

The Die Hards



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(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

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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," "Albuhara," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsular,"
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02,"
 The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914,"
 "Messines, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"
 "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "Albert, 1916," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"
 "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume,"
 "1917," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Plickem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"
 "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Ave,"
 "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal
 du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,
 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915,"
 "Rumanian," "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).
 6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia). } In suspension.
 Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.
 Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

Territorial Army Battalions

7th Bn. (1/7th Bn. and 2/7th Bn. amalgamated after 1939-45.
 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.).

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Colonel of the Regiment: Lt.-General G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C.
 Officer Commanding Depot: Major P. D. H. Marshall.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P.



Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C.



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EDITORIAL

One of the tortures of youth is learning the Kings of England—William the Conqueror, 1066, and so down the pages of history. And out of that abominable memory test there emerges the fact that, apart from some kings and queens being good and others anything but good, some were landmarks because of their achievements for their country and others were pale shadows who merely cluttered up the tree and made difficulties more difficult for the student.

The same applies to Colonels of the Regiment; some are famous for their achievements as commanders, whatever they did or did not do for the Regiment; some are scarcely more than names with dates, but some live on for ever.

We have recently heard, by a bald statement in the *Gazette*, that a change in the Colonelcy of the Regiment took place on April 22, but in that statement is something of outstanding importance, since it relates to a colonel who will live on for ever.

Lt.-Col. Bt.-Col. Maurice Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., has handed over the Colonelcy of the Regiment to Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C.

Col. Browne succeeded to the Colonelcy, after a lifetime of service devoted first and foremost to the Regiment, in 1942 in the place of Brigadier-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Although a bachelor succeeded a bachelor an entirely new event in the history of the Regiment occurred, namely a colonel who throughout his colonelcy lived within bugle sound of the Depot. The effect of this has been astounding, both from the point of view of the Regiment and the county.

From the Regimental angle the fact that Col. Browne was at the Depot throughout the war, and only a few yards away later, meant that the Colonel of the Regiment knew and was known by more officers and men of the Regiment than any other colonel, past or present, in the Army. It is probably no rash boast that never has any officer of any regiment had such a post-bag and so up-to-date knowledge of such a variety of types of soldiers as Col. Browne. During the war years his "Newsletter" was a godsend to those seeking for news of their comrades and was widely sought after by civic bodies as well as individuals. Never, too, has any colonel been able to attend or so keenly seized the chances of attendance at innumerable Battalion dinners, reunions and other occasions. It might be truly said that no Regimental occasion has been complete without the

presence of the Colonel. But this was really only a minor part of the Colonel's self-imposed task.

Middlesex has always suffered by being so near London and therefore overshadowed as a county by the Metropolis. By the efforts of Col. Browne, the support of the Lord Lieutenant and the Mayors and Chairmen of the county has turned casual interest into a real county effort for the Regiment. These are some of the results, but by no means all. One of Col. Browne's major activities during the 1939-45 war was the Prisoners-of-War Fund. To this he brought all his energy and powers of persuasion and the response was magnificent. Again when the Regiment found itself once more at war—this time in Korea—he rallied the county to produce money and comforts in kind for the Battalion with results which proved more than adequate.

After the war he embarked upon his greatest and most strenuous campaign—the raising of funds for the Regimental War Memorial. It is possible that no more ambitious or practical war memorial has been planned by any line regiment. To have raised £40,000 was in itself a remarkable effort, but money is not everything, and the difficulties which had to be overcome before the Regimental village became an accomplished fact would have tried the patience of Job. It must indeed have given him great pleasure that the houses were up, occupied and blessed and the Memorial Stone unveiled whilst he was still Colonel of the Regiment.

To Col. Browne we say, on behalf of thousands of "Die-Hards" of all grades, "Thank you and may you have many years to enjoy the harvest of friendship sown during your active Regimental life."

Col. Browne is succeeded by Maj.-Gen. Hon. Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall and everyone who knows the latter will welcome his appointment.

Gen. Bucknall wandered via Staff College to the command of a corps, but he has always been a Regimental soldier at heart and although Salisbury, his home, is not Hendon, we can be confident that, if he cannot be present as frequently at Regimental functions, and if he cannot be so intimately mixed in county for his affairs, he will always be there when needed and will make up for his less frequent attendances by that grace and tact which all who know him realise is such an outstanding quality of the new Colonel.

Regulations have removed a unique colonel from the Regiment, but difficult as his part may be, we have confidence that his successor will see that the county and Regiment liaison is firmly maintained.

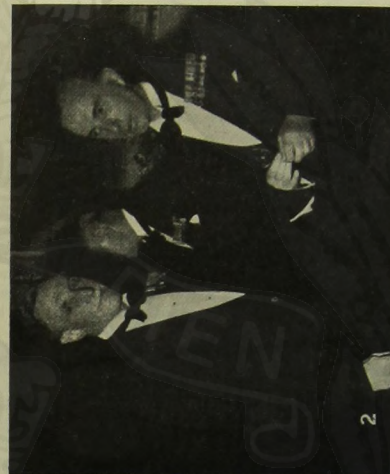
To Gen. Bucknall we wish every success during his period of Colonelcy.

Forthcoming Events

Autumn Golf Meeting. September 20-21. North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.

The Old Comrades' Dinner will be held this year, as last, at the Royal Horticultural Society New Hall Restaurant, Greycroats Street, S.W.1, on Saturday, November 1, 1952. Tickets will be 10s. each and the Secretary will shortly circularise all members with complete particulars.

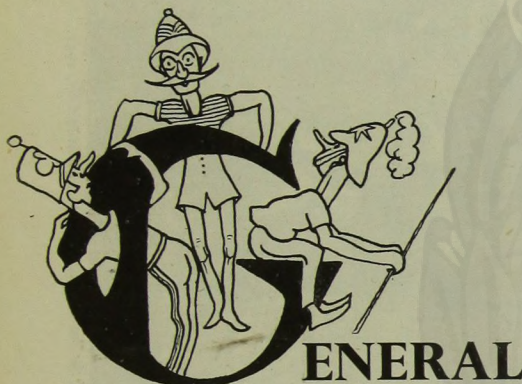
LOOKING BACK



(1) Cocktail Party, (2) Officers' Club Dinner, 1951. (3) Winners of the Javelin Event, (4) Armistice Day, 1951.

1st Battalion Notes

BATTALION EDITOR:—MAJOR D. C. L. NOLDA



The Battalion is to go to Austria. This cheering news came to us some months ago. Despite the passage of time, it still produces an exhilarating feeling when one thinks of the joys of home-coming and the subsequent move to what must undoubtedly be one of the best stations the Army has abroad. Although the move is still some months distant, planning, both regimental and domestic, has begun and already there is talk of starting German classes! Some of the older soldiers who have served in Austria since the war are full of worldly wisdom and advice on a variety of matters, ranging from leather pants to eidelweiss. Naturally, there is much talk of the winter sporting to come—a lovely thought which will help to brace us up during the long Hong Kong summer.

Dates for the move home are fairly firm now and unless the world situation worsens, the Battalion should be back in England by November. We have also been told that the Battalion will return as a whole. To this end, Python has been frozen for six months. When the news was first broken to the men there were surprisingly few disgruntled ones. In the main, those who had not already taken the decision to extend their Python were thankful the War Office had made up their minds for them. For the few, a week-end of beer did wonders and all are now happily reconciled to staying on the extra few months. The Python freeze is, in fact, an excellent move, for not only will the Band remain behind with us, but it will ensure continuity in the ranks of the N.C.O.s and specialists.

However, despite this unexpected bonus—in fact a small one, as most key Python personnel had previously consented to extending their overseas tour—releases next month of regular personnel will leave the Battalion

desperately short and it is feared that this might entail running down to two rifle companies.

Information has already been received that the Battalion will stay for about two months in Warley Barracks, Essex. This again is good news, for most of the men's homes will be within easy travelling distance. One can foresee much jockeying to be included on the advance party, which, of necessity, will have to be large as a separate party will be required for Austria. No doubt, the news of the Battalion's move will bring a host of applications from eager officers and N.C.O.s to return to regimental duty. We realise only too well how little we can offer to attract them to Hong Kong! If numbers are up to expectations it may well be that no advance parties will be required from here!

There has been no slackening in tempo this quarter. The Battalion continues to fulfil its functions as an operational unit, a training unit and a peace-time establishment with all the trappings of pomp and ceremony. There is little wonder, therefore, that life is full and varied with ceremonial parades cheek by jowl with riots, night patrols, brigade and divisional exercises, field firing, demonstrations and individual training. The weather, which up till now has permitted this extraordinary show of energy, is about to change, when undoubtedly hot clammy days will take their toll of dash and enthusiasm.

On January 18 the Brigade Commander carried out his annual inspection of the Battalion. At the end of the day's probing the Brigadier declared himself well pleased with all he had seen and we had the gratification of knowing that the Battalion was being run on sound administrative lines.

Soon after the administrative inspection, rehearsals began for the ceremonial guard for Gen. Evans, who was to leave for Europe after nearly three years of command of the land forces in Hong Kong. The Battalion rightfully felt itself greatly honoured at this distinction. The Guard was formed from representatives of all Companies and Major D. B. Rendell, M.B.E., M.C., was chosen to command it. Long service in bad stations made it necessary for Dennis Rendell to wear dark glasses on the day of the parade. It was unfortunate that he was photographed in a most characteristic pose, for it will take time for him to live down the almost uncanny resemblance he bore to a very well known Oriental figure. Nevertheless, the General complimented the Guard on being one of the smartest he had inspected while he had been G.O.C.

Towards the end of January, the first batch of Royal Norfolk reinforcements, which we had been training, were called forward to Japan. We saw them leave with regret, but happy in the satisfaction that they left fully trained to play their part in their own Battalion. Since

then there have been more departures and arrivals of Royal Norfolks. The former system whereby they stayed with us for a minimum of ten weeks is now in abeyance and now we never know how long they are likely to stay with us. This is greatly to be regretted, for not only does it make planning extremely difficult, but it tends to kill the incentive of the trainers.

On March 1, Kowloon was shaken by rioting and violence in the main street. A few people were hurt and some damage was caused. Despite the large number of rioters, the police soon had the situation under control. Unfortunately, reports at home were grossly exaggerated and caused much uneasiness among anxious relations and friends, who feared the worst for the soldiers. In fact, although the Army was alerted, their assistance was not required and as soon as tension lifted life returned to normal. Needless to say the rioting occurred on a Saturday afternoon when the Army was well and truly dispersed on recreational training. The Brigadier was at the races, the Colonel was on leave in Japan, Major Allen, the acting C.O., was on week-end leave and the Adjutant was at the Club. However, communications proved adequate and after a certain amount of preliminary bother, officers and men were brought back to their units, even though Majors Rendell, Battye and Nolda spent most of the night in Whitfield Barracks waiting for R.A.S.C. transport.

We have been fortunate indeed in having H.M.S. *Unicorn* with us on two separate occasions this quarter. *Unicorn* came to Hong Kong early in March to take part in a Colony exercise, when we took the opportunity of having a day's sport at San Sai. It was a happy coincidence that that day (March 12) had been chosen some time before for the Brigade Searchlight Tattoo (reported in full later) and we were thus able to entertain both officers and men in our respective Messes that evening.

The second occasion (April 20, 1952) marked the historic presentation of the Regimental Marches to H.M.S. *Unicorn*. A Special Order of the Day commemorating the Alliance between H.M.S. *Unicorn* and the Regiment was reproduced in the last Journal Notes.

It was a sad misfortune that Col. Gwyn, who was in hospital recovering from an operation to his foot, was unable to undertake the presentation. At one time there was talk of him being taken aboard in a bosun's chair and carried along the flight deck in a palanquin. The doctors, however, got wind of the Colonel's intention and with indignation forbade what they termed a dangerous enterprise.

In the absence of the Commanding Officer, Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., undertook the presentation and we would like to congratulate him on his excellent speech, which in its moving simplicity exactly captured the momentousness of the occasion.

The Press was well represented that morning and next day all the local papers carried full reports of the ceremony. Extracts from the *South China Morning Post* are here reproduced:

"Both Sir Manley Power, that music-loving warrior under whom the Middlesex Regiment's 1st Battalion served in 1816, and the Irish Band Sergeant who composed the 2nd Battalion's marching tune 'Paddy's Resource' at Sebastopol during the Crimean campaign

of 1855, would have been astonished but proud men had they been able to witness the interesting and unusual ceremony which took place on the flight deck of Her Majesty's aircraft carrier *Unicorn* in Hong Kong harbour yesterday morning.

"They would have seen the whole complement of a twentieth-century warship listening to those stirring nineteenth-century marches they brought into being for the former 57th and 77th Foot, and men of the Middlesex Regiment in the neat uniform of to-day playing them with the same old zest as their fathers and their fathers' fathers—albeit in vastly different surroundings—marching and counter-marching past the grim grey 'island' with its radar and lean-snouted ack-ack batteries slanting skyward.

"Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., deputising for Lt. Col. R. A. Gwyn, Officer Commanding the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), presented Capt. J. Y. Thompson, R.N., on behalf of H.M.S. *Unicorn*, with an illuminated Order of the Day and an illuminated Manuscript of the Regimental Marches—'Sir Manley Power' and 'Paddy's Resource'—in token of the long association between the two fighting units.

"At 11 a.m. the ship's company was drawn up facing inwards along both sides of the flight deck, the Regimental Band up forward facing amidships and officers and guests facing forward from right aft.

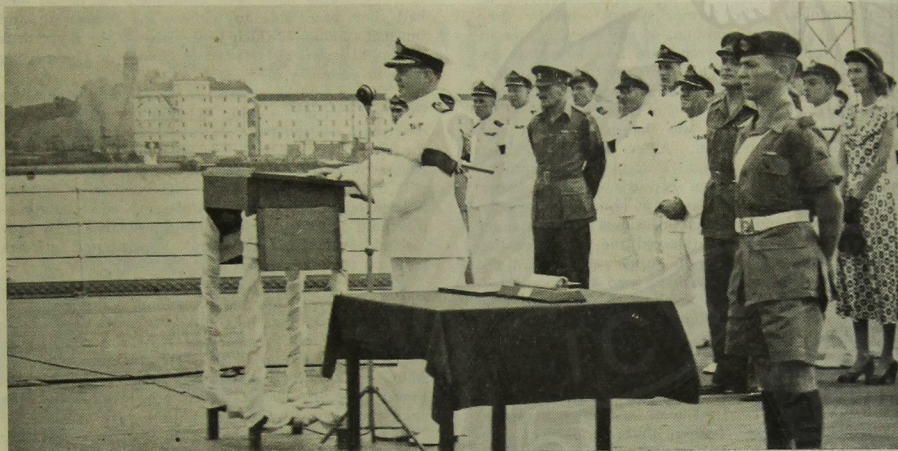
"Following a fanfare of trumpets, Major Allen told those present that it was the *Unicorn* which had first taken the Middlesex Regiment to Pusan to do battle in Korea and from that date, August, 1950, the bonds between the Battalion and the ship had been growing steadily stronger.

"Since then there had been many changes in the personnel of the unit, some leaving on posting elsewhere and others returning to civil life. Among the replacements were to-day a large number of National Service officers and other ranks. But wherever those who served with the Middlesex went they would always remember H.M.S. *Unicorn*.

"Having read the Special Order of the Day (reproduced in the last issue of the Journal), Major Allen then detailed the history of the two Marches. 'Sir Manley Power' (1st Battalion) was first adopted in 1816 and was named after the Commanding General at that time. 'Paddy's Resource' was composed for the 2nd Battalion by its Irish Band Sergeant at Sebastopol during the Crimean War in 1855.

"Thanking the Middlesex, Capt. Thompson said that it gave him great pleasure to receive these trophies. He wished to acknowledge the honour done to his ship. He knew of only two other vessels which had been similarly honoured. They were H.M.S. *Vanguard*, by the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and H.M.S. *Excellent* the Gunnery School, Whale Island, which had been so honoured by the Queen's Regiment on the Glorious 1st of June, 1794. While only four remained of those who went to Pusan with H.M.S. *Unicorn*, the Navy as well as the Army saw officers and men come and go, but both ships and regiments went on—the spirit remained in them.

"It was 408 years since the Navy had its first H.M.S. *Unicorn*, and her first action in battle had been against



Capt. Thompson replying to Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., on the occasion of the presentation of the Regimental Marches to H.M.S. "Unicorn."

the Spanish Armada in 1588, during the reign of Elizabeth I. The Middlesex Regiment, too, had a long history of some 200 years.

"During the war, he went on, one of the best-known songs was 'There'll always be an England'; and so there would as long as England had an army and a navy to defend her shores.

"Let us hope and pray, he concluded, that there'll always be a *Unicorn* in that Navy and a Middlesex Regiment in that Army!

"He then handed the illuminated March to Lt. (S.) D. W. M. Feuerheerd and the Order of the Day to Stoker Mechanic D. C. Hollis, both of whom served in the ship when she first took the Regiment to Pusan. (Only two other officers now remain aboard of the *Unicorn's* complement at that time.)

"The Band then again marched up and down playing the Regimental Marches followed by 'A Life on the Ocean Wave' and 'Hearts of Oak', the khaki-clad bandmen with their blue berets, white belts and maroon hose-tops making a striking contrast with the ship's company in spotless tropical whites.

"Once more drawn up forward the Band then played 'God Save the Queen' and the ceremony was over.

"The two trophies were placed on a table on the quarterdeck for inspection. Each bore the crests of the Middlesex and *Unicorn* and decorations of the Regimental maroon and gold and navy blue and white. The Order of the Day was suitably framed and the March was placed in a glass cylinder mounted in silver on a mahogany base with an inscribed plate.

The very fine illuminated Order of the Day was the work of Lt. A. W. C. Roxton, of the Regiment."

After the ceremony the ship was open to inspection by the visitors. A Sea Fury which had been positioned on the flight deck proved a great attraction. Later, officers and their wives were entertained in the Wardroom.

Appointments and Promotions During Quarter, January—March, 1952

To C.S.M.: C/Sgt. Cooper, "A" Company.

To C/Sgt.: Sgt. Firman, "B" Company.

To Sgt.: Cpl. Harris, "H.Q." Company.

To Cpl.: Pte. Gibbs, "A" Company; L/Cpl. Rawlinson, "H.Q." Company; L/Cpl. Coles, "H.Q." Company; L/Cpl. Patrini, Band; L/Cpl. Searle, Band.

To L/Cpl.: Pte. Edwards, "H.Q." Company; Pte. Wright, "H.Q." Company; Pte. Cosstick, "H.Q." Company; Pte. Haffenden, "H.Q." Company; Pte. Jefford, "H.Q." Company; Bdm. Dawson, Band; Bdm. Beechey, Band; Pte. Bunce, "A" Company; Pte. Rose, "B" Company; Pte. Juniper, "B" Company; Pte. Webb, "B" Company; Pte. Price, "B" Company; Pte. Coleman, "C" Company; Pte. Potts, "C" Company; Pte. Ward, "C" Company; Pte. Buckley, "C" Company; Pte. Forward, "D" Company; Pte. Sheppard, "S" Company.

Have you ordered
your copy of
"The Die-Hards"?

Training



Training this quarter has been fast, furious and varied. Of necessity the winter months are crowded with exercises at all levels. In addition, the normal training of reinforcements, both Middlesex and Royal Norfolk, has to continue. As numbers are short it is necessary for everyone to turn out on exercises, whatever their state of training. This produces certain incongruities, and it is not unusual for soldiers to find themselves on individual training one week only to be plunged into a brigade or divisional exercise the next. In fact, on the last exercise, "C" Company was composed mainly of soldiers who had only arrived four days previously.

On January 8, a composite Platoon from "A" Company, under 2/Lt. Rutherford, acted as enemy for a 35 Brigade Exercise "Hobnail." So dashing and spirited were the enemy that before long they found the opposing side's headquarters and captured the Brigadier. This was not in the forecast of events and proved somewhat disconcerting to both the Brigadier and the Director.

While "A" Company was busy on "Hobnail," the remainder of the Battalion was heavily engaged in Force Guards. Once again the honour of guarding Government House and Flagstaff House went to "D" Company, yet another feather in C.S.M. McMillan's hat. As on the previous occasion, the Band and Drums were present on the first day of mounting and again successfully blocked all traffic on Garden Road. For the first time in the history of the Colony both the Old Guard (45 Field Regiment, R.A.) and the New (1st Middlesex) wore the recently issued Korean Campaign ribbons.

During January the Battalion spent three days on Infantry/Tank co-operation, under the joint direction of "B" and "C" Company Commanders. Much

valuable experience was gained and we look forward to our next meeting with the tanks, now 7th R.T.R., who recently relieved our old friends 3rd R.T.R.

The most important exercise of the winter was undoubtedly "Grouse III," a four-day Brigade exercise designed to test endurance and the ability to maintain oneself in the mountains. A week previous to "Grouse" we revised and rehearsed our battle procedure in a series of cloth model and skeleton exercises. This was essential as many officers and N.C.O.s were new to the Battalion—gone were the old days of automatic Korean technique and it was imperative that a standard drill was known to all. "Grouse" was eminently successful, due largely to the previous week's training, which enabled the Battalion to emerge with a very satisfactory report after its four days' test. "B" and "C" Companies did extremely well in their joint assault on Cove Hill, a steep, rock-like feature with difficult approaches.

"Grouse" was followed by "Vortex," a Colony exercise in which commands and staff were plunged into a mass of whirling incidents, designed to test communications and control during field operations. As it was a skeleton exercise there was no test of physical endurance, but the calls on imagination and patience were extremely heavy.

On March 25 and 26 the Battalion was exercised by Brigade Headquarters. Exercise "Jay" was formidable in its conception, for it entailed a relief in the line by night, followed by an attack and pursuit the next day. Fitness and morale were excellent and great credit goes to "C" Company, who undertook some stiff climbs with soldiers who had only arrived four days previously. "B" Company furthered its reputation for prowess in scaling the heights, while "A" and "D" were content to work along the valley and lower slopes.

All thoroughly enjoyed "Jay." The weather was perfect and we were operating in quite the loveliest valley in the New Territories. Both night and day were full of excitement and when we returned to barracks some 30 hours later, fit but tired out, all felt that it had been a very satisfactory exercise.

Interspersed with Battalion and Brigade exercises, individual training of the newly-arrived continued, while the demand for specialists in Headquarters and Support Companies was still as heavy as ever. The struggle to keep the Battalion up to strength in N.C.O.s, tradesmen and specialists never ceases, for few reinforcements in these categories reach us to replace the endless departures. Many of the gaps are plugged by training our own junior leaders and specialists in a succession of cadres. At this moment cadres are being run for junior leaders, signallers, drivers, machine gunners, mortar and anti-tank crews, taking large numbers of instructors which we can ill afford. There is no doubt that under present conditions the provision of men for Support Company presents a grave problem with its constant drain on rifle companies. Perhaps the answer lies in the development of the tactical use of the atomic bomb, which might well obviate the necessity for supporting weapons within the infantry battalion!

An innovation in training this quarter was Brigade study days, designed to cut down overheads and replace Battalion study days. Under this system, one

Battalion at a time undertakes the study of a particular military subject, operational or administrative. This it presents to the remainder of the Brigade by means of lecture, cloth model and demonstration.

The first Brigade day fell on us and the subject chosen was District Courts Martial. Although our own record in Courts Martial has been extremely low, our Field Officers are in great demand to sit as Presidents. The study of this subject was conducted by means of a play,



Shooting

There has been so much shooting during the last few months that one is reminded of that old Latin tag, "Gallus tuus ego et ignis via" (Cock your eye and fire away). Ever since the 1st Battalion Rifle Meeting last November hardly a week has gone by without one or other of our shooting teams distinguishing itself. In fact one would be hard pressed to recall any previous occasion on which the Regiment had done so well.

The Hong Kong Bisley took place from January 28 to February 12. We entered two teams—

"A." 2/Lt. Laurence, Sgt. Steward, Cpl. DaCosta, Cpl. Armstrong.

"B." Sgt. Smallwood, Cpl. Pluck, Cpl. Leat, Pte. Brumpton.

"A" team, having led until the last day, were unlucky in dropping to second place in the final outcome. Details of the scores and practices are shown below.

<i>Sadick Cup</i> (S.R.(a)T. Rifle): Application, Rapid and Snap at 200 yards:			
2/Lt. Laurence .. 111	1st 1st Middlesex "A" .. 446		
Sgt. Steward .. 123	2nd Tamar "A" .. 429		
Cpl. DaCosta .. 101	3rd R.U.R. "A" .. 422		
Cpl. Armstrong .. 111			

Individual: Cpl. Pluck 123 ("B" Team).
Runner-up: Sgt. Steward 123.

which was produced and compered by Major D. C. L. Nolda, whose previous experience as Adjutant to both Battalions has earned him the unofficial position of legal adviser to the Regiment! The play was highly successful and revealed a wealth of acting material among the officers. In particular, 2/Lt. Goodwin, as Private Forger, the accused, and Capt. Matthews, as the benevolent P.R.I., were quite brilliant in their excellent characterisations.

<i>"South China Morning Post" Bowl</i> (S.R.(a)T. Rifle: Application, Rapid, Snap at 300 yards:			
2/Lt. Laurence .. 119	1st Tamar "A" .. 431		
Sgt. Steward .. 113	2nd R.U.R. "A" .. 439		
Cpl. DaCosta .. 104	3rd 1st Middlesex "A" .. 427		
Cpl. Armstrong .. 91			

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<i>Sporting Arms Cup</i> (S.R.(a)T. Rifle): Application 500 yards and 600 yards:			
2/Lt. Laurence .. 82	1st 1st Middlesex "A" .. 331		
Sgt. Steward .. 85	2nd R.U.R. "A" .. 339		
Cpl. DaCosta .. 91	3rd R.N.F. "A" .. 310		
Cpl. Armstrong .. 73			

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Individual Runner-up: Cpl. DaCosta 91.

<i>S. W. Lee Cup</i> (Team Snap):			
"A" Team		"B" Team	
2/Lt. Laurence	Sgt. Steward	Sgt. Smallwood	Cpl. Pluck
Cpl. DaCosta	Cpl. Leat		
1st 1st Middlesex "A" .. 31			
2nd Tamar "A" .. 26			
3rd 1st Middlesex "B" .. 24			

<i>San Miguel Cup</i> (L.M.G. Team 600x-300x):			
2/Lt. Laurence	1st Tamar "B" .. 97		
Sgt. Steward	2nd 1st Middlesex "A" .. 96		
Cpl. DaCosta	3rd 1st A. & S.H. "A" .. 87		

<i>Terry Cup</i> (Team Hamilton Leigh):			
1st R.A.O.C. "A" .. 96			
2nd R.A.F. "A" .. 96			
3rd 1st Middlesex "A" .. 87			
R.N.F. "A" .. 87			

<i>Colony Unit Championships:</i>			
1st Tamar "A" .. 96			
2nd 1st Middlesex "A" .. 96			
3rd R.U.R. "A" .. 87			
R.N.F. "A" .. 87			

The following were selected to shoot for the Colony Army VIII in the Inter-Services match and were successful in all three events: 2/Lt. Laurence, Sgt. Steward, Cpl. DaCosta, Cpl. Pluck.

All these successes brought congratulatory telegrams from both the General and the Brigadier. We take this opportunity to congratulate 2/Lt. Laurence on his excellent leadership, ability and unflagging energy, which have contributed so largely not only to our successes but to the general enthusiasm which is now so apparent in the Battalion.

March also saw much shooting, starting with an inter-Company .22 competition, which was won by "D" Company, closely followed by "B." The best individual was Cpl. DaCosta, who scored 116 out of a possible 125. During the month the Battalion entered a team for two A.R.A. non-central matches, the Lord Roberts Forces Day Cup and the I.C.I. N.S.R.A. Challenge Cup. We are still awaiting the results.

In mid-March the colony held the first machine gun concentration since before the war. Major V. A.

Thomas, M.C., was selected as chief instructor to the five platoons which took part from—1st R.N.F., 1st Wilts, 1st Middlesex, 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and 1st R.U.R.

The Middlesex platoon distinguished itself in not only being selected to undertake an indirect fire demonstration, but in winning the Colony Machine Gun Cup and getting the highest Colony score (321) in the A.R.A. machine gun competition. The score in the latter may well be high enough to win the A.R.A. Cup. Great credit goes to Sgt. Thorogood. Since our return from Korea he has held practically uninterrupted command of the platoon and has been responsible for all its training. The platoon has now been taken over by Lt. Kitchener, who has recently returned from a course at Netheravon and we now look forward to bigger and better achievements.

Another feature of the present enthusiasm in shooting is the high attendance at the regular informal fortnightly shoots organised by the Hong Kong Rifle Association, of which we are members. All this augurs well for our return to England, by which time we should be in a position to take on the Green Jackets! It is unfortunate that we have recently lost two of our outstanding shots, Sgt. Steward to the Malayan Scouts and Cpl. Pluck to 1st R.W.K. However, we trust that with the return of 2/Lt. Laurence from compassionate leave in England it will not take long to train new members for the team from the abundance of material which so obviously exists in the Battalion.



Battalion "A" Team which did so well in the Hong Kong Bisley.

Left to right: Sgt. Steward, 2/Lt. Laurence, Cpl. DaCosta, Cpl. Armstrong.



Entertainment

The death of our late King, with its consequent mourning, has meant the curtailment of all official entertainment. However, we take this opportunity of reporting the Brigade Tattoo, which was held on the evening of March 12 on the Sports Fields at San Wai.

Taking part were the Bands of 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1st Battalion The Royal Ulster Rifles; the Drums and Fifes of 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.); the Pipes and Drums of 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1st Battalion The Royal Ulster Rifles.

Illuminations by The Movement Light Troop, R.A.

It was a cold evening. The setting was superb. Low cloud and in every direction huge black mountains intensified the silence of the large and expectant gathering of soldiers and their families. The silence was broken by the sudden appearance of a single searchlight which illuminated the buglers of The Royal Ulster Rifles, who introduced the programme with a fanfare. Then followed the massed Bands, Drums and Pipes of the Brigade led by Drum-Major Holford, the senior Drum-Major in the Brigade. It was a most moving spectacle and brought down the spontaneous applause of all the spectators. Next came Scottish and Irish dancing and a drum fantasy with bugle and life marches from our Corps of Drums. Despite the romance and splendour of the Pipes and dress of the Scottish and Irish Regiments, there was no doubt that for sheer bearing and

musical efficiency the Middlesex drummers were easily the best. Drum-Major Holford excelled himself and time and again drew the admiration of the crowd when, despite the glare of the searchlights, he tossed his mace high into the night.

After a full and varied programme, the evening



Sport

Introductory notes must perforce be somewhat of an apologia, for unhappily we failed to fulfil the predictions we made last quarter. These failures were due in a large measure to the surprising number of key sportsmen who left the Battalion during the last few months. However, despite our failure in achieving supreme distinction in any one field, we have nevertheless maintained an above average placing in all leagues and competitions in the Colony.

The Albuhera Shield nears completion with "H.Q." 2 having gained the lead, closely followed by "D" and Support. Throughout, the competition has been run under the most difficult of conditions, particularly for rifle companies. Not only did Company strengths vary considerably from week to week, but operational duties often meant that valuable players were unable to play in critical matches. We hope that conditions this coming year will be much more stable, with leagues replacing knock-out competitions, thereby assuring more realistic results.

Rugby

It has been the Battalion's misfortune that during the latter part of the season the Rugby side has had many casualties. After winning against the Argyll & Suther-

land Highlanders we played the 23rd Field Regiment R.A. in the semi-finals of the Land Forces Competition and went down 15-0. It was a hard open game played with the usual inter-Unit spirit. 2/Lt. Goodwin and L/Cpl. Harding showed dash at fly and wing, and Pte. McGrail kicked well at full back, though inclined to be slightly out-positioned at times. In the pack Cpts. Jordan and Deacock and Pte. Snow caught the eye in the loose mauls and rushes.

There is plenty of good rugger material in the Battalion and we look forward to training a side next year without the intrusion of cricket, basketball, tennis and other summer games.

It was a great disappointment that we were unable to field our full side for the Colony 7-a-side Competition. We were drawn in the first round to a trading firm with Cpts. Clayden, Deacock, Jordan and Legge and Lt. Fothergill unable to play. Although the team, consisting of L/Cpl. Harding, 2/Lts. Goodwin and Catchpole, Lt. Evans, Ptes. Snow and Briggs, and 2/Lt. Pollard did well to go down only 3-0, it was the lack of experience that told.

The Albuhera 7-a-side Competition was played off in mid-March and was won by "H.Q." 2, captained by Lt. Fothergill, with "H.Q." 1 runners-up.

It was very laudable that the Battalion had three members chosen to represent the Colony when it went on its eight-day Rugby tour of Japan in early January—Cpts. Clayden and Deacock and Lt. Evans.

It was a most successful tour in all ways. The team played four games—three against the Japanese and one against a "Foreigners" and Commonwealth side. The results were:

Meiji University (the largest in Japan—area of Tokyo) ..	Won	14-3
All Kanto (northern area team around Tokyo) ..	Drawn	6-6
All Kansai (southern area team around industrial area of Osaka)	Won	12-10
All Japan Foreigners' Team ..	Lost	15-3

Cpts. Clayden and Deacock collected a very good share of the honours. The former for the great part was the mainspring of the outsiders. The team was royally entertained. It was flown there and back via Taipei, Okinawa and Tokyo, and all enjoyed themselves immensely. This team was the first touring side to go to Japan for 15 years and doubtless this will be a regular feature in the years to come.

Soccer

Since the last Journal notes the Battalion soccer team has proved that not all upsets are to be found in the political world, for they well and truly beat the Colony favourites (1st A. & S.H.) by 3 goals to 1.

This result boded well for our next match in the league, when we were due to play 23rd Field Regiment R.A., who up till then had been invincible. The game was played on our own ground at San Wai and attracted a large number of soccer enthusiasts. It was a ding-dong struggle from the start with both teams missing scoring opportunities, and the final whistle came with no score. This result gave us seventh place in the major Units league, on the whole a disappointing finish.

Now that the season for competitive soccer is over we must start thinking of the future. Many of our players are still with us and our hopes for next season will be centred on Colston, Freeman, Shepherd, Cranfield, Wright, Crooks and Carlisle. Already talent spotters are out looking for players among our recent drafts to replace Nicholson, Harding and Cheeseman.

The Company league has now been played off and our congratulations go to "D" Company on winning the championship. This result can be more appreciated when one realises that the majority of the Battalion players are in "H.Q." 2, while "D" Company's average strength until recently has been approximately 50 men.

We take this opportunity to thank Sgt. Burgess who refereed the Battalion and Company matches, Pte. Edwards who, under the tutelage of Sgt. Burgess, refereed many of the Company games, and to Cpl. Burbage whose enthusiasm has earned him the permanent appointment of Battalion linesman.

Company league results are:

Company	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F.	A.	Pts.
"D"	6	5	-	1	15	5	10
"B"	6	3	2	1	12	9	8
"H.Q." 2	6	3	1	2	12	8	7
"H.Q." 1	6	3	-	3	8	11	6
"A"	6	2	1	3	8	10	5
"C"	6	1	1	4	6	9	3
"S"	6	-	3	3	5	14	3

Cricket

Under dark March clouds and with the completion of the Army League and Albuhera Shield, the cricket season 1951/52 has closed quietly. Looking back to October, many hopes built on early successes have not been fulfilled in the event. Latterly the Battalion has hardly recognised itself on taking the field and all too frequently pressure of work and other sports commitments have kept keen individuals out of vital games.

Policy has decreed that the Battalion will enter in all sports and current competitions in the Colony, that all might have their chance to play. With concentration of effort the Battalion might well have won the Army cricket, that we lie third in the league reflects rather the diversity of sport played than our best at cricket.

In our last game 2/Lt. J. S. B. Pollard, in his first Battalion game, made a pleasant 37, while 2/Lt. Alan Catchpole, deserting the golf course, took one wicket

for five runs, an event which might be compared in unexpectedness with the appearance of a Gay Column in the *Times*.

Among those who have consistently served the Battalion have been Pte. Wright ("H.Q." Company), C/Sgt. Cranfield and Capt. G. Mason, whose lurid headgear in the field surely challenges the contention that cricket is Conservative—and might account for a run-out or two.

The Albuhera Shield was won by "C" Company, with Support Company second. The competition was played on our own matting wicket with real success. Many Royal Norfolk trainees with the Battalion turned out for their Companies, adding all the enthusiasm of a minor county.

Hockey

The Battalion hockey team started the New Year well, having already won the 27th Brigade Shield. Owing to injuries and other commitments, however, the team could not always maintain its best form. Of the three league games played in the major Units competition we have only managed to win one, when we beat the 5th Fusiliers 5-0.

Another visit of H.M.S. *Unicorn* to the Colony provided an opportunity for some good hockey and amusement. This time, in addition to the Battalion 1st XI, we produced an officers' team to play the ship's officers. Unfortunately the officers' team could not emulate the 1st XI and were severely trounced by nine goals to three, while our 1st team had a very good 8-1 victory to return the compliment.

The Albuhera Hockey Shield was won by "H.Q." 2 team, with "D" Company as very worthy runners-up. Company hockey more than made up in keenness what it lacked in experience. There is undoubtedly good material available which only waits to be trained.

Athletics

Athletic training started early in the year, but as events were to prove later, not early enough. In January, helped by the Argylls, we started work on constructing a running track on what was literally virgin soil. The quality of the finished article was really first-class and represented an outstanding achievement by the fatigue parties and numerous volunteers under the very able direction of C.S.M.I. Sowman and Sgt. Potter.

On a lovely day in February we held the inter-Company athletic meeting. Competition was keen, with "H.Q." 2 and Support Company finishing with an equal number of points. The first place eventually went to "H.Q." 2 on the result of the 4 x 880 team relay. Although there were no startling achievements, the meeting proved that we possessed a number of athletes capable of high performances. Particularly noteworthy were the entrants for the pole vault, most of whom, although newcomers to the art of assisted jumping, did astonishingly well. The most spectacular success, however, was L/Cpl. Rawlinson, who beat the Drum Major in the discus, purely by abandoning himself to a third twist, which formerly he had not dared to attempt.

The meeting finished with Mrs. Gwyn presenting the Athletic Shield to the champion Company and medals to all winners and runners-up. In return Michael Budden, young son of C.S.M. Budden, charmingly presented Mrs. Gwyn with a bouquet of flowers.

On the conclusion of the Battalion athletic meeting 52 officers and men commenced training under the able guidance of Capt. C. N. Clayden and the watchful eye of the Battalion Athletics Officer, Capt. Flavell, in preparation for the Brigade meeting.

On March 5, 1952, 27th Infantry Brigade held their athletic meeting at Boundary Street, Kowloon. The day started overcast and before long it rained, but fortunately not sufficiently hard to cancel the meeting.

From the onset it was evident that 1st R.U.R. (as in the boxing) were our rivals. Excitement reached fever pitch as the day progressed with both teams level pegging, with the final event remaining to decide the issue. It was not until the last baton change in the 4 x 100 relay that we realised we had lost the chance of winning the competition. We had a lead of approximately 1½ yards when our last man home stumbled. Gallantly picking himself up and still holding the baton he continued the race, to finish third.

So ended a day of exhilarating sport with only six points separating us from the winners. Despite our overwhelming superiority in field events we were now debarred from going on to the Colony Inter-Unit Championship as it had previously been decided that only the winning team would represent the Brigade.

Results in detail were as follows:

Event	Place	Best Time/Distance
4 x 100	3	—
4 x 220	1	1 min. 42.5 sec.
4 x 440	1	3 min. 58.3 sec.
4 x 880	2	—
1 mile	3	—
3 miles	3	—
120 Hurdles Relay	3	—
Hammer	1	108 ft. 2 in.
Hop, Step & Jump	1	40 ft. 4½ in.
High Jump	3	—
Javelin	1	141 ft. 4 in.
Discus	1	94 ft. 2½ in.
Long Jump	1	19 ft. 11 in.
Shot	1	34 ft.
Pole Vault	3	—

Although we were unable to enter a team for the Inter-Unit Championship we did find a number of entrants for the individual events, but unfortunately met with no great success. However, later in the Colony Amateur Athletic Championship we did redeem our honour in some measure with Drum-Major Holford taking first place in the hammer, second in the discus, and Lt. Fothergill rightly taking his place as champion javelin thrower with a distance of 152 ft. ½ in.

Boxing

The New Year started well with a large number of boxers training hard under the direction of Capt. Deacock. The very satisfactory results of the novices and inter-company boxing had instilled confidence and hopes were high for the forthcoming events.

There was a record entry of 16 for the Land Forces Open Championships in January. Eliminating bouts whittled our representation down to five in the finals.

These were fought at San Wai and the afternoon provided some of the best bouts of the season for a large number of spectators, including many senior officers. We were proud to see L/Cpl. Jelly, Ptes. Carroll and Barden win the heavyweight, light-heavy and light-middleweight contests respectively, while Ptes. Craze and Moss were runners-up.

It was quite evident from the afternoon's boxing that our main concern in the Inter-Unit Championship would be the 1st R.U.R. This in fact proved true for we met them in the semi-finals, when we were beaten by 8 fights to 3. In many ways it was a disappointing result for we had looked forward to a keener decision which our past record had more than warranted. There was no doubt though that the Ulstermen were the fitter team, and we were glad to see them go on to win the finals by beating 1st Wilts 11—3.

In February L/Cpl. Jelly, Ptes. Cocks, Carroll and Barden were chosen to represent Hong Kong in the FARELF Championships which were held in Singapore. We have just heard that L/Cpl. Jelly is the new FARELF heavyweight champion, whilst the other three were all runners-up—our congratulations to them all.

Boxing for the year is now over and gloves are hung up for the present. On looking back, despite our disappointment in the inter-Unit team championship, it has been a very satisfactory season. We have made mistakes but have gained much valuable experience, and have the nucleus to form a really good team for next year.

We take this opportunity to offer our thanks to S.M. Henry of the R.U.R. who did so much to encourage and direct our training. That he was training his own Regimental team at the same time only adds to his credit.

The following were the team for 1951-52: Lt. Fothergill, L/Cpl. Jelly (captain), W.O.2 Butcher (R.A.E.C. attached), Cpl. Spicer, Cpl. Barker (A.C.C. attached), Pte. Carroll, Pte. Craze, Pte. Moss, Pte. Wallace, Pte. Hassell, Cfn. Pitcher (R.E.M.E. attached), Pte. Cocks, Pte. Dean (Royal Norfolk), Pte. Rist (Royal Norfolk), Pte. Perring (Royal Norfolk), Pte. Barden (Royal Norfolk), Pte. Woodward (Royal Norfolk), Pte. Noble, Pte. Sanders and Pte. O'Rawe.

Basketball

Basketball was revived in the Battalion last September and since then it has flourished rather spasmodically. Battalion duties have often interfered with continuity of practice and cancellations of matches due to the weather have been too many to be desirable.

However, there was a knock-out competition in the Albuhera Shield which was won by "S" Company, and the Battalion team, which has greatly improved during the last six months, has had a very successful season. In the Brigade league we beat 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 18 Field Ambulance and Brigade Headquarters, but lost to 1st South Staffords who were Brigade champions. In the Land Forces knock-out we beat 25 Field Regiment, R.A., but were unlucky to meet the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit in the second round to whom we lost. This team



Sgt. Thorogood with the winning Machine Gun Platoon.

went on to win the knock-out competition, so we were somewhat mollified.

At present we are taking part in the Nine Dragons knock-out competition and we have reached the semi-final, having beaten 6 F.O.D. and 1 R.N.F.

In our friendly matches we have won and lost against 3rd R.T.R. and have beaten the Chinese Staff of the European Y.M.C.A. We lost to the Chinese Y.M.C.A., one of the best teams in the Colony, and we are soon to have a return match to see if we can reverse the decision.

Our "International" matches not only extend to Chinese teams, for we have played against a U.S. naval ship as well.

It would be unfair to mention any names for special comment because the team has worked as a team and not relied on individuals to help it through. On present form the future prospects are very bright as most of the team will be with the Battalion until it goes home and the rest of the season should be a great success.

Fencing

Enthusiasm has not been dampened by lack of equipment and practices have continued at Victoria Barracks and lately at the European Y.M.C.A.

At the beginning of the year we fought a team from the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers for the Army championship. Although we lost against more experienced fencers, we had the honour of being the first team to represent the Battalion.

We were fortunate in getting a vacancy on a Fencing Course in Singapore for 2/Lt. Starr and congratulate him on the excellent result he achieved. We trust that given time he will be able to train a really good team for next year's events.

At present a team consisting of Lt. A. R. F. Smith, 2/Lt. M. T. Beagley, 2/Lt. E. Starr, C.S.M.I. Sowman, Pte. Rogers and Pte. Wiffen are entered in the open Colony Fencing Championship, which is not yet completed. 2/Lt. Beagley and C.S.M.I. Sowman have done well to reach the semi-finals in the foil and equally 2/Lt. Starr in the sabre. So far the experience gained in this competition has been far more valuable than the results.

For the future, we look forward with confidence to building up a team of skilled fencers who will continue to further the present enthusiasm and perhaps new "stars" will emulate the successes and reputation of John Willoughby in his younger days.



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W.O.2 Butcher (and the Battalion Education Staff) on his success in getting the Battalion the best education record in the Colony.

We Salute

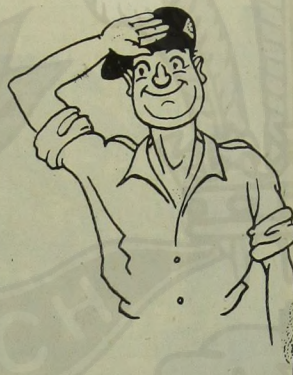
Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E., on the birth of a son.

W.O.2 Donovan on his promotion to R.S.M.

Capt. B. K. Clayden on successfully mixing business with pleasure and thereby finding a wife.

Sgt. Thorogood for his training of the M.M.G. Platoon which gave them first place in the Colony Machine Gun Concentration and the best score in the A.R.A. Competition.

Cpl. Pluck for winning the Sadick Cup.



2/Lt. Fothergill for throwing the javelin further than anyone else in the Colony Athletic Meeting.



Drum Major Holford (once again!) for taking first place in the hammer and second place in the discus in the Colony Athletics.



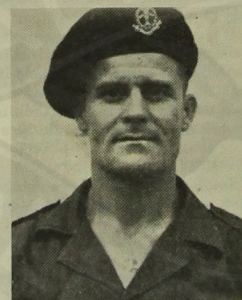
Pte. Jackson for being the oldest, cheeriest and most hard-working soldier in the Battalion.



L/Cpl. Jelly for becoming Services Heavyweight boxing champion of the Far East.



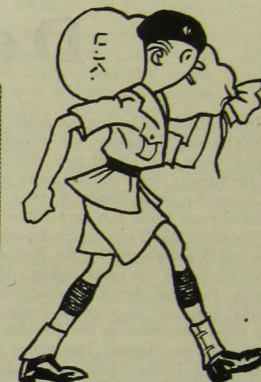
R.S.M. Weller, M.M., on his appointment to a Quartermaster's commission (not yet gazetted but to be ante-dated to January, 1952).



L/Cpl. Reeves for his excellent work in raising the tone of the dining hall.



Personality Parade



The manpower machine continues to work overtime but shows no sign of wearing out. Arrivals and departures continue in ever-increasing numbers, but unfortunately the one bears no relation to the other, with the result that the Battalion is never properly balanced. In all 4 officers, 1 W.O., 4 Sergeants and 20 rank and file have left us. In return we have had 8 officers and 180 Privates. In addition, there have been 188 Royal Norfolk in and 213 Royal Norfolk out.

The most grievous loss to the Battalion this quarter has been Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C. When he was appointed 2 IC last summer we all hoped that he would remain in that appointment until the Battalion returned home. But that was not to be, for within six months we were told he was to leave us for the Staff. We now have our fourth 2 IC within twelve months, which surely must be a record.

Peter Allen rejoined the 1st Battalion in June, 1950, when he was appointed to the command of Support Company. In August, when the Battalion reorganised for Korea, he took over "B" Company, which he led throughout the nine months' campaigning. In so doing, he was the only Company Commander in the Brigade who took out and brought back a Company to Hong Kong. To those of us who served with him, there will always remain a deeply-etched picture of "Himalayan Allen," whose long kud stick, cap comforter, and pipe, made him easily distinguishable as he led his Company. Always cheerful and imperturbable, his presence instilled confidence in officers and men alike. Although Peter Allen leaves the Battalion, we will still see much of him and hope that in his new appointment as D.A.A. and Q.M.G. at Brigade Headquarters he will do much to lighten the load which falls to regimental soldiers these days.

Other departures have been O.R.Q.M.S. Redpath (sufficiently recovered to allow his return to U.K. last month. We trust that he will be fully recovered by the time we get home, so that he can join us before we leave for Austria), W.O.2 Donovan who is to be R.S.M. at the Depot, Sgts. Saxby, Drew and Steward. C.S.M. Cooper, once again with warrant rank (this time we hope for good), is now with "A" Company, where he has replaced W.O.2 Donovan. Sgt. Burgess still continues heroically as Colour-Sergeant in "A" Company without the rank. At present he is away on a well-earned holiday to Japan. Perhaps we will be able to greet him with the news of promotion on the shadow roll when he returns.

Sgt. Simpson is back again with us as Orderly Room Sergeant, having changed over with Cpl. Cripps, who has returned to Field Records, Singapore.

There has been much change among the officers. After months of waiting we are once again up to strength in Majors. From the land of the theoretical have come Major G. B. Ayre, Major G. C. Dawson and Major I. H. Battye. We are already indebted to Major Ayre, our new 2 IC, for his handsome gift of a set of regimental Standing Orders, dated 1857, and signed by the then Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Warre. These Orders must be unique and make interesting reading—Majors are encouraged to visit barracks frequently, while wives are commanded not to fall in on the line of march but to accompany the baggage. Perhaps the spirit of Col. Warre is about and has got wind of our move to Austria?

Other officer arrivals are: Capt. Leonard from Malaya. Capt. Wheeler from Korea. 2/Lt.s Collins, Pollard, ex R.M.A., and 2/Lt. Fox. Lt. Kitchener from his M.M.G. course in U.K.

Depot Notes

Immediately following the death of His late Majesty, the Training Company was required for street lining duties when the Depot provided a mixed contingent of Permanent Staff and Recruits for the Proclamation of Accession on February 8, 1952. Weather and conditions were none too favourable for long stationary periods and the Training Staff were most pleased with the steadiness shown by the Recruits during the five-hour period of the route lining. It says much for the young National Service soldier that, after only five weeks' training, they could conduct themselves with the same steadiness as the Regular soldiers.

The Depot Annual Inspection was carried out by Maj.-Gen. J. A. Gascoigne, C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. London District, on April 1, 1952. The heavy fall of snow three days before was our biggest worry. However, we managed to clear the parade ground in time for the inspection by improvising table tops as snow ploughs.

Our usual church service for the Recruits at St. Paul's Church on March 30, 1952, had to be cancelled, as our Padre was prevented by deep drifts of snow from attending. The Recruits and Depot Staff who had started to march to the church, returned and took part in a snowball fight. The accuracy of some of the hurlers bodes well for the cricket team this season.

We have had two further Passing-Out Parades since last going to print and yet another sixty men are well on the way to completing their training before, we hope, joining the 1st Battalion. The Inspecting Officer for the first parade was Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., accompanied by Mrs. Rackham. Due to the death of the King, the parade was naturally conducted in a rather more sober vein and the usual band accompaniment was not available. However, Brigadier Rackham expressed satisfaction with the standard of drill, turnout and bearing of the men on parade, and quite a large gathering of parents and friends watched the parade. The usual medals were presented and those who received them were:

Best Recruit	Pte. A. Foster.
Best Rifle Shot ..	Pte. J. North.
Best L.M.G. Shot ..	Pte. M. Coppack.
Best Recruit P.T. ..	Pte. A. McDonnell.

The second parade was held on April 3, 1952, and though slightly over the time limit for the quarter, we have decided to include it in this issue. The Inspecting Officer was the Colonel of the Regiment, Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., his last inspection as Colonel of the Regiment before the end of his tour on April 22, 1952. Col. Browne addressed the parade and said that he was extremely pleased to find that half the draft were Regular recruits and would, in the fairly near future, be joining the 1st Battalion. He wished them luck and judged from their bearing and turnout on the parade after only six weeks, that they would acquit

themselves well and would uphold the fine traditions of the Regiment. Col. Browne then presented medals to the following:

General Service Medal with Palestine Clasp.	R.S.M. P. Donovan.
Best Recruit	Pte. P. Willmoth.
Best Rifle Shot ..	Pte. D. Higgins.
Best L.M.G. Shot ..	Pte. D. Higgins.
Best Recruit P.T. ..	Pte. P. Roche.

The Depot were sorry to see W.O.2 F. Wickens leave for the 5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment, Guildford, after his attachment to the Depot as A.R.S.M., and we wish him the best of luck in the future.

We also take this opportunity of welcoming W.O.2 P. Donovan to the Depot as our new Depot R.S.M. and congratulate him on his appointment and promotion. R.S.M. Donovan has already made himself "known" in several quarters.

We also congratulate Cpl. Potts on his above average grading on the Small Arms Course at Hythe.

Even as this is written, a new intake is struggling through the Main Gate of the Depot and the familiar bustle and hustle of documentation and equipping is in progress. Our P.S.O., Capt. J. N. Fitzpatrick, Royal West Kent Regiment, is looking increasingly harassed at the numbers arriving, which have far outnumbered the official figures. Regular recruiting is certainly on the upgrade and as we enter the new era of "Soldiers of the Queen" our hopes for a high proportion of regular soldiers in our Battalion seem never to have been better.

We have just heard that we are to lose our Commanding Officer, Major G. O. Porter, who has been posted to the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong. Capt. A. D. C. Eales will take over command of the Depot until Major P. D. H. Marshall arrives from West Africa.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM NOTES

What with redecoration, installations of new lighting and heating, and the arrival of new show cases, the Museum has suffered from constant upheavals, but we are nearing the end of these upsets now, and reorganisation has already been able to make some headway. Mr. Smith, who looks after the place, is no mean handyman, and takes carpentering, upholstering and plumbing in his stride.

Gifts continue to arrive, and since the last number of the Journal the following additions are acknowledged with many thanks to the donors:

From Mr. Geo. H. E. Du Jeld

A collection of press cuttings, photographs and programmes, together with Lt.-Col. C. R. Dyer's Farewell Order on handing over command of the 4th Battalion in 1911. The cuttings give accounts of the funeral of

Lord Gifford, V.C., 57th Regiment, at which Mr. Duffield was one of the bearers.

A copy of the *Old Contemptible* for February, 1952, containing an account of the unveiling of the commemoration plaque at Obourg, Mons, to the memory of the 4th Battalion.

"Award of Merit" awarded to Mr. Duffield in 1911. A Diploma which goes with this has been promised.

From Mr. H. G. Manders (Sgt., 1st Middlesex, 1907-28)

A copy of *Steady the Drums and Fifes*, in very good condition, and a photograph of the 1st and 3rd Battalions on parade at Dum Dum in 1911. Both pictures are framed.

From Ex-Schoolmaster J. C. Crisp

Cuttings from the *Illustrated London News* dated 1855 and 1856, giving accounts and sketches of the 57th in the Crimea, and an extract from an old Army List of 1912.

From Capt. A. E. Gurr

A cap band with the words "Afrika Korps" taken by Capt. Gurr from a prisoner of that Corps in the desert in 1942.

Two German war medals—one 1939 and the other 1941-42.

Two values of paper money (1s. and 2s. 6d.), issued in exchange for English money to members of the 1st Army before landing in North Africa.

From Mrs. L. Paulet

A Russian pistol from the battlefield of Tchernia, brought from the Crimea by Lt. T. E. Fosbery, 77th Regiment, 1836.

Lt. Fosbery was Mrs. Paulet's father; he lost a leg at the siege of Sebastopol.

Back Numbers of 'The Die-Hards'

Major G. C. D. Scott-Lowe, T.D., Depot and Training Establishment, Royal Military Police, Inkerman Barracks, Woking, Surrey, writes. "Re the Journal. I have all copies from 1928 to the war bound and have a complete set post-war with the exception of two—Vol. 8, Nos. 3 and 5 (September, 1947, and March, 1948). I know you are out of stock. Is it possible to put a small notice in the next issue?"

If you have these volumes to spare would you contact the writer direct, please?

His late Majesty King George VI

The following messages between the President of the Douai British Club and Brigadier E. E. F. Baker on the occasion of the death of H.M. King George VI are inspiring examples of the sympathy of the people of Douai for us Regimentally and as a nation:

From President of Douai British Club: "Deeply sympathise with the British people."

To President, Douai British Club: "Deeply touched by kind message Middlesex Regiment joins in grateful thanks to British Club."

A letter has been sent to the president of the club by the Chairman of the Regimental Association.

ARMY ART SOCIETY

There are probably many amateur artists serving in the Forces who have not heard of this Society. It is an entirely unofficial organisation and exists to encourage Art amongst past and present members of the three Fighting Services. For several years very successful exhibitions have been held in London each autumn and these afford an opportunity for young artists—who often have the advantage of painting subjects overseas—to show their works and compare them with others. This adds a real interest and object to their hobby.

The work of serving personnel, of all ranks, is particularly welcome and intending exhibitors are invited to apply now for particulars about the next (21st) Exhibition. This will be held at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, from October 21 to November 9, 1952.

Applications should be addressed to: E. A. Callam, Esq., Hon. Sec., Army Art Society, 66 Apsley House, St. John's Wood, London, N.W.8.

Boarding Education for Children of Members of H.M. Forces who are Serving Abroad

When a member of H.M. Forces is posted abroad if he has children of school age he needs to consider whether he will take these children with him or leave them at home in the care of, possibly some relative, or at a boarding school. If he decides that it is essential for the sake of the children's education that they should stay at home at boarding school he may apply for financial assistance to a Local Education Authority.

Normally, this application should be made to the Authority in whose area the parents resided immediately prior to going overseas or, failing that, to the Authority in whose area the children would normally spend their holidays if at a boarding school. The Local Education Authority for Middlesex is the Middlesex County Council and applications should be addressed to the Chief Education Officer, 10 Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

Assistance will only be granted if the Local Education Authority agrees with the parents that it is necessary on educational grounds for the children concerned to go to a boarding school. The extent to which assistance is granted varies somewhat according to the Local Education Authority concerned, but most Authorities would need to be satisfied before granting assistance that the child could not reasonably attend a day school. If, for example, the mother were staying in this country it might be argued that the children should reside with the mother and not go to a boarding school.

Financial assistance is related to the parents' financial circumstances and is normally restricted to pupils of secondary school age, and in the case of the Middlesex County Council is only granted in respect of attendance at schools recognised as efficient by the Minister of Education.

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE GOLF MEETING

It became the Depot's turn this year to organise this meeting and despite a lamentable lack of knowledge of the technicalities of handicapping, etc., on the part of those responsible, the result was a very successful day. Fortunately the weather, which for the preceding three days had been cold and wet, held fine throughout, except for a slight shower in the morning.

Of a total of 26 competitors from five Regiments, it was very gratifying to see as many as 10 from our own, including our new Colonel, Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall. Col. M. Browne attended as an enthusiastic and observant spectator, covering the full length of the course, both in the morning and afternoon, and at the same time putting in useful work as caddy to Lt.-Gen. Sir A. Dowler!

Competitors arrived well on time and a start was made by Col. Clay and Lt.-Col. Crookenden in the Singles Handicap shortly after 10 a.m. Players followed each other out in quick succession, and by 10.30 silence fell upon the club house and a harassed Match Secretary surveyed a box full of £1 and 10s. notes and a variety of silver coins waiting to be counted and sorted into green fees, lunches, teas and two sweepstakes. It is reported that in spite of having at first failed to pay for his own lunch, a balance was finally struck!

Shortly after 1 o'clock the first pairs started to come in and although a Middlesex 92 opened the scoring this was quickly followed by 71, 73 and 76 appearing to the credit of Bywaters, Guest and Stumps Green respectively. Wilson (Royal Sussex) and Mason (Surreys) returned 72 and 73, but our hopes were restored by an 80 from del Court and an 81 from South. Challenges were made by Mansell (Royal Sussex) 77 and Clay (R.W.K.) 79, but as no other competitor put in a score under 80 we finished up the winners on the morning's play with a margin of 8 points over the Royal Sussex Regiment. An excellent lunch was laid on by the Hendon Golf Club, to whose Secretary the thanks of all are due for his great assistance towards the smooth running of the meeting.

Play in the Foursomes was resumed at 2.30 p.m., and to judge by the way that everybody got going it was evident that the Middlesex pairs were determined to maintain, and if possible increase their morning lead, while those of other regiments were as equally determined to reduce or overtake it.

The first four in did not give much indication of the way things were going, though it must be confessed that our own pair's 13 down was a little depressing. Prospects from our point of view, however, looked very heartening when Green and Bywaters returned 3 down and Latham and Pearce Gould 6 down. A 5 and 6 down from the Surreys and Royal Sussex did not really upset our equanimity as it was a case of divided forces against us. The results show the final placings, and while congratulations go to all, special mention must be made of Bywaters, and also of Stumps Green and Pearce Gould for their efforts, after only a few months' serious golf, in giving us another win in this half of the com-

petition by a 12-point lead, again over the Royal Sussex.

After tea, cups and sweepstake prizes were presented by the Colonel of the Regiment, who invited all who could spare the time up to the Depot Mess for drinks, to round off an enjoyable day.

Spring Golf Meeting

The Spring Golf Meeting was held at the Hendon Golf Club on Friday, April 25, 1952. The course was in fine condition and the weather glorious. The little thunder cloud going round the course in the afternoon turned out to be as one of our substantive Lieut.-Colonels down on his luck! It was therefore sad that the entry was so small, but for all that the standard was high as may be judged from the results which are published below.

John Phillips, of the 7th Battalion, is to be congratulated on winning the Scratch Cup in his first competition, and we hope that this is the prelude to many more occasions. We also congratulate Capt. Guest and Major Kempster on their well-merited success. Indeed, the "old guard" were much to the fore setting the young hopefuls an excellent example, with Major Anderson demonstrating how the longest puts may be holed with a regularity most trying to his opponents. We were delighted to see Col. Hervey del Court, who almost sank his tee shot at the 14th, and his wife, though we were sorry to see the drop in the former's sartorial standard. Shame on those grey flannels after the previous day's glory!

Col. Samuel arrived for tea and we were glad to see him looking so well again.

Our thanks are due to our Committee, who too seldom receive thanks for their work, the Secretary of the Hendon Golf Club, and to "Nobby" Clark and the staff at the Depot for providing a delightful day's entertainment.

The meeting was followed by a most enjoyable cocktail party in the Officers' Mess at the Depot. We congratulate all those concerned in it. The fine rooms in the Mess were shown to their best advantage and we were able to renew many old friendships.

MORNING ROUND

	Names	Gross	Handicap	Nett
2/Lt. J. M. Phillips	87	16	71
Capt. R. E. Guest	88	18	70
Major G. B. Anderson	94	17	77
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	101	24	77
Major G. W. Kempster	89	11	78
Gen. G. C. Bucknall	88	10	78
Major J. Bywaters	91	12	79
Lt.-Col. T. South	100	18	82
Major W. D. Ellis	100	17	83
Major J. G. P. Hunt	108	20	88
Capt. P. L. Pearce Gould	114	24	90
Lt.-Col. S. F. W. M. del Court	105	14	91
Winner Scratch:				
2/Lt. J. M. Phillips				

AFTERNOON—FOURSOMES v. BOGEY

Position	Names	Score
1	Major G. W. Kempster and Capt. R. E. Guest	3 Down
2	Gen. G. C. Bucknall and Major W. D. Ellis	4 Down
3	Lt.-Col. A. E. Green and Major J. Bywaters	4 Down
4	Lt.-Col. S. F. W. M. del Court and Major G. B. Anderson	4 Down
5	Lt.-Col. T. South and Major J. G. P. Hunt	10 Down
6	Capt. P. L. Pearce Gould and 2/Lt. J. M. Phillips	10 Down
Winners:	Major G. W. Kempster and Capt. R. E. Guest.	
Runners-up:	Gen. G. C. Bucknall and Major W. D. Ellis (after triple tie—best last 9 holes).	

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



The principal event since our last notes were published has been the funeral of His late Majesty King George VI. One hundred and eighteen all ranks had the privilege of lining the route in Edgware Road. An early start was necessary and so the majority were accommodated overnight in the T.A. Centre, breakfast being provided for the officers by Mrs. Poulter and for the other ranks by the Desert Rat Café. Only two nights of arms drill had been possible, but in spite of that the Battalion made a good showing and received many tributes both for their drill and turn-out.

Few will easily forget that great procession. The naval gun team, steady and eight abreast, the Imperial crown, glistening as though it were one great diamond, and over all the solemn and moving strains of the Dead March in Saul.

In our December notes we likened the Territorial Army to a hive of bees. This is not quite accurate, because we woke up in February and H.Q. has been humming ever since. The tempo of training has been quickening month by month and it is a credit to all concerned that so much has been done in such a short while.

All the Companies have visited Pirbright at least once to fire the rifle and L.M.G., several tactical discussions have taken place and the N.C.O.s have had a TEWT at Elstree. In addition, there have been numerous higher formation exercises.

This training all leads up to Annual Camp, which is being held from May 31 to June 14 at Humbleton Camp, Barnard Castle. It is an excellent camp and we expect to spend an enjoyable and profitable fortnight.

The rebuilding of the T.A. Centre at Hornsey is well under way and it has been most interesting to watch the buildings rise. The work should be completed by the end of the year and then Battalion H.Q. and the Companies at Hornsey will have adequate stores, offices and lecture rooms.

At the same time as this rebuilding is being done, the Officers' Mess are having the portraits of their former Commanding Officers renovated, the frames regilded and some of the furniture repaired. The Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces' Association has very generously undertaken to pay a large proportion of the cost.

During March we were pleased to provide 3-in. mortar instruction for Capt. G. Mason and Cpl. L. Fisher of 1st Middlesex. This reversal of the normal role of the Territorial and Regular Forces exemplifies the high standards now demanded and obtained in the former.

The Home Guard has been reformed. The 26th Battalion at Enfield is housed in a portion of our T.A.

Centre there and has as its Adjutant and Quartermaster, Major Charles Denton, T.D. We are delighted that he has been given this appointment. He has been intimately connected with this Battalion for twenty years, of which twelve were passed as Quartermaster. His knowledge and experience have been invaluable. He has set us all a magnificent example and his sturdy cheerfulness has been an important factor in the present well-being of the Battalion.

We are also sorry to say farewell to our R.M.O., Dr. N. K. Dryden, who has left London and has taken a practice in Somerset. We have fortunately obtained the services of another doctor, Capt. D. N. Cow, and we welcome him to the Battalion.

Finally we congratulate 2/Lt. R. D. H. Wilson on being mentioned in despatches for gallantry in Malaya.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Unquestionably the event that stood out in a prominence all of its own since the last notes were written was the funeral of His late Majesty. Nearly 50 all ranks of the Company were privileged to line the route on this sad and sombre occasion and were thus able to witness a procession of pageantry only to be seen in England. More of this memorable event will doubtless appear elsewhere in the notes, but we feel that it would be ungracious not to take this opportunity of thanking the Permanent Staff for all the trouble they took to accommodate and feed us so well on the eve and the day of the funeral.

With the passing of the Vernal Equinox the tempo of training has increased and already we have attended, in considerable strength, two week-ends at Pirbright and when these notes appear we shall have had more than a "view" of Yorkshire.

It was with real regret that we said good-bye to Capt. G. D. Gunnell, and all ranks wish him a successful and happy command of "A" Company.

We note with a growing interest the steady increase in the strength of the Band and at the same time trust that the Corps of Drums had a successful broadcast in the B.B.C. series "Scarlet and Gold."

The following volunteers and N.S. men have joined the Company during the past three months, and to all we extend a warm welcome: Ptes. Clarke, P., Clarke, W., Croft, Holloway, Kilby, Oliver, Silvester and Tarr.

The Company won its first round tie in the .22 Rifle Competition against the 560 Airborne Company, R.A.S.C., by 26 points, and we congratulate the team, composed of R.Q.M.S. Howes, C.S.M. Harris, C.S.M. (P.S.I.) Morgan, C/Sgt. Colbourne, Sgt. Moran, L/Cpl. Iddenton and Ptes. Gray and King.

Finally, we should also like to congratulate Lt. P. C. Kay on his representing, at hockey, the Territorial Army against the Regular Army and also C.S.M. Harris (who must be well known to the older members of the 1st Battalion) on his spirited display in the Divisional Boxing Championships.

SUPPORT COMPANY

The Company's weapon strength has now progressed considerably and the addition of two 3-in. mortars and two Anti-Tank guns has given renewed inspiration to

the respective Platoon—or should one say Battery—Commanders. Their preparations for Camp, where we hope to operate as a support group for the first time, have stretched C.S.M. Kenrick's manual producing capacity to its utmost.

Our carrier driving and motor cycling instruction week-ends have proved very successful, the only complaint being that they are not more frequent.

We welcome the return of Capt. Baker to the Company and also the arrival of 2/Lt. B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C., and 2/Lt. A. R. K. Hardcastle.

Congratulations to Sgt. Wotton on his marriage. We wish him and Mrs. Wotton every success and happiness; also congratulations to Ptes. Bawden and Seymour on their promotion.

Machine Gun Platoon

Since the last issue of *The Die-Hards*, from the training point of view, the Platoon has been preparing for Camp in June at Barnard Castle. The Platoon Sergeant has been worked extremely hard and no word less than ingenious could cover some of his improvisations in the Drill Hall.

We welcome back to the Platoon again our old Platoon Commander, Capt. Baker, at the same time we are sorry to bid good-bye to 2/Lt. Brown, who has been with us but a short time, and wish him the best of fortune in "A" Company.

We particularly welcome two new volunteers to swell our ranks: Ptes. Burt and Oliver, who joined us in March this year and December last respectively. We also welcome two N.S. men to our ranks: Ptes. Leggett and Smith.

We look forward to Camp with considerable eagerness in the hope that all things being equal, we shall have an extremely interesting fortnight.

Mortar Platoon

Since the last publication of the Journal, the Platoon has been busy in preparing itself for camp, and it has now reached the stage where it is possible to field two complete Sections and a Platoon H.Q., the numbers now being two officers and 25 other ranks.

From the training point of view the Platoon has concentrated as much as possible on a Platoon of four working in support of a Battalion; this has caused many headaches and losses of sleep over exercises on the cloth model and such mortar horrors as safety limits, timed fire plans, and mortar plotters which the Mortar Platoon Commander seems to take a devilish delight in setting.

We were hoping to have a 3-in. mortar week-end sometime in May, but, unfortunately, this has been cancelled owing to shortage of ammunition. It may interest the 1st Battalion to know that our annual allocation is roughly 5 per cent. of theirs.

The highlight of the training this period was a visit for one day of certain personnel of the Mortar Platoon of the 1st Battalion, to be briefed and put in the picture regarding elementary mortar work. We apologise to them for the harsh way of training they had, e.g. drinking tea whilst doing mortar drill, and sympathise

with them if they left the T.A. Centre with heads in a whirl with all the "gen" that had been pushed into them by the Platoon Commander, C.S.M. Hutchings and Sgt. Dean.

We would like to know, however, how they got on with their mortar course in this country.

The Mortar Platoon of the 7th Battalion can now justly say they have had something to do with the training of the following personnel:—

1. 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.
2. 1st Battalion London Irish Rifles.
3. 1st Battalion London Scottish.
4. One padre (not forgetting his misfire).
5. One doctor.

Roll up! we will train anybody, any time, in the intricacies of mortar work.

Seriously, we would be pleased to see any mortar men or others, for that matter, who are interested in mortars, at the centre on any Tuesday night.

This is all the news for now, so until next publication—So long. Best of luck.

Anti-Tank Platoon

Three members of the Support Company have now done a 17-pounder course. Lt. Leighton a week at Netheravon, C.S.M. Kenrick a six-week course at Netheravon, and Sgt. Brooks a week at Hornsey, and we hope that they have learnt something and that the Platoon will take advantage of the fact.

We would like to welcome 2/Lt. Hardcastle, Pte. Weir (from "C" Company), Ptes. Arnold, Peet, Bower and Lambeth (N.S. men), and wish them a happy stay in the Platoon. Our congratulations go to Pte. Jeffries on his marriage, and to C.S.M. Kenrick on his excellent result on 17-pounder course.

Since the last *Die-Hards* notes we have done very little practical training—only theory because of building in the yard. However, weekend April 19/20 was spent down at Pirbright doing gun drill and a little carrier driving, also a little cross-country and route marching at night was done by some members of the Platoon—obviously getting in training for camp!

"A" COMPANY

Since last going to press "A" Company has assumed a vastly different aspect. Formerly a "poor country cousin," it has become very much "a man about town." Numbers have risen rapidly and there is a feeling of increasing efficiency and organised strength.

And now to events. We have been visited by Brigadier A. G. V. Paley, C.B.E., D.S.O., our Brigade Commander, who listened to a lecture on map reading by our 2IC and afterwards joined the Company in the canteen, and chatted with all present. He seemed pleased with all he saw, and we were glad to see him.

In March we twice went to Pirbright for instructional and classification shooting. The results were not all that could be desired, and showed the need for intensive work in weapon training and more range practice. To assist us in this, two No. 8 rifles have arrived and have been used on the 25-yard range. The general opinion is that while they are very accurate from the ballistic



Permanent Staff, April, 1952.

Standing: L/Cpl. F. Barry (Q.M. Storeman), C.S.M. A. Kenrick (S), Sgt. W. J. Snell (M.T.), C.S.M. A. Burrell (C), C.S.M. J. C. Morgan (H.Q.), Cpl. S. Houghton (M.T.), L/Cpl. D. W. Gipson (M.T.).

Sitting: C.S.M. S. W. Blackwell (A), R.S.M. E. J. Pike, Capt. P. L. Pearce Gould, Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major (Q.M.) P. F. Newman, M.B.E., C.S.M. L. J. Tostevin (B).

point of view, their sights leave much to be desired.

For some time "A" Company has differed from the rest of the Battalion in that training night was Thursday. Due to the advent of more men it is now seen that there is a better attendance Tuesdays, and this night has been the training night from April 15.

From the social angle our social evenings on Tuesdays have been a great success, with large numbers of all ranks attending together with their wives and girl friends. We have seen several hon. members of the Club, and Mr. and Mrs. Chittock, our caretakers, have admirably borne the strain of dispensing large quantities of that which makes social evenings go with a swing. Badminton and table tennis equipment have been bought, accompanied by the loud protests of the Officer IC Company Fund, because (he says) the bank balance was getting low. However, we have weathered the storm financially and the expenditure has paid pleasing dividends.

On April 3 "B" Company came to visit us and a very pleasant evening was the result. Badminton, table tennis and darts were played, "A" Company winning the assorted games 7-4. It was noted that the 2IC, despite his bulk, seemed to move faster on the court than the new O.C.

That brings us to our hails and farewells. Capt. J. D. Gunnell has taken over command from Capt. L. F.

Baker, who has left us amid many regrets, owing to his home being far distant from the T.A. Centre, and has returned to his old love, the M.M.G. Platoon. We regret his going; we welcome Capt. Gunnell and we wish them both good luck in their new appointments.

We also welcome 2/Lts. Brown and Willmer, and Ptes. Honeybun, Linden and Merritt, as T.A. volunteers, Ptes. Morley and Pearson as N.S. volunteers, and Ptes. Roberts, Ellesmere and Pinder as N.S. men who we hope will not be long in volunteering. We hope that their stay with us will be a most happy one. Ptes. Merritt 55 and Skinner have volunteered from ordinary National Service, and we hope that all those who have not yet done so will follow their example.

We say goodbye to Lts. Reed and Liddell after too short a stay with us, and to Cpl. Stead, a stalwart of the Company, whose impending removal to Manchester prevents him from signing on for a further engagement. We congratulate Capt. Gunnell, Lts. Clarke and Liddell and C.S.M. Baker on their promotion, and also Lt. Baldwin on his marriage on April 26.

We are also pleased to hear that Sgt. Carter, our Reservist, will be with us for another year.

The greater length of these notes seems to show that "A" Company is now "getting a move on," and we hope that the impetus will be maintained until and after we are fully up to strength.

"B" COMPANY

We have twice visited the W.E.T.C. at Pirbright; on the first occasion the shooting was not of a very high standard mainly owing to the wet weather.

When annual classification took place, however, the weather was ideal, the Company producing four marksmen and seven 1st class shots with the rifle, and three marksmen and seven 1st class shots with the L.M.G. By next year we hope these numbers will have at least doubled.

The year's training is progressing well. C.S.M. Tostevin endeavours to make everyone proficient with all weapons, and has the necessary remark always ready for the idle man.

We are very pleased to see the Old Comrades from the "Memorial Cottages" who visit us each month. Dart and shooting matches have taken place in which we try and hold our own.

Our congratulations to Ptes. Ellingworth and Hull on their respective marriages, also to Pte. Broom on the birth of his son.

"C" COMPANY

The Company had a very successful weekend at Pirbright Ranges on March 8/9, and although the weather proved far from ideal, the 33 all ranks who attended did well to return satisfactory scores. In connection with our shooting we have suffered a grievous loss owing to the promotion and transfer of our enthusiastic and indefatigable coach, C/Sgt. Harris, and although we shall miss his excellent tuition on the range, all ranks take this opportunity of congratulating him on his promotion to W.O.2 and wish him the best of luck with his new Company.

In place we welcome C/Sgt. Hills and hope he will have a long and successful sojourn grappling with the perplexities of Q.M. administration.

Our strength is increasing every week, and we are looking forward to having the advantage of increased numbers at camp this year. Amongst the new arrivals we welcome 2/Lt. Berry, late of the 1st Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment, and Ptes. Green, Price, Metcalfe and Drinkell. In conclusion, we offer our heartiest of congratulations to Lt. Pat Pielow on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Pat Gudgeon, and wish them both all happiness for the future.

SERGEANTS' MESS

In respect for the memory of His late Majesty we have, of course, cancelled all social functions for the period of Court mourning, so these notes will be confined mainly to personalities.

We welcome two new members to the Mess: Sgt. Snell, who has joined us from the Depot and is going to devote most of his time to looking after the many new vehicles that the M.T. have acquired, and Sgt. Owen, the new Officers' Mess caterer.

Despite the warnings of certain members, Sgt. Wotton recently plunged into matrimony and is now rapidly assuming that harassed expression that typifies the other married members of the Mess. This only

goes to prove once again the truth of the old saying that "marriage is like a beleaguered fortress, with those on the outside trying to get in, and those on the inside trying to break out." Seriously, though, we all convey to Sgt. Wotton and his bride our sincere congratulations and wish them many happy years together.

We also congratulate those who have recently climbed one step higher up the promotion ladder: C.S.Ms. Baker, Harris and Hutchings, and C/Sgts. Hills, Leggett and Leahy.

At the time of writing annual camp seems to be approaching at an alarming rate. However, at a recent Mess meeting we settled some of the main issues concerned, the most important one of all being the question of a suitable brewer. As the general opinion seemed to be that "there's no such thing as bad beer," this was soon settled.

Advance reports of the camp in general and, of course, as far as we are concerned the Mess in particular, are very favourable and we are now eagerly waiting to see if our hopes of a really "super" Mess are going to be fulfilled. Annual camp is the one time when we can really get together as a Mess and so it is extremely important that we should make every effort to make the Mess a success. However, we'll be able to report more about how we succeed in the next issue of *The Die-Hards*.

Sgt. "Pony" Moore, our indefatigable Cook Sergeant, says that he is going to camp this year and we are still trying to discover whether it because it has been rumoured that there will be Bass in the bar this year.

So once again our genial friend, ex-C.S.M. Whitcombe, will hear a gruff voice call for "A box of matches, please—(long pause)—and a Bass." What does Sgt. Moore do with all those matches?

We close these notes once again with our best wishes to all other "Die-Hard" Sergeants' Messes, wherever they may be.

Correspondence

March 18, 1952.

O.C. 1/8th Middlesex Regiment,
Staines Drill Hall.

Sir,

Please could you put me in touch with ex-Sgt. Wright of Ashford, Middlesex, who used to live at Wren Avenue. He was with us in 1938-39. I was one of the Old Boys of the "Die-Hards," ex-Provost Sgt. Storey 2217295. I would like to hear from him, also Pearce who used to be our Sergeant-Major in those happy days. How many are there left of our comrades; I have never found out, and I would like to know. If you could help me I would be very grateful.

Sir, I am,

Yours truly,

(Signed) ROBERT STOREY,
ex-1/8th Middlesex Regiment.

34 Milford Estate,
Harpenden, Herts.

NEW GIFT PARCEL SERVICE FOR BRITISH TROOPS STATIONED IN MALAYA, KOREA AND JAPAN

As from May 1, 1952, Naafi will conduct a new gift parcel scheme for British troops stationed in Malaya, Korea and Japan.

The scheme is designed primarily to save the sender of a parcel the heavy cost of postage from the United Kingdom to the area concerned.

Relatives and friends in the United Kingdom may order through Naafi canteens and Naafi family shops (if authorised to deal), or alternatively direct from Naafi headquarters, one or more of a range of standard gift parcels to be consigned to any member of the British naval, military and air forces who is actually stationed ashore in Malaya (excluding Singapore), Korea or Japan. On receipt of the order, Naafi will immediately arrange for particulars to be flown to a Naafi establishment in the area concerned where the appropriate parcel will be assembled, packed and posted to the addressee. Delivery to the addressee will be effected through the Army Post Office in Korea and Japan, and the civilian postal authorities in Malaya.

The sender has the choice of some 40 different parcels, ranging in price from 5s. to 30s. each, with contents selected to suit either cigarette smokers or pipe smokers. Everyday necessities, such as soap or razor blades, are not included in the parcels which contain the little extras popular with Servicemen. Details of the sender are also included.

**Presentation of Meritorious Service Medal**

On Friday, April 18, the Colonel of the Regiment presented the Meritorious Service Medal to Major (Q.M.) P. F. Newman, M.B.E., at the Depot.

The recruits were paraded for the occasion and the Colonel spoke to them about the importance and rarity of this ward. He then referred to Major Newman's 36½ years' devoted service to the Middlesex Regiment and to the whole Army.

Percy Newman enlisted on November 5, 1915, and served in the Royal Naval Division. After the war he gained quick promotion and achieved a reputation for all-round ability as a soldier. He went to the R.M.C., Sandhurst from March, 1923, to June, 1926, saw service with the 1st Middlesex in Shanghai, and after a short period on the Permanent Staff of the 7th Middlesex he was promoted R.S.M. of the 1st Middlesex. After several years in the Middle and Far East he came back to the Depot as R.S.M., where he remained until he was appointed Q.M. in 1940.

Since then he has had a varied experience as staff officer and Q.M., displaying in every appointment that devotion to duty which has characterised his whole service.

Few have done more for the Regiment than Percy Newman. All his comrades, past and present, will be glad that he has received this medal, which is given only for outstanding service, and will know that he has richly deserved it.

Examples

Korea/Japan	
5s. parcel.	100 cigarettes (popular brand) and two 2-oz. bars chocolate.
5s. "	4 oz. tobacco (popular brand) and 1 pkt. pipe cleaners.
20s. "	250 cigarettes (popular brand), ½ lb. toffees, ½ lb. almond cracknel, ½ lb. butterscotch and six 2-oz. bars chocolate.
20s. "	1 lb. tobacco (popular brand), ½ lb. toffees, ½ lb. butterscotch and 1 pkt. pipe cleaners.

The examples quoted are particularly favourable due to the fact that no local duty is payable on cigarettes and tobacco in Korea and Japan. Parcels in Malaya compare rather less favourably as not only is local duty payable on all cigarettes and tobacco but also civilian postal charges in Malaya, unlike the free Army postal service in Korea and Japan, must be taken into account in composing the parcel contents.

All those wishing to send parcels who are not authorised to visit Naafi canteens or shops should write to Forces' Parcel Service, O.C.S., Naafi, Esher, Surrey, from which full particulars of the prices and contents of the range of parcels, and order forms, can be obtained.

It is emphasised that this scheme will operate only for British Servicemen actually stationed ashore in the three areas—Malaya (excluding Singapore), Korea and Japan.

11th PARACHUTE BATTALION (Middlesex) T.A.

Much has happened since our last notes in early February. Boxing activities have been considerable, also .22 shooting. The inter-Company basket ball competition is virtually decided in favour of "C" Company. Shooting and parachuting W/Es have have started again. Considerable success has accompanied all of these activities, with the notable exception of the Battalion shooting meeting which was "snowed off" in the great blizzard at the end of March.

"C" (Harrow) Company won the inter-Company novices boxing and the inter-Company open boxing in February. On March 20 the 44th Parachute Brigade Boxing Championships were held at Hounslow, and we emerged with one more point than the 10th Battalion and retained the Cup for the third year in succession. The Cup for the best boxer went to Pte. Haines, "C" Company, and the best loser's prize to the Rev. Northcott, C.F. padre of the 10th Parachute Battalion. Other results were as follows:—

Fly.—W.O. to Pte. Devereux (10th Battalion).

Feather.—W.O. to L/Cpl. Whatmore (11th Battalion).

Light.—Pte. Colvin (10th) beat L/Cpl. Davies (11th), mainly by piling up a small lead in points with his straight left.

Light Welter.—Pte. Haines (11th) beat Pte. Ashton (10th) in a very good fight. Haines boxed very well and was always just too good for Ashton. Pte. Atkin (10th) beat Pte. Whatman (11th). This was a close fight which might well have gone to Whatman had he attacked more often and used his right hand and heavy punch to more effect.

Light Middle.—Pte. Herridge (11th) beat Pte. Rudman (10th). Herridge weathered a heavy attack at the beginning of the first round cleverly and then attacked his opponent's body with a devastating left hook which soon left the final result in no doubt.

Middle.—Pte. Gaine (10th) beat Pte. Roberts (11th). Gaine was too experienced a boxer for Roberts who, in spite of his extra weight, was unable to catch Gaine with many effective blows.

Light Heavy.—Lt. Easterbrook (11th) beat Rev. Northcott (10th). This was undoubtedly the fight of the evening. Both gave as good as they got at first, but Easterbrook was too strong and over the three rounds his left hooks and straight rights were too much for his opponent, who, however, fought back doggedly to the last bell.

Heavy.—Pte. Brown (11th) beat Cpl. Bracey (10th). Brown, a younger man, won clearly on points.

The winners of the Brigade boxing went on to the 16th A.B. Division Championships, where Haines, Casey and Brown all won their weights, but Lt. Easterbrook and Pte. Herridge were beaten.

In the T.A. Boxing Championships, held on April 18/19 at the London Scottish H.Q. in London, the winning Divisional team was the 16th Airborne Division, which included Ptes. Haines, Casey and Brown from

this Battalion. Haines was beaten in the finals and lost only by a narrow margin. Brown was beaten by half a point in the semi-finals by the eventual winner and was given the best loser's prize. Casey was knocked out by a heavier and stronger opponent after a most gallant fight in which he was knocked down four times but refused to stay down until the referee finally stopped the fight.

The Band played at all the boxing competitions mentioned and is fast making itself an excellent reputation.

Another success of the last quarter has been in .22 shooting. "H.Q." Company at Hounslow has won the County of Middlesex T.A. Small Bore Championship, which it is hoping to collect from the Guildhall in the near future. We hope to retain the shield in the Battalion in the next half-year.

The Companies have now nearly completed classification and all are now training hard for the Battalion shooting competitions to be held, after the postponement, on May 3. After this the W.T. Officer, Lt. Hall, will be making his final selection of the teams to represent the Battalion in the 44th Parachute Brigade shooting competitions on May 17.

Lastly, we must bid farewell to C.S.M. Marks, ex-P.S.I. of "B" (Ealing) Company, and to Sgt. Quinn, ex-P.S.I. of "D" (Edmonton) Company. Quinn has been a member of the Battalion tug-of-war team which has won the T.A. Championships for the last two years, and will be greatly missed on this account as well as others.

The greatest loss of all though is one of the foundation members of the Battalion and P.S.I. of "C" Company, C.S.M. Roberts. Roberts was a most conscientious and hard-working P.S.I. with an almost incredible knack of getting the most out of Territorial officers and rankers alike and at the same time imbuing all with a great Company spirit. He is a great loss to "C" (Harrow) Company, and to his Company Commander, who will now find his memory put increasingly to the test.

SERGEANTS' MESS

With the change of Permanent Staff Instructors within and outside the Battalion we are experiencing a rather inconsistent Mess life.

We say "farewell and good luck" to those who are leaving us, and welcome those joining the Unit to a long and enjoyable tour as P.S.Is. and Mess members.

Our dance, held last month, was a huge success, and we were honoured by the presence of three Mayors and the Lady Mayoress of Hounslow. Also we had great support from the Unit's friends and neighbouring Regiments.

We are now looking forward to this year's annual camp, where Mess life becomes the big event, allowing all members to unite in one Sergeants' Mess and have the usual gaiety and functions, which sometimes we lack, being spread over such a distance.

All members look forward to the return of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, and of extending a warm welcome to all their members.

UXBRIDGE AND DISTRICT "DIE-HARDS" CLUB NOTES

The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer's Annual Report for 1951

Mr. President and Members.

This year has not been one of success in all our adventures. Although we have, I feel sure, on the whole done very well. The past year has been well filled with various activities and, as you read this report, I am sure you will agree that your Officers and Committee have worked hard and done a good year's work.

MEMBERSHIP

Names of "Die-Hards" now on the books number 160, but I regret to say only 79 of these were fully paid up in subscriptions at the end of the year.

Your committee regret that they will have to apply the Rule and erase the names of those who are over two years in arrears with their subscriptions. I do feel that if every paid-up member made an all-out effort this year to bring one of these back to the fold, things would be very much different.

Our modest annual fee of 1s. 6d. is as low as any club fees. Very few have given as much to its members as this Club has since it was formed, in pleasure and good comradeship.

Some 15 to 20 letters have been sent to members during the year, so I am sure everyone must have been in the know of what was on, or going to happen.

HELP AND SICKNESS GRANTS

Our Regimental Association once again came to our aid in this field and several members were assisted and given £1 or 10s. from Club funds to procure a smoke or fruit, etc., whichever they desired, when your Committee was informed of sickness, etc. It must be realised that this grant from Club funds cannot go on unless our Draws and Dances are well supported.

I feel sure some have been missed; however, I must remind members to drop me a card or get a relative to call on me when in town. I am always on duty at the Gate Office of Osborne and Stevens, High Street, Uxbridge, in the day.

DINNERS, MEETINGS, AND SOCIAL EVENTS

We have been entertained, and those who attended spent a most enjoyable evening with our Ealing Branch. This was a great credit to that club. The Royal Naval Association and Old Contemptibles Association, Uxbridge branches, entertained us to social evenings and again all seemed to have enjoyed them, although these could have been supported very much better.

Tickets were obtained and a coach arranged for those who wished to attend the Royal Tournament, and those who went gave an excellent report on the arrangements and evening in general. Many thanks to the Uxbridge branch of the O.C.A. for their co-operation in this and laying all on.

The Annual Dinner was held at "The Golden Lion," and except for one small matter which had been forgotten except by your Committee, this was a great success and well supported. The Colonel of the

Regiment, your President, and Officers of the Regiment were present.

The Regimental Association Dinner was held at the end of October in the Horticultural Restaurant, London, and I feel sure the choice has got over most, if not all, of those things we groused about at the previous ones since the war. This one was a great success, and if held at the same place this year I recommend it to you all as well worth your money and time in supporting it. I do hope we shall have a good party this year.

Our Dances I am most concerned about; these have been our main support in the past and provided us with many comforts. This year I regret to say they have been run at a loss and have had to be discontinued. In my report last year I mentioned things would be thinner this year and expected these to go down by 50 per cent., but not over 100 per cent.

ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET FOR 1951

The Balance Sheet shows an Expenditure of £154 15s. 7d over Income, and leaves the Fund with £127 1s. 4d. in cash at the Bank and on hand.

Your committee reduced by over £116 the expenditure of the previous year and with reasonable dance receipts we should have had our balance on the credit side. In view of our good year's work and what the Club offered, and gave the members, I shall with confidence ask you to "adopt" the Accounts and Balance Sheet as shown for 1951 at our Annual General Meeting on Monday, March 3, 1952.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. R. BELL,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of the "Sunday Times," July 22, 1951

"Z" Reservists Now Part of Territorial Family

BY LT.-GEN. SIR BRIAN HORROCKS

I have always believed that the call-up of Class "Z" Reservists for 14 days' training with the T.A. would prove a success, but the results achieved so far have exceeded my highest expectations.

As I stood on the firing point at Bude Camp and watched the 295 (Hampshire Carabiniers Yeomanry) Heavy A.A. Regiment and other Territorial regiments of A.A. Command, firing with live ammunition, it did not seem possible that the teams manning the controls and guns had met for the first time only four days before—because the whole essence of successful gunnery is teamwork, which comes only after long practice. With a little more practice together they would certainly be able to give a first-class account of themselves.

The same thing is happening in camps all over the country. It is safe to say that by the end of the training period most units will have worked up to the point where they have been able to carry out regimental or battalion training. All the Reservists will also have fired their weapons and, most important of all, the three

categories of men now training with the T.A., i.e. the volunteers, the N.S. men and the Class "Z" Reservists, will have become one regimental family.

Feeling at home

I have spoken to many of these Reservists, and their reactions were all precisely the same. Not one of them would admit that he had willingly returned from civilian life to train with the Army and most of them had been somewhat apprehensive beforehand. On arrival, however, they had been welcomed into their units and made to feel at home. Anyhow, "here they were, the job had to be done, and the only thing was to make the best of it."

This, of course, is a typically British attitude, but, watching these men's faces during training, I am certain that when it is all over they may be heard to murmur that "the old mob was not so bad after all." And no praise from an Englishman could possibly be higher than this.

The chief credit for the success of this ambitious scheme must go to all ranks of the T.A. These volunteers, who for so long have borne the heat and burden of the day, largely unsung and unpraised, might well have resented the publicity which has been given to the Class "Z" Reservists, and might have cold-shouldered these men when they arrived in their units. But luckily the type of man who is prepared to give up his spare time to the service of his country night after night, throughout the year, has a more selfless outlook than this, and from the outset each individual member of the T.A. has been determined to make this scheme work.

Local Recruits

The very success of this call-up has, however, provoked one universal criticism which I have heard on all sides. Every C.O. has stressed the fact that, if only the Class "Z" Reservists who had been called up for his unit could have been local men, many would have volunteered for the T.A. For instance, out of 437 Reservists who were required to train with a T.A. field regiment in London, only 200 came from the London area and some came from as far as Yorkshire.

It is not easy to understand how this has come about, until we realise that the call-up of Class "Z" Reservists is only part of the mobilisation of the total manpower of the country in case of war.

When some eighteen months or so ago the War Office decided that a detailed scheme must be prepared for the mobilisation of Class "Z" Reservists, it was on the assumption that, in the event of general mobilisation, all Reservists would be called up. Record offices were therefore ordered to allocate Reservists to units, basing their selection on the following priorities:

(1) "Each man must have been cleared by a process of 'screening' by the Ministry of Labour, as available again to the Forces in the event of mobilisation." It would obviously be useless to allocate men to a unit only to find when the time came that they could not be spared from industry.

(2) "The right man for the right job." The modern Army is full of specialists and tradesmen. If a unit is short of an electrician, then some Reservist

who has this qualification must be earmarked to go there on mobilisation, and so on.

(3) "Last out, first back." From every point of view the younger men should obviously be called up first.

(4) "Local men." Assuming that the Reservist fulfilled paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, then if possible the local man should go to the local unit.

It will be observed that under this scheme the local connection was the fourth and last desideratum, as indeed it must be, if mobilisation is to be carried out on a nation-wide basis.

Better next year

At the beginning of this year, however, the present scheme, consisting of a partial call-up of Class "Z" Reservists for training, was introduced. It was realised at once that in these circumstances, priority 4 (local connection) ought ideally now to become priority 2. But it was too late. In the time available it was quite impossible for the record offices (which are already working many hours' overtime) to scrap all their previous twelve months' work and start again on an entirely new plan. I am assured that this aspect of the scheme will be improved next year, but even so it will never be possible to ensure that local men everywhere go to their local units.

Anyhow, the fact remains that this year's T.A. training is probably the best that has ever been carried out. Final confirmation of this came to me in the Sergeants' Mess which, as every inspecting officer knows, is the real hub of any unit. I asked one Class "Z" sergeant if he thought the call-up had been successful. He replied: "I now call my battery sergeant-major, in the Mess, 'Charlie.' Does that answer your question, sir?" It did.

"What does your wife feel about it?" I asked him. "She does not like it at all," he replied, "and she will like it still less when she finds on my return home that I have volunteered for the T.A."

THE BATTLEFIELD OF LA ALBUERA

By COL. J. N. LAMONT

Some will find the spelling of this historic battle a bit strange, but if you visit the battlefield, as I have recently done, you will soon discover that this is the Spanish name for it. As you approach the village from which the battle takes its name, from the direction of Badajoz, there is a sign with the name La Albuera on it. In Spanish "albuera" means a lake or lagoon, and the area round the village which stands on rising ground was probably very marshy with the river running at its foot and crossed by two bridges. The New Bridge, as it was then called, survived the battle and is a fine old bridge existing today, and at the battle was defended by the Buffs, and there was the old bridge at the north end of the village which was destroyed during the course of the fight. Hence the village, which existed at sometime on the edge probably of a lagoon, the water of which was possibly canalised into two streams as it is today, bore the name of La Albuera or the Lagoon.



Memorial of Battle in Village next Church. Bust is of Gen. Castaños. Names of Allied Generals are on plaques at the side.

The Spaniard, therefore, in alluding to the battle, not unnaturally uses the definite article and calls it La Albuera, and who in England can say he is wrong. It looks then as if there are good grammatical grounds for the battle honour of the Regiment to be known as La Albuera. The difference in spelling does not matter much as "H" in Spanish is not pronounced.

Finding myself in Badajoz only 15 miles or so from La Albuera I decided to visit the battlefield. It was a delightful day in March with a hot sun and a fresh breeze and the trees just coming into leaf, so different from the eve of the battle when it rained in torrents and probably made the flanking movement of the French from under cover of the olive trees that grow on a gentle rise for some distance on the far side of the river a very difficult movement. That the movement was achieved successfully says a great deal for the French leadership. Local farm labourers could give us no guidance as to where the battle took place, and it was only by enquiring from a farmer who lived some two miles along the road at a house called "Carmen de Miguel" that we got the first information of where the battle was. The farmer took us on to the roof of his house and said the battle took place on his land, but from where we were, I gathered, we were viewing it from the French side. From this spot we returned to the village and took photos of the memorial of the battle which stands in a small plaza outside the Church. Great prominence is given to General Castaños who commanded the Spanish

troops, but the names of the other allied generals appear on the sides of the memorial only.

Having learnt where the local historian lived we went to his house and found he was deeply interested in the history of the battle, and not only produced plans showing the course of the action but also a long account of the battle which had recently been published in the local paper. After coffee and cognac, our Spanish friend and his wife and two other notables of the village proceeded about half a mile from the south-east end of the village to where there is a grass-covered mound from which the one English battery raked with fire the French trying to cross the river at the New Bridge. A little further on from this mound there is a gully or small re-entrant running at right angles to the road to higher ground some 800 yards south of it, and this, now ploughland, I imagine must have been the ridge which Hoghton's Brigade with the 57th in it held so gallantly against the French infantry attack. If this was not the exact ridge then it must have been one of a succession of rather similar ridges running parallel to it but further east. From all one can gather the battle was a terrific muddle and the attack of the French cavalry round the Allies' right flank all but won the day for the French, who undoubtedly succeeded in making a fine turning movement unobserved. The weather, however, was deplorable and may well have helped to cloak this movement, but what it is difficult to understand is how the French managed to get their artillery over the river (there are now two streams to be negotiated) and also



Church and Village of Albuera from New Bridge.



Discussing battle on mound where British Battery was positioned.

over the swampy ground which probably then existed in a greater degree than today, to support the attack of their infantry against the British on the ridge.

Our Spanish friend took us back to his house, the largest in the village, and it was interesting to learn that the Buffs Headquarters had occupied and slept in the house on the eve of the battle. With my almost negligible knowledge of Spanish I found considerable difficulty in explaining the origin of the name "Buffs" and to produce a piece of buff-coloured material to support the explanation. To explain the name "Die-Hards" was beyond my powers.

In all it was a most interesting visit and I was glad to learn that the inhabitants of the village always celebrate the anniversary of the battle.

Before the last war a number of English parties used to come and visit the battlefield, but I gathered that my visit was the first of its sort for 15 or more years.

Regular Forces Employment Association

This is to remind members of the Middlesex Regiment and readers of *The Die-Hards* of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen and the services which it exists to render, free of charge, to any Regular soldier of good character and not less than three years' service.

Last year, 1951, in spite of the ban on normal releases, the National Association Branches placed 63 men of the Middlesex Regiment; 43 in and around London and the remainder scattered throughout the United Kingdom. There is nowhere in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland where there is not a Branch of the National Association nearby and willing to find ex-Regulars, according to their wishes and qualifications, the most suitable job available.

Last year the Middlesex Regiment supported the National Association by a subscription of £50. There is no fear of contradiction in stating that this is money very well spent and we hope we shall receive at least the same measure of support this year.

Readers may remember that under the old Control of Engagement Order the National Association had a privileged position as regards placing men. We hear from the Ministry of Labour that a similar privilege is being granted to us under the new Notification of Vacancies Order, so that our services to men will be unaffected.

NOTE.—The Chief Editor, as general manager of a business firm, is pleased to say that he has had several applicants sent him by the Acton Branch, who appear most helpful.

BIRTHS

BATTYE.—On March 30, 1952, at the Ferry House, Woodbridge, Suffolk, to Christina (nee Symon), wife of Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E., 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, Hong Kong—a son.

THOMPSON.—On March 31, 1952, at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, to Peggy (nee Wintle), wife of Capt. E. F. Thompson, M.C.—a daughter (Marianne Frances).

MARRIAGES

CLAYDEN—SHARP.—The wedding took place at Hexham, Northumberland, on Saturday, March 22, 1952, of Capt. B. Kenneth Clayden and Miss Joan Sharp. The bridegroom was attended by Lts. Norton, Moore and Cain.

CHATTEY—TEESDALE.—The wedding took place on Saturday, April 26, 1952, of Major T. W. Chattey and Miss Pamela Teesdale. The wedding, which was attended by many members of the Regiment and their ladies, was at Christ Church, Victoria Road, W.8.

DEATHS

CLUETT.—We regret to announce the death of ex-C/Sgt. H. Cluett, aged 76 years, late of the 4th Battalion. He died on February 10, 1952, and his funeral, on February 18, was attended by a representative from the Depot who also took a wreath in Regimental colours.

MILLS.—On February 22, 1952, very suddenly, ex-Pte. George E. Mills, M.M., at his home in Woking.

JAMES.—Capt. E. F. James, M.C., D.C.M., died suddenly on February 23, 1952. A representative from the Depot attended the funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at the request of the family.

OBITUARY

Lt.-Col. The Rev. H. P. Osborne, D.S.O.

Lt.-Col. The Reverend Henry Percy Osborne, D.S.O., p.s.c., was born on September 3, 1877. He was educated at Dane Hill School, Brighton (this school is believed no longer to exist), and joined the Regiment from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst (now R.M.A.).

He served in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions in South Africa, India, on the Rhine and at home. Before the First Great War he served in the 1st Battalion at Darjeeling and Allahabad, passing the Quetta Staff College. He also served at the Depot before that war. He was with the 2nd Battalion in the South African War, and was wounded at the Battle of Spion Kop where a shell splinter struck his carbine and wounded him. In the

First Great War he served in the 1st Battalion during 1914-15 from Mons and Le Cateau, and was later a G.S.O. (2) in the New Army Division commanded by Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, later Colonel of the Regiment 1921-32. He returned to command a Service Battalion, and towards the end of the war was captured by the Germans whilst taking over command of an Infantry Battalion and became a prisoner-of-war along with the C.O. he was taking over from.

When Peace was concluded he was serving as a second-in-command in the 3rd Battalion in Silesia, and retired from there early in 1922, his first wife dying at that time.

After retirement he became Bursar of Apgarth School in Yorkshire, but gave up that post on his second marriage in 1929. He then trained for the ministry from 1932 at Wells Theological College, being ordained as a deacon in 1934. His first post was assistant curate in the Scilly Isles Parish. In 1935 he became a priest, and in 1936 was appointed Vicar of St. Sampsons, Golant, in Cornwall, where he remained for 13 years, retiring on account of ill health in 1949 to live at Fowey, where he died after his fourth stroke on December 13, 1951. He was buried in Plymouth on December 15, 1951. Major J. E. Dobbs attended his funeral and placed a Regimental wreath on his grave. His widow is remaining in her home, Dolphin House, Trafalgar Square, Fowey.

By his first marriage he leaves a son, Lt.-Col. R. H. H. Osborne, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, and by his second marriage there is a son, Sub-Lt. Julian Osborne, in the Royal Navy.

The elder son I never met, although his father often spoke of him to me whilst we were both serving in the 1st Battalion in India before the First World War. The younger son in the Navy I have often met. He was in Hong Kong and Korea with our 1st Battalion, and many of our young officers knew him well, and he was instrumental in taking many members of all ranks in the 1st Battalion on short voyages. He is now stationed at Greenwich. As mentioned, his father was a very old friend to me and there are few now left serving in the ranks of the Regiment who have known him personally, but I feel the loss of these members of approximately my own generation very much for their number is now very small. M. BROWNE, Colonel.

Mr. William Ketley

Mr. William Ketley, of 26 Northgate Street, Colchester, a Military Medallist, who won his decoration in the Ypres Salient in the First World War, died at his home on Saturday, January 12, aged 75. He had been in ill health for more than a year, during which he had been confined to his bed.

A native of Nottingham, he went to Colchester as a lad, and was serving with the 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment when he won the M.M.

After the war he became a porter for Messrs. C. M. Stanford and Son, at the Colchester Market, and was a familiar figure at their poultry sales and at agricultural sales over a wide area of North-East Essex.

He leaves a widow, four sons and three daughters.

(Reprinted from the "East Anglian Daily Times," Jan. 14, 1952.)

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1952, 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. Wolcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major G. O. Porter, Major W. D. Ellis, T.D., Sgt. R. A. Bullock, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of the Regiment), Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O.

In Memoriam. Prior to the business of the day the Committee stood in silence as a tribute of respect to His Late Majesty King George VI.

1. Election of Chairman. Proposed by Col. Beach, seconded by Brigadier Baker and approved by the Committee that Lt.-Col. Roberts be re-elected as Chairman for a further year. Lt.-Col. Roberts thanked the Committee for the honour they had again bestowed upon him.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated were signed by the Chairman after the following addendum to Minute 4 (h) of the War Memorial Committee report had been proposed by Lt.-Col. Green.

"The Committee approved that gardens of the Cottages should not be subjected to regimentation and that tenants be encouraged to plan their own layout."

3. Secretary's Report. The Secretary's report, as follows, having been circulated with the Agenda, was accepted by the Committee.

(a) Grants. During the last year 316 cases were assisted with grants totalling £1,964 4s. 10d.

(b) Subscriptions. The sum of £168 10s. 8d. has been received from the O.C. 1st Battalion as unit and individual subscriptions for 1951. These amounts are not included in the balance sheets as the cheque was not received until February 1, 1952.

4. Finance Committee's Report. Lt.-Col. Roberts explained to the meeting that due to the changed position in Lt.-Col. Robbins' business commitments he was unable to devote as much time as previously in maintaining control of the Association Funds, and he had requested the Chairman of the Association to accept his resignation as Chairman of the Finance Committee. In view of this situation Lt.-Col. Roberts invited Lt.-Col. Fox to accept the Chairmanship of the Finance Committee and Lt.-Col. Fox agreed to do so.

Lt.-Col. Roberts thanked Lt.-Col. Robbins for the valuable work he had done during the past six years. The Colonel of the Regiment endorsed these thanks and emphasised the fact that the present satisfactory state of the Regimental Association Accounts was mainly due to Lt.-Col. Robbins' supervision.

The Committee recommended that bonuses as indicated below be paid to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for the additional services they have rendered in connection with the War Memorial Cottages:

	£	s.	d.
Major Clark	50	0	0
Mrs. Brooks	30	0	0

Major Hardcastle asked whether the Committee was satisfied that the following items of expenditure were admissible against the Association Charitable Fund:

	£	s.	d.
Hong Kong Roll of Honour	11	3	2
Hong Kong Memorial Plaque	65	10	0
Mons Memorial Plaque	71	19	0
Grants, Die-Hards Journal	110	13	3
Total	£259	5	5

After discussion it was agreed by the Committee that all these items were a fair charge against the Charitable Fund and came within the ambit of Rule VII Rider "B" of the Regimental Association Regulations. In particular it was emphasised that the *Die-Hards* Journal was a means of propaganda for the purpose of inculcating esprit de corps, and it was the only economic means of publishing the Association Accounts whereby members of the Association could be kept informed.

The Committee then approved that the audited accounts for 1951 be adopted.

5. Journal Committee's Report. Brigadier Procter explained the position of the journal and emphasised the fact that the financial position remained unchanged and would continue to be a liability on the Association funds.

6. Memorial Committee's Report. The report, having been circulated with the Agenda, was moved by Col. Beach and accepted by the Committee.

The Committee approved that where the occupant of any of the cottages was in receipt of a grant from the Ministry of Pensions

towards the upkeep of a car and garage he should be subject to a nominal rent of 6s. per week for the use of a garage erected at the expense of the Memorial Fund. This matter to be reviewed by the Committee should the tenant's circumstances deteriorate.

7. *Regimental History Report.* Major Porter reported that the progress in production was very slow and it now appeared that the History would not be completed before the summer. Four chapters had been written and three had been circulated to members of the Committee for approval.

Lt.-Col. Green asked if it would be possible for the author to interview individuals in order to obtain first-hand information. This was agreed to. It was approved by the Committee that Lt.-Col. Green be appointed Chairman of the Regimental History Committee.

8. *Old Comrades' Gathering.* The Committee approved that the Old Comrades' gathering be held at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Saturday, June 14, 1952, and that the Secretary be authorised to spend a sum not exceeding £100 in respect of the gathering. It was stated that a cricket match was being played on that day between the Officers' Club and Free Foresters.

9. *Other Business.* Col. Beach proposed and Brig. Baker seconded, and it was unanimously approved by the Committee, that Col. Browne be elected a permanent member of the Executive Committee after he ceases to be the Colonel of the Regiment next April.

10. *Douaish-British Club.* Brigadier Baker informed the Committee that he had received the following telegram from the Club as an expression of their deep regret on the death of His Majesty King George VI:

"British Club deeply sympathise with the British people —Warusfel, President."

To which Brigadier Baker replied on behalf of the Association: "Middlesex Regiment joins in grateful thanks to British Club for kind message."

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter saying that the matter was reported to the Committee who had expressed their deep appreciation.

11. *Date of Next Meeting.* The next meeting will take place at the Middlesex Guildhall at 2.15 p.m. on Thursday, May 29, 1952. There being no further business the meeting closed at 4 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill,
London, N.W.7.
March 6, 1952.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1952, AT 4 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Brigadier E. 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. Wolcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L., Major G. O. Porter, Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major W. D. Ellis, T.D., Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of the Regiment), Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

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

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

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

(b) It was approved by the Committee that Col. Browne be asked to draft and sign a letter to all officers holding a Short Service Commission who are not members of the Club, inviting them to become members.

3. *Audited Accounts.* The Committee approved that the audited accounts for 1951 be adopted.

4. *Resignation of Members.* The Committee accepted with regret the resignation of four members of the Club owing to unavoidable circumstances.

5. *Cocktail Party.* After a short discussion in respect of the charges in connection with the cocktail party, it was approved by the Committee that the charges be amended as follows: Member of Club, 12s. 6d.; further members of his party, 7s. 6d. (i.e. wife and/or friends).

It was also approved that arrangements be made by the O.C. Depot for a buffet and bar to be installed in the billiards room of the Officers' Mess for use after the cocktail party at a nominal extra charge. Also that a small Sub-Committee be formed of officers and wives under the Chairmanship of Major Porter to make detailed arrangements for the party. The P.M.C. to be a co-opted member.

The Secretary was instructed to prepare an amended letter for circulation to all members of the Club informing them of the new details.

6. *Date of Next Meeting.* The next meeting will take place on May 29, 1952.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.20 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

RENNY CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1950	£	s. d.	£	1950	£	s. d.	£
523 To Grants and Allowances ..			637	722 By Interest on Investments—Gross ..		714	5 11
112 „ Administrative Expenses:				— „ Excess of Expenditure over Income ..		115	4 6
Salaries ..	164	0 0					
Postage ..	1	5 5					
Audit Fee ..	15	15 0					
Stationery ..	11	0 1					
127 „ Excess of Income over			192				
72 Expenditure ..			—				
£722			£829	£722			£829

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950	£	s. d.	£	1950	£	s. d.	£
ACCUMULATED FUND:				INVESTMENTS AT COST:			
Balance at January 1, 1951 22,233	5	3		22,105 Per annexed Schedule ..		22,071	7 6
Less Excess of Expenditure				(Mid-Market Value at December 31, 1951—£17,875 14s. 4d.)			
over Income for Year ..	115	4 6		135 CASH AT BANK ..		28	7 1
22,233			22,118				
Less Loss on Sale of Investments per Schedule	34	1 2					
			22,083				
CREDITOR:							
Audit Fee ..		15	15 0				
£22,240			£22,090	£22,240			£22,090

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

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

February 5, 1952.

WAR MEMORIAL FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To General Expenses:				By Sundry Donations ..	1,456	17	10
Audit Fee ..	15	15 0		„ Income from Covenants (including tax thereon) ..	288	11	5
Secretary's Expenses ..	10	0 0		„ Investment Income (Gross) ..		1,745	9 3
Honorarium to Secretary and Assistant Secretary ..	80	0 0		„ Accrued Interest on 1,000 National Savings Certificates sold ..		204	11 5
Expenses of Interviewing Applicants for Cottages ..	15	1 9				33	6 8
Postages and Cheque Books ..	11	3 6					
„ Expenses of Opening Ceremony:			132				
Hire of Coach ..	3	5 0					
Hire and Erection of Platform ..	42	10 0					
Hire of Loudspeakers ..	4	4 0					
Printing and Postage ..	26	5 11					
„ Expenses of Raising Loan from Enfield Urban District Council ..			76				
„ Loss on Redemption of Investments—£10,000 2½% National War Bonds, 1949/51 ..			31				
„ Balance being Net Receipts for year transferred to Accumulated Fund ..			405				
			6 0				
			1,398				
			6 2				
			£2,043				£2,043
			7 4				7 4

MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 4, 1951, TO DECEMBER 31, 1951

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Maintenance of Cottages:				By Rent Receivable ..		92	5 0
Insurances ..	16	1 0 0		„ Amounts Recovered on Account of:			
General Rates ..	170	3 9		Rates ..	184	10	0
Ground Rent ..	1	13 0		Electricity ..		36	18 0
Water Rates ..	11	10 10		Gas ..	129	3	0
Lighting and Heating ..	52	7 8		Maintenance ..	18	9	0
Printing and Stationery ..	8	18 5				369	0 0
Housing Manager—Salary ..	6	5 0					
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure, as per Balance Sheet ..			194				
			5 4				
			£461				£461
			5 0				5 0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

EXPENDITURE	INCOME
1950	1950
ACCUMULATED FUND:	ESTATE ACCOUNT:
Balance at January 1, 1951 32,695	Balance at January 1, 1951 9,820
Add Net Receipts for year 1,398	Additions at Cost per Annexed Schedule ..
32,695	27,647
MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT:	37,467
Excess of Income over Expenditure to date ..	(Note: There is a further amount due to the Contractors which cannot be accurately ascertained.)
194	
58 CONTINGENCIES ACCOUNT ..	INVESTMENTS AT COST ..
—	—
LOAN ACCOUNT:	CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND ..
Enfield Urban District Council ..	1,532
7,000	3,763
CREDITOR:	LLOYDS BANK LTD.—DEPOSIT ACCOUNT ..
Audit Fee ..	4
15	
80	
Honorarium to Secretary and Assistant Secretary ..	PREPAYMENTS FOR SERVICES RE COTTAGES:
80	Insurance ..
95	36
15	2 0
	Rates and Water ..
	124
	0 10
	160
	2 10
	Less Lighting and Heating Due ..
	7
	9 8
	152
	13 2
£32,761	£32,761
£41,383	£41,383
7 3	7 3

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

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

February 6, 1952.

**THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND**

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1950 £	£	s. d.	£	1950 £	£	s. d.	£
To Grants and Allowances:				By Grants and Donations:			
50	Regular Forces Employ-			450	Army Benevolent Fund		
52	ment Association ..	50	0 0	60	51st Highland Division		
1,606	Sundry Charities ..	36	15 0	690	Trust Fund ..	14	0 0
60	Individual Cases ..	1,326	14 11		M.C.C. Sunday Entertain-		
	P.R.I. for Maintenance	—	—		ments Fund ..	690	0 0
					O.C., Depot, Middlesex		
					Regiment ..	18	11 0
1,768	„ Spion Kop Reunion		1,413 9 11		P.R.I., 1st Battalion,		
6	„ Donations to "Die-Hards"		5 6 3	158	Middlesex Regiment	100	13 5
10	„ Clubs ..		31 16 0	10	5th Battalion ..	10	0 0
21	Wreaths ..		—		7th Battalion ..	10	0 0
180	O.C.A. Reunions ..	205	17 4				
121	Less Contributions thereto	94	6 0	1,368	„ "Die-Hards" Clubs and	1,302	4 5
					O.C.A.'s:		
68	Remembrance Day Ex-		111 11 4		Hornsey ..	2	3 6
9	„ Administration Expenses:				Uxbridge ..	2	10 6
65	Postage ..	81	2 0		Hounslow ..	1	15 0
45	Printing and Stationery	52	4 5	7	Mill Hill ..	3	8 6
	Secretary's Salary and				Staines (Balance of		
319	Expenses ..	379	8 5		Funds) ..	16	4 6
	Travelling and Office				Ealing ..	1	0 0
29	Expenses ..	35	17 3	4	Romford ..	14	0 0
	Bank Charges and				12th Battalion O.C.A.	8	15 3
3	Cheque Books ..	4	0 0		27th Battalion O.C.A.	6	0 0
	Insurances ..	22	1 0		9th Battalion O.C.A.	6	7 6
19	Audit Fee ..						
	Extra Copies of Account			13	„ Sundries ..	48	18 9
	1950 ..	10	10 0	483	„ Interest on Investments—	382	5 2
	Repairs—Typewriter ..	2	10 0	816	Gross ..	821	10 4
				17	„ Sales of O.C.A. Badges ..	14	14 0
480	„ Hong Kong Roll of		588 4 10	15	Less Cost thereof ..	13	5 3
	Honour ..		11 3 2				
	„ Hong Kong Memorial			2	„ Sales of Regimental Ties	21	16 6
	Plaque ..	65	10 0		Less Cost thereof ..	15	5 0
	„ Mons Memorial Plaque ..	71	19 0				
			137 9 0		„ W.V.S. Refund of Postage:		
	„ Donations:				Korea Comforts Fund ..	3	17 6
	Royal Hospital, Chelsea	5	0 0				
	Depot Chapel ..	5	0 0				
	Grant — Die-Hards						
	Journal Deficiency for						
	year ..	110	13 3				
	„ Opening Ceremony—War		120 13 3				
	Memorial Homes:						
	Teas ..	43	15 0				
	Hire of Transport ..	4	10 0				
			48 5 0				
	„ Excess of Income over						
	Expenditure for the						
	year ..		91 2 8				
320							
£2,682			£2,566 16 5	£2,682			£2,566 16 5

OUR MEN IN KOREA

By Eric Linklater

The first official account of the part played by British, Canadian, New Zealand, South African, and Indian Forces in Korea from June 25, 1950, to July, 31, 1951. Eric Linklater, the well-known Scottish author and playwright, was commissioned to write the book by the Central Office of Information, on behalf of the three Service departments.

His detailed narrative not only gives vivid descriptions of the heroism and humour, the hardships and triumphs of the fighting men of the Commonwealth, but enables the reader to measure their achievement against a frank and shrewd judgment of the organisation, morale and battle tactics of the Communist forces.

Price: 2s. 6d. (paper covers), 5s. (cloth boards).

Advertisements

Those firms who advertise in these pages support our magazine. Will our readers please support them in return?

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	£	s. d.	1950 £	£	s. d.
ASSOCIATION FUND:			INVESTMENTS:		
25,101	Balance at January 1, 1951	25,421 2 2		Per Annexed Schedule:	
	Add Excess of Income over			(a) At Mid-Market Price	
320	Expenditure for the year	91 2 8		on December 31,	
				1938 ..	2,740 7 11
25,421	Add Profit on Sales of In-	25,512 4 10		(b) At Cost ..	22,431 10 4
	vestments per Annexed				
	Schedule ..	180 3 3		(Mid-Market Value	
				at December 31,	25,171 18 3
19	CREDITORS:	25,692 8 1		1951, £21,938 14s.	
	Audit Fee ..	22 1 0		(11d.)	
	Grant due to Die-Hards			FURNITURE AND FITTINGS at	
	Journal ..	110 13 3		Nominal Value ..	1 0 0
20	Roll of Honour ..	—		CASH AT BANK ..	611 6 7
10	Printing and Stationery ..	—		STOCKS AT COST:	
				Badges ..	12 18 6
49		132 14 3		Regimental Ties ..	27 19 0
	MRS. M. RENNY LEGACY:			LLOYDS BANK LTD. on	40 17 6
2,000	Balance at January 1, 1951	2,003 6 8		Deposit:	
3	Add Interest Accrued ..	10 14 8		Mrs. Renny Legacy	2,014 1 4
2,003		2,014 1 4		REGIMENTAL HISTORY:	
	REGIMENTAL HISTORY:			Cash at Bank ..	930 2 0
	Subscriptions to Cost				
	thereof:				
	Balance at January 1, 1951	75 10 0			
	Subscriptions received				
	during year to date ..	955 0 0			
76	Editor's Fees Paid ..	1030 10 0			
	Subscriptions for Copies				
	Paid in Advance ..	4 12 0			
£27,549		£28,769 5 8	£27,549		£28,769 5 8

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

February 6, 1952.

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

COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	£	s. d.	1950 £	£	s. d.
EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	To Land Agent, Eastern Command, for			By Grant from Eastern Command in aid of	
24	„ Rent ..	24 0 0	22	„ Rent ..	22 0 0
6	„ Water Rate ..	5 15 4	58	„ Interest from Investments—Gross ..	57 14 4
12	„ Insurance ..	11 15 0			
1	„ Audit Fee ..	2 2 0			
	„ Repairs and Maintenance ..	33 13 6			
	„ Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	2 8 6			
80		£79 14 4	£80		£79 14 4

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	£	s. d.	1950 £	£	s. d.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:			INVESTMENTS:		
	Balance at January 1, 1951	3,629 7 6		Per Annexed Schedule:	
	Add Excess of Income over			(a) At Mid - Market	
3,629	Expenditure ..	2 8 6		value at Decem-	
				ber 31, 1938 ..	678 3 9
	PROVISION FOR FUTURE	3,631 16 0		(b) At Cost or Par	
	REPAIRS AND MAINTEN-			Value ..	1,195 13 3
	ANCE:			(Mid-Market Value at	
	Grant from Regimental			December 31, 1951,	1,873 17 0
200	Association Charitable	200 0 0		(£1,551 18s. 0d.)	
	Fund ..			NEW COTTAGE HOMES at	
133	Less Expenditure on Re-	133 10 0		Cost ..	1,653 0 7
	pairs and Renewals to			CASH AT BANK ..	173 10 5
67	date ..	66 10 0			
1	CREDITOR:				
	Audit Fee ..	2 2 0			
£3,607		£3,700 8 0	£3,607		£3,700 8 0

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

February 6, 1952.

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

OFFICERS' CLUB ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	EXPENDITURE	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	1950 £	INCOME	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30	To Donations:			445	By Donations, Subscriptions and Entrance Fees ..		475 10 0
	O.C. Depot for P.M.C....	30 0 0			" Interest on Investments:		
	Royal School for Daughters of Officers ..	15 0 0		35	Net	25 13 11	
3	S.A.A.F.A. Officers Branch ..	— — —		30	Gross	52 1 0	
				65			77 14 11
33	" Expenses of Cricket Week..	195 16 7	45 0 0		" Interest on Investments held in Trust for 3rd Battalion Middlesex Regiment:		
20	Less Received	37 2 6			Gross	7 10 0	
151		158 14 1		7	Net	3 8 9	
8	Less Stock of Cricket Balls	8 4 2			" Sales of Officers' Club Ties Less Cost thereof	16 5 0	10 18 9
						13 13 0	
143	" Golf Meeting		150 9 11		" Profit on Sale of Investments per Annexed Schedule ..		2 12 0
38	" Dinner	147 10 2	37 5 10		" Contributions to Winter Cocktail Party		21 18 5
152	Less Received	107 19 0		58	Less Expended thereon ..		— — —
103				55			— — —
49	" "At Home"	30 11 0	39 11 2	3			
29	Less Received	9 16 0					
6							
23	" M.C.C. Season Tickets ..		20 15 0				
8	" Wreaths		9 0 0				
6	" Remembrance Day Expenses		10 3 6				
	" Administration Expenses:		5 6 0				
60	Salary and Expenses ..	60 0 0					
17	Postage, Printing and Stationery	41 14 9					
6	Audit Fee	9 9 0					
83	" Donation to Regimental History		111 3 9				
	" Income Tax on 3% Defence Bonds Interest to date, less previous reserve ..		100 0 0				
116	" Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year ..		20 15 2				
12			39 12 9				
£520			£589 3 1	£520			£589 3 1

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	ACCUMULATED FUND:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	1950 £	INVESTMENTS at Cost:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,787	Balance at January 1, 1951	3,798 11 3		3,497	Per Annexed Schedule ..		3,521 3 5
12	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	39 12 9			(Mid-Market Value at December 31, 1951, £3,355 18. 8d.) ..		
3,799		3,838 4 0		417	CASH AT BANK		257 14 4
116	PROVISION FOR INCOME TAX ON 3% DEFENCE BONDS INTEREST	24 10 2		19	6th Battalion Funds for Legal Expenses, etc. ..		63 0 3
6	CREDITOR:			8	STOCK OF TIES		20 5 0
12	Audit Fee	9 9 0			STOCK OF CRICKET BALLS ..		8 4 2
18	Golf Prizes	— — —					3,876 7 2
8	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE	4 4 0			HELD IN TRUST FOR 3rd BATTALION:		
			3,876 7 2	500	£500 3% Defence Bonds at Par Value	500 0 0	
500	FUND HELD IN TRUST FOR 3rd BATTALION	506 16 7			(Mid-Market Value at December 31, 1951, £496 178. 6d.) ..		
					Cash not Re-invested ..	6 16 7	506 16 7
£4,441			£4,383 3 9				£4,383 3 9

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief such Accounts are correct.
(Signed) G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.
February 6, 1952.

OFFICERS' CLUB CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	EXPENDITURE	£ s. d.	1950 £	INCOME	£ s. d.
22	To Grants	37 2 0	50	By Grant from Army Benevolent Fund ..	30 0 0
1	" Audit Fee	2 2 0	36	" Dividends from Investments—Gross ..	35 15 6
63	" Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	46 11 6			
£86		£85 15 6	£86		£85 15 6

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	ACCUMULATED FUND:	£ s. d.	1950 £	INVESTMENTS at Cost:	£ s. d.
	Balance at January 1, 1951	1,362 0 8	1,141	Per Annexed Schedule ..	1,141 3 6
	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for Year to date	46 11 6		(Mid-Market Value at December 31, 1951, £1,044 118. 7d.) ..	
1,362		1,408 12 2	222	CASH AT BANK	269 10 8
1	CREDITOR:				
	Audit Fee	2 2 0			
£1,363		£1,410 14 2	£1,363		£1,410 14 2

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief such Accounts are correct.
(Signed) G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.
February 4, 1952.

THE "DIE-HARDS" JOURNAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £	EXPENDITURE	£ s. d.	1950 £	INCOME	£ s. d.
585	To Cost of Printing and Distribution (4 Issues)	466 14 0	183	By Advertisements	212 16 3
60	" Salaries and Expenses	60 0 0	5	" Interest on Post Office Savings Bank Deposit—Gross	4 1 0
2	" Sundries	6 2 0	287	" Subscriptions	220 7 6
4	" Audit Fee	4 4 0	176	" Grant from Association Charitable Fund being Excess of Expenditure over Income on this Account ..	110 13 3
	" Income Tax Schedule D	10 18 0			
£651		£547 18 0	£651		£547 18 0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

1950 £		£	s.	d.	1950 £		£	s.	d.
	ACCUMULATED INCOME				25	MUSEUM at Cost			
	ACCOUNT:					DEBTORS:			
73	Balance at January 1, 1951	72	18	3	37	Units for Bulk Issues	11	0	0
263	BANK OVERDRAFT	91	8	0	101	Advertisements	61	15	0
41	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE	40	0	0	138	— STOCK OF JOURNALS	2	0	0
	CREDITOR:				216	POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK DEPOSIT			
4	Audit Fee	4	4	0		ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND:			
—	Income Tax on Deposit Interest	1	18	0		Grant Due for Year to Date	110	13	3
			6	2	—				
£381		£210	8	3	£381		£210	8	3

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief such Accounts are correct.
(Signed) G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.
February 6, 1952.

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OFFICERS of the British Army have been banking with Cox & Co. since 1758—the year in which Mr. Richard Cox was appointed Army Agent by Field Marshal Lord Ligonier—and Cox & Co. have also been Official Agents to the Royal Air Force since its inception.

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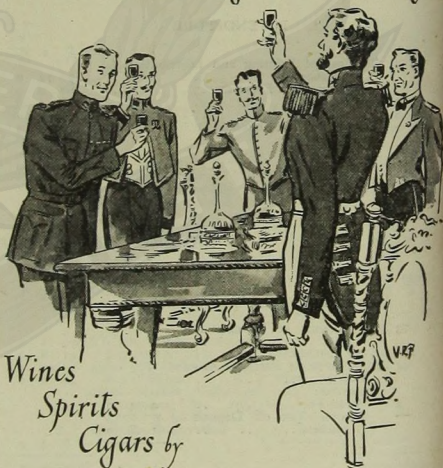


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