

# The Die Hards

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. XIII No. 4

JUNE, 1958

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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," "Serinapatam," "Alubera," "Cludad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyreness," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsular,"  
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa 1900-02,"  
 World War I—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914,"  
 "Messines, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17," "18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"  
 "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," "1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"  
 "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courtelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume,"  
 "1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Plecken," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"  
 "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Roslères," "Avre,"  
 "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,"  
 "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine 1917-18,"  
 "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Muran, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

World War II—7 Battalions—North-West Europe, 1940: "The Dyle," "Defence of the Escourt," "Ypres—Comines Canal," "Dunkirk,  
 1940," "South-East Asia, 1941: "Hong Kong," "North Africa, 1942-43: "El Alamein," "Advance on Tripoli," "Mareth," "Akarit,"  
 "Diebel Roumana," "Sicily, 1943: "Francofonte," "Sterro," "Sierro Hills," "Italy, 1944-45: "Anzio," "Caracoto," "Gothic  
 Line," "Monte Grande," "North-West Europe, 1944-45: "Normandy Landing," "Cambes," "Breville," "The Odon," "Caen," "The  
 Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourgeois Ridge," "Iroam," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederjin," "Le Havre,"  
 "The Lower Maas," "Venrai," "Meijel," "Geilenkirchen," "Venlo Pocket," "The Rhineland," "Goch," "The Reichswald," "The  
 Rhine," "Lingen," "Brinkum," "Bremen."

#### Regular Battalion

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

#### Militia Battalions

5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia). } In suspension.  
 6th Bn. (Royal Middlesex Militia).

Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.  
 Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

#### Territorial Army Battalions

7th Bn. (1/7th Bn. and 2/7th Bn. amalgamated after 1939-45 War.)  
 8th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A.  
 9th Bn. Now 571 L.A.A. Regt. R.A.  
 (9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, (D.C.O.) T.A.).

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#### Dominion and Colonial Alliance

##### CANADA

31st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Ontario.  
 21st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
 50th H.A. ... Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
 102nd (Wentworth) Field Artillery, Royal Canadian Artillery  
 The Royal Rifles of Canada.

##### NEW ZEALAND

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

##### HONG KONG REGIMENT

British Army Post Office, 1, Hong Kong.  
 Colonel of the Regiment: Lt.-General G. C. Bucknall, C.B.,  
 M.C., D.L.  
 Officer Commanding 1st Battalion: Lt.-Col. D. C. L. Nolda,  
 M.B.E.  
 Officer Commanding Depot: Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E.  
 Officer Commanding 7th Battalion: Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen,  
 O.B.E., M.C.  
 Officer Commanding 8th Battalion: Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton

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### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

The "Die-Hards" is published quarterly and may be obtained by completing the order form opposite.

Contributions are wanted from any member of the Regiment, serving or retired, but the Editor necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. Such contributions should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment (DCO), Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

For financial reason all articles should be concise and to satisfy the many who read this journal they should contain a measure of GENERAL INTEREST likely to appeal to all. Contributions should, where possible, be typed in triplicate and on one side of the paper only.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, as above. Cheques and Postal Orders made payable to Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, and crossed " & Co." Annual Subscription 5/- (post free).





Chief Editor: Major G. W. Kempster

Asst. Editor (Business): Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

## EDITORIAL

We wish to thank our contributors to the Journal this quarter. The subjects they have chosen range from reminiscences of the 1914-18 War to the day-to-day happenings of the present, which is as it should be, for we want to cater for several generations of "Die-Hards" with their own particular tastes and background.

We are pleased that the 1st Battalion will shortly be stationed nearer home and in pleasanter surroundings. Occupying trouble centres in peace time, though the Regiment often has done it, can be a wearisome, thankless business. All the more praise, therefore, is due to them for the efficient and cheerful way in which they have accomplished their unenviable task.

We were sorry to read Major Smith's obituary for his late comrade, Mr. Kruck, for his passing seems a little premature. Many of us knew Kruck and had the greatest admiration for his many sterling qualities, in particular his courage. Truly he served his Regiment well.

G.W.K.

### REGIMENTAL SILVER

Apart from silver with the 1st Battalion, the remainder, including that of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Battalions, has been assembled at the Depot. The Regimental Council has considered carefully every item and graded them into one of two categories:

- Those items which are of great Regimental interest, of value and will be used in the foreseeable future. These will be retained.
- Those items which the Regimental Council consider would be better looked after and used if offered for sale to individuals.

The Council have directed that a list of all items to be offered for sale is prepared with a reserve price against each item. This list will be published in the next edition of the Journal. This silver will be on display at the Depot Officers' Mess until January 31, 1959, up to which time any serving or retired officer of the Regiment may inspect or make a bid personally by post. Each article will have a label attached on which a bid is entered and can be raised at any time until the closing date of January 31, 1959.

### GOVERNMENT HOUSE, CYPRUS

February 28, 1958.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

I thank you very warmly for your great kindness in receiving me so hospitably at Dhekelia yesterday. I am full of admiration not only for your fine camp but also for the magnificent spirit of your Battalion of which I saw so much evidence yesterday. I have heard from many sources of the outstanding contribution your Regiment has made through the difficult days of the past two years, and I send to you and to all those in the Battalion my gratitude and good wishes.

I particularly enjoyed our break in the middle of the day and the kindness with which I was received in the Sergeants' Mess and in the Officers' Mess of the Battalion.

May I add a personal word to you of most sincere appreciation for the wonderful co-operation which you have always given in dealing with the security problems of the Larnaca district?

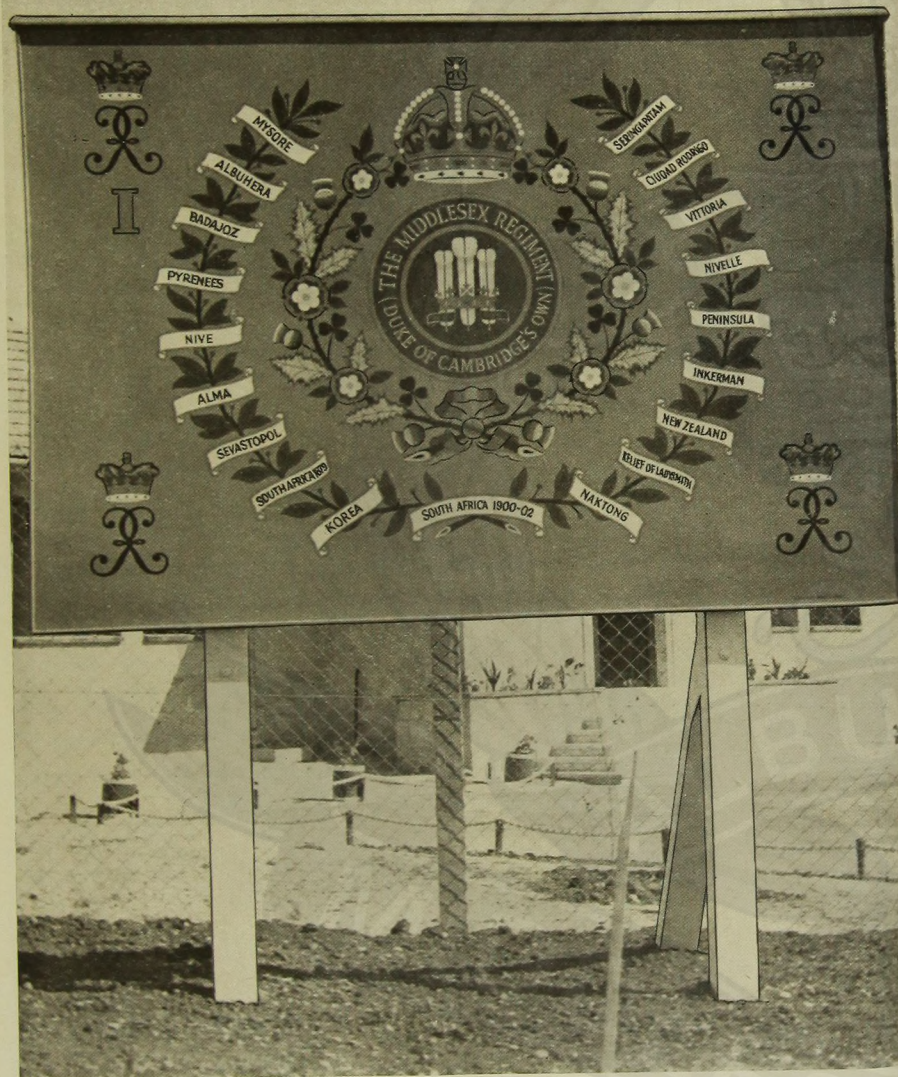
I do thank you for giving me such an enjoyable and exhilarating day.

Yours sincerely,  
(Signed) HUGH FOOT,  
Governor.

Lt.-Col. D. C. L. Nolda, M.B.E.,  
Officer Commanding,  
1st Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.),  
Dhekelia.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| June 28     | Officers' Club, At Home—Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.          |
| June 28/29  | Officers' Club Tennis Tournament—Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. |
| July 18     | Officers' Club Dinner—United Service Club, Pall Mall.               |
| Sept. 20/21 | Autumn Golf Meeting—North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.                   |
| Oct. 30     | Officers' Club Cocktail Party—United Service Club, Pall Mall.       |
| Oct. 31     | Regimental Reunion—Seymour Hall, London, W.1.                       |
| Nov. 8      | Remembrance Service—Garden of Remembrance, Westminster.             |
| Nov. 9      | Remembrance Day Service—Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.          |
| Nov. 11     | 57th/77th Officers' Dinner—United Service Club.                     |



The new Regimental sign at the entrance to Alexander Barracks, Cyprus



# 1st Battalion Notes

The event which took precedence over all others during the quarter was undoubtedly the move of the Battalion in February from Alma Camp to Alexander Barracks.

The date of the move was difficult to fix. Buildings, scheduled for take-over on specific days, were found to be incomplete but, despite such setbacks, February 5 was finally chosen and only a sudden increase in I.S. commitments would interfere.

Meanwhile, everyone was busy rehearsing. The march from Alma Camp to the new barracks by way of Dhekelia cantonment was three miles. Each of the six companies was to be represented by a contingent of 50 and the Battalion would march the whole way with bayonets fixed, Colours flying and drums beating. The problem of a parade ground for the forming-up ceremony was solved by using the parade ground of a nearby R.A.M.C. company. It was not big enough, however, on which to rehearse the drumhead service and march past. The ground at Alma Camp was covered in mud so there was no alternative but to ferry the Battalion on selected days in M.T. to the parade ground at Alexander Barracks. Despite this extra commitment the M.T. Platoon rose nobly to the occasion.

The honour of carrying the Colours went to Lt. M. Gilham (Queen's Colour) and 2/Lt. A. Morden (Regimental Colour), the latter officer being especially privileged since he is the first National Service officer ever to carry one of the Colours.

February 5 was bright and clear with a fresh wind blowing; ideal for the march. With due ceremony the Battalion was formed up but before the Colours were marched on the Commanding Officer made a short and memorable address to the whole Battalion:—

"Before I march on the Colours, I wish to remind you that they represent over two hundred years of glorious endeavour by the Regiment in many parts of the world.

Now they are entrusted to us, and we are responsible for adding to the achievements of the Regiment. We have not been unmindful of our obligations in Cyprus, where for the last two and a half years of active service we have carried out our many and varied tasks skilfully and successfully. Our reputation stands high.

Today we are parading our Colours for the first time in Cyprus. I wish this to be a memorable occasion and I look to you, to each one of you, to play your part this day with pride and distinction."

With great pride, distinction indeed, the Battalion moved off, watched by other units, families, Cypriots and hosts of others. The band and drums led the way, making it easy for rhythm and pace to be maintained. Presently, it seemed, the Battalion swung into its new home to the familiar strains of the Regimental March. A hollow square was formed quickly and neatly for the short drumhead service. Invited guests and spectators alike joined in the service after which the Battalion marched past Maj.-Gen. D. A. Kendrew, C.B., C.B.E.,

D.S.O., G.O.C. Cyprus District, who had been invited to take the salute. Afterwards the G.O.C., together with other guests and friends, visited the Officers' Mess.

All of this is now history and we have settled in to our new home which cost nearly half a million pounds to build. Such expense has brought certain anxieties in its train, not the least of which has been how to keep the place clean and tidy and how best to reduce damages to a minimum. Naturally enough we have had our teething troubles which have all been overcome. Now the barracks have a truly occupied air about them and outside the main gate proudly stands our new Battalion sign, the reproduction in paint of the Regimental Colour. The black and white photograph reproduced in these notes does not do credit to this magnificent work of art painted by Pte. (now L/Cpl.) R. Hockley, a National Serviceman. It took him three weeks to complete and we are all very proud of it.

## The Security Situation

On the whole the internal security situation has been quiet. Everyone waited with bated breath for the Government official policy statement on Cyprus scheduled for early February. The comings and goings of the Colonial Secretary and Sir Hugh Foot to Athens and Ankara in January heralded, it seemed, the long awaited announcements. The Turks, anxious to make their case known to the world, became impatient and on January 27 and 28 serious Turkish disorders in Nicosia and elsewhere indicated their pent-up feelings. Fortunately, Larnaca District remained comparatively quiet but the Commanding Officer took certain successful precautions to keep Turks away from Greeks during this period.

The Greek Cypriots now appeared to us to be more friendly. Evidently, they were sure that any pronouncements would be in their favour and everything the new Governor had done since his arrival certainly appeared to lend weight to this argument. Despite ominous threats, EOKA bandits contented themselves by organising memorial services for those bandits killed by the Security Forces. The intimidation campaign of Greek against Greek continued and the majority of village Mukhtars handed in their seals of office to the Commissioner. On the other hand, the EOKA order to the population to boycott British imported goods has, we understand, been only partially successful.

Meanwhile, the Battalion has maintained its heavy patrolling programme and, without having spectacular successes, has quietly, unobtrusively and efficiently done its job in maintaining order.

A Battalion operation was carried out on March 25, Greek Independence Day, when large-scale processions and inter-communal strife were expected. Fortunately, two days beforehand, the Governor rescinded the order which made processions illegal and allowed them to be held under licence from the Commissioner. Nevertheless, the Battalion, assisted by Gunners and the Cyprus

Squadron Royal Tanks, was deployed in and around Larnaca town and, indeed, throughout Larnaca District. In the event the Greeks let off a lot of steam and the Turks remained unobtrusive; there were no disorders.

This was held to be a triumph for the Governor but there is little doubt that the situation is now fast deteriorating. The apparent procrastination of H.M. Government over the future of the island is causing uneasiness and tension. Greek thugs are becoming bolder once more and turning their attention to the blowing up of public utility works, machinery and buildings. EOKA has issued open threats against the Security Forces and the Greek friendliness we noticed earlier is quickly disappearing. The extra precautions we now have to take will extend the whole Battalion, for nothing is safe from the cowardly attacks of the bandits. It is food for thought to realise that on the one hand we must guard a power station costing millions of pounds, while on the other we must protect the wheelbarrows, the concrete mixers and the steamrollers of the Public Works Department. All this in addition to the ever-present threat that the situation will revert to that obtaining before the EOKA truce of March 1957.

One arduous task, however, has now gone, we hope, for the remainder of our tour in Cyprus—that of guarding some 600 detainees at Pyla Detention Camp. H.E. the Governor announced on March 10 to all detainees that he would transfer them to the better equipped camp at Kokkinov to the north of Nicosia. The operation was carried out in three phases and on March 22 "B" Company thankfully watched the last of the inmates depart suitably escorted by the Royal Horse Guards. "Thankfully" is the operative word because two days after the Governor's announcement four detainees had inexplicably escaped. "B" Company was thrown into the depths of despair but close investigation showed no evidence whatsoever of an escape through or over the wire. Small comfort perhaps but it is interesting to record that during the two and a half years the Battalion was responsible for Pyla Detention Camp only 11 escapes occurred, six of them during the first three months of 1958, and all but three through the main gate which was controlled by the prison staff.

## Training and the Future

Now for the first time for many years the Battalion is together as one entity. The security situation permitting, it is hoped that two of the four Rifle Companies will be able to carry out normal training at any one time, although "B" Company is, at the moment, busily preparing to take over the guard for two weeks at Government House at the end of April.

Despite other calls, four training days have been successfully held in the quarter, and officers, W.O.s and sergeants have been able to get together to study the withdrawal and advance phases of war, both on the cloth model and on the ground. Such training, of necessity limited, will stand us in good stead and helps to keep techniques alive. The Commanding Officer aims to have the Battalion trained up to and including Company level before we reach Germany and Companies have already been able to make a start.

To stop irresponsible and speculative gossip the Commanding Officer informed the Battalion that we are scheduled to leave Cyprus on October 13, arriving in England 11 days later. He warned us all, however, that this was a planning date and that experience showed that such dates were liable to alter right up until the last moment. He was able to quote the well-known example of the Leicesters who were scheduled to leave for U.K. in March but are still here.

## Honours and Awards

On February 7 the following members of the Battalion were honoured in the Cyprus section of the New Year Honours List:

### Mentioned in Despatches

Major P. W. Galvin  
Lt. M. V. Hayward

### C-in-C.'s Certificates

C/Sgt. J. Moyse, "B" Company  
Cpl. A. Potter, Intelligence Section  
Cpl. G. Blair, M.T. Platoon

The Battalion warmly congratulates all the above on their earned awards. Meanwhile, on March 12, the Commanding Officer and Capt. (Q.M.) F. Waldron received their M.B.E. medals at a ceremony at Government House.

## Shooting

It will be remembered that in the last issue of the journal the final results of both the Middle East Shooting Trophy and the Middle East Battle Trophy were unknown. We knew we could not win the shooting trophy as R.A.F. Nicosia, at least, had beaten our score. In the end, however, the result of the shooting trophy showed that the Battalion had tied for fourth place with 45 Commando Royal Marines, the scores being:

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. Malta Workshop R.E.M.E.                                | 699 points |
| 2. R.A.F. Nicosia   | 684 "      |
| 3. Royal Marine Training Centre                           | 683 "      |
| 4. { 45 Commando, R. Marines .. }<br>{ 1st Middlesex .. } | 679 "      |

The Battalion was warmly congratulated by the G.O.C. on obtaining the best score for all Army units in Cyprus.

The Middle East Battle Trophy was a different matter, however. At the end of January results from North Africa and East Africa had still to come in, including that of the 1956 winners, 45 Commando Royal Marines. Although we knew we had the best score of all Cyprus units, the final outcome was unknown.

On March 18 the result was announced and proved that the Battalion had won handsomely, the final placings being:

- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. 1st Middlesex             | 1559 points |
| 2. 1st Royal West Kents      | 1527 "      |
| 3. 45 Commando Royal Marines | 1479 "      |
| 4. 1st K.R.R.C.              | 1466 "      |



Congratulations were received from the Commander-in-Chief, 45 Marine Commando and the G.O.C. wrote to the Commanding Officer:

"I write to congratulate you and your Battalion on winning the Middle East Battle Trophy. I fully appreciate all the hard work and practice which the team must have put in and I am delighted that you were so successful."

This splendid success, coming so swiftly on the fine achievement of the Battalion team in the shooting trophy competition, enhanced the Battalion's shooting reputation which already stood high following the first-class results achieved in the Brigade assault-at-arms competition in December last.

Now, virtually the same team, led by Capt. C. L. Lawrence, M.C., and Capt. G. G. Norton, is hard at work practising for the 1958 battle trophy competition. The team hopes to march and fire on April 25 and, if they can top the points which won the 1957 trophy, the Battalion should be sure of retaining the title for the first year of our stay in Germany.

POSTSCRIPT.—The team has obtained the splendid score of 1585 points, 26 more than the score which gave us the 1957 trophy. Well done, indeed.

#### Visitors to the Battalion

The occupation of the new barracks, the "showpiece of the Middle East," has brought its attendant spate of visitors, the most notable of whom was Sir Hugh Foot, who came to see us on February 27. He arrived at 1130 and, after inspecting a guard provided by "S" Company, he toured the barracks, visited the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess and lunched with the officers. Later he sent a charming letter to the Commanding Officer which is published in the Editorial.

Previous to the Governor's visit we welcomed the new Brigade Commander, Brigadier H. E. Baker-Baker, D.S.O., M.B.E., who has taken the opportunity to visit us informally on more than one occasion and recently attended Sunday morning service in the barracks. Gen. Kendrew came early in January and saw the Battalion at its everyday work.

Between February 28 and March 2 came a breath of home when Brigadier G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E., visited us while touring the Middle East in his capacity as Commandant of the Army Air Centre. He brought news of other members of the Regiment and we were fortunate that he could spare the time to dine with the officers.

Another welcome visitor in March was Gen. Sir Lashmer G. Whistler, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., who visited us informally gathering our views on the make-up of the Regular Army of the future. He welcomed our suggestion on how to improve conditions in the Army, especially from the administrative and "Q" aspects.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East Land Forces, Lt.-Gen. Sir Roger H. Bower, K.B.E., C.B., visited the Battalion on April 30. A Guard of Honour was mounted for him and was provided by "A" and "S" Companies. The Regimental Colour was carried by Lt. W. G. A. Crumley. The Commander-in-Chief toured the barracks and saw the men at their everyday

training. He also watched the Pentathlon teams preparing for their tasks. He was entertained in the Sergeants' Mess and had lunch with the officers. The Commander-in-Chief complimented the Guard of Honour on the high standard of their drill and turnout and he also expressed himself as being very pleased with all he saw during his visit to the Battalion.

#### Battalion Personalities

Only one officer left us during the last quarter: 2/Lt. M. Hedgecoe, who has done much to assist the Battalion hockey team. We have welcomed 2/Lts. M. F. Deakin and M. Julian from Sandhurst and G. Bulloch from Eaton Hall. Major and Mrs. R. D. Hutchings arrived on February 25. Major Hutchings has assumed command of "D" Company vice Capt. D. Eales, who is expecting daily to join the Aden Forces. There have been no new arrivals in the Sergeants' Mess, but we are sorry to lose Sergts. Simpson, Hook, Hoddinott and Dow. Finally we have regretfully said goodbye to our W.V.S. helper, Miss Nora O'Connor, who proved to be a staunch and loyal supporter. In her place we give a warm welcome to Mrs. M. Campbell and wish her every success in her new and exacting task.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

The main events during the last quarter have been the march down from Alma Camp, the occupation at long last of Alexander Barracks, and the Garrison .22 League. Despite being very heavily committed during the take-over and the transfer of stores and equipment, "H.Q." Company found a full guard from all platoons and departments for the march, and had the honour of being the leading Company. The standard of marching and drill was very good indeed and everyone who took part in the parade is to be congratulated on the fine result achieved.

Despite a number of snags the living accommodation provided by Alexander Barracks is extremely good. Barrack rooms designed to accommodate eight people have, as far as "H.Q." Company is concerned, only eight people living in them—a most unusual but welcome state of affairs. All full corporals have their own bunks, and most lance-corporals are able to have one bunk between two. In each block there is a rest room. The one looked after by the M.T. Platoon is quite excellent and has in it a record player, wireless set, and a supply of daily and weekly newspapers and magazines.

In the Garrison Minor Units .22 Shooting League the Company team organised by C.S.M. A. Goodge and assisted by C.Q.M.S. E. Steward have so far done extremely well. Eleven matches have been fired, nine won, and one other lost by only one point. The position of the team in the league is second and, though we cannot now win the competition, we should finally finish in this position. The following have fired for the Company: C/Sgt. E. Steward, L/Cpl. Carter, and Ptes. Howard, Turton, White, Beasley and Tatton. Special mention must be made of Ptes. Tatton and Turton who have fired extremely well throughout the whole competition.

A Company Photographic Society is also being started by members of the M.T. Platoon and, although their rest room is maintained by a voluntary subscription of a shilling per month per head, it is intended that the Photographic Society shall become self-supporting. The M.T. Platoon can be very proud of their efforts in this respect.

The Albuhera Shield Inter-Company Athletics Meeting is scheduled to take place on April 14 and 15. Despite being plagued with the bugbear of finding two teams, it is hoped to enter competitors for most events. Training has been most effectively organised by Cpls. Hubbard and Hennebury.

The Company hockey team taking part in the Garrison Minor Units Knock-out Competition has reached the finals and, as the team contains nine Battalion players, we have high hopes of winning.

#### Signal Platoon

The past three months have been the quietest the Platoon has yet experienced so far as I.S. is concerned, but we have not been idle.

January was devoted mainly to the process of uprooting ourselves from the friendly canvas of Alma Camp and setting up shop in Alexander Barracks—or palace—as it is sometimes called. Having become accustomed to the horrors of room jobs and the threat of barrack damages, we are now comfortably settled into our new quarters.

By dint of hard labour on the part of our instructors we have raised the standard of signalling, but the plaintive cry of "How do you hear me" is still all too frequently heard drifting unheeded through the atmosphere. Sgt. Pritchard returned from the mecca of signalling at the beginning of January bursting with knowledge and new ideas which he has passed on to our latest cadre, so we are full of hope for the future. He brought with him a "C" grading and a good report, for which all the Platoon offer their congratulations.

Although the I.S. situation has remained quiet—the major incident being the strike of the N.A.A.F.I. staff—we have played our part in routine patrolling which, though not necessarily exciting, does allow us to get out of barracks.

Congratulations to Sgt. Pritchard and L/Cpl. Day on promotion and to Cpl. Overton for his "C" grading from Hythe. We say goodbye to Messrs. Burns, Downard, Goodwin, Richardson and Seymour and welcome the newcomers who have taken their places.

Finally, we should warn the Adjutant that, on the strength of his recent senior officers' signal course, great things will be expected of him in the way of voice procedure on future Battalion exercises.

#### Corps of Drums

For most of January the Corps of Drums rehearsed for the march to the new barracks and were kept busy with route marches with all Companies. We were very glad of this practice as many drummers had not taken part in a ceremonial parade before, and for them it was very necessary to gain experience. Fortunately the day of the move was a fine one, and the march down and drumhead service were very enjoyable.

The Drums quickly settled into Alexander Barracks, although the excellent acoustics in barracks make practice difficult unless the whole Battalion is prepared to listen to it. Current opinion shows they are not and we march to the sports field for our practices.

Recently the Band and Drums have been rehearsing for Beating the Retreat, but we require much more practice for this. It is encouraging that there is great enthusiasm in the Drums for this parade, and improvement is most noticeable.

Operationally the Corps of Drums has played a small part, usually in the role of final reserve. On Greek Independence Day we were prepared as a riot platoon but happily not committed. The unusual sight of the Drums, led by the officer i/c, rehearsing riot drills on the square at 0530 hours caused some amusement to those in barracks. Lady Butler would, however, have been gratified to hear the title of her famous painting used as an exhortation under these circumstances. We later spent the night lying up at Pyla reservoir and Pergamos pumping station. It is, incidentally, quite untrue that this was the first night in over two years that either the officer i/c or the Drum-Major had spent out of bed.

Football and basketball are our main sporting activities, and the Drums have had successes in both. Cpl. Meehan plays basketball for the Battalion, and Drm. Moynihan continued to be a leading runner in the cross-country. Drm. Shelton boxed for the Battalion, losing a very close fight. We congratulate L/Cpl. Heath on his promotion and welcome Drms. Applegate, Lambert, Clark, Mason and George.

#### M.T. Platoon

The M.T. Platoon have again been experiencing a very busy time. Not only are the I.S. commitments still running at the same level, but during this quarter the Battalion has moved into the new barracks. This move called for a lot of extra work from the M.T. which they willingly undertook.

In the new barracks the Platoon occupies two floors of a barrack block, the third floor being taken by the Band. The accommodation as a whole is good, and the M.T. distinguished themselves by winning the rest room competition. The Platoon won this by putting in a lot of extra work, and have made their rest room into a very attractive common room.

Other items of interest include the fact that half the M.T. Platoon were enrolled, minus their vehicles, to take part in the march down to the new barracks. The Unit mechanical inspection has also taken place since we moved and the report was good. In the football world, too, the Platoon had done well and their team has been selected to represent "H.Q." Company in the Garrison Minor Units seven-a-side competition.

Finally there has been a great fluctuation in the members of the Platoon: 15 men have now gone, but 17 new ones have arrived, thus ensuring that the balance is maintained and the M.T. can continue to function despite the numerous calls made upon it.



## BAND

Since the last publication of the Journal we have moved into new barracks. Each and every one of us is more than satisfied with the layout and location of the barracks, with the sea on the door-step to add to our modern and luxurious living.

At the time of writing we have spent eight very comfortable weeks in Alexander Barracks; a most predominant feature being the Band practice room which cost £2,800 to build. All comments prove it to be an excellent and well-designed building, offering us the best of facilities.

The actual move to Alexander Barracks from Alma Camp was carried out on February 5. The Band, together with the Corps of Drums, led the Battalion in the march. On arrival the Corps of Drums departed from us to perform their own particular part in the ceremony. The Band provided the music for the drumhead service and march past.

Previous to the move, our first ceremonial parade was for the visit of Maj.-Gen. Kendrew, G.O.C. Cyprus, to the Auxiliary Police. The parade was held on what is now the drill square of our new barracks.

On January 10, taking on a more casual but nevertheless as important a role, the Band made a trip to Nicosia to record two programmes for the Forces Broadcasting Service. February also found us once again making the journey to the capital to resume recordings, bringing our total to 12.

In the series of military band broadcasts on F.B.S. we have occupied eight consecutive programmes.

Two young members of the Band have added to the Band's domination of the Battalion basketball team, namely Bdsms. Cox and French.

In other fields of sport the Band is also well represented. Bandmaster F. A. Jackson, Cpl. D. Carson and L/Cpl. A. Torrie hold the Band's prestige high by the fact that they have helped the Battalion hockey team to reach, and win, the final of the Cyprus District knock-out competition.

This year will see the loss of a number of members. First on the list is Bdsms. Day, who has given the Band invaluable service for the time he has been with us. Sgt. Hull ("Charlie") will follow after completing nearly 24 years in the Army. Although he has served with numerous other regiments it is appropriate that he should have served his last three years with us. His family have strong ties with the "Die-Hards," Sgt. Hull's father, "Busty" Hull, was secretary of the Old Comrades Association until 1957. Before Sgt. Hull does finally complete his time, in September, he will augment the number of Middlesex Band members at Canterbury with the Brigade Band.

There he will join C/Sgt. Grogan, L/Cpl. Poole and Bdsms. Castle in coaching the youngsters in readiness for despatch to their own respective bands.

Bdsms. Castle (who, unfortunately, was unable to enjoy a stay in the new barracks) was sent home to Millbank Hospital to receive treatment on his hands. Now, as previously mentioned, he is with the Brigade Band at Canterbury.

A newcomer to the Band, Bdsms. T. Halley, has proved

his capabilities as a pianist. Unfortunately we cannot put him to use in the Military Band but he is, however, showing us his paces as a dance-band pianist.

Now we are eagerly awaiting the summer months, when we shall have the option of sleeping or swimming during the hot afternoons. The advantages go either way; electric fans to keep the sleepers cool and sea for swimmers.

## "A" COMPANY

Having added further lustre to its name with the I.S. achievements recorded in the last issue of this Journal, the Company devoted itself to moving into the magnificent accommodation in Alexander Barracks, already rechristened by the men "Alexandra Palace." The Company excelled itself on the march-down. Most of the soldiers had never seen the officers on parade before and were suitably startled. Despite this the Company was complimented on all sides for its smartness and bearing. Hardly had we drawn breath than we were off to Pyla Detention Camp for what subsequently turned out to be our last tour there. The detainees were removed during March to more economical accommodation in someone else's area, to our great relief.

It was at this time that we bade a regretful farewell to W.O.2 Bartle, who had rendered us such long and loyal service as company sergeant-major. His unemotional enthusiasm for every activity that we indulged in entitled him to our greatest respect and regard. We wish him the best of luck in "D" Company and welcome in his place W.O.2 Beale, whose different methods will, we feel sure, be used to the same ends. We also lost Ptes. Crawley, Buick and Petrie on release, and Ptes. Marioni, Hare, Bell and Leonard to other employments. Sgt. Patterson left us for "D" Company and L/Cpl. Grist for civilian life. The latter's long-filled post as Company clerk was taken by Pte. Clay, while Pte. Holt joined us as Company "Champ" driver. Sgt. Blackwell rejoined the Company from "D" Company, and we also welcome Ptes. Rahmatullah (63), Wheeler and Marshall, and many more from continuation training. 2/Lt. Cheesman, after almost a year in the Company, went to "D" Company as a training officer. His place as No. 1 Platoon commander was taken by 2/Lt. M. F. Deakin. 2/Lt. Sidnell returned from a protracted period of leave in U.K., took one look at the life of an active rifle company and left us for the union-hours job of running the N.C.O.s cadre. The following have recently been promoted: Cpls. Shaffner, Bonhomme and Manser, L/Cpls. Cockerton, Jones and Lucas, and Sgt. Speakman—congratulations to them all.

We had a relatively unsuccessful period of patrolling in early March, our only find being a cache of various types of ammunition and explosives in a Turkish village. We also took part in Operation "Foxglove," which was the move of detainees from Pyla Detention Camp. Hardly was this over than we found ourselves standing-by in Larnaca on the occasion of Greek Independence Day, when civil disorders were expected. Although the crowd in St. Lazarus Square, the Company's position, grew to 4,000 strong, there was no trouble and we were not called upon to use our batons.

We like to think that on these occasions the population is discouraged from violence by the memory of how the Battalion dealt with disorder in the early days of the emergency. Into this period of I.S. activity, surprisingly enough, was fitted several long and profitable days on the ranges, and a few members of the Company trained assiduously with the Battalion Battle Trophy team.

Since the Battalion no longer had Pyla Camp to guard, it was found possible to allow "A" Company to leave barracks on a four-day exercise from March 31 till April 3. Unfortunately, owing to another anniversary—that of the commencement of violence on April 1, 1955—the Company was required to encamp for 24 hours near the large all-Greek village of Athienou and carry out a programme of patrols in the area on the eve of April 1. Two patrols from each platoon went to Athienou, Tremethousha and Arsos, respectively, with the object of preventing leafleteering, slogan-painting and the manufacture of illegal signs and banners. No. 3 Platoon, with two patrols in Athienou under 2/Lt. Melville and Sgt. Blackwell, arrested a man for being in possession of an EOKA hymn-sheet and a youth for reading a subversive leaflet in the street. The houses of both these persons were searched without result. No. 2 Platoon had a more exciting time in Tremethousha. Sgt. Callaghan, leading a patrol consisting of Ptes. Lewis, Crummy and Cheesman, opened fire on four figures who had fled when challenged. They escaped, however, leaving behind them a bicycle, and a taxi which was later reported to the police as stolen; 2/Lt. Dobson and his patrol, hurrying to the scene, had great difficulty in dissuading the somewhat frustrated Sgt. Callaghan from firing at them. The police investigated the incident next day and found a mask and gown of black material near the place. This outfit is of the type used by EOKA in the current campaign of intimidation. Pte. Cheesman looked quite the part when he put it on later for demonstration purposes.

After all this excitement, we spent a quiet day in our encampment waiting for trouble in Athienou. When it became obvious that nothing was going to happen, we broke camp and left by truck for Pano Lefkara in the Western Sector. After a meal, we set out on a night march and arrived at our destination at four o'clock in the morning, having marched for over 15 miles. Our administrative team, after a journey made perilous by rough tracks and bottomless gorges, had a cup of hot cocoa waiting for us as we marched in. The next day we covered a further nine miles to Yygi on the coast, where we had a long and welcome night's sleep. Thence home, footsore and weary, but invigorated by the fresh air, the physical exercise and the simplicity of life away from barracks.

The four-day Easter holiday gave us and our feet a chance to recover from the trials of those patrols and exercises, though the seven-a-side soccer team managed to have itself out of bed to perform very creditably in the Dhekalia Garrison competition. They reached the final only to be beaten by 152 Battery. Ptes. Brazil, Hudson and Rahmatullah 49 played consistently well in the competition. The weather was

warm and sunny, and many members of the Company took their first dip of the season or laid the foundations of a deep Mediterranean tan to come. The return to the work-a-day world was hard indeed; Tuesday morning showed that sunbathing does not improve drill. We all console ourselves with the approaching joys of Albuhera Day, Whitsun and the blissfully empty afternoons of the summer ahead.

## "B" COMPANY

The Company has been mainly occupied during the last quarter with patrolling, two tours of duty at Pyla Detention Camp, the ceremonial march from Alma Camp to Alexander Barracks and preparing ourselves for the Government House Guard.

The ceremonial march took pride of place and together with the remainder of the Battalion we practised our changing arms on the march and ceremonial drill until, it seemed, we could do it in our sleep. All went well for the Company on the great day and the parade went off without a hitch. The new barracks are palatial, but it took a little time to sort out the idiosyncrasies of the plumbing facilities. It was not until hordes of engineers had repeatedly torn up the drains and tinkered with the taps that we could be sure of having a shower without the whole place becoming flooded.

The Company was destined to be the last to assume duties at Pyla Detention Camp. We took over from "C" Company, who congratulated themselves that at last they had accomplished a tour at Pyla without being involved in escapes or riots. This time, however, it was the turn of "B" Company. Within 48 hours of our arrival we heard with horror that four detainees had escaped—no one knew how or when. A thorough inspection of every strand of barbed wire and the surrounding ground proved, however, that no escape was made through or over the wire and we hopefully assume that the four men somehow made their way out of the largest hole in the camp—the main gate, which was not our responsibility. At the end of our stay there we were able to watch joyfully the 500 detainees being moved out to another camp and, after a thorough search of the compounds, we were quickly able to dispel the rumour that the four escapers had remained behind waiting for the military to depart before walking out of the camp.

Following Pyla we have completed nearly four weeks' active patrolling in the central and western sectors. The latter was especially interesting even if we did spend most of our time guarding tar sprayers and steam-rollers. Once more, however, we are indebted to our C/Sgt. Moyse for his excellent food and administration in the field during the period. Also we heartily congratulate him on his recent award of the C.in-C.'s certificate and feel that, if ever a man deserved it, he does. His enthusiasm and ever-bounding generosity is always directed towards the good of the men, the Company in general and the Battalion in particular.

In conjunction with the rest of the Battalion we took part in the operation on Greek Independence Day. We spent the day in reserve in the police compound at Larnaca, but nothing occurred except that a lot of



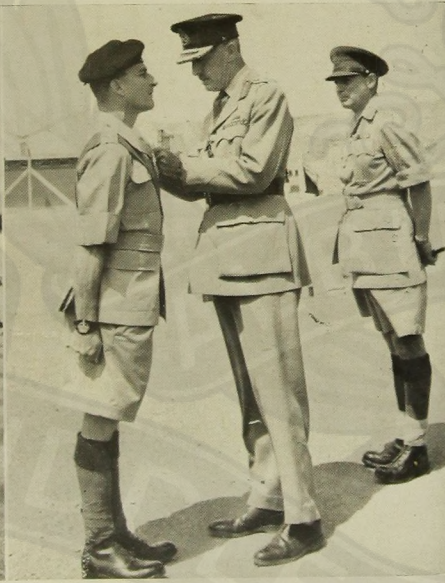
## 1st. BATTALION



*Lt.-Col. D. C. L. Nolda, M.B.E., leading the 1st Battalion into its new home in Cyprus*



*Major H. N. MacL. Martin and B/M Jackson with Lt.-Gen. Sir Roger H. Bower, K.B.E., C.B.*



*C.S.M. A. Goodge receives his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the Commander-in-Chief*

## 1st. BATTALION



**THE BATTALION HOCKEY TEAM WITH THEIR TROPHIES**

*Standing (left to right): C/Sgt. Steward, Cpl. Carson, L/Cpl. Torrie, Sgt. Handford (R.A.P.C.), Lt. Gilham, Sgt. Leat, Cpl. Tassell*  
*Seated (left to right): Lt. Gaston (R.A.M.C.), Capt. Waldron, Lt.-Col. Nolda, 2/Lt. Morden, Bandmaster Jackson, Capt. Marciandi*



*The successful Battle Trophy team. Left to right (standing): Sgt. Partridge, Pte. Cumino, Cpl. Finnis, Sgt. Patterson, Cpl. Birch, L/Cpl. Willetts, Cpl. Day. (Sitting): C.S.M. Da Costa, Lt. Hewson, Capt. Norton, Lt.-Col. Nolda, Capt. Lawrence, Capt. Flavell, C.S.M. Bartle, S/Sgt. Girling*  
*(Right): Sir Hugh Foot inspects the Quarter Guard. Left to right: Pte. Parmenter, Drm. Heath, Sgt. Partridge, Pte. Brazier*



soldiers were soon to be seen making up for the loss of sleep incurred by an 0330 hours start. Following this we spent the night, at very short notice, in Inkerman Camp at Larnaca, ready for any emergency which might occur during the hours of darkness. The Gunners were most hospitable, even to the putting on of a film show for us.

Now the emphasis is on the preparations for the Government House guard. The change-over from battle-dress to khaki drill takes place just before we go and the men of the Company are to be seen scurrying backwards and forwards to the Q.M.'s store and tailor's shop to get clothing exchanged or altered, boots repaired and the one hundred and one other things which are essential for a well-turned-out guard. The whole Company is involved and we take over from the Marine Commandos.

Meanwhile, we welcome Capt. R. Cain to the Company as 2/C, Capt. G. G. Norton having been transferred to "D" Company following his temporary duty as Adj. Also we welcome 2/Lt. M. Julian from Sandhurst, who has replaced 2/Lt. M. Waite in No. 4 Platoon. We welcome, too, L/Cpl. Long and Ptes. Andrews, Barber, Carmody, Padman, Swan, Hutchin and Ogle.

Our sporting activities have been necessarily limited during the quarter. The Company has done well at soccer, the stalwarts of the team undoubtedly being Ptes. Page, May, Willsher, Read, Langley, Rowlands, Wise, Cleverdon, Bone, Thacker, Smith and Cpl. Cowell. The final position of the team in the Garrison League is as yet uncertain but so far we are top of all the Middlesex Companies. We had high hopes of our basketball team under the watchful eye of 2/Lt. M. Julian and, although we won some notable victories, "C" Company proved to be too experienced for us. Now we look forward to cricket and already the Company Commander can be seen practising his shots with his regimental cane.

#### "C" COMPANY

During the past three months the Company has been occupied in the usual Battalion duties which have now settled down into rather uneventful routine after the hectic excitement of the past year. The major event for all of us was the move into our new barracks by the sea at Dhekelia. Last farewells, not without certain regrets, were made to Alma, and the Company under Major Sax marched down the new tarmac road to Alexander, receiving an enthusiastic cheer from the students of King Richard School outside the new barrack gates.

Pyla Camp was also closed as a detention camp, and during the past months we did our last two tours of duty there. The old saying that something always happens when "C" Company is up the towers was not borne out this time, and the final crisis landed fairly and squarely in the lap of another tired and worried O.C., while ours was observed to be beaming from various verandahs with a certain aloof detachment, having shaken the dust of Pyla from his feet some 48 hours before.

A fortnight was spent lying up every night inside a

certain suspect village in our area, and the Company produced a surprising number of stealthy experts who apparently got into all sorts of places, unobserved, in the very heart of the community, which leads one to wonder what their civilian occupation might be. This, and routine patrolling, are the sort of operations in which we have been engaged. Many members of the Company, and especially Sgt. Hook have, as a result, become connoisseurs of self-heating soups.

We also did some helicopter training in which all distinguished themselves by completing the exercise undamaged this time, despite a gallant effort by one of our well-known characters to lose his head in the tail rotor blades.

During Greek Independence Day the Company sallied forth in riot kit to occupy the school building on the outskirts of Larnaca in case of trouble. The day passed off uneventfully, however, and the Company spent its time congenially occupied, doing nothing in particular. A small detachment also went to Aradhippou, but there, too, nothing worthy of note occurred.

The Company soccer team somehow failed to sweep all before it in the Garrison knock-out competition but, as one undepressed supporter said, "We didn't do nearly as badly as some of the others." The basketball team, led by C/Sgt. Potter, has, on the other hand, had a most successful season, the only real opposition we encountered being the "H.Q." Company team.

Administratively, Pte. Brown continued to wrestle with various members of the higher command for exclusive possession of the Company Champ, and usually won.

During the quarter we welcomed 2/Lt. Bulloch, and also Cpls. Chapman and Pace from other companies. Sgt. Ford also managed to find his way back from "D" Company, after much drama and chicanery by others. Cpl. Montgomery, our able and energetic company clerk, received his second stripe and L/Cpl. Hatton his first. We congratulate them both.

#### "D" COMPANY

The training of drafts and potential N.C.O.s has continued, and our routine has been broken only by our move to Alexander Barracks.

One intake left us for rifle companies on February 22 and the next intake did not arrive until March 13. During this period the permanent staff enjoyed a well-earned respite and leave. Cpl. Boyce returned to the fold with hair-raising accounts of his scrambles in the Kyrenia range. All were fit, in good heart and ready to deal with the new draft on arrival.

The weather, which interfered previously with our training, is now in our favour—fine, but not yet too warm. The Company may be seen regularly scampering over the adjacent hills with great gusto. When our present intake complete their continuation training they will at least be fit.

In the sports world, we are handicapped by our transient population, but in spite of this we have climbed from the bottom of the league, largely due to the efforts of L/Cpl. Dennis and Ptes. Bedford, Green, Lee and Warren.

We have lost C.S.M. Beale to "A" Company but

welcome in his place C.S.M. Bartle. We have also lost Sgts. Blackwell and Ford, who have been replaced by Sgt. Patterson and Cpl. Raffael. Other new arrivals to our permanent staff are Ptes. Bailey and Smith.

We congratulate Ptes. Dennis and Marshall on their lucky escape when the Champ, driven by the latter, overturned. Neither is certain how it happened, but without a doubt both were very lucky to escape with minor injuries.

We also congratulate Cpl. Henshaw on his promotion to Sergeant and L/Cpl. Redrup on his promotion to Corporal. The latter is doubly fortunate in that his wife is also newly arrived in Larnaca.

Finally, our congratulations are extended to Sgt. Shinn on the eventual arrival of a daughter. For him the ante-natal expenses were considerably increased by his telephone bill for calls to Nicosia during the waiting period.

#### "S" COMPANY

During the last quarter "S" Company has continued to be employed primarily on I.S. duties, but, in addition, all platoons have done quite a lot of specialist training. Drill and ceremonial have not been neglected. The Company took part in the ceremonial march to Alexander Barracks. On this occasion it was commanded by Capt. Wolcombe. We have provided several quarter guards to greet visiting VIPs, including His Excellency The Governor. Emphasis is now being placed on collective training and physical fitness. We hope that by the time we leave Cyprus we shall be a highly trained and very fit Support Company. Capt. Wolcombe left us towards the end of March to command the Training Company at the Depot. All ranks wish him the best of luck in his new job.

#### 3-in. Mortar Platoon

The Platoon started the New Year by setting up a patrol base near the village of Troulli for four days. The weather was most unkind to us as it rained heavily for most of the time we were at camp. Fortunately, we were well equipped with tents and bivouacs. We managed to keep out the cold by building a large fire each night. Ptes. Brazier and Freeman excelled themselves in the quantity (if not the quality!) of the wood they collected.

We thank Sgt. Walters for the splendid "hot toddy" he produced each evening on our return from patrolling the windswept countryside. He was most liberal with his distribution of the "magic brew," but regarded his recipe as top secret.

We went field firing at the end of January when the Commanding Officer came to see us carry out exercise "Long Shot." The exercise started well in fine weather and the Platoon came into action at great speed. Targets were selected and a belt of fire proved. The fire plan started on time, then trouble began. The heavens opened and down came torrential rain. Within a few minutes the base plates had sunk into the ground and, in turn, each of the four mortars went out of action. The newcomers to the Platoon, Ptes. Lavell, Bradfield, Johnson, King, Tolley and Tomlinson had the unusual experience of seeing every type of misfire (including a "cook off").

In the late afternoon the order to cease fire was sent down to the mortar line. At this stage exercise "Mud-lark" started! All the Platoon vehicles became bogged down and there was only about half an hour's daylight left. The Company Commander managed to send a wireless message for a R.E.M.E. recovery vehicle to get us out of the mire. Unfortunately, when it arrived, it did not succeed in travelling more than 500 hundred yards on to the range before it sank in the mud up to its chassis. If it had not been for the ingenuity of C.S.M. Dodkins the Platoon would have been stuck on Goshi all night. As things turned out we returned to Alma Camp (with all our vehicles) before midnight, having learned many lessons (the hard way) on Goshi Ranges.

At the beginning of February the Platoon moved to our palatial new barracks in Dhekelia and thoroughly enjoyed settling in.

In March, Pte. Mercer returned to the cookhouse, having learned all about the mortar. Lt. Hewson and Pte. Brazier both managed to return to the U.K. for a leave during March.

We congratulate Ptes. Baker and Lavell on their promotion to lance-corporal. The former did well on his cadre, obtaining a "B" grading. L/Cpl. Elvidge has been promoted to corporal, a well-earned promotion.

Cpl. Long remained with us for a short time before he went to the M.T. Platoon, in exchange we welcomed Cpl. Gregory.

Both Sgts. Walters and Tarry have their families out here now; we hope they will enjoy their stay on the island.

Finally we welcome Ptes. Fountain, Leonard and Salt to the Platoon.

#### M.M.G. Platoon

Since the last notes the Platoon spent six hectic weeks in preparation for the A.R.A. Machine-gun Cup Competition, which was fired in February. This demanded accurate shooting by direct fire and each of the 12 gun numbers was required to shoot at falling plates and 6-ft. targets from the 600-yd. firing point. It was very encouraging to witness the scores improving with each practice and starting with a total of 100 out of a highest possible score of 820 the team soon reached the 400 mark.

At the time, the best score in the island, 470, had been achieved by the Berkshires, and our hopes ran high, when, in the final practice, we reached 490, but the actual shoot was disappointing and the final score of 420, although some 40 points better than the Battalion's last performance, in Austria, left the team with a tinge of regret.

As a result of this valuable practice, the Platoon now has a very good grounding in the basic handling of the weapon, and the aim of training at the moment is to develop Section Battle Drills.

The Platoon strength has been remarkably stable during this quarter, the only newcomers being L/Cpl. West and Pte. Marriott. Pte. Jolley returned safely from leave and has been promoted to lance-corporal. For N.C.O.s we are relying upon old hands and, in addition to Sgts. Reynolds and Partridge, we are making the best use of Cpls. Cluderay and Giles during their last few weeks.



### Anti-Tank Platoon

The main activity throughout this quarter has been training—a 17-pounder cadre was run, after which the Platoon turned its attention to the B.A.T. There is to be a Battalion exercise shortly, in which we will participate. We had planned to fire the 17-pounder during March, but were unable to do so as Pyla Range was unobtainable.

We were extremely sorry to lose our Welshman, Thomas (95). However, we welcome Ptes. Martin (42), Martin (43), Sinclair and Varley. Ptes. Osborne, Gregory and Bennett left us to take up various Battalion employments. Titmuss has left us in name but not in body. He is now known as Gilbert. L/Cpls. Vitler and Roffey are to be congratulated on their promotions to corporal. Steele has craftily broken his glasses again! Cfmm. Kay and Pte. Sutherland have been working hard on the Platoon Commander's bicycle, but Woodcock continually flattens the tyres.

Ptes. Gear and Wood, having performed two operational duties and spent the required time on the island, now proudly display their General Service Medal ribbons.

### Assault Pioneers

The Assault Pioneer Section has seen several changes in the last few months. Sgt. Lloyd is still away taking life easy on a course in England. During his absence the section has been ably commanded by Cpl. Pritchard. In February, however, we welcomed 2/Lt. Waite from "B" Company.

Pte. Hilton has once again left us to fill an E.R.E. vacancy with our neighbours, Dhekelia Garrison. Finally, to make sure we eat well in the field, Pte. Sinclair has become a Regimental Cook. So far there have been no bangs from the cookhouse. Training, other than wiring the New Hospital, Alexander Barracks, and later the King Richard School, has only been possible on rare occasions. Recently we tackled some booby trapping and became quite successful at it, as Cpl. Cluderay (from the M.M.G. Platoon) discovered as he tried to leave his room. This time there was no WELCOME sign on his mat—but underneath it...! We also learnt some watermanship, but found we were not quite successful. Ptes. Roberts and Ford have decided to wear bathing costumes as working dress from now on.

In the field of sport, Pte. O'Shea represents the Company and Battalion at soccer and Pte. Ford the Company at basketball.

Finally, we wish Cpl. Pritchard success on his much deserved Field Engineering Course and Pte. Booker on the next cadre.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

The quarter started off in anticipation of moving into the "show piece" of the British Army, if we can believe what is printed in the papers—meaning, of course, Alexander Barracks. The Battalion marched from Alma Camp to the new barracks in the traditional manner with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying. On arrival a short but impressive Drum-head Service was held. The Battalion then marched past,

the salute being taken by the G.O.C. Cyprus District, Major-General D. A. Kendrew, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. Afterwards a reception was held in the Mess for the spectators and our families.

The new Mess is ideally situated (100 yards from the sea, looking out across Larnaca Bay) and is more like the Grand Hotel on the Riviera, with its own beach right on the doorstep. Although not so spacious as our old Mess in Alma Camp, it has many advantages with its up-to-date amenities. Each living-in member has his own room, which is practically self-contained, with hot and cold water, electric fan, venetian blind, bedside lamp—quite a change after two years of living in tents. The bedrooms take up the whole of the first floor, the ground floor having a rather small bar, a dining room, an ante-room and a billiard room (which is, so far, without a table!).

Social life in the Mess has been very full in the last three months. On January 31 the Mess darts team, run by Sgt. Orme, received the Dhekelia Garrison Darts Championship Cup, having won all but one of the 12 matches played. We were not so successful, however, with the crib matches and, in fact, finished "wooden-spooners," the Mess being presented with a 4-foot crib-board to mark the occasion.

In March, H.E. The Governor Sir Hugh Foot visited the Battalion. After inspecting the barracks the Governor visited the Mess and spoke informally to members. He then addressed the W.O.s and Sergeants and thanked the Battalion for all the work they had put in to restore order in Cyprus during the last two and a half years.

In February Brigadier Weston, who commanded the 2nd Battalion during part of the last war, visited the Mess and chatted informally with members and their families—another ex-Commanding Officer, Col. Andrew Man, is shortly to visit the Battalion in June. The Mess *en bloc* visited the Royal Leicesters' W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess for a social evening in March—as a farewell evening before the Leicesters sail in May 1958 for Germany. The occasion proved to be highly successful and we hope to return an evening with them in Alexander Barracks before they leave Cyprus.

The R.S.M. and R.Q.M.S. of the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders were guests of honour at a Regimental Dinner Night held on March 29, 1958.

This was the first meeting between the Mess and members of the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders since we were last together in Hong Kong in 1952. As the evening proved so successful it is hoped that we shall see more of them during our stay in Cyprus.

Finally, we were very sorry to say farewell to one of the oldest stalwarts of the Mess, Sgt. "Paddy" Simpson, who left us in February on release, also Sgts. Hook, Hoddinott and Dow. We congratulate Sgts. Speakman and Henshaw on their recent promotion, and Sgt. Shinn on the birth of his daughter.

### THE CAMBRIDGE CLUB

At the end of 1957 it was decided to reform the Cambridge Club, which had necessarily been out of action while security risks had to be considered. We are now meeting once a month and, although attendance has been very good so far, we hope that in the future

all the wives in the Battalion will manage to join the Club.

Up to date we have had an admirable cake-icing demonstration by Staff/Sgt. Medlock, a tombola session, a whistle drive and a conducted tour of the cookhouse in Alexander Barracks. We have found by bitter experience that the only building in Larnaca available for meetings is inadequate, and so now we hold all meetings in Richmond Village. This means that the wives living in Larnaca have to do the travelling each time, but to compensate them for this, volunteers from Richmond Village organise the teas and entertainment.

Our treasurer, Mrs. Thompson, is somewhat gloomy about the effect on our finances of the monthly transport bill, but we feel that this is more justified if the wives can all get together occasionally. We look forward to meetings in Germany not beset with the problem of having half the families nine miles from the other half, and taking place in the evenings when the husbands can mind the children.

### SPORT

Pride of place this quarter must go to the hockey team who, by winning the All-Island Cup, have fulfilled their promising start of the season. Mention must be made of 2/Lt. Morden's consistently good captaincy of the team and his steady play, ably supported by Capt. Marciandi, Lt. Gilham, Lt. Gaston, Bandmaster Jackson and Sgt. Leat.

The Battalion soccer team has also had a good season, in spite of some difficult team rebuilding towards the end. The squash team have had notable success in both the team and individual island championships.

With summer hours upon us athletics, cricket, swimming and basketball will be occupying our afternoons. It is to be hoped that our success of the winter season will be repeated.

Finally, we have two Pentathlon teams hard at work training for the Cyprus team and individual championships. We have high hopes of a major success in the contest.

### Hockey

The Battalion hockey team has maintained the promise shown in the earlier part of the season and has been occupied playing in the District Knockout Cup and in the 51 Brigade League.

We won the cup after a series of very good games. In the first round we met the Leicesters; this game we won comfortably. In the next round we met the R.A.O.C., who started the season favourites for the cup. After two very close matches we eventually beat them by the odd goal, scored in extra time of the replay.

This took us through to the Brigade final, which was also the island quarter-final. Here we met 2 Wireless Regiment, who luckily did not offer the opposition of the Ordnance. This win, apart from taking us into the district semi-finals, won the Battalion the Brigade Hockey Cup. In the semi-finals, we met Cyprus District Signals Regiment and, though we had most of the play, it was a scrappy game and we eventually won by 2-0.

In the final, played at Nicosia, we met the Ox and Bucks. Conditions were all against hockey. The pitch was bad and there was a howling wind. In spite of this, the game was good, with our team having the edge throughout, and we won 2-0. The team which represented the Battalion was Sgt. Handford; 2/Lt. Morden and Lt. Gaston; Cpl. Tassel, Capt. Marciandi and Cpl. Carson; Sgt. Leat, Bandmaster Jackson, Lt. Gilham, L/Cpl. Torrie and Capt. Waldron.

Our second major success was in winning the District Six-a-Side Competition, thereby completing a notable double of winning both the District Hockey Cups. We had to play five times in all, against 29 Field Regiment, R.A., H.Q. Cyprus District, C.R.E. Episkopi, R.A.F. Ayios Nicolaos and, lastly, Cyprus District Signals Regiment. In the final the forwards excelled, enabling us to win by 6-0. The team which represented the Battalion was Lt. Gaston; 2/Lt. Morden and Capt. Marciandi; Sgt. Leat, Bandmaster Jackson and Lt. Gilham.

In the 51 Brigade League, we eventually finished runners-up, the winners beating us on goal average. An outstanding feature of our hockey season, has been our win over R.A.F. Nicosia in a friendly match. This team had been unbeaten in the whole of the Middle East for four years.

Since the last notes were written, our team has acquired a very valuable addition, Lt. Gaston, R.A.M.C., a first-class player who has done much towards helping the team achieve such successful results. Another useful addition was Lt. Gilham, who has played some excellent games and solved the problem of the centre-forward position. On the debit side we have lost Capt. Wollocombe and 2/Lt. Hedgecoe.

Personalities deserving a mention include Capt. Waldron, who has moved to the left wing and become one of our leading goal-scorers; Sgt. Handford, who has played some very sound games in goal; Bandmaster Jackson, who still towers over our opponents' defence, and Capt. Marciandi, who is back in position at centre-half after his leave in England. Lastly, our thanks are due to C/Sgt. Steward, who has not only umpired all our games, but on the few occasions that outside umpires have been provided, has already turned up to support us.

In the Minor Units Hockey League, "H.Q." Company finished second and the Rifle Companies fourth, whilst in the Minor Units Knockout Competition, the Rifle Companies went out in the second round and "H.Q." Company have played themselves through to the final. Altogether a very successful season indeed.

### Football

Having made a promising start during the first half of the season the Battalion had high hopes for the All-Island Competition. Unfortunately, before the conclusion of this competition, six of the Battalion team were due for release. Having seen us safely into the quarter-finals, Cpls. Gray and Skipper, L/Cpl. Fitts and Ptes. Lenihan, Warren and Merry left for England, and the depleted side which remained could do no more than put up a hard fight against 2 Wireless Regi-



ment in the quarter-final match which was also the final of the 51 Brigade Cup. For the first 20 minutes of the game it seemed as if the Battalion might still win through, but this period of constant attacking produced no goals and 2 Wireless Regiment eventually swept away to a 5-1 lead. A desperate bid to save the game was made in the last 15 minutes and the Battalion retaliated with two goals, but at the final whistle, 5-3 in favour of our opponents was a fair result.

All-Island Competition details:

1st Round	v. 625 Ordnance	..	..	Away	Drawn	3-3
Replay	v. 625 Ordnance	..	..	Home	Won	2-1
2nd Round	v. 29 Fd. Regt., R.A.	..	..	Home	Won	4-1
Quarter-final	v. 2 Wireless Regt.	..	..	Away	Lost	3-5

Towards the end of the season an entertaining seven-a-side competition was held at Dhekelia in which a Battalion team and a team from "A" Company reached the semi-finals. The Battalion side lost to 152 Battery, R.A., in the semi-final by 9 points to nil, but the illustrious "A" Company entered the final before succumbing to the Gunners by 21 points to nil.

We congratulate Pte. Dorey ("H.Q.") who was selected to represent the Army against the R.A.F. in April.

The following players have represented the Battalion regularly during the latter half of the season: Lt. Gilham, 2/Lts. Waite and Deakin, Cpls. Argent, Simmons and Williamson and Ptes. Dorey, Little, O'Shea, Tolley, Vatcher and Woodley.

#### Rugby Football

A number of the fixtures arranged for January and February, unfortunately, had to be cancelled owing to internal security duties and the hard condition of the pitch. We had one most enjoyable game against 43 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A., which developed into quite a battle. We managed to win by virtue of Cpl. Finnis scoring a very good try in the last 10 minutes of the game.

2/Lt. Dobson is to be congratulated on being selected to play for the Army (Cyprus) against R.A.F. Levant.

The seven-a-side team did well in the garrison competition on February 5. They beat Cyprus Squadron 6 Royal Tanks 11-3 in the first round, and went on to beat a R.E.M.E. (District Workshops) team 16-9, therefore qualifying for the Island-wide Championship Competition at Nicosia. In this competition we were defeated by Cyprus District Signals Regiment in the first round, which was rather disappointing.

We are looking forward to a more successful season on the grass pitches of Germany next season.

The seven-a-side team was Capt. Pollard, 2/Lts. Dobson, Cheesman, Phillips and MacMillan, Cpl. Finnis and Pte. Bird.

#### Squash Racquets

It has been a most successful season for us and we have managed to win all our fixtures. We won the Dhekelia Garrison League and qualified for the semi-finals of the District Cup at Nicosia, on February 21, 1958.

Until then we had no idea at all how any unit played outside our own area. Our opponents in the semi-final were the Royal West Kents, the favourites for the com-

petition. We were on top form and convincingly beat them 5-0 while in the other leg of the semi-final 46 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., defeated 1 Suffolks 3-2 in a most exciting match.

The final was played the following morning and once again we played our opponents out of the court, winning 4-1. The Battalion first string, 2/Lt. J. M. Pickard, gave his opponent, Lt. Marsden, a very good game but could not match Marsden's pace and hard hitting.

Details:

1st R.W.K.	1st Middlesex (5-0)	1st Middlesex (4-1)
46 H.A.A.	46 H.A.A. (3-2)	
1st Suffolk		
2/Lt. J. M. Pickard	Won 3-1	Lost 3-0
2/Lt. C. F. Dobson	Won 3-2	Won 3-1
Lt. M. C. D. L. Gilham	Won 3-1	Won 3-0
Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe	Won 3-0	Won 3-1
2/Lt. A. Morden	Won 3-0	Won 3-1

A word must be mentioned about the District Individual Competition in which the Battalion entered Lt. M. C. D. L. Gilham, 2/Lt. J. M. Pickard and 2/Lt. C. F. Dobson. All managed to win their way through to the last eight, but, unfortunately, both 2/Lt. C. F. Dobson and Lt. M. C. D. L. Gilham were defeated; 2/Lt. J. M. Pickard went on to the final, only to meet again his opponent from the unit competition. Once again Lt. Marsden tipped the scales but the game was much more exciting and closer than before.

We regretted having to play in the competitions without our permanent second string, Capt. B. H. Marciandi who was on a course in the United Kingdom.

#### Boxing

Following on from the novices and inter-Company competitions the season continued with the first round of the Cyprus Inter-Unit Competition. Our opponents were 29 Field Regiment, R.A., who proved just too strong for us.

The Battalion team was:

Bantam	Pte. Thraves ("H.Q." Company)
Feather	Pte. Stevens ("A" Company)
Light	Cpl. Argent ("C" Company)
Light Welter: Second string	Pte. Wright ("S" Company)
First string	Drum. Shelton ("H.Q." Company)
Welter: Second string	Pte. Montague ("A" Company)
First string	2/Lt. Waite ("S" Company)
Light Middle	Pte. Ashe ("C" Company)
Middle	Pte. Culham ("A" Company)
Light Heavy	Pte. Daniel ("A" Company)
Heavy	2/Lt. Cheesman ("A" Company)
Reserves:	Pte. Smith ("S" Company), L.Cpl. Bonhomme ("A" Company) and Sgt. Blackwell ("A" Company).

29 Field Regiment, R.A., won the match by seven bouts to four (18 pts. to 15 pts.). Winners for us were Cpl. Argent, Pte. Ashe, and 2/Lts. Waite and Cheesman.

Immediately afterwards there followed the Cyprus Individual Championships. Cpl. Argent gave a very plucky show against a far stronger puncher, but lost against his first opponent. 2/Lt. Waite and Pte. Ashe got through their first fights but were both eliminated in the next round.

Finally we said farewell to Cpl. O'Rawe, who now carries on the noble art of self defence in civilian life.

# Depot Notes

## EDITORIAL

During the quarter we have been busy with two exceptionally large Intakes. The first of these passed out on March 21 at a parade taken by Major-General C. L. Firbank, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., the Director of Infantry. He was very complimentary about the standard achieved. While at the Depot he told us that Regimental Bands were not to be abolished after all and mentioned an after-dinner telegram sent while visiting the 1st Battalion in Cyprus.

The redecoration and modernisation of the Depot continues and we are now able to show the visitors real evidence of the "new look" Army. The improvement of the barracks has encouraged our "come and see for yourself" recruiting scheme. Under this scheme the Depot is open every Saturday morning to any young man or boy of 14 or over. They are welcome to see all over the Depot and watch training or shoot on the range. At the end of the morning they can have dinner in the cookhouse and taste for themselves what Army food is really like. If any reader wants to do something for the Regiment he can do nothing better than to encourage potential regular recruits to come and see for themselves any Saturday morning.

## OFFICERS' MESS

In mid-January the Regimental Council met here. Nick Carter left for the Staff College that month. We have been glad to see him here several times since, so he appears to be standing the strain.

2/Lts. Deakin, Julian and Bulloch went to 1 Mx. on January 24.

On February 3 2/Lt. Sidnell arrived from Cyprus and stayed nearly a month before returning to the Battalion. 2/Lt. Quinn joined the same day and was with us for a week.

On February 6 we dined the Mayor and Town Clerk of Hendon, Mr. Roy Moore (Headmaster of Mill Hill School), Major Russell (War Office) and Group Capt. Martin (Secretary of Hendon Golf Club). General Bucknall and Col. Fox also dined in.

Officers of the Depot, The Royal Fusiliers, came to supper on February 14, after a boxing match between their recruits and ours. The Mayor of Hampstead, Col. Ashley-Scarlett, was also a guest.

2/Lt. Martin Young, having recovered from his latest operation, rejoined on February 17; we are glad to say he has once again been passed F.E.

Col. Stevens, Colonel of the Home Counties Brigade, came to luncheon on February 19.

We dined out Major "Dick" Smith on March 13. He retired at the end of the month after over 40 years with the Regiment and now runs the Regimental Museum. I think everybody will agree that no better person for the job could be found. Percy Newman and Brian Marciandi were also with us that evening.

Four days later Cols. Brooke and Burge from Records

were down here and Cpts. Jordan, Legge and Marciandi joined the party.

Major-Gen. Firbank and Brigadier Lerwill lunched with us before the Passing Out Parade on March 21.

Others we have seen included Col. Green, Lt.-Col. Allen, Lt.-Col. Brotherton, Col. Andrew Man, Brig. Gwyn, Capt. Rutherford, Major Peasley—who did much good work in connection with the Reference Library—Major Hutchings—now in Cyprus—Lt.-Col. Worton, Major de Gaye, Lt.-Col. Clayden, Col. Ellis, Col. Clayton, Major Burrows, Capt. Kitchener, Capt. Evans, Capt. A. R. F. Smith. Major Burrows recently returned from Hong Kong, Kitchener from Malaya (now with the 1st Battalion). Evans will be in Muscat el Oman by May, and Smith back in West Africa.

We bid farewell to Major Jeffcoat and his family and our best wishes go with them, and we welcome Capt. Pat Wollocombe and his wife.

Mike Hayward had 10 days skiing on the Kanzel near Velden, going out by car, via Salzburg, towards the end of January. He watched the World Skiing Championships at Badgastein. On the return journey he spun his car on a viaduct but was able to continue the journey and had the car repaired in the U.K. He had hoped to go to Wuppertal to visit the Royal Irish Fusiliers but the accident prevented this.

Tony McManus returned intact and very fit, in April, after three weeks' skiing in Chamonix. He and others have been rugged casualties this season and we are glad he came through this trip unscathed.

The ante-room has been redecorated. The loose covers were dyed to go better with the new colour scheme but they shrank abominably; we are in the process of cutting up some of them to cover the gaps!

Apart from what the 1st Battalion has with them, all the silver and plate belonging to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Battalions is now at the Depot and has been sorted by the Regimental Council.

## TRAINING COMPANY

Training Company strength reached "an all-time high" in February at 425, including over 200 recruits under training and a draft of 60 awaiting movement to Cyprus. Apparently "an all-time low" will shortly appear as the Depot will receive no N.S. Intakes for the last six months that the 1st Battalion are in Cyprus and the 53rd Intake is only 13 strong at present.

To cope with the large Intakes during the past quarter assistant instructors (local, unpaid lance-corporals!) have been subpoenaed and we have been grateful for the help by L/Cpls. Dickens, Porter, Robertson, Shave, Barnett, Hooper, Phillips, Hebbes, Benad and Herbert—the majority of these will be in Cyprus shortly with the recruit Intakes they helped to train. Our administrative problems were considerably increased when the G.E. suddenly decided that there was some surplus cash to spend before the end of the financial year. As the result



the cookhouse has been completely renovated and the Victorian washbasins and toilets replaced. We have, therefore, been messing with 10 Command Workshops and batches of 80 men have attempted to share four washbasins. The alterations are most welcome but the timing rather inopportune, particularly when a 10-day reconstruction programme was completed with difficulty in nine weeks. Oh to be a civilian again!

The most important military event was the visit of the Director of Infantry, Maj.-Gen. C. L. Firbank, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., who took the salute at the passing-out parade on March 21 for the 51st Intake. He was very pleased with the parade and most generous with his congratulations on the standard of turnout and drill. He presented medals to:

Best all-round recruit .. ..	Pte. R. Berryman
Best rifle shot .. ..	Pte. R. Colledge
Best L.M.G. shot .. ..	Pte. B. Thomas
Highest physical efficiency ..	Pte. R. Berryman

Pte. R. Beavis was presented with a copy of the Regimental History as the best "regular" recruit.

Amongst our recent arrivals, we particularly welcome Ptes. Melhuish and Rodgers on rejoining from civilian life and Pte. (ex-Jnr. L/Cpl.) Mullender from the Junior Leaders Battalion. These will all be joining the 1st Battalion in the near future. Cpl. Young has just returned from Hythe and we congratulate him on his "B" grading—the fourth "B" on platoon weapon's courses from Training Company in 18 months.

The usual collection of "one's" have occurred and in particular we mention:—

(a) The visit of the Army Medical Research team, under Doctor Lewis, to investigate the value of the ration scale. The team was here three years ago with a similar purpose. Six volunteer guinea pigs, Ptes. Delaney, Crookell, Cox, Needs, Mees and Baker, have been wearing peculiar masks for three weeks and we hope that the Army rations will improve rather than decrease in quality.

(b) Half of the 51st Intake took part in a S.S.A.F.A. march through the City of London on March 21 under command of 2/Lt. Young. All ranks wore No. 1 Dress and this event will long be remembered by the Depot Staff as the "incident of the peaked caps."

(c) The Middlesex County cross-country run for youth clubs was based on the Depot on March 29. The Depot entered a team in the senior group (18-21 years) and secured fifth place; Ptes. Dittert, Smith (187), Linford, Coleman, Bennett (77), Marchant and Crawl are to be congratulated on their heroic efforts under very difficult conditions of mud and rain.

(d) L/Cpl. Shave was selected as a "typical regular" for the new Army recruiting poster and his photo can now be seen in many national newspapers. Unfortunately all Regimental embellishments have been omitted but the original is given below.

(e) Both 51st and 52nd Recruit Intakes boxed against recruits from the Depot Royal Fusiliers. The details are given elsewhere and our congratulations go to all the boxers who took part for spirited fighting.

Both the Home Counties Brigades and the London District rifle meetings were held in April. Whilst the



results were *not* outstanding we should like to mention Sgt. Redmond with a score of 63 out of 70 in the Home Counties Meeting, which gave him fourth place out of 56 firsers. In the Company/Squadron match in the London District Meeting we gained fifth place from 20 teams.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

C.S.M. Bullimore and Sgt. Bilko, the "Sheriff of Cochise" and "Rin-Tin-Tin" have been our constant companions in the Sergeants' Mess during the dull winter months that have just passed. They, like a Double Diamond, have worked wonders with our weapon handling and man management but they have, alas, also left most of us suffering from a strange malady commonly known as "square eyes."

To our initiated members it will be at once apparent that the last three months have been relatively quiet. We have spent far too much of our time looking at TV. Now with summer time and the long sunny evenings here again, we look forward to the open-air life, to our first cricket match next week, to producing a Sergeants' Mess tennis team to beat all-comers, to a great Albuhera Day next month, to a day at the races in June, to a spot of leave in July or August (we hope) and, above all, to the preparation for the welcome home to the Battalion in the autumn.

We must remember, however, that we are not meant to write next quarter's notes just yet, and so to commence with the news of the last.

First, our congratulations are extended to C/Sgt. Taylor and Sgt. Morris on becoming proud fathers of fine bouncing daughters—Marion and Susan Elizabeth

respectively. To C/Sgt. Hockley on winning the keenly contested snooker tournament and the fine trophy suitably inscribed. To R.S.M. Thom of 7 Middlesex who came along, resplendent and proud, to receive his well-deserved and hard-earned L.S. & G.C. from the Director of Infantry. There was a smile on the face of the "Tiger" as he himself added, "Long overdue." To R.S.M. Budden on his promotion, who, after three weeks with us, left to take up his appointment as R.S.M. of the Hong Kong Regiment. Now that he has gone the deaf ear is once again turned to our cry, "Four for Jong." To Sgt. Lloyd on his marriage to Myra Margaret Prewé. This very pretty wedding was held at St. Paul's, Mill Hill. Sgt. Redmond was best man and the Mess was well represented both in church and at the excellent reception afterwards in the "Three Hammers."

We must say goodbye and good luck to a number of our old and staunch Mess members. Sgt. Basil Le Maitre was a fine Mess member. We say "thank you, Basil," for such a grand representative farewell party at the Depot. What a pity many more of his old friends could not be present. We all join in wishing him well in civil life and hope he will keep in touch with us. Sgt. Jack Fry has gone out under the redundancy scheme. We wish him every success in his new venture as proprietor of a restaurant within easy reach, the address of which is readily available to all our members. We wish every success to Sgt. Bob Hook who passed through on his way to join the Police Force. The long arm of the law will surely not lose touch with us. Finally Sgt. Stubbings, A.C.C., has been transferred to Woolwich where we know he will be pleased to be, as he is so much nearer his home and family. We look forward to seeing them all again.

A warm welcome is extended to Sgt. and Mrs. Power, who have now joined us from Malta, to Sgt. Simpson, who is home from the Battalion and who came to see us twice, once on St. Patrick's Day and again to wet R.S.M. Thom's "Rooti Gong." Maybe the occasions were a little too much for him, as we have not seen him since. To Sgt. Banks (A.C.C.), who has already become extremely popular with the troops for the excellence of his food and with the Mess for the excellence of his dart throwing. To S/Sgt. Wassell (R.A.) and Sgt. Pointing (R.E.M.E.), who are now both attached to us and living in, and finally to the "Imp" team, S/Sgt. Best (A.C.C.), Sgt. Baker (R.E.M.E.) and Sgt. Trevathan (R.A.M.C.), who have been with us three weeks and who seem to have enjoyed being here as much as we have enjoyed having them. We shall miss them when they go.

The Corporals kindly invited us to their St. Valentine's dance on February 13 and we attended in force and spent a most enjoyable evening.

The W.O.s and sergeants of the Depot Royal Fusiliers were our guests on April 1 after the boxing tournament and Fools' Day or not, a good time was had by all.

We played away in a darts match on April 24 against the newly formed Mill Hill Branch of the British Legion and won decisively under the able captaincy of Sgt. Moran.

A rather anxious enquiry recently by Messrs. Flowers concerning a sudden drop in the sale of their keg bitter

was explained by the equally sudden departure of Sgt. Nicholson to the Battalion after his very successful drill course at Pirbright. Sgt. Horder is at present making every effort to repeat the performance there.

With the exception of Sgt. Fry, already mentioned, we have not yet been affected by redundancy or amalgamation. We believe, however, that a couple of our colour-sergeants, namely, C/Sgts. Taylor and Powell, have executive appointments awaiting them that will put them in the super-tax class by the end of the year.

We must mention that Capt. Livemore visited us recently and sends greetings and good wishes to all our widely dispersed Mess members.

To close the notes we join him in sending ours.

#### SPORT

##### Football

The football season is now over and we hear the sound of bat and ball from the playing fields. Looking back over the season, the Depot can feel fairly pleased with the results achieved. We were second in the London District Mid-week League, being runners-up to our close rivals, Depot The Royal Fusiliers.

In the London District Challenge Cup competition we reached the third round, in which we were beaten by 12 Vehicle Depot Workshops, R.E.M.E. A great deal of the success of the Depot team is undoubtedly due to the efforts of S.I. Morris, both on and off the field. Other players who have performed regularly with considerable success are Ptes. Talbot (from the 7th Battalion) and Oakley (from the 8th Battalion). L/Cpl. Hooper has played well in goal for the latter part of the season and L/Cpl. Barton very steadily at centre half. L/Cpl. Barton has also played several times for the Army and Eastern Command elevens. We all wish Pte. Duggan a speedy recovery to his broken leg sustained while playing for the Depot.

##### Rugby Football

The Depot entered a team for the London District inter-unit seven-a-side competition, which was held on the Blackheath ground on Wednesday, April 2. About 12 players were tried out in the evenings during the weeks prior to the competition. The team was short of a scrum-half and several people, including R.S.M. Kenrick and 2/Lt. Young, were tried in this position before 2/Lt. Young was eventually selected. A very useful practice match was played against the Mill Hill School seven, which was arranged by Pte. Ivens, an O.M., who is now in training at the Depot, and who was a member of the Depot seven. At the last moment it was discovered that Lt. Hewson, another O.M., on leave from Cyprus, was available. Somewhat against his better judgment, he was persuaded to assist the Depot and, in fact, acquitted himself very creditably in both the practice match and the actual competition.

In the competition the Depot was knocked out in the first round by a "D" Division Metropolitan Police side, the score being 9-3. In scoring the Depot try, Capt. Hayward pulled an already damaged muscle and was little more than a passenger for the rest of the game. The team was: Pte. Ivens, Lt. Lloyd and Lt. Hewson at forward with 2/Lt. Young, Capt. Hayward, Pte.



O'Gorman and Pte. Coleman outside. L/Cpl. Coleman was touch judge and R.S.M. Kenrick team manager.

### Boxing

During the last quarter a new fixture has been added to the Depot sporting calendar. This is a boxing match between Depot recruits and recruits from Depot R.F. The first of these matches took place on Friday, February 14. The 51st intake provided the team and the match was boxed in the R.F. ring. A very close contest was thoroughly enjoyed by boxers and spectators alike. The first five bouts were all won by the Depot boxers and at the interval morale was very high. However, the six bouts after the interval were all lost, which gave the R.F. a victory by one point.

#### DETAILED RESULTS

Depot R.F., 17 pts.	Depot Mx., 16 pts.	
Featherweight ..	Pte. Berryman ..	Won
Lightweight ..	Pte. Ison ..	Won
Lightweight ..	Pte. Kattenhorne ..	Won
Light Welterweight ..	Pte. Kendrick ..	Lost
Light Welterweight ..	Pte. Gaward ..	Won
Light Middleweight ..	Pte. Hulford ..	Won
Light Middleweight ..	Pte. Austin-Jones ..	Lost
Middleweight ..	Pte. Crampton ..	Lost
Middleweight ..	Pte. Beauchamp ..	Lost
Light Heavyweight ..	Pte. Hope ..	Lost
Heavyweight ..	Pte. Wellbelove ..	Lost
Pte. Kendrick received the medal for the best loser.		

The second match took place in the gymnasium at Inglis Barracks on Tuesday, April 1. This was an even closer contest than its predecessor. The final points score being equal, the match was decided by the result of the first string welterweight contest. This was won for the Depot by Pte. O'Gorman, who knocked out his opponent in the first round.

#### DETAILED RESULTS

Depot R.F., 18 pts.	Depot Mx., 18 pts.	
Featherweight ..	Pte. Elam ..	Lost
Lightweight ..	Pte. Woodman ..	Won
Light Welterweight ..	Pte. Bunce ..	Lost
Light Welterweight ..	Pte. Brown ..	Lost
Light Welterweight ..	Pte. Snow ..	Won
Welterweight ..	Pte. O'Gorman ..	Won
Welterweight ..	Pte. Needs ..	Lost
Light Middleweight ..	Pte. Salia ..	Won
Light Middleweight ..	Pte. Chapman ..	Lost
Light Middleweight ..	Pte. Habgood ..	Lost
Middleweight ..	Pte. Bennett ..	Won
Middleweight ..	Pte. Bridge ..	Won
Pte. Habgood received the medal for the best loser.		

### Cross Country

The London District Inter-Unit Championship took place in Windsor Great Park on Wednesday, January 29. There were three individual entries from The Depot, L/Cpl. Coleman, L/Cpl. Hebbes and Pte. Ditter, who were placed third, eighteenth, and sixty-ninth respectively.

L/Cpl. Coleman went on to compete in The Eastern Command Championship and again came third. He thus qualified for the Army Championship. He, unfortunately, had an "off" day for the race and finished well down the list.

### CORPORALS' CLUB

Since last going to press for the March issue of the Journal this last period has been of increased activity. We had the pleasure of seeing quite a number of old

faces at the St. Valentine's Day dance held in the N.A.A.F.I. canteen, which, needless to say, was greatly enjoyed by all. So many guests arrived making it quite impossible to get on the floor to dance, but nevertheless the evening was very successful.

After six weeks of steady calculated playing, L/Cpl. "Taffy" Barton has skilfully come out on top in the snooker tournament, having beaten the runner-up, L/Cpl. Redfern (Royal Engineers) in two games out of three. A staunch "Die-Hard" is our "Taffy".

Since the last notes it is with reluctance that we say farewell to Cpls. Long, Henshaw, Martindale and veteran Jack Sharpe, and L/Cpls. Porter, Dickens and Robertson, all of whom are out with the Battalion now enjoying the warmer weather. We welcome into the fold L/Cpls. Benad, Herbert, Shave and Berryman, all busy coping with the last of the 100 plus intakes, and L/Cpls. Cornish and Corbridge, who have taken on clerical duties. L/Cpl. Coleman has also become a member of the Club, but will soon be off again to Eaton Hall, having passed W.O.S.B. with flying colours. To all our new members we congratulate them on their promotion. Congratulations also go to L/Cpl. Cadwallader on his recent promotion to Corporal and on gaining a "B" grading on his cookery course. Well done!

The 8th Battalion will soon be claiming L/Cpl. Phillips but we are pleased to know that L/Cpl. Hebbes will be promoted to Corporal early in May.

Many of the training N.C.O.s are all feeling relieved now that there will not be any more large intakes due in for a considerable time, for at the present moment the 53rd intake totals a grand number of 13 men.

Recently, L/Cpls. Coleman and Hebbes took part in the London District Cross-country Championships and ran extremely well. So well, in fact, that L/Cpl. Coleman was selected to run in the Army Championships. We heartily congratulate them both.

The cricket season is upon us once again and we are all eagerly looking forward to many matches with the Corporals' Clubs of other units.

### THE CAMBRIDGE CLUB

In March the first meeting was held since the reorganisation of the Club. About 150 letters were sent out and approximately one-third replied stating whether or not they were interested in "getting together." As a result, 40 turned up at the Crawford Hut on March 6 and everyone seemed to enjoy meeting their friends old and new. We were particularly glad to welcome Mrs. Allen, who brought over members of the Elms Club (the 7th Battalion at Hornsey). They were celebrating the first birthday of their Club on that day and Mrs. Davies had made and iced a delicious birthday cake which she had decorated with the Regimental crest, and was very much appreciated by everyone. It was also Mrs. Clelland's birthday, who told us that the nicest way she could spend it was with her friends in the Regiment. Mrs. Battye spoke to the gathering and explained the reasons for the reorganisation and suggested that a quarterly social meeting should be held and perhaps a monthly meeting for those who live

nearby. This met with general approval, but when the first of the monthly meetings was held on April 17 it was disappointing to have such a poor response. Two tables of whist only! There will be another meeting in May and if the attendance is again small it was felt that the obvious answer would be just to have the quarterly meetings and leave it at that.

The quarterly meetings will be held in June, September and December. Please make a note of the dates. Only a comparatively few addresses of wives of ex-members of the Regiment are known, and you would be very welcome at the meetings whether or not you receive a letter. Perhaps, too, wives of the Depot staff could get the husbands to baby-sit once a quarter and join us. It is a case of the more the merrier! So remember—JUNE 5, SEPTEMBER 11 and DECEMBER 11, at 8 p.m., in the Crawford Hut, Inglis Barracks.

### EXTRACT FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE"

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in Cyprus for the period July 1 to December 31, 1957:

Major T. W. Chattey (56719), Middlesex Regiment.

Major R. K. B. Allott, M.C. (77673).

Major P. W. Galvin (353213).

Lt. (T/Capt.) M. V. Hayward (415786).

February 4, 1958.

March 28, 1958.

REGULAR ARMY—SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

Major (Q.M.) R. W. J. Smith (274022) relinquishes his commission on completion of service, April 1, 1958, and is granted the honorary rank of Major (Q.M.).

### DEPOT POST BOX

The Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School, 65 Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, N.W.3, is appealing for funds. As a regiment we subscribe annually to this excellent charity which caters chiefly for the total orphan or a girl with only one parent living, although all daughters of soldiers are eligible, though entry, perforce, is usually restricted to the worst off. Any contribution, however small, would be welcomed and should be sent to the Secretary at the above address.

Cox and Kings is celebrating its bicentenary and sent us a very interesting article covering its 200 years as an Army agent. Lack of space prevents us from printing it, more is the pity, for they claim to have been our agent since 1780. However, the following rhyme must be quoted:

A gallant young Colonel who fell on the Somme, had a habit of singing, when there was a moment for conviviality:

"The soldier boy is full of joy,  
As pleased as Punch you'll find him,  
With Father Grim in front of him  
And Uncle Cox behind him".

Three essay competitions sponsored by the Army Quarterly and the R.U.S.I., and approved by the War Office, commence shortly. Subjects include the effect of nuclear weapons on the modern battlefield, the

increased mobility required by a reduced Regular Army, and the "nibbling" tactics likely to be employed by the Communist parties in an age of nuclear stalemate. The reference given on the notification sent to us from The War Office, Chessington, Surrey, was M4/Gen/8371 (M.T.2).

The National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, is still at the service of any other rank of the Regiment requiring employment. Write 62 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The Army Art Society holds its 27th exhibition in London during October, 1958, at the Commonwealth Institute, South Kensington, S.W.7. Those desiring to achieve a measure of artistic fame, and having a picture to exhibit, can apply to the Hon. Secretary, Army Arts Society, 16 King Edwards Grove, Teddington, Middlesex.

We are reminded that the Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo is to be held from September 10 to 13. Tickets may be obtained from Messrs. Keith, Prowse & Co., Ltd., 90 New Bond Street.

S.S.A.F.A., that splendid organisation to which we owe so much, is also holding its Tattoo commencing on Monday, August 11, at the White City Stadium. Tickets (reserved) may be obtained from White City Stadium, Wood Lane, or usual agents.

The Forces Motoring Club appears to be thriving. Keen road users wishing to join it should contact the Club Office, at 8 Rosoman Street, London, E.C.1.

Mr. Robert Challis recently had the honour of being presented to the Queen Mother during her recent visit to Kaitaia, New Zealand, where he is the Town Clerk. Challis, well-known to many, served for more than 20 years with the 1st Bn., being involved, of course, in the tragic defence of Hong Kong, in which the Regiment played such a noble part. At the end of years of captivity he retired as an R.S.M., and, after a few years in the Control Commission, migrated to New Zealand. We send him and his family our good wishes, also our congratulations on having achieved so much success in civilian life.

### 12th BATTALION MIDDLESEX HOME GUARD

The 12th Battalion Middlesex Home Guard held their annual dinner at the Victory Club on Friday, May 2, 1958. Lt.-Col. A. McQueen presided and 54 other members attended.

Anonymous donations to the Association charitable funds, amounting to £4 2s. 0d., were handed to Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E., during the course of the evening.

### Regimental History

The attention of our Readers is called to the special offer of the Regimental History at the reduced price of 7/6d, while our stocks last.

### THE ORDER FORM

will be found at the front of the Journal





Photo: Hornsey Journal, North London Press.

#### THE BATTALION SHOOTING TEAM WITH THEIR TROPHIES FOR 1957

Standing (left to right): Sgt. White, C.S.M. Holdford, B.E.M., R.Q.M.S. Howes, C.S.M. Curry, Capt. Stocken, O.R.Q.M.S. Munds

Seated (left to right): Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D. (Attd.), Major R. G. Garrett, T.D., Capt. M. A. H. Lanyon (team capt.), Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C. (Commanding Officer), Major J. D. Gunnell, Sgt. Wotton, Drm. Beard

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

#### GENERAL



Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the period covered by these notes has been the widening of activity within the Battalion at a time of year when the Territorial is normally in winter Quarters.

A most successful Battalion exercise was held on Dartmoor in March, when 42 Commando, Royal Marines, provided accommodation for the Battalion. More recently the Battalion took part in the Brigade exercise "Spring Gallop" in the Folkestone/Dover area.

The drive for recruits has had further success. The most outstanding results were achieved by "H.Q." Company under Major R. G. Garrett, T.D., who recruited eight new volunteers in one weekend. "A" Company has also completed a successful week in which

four recruits were gained. Other Battalion recruiting activities have included the use of loud hailer throughout the Battalion area; cinema displays, including solo bugle performances by Drum Major Holdford, B.E.M., under spotlight, shooting for pints weeks at the T.A. Centre, Hornsey, and an instructional evening for over 60 cadets from units in North London. Full co-operation has been received from the editors of the local papers and every week some photo or column is devoted to the Battalion. This effort has had some real results and many recruits have been gained since the new year. This has led to the re-opening of "C" Company as a Training Company under Capt. B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.

The highlight of the opening months of 1958, however, was the presentation of the Lord Lieutenant's Challenge Shield, for the T.A. Decentralised Competition of 1957, by Sir Harold Bellman on February 18. The guests present included Col. J. K. Maitland, M.B.E., M.C., T.D., Hon. Col., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., and other former Commanding Officers among whom was Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., the Brigade Colonel.

To complete the shooting successes for 1957-58, the Battalion team won for the third time in four years the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association .22 Knockout Competition. The following fired for the Battalion:—



2. Exercise "Gutter Chase." The mid-day meal in Braesworthy Plantation  
4. Pay Parade: Lt/Cpl. Johnston collecting pay from Capt. Legge assisted by Sgt. White



1. A Recruiting Stand at the Odeon Cinema, Muswell Hill, with Sgt. Wotton and C.S.M. Curry  
3. Major Gunnell briefs patrol leaders during Exercise "Gutter Chase"





Some of the members of the Elms Club watch Mrs. Davies cut the cake she made to celebrate their first birthday

Sgt. Davies, Capt. Stocken, L/Cpl. Johnstone, R.Q.M.S. Howes, Sgt. Wotton and C/Sgt. Leahy.

Three successful dances have been held at Hornsey, two of which were organised by the Sergeants' Mess under R.S.M. Thom, who proved an excellent master of ceremonies. The third was held by the Old Comrades.

We welcome Lt. John Bannister and C.S.M. Cubitt to the Battalion and offer our congratulations to Major R. G. Garrett and Capt. R. J. Leighton, on the award of the Territorial Decoration, and to R.S.M. and Mrs. Thom on the birth of their daughter.

Capt. M. E. Baldwin has had to retire for medical reasons and we hope he will soon be fit and able to rejoin. Capt. Lane, Lt. Chynoweth and Lt. Blacktop have all left for T.A.R.O. We hope they will keep in touch and visit the Battalion whenever possible. We offer our every wish for happiness to Lt. Michael Gedyne on the occasion of his marriage.

#### TRAINING

Exercise "Gutter Chase" was held on Dartmoor on the weekend March 21 to 23. Some 40 volunteers and 12 Cadets attended, the main body travelling down from London on Friday night. No. 42 Commando, Royal Marines, acted as hosts at Bickleigh Camp, providing excellent accommodation. Two exercises were carried out: One planned by Capt. B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C., in which a force comprising the Signals Platoon acted in aid to the civil power against terrorists' forces under the command of Capt. M. A. H. Lanyon. The second, a series of reconnaissance patrols, was under the direction of Major J. D. Gunnell. Despite very sharp weather and the hazards of Dartmoor bogs, both exercises proved enjoyable and were successfully completed.

A month after our windy Dartmoor outing the Brigade Signal Exercise "Spring Gallop" was held in the Folkestone area on April 19-20. On this occasion the weather favoured us and the exercise proved well christened. The weekend provided an opportunity to study the training areas as well as preparing the ground for the 48-hour Brigade Exercise to be held at camp. On the exercise the 7th Middlesex will be acting as enemy, thus, during the weekend, while the Commanding Officer took along Capt. Leighton and Reed to decide the enemy positions with the Brigadier, Major Garrett and Capt. Legge with several Battalion Signallers tested the communications.

#### SHOOTING

Throughout the winter season the miniature range has been in constant use. The season culminated in the final of the Middlesex Territorial & Auxiliary Forces Association Knockout Competition, in which the Battalion was successful, winning the shield for this event for the third time.

Open-range firing has been taking place regularly at Sandridge Range and at Bisley, often under near arctic conditions. The Middlesex Hut at Bisley has proved an excellent standby and provided the means of a number of really enjoyable weekend practices. As a result of this activity the Battalion team is well placed to be among the leaders in the Divisional Rifle Meeting to be held at Hythe on April 26.

#### THE ELMS CLUB

By courtesy of the Commanding Officer we now have our own Club Room and are able to hold weekly meetings. We have been very pleased to welcome

Mrs. Cubitt and Mrs. Ferguson to our ranks recently, and we are hoping to see more new faces in the months to come.

A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by us all on March 6 when our first birthday was celebrated by a visit to the Cambridge Club at Mill Hill. Our birthday cake, made and cleverly decorated with the Regimental crest by Mrs. Davies, went with us and was very much enjoyed by everyone.

"A Touch of the Sun" at the Saville Theatre offered us a most enjoyable evening at the end of March, and we hope to arrange more such outings in the future.

At the annual general meeting, held on March 13 at Hornsey, the following new officers were elected: President, Mrs. Maitland; Chairman, Mrs. Allen; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Gunnell; Secretary, Mrs. Leighton; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Davies; Treasurer, Mrs. Newman; and Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Legge.

#### 16 (MIDDLESEX) INDEPENDENT CADET COMPANY

The Company wasted little time after the Christmas break in getting down to field training. Early in January two whole-day exercises were held. The first comprised a march with the Cadets carrying all the equipment necessary to bivouac and cook. At mid-day the Company set up camp and cooked a meal. The second, the Company combined with 13 (Middlesex) Independent Cadet Company and was designed to concentrate on section battle craft. In a two-sided exercise lessons learnt previously were brought out and section commanders were given the opportunity to lead their sections against hostile resistance.

During March the Company attended a weekend camp at Purfleet, where a number of Cadets qualified for the open range classification. To continue open range work the Company has several allocations on the ranges at Picotts End, near Hemel Hempstead, and Sandridge, near St. Albans, before this year's annual camp.

The 7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) has rendered great assistance to the Company during the first three months of this year. The Battalion arranged an "At Home" during March, when several Cadet Companies had an opportunity of seeing and receiving instruction on weapons and equipment of the Battalion. On this occasion Cadets were able to learn that their present training would be an advantage to them when the time came for them to join the Battalion.

The Company had the privilege of being asked by the 7th Battalion to a weekend exercise at Plymouth on March 21-23. This was attended by the Company Commander, Lt. O. H. Lardner, and several senior Cadets. Considerable experience was gained and the Cadets, who comprised one of the raiding parties, were able to put their knowledge to test. All Cadets returned expressing enthusiasm for the opportunity offered to them.

Lt. V. Williams travelled to visit B.A.O.R. on April 11-22. Reporting back, he stated that the programme arranged was very full and interesting.

Annual camp for the County of Middlesex A.C.F. is to be held at Lydd, Kent, from Sunday, July 27, to August 9, 1958. Preparations are being made by the Company to concentrate on bivouac existence.

#### HORNSEY OLD COMRADES NOTES

It is with deep sympathy we announce the death of Major Doidge.

The 1914-18 Old Comrades held their Annual Dinner at the Manor House and 80 members attended. A letter was received from Mr. Prescott Richardson, in California.

We hold a Tombola Evening every other Wednesday night at Hornsey.

We had a dance on Saturday, April 19, and welcomed R.S.M. Kendrick. A grand time was had by all. We thank the Commanding Officer for the use of the hall and were sorry he could not come owing to other duties.

A. E. SILLS, Secretary.

### 8th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.), T.A.

After a brief winter lull a storm of activity has broken upon us, and there is not a single weekend from February to May, including Easter and Whitsun, during which one or more major events have taken place or will be taking place.

Before giving an account of our main activities we must first congratulate "C" Company (Harrow) on winning the Bott Cup by a very narrow margin from "H.Q." Company. This cup is awarded on a points system for various inter-Company competitions of both a military and sporting nature throughout the year, bonus points being added for attendance in the Company. The cup was originally presented to the Battalion by Col. Bott, the Commanding Officer at the time when the T.A. was first put on an official footing from the old volunteer units.

#### TRAINING

On January 18 and 19 a study weekend was held at "A" Company drill hall (Cowley) for all officers, warrant-officers and sergeants. On Saturday Capt. Marsden gave an interesting and well-informed lecture on Civil Defence under nuclear attack. On Sunday the conventional subjects of infantry tank co-operation and artillery support were studied, with lectures by R.T.R. and R.A. officers, followed by a lecture on "The Company in the Attack" by Major Webber, and the setting of various problems. The Brigade Commander and the B.M. visited on both days, and Sgt. Hearn provided first-rate meals.

As a sequel to the study weekend a T.E.W.T. was held in the Uxbridge area on February 9 to study the Company in the Attack. The first problem was perfectly normal and straightforward until the sudden appearance of a very thick ground mist, which caused one or two



lightning re-appraisals of the situation. It is understood that the D.S. claimed the credit for laying this on.

In March the Nijmegen March practices began. The Commanding Officer has decided to enter a team of 11 from the Battalion for this annual event, held in July at Nijmegen in Holland. It is an international event for military units and civilian organisations, started in 1909 by the Netherlands Armed Forces. In 1957 some 20 countries entered varying numbers of teams. We have selected the four-day march in battle-order, covering 25 miles a day. We are now doing at least one route march a week, distances varying according to time available. Amongst those in training are the Commanding Officer, Adjutant and R.S.M. At the other end of the scale are Cpl. Williams from "A" Company (an ex-member of the R.T.R.) and Ptes. Crossland and Reynolds of "A" Company, who have not yet done their National Service and who completed the first 16-mile march in new boots!

Annual classification started once again in February, two Companies at a time using one of the many excellent ranges as allocated in the Aldershot area. The standard has been higher than last year and it is hoped that this will mean some new faces in the Battalion rifle team. The main problem has been an administrative one, the lack of those very important people—cooks. However, with the soldier's usual flair for "mucking in," someone has come forward from each Company and taken on the job, with "no complaints" resulting.

"S" Company (Hampton) won the inter-Company .22 shooting with 2,939 pts., followed by "C" Company (Harrow) with 2,591 pts. and "B" Company (Ealing) third with 2,141 pts.

The M.T.O. (Capt. John) has been training several men of the M.T. Platoon for M.C. trials. The only mishap, so far, happened to Pte. Eskriett, who, having stalled his machine going through a deep pool of water, kicked it over to re-start it and was promptly enveloped in flames. He escaped unhurt but before the fire could be extinguished the machine was badly damaged.

Several officers attended the Brigade Indoor Exercise, March 29-30, which was of good value, dealing with the problem of mounting an attack with nuclear support on the enemy forward positions. During the weekend an excellent lecture was given by an intelligence colonel on Russian weapons and equipment.

On April 19-20 some 30 officers and men took part in a Brigade Signal Exercise in the Canterbury-Folkestone area, representing Battalion H.Q. and Company H.Q.s. The exercise was set to represent a rapid advance through fairly light opposition and did much to improve the voice procedure of all concerned and to shake the winter cobwebs out of the Signals Platoon, who, by the end of the exercise had a firm grip on the situation.

Bisley shooting weekends have been superimposed on the above activities, and numerous Company training events which space will not permit us to include, except to mention that they are all a sign of the very healthy state of the Battalion.

#### Sports

The inter-Company cross-country run was held at Mill Hill on January 26 over a snow-covered course. We

are once again indebted to the Depot for the facilities made available to us. "H.Q." Company (Hounslow) were the winners with the best team aggregate, with "D" Company (Hendon) in second place. The first three individuals in order of finishing were: Pte. Drinnan ("D" Company), Pte. Beauchamp ("A" Company) and Pte. Murphy ("C" Company).

On Sunday, February 16, the Battalion team took part in the Eastern Command T.A. Cross-country Championships. We came sixth out of nine teams entered, which, with several last-minute withdrawals from our own team, was quite a creditable result. The team consisted of Major Webber, Capt. Palmer, Capt. Holmes, Lt. Henshaw, Sgt. Haines, Pte. Beauchamp, Pte. Drinnan and Pte. Moran. Pte. Beauchamp was first home in the Battalion team and eighth in overall placing.

Inter-Company basketball takes place from time to time on drill nights, with the position to date being: "C" Company in the lead, followed by "B" and "H.Q." Companies.

On Sunday, April 13, at the Old Haberdashers' ground, Boreham Wood, the Battalion entered two teams in the London Scottish Seven-a-side Rugby. The turnout was excellent and we had several reserves who did not get a game. The 2nd seven were unfortunately eliminated in their first round by the S.A.S. (Artists Rifles). The 1st seven eliminated the London Scottish 2nd in their preliminary round and the S.A.S. (Artists Rifles) in the semi-finals, bringing them up against the London Scottish 1st in the finals. They were beaten 13-0 in a very hard-fought game, which was much closer than the score would indicate. The Battalion teams were: 1st VII: Capt. Holmes (captain), Lt. Wright, Lt. Hogg, Cpl. Plomer, Capt. Jordan, Lt. Lloyd and Pte. Griffin-Smith; 2nd VII: Lt. Lobb (captain), Pte. Powell, Sgt. Dickie, Lt. Beresford, Lt. Medlock, Pte. Mullen and Pte. Copeland.

#### OFFICERS' MESS

Our sincere wishes for a quick recovery go out to Capt. (Q.M.) Jennings, who is in Millbank Hospital. Medical opinion is that he will be detained in hospital for some weeks at least, but this has not yet been finally confirmed so we hope for the best on his behalf.

Since our last notes Major Hall has taken over P.M.C. and managing the Mess affairs very well by remote control from his Company at Hampton.

Also since our last notes, when we mentioned Lt. Lobb's intended arrival in the Battalion, we are pleased to report that he has now joined us officially and has settled in very quickly.

We extend a warm welcome to 2/Lt. Beresford, who has joined us as a volunteer from the Parachute Regiment. We also wish the very best of luck to Capt. Latham and Price, who have left us and gone on T.A.R.O.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Our congratulations go to Sgt. Cowell of "H.Q." Company, who has been awarded the Efficiency Medal (T.A.), and to C/Sgt. Saunders on his promotion.

## 571 L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A.

(9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment  
(D.C.O.), T.A.)

We left Liverpool Street on Saturday, April 19, 1958, in brilliant sunshine, this in itself was a boost to the morale of the Regiment—a Regiment already bitten with "pre-camp fever." Settling down was achieved with comparative smoothness, in fact after two days at Weybourne we felt more akin to the Regular Army atmosphere.

The first Monday we were playing the role of host to the Mayor and Mayoress of Harrow. They brought their son and his governess along with them and, with complete frankness and enthusiasm, made themselves thoroughly popular with all ranks.

The first day of camp was spent on the firing point. The degree of accuracy was quite incredible when taking into consideration the amount of experience we have had on the L 70s. At the time of writing eight sleeves have been officially credited to us, and at this rate it should be no surprise to see this amount trebled.

We went to Church on the first Sunday. In bright sunshine, and to the music of our Regimental Band, under its Bandmaster, W.O.1 (Bmr.) G. Savage, we paraded with the Colours. Maj.-Gen. B. P. Hughes, C.B., C.B.E., who was paying us a visit, inspected the ranks and afterwards took the salute. The Regiment marched past the dais, which looked most impressive flanked by two highly polished L 70s.

Our social life has been taken to its physical limits. Apart from the Regimental scheme in the second week, the Messes of all ranks have echoed to the raucous noises of men thoroughly relaxed and obviously out of earshot of feminine influence. Inter-Battery football matches have revealed the evils of indolent living.

Whoever is responsible for weather variations has cast a favourable eye upon our Regiment. As this is being written the sun shines in all its brilliance and reflects a dazzling gleam from the white sheets of quarto. With the exception of about three days the weather has been glorious. Members of the Regiment who have lead a "sheltered life" are beginning to lose the pale signs of existence in the "gloomy shadows." Rain did not at any time mar the excellence of this year's camp, but the wind had its moments. In particular the first Saturday had us all a little apprehensive. A gale-force wind swept the "little hills" at Weybourne with almost disastrous effects. One marquee was blown down, and many more tents thoroughly shaken up. Sunday was spent by many of us catching up on lost sleep.

The standard of food in all Messes has been excellent. Our numbers are not high, and the cooks have had many difficulties, but, taken all round, there have been few complaints in the Messes, and the cooks are to be congratulated.

With camp nearly over, we turn our attention to the future. Many regiments are with us in our battle for higher numbers. We are getting "new blood," but not with the speed necessary to lessen the hard strain placed on our present members. There is much ingenuity being displayed in a new all-out drive for more recruits.

Sgt. Le Maitre completed 22 years' loyal service in the Regiment in January. Having served in France, Africa, N.W. Europe and Palestine during the war years, both as a machine gunner and a parachutist, he now takes up a completely new life as a civilian and our very best wishes go with him.

C.S.M. Budden has also left us and is now on the high seas bond for Hong Kong, where he is to take up the appointment of R.S.M. to the Hong Kong Regiment. Our congratulations are extended to him on his new appointment and we hope he has an enjoyable tour of duty in the Far East.

We welcome C.S.M.s Thorogood and Davis and also Sgt. Lagdon who have joined us as P.S.I.s, and we hope their stay with us is a happy one.

#### OTHER EVENTS

Recruiting maintains its upward trend and we are pleased to report that in March 15 volunteers were finally approved, distributed amongst every Company in the Battalion.

In the next issue of *The Die-Hards* we hope to report on the T.A. Golden Jubilee celebrations. These take place on a national and local scale. The former will consist of services in Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral on June 21, and a Review in Hyde Park on June 22. The Battalion will be represented on both days. The latter consists of local parades, displays, and social functions, for which the Battalion is co-ordinating unit for S.W. Middlesex.

At the time of writing, annual camp is but a month away, when once again we visit Digby Camp at Shorncliffe from May 31 to June 14. This year we look forward very much to a visit from the Colonel of the Regiment on June 6.

#### "DIE-HARD" CLUB (EALING BRANCH)

The above Club is holding their meetings once again. We are hoping to run a Ladies' Night during the latter part of the year. We have had several new members this year, but there is room for a lot more. On our meeting night we have darts, cards, and other games. We are also hoping to run dancing towards the end of the year and during the summer we hope to arrange a seaside trip for members and their wives. If you want any more information please write to the Hon. Secretary, "Die-Hard" Club (Ealing Branch), 2 Longhook Gardens, Grange Estate, Northolt, Greenford, Middlesex. The meeting is held at the Drill Hall, Churchfield, Ealing, W.13.

We are hoping to see a lot more of the 1st and 2/8th Battalions at our meetings in future and talk over old times. Our meetings for 1958 are as follows: April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12, at 8 p.m. Hoping to see some of the Journal readers at any of these meetings.

"Butch."—J. HUTCHINGS.



We hope we shall be able to give the brighter side of this picture before 1959 camp.

### "P" BATTERY

Since the last issue of this publication "P" Battery has been engaged in preparing for and moving to annual camp at Weybourne in Norfolk. This becomes, each year, an increasingly pleasurable operation, as the Territorial Army tends more and more to return to its pre-war status. More private cars become available, and a tedious train journey is replaced, for the majority, by a private car "swan."

The weather is remarkably kind to us in Norfolk, so early in the year, and this has, as usual, had its immediate effect on our activities. The Battery shooting is achieving the highest standard we have ever reached since the war, and Sgt. Gooden has already shot our first target sleeve out of the sky. Everyone is enjoying this camp enormously, and although we did not cover ourselves with glory in the sports field, it is accepted that we cannot be good at everything.

Our great hope is that this excellent weather will hold throughout our second week, when we will take to the field on manoeuvres.

Congratulations go to Sgt. Leaves on becoming B.Q.M.S. of the Battery.

### "Q" BATTERY

The "restrained" optimism with which we approached our April camp has not been disappointed. This is being written during the first week of camp and the weather has been very kind to us. We are hoping that the weather will hold for the exercise which will see us dashing about the countryside of Norfolk for three days of next week.

Since the March issue of the Journal there have been a host of promotions. Capt. Davies has departed to "R" Battery as B.K. and his place, as Battery Captain, has been taken by Capt. Slack. That old-stager, B.Q.M.S. Griffiths, has left us and Sgt. Barnden has been promoted B.Q.M.S. Other promotions have included that of Sgt. Preece to W.O.2 and Bdr. Penny to sergeant. Sgt. Hall has become B.Q.M.S. of "R" Battery.

The March issue went to press too early to give news of the Battery dinner and dance which was held on February 1. This was a huge success and will advisedly become a regular feature of Battery social life. On paper, a trio consisting of double bass, electric guitar and accordion looked most unpromising; in fact their fine rhythm persuaded Major Wynne to give the most unrestrained exhibition of rock-'n'-roll seen at Kingsbury for a very long time.

On the afternoon of the same day a convoy of private cars, brilliantly decorated in maroon and gold, went on a recruiting drive through Harrow and Kenton. The problem of recruiting is one which is exercising our minds more than any other and a great deal of ingenuity went into the preparation of a parade which certainly aroused public interest. Recruits are trickling in—we hope the trickle will soon grow into a torrent—and it is good to see a growing number of fresh-faced youngsters

of a generation which has never seen, nor will ever see, National Service.

But back to camp, and to a similar maroon-and-gold emblazoned convoy which left the camp area on Wednesday night bound for a quiet pub in the gentle village of Walsingham. "Q" Battery was on the road in a party mood; it was not long before the streets of Walsingham were echoing to the strains of "The Diehard." Major Wynne's cockney duet with Bdr. Downton will long be remembered and Sgt.-Maj. Mitchell's duets with anyone who happened to be nearby, rendered with characteristic force and tunelessness, will never be forgotten.

One last word, and it is about our P.S.I., Sgt. Hughes. Sgt. Hughes came to "Q" Battery of the old 595 Regiment when the T.A. was re-formed after the war; he has been with us now for over ten years. At the end of May he leaves for a new posting in Malta and he takes with him the best wishes of us all. We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to one of the best P.S.I.s any Regiment ever had.

### "R" BATTERY

Since we last prepared our notes for the Journal there have been one or two changes within the Battery. We congratulate Major H. G. Hansen on attaining his majority and taking over the Battery, and also extend our warm welcome to Capt. C. W. Davies (Battery Captain) and Sgt. Hall (now our B.Q.M.S.) both of whom have joined us from "Q" Battery.

At the time of writing we are in camp at Weybourne where we have been particularly fortunate with the weather so far. In fact it has been better than we have enjoyed for the last two camps, which have been held in August, and all members of the Battery are looking disgustingly healthy, although most of the glowing faces are undoubtedly due to the fresh breezes rather than sunshine.

The shooting, generally, this year, is the best we have ever accomplished, and the Battery has earned its share of the sleeves hit. We are looking forward to a three-day mobile exercise which is planned to take place in the second week and hope our luck holds good in regard to the weather.

The usual round of sporting and social activities have been going on apace. In the former, we must record, regretfully, that a combined team from R.H.Q. and R.E.M.E. Workshops beat us by 3 goals to 2 in the soccer knock-out competition.

### 571 L.A.A. REGIMENT WORKSHOPS R.E.M.E. (T.A.)

The period since our last "Notes" has been very full of activity, a good deal of which could not appear as chronological events. All the planning and preparation for an early camp, so well known to all who know the T.A., account for much of this.

Technical training, the heart of any Workshop, has been re-organised to provide a channel for individual's interests and fill vacancies in the team. Particularly, newcomers must be progressed into their proper trades, so that others can be accepted and trained in their turn.

For the first time for some years the Workshop went to

the range independently on March 30. This event had been anticipated with great keenness, but, unfortunately, the weather turned very sour on us and little shooting was possible. In spite of this, due largely to the abilities of our very able cook, the day was quite enjoyable, though everything but our spirits was damp.

Earlier, on February 8, a very successful dance had been run at Edgware, again for the first time in some years. We firmly believe in the close harmony of work and play.

In general, recruiting has taken an upward trend, and there has been a considerable increase in the activity of the unit, not enough yet to be called satisfactory but certainly some real progress in the right direction.

### 9th BATTALION O.C.A.

With the Regiment away at present at annual training camp at Weybourne the T.A. Centre is enjoying a quiet period, but during this rest arrangements are going ahead for the Annual Dinner on May 17, when we look forward to another successful "get-together" of the "Old Mob."

During the past months we have met on Friday evenings for a game of snooker and a chat in the canteen and have been pleased to welcome some fresh faces.

Although our news is brief, we are still going strong and by the time this appears in print we shall have celebrated another Annual Dinner and the Golden Jubilee of the T.A.

We extend greetings to all branches of the Middlesex Association.

### THE HONG KONG REGIMENT

This quarter has seen the Honorary Colonel, the 2IC, and the R.S.M. leave the Regiment.

Col. The Hon. C. Blaker, after four years as Honorary Colonel, has left the Colony on retirement. During his tour as Honorary Colonel he proved a tower of strength to the Regiment. His enthusiasm and interest was a continual source of inspiration to all ranks, and his advice and guidance have helped the Regiment to become "Nulli Secundi in Oriente" in fact as well as in motto. The Regiment held a farewell parade in His honour on March 4. All ranks will miss his presence on nearly every Regimental occasion and he leaves with all our best wishes for a very happy retirement in U.K.

We have great pleasure in welcoming to the Regimental fold Col. E. Stewart as our new Honorary Colonel. He is no stranger to us as he has always been a conspicuous figure on all volunteer occasions. We quickly took him on strength and Col. Stewart was on his first Ceremonial Parade as Honorary Colonel for the Annual Review only about two weeks after his appointment. We hope that his stay with us will be a long and pleasant one. As reported in our last note, Lt.-Col. Clayton has now departed to civilian life and we welcome Lt.-Col. J. D. Ricketts in his place.

Our much loved 2IC Major H. de Barros Botelho, has also left us. He has given more than 30 years service to the Volunteers and his departure will cause much

sorrow. In the last two years he has been a very active 2IC and it has been due to his efforts that so many problems of administration have been overcome. Alas no more will be heard in the Regiment the words "I don't know—but I will ask Bots—he will tell me." We are glad to report that he is still to remain on the Reserve so that we shall expect to see him as often as he can spare the time. Major J. B. Kite has taken over the mantle of 2IC and we wish him every success in that difficult job.

R.S.M. Budden of our affiliated Regiment has taken over the task of keeping us up to the mark for the next three years. We are all very pleased to have another Middlesex representative—particular so in the appointment of R.S.M.

We are very sorry to have to record that at the R.H.K.D.F. rifle meeting we were once again defeated on nearly every event by our rivals the Home Guard. However, we must congratulate R.H.Q. "A" Team on winning the Chelsmore Trophy after a very close contest with the Home Guard "A" Team. In the final we had six members and they are to be congratulated on their efforts. In the individual events, Sgt. H. Souza won the Petty Officers and Sergeants' Championship and L/Cpl. H. Asome won the Young Volunteers Championship.

As last year the Regiment was responsible for running the Meeting and a large force of All Ranks worked very hard to make it the success it was. We now look forward to next year when we hope to improve on our team and individual results.

The Regiment entered two teams in most of the events at the Hong Kong Bisley this year. Our experience in previous years bore fruit and the Regiment proved that it could shoot as well, and sometimes better than the Regular Army. The "A" team won the Eu Cup, were second in the S.C.M.P. Bowl, third in the Sporting Arms Cup, fourth in the Morse Cup and ninth in the S.W. Lee Cup. This was a very creditable result by any standards and we are all proud of our team. Pte. S. E. Carvalho must be congratulated in his performance in coming third in the Governor's Shield and L/Cpl. E. M. Rosario also for his consistently good shooting throughout the Meeting.

The Regiment had a record turnout for the Annual Review by the Governor Sir Robert Black. The parade this year was particularly interesting for it was the first Review that we had worn the Battle Honour Hong Kong on the Queen's Colour. In addition the remnants of the original H.K.V.D.C. colours were on parade carried by a strong detachment of Old Comrades.

The Colour party were composed of ex-members of the H.K.V.D.C. and therefore the connection was maintained by both old and new Colours being borne by those who had served in the H.K.V.D.C. We were blessed this year by good weather and although we were in winter dress the day proved to be cool and sunny. According to our critics we were steady and smart on parade and all ranks were congratulated on their performance.

We were very proud to see Major H. A. de B. Botelho on parade with the Old Comrades Detachment carrying the Crown from the pike of the old Colours. During



the parade Major Botelho moved to the dais to receive from H.E. The Governor the Third Clasp to the Efficiency Decoration. This is a most unusual distinction as holders of three Clasps are very few and far between and we congratulate Major Botelho most heartily on his achievement.

For the Queen's Birthday Parade, we had a detachment of 200 marching in the column with the Colours and the Corps of Drums. At the saluting base the Regimental Band provided music for us and for other units in the marching column. The weather proved to be very kind and we all enjoyed our annual tour of the streets of Kowloon.

The Colour party who had been conscripted at very short notice did their job magnificently in spite of not having any proper rehearsal. In fact the Regiment can be very proud of its showing on this occasion and we were congratulated afterwards on our smartness, drill and bearing.

As usual we end by wishing all ranks of our Affiliated Regiment the very best and we hope that more and more news of their activities will be forthcoming through the Adjutant and R.S.M. Budden.

#### NEWS LETTER BY M.B.

Having spent Easter in hospital, and having received many letters from friends, I must cut down my usual article in *The Die-Hards* or shall discourage the Editor and his staff at Depot headquarters.

On April 15 I heard from Col. Green, known to all as "Stumps." He complained that for some months he had neither heard from me, nor had he written to me. He had suffered from the Scottish winter in a large Victorian quarter, and found it hard and expensive to keep warm. I was able to tell him a lot about that hateful word Redundancy, which has been less alarming than some Press accounts suggest.

I am glad to say recruiting in both T.A. and Regular units of the Regiment has improved, although still far short of requirements. He has a busy summer's training ahead of his command, and being a new formation much thought is needed to succeed. T.A. recruiting in Scotland has much improved, which is heartening news for here it still needs to be much increased to show improvement and bring our T.A. Battalions up to full size or even 60 per cent. results. He was very pleased to hear Col. Aymar Clayton had taken over the Middlesex T.A. Association secretaryship, following on Brigadier Basil Rackham, who has been an outstanding success, and I feel very glad as I have done much to bring both to that important appointment.

I have been in touch with Mrs. Morden, who as a member of the W.V.S. gave the 1st Battalion such splendid help for comforts in the Korean War. Her son, 2/Lt. A. Morden, has made a great success in our 1st Battalion in Cyprus, at work and in games as well. She had met a Miss O'Connor of the W.V.S., who gave a glowing report of our 1st Battalion in Cyprus where they are now comfortable in their new million-pound barracks on the sea coast.

I have been in close touch with my old friend Col. C. P. Rooke of our 5th Battalion Militia (Elthorne) L.I. Their lovely silver and considerable funds are now

included in a new trust inclusive of the 6th Battalion funds and property, which we have held for some years now, and used. We shall now have the 5th Battalion's for Regimental use, both in money and goods. On April 6 I had touch with Col. Stewart Sutherland, who has now for years looked after our O.C.A. in Malaya. He is now once more in charge of a plantation. I gather David Pike arrives in S.S. Chusan in London on May 26, and we shall hope to see him playing in our Regimental cricket matches. We were not very successful in 1957 and look forward to a change in 1958.

I have several interesting letters from both Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Tony Hewitt at Kumasi where, of course, he has been an outstanding success.

I have been pleased to gain touch with three old friends of the 1939-45 War, namely, my principal Company Commander Major Sydney Emery, my Adjutant Capt. Roger Latham, and my then P.M.C. Capt. Frank Lockwood. I met all three on April 15, some at the Garrick Club, and Emery at Simpsons Restaurant in the Strand where I had a splendid meal. I missed seeing Andrew Man, now an important Army officer in the N.A.A.F.I. Establishment, on April 8, as I was then in Barnet Hospital.

We were all very glad to obtain Major Dick Smith to take over our Regimental Museum and Historical Reference Library. The former curator, also a Major Smith and a Gunner, has been in charge of the Museum for several years, and has put in a great deal of work for the Regiment, and I shall always remember his immense efforts during a constantly changing period of years, and I have urged him to keep in touch with us for we shall always be glad to see him.

I heard from ex-6197213 W.O.2 R. G. Lomax, who is searching for a post in civilian life. He was always a reliable and able W.O., and I trust he will obtain a suitable and well-paid post.

I am glad to report that 72 young trees have been recently planted in the Inglis Barracks area. Many are flowering trees, and have thus maintained the wealth of trees grown since we reached here early in April, 1905. The work has been well done and in future years to come many will appreciate them.

I attended Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment Old Comrades' Association Dinner at the Victory Club, Marble Arch. Attendance was high, and the dinner and company excellent. Gen. Sir John Shea, G.C.B., K.C.M., D.S.O., made a remarkable speech for a soldier over 86 in replying for the guests; he needed no notes and every word could be heard.

On March 21 I heard from Col. Archie Stewart, one of my oldest Regimental friends, who with his wife had been in Teneriffe, but unluckily weather was not auspicious. The visitors there were not pleasant and were ill-mannered. He finds his house with ten bedrooms and ten other rooms at Clavering, near Saffron Walden, hard to keep clean. On March 19 I heard from my cousin, Mervyn Crawford, in Dumfriesshire that he hopes to attend the Golf Meeting at Hendon Golf Club on May 2. He reminds me that the present G.O.C. London District is a Palestine Command friend, and he tells me is a first-class soldier with a clear brain.

Gen. Firbank, Director of Infantry, recently took a passing-out parade here and had words of praise for our 1st Battalion in Cyprus. He had served in the Somerset L.I., but I think I missed him at Colchester when we arrived at the end of December, 1931. I had a long letter from Hervey del Court, from Hermanus in Cape Province, on March 14. He had met Brigadier-General G. S. Palmer, who served with our 2nd Battalion at Ahmednagar in 1888. He is now in the eighties and still plays golf. Hervey fell and cracked two ribs towards the end of February, 1958; he hopes to reach the Regimental Dinner on July 18 at the United Services Club.

I wrote to Sir Richard Gale, the future Commander for N.A.T.O. Army in place of Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery, to say how pleased we were to hear of his appointment to take place in September, 1958. He was well known to myself, Philip Wray (killed later in the war in Palestine) and Major E. L. Heywood at Ahmednagar, where he was an elderly Subaltern Instructor in the Machine Gun School. We all thought rightly that he was an outstanding officer, though never imagined the fame he eventually achieved as a Commander in the Airborne Forces in N.W. Europe in the final campaign, which led to Germany's complete and utter defeat.

On February 26 I attended the Hendon Civic Banquet and Ball at the Hendon Hall Hotel, and sat with Major and Mrs. Battye. The Regiment received much notice from Alderman C. H. Sheill. We were also delighted to meet our Lord Lieutenant and to be recognised by him with warmth.

On February 24 I received a kind letter from Mrs. Maud Parsons, of Burnley, Lancs., and later an Easter card of a religious nature which pleased me greatly, and reminded me of a story of people looking at cards and saying, "It is curious how religion is mentioned in regard to Easter," thus showing how little we remember the significance of Easter in our religious life.

I was glad to hear on February 1 that the girl I knew when 15 years old, Lucy Passingham (now married to a R.A.M.C. officer), is stationed in Cyprus, and our 1st Battalion have been asked to look after her welfare in memory of my old and valued friend Col. Mervyn Passingham, of 55 years' standing in the Regiment.

I have had letters from Mrs. Gwen Appelbe, but she prefers not to be mentioned in my news letters. I had a letter from Sgt. Males, now serving in No. 1 Officers' Mess, G.H.Q., M.E.L.F., where he is in touch with Lt.-Col. Davies.

I was sad to learn of the death of Mr. Eric Neve, Q.C., formerly for some years Chairman of Middlesex Quarter Sessions, from whom I learnt much in the several years I sat under him.

#### REMINISCENCES OF THE 1914 WAR

Major R. W. J. Smith, to me always he is Dick Smith, for I remember him as a young soldier in the Band and also the Drums of our 1st and 2nd Battalions, wrote recently to ask if I remembered Pte. G. Holding, a Reservist of our 3rd Regular Battalion, who rejoined our 1st Battalion on mobilisation at Woolwich in 1914.

He told Dick Smith that he remembered Col. B. E. Ward being wounded on October 20, 1914, whilst commanding our 1st Battalion, from which wound he died two days later *en route* back to the base. In fact I was standing beside Col. Ward when a German bullet from a sniper struck him. Capt. Hastings, the Adjutant, was also beside him, and I remember how he sat down beside us saying he was hit. We, after this engagement, withdrew a few miles to dig trenches at La Boutillerie with the Royal Welch Fusiliers and the Cameronians. Our Brigade, formed early in that war, was the 19th Brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Gordon, V.C. Pte. Holding also remembers our heavy losses at La Boutillerie, and I know that the Company I took over from Capt. Skaife (wounded in the head) lost heavily and Col. Rowley took over command, who was himself wounded a little later at that time. Pte. Holding speaks of other officers all known to me—Capt. Gould (commanding "C" Company), Lt. Middleton (on patrol at Houplines when Holding was wounded), and Capt. Odling (Adjutant of the 5th Battalion who was O.C. "B" Company in Pekin, North China, where on trek to the Great Wall of China his party got lost at the Ming Tombs). Another old soldier mentioned by Pte. Holding was C/Sgt. Cross, D.C.M., M.M., who was the seventh soldier in our Regiment to be awarded the D.C.M. He was in pre-war in our 3rd Battalion and went to France in 1914 with our 4th Battalion commanded by then Col. Amyatt Hull, who was Brigade-Major to my father in Portsmouth, before I left to join our 1st Battalion in Burma at Thayetmyo in early 1906.

c/o E. N. W. Oliver, Esq.,  
Maxwell's Hill,  
Taiping, Perak,  
Malaya.  
March 14, 1958.

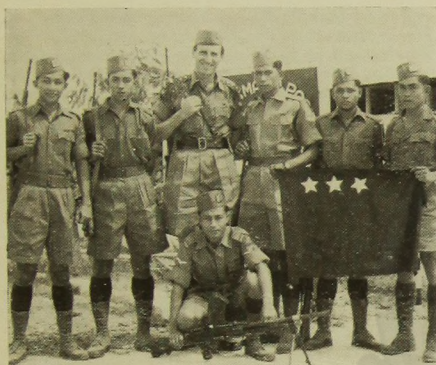
The Editor,  
The Regimental Association (Malaya Branch)  
Sir,

In view of some remarks by Col. Maurice Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., in a letter to me, it might be of interest to readers to be reminded of how this Branch was formed. During the Japanese occupation of this country the papers of the original Association Branch were lost. However, I can gather some facts from memory.

Some time in the 20's (it might have been '26 or '28), Col. B. A. Thompson was military adviser to H.H. Ibrahim, Sultan of Johore. This ruler is still on his throne today, at the age of 84. Col. Thompson was the first President, unanimously elected on May 16 of that particular year of the 20's. The late Lt.-Col. Horace Saville, who was then Captain, A.S.O.L.F. to Major-Gen. C. C. Van Straubenzee, G.O.C. Malaya, was Vice-President.

One, Deason, an erstwhile R.S.M. of the old 3rd Bn., was elected the Honorary Secretary. At that time he was the receptionist at the well-known Raffles Hotel in Singapore, subsequently becoming manager of the Sea View Hotel in the same city. He was a man of striking appearance, very tall, with beautiful white hair, a long old-type cavalry moustache, sporting a monocle on





a thick black silk ribbon. The first time I ever saw him, in "The Raffles", I thought he must be either a marquis—or a R.S.M. As I was wearing a regimental tie, he introduced himself to me.

On the first Committee was one, Pharaoh. He had been a C.S.M. with me in the old 4th Bn., and was then Lt. (Q.M.) Singapore Volunteer Forces. The first Albuhera Day Dinner was held in the Europe Hotel in Singapore. We had a special room, with a door leading on to the stage where the hotel orchestra performed. When the Regimental Toast was proposed, Capt. Saville had stopped the band, and ushered me on to the stage, where I took over the piano and played the two regimental marches, all upstanding in our dining-room. The general clientele were, I think, a little puzzled, but I took no notice of them and withdrew on completion of my pleasant task.

There was a goodly turn-out. One Capt. Mark McGahey (who had served with our 16th Bn. during the 1914/18 war) and I travelled down from Taiping to Singapore by steamer from Penang, to attend. Capt. McGahey is now in Sydney, Australia. "Drummy" Drew, who was then a prison warder, also attended. I left Malaya in 1929 and went to the West Indies. Owing to my age I was re-gazetted to the, then, Pioneer Corps, in the recent war, but spent nearly all my time E.R.E.

Before returning to Malaya in 1951, Col. Browne had asked me if there was any hope of reviving the Association here. I had an advertisement published in the local Press, and I am glad to say that we have had our annual dinner every year since. The only two original members in the country were "Drummy" Drew, by this time a tin miner, and myself. Naturally our numbers are diminishing, but we continue to turn out as many as possible. Last year we had only four, but this was owing to a local epidemic of 'flu, plus military operations.

As I was going to Johore to a somewhat out-of-the-way locality, I handed over the affairs of the Branch to Capt. David Pike, now serving with the 2nd Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment. He will be returning to England

after our next dinner and I hope that I shall have the honour of taking over once more. In another place you will have been told of Capt. Pike's victories over the C.T's in the jungle with his troops.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
G. STEWART SUTHERLAND  
Major (Rtd.).

#### BIRTH

HUMBER.—On April 30, at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, to Pamela, wife of Lt. T. J. Humber, the Middlesex Regiment, a son.

#### DEATHS

DOIDGE.—Major L. C. D. Doidge died on February 8 and was buried at St. Marylebone Cemetery on February 12.

STEVENSON.—We regret to announce the death on February 11 of ex-C.S.M. F. Stevenson. His funeral on February 15 was attended by C/Sgt. Powell on behalf of the Association, and Major P. Newman and Mr. Hull on behalf of the Mill Hill "Die-Hards" Club.

CASS.—In-pensioner S. D. Cass of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and late of our Regiment, died on March 9 at the age of eighty. A wreath was sent and an N.C.O. from the Depot attended the funeral.

KRUCK.—Mr. H. P. Kruck, a well-known ex-member of the Regiment and member of the Mill Hill Club, died on March 17. At his request his coffin was draped with the Regimental Flag, and the Association and Regiment were represented.

WOOLLARD.—We regret to announce the death of ex-Bandsman T. H. Woollard and, at his own request, a Bugler of the Regiment sounded Last Post at his funeral on April 24. The Association sent a wreath and an N.C.O. also attended the funeral.

#### OBITUARIES

##### MAJOR D. M. PHILLIPS (late Middlesex Regiment)

The death took place at Fairlie Lodge, Ayrshire, on March 12, 1958, of a distinguished member of the Regiment at the age of 65. He was a former member and chairman of Scotts Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. Ltd., Greenock, from which post he retired at the end of 1956. He joined the Regiment in 1914, and served in the Army until 1919. From 1920 to 1925 he was a member of the London Stock Exchange, joining the Scott's firm in 1926, being appointed director in 1941 and chairman in 1950.

In 1918 he married Janet Hamilton Scott, the eldest daughter of Charles Cunningham Scott of the Greenock shipbuilding firm. His first wife died in 1928, and in 1932 he married Shiela Wilkinson of West Park, Skelmorlie. There were three daughters of the first marriage and one son and one daughter of his second marriage, all of whom are living.

He became past-president of Greenock Chamber of

Commerce and past-chairman of Greenock Provident Bank. He was J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for County of Ayr. In the Second World War he commanded the Largs Battalion of Home Guard.

An officer who served with him for a large part of World War I has given me an account of his Army service in the Middlesex Regiment. He was educated at Harrow and Pembroke College, Cambridge, and was gazetted 2/Lieutenant to the 9th Battalion of the Regiment (T.F.) in autumn, 1914, and served with the 2nd/9th Battalion in U.K. until September, 1917, being then a Captain. He went to France in December, 1917, and was later wounded in action. He was then unfit for service overseas and returned to U.K., being discharged in about the summer of 1919.

He was a very competent and popular officer in the 9th Battalion. The address of his widow, Mrs. Phillips, is Fairlie Lodge, Fairlie, Ayrshire.

(Signed, M. Browne, Colonel.)

#### W.O.2 H. KRUCK

As you will read elsewhere in this issue, Harry Kruck has answered the Last Roll Call. Major Newman and myself attended the funeral on behalf of the Old Comrades, Sgt. Taylor represented the Sergeants and the Regiment, Drum Major Holdford blew the Last Post and Reveille at the graveside, and also present was another old comrade, Mutt Glover. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Glover also attended. The Club at our annual general meeting stood for a minute in silence in respect to Harry and to Frank Stevenson.

I remember "Bramah" Kruck when, in 1919, he was the bright boy of the Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion. He had a very sharp brain, gaining his Second Class Certificate of Education as soon as he enlisted and his First Class whilst still on Boy Service. Quite a feat, that. He also packed a terrific wallop as many people found out as soon as the timekeeper struck the bell. In addition, he also had a subtle sense of humour (he had to have to put up with some of we blokes).

He was in possession of the Meritorious Service Medal in addition to the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, Defence and War Medals. He served over 26 years.

During the war he held the rank of Warrant Officer Class 2, having been a Sergeant for many years, and I hope that we see him again in the supernumerary rank on the Final Muster when the trumpet sounds.

R. W. J. Smith (Major, retired).

#### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1958, AT 2.15 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E. (1st Battalion), Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C. (7th Battalion), C.S.M. Burgess (1st Battalion), R.S.M. A. Kendrick (Depot), R.S.M. Thom (7th Battalion), R.S.M. McMillan (8th Battalion).

An apology was received from Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E. (Depot).

The Chairman opened the meeting by reminding the members present that under the new rules, and in particular Rule 21 (b), it was necessary for the Chairman and co-opted members to elect

nominated members. He proposed from the Chair that the following be elected nominated members of the Committee:

2nd Battalion: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L.  
3rd Battalion: Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.  
4th Battalion: Col. S. F. Hedgecoe.  
5th Battalion: Major E. L. Heywood.

6th Battalion: Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P.  
9th Battalion: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

and informed the meeting that the Colonel of the Regiment had expressed his approval of these nominations. The proposal was seconded and carried unanimously.

Col. Allen proposed that in future such nominations be sent to the Secretary early in September each year so that a meeting of the ex-officio officers could be held before the autumn meeting of the Committee to agree a list of nominated members for approval by the Colonel of the Regiment before the first meeting of the ensuing year. It is felt that some new blood could be introduced with advantage if more time and thought was given to these nominations. Col. Man seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.25 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major,  
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

Inglis Barracks,  
Mill Hill, N.W.7.  
March 10, 1958.

#### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1958, AT 2.30 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C., Major P. D. H. Marshall (representing Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton), Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major E. L. Heywood, R.S.M. A. Kendrick, R.S.M. J. A. Thom, R.S.M. T. McMillan, C.S.M. C. Burgess, Mr. J. K. Taylor. In attendance: Mrs. P. Brooks (vice Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E., Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E.

Before commencing the business of the meeting the Chairman reminded all members that under the new rules the Executive Committee had now to be reconstituted and explained that:

The nominated members for the ensuing year elected by the ex-officio members under Rule 21 (b) were: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (2nd Battalion), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. (3rd Battalion), Col. S. F. Hedgecoe (4th Battalion), Major E. L. Heywood (5th Battalion), Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P. (6th Battalion), Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (9th Battalion).

The elected members under Rule 21 (c) were: Major P. Newman, M.B.E., Mr. J. K. Taylor.

The co-opted members whom he proposed from the Chair for the ensuing year were Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., and Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D. This was seconded by Col. Man and carried unanimously.

1. *The Late Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.F.O., D.S.O.* The Chairman informed the Committee that Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, who was a past Colonel of the Regiment, had recently died and as Chairman of the Association he had written a letter of sympathy to Major John Maxse, the General's elder son, who had replied in appreciative terms. He asked all present to stand in silence for a moment in memory of the late Colonel.

2. *Election of Chairman.* Col. Fox then explained that at this stage his duties as Chairman ceased and suggested that he should withdraw so that nominations for the Chair could be received and a new Chairman duly elected. Brigadier Baker suggested that Col. Fox be not allowed to leave the room or the Chair and proposed that he be re-elected as Chairman of the Committee forthwith. This was seconded by Col. Roberts and carried unanimously.

3. *Minutes of the Last Meeting.* The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were passed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

4. *Secretary's Report.* The Secretary's report having been circulated with the Agenda was adopted.

(a) *Arising out of the report,* however, Major Hardcastle drew attention to the fact that Rule 51 (a) had not been complied with, and after discussion the Secretary was instructed to send the sum of £10 to each branch club. This sum to be held by the branch for use when necessary in the manner authorised by Rule 51.

(b) *Regimental History.* Various suggestions were considered as to the best method of disposing of the remaining copies of the History in order that there should not be a loss on the History account.

It was decided that club secretaries be supplied with six copies of the History, to be disposed of as they chose at a cost of 7s. 6d. per



copy. Copies to be paid for as and when sold.

That units be approached by the Secretary and asked if they would accept copies under the same conditions as the secretaries of the clubs, it being suggested that they are either sold at 7s. 6d. per copy to members of the unit or the unit purchase them for use as prizes, etc.

It was also decided that when particulars of the next function were circulated, copies under the same conditions as the secretaries of the clubs, it being suggested that they are either sold at 7s. 6d. per copy to members of the unit or the unit purchase them for use as prizes, etc.

The above proposals were passed unanimously and the Secretary was so instructed.

#### Copy of Secretary's Report

**Grants.** During the year ending December 31, 1957, grants totalling £1,769 12s. 9d. were dispensed in assisting 229 cases of hardship and distress; of this sum, £65 was received in co-operation from the 51st Highland Division Trust Fund and £38 15s. 0d. from the British Legion.

**Reunion.** The numbers attending the annual Reunion, 1957, were 1,022.

**Regimental History.** Two hundred and forty-four copies of the Regimental History remain in the hands of the Secretary; £100 is due to Messrs. Gale & Polden to close the account, and we have in hand £22 11s. 6d. against this sum.

**Finance Committee's Report.** The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Col. Fox, explained that this year the Auditor had been unable to prepare the accounts of the Association in time for this meeting. In the circumstances there was no point in calling a finance meeting and as a result there was nothing to report. He was informed that the accounts would be ready for submission to the next meeting.

**War Memorial Committee's Report.** Brigadier Rackham explained the report which had been circulated and observations were made as under:

(a) **General Rates Assessment.** Major Hardcastle was of the opinion that the grounds upon which an appeal could be made against the increased rating assessments were almost non-existent and it was agreed that no further action be taken unless other regimental associations report any success in this matter. They had been asked for information on this point.

(b) **Mr. A. H. Barber.** Since the report had been published a further £2 had been received and the amount outstanding was £14 10s. 1d. Appreciation was expressed of the efforts made by the Housing Manager in recovering as much as he had. The Secretary was instructed to confirm the fact that the balance outstanding of £14 10s. 11d. included recoverable costs as agreed.

(c) **Mr. A. E. Parsons.** Major Hardcastle was asked and he agreed to write to Mr. Parsons pressing for payment of the outstanding rent.

(d) **Mr. J. Kendall.** The conditions of the tenancy of this man was discussed at scm: length and it was agreed that the matter be left until the next meeting, when it was hoped that reports from Probation Officers would be received.

(e) **Future Occupants.** The situation with regard to accommodation for possible future widows of occupants was discussed at some length and the suggestion that the Association might erect or convert existing accommodation into one-room flats for widows is to be explored.

The Sub-Committee were requested to place before the Executive Committee at the next meeting any information available concerning such provision as made by other concerns, such as local councils and other associations.

It is also hoped that Major Battye will be able to offer information concerning a similar project at Thirsk which he is investigating.

In the meantime the Finance Committee was asked to consider the probability of finance for such a proposition.

The report was adopted unanimously.

**Reunion for 1958.** The Chairman informed the Committee that application for Seymour Hall had to be made, and after discussion it was suggested that, if possible, the Reunion should be held whilst the 1st Battalion was in the U.K. It was agreed that steps be taken to ascertain the date of the Battalion's arrival in this country and if this information could not be obtained before March 15, 1958, the Secretary should book October 31.

**Annual Dinner.** After discussion R.S.M. McMillan proposed, and Mr. Taylor seconded, the motion that the replies to the circulars sent out about holding an annual dinner in addition to the existing Reunion did not record sufficient support to warrant adding such a function to the social programme. Carried unanimously.

#### Other Business

**Club Postage.** Major Hardcastle proposed, and Col. Allen seconded, the proposal that clubs forming part of this Association should submit claims for reimbursement of postage quarterly from the Secretary. Carried.

**Officer Members.** Major Newman asked that consideration be given to clarification of the rule which states that officers' subscriptions should be paid direct to the Secretary, as it was felt that this procedure would involve a considerable loss of revenue to the clubs. It was also pointed out by Mr. Taylor that under the new rules it would be necessary for him to ask officer members of his club who normally paid more than their old subscription to pay an additional guinea, and this might result in a loss of membership.

It was decided that in cases where officer members of the Association paid subscriptions direct to the Secretary of the Association, and in accordance with Rule 10 nominated a club to which he wished to be regarded as a member, the Secretary should remit 10s. annually to the club concerned in respect of each officer member. Carried unanimously.

The Chairman agreed to write letters to officer members of the Old Comrades' Clubs explaining the arrangements under the new rules if branches would let the Secretary have the names and addresses of officers to whom they wished him to write in this connection.

Major Newman and Mr. Taylor agreed to contact the other branches on this point and the Chairman agreed to attend a meeting of club secretaries to go into the matter further if the "elected members" deemed it desirable to hold such a meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.10 p.m. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday, May 28, 1958.

A. W. CLARK, Major,  
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association

Inglis Barracks,  
Mill Hill, N.W.7.  
March 10, 1958.

#### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1958, AT 4.15 p.m.

**Present:** Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C., Major P. D. H. Marshall (representing Lt.-Col. D. Brotherton), Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major E. L. Heywood. In attendance: Mrs. P. Brooks (vice Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E., Secretary). Apologies were received from: Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major J. H. Battye, M.B.E.

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting.** The Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated with the Agenda were signed by the Chairman as correct.

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

#### Copy of Report:

**Subscriptions.** The sum of £473 was received in subscriptions and entrance fees for 1957.

**Social Activities.** The following have been arranged for 1958:

**Cricket:** Mill Hill, June 14: Free Foresters.  
June 15: Hampstead Heathens.  
June 16: Cryptics.  
June 17: Incogniti.  
June 18: I Zingari.

**Golf:** Hendon Golf Club, May 2: Spring Golf Meeting.  
North Hants Golf Club, September 21 and 22: Autumn Golf Meeting.  
**Dinner:** United Service Club, July 18.

**3. Cocktail Party.** The Chairman explained that it was suggested that a cocktail party should be held whilst the 1st Battalion was in the U.K., and asked if it was considered that this should be a Club function. This was unanimously agreed, and it was agreed also that such a party be subsidised from Club funds up to the sum of £150. As no date could yet be decided upon, it was agreed that Major Battye and Major Heywood be asked to proceed with arrangements to hold the party at the United Service Club, if possible, or, if this was not possible, to consult the Chairman with regard to other arrangements.

The Committee then considered the cost of tickets to members and friends and it was agreed that the cost be: Member of Club, 15s.; further members of his party, 7s. 6d. each.

**4. Grants for Social Activities, 1958.** The Committee approved the following grants for 1958:

Cricket Week	..	..	..	..	£
"At Home"	..	..	..	..	150
Golf	..	..	..	..	40
Tennis	..	..	..	..	50
Dinner	..	..	..	..	25
Cocktail Party	..	..	..	..	100
	..	..	..	..	150
<b>Total</b>	..	..	..	..	<b>£515</b>

**5. Club Tie.** Further to Minute 3 of the Minutes of October 2, 1957, the Chairman read a letter from the Colonel of the Regiment in which he directed that the Club tie remain in use in addition to the two Association ties.

**6. Grant to O.C. Depot for Maintenance of Officers' Mess, 1958.** It was unanimously agreed that the sum of £40 be allocated for this purpose.

#### 7. Other Business

(a) Applications for membership of the Club had been received from members of 571 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (6th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)), T.A., and the Committee had been requested to consider waiving the £1 1s. 0d. entrance fee in respect of these R.A. officers. After discussion it was agreed that the entrance fee be waived in respect of the 571 L.A.A. Regimental officers, but that the matter should be reviewed in one year's time.

(b) **"At Home"** Col. Man drew attention to the fact that no arrangements had been made so far for the "At Home." It was pointed out that when the Agenda was prepared no dates had been decided upon for the tennis tournament, and it was usual for the

"At Home" to be organised on the Saturday of the tournament. After discussion it was agreed that the "At Home" take place on Saturday, June 28, at the Depot. It is to be particularly requested that correct dress be worn by players in the tournament.

(c) **Club Membership List.** It was decided that the membership list be revised and reissued in 1959.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major,  
Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

Inglis Barracks,  
Mill Hill, N.W.7.

March 10, 1958.

## ROLL OF OFFICERS SERVING IN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

### NOT ON THE REGIMENTAL LIST

Rank	Name	Appointment/Location
Brigadier	G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E.	Commandant, Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop
Col.	A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E.	Army Council Representative, N.A.A.F.I. Board of Management
Col.	A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.	Commander, 4 Port (Scottish) Task Force, Glasgow
T/Brig.	R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E.	Commander, 146 (WR) Infantry Brigade, T.A., Sheffield
T/Brig.	G. Lervill, O.B.E., M.C.	Commander, 168 Infantry Brigade, T.A., London
Col.	J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E.	AG-2, War Office, Stanmore, Middlesex
Lt.-Col.	J. W. G. Ormiston	Chief, Organization and Training, H.Q. A.F.N.E., Oslo
Lt.-Col.	A. G. Hewitt, M.B.E., M.C.	C.O., Ghana Training Regiment, Kumasi
Lt.-Col.	C. M. M. Man, M.C.	C.O., Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Plymouth
Lt.-Col.	G. B. Ayre	A.Q.M.G., S.H.A.P.E.

### REGULAR OFFICERS

Lt.-Col.	W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C.	Comd., 7th Middlesex
Lt.-Col.	D. C. L. Nolda, M.B.E.	Comd., 1st Middlesex
T/Lt.-Col.	T. W. Chattey	A.Q.M.G. H.Q. Cyprus District
Major	H. M. F. Langley	S.O.P.T. Scottish Command
Major	G. C. Dawson	Company Commander, Mons O.C.S.
Major	P. D. H. Marshall	8th Middlesex
Major	I. H. Battye, M.B.E.	Comd., Depot Middlesex
Major	A. R. Waller, M.C.	D.A.Q.M.G. Q. (A.R.), War Office
Major	F. J. Bennett	D.A.A.G. (P.S.I.), H.Q. Cyprus District
Major	R. K. B. Allott, M.C.	Port Security Officer, Cyprus
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.	1st Middlesex
Major	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E. (L)	1st Middlesex
Major	P. Collins, T.D. (1)	Intelligence Corps Depot
Major	P. L. Crutchfield	Depot, Middlesex (H.S.)
Major	H. N. MacL. Martin	1st Middlesex
Major	P. L. Pearce Gould	G.II (S.D.), H.Q. Southern Command
Major	R. D. Hutchings	1st Middlesex
Major	D. Sax	1st Middlesex
Major	G. Kent	D.A.D.P.R., Office of Chief of Staff, Cyprus
Major	S. E. Honess	1st Middlesex
Major	C. N. Clayden	G. (S.D.), H.Q. Eastern Command
Major	E. A. H. Jeffcoat	Depot, Middlesex (H.S.)
Major	P. W. Galvin	1st Middlesex
Major	M. F. Leonard	Malay Forces
Major	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	D.A.A.G., A.L.F.C.E.
Major	C. H. Mievill, M.C.	Adj., Hong Kong Regiment
Major	P. G. V. Bellers	469 G.L.S., B.A.O.R.



Rank	Name	Appointment/Location
Major	J. de Gaye (L)	M.T. 3, War Office
Capt.	A. D. C. Eales	1st Middlesex
Capt.	J. S. C. Flavell	1st Middlesex
Capt.	K. J. Carter	Staff College
Capt.	A. N. Jordan	Adjnt., 8th Middlesex
Capt.	N. F. Legge	Adjnt., 7th Middlesex
Capt.	H. J. A. Moore	G.III (L), H.Q. 24 Independent Infantry Brigade
Capt.	J. I. D. Pike	Depot, Middlesex (H.S.)
Capt.	B. A. M. Pielow	1st Middlesex
Capt.	R. M. Cain	1st Middlesex
Capt.	G. G. Norton	1st Middlesex
Capt.	B. K. Clayden	H.Q. Ghana, West Africa
Capt.	W. M. M. Deacock	1st Para.
Capt.	H. J. Evans	Muscat Forces
Capt.	B. H. Marciandi	Adjnt., 1st Middlesex
Capt.	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	1st Middlesex
Capt.	P. A. S. Wollocombe	Depot, Middlesex
Capt.	L. C. Sharpe	Company 2IC, A.A.S. Harrogate
Capt.	I. S. Rutherford	H.Q. Eastern Command (P.R.)
Capt.	G. Kitchenier (1)	1st Middlesex
Capt.	R. K. Collins	I.O., 51 Independent Infantry Brigade, Cyprus
Capt.	J. S. B. Pollard	1st Middlesex
T/Capt.	M. V. Hayward	Adjnt., Depot Middlesex
Lt.	R. D. Fisher	Ghana Regiment Training Centre
Lt.	W. G. A. Crumley	1st Middlesex
Lt.	A. E. McManus	Depot, Middlesex
Lt.	T. J. Humber	3rd Para.
Lt.	J. M. Hewson	1st Middlesex
Lt.	I. M. E. Lloyd	Depot, Middlesex
Lt.	H. M. du V. Lohan	Language Course, U.K.
Lt.	M. C. D. L. Gilham	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	M. G. Waite	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	M. F. Deakin	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	P. V. Cheesman	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	P. D. J. Clarke	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	M. Julian	1st Middlesex

## REGULAR QUARTERMASTERS

Major	C. A. Trestain, M.B.E.	7th Middlesex
Capt.	S. C. W. Weller, M.M.	Depot, Middlesex
Capt.	A. E. F. Waldron, M.B.E.	1st Middlesex
Lt.	P. Donovan	1st Middlesex

## SHORT-SERVICE OFFICERS

T/Lt.-Col.	L. G. Lohan, T.D.	D.A.A. & Q.M.G., Joint Admin. Planning Staff, War Office
Major	A. E. Peasley	Adjnt., M.D.C. Millon
Major	J. Bywaters, M.B.E.	Training Officer, W.O.S.B., Barton Stacey
Major	G. W. P. Hodding, T.D.	D.O.P.T., Hong Kong
Major	R. H. Last	War Office
Major	C. E. Rome, M.B.E.	G.S.O.2, Ministry of Supply (Munition Scales)
Major	E. L. Ellisdon	War Office
Capt.	A. R. Cowan	1st Middlesex
Capt.	A. R. F. Smith	3 Nigeria Regiment
T/Capt.	P. J. Rogers	Depot, Middlesex (H.S.)
2/Lt.	J. U. H. Burke	Airborne Forces Depot
2/Lt.	P. McRae	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	M. F. K. Young	Depot, Middlesex (H.S.)

## SHORT-SERVICE QUARTERMASTERS

Rank	Name	Appointment/Location
Major	L. T. Honeybun	M.E.L.F./Cyprus
Capt.	H. I. Burnett, M.B.E.	A.P.O., Ashton-under-Lyne
Capt.	H. J. Jennings	8th Middlesex
Lt.	E. J. Pike	Aden Protectorate Levies

## NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS

2/Lt.	A. Morden	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	C. J. Hawes	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	R. E. Melville	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	J. M. Pickard	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	A. Taylor	H.Q., Ghana Military Forces
2/Lt.	M. J. Sidnell	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	P. S. Cox	Transportation Centre, R.E.
2/Lt.	J. D. McCubbin	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	J. E. Phillips	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	C. F. Dobson	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	A. V. Hancock	2/6th K.A.R.
2/Lt.	D. A. J. McMillan	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	R. H. C. Waters	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. Bulloch	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	R. J. Quinn	1st Training Battalion, R.E.M.E.
2/Lt.	A. Smith	1st Middlesex

## OFFICERS RECENTLY RETIRED

Lt.-Col.	A. S. J. de S. Clayton	April 7, 1958
Major (Q.M.)	R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.	March 31, 1958

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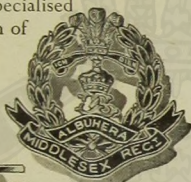
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