

The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



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THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(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," "Serangapatam," "Albuhara," "Gildad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenes," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula," "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," "17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaerde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pillieux," "Langemark, 1917," "Mein Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baillieux," "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, 1918-18," "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," "18," "Muran, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

World War II—7 Battalions—North-West Europe, 1940: "The Dyle," "Defence of the Escaut," "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," "Sierro," "Sierro Hills," "Italy, 1944-45: "Anzio," "Caraceto," "Gothic Line," "Monte Grana," "North-West Europe, 1944-45: "Normandy Landing," "Omches," "Breville," "The Odon," "Caen," "The Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourguibus Ridge," "Troam," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederpi," "Le Havre," "The Lower Maas," "Venrai," "Meijel," "Geilenkirchen," "Venlo Pocket," "The Rhineland," "Goch," "The Reichswald," "The Rhine," "Lingen," "Brinkum," "Bremen."

"Korea 1950-51," "Naktong Bridgehead," "Chonju," "Pakchon," "Chongchon II," "Chuan-Ni," "Kapyong-chon," "Kapyong"

Regular Battalion

1st Bn. (Amalgamated with 2nd Bn. 1948)—B.A.O.R.

Regimental Depot and Regimental Museum

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

Territorial Army Units

7th Bn. Hornsey, N.8.

8th Bn. Hounslow.

571 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. (9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment T.A.)

Record and Pay Offices

Record Office—Infantry Records, Exeter.

Regimental Pay Office—Canterbury.

Allied Units

CANADA

31st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Ontario.

21st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.

50th H.A.A. Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.

102nd (Wentworth) Field Artillery, Royal Canadian Artillery.

The Royal Rifles of Canada.

NEW ZEALAND

The Wellington Coast and Taranaki Regiment, Toki, Taranaki,

New Zealand.

HONG KONG REGIMENT

British Forces Post Office, 1, Hong Kong.

Colonel of the Regiment

Brig. J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E.

Commanding Officers

1st Bn.—Lt.-Col. D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E.

Depot—Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E.

7th Bn.—Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D.

8th Bn.—Lt.-Col. I. D. Brotherton.

571 L.A.A. Regiment (9th Middlesex)—Lt.-Col. J. R. Doyle, T.D.

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Brigade Colonel: Col. H. R. Grace, O.B.E.

D.A.A.G.: Major M. R. H. Stopford.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

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

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).

Colonel of the Regiment

Message from Lt.-General G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C., D.L.

On August 1, 1959, the "Gazette" published, with the Queen's approval, my relinquishment of the Colonelcy of the Middlesex Regiment in favour of Col. J. E. F. Willoughby of our Regiment.

I had given the gravest consideration to this question in the autumn of 1958, more particularly in view of the crucial character of the next few years in the life of the Regiment, with the background of current Army reorganisation.

It is clear that, to guard and guide the Regiment's affairs adequately during this period, certain factors must be assured. In my view these are, chiefly, that the Colonel of the Regiment should be in close touch with policy and with those in the War Department who mould it. Furthermore, he should have personal knowledge of the officers, warrant officers, N.C.O.s and soldiers of the Regiment, and their interests and problems in the light of current affairs.

The time has arrived when I know that I can no longer with confidence give the service to the Regiment which these requirements demand.

I am glad to say, therefore, that the senior officers of the Regiment, and the Regimental Council have agreed with me, and the appointment of Col. Willoughby as my successor has had the fullest support.

No one in the Regiment is better qualified for the post. No one will carry out the duties involved with

greater loyalty and thoroughness. Taking over command of 168 Infantry Brigade of the 56th London Division this September, no one will be better placed carefully to watch over the interests of the Regiment during the next difficult years.

When I joined the Regiment in 1914, and indeed until recent years, I little dreamt that to me would fall this proud position, and I feel deeply the wrench with which I now relinquish my responsibilities.

During my tenure since 1952 we have passed through events of stirring interest to our Regiment. For these I have received unstinted support from all ranks, both serving and retired, in our efforts to safeguard the Regiment's welfare and ensure the highest standards of discipline, smartness, military efficiency and fitness, in accord with our tradition. To all of you I extend my hearty gratitude and appreciation.

I now demand from you, with great confidence, the same loyal support in every circumstance for my successor.

I finish my message with every good wish to you all, and to the new Colonel of the Regiment, for continued success in whatever tasks may befall, and for happiness and good fortune for your wives and families wherever you may be.

G. C. BUCKNALL (Lt.-General).

July 31, 1959.

BRIGADIER J. E. F. WILLOUGHBY, O.B.E., COLONEL, THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Brigadier John Willoughby, a true son of the Regiment, succeeded to the Colonelcy in August of this year. He is the younger son of the late Major N. E. G. Willoughby and a brother of Richard Willoughby, both of whom served in the Regiment.

Educated at Pangbourne and the R.M.C., Sandhurst, he was gazetted in 1933 and joined the 2nd Battalion at Colchester that year. During those years of peacetime soldiering he played a very distinguished part in many of the 2nd Battalion's sporting activities; in particular he excelled in the field of athletics where he represented the Regiment and the Army in the quarter-mile event. He was an exponent of the foil and sabre, at which he represented the Army and England. Apart from these sporting achievements he was a keen Regimental officer and in 1938 he left the 2nd Battalion to become an instructor at the M.G. School, Netheravon, where he remained until after general mobilisation in September 1939.

During the spring of 1940 he succeeded your Editor as Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion then commanded by General Sir Brian Horrocks.

After a brief period in command of a newly formed reconnaissance regiment he was given command of the 2nd Battalion in 1943, but before the invasion of Normandy he had been posted to the Staff and was serving as a G.S.O.1 in the Pacific theatre of operations.

From 1946 to 1948 he was an instructor at the Staff College, Camberley, after which he returned to Regimental duty and found himself serving as the Senior Company Commander of the 1st Battalion in the Korean operations. In 1951 he was appointed G.S.O.1 to General Sir Hugh Stockwell, then G.O.C. 3rd Division. This appointment he held until 1953 and shortly afterwards he was given command of the 1st Battalion, then in Austria, and a year later it was ordered to Cyprus. After two eventful years in that island he relinquished command and was appointed an A.A.G. at the War Office, gaining promotion to full Colonel.

By the time these notes are published he will have assumed command of a T.A. brigade, where we wish him well.



BRIGADIER J. E. F. WILLOUGHBY, O.B.E., COLONEL, THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)



Chief Editor: Colonel A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.

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

Editor's Comments

The Colonel of the Regiment

The change in Colonelcy of the Regiment is a major event in its history, and by the time these comments are published Brigadier John Willoughby will have succeeded Lt.-General Gerard Bucknall as the 8th Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment and the 20th since Col. John Arabin.

To General Bucknall, who succeeded to the Colonelcy in 1952, we say farewell and offer him our appreciation and gratitude for the way he has so wisely and charmingly guided the affairs of the Regiment throughout these difficult and distressing years of the reorganisation of the Infantry. If we may add a personal note, we are also grateful for the interest he has always taken in us as Editor of "The Die-Hards."

To Brigadier Willoughby we offer our congratulations and best wishes. Brigadier Willoughby is in every way qualified to succeed to this high appointment. As a "Son of the Regiment," a former Adjutant and a Commanding Officer of the 57th and 77th, he holds a unique record, whereby he is known to many serving and retired members of the Regiment. As your Editor, we pledge him our sincere support.

Army Pentathlon

Many years have elapsed since the Regiment took part in the Army Pentathlon; in fact, it was in 1924 and 1925 when General Sir Brian Horrocks and Col. Tom Cubitt represented the Regiment as a Captain and Subaltern respectively. General Horrocks won the individual event in 1924, but did not fare so well in Paris the following year, when his revolver shooting let him down.

Thirty years later the Regiment again took part when the 1st Battalion sent over a team from Germany this year and gained tenth place. The team consisted of Lt. Deakin, Cpl. Finnis and L/Cpl. Healey. We offer them all our congratulations, especially Cpl. Finnis, who gained second place in the individual event, and Lt. Deakin, who trained and led the Battalion team. Congratulations are also due to Lt. Deakin on his marriage, which took place very shortly after the Pentathlon in

the Crypt of the House of Commons. Several officers of the Regiment were present and provided a guard of honour.

Garrison Church, Ahmednagar

Former members of the 2nd Battalion who served in Ahmednagar from 1923 to 1928 will be distressed to hear that Christ Church—the old Garrison Church—was partially demolished by heavy rains in 1957. It is now over a hundred years old and has been a place of worship for many units in the British Army. The present chaplain intends to restore it and has appealed for funds from all those who were formerly stationed at Ahmednagar. Although a generous donation has been sent from the 1st Battalion, the Regimental Council considers that former members of the 2nd Battalion may also like to subscribe, and such gifts should be sent to the Chaplain, Christ Church, Ahmednagar. We feel that this is a worthy cause, and it is interesting to note that a Regimental Memorial Plaque bearing the names of seven soldiers and four children of the 2nd Battalion is intact and still adorns the walls of this church.

Brigadier H. F. Mackenzie

Brigadier Hugh Mackenzie retired from the Active List in June of this year after 31 years' service in the Regiment and the R.A.O.C. He was in the 5th Company at Sandhurst with your Editor, joined the 1st Battalion at Catterick in 1928, and served with the 57th at Colchester and in Jerusalem and Egypt. He later transferred to the R.A.O.C., his father's former Corps, where he held various important appointments and was awarded the C.B.E. at the end of World War II. We wish him the best of good fortune in his retirement.

C.S.M. E. Burt

We were sorry to hear of the recent death of C.S.M. Burt. He was a very well-known and likable warrant officer, both in the 1st Battalion and at the Depot. After his discharge in 1937, he was employed by the Hendon Education Department, and was often to be seen at Mill Hill. So fades away another loyal "Die-Hard."

1st Battalion Notes



THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT, MET BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER, SECOND-IN-COMMAND AND ADJUTANT ON ARRIVAL AT HAMELN

One of the advantages of serving in Germany is that friends and relatives can visit us here. Among such visitors this year, we have been particularly pleased to welcome the Colonel of the Regiment and the Brigade Colonel of the Home Counties Brigade.

General Bucknall, who was accompanied by Major Battye, arrived by helicopter on the square at Gordon Barracks on the afternoon of June 8. He was welcomed by a guard of honour found by Support and Headquarter Companies, commanded by Major Clayden, with Capt. McManus in command of the Left Division. Lt. Waite carried the Regimental Colour. The next day, the General attended the 11th Infantry Brigade Group Athletics Meeting, where he saw the Battalion gain second place to the Staffords. On June 10 he watched companies on training and saw the Band and Drums beat retreat on the square in the evening. On the 11th, after an excellent presentation of the Battle of Albuhera by Major Pearce Gould in the afternoon, he dined in the Mess in the evening.

Before leaving the next morning, The General expressed his satisfaction with all he had seen and with the spirit he had found in the Battalion.

The visit by Col. Grace from May 2 to 4 was part of his tour of the regiments of the Home Counties Brigade serving in the British Army of the Rhine, and was the first time we had met. Apart from the social aspect of

wishing to get to know the officers and senior ranks of the Battalions of the Brigade, the Colonel took the opportunity of addressing them on the future of the Home Counties Brigade as he saw it. After spending the week-end as the guest of the Commanding Officer, he left on May 6 for Dortmund, where he was to stay with his old Regiment, The Buffs.

Training has progressed under ideal weather conditions. Companies have been practising the technique of launching and maintaining long-range patrols across a water obstacle. These patrols are an essential part of the defensive battle in nuclear war and call for a very high standard of junior leadership, self-reliance and physical fitness. Training for them is excellent all-round training for the modern infantryman and all ranks have thoroughly enjoyed it.

Battalion exercises have been held to improve our skill and increase our knowledge of Watch and Ward, and to practise us in the Advance to Contact and the conventional defence of a vulnerable point against enemy parachutists. The enemy for these exercises has been found by various units. The Royal Hampshire, who, as part of an Armoured Brigade group are equipped with armoured personnel carriers, were particularly active and tested our resources fully when they acted as enemy on one of the Watch and Ward exercises, whilst 21st (Artists) Special Air Service, T.A., provided a very realistic attack by parachutists against a vulnerable point. The high standard of training, the enthusiasm and fitness of our Territorial Army enemy were most impressive. Well to the fore in their final assault was the son of the late Brigadier Hayden, Trooper David Hayden, who served with the Battalion in Austria as a National Service subaltern.

However, by far the most important training which we have carried out during this quarter has been our fortnight at Soltau, when we worked with our affiliated Armoured Squadron from 4th Royal Tanks. For most of us, this was the first occasion on which we had worked with the armour, and similarly it was the first time that the majority of the tank crews had worked with the Infantry. There were, naturally, teething troubles on both sides, but by the end of the fortnight we could feel that we had come a long way towards becoming part of that integrated force of all arms which is the basis of all modern tactical doctrine.

Conditions at Soltau were quite appalling. The area has been used as a manoeuvre area for the armour since the end of the war, and what was once luxuriant heathland and heather has deteriorated into a dust bowl. This condition was aggravated this year by a two months' drought preceding our visit. We have often been told that one of the great disadvantages of the tank is that it cannot conceal its movement because of the dust which it raises, and this was more than amply demonstrated to us. Troops returning to camp at the

end of a day's training looked more like a troop of minstrels than anything else, and the dust with which they were covered seemed particularly resistant to soap and water. However, in spite of this, there were few complaints and all ranks were very happy in camp.

Our next step in combined training will be our visit to Haltern at the end of July, when the Battalion Group consisting of ourselves, our affiliated armoured squadron and gunner battery, and our sapper troop, will concentrate for a week.

In between our periods of military training, we have, as usual, had to fit in rifle and athletic meetings, cricket and swimming. Having won the Brigade Rifle Meeting by a very small margin over 1st Staffords, our results in the Rhine Army Meeting were disappointing. However, experience was gained for next year's competition. Cpl. Stopp of "C" Company was runner-up in his class, and the falling plate team were also runners-up in that match, but these were our only successes.

In athletics and cricket as well, we were eliminated in the early rounds of the Rhine Army competitions, but our swimming team has succeeded beyond all expectations by winning the Divisional match and thus qualifying for the Rhine Army finals to be held at Senne-lager on July 28, 1959. In the Divisional competition we won every team event and had a lead of 18 points over the runners-up in the final placings.

With all this Battalion activity, we are finding it difficult to complete all the competitions for the Albuhera Shield. As a result it has been decided this year to run all the major events on a knock-out basis. At present we are trying to clear the soccer, as it was found eventually to be impossible to decide the Company placings on the results of the 11th Infantry Brigade Group competition as was originally hoped. With the temperature in the eighties conditions are not exactly ideal for football and some freak results may be expected. We hope to complete the hockey and cricket during the last week in August and the first week in September. It is to be hoped that the fine weather prevails until then.

The Band and Drums are fast becoming a local attraction which will soon rival the "Pied Piper" play which is put on by the local inhabitants in the town every Sunday morning. They have Beaten Retreat both in barracks and in the town before very large and appreciative German audiences, and they have performed at local events and given concerts both in Hameln and in neighbouring towns. On one occasion it was estimated that 10,000 civilians had assembled to see and hear them, a larger crowd, it is said, than has congregated in Hameln since before the war, when Hitler arrived to address them. There can be little doubt that the Germans are still roused by a military spectacle.

In particular, the celebrations to mark the 150th anniversary of the raising of the 2nd Division drew large audiences. The actual anniversary date was June 18, and on July 11 the massed bands and drums of the regiments of the Division paraded in the Weser Stadium at Minden. Drum-Major Lewis, as senior Drum-Major, headed the Combined Corps of Drums, and presented a most impressive figure.

The 1st Battalion has, of course, a long association with the 2nd Division, dating back to its raising for service in the Peninsular, continuing through the Crimean and First World Wars, and renewed again now in Germany. To mark this long association the officers have presented a silver candlestick, suitably engraved and inscribed, to the Divisional Headquarters Officers' Mess.

As usual, postings, discharge and National Service release have carried away many old friends during the quarter. To one of these in particular, C.S.M. "Nobby" Perry, we extend a special farewell. C.S.M. Perry, who was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, has left us for an extra-Regimental appointment with the Movements Staff at the Hook of Holland, and we hope that we shall meet him again there on our trips to and from England. He will be particularly missed at Christmas dinner, where for many years he has contributed so much to the after-dinner entertainment.

To Capt. Pielow, who has handed over the duties of Adjutant to Capt. Hayward, we extend our congratulations on his selection for the Staff College and temporary promotion to Major, and wish him every success on the course.

SERGEANTS' MESS

In spite of the fact that during this quarter most of the Mess members have been engaged on intensive training, social functions have been numerous and entertaining. A classic example of this was a mystery outing to a German Gasthaus organised by C.S.M. Beale and his committee, which turned out to be a great success (Get in the groove—Sgt.-Major). It was most certainly good news when we heard of the birth of a daughter, Heather Jean, to R.S.M. and Mrs. McMillan. The baby's head was well and truly wet in the good old Villain fashion—yet no excuses were accepted the following morning. We also offer our heartiest congratulations to Sgt. ("Doc") and Mrs. Giles on the birth of a son.

Albuhera Day was celebrated in a manner in keeping with the old traditions of the Regiment. Following the visit to the Officers' Mess, the carpets were rolled up and the Albuhera Ball started. This really went with a swing, and a good time was had by all, especially the four W.O.s responsible for providing the music for part of the evening. This could neither be danced to, nor listened to, but was, nevertheless, appreciated. The holiday period ended on May 18 with a three-legged hockey competition in the morning. The Mess managed to get into the second round but were literally "whitewashed" by the Corporals' Mess, who produced flour bags half-way through the proceedings. In the evening an all ranks dance was held to round off the festivities. Mess dinner nights are still proving a great success, but have been restricted owing to the Battalion training programme.

On June 6 the Hameln Police Force visited the Mess for a games evening. Although unaccustomed to English indoor games the police proved fairly stiff opposition, particularly in the boat race, in which we ran out winners by a short head. Language difficulties



THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT SAYS GOOD-BYE TO C.S.M. PERRY

were quite easily overcome, more so in the latter part of the evening when everyone present was gibbering in the same language.

It was indeed a sad day when time came to say farewell to our oldest member, C.S.M. T. Perry. Though most of the members were absent on training, those remaining in barracks did their utmost to lessen the sorrow of his departure. Good luck, "Nobby," in your new job, and the doors are always open! Other members who have left the Mess during the quarter are Sgt. Bert Callaghan on posting to the 8th Battalion, and St. John Martin, M.M., to take up employment as a special recruiter. We wish them both the best of luck for the future.

Visitors to the Mess have been numerous, the most notable being the Colonel of the Regiment, the Brigade Colonel, and a past member of the Mess, ex-Sgt. T. M. McGowan.

We would like to take this opportunity of saying welcome to Sgt. Davis, and congratulations on their promotions to W.O.2 Medlock, W.O.2 Wright, C/Sgt. Simmons, C/Sgt. Walters and Sgts. Seager, Pritchard and Turner.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to C.S.M. Perry on receiving the award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

SPORT

Sport of necessity must become something of a side-show during the summer training season in B.A.O.R. It is very gratifying, therefore, to realise that in spite of the shortage of time the Battalion has continued to make its mark in the majority of summer sports. Perhaps the outstanding achievement of all is that of the swimming team. Having entered the B.A.O.R. Swimming Competition, we were without a team until a week before the event and had at one time considered withdrawing. It was therefore at some disadvantage that our team took to the water only to emerge as winners

of every event in the Divisional Championships and thus qualify for the B.A.O.R. Trial. The athletes were more fortunate with their training, and did well to come 2nd in the Brigade Competition; but for disappointing results in the discus and long jump, the margin of points would have been even smaller. The Cricket XI, after a good start to the season, have been hard hit by the leave bogey that is always with us. They did well to beat 1 R. Lincolns in the second round of the B.A.O.R. Knockout, but lost their third round match with 1 Column R.A.S.C., last year's finalists.

Individually all praise must go to Cpl. Finnis for his magnificent performance in the Pentathlon Championships at Aldershot, where he gained 4th place. The team, again with little training and without the warm-up of the B.A.O.R. Championships, did well enough to come 10th. Cpl. Finnis has now been selected to train for the Army team and may well make the next Olympic Games.

After so little winter football, due to our limited facilities, it is good to see the game still being played energetically throughout the summer months. Hockey also continues, if a little fitfully, and in August both the Albuhera Shield hockey and cricket knockout competitions will be played off. No sooner will this be finished than winter will be upon us once more with the everlasting search for those with enough teeth to play rugger, and yet who are not involved in football, hockey and all the other games that make up the winter programme. We are looking forward to a good season.

SHOOTING

This year has been most disappointing, and in both the Brigade and the B.A.O.R. meetings the team produced results which were well below the standard to be reasonably expected. In our practice shoots performances were encouraging, but obviously match



nerves played havoc with the team, especially among the younger members. It is in the young soldiers' class in particular that we are lacking, and as soon as we think we have at last found someone, he leaves us for release. However, we have had the much needed experience of a really big meeting which may well help us next year.

In the Brigade meeting we managed to beat the Staffords into first place by two points. Lt. Deakin is to be congratulated on winning the Sterling competition. Other results were:

- (a) Officers' team: Winners Rifle Match 1.
- (b) Corporals and Privates: Winners Rifle Match III.
- (c) L.M.G. Pairs' team: Winners L.M.G. Match.

The high-light of the B.A.O.R. meeting was the falling-plate where our team reached the finals, to be beaten by the 1st Gloucesters, who had an exceptionally strong team. Other results were:

Wavell Cup—Pistol Team:
Sgt. Lloyd } 2nd.
Cpl. Finnis }

Rifle—Match III:
Corporals and Privates—4th.

Individual Rifle:
Class III, Corporals and Privates—Cpl. Stopp 2nd.

CRICKET

So far we have not had a very successful cricket season. Training has interfered with fixtures, and leave has disrupted continuity in the team.

In the Rhine Army competition we defeated the Royal Lincolns in our first match, largely due to a fine innings of 81 by Cpl. Bird and some very good left-arm bowling by Pte. Peak, of "A" Company. Unfortunately neither of these players was with us for our next round fixture against H.Q. 1 Corps Column, R.A.S.C., as Cpl. Bird had been released and Pte. Peak was on leave.

This match got off to a disastrous start but the weather came to our aid and rain stopped play when our opponents had made 199 for two wickets. In the replay the next day, we fared a little better. In the 33 overs allowed for play we knocked up 106 for 9, 2/Lt. Smith making 60 not out, many of them in a fourth wicket partnership with 2/Lt. Evans which added 57 runs, before Evans was out for 25.

The opposition then quickly knocked up 70 for the loss of only three wickets, and our spirits sank. However, in the next over three wickets fell to the skipper's bowling, and we were in the fight once more, but we were unable to maintain our ascendancy, and the game ended in defeat.

Against 19 Field Regiment on July 18 we suffered a further defeat. They made 155 for 9, in reply to which we could muster a mere 90.

2/Lt. Smith has been invited to play for the Divisional eleven in Berlin, and we wish him success there.

Teams have been chosen from the following: Major Pearce Gould, Major Clayden, Capt. Gaston, Lt. Waite, Lt. Cheesman, 2/Lts. Cowing, Goring, Smith, Evans and Ivens, Cpl. Bird, Torrie, Ptes. Peak, Pasquell and Pratley. Scorer: Pte. Rappoport.

ATHLETICS

It is always difficult to select a Battalion representative team on the results of one inter-Company team relay meeting as usually has to happen. The inter-Company Albuhera Shield meeting this year was therefore held on an individual basis in spite of stiff opposition from some of the companies.

Since there are no traces of previous Battalion records and standards, it was decided to start them off again with the winning times and distances at this meeting. On the results, this should mean that a number of Battalion records are due to be broken at next year's meeting.

From the winners a team was selected to represent the Battalion in the Brigade meeting, where we eventually gained second place. Plenty of time was made available for training, but owing to the absence on duty of the more senior members of the team much effort was wasted. We hope that by next year we shall be just that little bit better.

Lt. Cheesman, Cpl. Howlett and Pte. Hazelwood were selected to go to Berlin for the Rhine Army individual competition, having attained the necessary standards in the Divisional meeting. Hazelwood was unable to travel; Lt. Cheesman came 5th and 6th in the discus and weight respectively, and Cpl. Howlett ran faster than he has ever done before to finish 4th in the final of the 400 metres. As a result of this he was selected to represent the Army against the R.A.F. in Germany, but was prevented from doing so by sickness.

The results of the Battalion meeting were as follows:

| Event | Winner | Runner-up |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 100 m. | Dmr. George | Cpl. Gutteridge 13 sec. |
| 200 m. | Cpl. Howlett | Cpl. Finnis 25.9 sec. |
| 400 m. | Cpl. Howlett | Lt. Waite 56 sec. |
| 800 m. | Lt. Waite | Pte. O'Riordan 2 min. 20.2 sec. |
| 1,500 m. | Dmr. Howard | Cpl. Burford 4 min. 39.7 sec. |
| 5,000 m. | Dmr. Howard | Pte. Thomas 16 min. 33 sec. |
| 120 m. hurdles | Pte. Pratley | Pte. Feathers 20 sec. |
| Long jump | Cpl. Argent | Cpl. Barnett 19 ft. |
| Hop, step & jump | Pte. Peak | Lt. Hoar 37 ft. 1 in. |
| High jump | 2/Lt. Smith | Sgt. Seager 5 ft. 1 in. |
| Pole vault | Dmr. Kenny | Cpl. Short 8 ft. 2 in. |
| Hammer | Pte. O'Brien | Bdsm. Taylor 75 ft. 11 in. |
| Javelin | Dmr. Howard | Pte. Stamford 112 ft. 6 in. |
| Discus | Lt. Cheesman | Pte. Peak 113 ft. |
| Weight | Lt. Cheesman | Pte. Robinson 38 ft. 4 in. |

SWIMMING

On our return from Soltau we were faced with the problem of finding a swimming team, the Cyprus team having by then almost completely disappeared. We had entered a team in the Divisional inter-Unit team and Individual Swimming Championships which were being held at Roberts Barracks, Osnabruck, on July 7. Our first call for swimmers produced large numbers, half the Battalion having decided that a morning's swim was a pleasant change from routine; however, Lt. Cheesman did not take very long to sort out the useful material.

The selected few trained very hard, morning and afternoon, and by July 7 were fit to do battle. The day of the championships was ideal and the team came away with all the laurels, scoring maximum points and winning every event.

Our opponents were 1st Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 40th Field Regiment R.A., and 4th



THE BATTALION SWIMMING TEAM

Front row: L/Cpl. Aitken, L/Cpl. Rickett, 2/Lt. Cheesman, Cpl. Hoare, Sgt. Edgy.
Back row: L/Cpl. O'Brien, Cpl. O'Rawe, Sgt. Seager, Pte. Sear, L/Cpl. George, Pte. Heale.

Royal Tank Regiment. The first two teams in the championship are to go forward to the B.A.O.R. inter-Unit team and Individual Swimming Championship to be held at Normandy Barracks, Sennelager, on July 27/28, and so we look forward to meeting the 1st Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers again there.

The Battalion team was as follows:

2 x 200 m. free: Lt. Cheesman, Cpl. O'Rawe.
2 x 100 m. free: Cpl. Hoare, L/Cpl. Rickett.
4 x 50 m. breast: Sgt. Seager, L/Cpls. Aitken and O'Brien, Pte. Heale.
2 x 100 m. back: Sgts. Edey and Seager.
4 x 50 m. free: Lt. Cheesman, Cpl. O'Rawe, L/Cpl. Rickett, Pte. Sear.
Medley: Sgt. Edey, Cpl. Hoare, L/Cpls. George and O'Brien.

"H.Q." COMPANY

The Company has now weathered the first seven months in Germany and most people are used to the routine of exercises and training. There have been many exercises and the Company have acquitted themselves with enthusiasm where skill was lacking. Leave in the U.K. has sent many people scurrying to the company office and the poor company clerk is hidden beneath a pile of applications.

Albuhera Day, and all that it entails, is far behind. A three-legged hockey match was held in the morning, and the Corporals' Club shook off their usual apathy to win the event by dint of much cheating. Our H.Q. 2 team won the Albuhera Athletics by a handsome margin. Notable in the team were Dmr. Howard and Cpl. Howlett who won all the events for which they

were allowed to enter, and the "Old Soldiers" race was won in fine style by B/M. Jackson. Seven members of the Company were in the Battalion swimming team which won the 2nd Division inter-Unit swimming championships.

Departures have been many. From the Administrative Platoon went Paddy Ashe, our Irish copper, L/Cpls. Bennett and Hare (also Regimental Policemen), and Cpl. Mick Shelley (one-time backbone of the Orderly Room). There were also the innumerable members of the Signals and Quartermaster's Stores, who will no doubt be mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

We bid a sad farewell to C.S.M. Perry. "Nobby" has served 27½ years with the Regiment and now goes on for E.R.E. posting before finally fading away. True to tradition he was towed out of barracks in a champ, headed by the Band and Drums. At the gate was a final shaking of hands; a spontaneous cheer, and he left. C.S.M. Wright now fills the void and we wish him the best of luck in his new post as C.S.M.

The Company now looks forward to a few more weeks of training before winter and the administration inspection set in.

SIGNAL PLATOON

With a good part of the training season behind us the Platoon is well on the way towards the required standard in all the various aspects of "Matters Signalling." We are still far from perfect—but we are improving!

Once back from Sennelager, the R.S.O. and Pte. White disappeared into that inner sanctum—the Battalion shooting team—to emerge only briefly for various Battalion exercises. The first, "April Defence," proved once again that without Pte. "Trotters" Hogg's relay procedure all would have been lost; "Pronto" himself was a little off net on this occasion, his son having arrived the previous day with consequent damage to his car. The Albuhera period passed by with the customary celebrations, plus the added attractions of the Athletics Meeting—Pte. Cox ran gamely, though he was a little slow. May also produced the first leave problems, especially for L/Cpl. Mepstead, who nearly missed his own engagement party.

In early June some ten signallers went with "A" Company to the Hartz Mountains, where they successfully practised long-range patrolling and had a splendid time into the bargain. This type of training is obviously both interesting and invaluable, in that it tests initiative as well as physical fitness and signalling ability. The Platoon then spent two weeks at Soltau with the rest of the Battalion, assisting the Companies in their operating and taking part in a Brigade signals exercise and the Battalion advance to contact. But for the dust it was a valuable fortnight, and we all came away impressed by the performance of a 31-set and less mystified by exchange operating. Both D.R.s were lost on our way there, one in Hannover (was it the Uhu again), and the other up a tree! On the Battalion exercise the R.S.O., determined not to get lost for a second time, directed Pte. Mees (his most recent driver) to follow what proved to be haystack up a non-existent road. After crossing a fair-sized ditch at speed everyone ended up in a

cornfield, but all was well—the set still worked.

Within a short time of returning to camp we were again out on an exercise, "July Goulash," which proved the most enjoyable and instructive to date. Ptes. Hall (57) and Abbott have learned to speak terribly quietly over the air, and Cpl. Overton now carries a small entrenching tool for the use of Sunray Minor Callsign 2. Pte. "Toad" Hall (17) was a harassed battery storeman, but he still managed to retain his "sideboards." A 19-set also had an unhappy time, though having been reversed into twice, it went better than ever. Some of the Platoon have just returned from "Blindmouse II," a Divisional skeleton exercise. We found one or two other skeletons in our cupboards and the R.S.O. lost his sleeping bag; Pte. Coster collected another E and M lesson. Now we are busily preparing for Haltern, the next signals cadre and the final exercise of the season in which the whole Brigade is involved.

Congratulations to C/Sgt. Walters, Cpls. Owen, Turton and Weston on their well-deserved promotion, L/Cpls. Kirby, Mepstead, George and Stewart on their appointments, and to Ptes. Mees and Anderson on passing their driving cadre (the latter was previously congratulated on the return trip from the Hamburg. outing). We have been well represented at sport: Cpl. Howlett and Pte. O'Riorden have run for the Battalion, L/Cpl. George is in the swimming team (and has been practising in Hameln as well as Bad Münden), and the R.S.O. and Pte. White were in the shooting team. Also, congratulations to those who were on the guard of honour for the Colonel of the Regiment and those who lined the square for Retreat Beating. Pte. Roberts (whose nickname is "Ginger," not "Singer" as in the last notes—though he says he can sing) is taking lessons in deportment.

We have lost two stalwarts, Ptes. Hogg and Baillie, to the rigours of civilian life, and Cpl. Howlett has gone temporarily to "D" Company to assist in continuation training. To list all those who leave us before the next issue of *The Die-Hards* is to mention nearly half the Platoon. Suffice it to say that we shall miss them, but we wish them the very best of fortune in civilian life and hope one or two of them will return to the fold ere long.

M.T. PLATOON

First we must say good-bye to C.S.M. Perry and welcome in his place C.S.M. Wright. Our good-byes also to Cpls. Thorpe and French, the former being remembered as the only person who could recognise a camouflage net inside out, and the latter as being "Miss NAAFI 1959."

We extend our congratulations to Cpls. Cousins and Rice on their promotion, and to Pte. Toulon on now being the "Old Soldier" of the Platoon. We also congratulate C/Sgt. Dive on his remarkable display of readiness in the event of fire, and we feel that he is the only technical storeman who has succeeded in having a starter motor B.L.R.'d as a dynamo; no doubt everyone will want to know the secret.

The M.T.O. received a copy of a traffic accident report as a result of an unfortunate "trip" in the Mess

one evening; this resulted in his leg being encased in plaster which, while earning the sympathy of the whole Platoon, did serve to give audible warning of his approach. We wish him many miles of happy motoring now that he has his own means of transport, and we should not be surprised if M.T. Detail in future reads, "1 x Ford Prefect."

At the present rate in B.A.O.R., one begins to think that life was more peaceful on active service. We have just had a period of training at Soltau. Conditions were such that drivers at last discovered what air cleaners were for; one is prompted to tell the story of a driver, who will remain nameless, who, answering a fire call to a fire 300 yds. away, ran 295 yds. with a bucket of water and then fell in the bucket.

We must also take this opportunity to thank our R.E.M.E. personnel for some very hard work; it is to their credit that so far we have not lost a single vehicle in our travels. We hope that Cpl. Dickens will enjoy his new quarter in Hannover.

Congratulations also to Pte. Cleasby on being the only driver whose vehicle was not picked up in the series of air photographs taken on a recent Battalion exercise. No doubt he will soon be running a camouflage cadre for the rest of the Platoon.

We hear the most members of room 33 have subscribed to a "Body Beautiful" course; the unofficial use of the two floor bumpers has so far produced no noticeable results, but all are reported to be comparatively fit. Ptes. Heale and Sear represent us in the Battalion swimming team at present. During the past quarter the Platoon has been well represented in all fields of sports, namely L/Cpl. Bradwell, Ptes. Grafton, Bently and Toulon and L/Cpl. Maidlow in athletics, Pte. Fountain in the Battalion shooting team, and Cfmn. Underwood in the Battalion cricket team.

Rumour reports that Cpl. Cousins is the only Guard Commander to try to proceed to the N.A.A.F.I. instead of the guard room on being dismissed from guard mounting, but the B.O.S. had other ideas.

Sgt. Smalls, R.E.M.E., has now been reduced to a state bordering on insanity, which is the natural state of any person responsible for the continual road-worthiness of our vehicles.

We end these notes by welcoming eight drivers to the Platoon and wishing an anticipatory good-bye to Cpl. Cooper and L/Cpl. Maidlow.

CORPS OF DRUMS

Looking back on our stay at Sennelager, the majority of the drummers will agree that it was not so bad after all. In fact, it gave us the opportunity of showing the rest of the Battalion that when it came to beating up that nasty flagpole on that even nastier hill, we were just as good as, and in some cases better than the other platoons. If any company wishes to challenge this statement they must of course produce a duty drummer to give it weight.

After Sennelager, the Drums joined the Mortar Platoon and "A" Company, 1st Royal Hampshires, as enemy for the Battalion on exercise "April Defence." The swashbuckling instinct in the Drums came to the

fore, and greatly assisted us in making 30 drummers look like a host of 2,000.

On Albuhera morning the company lines, the Sergeants' Mess and the Officers' Mess were once again graced by the presence of the Corps of Drums. The only comment from the officers at the time was: "If it weren't for the drums, bless(?) 'em, we'd never get up on Albuhera Day."

On the preceding day, the Band and Drums beat retreat in Gordon Barracks. The inhabitants of Hameln were invited and some 3,000 appeared. Inviting them was easy, but the problem then arose, as the Band swung off the square to the strains of "Alte Kameraden," of how to get rid of them. This question finally resolved itself when our visitors got tired of wandering around the barracks. On May 17 the performance was repeated, this time before a crowd of 10,000 in the Stadium, on a surface which must have been originally designed for the Band of the Chasseurs Alpins.

The Drums again joined the Band for a performance at the Hameln and District Horse Show, which was held in the grounds of the Baron Von Haake, at Ohr. They rounded off each evening with a good display of marching and playing which was well received by the many spectators there. They were again on parade with the guard of honour for the Colonel of the Regiment when he visited us on June 8, and the following day they beat retreat in barracks, the town being invited once more.

On June 27, the Corps of Drums appeared at the 675th anniversary of the Rattenfanger.

We were well represented among the prize-winners at the Battalion Sports Meeting. Dmr. Howard did extremely well for us and won the 5,000 metres, 1,500 metres, and the javelin. He was supported very ably by Dmrs. Kenny and George, who won the pole vault and 100 metres respectively.

Dmrs. Lambert and Applegate are our representatives in the company cricket team this year. We unfortunately had to say good-bye to Dmrs. Armstrong, Jones, Read and Hurley. With a little bit of luck, however, we may be seeing Hurley again soon. We welcome to the fold in their place Ptes. Tovey, Rackham and White.

THE BAND

Once again we enter a new quarter and someone has the enviable task of composing the Band notes. The difficulty usually is getting started, but we seem to be over that hurdle now, so lean back, relax, and prepare to be bombarded with news.

Speaking of hurdles, mention must be made of our first paid engagement in Germany, a horse show. This spread itself over two days at the latter end of May with performances on a Saturday evening and the following Sunday afternoon. The standard of jumping, etc., seemed to be very high indeed but, of course, it lacked the artistry of Sgt. Davis.

Since then we have had two more civilian engagements, one at Bad Pyrmont and the other at Bad Münden. A more beautiful setting for a military band concert would indeed be hard to find than the gardens at Bad Pyrmont. It also seemed to be equipped with all the necessities of a bandsman's life: a wonderful stage with

excellent acoustics, beer, girls and money no object.

The Band concert at Bad Münden was to help celebrate their festival of light, and took place in their most beautiful swimming pool (not literally). The town of Bad Münden is some half-hour's journey from Hameln, and some ex-members of the Band will readily realise (and visualise) the whys and wherefores of the Band's return journey when it is stated that we left Bad Münden at 2300 hrs. and arrived back at barracks at some 0130 hrs.

Now for snippets of news of various members of the Band. First the managing director of the firm, the Bandmaster. For the first time in nine years (now where have we heard that before?) he managed to be A.W.O.L. from an engagement. He finally made it just as we were playing the last Regimental March. Secondly, L/Cpl. Gutteridge, against all the bachelor customs of Bandsmen has contrived to get himself domesticated and join the fraternity of married men. We offer "Peter" and his new wife our congratulations and best wishes for the future. Finally, but by no means least, Bdsman. "Noddy" Fairbrass. "Noddy" has just left us for a short stay in England. If anyone would like to contact him he can be found somewhere in Colchester and he informs us that he should be there for some 84 days, or thereabouts.

On June 27 we had the pleasure of taking part in the 675th anniversary of the march of the Pied Piper of Hameln. The local population have a small annual celebration of this legend, but we were lucky enough to see a more elaborate ceremony, with a two-mile long procession and fireworks in the evening, which is staged only once every 25 years.

The 2nd Division Massed Bands display was held at Minden on July 11 and we, together with five other bands, three Corps of Drums and two pipe bands made up the British contingent in this spectacular parade. The band of the German Panzer Grenadier Division was also invited to take part, and they helped to make up a grand total of some 350 musicians on parade. After literally sweating through ten days of rehearsals under the Director of Music of the Band of the Royal Artillery (Portsmouth), we were unfortunate enough to have a thunderstorm immediately preceding the actual parade. However, we managed to finish the performance in improving weather and in front of a large and appreciative audience, so all was not in vain.

We had four recent additions to the Band, Bdsman. Gathercole, Green (another one!), Hemmings and Slater. Bdsman. Green and Slater are a further supply from our Brigade Bandmaster's establishment, and Bdsman. Hemmings and Gathercole we welcome for a short period of National Service.

In a week's time the Band is going *en bloc* to England for four weeks' leave. A happy thought, indeed!

"A" COMPANY

The last quarter has not been uneventful, and if at times while out on training we were heard to sigh for a soft bed, we strengthen our resolve by thinking of the O.C.'s room inspections on Saturday mornings in barracks!

One of our first excursions was a small map-reading

test in which two parties missed the lunch rendezvous, and the officer in charge of the third cleverly lost his way on the final stage. Some two weeks later "A" Company provided part of the two composite platoons which went down to Hohne on the Infantry/Tank field-firing ranges. One of the private soldiers left his mark, and nearly his head, on the ranges when, while he was bending over his 2-in. mortar a bomb shot skywards, and a N.C.O., not to be outdone, sent a shot whistling down the range while unloading.

Sound of limb, if rather shaken, we set off to practise long-range patrolling in the Hartz Mountains. An exercise which was to have lasted ten days and for three platoons, ended as four and a half days for twenty men, plus reinforcements from "C" Company.

We left behind our members of the Battalion shooting team and athletics team, and half the remainder were on leave. Back at camp we boated on the Weser and raced across the river in front of the Colonel of the Regiment during his short stay. At Soltau we first met the tank. At first he was an interesting new acquaintance, but after clinging to the hot dusty monster on journeys to and from the training areas, relations grew strained; to such an extent that on the Company exercise set by the Commanding Officer, No. 2 Platoon left an enemy mobat intact ten yards from their reorganisation position, and took little more notice of it when two supporting tanks were umpired out owing to this negligence. On the Battalion scheme that followed, "A" Company can boast that they alone did not take part in a fight against friendly forces during the night, and in the morning were undetected in a wood with our final objective standing out in front.

However, a Captain in 4 R.T.R., wishing for revenge on us, motored up in a champ in full view of the enemy, stopped outside the wood, got out, and asked us, "Do you know where anybody is?" We thanked him for exposing our position, sent him on his way an enlightened man, and settled down again to await orders from the tanks on the coming attack. These eventually came and we did a big right flanking attack that caught the enemy looking the wrong way.

After a week as duty company in barracks, we left Hameln as point company in an advance to contact exercise. This was the first phase of a five-day scheme in which in Phase 2 the Battalion defended a radar station against the S.A.S., and in Phase 3 practised Nuclear Defence. In Phase 1 we did a spirited attack up near vertical slopes and through dense trees, but in Phase 2 unfortunately did not see the enemy, apart from watching them drop some five miles away. It was claimed, however, that the bulk of the enemy forces had passed through the company position, which was rather disturbing, but in the final analysis it was proved that the S.A.S. came nowhere near "A" Company. A sergeant, a signaller and a private soldier will long remember the third phase. Part of a long-range patrol that was split, they were captured, released and survived on biscuits and cheese for one day, while the remainder of the patrol feasted on their rations. Nor were those left behind, idle; an enemy fighting patrol came on one of No. 1 Platoon's positions and carried off a prisoner. However, the patrol did not have it all their own way,

for their prisoner succeeded in being left behind after a brief halt. The patrol need not have worried, for on returning they found him fast asleep where he had been left.

Dawn on the last day found the Company gallantly attacking a hill feature held by twice their number of enemy. Success was ours, however, even though No. 2 Platoon walked into their own artillery fire.

We welcome to the Company 2/Lts. Pitman and Duberry, and C/Sgt. Simmonds, who has already had aerial photographs of his camouflaged cookhouse taken on a recent exercise. The cleanly scrubbed tables and shining dishes set an example all C/Sergeants would do well to follow! We say good-bye to Lt. Mallalieu who has gone to Battalion H.Q., and 2/Lt. Alexander, Cpls. Argent, Lewis and Bonhomme who seek the joys of civilian life. Sgt. Callaghan has followed in the steps of Sgt. Speakman to the T.A.

The Sporting World

The big sporting event has been the Battalion Athletics Meeting in which "A" Company came second to H.Q. 2 in a very close finish. Company winners were: Hammer, Pte. O'Brien; high jump, 2/Lt. Smith; hop, step and jump, Pte. Peak; and long jump, Cpl. Argent. Cpls. Short and Bonhomme, Ptes. Feathers, Rumsey, Baines, Marchant and Hazelwood were placed in their events. Our greatest success, however, was in the tug-of-war, in which Sgts. Taylor and Callaghan coached both teams to clear success. All this was a most successful meeting for us.

We have been given a second chance in the Albuhera Shield football, and with "H.Q." Company in two parts, we beat H.Q. 1 in a most exciting game in which all our players excelled themselves. We now meet "B" Company in the semi-final. Our cricket team has not yet taken the field, but 2/Lts. Smith and Pitman, and Pte. Peak have played for the Battalion. We hope for success in this field in August, when there is a cricket and hockey month.

Finally, we welcome back to the Company Lt. Deakin, newly married, and wish both him and his wife happy months in B.A.O.R.

"B" COMPANY

When the Company returned from Sennelager, it was found necessary to contract to two platoons. The posted strength of the Company was decreasing rapidly with no foreseeable major reinforcement, and the effective strength was reduced even more by the constant drain imposed upon it by the leave programme. So it was reluctantly decided to close down No. 4 Platoon and post its members to the remaining two platoons. All subsequent training during this quarter has been carried out on this basis, and as far as can be seen, this situation will prevail for some time to come.

A considerable part of the time has been spent in training for long-range patrols. Certain section commanders have become adept at concealing themselves from hostile observation, particularly in the form of the Company Commander. On one occasion he spent most of an afternoon looking for a patrol which was

lying up in the area, and was listening to his movements being reported over the wireless by the patrol at the same time. He still did not find them. Our sympathies on these patrols have gone to the signallers who have accompanied us, for, in addition to their normal kit they have been burdened with a 62-set, which they have carried around on their backs like a Red Indian squaw with her papoose, and they have cared for them with the same degree of mother love.

During the exercise "April Defence," we had as enemy against us, a company from the Royal Hampshires in armoured personnel carriers. There has been a lot of speculation over the capabilities of the infantry against armour, so we would just like to record that No. 6 Platoon succeeded in knocking out one of these A.P.C.s without firing a shot. Indeed, had it not been for the intervention of the Battalion 2IC, it seems likely that we should have been faced with a bill for some £40,000 to buy the Hampshires a new one. When we go to Haltern at the end of this month, the tanks have agreed, somewhat rashly, we feel, and obviously in ignorance of our past achievements, to act as targets for us against our practice Energa grenades. The Company 2IC is busily trying to work out the cost of a new Centurion, including, of course, the Quartermaster's rake-off which always appears as Departmental Expenses.

On the most recent exercise, the Company distinguished itself by assaulting a final objective some good mile from that which was actually held by the enemy. The woods in Germany are very thick indeed! Later, Company H.Q. renewed its experience from "April Defence," by bearing the brunt of the first onslaught of the enemy.

During June we trained with the tanks at Soltau. Once we left the backs of the tanks and took to our feet again, we saw them only as fleeting images through a dense pall of dust. We know they were there because we talked to them over the wireless, and we are told that they destroyed all the targets we asked them to. In fact we learned a lot, both in the field and later in the Company canteen, when the crews came visiting. We are looking forward to renewing our association with them at Haltern, and only hope the dust will not obscure their activities quite as much.

We have not had a great deal of time for company sports. We have been represented in all the Battalion activities, and when we have had the opportunity we have indulged in company competitions. At present the soccer team, still under the able leadership of Carmody, having drawn once, is trying to defeat "A" Company in the semi-finals of the Albuhera Shield competition. The weather is really too hot for football though, and games become rather more of an endurance test than a trial of skill.

We were all very sorry for Sgt. Clements when he injured himself during a trip to the Hartz Mountains with No. 5 Platoon, to act as enemy for the Hampshires on an Internal Security exercise. The platoon had thoroughly enjoyed putting into practice a few of the tricks of our recent enemy in Cyprus, and the exercise had been enlivened by many a brisk skirmish. It was during one of these that Sgt. Clements fell, striking his

head on a tree stump. We are glad to see him out of hospital, even though he is not yet back with the Company. As he finds himself as Sergeants' Mess Caterer, he may be able to attribute his occasional double vision to more customary causes.

We are sorry to lose Cpl. Barnett, Ptes. Wilkins and Hutchins, and such old company stalwarts as Payne and Bone on posting to other companies, and Cpls. Boyce and Lucas and Ptes. Thacker, Dean, Elsbury, Pearce, Swann, Scott, Crackenthorpe, Gardener, Read and Bailey, on return to civilian life.

We welcome L/Cpl. Elvins, Ptes. Murphy, O'Halloran, Amura, Dowdell, Hazell, Thomas and Spencer, and wish them a happy stay with the Company.

"C" COMPANY

The Q.M. has appropriately named us as the "Hobo Company," having spent less than one-quarter of our time in Hameln. Four days after our return from Sennelager we travelled two hundred miles for a N.A.T.O. exercise from April 8 to 22, and we welcomed the Anti-Tank Platoon both to increase our strength and to teach them a few infantry tactics. No. 7 Platoon on detachment, moved a further 150 miles—naturally at "best infantry speed." During the exercise we saw the United States Army, and inevitably certain expressions and ideas were exchanged. The "Chow Line" was quickly substituted for cookhouse queues, and with it came some first class rations too. This was the swan song for No. 9 Platoon, since our small numbers have reduced us to two platoons, and appropriately their map-reading standards were maintained on the return from the exercise. A certain N.C.O. was heard to comment, after arrival in Hameln two hours late: "It's quite amusing in the Army's time, but not so clever in our spare time!"

During May we had two spells of bivouacking on Wittloge Range, as butt markers for the Brigade Rifle Meeting (May 11-14), and also for the Battalion practices during the previous week.

The sight of Sgt. Nicholson's "troupe" performing with the falling plates will long be remembered, and he earned the Brigade Commander's praise—and £12 into the Company funds. We were well represented by 2/Lt. Cowing, C.S.M. Da Costa, Cpls. Evans, Dickens and Stopp, L/Cpls. Shaffner, Hoar and Waters, and Pte. Page (now H.Q.). We arrived back just in time to take part in the Battalion Athletics Meeting and managed to get a very fair proportion in the finals which gained us 3rd place. Finalists were:

200 metres, Cpl. Finnis, 2nd; 400 metres, Cpl. Finis, 4th; 1,500 metres, L/Cpl. Burford, 2nd; hurdles, Pte. Pratty, 1st; weight, Pte. Linford, 6th; long jump, Pte. Brett, 4th; high jump, Pte. Pratty, 3rd; hop, step and jump, L/Cpl. Hoar, 2nd; hammer, L/Cpl. Healey, 4th, Pte. Woodley, 6th; pole vault, 2/Lt. Montgomery, 6th; javelin, 2/Lt. Montgomery, 6th.

Remembering that the all-ranks Albuhera Dance was held on the night prior to the finals—a very satisfactory result.

The Company spent most of the two weeks at Soltau, training with No. 4 Troop of "B" Squadron, commanded by Sgt. Bibby, an amazingly cheerful character,

who greeted us with the simple understatement that the dust had never been so great during the past ten years. Tank recognition may be difficult, but no more than recognising one's friends after a few hours of training on point 119. We welcomed Sgt. Edey in the Company to replace Sgt. Nicholson on the eve of our departure for Soltau, and recognition was satisfactory until the dust attacked his throat and he nearly lost his voice. Congratulations to Sgt. Nicholson on his promotion to C/Sergeant in "D" Company, and also to another absentee, Cpl. Burford, who was unable to be with us there, as his wife produced a daughter, Ann, on June 22.

Infantry/Tank training has many aspects, and whilst travelling on the back of tanks may spare the feet from blistering, it can cause other blisters in more tender spots if you hold or sit on the wrong part. Our particular sympathies go to Cpl. Evans, who suffered severe burns when falling off a tank which lurched the wrong way.

The Battalion exercise "July Goulash" presented us with a very highly seasoned mixture. Having advanced to the River Leine, led by our newly promoted Cpls. Dickens and Cairns wearing their second tapes, and L/Cpl. Murphy sporting his first stripe, we were subjected to an attack by 21 S.A.S. whose fitness as weekend soldiers impressed us greatly. Our wireless training certainly had its moments, and no doubt Pte. Brown (78) knows how easy it is to be captured if you talk too loudly on the set. "How do you hear me?" was a very frequent bleat during the five-day period, and particularly in the last phase when we reverted to Watching and Warding. No. 8 Platoon were indeed disturbed to find the enemy on their container position without firing a shot before they had reached it themselves—better luck next time.

"Men may come and men may go"—It is a sobering thought that by the time these notes are printed less than ten men were in "C" Company in Cyprus, eleven months ago. Our losses to civilian life include Cpls. Dennis, McNicholas and Stone (arms storeman of long standing), Ptes. Howells, Snellings, Virrells and Buckley, and that well-known figure, Pte. Jager (signs of relief from the Medical Officer). Our best wishes go with all of them.

Pte. Mulvaney has gone to Battalion H.Q. as batman to Capt. Hayward and Pte. Fitzgerald to the M.T. We have also lost Pte., now L/Cpl., Page to the Regimental Police, and Pte. Brett to the Corps of Drums. Sgt. Martin left for the Regimental Depot at the beginning of July, and we hear that Sgt. Kerr will be joining the 8th Battalion in the winter. In all cases their gain is indeed our loss.

The Albuhera Shield is once again reaching an interesting stage. We have won our way to the final in the football with a confident team chosen from Cpls. Young, Stopp and Burford, L/Cpl. Waters, Ptes. Stewart, Gatward, Beachamp, Williams, Woodley and Pratty. In August we are due to play both the cricket and hockey competitions on a knock-out basis and our main hope is in the luck of the draw.

Looking back over the past quarter, let us be thankful for the small mercies, cheap cigarettes, dry weather, the odd week-end in Hameln—what more can you ask?

"D" COMPANY

In a flurry of Battalion exercises and field training, "D" Company has maintained a steady course, seldom venturing beyond the Hameln training area. Another N.C.O.s' cadre has come and gone, and a new one is under way. In June a draft arrived from the Depot and was put through four weeks' continuation training, which finished just in time for another draft to take their place. To train these recruits 2/Lt. Robertson, Sgt. Lloyd, Cpls. Barnett, Evans, Howlett and Short were posted to the Company. We congratulate C/Sgt. Simmons on his promotion, even though this meant that we lost him to "A" Company. Sgt. Nicholson has joined us to take his place as acting C.Q.M.S. Sgt. Edey has also left us and returned to "C" Company. His place with the N.C.O.s' cadre has been filled by Sgt. Turner, whom we congratulate on his promotion.

We were sorry to lose our arms storeman, Pte. Smith, on compassionate discharge, and wish him all good fortune on his return to civilian life. His job has been taken over by Pte. Ryan.

"S" COMPANY

Company H.Q. has in the past seldom been mentioned in these notes. They do, however, exist. Major Clayden has now had the opportunity of getting to know the Company both on and off parade.

The Company has featured in a variety of roles since May. Life has certainly been far from monotonous, and it can be said without hesitation that we have not had time to vegetate.

C.S.M. Firman found the living during our stay at Hohne and Sotau a little too rich for him. This speaks highly of C.Q.M.S. Eastap's excellent messing while out of barracks; his porridge is renowned for its smoothness. Pte. Pasqual, apart from keeping us cheerful, has cooked most of our food and we have had no grounds for complaints. Pte. Campbell, the company clerk, still managed to function without a typewriter. Most of his time is taken up in the submission of returns and working out our leave dates.

The company storemen change so frequently that it is difficult to keep pace with their movements. In spite of this, our deficiencies are negligible. The storemen having been Nicholson, Church, Adamson and Parmenter. Pte. Thomas still drives the Company Commander, in spite of many near misses. He shows a distinct disinclination to camouflaging his vehicle and refuses to drive about looking like a bush. Pte. Hooker, when he is not on leave, looks after the O.C. It is hoped that the experience which he is gaining will be of value to him, as it is believed that he is engaged, and shortly will be married.

In order of happening, the Company's activities have been:—May 19: Battalion Athletics Meeting. May 24-29: Field-firing on Hohne Range. June 6: Fire-power Demonstration. June 8: Guard of Honour for the Colonel of the Regiment. June 14-27: Field training at Soltau. July 3-8: Enemy for Exercise "July Goulash." July 14-18: Exercise "Blind Mouse II." July 14-16: Border patrol.

MORTAR PLATOON

The Platoon has been quite active this quarter; a start was made with a week's firing on Hohne Ranges when 300 bombs were fired with good results. It was noticed, however, that familiarity with drills is apt to breed careless handling, which is dangerous when the safety of our own troops is involved. Nevertheless the shooting was good. Safety requirements of the range prevented the weapons being demonstrated to the best advantage. Every member of the Platoon was given the opportunity of acting as No. 1 during the field-firing.

At Soltau we were able to practise our drills for war, including the occupation of a position by night. A number of lessons were learned, particularly as regards map-reading.

On exercise "Goulash" the Platoon excelled itself both in its capacity as enemy, and on the home side for the defence of a vulnerable point against the determined and energetic attacks of 21 S.A.S. Night ambushes and attacks were enthusiastically carried out. Later we provided a border patrol in the Southern Sector, with H.Q. at Duderstadt. This was a pleasant change and a rest.

We are looking forward to more shooting with 113 Locating Battery later in the year, when we shall be giving them an opportunity of testing their tracking equipment.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

The Platoon has at last had the satisfaction of zeroing and firing its mobsats. The annual allotment of ammunition has been fired with good results. The Hohne ranges provided hard targets and some excellent movers. Every man in the Platoon, including the drivers, tried his hand at firing. The accuracy at moving targets improved with practice, and at the end of ten days' firing, all rounds were finding their mark.

We practised our drills for the various phases of war at Soltau, and valuable experience was gained in the siting of guns in defiladed positions, and in digging and concealment. The latter was brought out when Pte. Hamling, having concealed his truck in a position only ten yards from the road, was so invisible that he was left behind when we moved.

Under Lt. Waite a successful night fighting patrol was carried out during exercise "Goulash." A prisoner was taken from "A" Company, one Pte. Silverman, who was offered in lieu of a signaller by the signaller himself. No doubt the latter knew the distance, some 9,000 yds. to be precise, which he would be called upon to walk if he could not evade capture.

ASSAULT PIONEER SECTION

The section has been misemployed through force of circumstances. They completed three weeks' cadre with 29 Field Squadron, from which they obtained a very good report. Since this they have dug and camouflaged a command post which was shown to, and admired by, the Colonel of the Regiment. A number of charges have been laid and detonated. Apart from this, the section's time has been spent in digging a variety of holes, of a variety of shapes and sizes, for a variety of reasons and purposes, and of course in filling in these

holes when they were no longer required. We are now becoming booby-trap minded. We think it will keep the remainder of the Company on their toes, and accordingly we hereby issue a warning to them all to stay alert!

COMPANY CREDITS

1. Cpl. Miles is congratulated on his excellent P.T. Course result. It is hoped to send him back to England soon on P.T. and Mortar Courses.
2. Lts. Cheesman and Waite, L/Cpl. Roberts, Ptes. Pasqual, Hamling and Stamford have represented the Battalion in athletics.
3. Lt. Cheesman and Sgt. Seager have represented the Battalion in swimming.
4. We congratulate Sgt. Pritchard and Cpl. Varley on their respective promotions.
5. The following have been released: Cpl. Lavell, Ptes. Fuller, Godbolt, Brazier, Telfer, Frith, Marriott, King, Parmenter, Wood, Terney and Peet. We wish them every success in civilian life.
6. Certain members of the Company have moved to less arduous duties. L/Cpl. Brown, Ptes. Sherlock and Benad to "H.Q." Company; Cpl. Long to "A" Company; and Sgt. Lloyd to "D" Company.
7. We welcome Cpl. Miles, L/Cpl. Shearing, Ptes. Young, Stewart, Bartlett and Greening to the Company.
8. We congratulate L/Cpl. Gilbert and his wife on the birth of a son.

THE BELGIAN KOREAN VETERANS' ANNUAL REUNION, 1959

By Capt. C. L. Lawrence, M.C.

The invitation was for two "Veterans of Korea" to an all ranks dance, a memorial service followed by a march past, and a banquet.

So Saturday, April 25, saw Sgt. Simmons and myself setting out for Cologne where the reunion was to be held this year. I was a bit doubtful about two things—the first being the word "veteran," a description I have always associated with Chelsea Pensioners, and the second being the length of time it would take to cover the two hundred odd miles. Any scruples I had about the first were quickly smothered by the thought of a week-end with the Belgians, and three and a half hours answered the second satisfactorily. I suspect Sgt. Simmons was equally doubtful if we could get there and back safely (I was driving). We did.

Having arrived at Cologne, the next task was to find the rendezvous—the Belgian Officers' Club. We had been given very clear directions by Corps, but they had omitted to tell us which exit from the Autobahn to take. However, a body labelled "Guide" undertook to accompany us for a "small fee."

The Officers' Club was a pleasant surprise. Built by the Belgians themselves, it was situated on the edge of a lake and surrounded by trees, the whole being in a corner of Cologne's vast park-cum-sports-arena.

We were greeted by Col. Guerise of the Belgian Medical Corps, a most remarkable man. He spent the war in the Royal Navy, Belgian Resistance and various concentration camps, and served in Korea as M.O. to

the Belgian Battalion. He holds every Belgian decoration, and a large number of Allied ones, including the G.C., D.S.O., and D.S.C.

The warrant officers and sergeants were now whisked off to the Military Hospital, it probably being the safest place for them, and the officers, after a most excellent meal, were taken to their hotel in the depths of the city. The hotel was a tall, narrow building and I, as luck would have it, was allocated to the fourth and top floor. The showers in this hotel were of great interest—they squirted water at you from literally all directions.

A quick change and were all off to the all ranks dance. It was very similar to any other all ranks dance, except that the standard of female was particular high. Another feature was the enthusiasm with which the band played. We received a great welcome and were given all manner of things to drink, and were finally returned to our hotel at about 3 a.m.

Sunday started with a memorial service and mass, and I was rather surprised to see a guard of honour, complete with steel helmets and fixed bayonets, lining the aisle. I was also surprised to see that the chairs were obviously facing the wrong direction; luckily I didn't sit down, as of course they were kneelers.

After the service there was a short parade and march past. Veterans Branches from all over Belgium were well represented and part of the proceedings was taken

up with the presentation of a standard to one of the branches. The parade was commanded by a Colonel in the Belgian Air Force who was obviously well known to all the veterans.

From the parade we were ushered into a large hall for a reception, lasting about two hours. It was really a midday cocktail party and we found ourselves chatting merrily to all grades of people—from Generals to Privates, civilians, merchant seamen and the Belgian equivalent of Uncle Tom Cobby.

By 2 p.m. we were feeling a little weary and were more than ready to be ushered into the banquet, which we did not leave till 5.15 p.m. We had six courses, a different wine with each, and numerous speeches, some in French, some in Flemish and two in English. Nearly everyone had brought either his wife or girl friend along, so the atmosphere was akin to that of a vast but happy family. Before finally departing we were all presented with a beer mug bearing the flash worn by the Belgian army in Korea, a roaring lions head superimposed on a shield bearing the Belgian national colours.

It was a wonderful week-end and one that we all thoroughly enjoyed. But what struck us most was the complete informality of the proceedings, coupled with a most sincere attitude of friendliness shown by everyone towards us. The Belgians are very definitely pro-British.

Depot Notes

TRAINING COMPANY

This quarter has seen the end of our plan for conversion from the No. 4 to the Self-loading Rifle. Q.M.S.I. Timblich (S.A.S.C.) visited us for three days in early April and put all the N.C.O.s, who had not done the unit cadre on the S.L.R., through a quick but comprehensive course and, at the end, tested all our training N.C.O.s by giving them T.S.O.E.T. on the S.L.R. and Sterling S.M.G. The results were most encouraging and the Q.M.S.I. was well pleased.

This quarter has had its quota of drafts going to 1st Middlesex, passing-out parades and arrival of new intakes. We welcomed the 56th Intake on April 16, watched the passing-out parade of 55th Intake on May 14, and 56th Intake parade on June 26. The small regular platoon, Inkerman, left for the Battalion on April 3 and the 55th Intake draft on June 10 with Lt. Lloyd in charge. This seems quite a complicated programme, so a consolidated report listing prize-winners, etc., is published at the end of these notes.

We have seen a lot of 8th Middlesex here during the recent months, and in particular they staged three separate recruit training week-ends in barracks, on April 18, May 23 and June 20. We also supplied a range butt party for their battalion rifle meeting on May 3 which consisted of Lt. McManus, with N.C.O.s and men of 55th Intake.

The recruiting season is beginning to warm up and various schemes are being put into operation. Our most successful one is the offer of free board and lodging to any man of the right type who says he would like to join the Regiment. Some of these men stay here for several weeks before being enlisted as soldiers. Generally speaking the scheme works well, and our soldiers have done all they can to make the "civvies" feel at home.

The Company Commander was invited to talk to the Whetstone Sea Cadets on May 5. He did what he could, but complained of acute embarrassment in trying to convert passionate young sailors into future "Die-Hards." No sailors have appeared yet, but perhaps time will alter that.

On April 15 we received our latest arrival from the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion. This time it was Pte. Green, who was promptly appointed Lance-Corporal and, together with Cpls. Scott and Hebbes and Pte. Hatfield, were sent up to Earls Court to man the Recruiting Stand during the course of the year's Royal Tournament.

The positive results of this stand were disappointing, but it is certain that a great many more young men and boys have the name of the Regiment more firmly imprinted in their minds than before the Royal Tournament, and a lot of Regimental literature was distributed.

Albuhara Day was celebrated a day early at the Depot this year because the Whitsun Holiday was due to start A.D. May 15, 1959. We did, however, have some inter-platoon football, and the usual bumper lunch served by the officers and sergeants in the men's dining hall to mark the occasion. The lunch really was excellent, as was reflected by the hungry stares and dilated mouths of the waiters!

We have as usual had a number of visits from the Army Cadet Force, including one by the Kent A.C.F. Regiment, R.E., who were shown round the camp, taken to the Museum and fired the FN rifle. They finished up by sharing the usual splendid lunch in the main dining hall.

Mill Hill School cadets have staged another of their daring night raids on camp. This time they had to estimate the strength of the guard and plot the beats of the sentries on self-made maps. They also combined with Harrow C.C.F. to christen our new assault course, which is now fully in operation.

This quarter we have said good-bye to Lt. McManus, Cpls. Corbridge and Stevens, L/Cpls. Cornish and Fenwick, Ptes. Grimwood, Moynihan, Saunders and West, and have welcomed here on the permanent staff Lt. Gilham, who now lives with his wife only a few hundred yards from the barrack gates. We wish them a happy stay here. Other newcomers are Sgt. Rosser (our Education Sergeant), and Ptes. Dowers, Murrells, Scott, Tassell, Chinner, Gilham, and Light. We have also seen, but very briefly, 2/Lts. Robertson and Dubbery who were both on the way from Mons Officer Cadet School to 1st Middlesex. They were until recently recruits at the Depot.

May they have a successful tour in Germany. As these notes end we are just starting to work up a head of steam for our annual administrative inspection,

which takes place on July 22 and will be fully reported in the next issue.

Passing-Out Parade

The 55th Intake passed out on May 14. The Mayor of Hornsey, Alderman G. Watson, took the salute and the band was provided by the Home Counties Brigade Junior Band.

Prize-winners were as follows:

Best All-Round Recruit: 23611601 Pte. T. Chillingworth.

Best Regular Recruit: 23661252 Pte. R. Murphy.

Highest Physical Efficiency: 23611593 Pte. J. Nowell.

Best Rifle Shot: 23701277 Pte. B. Skinner.

Best L.M.G. Shot: 23611604 Pte. R. Elliot.

The 56th Intake passed out on June 26 in front of the Mayor of Hendon, Councillor S. D. Graves. Again the Home Counties Brigade Junior Band provided the music.

Prize-winners were as follows:

Best All-Round Recruit: 23620316 Pte. R. Dalton.

Best Regular Recruit: 23708371 Pte. J. Nihil.

Best Rifle Shot: 23618496 Pte. R. Forder.

Best L.M.G. Shot: 23618491 Pte. A. Collins.

Highest Physical Efficiency: 23618494 Pte. D. Everard.

CRICKET

Out of eleven matches due to be played so far this year, five have had to be cancelled for various reasons, and one was abandoned half-way because of rain. Of these five cancelled games, one was due to rain, one because we could not produce a side, and the other three because the opposition cried off at the last moment—a truly dismal position.

Of the matches played so far, we have won two against Depot the Queens Royal Regiment and Depot the Royal Fusiliers. We drew with a War Office Military XI and lost to Depot East Surrey Regiment and H.Q. London District.

We failed again this year to survive the first round of the London District Knock-out competition, being defeated by a very powerful H.Q. London District side.

However, the Depot XI always enjoys its Wednesday afternoon cricket and we still have a few more games before the end of the season in which we hope to improve the situation.

A more detailed report will be given in the next number of the Journal.

OFFICERS' MESS

Times change. A MIXED luncheon party was held in the Mess on Sunday, April 26, 1959. One feels the date should go down in history, as far as this Depot is concerned. In spite of opposition from certain quarters, it must be admitted that the experiment was most successful, and it has been decided to have more of these as suitable opportunities occur.

Part of the following week was spent in obtaining offers for items of silver and plate put up for sale, but for which no bids had been made. In all, five firms were approached, and what was left was sold in groups.

It is interesting to note that over twice the original offer was obtained for Group 1, and Group 4 rose from £3 to £25!

Col. Green came and stayed with us for two nights early in May when he took part in the Spring Golf Meeting at Hendon. He also spent three nights here in June, and another in July.

Pte. Saunders, a waiter in the Mess, finished his National Service on May 7 and went back to civilian life. Being a french polisher, he should be able to keep his head above water, and he has our best wishes.

Not many people, unfortunately, came up here after the Home Counties Brigade Golf Meeting which was held at Hendon on May 7, but we were delighted to see those who did.

The passing-out parade on May 14 was taken by the Mayor of Hornsey, who lunched in the Mess beforehand.

That evening we held our Albuhara Dinner here; this was on account of Whitsun leave. The number attending was satisfactory, 29 in all. Douglas Sax unfortunately mistook the date and arrived, in full regalia 24 hours late. (If one WILL celebrate Albuhara on a day other than May 16, what can you expect? This doesn't, however, account for his arrival on the 15th!)

Incidentally, has anybody got a forage cap that doesn't belong to him? Two went astray somewhere that evening, and two have been discovered here, but neither belongs to either of the officers who reported them as lost. All very strange, but the hospitality of the Sergeants' Mess has been known to cause many strange things to happen on other occasions! Any clues would be welcomed.

Albuhara activities continued on the 15th, and after the customary visit from members of the Sergeants' Mess, and attending dinners in the dining hall, most people went on leave.

Tony McManus left us that day for 1st Middlesex and is replaced by Malcolm Gilham. Our best wishes to the former, and welcome to Malcolm and his wife.

The end of May brought a sitting board here in an endeavour to find a Mess for the Home Postal Depot Royal Engineers who had been turned out of their London home. This resulted in the Q.M.'s tied quarter in these barracks being converted into a H.P.D.R.E. Mess. They had shared our Mess from the end of March until mid-June. They were about 20 in number, so their departure depleted us very considerably. We see them from time to time as they accepted our invitation to consider themselves honorary members of our Mess; in consequence, we meet the R.N.R. and A.E.R. with whom we have been associated for so many years.

John Moore put in an appearance at the end of May, having returned from Kenya. After a few days he went on leave, and returned in mid-July to audit the accounts, prior to joining the 1st Battalion.

"Ginger" Lawrence spent a couple of nights here at the beginning of June; we do not see him often, unfortunately, as he lives so far away.

Brigadier Weston stayed a few nights during Cricket Week. On the last day of the week the Sandhurst Wanderers, under the care of Major Russell, had supper with us.

The Regimental At Home was somewhat poorly attended, but was most enjoyable nevertheless, and the weather was very kind; no doubt this function will be repeated more fully elsewhere.

The proposed tennis tournament fell through for want of support. This was a pity, and it is hoped that next year things may be different.

Passing-out parade on June 26 brought the Mayor of Hendon here; he lunched with us before the parade.

Dick and Dollie Smith celebrated their silver wedding on June 27, and we sent them our greetings.

A master and three boys from Highgate School came to lunch on the 30th.

Our good wishes go to those who have left the Service. Kim Honess and Hugh Evans spent some time here attending courses designed to help them in civilian life. Hugh, most unfortunately, had to go out on a disability pension. He is now living in London, and we sincerely hope he may soon find congenial employment.

P.S.—Re our last notes: Tony McManus *did* succeed in celebrating Albuhara Day, both here and with the Battalion. He should have entered for the *Daily Mail* Bleriot Anniversary race!

SERGEANTS' MESS

The celebration of Albuhara Day was the major event of the last quarter. A luncheon party was held in the Mess, 38 serving members attended. After the passing-out parade and the beating of retreat, which is reported elsewhere, a photograph was planned. It was ill-timed, however, as a number of our members were unable to attend. We hope the Editor will still consider it interesting enough for publication. The officers and their guests visited us later and an Albuhara Ball marked the end of a most enjoyable day. On the following morning we descended in traditional style on the Officers' Mess, where we were most cordially and hospitably received, thankful that we still had a long Whitsun week-end to recover from the effects of the celebrations.

On June 5 we had our annual outing to the races at Epsom, and this year we invited the ladies to join us. Though the weather was dull when we left Mill Hill, we arrived in glorious sunshine and in high spirits on the Downs. One of our guests miraculously tipped five out of six winners, and so most had a very profitable day. Eats, drinks and music we had in plenty, the menu included such delicacies as fried ants, roasted grasshoppers and bottled caterpillars. The talent scout of the Rank Film Organisation came to visit us, and many are now awaiting the results of their film tests. Sgt. Grasby, our "Petit Etoile," has already appeared in glorious Technicolor at the Odeon, Leicester Square, an "X" film for those who are interested—keep your children away!

On June 18 the Annual Sports Tournament with the Finchley Police was held at the Depot. This year we were lucky to be able to use the tentage at the end of the Regimental Cricket Week. During the afternoon, though we had many guest players, we were outnumbered by our rivals by 4 to 1. A most entertaining cricket match, we lost by 2 wickets, was held at the same time as the shooting competition. We won on all



WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS. GROUP TAKEN AT THE DEPOT ON ALBUHERA DAY, 1959

Back row: Sgt. Power, Sgt. Bolam, Sgt. Reynolds, Sgt. Allsopp (R. Sussex), Sgt. Redmond, Sgt. Ford, Sgt. Speakman, Sgt. Rosser (R.A.E.C.), Sgt. Grasby (R.A.P.C.), Sgt. Medland (R.A.P.C.).
 Centre row: Ex-C/Sgt. Powell, Sgt. Weller, Drum-Major Rutherford (Surreys), C/Sgt. Grogan, Sgt. Askew (Gren. Gds.), Sgt. Chaffer (Surreys), S/Sgt. Bristow (A.P.T.C.), Sgt. Lagden, Sgt. Moran, Lt. (Q.M.) Redpath, B.E.M.
 Front row: C.S.M. Holdford, B.E.M., C.S.M. Thorogood, C.S.M. Etheridge, C.S.M. Burgess, R.S.M. Wild, R.S.M. Kenrick, R.S.M. Thom, C.S.M. Davies, O.R.Q.M.S. Soper, B.E.M., C.S.M. Cubitt.

weapons, in spite of some specially selected pistol shots brought along by the Police. Sgt. Banks excelled himself that day by not only feeding everybody in fine style, but also taking part himself in the cricket and many other competitions. We lost the darts, snooker and the football. We won the tiddly-winks, crib and the boat-race. The day's sport ended in a draw. Music and entertainment supplied by the Musicads was supplemented by a host of talented individuals amongst our guests. A grand day's entertainment was the general verdict. The day ended in a pleasant way for us. A silver tankard inscribed "To the Sergeants' Mess, Depot, The Middlesex Regiment. In appreciation of good times spent together. From the Police Force of Golders Green and Finchley, June 1959," was presented by Detective-Sgt. Cooper on behalf of the Police. The R.S.M. thanked him on behalf of all the Depot members, and expressed a wish that this cordial and happy relationship would flourish in the years ahead. A feature of the day worthy of special mention was the inclusion in our shooting team of the great "Die-Hard" "Busty" Hull who, when he heard we required reinforcement, volunteered to shoot for us. He came along to learn the working of the new S.L. rifle and Sterling M.G., and put up a very creditable performance in the winning team. What a fine spirit! Well done, "Busty"! Subsequently we had the honour of entertaining to lunch Superintendent Whale and Chief-Inspector Robb of "S" Division, who arranged some interesting outings and visits for our members.

July brought the annual inspection and all the work

that it entails. It took place on the 22nd. On the 23rd the Commanding Officer kindly granted permission for a combined Sergeants-Corporals dance and social in the Sergeants' Mess. Our only comment is that our members thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as we are sure that the Corporals will undoubtedly comment for themselves. Roy Swain and his Band were in excellent form musically. After all the tumult and the shouting in preparation for the 22nd, the 23rd was a welcome relief.

R.S.M. McMillan, home for a short holiday, gave us a pleasant surprise by accepting our invitation to attend on the very day he arrived. We hope to see both him and Mrs. McMillan again before they return to the 1st Battalion.

Arrivals, departures and visitors have been less numerous since the 1st Battalion went to B.A.O.R. W.O.2 Redpath, B.E.M., visited us as a W.O.2 one day, and the next as a Lieutenant (Q.M.). We heartily congratulate him on his promotion, and wish him a pleasant tour in Nigeria. Sgt. Davies (Band) and Sgt. Jolly stayed with us prior to returning to civil life. Good luck to them both. Sgt. Martin, home from the 1st Battalion to take up special recruiting duties at Kentish Town and Finchley is now staying with us and our parking space outside the Mess is about full up; there is just about enough room for Sgt. Blackwell's scooter. Sgt. Horder visited us prior to taking up his duties at Mons O.C.S. Sgt. Callaghan, now 8th Battalion, left his mark, though we have seen all too little of him since his return home. Our week-end tranquillity is

being frequently disturbed by the 8th Battalion training week-ends at the Depot. We are always very pleased to see so many of their W.O.s and Sergeants and hope they enjoy coming. We are interested to know how they manage to get such a following of Pressmen and TV Cameramen in their wake.

R.S.M. and Mrs. Pat Moloney, now L.I.R. Chelsea, spent an evening with us and enjoyed themselves. Ex-Sgt. Bill Rout (Chester and Crowborough), now "governor" of "The Angel," Edmonton, came along on the 23rd with Mrs. Rout. They wish to be remembered to all their old friends. Ex-C/Sgt. Phillip Robinson (2nd Battalion), has promised to visit us; we look forward to seeing him. W.O.1 Syd Coleman, that great athlete from the 2nd Battalion and A.P.T.C., paid a surprise call on us one lunch time, and was surprised to find so many changes in places and faces. He sends his best wishes to all those he knows.

Sgt. Shinn popped in to say Hello on his way back to Plymouth. We would have liked to have seen more of the five Sergeant Instructors from the Junior Leaders' Battalion who stayed with us for only one night before returning to Plymouth with a contingent of Junior Leaders who came for the Trooping of the Colour.

A number of our stalwarts are soon to leave us—O.R.Q.M.S. Soper, C/Sgt. Markham, C/Sgt. Hockley, B.E.M., and Sgt. Grasby, R.A.P.C. We shall miss them all very much. They are to be relieved by O.R.Q.M.S. Colebeck, Sgt. Buckley, C/Sgt. Eastap and Sgt. Agness respectively. The dates of their departures and arrivals are not yet known to us, so more about these events in our next issue.

The Brigade Colonel, Col. H. R. Grace, visited the Mess on July 14. He again brought us up to date on developments and progress for the opening of the new Brigade Depot at Canterbury. He confirmed that we are not likely to move from Inglis Barracks before 1961, being the last Depot in the Brigade to do so, postponing that historical date that every "Die-Hard" will regret to see.

At the time of going to press many of our members are eagerly looking forward to long-awaited leave and hoping for a continuation of the glorious sunshine we are now enjoying.

Happy holidays and sunny days to all those lucky ones and to all our readers.

To those who are leaving us before our next publication, we extend our best wishes and the best of luck to them in their future endeavours.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Let us start these notes by bringing to notice the activities on the social side that have been held in the Club over the last quarter.

On July 2 a very successful evening was had by all in the form of a social given by Cpl. Hanshaw ("Jeep") on his retirement from the service after 23 years as a "Die-Hard." The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess was invited and a very good time was had by one and all, with "Jeep" keeping himself amply supplied with his favourite tonic (gin).

All members contributed to a farewell gift of a table lighter which was presented by Major Smith, and it is

with deepest regret that we say good-bye to a staunch "Die-Hard." But we all wish him every success in his civvy life and hope he will visit us as often as possible.

Immediately after this all members settled down and got ready for the annual administrative inspection, which was held on July 22, and many members could be seen at night giving their kits that sly little extra clean, etc., which all helped to get an admirable report on the day.

Again, on July 23 the Club had a most enjoyable evening, when the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Club had a combined social in the senior ranks mess, and drinking and dancing was enjoyed by all, an excellent buffet was laid on and everybody did it justice. The two bars manned by Sgt. Grasby, Cpls. Herbert and Wood were kept busy with the drinking side, and there were a few bleary eyes on parade the following morning, but I'm sure that all Club members would like to thank the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess members for being such congenial hosts and giving us a wonderful evening.

On the subject of promotions, we would like to welcome L/Cpls. Arney, Bennett, Chillingworth, Gordon, Everard and Cosgrove to the Club, and extend to them our heartfelt congratulations, also not forgetting Cpls. Scott and Whittle on their promotion to Corporal (congratulations!).

We would also like to send our best wishes to L/Cpls. Fenwick and Moore, who have departed from us and joined the 1st Battalion in Germany, and hope their stay in the Battalion is a happy one.

We have lost two staunch members this last quarter, namely, Cpls. Stevens and Corbridge, and we hope that Civvy Street is treating them well.

On the sporting side the Club has done very little this quarter, but we hope to achieve something in the coming quarter and, if successful, it will appear in a later issue.

MUSEUM NOTES

Two shooting prizes of the old 36th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers have recently been presented to the Museum by Mr. D. C. Eaton. One is a cup, the other a pewter pot. The inscriptions are as follows:

Cup.—Presented by Pte. R. Whitaker, 36 Middlesex Rifles. Won by Pte. H. Wood, 36 Middlesex Rifles, October 1871.

Pewter pot.—36 Middlesex R.V. Presented by Capt. White, won by Pte. H. G. Wood, November 1876.

It may seem surprising that a private should present a cup, but in the past the members of the Volunteers were often men of wealth and position. In years gone by the Duke of Clarence, afterwards King William IV, served in a Middlesex unit as a full private! Dante Gabriel Rossetti was also a private in the Marylebone Volunteers, ancestors to our 9th Battalion. A report on the unit said its members were "physicians, artists, literary men, and the leading tradesmen of the borough."

Another interesting addition to the Museum exhibits is a drum banner of the 2nd Regiment of Infantry, French Foreign Legion, who are the descendants of the Second Legion sent to Spain to fight with the French Forces commanded by Marshal Soult in the

Peninsular War. This unit fought against the 57th at the Battle of Albuhera.

This banner is one used at the present time and is presented by Pte. R. W. Cousins, a recruit to the Regiment now at the Depot who has previously served with the French Foreign Legion.

Extract of notes supplied by Pte. Cousins:

The drummer's flag is used on dress occasions in all units of the French Army since the 1680s, and was originally put on the drum to protect it from dirt. This flag presented is one used today in the 2nd Regiment of Infanterie, F.F.L., who are the descendents of the Second Legion.

With the coming of Napoleon into power he formed a corps of mercenary soldiers of various nationalities—mainly Swiss or Belgians—to be used as shock troops of the first battle order, for the main reason of their doubtful pasts and a common objective—to serve their officers to the last.

The Second Legion which fought in Spain was mainly composed of troops who were of Germanic derivation, and as a result everyone in the unit spoke a mixture of French and German; the original Legion French.

Notable in the history of the unit stands out the name of Albuhera, where the Second Legion fought under bad climatic conditions (a *brouillard*) against a Regiment of English troops identified as the "Dur à Cîève," or Hard to Kill—The Die-Hards—who had at the very start of the battle of Albuhera captured a drummer and a clarion (bugler).

When space permits, further notes will be published giving details of this unit and of the service of Pte. Cousins with the Foreign Legion. R.W.J.S.

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE NEWSLETTER NO. 4

There has been such a lengthy pause since News Letter No. 3 made its appearance that there is a faint possibility that some readers of this Journal may have started wondering whether by any chance the series had come to an end. Let me reassure those who had feared that that might be the case, and at the same time commiserate with the remainder.

The Brigade Golf Meeting, held at the Hendon Golf Club under the auspices of the Depot, The Middlesex Regiment, was about to take place when the last letter went to print. Although the meeting is now just over three months ago it serves usefully as a kicking-off point for this letter. There was a most satisfactorily large entry, the weather was kind, the arrangements were good and, to coin a phrase, "an enjoyable time was had by all." To judge from the results the day could almost be described as a "Royal Sussex benefit," for they won not only the Regimental Cup and the Regimental Foursomes Cup, but Major Shields and Capt. Johnson, also of the Regiment, walked off with the prize for the best foursomes score. However, The East Surrey Regiment and The Queen's Own were both represented in the prize list, so that to a certain degree honour was satisfied.

The Brigade Colonel was prevented at the eleventh

hour from attending, much to his disappointment. He had only just returned from a most enjoyable, though strenuous, ten-day visit to the 1st Battalions of The Queen's, The Buffs and The Middlesex Regiment in B.A.O.R., and was due to take off for Cyprus for a shorter, though equally enjoyable and strenuous, visit to the 1st Battalion of The Queen's Own the following day. By means of these visits—which, according to his Charter, the Brigade Colonel must make twice a year to battalions in England and B.A.O.R. and once a year anywhere else in the world—he is enabled to keep closely in touch with commanding officers and their problems and is also able to see, and be seen by, as many officers, W.O.s and sergeants as possible. While this is undoubtedly a very considerable pleasure and privilege for him, there is invariably the thought in the back of his mind that the reverse is not necessarily always the case.

Those readers who are in any way Museum-minded will be interested to know the score about the Brigade Museum. This is to be established in the building in Howe Barracks, Canterbury (the Brigade Depot's future home but at present the home of The Buffs Depot), now occupied by The Buffs Museum. Exactly when the change will take place is problematical, but in the meanwhile the Curator-designate, Mr. Woodcock, who lives in Canterbury, has been far from idle. He has been visiting all six Regimental Museums, asking for exhibits and items, planning his lay-out, and generally being extremely busy. He has also been liaising with the author-to-be of the Brigade Short History, Major Blaxland, who was invalided out of The Buffs some five years ago and who now lives near Canterbury. He has contracted to produce, towards the end of October, a 9-10,000 word history, culled from all the six regimental histories, and it is of the greatest importance that the Museum Curator and the historian should be closely associated with one another; history in books must obviously be intimately connected with history visible in a museum.

There have been two meetings of the Council of Colonels since the last letter was published, one at the end of May and the other two months later. It was at the July meeting that the Council learned with regret that Lt-General G. C. Bucknall was giving up his appointment as Colonel of The Middlesex Regiment. His successor will be Col. J. F. Willoughby, whom many readers will know already, and whom all ranks will wish to congratulate on his appointment.

The Representative Colonel for the coming twelve months will be Maj-Gen. V. Boucher, Colonel of The Buffs, who succeeds General Sir Lashmer G. Whistler, Colonel of The Royal Sussex Regiment, at the next meeting in September.

Two further changes in the composition of the Council can be foreseen. On October 14, Maj-Gen. J. F. Metcalfe will become the first Colonel of the newly formed Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, which means that Maj-Gen. J. Y. Whitfield and Brigadier G. R. P. Roupell, the last Colonels of, respectively, The Queen's and The East Surrey Regiment, will be seen no more at Council meetings. And Lt-Gen. Sir William P. Oliver, Colonel of The Queen's Own, whose recent

appointment as High Commissioner in Australia has given such pleasure to so many, will be succeeded by Maj-Gen. D. E. B. Talbot. Thus by the autumn the Council will have taken on a somewhat different appearance and will be one less in number.

The Depot of The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment—the interim name, until amalgamation, of what will become on October 14 the Depot The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment—has established itself at Canterbury since the last letter was written, under the command of Major D. C. Snowdon (Queens), with Capt. G. Mason (Surreys) as his Adjutant. They have been busily engaged in setting up shop and opened their doors to their first recruit intake on August 6.

The Royal Sussex Regiment's part in the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court cannot be allowed to pass without a mention. This year being the bicentenary of the Battle of Quebec, in which the Regiment fought and at which they achieved the Roussillon Plume which is part of their cap badge, it was entirely fitting that the 1st Battalion, staging at Lingfield for six months or so *en route* from Gibraltar to Northern Ireland, should portray certain episodes from that battle. This they did with distinction and much gusto, and on the night that the Colonel of the Regiment was in the Royal Box it seemed as though the whole of Sussex had made the journey to Earl's Court. A week or so later their Regimental Ball in the Royal Pavilion at Brighton was another splendid and colourful evening.

Early in July the Brigade Colonel went, first to Exeter and then to Stanmore, to select his "first XI" of W.O.s and sergeants, and then of officers, to serve on the Brigade Depot Staff as from April 1 next year. As he has said on numerous occasions, only the best available—no matter whether they are officers or N.C.O.s, bandsmen, drummers, weapon-training experts or educators—will be accepted in appointments at the Brigade Depot. Those selected for the particularly important task of getting the Depot off to a good start will soon be informed of the fact; it will be no inconsiderable tribute to their capabilities and professional skill that they have been so chosen. As far as it has been possible to do so, the staff will be representative of all regiments in the Brigade, but it will be obvious to even the meanest intelligence that, because of the closure of two Depots—The Queen's Surreys and The Royal Sussex—at the same time as the Brigade Depot forms, the preponderance of the lower ranks will come from those two regiments. As time goes on, however, representation from all regiments will become more evenly distributed.

Two towns, Worthing and Ramsgate, have recently honoured their respective County Regiments by bestowing their Honorary Freedoms upon them. These occasions bind Regiment to County even more closely than before and, in these days when the subject of recruiting is so much in all our minds, they are events which may well have a most important bearing on the future.

The Buffs Band has been in Canterbury since early in July. They are shortly to lose the services, to say nothing of the skill, the humour and the outstanding personality, of their Bandmaster, Mr. Sharpe, who after

nine years with the Regiment, is being translated to Kneller Hall as the School Bandmaster. His place will be taken by The Queen's Bandmaster, Mr. Lynes, who on the amalgamation of the two Surrey Regiments' Bands, looked like being out of a job. Another change of Bandmaster has taken place in The Royal Sussex Regiment, where Mr. Pryce has taken over from Mr. Kelly who has been commissioned to an appointment in Pakistan.

The Bands of The Buffs, The East Surrey Regiment and The Royal Sussex Regiment are taking part in a military display at Gillingham in the middle of August, which the Brigade Colonel, for his sins, has had the responsibility of organising. The Royal Sussex Regiment are also represented by a Fighting Patrol demonstration and The Queen's Own by a P.T. display. The emphasis in the whole display is very definitely being laid on the Home Counties Brigade, putting the Brigade officially before the public for, perhaps, the first time.

Congratulations from all ranks in the Brigade went to R.S.M. Parker, of The Queen's Own, when he was awarded the M.B.E. in the middle of July. This was a singularly fine achievement.

Congratulations, too, to the 1st Battalion The Queen's not only on winning the B.A.O.R. Swimming Championships but also the Army Swimming Championships. A really good "double."

Finally, congratulations to Major P. G. Collyer (Queen's) on being awarded the Army VIII Badge after shooting for the Army VIII in the United Services Cup competition at Bisley.

And that brings Letter No. 4 to a close. By the time No. 5 appears the Brigade will have become established as an integral part of the British Army, because of the events due to take place on October 14. The future of the Brigade lies in the hands of each and every one of us; it is a future bright with promise if we use our opportunities well. The Brigade Colonel has every confidence that you will all play your part to the very utmost.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Regimental Reunion and A.G.M.—Friday, October 30, 7 p.m., Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, W.1.

Remembrance Day Service.—Saturday, November 7, Field of Remembrance, Westminster, S.W.1.

Remembrance Day Service.—Sunday, November 8, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill.

Officers' Club Cocktail Party.—Friday, December 11, United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

57th/77th Officers' Dinner

This Dinner is being held on Wednesday, December 9, 1959, at United Service Club, 116 Pall Mall, S.W.1, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 o'clock. The cost is 30s., which includes glass of port. Dress: Dinner Jacket without miniatures.

Any officer who has served with any of the following Battalions, irrespective of terms of service, is eligible to attend: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th Battalions. Application should be made to P.M.C., Depot, The Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

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

General

One hundred and twenty-five volunteers attended their first camp with the Battalion at Okehampton, Devon, from July 5 to 18, 1959. For the future of the 7th it was essential that the new arrivals should be satisfied customers and for the camp to be a "non-stop" success.



It is believed that this was fully achieved, and few of the officers and senior other ranks can remember a more energetic camp.

The high-light of the Battalion training programme was a section attack field-firing competition between the nine sections of the rifle companies, organised and run by Major D. E. Simpson, the Adjutant, and Lt. J. L. Bannister. In addition, the Commanding Officer organised a patrolling exercise for the three Rifle Companies, whilst at the same time a 24-hour Battalion H.Q. exercise and "S" Company exercise took place in the Bude and Willworthy areas. These three training exercises were designed to fit the Battalion for a Brigade exercise, "Pony Express," held from July 14 to 16.

Exercise "Pony Express" involved the 7th and 8th Middlesex in a cross-country advance to contact across the width of Dartmoor. For the last 12 miles this could only be achieved on foot. Accordingly, led by "B" and "C" Companies with 62 wireless sets and Vickers machine-guns on man-pack carriers, the Battalion advanced first in brilliant sunshine, but unfortunately after mid-day in wet driving rain. Many amusing incidents took place, but perhaps the best reported was that of O.C. "C" Company, Major Reed, who, during an "O" Group in the early hours on July 16, had the task of waking first his Sgt.-Major, W.O.2 Curry, then a Platoon Commander, before falling asleep himself prior to the completion of orders. Despite this handicap, the "C" Company dawn attack was judged successful by the umpires, who astounded all by wearing S.D. hats throughout the exercise.

The Corps of Drums and Band beat retreat at Hatherleigh, near Okehampton, on July 10, before the Mayor of Okehampton and Brigadier Baker. On July 15 the Band gave a concert at the Old People's Home in Okehampton. Both these events aided local relations, and also showed the marked improvement made by the Band and Corps of Drums during the year, under Bandmaster Whitewood and Drum-Major Poulter. The Battalion shooting team has again had considerable success at the 44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Rifle Meeting. The Battalion came 3rd in the Major Units competition. Cpl. D. Friedman, a member of the team, became Divisional Champion-at-Arms in Class C during the meeting.

At Bisley, the Battalion was represented by Major Simpson, Capt. Stocken, Cpl. Chapman and L/Cpl. Giblin from July 5 to 8. Forming first a combine 7th and 8th Middlesex L.M.G. team, Major Simpson, with Sgt. Thomas and Cpl. Young of the 8th, won the L.M.G. and Cambridgeshire Challenge Cup with a record score of 153 points. There were over sixty entries. The team greatly appreciated a telegram of congratulation from Lt.-General Bucknall.

Recruiting continues successfully, 20 recruits having been gained in the last quarter. Due to the training season and the need to concentrate upon camp organisation, this was not as high as we would wish. Nevertheless, the Battalion is now over 300 all ranks.

Congratulatory

There have been a number of promotions during the last three months and the following are congratulated on their advancement in the Battalion:

To Captain: Lt. J. C. Worswick, R.A.M.C.

To Sergeant: Cpls. Wallege and Gibbons.

To Corporal: L/Cpls. Ford, Warren, Chapman, Bridger and Parsons.

To L/Corporal: Ptes. Giblin, Hagger, Sullivan, Stack, Beare, Poulter, West, Taylor, Hill, Crux, Howell, Reid and Elliott.

"A" COMPANY

Since the beginning of the year the Company has been completing an extensive training programme, combined with a recruiting campaign. The success of these activities was in no small measure due to the enthusiasm of our Company Commander, Capt. S. J. Carter. Unfortunately he suffered the T.A. soldier's cruellest fate: that of having an un-co-operative employer who prevented his attendance at camp. In order to prepare for camp on Dartmoor, the Company held a week-end which included a map-reading exercise and a Sunday of tactical training at the Depot. These proved well-chosen subjects.

In camp, the high-light of Company training, for which under four days were allocated, was half a morning of field-firing. This took the form of a competition between the rifle companies. The Company achieved the highest aggregate marks. L/Cpl. Howell's section being placed 3rd and Cpl. Chapman's section 4th. After the initial apprehension of using live ammunition, everyone was most disappointed that there was only time for one attack for each section.

It might be said that the resurgence of the Company spirit was aided by the success of a night patrol on the Battalion exercise. Our thanks are due to the umpire who presented a bottle of whisky as a reward.

"B" COMPANY

The high-light of the quarter was undoubtedly camp, and all the training before it was directed to making the best possible use of a fortnight together. The training in camp proved to us all the amazing fact that the Company could advance across Dartmoor, spend two comparatively sleepless nights, and endure a wet morning, and yet appear to enjoy itself thoroughly.



Photo No. 2 by courtesy of Gale and Polden Ltd. Remaining photographs by courtesy of "Hornsey Journal," North London Press.

1. "C" Company (Major B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.) during training on Okehampton Ranges. 2. Winners of the Cambridgeshire Challenge Cup, 1959—Sgt. Thomas (8 Mx.) Major D. E. Simpson, T.D. (7 Mx.), Cpl. Young (8 Mx.). 3. The Battalion marching off after Muster Parade. 4. The Anti-Tank Platoon Practice Gun Drill during Annual Camp, 1959. 5. The Wireless Section. 6. The Battalion Medical Section at work, with the R.M.O., Capt. J. C. Worswick, R.A.M.C.

The need now is for more extensive training at night.

The Battalion scheme was greatly enjoyed. "B" Company made the final attack to capture the W.R.A.C.s with a death or glory charge across the moor. The first night out on Gur Tor was a shock, since nobody had expected that it would be quite so cold after the heat of the day. Patrolling was, as it turned out, a welcome relief from the icy wind, though teeth were chattering even then. The Company was delighted to ambush an enemy patrol and find it had caught Lt. Beesley.

Training apart, camp was memorable for the impromptu parties. The trip to Torquay was welcomed as a chance to become civilians again, but alas, we remained our Army selves watching a strip tease (not unconscious!) in a nearby house as we waited to come home in the coach. Whatever we may do in the field, it could never be said we lack resource in the war between the sexes.

We had another Company party on June 13, a Saturday night, with a sausage and mash supper, a magnificent stereophonic record-player and a sing-song late in the evening. Tombola was very popular, and the winners not so well rewarded as usual, as it seemed to be "drinks all round" for most of the evening.

No. 5 Platoon were again Company champions and wore their lanyards during camp. It is worth mentioning how sorry the Company were to be without Sgt. Graham, who has done so much for us in training, but he was away in Leeds and unable to get away for camp.

The aim of the patrol had been the capture of the enemy's monocled Major, who unfortunately was absent from the field of battle. Nevertheless a prisoner was taken and his absence remained unnoticed in the enemy camp until well after dawn.

We look forward to a further period of expansion now that we have a very much larger nucleus of soldiers with the experience of their first camp behind them. On our return, Mr. and Mrs. Chittock were obviously as rested and revived as we were tired and sleepless. Our thanks are due to both of them for all their hard work and the way they show such a permanent interest in the Company.

"C" COMPANY

Annual camp is, of course, the main topic of the quarter, and from the first day when a dirty cap badge bit the dust to the last evening when the ale flowed freely in the NAAFI, all members of the Company worked and played very hard. We were the strongest Rifle Company at Okehampton and our numbers gave us a full Company H.Q. and Rifle Platoon. The three sections in the platoon, commanded by L/Cpls. Sullivan, Sattar and Austin, competed for the Company Commander's prize, and this was eventually won, despite a very close score, by L/Cpl. Sullivan's section. This section also carried off the Commanding Officer's prize for winning the inter-section field-firing competition.

All units have their characters, and the two that most readily come to mind are L/Cpl. Stack (who is to be congratulated on his promotion) and Pte. Bramble. Pte. Bramble hails from the West Indies and, along with all our other members from that part of the world,

he is permanently blessed with a cheery grin. His claim to fame, however, is that he started the Company vogue for cigarette-holders, and smoking or not, his large emerald-green holder was normally stuck between his teeth. L/Cpl. Stack is the vocal star of the Company's skiffle group, and his renderings of Western songs always kept our spirits high. Other members of the skiffle group are L/Cpl. Haggard on the guitar, Pte. Champney on the harmonica and Pte. Husbands on the old tin tray—all ably accompanied on the piano by Pte. Blyth, an ex-member of the Company. This musical talent gave our two parties at the White Hart Hotel plenty of swing. Major Reed and R.S.M. are looking forward with some concern to the photographs taken by Pte. Leggett on the first of these occasions. And, incidentally, if you want to hire a barman—Lt. Richards is to be recommended. To return to training—all ranks stood up very well to the rigours of both the Battalion and Brigade exercises, despite a fair share of blisters. Pte. Foord, who had been clamouring for tough training ever since enlistment, certainly got his money's worth.

Even the wise-cracks of Pte. Twilley dried up for a few hours in the wind on Steeperton Tor, and we must all congratulate Pte. Higgins on the gallant way he carried his 31-set across the moor.

C.S.M. Curry will, of course, long be reminded of his role as enemy on exercise "Quickship," and we shall remember that splendid hat, more suitable to a grouse shooting than a Battalion exercise. Both the C.S.M. and Pte. Bramble must be congratulated on gaining 2nd and 3rd places in the Battalion recruiting competition—as with "Ernie," that £50 was so near, yet so far. Those that feed and pay us are so often forgotten, and we must thank our Colour—C/Sgt. Moran—for looking after us so well on all occasions, despite the famous password "Bad stew."

Finally, on a rather sad note, the Company bids farewell to Lt.-Col. Allen, who has done so much to rebuild the 7th. All ranks wish Col. and Mrs. Allen all success in the future, wherever they may find themselves, and sincerely hope that it will not be too long before we may have the pleasure of a visit from them.

OFFICERS' MESS

For the first time in over 20 years the 7th and 8th shared a Mess at camp. Although there were separate ante-rooms and bars, the messing was central and all the social functions were combined.

Feeding 50 hungry officers can be no easy task, but the right man for the job—Capt. Beaumont—ably supported by Sgt. Banks from the Depot, managed very well. The combined Mess was under the able direction of C/Sgt. Carnie, who worked wonders as usual. For the first time since the T.A. was re-formed in 1948, W.R.A.C.s waitresses were used on the two dinner nights, which, according to some officers, went on too long.

On the first Monday in camp a cocktail party was held at which the Mayor of Okehampton, police officials, officers from the other camp at Plasterdown, were among the guests present. On the Tuesday night a guest night was held at which other officers of the



THE SERGEANTS' MESS AT OKEHAMPTON CAMP, 1959

Left to right: C/Sgt. Payne, Bandmaster Whitewood, C.S.M. Goodge, C.S.M. Webb, C/Sgt. Leahy, C.S.M. Payne, C/Sgt. Jackson, C.S.M. Curry, Sgt. Marshall, C.S.M. Cubitt, Sgt. Allsopp, Sgt. Moore, C.S.M. Holdford, B.E.M., Sgt. Harris, Drum-Major Poulter, R.S.M. Thom, Sgt. Rogers.

Brigade were present, and on the Friday night a Regimental guest night was held at which the Colonel of the Regiment and the two Battalion Honorary Colonels were present. On the Saturday morning the two Messes entertained their own Sergeants' Messes.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We open these notes with the customary welcome to new members, Sgts. Gibbons and Hallett, and we couple this with our congratulations on their recent promotions.

Since our last notes the outstanding event has, of course, been annual camp at Okehampton. This is the one time during the year when we can really get together as a Mess, and also have the opportunity of meeting W.O.s and sergeants from other units of the Brigade. This year, also, we had the pleasure of feminine company from the W.O.s and sergeants of 303 Battalion W.R.A.C. who were in camp with Brigade H.Q. and the 6th Queen's near Tavistock.

Several successful social functions were held, although due to the tempo of training these days there was not perhaps as much time for organised Mess activities as in days gone by.

However, almost the first evening in camp we entertained members of the Devon Constabulary and their wives from Okehampton, and found out that "all coppers are not what they're sometimes reputed to be."

It was a very pleasant evening, and we're sure that our police friends enjoyed meeting us as we did getting to know them.

A few evenings later was the main Mess event of camp at which we had the honour of entertaining the Colonel of the Regiment, General Bucknall, Brigadier Baker, our Commanding Officer and officers of the 7th Battalion, the 8th Battalion, and our old friend R.S.M. Kenrick from the Depot. An excellent buffet was prepared by Sgt. Moore and the Mess cooks, and Sgt. Sills was ably assisted behind the bar by C/Sgt. Moran and Mr. Lloyd.

Saturday lunchtime members were entertained in the Officers' Mess and had the pleasure and honour of meeting our Honorary Colonel, Col. Pringle. This is always an outstanding occasion for the Mess and a privilege that we greatly appreciate.

During the second week, time was limited owing to the heavy training programme and also the closing down of camp, but an impromptu social was held at which members of 303 Battalion W.R.A.C. were entertained and a very enjoyable evening was spent, including dancing. Infantry Messes do not often have the pleasure of meeting W.O.s and sergeants from the women's services, and so this was rather a unique occasion for us.

Now that camp is over we shall soon be planning the winter social activities and we hope that we shall see

many of the friends from other units again at these functions.

ELMS CLUB

These last few months have been very busy and we have had quite a lot of social functions.

On June 6 we held a fancy dress party for the children of members in Hornsey Drill Hall which everyone present enjoyed. We had hoped for a larger attendance though.

The children who won prizes for the best fancy dresses were as follows:

| 1st Prize | 2nd Prize |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| (Under 5 years) | (Under 5 years) |
| "Boots" | "Wee Willie Winkie" |
| James Thom | Charles Holdford |
| (5 to 9 years) | (5 to 9 years) |
| "Mrs. Mop" | "Queen of Hearts" |
| Peter Goodge | Key Goodge |
| (10 years and over) | (10 years and over) |
| "Hula Girl" | "I'm in Charge" |
| Patricia Holdford | Trevor Goodge |

Prizes for other games were won by Trevor Goodge and Angela Holdford. Mr. Thom kindly let us use the Sergeants' Mess and members of the Battalion gave their support.

On Thursday, June 11, we had a combined "mystery" coach outing with the Cambridge Club, starting at 7 p.m. and returning at 10.30 p.m. We had a very pleasant evening, the route being via Cockfosters, Potters Bar, Hatfield, a stop at St. Albans and return via Hemel Hempstead and Elstree.

Unfortunately the coach outing which we had planned for Sunday, July 12, to Littlehampton had to be cancelled owing to lack of support.

On Friday, June 19, we had a social in Hornsey Drill Hall and members of the Battalion were invited.

Mrs. Allen unfortunately was not able to be present, but she sent us a greetings telegram.

Col. Allen came, and Col. and Mrs. Pringle, but Mrs. Maitland was away on holiday. Once again we had the help of Mr. Thom, as M.C., and Mr. Conroy played the piano for us.

The evening was very successful and we were asked to hold a social every month by the more enthusiastic members of the Battalion.

We are all very sorry that Mrs. Allen, the founder and chairman of the Club for 2½ years is leaving the Battalion, and at the general meeting on Thursday, July 2, Mrs. Pringle presented her with a pair of earrings and a spray of flowers on behalf of the members. We wish her all the very best in the future and hope she will still keep in touch with us and attend our functions whenever possible.

We are sorry too that Mrs. Davies has left us, and wish her every happiness with the 1st Battalion in Germany.

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

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

As these notes go to press, the Regiment is ending its twelfth post-war camp. After eleven firing camps it has been truly inspiring to see the Regiment adapting itself to the stress and strain of mobile work.

Socially and militarily the camp has been of a high standard. On Sunday, July 26, the Honorary Colonel, Maj.-Gen. B. P. Hughes, inspected a smart parade and an especially effective Colour Party. Among the guests on this occasion were a number of Old Comrades, including Sir Vivian Holt, Col. Drabble, Capt. Kemp, B.S.M. Lockyer and Mr. Mawes, to name but a few.

The parade was followed by the visit of the Sergeants' Mess and the Old Comrades to the Officers' Mess. The Lesser Zab, the Meder Rhine and the Euphrates were all crossed and re-crossed—suitably embellished accounts, no doubt, painting an attractive picture. Despite the alcoholic intake, the Sergeants and Officers were able to play a reasonably serious game of cricket during the afternoon. The Sergeants were victorious!

Saturday in camp has become an institution. The annual invasion of Yarmouth took place with no visible ill-effects on either side. Relaxation was the order of the day. The north Norfolk coast has rarely had more distinguished bodies bathing from its chilly beaches.

Camp has ended on a high note. An enthusiastically tackled Brigade Exercise came to a successful conclusion on Thursday, July 30. By the grace of God, heavy storms came only when the Regiment was settled or on the road. Many lessons were learned about the difficulties of personnel and equipment maintenance in the field.

At the Brigadier's request a demonstration gun pit, fully revetted and sand-bagged, was constructed in 103 man-hours under the direction of Major Bond. Every man in the Regiment, including the C.O., had a hand in this back-breaking task which earned the highest praise from the Brigade Commander.

Now to our centenary celebrations. Within a month of these notes being read, the Regiment will be celebrating this great event in its history. Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks, a former Adjutant, will inspect past and present members of the Regiment at Kingsbury on Sunday, October 25. Two days later there will be an All Ranks (past and present) dinner in Wembley Town Hall, by courtesy of the Mayor of Wembley. During the previous week the two T.A. Centres will be "At Home" to all.

An eventful year for the Regiment. Much of its proud tradition has been unearthed and will be embodied in a brochure to be published in connection with the Centenary. We hope that every "Die-Hard" reading about our celebrations will share our pride.

"P" BATTERY NOTES

A considerable amount of training has been accomplished this last three months, as we prepared for annual camp. Since the attendance at these many

parades has been good, much compensatory placating has had to be done on the domestic front. However, the pay-off is occurring now at camp, where the results of our earlier efforts immediately became apparent.

Several senior officers have already stated we are acquitting ourselves well.

On the social side, we held our annual dinner at the "Bell and Dragon" at Cookham, on the Thames. Amidst these pleasant 15th-century surroundings we sat down irrespective of rank to a splendid evening in the true Territorial Army style.

"Q" BATTERY NOTES

This account is being written from camp, the first camp at which we are doing some "real soldiering." A full report will appear next time, but it must receive a mention now as the period in question was dominated by preparations for camp. In view of this, very few social occasions worthy of note were held.

The Regiment decided to hold a series of mobile schemes, during the course of which we must have visited every rubbish dump in the Home Counties! Land for schemes is so short in our area that rubbish tips are about the only land for our vehicles to use without doing any damage. We shall all be setting up as old iron merchants if this goes on!

Those who attended had the pleasure of meeting old members of the Battery at the Old Comrades' Dinner held in May. In particular, we were pleased to see that B.S.M. Lockyer could still lead a spirited rendering of the "Die-Hards' " song.

Recruiting continues, slowly but surely, and the Battery has maintained its numbers. We were sorry to have to part with Bdr. Downton, a very old member of the Battery who has left the district. We wish him the best of luck in his new unit.

We hope that the next issue will contain a glowing report of a camp which seems to have begun very well. We can only keep our fingers crossed. . . .

"R" BATTERY NOTES

It is most pleasant to be able to prepare these notes under a hot sun in the unaccustomed luxury of a hutted annual camp at East Wretham in Norfolk. Mobile deployments are the order of the day, and together with site cooking, are proving most enjoyable.

A number of young recruits have helped to swell our ranks and most of them learnt, and appreciated, the amenities of Hendon Rubbish Dump on a hot Sunday in May. A number of local deployments such as these have helped to maintain enthusiasm as well as attendances on Wednesday evenings.

We should like to congratulate Major H. G. Hansen on his appointment as Training Major and wish our new Battery Commander, Capt. C. W. Davies, every success in his first command. We welcome Capt. Mayles to our ranks and trust he will have a happy time with us. Lt. Mike Swann is now the father of a son and heir, and we hear on good authority that he has already enrolled him as a band-boy, where his noise-making talents could be put to good use!

571 L.A.A. REGIMENT WORKSHOP, R.E.M.E.

The Workshop has been busy on training and preparation of equipment, first for our annual A.D.M.E.'s inspection, and secondly for the annual camp, at which these notes are being written.

A high standard of shooting has been a feature of this year. We were placed third in the Brigade League competition, and were in the semi-finals of the knock-out competition. In the annual range course, just before camp, nearly all those attending reached first-class shot standard.

We have had several successful training week-ends, and on one of these presented a recruiting display in Barham Park, which gained us one volunteer.

The O.C. vacancy has now been filled by the promotion of Capt. J. T. Winsor at the beginning of the year.

The P.S.O. of the unit, Capt. Mason, resigned and has emigrated to Australia. In his position we welcome Capt. Hubbard.

THE HONG KONG REGIMENT

Despite the start of a rainy season which this year has broken all records, the Regiment has had an eventful quarter. Annual classification and week-end training in the New Territories have continued, despite the rain and preparations for camp are under way.

On Albuhera Day, Capt. Lane and the R.S.M. assembled those "Die-Hards" who are still in the Colony and made the traditional visits to the Cathedral and to the cemeteries, where two buglers played the Last Post and Reveille. Col. H. Owen-Hughes, O.B.E., E.D., now Honorary Colonel, was present at these ceremonies. He will be well remembered by those members of our affiliated regiment who were in Hong Kong since he was our first post-war C.O.

The Commander-in-Chief FARELF, General Sir Richard Hull, honoured us with a visit on May 28, 1959. The Provost Section provided a quarter guard and after inspecting it the C.-in-C. watched "B" Company and the Signal Platoon training on the racecourse.

Foundation Day was celebrated by the Provost Section mounting the guard at Government House and the holding of the traditional ball at Kowloon Cricket Club. The R.S.M.'s control of an elimination dance proved to be so professional that it is likely to become an annual event.

The first four matches of the Colony Water Polo League have been played, and so far the Regiment have not lost a game. We are looking forward to the knock-out competition which starts next month.

On July 1 the usual Canada Day ceremony was held at Sai Wan Cemetery, and we were again asked to provide the firing party and buglers. This year five buglers played, and we hope that we may eventually emulate our affiliated regiment by parading all the buglers on this occasion.

A report on Cricket Week at Mill Hill brought back to Hong Kong by the Honorary Colonel's son once again emphasised how close the ties have become between our two regiments. We shall hope to hear more reports as our members return from leave.

NEWSLETTER BY M.B.

So much has happened recently that I find it is hard, and in truth impossible, to cover more than a very superficial story of all at our Depot, and I do not attempt to cover all, but a few important points.

I must start to remind all that the silver detailed in the September 1958 Journal has now gone widespread to many of our officers, and the many Messes and so forth.

That story covers a very solemn period in our history, for we must not forget even our Depot is in its last year or so of life after being at Inglis Barracks since April 1905.

Now we have in place of four Regular Battalions with a large Depot training Militia and Regular recruits. The Militia had two Battalions, the 5th and 6th, formerly the Royal Elthorne Light Infantry and Royal East Middlesex Militia Battalion. Now we shall only retain a Depot training for our one Regular Battalion (includes the 1st and the amalgamated 2nd Battalions), and will only do so for a year and a bit, and will then reduce to a small Regimental Headquarters containing our Colonel's office, a place for the retired officer, who will manage the Regimental Association, and a much reduced Regimental Museum will then occupy the rest of the Regimental Headquarters.

The G.O.C. London District, Maj.-Gen. I. N. R. Moore, inspected the Depot on July 22 last. As I often experienced in the past, when serving in the Guards' Brigade at Aldershot, nothing is ever missed. I am glad to say a glowing report was the result. How well I can remember the 45 points I had to give my personal attention to many years ago in those days when our 1st Battalion was commanded by Brigadier-General Ronald Heath, from whom I took over the Colonelcy (after his death in April 1942). I can assure my readers these appointments are no light task, and it is ever increased in times of change such as existed in both our last tours.

The 7th Battalion gave a huge cocktail party in our Mess at the Depot on June 26, 1959, at which the P.M.C., Major Bill Heywood, managed the drinks and, as always is the case, he surpassed himself!

I was very sad to learn of the death of the wife of the Headmaster of Mill Hill School recently. (I am writing these notes on July 27.) We all admired her kindly manner to us. We have for many years now cared for the cadets at this school, and I have myself inspected their corps, once commended by Mayor F. A. Lawrence, and whose R.S.M., Crouch, served as C.S.M. in my H.Q. Company in the 1st Battalion at Aldershot, and he was a most remarkable man with a genius for drawing up statistical reports, and producing coloured decorations for dances and so forth, all made by himself and all members of his family. I remember with joy how I used to watch them sitting round him doing this work, then to be seen later at sergeants' dances and such affairs so well known to us all.

I was sad to hear the late Col. Finch's wife was laid up after a fall, with a broken leg resulting.

I heard from Mrs. E. N. Appelbe in early June, but am not permitted to give information, but am glad to

say all is well, and she continues to instruct girls to ride.

I was glad to hear from Colonel Dowbiggin in Hong Kong, on May 2, and all is well with him. I always enjoy his visits here to our Mess, which are now too rare to please me, but age has fallen on me and on many of my friends.

Hervey del Court is an excellent correspondent, the best I have ever known. He lives at Hermanus, in Cape Province, and keeps me in touch with his life, still given to yachting and golfing. He asks after my cousin, Col. Mervyn Crawford, who has much occupation on his farm in Dumfriesshire.

Major Stewart Sutherland, who has not long left Malaya, where planting rubber, etc., jobs are hard to find, and even harder to obtain. Capt. David Pike, M.C., has taken over the duty of looking after the interests of our Old Comrades in Malaya, and so we have him to keep us in touch with the considerable number of our Old Comrades there. They have been very faithful members of the Regiment.

I had a letter in May last from Lt.-Col. Tony Hewitt and his charming wife Elizabeth. They had sent me a very unique brass figure balancing a scale, which daily reminds me of them, and thus keeps our friendship balanced. They hope soon to see me, and I anticipate he will secure a good appointment in due course.

In April of this year I heard from Major Bagley in Los Angeles, California, to say how sorry he was to read of the death of Major Dick Bennett. Bagley, when I was wounded in France, took over command of the 1st Battalion.

He retired and went to California, and I had lost touch with him, and it is nice to regain touch once more, and I hope now it will be a firm one.

I shall always be glad to see our members here, and I have much to show them, including four albums of photographs which belonged to Col. Elgee, and cover much of the world out East, and embrace Aden, India, Burma, Singapore, Hong Kong. It is a wonderfully complete and interesting collection, and will always be here in my office to be seen.

CHRISTMAS CARDS 1959

The Regimental Christmas card this year is a reprint of Lady Butler's painting "Steady the Drums and Fifes" in colour (Card No. 5).

In addition a few only of the undermentioned are still available.

Card No. 1, Major Egerton 77th in the King's Bastion at Portsmouth.

Card No. 2, A Pioneer of the Peninsula War period.

Card No. 3, 77th Guard Room verandah scene.

Card No. 4, Single card with Regimental Badge and suitable greeting.

Cards 1, 2, 3 and 5, are 1s. each; or 10s. a dozen plus postage 1d. per card up to two dozen, thereafter 6d. for each dozen or part of a dozen, Card No. 4—3d. each; postage 6d. per dozen or part of a dozen.

Cards may be obtained from the P.R.I. at the Depot. Do not make a mistake when ordering—Lady Butler's picture is Card No. 5.

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SPRING GOLF MEETING

The Spring Golf Meeting took place this year at the Hendon Golf Club on May 7. The golfers of the Regiment appeared to be scattered across the world to such an extent that only a small, but nevertheless select, gathering assembled at Hendon.

It was a most enjoyable meeting, and it is hoped that there will be considerably more support given to the Autumn Meeting at Fleet on September 19 and 20.

The Colonel of the Regiment won the Scratch Prize and Brigadier Lerwill the Medal Handicap Cup. The foursomes were won by Major Jay and Capt. Wollocombe, and Capt. Crumley took over the divot from his Commanding Officer, Major Battye, which was considered to be a very tactful gesture by a new Adjutant.

The results were as follows:

| HANDICAP COMPETITION | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------|
| | Gross Score | Nett Score | Placing |
| Brigadier G. Lerwill | 102 | 78 | 1st |
| Col. J. K. Maitland | 93 | 79 | 2nd |
| Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe | 96 | 80 | 3rd |
| Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall | 91 | 81 | 4th |
| (Winner Scratch Competition) | | | |
| 2/Lt. M. S. Gedye | 109 | 85 | 5th |
| Major S. C. Jay | 102 | 86 | 6th |
| Col. A. E. Green | 113 | 95 | 7th |
| Capt. W. G. A. Crumley | No Return | (Winner Divot) | |

| STAPLEFORD FOURSOMES | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | Points | Placings |
| Major Jay and Capt. Wollocombe | 27 | 1st |
| Col. Green and 2/Lt. Gedye | 20 | 2nd |
| Brigadier Lerwill and Col. Maitland | 19 | 3rd |
| General Bucknall and Capt. Crumley | 18 | 4th |

REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK, 1959

The summer of 1959 will be remembered for years to come for its ideal cricket weather. Tropical suits have been taken out of mothballs while the sun remorselessly turned every cricket field in England into arid, brown open spaces with wickets especially suited for run making.

The weather during cricket week ran true to form and, in general, runs came plentifully, but if the truth be told, rather more so from our opponents' bats than from ours. The over-all picture of the week does not read very favourably, as we lost the first four matches before victory came our way, when we beat the Sandhurst Wanderers in a close finish. However, the Regiment did not disgrace itself in three of its defeats, as only in the match against the Hampstead Heathens were we beaten convincingly.

The week started as usual, with the Free Foresters as our visitors. We won the toss and batted first. A useful opening stand of 55 by Cpts. Legge and Wadham set the scene for some rather mediocre middle-piece batting which was relieved only by a fine maiden innings for the Regiment by Pte. Cliffe, batting at number ten, who scored 61. He was ably supported by the omnipresent Cullen. Together they put on 76 for the last wicket, thus providing the innings with an air of respectability and a total of 232.

The Free Foresters were, however, just too strong for our bowlers and, helped mainly by a good innings by Rankine of 80, they reached our score with three wickets to spare but with only a few minutes left for play.

The Hampstead Heathens match was an historic occasion as, owing to some perhaps slightly inaccurate information, they thought it would be the last of a long series of contests dating from 1922. They therefore presented to the Regiment, as a token of their enjoyment over the years, a most handsome silver cigar box, suitably engraved, which will be greatly treasured by us. It will serve as a last link with the cricket week and a highly successful fixture long after the Depot has moved to its new home in Canterbury. The Colonel of the Regiment accepted the gift on behalf of the Regiment, and thanked the Heathens not only for the splendid gift but also for providing us with so much pleasant entertainment over the past four decades.

The Heathens sealed this historic day by winning the toss and batting most convincingly to the tune of 239 for five declared, Mr. R. James making 88 not out and A. Davis 74 in a third wicket partnership of 117. It is sad to relate that our reply was not so impressive, and only Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin (36) and Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe (29 not out) offered any serious resistance and we were all out for 144, thus being defeated by 95 runs with plenty of time to spare.

The Cryptics did in fact beat us by three wickets a few minutes before close of play. However, the score-book discloses an odd story. Long after the match had ended the Cryptics' score was added up and it was discovered that their total was exactly equal to ours. So, although we were morally beaten, technically one presumes we could claim a draw!

We won the toss and batted. Wickets began to tumble, and only a seventh wicket partnership between Capt. Wollocombe and Cpl. Hooper of 106 succeeded in bringing our score to a reasonable total. Capt. Wollocombe made 110 before being bowled by Owen-Hughes and Cpl. Hooper, concentrating on defence at the other end, made a most valuable 21. We were all out for 171.

The Cryptics did not have it all their own way as R. H. Wollocombe and Cullen bowled their right- and left-arm spinners most effectively, claiming six victims between them. We eventually lost by three wickets, just before stumps were drawn.

The match against the Incogniti was interesting, as it showed what a game of fluctuating fortunes cricket can be.

Our opponents batted first, after winning the toss, and our bowlers did well to limit their rate of scoring so that they were forced to declare at 198 for nine wickets in order to give themselves time to get us out. Cullen and R. H. Wollocombe again bowled very well, taking seven wickets between them for a gross total of only 85 runs.

Our innings began badly, with three wickets down for 23. However, a useful stand of 105 between the brothers Wollocombe changed the outlook completely. Before the fourth wicket fell we needed a mere 69 to get, with seven wickets standing. However, disaster overtook us, and apart from a sound innings of 22 not out by Pte. Cliffe, there was little more resistance and we were all out for 174, once more only an over or two before close of play.

The Sandhurst Wanderers match was notable on two

counts. Firstly, because it was a new match for us, replacing our previous fixture against the I. Zingari. Secondly, for the appearance of J.U.O. John Lofting, who captains the Sandhurst 1st XI and is joining the Regiment shortly.

Some said how very pleased they were, but a few murmurs of "tactless" were heard when this young officer cadet proceeded to treat the bowlers of his future Regiment to a display of powerful batsmanship that was surely the best innings of the week. He made 110 in an opening partnership of 176 with Capt. Tozer in not much over an hour and a half.

After this partnership was ended, apart from a spirited 38 by Major J. B. Robertson, who was last year's Army captain, the bowlers were able to get to work, R. H. Wollocombe collecting 6 for 99 and Lt. Gilham 2 for 39. The Wanderers declared at the formidable total of 279 for eight.

Capt. Legge and Lt. Waters gave us a good start to our innings, scoring 51 for the first wicket, but Capt. Holmes and Lt. Gilham both went quickly with the score still only 59. Then R. H. Wollocombe and Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe added 63 before R. H. Wollocombe was caught and bowled by Hodges for 55. That made us 122 for 4 wickets—still a very long way to go for victory.

However, the opposition had yet to reckon with Leslie Compton, who was playing for the Regiment for the first time for many years. He and Capt. Wollocombe added just over a hundred for the next wicket, with Compton holding the front of the stage with a splendid innings of 90. He was out with the score at 278, leaving two to get for victory, two wickets in hand and the second last over coming up. Capt. Ken Attrill hit the winning stroke in good time, thus gaining the match for us by two wickets. It was a fine game and ended a most enjoyable week on a favourable note.

Results—1959

Middlesex Regiment v. Free Foresters, June 13, 1959. Lost by 3 wickets.

Middlesex Regiment, 232 (Capt. Legge 49, Pte. Cliffe 61 not out, M. M. Morton 3 for 62, J. R. Day 3 for 76). Free Foresters, 236 for 7 (R. P. Rankine 80, Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe 3 for 47).

Hampstead Heathens v. Middlesex Regiment. Lost by 95 runs.

Hampstead Heathens, 239 for 5 wickets declared (M. R. James 88 not out, A. Davis 74).

Middlesex Regiment, 144 (J. Webster 4 for 35, M. R. James 4 for 70).

Cryptics v. Middlesex Regiment, June 15, 1959. Lost by 3 wickets.

Middlesex Regiment, 171 (Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe 110, J. C. Toon 6 for 41).

Cryptics, 171 for 7 (J. Cullen 4 for 49).

Incogniti v. Middlesex Regiment, June 16, 1959. Lost by 22 runs.

Incogniti, 198 for 9 wickets declared (G. Dean 54, R. E. Alton 44, M. Tilbury 42, J. Cullen 4 for 46).

Middlesex Regiment, 174 (R. H. Wollocombe 65, Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe 41, P. Simpkins 4 for 72, J. Lane 3 for 36).

Sandhurst Wanderers v. Middlesex Regiment, June 17, 1959. Won by 2 wickets.

Sandhurst Wanderers, 279 for 8 wickets declared (J. G. Lofting 110, R. H. Wollocombe 6 for 99).

Middlesex Regiment, 282 for 8 wickets (R. H. Wollocombe 55, L. H. Compton 90, Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe 50, I. M. Hume 3 for 71).

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The Dinner was held at the United Service Club on Friday, July 24, and Colonel of the Regiment, General G. C. Bucknall, presided.

List of Diners

Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, Major J. F. Bennett, Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, Major G. A. H. Bower, Major J. C. du Parc Braham, Col. M. Browne, Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, Major K. J. Carter, Major A. W. Clark, Capt. H. A. B. Claypole, Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. H. Cook, Capt. W. G. A. Crumley, Major R. J. P. Cummins, Major W. R. Dawe, Lt. R. T. Douthet, Col. W. D. Ellis, Major H. Farrow, Brigadier E. W. C. Flavell, Major G. C. Forman, Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, Major P. W. Galvin, Major J. de Gaye, Lt. E. C. Graham, Major J. N. Green, Lt. J. C. Grobel, Capt. R. E. Guest, Major J. A. Hamilton, Major H. K. Hardcastle, Major G. Hartley, Col. S. F. Hedgecoe, Lt.-Col. A. S. Hewson, Lt. J. M. Hewson, Capt. Sir Vyvyan Holt, Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian G. Horrocks.

Major R. A. Kaye, Major G. Kent, Capt. P. J. T. Lane, Capt. R. J. Leighton, Brigadier G. Lerwill, Major Sir Arthur Lewey, Lt. I. M. E. Lloyd, Col. A. M. Man, Col. M. Moller, Capt. H. J. A. Moore, Major P. F. Newman, Lt. J. M. Pickard, Col. W. E. Pringle, Brigadier B. B. Rackham, Capt. A. W. Ramsay, D. J. K. Robertson, Esq., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, Lt.-Col. D. Sax, Major L. F. Shaw, Col. R. D. Sherbrooke Walker, Major H. Sherwood, Major S. H. Short, Major R. W. J. Smith, Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson, Col. W. A. Stewart, Brigadier O. H. Tidbury, Col. F. Walden, Capt. C. G. Webber, Major M. P. Weedon, Capt. S. C. W. Weller, Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, and Capt. P. A. S. Wollocombe.

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TAKEN AT THE MILL HILL BRANCH DINNER ON ALBUHERA DAY, 1959

Back row: Ex-R.S.M. E. R. Furniss, ex-Pte. G. Ford, ex-Sgt. C. Cox, M.M.

Front row: Ex-Sgt. T. Garrett, ex-Sgt. W. Bailey, ex-Cpl. J. Grimrod.

Combined ages: 469 years. Combined association with the Regiment: 367 years.

"SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF"

OLD COMRADES NEWS

So far no complaints have been received about the first effort of the O.C.A. letter. This gives me courage to "Have another Go."

The Mill Hill Branch had a very successful dinner on Albuhera Day. Once again the Victory Room at the Ex-Services Club, Marble Arch, was arranged to seat a total of 95 members and guests. Its tables were beautifully laid and decorated with silver from the Regimental Depot. It was difficult to convince some guests that the lovely centre-piece of the 3rd Battalion and the remainder of the silver did *actually belong to the Regiment*—they had no idea it possessed such lovely plate; and to Major Ian Battye we give grateful thanks for allowing it to be used on such an occasion. It certainly "boosted" the Regiment.

We were delighted to welcome as our guests Col. G. Fox, Chairman of the Regimental Association, Col. and Mrs. F. Walden who need no introduction, and the Boys from Chelsea Hospital who had a lovely time.

Our members came from far away, for example: Major and Mrs. Charles Carvell from Lancing, Capt. and Mrs. R. Tarrant and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Chilley from Aldershot, Col. Aymar Clayton from Ascot, Major and Mrs. A. T. Jones from Enfield. It was delightful to see Mrs. Reiswill. Mrs. Clelland and Mrs. Stevenson, who still remember the happy days spent with the Regiment. We hope to meet again next Albuhera Day.

The attendance at the May meeting was exceptional—69 of us had a lovely evening which was graced by the presence of Col. John Willoughby, Major Ian Battye and the Adjutant, Capt. W. Crumley. I personally am always grateful to see our officers whenever possible, and I must impress upon ALL of them that the *Old Comrades really do want to see them oftener*—so, gentlemen, what about it? You led us when we were serving—do not desert us now we are too old to serve in the Regiment.

An old "Die-Hard officer who has just returned

from Malaya after being there for many years has joined our branch. He is Major Stewart Sutherland, who left us when the 4th Battalion was at Gib. For years he and "Drummy" Drew kept the Malaya Branch of the O.C.A. going, even if it meant only those two were present on Albuhera Day. Major Stewart Sutherland has always kept contact with any "Die-Hard" in Malaya, that to we people who knew him there it seems as if he set up camp with Stanford Raffles in his first recce.

Another Old Comrade has been found. Someone handed round our Branch News Letter which was eventually read by Lt. C. T. Escudier, who immediately got in touch with me, and sent his subscription for the Association and Journal. Welcome back to the fold, Lt. Escudier, and don't wander away again.

He joined 7th Middlesex 1924, drummer at Depot 1925, drummer 1st Battalion 1926-31, drummer 2nd Battalion 1931-32. To reserve 1932-39, and transferred to R.A.M.C. Served in France, Egypt, Syria, North Africa and Italy. Now with R.A.S.C., A.E.R. II as C.Q.M.S.

He tells me one of his happiest war-time experiences was to be attached to 2/7th Middlesex at Cragnano, Italy, 1944, when they celebrated Albuhera Day.

BUT MOST IMPORTANT.—He would like to get in touch with anyone who served with his father, 15794 Pte. C. T. Escudier, "B" Company, 21st (S) Battalion Middlesex Regiment, better known as "Islington's Own" and wore shoulder titles denoting same. The formation flash was a red and black diamond. This Battalion was formed in 1915, trained on Highbury Fields and later at Inkerman Barracks, Woking; went to France 1916. Unfortunately Pte. Escudier was killed in the spring offensive, March 21, 1918.

Should any reader have served with the late Pte. Escudier, will they please write to his son at 1 Erskine Road, High Street, Walthamstow, E.17.

Charlie Painter the other day visited this part of the globe. He is now a member of our branch and I hope he will be able to get up to the hut to join us in a chin-wag. He, like young "Nobby" Clark, was a useful man on the track. As a matter of fact, both Charlie and his brother Jack were part of our cricket fixtures, too. Their father was one of the old 5th West Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, the unit which eventually became our 9th Battalion.

Invalids

Mr. J. Geary has been in hospital but is now home. Unfortunately he is not allowed to work again. Still, at the age of 74, it is about time you took life easy, John. What an example you set us, travelling from West Molesey and seldom missed a meeting—Thank you for your efforts and keenness.

Ted Crouch has been under the weather with his right eye, but is much better now.

Have my readers noticed that many who were "crack shots" with the rifle and L.M.G. in their younger days now suffer in the right eye?

Mr. Gargrave, one of our very regular members and staunch supporters, is in hospital at Edgware with

heart trouble. I am sure that I am voicing the wish of us all when I say "God speed your return to full health, and to rejoining us in the Hut again." We can ill afford to have yourself and wife away from our meetings for long.

Glad to say Bob Overton is now well again after a very serious illness. Hope to see you with us shortly, Bob.

Honours and Awards

You read in the last issue about ex-C/Sgt. R. H. Harman of the 32nd Battalion, and of the wonderful work he has done for members of the British Legion. Now the award of the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours comes as a fitting recognition for long years of voluntary service which began after the 1914-18 war, when, badly wounded and more or less disabled himself, vowed he would do all he could to help his comrades in similar circumstances. Such devotion to duty has now been rewarded.

Robert Harman, the Old Comrades of the Regiment, especially the Mill Hill Branch of which you are a member, congratulate you on this well-deserved award.

12th Battalion Middlesex Home Guard Branch

The amalgamation of "A" and "B" Companies and No. 3 Platoon of 12th Battalion Middlesex Regiment Home Guard is now complete and is known as 12 Middlesex H.G. Branch and takes its place within the Association with the other branches.

The following is an extract of a letter received from the Hon. Secretary when the amalgamation was completed:

"I have been asked to write to you on behalf of our association to express our pleasure and delight in becoming a branch of the Middlesex Regimental Association. We feel honoured and proud to be associated with the parent Regiment. We ask you to accept our gift of £10 10s. 0d. as a donation to the funds as an expression of our appreciation.

R. V. TAMLIN (Hon. Sec.).

Wembley, we are proud to accept you.

On Saturday, July 25, "Busty" Hull put the following in the Personal Column of the *Evening News*.

"MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.—'The Die-Hards' Old Comrades, Mill-hill, Saturday, 25th, 7.30."

Within two hours of the paper reaching Mill Hill two old members joined us at our club the same evening, and within a matter of minutes George Pocock was talking to Mr. Bartrop for the first time since 1927. I will give you more news of this meeting in the next issue. But never let anyone say "It's impossible to get the older men to join the branches these days."

This meeting was entirely due to "Busty" and the following is his notes for this issue.

"Many times as a serving soldier as many will recall 'Busty' stood in front of the table with his 'Hat off' and someone said to him, 'Well, Hull, what have you to say?' And usually 'Busty' took a long term view of what was very likely to happen in the very near future and 'reserved his defence,' giving no information

to the opposition often proved to be a rather good thing in the long run. Silence was an asset then, now I find that there is so much to say and no-one prepared to listen that life gets a little boring sometimes, but believe me, gentlemen, when I say that I have no intention of giving in, and as long as I am capable I shall sing the praises of 'The Jolly Die-hards' and continue to appeal to you to come up and see me sometimes. I am still a fine 'buxom lass' and worth looking at and I know you loved me once, so what about it?

"I personally desire to thank our Chairman and Mrs. Newman for all you have done and are doing for the club, and I am sure all members of the Mill Hill Branch will join me in this vote of thanks. Have you read the articles in the Journal, 'Men of the Regiment' and 'Music of the Regiment,' if you have, I am sure you will wish to thank our old friend Major Dick Smith for such a wonderful effort, Dick. To you, all I can say is that there are not many authors who can get me to read their books through twice over—I have now read yours three times and enjoyed every word you have written. Old-timer, I am looking forward to more. Thank you,

"Yours,

"BUSTY."

OBITUARY

6191710 Ex-C.S.M. E. T. Burt

Many of our members will be grieved to hear of the death of "Buzz" Burt who died on Saturday, June 27 1959. He served with the 9th Battalion from April 19, 1913, to July 13, 1919. From July 14, 1919, until May 13, 1936, he was with the 1st Battalion, his home and overseas service being as follows: Home, July 14, 1919, to January 28, 1927; China, January 29, 1927, to November 25, 1927; Home, November 26, 1927, to December 21, 1931; Palestine, December 22, 1931, to January 16, 1933; Egypt, January 17, 1933, to May 12, 1936.

On posting to the Home Establishment again on May 13, 1936, he joined the Depot staff and was the C.S.M. of the Training Company until his discharge on November 7, 1937.

During World War II he joined the Hendon Company of the Home Guard which was afterwards incorporated into the 24th Battalion H.G. the Middlesex Regiment until it was disbanded in 1945. "Buzz" was the liaison officer (H.G. and Civil Defence) with the rank of Lieutenant.

In civil life he was employed by the Hendon Education department as Welfare Officer and was often in the barracks after the youngsters who were "hopping the wag."

His medals were 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal, L.S. and G.S. Medal and M.S.M. He was obviously also entitled to the Defence Medal and the War Medal for his war service with the Home Guard.

787 ex-Pte. F. A. J. Quinn

This old soldier died on July 6, 1959, and had served as a Volunteer in both the Boer War and the Great War of 1914-18.

He originally enlisted on March 2 1901, and in the Boer War served with 40th Squadron, 10th Battalion of the Oxford Imperial Yeomanry, his number then being 1702. He saw quite an amount of active service with the Yeomanry, his unit being complimented on its riding and fighting by Lord Methuen, the Divisional Commander.

In August 1914 he was a member of the Marylebone National Reserve. On September 2 the National Reserve were allowed to join the Regular Army—or Kitchener's Army—as individuals. This Mr. Quinn did and was posted to Mill Hill with the Regimental number of 787. After posting to Fort Borstal and various detachments of the 6th Battalion at Chatham and Gillingham he left for France on Boxing Day, 1914, where he eventually joined the 4th Battalion, of whom he writes in his diary in glowing terms. (Extracts of this diary will later be published.) He served with the 4th Battalion at Kemmel, etc., until invalided home at the end of 1915.

After the 1914-18 War he served in India at Bareilly with the 8th United Provinces Horse.

He was in his 84th year when he died. His medals were Queen's South Africa (with bars Cape Colony, Orange Free State, Transvaal and South Africa 1901), 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

May they rest in peace until the trumpet sounds and when we all fall-in for the Last Muster.

REMINDERS

Still more readers are required for the Regimental Journal. It's the "tops" now, so just fill in the order form inside the front cover and post it—NOW.

All readers are asked to join one of the Association Branches, and to "pull in" by fair or foul methods any old "Die-Hard" they know who has not joined a branch.

The picture "Steady the Drums" is still on sale at the Depot.

Don't forget the Reunion at the Seymour Hall on October 30—GET YOUR TICKETS NOW.

The Regimental Association sent a wreath to the Normandy beaches on "D" Day, and it was the only British one laid on the memorial. This was done for us by Miss Hamilton, who was working with our 2nd Battalion prior to the invasion and followed over soon afterwards. To her I extend the thanks of we Old Comrades. Our friends Messrs. Sadler and Vickery, who were at our last gathering, will be pleased to know that the wreath was laid, as will also Sgt. Palmer and Cpl. Adams, two more of our members who landed on "D" Day with the 2nd Battalion.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

REGIMENTAL DIARY FOR AUGUST

Aug. 3.

1898—H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Middlesex. Our first Colonel-in-Chief.

Aug. 4.

1788—77th Regiment arrive for the first time in India. 1914—World War I. War declared on Germany. 1916—Battle of Rumi, 2/10th Battalion.

- Aug. 6.
1915—Landing at Suvla, 2/10th Battalion.
1945—First atomic bomb on Japan.
- Aug. 14.
1945—Japan surrenders.
- Aug. 15.
1917—British cross the Ancre.
1945—V.J. Day.
- Aug. 16.
1917—Battle of Langemark, 2nd, 1/7th, 1/8th, 12th and 16th Battalions.
- Aug. 18.
1921—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales appointed Colonel-in-Chief of The Middlesex Regiment. Our second Colonel-in-Chief.
- Aug. 21.
1918—2nd Battle of Somme.
1918—Battle of Albert, 4th, 1/7th and 1/8th Battalions.
- Aug. 23.
1914—Battle of Mons, 1st and 4th Battalions. Gallant fight by 4th Battalion, who had twice as many casualties as any other unit in the British Army in this action.
- Aug. 26.
1776—Battle of Brooklyn, 57th Regiment.
1914—Battle of Le Cateau, 1st and 4th Battalions.
1918—Battle of Scarpe 1918—Battle of Arras.
- Aug. 27.
1914—Retreat from Mons, 1st and 4th Battalions.
- Aug. 31.
1918—2nd Battle of Bapaume, 4th and 19th Battalions.
1921—Official end of World War I.
Were YOU there? If so, let's hear from you.

HORNSEY BRANCH O.C.A.

As a member of the Regular or Territorial Battalions I am sure you appreciate the value of comradeship and service—it is something worth holding on fast to in this world today. Have you therefore considered as a natural extension of your service to Queen and Country, you have also a duty to discharge to your comrades who have served with you, and in particular those who are perhaps less fortunately placed than yourself? You may be wondering how you can help. You can by becoming a member of the Regimental Associations for 3s. a year. If you have the idea that the Old Comrades only exists for parades with medals, then you are quite wrong. It is one of the greatest organisations in the country looking after the interests of both serving and ex-serving members of the Middlesex Regiment. We provided houses for the disabled, employment, also a helping hand in hardships. So if you are a member of the Hornsey Branch, why not bring more members to the branch on any Wednesday or Saturday evenings. Meet old friends, play darts, cards, and bring your wives to dance with to the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.

This year we went to the Royal Tournament and all had a swell time.

We are having our annual outing in September. If you would like to come, then please write to us for particulars.

Also, if we get enough support, we are going to have a dinner on November 7 at the T.A. Centre, Hornsey, at 10s. 6d. per head. Full details can be had from the Secretary, Mr. A. E. Sills.

A. E. SILLS (Secretary),
Hornsey Branch, O.C.A.

EX-CORPORAL C. W. HANSHAW

Cpl. Christopher William Hanshaw was discharged to pension on July 30, 1959, after 23 years' service with the Regiment.

He enlisted at Mill Hill, September 8, 1936, and at the time of his enrolling was the first man under the new system devised by Hore-Belisha, whereas recruits who were under the minimum physical requirements were sent to Aldershot for physical training and development. Cpl. Hanshaw attended this course and was the first successful applicant to enlist in the Regular Army.

After completing his recruit training at the Depot, he was posted to the 2nd Battalion at Portsmouth in January 1937. Completing his training with the Home Battalion, he was posted to the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong, February 12, 1938, arriving in the throes of the Battalion's conversion into a machine-gun battalion.

When the Japanese invaded Hong Kong, Cpl. Hanshaw was detached from the Battalion at H.Q., where he helped to destroy documents to prevent them falling into the hands of the enemy. With the remainder of the garrison, he was made a prisoner of war, to experience four years of suffering and misery and to see examples of great courage and comradeship shown by those officers and men of whom so little has been said. The 1st Battalion, whose full story is yet to be written.

He was one of the prisoners on the *Lisbon Maru* who were being transported from Hong Kong to Japan when the ship was torpedoed by an American submarine on October 1, 1942. He had the unusual experience of seeing the torpedoes from the submarine coming towards the ship. It so happened that whilst our men were below decks, assembling for roll call, Cpl. Hanshaw was on deck in the "heads" answering the calls of nature. As soon as the attack commenced, the Japanese forgot the prisoner in the excitement of the action, which gave Hanshaw a chance to see what was happening. Whilst watching the track of a torpedo that missed the target he was seen by the guard, promptly beaten on the head and kicked below decks. He told his comrades below the cause of the running and shouting on deck. He was disbelieved. Then there was the explosion. He was then believed. Not being able to swim, he held to a piece of debris from the ship until picked up. He was one of the fortunate ones. Having lost all his clothes, he was eventually given some old coolie's vermin-ridden rags, remnants of garments he had to use for a considerable time. He explains his experiences in his diary he calls "The Lost Four Years."

Returning home on release from the P.O.W. camp at the end of the war, he travelled via America.

After a short period in civil life, he re-enlisted in the Regiment, serving at the Depot and with the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong and on detachment in Singapore. His service with FARELF was from May 15,

1949 to September 3, 1952. From September 4, 1952, until his discharge he was employed at the Depot.

He was originally appointed a lance-corporal (September 29, 1947) and local corporal (May 21, 1948), reverting on posting to 1st Middlesex. Again promoted to lance-corporal (January 31, 1955) whilst on the Q.M. Staff, he gained his second stripe (April 13, 1955). Employed as caterer to the Sergeants' Mess at the Depot, he was promoted A/Sergeant (June 9, 1958), relinquishing the rank on December 29, 1958.

Cpl. Hanshaw was discharged with an "Exemplary" character and is in possession of the following medals: 1939-45 Star, Pacific Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, General Service Medal with clasp "Malaya."

R.W.J.S.

BIRTH

STOCKEN.—On Saturday, May 30, at the Hammersmith Hospital, to Patricia Ann (*nee* Ablitt) and Peter Ashford Stocken, a daughter (Fiona Ann).

DEATHS

HAYWOOD.—We regret to announce the death on May 16 of Mr. Haywood, who lived in Hounslow and who has been employed at the British Legion Poppy Factory for some time. A member of the 8th Battalion represented the Association at the funeral.

FOLEY.—Patrick Foley, who served with the Regiment from 1890 to 1912 and who held the L.S. and G.C. Medal, died in June. His funeral was attended by Sgt. Moran from the Depot, and at the request of the family, his coffin was draped with the Regimental flag. Mr. Foley was 87 when he died and for many years was a Regimental Sgt.-Major.

BURT.—Mr. E. Burt, who has been for many years a regular reader of the Journal and member of the Association, died in hospital on June 27. A wreath was sent from the Association and we were also represented at the funeral by a W.O. from the Depot.

BAGNALL.—Mr. Bagnall, who has lived for many years with his wife and family in one of our Regimental Cottages at Mill Hill, died suddenly on June 29. Mr. Bagnall served with the Regiment in the 1914-19 war and was disabled. His funeral was attended by a representative from the Depot.

QUINN.—Ex-Pte. No. 787 F. A. J. Quinn died at the age of 83 on July 6. Mr. Quinn served with the 4th Battalion and an N.C.O. from the Depot attended his funeral at Feltham.

TAYLOR.—We regret to announce the death on July 19 of S/15938 Pte. F. Taylor, who served with the Regiment from 1908 to 1915 at the age of 72. Unfortunately we did not know of his death until too late for the Regiment to be represented at the funeral.

CORRESPONDENCE

Stanbridge House,
Oakfield Corner,
Amersham, Bucks.

July 23, 1959.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

I am sure that many "Die-Hards" are grateful to Major R. W. J. Smith for his excellent articles "Men

of the Regiment" and "Music in the Regiment" in the June number of the Journal. I enjoyed reading both of them immensely and so was a little sorry to see that he apparently had been misinformed about the 8th Battalion. The 8th Battalion certainly did not adopt "Sir Manley Power" about 1926; from the time I joined the battalion in 1920 until it became the 11th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment (8th Middlesex), I can assure you that it always played "Paddy's Resource." After four years' service in the 2nd Battalion I was proud and pleased to march again to the 2nd Battalion's tune. After the conversion "Paddy's Resource" was still played, but as a second tune to the march of the Parachute Regiment.

I am tempted to suggest that, having dealt with an Irish connection of the 2nd Battalion, Major Smith should turn his eyes towards Scotland. I well remember that when I left the 2nd Battalion in 1917 to go as second-in-command of 2nd Lincolnshire, we had just received a draft containing members of some half-a-dozen different regiments. I said good-bye to Lt.-Col. J. Hamilton Hall, our C.O., and remarked jokingly that I would not be surprised to find men wearing the kilt when I next saw the 77th. Eight months later I returned to find the pipers of the 16th Battalion installed.

This pipe band was able to play the first part of "Paddy's Resource" on their pipes; the second part defeated them. They were held in great affection by the battalion, and unsuccessful efforts were made to retain them after the war.

Yours sincerely,
E. E. F. BAKER.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill,
N.W.7.
July 26, 1959.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

May I, in your columns, thank Brigadier E. E. F. Baker for his remarks and information in his letter of July 23, 1959.

I am afraid that it was not wrong information that caused me to say that "Sir Manley Power" was the 8th Battalion march. It was an error on my part when checking the typed copy sent to you. My hand-written notes said "Paddy's Resource," but I failed to read thoroughly and check the typed copy sent to you; for that there is no excuse and I apologise to your readers. I did not know that "Paddy's Resource" was played in 1920, if not earlier, by the 8th Battalion, and am grateful for the information given by Brigadier Baker.

Criticism and information of regimental notes that I may at any time write is always welcome and I do hope that readers will write to me and tell me of regimental happenings. All anecdotes are grist to the mill; stories that seem of no importance often put me on the scent of interesting matters.

Our connection with Scotland is a very interesting one; we once had thirteen Campbells serving with the 57th. Major McKay, of the 16th (Public Schools) Service Battalion referring to the 77th Montgomery

Highlanders and 77th Atholl Highlanders, successfully asked permission from the War Office to recruit a band of pipers. These pipers were transferred to the 2nd Battalion early in 1918, on the disbandment of the 16th (P.S.) Battalion, and headed the battalion on the official entry into Mons in November 1918.

I hope to write a small article about our pipe band in a later issue of the Journal. The stories of Cockneys, Jocks and the "Howling Haggis" are very amusing.

Yours sincerely,

DICK SMITH.

Flat 2

341 Finchley Road, N.W.3.

June 28, 1959

THE EDITOR.

O.C.A. News

DEAR SIR,

It is a welcome feature to the Journal. I have occasion to read the Journals of other regiments and corps which I have been associated with during the 1939/45 War, and I have noticed, in most cases, that the news of their O.C.A.s is inserted AFTER the news of their battalions, squadrons, companies, etc., under separate headings for each branch. This seems an admirable method of "putting it over," as, naturally, an O.C.A. member can immediately turn to his appropriate column and find out about the doings of his own local pals.

Provided that the secretaries of each branch will give their quarterly support to the Editor, this should be a successful item. I feel that as far as the Mill Hill Branch is concerned, this support will be continually forthcoming. When in Malaya, I informed Col. Maurice Browne from time to time of the position of the Malayan Branch, but this was before it had been decided to incorporate O.C.A. news in the Journal. I hope that you will receive other letters putting forward the above suggestion. Bravo, Mr. Editor, "Carry on!"

G. STEWART SUTHERLAND,
(Major rtd.)

Thank you, but the majority of readers prefer the news of Old Comrades to be published under one heading.—EDITOR.

c/o Barclay's Bank, D.C.O.,
Adderley Street,

Cape Town,
South Africa.
July 25, 1959.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of the June 1959 issue of the Journal and, as usual, I derive a good deal of pleasure in reading it from cover to cover and, as an ex-member of the 9th Battalion (T.A.) (1912-18), I am particularly interested in your comments on page 262 particularly in regard to news relating to O.C.A. Branches.

I, too, have noticed that very little space has been given to O.C.A. news in the past and I, and I am sure many others, will look forward to being able to read more of the Association's activities in the future.

I am of the opinion that Old Comrades news should be published *in toto* rather than under the respective Battalion notes as at present, each set of notes being

covered by a sub-heading showing the name of the Battalion to which they refer.

Such notes are of considerable interest to me as a member of the 9th Middlesex O.C.A. Branch, living some 6,000 miles away from the U.K. and being unable to meet old pals at H.Q. or elsewhere.

I am, however, compensated for this to some extent as I quite frequently receive very interesting letters from my old friend Mr. Jack Taylor, who, as you know, is Secretary of the 9th Battalion Middlesex O.C.A. Branch.

May I take this opportunity of wishing the Journal every success and that it may receive increased support in the future and at the same time compliment you on the high standard of this publication.

Although I severed my active connection with the Regiment in 1918, on appointment to a commission in the Indian Army (27th Punjab) and from 1939 to 1945 served as a Staff Captain (A) with the A.I.F. in Australia, I am still very attached to The Middlesex Regiment with which I spent very many happy times both in England and India.

Yours faithfully,

H. G. EDEN.

Thank you for your kind remarks.—EDITOR.

MEN OF THE REGIMENT

Second-Lieutenant Rupert Price Hallowes, V.C.,
M.C., 4th Battalion The Duke of Cambridge's Own
(Middlesex Regiment)

Napoleon said of Marshal Ney: "He is the bravest of the brave." In the Halls of Valhalla, Ney and Hallowes sit side by side.

Rupert Price Hallowes was born on May 5, 1881, at Redhill, Surrey, the son of Dr. F. B. Hallowes, F.R.C.S., and on the distaff side, a grandson of the Rector of Checkly, Staffs. He was educated at Conyngnam House, Ramsgate, and at Haileybury College. A nice tranquil and peaceful background. However, a little noise now and again interrupted this peaceful atmosphere as we find him at Bisley where he was a keen shot for Haileybury and in their Bisley team for the years 1896 and 1897.

On leaving college he was employed by the Manual Tinplate Works at Aberavon, where he was eventually assistant manager. His experience with the rifle team had evidently given him a taste for soldiering although not as a professional. The new Territorial Army that had been formed in 1908 opened up a new vista for him and in 1909 he was gazetted a second-lieutenant in the Artists' Rifles, that unit which has supplied so many officers to the British Army. After serving the period of his engagement, he retired to give full time to his career.

A popular man with the management and his workmen, he was in the full bloom of his manhood during the summer of 1914, a glorious summer of sunshine such as we are enjoying this year. Boats on the river, boaters on the head, gracious young ladies in their white blouses and pleated skirts, parasols dangling gracefully from neat wrists and the "Johnnies" and "Mashers"

idling their holidays away whilst being looked upon with scorn by our military minded neighbours across the Channel. Amongst this seemingly effeminate gathering of Englishmen was Rupert Price Hallowes.

August 1914—the Kaiser, that sabre-rattling self-named War Lord lets loose the Dogs of War!

The dozing lion of England stirred and found his young cubs willing to show their teeth and claws, and use them in his defence. So much so that the Recruiting Office in Whitehall and those in other centres were besieged by volunteers to enlist. The roads outside the buildings were impassable to traffic. With the first of those on the doorstep was R. P. Hallowes, who on August 5, 1914, enlisted as a private in his old corps, the Artists' Rifles. Two days after Christmas that year he landed in France as a reinforcement to the "Contemptible Little Army." The men who had fought so valiantly at Mons, at Le Cateau, at Nery, and then thrown the German Army back from the Marne to the Aisne.

After training in trench warfare during the early winter months of 1915, Hallowes was gazetted to a commission on April 7, 1915, to the 4th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, as a Temporary Second-Lieutenant. He now joined the "Men of Mons." The 4th Battalion had lost in killed at Mons more than any other two regiments who took part in that battle, and only three less than double the next highest in casualties. On passing other regiments on the line of march after the battle, they were cheered by them—surely as great an honour the British soldier can bestow on a comrade-in-arms. Here was a MAN joining MEN. Listen to what the British Vice-consul at Liege wrote: "A German General told me enthusiastically that he had never dreamt of such magnificent bravery as that displayed by the Middlesex Regiment in the fighting from August 23 to 27. The accuracy of their firing was a revelation; they hit here (tapping his forehead) every time. Their coolness was wonderful and their trench work splendid." Here was a child of Mars joining veterans who had been tempered in the furnace of war and found true.

The night of July 18, 1915, saw the 4th Battalion relieving the 1st Gordons in the trenches near Hooze in preparation to take advantage of the explosion of a mine to improve our position. The troops were to seize and hold the mine crater after the explosion. The date for this operation was set for the evening of July 19.

At 7 p.m., the time chosen for the explosion, a solitary big gun—a 9.2—boomed out, and the shell burst near the enemy position. This was immediately followed by the explosion of the mine. There were three distinct shocks, the ground heaved and rocked for some seconds and then clods of earth, bricks, wood and Germans began to fall. Forty seconds after the first shock the troops ascended the parapet and made their way to the mine crater. Almost at once, they were met by a fusillade of fire from the enemy. Our heavy guns opened fire on selected points and field guns joined in the melee; into this holocaust the "Die-Hards" went and occupied the crater. An idea of the extent of this vast explosion can be gained when realising that ten men were killed by falling debris and two stores were completely buried.

The Germans launched a counter-attack shortly before dark. Our troops were, however, short of bombs and were not able to advance down the communication trench to repulse the enemy. Perceiving this, 2/Lt. Hallowes, with utter indifference to danger, got out of his trench and opened fire on the Germans, killing and wounding several of them. He then helped his soldiers in making a block dug-out in the communication trench and then under enemy shell fire rebuilt a parapet that had been blown in by a shell. His utter disregard to danger in exposing himself to the enemy's fire, gave him a position from which he could see the enemy advancing to the attack along the trench. He then, in addition to gallantry, showed his ability as a marksman. Not for nothing had he been a member of the shooting team at Bisley. There they were stationary objects made into moving targets. At Hooze, he made moving targets into stationary Huns!

For his gallantry in this action he was awarded the Military Cross. He was singularly modest, like so many brave men; he could not be persuaded to tell his relatives anything of the gallant action for which it had been given to him. Now he was a fully fledged member of a brave team.

The War Diary tells us of bombing attacks and counter attacks, trenches lost and regained, all in short terse sentences. No. 73 Sgt. W. Boyd is awarded a clasp to his D.C.M. that he had won at Spion Kop, January 24, 1900, during the Boer War; Pte. W. Polley is awarded the D.C.M. Such entries occur as "nothing of importance happened today." 2/Lt. Farr and a Belgian artillery officer were wounded by a German minenwerfer bomb, two of our Privates and two Belgian telephonists wounded by a burst of fire from enemy mortars. Position of enemy mortars observed but could not be knocked out by the Belgian field guns as we had no one left to call up the guns as the whole Belgian observing staff were wounded." Brave deeds daily were the order of things; 2/Lt. Lepper awarded an M.C. and Lt.-Col. Hull awarded the Order of St. Vladimir, whilst five other ranks are awarded the Medal of St. George. Then a few day's rest during which time there was bombing practice, machine-gun training and company training. In the afternoons the Brigade Sports were held and the Diary is more effusive about the battalion being 1st and 2nd in the 100 yds., 1st in the high jump, etc., than telling the story of a day's shelling and casualties. The men with Lt. Hallowes could play hard as well as fight hard. All the army knew they could die hard! The day following the sports was a Sunday. The Diary goes on to tell us "Holy Communion at 8.30 a.m. Divine Service at 11.30 a.m. Half the battalion digging under R.E. supervision at supporting point in H 16 c." As a grandson of the rector, one can be sure R. P. Hallowes attended both services. He and his men feared God, but they feared not the enemy.

Fierce fighting took place between the end of July and August 9, but after that there was relative quiet until the last week in September, when an offensive action was undertaken by the British with the object of holding the left wing of the Duke of Württemberg's command and so prevent them from sending reinforce-

ments to the La Bassée area where a British attack was about to take place.

At 3.50 a.m. of the morning of September 25 there was a screech of shells as our guns spewed on the Germans the contents from their iron maws. This rain of steel continued on the enemy front lines until 4.5 a.m., then a lift in the range so that the shells fell on the German rear trenches until 4.20 a.m. Four mines were exploded, two at 4.19 a.m. and two at 4.19½ a.m. The British infantry advanced to the attack, the left against Bellewaarde Farm and the 3rd Division, which included the 4th Middlesex, against Sanctuary Wood. The German front line trenches were soon captured, but the enemy concentrated a mass of artillery behind their lines and our new positions were subjected to so heavy a bombardment that a part of our line could not be held, though the position held by the 4th Battalion was retained and was consolidated. From this time on until October 1 the trenches held by the battalion were subjected to four heavy and prolonged bombardments and repeated counter-attacks. Shells of all sizes rained down on our men, mortar bombs and bombing attacks by the German raiding parties were incessant. The ground between the opposing lines were strewn with dead and wounded. In the early hours of September 27, 2/Lt. Hallows, perceiving two wounded men of the Royal Scots lying out in the open, left his trench and coolly superintended their removal to a place of safety. Scarcely had he returned to the trenches than the Germans started another severe bombardment and shells of every description came raining down. The range was very accurate, and fearing that some of the men might begin to flinch, 2/Lt. Hallows, utterly regardless of his own danger, climbed to the parapet to put fresh heart into them. This action of climbing on to the parapet he did on more than one occasion. He did this to show his men, in their own language, "it's not yours if your number isn't on it."

Many times during this week of heavy fighting, of attack and counter-attack, he made daring reconnaissance of the German positions, crawling right up to their lines by night to gain information. When the supply of bombs was running short—which was continuously happening—he went back under very heavy shell fire, and brought up fresh supplies. The official communication says: "he most brilliantly distinguished himself, displaying the greatest bravery and untiring energy and setting a magnificent example to his men." In a letter, one of his men says: "He seemed to be everywhere, giving encouragement to everyone." Pte. Bennett, another soldier who was in this fight, said: "he knew no fear and he never sent a man where he would not go himself."

September 30 saw the Germans launch another fierce attack on our positions and our supply of bombs was lamentably low. We could not counter-attack owing to this shortage, so had to dig in and keep what few bombs were available to repel a hostile bomb attack. Without a supply of bombs for this purpose we might be driven out of the trenches. The Middlesex men under Hallows held the position in the Pollock Street, Cranston Terrace area. When the attack was launched by the Germans and the alarm given it was noticed by

an officer who rushed to man his post that the garrison of B4 was in the communication trench still. They had not failed to go to their posts but had been killed by enemy bombs.

The garrison of the remaining defence positions now had to fight, and to fight with courage. It was now the last degree of resistance, to resist to the last round and to the last man. The men were there; the leader was there. These were the Men of Mons who had defied the German might and had hurled back the German hordes at the Marne. They now had a leader who had not had his baptism of fire with them, but he had proved his worth in the subsequent fights. A leader to whom the Grim Reaper was only a scarecrow with a rusty grass-cutting tool, a leader to whom courage was natural and who knew that man was born to die, but who intended to die a man and not a craven. For six days had he given examples of great valour and encouraged his soldiers during the fierce fighting. This most heroic officer had braved death successfully and had on numerous occasions run along the parapet to encourage his men and to allay the fear of death, but on September 30 he met his inevitable end. He was on this day wounded; mortally so. Knowing the importance of holding the position, he called his men around him as he lay dying, and encouraged them, telling them to hold their ground to the last.

In Olympus all was stilled; and the Gods of the Ancients who venerate the valiant waited to hear the dying words of a gallant gentleman. His words to his soldiers, words to thrill unborn generations of "Die-Hards" were:

"Men, we can only die once; if we have to die, let us die like men—like 'Die-Hards.'"

And in the cool of Canterbury Cathedral, the shade of Col. Inglis murmured "Amen." R.W.J.S.

Notes

1. The object of the attack on Bellewaarde was as a subsidiary operation to the Battle of Loos which began on September 30, 1915. The official dispatches speak of these intentions as having been "most effectively achieved." At Loos, two "Service" battalions (11th and 13th) for the first time took part in a set battle, therefore all battalions of the Regiment in France or Flanders (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 1/7th, 1/8th, 11th and 13th) were engaged in the main or subsidiary operations.

2. The Victoria Cross, Military Cross, 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal with palm-leaf Mention in Dispatches are now in the Officers' Mess of the Depot, having been presented to the Regiment by the nephew and godson of 2/Lt. Hallows, Major F. C. Hallows, The Welch Regiment.

3. To show their appreciation, the staff and employees of the Manual Tin Plate Works at Aberavon bore the cost of a new X-ray room at Aberavon General Hospital.

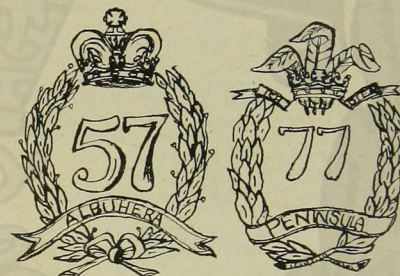
4. Col. Inglis was the Commanding Officer of the 57th Regiment who called to his men "Die hard, the 57th, die hard," at the battle on Albuhera ridge, May 16, 1811. Colonel of 57th from 1830 to 1835, he died at Ramsgate in November, 1835, and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral.

5. The Victoria Cross awarded to 2/Lt. Hallows was the first of five awarded to the Regiment in the Great War, 1914-19.

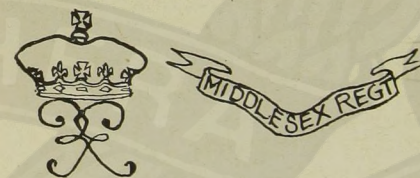
HISTORY OF THE REGIMENTAL BADGE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

On July 1, 1881, the Infantry of the Line was reorganised and formed into territorial regiments. The 57th (West Middlesex) under this reorganisation became the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), the 77th (East Middlesex) became the 2nd Battalion, whilst the Royal Elthorne Light Infantry Militia and the Royal East Middlesex Militia became the 3rd and 4th (Militia) Battalions respectively.

The marrying-up of the two badges of the old 57th and 77th, the regular battalions, to form our present badge was, in the writer's opinion, one of the finest examples in the Army. The badges on June 30, 1881, were as illustrated below.



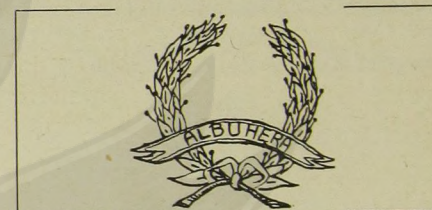
The present badge is a combination of these two badges, with the addition of the Duke of Cambridge's coronet and cypher, plus a scroll giving the territorial title, "Middlesex Regiment," viz.:



The 57th Regiment had borne the title "West Middlesex" since 1782 when territorial titles were first bestowed on regiments. During the American War the army were unable to find sufficient recruits, so a plan was devised to associate each regiment with a particular county and to recruit men from that county for service with the regiment bearing its territorial title. Why the 57th was allotted to this county is not apparent. The regiment when raised by Col. Arabin in 1755 recruited its men from Gloucestershire, Somerset and towns and villages in the west of England. Justices of the peace and magistrates were ordered "to make a speedy and effectual levy of such able-bodied men

as were not younger than 17, not older than 45, not papists, not under 5 ft. 4 inches in height, not having vote for parliament men, not exercising lawful calling or employment, or not supporting or maintenance, to serve as soldiers." The Colonel in 1782 was an Argyll Highlander (General John Campbell of Strachur), and very partial to his own countrymen. There were 16 out of 37 officers, and 138 out of 360 men from the country north of the Tweed. It was not a case of the Campbell's are coming; the Campbell's were here! However, the 57th, in spite of this background became the West Middlesex.

The wreath of laurels and a scroll bearing the word ALBUHERA were awarded for the bravery of the regiment at that battle. This emblem of honour was authorised in 1816, at the end of the Peninsular War of 1793-1814 and became part of the badge worn from then onwards. In 1873, alterations were made in the uniforms of the army amongst which was the introduction of the universal button for non-commissioned officers and men throughout the service. This meant that the rank and file were deprived of the privilege of wearing the laurel wreath and Albuhera scroll so prized by the regiment, the new button merely bearing the Royal coat of arms, as worn by all regiments. Col. Logan applied for, and after lengthy correspondence in which he pointed out the history of the wreath and scroll, gained permission for the badge to be worn on the forage caps and the shoulder straps of the officers, and on the glengarry caps and collars of the tunics and frocks by the men. The badge was as follows



The 77th had borne the title "East Middlesex" since 1807. The regiment had been raised in 1787 for service in India (the third regiment to bear this number, the other two being the Montgomery Highlanders in 1756 and the Atholl Highlanders in 1775) and had not received a territorial title at the time of its formation. This title had been borne originally by the 39th Regiment of Foot, which adopted the territorial title of "Dorsetshire" on the renewal of the Peninsular War (Why Dorsetshire seems strange as the county is Dorset. The name Dorset Regiment was adopted in 1951. One may as well say Kentshire or Sussexshire.) When the 77th returned from India in 1807, it received the title East Middlesex. Its history in this respect was similar to that of the 57th. It received its intake after its arrival home from volunteers of the West York, North and South Mayo, Northampton, South Lincoln and West Suffolk Militias.

The Prince of Wales Feathers in plume, with the "Ich Dien" (I serve) has been part of the badge since

1810, when Royal permission from King George III was obtained by Richard Lambart, 7th Earl of Cavan who became Colonel of the 77th, March 25, 1808. Lt.-General Lord Cavan had the plume on his Company Colour when he was serving with the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards and is believed to have brought the emblem with him to the 77th on his appointment to Colonel. From the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603) each company had carried a Colour. This was the practice with the Line Regiments until the reign of King William III (1689-1702), when only three Colours were carried and these by the Grenadier, the Pike and the Musketeers. During the reign of Queen Anne (1702-14) the present number of two, the Colour of the Monarch and the Regimental Colour was introduced. The Guards carried on the tradition of each company having its own Colour and the badge is still worn on the Colour of the company commanded by Lord Cavan. Although Royal permission was not obtained until 1810, the plume had been worn without permission, from the date Lord Cavan had been appointed Colonel.

The badge has been that of the Prince of Wales since 1346 when it was adopted by Edward the Black Prince after the Battle of Crecy. Originally it was believed to have been that of John, the blind King of Bohemia, a story that is now discredited. It is really the badge of the heir apparent, in whom it is invested, whether created Prince of Wales or not. The motto "I serve," if carried out not only gives pleasure to the recipient, but also joy to the server. In the notes at the end of this article I give extracts from an article by Major Pearce-Gould, now serving with the 1st Battalion. They explain far better than anything I can write here what is the meaning of the motto "I serve."



The laurel wreath and scroll bearing the honour "Peninsula" was granted to the 77th for its valour during the war in the Iberian Peninsula, 1793-1814. Of the part played by the 5th and the 77th, when charged by the whole of the French cavalry at El Bodon, September 25, 1811, Col. Napier, the historian of the Peninsular War, says: "The multitudinous squadrons, rending the skies with their shouts, and closing upon the glowing square like the falling edges of a burning crater, were as instantly repulsed, scorched and scattered abroad; and the rolling peal of musketry had scarcely ceased to echo in the hills, when bayonets glittered at the edge of the smoke, and with firm and even step the British Regiments came forth like the holy men from the Assyrian's furnace." The honour "Peninsula" and the laurel wreath were well won.

The Duke of Cambridge's coronet and cypher had

been borne on the Colours of the 77th Regiment since December 14, 1876, and the regiment was named The Duke of Cambridge's Own from June 20 the same year.

The cypher is two "G"s entwined and is taken from the first letters of his Christian and surnames, George Guelph.

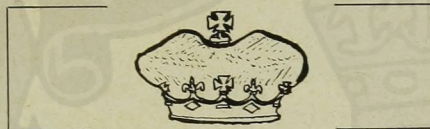
The two "G"s, back to back in script, i.e.



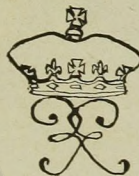
and entwined as follows:



This cypher is surmounted by the Royal Ducal Coronet.



gives the emblem as we usually see it.



The above badges and emblems had been carried by the two regiments, the 57th and 77th, during their separate existence until June 30, 1881. The new badge, taken into use after the introduction of the Territorial system combines all as follows. The laurel wreath was common to both units, the honour "Albuhera" was that of the 57th, the badge of the Prince of Wales was that of the 77th. The two units had now become part of the newly named regiment, The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), therefore the Duke's coronet and cypher is shown on the centre of the badge and common to both. Under the whole is a silver scroll bearing the regiment's territorial title, "Middlesex Regiment."

This gives us the badge, proudly worn by 46 battalions during the years of World War I, and a badge to be seen in every theatre of war of those years; and in many climes since. The wanderer can dig in the sands of the desert, crack the ice in the Arctic, turn a stone in the Italian Alps, help till the soil in France and Flanders, rest in the shade of an Indian village, toil over Greenland's icy mountains, rest a while in Russian Riga, haul in a well in Hong Kong or disturb the sediment beneath

the oceans and the China seas; in each of these places he is liable to unearth in bronze, in brass or in silver this insignia:



May it never be sullied.

R.W.J.S.

Notes

1. In 1920, the Regimental title, with that of many other regiments, was given a change of title, with the County name of the regiment first, i.e. The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own).

2. Quotations from an article by Major Pearce-Gould in respect of the motto are:

"I serve." What a splendid motto! But there comes the thought, whom do I serve? By our daily actions we show whom we serve. Our actions are transformed and enriched when we place ourselves under the banner of one greater than ourselves.

Alas, only too often do our actions shout aloud "I serve myself," and the results of this selfishness in ourselves is reflected not only in all around us, but in the Country and in the World.

We bear a noble motto. Prince Edward, the Black Prince, was not only of Royal blood, but stood in his own right above all his contemporaries as a soldier, statesman and man. He had the right to command. He might have been given the motto "I command," but he chose "I serve."

A motto which might well have been inscribed above the Cross of Him who said: "I am come among you, as he that serveth."

St. Paul himself took this motto when he introduced himself to the Corinthians as "Paul, the servant of Christ." Only service approaching his level is worthy of the words "Ich Dien."

Yes indeed, we bear a noble motto, but let us ever be worthy of it by carrying out its meaning.

3. The Duke of Cambridge was the Regiment's first Colonel-in-Chief, 1898-1904. The Prince of Wales as such, and as King Edward VIII was Colonel-in-Chief of the Middlesex Regiment from 1921 to 1936. The emblems of our two Colonels-in-Chief are both borne on the Regimental badge, although part of the badge prior to their appointment.

4. The Duke of Cambridge was a grandson of King George III and a cousin to Queen Victoria. His father was the seventh and youngest son of King George III. During the first two months of his life, he was the prospective successor to the thrones of Great Britain and of Hanover. For many years he was Commander-in-Chief of the Forces. He was Honorary Colonel-in-Chief to the Forces from November 1, 1894 to March 17, 1904.

5. The name Guelph is the Italian form of the German word Welf, which means wolf. This name began as a Christian name of a very powerful race of nobles in the 11th and 12th centuries. The family were a fighting stock in Bavaria (for many years the family had a feud with the Ghibellines); one member of the family, Henry the Proud, was the original Duke of Bavaria. His son, Henry the Lion, was one of the most powerful princes in German history. The words "A Guelph" was a battle-cry of this courageous clan and their followers and was used much in the fighting in Italy during the Middle Ages. The family became Electors of Hanover and sovereigns of Great Britain from 1714—George I—to 1837. King William IV was the last king of this name, and the last sovereign of the name was Queen Victoria, who married Prince Albert of Saxe—Coburg—Gotha. King George V changed the family name to Windsor after the outbreak of war with Germany in 1914. Queen Elizabeth II retains the family name of Windsor.

6. The Duke's coronet (of grandchildren of a sovereign) is a jewelled circlet ornamented with two crosses pattée, two strawberry leaves and four fleur-de-lis, the crosses placed back and front, the strawberry leaves on each side and the fleur-de-lis between.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1959, at 4.20 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier G. Lerwill, O.B.E., M.C., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E., Major E. L. Heywood, Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.

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

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

Report. The sum of £401 12s. 6d. has been received in respect of subscriptions and Entrance Fees to date. The sum of £600 has been invested in 5% Defence Bonds. All members have been circulated in respect of Cricket Week, Club Dinner, At Home and Tennis Tournament.

3. Cocktail Party. It was approved by the meeting that a Cocktail Party be held at the United Service Club in December next. This has been arranged to take place on Friday, December 11. Cost to members, 10s. Further members of his party, 8s.

4. Presentation. The Committee approved that a presentation be made to Capt. Sir Harold Gillett to commemorate his year of office as the Lord Mayor of London. Col. Man consented to purchase a suitable present, and the Committee approved of an expenditure not exceeding £20.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.40 p.m.

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

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
June 16, 1959.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1959, at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Brigadier G. Lerwill, O.B.E., M.C., Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D., Major I. H. Battye, M.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major E. L. Heywood, Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., R.S.M. A. Kennick, Mr. A. E. Sills, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Lt.-Col. W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C., R.S.M. M. Wild, R.S.M. J. A. Thom.

1. *Minutes.* The Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated were signed by the Chairman as correct, subject to an amendment in line 10 of Minute 6, in lieu of "or to have notes" to be amended to read "or to have a Regimental Section" in a Brigade Group Journal.

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

3. *Branches.* Arising out of the Secretary's report it was suggested by Major Newman that steps be taken to form additional Branches of the Association in the Regiment's traditional recruiting areas, viz. Hendon, Tottenham, Enfield, Edmonton and Hounslow, and after some discussion, it was proposed by Major Battye, seconded by Col. Clayton and carried unanimously that a Sub-Committee composed of Col. Clayton, Lt.-Col. Brotherton and Mr. Sills be formed to explore such possibilities and render a report at the next meeting.

4. *Finance Committee's Report.* The Chairman informed the meeting that since the last meeting £250 of 5% Defence Bonds and cash to the value of £14 17s. 7d. had been received from the United Services Trustee, being the residue of funds held on behalf of the former 25th Battalion The Middlesex Regimental Fund.

The Finance Committee had under consideration certain proposals submitted by Col. Roberts for switching out of undated into dated securities, and after consulting Messrs. Mullens & Co., recommended that this matter be deferred until the autumn when a possible reaction in the bull market for equities might produce more favourable conditions for affecting such changes. It was resolved that Messrs. Mullens be asked to report on the Association's complete portfolio early in September and that their report be circulated to all members of the Committee before the next meeting.

5. *Capt. H. Jennings.* With reference to the meeting held on March 20, 1959, the Chairman reported that in order to facilitate the implementation of the decision taken at that meeting in the matter of the Jennings' mortgage, a temporary advance had been arranged with Capt. Jennings' Bankers on personal guarantees, thus obviating the necessity for realising any securities for the time being.

Lt.-Col. Robbins informed the Committee that the persons giving the guarantees were in fact the Chairman and Major Hardcastle. The Committee expressed their great appreciation to Col. Fox and Major Hardcastle, and it was agreed that the Regimental Association should indemnify these two members in the event of the guarantees having to be implemented by them.

6. *War Memorial Committee's Report.* The Committee's report and Memorandum for the guidance of the Executive Committee which were both circulated with the Agenda were accepted by the Committee, subject to the addition of "except on compassionate grounds" to paragraph 4 of the latter.

Brigadier Rackham informed the meeting that 41 letters were sent by Registered Post to those on the Waiting List, with the following result: 14 wished to remain; 2 wished their names to be withdrawn; 14 letters returned "Gone away"; 11 have not replied.

7. *Flatlets.* The Chairman reported on the progress made in connection with the application made to the Ministry of Health to purchase the necessary additional piece of land required for the flatlet scheme. It was resolved and carried unanimously that the Chairman be authorised to complete the purchase of the land at a price not exceeding £200.

Proposed by Major Hardcastle, seconded by Brigadier Rackham and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee that the Sub-Committee proceed with their negotiations with the Enfield Borough Council on the basis that the Regimental Association would provide the sum of £4,000 towards cost of the scheme for the erection of six flatlets, excluding the garages.

The War Memorial Committee's report was adopted.

8. *Journal Committee's Report.* Major Battye reported that the Colonel of the Regiment and the Regimental Council had considered the problem of the Regimental Journal which our Committee had submitted to them and their conclusions were:

(a) That it was desirable to retain the Regimental Journal as a purely Regimental publication for the time being.

(b) That expert advice from the trade should be sought on the question of publications, but this be deferred until the Editor is available at Regimental Headquarters on a full-time basis.

(c) That our Committee be asked to carry the financial burden for at least the next two years.

The Colonel of the Regiment wished to place on record his appreciation of the substantial support received from the Regimental Association to enable the Regiment to maintain a Journal.

9. *Other Business.* Secretary. The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Col. Green to the effect that he would suffer a considerable loss in pension if he did not remain on the active list until 1961, and in the circumstances he asked whether the Association would be prepared to defer his appointment as Secretary until April 1, 1961.

Major Clark expressed his willingness to carry on for an additional year, for which the Committee expressed their appreciation, and it was resolved that Col. Green be informed that the Committee approve his appointment as from April 1, 1961, without any other variation to the conditions contained in the Minutes on this subject at the meeting held on November 26, 1958.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.10 p.m.

The next meeting will take place at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, on Wednesday, October 7, 1959.

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

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

June 16, 1959.

SUBSTANTIVE ROLL, WARRANT OFFICERS, COLOUR SERGEANTS AND SERGEANTS

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS I

| Bde. Pos. | Number | Rank | Name | Date of Promotion | Last Known Station |
|--------------|---------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 | 5837545 | W.O.1 | M. Wild | December 7, 1954 | 8 Mx. |
| 9 | 5619855 | W.O.1 | T. McMillan | January 29, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 16 | 6211991 | W.O.1 | A. Kenrick | December 20, 1957 | Depot |
| 17 | 1520025 | W.O.1 | J. Thom | December 26, 1957 | 7 Mx. |
| | 864814 | W.O.1 | R. Budden | December 11, 1958 | Hong Kong Regt. |
| | 5821114 | W.O.1 (Bmr.) | F. Jackson | April 1, 1952 | 1 Mx. |

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS II

| | | | | | |
|----|----------|-------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 5 | 6200940 | W.O.2 | S. Blacknell | April 1, 1952 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 27 | 4267949 | W.O.2 | A. Goodge | May 4, 1954 | 7 Mx. |
| 31 | 6200579 | W.O.2 | F. Firman | May 4, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 34 | 6210526 | W.O.2 | A. Cooper | May 4, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 41 | 6302433 | W.O.2 | S. Bartle | December 7, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 55 | 22221076 | W.O.2 | J. Rodgers | August 26, 1956 | 5 Queen's, T.A. |
| 56 | 6068442 | W.O.2 | R. Dodkins | September 1, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 59 | 6217070 | W.O.2 | W. Thorngood | July 17, 1957 | 8 Mx. |
| 62 | 6206327 | W.O.2 | C. Burgess | July 17, 1957 | Depot |
| | 22193814 | W.O.2 | K. Beale | March 9, 1959 | 1 Mx. |

COLOUR SERGEANTS

| | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2 | 6200792 | C/Sgt. | G. Hockley, B.E.M. | January 1, 1953 | Depot |
| 9 | 6539621 | C/Sgt. | G. Whitehead | January 5, 1954 | E.R.E. Overseas |

| Bde. Pos. | Number | Rank | Name | Date of Promotion | Last Known Station |
|--------------|----------|--------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 11 | 6205098 | C/Sgt. | L. Shrubbs, M.M. | January 22, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 20 | 5949742 | C/Sgt. | H. Davis | December 19, 1955 | 8 Mx. |
| 25 | 6201818 | C/Sgt. | J. Morgan | May 22, 1956 | Depot |
| 40 | 14066481 | C/Sgt. | J. Potter | September 22, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 41 | 14862617 | C/Sgt. | W. Wright | October 2, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 44 | 6203495 | C/Sgt. | R. Cubitt | March 25, 1958 | 7 Mx. |

SERGEANTS

| | | | | | |
|-----|----------|------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 20 | 6197647 | Sgt. | F. Markham | April 1, 1952 | Depot |
| | 14066639 | Sgt. | P. Dive | October 31, 1952 | 1 Mx. |
| 21 | 5781748 | Sgt. | J. Moyse | November 7, 1952 | 1 Mx. |
| 25 | 14476662 | Sgt. | D. Weller | December 16, 1952 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 36 | 6200376 | Sgt. | G. Palmer | May 1, 1953 | Depot |
| 62 | 21014189 | Sgt. | S. Michel | January 8, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 70 | 19039053 | Sgt. | A. Dacosta | January 22, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 76 | 6923739 | Sgt. | E. Steward | January 22, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 88 | 21014210 | Sgt. | R. Reynolds | March 25, 1954 | 7 Mx. |
| 93 | 22229443 | Sgt. | M. Estrap | March 25, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 95 | 22221109 | Sgt. | D. Bailey | April 29, 1954 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 99 | 22229344 | Sgt. | G. Simmons | April 29, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 110 | 6205018 | Sgt. | J. Preston | May 17, 1954 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 114 | 14470810 | Sgt. | D. Walters | May 17, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 121 | 22541432 | Sgt. | J. Dickie | July 13, 1954 | 8 Mx. |
| 131 | 19039445 | Sgt. | A. Nicholson | August 15, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 132 | 22221098 | Sgt. | J. Warner | August 16, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 133 | 22550985 | Sgt. | M. Butler | August 16, 1954 | Colonial Forces |
| 138 | 19145508 | Sgt. | A. Gibbs | September 14, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 139 | 19136022 | Sgt. | W. Smith | September 16, 1954 | 1 Mx. |
| 149 | 22309544 | Sgt. | J. Martin, M.M. | January 12, 1955 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 171 | 5437863 | Sgt. | E. Brooks | February 12, 1955 | 1 E. Surreys |
| 172 | 22259650 | Sgt. | F. Potts | December 13, 1955 | 1 R.W.K. |
| 176 | 22541352 | Sgt. | R. Buckley | December 15, 1955 | E.R.E. U.K. |
| 180 | 22549082 | Sgt. | P. Amor | February 3, 1956 | S.A.S. Regt. |
| 187 | 22276303 | Sgt. | R. Clements | May 33, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 197 | 14465101 | Sgt. | R. Power | September 22, 1956 | Depot |
| 199 | 22375925 | Sgt. | K. Lloyd | December 3, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 200 | 22221320 | Sgt. | K. Partridge | December 3, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 203 | 22588606 | Sgt. | D. Lagden | December 3, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 204 | 22562397 | Sgt. | E. Langford | December 3, 1956 | 1 Mx. |
| 212 | 22787149 | Sgt. | G. Orme | March 7, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 217 | 22774695 | Sgt. | M. Elston | March 7, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 231 | 23526228 | Sgt. | H. Horder | September 10, 1957 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 243 | 22812279 | Sgt. | R. Ford | November 7, 1957 | 8 Mx. |
| 244 | 22823238 | Sgt. | C. Shinn | November 7, 1957 | E.R.E., U.K. |
| 249 | 22542445 | Sgt. | N. Taylor | November 7, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 250 | 6008747 | Sgt. | B. Callaghan | December 27, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 256 | 6211953 | Sgt. | H. Males | January 30, 1958 | E.R.E., Overseas |
| 257 | 22843287 | Sgt. | G. Blackwell | January 30, 1958 | Depot |
| 260 | 6217126 | Sgt. | A. Probert | March 20, 1958 | 1 Mx. |
| | 22517173 | Sgt. | D. Carson | April 28, 1959 | 1 Mx. |

ORDERLY ROOM SERGEANTS

| | | | | |
|----------|--------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 6202735 | W.O.2 | E. Colebeck | January 1, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
| 14476433 | W.O.2 | P. Soper, B.E.M. | January 27, 1958 | Depot |
| 19133915 | C/Sgt. | G. Cripps | October 6, 1958 | Depot E. Surreys |

DRUM MAJORS

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|----------|-----------------|-------|
| 2741385 | C/Sgt. | J. Lewis | August 10, 1957 | 1 Mx. |
|---------|--------|----------|-----------------|-------|

BAND SERGEANTS

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|
| 6200547 | C/Sgt. | W. Grogan | December 23, 1955 | H.C. Bde., Depot |
|---------|--------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|



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