pte. B. Bristow.
Pte. J. Sharpe (South Staffords).	Pte. R. Botten.
Pte. C. Collier.	Pte. D. Page.
Pte. A. Ireland (K.S.L.I.).	Pte. G. Elson (Glosters).
Pte. R. Bennett.	Pte. G. Minton.
Pte. D. Pitt (K.S.L.I.).	Cpl. R. Pegg.
Pte. G. Harris.	Cpl. T. Amos.
L/Cpl. G. Innes (Glosters).	Pte. J. Oates (K.S.L.I.).
Pte. W. Freakley.	Pte. W. Carroll.
Pte. W. Heath (South Staffords).	L/Cpl. R. Stanford.

MISSING (BELIEVED P.S.O.W.)

Pte. A. Maile. Cpl. R. Weaver.

WOUNDED .. 94 All Ranks.

TOTAL CASUALTIES .. 127 All Ranks.

1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) ROLL OF OFFICERS

Appointment	August, 1950	May, 1951
C.O. ..	Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E.	Lt. Col. R. A. Gwyn.
2 IC ..	Major R. A. Gwyn.	Major J. E. F. Willoughby.
Adjutant ..	Capt. K. J. Carter.	Capt. K. J. Carter.
Asst/Adjutant ..	Lt. J. S. C. Flavell.	Lt. J. S. C. Flavell.
R.M.O. ..	Lt. S. Boydell (R.A.M.C.).	Lt. F. B. Buckley (R.A.M.C.).
Chaplain ..	Fr. T. Quinlan (R.A.Ch.D.).	Fr. T. Quinlan (R.A.Ch.D.).
I.O. ..	2/Lt. J. C. Bucknall.	2/Lt. B. H. Marciandi.
O.C. "H.Q." Coy. ..	Major A. S. J. de S. Clayton.	Major A. S. J. de S. Clayton.
Q.M. ..	Capt. (Q.M.) C. A. Trestain, M.B.E.	Capt. (Q.M.) C. A. Trestain, M.B.E.
M.M.G. Officer ..	2/Lt. G. G. Norton.	2/Lt. G. G. Norton.
Mortar Officer ..	Lt. P. R. Bosworth.	Capt. H. J. A. Moore.
Signals Officer ..	Capt. H. J. A. Moore.	Lt. H. J. Evans.
M.T.O. ..	2/Lt. E. B. Thomas.	Lt. J. A. Swarbrick.
O.C. "A" Coy. ..	Major D. B. Rendell, M.B.E., M.C.	Major R. K. Dowse.
2 IC ..	Capt. R. A. Hodge.	Capt. C. N. Clayden.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. J. M. Lock (R.A.O.C.).	2/Lt. S. H. Fothergill.

Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. B. H. Marciandi.	2/Lt. P. A. S. Wollocombe.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. S. Fothergill.	2/Lt. I. S. Rutherford.
O.C. "B" Coy. ..	Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C.	Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C.
2 IC ..	Capt. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	Lt. J. S. C. Flavell.
Platoon Comd. ..	Lt. G. Sander.	Lt. G. Kitchener.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. G. Kitchener.	2/Lt. C. L. Lawrence, M.C.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. C. L. Lawrence.	Lt. W. I. Kyle-Milward.
O.C. "C" Coy. ..	Major B. K. Favelle.	Major R. C. H. Bellers.
2 IC ..	Capt. J. B. Matthews.	Capt. J. B. Matthews.
Platoon Comd. ..	Lt. D. R. Bishop.	Lt. D. R. Bishop.
Platoon Comd. ..	Lt. J. H. S. Burgess.	2/Lt. A. R. K. Hardcastle.
Platoon Comd. ..	Lt. L. C. Sharpe.	Lt. L. C. Sharpe.
O.C. "D" Coy. ..	Major J. E. F. Willoughby.	Major D. C. L. Nolda.
2 IC ..	Capt. R. K. Dowse.	Capt. R. A. Hodge.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. E. G. C. Sobey (R.A.O.C.).	Lt. R. M. Lang.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. G. A. White (R.A.O.C.).	2/Lt. A. W. Ramsay.
Platoon Comd. ..	2/Lt. P. A. S. Wollocombe.	2/Lt. B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.

The following officers served with the Battalion for part of the time in Korea:

2/Lt. E. W. Martin, "C" Company ..	Died of Wounds.
2/Lt. J. A. Brown, "B" Company ..	Wounded.

KOREA AWARDS

Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, O.B.E. ..	D.S.O.
2/Lt. C. L. Lawrence ..	M.C.
2/Lt. G. St. G. A. Reed ..	M.C.
Pte. L. Cobby ..	M.M.
2/Lt. G. A. White ..	U.S. Silver Star.
Major R. A. Gwyn ..	U.S. Bronze Star.
Sgt. D. Hummerstone ..	U.S. Bronze Star.
Lt. G. Sander ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Sgt. E. Bermingham ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
L/Cpl. L. Mead ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Cpl. J. Field ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Dmr. G. Matthews ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Cpl. J. Pentony ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Capt. K. J. Carter ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
Pte. J. Loftis ..	Mentioned in Despatches.
C.S.M. T. McMillan ..	C-in-C's Certificate.

Corps Reserve, March 12-25, 1951

The last notes left the Battalion being relieved by an infantry battalion from 1 Cavalry Division in the general area of Hongchun. The relief was completed speedily and without hitch, despite the American's dismay at not being able to approach the Argyll's positions by jeep—as these were at a height of some 3,000 ft. above sea-level, even American doggedness and inventiveness had to acknowledge defeat and fall back to feet and climb.

It was a halcyon day, the air like cold wine and the sky impenetrably blue, but one missed the smell of the pines. The Battalion climbed into the now empty American transport and was bowled along at tremendous speed to a village north of Chipyeong-Ni, the scene of the start of the operations some six weeks previous, where the French Battalion had heroically withstood all attempts to annihilate it.

The 27 Infantry Brigade was now in corps reserve and the area for its concentration was, once again, a river bed which was only dry in some parts. The Battalion, however, was fortunate in the previous day's reece and had secured a large village into which went Battalion Headquarters and "B" Company, while the remainder of the Battalion bivouacked in dry paddy fields, which were infinitely preferable to the stony bed of the river. Later, the less fortunate were heard to

grumble and talk of nepotism on the grounds that Aymar Clayton was acting D.A.A. and Q.M.G. and in charge of the reece parties on the previous day!

Now followed days of essential maintenance and training. "A" Echelon joined the Battalion and the sorely-tried and much-overworked vehicles at last had the opportunity to mend some of the havoc that Korean roads had wrought over the last six months. Weapons were zeroed and TEWTs were organised for the Junior N.C.O.s. On the surface the atmosphere was one of a training camp and, as each successive day brought the news that the Chinese were still falling back, it was not to be wondered that hopes resurged that perhaps the 38th Parallel would see an end of the fighting.

It was at this time that two war correspondents, Stephen Barber and William Courtney, paid one of their many visits to the Battalion. Dissimilar in every way, they nevertheless both predicted a military stalemate along the 38th Parallel, and said that the betting was "evens" that the Brigade would not be committed to battle again as it was evident that they would shortly be sent home.

The question of relief was one which had touched and sorely tried the Battalion on two previous occasions, when it was bitterly disappointed on the eve of its scheduled departure—fate was yet to play its scurvy trick a third time—and there was no more controversial subject in the Brigade. It is understandable, therefore, that rumour, the spice of the soldier's life, was ever about and that the most innocent of facts were distorted, grew apace, became typhonic and then blew themselves out only to be replaced by some equally fantastic rumour. Perhaps the best rumour of the day was the one which was reported to have started in the Army Post Office to the effect that all surface mail to the Brigade was being diverted at Singapore and that the Brigade would therefore be back in Hong Kong within the fortnight. Many bets were taken and lost as the result of the wild speculation that followed.

The days of corps reserve were fast running out but it was not until the Battalion tempted fate, by setting out a running track, that it got orders to move again.

It was while the Battalion was in corps reserve that it heard that Col. Man was to relinquish command on the grounds of ill health and that he was to be replaced by a Colonel of the Warwicks. This was a blow, particularly as regards the choice of his relief, who, unfortunately, was ignorant of the ways of the Regiment and who had not had the experience of battle conditions in Korea. At about this time it was also learned that Basil Coad was to relinquish command of the Brigade. Here was a loss not only to the Brigade but to the whole of the United Nations of an exceptional commander and a wise counsellor.

Now ended a fortnight of rest, richly deserved and most needed. The Battalion had not wasted a moment of this precious time and it was ready to face the future with confidence.

Operation "Rugged," March 25 to April 17

The 27 Brigade was placed under command of 24 Division and ordered to move up to the general area of

Taerori-Ri, in the valley of the Chujong-Chon, a tributary of the Pukhan Gang.

It was Easter Sunday and the weather, which had been cold but dry, broke with the dawn and torrential rain followed throughout the day. Col. Man had arrived the day before to hand over the Battalion to Major Gwyn. It was a sad farewell.

The approach march was some 30 miles and although much of the road was fair it was not until after midnight that the Battalion reached its concentration area, with not a single vehicle casualty.

The Chinese Communist Forces were still withdrawing towards the Parallel, but the withdrawal continued to be well planned and was in no way a rout. Rearguards and mines were excellently sited and demanded the searching of every piece of ground, particularly the heights.

This was something entirely new to the Eighth Army and must have caused American infantry extreme discomfort as previously they had been accustomed to motoring into battle. Now the advance was not along the valleys but the ridge lines which ran on either side and which varied in height from 400 to 3,000 ft. Apart from the tactical considerations of committing small independent forces to work along the heights—although a battalion was given a single axis the nature of the heights was such that inevitably companies had to be launched independently—the administrative problems of maintaining these forces was considerable. There was water and rations and reserve ammunition (the Chinese were still capable of mounting battalion-sized counter-attacks in order to lessen pressure and give them more time to adjust their lines) and sleeping bags to be thought about. These were essential items required each night and, as it was, the soldier was heavily burdened and greatly hampered by his heavy clothing, weapons, tools and rations for 24 hours. As approach marches varied from 1,000 to 6,000 yards the soldier could not carry a single unnecessary item if he was to arrive at his objective fit to fight.

The answer, of course, was porters and, fortunately, Korea was able to provide a ready means of labour. Everywhere there were to be found peasants who had been forced to leave their homes and who were now destitute and starving. These were formed into a labour corps and parcelled out to battalions who took them on their strength and fed and paid them according to regulations which the Army drew up. The porters came under the command of the 2IC, who either controlled them centrally or apportioned them to companies. At first the "A" frame, the Korean equivalent of the Everest pack, was considered essential for carrying purposes, but later it was found that used machine-gun belts, ropes of plaited straw and discarded wireless cable served equally well. A great bonhomie developed and companies vied with each other to ensure that their complement was better fed and accommodated than the others. In return the porters were always cheerful and performed herculean tasks without murmur, encouraged by calls of "Idiwa and Bally Bally" from their soldier guides. Without the porters, the ensuing operations would not have been nearly so successful, while casualties would undoubtedly have been much higher.

The task that lay in front of the Brigade was to open up the valley of the Chojong-Chon, while two regimental combat teams of 24 Division were to do the same on the left and the right. The operation was to start on March 28 with three battalions up, 1st Middlesex being on the left. The previous morning the C.O. held his Order Group in a forward American Company locality, where some of the ground that had to be covered could be seen. The plan consisted of moving two companies simultaneously along parallel ridges of high ground and then leap-frogging the reserve companies through. "D" was to lead on the left and "C" on the right. A preparatory patrol by "D" Company was carried out successfully that evening, which reported clear the Battalion's first objective of the morrow. The Battalion then moved up just behind the American forward defended localities and bivouacked for the night, having taken the precaution to provide outposts. This was an excellent move and ensured an early start the next morning, the first essential in operations which were to cover much ground.

March 28 dawned clear and bright and "D" Company swung down the road preparatory to taking to the high ground. Before long they passed the curious sight of a stake stuck in the road, surmounted by a white Chinese glove. This indicated a box mine which Christopher Lawrence had unearthed the day before and marked in this macabre method. "D" Company was soon on its objective, without opposition, and took one prisoner and a 60 mm. mortar. Soon after "C" Company reported its objective clear and by the afternoon the Battalion was established on its final objectives and began to dig in for the night.

The following morning the Australians passed through and 1st Middlesex was ordered to concentrate in a village some 2,000 yards farther north. While this move was taking place the Australians bumped into a fairly strong Chinese rearguard and that evening asked for assistance. "C" Company was sent forward and came under their command, being mortared as they got into position. The Australians often found it necessary to ask for this kind of assistance, a direct result of their aggressiveness, which often allowed them to become too spread out at the end of a day's operations.

The next day, March 30, 1 A. and S.H., who had passed through the previous day, were well established on the left flank of the Australians. "C" Company was ordered forward and came under intermittent M.M.G. and mortar fire, which was later silenced by our guns, while "A" Company patrolled the valley. It became evident that resistance was hardening and this was later confirmed by an escaped R.O.K. prisoner-of-war, who reported some 1,000 enemy on the high ground at the top of the valley. The Brigadier decided to finish this phase of the operation by a wide outflanking movement with 1st Middlesex to capture the vital ground, point 1036 (3,200 ft.). This was an enterprising operation, to say the least, as it meant an approach march on foot of 11,000 yards over the most formidable country.

At 1600 hrs. that day the C.O. held his order group below "C" Company's locality. The plan was that the following morning the Battalion, less "C" Com-

pany, would move through the Argyll's positions early next morning. This plan had to be subsequently changed as the Argylls reported that the proposed route was extremely treacherous and at the most would only take two Companies. Plans were accordingly changed.

The next morning, March 31, "C" Company patrolled forward at first light but met heavy fire. As it appeared that the battle might develop in the valley as well as on the heights, the C.O. decided to move his tactical headquarters along the valley; this necessitated "A" Company and the M.M.G. Platoon being placed under command of "D" Company.

Because of the distance of the approach O.C. "D" Company had decided the previous evening that it would be necessary to include porters in an improvised "F" Echelon if his men were to be in any shape to conduct an attack at the end of their long approach march. Accordingly 30 porters were allotted for the carrying of digging implements, stretchers and all personal encumbrances of the machine gunners. This enabled the men to move moderately light and proved highly successful.

"D" Company set off to an early start. At first the going was easy as the road climbed imperceptibly along the valley, but soon climbing began in real earnest and by mid-day the forward Company of the Argylls was reached at point 850. Thereafter the approach was easier, but still slow, as the advance was now along a razor back with precipitous drops on either side. There was an ill-defined track along which the whole body moved in single file, as there was no room for more than one abreast.

By mid-afternoon "D" Company reached a ridge which ran out on the left of the spine at right angles to the objective which was some 800 yards away. Here a pause was made while the ground was studied. The objective, which had been given the name of "Oak," looked most formidable and consisted of a black craggy peak which surmounted a long spiny ridge some 1,500 yards long—the approach was more spine like and formidable than ever and it was obvious that any attack which would have to be made must be on a one-man front, and that therefore there must be a preponderance of fire support. Accordingly, the M.M.G. platoon was brought to the intermediate ridge. While this was in process, much movement was seen on "Oak," including its reinforcement by a whole Platoon. With the M.M.G. Platoon in position, "D" Company once again edged forward and got to within 300 yards of its objective unseen. Here it attempted to deploy but without success, owing to the nature of the ground. The leading sections opened fire with their Bren guns and were immediately answered by a hail of bullets from light automatics and one heavier calibre gun from both exposed flanks. It was now quite obvious that "Oak" was held in force and as dusk was fast approaching, the C.O. ordered "D" Company to withdraw and stabilise for the night. This was done without hitch in the area of the ridge where the M.M.G. Platoon had been left.

The C.O. now decided to intensify the fire support on "Oak" at first light next morning with an air strike. This was 100 per cent. successful and was rapidly followed up by a Platoon from "D" Company, who occupied "Oak" at 0700 hrs. The Chinese had fled

and had left two of their dead behind, a most unusual occurrence.

"Oak" having been occupied, the first phase of operation "Rugged" was concluded. For its next phase, 24 Division was to be switched from 9 Corps to 1 Corps; this entailed a side step to the East by 27 Brigade in order to bring 21 R.C.T. back into 24 Division.

The Brigade side-step, inexplicable to the rank and file, but nevertheless necessary to the General Staff, placed the Battalion in a valley parallel to the one it had just cleared with an exactly similar task—it had to be cleared—even the code names showed the same flora similarity, with the exception that the former "Oaks" and "Birches" now became "Daisies" and "Snow-drops."

On April 3, 27 Brigade, with 1st Middlesex leading, set out to clear the valley of the Kapyong Chow. Lt.-Col. Nicholson was in command and by mid-afternoon the Battalion was safely on all its objectives without opposition.

Once again the Australians passed through and once again they met trouble almost immediately. There ever seemed to be a guardian angel who zealously protected the lives and guided the destiny of the "Die-Hards," without the same apparent care for the Australians.

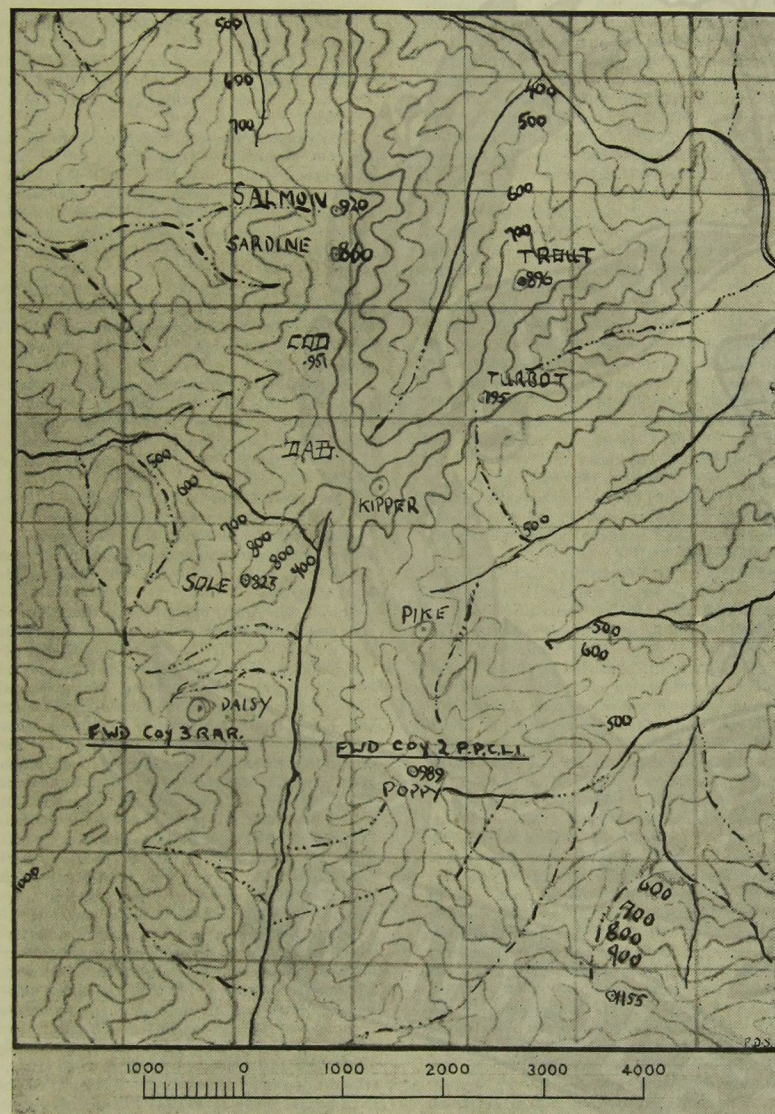
The next morning the Argylls passed through the Australians and before long became entangled in the old Korean minefields about the 38th parallel. They suffered moderate casualties, and eventually were withdrawn until the limits of the minefields could be got from Corps.

During the Argyll operations the Battalion was concentrated in the village of Kawami-ni, once again alongside a river bed. It was while here that a persistent rumour grew and refused to be dislodged that at long last 27 Brigade was to be relieved. Some two days later despite every precaution, it became apparent that rumour was in fact truth, and most of the routine plan of the relief was common talk among the rank and file. The public announcement of the relief in the Press was a gross psychological error, for no soldier likes to know that there is yet one more battle between him and safety.

The final clearing of the valley was to fall to 1st Middlesex. Elaborate plans were drawn up and everything was ready but was held up as the formations on both flanks were not nearly in line with 27 Brigade; in particular there was a nasty gap between the Argylls and 6 R.O.K. Division who were on the left.

After a wait of four days Corps announced that D-Day would be April 11, and accordingly the Battalion moved up as far as it could go in order to get an early start. There were four main objectives which had to be taken, considerably apart and stretching over an area of 2,000 x 500 yards and varying in height from 1,000 feet to 2,000 feet, while the approach march was initially 3,000 yards. Having exhausted the flora of all known countries the Staff now plunged into "Pisces" and objectives were named "Sole," "Dab," "Kipper," "Cod" and "Salmon." Col. Nicholson's original plan was to assault from the left with two Companies, capture "Dab" and "Kipper," and then leap-frog the re-

OPERATION "FISH"



Scale in yards

Heights in metres

maining Companies through to "Cod" and "Salmon." Intelligence reports still indicated a general withdrawal although large numbers of enemy had been seen digging in on "Dab" and "Kipper."

The evening of April 10 found the Battalion assembled far up the valley some few hundred yards short of the Australian and Canadian forward defended localities. Whereas the valley had started by being fairly broad and reasonably served by a winding road (in any other country it would have been called a track) it had now become so narrow that it was with the greatest difficulty that room was found for the Battalion to spread out while the road track had long petered out.

Reveille next morning was at 0400 hrs. and those who were lucky and had the stomach for it consumed crackers and cold beans. At first light "D" Company, with a section of machine guns, moved off, followed by "A" Company. Once again porters were included in the fighting echelon of "D" Company under the C.S.M.

The Australians had very kindly sent down some guides the previous evening and, led by a stalwart backwoodsman called Finch (later wounded), "D" Company began to climb from the valley to "A" Company, 3 R.A.R., some 2,000 feet above. The going was rough and very steep and before long the first snowflakes began to melt on upturned faces as the ascent became steeper and steeper.

By 0800 hrs. "D" Company had reached the Australians, but by this time visibility was extremely poor and as events subsequently proved was to worsen. The flakes of snow were now freezing hard and progress became more and more difficult, particularly for those who were carrying heavy loads like the machine gunners. Spirits, however, remained high and slowly but surely No. 11 Platoon reached its jumping off place to take the Companies' immediate objective, "Sole." Meanwhile No. 10 Platoon and the machine guns side-stepped to a ridge which ran at right angles to the objective. Here visibility was so poor that the Vickers guns had to be directed on to their targets by compass. The New Zealanders put down a regimental concentration, while No. 10 Platoon and the machine guns fired into the mist with shattering noise. Despite the conditions the fire support was excellent, and evidently took the Chinese completely by surprise—they fled, firing their rifles rather ineffectively, and No. 11 Platoon was on "Sole."

It was now mid-day and No. 12 Platoon took the lead. Visibility had now decreased to about five yards and the snow showed no signs of abating. It became necessary to advance by compass. No. 12 Platoon mistook the way and turned off on to a subsidiary ridge which nearly led them into a fire fight with the Canadians but all was well and they were eventually returned to the fold by Very light.

The advance continued and by 1430 hrs. the leading Platoon of "D" Company reported that it was just below "Dab," but that because of the visibility the objective could not be seen. Notwithstanding, the Platoon rushed up what was nothing less than a slippery crag along a track which could only take one man at a time. They were soon greeted with heavy automatic fire and decided to withdraw.

It now became apparent that "Dab" would have to

be fought for and accordingly the 4.2 Mortars and the Artillery put down a heavy concentration and No. 10 Platoon once more went into the attack. This time they got to within 50 yards of the summit, when they were met with heavy automatic fire from "Dab" and "Kipper" and mortar fire from "Cod." At this point the track disappeared and it looked as though this approach to the objective was masked by a rocky causeway (later this proved to be correct), which was accurately covered by fixed line fire. As there was absolutely no room for manoeuvre O.C. "D" Company reported that any further attempt to take "Dab" from this flank would be of no avail and would only succeed in the unnecessary sacrifice of life.

Accordingly "D" Company was ordered to dig in for the night, which they did. Contrary to every expectation a quiet night followed, despite the betting that the Chinese would counter attack. Although the weather had greatly hampered the operation during the day it provided a safeguard that night, for "D" Company, strung out along a razor back like so many beads on a string, was in a very unhealthy position.

During the night the C.O. decided to make another attempt on "Dab" from the right flank, with "C" Company, after putting in an air strike. This necessitated "D" Company withdrawing during the early hours of darkness, some 300 yards to the area where "A" Company was positioned.

Early on the morning of April 12 "C" Company, followed by "B," moved off up to the bend of the valley. By 1045 hrs. "C" occupied "Kipper" unopposed, where they prepared for the assault on "Dab." The air strike which had been arranged did not materialise and eventually after an artillery and 4.2 barrage "C" Company went into the attack with two platoons; No. 9 Platoon was on the left and No. 7 Platoon on the right, and once again the ground was extremely bad and greatly limited both visibility and manoeuvrability. Despite the most strenuous and determined efforts neither Platoon was able to reach "Dab," which was still strongly held. For the remainder of that day "Dab" was subjected to every kind of fire to which the Chinese replied, but fortunately there was only one casualty, in "A" Company.

Next morning, at 0630 hrs., a patrol from "D" Company found "Dab" unoccupied. It was a mystery why the Chinese ever decided to abandon it for it was very strongly entrenched with deep and heavily timbered bunkers which were capable of withstanding direct hits.

With "Dab" in our hands, "A" Company was ordered to take "Cod," which was previously attacked most successfully from the air. The attack on "Cod" by "A" Company was a model of fire and movement. Two platoons led off, No. 1 Platoon on the left and No. 2 Platoon on the right. "Cod," unlike its sisters "Dab" and "Kipper," was dome-shaped and much longer. The ground, however, was extremely bad and steep, but nevertheless full advantage was taken of the opportunity to deploy properly. This manoeuvre was assisted by the machine guns, which remained on the ridge behind "Dab," and together with four American 40-calibre guns (which belonged to an American Infantry

Company waiting to go through "Cod" and continue the assault on the left flank) provided a curtain of fire which was stupendous. To make doubly sure the Company Commander had got hold of a recoilless gun, also from the American Infantry Company, with which he plastered the entrenchments on the very top of "Cod" from where the Chinese were attempting to break up the attack. Incidentally, the recoilless gun is a first-rate infantry weapon and should be given a place in our Support Companies; "D" Company, who were later to face one during the early days of the Chinese spring offensive, can vouch for its accuracy and deadliness. In the face of this fire and the resolute advance of "A" Company the Chinese once again abandoned excellently prepared positions and "Cod" was captured at 1115 hrs.

This was a good omen, particularly after the hold-up of the previous two days. "B" Company were now ordered to move forward and capture "Sardine." This was an intermediate objective between "Cod" and "Salmon," which was neatly interposed by the Staff on representation by the C.O. that the Battalion was getting far too stretched.

Arrangements were made for an air strike on "Sardine," but once again they miscarried. This, together with some difficulties which arose over gunner assistance, greatly delayed the move of "B" Company, which did not leave "Cod" until 1600 hrs.

At 1900 hrs. the leading elements were fired on from "Sardine" (one killed) and O.C. "B" Company planned an attack with two platoons. Darkness was rapidly approaching and it was most undesirable that "B" Company should be left exposed during the night, not dug in and out of touch with the remainder of the Battalion. Accordingly, although by 2000 hrs. the leading platoon had reached the outer defences of "Sardine," it was decided to call off the attack and "B" Company withdrew to an intermediate position for the night.

During the night April 13-14, the enemy infiltrated between "A" and "B" Companies. They underestimated the time, however, and did not attack until light. As on a previous occasion, the weight of the attack fell on No. 3 Platoon, but was easily beaten off. The enemy lost 20 killed to 1 killed in "B" Company and 1 wounded in "A" Company.

Although this attack was easily beaten off, the enemy remained resolute in isolated positions between the two Companies and it was necessary to hunt them out. This task fell to Ralph Brown, who had joined the Battalion a few days before, and by 1500 hrs. he had cleared the area with his platoon, showing great dash and killing ten Chinese.

The next morning, April 15, "C" Company, who was in reserve, was ordered up to take "Sardine." At 1130 hrs. the leading platoon, Ted Martin, had reached the top of "Sardine," despite stiff opposition, which was being continued from the reverse slope. It was at this stage that the medium artillery, which should have lifted on to the next objective, inadvertently shelled "Sardine." Martin, who was in the act of throwing a grenade, was seriously wounded and Sharpe, in the follow-up platoon, had a near miss which produced a

temporary concussion. The first salvo was followed by a second and both platoons, which were now leaderless, began to withdraw in order to reorganise for a further assault.

By now time was getting on and the Brigadier, who had been holding the Australians ready to move through "Sardine" to "Salmon," decided to push them right through without further delay. "Sardine" fell at 1615 hrs. that night after heavy fighting and "Salmon" was taken unopposed the following morning.

So ended operation "Rugged" and on April 17 the Brigade was relieved in the line by a Regimental Combat Team from 6 R.O.K. Division.

Lull before Storm

Once again 27 Brigade moved into Corps reserve. This time the area was a large chestnut grove with plenty of room for everybody.

Arrangements for the relief of the Brigade by 28 Brigade from Hong Kong (1st K.S.L.I. and 1st K.O.S.B.) were complete and it really looked as though this time the plan would materialise. As the relief Battalions were coming from Hong Kong and as it was imperative that neither 8th Army nor the forces in the New Territories should be unduly handicapped, it had been agreed that the relief would be carried out by one Battalion at a time—the K.O.S.B. were to be the first to leave Hong Kong and they would relieve the Argylls, who would return to Hong Kong and relieve the K.S.L.I. who would finally release 1st Middlesex. It had also been accepted that during the relief the Brigade in Korea need only comprise three Battalions and not four which was its proper complement.

The weather was perfect, long sunny days with cold, dry nights, but the Battalion was not able to relax as its orders were to be operational to the last minute.

The war news continued to be good, with the Chinese withdrawing on all fronts, but, nevertheless, intelligence reports indicated an ever-increasing build-up some few miles north of the battle line and warned that the long-expected spring offensive was imminent. One amusing report contained a first-hand description of the training by the Chinese of large numbers of grenade-carrying gorillas, who were to spearhead the attack and throw horror and confusion among the ranks of the United Nations!

Early morning, April 23, brought a report from Brigade that 6 R.O.K. Division had withdrawn 10,000 yards the previous night. The news was particularly galling as it meant that ground which the Brigade had taken many days to capture had been given up in the matter of a few hours.

It was immediately evident that the long-awaited offensive was under way, and the Brigade was alerted to instant readiness. At the same time transport was rushed off to Inchon to hasten the arrival of 1st K.O.S.B., who had arrived in the early hours of the morning.

During the precipitated retreat of 6 R.O.K., the New Zealand gunners who had been left behind to support them were nearly overrun, and it was only with greatest of difficulty that the guns were got out. The Field Regiment had moved back to an area just south of the

vital road junction at Sobom-ni and 1st Middlesex was ordered to take up positions to cover the guns and the roads.

These orders were soon countermanded by Corps, who required the New Zealanders to move forward again to the support of 6 R.O.K., who promised that their line was stabilising. Accordingly, 1st Middlesex dashed forward again to the village of Kwanani-ni and took up commanding positions on the high ground to the right and left to protect the guns.

On the way up it was evident that all was not well with 6 R.O.K., the narrow road became more and more clogged with stragglers and the Regimental Headquarters led by its Commander was seen beating a quick retreat.

By evening the situation was deteriorating rapidly; the guns were firing at greatly reduced ranges; the stragglers by the hundreds were pouring back with the air reporting that they were being closely followed by the enemy.

The position by now had become most alarming as reports were also received that there was a general withdrawal down the main valley to the north-east of Kwanani-ni, which, if followed up rapidly, was capable of cutting off 1st Middlesex and the New Zealand Field Regiment.

The Brigadier decided to withdraw this tiny force and meantime deploy the Australians and Canadians to cover the vital road junction.

At dusk the Battalion began to move down towards the valley, where it clambered aboard the 8 mm. limbers end eventually, after some trouble, got back to an area a mile back from the Australian battalion's headquarters.

Here 1st Middlesex was ordered to bivouac for the night with the intention of moving back the following morning to secure the pass which lay some two miles back.

The streams of R.O.K. refugees grew larger every moment and at midnight the Australians reported that the enemy were intermingled with the stragglers and that their Headquarters were under fire.

From now on events moved quickly. The enemy took every advantage of the darkness and the confusion caused by the stragglers and pressed home a series of very strong attacks against the Australians' centre. The artillery, who were very much in the forefront, had to be moved again, which meant that no fire support was available.

The enemy redoubled their efforts and at 0350 hrs. the C.O. was asked to send one of his Companies forward to assist the Australians, whose battalion headquarters was in imminent danger of being overrun.

"D" Company set out soon after 0400 hrs. and almost immediately came under small arms and mortar fire, which was drenching the road. Fortunately the road itself was built up and by doubling along the paddy on the defiladed side a fair amount of protection was gained.

The leading platoon was still some 200 yards short of the Australians' headquarters when the Company Commander met the Australian C.O., who was as calm and as unruffled as ever. He said that he was out of communication with his Battalion and that most of his headquarters had been overrun. He asked the Company

Commander to occupy a low ridge on the left as he was afraid of encirclement.

"D" Company immediately moved across the road across a rain of tracer and raced up to seize the ridge. No sooner had the first platoon arrived than the enemy appeared on the next ridge, which was about 75 yards away and some fifty feet higher.

A vicious fire fight developed. The enemy were moving extraordinarily well and with great dash, supported by a light mortar and a captured American recoilless gun, which they were using over open sights.

"D" Company, who had been ordered up in light order had only one 2-in. mortar with them, which the C.S.M. got into action, but the first bomb broke the firing pin and thereafter it was rifle, L.M.G. and grenades. The latter were used to great effect by Sgt. Bartholemew, who dispersed an attack by a section of crawling North Koreans who were attempting to take his platoon in the flank. By this time dawn was beginning to break and the enemy could be seen working their way round the left flank in an attempt to cut the road. The recoilless gun had claimed its first casualties by getting a direct hit and knocking out a complete section of No. 10 Platoon—there were also a few casualties from automatic fire.

The wireless, which up to now had been maddeningly dead, suddenly came to life and the Company Commander was able to speak to the C.O., who having heard his report ordered him to fight the Company out and rejoin the Battalion.

The road linking the Company to the Battalion was now firmly cut and the enemy was directing his fire across the valley towards an American 4.2 battery which was beginning to scatter. It was evident that any attempt to use the road would result in large casualties. The decision was therefore taken to cut across the valley in a north-easterly direction and make a big detour towards the American 7 Marine Division which was operating somewhere on the right, and "D" Company successfully withdrew with all its wounded.

After a prodigious walk over the mountains, involving a very much wider detour than was originally envisaged, "D" Company rejoined the Battalion at 1240 hrs., tired and hungry but in excellent spirits.

During this time the remainder of the Battalion was ordered back amid the first bursts of enemy fire to the area of the pass. They were pursued by the dogged enemy, a few of whom managed to get among "B" Company, who suffered 3 killed and 6 wounded.

During the day the enemy continued his attacks relentlessly and the Australian casualties, already 70, were beginning to mount, and it was decided to withdraw them through 1st Middlesex.

By 2250 hrs. the withdrawal was completed successfully and the weary but triumphant Australians were able to take a little well-earned rest. Although the enemy had gained the main road junction, theirs was a Pyrrhic victory, for they lost an estimated 800 casualties—one Company of the Australians alone counted 120 dead in the area and took 40 prisoners. Events later proved that this action successfully prevented a complete break-through on the central front.

Attacks continued all through the day and night of

April 25, but these were beginning to lose their punch. By now 5 R.C.T. from 1 Cavalry Division had come to the help of the Brigade and next morning began to move forward. The situation looked very promising, but the night before 24 Division on the left had suffered a reverse and 1 Corps' front began to sag.

Now followed a series of rearguard actions as 8th Army began to move back. Except on the Seoul front the enemy were being held in check, but the situation north of Seoul grew hourly more dangerous, despite the Homeric efforts of their British Brigade, who, despite 15-1 odds, also prevented a break-through.

There is nothing more tiring than a rearguard action, physically and mentally. As is always the case in this type of fighting, news is scanty and often unreliable, and everybody is keyed up.

The Brigade was now faced with three rearguards. Although none was carried out in close contact they were nevertheless all harrowing and it was with great relief that the Brigade found itself once more in Corps reserve on April 26 in the area of Yangyong.

Yet again we found ourselves in the old familiar river bed, but this was a veritable haven of retreat and the weather, which had been filthy, smiled on us again.

On April 24 the Battalion advance party left Korea with the Argylls and this was considered an excellent omen by all, although the more doubting ones maintained that this was no indication that this would ensure the relief as planned. Events proved that their doubts were to come true, and it was at Yangyong that the first rumours appeared that the relief was to be postponed.

After two days of respite the Brigade was once again alerted to relieve 19 Infantry Regiment in the vital area north of the confluence of the Han and Pukhan rivers. The Army Commander rightly assessed that the next offensive would not be launched direct on Seoul but would develop as a wide circling movement directed on the high ground north-east, which provided a bastion for the open plains.

Accordingly a great weight of artillery and men were concentrated in this area with orders to fortify and hold it at all costs.

By this time 27 Brigade had become 28 Brigade, and a new and smiling Commander rushed 1st Middlesex into the forefront of the defences with the remark that we were yet to see the greatest battle of our history as the Chinese were expected to attack in our sector within 48 hours. The attack in fact did not materialise until some three weeks later, when the Australians killed hundred of Chinese who got caught up in the wire which "A" and "B" Companies had so expertly laid.

For the next ten days the Battalion worked feverishly digging and wiring and patrolling. Each day the defences grew stronger and stronger and as was eventually proved the position in fact was impregnable. This was the first time in the history of the 8th Army that a proper defensive position was established. Elaborate minefields were laid and there was no doubt at all that any attack, however sacrificing in numbers, would be easily beaten off.

The first bitter disappointment that had overtaken the Battalion when it was told that the departure of 1st

K.S.L.I. had been postponed was beginning to wear off, and all ranks were becoming resigned to an indefinite stay in Korea. It was therefore an unbelievable surprise when on May 10 Hugh Evans phoned through to Companies that 1st K.S.L.I. had actually sailed. Even though the more doubting ones continued to be incredulous it looked at last as if third time lucky was going to work out again.

At first it was not clear whether the Brigadier would insist on a relief in the line. This was highly undesirable for the Battalions, particularly the K.S.L.I., as they would require some time to collect themselves and take over such transport and stores that were to be left behind. Eventually it was decided that 3 R.A.R., who were in reserve, would relieve us next day, when we would move back to an assembly area to prepare for the hand-over. However, no sooner had this been arranged than it was cancelled and arrangements were made for the Brigade to advance, spearheaded by the Battalion on the very eve of its departure. Readers may think this fantastic, but, startling though it was, it was not out of keeping with either the rapidity or the ingenuousness which prompted the ever-changing American plans.

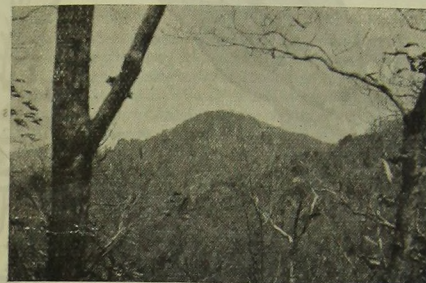
Resigned to the inevitable, the Battalion was nevertheless not surprised when next day the advance was called off and the original plan was put in operation. The relief was carried out during the morning of May 12 and by that afternoon the Battalion had moved to its last assembly area, once again the familiar river bed, this time the Han.

The remainder of the day and the following day were spent in getting ready for the K.S.L.I., who arrived at dusk on the evening of May 13, covered in dust but incredibly high spirited. We gave them a tremendous welcome and with almost indecent haste clambered into the transport which had brought them from Inchon. Then started a perilous journey at breakneck speed. The route through Seoul was barred because of the black-out and this necessitated a long detour over horrible roads. Notwithstanding the condition of the roads and the columns of choking dust which cut down visibility to a few feet, our coloured drivers drove like devils at speeds varying from 30 to 50 m.p.h. There seemed to be one idea only, to get to Inchon before midnight, so much so, that the C.O., who had perforce to stop at one stage to obey the calls of nature, was unceremoniously overtaken by the entire Battalion!

Recollections of that night are very vague except that it was most uncomfortable, despite the Port Commandant's sole contribution to our comfort that Aymar Clayton took over some hundreds of lavatory seats with alas no buckets!

At Inchon, May 14 saw the Battalion embark on U.S.S. *Mountrail*, an American Landing Ship Infantry. Spirits were very high as the men were taken across the bay in assault craft. The Battalion clambered aboard and soon made friends with the ship's crew, then dashed below to an excellent breakfast and, best of all, warm showers.

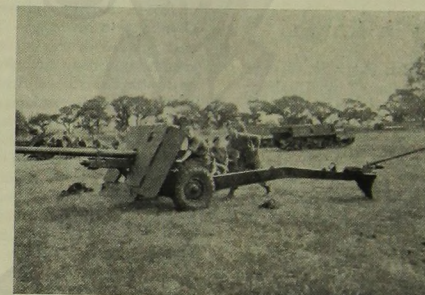
The time for sailing arrived and as the anchor was weighed the rails were crowded as everyone rushed to get the last glimpses of Korea. The coastline faded



"Cod." "A" Company's Objective.



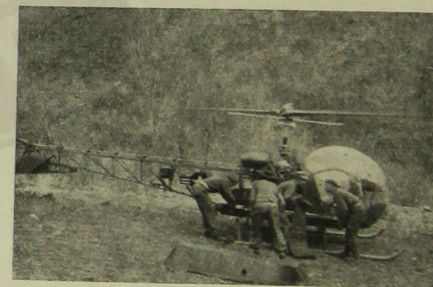
The Next Objective—"Sardine." Napalm Bursting.



"In Action." Ptes. Bass, Langton and Frazer.



Machine Gun Support. British and U.S.A.



Helicopter Evacuation. Loading.

into the distance and there was complete silence as each man was occupied with his own thoughts; some thought of the morrow and the return to families and an ordered life, some thought of the boredom to come with no more exhilarating days of danger and adventure, while others wondered at the impenetrable enigma of life which casts man into the flames one day only to raise him on high the next. But whatever the individual thought there was a general feeling of sadness, as everybody recalled that many who had set out nine months earlier would not be returning.

So ended the Korean Campaign for us—an experience which once again proved that the British soldier is unbeatable, full of resourcefulness and endurance, that he can withstand the rigours of any climate and terrain with equanimity and cheerfulness and that when called upon he can outfight any foe.

Extract from "Buckinghamshire Advertiser"

September 14, 1951

M.C. for Bravery in Korea

A National Service conscript, 2/Lt. Barry St. George Austin Reed, of "Wendacre," Burtans Way, Chalfont St. Giles, has been awarded a Military Cross, in particular for bravery, at Kapyong, Korea, in April.

The citation states: "2/Lt. Reed commanded a platoon in Korea without a break for six months from November, 1950, to May, 1951.

"During this period he showed great dash and determination and led his men with exceptional skill, and never hesitated to get to grips with the enemy."

In particular, 2/Lt. Reed showed his excellent powers of leadership on April 24, 1951, at Kapyong, when at 0430 hrs. "D" Company, 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own), came under fire from the left flank as they proceeded along the road. The Company was ordered to seize a small ridge and protect the left flank of the Australian Command Post, which was in danger of being over-run.

"Throughout the action which followed, 2/Lt. Reed maintained complete command of his platoon, despite the confused condition which darkness and enemy fire produced. In particular he showed great determination and leadership when his left-hand section came under heavy and accurate small arms and recoilless gunfire.

"At one stage four out of six men in the section were wounded, and began to give way in the face of a Chinese attack. At great personal danger to himself, 2/Lt. Reed rallied the section and drove off the attack.

"By his prompt and fearless action he undoubtedly saved his Company from being completely circled, which later enabled its successful withdrawal, together with all its wounded."

Aged 20, 2/Lt. Reed was educated at Rugby, and went to the Far East on August of last year, and is due for demobilisation in November.

KOREA IN RETROSPECT

Logistics

We had all heard of this frightening word "logistics" before we set foot in Pusan, but very few of us had an inkling as to its meaning, pronunciation or spelling. However, we soon found that it covered what we call administration and that the spelling was comparatively simple, but we remained lost over pronunciation.

On arrival we found that we were completely dependent on the Americans for absolutely everything except arms, ammunition and tea. Even this did not hold good after three or four days as we dumped our Ps.I.A.T. and adopted the Bazooka.

Our initiation into things American was the famous "C" ration on which much has been written. It is an excellent individual 24-hours' ration and well balanced, though somewhat bulky and very monotonous. Still it is far ahead of anything yet produced by the R.A.S.C. Exact numbers never seemed to matter.

We were originally committed in the Naktong perimeter, when our only unit transport ashore consisted of five tired jeeps and we were loaned a U.S. trucking Company to move us. These six-wheel drive, 2½-ton trucks were driven by coloured troops at breakneck speeds, but their capacity and capability far exceeded any 3-ton four-wheel drive lorry. We never found out when this trucking Company was meant to return to its parent unit and so we hung on to it like grim death. Luckily no one seemed to worry until one day their C.O. tracked then down and in a few brief seconds they disappeared in a cloud of dust.

There seemed an abundance of U.S. transport everywhere. Every U.S. unit had sufficient transport to move itself, whilst we required an addition of some twenty 2½- or 3-tonners to move the Battalion in one lift. On more than one occasion the Battalion moved without this extra transport, but then men were packed on the multitudinous vehicles and trailers of supporting U.S. batteries and mortar companies—which, according to the manuals, was a very messy way of moving anyone and strictly speaking was not "on."

The lack of transport in 27 Brigade was always a mystery to American commanders and staffs and was almost invariably overlooked by them in the rapid withdrawals in North Korea. It may be of interest to add here that, on being relieved by 1st Battalion The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, on May 13, we handed over more jeeps, jeep trailers and 3-tonners than we officially held. The jeep trailers alone had tripled themselves and some Russian 3-tonners had changed hands.

Petrol became scarce the farther north we went and we had the greatest difficulty in obtaining adequate quantities on our rather rapid return trip. It was nothing extraordinary for the petrol lorry to do a trip of 150 miles or more to get a few drums and then only by bluff and false pretences.

We switched Divisions frequently, particularly after we left Pakchon for the last time. We then switched Divisions three times in three days, and with them our logistical support. The first we heard of these switches was when we arrived to collect supplies, etc., and found

nothing for us. As a result we had to meander round the countryside finding our new divisional supply point. We rarely heard of the location of these points or when they opened or closed. This difficulty was eventually overcome when we were placed permanently under U.S. 24 Division for logistics. This worked well until this division got on to a different axis to ourselves.

Some time in March the layout changed again and we were supplied through British channels and the British Forward Maintenance Area. Even this did not prove satisfactory as fresh rations took four days to come forward by rail, in which time often the operational picture had changed again and fresh rations could not be used on mountainous hilltops. The result was wasteful but unavoidable.

To return to the actual rations themselves for a few moments. The American "B" Ration (tinned foods) was plentiful until the rapid withdrawal after which it tended to become unbalanced—in other words, little meat or vegetables but plenty of sweet corn, cereals and fruit juice which were items despised by the average British soldier. The American "A" Ration (fresh meat and vegetables) was truly stupendous. On Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day the individual ration was 1½ lb. of turkey, whereas the R.A.S.C. ration was some 4 ozs. of pork free and 5 ozs. of turkey from NAAFI on repayment. Thanksgiving Day occurred after the Chinese crossed the Yalu River, when the U.S. lines of communication were disorganised and at their worst and when the "B" and "C" Rations were so short that we were on 2/3 rations. Yet turkey, seafood cocktail, fruit, nuts and apple pies were flown in by box cars (transport aircraft) and eventually there was a surplus. To add to the daily fare there was a free issue, by no means always available, of PX (canteen stores), which normally consisted of a can of beer, quaintly named candy bars, and twenty cigarettes per man.

When Suwon airstrip was recaptured in 1951 the very first transport aircraft brought in forty tons of "Jelly Joys." This all sounds so strange to us, but welfare is a very big and important item to the G.I. and takes a far higher priority than with us.

When we arrived in Korea and things were black, it was quite normal to see outdoor mobile cinemas showing to units only a few miles behind the line and coca cola machines in forward areas.

American clothing and equipment was plentiful and, for the most part, very good. We were all clothed as Americans for the winter and were indistinguishable from them except for our arms, boots and accents. Initially we found that we could drop into any depot and draw what we fancied, but the Financial Adviser got wise of this and it was tightened up very soon. The most popular items with us were the fur-lined jackets, long woollen pants, sleeping bags, pup tents and binoculars. The American system of a complete re-issue per G.I. every week seemed most extravagant to us as the dirty clothing never appeared to be returned. Many British soldiers were clothed in cast off's found dumped at the side of the road. The U.S. boots had rubber soles and were not good for marching. We tried them but soon went back to our normal type.

Medical stores were excellent and plentiful and it is true to say that our present Medical Inspection Room in the New Territories is still equipped largely by courtesy of 24th U.S. Medical Battalion.

Salvage, except for shells, was non-existent and the South Korean population must have been duly grateful.

To sum up a hotch potch of thoughts in retrospect it is considered fair to say that the main differences between the principles governing American logistics and British administrative supply were finance and what one has been brought up to expect as a luxury or in normal course of events.

"A" COMPANY

Hong Kong and all the ensuing demands has levied an equally heavy toll of "A" Company, leaving us with only some 50 men. All but one of our "Korean" officers have left. Mr. Wollocombe and Mr. Fothergill to other Companies and Major Dowse has returned home. He had this mysterious disease "spru"—apparently the only qualification needed for the next trooper. We hope that he will soon be his former self.

C.S.M. Donovan joined us from Singapore—a welcome return to the fold. His voice may be a little louder, his stick a little heavier than of old, but for what other use did the Good Lord make Sergeant-Majors?

We were sorry to lose our old stand-by, C/Sgt. Martin, but welcome in his place Sgt. Burgess.

Training continues, perhaps a little dull after the "goings-on" of this time last year, but still most necessary. In the sporting world, the red flag, although perhaps drooping at the present, will shortly make its presence felt. Great hopes are put on our football team, captained by L/Cpl. Moss. In other events we have no intention of joining the ranks of fifth and sixth places.

Two new officers have arrived: 2/Lts. Eady and Goodwin. We welcome them and hope their stay will be longer than the necessary re-shuffles allowed their predecessors. Capt. H. J. A. Moore has assumed command of the Company.

We were only forced out of first place by 4 marks in the .22 Rifle Competition. This was, of course, due to the rifles! The team, which deserves all credit, consisted of 2/Lt. Eady, Cpl. Woodley and Pte. Cobby.

Shortly we shall receive a draft of Royal Norfolk reinforcements. Their stay will be comparatively short, but we look forward to their arrival with pleasure. We shall be able to teach them a "trick or two" and they, in their turn, will undoubtedly provide much-needed reinforcements both to our training intensive and sporting activities.

"B" COMPANY

This last quarter has seen a sharp decline in the strength of the Company, mainly due to the release of N.S. men. Cpl. Everett, L/Cpls. Hobden and Charman, Ptes. Main, Salt, Nixon, Mulvaney, Peck, Walder, Williams, Barnes, Coleman, Joselyn, Buckell, Goodenough, Culter, Wilson, Tracey, Frear, Stokes, Oliver, Lean and Hilditch have left us to take up once again the threads of civilian life. We wish them every

good fortune and sincerely hope that they will keep in touch with the Battalion and Regiment.

Special mention must be made of Pte. Shirley (A.C.C.) who also has been released. It was Shirley who looked after the inner man for a considerable time in Korea. We are ever thankful to him for his skill and enthusiasm under the most trying of conditions.

Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., who took command of the Company shortly before we sailed for Korea, recently handed over to Capt. Flavell. Major Allen is now second-in-command of the Battalion.

We welcome Lt. W. M. M. Deacock, 2/Lt. P. B. Laurence and C.S.M. Copper to the Company and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

The strength of the Company has averaged between thirty-five and forty all ranks. Owing to this our activities have been somewhat curtailed. However, in early September, the Company, with under command a Platoon from "A" and "C" Companies, carried out an amphibious assault landing exercise named "Wet-feet" on the west coast of the New Territories. The landing was made during the hours of darkness with the object to practice control and movement and platoons in the attack by night. Each platoon was given an independent mission against a "live enemy" furnished by the Corps of Drums. Although many of the troops found themselves in salt water up to their waists at 0400 hrs. in the morning this in no way damped their ardour. The exercise was a great success and many lessons were learnt.

We feel very proud in the Company in winning both the Inter-Company P.T. and .22 Rifle Competitions. The P.T. team was led by Pte. Mincher, who has no qualifications as a P.T. Instructor. The following members represented the Company in the .22 Shoot: Lt. Deacock, Sgt. Steward, Ptes. Salkeld and Doe. Pte. Doe obtained the highest individual score in the Battalion.

In basket ball, the Company gave "H.Q." Company No. 2 team a very good run for their money and, considering that they had one of the best teams in the Battalion, their win of 26-14 is nothing to worry about. In the back play, we met "H.Q." Company No. 1 team and beat them 16-2, after a very enjoyable game.

We came sixth in the Albuhera Swimming Meeting, but not last. The low placing was no discredit to the team for all tried extremely hard against great odds. The Company was represented by Capt. Flavell, Lt. Kyle-Milward, 2/Lt. Fothergill, C.S.M. Copper, Sgt. Butters, L/Cpl. Hobden, Ptes. Harris, Blow and Parker.

In the near future we are expecting a draft of approximately 50 Royal Norfolk Regiment men to train for war in Korea. With this healthy addition to the Company we hope to put up a better all-round performance and give some of the larger Companies something to think about.

"C" COMPANY

Shortly after our last Journal notes were completed, we heard that 2/Lt. E. W. Martin, a Platoon Commander with us in Korea, had died of wounds in Japan.

This came as a great shock to the Company, for no junior officer had been so well respected and liked as this young man.

2/Lt. Martin was seriously wounded in one of the last actions the Company fought in Korea, and although all knew his chances of living were slight, reports that did filter back from Japan stated that he was daily gaining in strength.

Throughout the engagement he displayed conspicuous bravery and dash and, even when suffering great pain after being wounded, no word of complaint came from his lips. All officers and men who saw him being carried down to Battalion H.Q. remarked on his great courage in suffering so much pain without even a murmur. His death has been a great loss to the Regiment and all who knew him know that we have indeed lost a true "Die-Hard."

On arrival in Hong Kong the Company numbered over ninety soldiers; to-day we have but thirty-four and that is only a paper strength—on parade we can barely muster ten men.

To all those who have left—C.S.M. Wickens, Cpl. Lloyd, Ptes. Law, Logan, Wood and many others, whether on release, pythons or posting home—we wish the very best of good luck and all good fortune for the future.

C.S.M. Cooper came to the Company from "D" Company towards the end of August. We wish him a long and happy stay with us.

On September 4, eighty men of the Royal Norfolk Regiment arrived from England. They are to stay with us until mid-December. These soldiers, the majority under nineteen years of age, are being trained for war in Korea and towards the end of December will join their Battalion there. Although these men lack experience, they adequately compensate for this in keenness, their will to learn and their wonderful spirit.

Although Platoon Commanders, Sergeants and junior N.C.O.s find it extremely hard work to train these men, we all agree that it is a very pleasant change from the usual humdrum camp routine.

In addition to training, the Company finds time to play games, both of a friendly and competitive nature. It is to Sgt. Potter and Cpl. Cooper that we owe much of the training of the Company P.T. and basket ball teams, both of which did extremely well in the competitions that have just finished. Sgt. Potter captains the Battalion basket ball team and Cpl. Cooper is one of its most prolific scorers.

The Company is still unbeaten in friendly cricket matches and it is hoped that this record may be preserved in the coming Albuhera Shield matches. Capt. B. K. Clayden and 2/Lt. P. A. S. Wollcombe have both been chosen to represent the Army "A" team in cricket.

The swimming sports were a great success, in spite of the wretched conditions. The Company did very well indeed to come third. C.Q.M.S. Corner and Pte. James particularly distinguished themselves.

With the coming winter months the Company hopes that with the new blood supplied by the Royal Norfolk we shall continue to work and play with the same team spirit that has been shown since our arrival back in the Colony.

"D" COMPANY

During the first part of this quarter we were on public guard duties in Hong Kong. Our final guard was mounted with the Band and Corps of Drums and with many of the local population as spectators.

Returning to San Wai, training became the order of the day and we took part in several exercises. One particularly worthy of note was that in which we acted as enemy to the local Home Guard. However, far wiser men than we have discussed the merits of age and youth, so we shall say no more.

We have not disgraced ourselves on the field of sport and our congratulations must go to the swimming team, who, despite having had little chance to train, came second. Ptes. Kingsford and Griffiths won the Diving Cup and Cpls. Purdon and Harmer, with Ptes. Kingsford and Yeames, won the 4 x 66 yards Relay Cup. Well done!

A large number of changes have now taken place and only a few of the old faces are left in the Company. C/Sgt. Cooper has joined "C" Company and has been promoted W.O.2, on which we congratulate him. Those who have left us for civilian life are too numerous to mention by name, but we hope that they are all settling down well by now. We must, however, mention Pte. Lofts, whom we have just heard has received a Mention in Despatches for gallantry in Korea. We offer to him and to 2/Lt. B. A. St. G. Reed, who has been awarded the Military Cross, our warmest congratulations. 2/Lt. Reed left us on the last ship for home.

We were extremely pleased to see that C.S.M. McMillan has been awarded the Commander-in-Chief's Certificate of Good Service. He had also received, earlier this quarter, the Commanding Officer's Certificate of Merit, together with C.S.M. Cooper, Cpl. Simmons, Ptes. Clinch and Bailey.

We welcome to the Company all those who have joined us this quarter. 2/Lt. M. T. Beagley has taken over No. 2 Platoon and Capt. A. N. Jordan, on his return from Korea and after three and a half years away from the Regiment, has taken over command of the Company from Capt. R. A. Hodge. We are sorry to lose Capt. Hodge, who is taking over M.T., but hope that we shall be well organised for transport in the future.

"H.Q." COMPANY

During the last quarter many and varied changes have occurred. We are still, of course, in San Wai Camp, which day by day becomes more reasonable. The new playing fields are ready and we look forward to our first Company soccer match against "H.Q." Company, 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Major Clayton, our ex-C.O., is now, we hear, in La Belle France, moving the five-thirty daily in and out of the Capital. Our most hearty congratulations on his promotion; we understand being "in the red" is no novelty to him. Capt. Mathews is now P.R.I., P.M.C. and the usual additional jobs that go with these appointments. We welcome Major Rendell as our new Company Commander after his recent period on the Staff.

We are at the moment preparing madly for our annual classification. This year we are farming out certain

sub-units of the Company to the Rifle Companies. We are, however, firing the major portion as a Company show.

In sport we have done well, while, not without justification, we expect bigger and greater things. This year the Company has been divided into two parts for all games qualifying for the Albuhera Shield. In one half we have Drums, M.T. Platoon and Signals, and in the other the Admin. Group and the Band.

Sport

Results of our efforts are as follows:

Swimming. "H.Q." 1, 3rd place; "H.Q." 2, 5th place. It is interesting to note here that the placings obtained by the teams were chiefly due to the efforts of two old soldiers, Drum-Major Holdford and C.S.M. Tarrant.

Water Polo. "H.Q." 1, 3rd place; "H.Q." 2, 2nd place. C.S.M. Tarrant and Drum-Major Holdford, ably backed by C/Sgt. Thom, were again the backbone of the teams.

Basket Ball. "H.Q." 2 team are to play the final, v. "S" Company, in the near future. The Company have produced no less than seven members of the Battalion team.

Potted Sports. Although not counting towards the Albuhera Shield, our places deserve recording. Seventeen teams took part and we entered four teams. The final placings were: "H.Q." 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th.

Soccer. The soccer season is just starting and, under the expert leadership of R.Q.M.S. Griffiths, we expect great things.

Boxing is the next sport, together with cross-country running, that we are now in training for.

We send our best wishes for success to L/Cpls. Craddock and Harper shortly for release. These N.C.O.s' parent Regiment is K.S.L.I., but they have been with us since Korea. Also Cpl. White, L/Cpl. Mathews, Ptes. Simpson, Taylor and Jelley have our best wishes for their success in civilian life.

We welcome many wives to the Colony, including Mrs. Weller, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Munday, Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Pantrini. Mrs. Smith, wife of Bds. Smith, is well installed in a local hotel, while our most recent arrival is Mrs. Seabrook, wife of our W.T. C.S.M. To all we extend a hearty welcome and hope their stay in the Colony will be a happy one.

We hear C.Q.M.S. Ure has recently been promoted C.S.M. He is at present in Singapore. Congratulations to him.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

Someone once said that "Military intelligence is the lowest form of human intelligence," and there sometimes appears to be pretty widespread support for this dictum, even in the Army itself. In our own small way we do our best to disprove it, and whatever our success we do manage to keep fairly busy and happy in our work. I think it is fair to say that we have settled down to the Hong Kong routine easily enough; and we appreciate working in a spacious and comfortable office with plenty of materials to hand—especially such things as wax

pencils, drawing pins, talc and rubbers whose scarcity in Korea was a perennial source of trouble.

We were sorry to say good-bye to Cpl. White on his return to civilian (and Territorial) life, in which we wish him every success. We welcome to the Section Ptes. Butler, Mack and Sherrington.

Signal Platoon

Luckily we have not lost any more Signallers during the period, but the commitments have been increasing. Permanent lines, covering many miles, have had to be laid and maintained outside the camp.

At least once a week the Platoon has been out on a wireless scheme and the results have been most encouraging. During the end of August Ptes. Briggs and Hampshire classified as Regimental Signallers. It is hoped that we shall start a Classification Cadre at the beginning of next month after the Battalion commitments have slightly lessened.

The Platoon have been getting in some useful practice on the Miniature Range in preparation for the classification at the end of October. On present showing our results should be good.

We played football against a team from "C" Company and it was most heartening to see that the result was only 7-4 against us; L/Cpls. Mead and Coles and Ptes. Young and Hardy played very well.

We are glad to see that Sgt. Sharp has returned to the Platoon from employment in the Officers' Mess, thus helping to shed the load with Sgt. Michel, who has been working extremely hard during the transitional period.

M.T. Platoon

"Time like an ever rolling stream bears all its sons away" go the lines of the hymn, and how true it is. The population of the Platoon is floating and changes are all too frequent. The most notable is that Sgt. Burgess has left us after a long term as M.T. Sergeant and is now C/Sergeant of "A" Company. Pte. Keat has gone home on Python and Ptes. Neville and Reeves on release after National Service.

But the greatest change is in those who have joined us, who are too numerous to mention all by hand, but who will earn fame or notoriety as time goes on and no doubt will be mentioned in these pages in the future.

Also on the subject of changes is an incident which we feel constitutes a record. We have had three M.T.O.s in as many weeks. Lt. Bishop went home suddenly to learn Russian and 2/Lt. Hardcastle is leaving shortly on release. Capt. Hodge has just joined us.

In the field of sport mention must be made of Pte. Ashenden, who is a member of the Battalion basketball team, and Cfn. Wheeler swam for the Battalion.

Finally, as we close, to those who have left us we wish all the best for the future wherever they may be and whatever they may be doing.

REGIMENTAL BAND

Our last issue of notes in the Journal left us eagerly awaiting leave, and (for the lucky few) the arrival of

our families. All these events are past now, but the memory lingers on.

At the moment we are extremely busy and have twenty engagements during October. We still have a long way to go to beat the record we set up in Kure of thirty-three engagements in thirty days.

Our Thursday evening concerts in camp are a popular feature of the week's entertainment and as a rule are very well attended.

We have been reinforced lately by the arrival of our pianist, Bds. Burleigh, a welcome addition to our Dance Band, and three boys, namely, Boys Carson, Sheffield and Torrie. They have all settled down quickly in their new surroundings and show signs of promise.

Bds. Beechey and Hiscock left us at the beginning of September to attend a Pupils' Course at Kneller Hall. We wish them success in their studies, but envy their station and surroundings for the next year. We heard with regret a short while ago that Bds. Ward had been discharged from the Army on medical grounds, so Bds. Dawson is our sole survivor there at the moment. We hope to have him with us again in the near future.

Bds. Cross and Puckson left us for duty a short while ago, but the former returned to us after a spell in "B" Company office, as we are very short of clarinet players. There are rumours that "Smooth" Puckson hankers after returning to the Band, too.

In the world of sport we are pleased to relate that we won the Inter-Platoon Potted Sports Meeting, L/Cpl. Stevens having had the distinction of the highest individual score. Representing "H.Q." Company (with assistance from C.S.M. Tarrant and Sgt. Small) we are in the final of the Inter-Company Basketball Competition and have great hopes of showing "S" Company the way home. Bandmaster Jackson and Bds. Smith have had trials for the Army at hockey and hope to play for one of their teams in the forthcoming season.

CORPS OF DRUMS

We apologise for our silence in the last Journal notes although we can assure our readers that we have been making plenty of noise at this end. The Corps of Drums are getting back to their old standard and have taken part in many ceremonial parades since our return from Korea.

In the field of sport the Battalion as a whole is very fortunate as we have splendid hockey, football and Rugby grounds and our Sports Store is overflowing with brand new kit of all descriptions. The Drummers are making full use of this opportunity. Cpls. Purdon and Leat are representing the Battalion at football, L/Cpl. Harding at Rugby and Dmr. Munday with his long distance running.

By the time these notes appear in print we shall have lost our Officer i/c Drums, Major Nolda, who is taking over "S" Company. Our loss is their gain. We welcome Major Clayden as our new Officer i/c Drums, who is an outstanding athlete and sportsman.

Our best wishes to all old comrades and ex-Drummers. We are proud to hear that Capt. R. J. P. Cummins is with the 7th Battalion and we hope his stay will be a very happy one.

"S" COMPANY

The period covered by this report has seen a great advancement in training and sport. The Company has been made up to a workable strength, enabling us to put into the field a full Mortar and Machine Gun Platoon.

This period we have seen Cadres in progress for mortar men and machine gunners, also carrier drivers, culminating in a day on the Field Firing Range, when we fired 3-in mortar and the M.M.G. together with good results. The Anti-Tank Detachment has not been idle and they have taken great pride in their equipment and training, under the enthusiastic leadership of Cpl. Moyse. The Pioneers, apart from their boating experiences, have been training themselves in the several duties of an Assault Pioneer Platoon with Cpl. Dive giving the instruction; they are off for two weeks on a course run by the Engineers on October 8.

The Company has kept healthy and fit and in the sporting world our accent has been on fitness. This has paid us handsome dividends. The results are that the swimmers of the Company, Cpl. Armstrong, Ptes. Sheppard, Mitchell and Woolley, Cpl. Whiteley, L/Cpl. Todman, Pte. Harding, Sgt. Dodkins and 2/Lt. Hardcastle, under the careful training of Capt. Mason, won the Inter-Company Swimming and Water Polo for the Albuhera Shield.

2/Lt. Hardcastle and Pte. Sheppard were outstanding in the swimming. Sgt. Dodkins is to be congratulated on winning the Plunge with a magnificent plunge of 53 feet and a few inches.

In the Inter-Company P.T. we were runners-up to "B" Company and in the Basketball Final we met "H.Q." Company for the Shield. The team consists of Cpl. Burke, Ptes. Dew, Cook, Harding, Cozzi, Collard, Street, Mitchell and Major Clayden.

We congratulate Capt. Mason on his promotion and are pleased to see his swift recovery from his operation on his appendix.

Capt. Moore, after a long stay with the Mortar Platoon, was removed to a higher appointment of O.C. "A" Company. We hope he enjoys his new command.

The Company has been very short of officers and we are grateful to the following for their help: Capt. Clayden, 2/Lts. Hardcastle and Rutherford. Their visits have been brief but much appreciated.

We look forward to a good sporting season and we hope to be thoroughly trained in all departments by Christmas.

Mortar Platoon

The Platoon has settled down to real hard training and is enjoying it, especially now that the cooler weather is coming.

It is with deep regret that we lose Capt. Moore, our Platoon Commander, to "A" Company as their Company Commander. We wish him all the best of luck in his new appointment.

A big welcome to Capt. Mason, who is now our Platoon Commander, and congratulations to him on his promotion to Captain. He is doing grand work in organising the Platoon.

We would also like to welcome to the Platoon Ptes. Garret, Granger, Cozzi, Foad, Sheppard, Selling and Oldfield and we hope their stay with us will be a happy one.

Cadres are in progress. Cpls. Whiteley and Vann are running a Mortar Cadre. Cpl. Fisher and L/Cpl. Swift are busy with a Carrier Cadre.

We said a sad good-bye to our old N.S. boys, who went home on the last boat—Ptes. Goard, Grene, Stubbins, Cousall, Bee, Edwards and Thompson. We wish them good luck and all the best in Civvy Street.

M.M.G. Platoon

Since writing the last notes the Platoon has had large increases in strength. Consequently the last two months has seen plenty of gun bumping and drivers being trained. Also in the last two weeks the Platoon has been introduced to that old stand-by, the mule. Although a very useful animal, the Platoon in general has discovered that he can be very, very awkward, though we are lucky in not having a single mishap to any kit at all while it was in transit. Two days have been spent in Field Firing and our new members have got the feel of the thumb piece through this.

On the sporting side, the Platoon was well represented in the Company swimming team at the Battalion Gala. Cpl. Burke, L/Cpl. Hearn and Ptes. Cook and Dew form the nucleus of the basketball team and Sgt. Bowyer estimates that the Platoon will have a good football team.

Ptes. Ward, Oliver, Bevan and Hasemore have departed on release and our very best wishes for the future are extended to them. The news of our old Platoon Commander's marriage has just reached us and we take this opportunity to extend to him and Mrs. Norton our sincere congratulations and our very best wishes for all happiness in the future.

With the cooler months ahead of us we look forward to the future and we feel sure that very soon the Platoon will be trained up to the Middlesex traditions and standard in this particular arm.

Assault Pioneer Platoon

The past two months have seen many changes for the Platoon in the way of arrivals but only one departure, this being Lt. Mason, who has since taken command of the 3-in. Mortar Platoon. Consequently the strength of the Platoon, which at one time was regrettably low, has now risen to twenty-two.

Among those who have recently joined the Platoon are Ptes. Oldfield, Cleary, Selling, Hewson, Collard, and Eldridge, all of whom are National Service men, with the exception of Eldridge, who re-enlisted early this year.

With the rapid increase in numbers, came the annual training period, which has taken priority over camp maintenance now that things are more shipshape in the Battalion.

This took a more serious turn when heavy rains caused the river to overflow, cutting off "D" and "S" Companies from the rest of the Battalion. It also gave the Pioneers the opportunity of testing their ability to handle a boat. The results were favourable in that

nobody other than the crew got wet in the "Assault Crossing."

In closing we would like to congratulate Pte. Calvin on his promotion to L/Corporal and wish him lots of success in the future.

We might add that since these notes were started we have lost six members to the M.M.G. Platoon, so you see that the Pioneers do have their ups and downs.

SERGEANTS' MESS

During the past quarter there has been very little social activity. The Mess attended a very good anniversary social evening at the Hong Kong Defence Force Sergeants' Mess, where liquor flowed like water. This caused many old acquaintances to be renewed, including that of "Sandy" Lane, who is the R.Q.M.S. of the Hong Kong Regiment. It was noticed that many surreptitious visits were made by members to the back door of the R.A.P. the following morning.

We entertained the Corporals' Club to a social evening and soundly thrashed them at all games. During the singing afterwards it was found that we have a budding Caruso in the Mess—namely Frank Redpath (will someone please send him a pennyworth of winks?). This was followed by a social evening given to the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Wilts, which was a first-class evening, due to the excellent management of C.S.M. McMillan.

A number of families have arrived during the past quarter. We welcome them to Hong Kong and hope that they will have an enjoyable stay. This has caused a depletion in the members of the Mess. We have also lost C.S.M. Wickens to the U.K., C/Sgt. Martin to Singapore and Sgt. Deamer to Singapore on an M.T. Course. We welcome C.S.M.I. Sowman, A.P.T.C., to the Battalion and hope that his stay will be a happy one.

There are many acting "obliques" at the moment: C/Sgt. Cooper, who has taken over C.S.M., "C" Company, Sgt. Burgess to C.Q.M.S., "A" Company, and Sgt. Bartholomew to C.Q.M.S., "D" Company.

In the sporting world the "old 'uns" are still showing the "young 'uns" the way home. C.S.M. Tarrant came first in the 100 yards breast stroke, Drum-Major Holdford in his usual polished manner took away the first place in the diving and Sgt. Dodkins the first place in the plunge. R.Q.M.S. Griffiths is once again the "football encyclopaedia."

It has been stated that during the water polo match one Company had been using a walrus—on investigation it was found to be Sgt. Saxby.

At the present moment many members are studying for educational certificates and everything has now been subordinated to the theories of Pythagorus and Archimedes.

C/Sgt. Thom has at last been deprived of his hirsute glory when someone "swiped" his moustache.

We wish to congratulate C.S.M. McMillan on being awarded a C-in-C's Certificate for his services in Korea, and also to C.S.M. Harry Jennings on his being commissioned.

ENTERTAINMENTS NOTES

Our programme has followed a fairly regular pattern with Monday night reserved for Miss Cabrera of the W.V.S. bringing an ever-welcome feminine touch into the NAAFI. On Wednesdays we usually have a film, though this form of entertainment does not loom so large as it did in Beas Camp, for here, within a few hundred yards of the camp entrance we have a permanent A.K.C. Cinema which shows a very good selection of films. On Thursdays the Regimental Band gives open-air Request Concerts, which have deservedly proved popular. On Friday nights, Tombola is played and the snowball has been known to reach as high as \$500. (This plum fell to Cpl. Burke of "S" Company.)

Our Entertainments Room has been opened, where table tennis, darts and shove-halfpenny can be played to supplement the billiards room and both these are being well used.

A library of over 1,000 books is run by the Education Sergeant-Major, and after a rather slow start is now doing very brisk business; the most popular section still appears to be "Westerns," but there are books for every taste.

The Memorial Homes Opened

On Saturday, September 15, after overcoming all difficulties, the Regiment's War Memorial became an accomplished fact, when the Lord Lieutenant officially opened the Homes, after the Dedication by the Bishop of London. It must have been a proud moment for all those who had laboured so hard to make a dream become a reality. Below we reprint two extracts from the Press which express fully the impression made on them and the reactions of those who have the honour of occupying the Homes.

These extracts are more appropriate than anything we could write.

(From the "Hendon and Finchley Times" with acknowledgements)

The "Die-Hards"

Was there ever a more practical form of war memorial than a house for a disabled soldier to live in? The Middlesex Regiment has been showing good, sound common sense in this direction since the end of the Boer War, and shortly Lord Latham opens the twenty cottages commemorating the men of the Regiment who died in World War II.

The site is at Lavender Hill, Enfield, and the "Die-Hards" have sought among their battle honours to provide its address: Albuhera Close.

The cost is £35,000, mostly subscribed by the people of Middlesex.

The opening will be a proud moment for Col. Maurice Browne, the Colonel of the Regiment, who led the drive for funds.

Depot Notes

REGIMENTAL DEPOT NOTES

We are now well in our stride at the Depot as a Basic Training Unit, and the coming and going of drafts of recruits is becoming a routine occurrence. Recently, on the same day as one intake of N.S. recruits has passed on to the Brigade Depot at Canterbury, another has reported at Mill Hill from civilian life.

This immediate "follow-on" of one intake after another has given the Training and Administrative staffs at the Depot no respite. But in spite of this, the keenness of the recruits has not waned, nor the standard of training been allowed to drop.

The Passing-Out Parade of the second intake was held on the afternoon of September 19. The Colonel of the Regiment carried out the inspection of the recruits and took the salute at the march past, accompanied by the Deputy Mayor of Finchley, Councillor Emil Grant.

The following prizes were presented on the parade by the Deputy Mayor:

Outstanding Recruit	Pte. E. S. Parrot.
Best Rifleman	Pte. E. Williams.
Best Light Machine Gunner	Pte. G. Eades.
Best at Physical Training	Pte. G. Walley.

We are most grateful to Lt.-Col. J. Chandos-Pole, Commanding 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, for lending us his Corps of Drums for this parade.

After tea in the Gymnasium, the Corps of Drums beat Retreat on the Square, and everyone was most impressed by their very smart and precision-like performance.

Already the third intake of recruits is now approaching the end of its six weeks' basic training, and on November 1, when it passes on from the Depot, another will immediately take its place.

There have been several changes in the Training Staff since we reopened. It is now as follows:

Headquarters.—Capt. A. D. C. Eales, 2/Lt. R. M. Fox, R.S.M. F. Britton, C.S.M.I. J. Carruthers, C.Q.M.S. E. Phillips, Sgt. P. W. Carroll.

"Albuhera" Platoon.—Sgt. Bignell, Cpls. Foster, Weller and Lefevre.

"Mons" Platoon.—Sgt. Cubitt, Cpls. Harwood, Bird and Potts.

A.I.P.T.—L/Cpl. Walker.

We were sorry to lose 2/Lt. P. J. T. Lane at the end of August on completion of his full-time National Service. He is now with the 7th Battalion at Hornsey, where we are sure he will do very well. We take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck in his future career.

On September 15 our N.S. recruits lined the road at

"Albuhera" Close, Enfield, when our twenty Memorial Cottages were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of London, and opened by Lord Latham, the Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex. Although this great day in the history of the Regiment was somewhat marred by a most uncomfortable drizzle, the ceremony was most impressive and went without a hitch.

The cottages look very nice and are well designed and equipped, and all the occupants are extremely happy in their new homes.

We congratulate the Adjutant, Lt. G. G. Norton on his recent marriage to Miss Barbara Jones and wish them both every happiness in the future. The wedding took place at St. Paul's Church, Mill Hill, and the reception was held in the Depot Officers' Mess afterwards.

We have been pleased to welcome to the Depot during the past few months 2/Lts. Collins and Pollard from the R.M.A., Sandhurst, who are now on courses at Hythe and Warminster, and also 2/Lts. Catchpole and Chadwick from Eaton Hall, now on their way to Hong Kong to join the 1st Battalion.

Sport

We have been in the process of changing over from the summer to the winter games. The last cricket match was played on August 29 against the Royal Fusiliers. Result—the Royal Fusiliers won by 16 runs.

The Depot—50 (Lt. F. Baxter, 2 for 5).

The Royal Fusiliers—66 (R.S.M. Britton 5 for 13, Cpl. Marable 4 for 20).

The football season has started well. We have not yet lost a match. The team is composed normally of five or six Permanent Staff and the rest of recruits.

The results so far are as follows:

v. Depot, East Surreys at Kingston . . . Drawn 2—2

v. Depot, Royal Fusiliers at Woolwich . . . Won 3—1

v. 595 L.A.A. Regiment (9th Middlesex) at Mill Hill Won 9—0

v. Mill Hill Fire Station at Mill Hill . . . Won 5—3

The Depot is also playing hockey this year, and has played the first match of the season:

v. R.A.F., Hendon at Hendon Lost 1—2

The side, which will be almost all Permanent Staff, promises to be quite a good one.

Before we end our notes, we wish to announce that the New Year Dance at the Depot will be held on Saturday, January 5, 1952, from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight. It is hoped that as many serving members and Old Comrades of the Regiment as possible will attend and help to make the Dance a complete success.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM NOTES

The improvements in heating seem just as far off as ever; one can get cold comfort from the fact that probably there would not be any fuel anyway!

Since our last notes, the following additions have been made:

Copy of The Middlesex War Memorial, Order of Service for the Dedication and Opening Ceremony of the Twenty Memorial Cottages, Albuhera Close, Lavender Hill, Enfield, September 15, 1951.

A review of the Memoirs of Gen. Sir Hew Dalrymple on the Peninsular War.

Original sketch of the dispositions at the battle of Albuhera.

Documents relating to the 4th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment at Obourg and Mons and the ceremony of the unveiling of a memorial plaque at Obourg on Sunday, September 9, 1951.

Photographs of the Imperial Durbar at Delhi, December 12, 1911. Presented by ex-C/Sgt. W. Randall, M.M.

Commission of Lt.-Gen. Richard Earl of Cavan as Colonel of 77th (from 2nd Battalion Officers' Mess property).

Picture of W.O.s and Sergeants, 1st Battalion, 1892 (from 2nd Battalion Sergeants' Mess property).

Illuminated address presented to Lt.-Col. F. D. Lumley, C.B., Officers, W.O.s, N.C.O.s and Men of the 2nd Battalion by the inhabitants of Hounslow, Heston and Isleworth on return from the South African War, February, 1903 (2nd Battalion Officers' Mess property).

A menu for the Old Comrades' Dinner held at the Hotel Cecil on June 4, 1921. (This is most elaborately got up with the Regimental Crest and ribbon, and the menu card itself would cost a small fortune to-day, let alone the dinner.)

A Government Certificate of Insurance against war risks, 1917.

A series of photographs taken at the unveiling ceremony at Obourg (see above) on September 9, 1951.

These last three items were kindly presented by Mr. George Duffield.

Two volumes—"History of the First Division":

(a) Anzio Campaign—January-June, 1944.

(b) Florence to Monte Grande—August, 1944-January, 1945.

We are indebted to Major G. A. H. Bower, M.C., T.D., for these two volumes, which he has had most beautifully bound.

Old Comrades' Reunion Dinner

The Annual Reunion Dinner of the Old Comrades of the Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) was held on Saturday night, October 20, 1951, at the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall Restaurant, Greycoat Street, Victoria, S.W.1. Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

The Reunion Dinner was a most happy and successful affair at which 185 Old Comrades were present, in-

cluding C/Sgt. Jackie Dunston, a Chelsea Pensioner and a veteran of Spion Kop in the South African War.

Before proposing the toast to the King, Col. Browne read out the gracious message received that evening by telegram from Buckingham Palace in reply to the Old Comrade's telegram to Their Majesties the King and Queen.

After Col. Browne had proposed the toast to the Regiment, both Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian G. Horrocks, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., spoke to the Old Comrades.

Major A. C. Gray, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Capt. R. K. Valentine, E.D., of the Hong Kong Regiment, attended the dinner as guests of the Old Comrades. On the same night the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders also held their Old Comrades' Dinner in London and Lt. G. G. Norton, the Adjutant of the Regimental Depot, attended as the representative of the Middlesex Regiment.

A record of the Colonel's speech was made by Messrs. Jalmar, Ltd., of 5 and 6 Park Close, Knightsbridge, S.W.1, who will be pleased to supply copies to readers at a cost of £1 1s. 0d each. Please apply direct to Jalmar, Ltd., and not to Secretary of Association.

"DIE-HARDS" CLUB

HORNSEY

During the last quarter the Club's activities have been on a very small scale, which is usual for the time of year, as most members prefer to take their enjoyment out of doors whenever the weather permits.

The main change to report is the resignation of our Hon. Secretary, Bill Badham, who has at last succeeded in his one desire of getting back into the Army and, by the time these notes are in print, will have arrived in Japan for duty with the United Nations Forces Rear Headquarters. Bill's job has temporarily been taken over by Lt.-Col. A. K. Johnson until our next annual meeting.

Several members visited the Battalion whilst it was in camp at St. Martins Plain and were very pleased to see how well the youngsters were coming along. It was a pity that the day happened to produce one of the biggest storms of the year. The same fate befell those members of the Barrel Club who spent an enjoyable, if wet, day at Southend in September.

Members are now turning up more regularly as the evenings draw in and the Committee have already arranged Old Comrades' dances on Saturdays, November 17, 1951, February 16, 1952, and May 31, 1952, at which members of any other branch are welcome. The tickets can be obtained from the Secretary or any member of the Committee at 2s. 6d. each. The Commanding Officer of the Serving Battalion has given permission for these dates subject only to building requirements. We understand that the present Headquarters of the Battalion are being considerably enlarged in the near future and anybody wishing to attend our dances should therefore phone up beforehand to make certain they are going to be held on the dates mentioned above.

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

A Territorial Battalion may not unfairly be compared to a hive of bees. During the summer months it appears in all its "busyness" and then during the winter it retires and feeds on its store of experiences—not that there is any idle hibernation; far from it. We are not only engaged in weapon training, rifle competitions and the increase of our specialist knowledge, but also in a variety of social festivities. The winter is, nevertheless, a period unproductive of long editorials and notes.

We are sorry to report that our Brigade Commander, Brigadier Joe Vandeleur, D.S.O., is retiring shortly to become Chief Constable of the War Department Constabulary. With his retirement is severed yet another of the few remaining links with Waterloo, for his ancestors commanded a Cavalry Brigade in that battle. We wish him success in his new appointment. We are also sorry to report that R.Q.M.S. Alexander has been forced to retire owing to pressure of work in his civilian life. He has been one of the stalwarts of the Battalion and first joined it in May, 1947. We owe him a deep debt of gratitude and hope that we shall still see him occasionally at Hornsey.

We are pleased to congratulate Capt. H. E. Rawles on his receipt of the T.D. and Capt. A. J. Hands on his promotion to Major.

On September 15, 1951, a representative party from the Battalion attended the dedication and opening of the Regimental War Memorial Cottages at Enfield. One of our former members and a loyal supporter, Mr. Kendall, has one of the cottages and we hope that he will enjoy living there.

The Battalion has received a most generous gift from Sgt. "Chilie" Carter, who served in this Battalion from 1904 to 1937, in the form of a silver cup to be competed for by the Sergeants of the Battalion on the Range. We are most grateful to Sgt. Carter for this further demonstration of his loyalty and affection for his old Battalion and Regiment.

During the winter the T.A. Centre at Hornsey is going to be rebuilt. At present it is much too small. When the rebuilding is complete—it will take nearly a year—we shall have ample office, storage and instructional accommodation, all of which are lacking now.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Since camp the Company have been cleaning weapons and generally settling down. The M.T. Platoon have been busy preparing for the annual London District Inspection and first reports indicate that their hard work has not been wasted.

On Sunday, September 16, the Corps of Drums beat Retreat in the Festival Gardens at Battersea Park. Unfortunately it was drizzling the whole time, but this did not mar the performance of the Drums, who once again brought great credit to the Regiment. There was a good crowd of several thousands, who enjoyed the programme and admired the drill and turn-out and we

were glad to see many familiar faces amongst the crowd.

We have lost one old member of the Company, C/Sgt. Huggins, and we hope that we shall see him up here during the winter. We congratulate Cpl. Stammers on his promotion to Sergeant, L/Cpls. Wilson (M.T.) and Jackson (Signals) on their promotion to Corporal, and Ptes. Iddenton (M.T.) and Johnson (M.T.) on their appointment to L/Corporal. We are glad to see the latter beginning to follow in his father's footsteps!

"B" COMPANY

The last Company notes were written at annual camp, and our activities during camp were reported in those notes with the exception of the Battalion Sports Meeting.

The Company put up a very good performance in winning the Inter-Company Cup, and all our members who took part must be congratulated on their efforts.

We welcome to the Company our new T.A. Volunteer in Pte. Varna. This was our 50th member since the Company re-formed in April, 1950.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Rider on promotion to Corporal and Pte. Wimbleton on his appointment to L/Corporal.

We feel also that congratulations are due to Mr. Bird on the birth of a daughter to his wife, and to L/Cpl. Leighton on the arrival of a second child.

The Company resumed its winter training programme on October 1, and, with our much larger numbers, we look forward to very interesting and instructive evenings throughout the year.

We feel we should like to record that our worthy P.S.I., C.S.M. Tostevin, has re-engaged for a further year, and we are delighted to know we shall have his smiling face with us for another year.

"C" COMPANY

The Company returned from camp on July 30 with all ranks benefiting from fifteen days' extensive but enjoyable training.

After the spell of summer leave the immediate task was arranging a Winter Training Programme with particular emphasis being placed on the training of junior N.C.O.s, and it is hoped that the valuable experience that they gain will stand them in good stead during next camp.

During the T.A.R.A. Competitions, the Company did well to be placed third in the High Sheriff's Challenge Shield, and we are determined to do even better next year.

In conclusion we extend a hearty welcome to a new N.S. Officer, 2/Lt. Harrop, and especially to Ptes. Gardner, Butters, East, Hagger and Harbige, who served with the 1st Battalion in Korea. We also congratulate Pte. Richardson on his appointment to L/Corporal.

"S" COMPANY

Hornsey T.A. Centre is very cold at this time of the year, the central heating, of course, does not function as it is not yet officially winter. It is therefore rather nostalgically that we submit photographs taken during the glorious weather at annual camp.

In spite of the inclement weather, winter training has started with vigour and we hope to fire the Platoon weapons at Pirbright during the week-end November 3-4.

Congratulations to Sgts. Dean and Marshall on their promotions and also to Cpl. LaRoche and L/Cpl. Green.

We must also congratulate 2/Lt. Fox on the result of his recent course at the School of Chemical Warfare.



"S" Company (2). Shooting Champions, 1951.

Anti-Tank Platoon

"It's coming any day now"—that has been a very familiar cry heard by this Platoon for the last few weeks. Ever since camp we have been told to expect our 17-pdr., but still it has not arrived. When it arrives, we will believe it; but until then, lectures, lectures and more lectures.

We went firing the 17-pdr. at Lulworth towards the end of September and those of us who went agreed it was a very good experience, even if we were a lot deaf for several days afterwards.

Nobody new has joined us and nobody has left. Our congratulations go to L/Cpl. Green on obtaining a "double"—his promotion and the birth of a baby daughter.

We hear that next year we are going to Wales for our annual camp and we all hope there are not too many hills to pull the 17-pdr. up—always providing that we have one of them.

Machine Gun Platoon

May this be the epilogue for the year 1951, and the prologue to the new year 1952, to which we look forward with great hopes for the future of the Platoon.

This year has proved to be very successful. Members who have received training have been most useful and we all anticipate a good year ahead of us, knowing that our ranks, already swelled by "old hands" from abroad, will be enlarged even more to give us more and better scope for training.

Although we have not as yet had our own week-end at Pirbright, we hope in the coming year to make it a

regular practice to have a "gathering" once a month at a week-end for a shoot or exercise.

Looking back at annual camp, now a third of a year away, we can remember an interesting time when our numbers were fairly substantial and allowed for some very useful training.

To help keep the picture in our minds, some excellent photographs were taken of the Platoon; even our ablest carrier driver was snapped deeply interested in the weapon.

We would like to congratulate L/Cpl. LaRoche on his promotion to Corporal.

We give a sound welcome to our newest arrivals in October, Ptes. Aldridge, Durham and Tufnell, and we sincerely hope that they will settle down well with us.

2/7 BATTALION

On Friday, October 5, 1951, at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, old comrades of 2/7th Battalion gathered together once again to celebrate their Annual Reunion with a dinner. The attendance this year was very close to that of previous years. Space, unfortunately, is not enough to allow us to give all the names of those present.

The guests of the evening were Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., Colonel of the Regiment; Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Commanding 7th Battalion; and Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E., Secretary, Regimental Association.

This Annual Reunion seems always to produce what might be called the "hard core" of our members. We should, of course, welcome many, many more but it seems difficult to dig some chaps out of their shells, in spite of many forms of advertising and encouragement. It can be truly said that all who make the effort to come are glad they did so. Many familiar faces were missing this year. We missed the talk and the laughter of our old friends, particularly fellows like Bill Trew. We were sorry not to see Brigadier Flavell and Col. de Chimay.

Speeches were cut to a minimum. First we heard from Colonel Mirams, who read the text of a telegram that had been received from Her Majesty The Queen.

After a brief review of the activities of the Battalion, a call to members to support the 7th Battalion by every means, some information about the opening of the War Memorial Homes at Enfield and the news that two members of the Battalion were among the new tenants, he told us of the forthcoming retirement of Col. Browne.

In his reply, Col. Browne said how much he enjoyed being present with the members of the Battalion.

He did not feel like a guest but as a member of the family, for that was what the Regiment meant to him.

He praised the spirit of the Battalion and said how well it had upheld the traditions of the Regiment. He asked for increased support for the Journal, in order that it might continue to be able to represent the many activities of the Regiment. He called upon all present to support him at the ceremony to be held at Westminster Abbey on Saturday, November 10, 1951.

Finally he told us of his sorrow that soon he must give up his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment. There



was a deep sense of the sympathy felt for him by all present because we all know that he has devoted his life to the Regiment.

The final act of the evening was the presentation by Major Geoffrey Bower to the Regimental Museum of two beautifully bound volumes of the History of the First Division. Before making the presentation, Major Bower asked the indulgence of the assembled company to listen to a few extracts from this History which dealt with the part played by the 2/7th Battalion throughout the Italian Campaign. It made one feel proud to know that the Battalion had done its job and done it well, and in a manner worthy of "Die Hards."

In accepting the gift on behalf of the Regiment, Col. Browne said he could endorse all that had been written from the letters he had received during the campaign from distinguished commanders of other regiments.

The evening closed with the usual reminiscences—what had happened to son-and-so, did one remember this occasion and that, and these "young" old soldiers fought their battles over once again. Truly, a good time was had by all.

Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club

GOLF—AUTUMN MEETING

It was Major Ellis of the 7th Battalion who sowed the seed of an Autumn Meeting at a week-end. We hope he is satisfied with his harvest. Whether he is or not, and we know now that he has rather pronounced views

against bunkers in front of greens and is in favour of railway lines which return sliced shots free, *gratis* and for nothing on to the fairway, it can be safely said, without looking up past issues, that this Autumn Week-end was a success. It may not quite have equalled pre-war meetings in numbers; it may have lacked the attraction of the evening in the home Battalion's Mess; the second day may have been a bit haphazard, but it was a real week-end, well attended.

Saturday was really kind, and the North Hants Golf Course at its most inviting best.

Out of the early morning mist, practically all arrived to time and, as a result, everyone got away to a good start, except for the Honorable Justice of the West Africa Court of Appeal, whom we had to leave waiting for the dilatory member from Wimbledon, who overslept, we imagine.

Despite the conditions, scores were poor, with one exception—Willy St. George. He, poor chap, did not realise that under the new English Golf Union's labour-making business of standard scratch scores he was bound to be reported to his home club, the Press and everyone else, and was so intent upon winning that he made a stupid error and returned 82 less 16 = 66, thereby winning both scratch and handicap prize.

Willy St. George sports a khaki beret. Each one to his taste. But, curiously enough, father-in-law, Col. G. L. Brown, whom those above 50-60-70 remember as tweed-suited golfer, appeared looking decidedly Breton in a blue beret. We do not want to insinuate anything, but Colonel George and son-in-law won the foursomes in the afternoon; there may be something in this beret business.

Apart from the Browns and near-Browns, others who distinguished themselves, were Kempster, who holed the longest putt ever seen; Chatty, who holed out at a very long too-short hole in two; and Green, who took the "Die-Hard" Divot presented by himself. It was heard said that Green owned up that he would never have given such a decent prize if he had been quite certain of winning it. We wonder what he paid Lewey and McIvor to walk in.

In the afternoon we had hoped to watch and report but, unfortunately, Paddy Orr had torn his hand to ribbons, competing with one round, and we could only spend the time watching our own ball miss the hole every time we had to putt, and this left no time for other people's doings.

After the afternoon round and tea, members went off to Col. Weston's for a cocktail party and a good chinwag. Needless to say this was a most cheerful and friendly gathering and it was only broken up by the necessity of moving back to the Golf Club for dinner. Apart from members of the Society we were fortunate enough to have with us Mrs. Weston, Mrs. and Miss Le Patourel, and both Col. Brown's daughters, Mrs. St. George and Mrs. Taylor. Whilst the Captain of the Club, Mr. E. Curling, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. Bellamy, were guests of the Club.

The dinner was a most excellent function in every way and at the conclusion the Captain of the Society, before asking his sister, Mrs. Le Patourel, to present the prizes, explained that there were no speeches, but that on behalf of the Society he thanked the Captain, Committee and members of the North Hants Golf Club for allowing the Society to have its meeting there, and also thanked the staff, and in particular Mr. and Mrs. Fordham, for the great effort they had made to make the meeting a success in difficult circumstances. Members showed their appreciation by the warmth of their applause. He also said how glad the Society was that the Depot had been able to loan Pte. Pearson to radiate cheerfulness and efficiency in his assistance with meals.

After the distribution of prizes the Annual General Meeting took place.

On Sunday morning, after some delay owing to a deluge, the Society played the Club at foursomes. As will be seen only one club pair was successful, but at least the weather relented and it was great fun. Owing to the number of things on the Club could not raise a full team in the afternoon and apart from a return match between Crawford and "Chatty," and March and Wain the remaining games were social and without serious mental strain.

We were delighted that Lt.-Gen. Bucknall and Lt.-Col. Stephenson, who had not been able to compete on Saturday, were able to join us on Sunday. Had they had the advantage of a day's play on Saturday it might well have altered the complexion of the foursomes against the Club. Altogether a very successful meeting.

RESULTS

SCRATCH MEDAL

Capt. St. George ..	82
Col. G. L. Brown ..	84

HANDICAP

Capt. St. George ..	82-16 = 66
Col. Crawford and Major Chattey ..	86-14 = 72

Col. G. L. Brown ..	84-10 = 74
Capt. Latham ..	88-12 = 76
Capt. Guest ..	94-18 = 76
Brigadier Procter ..	86-8 = 78
Col. Maitland ..	93-14 = 79
Major Kempster ..	92-11 = 81
Major Ellis ..	100-17 = 83
Major Jay ..	98-13 = 85
Major Orr ..	111-24 = 87
Lt.-Col. Wollocombe ..	111-22 = 89
Major Hunt ..	112-19 = 93
Major Anderson ..	112-17 = 95
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green ..	114-18 = 96*

*Wins "Die-Hards" Divot.
Major A. W. Lewey and Capt. N. B. McIvor failed to complete the course.

COOPER CUP

Col. Brown and Capt. St. George ..	2
Brigadier Procter and Major Chattey ..	4

NORTH HANTS GOLF CLUB

Middlesex Regt. Golf Society		North Hants Golf Club	
Procter and Stephenson ..	o	Packham and Vulliamy ..	1 5/4
Bucknall and Kempster ..	o	Goswell and Clifford ..	1 2 up
Maitland and Latham ..	o	Sir P. Pechell & Hogshaw ..	1 3/4
Crawford and Chattey ..	1 3/2	March and Waine ..	o
Guest and Hunt ..	o	Walton and Lewis ..	1 8/6
			4

REGULAR OFFICERS' DINNER

The Regular Officers' Dinner was held on November 2 at the Hyde Park Hotel. This was the first time such a Dinner has taken place since shortly after the 1914-18 War. It proved to be a great success.

The Colonel of the Regiment presided and 43 officers attended, the oldest of whom was Maj.-Gen. F. W. Ramsay, whom everybody was delighted to see.

Others present included:

Lt.-Gens. Horrocks and Bucknall; Brigadiers Tidbury, Procter and Rackham; Cols. Anwyll-Passingham, Stewart, Jones, Man and Weston; Lt.-Cols. Sloane-Stanley, Parker, Roberts, Green and Lerwell; Majors Bennett, Cooper, Newman, Farrow, Heywood, Sword, Ayre, Porter, Waller, Hewitt, Jacob, Battye, Burrows, Chiverall, Marsh and Weedon. Capt. Guest, Pearce Gould, Eales, Collins, Jeffcoat, Martin and Shipster. Messrs. Norton, Cain and Sharpe.

UNVEILING OF A PLAQUE

AT OBOURG, MONS

TO THE MEMORY OF THE 4th BATTALION

On Sunday, August 23, 1914, the 4th Battalion were engaged in outpost duties, defending the Conde Canal passing through the town of Obourg. "D" Company was stationed on the roof of Obourg railway station—the other companies being held in support.

In the early morning of Sunday, August 23, a fine summer day dawned and, with it, the first shots were exchanged between the enemy and "D" Company. The Germans far outnumbered our men, with the result that "D" Company lost most of their men and a report received after the war from German sources recorded that an unknown soldier on the roof of Obourg railway station kept the enemy at bay while his comrades sought support.

To commemorate this occasion, the citizens of Obourg erected a plaque on the railway station at Obourg, which was unveiled on September 9, 1951, by Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., who was Adjutant to the 4th Battalion at the battle of Mons, in the presence of representatives



Obourg, near Mons, September 9, 1951. Just after the Unveiling.

From left to right: Mr. Matthews, Secretary, Finchley Branch, Old Contemptibles; Mr. Smith, from Leeds (late 4th Middlesex); Mr. Rogers, from London (late 4th Middlesex); Lt.-Col. E. S. Wollocombe, late Adjutant, 4th Middlesex; Mr. Geo. Duffield.

of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the British Ambassador in Belgium, and contingents of the Belgian Army. Tributes were paid to the gallant action of the 4th Battalion. It is gratifying that after this lapse of time their memory is still enshrined in the hearts of the people of Obourg.

After the ceremony, the delegates representing the 4th Battalion, namely, Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., G. H. E. Duffield (7829), G. J. Smith, M.M. (12624), F. Rogers (12630) and A. J. Matthews, M.M. (14557), were entertained by the Burgomaster of Mons, who welcomed the delegation as follows:

"My dear Colonel, my dear friends.

"I am, today, particularly pleased and honoured to welcome in this old town hall you and your little party of ex-Service men.

"Since more than a quarter of a century, on August 23 and November 11 of every year, I am welcoming in this room many parties of 'Old Contemptibles' coming from all parts of the United Kingdom, but, today, you are for us more than 'Old Contemptibles'; you are the rare survivors of the so heroic 4th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment which defended the territory of Mons on August 23, 1914.

"You are the representatives of that so unfortunate Battalion which, in that action, suffered the heaviest losses of the whole British Expeditionary Forces. But, the losses of the Germans were 10 times more terrible than yours because you, the 'Die-Hards,' did your whole duty. I may testify that, myself.

"The 4th Middlesex lost on that day 15 officers out of 27 and 467 men out of 970.

"One hundred identified among your comrades are sleeping their last sleep in our cemeteries.

"This afternoon, reading their names on their graves, you will remember them together and you will live again the different events of your first battle.

"Be the welcomes, in Mons, dear friend; your 'Mons Star,' well known by our citizens, will be for you the best passport. As in 1914, you will be always welcomed everywhere.

"I suggest to drink a glass of port wine in your honour and afterwards I will ask you to sign the Golden Book of Mons.

"Hurrah for the 4th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, hurrah for the 'Old Contemptibles,' hurrah for Great Britain and her King."

In the afternoon, the famous Band of the Regiment "des Guides," one of the finest military bands in Belgium, gave a concert in the village square, which was attended by practically all the inhabitants for many miles around. Later in the afternoon the delegates paid a visit to the war cemetery of Saint Symphorien, in which are buried 86 all ranks of the 4th Battalion, who were killed in action on August 23, 1914.

It was noted that after the battle of Mons, the Germans had erected in the cemetery a memorial paying tribute to the action of the 4th Battalion of the Royal Middlesex Regiment.

A wreath was placed on the memorial by the delegates in memory of the comrades who had fallen. The

NEAR THIS SPOT ON AUGUST 23RD 1914 THE HONOUR
FELL TO THE 4TH BN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
TO FIRE THE FIRST SHOTS OF THE BATTLE OF MONS.
ON THE ROOF OF THIS BUILDING AN UNIDENTIFIED BRITISH
SOLDIER MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THE RETREAT OF HIS COMRADES.

LE 23 AOÛT 1914, À 8 H. DU MATIN PRÈS DE CET ENDROIT, LE
4^{ÈME} BATAILLON DU RÉGIMENT DE MIDDLESEX TIRA LES
PREMIERS COUPS DE FEU DE LA BATAILLE DE MONS.
SUR LE TOIT DE CETTE GARE UN SOLDAT BRITANNIQUE NON
IDENTIFIÉ, RESTÉ SEUL, FIT LE SACRIFIÈRE DE SA VIE POUR
ASSURER LA RETRAITE DE SES CAMARADES.

IN MEMORY OF ALL RANKS
OF THE
1ST BN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
(THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)
WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE
DEFENCE OF HONG KONG IN 1941
OR WHO DIED WHILST PRISONERS
OF WAR.

cemetery and the graves are kept in excellent condition.
One feels bound to pay tribute to the care taken by the
authorities in this matter.

It is impossible to put into words how proud the in-
habitants of Obourg are of the part played in the battle
of Mons by the 4th Battalion.

39-40 Warren Street,
London, W.1.
August 20, 1951.

Major A. W. Clark,
Inglis Barracks.
Dear Sir,

In accordance with the writer's telephone promise,
we have duly photographed the two commemorative
plaques and enclose herewith copies of same which,
perhaps, you will accept with our compliments.

In regard to the Hong Kong plaque, this was photo-
graphed before the oak mount was prepared and fitted.

If any of the members of the Regiment are interested
and would care to have copies of these photographs
they will cost 5s. 6d. each.

With compliments.

Yours faithfully,
G. MAILE & SON, LTD.

Applications for copies to be made direct to G. Maile &
Son, Ltd., and not to the Secretary of Association—
Editor.

Sgt. W. G. Bishop

(By courtesy of the "Edgware and District Post")

Sgt. William George Bishop of the Army Catering
Corps is shown in the picture being presented with the
first prize in the Egypt Command catering competition
by the G.O.C., Lt.-Gen. Sir George Erskine, recently.

Sgt. Bishop, whose home address is 74 Married
Quarters, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, won the com-
petition for the best junior N.C.O.'s course. He is in



charge of the Mess catering at the 41st Field Regiment,
R.A., Elballa, a military encampment just north-east
of Lake Timsah in the Canal Zone of Egypt.

A regular soldier since 1936, he is a former pupil of
Stonebridge School, Willesden.

He first learnt to cook in the Sergeants' Mess of the
2nd Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment.

From there he was transferred to the Officers' Mess

and when the A.C.C. was formed, in 1942, Sgt. Bishop
was one of the first to join.

His favourite sport is boxing and more than once he
has been chosen to represent his unit. His hobbies .
cooking.

D.A.D.P.R.,
Headquarters,
Eastern Command,
August 16, 1951.

The Editor,
"THE DIE-HARDS."
Dear Sir,

The enclosed photograph of C.S.M. Handman and
his son was taken at the passing-out parade on August 1.

C.S.M. Bob Handman served for many years in the
8th Battalion. Everybody had a soft spot for him; he
was always cheerful, pleasant and understanding; a really
first-class C.S.M. and a Territorial of the old school.

He was proud to see his son on parade with the "Die-
Hards" and agreed with me that a regular career in the
Regiment was his "cup of tea."

I spoke to his son, Pte. D. Handman, and he said he
was seriously thinking of "taking on."

Reproduction fees have been paid for the photograph,
but I should very much like it returned as I promised it
to C.S.M. and Mrs. Handman.

Yours ever,
MICHAEL ASHBY.



The Central Press Photos, Ltd.

OBITUARY

The funeral of ex-Bdsm. Bird, late of the 2nd Bat-
talion, took place on October 8, 1951, at South Wimble-
don. The funeral was attended by representatives of
the Regiment and a wreath was sent by the Regimental
Association.

The death occurred on October 9, 1951, of Mr. G. S.
Street, who served in the 1914-18 War with the Regi-
ment. A wreath was sent from the Association and a
letter of sympathy sent to the family.

DEATH

N. H. B. Lyon

On November 3, 1951, Neville Hadley Bernard Lyon (late Major, The Middlesex Regiment), of 27 Wavell Avenue, Colchester, dearly loved husband of Madeline and dear brother of Gwendolen Kerr and Evelyn Bell. Cremation at Ipswich on Wednesday, November 7, at 12 noon. No letters, please. (Notice taken from *The Times* of November 5, 1951.)

Further obituary will appear in the next issue.

Correspondence

2a Endsleigh Gardens,
Surbiton,
Surrey.
September 17, 1951.

OUR MEMORIAL

Dear "Nobby,"

I am enclosing herewith an application form for ticket for the Old Comrades' Reunion Dinner on October 20, with cheque for 10s.

May I also please thank you (as I feel that you are the representative of my hosts) for the invitation to the ceremony last Saturday, and for the most enjoyable tea afterwards. Despite the weather I felt that it was a real privilege to be present, and it was delightful to see you and so many other friends at tea afterwards.

As I understand from our local newspaper (and from various folk I met at tea on Saturday) that the War Memorial Fund is still short of its "target figure" I am enclosing a small further cheque herewith, as it does seem a pity that this splendid project should not go right forward to a completely successful conclusion. I think there must be others who would feel as I do on this, if you were to make the small further need known, e.g. in the Regimental Magazine.

Once again, very many thanks for Saturday, and looking forward to seeing you again on October 20.

Yours very sincerely,
IAN BURROWS.

8 Orion Road,
Rodwell,
Weymouth,
Dorset.
September 1, 1951.

REGIMENTAL STRETCHER BEARERS IN ACTION

Dear Sir,

May I ask if you will kindly draw the attention of the readers of your Regimental Journal to the booklet mentioned above. It will, I feel sure, be of particular interest to members and ex-members of your Regiment who served in the British Second Army on the Continent of Europe during World War II.

The booklet is a personal narrative, written with a view to paying tribute to the selfless work of the Infantry Stretcher Bearer and is attractively produced with actual war photographs and a foreword by a former Commanding Officer during the campaign.

I shall be pleased to forward a copy to any who would care to apply to me at the above address. The cost is 1s. 3d. post free.

Thanking you in anticipation of your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly,
G. J. SCRIVEN,
Ex-Suffolk Regiment.

* * *
15 Howard House,
Southwold Road,
Clapton, E.5.
September 1, 1951.

"DIE-HARDS" GRAVES IN JAPAN

Dear Sir,

I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in writing to you but my son served in the 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment (No. 6213002) and was sent to Hong Kong but, unfortunately, he died P.O.W. We have a friend who is C.P.O. in British Navy, serving out there, and he has sent me some beautiful snaps of the graves of our gallant Middlesex who are buried at British Commonwealth Cemetery, Yokohama. I have them in my possession; also the picture of the vellum with the names, numbers and next-of-kin. If there are any mothers of boys who are serving under you who would like to see them and how they are well kept, I would willingly show them to them if they would like to call at the above address. I cannot send them to anybody as they are very sacred to me. I wish to inform all mothers of the boys who are buried there that by the photos they are well looked after and that the snaps show Japanese gardeners at work. Our friend is sending the enlargement of the page with my son's name on and if there are any more names and numbers of the Middlesex boys I would like to get in touch with the relatives and show them; which I am sure they will be pleased to look at once again. I hope you do not mind me writing like this as I know what the Regiment has done in the late war, also the 1914-1918 War, as my husband was time-serving soldier in 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment, "D" Company, and his number was 14108.

I am yours faithfully,
MRS. F. SANDELL.

HONOURS, AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

"*London Gazette*," June 26, 1951.—Lt.-Col. G. C. Pim (Capt. Res. of Officers, Scots Guards) retires from T.A., September 1, 1948, retaining rank of Lieutenant-Colonel T.A.

"*London Gazette*," July 3, 1951.—Lt. R. D. Latham, having exceeded the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers, July 4, 1951, and is granted the hon. rank of Captain.

"*London Gazette*," July 6, 1951.—Capt. (Hon. Major) R. J. P. Cummins from Reserve of Officers to be Captain in T.A. in 7th Middlesex from April 10, 1951, with seniority, January 7, 1948.

"*London Gazette*," July 13, 1951.—2/Lt. B. H. Marciandi to be Lieutenant, July 24, 1951.

H.M. The King has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration and 1st Clasp on Capt. (Hon. Major) J. A. Hamilton, Middlesex Regiment, and the Territorial Efficiency Decoration on Capt. (Hon. Major) M. P. Whitlock and Capt. H. E. Rawles.

"*London Gazette*," July 17, 1951.—Lt. J. S. C. Flavell to be Captain, July 1, 1951.

Lt. K. L. Hindson relinquishes his Emergency Commission on July 18, 1951, and is granted the hon. rank of Captain.

"*London Gazette*," July 20, 1951.—Capt. F. J. Bennett to be Major, July 31, 1951.

"*London Gazette*," July 27, 1951.—Capt. (Q.M.) C. A. Trestain, M.B.E., to be Major (Q.M.), July 25, 1951.

2/Lt. D. N. Harrop from Regular Army N.S. List to be Second-Lieutenant, T.A., July 18, 1951, with seniority, January 7, 1950.

"*London Gazette*," August 30, 1951.—2/Lt. P. A. Stocken from T.A. N.S. List to be T.A. Second-Lieutenant, June 20, 1951, with seniority, November 12, 1949.

"*London Gazette*," August 14, 1951.—2/Lt. A. R. F. Smith to be Lieutenant (S.S.C.), July 29, 1951.

Major H. C. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., has been awarded 3 clasps to the Territorial Efficiency decoration already held by him.

Lt.-Col. S. Mirams, M.C., T.D., has been awarded 2 clasps to his medal.

"*London Gazette*," August 17, 1951.—Capt. D. H. Jewell from Para. Regt., T.A. has been granted a S.S.C. as Lieutenant on May 30, 1951, with seniority, February 12, 1950.

2/Lt. A. R. F. Smith from R.A.P.C., where he held Emergency Commission, granted a S.S.C. as Second-Lieutenant on July 3, 1951, with seniority, December 30, 1950.

"*London Gazette*," August 24, 1951.—Capt. R. K. B. Allott, M.C., to be Major, August 25, 1951.

2/Lt. P. C. Kay to be Lieutenant (T.A.), December 21, 1950.

The following are cancellations of Efficiency Medals, T.A., granted in "*London Gazette*," November 14, 1946, due to award of Territorial Efficiency Decoration in lieu:

Capt. (Major) The Lord Killanin, M.B.E.
Capt. E. L. Wallis, see "*London Gazette*," November 28, 1946.

Lt. (T/Major) P. A. V. King Farlow, see "*London Gazette*," November 28, 1946.

Capt. (T/Major) R. T. D. Hicks, see "*London Gazette*," January 9, 1947.

Lt. B. R. Wood, see "*London Gazette*," January 23, 1947.

Capt. (Hon. Major) R. E. Bird, see "*London Gazette*," February 21, 1947.

Capt. (Hon. Major) S. F. Caulfield Kerney, see "*London Gazette*," February 21, 1947.

Capt. (Hon. Major) E. F. J. Rich, see "*London Gazette*," February 21, 1947.

Lt. (T/Capt.) K. Scott-Walker, M.C., see "*London Gazette*," March 20, 1947.

Some Thoughts on Our Motto

In the centre of the Middlesex regimental badge the words *Ich Dien* appear. During our service we hear and are taught a good deal about the meaning of the other parts of the badge but of *Ich Dien* and its significance there is silence.

In Canterbury Cathedral stands the tomb of Edward the Black Prince. Round his tomb are six coats of arms, bearing alternatively the arms of England and the arms with the three feathers, known to us as the Prince of Wales' feathers. Above the arms of England is the motto *Houmont*. Above the other coat of arms is the motto *Ich Dien*. Of these two inscriptions Canon Mason wrote:

"High Spirit" and "I serve" Prince Edward chose.

Above the shields of war and peace to fix,
Which flank his tomb in lines of six and six
Instructing how to meet or friend or foe.

I serve. What a splendid motto! But there comes the thought: *whom do I serve?* In the old days servants used to be clothed in the liveries (or uniforms) of their masters. The livery indicated whom they served. We may not wear liveries but the mark of our masters is on our souls. By our daily actions we show whom we serve. As the music of an orchestra is transformed and enriched under the baton of a great conductor, so are our actions transformed and enriched when we place ourselves under the banner of one greater than ourselves.

But only too often do our actions shout aloud: *I serve myself*, and the results of this selfishness in ourselves is reflected not only in all around us but in the country and in the world.

We bear a noble motto. Prince Edward was not only of royal blood but stood in his own right above all his contemporaries as soldier, statesman and man. He had the right to command. He might have been given as motto: *I command*, but he chose *I serve*. A motto which might well have been inscribed above the Cross of Him who said: "I am among you as he that serveth." St. Paul himself took this motto when he introduced himself to the Corinthians as "Paul, the servant of Christ." Only service approaching His level is worthy of the words *Ich Dien*.

Yes, indeed, we do bear a noble motto! Are we trying to be worthy of it?

We bear a noble motto. Prince Edward was not only of royal blood but stood in his own right above all his contemporaries as soldier, statesman and man. He had the right to command. He might have been given as motto: *I command*, but he chose *I serve*. A motto which might well have been inscribed above the Cross of Him who said: "I am among you as he that serveth." St. Paul himself took this motto when he introduced himself to the Corinthians as "Paul, the servant of Christ." Only service approaching His level is worthy of the words *Ich Dien*.

Yes, indeed, we do bear a noble motto! Are we trying to be worthy of it?

Being the Reminiscences of a
"Daughter of the Regiment"

We are glad to publish an article by a "Daughter of the Regiment." Every unit owes so much to the influence of the really keen, but tactfully unobtrusive wife or daughter of the Regiment that we feel that more might be heard from them and welcome this start—EDITOR

I joined the "Die-Hards" in Southern India at the end of the old Queen's reign, though I did not exactly receive the Queen's shilling for doing so. I am told it was a lovely, hot, sunny morning in mid-December and I have loved the heat ever since. Cannanore sounds an earthly paradise with long, sandy beaches, blue sea and

skies, and waving palms. I think I must have been "gazetted" to the 77th. My father was then a sub-altern and Cannanore held only a small detachment, whereas the rest of the Battalion were at Wellington or Ootacamund. We went like most other families to the Nilgiri Hills during the summer months. It sounds a wonderful life, those far-off days of picnics and polo playing, in between soldiering, all very Kipling-esque. However, we were transported home at His Majesty's expense when I was barely two, and sent to the old Depot at Hounslow, which I think we were then sharing with another London regiment until our beautiful Inglis Barracks were built, a few years later.

My father had a rooted dislike to living in barracks as he preferred to leave the scenes of his activities when the day's work was done. So we were constantly moving from one furnished house to another. It was when we were at Hounslow that I can remember the excitement of my father's homecoming from the Boer War; and, needless to say, we were flooded out with presents of native bangles and so on. In fact, looking through some boxes in my mother's house the other day I thought how I could place our travels through the archaeological strata, as it were, that kept on coming up. The brasswork from India, and the Burmese seat and carved tables, and after South Africa the various trophies, and souvenirs from all our ports of call, to end with the sad relics of the First World War.

My first recollections of Mill Hill are lost in time, but as I remember it meant negotiating Bittacy Hill in a horse-drawn cab it puts us in King Edward's reign. This meant, also, horse-drawn buses up to town, until we had the thrill of the first tube somewhere about 1912.

My sister and I were only allowed into the barracks on very special occasions, such as garden parties or Christmas festivities, when everything was looking very gay, and everyone most charmingly out to entertain.

The first spell of service away from England was being sent to Northern Ireland and transferred to another battalion, at Londonderry. We rented a house there in Colombo Terrace, just opposite the barrack gates, and I can never now listen to "Sir Manly Power" or "Paddy's Resource" on my gramophone without seeing, in my mind's eye, the band marching and counter-marching on the square opposite our school-room window.

A detachment of the Battalion was sent to Belfast during this time to help quell some rioting, and one of our young officers returned with a nasty cut on the head, inflicted with a broken beer bottle. It was there, too, we acquired a French bull-dog which had belonged to a wealthy and charming young Australian officer. Dear "Max" was left once in our charge and he elected to remain. He used to enjoy marching with the Regiment and features in several old regimental groups.

Ireland was followed by the inevitable Salisbury Plain. We were at Tidworth during one May celebrated for a particular snowstorm, which swept the southern part of England and caused H.M.S. *Gladiator* and the *St. Paul* to collide off the Needles.

Our house was at Andover, and my enquiring mind and long walks with my father, led me to start a life-long interest in Iron Age camps and barrows, which are so

numerous in these parts. Our next sojourn was Guernsey, two wonderful happy years among those enchanted Isles. Once the old Guernsey families discovered we were all really very nice to know their hospitality knew no bounds. When a training ship of H.M. Royal Navy came in the round of festivities was almost overwhelming. There were the Coronation of King George V, and a fine proclamation service was held at St. Peter's Port, though I also remember some disquietening items in the news about this time as regards events at Agadir. Our life on the whole seemed very safe and serene. We were back, once more, in England, general elections to contend with, and Finchley proved a pleasant place to live in, with our fine barracks on the hill only two miles away. But after two years, needless to say, our marching orders came again and this time it was to be a long spell of foreign service for the 2nd Battalion, beginning with Malta. My school days were over and far more exciting things loomed ahead. We had a great send-off from Southampton by our dear old white-whiskered Colonel-in-Chief, Gen. Kent. How I remember those lunches with him in his fine house at Wimbledon and how dearly he loved anyone connected with the Regiment.

We arrived in Malta in September, 1913, in a "sirocco," but we met a gay, colourful island, the bells ringing from the churches, and carozzi bells, too, not to mention goat bells.

Our house was in Miratore, Floriana, overlooking the Grand Harbour. We explored the island in a dog-cart, and several visits were paid to the Sliema Palace, the home of Miss Hughes Hallett, whose brother had once commanded a battalion of "Die-Hards." There were no buses in Malta in those days; but there was a train, which had originally functioned in the Isle of Wight. The journey to Citta Vecchia was quite unbelievably like something out of *Alice in Wonderland*. A candle was lighted some time before we approached the one and only tunnel, and economically blown out at the other end. The several little stations were always a mass of flowers.

We went on first leave the following spring, as my father had several cricket fixtures he wished to fulfil. We came home via Tunis and Marseilles. Alas, a cloud comes over the happy scene in my memory now, and my connection with the dear old "Die-Hards" is drawing to a close. Came the war and our difficulties in getting back to Malta. Our arrival in Paris an hour after war had been declared between France and Germany, getting to Marseilles and eventually a ship. Then came a separation, for when we got as far as Gibraltar the officers were sent on to their various units and the womenfolk back to England by another ship. What anxious days we went through then. We had left a house in Malta, awaiting our return, and a faithful batman who had been with us for many years was responsible for our carefully-packed trunks, which arrived eventually in England. The 2nd Battalion arrived back on a bleak November day and marched up the streets of Southampton. They trained at Hursley Park, which had been generously lent by Sir John Cooper. At dead of night some four months later they left for France, and our homing instinct took us back to

await developments at Mill Hill again, and we were there in 1915 when my father returned, with head bandaged and a D.S.O., from the battle of Loos.

One night we left our beds to stand by the village pond to listen to the zeppelins over London. All too soon, it seemed, after this we were sent down to Aldershot, for my father to train a Kitchener Battalion generously raised by Sir Joynson Hicks. King George V came down to review the Division before they left for France. Only a few months' training at Salamanca Barracks and our raw recruits became true sons of the Middlesex.

And now I come to my closing scenes, some weeks in France and a rest behind the lines before going into action. The Battle of the Somme was raging then and the tanks first seen in action. My father fell at the battle of Flers and died later of his wounds at the hospital at Etaples.

They were sad days, indeed, and although soon after the war ended I deserted the Army for the Navy, I have always followed the fortunes of the "Die-Hards" with the greatest interest. It is with real pleasure that I meet again at the annual "At Home," so graciously presided over by our Colonel of the Regiment, so many old friends of those happy far-off days.

CANADIAN REGIMENTS IN KOREA

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

PART III

Third and last of the Canadian regiments fighting in Korea is the Royal 22nd Regiment, a French Canadian regiment from Quebec which is allied with the Royal Welch Fusiliers. Like the P.P.C.L.I. the Royal 22nd Regiment started life in 1914 as a regiment raised for the duration of the war which broke out in that year. When the Canadian Government decided, at the end of World War I, to increase the strength of the Permanent Force, they also decided that one of the new battalions should be based on Quebec, and recruited from the French-speaking men of that province. So the 22nd Infantry Battalion, C.E.F., which had a very fine record of service in France and Flanders, furnished the cadre upon which the new French Canadian Regular Infantry Regiment was built.

The old cap badge of the "Vanty Doo's" (as the "Twenty Two's" were nicknamed by their Anglo-Canadian comrades) was retained for the new regiment. This is a rather handsome and appropriate design, having the Arms of the Province of Quebec within a crowned garter, super-imposed upon a large beaver. The beaver stands upon a log, on which is inscribed the regimental motto (which is also the motto of the Province of Quebec): "Je Me Souviens."

As part of the provincial arms the fleur-de-lis figures in the cap badge of the Royal 22nd Regiment, and silver fleur-de-lis are worn by the regiment as collar badges. It is appropriate that this should be so, for the first of all French Canadians, that very gallant gentleman, Jacques Cartier, marked his landing at Quebec by erecting a cross 30 ft. high, upon which he nailed a large

shield with the fleur-de-lis, emblem of the land from which he and his gallant band of pioneers had come. It was under the banner of the fleur-de-lis that French Canadians served so loyally and valiantly in the days when the first steps were being taken to transform Canada from a wilderness to a great and prosperous country. So it has always seemed particularly fitting that the French Canadian soldiers of the Royal 22nd Regiment mounting guard on "the fortress cliff that keeps of Canada the key," the mighty rock-built fortress of Quebec, towering over the moving tides of the St. Lawrence and commanding one of the grandest views in the world, should wear the lilies of France.

The geographical movements of the Royal 22nd Regiment during World War I closely resemble those of Canada's other Regular regiment. Their stay in England, however, was marked by two events of interest. Shortly after their arrival in this country the Royal 22nd Regiment had the honour of being reviewed at Aldershot by their Royal Colonel-in-Chief, H.M. The King, who caused the following complimentary order to be published: "His Majesty is pleased with what he saw. He was greatly impressed by the smartness of the troops, their excellent drill, and their steadiness on parade." Shortly afterwards the Battalion proceeded to London and furnished the guards at Buckingham Palace from April 17 to 20, 1940, being relieved by The Toronto Scottish, who "mounted Buck" (to use the Guardsman's slang term) for a similar period. This was an historic occasion for, when the Royal 22nd Regiment took over the duty, it was the first time that troops of any unit not consisting of troops of pure British descent and speaking English as their mother tongue had mounted guard over the royal residences in London. The Royal 22nd also made history in another way—for this was the first time for hundreds of years that the toast of the King's health had been given in French by the officers of the palace guard. Not since the old days in the centuries following close upon the Norman conquest had "Le Roi" been honoured by his personal guards in the French language.

In the battles of World War I—as for instance at the taking of Courcellette during the battle of the Somme on September 15, 1915, which was one of the Battalion's notable feats—men of the 22nd advanced into battle on foot. Often such advances had to be made over ground churned up by heavy shell fire and turned into a morass by rain. Advancing across "No Man's Land" in itself made great physical demands on the infantryman, apart from the high morale needed to push on to the objective in the face of enemy fire.

To the older generation it is very interesting to compare the advances in which the Royal 22nd Regiment took part in the Italian campaign (1944) with those on the Somme (1916). No longer did the infantryman always have to struggle along through the mud. Instead he often rode into battle on an armoured car or tank. The history of "The Royal Canadian Dragoons, 1939-45" tells us how, to the accompaniment of "a thundering concentration of artillery fire" they advanced against the German paratroops. Almost every time the cars stopped, white flags would sprout from the ground nearby and small groups of bedraggled para-

troopers would climb out of their trenches to surrender. Each squadron was carrying a company of the Royal 22nd Regiment on its cars and these infantrymen would swarm down among the prisoners with enthusiasm. The remainder of the Royal 22nd Regiment was engaged in the main assault and these two companies could hardly be restrained from joining their comrades.

An officer of the Regiment, Capt. Paul Triquet, won the V.C. for gallantry in this campaign. "All other officers and 50 per cent. of the men of his company having been killed or wounded in an attempt to capture Casa Berardi in Italy, on December 14, 1943, Capt. Triquet dashed forward at the head of those still able to continue the action, and scattered the enemy, driving on, supported by Canadian tanks, to the outskirts of the objective. A fierce counter-attack followed, but Capt. Triquet had speedily reorganised his fighting remnants and not only defended the few tanks, but smashed the enemy onslaught. Subsequent counter-attacks were also beaten off and, although the odds were overwhelming the position was held while the remainder of the Battalion effected the town's capture."

Incidentally, I wonder how many of the Gloucestershire Regiment, now fighting side by side with Canadian soldiers in Korea, are aware of the fact that the first member of their distinguished Regiment to win the V.C. was a Canadian, born and bred. This was Assistant Surgeon Herbert Taylor Reade, who joined the 61st Foot (2nd Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment) at Peshawur on November 8, 1850. He won his V.C. at Delhi in the Indian Mutiny when he drew his sword to protect his patients by leading a party of the 61st (many of whom were killed in the effort) to dislodge mutineers who had established themselves in houses and on rooftops at the end of a street, from which point of vantage they were shooting British soldiers, wounded or well, alike. At the storming of the breach at the Siege of Delhi, he, with a sergeant of the 61st, spiked one of the enemy's guns. He retired with the rank of Surgeon General and died at Bath in 1897. He was born at Perth, Upper Canada, and educated at Quebec and Dublin University.

(Concluded)

A Job for Soldiers

The change from Army life to that of a civilian is not always an easy one and this is particularly the case with those who have made the Army their life's job and who retire with a pension.

Even if he would like to sit back and potter in his garden the cost of living forces a man to find some means of increasing his income.

A man may be fit and strong, capable and keen, but from being "One in authority" he enters civil life as a new boy.

To such men, Securicor (Night Guards Limited) has much to offer. Of the men who are employed by this firm the majority are ex-Servicemen and ex-policemen, and they range from colonels to privates, commanders and petty officers to able seamen, Wing commanders to Aircraftsmen.

Although it is stated above that the work is particularly suitable to those who are on a pension, the age of the guards vary as much as their antecedents, and they are by no means middle-aged men.

What is the work? Shortly it is what the title of the firm indicates—Security and Guarding. Nearly every large works and shop has its own security problem, whether it be burglary, fire or wilful damage, and have, in the past, employed their own night-watchman. More and more are realising that this has its disadvantages; not only are they out of touch with the watchman all night, but there are sickness, holidays and replacements to consider. All these difficulties are overcome by Securicor.

The guards are in constant telephone communication with head office, whilst inspectors in cars are out visiting the guards as well.

The guards wear uniform and go direct from their homes to their assignment.

Space does not allow of a full description of the variety of tasks, but guards are employed at exhibitions, at factories, at shops and motor works, and whilst the majority of the work is by night, some assignments require day duty. At some places a man is on his own and at others they work in pairs, whilst there may or may not be workers at night-work on the premises.

Naturally the hours are long, but the duties are seldom arduous and integrity, commonsense and strict attention to duty are the chief requirements.

At present a guard receives a guaranteed minimum of £6 2s. 6d. to start with, but this minimum is an exception; all guards who wish to do so can earn over £7 per week. Needless to say, as in all other firms, the pay is constantly under review and in addition a pension scheme is also being considered.

At present the scope for promotion is not great, but this is bound to change as the corps grows. It might be thought that it is a lonely life, but in many ways there is a very friendly atmosphere; those on duty soon know every man's voice on the telephone and this, plus visiting, seems to link the whole thing up in a surprising way, whilst a good, smart guard often becomes a well-known, popular and respected personality, as he gets known by workers and management at his assignment.

If anyone is interested and wants to find out more they will always be welcome at:

Securicor (Night Guards Limited)
239a Finchley Road, London, N.W.3
which is right by Finchley Road Tube Station.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 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., J.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., J.P., Col. G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollock, M.C., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major G. O. Porter, R.S.M., F. Britton, Sgt. G. Whitfield, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, Major W. D. Ellis, T.D.

Prior to the proceedings the Chairman welcomed Col. Weston and Sgt. Whitfield to the meeting.

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. The Secretary was authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £600 in assisting necessitous cases during the quarter ending December 31, 1951.

3. *War Memorial Committee's Report.* (a) Col. Beach first informed the Committee that the Cottages were now completed and fully occupied.

(b) He then went on to explain the Minutes of the Management Committee's Meeting of October 29, 1951, which were distributed at the meeting.

(c) He stated he was still unable to give the Committee the final cost of the Cottages as the Architects were still awaiting the result of the Rise and Fall Clause.

(d) It was proposed that two garages be erected on the original site previously allocated for the Children's Playground. After discussion it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox, seconded by Major Hardcastle, and approved by the Committee, that two garages for two incapacitated tenants who had cars provided by the Ministry of Pensions be erected at a cost of £100.

It was further proposed by Brigadier Procter and seconded by Major Porter that as much financial assistance as possible be obtained from the British Red Cross Society and other Societies towards the cost and that no rent would be charged in respect of the garages.

(e) Colonel Beach then explained that he had received a letter from Enfield Council through the Architects suggesting that the vacant land on the north side of the Close was ideally situated for allotments. After consideration and discussion by the Committee it was approved that three-quarters of the area be given up temporarily for this purpose. Col. Beach promised to answer the letter accordingly through the Architects.

(f) Col. Beach requested that a shed be erected on a site near the garages in order to house ladders and plant necessary for the exterior decoration of the Cottages and that a sum not exceeding £50 for this purpose be authorised from the Memorial Funds. *Approved.*

(g) Col. Beach informed the Committee that certain grass verges on the estate still needed to be sown with grass, especially the larger plots. He had received specifications of various qualities from Messrs. Wimpeys and requested the Committee's approval to purchase a quantity and to resell it to the Tenants through the Management Committee at a cheaper rate than they can obtain locally.

(h) After a general discussion it was approved by the Committee that the Management Committee be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £20 per item on maintenance and general expenses, but that a statement of expenditure should be forwarded to the Executive Committee prior to each quarterly meeting. The Report was adopted.

4. *Finance Committee Meeting.* Col. Beach, in the absence of Lt.-Col. Robbins, read the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting which had been held on Tuesday, October 16, 1951. The Committee approved of the minutes and agreed to the following donations:

Association	£	s.	d.
Regular Forces Employment Association	50	0	0
Royal Soldiers' Daughters Homes	8	8	0
Family Welfare Association	5	5	0
S.S.A.F.A.	10	10	0
Forces Help Society	10	10	0
Gordon Boys' School	2	2	0

5. *Journal Committee's Report.* Brigadier Procter informed the Committee that he had no report for this meeting.

6. *Regimental History Report.* Brigadier Procter informed the Committee that the Editor was making progress after his illness and it was expected that the History would be published in the New Year.

7. *Mons War Memorial.* Lt.-Col. Wollock informed the Committee that he attended the unveiling of the Memorial Plaque to the 4th Battalion at Obourg Station, Mons, with four other ranks of the 4th Battalion who served with that Battalion in the Retreat from Mons in 1914.

Several Royal and Diplomatic representatives and a huge crowd were present at the unveiling ceremonies. He stated that in his response to a toast he had read a letter from the Colonel of the Regiment. After the ceremony they visited the Cemetery, where the Germans had buried many dead of the 4th Battalion. The Cemetery and graves were beautifully arranged and maintained. The Chairman read a letter from the Mons Organiser and explained to the Committee that we had been asked to contribute towards the cost of the plaque and its transport and asked the Committee to approve of his action in deciding to pay for the plaque (cost £71). The Committee unanimously agreed.

8. *Hong Kong Roll of Honour.* The Chairman reported to the Committee that the plaque for installation in the Hong Kong Cathedral was now in course of transit and that the O.C. 1st Battalion had been notified.

9. *Other Business.* There being no further business the meeting closed at approximately 3.30 p.m.

10. *Next Meeting.* The date of the next meeting was approved for Thursday, February 28, 1952.

A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.
Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
October 31, 1951.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 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., J.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., J.P., Col. G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollock, M.C., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major G. O. Porter, Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, 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. *Officers' Club Dinner.* The Committee approved that the Officers' Club Dinner be held at the Junior United Service Club on Friday, June 20, 1952.

4. *Officers' Club "At Home."* After a short discussion it was decided that the Officers' Club "At Home" be held at the Depot Cricket Field on Wednesday, June 18, 1952.

5. *Spring Golf Meeting.* The Committee approved that the Spring Golf Meeting for 1952 be held at the Hendon Golf Club on Friday, April 25, 1952.

6. *Cocktail Party.* The Committee approved that a Cocktail Party be held in the Depot Officers' Mess after the Golf Meeting on April 25, 1952. Tickets for this function would be 15s. per head. It was proposed and seconded that no official guests be invited, but that private guests may be invited as heretofore.

7. *Election of Sub-Committees.* (a) *Golf.* Col. G. P. L. Weston, Captain; O.C. 7th Battalion, Major J. G. P. Hunt and Capt. R. E. Guest, Committee; Brigadier N. P. Procter, Secretary.

(b) *Cocktail Party.* Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollock, Chairman; Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, Captain; Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, Secretary; Major G. O. Porter and Secretary Officers' Club, Co-opted Members.

8. *Unpaid Subscriptions.* After a short discussion it was decided to cancel the membership of those who had failed to pay their subscriptions for 1951. The number is 14. A letter had been sent to each individual by the Chairman without result.

9. *Other Business.* (a) The Committee approved of the Finance Committee's recommendation that a donation of £2 2s. 6d. be sent to Royal School for Daughters of Officers of the Army. (b) The Committee also voted by a majority that a sum of £15 be donated to the school for the provision of chairs for the School Chapel.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.
A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.
Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
October 31, 1951.

The Die-Hards



Flights Limited.

ESTABLISHED 1750

CIVIL and MILITARY TAILORS and OUTFITTERS

97 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telephone: GRo venor 5016/718

**"FOR THE FINEST IN SERVICE AND CIVILIAN WEAR"
SPECIAL EXPORT FACILITIES**

Our Representatives will wait upon you where and when you so desire, and at our premises every courtesy and attention is assured to both old and new customers

Branches at.

CAMBERLEY, ALDERSHOT, SALISBURY, CATTERICK

Appointed Tailors to over fifty Regiments and Corps

PASSED TO YOU . . .

THREE familiar words used in the Services, calling for attention and action in some routine matter, apply equally to us as the printers of your journal. Our assurance of attention and service in matters concerned with all kinds of printing is well known to an ever-increasing number of Service personnel, and we shall be pleased to include you in our list of satisfied customers. We welcome enquiries, so why not—

PASS IT TO US

F. J. PARSONS, LTD

LENNOX HOUSE, NORFOLK STREET, W.C.2 · Temple Bar 6591

Works: OBSERVER BUILDINGS, HASTINGS · Hastings 1157