

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," "Serlingapatam," "Alubhara," "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," "Marnes, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914," "Messines, 1914," "17, 18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17, 18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme," 1916, "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Ploeghe," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pulckem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon," "Broodisande," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "Baillieu," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landung at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumania," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murmansk, 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," "Akrit," "Djebel Rounana," "Sicily, 1943," "Francofonte," "Sferro," "Sferro Hills," "Italy, 1944-45," "Anzio," "Caraceto," "Gothic Line," "Monte Grande," "North-West Europe, 1944-45," "Normandy Landing," "Cambes," "Breville," "The Odon," "Caen," "The Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourgeois Ridge," "Troam," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederling," "Le Havre," "The Lower Maas," "Venray," "Meijel," "Gellenkirchen," "Venlo Pocket," "The Rhineland," "Goch," "The Reichwald," "The Rhine," "Lingen," "Brinkum," "Bremen," "Korea 1950-51," "Naktong Bridgehead," "Chongju," "Chongchon II," "Chuan-Ni," "Kapyong-chon," "Kapyong."

Colonel of the Regiment

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

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1st Bn.—Lt.-Col. I. H. Battye, M.B.E.
Depot—Major R. D. Hutchings
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.

Home Counties Brigade

H.Q.: Weymouth Barracks, Canterbury.
Brigade Colonel: Col. H. R. Grace, O.B.E.
D.A.A.G.: Major M. R. H. Stopford.

Regular Battalion

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

Regimental Depot and Regimental Museum

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

Territorial Army Units

7th Bn. Hornsey, N.S.
8th Bn. Hounslow
1st 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.

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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.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), Ingis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7; cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, and crossed "G. Co." Annual subscription 5s. (post free).

Articles, news items, etc., are welcomed from readers; however, the Editor necessarily reserves the right of publication. Such contributions to the Journal should be addressed to the Editor, as above.

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Editor's Comments

Recruiting

We hope that members and friends of the Regiment are doing all they can to support the Colonel of the Regiment's call in the December issue for more Regular recruits. One of the best methods of obtaining recruits is, in our opinion, that of good and wide publicity; and an example of the results to be gained by this method is given in a recent report from the O.C. Depot, who quotes a definite case of a young man who enlisted for the Regiment merely because he was attracted by our recruiting display in Gestetner's window in Euston Road. We are grateful to Messrs. Gestetner for their co-operation in the display, and may we suggest that our recruiting staff now seek the assistance of other similar firms in Middlesex in this connection. There is no doubt that all forms of publicity pay, so will readers please help to keep the Regiment in the "public eye" and thereby directly help our recruiting efforts.

Regimental Reunion—Seymour Hall

Readers may recall that previous to 1952 the Old Comrades met annually at a formal sit-down dinner, though by common consent this was considered somewhat out-dated, as no wives or lady friends were allowed to be present. Since then, however, the Regimental Reunion at the Seymour Hall has replaced this function, and all past and present members of the Regiment—and their wives and ladies—are cordially welcomed. This has proved to be a great success, but, latterly, the numbers attending have gradually dwindled, although 800 were present last year, we consider that it could be much better for a Regiment such as ours which must have many former members residing in the London area. By force of service overseas your Editor attended for the first time in 1959 and thoroughly enjoyed himself, meeting many old friends. However, he was distressed to see the small number of officers at this reunion—a fact which was particularly commented on by those present! We would appeal, therefore, to all officers of the Regiment to support the Regimental Reunion by attending in person. Old Comrades and "Die-Hards" do like to see their former officers and their wives. Finally, we wish to stress that the reunion is not solely for Regulars, but for all who have served with the "Die-Hards."

Title—Old Comrades' Association

It would appear that there is a growing school of thought which favours a change in title of the Old Comrades' Association. This title, it is suggested, has an adverse effect on ex-members of the Regiment, particularly the younger element, who do not join the Association because they feel that being referred to as an "Old Comrade" gives the impression of age rather than connection with the Regiment. When the subject was first raised in the December issue, 1959 (see letter from C/Sgt. Stewart in "Correspondence Column"), we did not feel that such a change was justified. However, on the evidence that the greater majority of support for the Association comes from the, shall we say, less youthful division of our ex-members, we are now inclined to admit that, psychologically, there could be considerable truth in this assumption. Therefore, a change in title to "The Die-Hards' Association" has been suggested and discussed; and a member of the Association under this title would, of course, be known as a "Die-Hard"—not necessarily an "Old Die-Hard"! Naturally, this matter is one for the Association Committee, but views from readers would be welcomed. While we now favour the suggestion of this change, it must be pointed out that the title of the Association is only a minor point, and the maintenance of a true spirit of comradeship should remain the primary object of our efforts.

The Late C/Sgt. Jack Christie

Readers, especially former members of the 57th, will be distressed to hear of the death of that most likeable and colourful personality, Jack Christie. His old friend, Lt.-Col. Tom Chattey, has written an appreciation elsewhere on this great horse-master and true "Die-Hard."

Albuhera Day—149th Anniversary

Although the 57th is at present serving overseas, we are delighted to hear from the National Press and from the Depot that our Regimental Day—that of Albuhera—is being celebrated by the Regimental Depot, the 8th Battalion and the Mill Hill Branch of the O.C.A. We shall hear, no doubt, how the 57th remembered those who fell at Albuhera, but it is gladdening to know that

this great day is not to be forgotten by other units of the Regiment, and may we hope that it never will be forgotten throughout the Regiment—in spite of what might happen to the Infantry of the Line! In other words, if a reorganisation of the Regiment were to take place in the future, we hope that Albuhera Day will be remembered and celebrated on an all-rank basis by our T.A. units and O.C.A. branches. The form of remembrance must, naturally, be left to the discretion of those nominated or elected to positions of responsibility, but, whatever happens, Albuhera Day and all it means must never be allowed to elapse.

Better Pay for Regular Soldiers

We publish at the end of this issue the recent increased scales of pay for Regular soldiers of the Infantry. The pay of all Regular other ranks will, in future, be governed broadly by changes in the average earnings in "manufacturing and certain other industries." As a result of changes in the past two years, there will be basic increases of 7s. per week for Corporals and below, 10s. 6d. for Sergeants, and 14s. for Colour-Sergeants and above, all of which increases are welcome and commendable. The previous bounty system is to be replaced by improved rates of pay for longer service, which, we hope, will provide a source of encouragement to Regular soldiers to engage for longer terms of service—an essential of any professional regular army.

Modern Pentathlon

Our congratulations to Cpl. Finnis of the 1st Battalion for finishing joint third in the shooting section of the Italian International Modern Pentathlon at Rome in April. He scored 880 points out of a possible 1,000 to finish level with a Swiss competitor.

Staff College

We were delighted to see in *The Times* of May 2 that the following Captains had qualified for the Staff College: Rex Cain, John Moore, Brian Marciandi and Patrick Wollocombe. We offer them our congratulations, and we believe we are right in saying that this is the greatest number of officers from the Regiment who have qualified at any one time.

OFFICER RETIREMENTS

MAJOR G. KENT

Gordon Kent joined the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment as a Territorial officer in 1939. Shortly after the outbreak of war he was seconded to the East African Forces, with whom he served for the remainder of the war. He was granted a regular commission with the Regiment when hostilities ended and served on the staff in England, later joining the 2nd Battalion in Palestine in 1947. When the 2nd Battalion returned to the UK in 1948, he underwent a further period of extra regimental employment before re-joining the 1st Battalion and serving with them in Austria and Cyprus, being employed in the Public Relations Department at

the District Headquarters of the latter. Gordon Kent has now retired under the special redundancy terms and is following similar employment as in Cyprus in civilian life.

MAJOR R. K. B. ALLOTT, M.C.

Richard Allott, son of Major Percy Allott, of our Regiment, was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1938. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion and went with them to France in 1940. Shortly after this he joined a Special Service Battalion and served in the Middle East, being attached to a Folbot Section, and trained in commando duties. In 1942 he led a raid on the Island of Rhodes, during which he was taken prisoner. He was awarded the M.C. for his bravery on this operation. He remained a prisoner-of-war for the duration and, on release, served in Somaliland and the Sudan before returning to the U.K. to take up duty as instructor at Eaton Hall O.C.S. He then joined the 1st Battalion in Austria in 1953 before moving on with them to Cyprus, where he was given command of the Port Security Control, until his return to U.K. in 1959. He recently served with Movement Control, Harwich, and this year he retired under the special redundancy terms. Richard has always been an adventurous officer and he will be sadly missed in the Regiment. We wish him all success in civilian life, good fishing and good shooting.

LT.-COL. T. W. CHATTEY, O.B.E.

Tom Chattey, who was educated at Wrekin and R.M.C., Sandhurst, retired from the Active List on March 9, 1960. He joined the 2nd Battalion at Colchester in 1933, and he quickly made his mark as a keen, regimental officer and all-round sportsman. It was during this period that his contemporaries nicknamed him "Flash," because, in those days, he sported somewhat flamboyant clothes and drove a highly-coloured sports car. Whilst serving as staff officer in Malaya he was taken prisoner by the Japanese suffering many privations and much ill-treatment in their hands. However, he survived these remarkably well and shortly after his liberation he qualified at the Staff College. From 1946 until he retired he held various staff appointments, culminating in that of A.Q.M.G., Cyprus District; and he was also Second-in-Command of the 57th when they were in Austria. Tom Chattey is a great lover of horses, and, in this connection, he was mentioned in the last issue as being one of the best and natural horsemen the Regiment has produced for many years. We wish both he and Pam all good fortune in civilian life.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- July 22 Officers' Club Dinner—United Service Club.
- Sept. 30 Autumn Golf Meeting—Hendon.
(Golfers please note)
- Oct. 28 Annual General Meeting—Seymour Hall.
- Oct. 28 Regimental Reunion—Seymour Hall.

1st Battalion Notes

It was rumoured that the second year in Germany is not nearly so hectic as the first. We are now a quarter of the way through the year and find ourselves swept up in the flood of the Nuclear Battle, with all its many tactical and administrative problems, and also trying to play a lot of every sport.

As we go to print Spring is breaking over Germany, and this is really a most cheering sight. We must, however, return to February to relate our activities for this quarter.

In early February, training was continuously interrupted by helicopters landing and taking off from the parade ground. The "chopper" as they are called, provided the Commanding Officer and Company Commanders with the opportunity of seeing the country around Hameln, and certainly for some of us the experience of flying in one of these machines for the first time. Last year on training, the helicopter was always regarded with suspicion as it usually meant the untimely arrival of some high ranking officer.

The Battalion during February and March were energetically completing their tests of elementary training and physical efficiency tests. Finally, classification was carried out with the self-loading rifle, and unlike previous years it was a question of counting the 2nd and third class shots on one hand.

There has been a certain amount of intensive study and much thought on the nuclear battle. Lt.-Col. Floyd Miller of the U.S. Army, spent a whole day with us explaining the mechanics of the nuclear weapon. A healthy discussion followed after lunch and we finished the day with a much clearer picture, thanks to the services of the U.S. Army. Another visitor to Gordon Barracks was Col. Engelbrecht the late Commanding Officer of the 12th Panzer Grenadier Battalion. He gave us an admirable lecture on the organisation of the German Army and finished by showing a film of the German Army manoeuvres of 1958. This film gave us much food for thought. Col. Engelbrecht dined with us the same evening.

The Director of Infantry, Major-General D. A. Kendrew visited the Battalion on March 11. The short time he could spend with us was utilised in telling the assembled officers, W.O.s, Colour-Sergeants and Sergeants about the latest developments of weapons and equipment in the British Army. Time unfortunately only allowed for a few questions to be asked. It was evident, however, that a healthy discussion was just about to develop.

It was nice to have another visit from Col. Grace. The last before the formation of the Home Counties Brigade Depot. This last occasion was marked by the flying of the Brigade Flag for the first time.

The new Divisional Commander, Major-General E. A. W. Williams, visited the Battalion at Hameln on March 17.

On April 4, 33 C.C.F./A.C.F. Cadets arrived for a ten-day visit with the Battalion. A report of their activities appears elsewhere in these notes. Other visitors to the Battalion consisted of the Sandhurst hockey team whom we were glad to accommodate for 48 hours prior to their going to Berlin.

In the field of sport the Battalion has certainly made its mark. Cpl. O'Rawe, to whom we extend our heartiest congratulations, became Middle-Weight Champion of the British Army. He has done a great deal for boxing within the Battalion, not for many years has the Battalion reached the semi-final in a boxing tournament.

The Battalion hockey team won the Divisional hockey competition, but were put out in the quarter finals of the B.A.O.R. hockey. The Battalion six-a-side team, however, won the plate in the B.A.O.R. Easter festival.

Basketball players with little support have done remarkably well. They won the Brigade competition, and in a match against the 10th Royal Hussars, amidst much pomp and ceremony, were defeated and thus became runners-up in the Division.

Cpl. Finnis, we find is as elusive as ever. It was published in the newspaper that he came third equal in the shooting, but we have not heard how he fared in the overall pentathlon meeting prior to the Rome Olympic Games.

Padre Desch we are happy to report has almost fully recovered. His foot is now out of plaster, but he is reluctant to throw away his crutches.

The combined bands of the 1st Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment, the 1st Battalion the South Wales Borderers and the 1st Battalion the Middlesex Regiment provided the inhabitants of Hameln, and indeed ourselves, with an excellent evening's entertainment on April 9, in the Hameln theatre. The highlight of the evening was seeing all three Bandmasters conducting at the same time, as a finale; not to mention the solo performances of Bandmaster Bayton.

It is worth noting that in the annual inspection of the Battalion small arms, an excellent report was obtained. The credit for this must go to the Companies and also to S/Sgt. Girling, our R.E.M.E. armourer and his staff, who have so ably kept our small arms weapons in fighting trim.

A party consisting of 2/Lt. Cowing, Cpls. DaCosta and Holland, Ptes. Rockall, Carlin and Graham were attached to the Norwegian Army for training under sub-arctic conditions. A report of their activities is contained in these notes.

Two parties are going to Norway later this year. One in May and another in July. They will carry out adventure training and will be away about a month. Each party will consist of an officer and three junior leaders.

We congratulate Capt. Mike Hayward and L/Cpl.

Cousins on their recent marriages. It is noticeable, already, that married life seems to suit them.

It is with much regret that we say goodbye to Major Hicks (Dicky). Most of us have at one time or another turned to him for help, advice and money. Some of us have had the pleasure of playing a round of golf with him during one of his "moments" of relaxation. Major Hicks served with the Middlesex Regiment before and during the last war, and whilst serving with the 7th Battalion was awarded the T.D. He has been our paymaster since 1956 and has managed to keep us solvent. He is at the moment on a grand European Tour in his large Humber. We wish him farewell and every happiness in his retirement.

From February 12 to 17, we were visited by a B.B.C. television team, led by Mr. John Brown of the Central Office of Information, which made a film on the theme "The Middlesex Regiment in Hameln." We have not yet seen the finished product nor have we been informed when it is to be televised.

The form that the film will take will be something like this: Soldiers of the Regiment will be seen shopping in the main street and then Mrs. O'Rawe and Mrs. Overton shopping in the market. The scene shifts to Mrs. O'Rawe's sitting room where she is interviewed with Mrs. Overton. The scene again shifts, this time to the barracks, where Drm. Marquiss is sounding the Regimental call and "Cookhouse." There is then a scene in the Dining Hall between Pte. Mercer (a Regimental cook) and L/Cpl. Dawson of the Drums. They come from adjoining streets in London and both served in the Cadets under Dawson's father.

Then follows a shot of our section which went to Norway and some "A" Company skiers, mostly horizontal, in the Harz. A shot is then shown of the Anglo-German club which meets in the Piper's Club and the film ends with a scene in the "Scorpion" Gasthaus with Pte. L. Robertson at play with some of the locals.

This should make quite an effective film and we hope that it will receive wide publicity.

The Battalion is now in its second week of Sennelager. The training is, perhaps, the most interesting and valuable of the whole year. A great deal of physical energy is expended, but in return a great deal of amusement is obtained. The attraction of firing live bullets still appeals to the young and old alike, and even the doctor has experienced a desire to fire a rifle. The ranges are absolutely first-class and extremely well run by the British and German staffs. The German Range Wardens are very hot on their target drill.

Finally, I don't think we dare look into the future. Not, at least, until we are safely out of the firing line at Sennelager. The future programme is nevertheless very full and will no doubt be full of surprises.

CHURCH NOTES

In the course of his journeyings the British soldier has worshipped God in many places. Often it has been no more than a rough altar made out of the tail board of a truck that has been the focal point of his devotions: sometimes a camp cinema or canteen: occasionally a

church lent for the occasion by the authorities in the district in which he has found himself. Probably most of us have personal recollections of certain particular services which made impressions upon us at the time, a common experience being the least formal has also been the most impressive. As a padre looking back over war years, T.A. camps, and many services conducted in varied places throughout the world, I find the memories come crowding in: but I think perhaps three may claim to stand out apart from certain formal occasions. The first, a service held in a palm grove somewhere in Eritrea for some transport drivers, the music being provided by a group of Cape coloured men and consisting of a mandolin, a "squeeze box," a mouth organ, and blending remarkably well; the second a midnight Eucharist in Asmara on Christmas Eve, which I and another Padre shared together, he playing the organ and I singing the service. It so happened in that congregation there were representatives from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, South African Europeans, and Cape Coloured, Basutos and East Africans from the K.A.R. one representative from the Gold Coast Regiment, two Indian Christians, a New Zealand officer and some sisters from the nearby hospital. "And they came in haste and found both Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." I know that as we put the Bread of Life into the upstretched white and brown and sallow skinned hands my companion and I suddenly saw the Church of God as it should be.

My third "occasion" was again a communion service held on the first Sunday I had joined a new unit, in a little vaulted basement hall of an empty Italian villa I had taken possession of two days previously with the object of providing a small troops canteen. You never know what kind of a padre you are going to get until he's been with you a little time—and you never know what kind of a unit you've got until you've sampled it over a few weeks! It was quite cool in the little hall as I waited there by the small altar I had set up: then one by one officers and men began to arrive and soon there were some 14 or 16 of us and again one caught a picture of the Family of God meeting together as it had done all through the years since that first breaking of bread in the upper room in Jerusalem.

The church in Hameln where the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment worships at present is considered by many to be the nicest Army Church in B.A.O.R. It was formed out of one of the stables of the old German transport lines and the rings for the loose boxes, and to which horses were also tied up outside, can still be seen. Since then other stables have been converted as Garrison Churches in the same way but the Church of the Nativity as it is called is perhaps unique in that it was created not "officially" but by two or three keen churchmen getting together and being determined to make a worthy house of God. The two leading personalities were the Rev. Dennis Hart, now vicar of Saint Saviours in St. Albans and Col. Thomas, D.S.O., M.C.R.E., then C.R.E. 11th Armoured Division. The work was carried out by German craftsmen and British Sappers working together under the direction of the Clerk of Works, Mr. W. C. Roberts, M.M., and the

architect, a National Service officer, 2/Lt. M. de St. Croix Ariba, R.E., having a "trade test," has been passed by a Sapper working on the pulpit or the oak screens to the radiators whilst the wood and certain fittings were bought by money from Church collections and donations from individuals and Messes.

One particular feature of the church consists of murals carved in the plaster and coloured. Over the altar is a representation of Christ reigning from the cross whilst on the side walls are incidents associated with the birth of our Lord. All these were provided by units stationed in Hameln and from Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. May the church continue to serve to remind all who enter, or pass it by, that the material and the everyday things of our life contain the essence of the spiritual and the eternal, and that only in holding on to the vision of the latter can the former be the source of man's happiness and contentment.

Hameln is the town of the Pied Piper and throughout the summer the story is enacted on Sunday mornings outside one of the town churches. Like many legends there is an element of truth behind the story. Centuries ago new labour was required for the copper mines in Silesia and so a deputation was sent to Hameln where there was labour available but less employment. The deputation was headed by a wandering musician who, after the custom of the day, wore the traditional dress of his calling, which happened to be a rat-catcher: today he would presumably be called a rodent operative. So successfully was the picture painted of the glowing opportunities of the new life that dozens of young people were persuaded to leave Hameln so that the town was denuded of its children. Truth or legend it is difficult to say at this distance in time but it is apparently a fact that certain local expressions are not found elsewhere but in the patois spoken in the neighbourhood of Silesia to this day.

Now, for the soldiers, the Pied Piper is best represented by the Church Army Piper's Club, where he is able to buy his newspapers and find the traditional "char and wad." Hameln is a long way from Middlesex but the quantity of tea drunk in the Club certainly seems to provide a link with home.

NORWAY, 1960

EXERCISE "THOR HUND"

A section of one officer and five, who formed part of a company, called 1 BR Corps Independent Ski Detachment, consisted of 2/Lt. A. B. Cowling, Cpls. D. A. Costa ("B" Company), Holland ("A" Company), and Ptes. Rockall ("A" Company), Carlin ("C" Company), Graham ("C" Company).

Our aim was to go to Norway, to survive and exercise with Norwegian troops under sub-Arctic conditions.

In this we achieved our aim.

Setting off from R.A.F. Gutersloh, we arrived after a good journey at Oslo, where we had a hasty meal and then became airborne once again, heading for Varnes.

Our aircraft unfortunately lost an exhaust pipe and this necessitated our staying at Varnes the following day. We made good use of this, visiting Trondheim and buying train tickets to Hell . . . and back!

Setting off just before midday on day 3, we arrived, after a bumpy journey, at Bardufoss airport and after being entertained by Brigade H.Q., we travelled on to Settermoern, where we were to stay, apart from our exercises, for the rest of our trip.

The next day, Sunday, after fitting ourselves out with kit, we proceeded to take to our skis and so we went off into the unknown terrain.

Unfortunately Cpl. Holland fell and hurt his leg. This held up our speed and night fell when we were still far from our camp and had been ski-ing for over four hours. Eventually we saw the lights of our camp and arrived back exhausted but exhilarated.

For the next four days we were kept busy preparing our kit, loading our poulkes, and burgoes, ski-ing over obstacles and down the steep mountain sides.

We were taught how to erect tents and live in, and the 101 other little tips that make living under such conditions at all bearable.

We were even towed behind weazles by rope, which was great fun, although no one ever dreamt at the time we would do this in the dark on a cold, cheerless night for two hours about two weeks later.

It was day 9 when we began to pull our poulkes over the virgin snow. Our first exercise had begun. It was a good introduction to what the main exercises had in store for us and we learnt many things from our mistakes. Once again injury was against us and Cpl. Da Costa hurt his ribs and, although unable to help us with our transportation, will be remembered for the cups of "rosy lee" which he produced for us.

Although Cpl. Holland was unable to be with us "Costa's Cafe" served us well in place of "Dutch's Bar," and we returned and spent Sunday recovering.

Monday, day 12, we were shown how to dig and live in snowholes. We then prepared our own and were to stay the night but, fortunately, we returned to Settermoern ski-ing back in the dark. A most amazing pastime! Pte. Carlin for one will not forget the long ascent.

The next day we packed our gear in preparation for the main exercise. Cpl. Holland returned from sick bay and was told he could go out with the Colour-Sergeant.

Our problems were solved . . . and Cocoa is a change from tea.

Thursday, the beginning of the exercise. Like all good military operations, day one produced a classic example of "disorganisation" (for want of a better word!). We had bedded down in our tents, stags had been arranged, the food had been cooked and eaten. All was running smoothly. We had been told to strike camp at 0200 hours and be ready to move at 0230 hours. At 0200 hours we struck camp and had just completed it and were ready to move off when a messenger came over and said, I quote: "Mr. . . . says would you make less noise as he has people trying to sleep. We will not be moving until two hours after we have been notified and we don't expect to be told before 0600 hours."

However, there were other amusing episodes, too. Our three soldiers had been sent on a 14-man patrol under the 2IC of the Company. After ski-ing for some way they suddenly came upon the enemy Bicycle Light Recce Platoon. Our three soldiers were notable for their

quick reactions. Pte. Rockall immediately opened fire, at their tyres, Pte. Graham immediately closed with the enemy, and Pte. Carlin immediately ran the other way, presumably to lead our patrol to safety.

Another example was when, having been told to withdraw some 12 km., the platoon requisitioned a milk van which was innocently driving in our direction.

Apart from the long hauls and seemingly endless stags we encountered many unusual occurrences. At one time we had a team of pack horses with us, on another occasion we found ourselves using a Lapp hut as an observation post.

The scenery by day was magnificent and the Northern Lights as seen about 2200 hours were almost fantastic, their searchlight-like beams giving an added realism for our sentries.

On the final night we reveilled at 2300 hours and left our camp which was then situated in a re-entrant. We were towed by weazles to the summit of the mountain and then proceeded to cross the pass and descend the other side. After meeting small enemy resistance we eventually came at dawn to our ambush positions which were on the main road bordering a fiord. That night journey on skis was a great experience.

Thus, after the end of eight days we returned to Settermoern hoping to enjoy a well-earned weekend. Unfortunately we had to return to Germany on Saturday at dawn. We returned to Sennelager, a distance of 1,600 miles, in 10 hours.

We owe our thanks for a most enjoyable and encouraging stay to the Norwegian Army, and in particular the 1st Battalion Brigade North and their Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. Olstadt.

To all of them we say "Tac."

CADETS' VISIT

On April 4, 1960, three officers and 33 cadets of the Stock Exchange Cadet Company (Royal Fusiliers A.C.F.), but including a few cadets from other cadet companies, came to Hameln to stay with the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) and a full and varied programme was arranged for them with the full co-operation of the other units stationed in Hameln. Such items as a day's outing in Hannover including an extremely interesting visit to the Volkswagen factory, lectures on the tasks of 125 Company R.A.S.C. (Bridging) followed by a tour of the bridging sites and a trip by raft on the River Weser, a demonstration by 43 Field Pk Squadron R.E. of its equipment in which the cadets showed a keen interest, besides seeing the life of an infantry battalion in all its aspects.

The visit finished with a visit to the Harz Mountains and the East/West German Border.

The cadets agreed it was a highly successful and an interesting visit.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(from "A" Company)

Dear Sir,

We have just heard the first cuckoo this spring. "Get your blob on to that nob" he was saying, "or you'll get no demob." Is this a record? It has certainly sounded

like one, day in and day out down here at Sennelager.

Thank you so much for printing our notes last quarter. We thought you'd have thrown them back at us for rewriting. However, you were obviously won over by that last crack about Capt. Kitchener, not to mention the fact that we handed them in so near the editorial deadline that there was no time for rewriting anyway. Did we tell you incidentally that we nearly got rid of the Company 2IC when we sent him to run "C" Company's classification? "A" Company casualties nearly got him too, but Basley reckoned not even a figure 11 target could look as slim as him.

There's one thing we didn't mention in our last notes which must be placed on record. A refugee from "C" Company sought asylum in "A" Company lines for a few days just before Christmas. Consequently he missed parades, watching all the games which "C" Company lost and the things that make up an orderly day-to-day routine. Naturally "C" Company were rather angry, especially as they didn't know where he was. But then, neither did our C.S.M. Beale. So on Christmas morning our C.S.M. could be seen giving gunfire to "C" Company's malefactor as he lay luxuriously in bed. It was obvious that by this display of Christmas goodwill our "C" Company mascot was so won over that he turned up for Christmas dinner as well and was once more courteously served by our C.S.M. How long this flowering friendship would have continued is debatable, but it was brought to a dramatic end by C.S.M. da Costa who couldn't believe his eyes as he saw C.S.M. Beale put a fifth helping of Christmas pudding before his new-found friend.

Now, sir, what would you like to hear about this quarter? How we only came third in the inter-Company basketball? How we won the seven-a-side Albuhera rugby competition? Or how physically fit Mr. Pitman is now that he's back from the A.P.T.C. School, Aldershot? Perhaps we'll keep quiet about that until we get his report from the school's assistant adjutant. In the sporting world we would like to thank Sgt. Young, Cpls. Meehan and Moore, L/Cpl. Peak, Ptes. Oakes, Barrett, Thompson and Trimmer for putting up a spirited show in basketball. In the rugby, of which we enclose a picture of one of our more spectacular punts (yes, Collier, we said punts), we are especially indebted to 2/Lts. Everard and Lofting, C.S.M. Beale, Sgt. Young, Cpl. Fordham, L/Cpl. Booth, Ptes. Cleasby, O'Brien and Rockell who formed our team. Doubtless some of them will now get posted to the Regimental Police in the same way that Oakes and Rahmatullah were.

Fortunately, though, the Police have relinquished Cpl. Quinn who is now back with us, having brought some brand new boots with him. A number of other chaps have found their way to "A" Company as well. There's Brannan, Dallenger, Edge, Lee, Mishkin, Parker, Pettitt and Holton. Holton, we reckon, is going to do some good high jumping for us in the Battalion athletics. We've lost some other people like Sgt. Patterson, Ptes. Hazlewood and Thompson and Cpls. Curtis and Ahern. Perhaps our biggest blow is losing Capt. Norton who has gone to command "S" Company. We thought we'd give him a small present just to show who pleased we were that he was going. Of course, by



"A" Company seven-a-side Rugby team which won the Albuhera competition; C.S.M. Beale, Pte. Cleasley, Sgt. Young, Pte. O'Brien, Pte. Rockell, L/Cpl. Booth, 2/Lt. Everard (captain), Cpl. Fordham, 2/Lt. Lofting.

accepting it he contravened Queen's regulations. Still he's done so much for us, like leading us to Company Albuhera championship, that we thought it was worth sticking his neck out a bit. The Company 2IC thinks that he's due for a posting. He noticed McDowell engraving his name on a small present. A cartridge case—an unused one too.

In March, we spent a week classifying on our new S.L.R. and old L.M.G.s. When we ultimately discovered that the rifle ammunition wouldn't fit the bren we began getting some good scores. For instance, Ptes. Collier, O'Brien and Thompson are now marksmen on both weapons. C/Sgt. Steward distinguished himself on the S.L.R. by dropping only one point over the whole course. As Cleasby remarked, "Colours" is not at all a bad shot.

After classifying we had some fun playing enemy to first of all the 29th Field Squadron Sappers and then later to the S.W.B. Capt. Norton and the C.S.M. led an intrepid patrol against the S.W.B. and were promptly captured, but we don't actually talk about that. We kept our fingers crossed for the Company 2IC. But he came back. He would.

Major de Gaye is now commanding us here at Sennelager and we wish him a happy tour of duty; he seems happy at the moment, but we'll soon put that right. We're being kept pretty occupied out on the ranges. L/Cpl. Green had the misfortune to cuddle a bulletted blank gun on our second day and got shot in the leg for his pains. He had just taken cover behind a mound which concealed the gun. We ask you, Sir. We're told a hundred times a day to get down and take cover so as to make the smallest possible target and what happens? The first time we do, we get shot in the bleeding leg. There's no justice. We've chased about a good deal, learnt how to crawl in the heather, and keep close to mother earth. This has given us splendid opportunity of watching ants do the most amazing things. Jolly was asking if everything behaved like they did.

Long said he didn't know but he was going to find out out after duty.

It seems, sir, that apart from telling you that Clifford, Lynch and Rockell have got their first stripe and that Holland and Rockell went to Norway this year as part of the B.A.O.R. Corps ski team we've covered the quarter. Holland by the way spent his time there showing the Norwegian nurses how it was done in the Middlesex Regiment.

Last time we wrote to you we used no exclamation marks and few inverted commas. When you published our notes they were heavily decorated by these repugnant things. We don't want them because we feel it's like taking a trip hammer to crack an egg. Or, as Aquecheek says in "My Fair Lady"—we can recognise a church by daylight. (There we go, swanking with our knowledge of Hank Janson again. It's enough to make Oscar and Marty wild.)

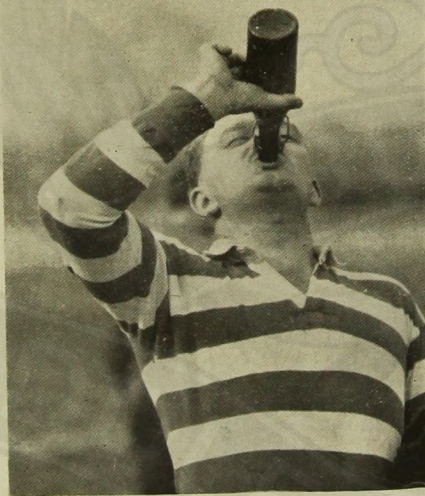
Yours affectionately,

"A" Company.

P.S.—Although we tend to talk about chaps with us, we often think of some of the good ones who have gone to give Civvy Street a try. We'd like them back in the Company, you know. How about it—Argent, Hart, "Ginger" Smith, Couborough, Bunce and the rest?

"B" COMPANY

The merry-go-round continues: Major Clayden has now assumed command; C.S.M. Jessup has taken over as Sergeant-Major; Sgt. Eldridge has become our C.Q.M.S. and No. 5 Platoon is now commanded by Mr.



C.S.M. Beale celebrating after "A" Company's victory in the Battalion seven-a-side Rugby competition.

"C" COMPANY

Journal notes will be submitted to the Editor by April 17 (Easter Sunday) according to Battalion Orders, and for the second year in succession we find ourselves at Sennelager over the Easter holiday. A member of the Company aptly described Polish barracks as being "just as dirty as last time and a year older." The ranges are excellent for training although range safety remains the dominant theme and there are some rules which should never be broken, such as DO NOT pick up strange objects lying around the ranges. Pte. Brooks will probably remember seeing his friends disappear very quickly when he insisted on picking up a mortar bomb and remarked: "This is the third one I've picked up today which looks alright."

For training purposes at Sennelager, the Company has been reduced to two platoons, since it was necessary to leave our third platoon in the guardroom, but we hear rumours of large intakes of soldiers during May and June which will bring us up to strength for the rest of the training season. We welcome Capt. D. Pike, who has recently returned from Malaya as Company 2IC, and Lt. G. Bulloch back from civilian life to command "Shiny 8 Platoon." Our new blood has quite a cosmopolitan texture, including Cpl. Scott (Rhodesia), L/Cpl. Niles (Canada), Ptes. Vaughan (Barbados) and Bousquet (St. Vincent) and the inevitable Irishman, Pte. Flynn. To all these we extend a welcome together with L/Cpl. Forder, Ptes. Foster, Gray, Hill, Kyne, Lawson, Lucas, Saul and Curtis. Inter-Company transfers have also given us part of the Signal Platoon in exchange for our "gremlin" which dogged our communications last year. Cpl. Overton, Ptes. Edwards and Fenny now ensure signal efficiency and we have increased our choir strength on pay nights which has pleased Pte. McShannon.

During March the Company fired their annual range courses on the Sennelager Ranges and only six people failed to qualify in the L.M.G. and rifle. We congratulate L/Cpls. Forder and O'Sullivan, together with Ptes. Puckett and Foster, on being amongst the best shots in both weapons. We also congratulate L/Cpls. Penfold and Thompson on their promotion after completing an N.C.O.s' cadre and they obviously benefited from Cpl. Scott's instruction.

Ptes. Graham and Carlin had an enjoyable three weeks in Norway during March when they represented the Battalion on operation Thor Hund. L/Cpls. Barnard and Niles will be going there during the summer on adventure training instruction. Dare we complain that the Army life has nothing to offer?

The Company basketball team, which included C.S.M. DaCosta, Sgt. Edey, Cpls. Scott and Jeffrey, L/Cpl. Bell, Ptes. Rappoport, Cocks and Lovesey, played very well in the Albuhera Shield competition, and, thanks to some good training under C/Sgt. Potter, gained us second place. In the Rugby seven-a-side we were less fortunate, but the team consisting of C.S.M. DaCosta, Sgt. Edey, Cpls. Overton and Stevens, Ptes. Gowers, Brett and Foster went down fighting and we have no cause to be ashamed. We are now training for the athletics meeting in May, and we have high hopes

that "Jesse Owens" Vaughan will gain us some points and also that we shall remove that tug of war shield from "A" Company's charge.

"S" COMPANY

Mortar Platoon

We extend a welcome to Capt. Norton who is to be our new Company Commander, having been upgraded to "S" Company from "A" Company.

Congratulations to the following:—

L/Cpls. McKenzie and Howe on their promotion.

Pte. Robinson for finally passing his driving test.

Ptes. Wright and Tomlinson on being selected as members of the Battalion Main Quarter Guard for the Colonel of the Regiment and G.O.C. 2 Division.

Sgt. Miles for representing the Company and the Battalion in the basketball and rugby teams.

Pte. Kerrison for rugby.

Lt. Cheesman for rugby, basketball and also for playing in the B.A.O.R. rugby team.

We say farewell to:—

Sgt. Tarry who has left us to join the 8th Battalion (who, we ask, "Lost any protractors, wireless sets or maps, and have you forgotten binoculars, compasses, etc?").

Pte. Anderson is leaving the Army after three years (arduous he says), Sgt. Partridge states if Anderson is seen near a recruiting office, he is to be shot on sight.

Capt. Moore, although our Company Commander for a very short period, made a great impression on the Company. We hope he has every success in his new appointment.

The Battle of Grohnde

At the end of March we had an interesting five-day exercise, during which the Platoon managed to get into the swing of things regarding advance to contact and other phases of battle.

We also tried our hand at "sound locating" on a night patrol against the Anti-Tank Platoon detachments, and found that a certain detachment (no names) can be located by their snores!

One small disaster befell us when Pte. Tomlinson lost his handbag. He has not really recovered from this great loss.

We tried our new wireless sets and found that they were just the job.

Lt. Cheesman has returned from leave (we think). He seems to manage to disappear most weekends to play rugby, basketball and any other "dodge" he can think up. But, as he is to leave us shortly, we would like to say how much we shall miss him when he takes up his new vocation (the "how do you hear me" outfit).

We welcome Lt. Mallalieu, who is to be our new Platoon Commander, and hope he will enjoy his tour with us.

L/Cpl. Flanagan has now returned from a short holiday with "D" Company and we note his map reading is improving.

Wright "ugly" still cooks for his section and deals with complaints by issuing a "belt in the bracket."

We extend a welcome to Ptes. Wilson, Nihil and Blackburn who have just joined us.

Pte. Wilson says that Robinson wrote such a glowing report on the life in the Army to his parents that Wilson decided to join. Now he says that Robinson is no longer his friend. (Sgt. Partridge insists that if he didn't have Robinson as an interpreter no one would know what Wilson says).

We managed to drag Pte. Eyre out of the Company armoury for the "Battle of Grohnde" but he has now escaped back.

Pte. Walsh made the decision, and has signed on, so therefore he is no longer a R.F.C.S. (Refugee from Civvy Street).

Pte. Young is away at the time of writing; it was rumoured that being a driver was so tame, that he insisted on finding out a bit about his "Steed," so is at present learning how to inspect and maintain vehicles.

L/Cpl. Forde tried his hand at motor-cycling, but rather put his foot in it; never mind, when we get the "bike" back from the workshops, we will let him have another go.

Past members will be relieved to hear that contrary to rumours Cpl. Shearing still has his "liquid lunch."

The Battle of Sennelager

Once again we are making full use of the excellent ranges here at Sennelager. Some mortar Nos. have expressed surprise at bombs leaving via the muzzle instead of the breach end.

So far we have only set the ranges on fire once. (I don't think we have been trying.)

The platoon are enjoying the training and the results are very encouraging.

After the first days' firing, new members of the Platoon have found that the correct drill for a misfire is not "take to the hills."

Sgt. Partridge worked a very crafty move; without informing anyone he fired a practice bomb, which landed only yards in front of the mortar line. He has since handed in a list of names for track events for the forthcoming athletics meeting! Pte. Blackburn's father would have been delighted with his "take-off."

Neilson, who says that teaching Robinson to drive has left him grey-haired, is longing to get back to the "Weser" and "Scorpion." His cousin, McMinn, is now called for some unknown reason "McGin." And Sach can be found during lulls in firing, expounding on the opposite sex to anyone who'll listen.

Pte. Clayton is still "batting," but we've got him working on the mortar line as well, not forgetting Ptes. Johns and Moloney; the latter is the Company Commanders' batman, but is enjoying working with the mortar platoon.

Our thanks to C/Sgt. Dive, who turns up with lunch daily, despite the barrage of fire from the ranges.

Sgt. Argent has joined Drum-Major Lewis' "Yacky Dar" Club: motto "Cymru am Byth. Loosely translated means "Home rule for Scotland."

Sgt. Miles has bought another car, a large Mercedes, and has acquired the title "Baron."

Finally, to all past members of the Best Platoon in the Battalion, we send greetings and would like to hear from some of you.



"S" COMPANY, ANTI-TANK PLATOON
Sgt. Lagden at the helm.

P.S.—The Anti-tank Platoon are offered map-reading lessons!

Anti-tank Platoon

The writer apologises for any inaccuracies; only recently arrived, he has had to rely on the notes of the more literate of the Platoon's personnel.

The beginning of 1960 has been quiet and normal routine has been the order of the day.

February brought fresh blood to the Platoon in the shape of Ptes. Haffner, Budd, Sharp, Toner, Jones and Patmore. And after a very successful cadre the Platoon is now up to strength and is gaining in experience every day.

Our latest admission to the "Target Club" (membership open to D.C.s only) is L/Cpl. Haffner, who has had a very successful time on, firstly our own Anti-tank and secondly the Battalion N.C.O. Cadres. Congratulations and welcome, "Tubby."

A five-day exercise was held in March, in which many valuable lessons were learnt. (Dare I mention synchronisation and punctuality?) Despite several drawbacks the Platoon was able to obtain valuable field experience, which we hope will stand us in good stead during the coming training season.

Arrivals and Departures

Pte. Holloway has left us for some obscure E.R.E. employment and in his place we welcome Pte. Cliff, whose humour and vocal talent will be remembered by many ex-members of the Platoon and is greatly appreciated by the present members. Pte. Hession is another new arrival and his willingness and previous experience is proving a valuable asset. We also understand that he shows remarkable fortitude under cold and wet conditions! Pte. Heale joined us from "H.Q." Company and we hope he is enjoying his new employment. Though he will undoubtedly get the point if we state that it is the first we heard of a driver being trapped by his "Quarry."

Pte. Jones, our new D.R., has become very capable under the guidance of the C.S.M. He assures us that, unlike L/Cpl. Forde of the Mortar Platoon, he does not fall off in low gear. Even if the readers do not readily understand, it is certain that L/Cpl. Forde will!!

Whilst on the subject of denials, we would like to take this opportunity of stating (a) that there is no truth whatsoever in the report that the Platoon has become so defence-minded that the Company Orderly Sergeant has to fight his way through the barricades in order to rouse them at reveille; (b) that, furthermore, it is quite untrue that a number of the Platoon who have suffered sore feet on the recent map-reading exercises have raised a collection to equip Cpl. Mullender with a guide dog.

At the moment of writing we are recovering from the first week of intensive training at Sennelager and although the accent has been on basic rifle section and platoon training we have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Assault Pioneer

Firstly we would like to wish Capt. Moore all the very best in his new job and welcome Capt. Norton as our new Company Commander. If Capt. Norton will accept a warning, we would advise him to be "booby-trap-minded."

In the last quarter we have had the opportunity of carrying out a lot of specialist training. In January the Section carried out a month's cadre, which all but one passed, and we will soon have him up to the required standard. Following that we all went on a three-week R.E. course, which we all passed with just over average marks.

Now, of course, all the men are shouting for their specialist badges, which they will not get until they have "Fell in the water." As Bartlett would say: "Do you mind?"

We welcome Pte. Berg to the Section, who was Capt. Moore's batman, and also give him our usual warning: "Be booby-trap-minded."

Pte. Coles has at long last got his driving licence and the Section has decided that it will walk when he gets in the cab. Well, you know what we mean; his hair may get tangled up in the engine.

Bartlett and Coles are in the Company hockey team and are definitely holding it together. We have managed to get Milburn and Lam in the football team. All we hope is that they kick it in the right direction. Pollard has taken a softball as well as a little football and C/Sgt. Dive has persuaded Smith (82) to play hockey. "Lord help the hockey team."

Smith (333) is off work with a swollen ankle; let's hope it gets better soon and he is able to let off a few more bangs with us.

L/Cpls. Beavis and Sgt. Pritchard have been placed as reserves for the Company football team. So the Company must really be hard up for men.

We are now preparing for another rafting exercise. This time we are going to cover 200 miles (we hope). All of us are looking forward to it and there is great scope for anyone wishing to leave the Mortars or Anti-tanks to join with us.



ASSAULT PIONEER TRAINING
Pte. Smith (82).

We proved for the Anti-tanks that you can float a Mobat on 40-gal. petrol drums and, except for it getting a bit dirty, it doesn't sink.

Anybody else like to try to take a little bet on something that they reckon cannot be done?

Signal Platoon

What is usually a fairly quiet quarter has been enlivened this year by the arrival of the major part of our new range of wireless sets: the C 42 to replace our 19, 22 and 62 sets and the A 40 to replace the 88 set. Since the end of the cadre in early March we have spent most of our time getting to know the new sets and brushing up on our morse which now affects our star grading. The fact that the new sets have no morse facility seems strange. Congratulations to Pte. Connell on passing out first on the cadre and to Pte. Challenor, our newly joined DR/accordionist, who nearly passed out in church.

Exercise "First Go" heralded the beginning of the new training season, a Battalion H.Q. exercise to brush away the winter cobwebs. The new sets were not at first as successful as we had hoped, due in part to the long period of storage in U.K. and in the main to un-experienced operators. Shortly before the first Brigade exercise—"March Hare"—four of our six C 42s were in workshops, but eventually we took the field with four, though again results were disappointing. However, at Sennelager, where the sets have been used daily, operating and performance have improved with a subsequent increase in range. Slowly we are losing our initial disappointment and getting results. Ptes. Connell, Crook and Jones have also learnt that various officers have quite a fair knowledge of the set and the wails of "drift" have slowly died away. Pte. Kadshaw will long remember Sennelager for his conversations with Sunray Minor and Pte. Johnson's ride to Minden via Cologne made quite a mess of his work ticket. C/Sgt. Walters continues to fight his battle of the sets with occasional hindrance from the R.S.O. and Sgt. Briggs who are

usually playing rugger. Pte. Scorgie often joins them, allegedly as touch judge, and has even now decided to stay in the Platoon as driver of the C.P. 1-tonner—this decision followed an especially good outing.

The Platoon soccer team, ably lead by Pte. O'Riorden, continues to thrive and have gained promotion from Ohr Park to Wouldham. Cpl. Stewart and L/Cpl. Phillips have both played at times in goal for the Battalion, though never together, even if they were needed at times! Ptes. Gibbons and Bryant are at present undergoing a body-building course in preference to signalling. L/Cpl. Hall continues to try to outwit the B.F.G. licensing authorities without success.

Congratulations to L/Cpls. Hall, Chaney, Phillips, Hubbard and Roper on their appointment, and a warm welcome to Ptes. Davey, Joel and Challenor who recently joined the Platoon. Good luck to the driving cadre—Ptes. Heslin, Bryant, Bowden and Burnett—in their test. Before our next notes Pte. Thorne will have left us and Pte. Fenny will have completed his N.S. at last, though he is not now with the Platoon, we wish them luck.

Finally—will Cpl. Stewart sign on? This exciting serial will be continued next quarter!

M.T. Platoon

Your scribe has long been awaiting this opportunity to put to paper these notes from the M.T. Platoon, as soon he leaves for the wilds of "Civvy Street." We have also said good-bye to Sgts. Eldridge and Elston, but we must point out that they are still in. Still on the debit side of things, we have said good-bye to Ptes. Moloney, Clutton, Davis, Stockley, Fletcher and Fitzgerald, all of whom have taken up the active life of a soldier. Pte. Moloney holds the record for the highest transfer fee with £25 to his credit, or should it be debit? The average transfer fee, though, has been £10.

On the credit side, however, we are pleased to welcome to the Platoon Ptes. Hird, Aughterlony, Cheffings, Kingham, Naylor, Clarke, Ashman, Reynolds, Parker, Pearce, Adams (the barber), Stimpson and Edwards, to all of whom we wish a long and happy stay.

At the time of writing these notes we are at Sennelager for the Brigade Group Training, and some of the drivers have found for the first time that all our mileage is not just done on tarmac road, and we must mention the fact that Ptes. Kingham, Cheffings and Naylor have all had minor engagements with some trees, a fact that has put years on a certain Sergeant of the Platoon.

Pte. Taylor, we feel, has got the circus in his blood, that is if one is to judge by his vehicle, and we also hear that Pte. Thompson felt that a certain member of the R.A.S.C. should revert to the job of driver's mate. However, we believe that he was put in the picture in no uncertain manner.

The M.T.O. and Pte. Thorn were at one stage seen to be filling out F.M.T. 38, this followed certain advances made by a lady and her Volkswagen.

L/Cpl. Browne has departed on six weeks' leave, leaving Pte. Bruniges showered under with work and causing him many hours of overtime.

Sgt. Peppercorn, since his arrival, has prompted his happy band of fitters to greater efforts, and this, we feel,

has resulted in a very high state of road-worthiness which, when we think back to a short while ago, is a very good thing indeed.

In the field of sport we still have not managed to beat the Signal Platoon at football, we have, however, scored victories at pillow fighting and baseball, a game which has passed many evenings for the Platoon and with which we have also scored over "A" Company. We have tried our hand at rugby but found that after a few moments we no longer required a ball.

Plans are well on the way to build a couple of go-carts, which would result in a form of sport in which the members of the Platoon could vent their feelings with recourse to Commanding Officer's Orders.

We would also like to congratulate Pte. Cruickshank, for not only can he carry out a major re-design job on the M.T. garages but he has now developed a method by which a 1-ton vehicle can be driven upside down.

We almost forgot to welcome Sgt. Hawes to the helm of the unit technical stores, where we wish him the best of luck, and we also find time to say a "well done" to Cpl. Minnett for having the hottest 3-tonner in the Platoon on charge.

Pte. Padgett has now taken over what we call the Hannover run from Pte. Crowder of whom we would like to say did a very good job indeed.

We are now looking forward to the Soltau training period and it is intended that the Platoon should have some platoon exercises in the near future, and we also take this opportunity to say "well done" to the member of the ¼-ton section for returning the best inspection reports at the end of the first month.

BAND

Our last band notes left us travelling joyfully homewards on January 6; of the next three weeks nothing need be, or indeed should be said, and Hameln next saw us on our return, some refreshed and some newly married.

We were greeted by cries of "only two months to do" from Sgt. Aburrow and Bds. —I beg your pardon—"Mr." Yates. Well, those months have passed and we said goodbye to our nig-civilians, who have, so we understand, signed on for long term engagements without option. Also gone from our midst, to what we are sure will be a successful B.M.s course at K.H. is Sgt. Carson: we wish him all the best of luck, and promise to look after his "kitten."

New comers to the band of "stand and pad" are numerous. Bds. Hughes (alto sax), Reide (trombone) and Saffery (cornet), the first, and last two named of whom the ranks of the National Servicemen to five. They're overrunning us said "Zoot."

Bds. Coleman went on a judo course and came back, so we were told, a better man. Bds. Moore went on a somewhat more spiritual course, and came back, so we were told, a better man.

Before passing on to the events of the past couple of months, we must congratulate Bds. "Pop" Eldred on the birth of his son David.

Our sportsmen have had their usual successful and busy time, and as a change from hockey and basketball, there was a keen although transitory interest in softball,

which we are told is similar to baseball, but with an English accent.

The Bandmaster left us for a week to attend the Kneller Hall Conference and thus missed Sgt. Aburrows farewell performance, and the first enthusiastic wavings of our prospective first-class candidates—the former rather moving, the latter, no great loss.

We also discovered, at the road-safety lecture, the intricacies of German traffic law: one of our number, who shall be nameless, showed surprise that there were any.

Our month of duty band (March), brought forth only one engagement to add to the usual number of local ones. At the time of writing however, just before the Easter break, we have just received the first fore-taste of the approaching retreat season, and we should like to report one authenticated remark: "was that the Band on the square this morning?"—in a tone of utter disbelief—our fame is spreading.

CORPS OF DRUMS

This quarter has been very interesting in many ways for the Drums, as we have had a series of lectures by our favourite doctor, on training stretcher bearers, mainly to take part in the competition held at Sennelager in April, the Connaught Shield Competition. At the end of the course 80 per cent. of the Drums could take the field as trained stretcher bearers. The mysteries of first aid are now, for some, no longer mysteries, and, such terms as pressure points, Brachial, femoral and many other terms are now common everyday words.

On the other side, drumming, bugling, fluting, with so many new faces in our midst is well behind as practically the whole of the Drums are starting from scratch. However, we can boast that all our members are now regular soldiers with engagements of six years and more, although only four of them were at Sennelager last year.

We have some promising Drummers amongst our young hands and hope that this year's team in the Connaught Shield Competition will gain experience that will be of great value next year.

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

Stop Press

Whilst at Sennelager we played the Corps of Drums 1st S.W.B. at football and won 6—2, a most promising start for a new team, we have high hopes of fielding a good team next season.

SERGEANTS' MESS

These notes are being written while the Battalion is at Sennelager undergoing the annual three-weeks field firing. The author is suffering from deafness and continual ringing in the ears. He chose to scorn the order stating that ear plugs may be worn. Fool! Several members have stayed behind in Hameln to hold the fort. "Nick" in his capacity as commander of the married quarters is looking after the wives? While "Blood" is keeping the bar well stocked in readiness for our return to peace and quiet on April 30. The only visitors who have dared to venture up the sharp end to

date have been "The Wives" who invaded us in large numbers on Easter Sunday. From all reports they enjoyed their short stay but many a blush was caused when certain wives demanded to know how we spent our spare time. The story that we were working till 2200 hrs. daily failed to hold water. "Why did you take the car with you to Sennelager if you are working all the time?"

Recently we played our last match in the Brigade darts and snooker league. Earlier this year several matches were postponed due mainly to the roads being bad. We are unfortunate in being so far away from the other messes which are all with one exception at Minden, some 30 miles away. The postponed matches had to be played off before April which meant playing at least one match every week. These matches set the pattern for the social life in the Mess this quarter.

For away matches we invariably hired a coach to avoid a long car journey in the early hours. The road to Minden is a bad one at the best of times and to the majority of us after a darts match it would prove very tricky to say the least.

A topic of conversation in the Mess a short while ago was the marathon walk made by Dr. Barbara Moore. Not to be outdone two of our stalwarts, namely Sid Michel and Cyril Orme attempted a similar feat. On returning from an outing to Oberkirchen, the place where the famous children's choir comes from, we made a stop at a Gasthaus approximately ten miles from Hameln. At this stage our caterer disappeared into the night heading in the wrong direction. We are glad to report that he eventually found his way to Hameln just in time for breakfast.

On March 19, we visited the South Wales Borderers at Minden. For a change we swept the board at darts and the R.S.M. excelled himself by winning us the gallon of ale. The only defeat we suffered that night was in the boat race when we were beaten hands down. The Welshmen further exercised their throats shortly afterwards by entertaining us with some excellent singing. We replied with an enthusiastic but not so melodious rendering of "The Die Hards." On the stroke of midnight "Sid Michel" crept away to begin his marathon march back to Hameln. Needless to say he didn't make it. We picked him up about three hours later much the worse for his ordeal and having covered a distance of about seven miles (straight walking three miles). Now that Dr. Moore is at it again in America and arousing new interest, we expect to be able to report on further efforts, sober or otherwise, in the next issue.

A familiar voice can once more be heard in the Mess and around the ammunition stores. "Thundercloud" has returned to the fold and is busy counting empty cases in his capacity as our W.T.W.O. Welcome back, "Bill," and welcome also to Sgt. Butler, our long-awaited Intelligence Sergeant, Sgt. Lagden who is Anti-Tank Platoon Sergeant, Sgt. Hawes—Technical Sergeant, Sgt. "Sheriff" Garraty who had a brief spell in "A" Company and was then transferred to the law, and, finally, to our attached personnel, namely Sgt. Peppercorn, R.E.M.E., and Sgt. Tingey, A.C.C.

We have had to bid our inevitable farewells. C.S.M. Firman, C/Sgt. Moyse, Sgts. Tarry, Elston, Patterson, Warner, Carson, Smalls, R.E.M.E., and Burdett, A.C.C.,

have all left us. To them *bon voyage* and don't forget to keep in touch with us.

Congratulations to Sgt. "Dick" Butler who baffled the boffins by obtaining an "A" grading on his N.B.C. course, and to Sgt. Barr on getting a "B" grading on the all arms drill course he attended recently. A staunch effort, "Tom."

Thoughts are turning to Albuhera Day. This year we hope to be honoured by the presence of two Chelsea Pensioners. Ex-Die-Hards, of course. The Mess is sponsoring the visit, and careful plans are being made to make it a memorable one.

The Mess as always is well to the fore in the Battalion's sporting activities. In the recent inter-Company seven-a-side rugby competition no fewer than 10 members took part. We have five members in the Battalion hockey team and six in the rugby XV. The rugby players, all beefy characters, form the backbone of the scrum.

The bar is now adorned by eight plush bar stools, jealously guarded by "Carl," our excellent German barman. We are all looking forward to returning to our Mess in Hameln and making full use of our new stools. With that thought in mind we send our best wishes to all ex-members of our Mess and bid you *auf wiedersehen*.

SPORT

General

Highlights of the quarter have been the continued success of the hockey XI in the Army Cup, which took them right up to the quarter-finals, the great all-round performance of the basketball team in reaching the final pool of the B.A.O.R. competition and being runners-up in the Divisional final, an improvement in both soccer and rugger results which augurs well for next season, and the continued individual successes of Cpl. O'Rawe, Cpl. Finnis and Lt. Cheesman.

The hockey team have further added to their successes with their 2-1 victory over the R.M.A. Sandhurst touring team, and had that team been available for the Army Cup matches we might well have gone further. The basketball team played well in the B.A.O.R. finals and again against the 10th Royal Hussars in the Divisional final when they were without some of their star players. Cpl. O'Rawe, after his successes in B.A.O.R., won the Army middleweight title in England. He has now hung up his gloves and is turning his attention to rugger next season. Cpl. Finnis has been away some time, but news of his successes with the British "B" team in the pre-Olympic pentathlon in Rome reaches the Battalion very quickly. Lt. Cheesman continues to play rugger for B.A.O.R. and gets good publicity from both Press and B.F.N.—we wonder whom his agent is. He has played against Germany, the "Dukes," and R.A.F. Germany.

Rugger and soccer are now finished for the season.

Congratulations to "A" Company in winning the Albuhera rugger sevens which produced some splendid talent for next year. The soccer team, too, has been playing much better football and will be practically unchanged next season.

The awarding of colours has been re-introduced to the Battalion and tracksuits are being manufactured for presentation to those awarded colours. They will be of

superior quality to the normal Battalion tracksuits with 57 and a laurel wreath in old gold on the jacket.

We now look forward to the summer season, and, we hope, a repetition of our swimming successes.

The cricket team looks extremely strong on paper and the athletes are already training hard.

Football XI

This season has not been too successful. However, we have built up a nucleus of good players for next year, and we hope there will be plenty of talent amongst the drafts coming to the Battalion during the summer.

The outstanding player of the season has been Gilham at centre-half who consistently played well and saved the side on many occasions, Farley and Stanborough also played well, and we were unlucky to lose L/Cpl. Peak to the Depot, for he was always a very safe goal-keeper.

Amongst some of our results we lost early in the season 4-1 against 1 S.W.B. but held them to a goal-less draw at Minden later in the season. We drew with 24 Medium Regiment, R.A., and beat 37 Locating Battery, R.A., at home and away; against 1 R.H.A., however, we didn't fare so well, losing both home and away games. In the 2 Division knock-out cup we drew the 4th Royal Tanks, who earlier in the season had beaten us 4-2 at Hameln, the final score was 3-1 to 4th Royal Tanks, however we were very unlucky, being a goal down in the first three minutes through a penalty, in the second half we had 10 corners to their three but still could not get the ball into the net.

Next year, with more thrust in the forward line, we should be more successful and look forward to some interesting games.

Rugger

The closing stages of the season have been memorable for a vast defeat, a similar victory and a steady improvement right up to our final match and narrow defeat by probably the second best team in B.A.O.R. The Albuhera inter-Company seven-a-sides have also been played, producing some excellent rugger and a wealth of talent on which to build next year.

The weather played havoc with our fixtures in late January and February, with one exception, when a sudden thaw caught us without a fixture. 19 Field Regiment, R.E., at Minden, however, were similarly placed and so we set off with some three regular players, skiing being much in evidence, only to find to our horror a complete unit side which had been training in spite of the weather for a gunner cup match they were due to play. We lost 5-43 and arrived home feeling a very "A" side. However, rugger got under way again in early March and we re-opened the season with a match against R.A.F. Sharfoldendorf, the third of the season, the score then being one all. We beat them 40-6 in a game that was far more enjoyable than the score might suggest and followed it with a very good evening. The following week we played the Argylls, winning a very even game 13-8 after lagging 8-5 at half-time. It was a very hard fight and either side might well have won right up to the whistle. Our next match was against a Hameln Garrison side,



Pte. O'Brien ("A") about to pass out from a loose scrum in which Pte. Atkinson ("S"), Lt. Cheesman ("S") and C.S.M. Beale ("A") are clearly visible.

whom we beat 20-6, but this was a scratch side got together to replace a fixture cancelled at the last minute. On April 2 we played 2nd Signal Regiment at Bunde, our third meeting of the season. This was an off-day for the Battalion and we were lucky to win 11-8 against the play. The hospitality was, as always, very good.

On Wednesday, April 6, the inter-Company sevens produced some very spirited games. "A" Company beat "B" Company 6-3 after extra time and "S" Company had an easier win over H.Q. 1 to reach the final. H.Q. 2 and "C" had lost to "B" and H.Q. 1 respectively in the first round and both bye teams reached the final though "A" Company had the harder draw. The final was a very close thing until an injury to Lt. Cheesman gave "A" Company a slight advantage and they emerged worthy winners. Mrs. Battye very kindly presented the cup and suitable liquid trophies.

From this competition the Battalion seven was selected for the Divisional sevens at Minden. Lt. Cheesman was away, playing for B.A.O.R., and in spite of our protests there was no other date available. In the first round we beat 125 Company (Br.) R.A.S.C., our Hameln neighbours, 10-8 just scraping through with a converted try a few seconds from time, but then lost to 1 S.W.B. The R.A.S.C. went on to win the plate, improving with every game.

The Leicesters' two sevens both reached the semi-finals and their 1st VII won the competition, so it was with some trepidation we set off to Munster for our last match of the season on Easter Saturday. We had five good players missing, due to B.A.O.R. hockey and other reasons, and they were also short, though Godwin, the Army hooker, was playing. The team produced the best rugger seen in the Battalion this season and every man had a good game. At the whistle we were three points down, 8-11, but it could have easily been the other way round. The evening that followed was in the best 1 Middlesex-1 R. Leicesters and end-of-season traditions and we look forward to their visit to Hameln next season.



Lt. Cheesman ("S") catching the ball in a line out.

The team next season will be very little changed. Sgt. Miles has seen us through a difficult period and has now retired. Cpl. Fordham doubts whether he will be with us and L/Cpl. Booth will have finished his National Service. Their replacements have already played for the Battalion and more are earmarked to replace the older members of the pack who would willingly retire to the 2nd XV.

The Battalion team has been filled up as follows: L/Cpl. Jones ("H.Q." Company), Lt. Waite/Pte. Kerrison ("S" Company), 2/Lt. Everard*/Cpl. Fordham ("A" Company), 2/Lt. Goring*, Pte. Jolliffe* ("B" Company), L/Cpl. O'Gorman ("H.Q." Company)/2/Lt. Lofting*, Cpl. Shave ("B" Company)/Pte. O'Brien* ("A" Company), Capt. Pollard, 2/Lt. Cowing*/Sgt. Smith ("B" Company), Capt. Lloyd/Sgt. Briggs ("H.Q." Company), C.S.M. Beale ("A" Company), Sgt. Edey ("C" Company), Capt. McManus*, Lt. Cheesman, L/Cpl. Booth ("A" Company).

*Also Battalion VII.

Hockey

Looking back it is safe to say that the Battalion team has had a successful season, having only lost two matches. When our last edition went to press, we had just won our first round of the Army Cup against 19th Field Regiment, R.A.

Before the 2nd-round game, we played a return match against the Deutschen Club of Hannover on our own ground. This time it was their turn to be unhappy under strange conditions, as they normally play on grass. We put up a very creditable performance and won 3-2. Although a little unhappy about the result, they left us in good spirits after having participated in refreshments of one sort or another.

In the second round of the Army Cup we met the South Wales Borderers, who are tough to beat at any game, this many of us can vouch for. It was a game in which both sides fought hard (almost literally), and we won 2-1, thanks to much bustling by Major Clayden our centre-forward, and desperate measures by our

defence, notably Sgt. Handford performing acrobatics in goal. Thus we managed to hold out.

The third round of the Army Cup took us to Berlin, where we played the East Anglian Regiment. The team did everything but score in the first 15 minutes. In spite of having most of the play we were forced into extra time. The thought of having to play on Sunday as well and thereby losing a chance to look around Berlin spurred us to score two goals and thus winning the match.

We only had four days to lick our wounds, some of which were quite severe, before we were launched into the Divisional final against 24 Medium Regiment. This was a hard-fought game. Major Clayden scored from a corner and 24 Medium Regiment equalised early in the second half. Ten minutes from the end Sgt. Carson ran in on a centre, taking the ball waist high, scored a goal. This put us on our mettle and we all but scored again before the final whistle.

The next round of the Army Cup was against 41 Field Regiment; we took the field without 2/Lts. Lofting and Cowing. The team as a whole was not at their best and, being up against a good all-round team with a strong half-back line, never really got into gear. We had three goals against us in the first half, but sheer determination cleared up the game and prevented any further score.

With our exit from the cup matches, and military training becoming a main consideration, the team has not been so active, but we were able to close the season on a high note. Just before Sennelager the R.M.A. Sandhurst touring team, who were very strong opposition. They took time to get used to the fast pitch, but even so the Battalion played without doubt its best game for some time. Bandmaster Jackson and Sgt. Leat led the Cadets a dance, and Sgt. Handford and Capt. Hayward foiled many of their attacks. We won 2-1.

On April 17 we entered a six-a-side team in the Combined Services Competition. We were knocked out in the first round by H.Q. B.A.O.R., who we beat in last year's final, but we won the plate.

Of the team, Sgt. Carson has left for the U.K., and his absence will be felt. It is very distressing that this will be Bandmaster Jackson's last hockey season with the Battalion. He is still without doubt the best stick player in the team, and an expert in the finer points of the game.

The Battalion team consisted of the following players: Majors Clayden and Bellers, Capt. Hayward, 2/Lts. Lofting and Rayner, W.O.s McMillan and Jackson, Sgts. Leat, Handford and Carson, Cpl. Torrie and Bdsm. Wallwork.

We would like to thank C/Sgt. Steward for his umpiring and his co-operation.

Basketball, 1959-60

We started the season by a few practice games against the following teams. Our first game was played against a local German team, "Aertzen," whom we beat. The scores are as follows:

1st Middlesex 42 Aertzen 41
1st Middlesex 58 Aertzen 34

We then played 94 Locating Regiment, who for two years running have been Rhine Army finalists. For the



The Battalion and R.M.A. Sandhurst hockey teams after the match at Hameln on April 8, 1960, which the Battalion won 2-1

first half of these games we managed to hold our own, but by the final whistle we were beaten. This was mainly because of the height of their players. The scores in these two games were:

1st Middlesex 34 94 Locating Regiment R.A. 41
1st Middlesex 38 94 Locating Regiment R.A. 49

The Royal Lincolns, being nearest to us, we played twice, and on both occasions we won. The first game was very close; however, on the second game their A.P.T.C. Captain was unable to play and we had an easy win.

Our first competition was for the Brigade Major Units Championships. The first game we played in this competition was against 19 Field Regiment, R.A., and was a good, clean, hard-fought game, and when the final whistle blew we only just won by one point. This game would have made the better final. The scores were as follows:

1st Middlesex 22 19 Field Regiment R.A. 21

The final game in this competition was against 1 British Corps, R.A.S.C., and the score in this game was:

1st Middlesex 43 1 (B.R.) Corps R.A.S.C. 27

The next competition was B.A.O.R. finals. The last eight teams were split up into two groups of four, of which the two winners of each group were to play off in the final.

We had some very good games and it is hoped that much experience was gained.

Our first game was played against 35 Corps Eng. Regiment:

1st Middlesex 25 35 Corps Eng. Regiment 47

This game was played at top speed, and, although we lost, it might quite easily have gone the other way. This was the only team to beat the crack Canadians.

The second game was against the Canadians, who have been Army finalists for the last three years. We, in fact, had 11 more shots at the basket than the Canadians in this game, the result of which was:

1st Middlesex 35 2nd Queen's Rifles 71

Our third game in the competition was against the Royal Signals who were finalists in 1957. Here was a game more of our style and for most of the game it looked as though we might pull it off. However, some stupid passing and bad shooting in the closing stages soon put paid to that.

Though being so far away from our neighbouring troops, we had the good fortune to meet and play the best six teams in B.A.O.R. at Osnabrook.

Our last game of the season was a Divisional final against our old friends from Aqaba days, 10th Royal Hussars. The result of this match was:

1st Middlesex 41 10th Royal Hussars 71

The team played hard but, because of the speed at which the game was played, tactics were sadly neglected. Lt. Cheesman was unable to play owing to injury.

Major Clayden held their Army player, S.I. Bright, for seven minutes in the second half, but, unfortunately, his right hand gave him some trouble so he had to come off.

The Battalion players are:

Major Clayden, Lt. Cheesman, C.S.M. DaCosta, C/Sgt. Potter, Sgts. Carson, Edey, Young and Miles, Cpl. Torrie, L/Cpl. Healy, S.I. Poole, L/Cpl. Routledge, Pte. O'Brien.

Depot Notes

EDITORIAL

The focus of attention at the Depot is still upon the date of closure, and this date is gradually becoming apparent. To set out all the factors affecting the date of closure would be to reproduce several thick files, but the basic details are obviously of interest.

With the termination of National Service in December this year Regular intakes will be small. Based on present figures they would not amount to more than 10 a month. This number does not warrant the present Depot Staff, especially when the Brigade Depot will be able to train the recruits.

As well as this undeniably valid argument, it is the intention to alter our existing barrack blocks and to pull down our present cookhouse. This would mean that the three units in Mill Hill would be dodging round the barracks as each area was knocked down or rebuilt. Obviously a most unsatisfactory form of life.

Because of these two main factors it is likely that the Depot will be closed down after the last National Service intake is trained. It is always dangerous to guess dates in such matters, but it appears likely that National Service training will be finished by February 1961, in which case the Depot would close about May 1961.

It is, of course, a sad decision but it is an inevitable one, and there is little to be gained by scuttling round the barracks like a hermit crab for an extra year.

The main difficulty lies in the continuance of our recruiting effort. The Depot has been the mainstay of the Regiment's recruiting, and without the Depot, recruiting will be difficult. However, there are plans to overcome this difficulty, and with the help of our successors here we hope to be able to carry on our recruiting much as before.

For the present, we are entering the busy period when the Golf Meeting, Albuhera Day, Cricket Week, At Home and the annual administrative inspection all follow one another closely. Depending on who you are at the Depot it is the silly season, the "onces" season, or just the cricket season. Any one who has served at the Depot will know exactly what goes on here at this time of year. It is the lull before the storm and no one has to consult the Air Ministry Roof to know when the storm will break. By the time these notes are published we shall be in the middle of it and shall have ridden such waves as broken grass-cutting machinery, no one booking in to lunch for the Foresters match, and women in the Mess after lunch on Sunday. One of the greatest joys of Depot life is that most of the crises happen every year, and those that have not happened before are not worth bothering about. The pity of it all is that we probably face the crises, and all the enjoyments, for the last time here. We shall make the most of them!

TRAINING COMPANY

At the beginning of the year the Home Counties Brigade found themselves in a difficult position. With

unusually large numbers of N.S. men to train the new Depot at Canterbury was not due to open until April 1, and half the Regimental Depots had closed down. The result of all this was that two very large intakes (one Middlesex and the other Royal Sussex) had to be trained by us. Each intake topped the hundred mark on occasion and to add to the difficulties they overlapped by eight weeks instead of by the normal four weeks.

Following the principle of flexibility, Training Company has undergone a complete change of organisation to cope with this heavy task. The instructors have divided up into Training Wings. Each Wing has specialised in one subject only. The Drill Wing, consisting of Sgts. Blackwell and Power, has worked under the auspices of the R.S.M. A Weapon Training Wing under Lt. Gilham and a Fieldcraft Wing under Lt. Deakin were set up and N.C.O.s were allotted to them in proportion to the amount of instruction to be given. The P.T. Wing has continued to flourish, as usual, under S/Sgt. Bristow, as did the Education Wing under Sgt. Rosser.

This reorganisation did not affect the normal platoon set-up. It merely meant that officers and N.C.O.s had a dual responsibility—as members of one of the wings they instructed in one subject but taught both intakes, as a member of a platoon and intake they were responsible for the control and guidance of recruits during administrative periods and in after-parade hours.

As these notes are written it has become obvious that, in spite of some initial teething troubles, the system has worked extremely smoothly and, judging by the standard of training so far achieved by the senior intake, the level of instruction has improved considerably.

The only drawback is a slight lack of control between periods as one wing surrenders its recruits to the next. This snag has been largely overcome by the recruits themselves, who, aided by the efforts of their Squad Leaders, have done their best to get from A to B in the impossibly short time available. Nothing, however, could have been achieved without the extra help given by an additional battery of both senior and junior instructors, and we are very grateful to the 1st Battalion for being so sympathetic both by sending us Cpl. Stopp, L/Cpls. McLean and Peak and for allowing us to hold on to Sgts. Power, Redmond and the Lance-Corporals we ourselves trained during our recent full N.C.O.s' cadre.

This N.C.O.s' cadre was also a new departure for the Depot. It was brought upon us first by the sudden cancellation of the potential N.C.O.s' cadres run by Home Counties Brigade and secondly the vital need to assemble the maximum number of instructors for the coming influx of recruits. However, there were the usual number of potential N.C.O.s who were about to fill vacancies on the non-training side of the permanent staff or had already completed a Canterbury cadre. These men needed instruction only in drill and N.C.O.s' duties. The cadre lasted for five weeks (excluding Saturdays)

and the men for drill and duties attended the cadre for the appropriate lessons only. However, the whole cadre lived together in two adjacent barrack rooms. The system worked well and a high standard was achieved from all but a small minority of the students. L/Cpl. Fleet is to be congratulated in passing out top of the full cadre and L/Cpl. Perkins for being first in drill and duties.

These events have been reported at some length because it is felt that seldom has the Depot machinery been so drastically stretched and our measures to deal with the problems may be of some interest historically.

Life nevertheless still continued its normal course and we saw the passing-out parade of the 61st Intake on February 16, at which the Mayor of Twickenham, Alderman E. Bostock, M.A., F.C.A., J.P., officiated. Music was provided by the Highgate School C.C.F. Band, by permission of the Headmaster. Bandmaster W. Gilliat, M.B.E., is to be congratulated on producing a very fine performance.

Prizes were awarded to the following:

Best all-round recruit; 23756482 Pts. M. Collins.

Best Regular recruit; 23508178 Pte. T. Kane.

Best rifle shot; 23755798 Pte. A. Lawson.

Best L.M.G. shot; 23755832 Pte. M. Bowley.

Highest physical efficiency; 23755830 Pte. W. Barnett.

This quarter has contained the usual number of visits from T.A. Units and cadets. The 7th Battalion put in many hard-working hours on the square, practising for their centenary parade, and the 8th Battalion held their cross-country run here in January.

One visit of cadets is worthy of note—that by four officers and 45 O.R.s of the City of London A.C.F., who erected an enormous aerial outside the Company Office one Sunday in order to make contact with an endless stream of small boys who were staggering about camp with heavy but antiquated wireless sets on their backs. Never before in the history of wireless has such a large aerial been used to contact so many sets at such close range!

The last issue noted the disappearance of highly-polished boots at the Depot. It would not be right to let this issue pass without mentioning the departure of yet another venerable institution—there is no more C.B. On January 1 it was replaced by the term R.P. or Restrictions of Privileges, a lesser evil. Certain members of the Company have been seen walking about barracks with a hidden gleam of contentment in their eyes. These men's names have been noted!

An enormous list of people have both left and joined the Permanent Staff this quarter. It would be impossible to mention them all. However, we were very sorry to say good-bye to Lt. Deakin, who has gone to the Permanent Staff of the New Brigade Depot. Also, it is sad to record the loss, through medical discharge, of Cpl. Adams, who has been a tower of strength in the Q.M.'s department. L/Cpls. Kerry and Bridge have also gone from their accustomed places. To these, together with all the others we wish the best of luck for the future.

The list of new members is even longer but we must express our thanks to Cpl. Stopp, L/Cpl. McLean and L/Cpl. Peak for helping us to train our large intakes. They will soon be returning once more to

the 1st Battalion. We would also like to welcome 2/Lt. Freeborn, who has come to replace Lt. Deakin as a training subaltern, and Sgt. Kerr, who has taken over from Sgt. Redmond. Finally, we would like to congratulate the following on their recent promotions: Cpls. Gordon and Bennett, L/Cpls. Ashbolt, Burrows, Howarth, Dalton, Wyeth, Philp, Fisher, Fleet, Perkins, Whelan, White (02) and White (03). Surely there cannot be many vacancies left!

OFFICERS' MESS

Australia Day saw the departure of Major Ian Methven (Hampshire Regiment) from the Mess: whilst working at the War Office, he stayed with us until a quarter became available.

Visitors at the end of January included Peter Cheesman and Lt.-Col. John Ormiston.

Brigadier Ian Burrows paid us two visits in February, coming to lunch on one occasion and attending the guest night on the 11th. It was most interesting to hear about his life in Moscow.

Lts. Rayner and Freeborn joined on January 25. Rayner went off to 1st Middlesex on February 2 and Freeborn remained on here to take over from Mike Deakin when he went off at the end of March to the Brigade Depot at Canterbury. We hope he and his wife will enjoy life there.

Our guests on February 11 were Lt.-Col. Reading and Major Bridge of the Home Postal Depot, Lts. Robinson and Adams, 7 Middlesex, and Lts. Pollack and Parkinson of the 8th Battalion. Johnny de Gave dined in that evening as well as Ian Burrows.

David Pike arrived back from Malaya in the middle of February and his cheerful exuberance brightened up the Mess a lot.

Lt. Pattison reported on February 15 and went off to Cyprus a week later.

Members of the City of London School Cadet Corps came up on February 19 for week-end training.

The Army Cadet Force held a parade here on February 27 when the Duke of Edinburgh's Banner was handed over. Some 50 officials and guests were entertained to tea in the Mess by the T. and A.F.A. Desmond Ellis, Aymar Clayton and "Taffy" Jones were much to the fore.

2/Lt. Bateman came to us on February 29—yes, 29th is right, and went off to Nigeria on March 7.

Four newly-commissioned Ghana officers—King Batsios, Kwami, Baidoo and Poku—spent a week here early in March before returning to their own country.

On March 14 Major Adam produced some more human guinea pigs for acclimatisation and other tests.

The Colonel of the Regiment visited us on March 16.

On 17th, St. Patrick's Day, "Paddy" Kenrick left for Sierra Leone. St. Patrick's Day would have been quite enough for Paddy on its own, but departure on that day as well was really piling it on! Anyhow, we hope he had a peaceful voyage and trust he will enjoy his tour out there.

Gavin Bulloch came back from his course on March 25 and left for the 1st Battalion on April 6.

Since Chris Lawrence has been back in this country, he has put in an appearance on several week-ends.

Mike Julian left for 1st Middlesex on March 28, just missing the guest night the next evening, when the Head Master of Mill Hill School, Lt.-Col. Romero, Major Bossom and Major Burgess of 10 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E., dined with us.

David Pike moved off on April 3 with his car bursting with "barang." When studying a route to Dover he read the route number as the mileage, the former being 42 as opposed to 70. As he didn't return that evening we imagined he caught the boat and hope he arrived intact in Hameln.

Capt. A. R. F. Smith and Michael Legg lunched in on April 5.

Officer Cadet Dudson, now at Mons Cadet School, came to lunch on April 11.

During the quarter, numerous members of the 1st Battalion have visited us, including Major Jeffcoat, Mike Hayward, Tony McManus, Ian Lloyd and John Lofting. Ted Ivens and Gordon Taylor looked into being demobbed. We were very glad also to see Christina Battye here. Many officers of the 7th Battalion have been in at weekends.

General Bucknall has been up to see us; Rex Weller spent several nights here early in April, and others we have seen include John Worton, Henry Marsh, Flash Chattey, Philip Marshall, Nick Carter, Jimmy Flavell and John Hewson.

Bob Blewett has replaced John Winwick as our Medical Officer.

Albuhara Day will have passed and gone by the time these notes appear, but, as we write, that is our next concern.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The first quarter is seldom a period of intense Mess activity, although we have taken precautions against our social life stagnating. On the second Saturday of each month we hold a social evening and we are happy to report that they are very successful. Most of our families attend and we are usually supported by a number of staunch former members including Alf Mason, Basil LeMaitre and Mutt Hazlewood.

Mutt has not really settled down in civilian life and, subject to various medical bigwigs overlooking the fact that he was born about the time Spion Kop was being fiercely contested, he intends to enlist in the band of H.M. Coldstream Guards. Sitrep at going to press: he's almost in.

We are frequently visited by our T.A. P.S.I.s. C.S.M. Shrub "works" at the Drill Hall in Hendon and he and Dot often spend a Saturday evening with us. Sgt. Taylor is another frequent visitor although he sometimes has bother with his Reference books. "Darkie" has a splendid sense of humour, fortunately.

Capt. Harry Jennings has been over several times recently and we all noticed how well he looked.

Hearty congratulations to Sgt. Rosser who recently received his rugby cap, having played for the Army in all the inter-Service matches. Sgt. Moran's comments on viewing this much coveted award are unprintable.

C.S.M. Burgess is now back amongst us after more than five months in hospital. He is not yet back to duty but we are all delighted to catch odd glimpses of him as

he reconnoitres warily over familiar territory. C/Sgt. Morgan the acting C.S.M., would no doubt appreciate a frontal attack on the Company Office without prior reconnaissance it seems that he has a rather pressing appointment with the Ministry of Labour. It is probable that "Molly" will have taken the plunge by the time of publication after 26 years' service. We wish him many frenzied diabolicals and strongly advise him to change to DAZ, or, better still, to wear a poncho.

Our thoughts at present are with our Comrades-in-Mess of the 1st Battalion who at the time of this drafting are on vacation at Sennelager. You lucky people! Steady on the Dortmund and beware of Bhanhof Bessie.

CORPORALS' CLUB

We have seen many new faces around the Club since our last notes were published.

We welcome to the Club Cpl. Pearce who has rejoined the Middlesex from the Royal West Kents, also L/Cpls. McLean and Peak who have been sent from the Battalion to assist in the training of the recruits. We should also like to congratulate L/Cpls. White (02), Perkins, Fisher, Fleet, Whelan, White (03), Ashbolt, Wyeth and Cpls. Gordon and Bennet, on their promotions. We all welcome them to the Corporals' Club. As well as the welcomes we get the departures. We are very sorry to see Cpl. Scott and L/Cpl. Forder, who have both left for the 1st Battalion, also L/Cpl. Collins who has gone to the Home Counties Brigade H.Q. at Canterbury, and Cpl. Adams who has now become a member of the civilian brigade.

Congratulations to Cpl. Whittle who did very well on his small arms course at Hythe.

On February 13, we held a formal dance in the N.A.A.F.I. the usual games and raffle were organised. The evening was a great success and everybody was sorry when it came to an end.

The Mess has now a very keen darts team and has played many matches against outside teams. The local pub at Kelly's Corner have so far managed to beat us every time, resulting in us standing the beers for their team. On April 8, we played the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, skill began to show in both our teams because the W.O.s and Sergeants retired in defeat. But defeated or not the beer remained the same and was enjoyed by both teams. They have even invited us for a return match.

Once again our old stalwart L/Cpl. Rogers has kept us in the limelight in the sporting field. He won the London District Light-Middle Weight Championship. For this he won a cup which he is allowed to keep for a year. Due to an injured hand he lost in the final of the Eastern Command. He hopes to meet his opponent again in a match being held in the Depot on April 25.

Finally, Cpl. Bennet has taken over as Club secretary from Cpl. Redrup.

DEPOT SPORTS

Basketball

Owing to the untiring efforts of L/Cpl. Cosgrave the Depot has produced a very keen Basketball team. The

majority of the team had never played before but under the tuition of the expert few, a strong co-ordinated team was formed. Sgt. Rosser, Sgt. Raffael, L/Cpl. Philp and Pte. Webb make a well balanced defence. S.S.I. Bristow and Pte. Toole are the tall men in the centre with L/Cpls. Peak, Evans and Cosgrave as fast wingers.

Of the 12 games played up till now only one has been lost.

Scores up to date are: L/Cpl. Cosgrave, 230; Pte. Toole, 185; S.S.I. Bristow, 91; and L/Cpl. Peak, 52. Pte. Morgan who plays occasionally scored 52.

Football

In the London District Mid-week Football League, the Depot team came second to R.P.O. Footscray in Section C. The Depot fought well and won some decisive victories, but due to the passing out and posting of recruits, we rarely played two consecutive games with the same team. This put a strain on the backbone of permanent staff, but it did not discourage them, it made them play even better football.

Boxing

L/Cpl. Rogers of the Regimental Police was narrowly defeated in the finals of the Eastern Command Boxing Championships. He was very unlucky, as he had been boxing very well up to the final when a septic left hand and a sprained right put him out of the fight.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Personal Column

PTE. D. TURNER, the son of Capt. Bill Turner who will be remembered by many past and serving members, has just completed his recruit training and is now serving with the 1st Battalion as a Regular soldier.

CPL. T. PARNELL, another son of an old "Die-Hard," C.S.M. Harry Parnell, has recently joined the Regiment after serving with the Queens Surreys and as an instructor at the Home Counties Brigade Depot.

BRIGADIER GODFREY LERWILL is now the Civil Defence Officer for the County of Cornwall, with his headquarters at Truro. He writes to say that he has bought a house near Falmouth.

PTE. T. BONE, late of "B" Company, 1st Middlesex, and the M.T. Section, was seen officiating as best man to Pte. Joe Read, also late "B" Company. He reckons he would rather join up again than get married himself.

PTE. A. BRIDGE who graced the Regimental Police under Sgt. Moran at the Depot for many months, was seen at the Depot a week or two ago giving the place the once over once more. We still hope to see him back on a Regular engagement.

SGT. BUTCH BAILEY called at the Depot a week or so ago. He is now an hotel porter at the Dover Stage in Dover. He looks forward to seeing any old friends passing through the port.

C.S.M. F. FIRMAN has returned to the U.K. and will shortly be joining the Permanent Staff of 5th Queens (T.A.). Regrettably he is unable to get a quarter and may temporarily be separated from his family.

CAPT. J. MOORE is another recruit to the T.A., having

recently been posted to 23rd London Regiment as Adjutant/Training Major. Congratulations to him along with Capt. Marciandi, Cain and Wollocombe on passing the Staff College Entrance Examination.

MAJOR G. KENT has recently returned to civilian life. He seems to have landed on his feet in civilian life and is an executive in Public Relations.

PTE. "POP" DAY called at the Depot. Unfortunately he is going through a rough time. We wish him better luck in the future.

COL. TONY HEWITT has recently arrived back in England from Ghana. Unfortunately his mother-in-law died very soon after his arrival and he has been much occupied in the resulting sorting of affairs. Our condolences go to his wife on her loss.

MAJOR JOHN STANYER, who served with 2nd Middlesex in Palestine and then transferred to R.A.O.C., has recently arrived in quarters in Bushey. He is now blessed with seven children.

2/LT. DAVID PENNYCOOK. News has recently been received that he is to be married in Montreal in the near future.

BRIGADIER "ROLY" GWYN is retiring voluntarily on July 31, of this year.

MR. J. K. TAYLOR, who has for so long been Secretary of the 9th Battalion Branch of the Association, is, we hear, ill and unable to continue his work for the branch at present. This is sad news indeed, both for the branch and for Mr. Taylor himself, who, we understand, has only recently re-married. We wish him a speedy recovery and many happy years to come. We also understand this is the reason the 9th Battalion Branch have no notes in this issue.

We welcome the following Regular recruits to the Regiment who joined us between January 1 and May 4 this year:

Pte. Washington	Pte. Martin	Pte. Bassett
" Jefferies	" Flight	" Smith
" Peterson	" Gibson	" Hession
" Davis	" Reide	" Jones
" Goldsmith	" McGee	" Bonner
" Murray	" Reboles	" Westgarth
" Hutchinson	" Walmsley	" Slater
" Cole	" Turner	" Ramadan
" O'Shaughnessy	" Bassett	" White
" Grant	" King	" McGuinness
" Tarry	" Lambourne	" Schierhout
" Cook	" Stubbs	" Forth
" O'Connell	" Painter	" Goodall
" Dowsett	" Townhend	" Beall
" Kimber	" Sutton	" Murphy
" Warnock	" Gillham	" Dempsey
" Freeland	" Monteith-Hodge	" Edwards
" Upton	" Russell	" Ryan
" Hayes	" Ward	" Desmond

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CENTENARY PARADE, FEBRUARY 20, 1960

No. 1 Division (Major J. C. Du Parc Braham) marching past the Mayor of Hornsey

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



As everyone should now know, the Battalion celebrated its centenary in February.

The centenary was marked by four events—a march through the Boroughs of Tottenham, Hornsey and Enfield, an all ranks' dance, an officers' dinner in London and a Warrant Officers' and Sergeant's

Mess dinner at the T.A. Centre, Hornsey.

The Marches—February 20

After many rehearsals at Hornsey and Mill Hill the Battalion assembled some 150 strong at Hornsey on Saturday, February 20. Companies then marched independently to the entrance to Alexandra Palace race-course, where the parade was formed up in two divisions by the Adjutant.

After the inspection by the Commanding Officer, the Rector of Hornsey, the Reverend W. S. Kemble,

addressed the Battalion. Throughout this part of the parade B.B.C. television and sound were filming and recording for their programme in the evening.

When we arrived in Tottenham for our first march the rain that had been threatening all morning arrived with a vengeance and, unfortunately, persisted off and on all day.

Councillor A. J. Davis, the Mayor of Tottenham, took the salute and he was accompanied by Major R. D. Hutchings whilst his A.D.C. was Capt. M. J. Beaumont.

By 11.30 a.m. we had arrived in Hornsey, where huge crowds on the Broadway gave the Battalion a most enthusiastic welcome. The bearing and marching of the Battalion during this march was quite first class, the Band and Corps of Drums had recovered from the Tottenham downpour and undoubtedly the Battalion was at its best.

The Mayor of Hornsey, Councillor Miss O. Anderson, took the salute and she was accompanied by the Honorary Colonel to the Battalion, Col. W. E. Pringle. Capt. P. A. Stocken acted as her A.D.C.

After this march the Battalion returned to Battalion headquarters for lunch. Sgt. Moore and his cooks did us proud, and they are to be congratulated on their fine effort.

In the afternoon we were off again to Enfield and,



Photo by Courtesy of the Hornsey Journal

CENTENARY PARADE, FEBRUARY 20, 1960

Corps of Drums marching past the Mayor of Hornsey, Councillor Miss O. R. Anderson



Photo by Courtesy of the Hornsey Journal

W.O.S' AND SERGEANTS' MESS CENTENARY DINNER, MARCH 12, 1960

Left to right; R.S.M. J. A. Thom, Mrs. Pringle, Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., C.S.M. Holdford, B.E.M., Mrs. Holdford, Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson, T.D.

despite a slight map-reading error between the C.O. and the Adjutant, we arrived at our forming-up place some 10 minutes early. Throughout our journeys in M.T., our two Metropolitan Police motor-cyclists, "Hank" Longhurst in particular, had cleared the routes in true George Orwell fashion, and it is hoped our own D.R.s have benefited from their example.

Once more the Battalion was greeted by enormous crowds, whether shopping or not is quite immaterial, and our reception here was as warm as the one we had had in Hornsey.

Alderman A. A. F. Tatman, Mayor of Enfield, took the salute. Brigadier D. R. Wilson kept an eagle eye on us and we think he was well pleased with what he saw.

Back to the race-course once again and a march down Priory Road to the headquarters. Here, the Colours were marched off parade and the Battalion dismissed after a long and tiring day to be remembered by all of us for many years to come.

Regimental Dance—February 26

For our all ranks' dance the Hornsey Borough Council most generously allowed us to use their Town Hall free of cost. A great deal of hard and unspectacular work had been done by Major Reed and his committee to make this dance a success, and a success it certainly was. Some 600 past and present members of the Battalion with their families and friends attended, and even the Adjutant enjoyed himself.

The Colonel of the Regiment stayed for some time and all of us were particularly glad to see him. Councillor Miss Anderson and the Mayoress, our principle guests, came early and left late, always a good sign of a successful party.

To Sgt. and Mrs. Moore we say "thank you" for the magnificent cake which later on was carved up quite successfully by the C.O. and devoured by hungry soldiers, young and old.

The officers' centenary dinner and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess centenary dinner are covered elsewhere in our notes.

Apart from centenary celebrations we have had a busy and successful quarter. Brigadier D. R. Wilson and Major The Lord Alvingham carried out their annual administrative inspection of the unit and we believe we will get a good report.

After a very close shoot against 880 Locating Battery, T.A., the Battalion for the third year in succession won the T. & A.F.A. annual .22 competition. Capt. M. A. H. Lanyon and his team are to be congratulated.

In the Brigade first-aid competition we were not quite so successful, but the team, trained by Sgt. Allsopp, gave a very good account of themselves.

Cpl. Langham and L/Cpl. Barrrell came fourth in 44 (H.C.) Infantry Division T.A. cookery competition; only four points behind the second team. The Brigade Commander wrote a letter of congratulation to the team on their very fine effort.

Our boxing team again carried off the major honours in the Divisional championships and without our numbers there just would not have been a championship this year. Pres. Douglas, Woods and Hughes, and Sgt.

Sills all won their weights and will now represent 44 Division in the Scarborough Cup Competition in May. Lt. D. O. M. Thomas, who trained the team, was perhaps the most unlucky loser. He knocked out his opponent eight seconds before the end of the last round and then lost on points.

Sgt. Henshaw, L/Cpls. Cozzi and Sharkey played for the Division in the annual football match against 54 East Anglian Division. L/Cpls. Sharkey and Cozzi scored two of the three goals for the Division who won 3-2.

In late March some 16 officers attended a Brigade Civil Defence study weekend, and, in April, 20 of us journeyed to Bedford for an attack T.E.W.T. Major Barry Reed organised this exercise and it was very successful. Brigadier Wilson was present throughout the exercise and he was well pleased with it all.

R.S.M. J. Thom has held two cadres, one for the senior N.C.O.s and one for the junior N.C.O.s. The former was well attended but the latter was disappointing—we hope those who did not come along will not be unhappy when they are not promoted.

The C.O. and the Adjutant were guests of the 1914/18 Old Comrades' Association and had a most enjoyable evening.

Finally we come to the Brigade signal exercise "April Shower." This was certainly the biggest and most ambitious exercise that Brigade has organised in the last few years. In April, Battalion headquarters, under the command of Major J. D. Gunnell, the C.O. being chief observer with the 8th Battalion, left Hornsey for its assembly area south of Pirbright. Throughout the day the Battalion moved towards Bordon, fighting a number of engagements on the way.

The signallers did extremely well and on no occasion did we ever lose contact, 31 sets still work if properly sited. In the evening we moved into a harbour area and late at night some 30 or 40 soldiers of the 6 Surreys attacked the H.Q. Four were captured literally on the threshold of the C.P. where Capt. Carter interrogated them eventually. The Geneva Convention apparently is unknown in this Battalion. The following day the advance was continued towards Portsmouth, but just south of Petersfield the enemy sued for peace.

The Battalion returned to Hornsey in the late evening after a most enjoyable two days in the field.

"H.Q." COMPANY

O.C.	Major R. G. Garrett, T.D.
2IC	Capt. P. A. Stocken.
P.S.I.	W.O. 2 J. Moyse.
C.S.M.	W.O. 2 C. Holdford, B.E.M.
C/Sgt.	C.Q.M.S. M. Conroy.

On March 18-19, 1960, Exercise "Terrapin" took place, which involved at one stage nearly 150 volunteers from the following units:

- "H.Q." Company
 - "C" Company
 - 16 Middlesex Cadet Company
 - Phantom Signals Troop
 - 211 Fd. Sqn. Royal Engineers
 - Div. Coln. R.A.S.C.
- Since January "H.Q." and "C" Companies had

been training, with the co-operation of the Royal Navy, in assault landings. It was with bitter disappointment that the assault landings down at Poole were cancelled, due to the temporary close-down of the school. It was with some difficulty that an assault river crossing was arranged instead. The site—Upnor Bridging Camp, near Rochester. The Royal Engineers agreeing to float all our vehicles across for us.

On Saturday morning the advance recce group left to RV with the R.E., the enemy, under Lt. Ottino, moving independently into positions on the river. The main group closed up at about 12.00 hrs. The first problem facing us was the security of the near bank, which was held by infantry dug in and in pill boxes. A swift attack by the M.T. Platoon secured the enemy positions, but one pillbox was a tough nut to crack. Capt. Hennah of the Pay Corps and Sgt. Berry got into position with the rocket launcher and let it have two rounds (they were suffering from deafness two hours afterwards) and Pte. Hooker got into position and fired two Enegra Grenades which were extremely accurate. The pillbox was taken by storm.

A smoke screen then came down on the far bank, laid by the 4.2-in. mortars (smoke cannisters) and "C" Company launched their attack in their assault craft. Major Reed's boat started off like the Oxford crew and soon disappeared into the screen; the others followed up very quickly. All hell then broke loose on the far bank, the enemy were not prepared to clear out and counter-attacked strongly, but when the second wave of "C" Company hit the bank, resistance crumbled although some stiff fighting had to take place to secure the high ground.

"C" Company then started off on its long long march to secure the south side of Halstow Island. The defence platoon had a sharp engagement with an enemy patrol before Tower Hill was secured for use by Battalion H.Q.

The R.E. had meanwhile made their ferry but were having great trouble with the engines, an operation that should have lasted an hour in fact went on for four. However, the majority of our vehicles were brought over. The island being cleared, Halstow force were alerted for another attack in Berkamstead Common area, near Aldbury Village, some 120 miles away. The force moved off in two groups. The Battalion Recce Group and the main column under Major Reed, to RV at the assembly area at 05.30 hrs. In fact, the meeting was at 05.32 hrs., which was excellent timing and a great credit to Sgt. White and the M.T. Platoon. The force then moved off in tactical formation for a distance of four miles and occupied without difficulty the village of Aldbury (the Police were very worried that the inhabitants would object, but this was not the case). A most difficult battle then commenced up a very steep hill and Cpl. Stack of "C" Company very gallantly tried to get forward. He was held up and his Platoon Commander launched a flank attack which cleared the enemy off the objective. Casualties were removed very quickly by the Medical Section, Cpl. Weemes being with the forward Company and Sgt. Stansell with the R.A.P. in the village hall of Aldbury. Some of the casualties looked a little green having been

driven at break-neck speed down Aldbury Hill strapped to a stretcher Jeep driven by L/Cpl. Cozzi.

Major Reed then faced a problem of clearing a thick shrub area where visibility was down to almost 10 yards in places. This he accomplished with section and platoon attacks either side of the road, ending with a final brisk assault on the main enemy positions astride a T junction. This was carried out with great dash by "C" Company even though they had been on the go for 36 hours.

The force then moved back in M.T. to the Muswell Hill area, where it debussed and proceeded in battle formation to the centre, very tired but looking very rugged. It seems that without exception all the force was asleep by 8 p.m. that night.

This ended "Terrapin," the culmination of three months' training, of lectures, films and demonstrations. "H.Q.," "C" and senior cadets have now started on ex-Corporal (street-fighting) for the next three months.

"B" COMPANY

Coy. Camd.	Major J. D. Gunnell.
C.S.M.	C.S.M. Webb.
C/Sgt.	C.Q.M.S. Leahy.
P.S.I.	C.S.M. Cubitt.

As with the rest of the Battalion the period after Christmas was devoted to preparing for the centenary parade. Once this was over we made up for the lack of field training by embarking on a "tough training" weekend. On the Saturday, the Company marched eight miles, partly along roads and partly across country, and on Sunday we based our training on the Depot at Mill Hill. Here we shot on the open range and sampled the Depot's new assault course. Though this looked easy it turned out to be most strenuous and after the efforts of crossing the high wall, not many could manage to get up and across the ropes which are carefully placed right at the end. Not daunted by this, however, we immediately marched another five miles round Totteridge, making the reasonable total of 13 for the weekend.

Two weeks later we joined "A" Company for another busy weekend at an old R.A. Camp at Theobalds Estate. Here Saturday afternoon was enlivened by a map-reading clue hunt which was followed by a night exercise in which "A" Company had to find "B" Company's standing patrol. The exercise was carried out silently and efficiently, despite the fact that it was preceded by some entertainment in the "local."

On Sunday we had our first taste of handling assault craft in Whitewells Park and the training was completed by races in which a combined crew of the officers of both Companies skillfully coxed by the C.O. beat the sergeants and O.R.s in two separate rows. The weekend was made even more successful by the provision of excellent meals by our own Cpl. Warren, exercising his old skill, and "A" Company's C/Sgt. Jackson. The highlight of the social side of the Company's activities was the Company's own Centenary Dance. Held in the Enfield Drill Hall, which was specially decorated for the occasion, it was an even greater success than our December dance. Well over 200 people attended it

and among the guests we were most pleased to welcome were Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Simpson, Lt.-Col. Ross, the Lord Lieutenant's representative for Potters Bar, Col. and Mrs. Pringle and the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Enfield. We also take this opportunity of thanking the other companies for their support.

"C" COMPANY

Company Commander ..	Major B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.
C.S.M.	W.O.2 Curry
Colour-Sergeant ..	C.Q.M.S. Moran
P.S.I.	Sgt. Turner

The past few weeks have seen improvements in our attendance rates which would not have seemed possible at the beginning of the quarter. The attraction of T.V. and the home fire are too great for some of the Company during the winter months, but come the spring and not only the beasts of the field come out of hibernation. On the other hand, of course, the management is able in fairer weather to step up the interest rate of training and, to quote our Divisional Commander, so provide a more ample dividend to the shareholders.

Centenary events were the highlight of the period as well as the long preparation leading up to them. These celebrations are adequately covered in other sections of the Battalion notes and suffice it to say that more men learnt something about drill than they would have done in other circumstances. We were also extremely pleased that the Company was so strongly represented in the Colour party on the march, namely, 2/Lt. Phillips, C.S.M. Curry and C/Sgt. Moran.

The weekend March 20/21 provided a real stimulus to Company morale. An assault-boat landing, plus a lengthy vehicle night march, was planned by Major Garrett, and he kindly invited us to take part with his Company. The exercise started hilariously when our Company wag, Pte. Twilley, appeared on the roadside dressed in a pair of oversize female pyjamas. However, despite the cold and discomfort of the night, spirits were still high at sunrise on the Sunday morning and all ranks did a series of attacks across Ashridge Common.

Recruiting, especially after a drive on Sunday, April 3, has continued to bring in a number of new faces. We have, unfortunately, had a certain wastage, and we were particularly sorry to lose Pte. Leggett but wish him luck in the Provost Section. Finally, our congratulations go to Cpls. Stack and Giblin and L/Cpl. Gollings on their recent promotion.

"S" COMPANY

Company Commander ..	Major J. C. du Parc Braham
C.S.M.	W.O.2 Payne
Colour-Sergeant ..	C.Q.M.S. Medcalf
P.S.I.	Sgt. Taylor

The first quarter of this year has been a period of courses and cadres in which the Company was ably represented by an officer and five N.C.O.s at the Support Weapons Wing at Netheravon. They returned back full of enthusiasm as well as knowledge.

The Anti-Tank Platoon was very much on its toes, as

for the first time the present members will be firing the 17-pounder at Lydd in July this year. They are less fortunate than their comrades in the Machine-Gun Platoon who have frequent practice, as the Depot is most useful by its proximity. The mortars, whilst not as fortunate as the M.G. Platoon, are nevertheless more fortunate than the anti-tank. May will see a Company weekend at Lydd where the mortars and machine-guns will be having a field-firing exercise and the Anti-Tank Platoon will have further training in preparation for their great day.

Social activities are doing well and the bar profits are a reflection of this.

Congratulations to L/Cpls. Wade and Smith on their promotion, and welcome to several new recruits to the Company. In the midst of training recruiting has not been forgotten and we have not been unsuccessful. Unfortunately, we have had a few losses but, nevertheless, our numbers have not been reduced.

OFFICERS' MESS

The Battalion centenary was celebrated with a dinner at the Normandie Hotel on March 5. Twenty-nine serving officers sat down to dinner with 16 guests and 37 past officers, including seven former Commanding Officers: 47 past officers wrote regretting that they were unable to attend.

The guests included Maj.-Gen. P. Gleadell, G.O.C. 44 (H.C.) Infantry Division, our Brigade Commander, Brigadier D. R. Wilson, and the Mayors of Hornsey, Southgate and Wood Green.

The Colonel of the Regiment proposed the toast to the Battalion. The Mayor of Hornsey, Councillor Miss O. R. Anderson, the only lady present, thoroughly enjoyed herself, and her speech at the end of the evening was enthusiastically received by everyone.

As a special privilege to mark this unique occasion, R.S.M. J. A. Thom, representing the Military Permanent Staff, and O.R.Q.M.S. C. J. Munds, representing the senior Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Battalion, were also invited. We hope they enjoyed themselves as much as we enjoyed having them with us.

Major R. D. Hutchings and Col. Desmond Ellis had lunch with us on February 20, and 2/Lt. Freeborn from the Depot came along one evening for supper. Major Peter Pearce-Gould popped in to see the Permanent Staff in January.

We congratulate Brian Hennah on his promotion and marriage. The latter was kept very secret. Ramsey Fenton has left us and we wish him all the best on his future marriage. "Pip" Phillips looks as though he will be leaving us shortly and 2/Lt. Dennis Adams will most probably be away from the Battalion for six months or more.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We begin the notes by welcoming new members, i.e. Sgts. Ford and Parsons, and trust that they will enjoy taking full advantage of the new privileges that Mess membership opens to them.

In a quarter that has been notable for social activity, pride of place must be given to recording the excellent dinner and dance that was held in March as part of the

Battalion centenary celebrations. Space will not permit us mentioning all the guests that we were happy to have with us (for which we know they will forgive us), but we were indeed proud that Col. and Mrs. Pringle and Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Simpson were able to attend as our guests of honour. In proposing a toast to "The Battalion" the Honorary Colonel reminded us of the splendid record of service that it is our privilege to uphold, and, in responding, R.S.M. Thom described his apprehension, as a Regular soldier, when first being told that he was to join a T.A. Battalion, but how he now felt proud to serve with a unit with such a distinguished history. The P.M.C., C.S.M. Holdford, proposed a toast to our guests and, in replying, the C.O. particularly mentioned the ladies, without whose useful and unselfish co-operation there could be no T.A. It was indeed an occasion when every member and honorary member present was conscious of the true strength and spirit of the T.A., and in particular the 7th Middlesex, an evening for justifiable pride.

Other social events have taken the form of social evenings in the Mess when we have entertained the Metropolitan Police from Hendon and London Transport from Hornsey Garage. On both occasions the main competitions were fought out on the dart board and on the miniature range, but the emphasis was very much on "friendly" rivalry rather than an intense desire to win. We hope to enjoy similar evenings in the future.

We must close these notes in rather sad vein, as we

have to bid reluctant farewell to two stalwarts of the Mess, C.S.M. Arthur Goodge and C/Sgt. Wally Payne. We have known them both for many years and shall miss them in many ways. However, we wish them well in the future and hope that they will not forsake us altogether but will look in to see us whenever they can. We assure them of a warm welcome at all times.

ELMS CLUB

The annual meeting was held on March 3. New officers were elected for the forthcoming year. These were: chairman, Mrs. Simpson; secretary, Mrs. Wallage; treasurer, Mrs. Holdford; librarian, Mrs. Ferguson; thrift, Mrs. Goodge; and refreshments, Mrs. P. Wallage.

The club celebrated its third birthday party on March 10 in their Club Room at Hornsey and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all. We wish to thank the Colonel for the generous gift of sherry that he gave on this occasion.

Another enjoyable evening was spent by the club on Friday, April 1, when they paid a visit to the Globe Theatre to see "The Complainant Lover."

Mrs. Clayden has been very much welcomed to the club and we should be pleased to welcome more of the ladies who make their appearance at the T.A. Centre to join the Elms Club. I can assure them that many pleasant evenings will be spent.

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

"H.Q." COMPANY

Between normal training and the odd basketball match "H.Q." Company has been having a rather enjoyable time collecting cups. Standing beside the gigantic Bott Cup, for the best Company of the year, is now the Battalion Shooting Cup. With the Battalion Cross-Country Cup, plus a few others already on display, there is now a good collection of silver. It was proposed that the P.S.I. should fill these cups one evening and pass them round, but he didn't second the proposal. The P.S.I. has promised, however, to fill them should they be retained next year.

The Company rifle team members were: Lt.-Col. Brotherton, Major Webber, Drum-Major Kemp, Sgts. Kemp and Wood, Cpls. Ashcroft, Stephenson, Shaw, Tyler and Ward, L/Cpls. Armstrong and Large, Ptes. Beech, Enright, C. Jordan, Smyth and Wicks, and Cfn. Brown.

"H.Q." Company 22 small bore trophy, 1959/60, has been won by Cpl. "Dixie" Dean of the M.T. Platoon.

Through the fun and highlights came a sorry blow when we learned very suddenly that Major R. C. Whipps was leaving us, owing to pressure of work and world-wide

travel that has been brought about by his new employment. We would like to say how sorry we are to see him go, and wish him every success in the future.

Congratulations from all stations to Mr. Tett, who has been leading our Signals Section for some considerable time as a non-com and who has now "netted in" to the Officers' Mess as a Second-Lieutenant.

We welcome Lt. Wright as our new R.S.O. and sincerely hope that his stay with us will be a long and enjoyable one. Indeed, he has a few highly trained "old sweats" to assist him.

"A" COMPANY

Despite dark and cold evenings, the flu, the lure of one's fireside and other impediments to T.A. training in the winter, the past four months have been busy and full of interest for the Company. There was a good attendance for the Company weekend at Beaconsfield on January 23/24. Saturday night was spent in some fierce patrolling against the R.A.P.C., followed on the Sunday by shooting on the 30-yard range, and the introduction to a fearsome assault course at Penn by Major Webber. We hope to be visiting Penn again during the summer; to those companies interested, the assault course is very good value. Perhaps a Battalion competition could be arranged.

At the Battalion shooting competition the falling plate was won by "A" Company, the team consisting of C.S.M. Saunders, Sgts. Wagner and Nuthall, and Pte. Cowie.

This winter one of our main interests has been basketball, and, under the leadership of L/Cpl. Marshall and the expert eye of C.S.M. Saunders, we have produced a good team. Having won the Battalion competition, we rather optimistically challenged the U.S.A.F. at Denham on February 25 and again on April 7, and, although defeated, the team played two very good games. Anglo-American relations have been strengthened and we are looking forward to a visit from the U.S.A.F. team at our social with "D" Company on April 28.

Congratulations go to L/Cpls. Marshall and Constant on their promotions; also to Pte. Frost on his marriage to Miss Dora Mead on March 19 at Hayes.

"D" COMPANY

Already since C.S.M. Shrubbs' arrival as P.S.I. at Hendon we have felt the benefit of his long association with the Regimental Depot, his many friends in the vicinity and his uncanny knack of solving various problems.

Morale in the Company is as high as ever and our recruiting graph is moving steadily in the right direction.

From the Battalion shooting competition in April we came away with a cup—our first since the palmy days at Edmonton under Major Webber. The trophy was for the L.M.G. competition, with which Ptes. Havart and Bellew did so well. The sum of £3 was part of the prize, so we drove back to Hendon quickly to celebrate, and for a brief moment our large silver cup was full of whisky.

We congratulate C.S.M. Phelan on his promotion and "C" Company on their choice of a Sergeant-Major, but we are sorry he is no longer with us.

Our basketball team recently went to Ealing, where we handsomely defeated "B" Company, who have a very strong team.

Ex-C/Sgt. Markham has joined us from the Depot, having left the Regular Army, and we are pleased to have him.

May we remind all Regular "Die-Hards" who may be leaving the Depot to become civilian soldiers that weekend soldiering is a very happy and rewarding hobby, and we are only down the road from Mill Hill, in a most attractive T.A. Centre, and that C.S.M. Shrubbs is waiting to greet you with a smile of welcome.

OFFICERS' MESS

Another very successful dinner was held in the Mess in March and we were pleased to see Brigadier E. E. F. Baker on that occasion.

On May 14 we are holding a cocktail party at Cowley to commemorate "Albuhera." Col. M. Crawford, who commanded the Battalion during the war, hopes to bring Gen. Horrocks and Gen. Bucknall.

We congratulate Lt. Pollock upon his engagement and we hope that married life will not prevent him travelling from Croydon to Cowley every drill night.

We congratulate also Lt. Murray on winning the "Best Officer Shot" Cup, and 2/Lt. Tett upon his commission.

Capt. A. A. Holmes played rugby for the T.A. versus the Regular Army in the annual match in March.

We regret that Major Whipps has decided that he has

not sufficient time with his new job to continue with the Battalion, and we welcome Major D. James, from the Dorset Regiment, who has taken his place as O.C. "H.Q." Company.

SERGEANTS' MESS

It would appear that the wind of change has been blowing through the Mess since our last notes—in fact we have had almost as many "ins and outs" as the Oxford crew.

First, then, a hearty welcome to R.S.M. Webb, who joined us from the Royal Sussex Regiment; we hope his sojourn with us will be a happy one. Welcome to Bandmaster Firth, late of the K.O.Y.L.I., who found immediate fame in introducing the Band to the melodic minor scales, which they never knew existed.

We were very sorry to lose, on retirement, that stalwart of the Battalion, R.Q.M.S. Johnson. We shall miss him, not only from the "Q" angle but also as a Mess member and friend. Our best wishes for the future go to him and Mrs. Johnson and we hope they will continue to visit us on the "last Friday in each."

Fortunate indeed we are to have in his place R.Q.M.S. Roberts, ex "C" Company, to whom we offer our congratulations on his appointment. Congratulations also are the order of the day for Sgt. Bob Tett, who aspired to greater things and has had his commission approved, and to Sgt. Ernie Burt on his well-earned promotion.

Our socials show remarkable signs of life, considering the scarcity of attendance. The R.S.M. has found a winner in "African Polo," although this scribe feels that competition with that spade-shaped "hooter" like Sgt. C... should play under handicap. May we extend a welcome to all old friends on the last Friday of each month.

Although not strictly a Sergeants' Mess note, one could hardly close without mention of "D" Company's capture (if that's the word) of a certain recruit, G. Markham. Welcome "young soldier"—may your "Nervo and Knox" be ever full of the old "Blind Man's Buff."

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

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

These notes are written on the last day of what must rank as the Regiment's finest post-war camp. From every point of view—military, social and what have you—it has been a success.

Since the last issue of the *Die-Hards*, the Regiment has been training intensely to meet the demands of an early camp. Every Wednesday, and practically every Sunday the T.A. Centres have been occupied by earnest gunners laying in the Dome, coping with the intricacies of gun mechanisms and searching the skies with radar.

On February 12, the officers, past and present, of the Regiment dined at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich, in honour of the Regiment's Centenary. This proved to be a most outstanding gathering. Along with the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Willoughby, were the



Waldorf Studios Photograph

W.O. I/Bandmaster Barnes leading the Regimental Band during a rehearsal of the Ceremonial Parade.



Waldorf Studios Photograph

Major K. McDiarmid, R.A. (T.A.), and some members of his Battery displaying one of the "sleeve" targets shot down during this year's camp.

Master Gunner, Sir Cameron Nicholson, the C.O.s of the 7th and 8th Battalions, the Brigade Commanders of 30 and 33 Brigades and over 40 old officers of the Regiment. It was a superb occasion which will long be remembered by those privileged to take part.

April 16 saw the Regiment en route for Bude. The one advantage of having small numbers in the Regiment is that it is possible to move easily—and the unit was largely a “private car” army. I doubt if any unit will have better weather for camp. The sun shone from the moment we arrived.

A very efficient training office was set up under Major Bond, with Capt. Campbell and W.O.2 Marshall doing the donkey work. Here, from day to day, it was most encouraging to see the progress of the gunnery training. A surprisingly large number of gunners classified as Class 2 and 3 layers and some five sleeves were accounted for. Bdr. (now Sgt.) Hawes proved to be a crack shot—perhaps too good in fact, as he was responsible for knocking out the exchanger gear and depriving us of an hour's shooting.

It was particularly encouraging to see recruits having immediate success as layers and numbers four. Towards the end of camp a very effective tactical exercise was held, in which eight detachments represented the Regiment. Naturally, the best layers were picked for this “Test Match,” as it was called. Gunners Roper, Astle, Jackson and Roberts—all attending their first camp—were amongst the best eight—they deserve every credit for such a fine performance.

On the middle Sunday of camp, the Regiment paraded with Colours before Brigadier J. Hepper, our Brigade Commander. In perfect weather on an almost unnaturally green field backed by an incredibly blue sky the Regiment was inspected and afterwards marched past. The Band was again supplemented by two stalwart B.S.M.s—B.S.M.s Wright of “P” Battery and Vaisey of “R” Battery. The Regiment marched to the camp chapel where Padre Kingston held a brief but impressive service attended by the Honorary Colonel and the Brigade Commander.

This was followed by the now traditional visit of the Sergeants' Mess to the Officers' Mess. The events of the week assumed new and highly coloured aspects under the influence of beer and bonhomie. Perhaps no event was more striking and effective than the employment of the I.G.'s “rack.” Weary of the Numbers One failure to do stoppage and misfire drills properly, the I.G., Capt. Thomas, produced a fearsome-looking instrument (colloquially referred to as “Tommy's Torture”) alongside which lay a board inscribed as follows:

“The rack has not been used on a Number One since the Peninsular War in 1813, when a Number One failed to do the correct misfire and stoppage drill on a howitzer. Anyone failing to know the appropriate sections of the Gun Drill Book will be similarly dealt with as from 1400 hours today.”

Needless to say, this had the desired effect—there was a notable improvement in the drill.

Throughout camp there has been a soccer competition—finally won by “P” Battery. Under B.S.M. Wright, “P” Battery triumphed, against heavy odds, over “R”

Battery in a final which ran into two periods of extra time and was finally decided on a corner. This competition had the usual effect of exercising muscles which some people did not know existed. A cup will be presented on return to base.

In the lines competition, “Q” Battery were successful, hotly pursued by “P” Battery with the Band coming in strongly at the end. In fact, on the last day's marking the Band were ahead—but “Q” won on consistency.

The Band has been most effective. Under its new Bandmaster, Mr. Barnes—whom we welcome—it reached new heights in its playing at the officers' dinner night during the second week of camp. As usual, Bdsm. Barton organised the band dinner, with Bdsm. Dowling as chairman, at the Bullers Arms. The Band President attended what must rank as one of their best functions. The two acting drummer boys were also there. During camp, the Band have entertained all the Messes in turn, and they have added immeasurably to the enjoyment of sundry meals. They will be heard at least twice within the next two months—at the Association dinner in celebration of Albuhera Day and at the cricket day at the Middlesex Depot.

As ever the middle weekend of camp was marked by the visit of Major-General B. P. Hughes, our Honorary Colonel. Joining us for Guest Night on Friday, April 22, he was able to take three officers to Exeter on Saturday for flying—quite a point to have an Honorary Colonel who is also a qualified pilot. On Sunday, after a pleasant run down the Cornish coast, the C.O. with General Hughes paid an informal visit to the Master Gunner. The following day, the General saw the Regiment training and chatted with all ranks on the job.

The Chairman of the Association, Brigadier Flavell and Col. Clayton, Association Secretary, visited the Regiment and joined the officers on Guest Night. I need hardly say how proud we were that they took the trouble to make the long journey to Bude to see us. Other visitors have included our own Brigade Commander, who spent two days seeing the Regiment at work, and his deputy, Col. J. N. Daniels. The B.R.A., Eastern Command, Brigadier Munn, spent a morning with the Regiment, saw two sleeves shot down, watched the radar at work, inspected the training office and left us feeling that we were putting up a good show.

Preliminary indications are that a good report can be expected and that all ranks have had the best camp ever. The corollary is that we can hope for a boost in recruiting. By the time these notes appear in print we shall have started a summer recruiting drive. If the bronzed faces and enthusiastic accounts of our gunners are anything to go by, many of their friends will be queuing to join us.

As ever, camp has brought its store of those humorous incidents which are absorbed into the traditions of a regiment—B.S.M. Mitchell's “wad” so delicately removed from his concealing hand by the C.I.G.'s dog, the exchange of boots between B.S.M.'s Mitchell and Wright, “Tommy's Rack” and the Hunting R.E.M.E. Major.

Perhaps in these notes tribute might be paid to Capt. “Dick” Mailes who leaves us at the end of camp, and to

Capt. “Ted” Banham, who has been Mess Secretary so effectively and for so long. Ted will be long remembered for his unfailing courtesy, conscientiousness and extreme devotion to a duty which few men would find congenial. He leaves a large gap in the Regiment.

Dare I forecast the next notes for the *Die-Hards*—successful recruiting, a series of summer junketings and the prospect of an even more successful year.

It would be quite a modest statement to say that our volunteer strength has increased by over 100 per cent. this last year. To attribute this to any one cause would be quite erroneous, but the rundown in National Service is a major contributory factor. A number of young men who have a military family background feel they have missed something, and, without any recruiting drive on our part, they enquire at the Edgware Drill Hall.

It will be seen immediately how important is their reception when they arrive, and if accepted, how important their treatment when they are in.

Almost invariably they are seen through the eyes of S/Sgt. Howe, who examines them with all the experience of an ex-Regular R.S.M., with ten years of Territorial experience as well. As a Territorial soldier the writer would like to pay tribute to S/Sgt. Howe, who separates the wheat from the chaff, for with every few exceptions, those applicants who reach “P” Battery Commander are of excellent quality and show every promise of becoming long-term Territorials.

“P” Battery is still, fortunately, rich in Sergeant-Majors with war experience and with our keen P.S.I., Sgt.-Major Marshall never ceasing to further our interests and improve our knowledge, and Territorial Sgt.-Majors Wright, Brown and Duff all carrying their full weight of work and responsibility, we have a team who could easily hold the Battery together at full strength at war.

No one need fear, if they introduce a recruit to us, that they will be let down in any way. We intend to go from strength to strength and, in fact, are doing so.

“Q” BATTERY

These notes are being written at the end of the first day at camp. It has been a glorious day and all of us are hoping the weather will hold and the camp will be a successful one. Whether our hopes are fulfilled will be shown by the next number. In the meantime the writer is left with the task of covering the rather dull period since Christmas.

Everyone has been busy preparing themselves for camp. The Drill Hall has seen members of the Battery nearly every weekend. The patience of B.S.M. Ash was well rewarded, especially with the officers who had their first real spell of practical training for some time.

The Battery Dinner was held in March. It was held at Kingsbury and was followed by a dance. About 50 members and their guests attended. The occasion was notable in many ways. It was a great effort for everyone from the Battery Commander to the most junior Gunner, to be wearing No. 1 Dress—it made the occasion more distinctive.

At the Dinner we also took the opportunity to dine out Major Wynne. We trust he enjoyed the occasion and he felt that he had left the Battery in good shape. It was

also the last social event in the Army for R.S.M. Forrest—the R.S.M. who left us shortly afterwards to start a new life in his own business. The writer is confident that all members will join in wishing him the best of luck in the future.

The departure of Lt. John Ford to South Africa was an opportunity for all to indulge in gloomy prophecies as to his future, although the writer feels that all wish him a successful trip. Capt. Slack must also be congratulated on the birth, in February, of his son Mark.

“R” BATTERY

Since December the Battery has been preparing diligently for camp and by consequence activity has been confined mainly to training matters.

Attendances both on drill nights and at weekends have been satisfactory, but the need for new recruits is still very apparent. There has, however, been a steady trickle of volunteers in recent weeks which has been most encouraging—particularly since the “new boys” are young and keen and show every sign of becoming useful and efficient members of the unit.

The prospect of camp at Bude in April filled the older members of the Battery with some trepidation. However, the gods have smiled kindly upon us, and our first week has been blessed with excellent sunny weather—with an occasional gusty wind to blow cobwebs away where necessary.

We are all being very well fed and quartered, and, with all the factors in our favour, we hope to crown an excellent fortnight with some complimentary practice on the firing point. To coin a phrase (more aptly than some): “We've never had it so good.”

A fuller review of camp will be given in the next issue. Meantime the Battery has much work to do before it returns to Kingsbury and it can be assumed that, as usual, we shall acquit ourselves, both militarily and socially—in a manner befitting our traditions and pedigree.

“Drink today and drown all sorrow,
You will perhaps not do't tomorrow,
Best while you have it use your breath
There is no drinking after death.”

In closing we welcome a new officer—Lt. John Rawson—and hope his service with “R” will be both long and successful.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Activities have been quiet since the New Year's ball, due to preparation for camp. We said farewell to W.O.1 Forrest in February and welcomed W.O.1 Cordey to the Regiment and the Mess.

W.O.2 Hobson has been elected P.M.C. for the current half year.

On April 16 the Regiment moved to camp at Bude, the Advance Party having arrived on the previous Thursday.

The festivities of the Mess opened with a solo whist drive, the winner being W.O.2 Mitchell. We also held a tombola and greyhound race meeting.

Saturday being a day off, most members went to Plymouth, some to see the Argyle Reserves. Thanks to the efforts of the caterer, Sgt. Arrowsmith, and the

cooks, everybody has had to make a date with the tailor to let out battle-dress waist bands.

A precedent was set by the introduction of two B.S.M.s into the Regimental Band for the ceremonial parade. "Bomp" Vaisey and "Clanger" Wright playing the bass drum and the cymbals respectively, will go down in history. W.O.1 (Bandmaster) Barnes greatly appreciated the services of these W.O.s. After the parade the members were invited to the Officers' Mess, an honour which they appreciated.

We are expecting the usual high jinks next Thursday when the officers pay their annual visit to our Mess.

REGIMENTAL WORKSHOP

During the last quarter the Workshop has been concentrating on training new recruits, and trade tests have been arranged for those who have reached a suitable standard.

The Workshop did well in the Brigade small-bore shooting, surviving all the early rounds.

Preparations are in hand for annual camp at which we hope to give the Workshop personnel further practical experience and training.

THE HONG KONG REGIMENT

This quarter we have said farewell to our Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. D. Ricketts, D.S.O., and welcomed in his place Lt.-Col. T. A. M. Twaddle, T.D., King's Own Royal Border Regiment. We hope he will enjoy his period of command.

During the weekend of March 26 and 27 "B" Company took part in 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade Group's eight-day exercise "Last Fling." To quote the official communique published in the South China Morning Post "Little change in the general situation was reported during March 26 until the Hong Kong Regiment launched a strong sea-borne landing in the Castle Peak area. This surprise attack with naval support was the turning point of the war." The communique concluded by saying: "Of special note was the excellent work of the Hong Kong Regiment, which carried out a skilful night landing that helped to turn the tide of the battle."

The Adjutant, who reverted to a previous appointment and became 2IC of "B" Company for the exercise, was initiated into the H.K.R. method of issuing a rum ration. It is understood that he considered it superior to the Regular Army system.

At this year's Hong Kong Bisley we were again beaten by our old rivals the Home Guard. However, we were third in the Services Team Championship, had three places in the Colony Twenty and won the Sadick Cup and South China Post Post Bowl. We hope to do better next year.

The Annual Review was held on March 13, 1960. After a week of very sticky weather the actual day of the parade was cold and windy, to the great discomfort of the Colour Party. In the event the parade proved to be a success, particularly the advance in review order.

The last report we had from our Q.M., Capt. Bill Lane, was that he was setting out to visit 1st Middlesex.

We hope to hear some first-hand news of our affiliated Regiment on his return.

We were very pleased to welcome ex-Cpl. Martin, who served in the Intelligence Section of 1 Middlesex in Austria and Cyprus. He has joined the Hong Kong Regiment and was immediately posted to the Intelligence Section, where we hope he will find congenial company. He has already been earmarked for the Albuhera celebrations.

NEWSLETTER BY M.B.

I was distressed to learn on May 2 that, as I had never made any note in my personal diary, I had not written my Journal notes on time. Thus, I fear, this will be a poor record. I am further handicapped by my poisoned wrist, which recently placed me in Millbank Hospital and is still a hindrance to my writing.

On Easter Wednesday I heard from Mrs. Archie Stewart. She was in a general hospital in Northampton with appendix trouble. They had left their "old house" and were still searching for a new home. They had lived for some years at "Old Hall," Clavering, nr. Saffron Walden, Essex, and I stayed there several times. I know how distressed they must have been to leave their beautiful home and garden. A search for a new home when one is old, as I am, is a sad business.

I heard on April 25 that Mrs. Anson, whom I first met in Burma in 1906, was sending me an old Army List of January 1900. I first met her husband, Capt. H. P. R. Anson, in Burma at Thayetmyo when I joined the 57th there. He married some years later. His wife was living in the Channel Islands, and the Germans took all her possessions when they seized the islands during the Second World War. She was then, of course, alone, for he had died of wounds received during the First World War. It is now long ago, and I have but a faint memory of her life in the 1st Battalion, but she was a very lovely girl and most popular. I hope to see Lilian at the "At Home" in June 1960.

On April 14 I heard from Dorothy Douglas Longe, daughter of my first C.O. in the 57th in Burma. I am trusting to meet her at our "At Home" in Inglis Barracks next June. Our Depot has been there since April 5, 1905, but will close next spring. I shudder when I contemplate this future, and cannot imagine how I can bear it.

We hope that Tom Heather will be able to arrange an Elgee Reunion this year. It will be the last we can hold here in London. We are not to have it at our Mess in Inglis Barracks, as we have done in recent years, and in place of dinner it will be lunch. I am sad to contemplate this change, but costs grow too high for a full dinner.

I have been in touch with C. M. Hezal, a contractor and a relative of our old comrade, Shaboodeen, now dead, who was our contractor in the coffee shop for some 50 years, and a most faithful friend to all ranks. I first met him in Burma when I joined the 1st Battalion early in 1906 and he looked after me until I left Bombay in late 1911. He worshipped the Regiment, serving with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions. He never failed us in all those years, nor failed to be with us. He fought

armed with a rifle in the Mopah rebellion in India with, I think, the 1st Battalion, and held Regimental rewards from all Commanding Officers, including myself.

I can recollect how I was in tears on the deck of our transport when the 1st Battalion left Bombay en route to Aden for I was to go on alone from there to Southampton to join the Depot then under Major W. C. C. Ash, D.S.O. at the Barracks, Mill Hill. It was renamed Inglis Barracks, when I commanded the Machine-Gun Training Centre there in the Second World War. The renaming was agreed by the War Office. The name Albuhera could not be agreed as there was already an Albuhera Barracks at Aldershot. We served nearby when we were in the Guards Brigade. In my view that was the best Brigade we ever served in, and I had quite the happiest time with it I had in all my service, at home or abroad.

Recently, in April I met Choudry Mohamed Afzal a relic and relative of my old friend Shaboodeen, mentioned previously in this newsletter. He made a gift to me of a small model of the Taj Mahal in marble and a brass polished model Buddha. I visited the Taj Mahal as I crossed India by train en route to Calcutta. I remained there one week before moving on to Rangoon where I stayed with Brigadier-General Rowley, then a Major on the staff there. He was later to be 2IC of the 1st Battalion at Dinapore, and was wounded in the First World War as was his C.O., Col. B. E. Ward. The latter died en route to the Base. About this same time Lt.-General Sir Brian Horrocks, now Usher of the Black Rod was also dangerously wounded in the stomach and could not be moved. He became a Prisoner of War from which he eventually reached Russia. In the long run of course he became one of Field-Marshal Montgomery's most famous Commanders during the Second World War and has achieved further fame subsequently as the Usher of the Black Rod.

I hear often from Mrs. Maud Parsons. She is the widow of one of our officers who died of heart trouble on February 28, 1955. In the Second World War he served under Major Picard Hall who was killed.

On May 14, next I trust to go to the Bolton Hotel, in Earls Court Road to attend the 2/10th Dinner where Major Bernard Cattell will be in the Chair. I am to reply to the Toast of the Regiment and our Regimental Association. I have attended similar functions during the last few years and know many of those who will be attending.

On March 24, I had an air mail letter from Lt.-Col. S. F. W. M. del Court in South Africa. He trusts to be at the Army and Navy Club on July 17, and to be at our next Dinner at the United Service Club. He does not seem to be worried by the troubles in that country, but has lost his servants from Nyasaland. They were far better than those he now has.

I heard on February 29, from Gwen Appelbe. She, as usual, is well and happy, and very busy teaching girls to ride.

I received from Lt.-Col. L. G. Lohan, M.B.E., T.D., a small model of a Foot Staff-Sergeant, circa 1812, which was given to him by Michael Gannon, senior Public Relations Officers at H.Q. Southern Command. He (Michael) was a great religious officer-writer in the

Evening News, and I have in my records many of his articles, which needless to say are first class.

We were all very sorry to learn of Major Vernon Garrow's death on January 30 last, for he was very well-known to many of us older people in the Regiment, as was his wife Mabel Anne Garrow. I served with both of them in India at Meiktila and Madras.

I was very glad to attend the marriage service of the niece of the famous Gracie Fields to our Major Hugh Evans on January 30, at St. Mary's Church, Finchley and afterwards at Hendon Hall Hotel, both places very well known to me during the past 15 or so years.

All were indeed in sorrow over the death of our well-beloved Col. Newton Lamont, and glad to share in the sad service so beautifully carried out to commemorate him.

REGIMENTAL SPRING GOLF MEETING

This meeting took place on May 5, at Hendon Golf Club. In spite of some cogent appeals for support, only nine members appeared. However, undaunted play started and some unusually good results were achieved. Perhaps it was the weather which had changed overnight from almost unadulterated misery into full summer. The sun shone down, and the golfers basked contentedly.

Perhaps the most startling result was produced by Gordon Crumley who, after presenting his divot earned so gloriously last Spring, went round in net 70. Needless to say the Committee went into closed session during lunch and his handicap was somewhat lightened!

Owing to the odd number of contestants it was necessary rapidly to find one more. Luckily Pte. Toole of the Depot Orderly Room was available and kindly agreed to make up the numbers for the foursomes. After a shaky start he played a useful round with Mike Gedye. Actually one foursome turned into a sixsome as this solution was considered more friendly and perhaps a trifle nearer the rules than sending one pair round on their own! John Woodbridge was the most successful player and gave the impression of carrying off almost every prize going (except of course, the divot which went this year to Major Jay).

All the members were very pleased to see General Bucknall who at great inconvenience called in to see us all at lunch.

The results were as follows:-
Winner of Scratch Competition was Capt. Woodbridge.

Singles		Gross	Net
1. Capt. W. G. A. Crumley	94	70
2. Rev. L. D. Milliner	96	72
3. Capt. J. N. Woodbridge	86	74
Capt. P. A. S. Woolcombe	92	76
Lt. M. Gedye	99	77
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey	90	78
Col. A. E. Green	97	79
Capt. R. D. Latham	99	77
Major S. C. Jay	103	87
Foursomes (Stapleford)			
1. Capt. Woodbridge and Capt. Woolcombe	28	
2. Col. Green and Lt.-Col. Chattey	24	
3. Lt. Gedye and Pte. Toole	23	
4. Capt. Latham and Capt. Crumley	20	
5. Major Jay and Rev. Milliner	18	

Please note that the Autumn Golf Meeting will take place at Hendon on Friday, September 30, 1960.

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE NEWS LETTER No. 6

Just over four months have gone by since sufficient inspiration of the right kind last came to the Brigade Colonel, resulting in News Letter No. 5. Although the Muse is not actually sitting at his elbow at this moment the time has obviously come when pen must once again be put to paper for another round-up of news from the Regiments and from Canterbury.

The big events, of course, are only just behind us. It may be, therefore, that the readers of this Letter will excuse a word or two about March 31/April 1 now, though out of strict chronological sequence.

The end of a long-established unit, and particularly when that unit is a Regimental Depot, is always an occasion for regret and a certain sadness. In this instance the closure of the Royal Sussex Depot at Chichester brought to an end a long association with that city and many will view with reluctance the prospect of no longer being able to play cricket on "The Green." For the Queen's Surreys at Canterbury the end was perhaps not quite so hard to bear; they had been resident here for under a year, in a county not their own, and their particular regrets had undoubtedly found expression when their associations with Guildford and Kingston were compulsorily severed last year.

In the place of those two, as everyone in the Brigade knows, has arisen the Brigade Depot at Canterbury. Enough has already been said about the Permanent Staff for it to be unnecessary in this Letter to say more than to report the arrival of the great majority of them; and by the time this appears in some journals everyone will be in position. As the Brigade Colonel said in his opening address to them on April 1: It is somewhat unusual nowadays, and therefore all the more satisfying, to be associated with an establishment which is new and growing up when so many establishments are dying or running down.

It was most pleasing to see how many Battalions and Depots were thinking of us on April 1. Although all the numerous greeting telegrams received were answered at the time, the Brigade Colonel would like to express, through these columns, his appreciation and thanks to all those who sent such kindly messages.

In the same way as so many of us are now wearing the Brigade tie or our cars the Brigade badge, so the setting up of an establishment staffed by representatives from all Regiments in the Brigade helps to foster and widen the Brigade spirit, making all concerned realise that, within the family of Regiments, we all belong to a new and worthwhile club. That spirit will be even further developed in the future as the representation of Regiments at Canterbury, due to the closing of other Regimental Depots, evens itself out; and by the interchange, certainly for T.A. units, of officers and P.S.I.s. This is already happening and in all cases is going happily and well.

That the only amalgamation to take place so far within the Brigade—that of the Queen's and the East Surreys—is proving a great success is evidenced by the sporting successes of the 1st Battalion Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. Since amalgamation on October 14, 1959, the Battalion has won the following trophies:—

Eastern Command Inter-Unit Boxing Trophy.
Eastern Command Inter-Unit Cross-Country Cup.
Eastern Command Inter-Unit Basketball Runners-up Cup.

East Anglian District Hockey Shield.
East Anglian District Boxing Cup.
East Anglian District Cross-Country Cup.
East Anglian District Safe Driving Shield.
East Anglian District Basketball Shield.
Norfolk and District Basketball Cup.

Surely a happy augury for the Regiment's future?

And, at the Depot, Lt. Anderson has been playing hockey for Eastern Command and, on one occasion, for the Army.

Other names and successes, in a variety of fields, recorded since the last News Letter and which cannot go unrecorded, include the following:—

Bufs. Cpl. Kennan represented B.A.O.R. v. R.A.F. (Germany) at Basketball. Capt. Edgecombe played rugby for the Army against both the Navy and the R.A.F., and was also awarded a Barbarian cap. The Depot won the Home Counties District football competition; Sgt. Nash (A.C.C.) and two cooks won the Eastern Command cookery contest; and a party of 16, under the Training Major, Major Willows, spent a very wet week in the north-west highlands of Scotland on initiative training.

Royal Sussex. The 1st Battalion in Belfast were only narrowly beaten in the finals of both the Northern Ireland Command novices and inter-unit team boxing competitions; were runners-up in the Command cross-country championships; and won the Command basketball competition.

Queen's Own. The 1st Battalion at Shorncliffe won the Home Counties District Rugby championship and were runners-up in the garrison football competition; had one winner and three finalists in the Eastern Command individual boxing championships; and one winner and five finalists in the Home Counties District championships. At the Depot, Cpl. O'Connell, the Army boxer, has been doing well again.

Middlesex. L/Cpl. Rogers won his weight in the London District boxing championships and was runner-up in the Eastern Command championships.

To them all, as individuals or teams, the Brigade Colonel sends his congratulations and good wishes.

In another sphere it is most pleasant to record the award, in the New Year's Honours, of the Companionship of the Order of the Bath to Major-Generals Metcalfe and Talbot, respectively Colonels of the Queen's Royal Surrey and the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiments. To them both go the congratulations of all ranks in the Brigade, irrespective of Regiment.

The Short History of the Brigade, briefly referred to in News Letter No. 5, has now appeared. The first Edition has proved to be a most readable and popular book, well written and well illustrated, and is probably one of the best of its kind that there is today. Both the author, Gregory Blaxland, and the illustrator, Mr. Woodcock, have done an excellent job of work and both are to be warmly congratulated for their contribution to the Brigade. The Brigade Colonel would like to take this opportunity of thanking them both and, at the same

time, recommend the Short History to all ranks.

The Brigade Museum will open during the summer in the small office block which, during the occupation of Wemyss Barracks by the Queen's Surrey's Depot, was used by Brigade Headquarters and which now stands empty. The prospect of having no Museum for the first two years and until Howe Barracks was ready for occupation by the Brigade Depot in 1962 did not appeal in any way to the Brigade Colonel and the building in question will lend itself admirably to the purpose on a temporary basis. Although there has been the offer of numerous exhibits from Regiments the contents of the Museum, even in its smaller, short-term home, threaten to look rather thin on the ground. It is much to be hoped that when, as they will be invited to do, Regimental Curators pay us a visit, once the Museum is set up, they will be able to see for themselves where the gaps are and perhaps be able to fill some of them in.

The next Depot to close will be that of the Bufs. Officially they come to an end on October 31, though the run-down will start in September; this will allow of Howe Barracks being completely empty by November 1, the date on which the contractors are due to start the work of enlargement and re-building which is forecast to take 15 months to complete.

Colours presentation parades loom large in the Brigade's calendar during the coming few months and particularly in June. The lead will be given by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh when he goes to Bury St. Edmunds on April 22, to present new Colours to 1st Battalion Queen's Surreys. The event will have become a bright page of Regimental History by the time this letter appears in print. Then on June 3, 4th/5th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment (T.A.) will receive new Colours on the County Cricket ground at Hove at the hands of the Duke of Norfolk. A week later on June 10, H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent will be present at Shorncliffe to witness a Trooping of the Colour parade by 1st Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment and will visit the 4th/5th Battalion (T.A.) the same day. Finally, on June 18, by presentations to both 4th and 5th Battalions The Buffs (T.A.), H.M. The King of Denmark will repeat, on the St. Lawrence Cricket Ground at Canterbury, a ceremony and a visit that will bring back many memories to those who were serving in 1st Battalion The Buffs in 1955. To all those participating in these important and historic events the Brigade Colonel sends his best wishes for a successful parade and a fine day.

The Brigade Golf Meeting, to go from the sublime to the gor-blimey, is this year being held under the auspices of Depot The Buffs who have selected a little known course near Ramsgate as the venue for May 25. The Brigade Colonel once again appeals to all who possibly can do so to cajole their employers, Commanding Officers into allowing them to play.

Two days later the Brigade Depot will have its first, small, "house-warming" party, which will take the form of a Beating of Retreat by the Junior Bandsmen and Drummers, followed by a buffet supper. It is hoped in this not-too-pretentious way to introduce ourselves, and the Depot as a flourishing concern, to a variety of people from a variety of walks of life and from a variety of places.

And introducing the Brigade to the public, by all kinds of methods and in order to step up the Regular recruiting rate, is a matter which all of us have got to have nowadays in the very forefront of our minds. There is nothing to be gained by the ostrich-like approach to this problem of recruiting, by saying that "things will improve when National Service ends," or by thinking that someone will wave a magic wand and Regular recruits will pour in from all sides. Neither is there any panacea, no quick cure, to the difficulties from which the Brigade suffers. There is only one real answer: the all-out effort by all Regular Officers and Other Ranks in the Brigade to put across the advantages and prospects of a career in the Army in general and in the Home Counties Brigade in particular.

If each and every Regular would set himself the task of bringing in just one Regular recruit every 12 months we should be "home and dry." To those readers who have struggled on to the end of this Letter and who are themselves Regulars the Brigade Colonel would like to say: Have a go!

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX ARMY CADET FORCE

In this, the Cadet Centenary Year, much has happened and much has still to happen. The first item to record was the award, on the occasion of H.M. The Queen's New Year Honours List, of Certificates of Good Service to Capt. R. Dudley of 54 (Middlesex) Independent Cadet Battery, R.A. (Acton), to Cadet Cpl. D. F. Sherring of 13 Middlesex Independent Cadet Company (Edmonton) and to Cadet Bdr. M. Campbell of 32 (Middlesex) Independent Cadet Battery, R.A. (Edgware). These Certificates are periodical awards, that is, they are made on a very limited scale, on the occasion of H.M. The Queen's New Year and Birthday Honours Lists. They are, as their title implies, awarded for Good Service but they may also be given as an Immediate Award for some conspicuous act or service in the Army Cadet Force. Such an award was that made to Cadet Bdr. M. Campbell for great presence of mind and conduct of a very high order in preventing serious injury by fire to a comrade.

To mark the Cadet Centenary Year, H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., K.T., Colonel-in-Chief the Army Cadet Force, presented a banner on February 9, 1960, at a Ceremony of Dedication at H.M. Tower of London. Middlesex A.C.F. had the honour of providing a detachment of two officers, 2 sergeant-major instructors and 50 cadets as part of the representative contingent. After the ceremony many Middlesex Cadets were able to speak informally with His Royal Highness.

The banner is now on tour throughout the United Kingdom. It was received by Middlesex from the County of London on February 24 and was handed over to Hertfordshire A.C.F. in a simple ceremony at Inglis barracks on the afternoon of February 27. Later this year there is to be a national parade when the banner will be formally handed to H.M. The Queen. In the meantime, all units are encouraged to hold their own local celebrations. These will take many forms such as Ceremonial Church Parades, "At Homes," Fetes, Tattoos, and the like. Let it not be thought that a

cadet's life is one long merry-go-round of ceremonial parades. Far from it. Behind it all there are the strenuous day-to-day activities concerned with administration and training, especially that in preparation for examinations for Certificate "A," for shooting and athletic competitions, and weekend camps, all culminating in annual camp, which, this year, will take place in the first two weeks of August at Fingringhoe, a spot well known to some of the older members of the Regiment who were stationed at Colchester in the 1930s. There are, incidentally, vacancies for employment at the camp for cooks, waiters and general-duty men. Anyone interested should write to me at 30 Pont Street, London, S.W.1.

The appeal for instructors is a constant factor and although there has been some response to our recent publicity, the requirement is still strong, particularly in the north-west of the county.

Many cadets make a career in the Regular Army and many more join the Territorial Army, primarily through the training and encouragement they receive during their cadet service. Here, then, is the opportunity for those who have themselves served in the Forces to help train and inspire the younger generation. Applications to serve may be made at any cadet unit or to County Headquarters.

16 INDEPENDENT CADET COMPANY MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Here we are again to report to our friends about the adventures of that fine body of men, the field-marshal of tomorrow, the gentlemen of 16 Company.

We have had our usual winter training of drill courses, Certificate "A" boards, range firing, etc., with all the ups and downs.

Of course, the big news was the parade of the Duke of Edinburgh's Banner at the Tower of London commemorating the Centenary Year of the Army Cadet Force.

The Company was represented by Lt. V. Williams, Sgt. Blunden, Cpl. O'Brien and Cpl. Garrity. Great disappointment was shown by the younger members of the party because the lovely Anne Boleyn failed to make an appearance.

We were delighted when the Company was invited to take part in the Centenary Parade of the 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment. This invitation was the signal for feverish preparations. The practice in the drill hall. The efforts of S.M.I. Hoy and S.M.I. Kelly to get their No. 1 and No. 2 Guards better than each other. The looks of disappointment of the cadets' faces when the O.C. failed to decapitate himself with the murderous flourishes of his borrowed sword, but the sound advice of S.M. Gooze had removed this danger by the time of the parade. And then on the guard at Tottenham, there was the noble effort of Cadet Walder, who stood his ground while his boots disappeared into pools of rainwater. And who was the chap whose foot caught on the kerb at the "Present Arms" and stood there like the leaning Tower of Pisa?

Still, for all that, 16 Company felt quite pleased with themselves, having done a good job.

Now to the Exercise "Terropin." Here the so-called

gentlemen were able to show that Section and Platoon training in attack were not their strong point. But many lessons were learnt, especially the need of working together. One noted gallant action was made by the Company, led by L/Cpl. Bell, upon the rations provided by the 7th Battalion. Perhaps it would be wise not to commit to paper the remarks about the coldness of the midnight drive into Hertfordshire during the exercise.

It is the custom now in this Company for cadets up for promotion to appear before the O.C. 7 Middlesex. Two cadets duly presented themselves to R.S.M. Thom and, after the performance was over, L/Cpl. Hagger was overheard saying to L/Cpl. Grice: "Cor, my feet never touched the ground."

The summer training programme is now under way, and later this year we will let you have a further report upon our activities. V.W.

NEW PAY RATES FOR OTHER RANKS NON-TRADESMEN

Basic Pay for those committed to serve for:

Rank	Less than 6 years		6 years but less than 9 years		9 years or more		15 years having completed 9 years' service		21 years or more having completed 15 years' service	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Private:										
Grade IV ..	87	6	105	0	120	6	—	—	—	—
Grade III ..	105	0	122	6	147	0	157	6	157	6
Grade II ..	112	0	129	6	154	0	164	6	164	6
Grade I ..	119	0	136	6	161	0	171	6	171	6
Lance-Corporal:										
Grade III ..	119	0	136	6	161	0	171	6	171	6
Grade II ..	126	0	143	6	168	0	178	6	178	6
Grade I ..	133	0	150	6	175	0	185	6	185	6
Corporal:										
Grade II ..	140	0	157	6	182	0	196	0	206	6
Grade I ..	147	0	164	6	189	0	203	0	213	6
Sergeant ..	182	0	199	6	224	0	241	6	255	6
Staff-Sergeant ..	206	6	224	0	248	6	260	6	283	6
W.O. Class II ..	217	0	234	6	259	0	280	0	294	0
W.O. Class I ..	231	0	248	6	273	0	294	0	308	0

GROUP B TRADESMEN

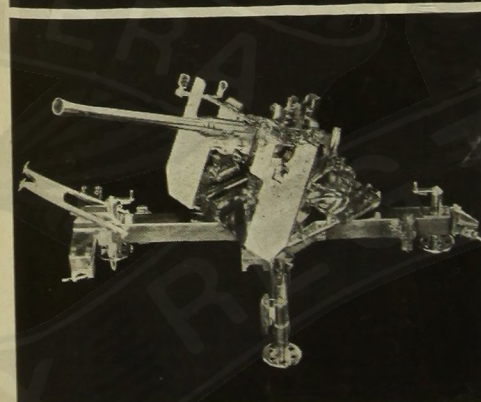
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Private:										
Class III ..	105	0	122	6	147	0	157	6	157	6
Class II ..	112	0	129	6	154	0	164	6	164	6
Class I ..	119	0	136	6	161	0	171	6	171	6
Lance-Corporal:										
Class III ..	119	0	136	6	161	0	171	6	171	6
Class II ..	126	0	143	6	168	0	178	6	178	6
Class I ..	133	0	150	6	175	0	185	6	185	6
Corporal:										
Class II ..	140	0	157	6	182	0	196	0	206	6
Class I ..	147	0	164	6	189	0	203	0	213	6
Sergeant ..	182	0	199	6	224	0	241	6	255	6
Staff-Sergeant ..	206	6	224	0	248	6	260	6	283	6
W.O. Class II ..	217	0	234	6	259	0	280	0	294	0
W.O. Class I ..	231	0	248	6	273	0	294	0	308	0

GROUP A TRADESMEN

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Private:										
Class III ..	112	0	129	6	154	0	164	6	164	6
Class II ..	119	0	136	6	161	0	171	6	171	6
Class I ..	126	0	143	6	168	0	178	6	178	6
Lance-Corporal:										
Class III ..	126	0	143	6	168	0	178	6	178	6
Class II ..	133	0	150	6	175	0	185	6	185	6
Class I ..	140	0	157	6	182	0	192	6	192	6
Corporal:										
Class II ..	147	0	164	6	189	0	203	0	213	6
Class I ..	154	0	171	6	196	0	210	0	220	6
Sergeant ..	196	0	213	6	238	0	255	6	269	6
Staff-Sergeant ..	220	6	238	0	262	6	283	6	297	6
Warrant Officer:										
Class II ..	231	0	248	6	273	0	294	0	308	0
Class I ..	245	0	262	6	287	0	308	0	322	0

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OLD COMRADES' NEWS



Photo: Bernard S. Hales, Hendon.

Four veterans share a joke at the annual Albuhera Dinner of the Middlesex Regiment held at the Hendon Way Hotel on May 14. They are, from left to right, Sgt. George "Peddler" Palmer, of Inglis Barracks, who fought in the recent war and in Korea, Mr. Charles Cox, M.M., of Sturgess Avenue, West Hendon, a veteran of the Boer and First World Wars; Brigadier B. B. Rackham, who fought in the First World War and was C.O. of the 7th Battalion in the Second World War; and Major R. W. J. Smith, of Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, a veteran of the Second World War and the campaign against the terrorists in Malaya

MILL HILL BRANCH

The outstanding function since the last issue of the journal was the 3rd Albuhera Dinner held on Saturday, May 14, at the Hendon Way Hotel. In addition to the 130 members and their guests, we were delighted to have as our official guests Brigadier B. B. Rackham, Col. A. M. Man and Major R. D. Hutchings, accompanied by their ladies. The Colonel of the Regiment and Col. A. E. Green regretted that they were unable to attend owing to service duties. Both, however, sent their best wishes for a successful evening. Many members travelled long distances to attend: Major and Mrs. Charles Carvell and ex-Sgt. Quick from Lancing, Capt. Brett from Harwich, Capt and Mrs. Bob Tarrant and Mr. and Mrs. J. Geary from West Molesey, Mr. E. R. Ford from Dagenham, and my old friend, ex-C.S.M. Jim Cook, from Watton, Norfolk. The dining room was tastefully decorated and Regimental silver loaned by the O.C. Depot put the finishing touches to the table. It was generally agreed that this was the best

dinner yet, and, without doubt, will be repeated next year.

During the quarter the attendances at the monthly meetings have maintained and even passed the average. New members are coming along each month to swell the ranks. However, too much attention cannot be given to the retrieving of members who have "fallen by the wayside." To my mind it is the duty of every "Die-Hard" to do his best to increase membership, which can well be done by persistent coaxing and possibly nagging.

Congratulations to ex-C/Sgt. Powell, who passed the Civil Service examination after leaving the Army and is now in the exalted position of barrack inventory accountant. If I know C/Sgt. Powell, he will certainly be more lenient and helpful than many B.I.A.s I have had to deal with.

It was a blow to many of us to learn that Capt. Adams was to be discharged from the Army on medical grounds. He was always ready to help the branch, but most of it

was in the "back room" and it was not generally known who did it. Our best wishes to Capt. Adams for every success in civilian life.

Our old friend, "Busty" Hull, is now out of hospital. He has had a very severe illness and is yet far from fit. I am not sure if it is correct to call him "Busty" now after having shed so much weight, but, on second thoughts, he will always be "Busty" whatever his weight may be.

The news of the death of Jack Christie was received with deep regret. He was to all of us what a soldier should be. A more qualified writer than I has written an obituary on Jack Christie elsewhere in this issue.

The new blazer badge is now available at 36s. 9d. each. It is worth every penny of that amount and quite a number have already been sold. So place your order for the badge—and, of course, the Regimental journal—with the Secretary as soon as you can. This is one way you can keep in touch with your Regiment.

The following extract from the local press is republished by kind permission of the Editor:

Loyal greetings had been sent earlier in the day to the Queen on behalf of the Club and her telegram of thanks was read out. Among messages regretting inability to attend was one from the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E., and another from Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks, who was one of the "Die-Hards."

The dinner commemorated the Battle of Albuhera, fought in 1811 during the Peninsular War. The 57th Foot, forerunners of the Regiment, won their nickname of the "Die-Hards" from the call of their wounded colonel, William Inglis: "Die hard, my men, die hard!" The actual anniversary was on Monday, when a dance was held at the barracks.

Major Hutchings said that, although the Club's Crawford Hut is to come down, there will still be room for members in the new church hall. He revealed that there are few applicants for the Regiment's cottage homes and he asked for names of old "Die-Hards" in need. He also asked for a good Club turnout at the unveiling, scheduled for Remembrance Day, of a memorial at the barracks to those who fell in Korea.

Responding to the toast of the Club, the chairman, Major P. F. Newman, M.B.E., said that four years ago he found a few members sitting about the hut on Albuhera Day while most of the Depot was on leave, and he resolved that they would never spend another Albuhera Day like that. As a result, the Albuhera dinners were started.

"A recruit is like a seed," Major Newman said. "He has to be fed on the history of the Regiment. If this is not done, there won't be many more Club members. In the old days each training platoon was given the honours of one of the battalions to write up, but that isn't done any more."

After announcing that a new award, the Escudria Cup, is to be presented to the man bringing most new members into the Club and that the C.O. was always willing to see Club members, Major Newman told the officers: "You led us in war, do not desert us in peace."

Toasts were: "The Queen," proposed by the chair-

man; "Those who fell at Albuhera," by the vice-chairman and toastmaster, Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.; "The Mill Hill Branch," by Mr. Bill Bratby; and "The Guests," by Mr. S. Turner. Response to the last was by Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.

P.F.N.

OBITUARY

C/SGT. JACK CHRISTIE, M.M.

Personal Tribute by Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey, O.B.E.

It was with very great sorrow and sadness, which I know will be shared by many of the older members of the Regiment, that I learned of the death in March this year of C/Sgt. Jack Christie, M.M. He was one of those colourful personalities so typical of the Kipling era and the years immediately following the Great War but, alas, who are seemingly rare in the Army nowadays and, therefore, all the more to be respected and admired.

Jack Christie joined the Regiment at Catterick as Horse Transport Sergeant in 1927. Unfortunately, we have little official knowledge of his previous service, except that he came to us from the 11th Hussars. However, I well remember speaking to him in 1938, when he confided in me that he had served under one queen and four kings; and at that time he was wearing his Boer War Medal, which even in those days must have been a rarity. He was a great raconteur, and it was mainly from his stories, told in a delectable and inimitably "racy" manner, that we were able to glean some inkling of his early life. For instance, we learned that whilst in the Cavalry he trained a charger for eventual use by King George V—a fact of which he was justly proud. Also, there seemed to be no doubt that he had his troubles, but he was a determined and resourceful soldier with a delightful, almost mischievous, sense of humour, and he generally came out on top.

Brought up in the old-fashioned "rough-riding school," Jack Christie was a fine, natural horseman and horsemaster. Besides the regimental horses, many of those under his care were privately owned by officers, and these were not always completely sound; but due to his skill and attention few of them were ever out of work, and every horse in his stables always looked a picture. As many of his old grooms will remember without complaint, he ran the Yard in his own way and inspections were a mere formality. Up to 1940, all of us interested in horses in the 57th greatly benefited by Christie's teaching and experience, and I am sure that many of the successes we have had in this sphere were directly due to his advice and attention.

Christie was promoted Colour-Sergeant in 1940 and, here again, he was able to use his vast knowledge and ability with success, and no Company had a more popular Quartermaster. Due to his age—but not his inclination—he spent most of the last war at the Depot, retiring eventually in July, 1945.

Jack Christie was a memorable and charming character and a loyal and great-hearted soldier of whom the Regiment is very proud. He will be sadly missed and always remembered with affection.

BIRTHS

LEONARD.—On March 22, 1960, at the Military Families' Hospital, Chatham, to Rosemary (née McCornick), wife of Major M. F. Leonard, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), a son.

COWAN.—On March 30, at B.M.H., Rinteln, to Gill, wife of Capt. A. R. Cowan, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), a son (Ralph Stewart).

DEATHS

CHRISTIE.—We deeply regret to announce the death on March 24 of ex-C/Sgt. W. Christie, M.M. The cremation at Hendon Park Cemetery was attended by Cols. Browne and Walden, Majors Heywood, Clark and Smith, R.S.M. Bartle and several Old Comrades. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue.

BARTLE.—It is with deep regret that we report the death of Mrs. Bartle, wife of WO.1 S. Bartle, on Sunday June 5, 1960.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
SECRETARY'S REPORT

Benevolent Work

Since my last report up to the end of May 36 cases have received financial assistance from Association Charitable Funds amounting to the sum of £322.

Again many of the grants we have made have been for convalescent holidays for elderly and sick ex-members of the Regiment or the widows of ex-members. In this quarter six such grants have been made and the sum involved is £45, and the grants have been made in co-operation with other funds. In one of the cases the man had to go to a special home and be accompanied by his wife; this was because he had had both legs amputated and was very heavy. He had seldom left his room for many years, and this was the first holiday either had had for very many years, and we have been assured it gave them both much happiness and was much appreciated.

Many grants have also been made for extra nourishment and clothing for elderly pensioners, and in one case clothing was purchased for an old age pensioner who has two epileptic sons to care for as they are unable to work.

An application was made by an old age pensioner whose wife is an invalid to help meet cost of a legal case which he had fought and won. He had been sued for possession of the flat he lived in with his wife and, although he won his case, he had to meet his own costs. A grant of £8 was made to meet the full cost. The Rent Restriction Act has brought several cases to our notice this quarter, as old age pensioners have been forced to find cheaper accommodation, and we have in several cases made grants to cover removal expenses.

A grant of £10 was made to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, to keep up the regular monthly gifts made to in-pensioners of the Regiment.

A special case was presented to us on behalf of the wife of an ex-P.O.W. (Japan). The man was on remand after being charged with embezzlement by the firm he

had been working for. This left the wife with a family of seven children to care for, all under 12 years of age. The debts were numerous, as the man had been issuing cheques although he had no funds in the bank, and the majority of the accounts were in the wife's name. The F.E.P.O.W. Fund, S.S.A.F.A. and our own fund co-operated to clear the most pressing debts and give the wife a chance to manage during the absence of the husband. Our share was £25. In another case of an ex-P.O.W. of the Far East, the man had deserted his wife and four children and a grant was made to clear debts and rent arrears. The wife is now working to care for the family on her own. Yet another P.O.W. of the 1st Battalion appealed for help and was given a substantial grant. This man has had much worry: he married on release from captivity and shortly afterwards the wife contracted polio and has ever since been paralysed and confined to bed. The man has cared for her himself and, due to this worry and his treatment whilst a prisoner, he has been ill and unable to work. He has now to take much lighter work and has a reduced income.

A family in great distress was helped with a grant of £20. The man had been ill and unable to work for over a year, and consequently gas and electricity bills had not been paid. Both these services had been disconnected and the wife was cooking for her family of three small children over a small open fire. The accounts were cleared and arrangements made for slot meters to be installed. Other small debts were also cleared and the family given a new start.

The final payment was made on a car for a disabled ex-member of the Regiment who needed this to travel to and from his work. Although badly disabled, he had been able to work regularly for some time, but due to a breakdown in health and inability to work for some weeks this payment was in arrears. The man has now recovered, but has had to take a lighter job.

Several cases of arrears of rent and hire purchase payments were dealt with and in one case both the man and wife had recently been discharged from mental hospitals, and it was felt that freedom from these financial worries would aid their complete recovery. A further case of rent arrears was taken care of, as the man had been ill for four years and, although he needed almost constant attention, the wife had been able to work part time, but then a child became very ill and had been brought from Dorset to a London children's hospital, where at the request of the doctors there the wife had to travel to London regularly to visit. This caused the rent to become neglected and we helped with all the extra expenses at the request of the hospital almoner.

A further case of rent arrears was brought to our notice and a grant made to prevent eviction in co-operation with S.S.A.F.A. In this case the man had been ill with colitis and the wife was in hospital for the birth of a baby, which brought the family up to 11, the eldest of whom had only just left school and started work. Some 10 years ago we also dealt with this case, when the man was suffering from T.B. and triplet daughters had been born, but all died within the first few days. We then made a grant to cover funeral expenses.

Late one Friday evening we had a telephone call from

an ex-member of the Regiment who was very concerned about an old comrade of his who he had visited in hospital and who was the next day to undergo a major operation. The man was worried about the financial position of his wife, who had seven children to care for. We asked S.S.A.F.A. to visit the family and do all they could for them on our behalf. The family are now being visited regularly by S.S.A.F.A. and grants are being made to meet the extra expenses involved.

An ex-member of the Regiment who had been mentally ill and lived alone in a common lodging house had obtained work as a waiter and was to live in. At the recommendation of the Forces Help Society we purchased white coats for the man to enable him to take up the position. Another ex-member of the Regiment with no permanent address had obtained seasonal work at the seaside and we paid his fare.

An appeal was received on behalf of a widow whose husband, an ex-corporal of the Regiment, had died suddenly and left her with two small children to care for. A grant was made to clear some small hire purchase accounts and so help the widow to manage on a much reduced income.

Another widow was assisted with a substantial grant to help her over a very difficult period. Her son had entered hospital to undergo a serious lung operation and the daughter, who had taken care of the home since the father's death, had herself died suddenly.

MEN OF THE REGIMENT

Lt-Gen. Sir William Inglis, K.C.B., 57th Regiment

Throughout the English-speaking world, the expression "Die-Hard" means to hold your opinion or position against all opposition. Be you right in those opinions or be you wrong, if you dig your toes in and refuse to surrender, the world calls you a "die-hard." We "Die-Hards" are very proud to have given a word to the language, the only regiment that the writer knows to do so. This story is about the original "Die-Hard," the commander who called to the 57th to die hard on the Ridge of Albuhera 149 years ago.

William Inglis was the son of William Inglis, Esq., M.D., a distinguished surgeon and member of an old Jacobite family, who was three times president of the College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. He was gazetted to an Ensigny in the 57th Foot on October 11, 1779, when the Regiment was commanded by John Campbell of Strachur, who introduced a strong Scotch element into its ranks. The Regiment were then fighting in the American War of Independence where the Light Company had distinguished itself at the Battle of Brandywine two years before. At this battle, the defeat of General Wayne's forces was complete, 460 of their dead (all killed by the bayonet) were counted next morning. The Americans said that no quarter would in future be given to the men of the Light Companies who took part in the action. In defiance of this threat the "Light Bobs" dyed their plumes red with the inference of "if you are looking for a fight, you'll know where to find it." These red plumes were worn for many years after until the Light Infantry were ordered to wear green. Even so, it was still the practice to wear red

behind the badge and the 46th Foot, who eventually became the 2nd Battalion The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, always commemorated this in their uniform.

The 16-year-old Ensign did not join the Regiment overseas immediately but was posted to the Depot, then garrisoned in Cork. He joined his Regiment at New York in 1781 and is shown as the junior officer on the muster roll, January 4, 1782, at the Flag Staff, Staten Island. It was in this year the Regiment became The West Middlesex Regiment, although the majority of the officers and men were from north of the Tweed. Skirmishes with the advanced troops of the enemy were continually taking place and Ensign Inglis was having his first taste of war. Several men were lost from sickness in addition to battle casualties, stores were in very short supply and often non-existent. The following year the Regiment was at the "tenth milestone," New York Island, and hostilities terminated. The scale of issue for blankets were two per tent, which, of course, did not mean each tent had two blankets. The camp-followers were a collection of thieves and skulduggery and banditry was rampant. They would sally forth at night to waylay and rob whom they could. Lt. Inglis had stern training in the control and care of men; this was to prove of great help in future.

At the end of 1782 the Regiment landed at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and began to arrange the place as a town for new settlers, but owing to transport difficulties a new settlement was set up at Frederick Town, now the capital of New Brunswick and a flourishing city. Lt. Inglis continued to serve with his Regiment until 1785 when he was promoted to Captain-Lieutenant and returned home on leave of absence until 1787. The only leave he had from his date of joining the Regiment until he gave up the command after the Battle of Albuhera. The following year he was promoted to Captain and continued to serve in Nova Scotia until 1791 when the Regiment returned to England, being stationed at Hilsa. When reviewed at Huntingdon the next year the Regiment consisted of 6 officers and 148 men (English), 5 officers and 68 men (Irish), 16 officers and 139 men (Scots) and 9 foreigners. The men were tough and invariably broke. The pay for a private soldier was sixpence a day, his pay and allowances for a whole year was only £12 13s. 6d., of which £7 16s. 5½d. had to be spent on clothing and food; he therefore had not much more than sixpence a week left to spend on himself. Officers needed to be tough, too, also understanding to command these men. In Capt. Inglis they had one. He commanded men who were sent to deal with the November disturbances in the north. It was the unfortunate task of the soldier, until the Police were established in 1829, to keep law and order whenever there was a civil disturbance. This gave rise to the enmity of the populace to the army in peace time and took many years to die down.

The year 1793 gave a different and more honourable task to the officers and men of the Regiment. The campaign in Flanders had not been successful, more troops were dispatched, amongst them being the 57th who landed at Ostend on September 14, 1793, marching to join the Duke of York near Thorout. After frequent

skirmishes with the French near Menin, the Regiment marched back to Ostend, re-embarking for England to join the Forces in the West Indies. Before they could leave for the Indies, the Duke of York sent a message to Lord Moira that he wanted assistance, with the result that the 57th with Capt. Inglis left Portsmouth for France only to return again, the operation being cancelled.

After Lord Howe's victory on the "glorious first of June," 1794, the army again sailed for Ostend, disembarking on June 26. Capt. Inglis and his company marched with the army to Bruges which was secured, but instead of being able to rest, the force had to move off in response to an urgent call from the Duke of York. The march was a daring one in close proximity to the French Army. When the force halted for the night the men lay down in their ranks, ready to repulse an expected attack from the enemy who possessed superior numbers. On reaching Ostaken, the troops remained for three days in very bad weather without tents or cover of any sort. It was some weeks before the baggage reached them, officers and men sharing severe privations. Early in August, tents were received, the first time since landing. Whilst walking in Osterhout, Capt. Inglis had plenty of opportunity to study the effects of war in Europe. Not only were the normal vestiges of war visible but a number of corpses of criminals were publicly displayed. Some hanging in chains and others still fixed to the instruments of torture that had caused their death. What the eye couldn't see, the nose could identify from around many a corner. These loathsome sights were soon removed and interred by the troops who also dug wells and erected redoubts to strengthen our position. If Inglis and his men were not marching or fighting they were digging, preparing for the next fight. Having dug defensive positions at Osterhout, the defeat of our allies caused the Duke to give up his position behind the Meuse and march to Nimeguen—or Nijmegen as it is now named—where Capt. Inglis took up a defensive position with his company as part of the garrison. His men were posted in the covered way, the fire of both sides passing over their heads with the result that only one man of the 57th was lost. He was killed by a dead shell (which makes you just as dead as being killed by a live one). By November 9 the bridge was almost destroyed and the town had to be abandoned, the last man crossing the Waal on a single plank, knee-deep in water. A hundred and fifty years later another generation of "Die-Hards" were battling at this spot; who knows but the shade of the first "Die-Hard" did not come from the shadows, saying: "Keep your head down, soldier. I know this spot of old."

The next winter was bitterly cold and the Waal froze hard. On January 10, 1795, the enemy crossed the ice in force, causing our position to become precarious owing to our allies on the left and right having retreated. This vicious weather was to cause great suffering and loss. The 57th were fortunate in their officers, Capt. Balfour and Capt. Inglis (both of whom eventually commanded the Regiment) and the Quartermaster had made a journey to Rotterdam the previous November and acquired a supply of blue cloth trousers, gaiters,

shoes and warm stockings for the men. These supplies enabled the unit to avoid the great losses suffered by many other regiments during this terrible winter. After being engaged all day of January 14, the British started their retreat. The miseries and suffering were worse than those of Sir John Moore's retreat to Corunna and that of the French Grand Army of Napoleon from Moscow. Not only were there the fit soldiers to be cared for but a host of men suffering from sickness and wounds. Mismanagement and neglect of the medical staff was rife in this campaign. So scandalous, in fact, that to send a man to hospital was looked upon as sealing his death warrant. Men would not go to hospital but preferred to remain with their regiments and comrades where there was a possibility of recovery. In the hospitals the sick were left to die and the dead were left uninterred. The medical officer of those days was known as the "Sawbones." He was never shown as a physician, one skilled in the art of medicine, but was a Surgeon assisted by a Mate, afterwards termed Surgeon's Mate. The rough and ready surgery of the times was more like a keen and energetic butcher than anything practised today. If a man had a wound caused by a cannonball in the leg his treatment would be that of kill or cure. Two or three strong men would hold him down whilst the surgeon cut off the remnant of leg, sawing through the bone where necessary with a tenon saw and then smack a goodly-sized wad of melted pitch on it to cauterise the wound and cause the severed arteries to seal. It was bad enough for men suffering to be treated by medical staff who were trying, but grim indeed to have negligent or ill-trained personnel.

During the retreat through Holland and Westphalia numbers were dying every hour through cold and fatigue. Every village and house contained dead or dying, sometimes six or more in one house. The snow obliterated all landmarks and the inhabitants were the most inveterate enemies who would rather murder an Englishman and rob him than direct him on his way. Wives and families accompanied the soldiers on campaigns at this period and many perished most miserably. In March the Prussians sent 40,000 troops to help so the British withdrew to Bremen and the 57th sailed for England, landing in Portsmouth in May to be stationed in Hulsea Barracks once more. Only 400 men were left fit for duty and there were 163 sick. During the campaign Capt. Inglis had shown himself to be a courageous fighter and leader, his tough men gave him their loyalty wholeheartedly. They remembered his care of them, enabling them to exist that terrible winter. For his services he was promoted to Major by Brevet, and on September 1, 1795, he was promoted to 1st Major by augmentation.

Major Inglis again sailed for active service overseas at the end of 1795, but after mishaps with sea transport. The first ship, H.M.S. *Commerce de Marseilles*, had on board the whole of the 57th, a company of the Royal Artillery making with the crew a total of 1,785 persons, together with a great quantity of stores that had been loaded in error. The load carried by the ship was so great that it caused her to sink below her proper level. This was years before the *Plimsol Line*. Instead of rising on the waves she ploughed through them, heavy seas

breaking over her at every surge. The splendid seamanship of her captain and crew prevented her from becoming a total loss and she was just able to make her way back to Portsmouth, but was so badly damaged as to be unfit ever to go to sea again. Major Inglis's personality and his men's faith in him was such that they marched away from the docks in high spirits to the tune of the popular song of the time, "The World Turned Upside Down." It nearly had for them!

The 57th re-embarked for the West Indies, this time on three ships, one of which, the *Charon*, carried the detachment under the command of Major Inglis. They sailed on December 9, meeting a violent storm clearing the Channel, the storm lasting six weeks and dispersed the fleet, many ships put into different ports of the United Kingdom while about eighty of them, one of which was the *Charon*, managed to reach Barbados. The Admiral commanding the fleet of more than three hundred ships finding it hopeless to collect them eventually put back to Portsmouth with fifty sail—all that remained.

The men under the command of Major Inglis were the Light Company and two Battalion Companies and formed part of the 2nd Brigade under the command of Brigadier-General John Moore, afterwards the celebrated Lt.-General Sir John Moore who was killed at Corunna, 1809. Sir Ralph Abercromby commanded the whole force and this general who probably did more than any other soldier of his time to restore discipline in the British Army made an efficient force of the depleted numbers under his command, many of his teachings being imbued by his subordinate commanding the 57th. After the capture of Morne Chabot at which action the 57th took part, the attack on Morne Fortuné, the stronghold, was prepared. May 28 saw the surrender of Morne Fortune, St. Lucia was ours and Major Inglis received the thanks of Brigadier John Moore, to whom he had been second-in-command. After St. Lucia the Regiment took part in the capture of Granada, the island capitulating on June 18. The end of the fighting did not see the end of the fatal casualties. As soon as active operations finished, a draft of 320 men arrived and the Regiment moved into settled quarters at Goujave, or Charlotte Town, where they immediately began to suffer from the epidemic of the country and at the end of the stay in Granada the Regiment had buried eight officers and nearly 700 men.

The acting Commanding Officer during 1797 was William Inglis, the Regiment moving to Trinidad and there came under the command of Col. Picton, afterwards Lt.-General Sir Thomas Picton, that hard fighting, hard swearing Welshman of indomitable courage. He knew Inglis of old as both had fought and taken part in the capture of St. Lucia in 1796. He was to die a hero, leading a charge at Waterloo, June 18, 1815, after already having been wounded at Quatre Bras two days previously. (He is shown in Warre's Historical Records of the 57th as the sixth in succession of Lt.-Colonels commanding the 57th, but this is not accurate. Lt.-Col. William Balfour was the C.O. from 1795 to 1804, but he was away due to illness for long periods.)

Lt.-Col. Inglis returned to England in 1802 to raise the 2nd Battalion the 57th Regiment of Foot. The

1st Battalion 57th remained in Trinidad for another year. He was to be confused for a while with the changes in scale of uniform issued and changes in style. Each soldier was now to have a greatcoat of his own instead of sharing a watch-coat when on sentry duty, etc. Previously only a certain number were issued to each regiment. Also non-commissioned officers now had chevrons to distinguish their rank instead of different pattern shoulder-knots. As always the country began to look after the welfare of the soldier once war was being fought in a continental scale. The expansion of the numbers meant a recruiting campaign and easier methods for the new men to recognise the different ranks. The older soldiers of course had their grumbles about the changes, but then the old soldier never alters in his views of the poorer type of recruit they have now to what they had in his younger days! When the writer was an instructor at the Depot nearly thirty years ago, one old soldier summed it up, saying: "I'll tell yer wot's up with the army. It's all these civvies they're enlisting!" He was no different to the pre-Peninsular War old soldier, nor is the present "old sweat" at heart.

Once the 1/57th returned home there was much movement of officers being attached from one to the other of the battalions. Lt.-Col. Gledstanes, who is shown as the C.O. of the 2/57th, was employed most of the time on staff work, therefore all the work of forming the Battalion had fallen on Lt.-Col. Inglis. He was confirmed in his rank in the Regiment on August 16, 1804, although he had held the rank in the army since the first day of January 1800. He marched his men from Chatham to Ramsgate, passing through Canterbury—the last two named places he was to know well in later years. At the end of the march he took his men to the Channel Isles, some in Guernsey and three companies with him to Alderney. Islands that were to see men of the Regiment a hundred years later, men who were to be mowed down on the uncut barbed wire at Neuve Chapelle, but still to receive the surrender of the Prussian Guard. "Die-Hards" all, of the same ilk. On the same date as his promotion in the Regiment, he was placed in command of the 1st Battalion the 57th.

Embarking for Gibraltar in 1805 he was busy training his men for the coming battles—and glory. It was a strange life to the present way of thinking. Although we were at war with Spain, who was an ally of France, there was friendliness between the individual officers of the two sides. After a battle between the two countries' vessels, the opposing officers would meet at dinner as the guests of either the British or Spanish general. The functions attended by Col. Inglis may have been very friendly but, nevertheless, this efficient commander was working feverishly to make his new soldiers into a fighting machine. After four years he had his battalion ready for the rigours of the Peninsular War. "Steady under arms" was the general's report, and certainly steady was their pace in marching. The pace in "ordinary time" was 75 paces to the minute. This had to be maintained even if "the band of music" varied the time whilst playing! Not only were there changes in scales of issues and badges of rank, there was a change in personal appearance. In 1808 a General

Order was published which abolished the wearing of the hair in queues. The hair was to be cut short, and what a boon it was. Some of the older and senior officers and commanders did not view it as such; certainly some very senior officers objected, as next day the order was countermanded, but it was too late—the hated pigtails had disappeared. The plaiting of the queue had caused much discomfort and trouble. Before a parade men could be heard calling in the barrack room “tie for tie” or “plait for plait.” Sorry was the soldier who was unpopular with his comrades and not able to have a “plait and tie,” it meant he was not properly and smartly turned out on parade and punishment was his lot. And a lot was his punishment!

After Sir John Moore's famous feat of arms at Corunna the British Government decided to land an army in Portugal under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, afterwards the Duke of Wellington. On July 15, 1809, Lt.-Col. Inglis landed at Lisbon with his tough, well-trained, virile, mischievous, tiny men. The average height being 5 ft. 5 in., the generals report saying they were “stout and good looking.” The N.C.O.s and men were two-thirds English and one-third Irish. They were men that only a good commander could recruit, and a good commander they had. They were small men, but they averaged twenty-six years of age and six years service, the majority being unlimited service men, only about one hundred having enlisted for the short term of five years. Every report reads the same regarding the zeal that Col. Inglis had striven to perfect its drill and discipline. After over 150 years one can still feel the energy and pains he had expended to bring the unit to as near perfection as humanly possible. The pulse of the 57th's body was William Inglis.

The Regiment was occupied in marching and training the officers, led by their commander, also had coursing and foxhunting and the chasing and bringing down of deer and wild boar. This provided fresh meat as well as sport. The valley of the Guadiana, where they were encamped, was most unhealthy. The fevers took a greater toll than the swords of the enemy, 7,000 men were in hospital, of whom only one-third survived. The 57th did not suffer as did some regiments; this was doubtless due to the forethought and care of that old and experienced campaigner, Col. Inglis. Having marched and fought in America, Holland and the Low Countries, Normandy and Brittany, as well as Granada and Trinidad, where he had seen the forces so decimated by fevers, he took adequate precautions to ensure his own regiment kept fit. Many who became old men, heavy with years, owed the fact to that good man Inglis.

In 1809, during the illness of Brigadier-General Richard Stewart, Col. Inglis commanded the Brigade which was in the 2nd Division under the command of Sir Rowland Hill. Both these general officers spoke highly of his abilities. As Brigade Commander he led the Regiment in the arduous marching and counter-marching until they were eventually under fire at Busaco on September 27, 1810, sufficiently so for them to receive a bar to the Military General Service Medal of 1793-1814 (this medal is commonly called the Peninsular Medal). The French were repulsed and an attack from them

was expected the next day, but the French turned the flank causing a retreat by our forces. General Stewart, who had returned to the Brigade after Busaco, unfortunately fell from a balcony the same day. The command of the Brigade fell to Col. Inglis.

Col. Inglis led his Brigade with his own 57th towards our fortified positions. The men were in good heart and high spirits. They were also of tight belts, as they freely helped themselves to grapes and oranges that grew by the road side. This plentiful supply of good fruit plus the victory of Busaco kept them cheerful until they reached that formidable line of defences at Torres Vedras. Here they were quartered at Sobral Piquins and received the new Brigadier, Maj.-Gen. Houghton. The Brigade was now renumbered as the 3rd. The winter was spent in the village of Chamuesca, where Col. Inglis kept his men in tip-top form.

March 5, 1811, saw the French break ground and retire through the mountains. They were immediately followed by the British Army. A sharp rear-guard action was fought by the French under the command of Marshal Ney, the “Bravest of the Brave.” Unfortunately it was over before the 57th could play a part; they were at the rear of the long column of the army. After this action Col. Inglis fought at Campo-Mayor and Los Santos and he and his men took part in the first siege of Badajoz, but did not suffer to any extent as the Regiment was in reserve.

The next month, the Regiment was part of the force drawn up on the ridge on May 16, 1811. This is not a story of the battle but of a man of the Regiment; the Battle of Albuhera is a story in itself. Briefly, the French Commander, Marshal Soult, hoodwinked the British Commander, Marshal Beresford, and attacked the British flank. Colbourne's brigade had just got into a charge on the French column when they in turn were charged by two regiments of French cavalry. The Polish lancers, who were the foremost exponents of this weapon, were part of the French force and took a terrible toll. The shouting men on their chargers, centaur-like in their horsemanship, bore down like an avalanche, having been shrouded in a blinding rain-storm, and in a matter of minutes cut up three battalions almost to annihilation. This impetuous charge was so successful that Beresford was engaged in a hand-to-hand fight with a lancer who had reached the staff position. Houghton's brigade, with the 57th in the centre, came up and opened fire on the lancers. After a brief lull whilst the French forces re-formed, the brigade with the 31st Regiment (East Surrey Regiment) took their position on the hill, 2,000 men to oppose 8,000. The Brigadier was mortally wounded early in the action and the command devolved on Col. Inglis. He took his place in front of his “Fighting Villains,” a term used by him when referring to his regiment and a term also used by the illustrious Picton. Throughout the Army at this time the Regiment were known as the “Steelbacks.” Not, I'm sorry to say, because of some incident in battle, but because of the number of birchings they had, and the fortitude in which they bore them. Lashings were commonplace, and even twelve years after, when the Army had become indulgent and soft, as the older soldiers declared, we read in the Order

Book of the 57th under the date line. Kinsale, October, 1825, that Pte. Thomas Kelly, Pte. John Harris and Pte. James Mullins were each charged with two days' absence and losing a part of their kit were “therefore adjudged severally to receive a Corporal Punishment of Three Hundred Lashes in the usual manner at such time and place as the Lieut. Colonel Commanding shall think proper.” These men were to prove as tough in the coming battle, the most sanguinary conflict in the whole of the Peninsular War, as they were when tied to the triangles.

The calm Commander dressed his men in the still formal old-fashioned manner, shoulder to shoulder, as if he was on the square drilling his troops. Although under fire he himself supervised the dressing, and when a cannon-ball struck his horse from under him he still continued what he was doing; even coming suddenly to ground made no difference. He called “up” or “back” until he was satisfied, and then, but not until then, did he trouble to shake his feet clear of the stirrups and harness. What an example to his soldiers, one remembered and noted in a letter by a young officer, Ensign Hobhouse, who was later to be slain at Waterloo, that he wrote of the action to his father, the letter fortunately being found over a hundred years later in the Royal Archives. Standing in front of the Colours in the centre of the line he calmly gave his orders, his personality penetrating to his men above the din of the battle and the beating of the rain on the men's accoutrements, especially on the leather “stove-pipe” shako. Early in the action he received a four-ounce charge of grape-shot in his neck; the charge perforated his left breast and lodged in his back and felled him to the ground. He refused to be taken to the rear for treatment, but lay in front of his Regiment calling on them to hold their position, and when the fight reached its fiercest cried: “Die hard, the 57th, die hard.” Die hard they did! Those who did not die hard fought hard, and grimly fighting on to show themselves to be worthy of such a gallant commander kept their line straight and unbroken under the murderous fire. A terrible price they paid too. Out of 30 officers and 570 men who went into action, only 10 officers and 150 men remained fit for duty. Even with such appalling casualties they were still full of fight as was their commander. When the pursuit of the enemy began, the indomitable Colonel ordered his men to join in until Marshal Beresford himself called out: “Stop, stop the 57th; it would be a sin to let them go on.” Later, when the battle-field was viewed, it was seen that the dead of the 57th were lying like a pack of cards that had toppled over. Yes, they were a good hand of cards; shuffled and dealt by an expert dealer! He knew his hand and he knew how to play it. Fighting villains? Yes, at times. Steelbacks? Yes, for a while. “Die-yards? Yea, now and for evermore! This was the First Die-Hard. Admittedly the men had to be there to fight the battle, but you can't make a stew without a pot, neither can you make such men without such a commander.

For two days Col. Inglis carried the grape-shot in his body, and it was not until 1812 that he rejoined the army for duty when for a time he was President of a General Court Martial at Lisbon. Knowing the man,

we can be sure he tempered mercy with judgment.

In 1813 he was promoted Brigadier-General, and on June 4, 1813, he was again promoted to Major-General and given command of 1st Brigade of the 7th Division. With 500 men of this brigade, he, at the second battle of Sauron, broke two French regiments. He was a man to be followed by men. He had lost blood at Albuhera, but had not lost any of his courage, dash or skill with it. He led his brigade at the battle of the Pyrenees—July 25 to August 2, 1813, where at Pampe-luna he had his horse shot from under him. Again on August 31 he had a horse shot from under him; on to the battle of Nivelles, November 10, 1813, when he was wounded in the foot by a musket-ball. The following year he fought at Peyrehorade and at the battle of Orthes, February 27, 1814, where he had his horse wounded.

In 1825—May 27—he was promoted to Lt.-General, created K.C.B., and appointed Lt.-Governor of Kinsale, becoming Governor of Cork in January 1829. On April 16, 1830, he rejoined the 57th as its Colonel, the seventh since its formation. He introduced a number of changes in the uniform, such as the cross-belt plate that bore the Bath Star and continued in use until belt plates for English regiments were abolished in 1835. The original pattern lace was reintroduced during his term of office, but finest of all, he was there to foster and kindle the “Die-Hard” spirit he introduced at Albuhera. He looked upon the honour of being the Colonel of the 57th as higher than any of his other awards. These were the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, a Field Officers' Medal for Albuhera, a General Officer's Medal for the Pyrenees and Nivelles, and a Gold Cross for these two battles and the battle of Orthes. Of him was said by Marshal Beresford: “Nothing could exceed the conduct and gallantry of Col. Inglis at the head of his Regiment”; Napier, the historian, styles him “one of those veterans who purchase every step of promotion with their blood”; the Duke of Wellington thought highly of him to the extent to appoint him a Colonel on his Staff. He was the first Colonel of the Regiment who had received his early training in its ranks, having followed the fortunes of the 57th in all climates and in every service to which it was ordered from his first joining it in 1781, until he gave up the command after the battle of Albuhera. He had during that time only two years leave of absence, i.e. 1785-1787.

He died at Ramsgate on November 29, 1835, in the 72nd year of his age and in the 57th of his service, being buried within the Chapter-house of Canterbury Cathedral where the writer read the tablet to his memory, which is to be seen by one and all, whenever they visit the shrine of a Becket.

Here then is the brief story of the original “Die-Hard.” He led his men by example and was with them to earn the first honour borne on the Colours of the 57th. He coined the name that means one who will not give ground however strong the forces opposing may be, but will fight to the last for his beliefs. He is the father of all “Die-Hards”; may we, his children, be worthy of our sire.

R.W.J.S.

CORRESPONDENCE

April 26, 1960.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

I am very pleased to inform you that, with the encouragement and support of the Association, of the Officer Commanding 7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A. and of the County Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association, I have started an Enfield Branch of the Middlesex Regimental Association at the T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, Enfield. In offering thanks for support I must not forget that given by various members of the Mill Hill Branch nor that of Major Derek Gunnell and Capt. Malcolm Beaumont of "B" Company, 7th Middlesex.

The branch will meet on the first Friday in each month. It is already more than 30 strong and visits by new members and those of other branches will always be welcome. I hope that through the medium of the Journal we may reach some of those many ex-members of the Regiment who live, I know, in this northern part of the county or on its borders.

Yours faithfully,
A. JONES,

Chairman, Enfield Branch, Association
of the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.).

SECRETARY, OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION,
MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

DEAR SIR,

March 19, 1960.

Would you please assist me to get into contact with any of my Old Comrades of the 1st/8th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment? I lost touch with the Battalion around 1919. I wrote to Mr. Edge, Honorary Secretary of the 1st/7th Battalion, we were stationed together at Gibraltar from September 1914 until February 1915 and also joined with each other for a short time in France. Mr. Edge advised me to write to the Drill Hall, Hounslow.

Names I recall are Ptes. Gilham, Riches and Harrington, Cpl. Miles, D.C.M., the brothers Ewer-Whites and many others.

I would very much like to see some of the old faces again. Quite a few of us were very young men. I expect the average age now would be around 65 years.

I am Sir,

Yours obediently,

ex-Pte. H. Phillips, No. 2759,

No. 2 Platoon, "A" Company, 1st/8th Battalion,
Middlesex Regiment, 185 Queens Road, Watford,
Herts.

March 18, 1960.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

It occurred to me that you might be interested in this little newspaper cutting which shows that your allied New Zealand unit, The Wellington West Coast and Taranaki Regiment, had the freedom of the city of New Plymouth granted to it.

When I was speaking to Major R. W. J. Smith recently, he told me that you unfortunately received very

little news from New Zealand, and, for that reason, I thought you might be interested in this cutting.

Yours faithfully,

I. L. MITCHELL,
for Official Representative
New Zealand Customs.

FREEDOM OF CITY FOR REGIMENT

New Plymouth, February 28 (P.A.).—As the troops marched away, band playing, bayonets fixed and Colours flying, it was an occasion that would never be seen again.

But only about 1,000 people found time this afternoon to see the Freedom of the City of New Plymouth conferred upon the Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki Regiment.

It was now nearly a century since the Taranaki Regiment had fought its first action at Waireka, said the Mayor of New Plymouth, Mr. A. G. Honnor, after the Assistant Town Clerk, Mr. W. J. Connor, had read the proclamation conferring the freedom upon the regiment.

The regiment's commander, Col. C. N. Armstrong, M.C., E.D., listed five reasons why Waireka was unique. It was the first battle honour of any New Zealand unit, the only one awarded for service in New Zealand, the only honour to be awarded to a territorial unit for service in New Zealand, the first battle honour to any territorial unit in the Commonwealth, and the first to be awarded to an organised volunteer unit.

The Dominion—a morning paper printed in Wellington and with a circulation through Wellington and Taranaki.

Thank you for your welcome news of our allied New Zealand regiment. We only wish that more such news from our allied regiments was forthcoming.—EDITOR.

No. 7 Army Information Office,
Acton, W.3.

April 28, 1960.

THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

It occurred to me that there must be a number of Old Comrades that own or manage businesses which have poster space that could be used for displaying regimental recruiting posters. I would suggest that any Old Comrade willing to display our posters should contact you.

The Regiment owns some very attractive flashing signs which could be used in shop windows.

Sgt. D. P. WELLER.

This is an excellent idea, and would any Old Comrade who is prepared to help, please get in touch with the Adjutant of the Depot.—EDITOR.

SIR,

On May 14, my wife and I were privileged to be the dinner guests of the Mill Hill Branch of the Old Comrades' Association at the Hendon Way Hotel—a splendid occasion which I feel sure your readers will be interested to hear something about through the medium of the Journal. With Major Percy Newman as Chairman, we expected the detailed arrangements to be of a very high standard, and they were; the menu was well chosen and

the service excellent. But, of course, it was the company which made the evening. About 130 were present, including the wives, to celebrate Albuhera Day, which fell two days later. In reply to the toast of "The Guests," Brigadier Basil Rackham spoke with his usual sincerity of the characteristics of those who serve in the Regiment, as so well typified by certain individuals present whom he named with some appropriate and well-received remarks. Major Dick Smith had something to say as Toastmaster, and Major Roy Hutchings told us of the Regular recruiting situation and how all of us could, and should help. Our Chairman, who had earlier read out a telegram from Buckingham Palace in reply to a loyal message sent to Her Majesty, then had some pungent remarks to make about the Old Comrades' Association. He said it was important that more should be done, and speedily, to increase the number of branches and, also, the overall membership; plenty of potential members were there to be gathered by one or two enthusiasts working together in, say, Tottenham, aided by grants—without "strings"—from the Association Committee. Why not rename the Association the Die-Hards' Association? he suggested, as the Old Comrades' Association was unnecessarily and wrongly dated. Cannot more of our officers find time to visit in peace those whom they led in war? With such remarks, followed by many reminiscences around the bar, a really enjoyable evening came to an end. My wife and I will long remember the Mill Hill Branch and their hospitality that night.

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW MAN.

"WHEN LAST WE MET"

"Hullo, Sir. How are you, Sir?" Sergeant Davies, Sir." As I left my club after lunch and walked towards my bank, a voice hailed me thus, and before I could collect my thoughts I was shaking hands with a rather seedy-looking individual, who might well at one time have been Sgt. Davies. Like many another in such circumstances, I was reluctant to admit that I did not recognise him. "How are you?" I heard myself say, "and what are you doing now?"

"Well, Sir, it's like this," said my newly-found acquaintance. "I've just come out of 'ospital—flebitis of the leg, y'know! It's been bad, real bad. S'pose you couldn't help me, could you, Sir?—of course, I'd repay you!"

I asked the obvious question: "Have you tried the Old Comrades' Association?"

"Yes, Sir, I 'ave, but they take time," he replied, "and meanwhile I 'aven't anyfink, not a thing, Sir. S'pose you couldn't manage a couple of quid?"

At this stage I had definitely "bought it." He might be Sgt. Davies; he might be one of the Battalion whom I didn't know very well; he might be one of those I'd played cricket with in the Far East; he might have been a fellow prisoner-of-war—after all, it was nearly 20 years ago! Anyhow, I finally decided to give him the benefit of the doubt.

"Look, Sgt. Davies," I said, "you've caught me at a bad moment. I've only a few bob in my pocket and was on my way to the bank. If you would like to wait

here for five minutes, I'll go back to my club, cash a cheque there, and when I come back I'll see what I can do." And I then retraced my steps.

As I cashed my cheque, doubt seized me. Was I being "taken for a ride"? To the best of my knowledge I had never set eyes on the man before—but it was all so possible! and I would hate to let an Old Comrade down. However, I did decide to quiz him a bit before parting with my money.

Sgt. Davies was waiting for me at the same spot.

"Here we are," I said, with the notes ready in my pocket. "But before I give you anything, Sgt. Davies, I'd think a lot more of you if I felt that you would repay it if better times come."

"Of course I will, Sir," he said. "Didn't I promise I would? Just as soon as ever I can, Sir."

"All right, then, how would you set about it?" I asked him. "Do you know my name?"

"Of course I do, Sir, but just for the moment it's slipped m' mind. Could you just . . . ?"

By now thoroughly suspicious, I asked: "What Regiment?"

"Royal Signals, Sir," he replied, and it could well have fitted, although it was not my own Regiment.

"Where?" I countered.

"Mostly in India, Sir."

I had never served in India, and told him so.

"Good afternoon," I said, replacing the notes in my wallet. "You must have made a mistake."

"No offence, Sir. Never mind about the money," replied the imperturbable "Sergeant Davies." "Good luck, Sir!"

And so we parted.

M.P.W.

This is a true story, and the incident occurred recently to one of our retired officers. A trick of such a plausible nature is an abuse of old comradeship, and the story is published merely to exemplify the factors which may be encountered in any similar attempt.—EDITOR.

THE ARMY ART SOCIETY

Patron; Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.

The Society, which exists to encourage art in the Army and sister services, is holding its 29th exhibition during October 1960 at the Commonwealth Institute, South Kensington, S.W.7.

All ranks of the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, past or present, permanent or temporary, may submit works for consideration.

This year there will be two awards of five-guinea vouchers (on Messrs. Winsor and Newton) and other awards donated by well-known artist suppliers for the pictures deemed by the committee the best, both in oils and in water colour, submitted by non-member "serving" artists.

As the Society is non-profit making, the entrance and hanging fees are kept as low as possible.

Intending exhibitors are invited to apply after May 1 for particulars. Applications should be addressed to:—The Honorary Secretary, The Army Arts Society, Capt. A. J. Daldy, 16 King Edwards Grove, Teddington, Middlesex.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE, HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1960, AT 2 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major R. D. Hutchings, C/Sgt. J. C. Morgan, R.S.M.s S. Bartle and S. Webb, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies were received from: Lt.-Cols. D. E. Simpson, T.D. and I. D. Brotherton, R.S.M. J. A. Thom.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the purpose of the meeting was to nominate for election the "nominated" members of the Executive Committee in accordance with Rule 21b. After consideration and voting it was finally agreed that the following be nominated members:

3rd Battalion, Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; 4th Battalion, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L.; 5th Battalion, Major E. L. Heywood; 6th Battalion, Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; J.P.; 9th Battalion, Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.; and a serving officer of the Depot, Capt. W. G. A. Crumley.

Col. Fox explained that he had received a letter from Brigadier Lerwill stating that in view of his present situation he would be unable to attend meetings of the Executive Committee and tendered his resignation. The Chairman told the committee that he would write to Col. Hedgecock and ascertain if he would accept nomination as a member to represent the 2nd Battalion.

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

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
April 25, 1960.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1960, AT 2.30 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E. and A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Majors R. D. Hutchings, H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., E. L. Heywood and R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E., R.S.M.s S. Bartle and S. Webb, C/Sgt. J. C. Morgan, Mr. R. Ferguson, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary). Apologies were received from: Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Cols. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D. and D. E. Simpson, T.D., R.S.M. J. A. Thom.

1. *Election of Chairman.* Col. Fox informed the meeting that no nominations for Chairman had been received. The Secretary informed the meeting that he had received a telephone communication from Brigadier Rackham apologising for being unable to attend the meeting and wished to nominate Col. Fox for re-election as Chairman. Col. Man seconded this proposition and it was unanimously approved that Col. Fox be asked to continue as Chairman for a further year.

Col. Fox agreed to take office for the ensuing year and thanked the Committee for the honour thus conferred on him.

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

3. *Secretary's Report.* The Secretary's report which was circulated with the Agenda was considered by the Committee. Col. Roberts congratulated the Secretary on his report which he considered was most informative, but regretted to note that there were so many elderly retired members of the Regiment in need of assistance. He was most gratified to have on record examples of the help the Association were able to give.

4. *Finance Committee's Report (Adoption of Association Accounts).* Col. Fox explained the Association Accounts and the reasons for change in investments which had been effected since the last meeting. Proposed by Major Hardcastle and seconded by Col. Clayton and unanimously resolved that the Regimental Association Accounts for 1959 be approved for submission to the Association at the next Annual General Meeting.

5. *War Memorial Committee's Report.* In the absence of Brigadier Rackham, Major Hutchings explained the Committee's report which had been circulated.

Col. Fox informed the meeting that there was a delay in obtaining the Ministry of Health consent to acquire the site for the erection of the Flatlets, and it was agreed that the sub-Committee should explore the existing site to ascertain if there is sufficient space that could be used as an alternative site for flatlets. The Chairman said he would consult Brigadier Rackham on the subject.

The report was adopted, subject to Major Hardcastle's decision of Minute 2b being applicable.

6. *Journal Committee's Report.* Major Hutchings explained the financial position of the Journal Account.

The Secretary was instructed to ask the Auditors to prepare abridged copies of all accounts for reproduction in the Journal. Report adopted.

7. *Branch Committee's Report.* Col. Clayton informed the meeting that a new branch had opened under the Secretaryship of Major Jones at the T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, Enfield on Friday, March 4, 1960. He was happy to report that 25 members were enrolled. The next meeting was being held on 1st April when it is hoped more members will join the Branch. Mill Hill and Hornsey Branches sent members to the first meeting to foster comradeship.

8. *Mortgage—Trustees for the Association.* It was resolved and carried unanimously that the Chairman, Brigadier Rackham, Col. Man and Major Hardcastle be authorised to hold the Mortgage executed by Capt. H. J. Jennings as Trustees of the Association.

9. *Albuhara Day Celebrations.* Major Hutchings reported to the Committee that he was celebrating Albuhara Day at the Depot on Monday, May 16, in the nature of a Dance, etc., and requested financial assistance. The Committee approved of a grant not exceeding £30 0s. 0d. to assist the O.C. Depot.

10. *Blazer Badges.* Two Blazer Badges were produced before the Committee by Major Heywood, and it was approved by the meeting that Badge No. 1 be adopted for sale at 36s. 0d. each. It was proposed by Col. Man, seconded by Major Heywood and approved by the meeting that a badge be presented to Secretaries of Branches when supplies were available.

11. *Other Business.* Major Hutchings informed the meeting that the Colonel of the Regiment had asked if the Committee would approve of the inscription "Korea 1950-51" being engraved on the war Memorial at the Depot at a cost of £2 0s. 0d.

Approved.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 4 p.m.
The next meeting will take place at Middlesex Guildhall on Wednesday, June 29, 1960.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
April 25, 1960.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB, HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1960, AT 4 p.m.

Present: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., J.P., A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E. and A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Majors R. D. Hutchings, H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., E. L. Heywood, R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E. and A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary). Apologies were received from: Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D. and D. E. Simpson, T.D.

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

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

3. *Adoption of Club Accounts for 1959.* The Chairman explained the audited accounts for 1959 and the Committee resolved that the accounts be and are hereby adopted.

4. *Grants.* (a) The Committee approved of an annual grant of £10 0s. 0d. to S.S.A.F.A. Officers' Branch from Officers' Club Funds.

(b) The Committee also approved that the annual grant to King Edward VII Hospital for Officers be debited to the Officers' Club and not the Officers' Club Charitable Fund.

5. *Club Functions for 1960.* The Committee approved the following functions for 1960:

Cricket Week from June 18 to 22, at Mill Hill.
"At Home," June 25, at Mill Hill.
Tennis Tournament, June 25 and 26, at Mill Hill.
Officers' Club Dinner, July 22, at the Service Club.

Cost of Dinner to members, 17s. 6d., to include one glass of sherry and port, and wine during dinner. Cost to non-members, 19s. The Committee also approved that no charge would be made to those attending the "At Home."

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major.

Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

Inglis Barracks,
Mill Hill, N.W.7.
April 25, 1960.

OFFICERS' CLUB THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

In the interests of economy it has been decided to print only an abridged form of the Club's accounts. These abridged accounts

have been approved by the Club's auditors. Copies of the full accounts may be inspected at the office of the secretary of the Regimental Association.

BALANCE SHEETS, DECEMBER 31, 1959

	Officers' Club	Officers' Club Charitable
Accumulated Funds	£ 4,338	£ 1,536
Creditors	15	2
Funds held in Trust for 3rd Battalion	512	
	£4,865	£1,538
Investments at Cost	£ 4,272	£ 1,510
(Mid-market value, December 31, 1959)	(4,275)	(1,470)
Cash at Bankers	63	19
Stocks	18	
Investment held in Trust for 3rd Battalion	512	
	£4,865	£1,538

Income and Expenditure Accounts.

Income:	£	59
Subscriptions and Entrance Fees	440	
Interest on Investments	114	
Profit on Sale of Club ties	2	
Refund of Income Tax	3	
Excess of Expenditure over Income	4	
	£563	£59
Expenditure:	£	47
Donations	9	
Net expenses—Cricket week	161	
Golf meeting	87	
Dinner	20	
At Home	60	
Cocktail Party	10	
M.C.C. Season Tickets	47	
Members Register	133	2
Administration and Sundry Expenses	10	
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£563	£59

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

In the interests of economy it has been decided to print only an abridged form of the Association accounts. These abridged accounts have been approved by the Association's auditors. Copies of the full accounts are in the hands of each O.C.A. club secretary and may, of course, be inspected by any member.

BALANCE SHEETS, DECEMBER 31, 1959

	War Charitable Fund	Memorial Fund	Cottage Homes
Accumulated Funds	£1,373	£37,563	£3,287
Creditors	431	16	2
Provision for Maintenance—Mill Hill and Enfield	109		
Mrs. Renny Legacy	2,623		
Site Improvement Account		410	
Loan Redemption Reserve		456	
Loan Account (secured)		6,544	
Property Amortisation Fund			433
	£44,536	£44,998	£3,722
Investments at cost or valuation	£ 40,339	£ 2,163	£ 1,594
(Mid-market value, December 31, 1959)	(35,638)	(2,171)	(1,381)
Property		42,191	1,653
Furniture and Fittings at nominal value	1		
Stocks at Cost	14		
Debtors	3	352	
Cash at Bankers	1,460	292	42
Cash in hand of O.C.A. Clubs	70		
Regimental History—cost not yet recovered	26		
Mrs. Renny Legacy investment	2,623		
Amortisation Fund Investment			433
	£44,536	£44,998	£3,722

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1959

	War Charitable Fund	Memorial Fund	Cottage Homes	Diehards Journal
Income:	£	£	£	£
Grants and Donations	1,056			216
Subscriptions	508			
Interest on Investments	1,633		59	
Income Tax recovered on Covenants	55			
Profit on ties and badges	9			
Rents		329		
Maintenance receipts		52		
Advertisements				193
Grant from Charitable Fund				393
Excess of Expenditure over Income		179	7	
	£3,261	£560	£66	£802
Expenditure:	£	£	£	£
Grants and Allowances	1,502			
Administration Expenses	989	108	31	70
Repairs and Maintenance		452	35	
Cost of Printing				732
Wreaths	48			
O.C.A. Reunion	119			
Grant "Diehards" Journal	393			
Cottage Homes Amortisation	100			
Excess of Income over Expenditure	110			
	£3,261	£560	£66	£802

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ROLL OF OFFICERS SERVING IN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

NOT ON THE REGIMENTAL LIST

Rank	Name	Appointment and Location
T/Maj.-Gen.	G. P. L. Weston, C.B.E. D.S.O., ..	Director Land Air Warfare, The War Office
Col.	A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E. ..	Commander, 4 (Scottish) Port Task Force, Glasgow
T/Brigadier	R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E. ..	Military Supervisor, Tac. & Log. War Games, A.O.R.G., Byfleet
T/Brigadier	J. E. F. Willoughby, O.B.E. ..	Commander, 168 Brigade
T/Brigadier	C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., M.A.	Commander, 125 Infantry Brigade
T/Col.	J. W. G. Ormiston ..	Colonel G.S., H.Q., A.F.C.E.
Lt.-Col.	A. G. Hewitt, M.B.E., M.C. ..	A.A.Q.M.G., H.Q. 42 Infantry Division
T/Col.	W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C. ..	A.A.G. Recruiting, H.Q. Western Command
Lt.-Col.	D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E., B.A. ..	G.S.O.1 (Trg.), Western Command
Lt.-Col.	A. R. Waller, M.B.E., M.C. ..	A.Q.M.G. (M), H.Q. B.A.O.R.
Lt.-Col. (T/Col., L/Brigadier)	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., M.A. ..	Military Attaché, Moscow

REGULAR OFFICERS

Lt.-Col.	I. H. Batty, M.B.E., B.A. ..	Commander, 1st Middlesex
Major	G. C. Dawson ..	2IC, Admin. Wing, Mons O.C.S.
Major	F. J. Bennett ..	D.A.A.Q.M.G., H.Q. Cheshire Area
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D. ..	G.S.O.2, H.Q. Northern Ireland District
Major	P. L. Crutchfield ..	D.A.Q.M.G. (Works), East Anglian District
Major	P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E., M.A. ..	2IC, 1st Middlesex
Major	R. D. Hutchings ..	Commander, Depot Middlesex
L/Lt.-Col.	D. Sax ..	Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham
Major	C. N. Clayden ..	1st Middlesex
Major	E. A. H. Jeffcoat ..	1st Middlesex
Major	P. W. Galvin ..	B.M., 160 Infantry Brigade (T.A.)
Major	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O. ..	1st Middlesex
Major	C. H. Mievill, M.C. ..	Army Outward Bound School
Major	P. G. V. Bellers ..	1st Middlesex
Major	J. de Gaye ..	1st Middlesex
Major	K. J. Carter ..	G.S.O.2 (Strategic Reserve), Southern Command
Capt.	J. S. C. Flavell ..	Adjutant, 8th Middlesex (T.A.)
Capt.	H. J. A. Moore ..	Adjutant, 23rd London Regiment (T.A.)
Capt.	J. I. D. Pike, M.C. ..	1st Middlesex
T/Major	B. A. M. Pielow ..	Staff College, Camberley
Capt.	R. M. Cain, B.A. ..	Adjutant, Hong Kong Regiment
Capt.	G. G. Norton ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	B. K. Clayden ..	Adjutant, 7th Middlesex
Capt.	B. H. Marciandi ..	11 Independent Brigade Group, H.Q.
Capt.	C. L. Lawrence, M.C. ..	Adjutant, Home Counties Brigade
Capt.	P. A. S. Wollocombe ..	Depot Middlesex
Capt.	I. S. Rutherford ..	P.R. Pool, H.Q. B.A.O.R.
Capt.	G. Kitchener ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	J. S. B. Pollard ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	R. D. Fisher ..	Ghana Regiment Training Centre
Capt.	M. V. Hayward ..	Adjutant, 1st Middlesex
Capt.	A. E. McManus ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	J. M. Hewson, M.C. ..	3rd Parachute Regiment
Capt.	I. M. E. Lloyd ..	1st Middlesex
T/Capt.	W. G. A. Crumley ..	Adjutant, Depot Middlesex
T/Capt.	H. M. du V. Lohan ..	G.S.O.3 (Int.), H.Q. 5 Infantry Brigade
Lt.	M. C. D. L. Gilham ..	Depot Middlesex
Lt.	P. Mallalieu ..	1st Middlesex
Lt.	M. G. Waite ..	1st Middlesex

Rank	Name	Appointment and Location
Lt.	M. F. Deakin ..	Home Counties Brigade Depot
Lt.	P. V. Cheeseman ..	1st Middlesex
Lt.	M. Legg ..	1st Middlesex
Lt.	P. D. J. Clarke ..	Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion
Lt.	M. Julian ..	1st Middlesex
Lt.	G. Bulloch ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	A. B. Cowing ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. Goring ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	R. C. Pitman ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	J. Lofting ..	1st Middlesex

REGULAR QUARTERMASTERS

Major	C. A. Trestain, M.B.E. ..	H.Q. Salisbury Plain District
Capt.	S. C. W. Weller, M.M. ..	Depot Middlesex
Capt.	A. E. F. Waldron, M.B.E. ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	P. Donovan ..	1st Middlesex
Lt.	F. L. Griffiths ..	8th Middlesex

SHORT-SERVICE OFFICERS

Major	L. G. Lohan, T.D. ..	Ministry of Defence
Major	A. E. Peasley ..	Adjutant, Home Postal Depot, R.E.
Major	J. Bywaters, M.B.E. ..	Training Officer, W.O.S.B., Barton Stacey
Major	G. W. P. Hodding, T.D. ..	S.O.P.T., H.Q. Southern Command
Major	C. E. Rome, M.B.E. ..	G.S.O.2, Ministry of Supply
Major	E. L. Ellisdon ..	War Office
Capt.	A. R. Cowan ..	1st Middlesex
Capt.	A. R. F. Smith ..	S.O.P.T., H.Q. Aden Protectorate Levies
2/Lt.	P. M. Dubbery ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	D. M. Everard ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. N. Freeborn ..	Depot Middlesex

SHORT-SERVICE QUARTERMASTERS

Lt.	E. J. Pike ..	7th Middlesex
Lt.	F. Redpath, B.E.M. ..	2nd Q.O. Nigeria Regiment
Lt.	M. Wild ..	1st Q.O. Nigeria Regiment
Lt.	A. Kenrick ..	M.T.O., Sierra Leone Regiment

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS

2/Lt.	H. S. Grant ..	5 K.A.R., Nakuru
2/Lt.	A. F. J. Luck ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	G. J. Rayner ..	1st Middlesex
2/Lt.	H. M. Pattinson ..	625 Ordnance Depot, Cyprus
2/Lt.	N. J. Chandler ..	West India Regiment
2/Lt.	G. B. Johnson ..	5 Q.O. Nigeria Regiment
2/Lt.	B. M. O'Regan ..	1st Middlesex

RECENT RETIREMENTS

Col.	A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E.	
Lt.-Col.	T. W. Chattey, O.B.E.	
Major	R. K. B. Allott, M.C.	
Major	G. Kent	
Capt.	N. F. Legge ..	to R.A.E.C.
Capt.	T. J. Humber ..	to Airborne Forces
Lt.	P. McRae	

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